Our Three Main National Causes

* Non-disintegration of the Union
* Non-disintegration of National Solidarity
* Perpetuation of Sovereignty

Ms. Yingluck Shinawatra, Prime Minister of Kingdom of Thailand

Her Excellency Ms. Yingluck Shinawatra was born on 21 June 1967 at San Kampaeng, Chiang Mai Province of Thailand. She obtained a Master Degree of Public Administration from Kentucky State University in United States of America in 1990 and a Bachelor Degree of Political Science from Chiang Mai University of Thailand in 1988. She is married.

She started to work as Production Director at Shinawatra Directories Company in 1993 and served as General Manager at Rainbow Media Company Limited in 1994. Then she served at Shinawatra Directories Company from 1995 to 1999 and she became Vice President in 1997. Moreover, she served not only as Executive Vice President of service operation but also as Senior Executive Vice President of wireless corporate planning at Advanced Info Service Public Company Limited. Then she became President of the Advanced Info Service Public Company Limited in 2002.

From 2006 to 2011, she served as Chairman of the SC Asset Corporation Public Company Limited which is a property development business with top ten ranking in Thailand and classified as “Excellent” amongst listed companies in the property and construction sector with wide-ranging experiences in Branding, Corporate Culture, Operation Management, Services, Technology Innovation and Franchise System.

She has been appointed as Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand since August 2011, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Nay Pyi Taw.

Second regular session of first Pyithu Hluttaw continues for 31st day
Nine questions answered, one proposal submitted

NAV PYI TAW, 4 Oct—The second regular session of first Pyithu Hluttaw continued for the 31st day at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building here at this noon, with the attendance of Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann and 384 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives.

At today’s session, nine questions were raised and answered and one new proposal was submitted. U Tin Maung Oo of Shwepyitha Constituency asked how the department concerned prepares for digging lands to lay pipelines, painting pipelines, (See Page 8)

Second regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw continues for 30th day
Three questions replied, one bill and one new proposal submitted

NAV PYI TAW, 4 Oct—The second regular session of the first Amyotha Hluttaw continued for the 30th day at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building here today, attended by Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khan Aung Myint and 207 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives.

Dr Khan Shwe of Yangon Region Constituency No. (9) said that “huge investment will be needed to construct a considerable number of power grids, main power stations, power lines and power stations in various regions for development of electric sector and asked current electricity sales (See page 9)
**PERSPECTIVES**

Wednesday, 5 October, 2011

Enhance capabilities of teachers to turn out good and able citizens

World Teachers’ Day is celebrated since it has been recognized by UNESCO, UNDP, ILO and UNICEF by adopting the Recommendation Concerning the Status of Teacher at the special conference on 5th October 1966.

World Teachers’ Day represents the essential role of teachers in providing education to children, youths and adults. Teachers are honoured for their primary importance for sustainable development of human society and career engaging in noble profession.

In the 21st century, living standard has improved thanks to rapid advancements in science and technology while addressing political, economic and social impacts and threats posed by various kinds of natural disasters. Measures have been taken overcoming such kinds of challenges for promotion of education standards in the interest of the nation and the people.

Five responsibilities of teachers for their pupils are prevailing in Myanmar society. Besides, teaching of Manle Sayadaw is also prominent.

It is incumbent upon teachers not only to provide new generation youths with education but also to nurture them to be good and able citizens.

The entire people have recognized and honoured teachers for their sacrifice, diligence and utmost efforts in their teaching profession.

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**Union Defence Minister receives member of House of Representatives of Japan**

NAV Pyi Taw, 4 Oct—

Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Hla Min received a delegation led by member of House of Representatives of Japan Mr. Ryota Takeda at his office, here, at 10 am today.

They discussed matters related to bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

Also present at the call were Deputy Ministers Maj-Gen Kyaw Nyunt and Captain Aung Thaw.

MNA

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**Union Transport Minister receives Thai Airways International delegation**

Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung received General Manager of Thai Airways International Public Company Limited Mr. Ratapong Yanyong and party at his office here today.

They discussed matters on opening flights between the two countries.

Also present at the meeting were Deputy Minister for Transport U Win Shein and departmental officials.

MNA

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**Ayeyawady Bridge construction completes by 88 %**

NAV Pyi Taw, 4 Oct— Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin on 2 October inspected roadwork of Road Construction Project Special Group-15 on Bagan-Myingyan Road near milepost No. 110.

He also inspected construction of approach road (Letpanchepaw) to Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku) and construction of the main bridge.

Construction of Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku) has completed by about 88 per cent.

MNA

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**Flood warning at Toungoo, Myitnge**

NAV Pyi Taw, 4 Oct— According to the (13:30) hr M.S.T observation today, the water level of Sittaung River at Toungoo (611) cm has exceeded by (11) cm (about 0.4ft) above its danger level. It may fall below its danger level (600) cm during the next (48) hours commencing noon today.

According to the (13:30) hr M.S.T observation today, the water level of Dokhtawady River at Myitnge (899) cm has exceeded by (29) cm (about 1ft) above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level (870) cm during the next (48) hours commencing noon today, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department. — MNA

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**Players in action at National Hockey Championship at Theinbyu Turf Hockey Pitch on 3 October. Shan State team plays against Ayeyawady Region team, and Rakhine State team meets with Bago Region team on 4 October.**

MNA

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**Corrigendum**

Please read U Mya Thein in the news with headline of “Special civil appeal cases heard” on page 11 of this newspaper dated 4-10-2011 instead of U Mya Nyein. Error is regretted.— Ed.
**Truck bomb in Somalia kills 70**

**Mogadishu, 4 Oct**—Islamist militants detonated a truck bomb Tuesday in front of the education ministry in Somalia’s capital, killing at least 70 people and wounding dozens, a rescue official said. Among the dead were students and parents. It was the biggest attack in Somalia’s capital since the al-Qaeda-linked group known as al-Shabaab withdrew most of its forces in August amid an offensive by African Union forces and as a famine gripped much of the country.

The truck blew up after coming to a halt at a security checkpoint at the entrance to the Ministry of Education, said Ali Hussein, a police officer in Mogadishu. After the thunderous blast, blackened corpses were sprawled on the debris-strewn street amid burning vehicles. Uniformed soldiers dragged the wounded from the hellish scene.

Ali Abdulrahim, a nurse at Medina hospital said they were treating people with horrific wounds, including amputated limbs, burns, and patients who became blinded. “It is the most awful tragedy I have ever seen,” he said. “Imagine dozens are being brought here minute by minute. Most of the wounded people are unconscious and others have their faces blackened by smoke and heat.” Ali Muse, the chief of Mogadishu’s ambulance service, told The Associated Press that at least 70 people had died and at least 42 others were wounded.—Internet

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**12 killed in firing in SW Pakistan**

**Islamabad, 4 Oct**—At least 12 people were killed and eight others injured on Tuesday morning when unknown gunmen opened fire at a vehicle in Pakistan’s southwestern province of Balochistan, official sources said.

According to sources, the incident took place in the Akhtarabad area of the provincial metropolis Quetta when unknown armed men, riding a motorcycle, sprayed bullets on a passenger vehicle and killed five on spot.

15 other persons were injured who were transferred to the city’s medical complex hospital where seven of them succumbed to injuries. Sources said that the slain men belonged to the Shia Muslim community, who had been came under attacks by banned extremist groups in Balochistan Province. The gunmen fled to unknown side after the attack before the police and other rescue team reached.

Security forces arrived at the scene and surrounded the area. Sources told that the vehicle at the Akhtarabad area when it was taking 22 passengers from Quetta to the Dalbandin. The assailants stopped the vehicle and took out the people from the bus before spraying bullets at them.

No group claimed responsibility for the attack. The outlawed extremist group “Laashkar-e-Jhangi” claimed responsibility for several recent attacks on Shia Muslims. Dozens of Shia Muslims have been killed in targeted attacks in recent weeks.

**Over 100 detained in Turkey’s anti-terror operation**

**Istanbul, 4 Oct**—More than 100 people were detained in anti-terror operations conducted by Turkish police in three provinces Tuesday morning, the Turkish Dogan news agency reported.

The operations were carried out against suspected members of the Kurdish Communities Union (KCK) in the provinces of Istanbul, Diyarbakir and Gaziantep. The KCK is considered an umbrella organization of militant Kurdish groups active in urban areas, including the civilian wing of the outlawed Kurdish Workers’ Party (PKK). The Turkish police has conducted operations in various parts of the country in recent weeks, detaining scores of suspected KCK members.—Xinhua

**Bomb blast kills three Afghans, wounds 12**

**Kabul, 4 Oct**—Three people including two children were killed and 12 others sustained injuries in the Taleban birthplace of Kandahar Province, 450 km south of Kabul on Monday, a Press release of the provincial administration said Tuesday.

