Peace talks between Union level peace group and Special Region (4) peace group held for first time

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct — The Union level peace group formed by the Union Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar held peace talks with Special Region (4) peace group for the first time at Kengtung yesterday.

At the peace talks, Leader of Special Region (4) U San Pae insisted that Special Region (4) would never secede from the Union and oppose the State. It would contribute efforts towards internal peace and border region development in cooperation with the government.

Next, both sides held discussions on cooperation in reopening of liaison offices, reassignment of staff for ensuring better education, health, agriculture and transport in the Special Region (4) and elimination of narcotic drugs, and signed agreements.

The meeting was attended by the 10 member-Union level peace group led by Pyithu Hluttaw Representative of Taungtha Township U Aung Thaung and the 10-member Special Region (4) peace group led by U San Pae. It is learnt that further discussions will be held.

After the meeting, both sides exchanged gifts. — MNA

Farmers observe thriving model paddy farms in Dekkhinathiri Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct — Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing met 350 farmers from Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, who arrived at 500-acre model mechanized farm in Nyaungbingyisu of Pobbathiri Township, at the hall of the farm this morning.

In his speech, the Union Minister said that while the government is implementing eight tasks of rural development and poverty alleviation, the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation is also discharging duty of development in agriculture sector.

The ministry is ready to provide agricultural knowledge to the farmers as much as possible. Farmers and agriculturists are urged to make collaborative efforts for development of agriculture.

A total of 28 dams in Nay Pyi Taw can store 2.5 times of water volume more than that of previous year due to larger amount of rainfalls. So, the irrigation facilities supply sufficient water to 28,415 acres of summer paddy and 12,000 acres of farmlands being undertaken through good agriculture pattern.

The farmers viewed thriving vegetable saplings and kitchen crops at glasshouse in 500-acre model mechanized farm.

They looked into thriving of 10-acre farmer educative monsoon paddy farm in Aungthukha Village and 20-hectare mechanized farm in Chaing Village and 40-acre monsoon paddy farm in Chaing Village in Dekkhinathiri Township.

MNA
**PERSPECTIVES**

Tuesday, 11 October, 2011

Seek effective ways and means to avert impacts of nature

Nowadays, several countries suffer from storms, floods and other natural disasters triggered by global climate change. Heavy rains in Mandalay Region during the recent days flooded crop plantations and caused flooding in Kyaukse. So Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham on 8 October arrived in Kyaukse to provide necessary assistance for flood victims.

The government spent big amount of money in construction of dams across the nation. Prevention against floods is embodied in the original aims of building dams.

The Vice-President said that although it is hard to tame the nature of overflow of floodwaters caused by heavy rains, weakness in functions of dams and water outlets at the river, narrowing of watercourse at downstream Zawgyi River and increased silting in the dams are to be remedied.

Besides, he stressed the need for annual maintenance of watercourse in the river, effective management on inflow and outflow of water depending on water level of the river and systematic measures to control water at the dam and release water from the dam before reaching its highest level in accord with set standards.

Preventive measures against waterborne diseases should be taken during prolonged floods. Arrangements are needed to maintain roads and bridges and not to cause floods and overflow of water in irrigation system of Zawgyi River again.

Although overflow of river water is an unpredictable nature, ways and means are to be sought and much of the preparation to be done ahead of time so as to be able to avert potential impacts inflicted by the nature. Harmonious efforts are essential for the sake of the nature.

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**Union Electric Power No (2) Minister on inspection tour of Bayintnaung main power station**

**Union Minister for Electric Power No (2) U Khin Maung Soe inspects Bayintnaung main power station in Mayangon Township. — MNA**

**Special Refresher Course No (77) for basic education teachers opens**

**NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct — The opening of Special Refresher Course No (77) for basic education teachers was held at the hall of Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) this morning, with an address by Chairperson of Union Civil Service Board U Kyaw Thu.**

Also present were Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyu, member of Union Civil Service Board U Khin Maung Aye, Yangon Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myint Thein and officials and trainees.

In his address, the Union Civil Service Board chairperson said that education is vital importance to human resources development which is needed for strengthening political, economic and State Defence forces. In shaping the nation into modern and developed democratic one, it is required to produce more intellectuals and intelligentsia. Realization of international education standards calls for more efforts to put in undertakings for all-round development of education sector, he added. Now necessary measures are being taken and 30-year plan of basic education sector is being employed. The chairperson urged trainees to perform dutifully their educational tasks based on nationalistic fervour and Union spirit.

A total of 1503 basic education teachers are taking the Special Refresher Course No (77) at CICS (Phaunggyi). — MNA

**Dy Education Minister receives Counsellor-Head of Operations of European Union**

**NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct— Deputy Minister for Education U Ba Shwe received a delegation led by Ms. Veronique Lorenzo of Counsellor-Head of Operations of the European Union, at the Ministry of Education, here, at 3.30 pm today. They discussed cooperation in education with EU. Also present at the call were Director-General U Zaw Hay of Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) and Director-General U Bo Win of Education Planning and Training Department. — MNA**

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**“Vivid memories of Kani” comes out**

**NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct.— “Vivid memories of Kani” by Shwehintha (Mandalay) has come out recently. The second-prize winning work in belle-letter genre of Kani” by Shwehintha (Mandalay) has come out recently.**

The book is a chronicle of Kani in Monywa District of Sagaing Region from imperial reign to the time of Tatmadaw Government through colonial period, period under Japanese rule, post-independence period and socialist programme party period. Moreover, it features famous persons of Kani, historical events in functions of dams and water outlets at the river, narrowing of watercourse at downstream Zawgyi River and increased silting in the dams are to be remedied.

The book is available at Sarpay Beikman reps in different townships.— MNA
Two NATO