“The tragic incident happened in Malo village of Shah Wali Kot District Monday evening when a police team was on a routine patrol, leaving three people including one police and two children dead,” the Press release said.

Two more policemen and 10 children of the village were injured in the blast, it added. The Press release put the attack on the enemies of peace, a term used against Taleban militants and condemned it.

Taleban militants fighting Afghan and NATO-led troops have yet to make comment.—Xinhua

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Taleban militants fighting Afghan and NATO-led troops have yet to make comment.—Xinhua
**Joint Message from UNESCO, UNDP, UNICEF, ILO and Education International on the occasion of World Teachers’ Day**
5 October 2011

Today, on World Teachers’ Day, we honour the millions of educators all over the world who devote their lives to teaching children, youth and adults. This year’s theme, “Teachers for Gender equality”, reminds us that in order to achieve Education for All (EFA) and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the gender dimension of teaching must receive particular attention, beginning with girls’ access to schools. We know, for example, that in many regions a low proportion of female teachers will mean fewer girls at school and consequently even fewer women teachers in the future. Yet educating girls and women has cascading benefits for human development: fewer deaths in childbirth; more healthy babies; more children in school; better protection for children and women from HIV and AIDS, trafficking and sexual exploitation; and the economic and political empowerment of women, leading to stronger and more inclusive development.

If we want to give equal opportunities to our daughters and sons to realize their full potential and claim their rights, we must devise policies and strategies that attract and motivate capable women and men to teach, while also enabling them to create gender-equal learning environments. More and better education for all requires good teachers and incentives to encourage male and female teachers into all areas and levels of teaching. This will ensure that boys and girls have appropriate role models throughout their lives.

Women make up the majority of the teaching profession at the primary level, 62% globally but as high a proportion as 99% in some countries. Yet as the profession has become increasingly feminized, conditions of service, pay and status have deteriorated. If teachers are to be good role models for gender equality for boys and girls in all areas and at all levels of schooling, inequities within the teaching profession must be addressed. We must promote equal opportunities for women to be school leaders, institutional managers and decision-makers within ministries of education, for more women to become science, mathematics and technology teachers, and for more men to be recruited as early childhood and primary school educators. It is also important to identify the causes for the shortage of women teachers where they exist. Adequate provisions for maternity protection and parental leave, as well as effective protection from sexual violence and abuse, are essential. If qualified female teachers avoid postings in disadvantaged and rural areas, how can we convince reluctant parents to send their children to school?

Such issues, including opportunities for teachers to shape education decisions through social dialogue, must be addressed if decent work for teachers— and quality education for children — is to become a reality. We call on all partners in education to work towards full respect for the rights and responsibilities set out in the 1966 ILO-UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers and the 1997 UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher Education Teaching Personnel—the starting points for this special day. These are pillars for building a quality, professional teaching force.

We renew our gratitude and appreciation for the effort and dedication of women and men teachers, who bear the responsibility of educating future generations to build societies based on sustainable development, peace, democracy, human rights and equality.

Join us today, 5 October 2011, in celebrating teachers around the world!

Irina Bokova, Director-General, UNESCO
Anthony Lake, Executive Director, UNICEF
Helen Clark, Administrator, UNDP
Juan Somavia, Director-General, ILO
Fred van Leeuwen, General Secretary, Education International.

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**Drug stops hair going grey**

LODNON, 4 Oct.—A wonder pill which is being developed can stop hair from turning grey, a media report said Monday.

Experts at beauty firm L’Oreal claim it will keep your barnet - the hair - the same natural colour forever, *The Sun* reported.

They promise the daily drug will not be expensive - and is totally natural because it uses a fruit extract.

Bruno Bernard, head of hair biology at the cosmetics giant, said: “People will take it like a dietary supplement. They need to start using the pill before their hair goes grey.”

L’Oreal - which has been developing the drug for more than a decade - says it won’t be available until 2015. And it will take 10 more years before they can prove it works - because it takes that long for grey hairs to sprout, the newspaper said.—*Internet*

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**Smokers likely to have strokes almost 10 yrs earlier**

OTTAWA, 4 Oct—A new research, led by an Indian-origin researcher, has claimed that not only are smokers twice as likely to have strokes, they are also almost a decade younger than non-smokers when they have them.

According to a study conducted at the Ottawa Hospital, researchers studied 982 stroke patients – 264 smokers and 718 non-smokers, at an Ottawa prevention clinic from January 2009 to March 2011 and found that the average age of stroke patients who smoked was 58, compared to age 67 for non-smokers.

“The information from this study provides yet another important piece of evidence about the significance of helping people stop smoking,” Dr Andrew Ppe, one of the authors, said.

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**Brazil’s Central Bank injects 5.3 bln USD to support Brazilian real**

BRASILIA, 4 Oct—Brazilian Central Bank on Monday injected 5.3 billion US dollars into local financial markets to bolster the local currency, the real, against a stronger US dollar.

As concerns over the faltering Greek economy led to another weakening of the real early Monday morning, the Brazilian monetary authority sold 5.3 billion dollars in “swap contracts,” the biggest such operation this year, to halt the depreciation of the real.

The Central Bank’s action came as the real was quoted at 1.92 per dollar just before 15:30 local time (1930 GMT) and supported the real to regain some strength to close at 1.802 reals per dollar.

The real has recently weakened amid concerns over the impact of external markets on the Brazilian economy, declining from about 1.6 reals per dollar in mid-September to the weakest level so far on Monday of 1.92.

The central bank operation doubled the sale of 2.716 billion dollars into the local currency market on 22 Sept, which at the time was the largest swap contract operation of 2011.

Monday’s action marked a major shift of the central bank’s policy. Up until a month ago, it had been buying dollars in the local market to strengthen any further and hurting local exporters. At the end of 2010, the real was trading between 1.75 and 1.85 per dollar.
Apple rejects Samsung offer to end Australia tablet row

SYDNEY, 4 Oct—Apple Inc rejected an offer from Samsung Electronics Co to settle their tablet computer row in Australia, hoping for an important court victory there in its global campaign of patent litigation.

Apple claims Samsung’s Galaxy line of mobile phones and tablets “slavishly” copied its iPhone and iPad and has launched an international legal battle which is expected to hurt growth at one of the South Korean firm’s fastest-growing businesses.

Samsung has rejected the accusations and has shot back with claims of its own. The Galaxy gadgets, powered by Google’s Android operating system, are seen as the biggest challengers to Apple’s mobile devices.

Apple has already secured a block on the latest Galaxy tablets in Germany and some Samsung smartphone models in the Netherlands.

A win in Australia could hurt Samsung’s bid to close the gap with Apple in the global tablet market, with another high-stakes ruling expected from a US court next week.

Samsung approached Apple last week, offering to help secure a quick court ruling in their Australian dispute, in return for being able to immediately launch the new Galaxy tablet there.

But Apple told the Federal Court in Sydney on Tuesday that Samsung’s proposal provided no basis for a settlement.—Reuters

Most accurate digital model ever produced of Stonehenge unveiled

LONDON, 4 Oct—Researchers have released the most accurate digital model ever produced of Stonehenge using the latest technologies.

The latest technologies that enable the detailed survey of every stone that makes up the world famous monument includes a new scanner that has never before been used on a heritage project in Britain, past Horizons reported.

With resolution level as high as 0.5mm in many areas, every nook and cranny of the stones’ surfaces is revealed with utmost clarity, including the lichen, Bronze Age carvings, erosion patterns and Victorian graffiti.

Most surprisingly, initial assessment of the survey has suggested that the grooves’ resulting from stone dressing on some sarsen stones appear to be divided into sections, perhaps with different teams of Neolithic builders working on separate areas.

The resultant high resolution archival data and 3D meshed models is currently being synthesised and will be officially published and shared with the wider archaeological community in due course.—Internet

Soon, robot brain to restore lost motorfunction

WASHINGTON, 4 Oct—A Tel Aviv University researcher has successfully implanted a robotic cerebellum into the skull of a rodent with brain damage, allowing it to function normally again.

The cerebellum is responsible for communication between the brain and the brain stem, facilitating sensory information from the cerebellum “receives, interprets, and normalises that information,” said Prof Mintz.

In the future, this robo-cerebellum could lead to electronic implants that could “restore the ability to control movement,” he said.

Researchers taught a brain-damaged rat to blink when they sounded a particular tone.

The rat could only perform the behaviour when its robotic cerebellum was functional.

According to the researcher, the chip is designed to mimic natural neuronal activity. “It’s a proof of the concept that we can record information from the brain, analyse it in a way similar to the biological network, and then return it to the brain,” said Prof Mintz.

In the future, the robo-cerebellum could lead to electronic implants that replace damaged tissues in the human brain.—Internet

World’s largest telescope underway to spot aliens

LONDON, 4 Oct—British scientists have taken on the leading role in building critical scientific instruments for the world’s biggest optical telescope worth 1 billion pounds which will hunt for life in other galaxies.

The European Extremely Large Telescope, the largest instrument of its kind ever built, will examine some of the oldest parts of the universe and help scientists identify other Earthlike habitable planets, reports the Telegraph.

Now project bosses have approved designs drawn up by Oxford and Durham University researchers for instruments which will help astronomers take pictures of stars and planets in distant galaxies for the first time.

The E-ELT will be sensitive enough to take images of previously unseen objects, such as cold stars and more planets, and learn more about their atmosphere, what they are made of and whether they could support life.

The telescope could also shed light on mysterious “dark matter”, which is thought to make up most of the universe, and help scientists understand how galaxies and black holes evolved after the big bang.

If it is given approval, the E-ELT will be tens of times more sensitive than any other visible-light-sensing telescope on Earth.

Its 40m wide mirror - made of 1,000 separate segments and measuring almost half the length of a football pitch - will have more than four times the diameter of any other ground-based telescope and will be able to gather 15 times more light than the largest similar facilities in use today.

A decision on whether to proceed with construction is due in December and, if given the go-ahead, the telescope would be expected to produce its first results by 2018.—Internet

20 feet long species of crocodile discovered in Columbian coal mine

WASHINGTON, 4 Oct—A new species of crocodile measuring 20 feet long has been discovered by University of Florida researchers in a coal mine in Colombia.

According to the Gainsville Sun, the excavations at the site were led by Jonathan Bloch, associate curator of vertebrate paleontology at the Florida Museum of Natural History; and Carlos Jaramillo, a paleobotanist with the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, reports Fox News.

Alex Hastings, a University of Florida PhD student in the department of geological sciences, collected the type-specimen for the species. This fossil set will be used as a comparison tool for future finds.

The crocodile, Acherontisuchus guajaraensis, is the latest prehistoric reptile to be found in the Cerrejon coal mine.

The Acherontisuchus species was a cousin to modern-day crocodiles, not their direct ancestors, and it dates back 60 million years.

This places the species at the time immediately following the mass extinction event that claimed the dinosaurs, as well as a wide variety of other life on Earth. Acherontisuchus belonged to a group that somehow managed to survive the cataclysm.

“One of the questions about this group was how they were able to survive. . . what advantages did they have?” Hastings said.—Internet
Cuban official media accuses US of preparing SMS-based “cyberwar”

HAVANA, 4 Oct—Cuba accused on Monday the United States of “preparing a spam SMS cyberwar” with the Caribbean island nation to disrupt SMS service to over 1 million Cuban mobile phone users, said the country’s official website Cubadebate in an article.

“The US government hired a telecommunication company from Maryland to design a computer system capable of sending 24,000 text messages weekly to the mobile phone users in Cuba,” said Cubadebate.

It said Washington Software Company, Inc. plans to design a text messaging system that can’t be blocked by the Cuban telecommunication company even if it contains “messages against the country.”

Cubadebate also said the operation is “in clear violation of Cuban laws and international agreements.”

Shortly after officially taking over power in 2008, Cuban leader Raul Castro allowed ordinary Cubans to use mobile phones, a service which used to be open only to some government agencies and foreigners in Cuba.

Presently, more than 1.2 million Cubans own mobile phones, accounting for roughly 10 percent of the population.—Xinhua

Russia vows to scrap chemical weapons soon

Moscow, 4 Oct—Russia will do everything possible to destroy as soon as possible its remaining stockpiles of chemical weapons, the Foreign Ministry said Monday.

“The Russian Federation puts the highest priority on disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction...We will continue to put maximum effort into the fulfillment of this labour-intensive and technically complex task in as short time as possible,” the ministry said in a statement.

Russia signed the Chemical Weapons Convention banning the development, production, stockpiling, transfer, and use of chemical arms in 1993, and ratified it in 1997. The country has so far destroyed about half of its chemical weapons arsenal, which totals 40,000 tonnes.

“At the same time, there is still a large amount of work on destruction of remaining chemical weapons arsenals ahead of us, and for that purpose we are continuing to increase the capacity of existing destruction facilities...and search for additional resources,” the statement said.

Moscow has allocated USD 7.18 billion from the federal budget for the implementation of the programme, and has built six chemical weapon destruction plants across the country.

According to previous reports, Russia aims to finish all the remaining work under the project, including decontamination and equipment dismantlement, by 2016-2017.

Major fire at chemical plant in US

WASHINGTON, 4 Oct—A massive industrial fire broke out at a chemical plant south of the city of Dallas in the US state of Texas Monday, Xinhua reported.

The fire broke out at about 11 am at the Magnablend chemical processing plant.

It prompted authorities to ask residents and students at a nearby elementary school to stay inside to avoid possibly dangerous gases that might get released due to the fire, local media reports said.

The fire was spreading into a rice field yard beside the plant, the Dallas Morning News reported.

There were no immediate report of anyone injured.—Internet

Tiger Airways faces complaints in Australia, Philippines

SINGAPORE, 4 Oct—Low-cost carrier Tiger Airways is facing complaints in both Australia and the Philippines after the grounding of the domestic services of Tiger Airways Australia, local media reported on Tuesday.

The Australian unit of Tiger Airways was ordered to suspend its domestic flights there in July for weeks after the civil aviation authority found a safety breach by the company.

Tiger Airways was talking with Australia’s advertising regulator after sending out a marketing e-mail with “alleged inaccuracies,” the company said on Monday, without specifying the details of the e-mail.

The airline said it plans to issue a correction after consulting with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission.

In the Philippines, Tiger said it was facing a complaint raising questions about operations in the country after the suspension of its services earlier this year in Australia.

Tiger said it has asked the Civil Aeronautics Board of the Philippines to dismiss the complaint as it’s Australia and Southeast Asian operations are run by different units with separate operating licenses.—Xinhua

Russian couple put spider in toddler’s mouth

LONDON, 4 Oct—A couple in Britain who filmed themselves forcing a spider into a toddler’s mouth have been jailed, a media report said Monday.

The terrible little girl could be seen screaming and sobbing as the twisted pair pinned her to the ground.

It was one of a string of cruel acts against children James Kirkman, 31, and Rachel Drinkell, 24, videographed, The Sun reported.

They also filmed each other sounding an airhorn into the ear of a baby. The couple also filmed themselves having sex while children were in the room.

Relatives wept as videos were shown at Grimsby Crown Court. Both were jailed for 32 months each.

Video grab from CNN.com shows a major industrial fire at the Magnablend Inc chemical plant in Waxesbiche, Texas, the United States, on 3 Oct, 2011.—Xinhua

A visitor watched the oil painting “10.1.68” during a media preview in Hong Kong, south China, on 30 Sept, 2011. The artwork, created by Zhao Wuji, hammered at 68.98 million Hong Kong dollars (about $9.9 million US dollars) on Monday.—Xinhua

Photo taken on 3 Oct, 2011 shows the cracked cargo ship and the rocks polluted by the leaked oil, at the coast near Keelung, Taipei. The stranded cargo ship that crashed into rocks in waters off Keelung had left four dead and six missing, as of 3:30 pm Monday, according to Taipei’s coast guard authority.—Xinhua

A balloon is seen during the celebrations of German Unity Day in front of the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin, Germany, on 3 Oct, 2011.—Xinhua
Union FM arrives back after attending 66th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Oct—Myanmar delegation led by Union Foreign Affairs Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin arrived in Geneva, Switzerland, on 11 September to attend the 18th Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council on their way to New York, the United States to attend the 66th Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

While in Geneva, the Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin attended the 18th Session of the Human Rights Council held from 12 to 30 September and delivered a statement on 13 September relating to Myanmar efforts for the promotion and protection of human rights in Myanmar. On 14 September, the Union Minister met with Madame Navi Pillay, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other high ranking officials from the United Nations. In addition, the Union Minister met with Permanent Representatives and Ambassadors in Geneva and exchanged views on the progress relating to the transformation towards a democratic society in Myanmar.

On the morning of 16 September, the Union Minister left for New York and arrived there in the afternoon the same day. During his stay in New York, the Union Minister attended General Assembly Plenary meetings, high-level meeting on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases, high-level meeting on Nuclear Safety and Security, Annual Meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the G-77, Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting and related meeting and ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting with Secretary General and the President of the 66th General Assembly.

On 18 September, the Union Minister called on UN Secretary General Mr. Ban Ki-moon and had a cordial discussion regarding the recent developments and significant changes in the country, national reconciliation endeavours as well as Myanmar’s cooperation with the United Nations. On 21 September, Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin attended a luncheon hosted by the UN Secretary General in honour of the heads of delegation at the UN Headquarters.

The leader of Myanmar delegation and Union Foreign Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin attended the general debate at the 66th Session of the UN General Assembly from 21 to 27 September and delivered a general statement on 27 September. In his address, the Union Minister focused on Myanmar’s efforts on the democratization process, economic, social and policy reforms for the well-being of the people, national reconciliation process, promotion and protection of human rights in the country, efforts on combating terrorism and transnational organized crimes, poverty alleviation programmes in order to meet the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015, and apprised the Assembly on Myanmar’s position and actions on nuclear nonproliferation.

While in New York, the Union Minister met separately with his counterparts and high ranking officials from China, Norway, the United States, Slovenia, Cuba, Thailand, Germany, Israel, Kirgizstan, Sudan, Turkey, India, Bhutan, Pakistan and Belarus. He also met with Madame Radhika Coomaraswamy, Under-Secretary-General and Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict on 19 September. The Union Minister met with US Senator Mr Jim Webb and US Special Representative and Policy Coordinator for Myanmar, Ambassador Derek Mitchell in Washington DC on 29 September separately and exchanged views on promotion of bilateral relations and promotion of cooperation between the two countries.

The Union Minister also participated in the roundtable discussion on Myanmar entitled “Myanmar in Transition” held at the Asia Society in New York on 20 September. At the roundtable discussion, the Union Minister made a keynote remark highlighting reform process in respective sectors under the guidance of the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. He also stressed that unilateral sanctions should be lifted and encouragements should be rendered by supporting its efforts to overcome the challenges on its way towards democratization. The President Advisor U Ko Ko Hlaing and U Set Aung also participated in the discussion and gave their briefings accordingly.

After attending the 66th UN General Assembly, Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin left New York for Yangon on 1 October and arrived back in Yangon yesterday.—MNA

Working for Gender Equality: Recruiting and Retaining Male Educators

Dr. Khin Myoe Myint Kyu

According to UNESCO, teachers play a critical role towards the achievement of the Education for All (EFA) goal on gender equity. Teachers influence significantly on the construction of gender relations and may work for the benefit of the detriment of gender equality. Teaching profession has been mentioned as female-type occupation in most countries. Teachers are predominantly women. In Philipinnes it is hard to ensure that there are male educators at the different levels of systems. But there are some exceptional countries, for example, in a South African High School, it is mentioned that out of the three learners, two are boys and one is girl, and out of three teachers, two are males and one is female.

According to 2011 data in Myanmar, the total number of teaching staff is 11, 100 in Higher Education Sector and among them 9163 are females. This means that 82.55 percent of university teachers are females and the ratio of male to female is approximately two to nine. Likewise among 276, 195 teachers in Basic Education Sector, the number of female teachers is 226, 892 and hence the ratio of male to female teachers is about one to five. Similarly, in many countries (e.g. the US, England, and Australia), the percentage of male teachers is relatively small, but they are highly represented in administrative positions in the educational system (Lortie, 1975; 1987; Oritz & Marshall, 1988; Bell & Chase, 1993; Acker, 1994).

Actually, both men and women teaching staff are needed in schools. The rationales are, for example:

1. *provide role models of positive, non-stereotyped masculinities and femininities for boys and girls;*
2. *engage effectively with male and female parents and community members to encourage their active involvement in education;*
3. *enable both men and women to benefit from the psychologically supporting experience of teaching and contributing to one’s community;*
4. *provide positive messages of the equal contributions to the society of men and women in disaster risk reduction, response and reconstruction; and*
5. *be available to provide gender-sensitive protection advice, guidance and the necessary social and emotional support to disaster-affected male and female youth.*

While working for gender equality, it is very important for recruiting and retaining male educators (teachers). Moreover, a quality education system requires the full contributions of men and women and especially so in the challenging contexts of emergency, chronic crisis and early reconstruction.

The reasons for the lack of men in schools vary, but they may be related to factors such as: more economically rewarding positions available elsewhere (especially in construction and other infrastructure related fields); higher status positions in other fields; perceptions of education (especially primary education) as women’s work and so not appropriate for or of no interest to men. Also significant is the vicious circle that exists when boys drop out of school and so are not in the pool of potential teacher candidates.

This year World Teachers’ Day focuses on gender equality and thus it is time for finding gender equity solution in teaching profession. However, this requires long term responses—and will not be solved in short term programming. The solutions may be to offer teacher training courses to an equal number of men and women, in an effort to ensure a balance of male and female teachers in the future and/or to raise the standards of the teaching profession in order to make it more attractive for both women and men. On October 5, 2011, teachers around the world will observe World Teachers’ Day. This day, established by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), and held annually since 1994, celebrates the teaching and promotes international standards for the profession.

The theme for this year’s celebration is: “Teachers for gender equality.” UNESCO contends that although the teaching profession is made up largely of women, inequality remains a big challenge. The clarion called therefore, is for “both men and women to unite and urge their governments to implement their commitments”.
laying pipelines, joining pipelines, covering earth and protecting them in order to avoid similar outbreaks like fire as gas leaked out from natural gas pipeline in Swyepyitha Township of Yangon Region caused fire outbreak. Union Minister for Energy U Tun Tun Oo answered that the fire outbreak happened as the gas leaked out from cracked welds of 20-year old rusted pipeline reached electric cables; to avoid similar outbreaks, plans are underway for conducting ground tests again, inspecting pipelines beneath the ground with the higher rusting rates, measuring thickness of the pipelines, welding rusted parts, and replacing badly damaged parts; Swyepyitha pipeline maintenance station is working day and night for repair; master plan of domestic pipeline system will be drafted for distributing 160 million cubic feet of natural gas per day to be supplied from two new offshore natural gas projects for domestic use in 2013 and natural gas to be supplied from M-3 Anngshenenga Project in 2016; iron pipeline which had to be used necessarily following the economic situation of the country will be replaced with PE Coated steel pipelines and new PE Coated steel pipelines will be laid with the fund of about US$ 126 million and K 17 billion within two years; in the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 fiscal years, damaged parts on Kanpauk, Myaingkalay 20-inch natural gas pipeline, Myaingkalay-Yangon 20-inch natural gas pipeline and 14-inch and 10-inch natural gas pipelines from Nyaungon to Insein and Hmauby townships will be replaced with PE Coated steel pipes, upgraded, and deviated from the land with higher rusting rates and salty water; the works will start this November.

Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin answered that doctors, nurses, and technicians under the ministry have to sign bond; and plan is underway to amend the bond in order to make it firmer. The Union Minister answered that doctors, nurses, and technicians under the ministry have to sign bond; and plan is underway to amend the bond in order to make it firmer.

Regarding the question raised by U Kin Sein of Thayetchaung Constituency who said that whether there is a plan to upgrade the village health centre at Petet Myaung in Thayetchaung Township, Tanintharyi Region into a station hospital as it is 43 miles far from the township hospital and 19 miles from Yangon Station Hospital, the Union Minister replied that Thayetchaung Township has one 25-bed Township Hospital, one 16-bed Yangon Station Hospital, one Maternal and Child Health Care Centre, one Anti-Malaria Centre, four village health centres in Petet, Nyaungzin, Pinphyuilly, Yangon villages and 16 village health centres under the ministry; there is no report to upgrade the Petet village health centre as a station hospital. If local people are enthusiastic about upgrading the centre as a station hospital, it is required to submit a report about location, area, population and residences, medical coverage area if a station hospital is opened, distance from the nearest hospital/health centres, whether the village health centre is put into service or not, matters of transportation and security, socio-economic facts and progress and consent and recommendation of Tainthiay Region Health Department together with statistics to the Health Department.

Regarding the question raised by U Aung Myint of Gangaw Constituency who said that whether the Ministry of Health has a plan to receive more trainees who passed the matriculation examination for 18-month midwifery course and three-year nursing course; and to more open training schools, the Union Minister answered that prior to 1993, the Medical Science Department set a plan to nurture 500 nurses and 500 midwives from six nursing training schools and 16 midwifery training schools. Under the programme to more open training school since 1993-1994, 23 nursing schools, 20 midwifery training schools and three nurse aide training schools totaling 46 training schools were opened in states and regions. Although it is planned to nurture 1200 trainees in three-year nursing diploma course and 1000 in 18-month midwifery training course yearly, enrolments have more than the number of trainees as planned in order to meet the needs. Now the schools are turning out nurses and midwives at maximum capacity. Besides, Universities and Colleges in Yangon and Mandalay have produced 300 degree holders yearly. In order to be in conformity with developing and changing in social and economic sectors of the State and provide the people with effective health care service on a wider scale, arrangements will be made to continue to more open nurse and midwifery training schools in suitable regions. Union Minister for Communications, Posts and Telecommunications U Tun Tun replies to three questions about communications sector raised by three representatives.

Regarding the question raised by U Khin Win of Padaung Constituency who said whether there is a plan to more set up GSM Towers as GSM mobile phones cannot be used in Padaung due to lack of GSM tower.
Second regular session of first Pyithu Hluttaw…

(From page 8)

the Union Minister replied that CDMA-450 MHz system is put into service in Padaung township since after the system was installed at Gyokon Microwave Station in the township on 5 November 2010. Installation of 3000 GSM lines each in the township will be carried out in the second phase and third phase of the first year of Extended Installation of GSM Mobile Project respectively.

Regarding the question raised by U Thein Lwin of Chauk Constituency who said that there is no plan to move the exchange to an another place because a new exchange will cost a lot as underground and overhead cable network was established for installation of landlines in the town and temporary exchange and communication devices would be needed for avoidance of communications failures while the exchange was moved to another place. Measures have been taken for prevention of inflow of creek water by building necessary barriers around the exchange. Chauk auto exchange was inaugurated on 15 November 1986 and the type of the device is TMX-10 exchange with 7000 landlines. Due to increased number of telephone users, Chauk exchange was upgraded in November 2005 by transferring 500 landlines from Pyinmana auto exchange. More services are being provided to users by installing new TWD-09 exchange with 1000 lines on 1 April 2010. The TWD-09 exchange links with IP-Transit and 4E1 in Mandalay; 5-12 and 1E1 in Mandalay, GSM MSC and 1E1 in Mandalay, DSM-10 and 2E1 in Magway, TMX-10 exchange and 4E1 (direct line) in Chauk with the use of national fiber link. Chauk CDMA-BTS station is linked with GSM MSC and 1E1 in Mandalay. Due to bad weather and natural disaster, there have been 14 communication failures this year during which only local calls were available but no trunk calls. There have also been communication failures in CDMA and GSM systems in Chauk. Woks are underway to Chauk-Popa microwave link as reserved link for prevention against disconnection.

This task will be completed during the fourth week of December.

Regarding the question raised by U Sai Thitha Kyaw of Mongyal Constituency who said whether there is a plan for Mongyal Township in Shan State (North) to be included in first year plan for installation of 4 million lines under the five-year plan for installation of 30 million lines, the Union Minister replied that communication devices will arrive in Mongyal at the end of October for installation of 300 CDMA-450 MHz lines in the township. Transmission devices will be equipped in November. In December, CDMA-450 MHz system will be put into service in Mongyal. Installation of 1500 GSM lines will be carried out in the second year of the plan.

U Zawki Ahmad (a) U Aung Zaw Win of Maungtaw Constituency submitted a proposal to make necessary arrangements for enactment of Condominium Law. The proposal will be discussed on 5 October and representatives wishing to take part in discussions may enlist their names this evening.

The 31st second regular session ended at 1:15 pm and the 32nd session continues tomorrow.—MNA

Second regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw...

(From page 1)

revenue of the ministry is sufficient or contributes to make huge investment in construction of a large number of power lines and power stations.

Union Minister for Electric Power No (2) U Khin Maung Soe replied that currently electricity is supplied in the nation through power grids of the national grid, small-scale hydropower stations and diesel generators in areas distant from the national grid, diesel generators and mini hydropower turbines under the arrangement of electricity supply committees, and purchase of electricity from neighbouring countries in some regions.

The Union Minister continued that electricity is supplied to 302 towns including 10 towns in which Region/State level government departments are set up and 1468 villages through national grid, 211 towns including 4 towns in which Region/State level government department are set up and 5321 villages through small-scale hydropower plants and diesel generators. The Union Minister said that out of 64,346 villages in the nation, 6,789 villages (10.5 per cent) have access to electricity and 57,557 villages (89.5 per cent) are out of the reach of electricity, in 2010-2011 fiscal year, 8517 megawatts of electricity was generated with total installed capacity of 3468.9 gigawatts.

The Union Minister continued that his ministry has to construct 230 KV, 132 KV power grids and main power stations as well as 66 KV, 33 KV, 11 KV, 6.6 KV and 0.4 KV power lines and power stations to supply electricity to the people.

Of the total electricity being supplied to the nation, electric power from hydropower stations accounts for 72 per cent, natural gas power plants for 20 per cent, steam power plants for 7.7 per cent and other means for 0.3 per cent, said the Union Minister.

The Union Minister added that the Ministry of Electric Power No (1) has to make huge investments to construct hydropower stations; it is learnt that the ministry had generated average amount of 4,742 million kWh of electricity in 2010-2011 fiscal year with 14 hydropower plants and Tikyit coal power plant under it and the average unit cost for production was 21.87 Kyats; so the ministry had operated at a loss of 1.87 Kyats per unit and thus had lost 8870 million Kyats in 2010-2011 fiscal year; of the undergoing hydropower projects, the average production cost of electricity from Upper Paunglaung and Nankhio hydropower projects is evaluated to be 38 Kyats per unit.

The Union Minister continued that in implementing new power grids, main power stations, line power lines and power stations yearly which needs huge investment, the fund granted by the State is not enough and thus his ministry and Ministry of Electric Power No (1) has to invite foreign assistance; for example, his ministry has overcame 10 difficulties in implementing Yeywa Hydropower Station with installed capacity of 790 megawatts in Mandalay Region; about 430 million US dollars and about 300 billion Kyats were invested in the power plant construction.

The Union Minister added that his ministry and Ministry of Electric Power No (1) had to construct various power lines and power stations so as to supply electricity from Yeywa Hydropower Station to end-users in Yangon Region; electricity from the power station passes through 69.75 miles long 230 KV, (60) MVA Thabyewa (Meiktila) power lines and power stations so as to supply electricity to end-users, the two ministries had to construct further 66 KV, 33 KV, 11 KV, 6.6 KV and 0.4 KV power lines and power stations and thus about 5,500 miles of power lines of different voltages and 7,900 power stations were constructed in Yangon Region for which the State had invested about 200 million US dollars and about 4,200 million Kyats. The other two ministries had invested about 775 million US dollars and about 762 billion Kyats to supply electricity from Yeywa Hydropower Station to end-users in Yangon Region.

The Union Minister added that his ministry has to construct electricity supply facilities with the annual capital fund allotted by the State and use sales revenue of electricity for normal expenses such as wages for staff, fuel for operation, maintenance of equipment, power lines, power stations and buildings; moreover, it has to pay tax on sale volume of electricity, and other expenses; in 2010-2011 fiscal year, the power ministry had only earned 342,767 billion Kyats and 20,023 million US dollars.

The Union Minister continued that the Ministry of Electric Power No (1) sells electricity 20 Kyats per unit and Shweho No (1) Hydropower Company 0.189 RMB; his ministry has purchased natural gas from the Ministry of Energy for operation of natural gas power plants under it and the production cost of those plants is 121.19 Kyats per unit on average.

The Union Minister said that the average unit cost is thus 72 Kyats; the electricity production cost of his ministry will vary with the price per unit of the Ministry of Electric Power No (1); electricity is being supplied at a loss of 261.342 billion Kyats per year according to the current price of electricity, so sales revenue of electricity far from contributing to investment for development of electricity sector, cannot even recover the production cost, noted the Union Minister.

The Union Minister continued that current charges for use of electricity is 25 Kyats per unit for household use, and 50 Kyats per unit for industrial use and thus the average price is 37.6 Kyats or 47 cents USD per unit; the electricity price in neighbours and developed countries are 8.91 cents USD or 71.28 Kyats per unit in Thailand, 5.42 cents USD or 43.36 Kyats per unit in Vietnam, 6.39 cents USD or 51.12 Kyats per unit in Laos, 20.54 cents USD or 164.32 Kyats per unit in Cambodia, 7.42 cents USD or 59.36 Kyats per unit in India, 7.66 cents USD or 61.28 Kyats per unit in China, 18.91 cents USD or 152.28 Kyats per unit in Japan, 5.96 cents USD or 47.68 Kyats per unit in Republic of Korea and thus the average electricity price of Myanmar is the cheapest among them. (See page 10)
Second regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw...

(from page 9)
With the aim of enabling the people to fully consume electricity, the government spent a large sum of foreign exchange and Myanmar currency in extending construction of buildings for electricity supply. Moreover, the government has been selling electricity at a loss yearly. In undertaking tasks to satisfy electricity demand of the people, only when the Ministries of Electricity takes a large amount of investment, will power lines and power stations be built for generating more electricity to be supplied to rural areas.

Due to taking foreign assistance in the investment volume, it is necessary to pay back such assistance. Electricity is essential for development of electric sector and for mechanizing the nation. If the lesser amount of fund is allotted, it will take a long time for implementing the projects. The Ministries of Electric Power are not enough for extending the works with more investment based on its income. Due to sales at a loss yearly, incomes from sales of electricity should be fair for putting more investment. To do so, the separate report will be submitted to the Union government. The people are also to participate in enhancement of electric sector of the State as part of efforts to develop their regions.

Dependent on the clarification of the Union Minister, the Hluttaw decided that Dr Khin Shwe will have to compile the proposal to be submitted to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in conformity with the response of the Union Minister.

Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye replied to questions on education sector raised by members and staffs in addition to teaching aid.

U Win Tint of Sagaing Region Constituency No. 1 asked whether there is a plan for students from Sagaing Township Exam Centre who passed matriculation examination to attend the universities in Mandalay to be able to save the costs; and if it is true, when the plan will be implemented. The Union Minister replied that as the government has been undertaking all-round development tasks in all parts of the Union, all development regions have been facilitated with at least one art and science university, one University of Computer Studies and one Technological University for enabling the students to learn higher education.

In line with the instructions of university entrance pre-distributed by the University Entrance Scrutiny Board, students who passed the matriculation examination are to attend the designated universities in respective regions for effective teaching for the students with capacity of higher learning institutions, strength of faculty members and staffs in addition to teaching aid. Thus, teaching will be effective to avoid cumulative number of students at single institution. Moreover, collection of charges including school fee at universities and degree colleges in various regions are the same in all subjects.

In line with the designated areas, students who passed the matriculation examination from exam centres of Sagaing Township are shared to attend Monywa University, Shwebo University and Medical University (Mawgyi). Thus, high learning institutions will have equitable number of students for their institutions. Therefore, effective education can be provided to them, and all regions will develop. At present, there is no plan for students of Sagaing Exam Centre to attend the universities in Mandalay.

U Swe Aung of Yangon Region Constituency No. 12 asked whether there is a plan for teachers to nurture the students for raising smart questions.

The Union Minister replied that the education promotion programmes has commenced since 1998 for uplifting proficiency of teachers in basic education sector. Among these tasks, Strengthening Child-Centred Approach SCCA-1 was launched from December 2004 to December 2007 and the SCCA-2 from December 2008 to December 2011. In cooperation with UNICEF, the Comprehensive Quality Education Program was realized from 2006 to 2010. Moreover, the Basic Education and Gender Equality Program is being implemented in project townships from 2011 to 2015. According to the plan, the training courses on SCCA are being conducted for improvement of teaching capability of PAT.

As the teachers apply SCCA method, children will have higher capacity of innovation, creation, analysis and problem solving in addition to higher capacity of learning. In December 2011, the SCCA-2 will come to an end. Teachers from primary schools in project townships and UNICEF project townships will have capability of applying child-centred approach method effectively. From the 2012-2013 to 2015-2016 academic year, training of Child Centre Approach-CCA courses will be provided to all PATs across the nation.

Similar courses will be provided in 49 townships in 2012-2013 academic year, 89 townships in 2013-2014 academic year and 83 townships in 2014-2015 academic year. Moreover, the refresher courses will be opened in 64 SCCA-2 project townships and about 30 CCA townships. By 2015-2016 academic year, a plan has been set to apply CCA method in all basic education schools.

Thus, arrangements are being made for promotion of learning capability of primary students by opening the CCA courses to all basic education teachers from 2012-13 to 2015-16 academic year.

Member of Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee U Zaw Myint Pe submitted the Bill on Ward or Village-tract Administration approved by the Pyithu Hluttaw together with the report of the committee.

The Hluttaw representatives wishing to participate in the discussions on the bill may enlist their names at the Amyotha Hluttaw Department.

U Khin Maung Yi of Ayeyawady Region No. 6 submitted a proposal that as allowed organization setup of township education offices under Basic Education Departments of the Ministry of Education across the nation are inadequate for operating their tasks, his proposal urged the Union government to repair the proper strength of organizational setup with suitable types of staff allowed by the department. A Hluttaw representa-

tive seconded it and the Hluttaw approved to discuss the proposal.

The Amyotha Hluttaw decided to send messages of sympathy to the Hluttaws of ASEAN AIPA member countries the Philippines and Vietnam where storm and floods hit.

The 30th day second session of the first Amyotha Hluttaw ended at 12.05 pm and the 31st day session continues at 10.30 am tomorrow.

Today’s session, Union ministers replied to three questions and one bill and one new proposal were submitted—MNA
Parents delaying, skipping recommended vaccines

NEW YORK, 4 Oct—
More than one in ten parents uses an “alternative” vaccination schedule for their young children, including refusing vaccines altogether, according to a US survey. Based on the findings, researchers worry that more parents may be refusing vaccines in the future — raising the risk that diseases like measles and whooping cough will spread in schools and early learning communities.

“The vaccines that we recommend have been so effective in largely eliminating the vaccine-preventable diseases that most parents don’t have first, second or even third hand experience with these diseases,” said Dr Amanda Dempsey, one of the authors of a new report based on the survey from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

Whether or not to get their kids vaccinated “is more of a theoretical concern or concept for them,” Dempsey told Reuters Health. But, she added, “These are really real risks that are out there. None of these diseases are completely eradicated.”

Confidence up among Japan’s big manufacturers

TOKYO, 4 Oct—
Sentiment among Japan’s major manufacturers turned positive in September as firms recovered from the impact of the country’s March disasters, the central bank said in its Tankan survey Monday.

But while the statistic returned to positive levels for the first time since the earthquake, tsunami and nuclear crisis, it remained below pre-disaster figures.

Worries over a strong yen, the eurozone debt crisis and a slowdown in the United States were responsible, analysts said.

Large manufacturer sentiment in September rose to two from minus nine in June, the quarterly survey showed, slightly lower than a market forecast of three. The sentiment of medium and small-sized firms remained negative.

The figures represent the percentage of companies saying business conditions are good minus those saying conditions are bad, with a positive reading illustrating that optimists outweigh pessimists.

With Arizona help, fabled Arab antelope lives anew

Al Qoa, 4 Oct—
Growing up in the Middle East, Myyas Ahmed al-Quarqaz only knew the Arabian Oryx from postage stamps. The antelope made famous in Arabian poetry and by its associations with the unicorn legend had been hunted to near-extinction. But over the past three decades, it has staged a remarkable comeback through a programme that got its start in the Arizona desert and has flourished under the united efforts of several Arabian Gulf countries.

Today the Arabian Oryx can once again be seen in settings reminiscent of the Bible, grazing and cavorting in the deserts of the Middle East, showing off the thin, graceful horns that underlie the unicorn legend because from a certain angle they look like a single horn, or because they are fragile and sometimes one of them can break off.

Al Quarqaz, a Jordanian, is a conservatist who has worked with the Abu Dhabi Environment Agency to reintroduce Oryx into a remote region of sand dunes, gravel flats and dry lake beds along the border with Saudi Arabia and Oman. The first 100 came in 2007 and the numbers have risen to 155 with the goal of reaching 500. A much smaller reserve exists outside neighbouring Dubai.

Online grocery shopping grows fast in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 4 Oct—The online shopping market for groceries in Singapore has been growing fast this year, according to statistics of online shopping payment service provider PayPal.

PayPal, which provides online payment services to virtual grocery stores in the city state, said that consumers spent 200 percent more in the first eight months of the year than they did in the whole of last year, local daily Straits Times reported on Monday.

A surge in growth was still expected towards the festive period at the end of the year.

PayPal handles payments for virtual retailers such as household—sg, the butcher.com.sg and supernature.com.sg.

Shopping online has been appealing to consumers who are Internet-savvy but time-strapped. They usually pay an extra 7 Singapore dollars to 12 Singapore dollars to have their items delivered. —Xinhua
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV HALUS VOY NO (1101S)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HALUS VOY NO (1101S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4.10.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expense and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after discharge of cargo from the Vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS KOOK YANG SHIPPING CO LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

Becks surprises teen with Pride of Britain invite

LONDON, 4 Oct — A British teenager got the shock of her life when her idol David Beckham handed her an invite to Mirror’s Pride of Britain ceremony, where she will receive a prestigious Teenager of Courage Award.

McAyla Johnston, 14, defied experts to walk and talk again following a horrific car accident at a busy crossroads. After overcoming critical injuries, she campaigned successfully for two crossings at the spot where she was hit.

“When I saw David I was so shocked I didn’t know what to say. I couldn’t believe he knew my name. He hugged me and smelled really nice,” the Mirror quoted McAyla, from Worcest-
er, as saying.

“He gave me a signed shirt and I told him I’ll never wash it. It was the best day of my life.

“When he said I’ve won a Pride of Britain Award I was so proud. He told me I’ve been very brave but I said I just wanted to make sure what happened to me doesn’t happen to others,” she added.— Internet

Health warning over dirty desks

LONDON, 4 Oct — Dirty office desks are harbouring germs which can quickly spread among staff as the office keyboard and mobile phone screens are hotspots for germs.

The study, by the Royal Society for Public Health and Nestle, has found that 80 per cent of people don’t clean their keyboards, 70 per cent don’t wash their phones and 90 per cent never wipe their desks.

The study was conducted at offices in London, Manchester and Leeds and found that germs were most prevalent on keyboards, with 94 per cent of people not cleaning them.

Dr Lisa Ackerley, a chartered envi-
ronmental health practitioner, said:

“While we know that many people have mould growing underneath.

Office staff, lawyers and account-
tables that have plagued offices are still working on the territory of ‘The Hand With Eyes’,” Mancera said. Police in Mexico City arrested the gang’s suspected leader, Oscar Osvaldo Garcia, also known as “The Hand With Eyes,” in August. Mancera said on Monday that authorities remained committed to tracking down members of the gang and stopping its growth. Authorities were still working on Monday to identify the victims.

Byehandles have become a signature sign of the brutality violent turf battles between drug car-
tels that have plagued cities across Mexico.

A school district in Nebraska has banned a necklace that looks like a rosary because it is being used as a symbol of gang affiliation.

Omaha Catholic Archdiocese Chancellor Rev. Joseph Taphorn said Christians should not have to give up a symbol of their faith because others misuse it.

The American Civil Liberties Union opposes the policy, saying it vio-
lates the rights of free speech and religion.

Two severed heads found in Mexican capital

MEXICO CITY, 4 Oct — Authorities found two severed heads along a highway in Mexico City on Monday morning, the city’s attorney general said. The heads were inside a car near the border dividing the city from neighbouring Mexico state, Attorney General Miguel Mancera told reporters. The nation’s defence ministry was also nearby.

A lengthy message was left beside the heads, Mancera said, detailing that a drug gang known as “The Hand With Eyes” was responsible.

“It ends saying that the territory of ‘The Hand With Eyes’ is so extensive that it has reached the metropoli-
tan area and hasn’t disappeared,” Mancera said. Police in Mexico City arrested the gang’s suspected leader, Oscar Osvaldo Garcia, also known as “The Hand With Eyes,” in August. Mancera said on Monday that authorities remained committed to tracking down members of the gang and stopping its growth. Authorities were still working on Monday to identify the victims.

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A school district in Nebraska has banned a necklace that looks like a rosary because it is being used as a symbol of gang affiliation.

Omaha Catholic Archdiocese Chancellor Rev. Joseph Taphorn said Christians should not have to give up a symbol of their faith because others misuse it.

The American Civil Liberties Union opposes the policy, saying it vio-
lates the rights of free speech and religion.

Two severed heads found in Mexican capital

MEXICO CITY, 4 Oct — Authorities found two severed heads along a highway in Mexico City on Monday morning, the city’s attorney general said. The heads were inside a car near the border dividing the city from neighbouring Mexico state, Attorney General Miguel Mancera told reporters. The nation’s defence ministry was also nearby.

A lengthy message was left beside the heads, Mancera said, detailing that a drug gang known as “The Hand With Eyes” was responsible.

“It ends saying that the territory of ‘The Hand With Eyes’ is so extensive that it has reached the metropoli-
tan area and hasn’t disappeared,” Mancera said. Police in Mexico City arrested the gang’s suspected leader, Oscar Osvaldo Garcia, also known as “The Hand With Eyes,” in August. Mancera said on Monday that authorities remained committed to tracking down members of the gang and stopping its growth. Authorities were still working on Monday to identify the victims.

Byehandles have become a signature sign of the brutality violent turf battles between drug car-
tels that have plagued cities across Mexico.
**Woman sues Walmart over 2 cents, wins $100**

A Pennsylvania woman was awarded $100 in damages from Walmart over a 2-cent disparity between an item’s tagged price and its scanned price.

Murrysville District Judge Charles Conway sided with consumer activist Mary Bach of Murrysville, whose civil suit against Walmart claimed the company intentionally charged 2 cents more for Banquet “Brown N’ Serve” sausage than the price on the tag at the location near Delmont, the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review reported Monday.

Conway awarded Bach, whose suit alleged unfair trade practices, $100 in damages and $80 in court costs Thursday.

“This is the fifth lawsuit we’ve had against this store for the same problem,” Bach said. “This isn’t an isolated incident.”

Walmart, which had claimed the price difference was the result of new packaging for the products, has 30 days to appeal the verdict.

**Britney Spears searching for homeless fan**

**LONDON, 4 Oct—**

Singer Britney Spears is searching for a homeless fan so that she can reward him with her entire music catalogue. The Toxic hitmaker was moved when she saw a photo of the man carrying a piece of cardboard with the words, “Need to get new Britney Spears CD”

**Reese Witherspoon finds internet challenging**

**LONDON, 4 Oct—**

Actress Reese Witherspoon finds the internet confusing about her children using the internet, fearing they will be exposed to online predators.

Witherspoon has kids Ava, 12, and Deacon, 7, from her marriage to actor Ryan Phillippe.

“The internet is just so challenging as a parent. Your children are a click away from pornography and paedophilia, and it’s just really upsetting. It feels like a siege. It really makes me upset.

“I wish I had some sort of forum for women dealing with this, because I have so many friends who don’t know what to do. I just don’t know how to parent in the digital age. I’m terrified of it. To
drum up support for live nation, Simon Cowell supports lottery game**

**LONDON, 4 Oct—**

Music mogul Simon Cowell is backing a lottery game called The Health Lottery which will raise funds for health projects across the country. The game offers a top prize of $160,000 to entrants, while $80 million will go towards helping people across the Britain.

“I thought it was one of those great ideas that can make a real difference and to show my support I’ve bought 5,000 Health Lottery tickets.

“Raising 50 million pounds in the first year is going to help a huge amount of people and if my numbers come up I will put the money back into the charity,” femalefirst.co.uk quoted the 51-year-old as saying. The first prize draw is set to take place Saturday.

**Drunk man steals ambulance, crashes it**

A 37-year-old drunk man stole an ambulance before crashing it and needing assistance from another ambulance, police say. Paramedics were putting an uncouped stretcher into an empty ambulance at Norwegian-American Hospital when the man got in and took off, the Chicago Tribune reported.

He crashed the ambulance a mile and a half away, hitting several vehicles on the way, Chicago Police News Affairs Officer Amina Greer said. The man suffered minor injuries and was transported back to Norwegian-American Hospital in another ambulance.
**Dowing backs Carroll to fire**

Liverpool, 4 Oct — Liverpool’s Stewart Downing says a Mersey-side derby goal provides the ideal platform for striker Andy Carroll. The Reds’ £35m club-record signing broke the dead-lock in the 2-0 win against 10-man Everton at Goodison Park on Saturday. It was the England international’s first goal in seven Barclays Premier League appearances this season, having only previously scored against League One strugglers Exeter City in the Carling Cup.

Carroll scored twice — in the same match against Manchester City — in seven appearances last season after an injury-interrupted start to his Liverpool career having moved from Newcastle United in January. After a full pre-season the 22-year-old looks leaner and fitter and despite putting in some performances of promise he was short of a goal but Downing believes his strike in the 216th Merseyside derby will give the big centre-forward the confidence boost he needs. “Andy’s off the mark now. Without scoring he’s been doing well for us and he deserved it for his all-around play,” said Downing. “That goal is a real bonus and for it to happen in the derby is extra special for him. Andy is a quality striker and I’m sure he’ll build on this. It was such an important goal as this was a big win for us.”

**Chelseas expect Drogba deal**

LONDON, 4 Oct — Andre Villas-Boas is confident Chelsea can convince Didier Drogba to pen a contract extension when the time is right. The Ivorian’s current deal is set to expire next summer and there is no rush to tie the striker and I’m sure he’ll build on this. It was such an important goal as this was a big win for us.”

Stewart Downing was thrilled to see Andy Carroll score on Saturday.

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**S P O R T S**

**Pereira extends Porto deal**

LISBON, 4 Oct — Uruguayan international left-back Alvaro Pereira has extended his contract with FC Porto by a year until June 2016, the Portuguese champions announced on Monday. The 25-year-old arrived in Porto two years ago from Romanian club Chindia. His contract has a get-out clause worth 30 million euros ($40m).

Uruguayan international left-back Alvaro Pereira.

**French dealt double injury blow for Euro qualifiers**

PARIS, 4 Oct — France suffered a double blow ahead of two crucial Euro 2012 qualifiers as midfielders Franck Ribery and Blaise Matuidi were ruled out of both matches because of injury. The duo will miss the Euro 2000 champions’ final two qualifiers against Albania on Sunday and the potential table-topping decider against Bosnia-Herzegovina next Tuesday. Ribery has injuries to both calves while Matuidi has a left thigh injury which were confirmed by scans on Monday.

They join Real Madrid striker Karim Benzema, who was also ruled out on Monday with a groin injury.

French midfielder Tim Cahill.

**London Olympic stadium track completed**

LONDON, 4 Oct — London 2012 celebrated another milestone on the Olympic Park as the track in the Olympic Stadium was unveiled on Monday. World record holder and Paralympic gold medalist Dan Greaves, British long jump record holder Chris Tomlinson and World Championships silver medalist Hannah England were the first athletes to take to the track.

They were joined by local school children from West Ham Church Primary School in Newham who will benefit from the Stadium’s legacy plans to be a venue for sport, athletics, community and cultural events. The track is about 13.5mm in depth, making it one of the fastest surfaces. It will be covered again to protect it while the Stadium continues its overlay installation. An 80m sprint straight identical to the full competition track has also been laid under one of the main stands, as well as an identical 400m warm-up track which is the other side of the Greenway and will be linked to Stadium via a new temporary bridge.

**London, 4 Oct —** Andre Villas-Boas is hoping to keep Didier Drogba at the club.

London, 4 Oct — London’s Barca Sagna is likely to be out for three months after breaking his leg in the defeat to Tottenham Hotspur. Sagna was taken off the pitch on a stretcher after falling badly in the 68th minute and news of the break was later confirmed on the club’s official website.

Sagna joins an injury list at the Emirates that already includes Jack Wilshere, Thomas Vermaelen, Abou Diaby and Johan Djourou. Carl Jenkinson, a summer signing from Charlton Athletic, came on for Sagna against Spurs and could now be set for an extended run in the first team.

A club statement read: “The club can confirm that Bacary Sagna sustained a fracture to the fibula in his right leg during the match against Tottenham Hotspur.

“Further detailed investigations and assessments will take place on Monday, during which time Bacary will see ankle specialists and the Arsenal medical team regarding the further management of his injury.”

**London, 4 Oct —** Andre Villas-Boas is confident Chelsea can convince Didier Drogba to pen a contract extension when the time is right. The Ivorian’s current deal is set to expire next summer and he is yet to commit his future to the club past that point. The Blues insist there is no rush to tie the powerful striker down, with discussions regarding fresh terms ongoing.

Villas-Boas believes Drogba will sign when he is ready, with it difficult to imagine him breaking his emotional ties with the club after seven years at Stamford Bridge. “I don’t see it as a big issue,” said the Blues boss. “Players who are attached emotionally to this club - and Didier is attached emotionally to this club - will eventually renew their contract. “So I go into no panic on that situation.”

Andre Villas-Boas is hoping to keep Didier Drogba at the club.

**Everton’s Cahill ruled out of Australia squad**

LONDON, 4 Oct — Everton midfielder Tim Cahill has been ruled out of Australia’s squad for their World Cup qualifying matches against Malaysia and Oman, his club announced on Monday. The 31-year-old had been scheduled to fly home for the two matches, which will take place in Canberra on Friday and in Sydney next Tuesday.

But Everton’s medical staff said he would require more time to recover from an ankle injury sustained in a duel with Manchester City defender Vincent Kompany in Everton’s 2-0 loss on 24 September. “Tim played through the pain barrier on Saturday against Liverpool but the scan showed that the best course of action now is rest and rehab,” Everton’s head of medical and analytics Denny Donachie told the club website.

Everton’s midfielder Tim Cahill.

**Italian national football coach team Cesare Prandelli**

ROME, 4 Oct — Cesare Prandelli warned on Monday that there would be no let-up for Italy in Euro 2012 qualifiers against Serbia and Northern Ireland next year as Group C winners but both their opponents are still in contention for second place and a spot in the play-offs.

“These are not friendlies but official matches. We have to play our best and respect fair play,” Prandelli said at the team’s training base on the outskirts of Florence.

Prandelli has opted not to turn around his squad apart from 2006 World Cup-winning midfielder Andrea Barzagli making his return after three years, along with Atalanta midfielder Luca Cigarini, who was last called up in October 2010 but did not play. “To change the balance wouldn’t suit, it’s better to maintain a certain continuity,” explained Prandelli.

**Sagna suffered broken leg**

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**Prandelli says no let-up for Italy in Euro qualifiers**

Italian national football coach team Cesare Prandelli.

**French deal double injury blow for Euro qualifiers**

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They join Real Madrid striker Karim Benzema, who was also ruled out on Monday with a groin injury.

Arsenal defender Bacary Sagna had already been forced to withdraw with a broken leg he suffered in Sunday’s Premier League defeat against Spurs - he was replaced by Mathieu Debuchy. France coach Laurent Blanc has yet to decide whether to call up replacements for Ribery, Matuidi and Benzema.

The French are top of Group D one point ahead of the Bosnians with both having two matches remaining. Romania are five points adrift of France but could nick top spot if they both win their matches and the other results went their way.
Cracks appear in Asian demand for contemporary art

HONG KONG, 4 Oct—The Asian art market juggernaut showed signs of weakness on Monday in Sotheby’s sales of Chinese 20th century and Asian contemporary art as global stock markets plunged on a darkening global economic outlook.

Sotheby’s biannual Asia sales in Hong Kong, the world’s third largest art auction hub after New York and London, are a closely watched barometer of art and luxury market sentiment for its array of offerings spanning Chinese antiques to fine wines.

While prices were still strong for early masterpieces from prominent artists like Zhang Xiaogang, mid-tier works struggled to find buyers with 27 percent of Asian contemporary works and 22.6 percent of the 20th century Chinese art work failing to sell on tepid biding.

A fine and rare famille-rose “peach” vase, Tianqiuping, with a seal mark and period of Qianlong, which is estimated to fetch 10.3 to 15.4 million dollars, is shown during a Sotheby’s preview in Hong Kong on 7 September, 2011.—INTERNET

Captain Thein Oo Myint (Terrence Myint), husband of Daw Thet Sanda (Rosie Par), son in law of U Par and Daw Tin Kyi of No. 168, Dhammazedi Road, Bahan Township, Yangon. Brother in law of U Kyaw Thein and Daw Yuzane. U Khin Maung Myint + Daw Wai Wai, U Soe Tun + Daw Aye Marlar, Daw Tin Thet Sanda (Rosie Par), son in law of U Par and Daw Tin Kyi of No. 168, Dhammazedi Road, Bahan Township, Yangon.

The cars will be departing from 168, Dhammazedi Road, Bahan at 10 am to the Yay Way Cemetery on 7th October 2011 at 12 pm. The cars will be departing from 168, Dhammazedi Road, Bahan at 10 am to the Yay Way Cemetery. A month memorial will be held at 168, Dhammazedi Road, Bahan Township, Yangon.

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Nay Pyi Taw, 4 Oct—Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint received a delegation led by member of the House of Representatives of Japan Mr Ryota Takeda at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building, here, at 9 am today.

Also present at the call were Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyine, chairmen of committees of Amyotha Hluttaw, National Races Representatives, women Hluttaw representatives and officials of the Hluttaw Office. The Japanese member of House of Representatives and party were accompanied by officials of the Japanese Embassy to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

They discussed maintaining cooperation in all sectors and friendly ties between the two countries and two peoples based on historical relations between Myanmar and Japan, ongoing realization of the significant and heartily relations, promotion of relations between two Hluttaws and investment in economic, trade and investment sectors.—MNA

Ministerial meeting on drug control cooperation between Myanmar, Laos held

Nay Pyi Taw, 4 Oct — A second ministerial meeting on drug control cooperation between Myanmar and Laos was held at the Myanmar International Convention Centre here today.

It was attended by Chairman of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Chairman of the Lao PDR National Commission for Drug Control Minister to the Prime Minister’s Office Mr. Soubanh Srithirath, Laotian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Nilahath Sayarath and senior officials, Chief of Myanmar Police Force Kyaw Kyaw Tun and senior officials.

First, the Union Minister and the Chairman of Lao National Commission for Drug Control delivered opening addresses.

During the meeting, the two sides cordially and openly discussed matters on promoting bilateral drug control cooperation in border areas and along the Mekong River, arresting trans-border drug culprits and controlling chemicals used in drug production.

The meeting ended with concluding remarks by Union Minister Lt-Gen Ko Ko and Laotian Minister Mr. Soubanh Srithirath.

After the meeting, they had documentary photos taken together with participants of the meeting.

MNA

Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint receives member of the House of Representatives of Japan Mr Ryota Takeda.—MNA

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall

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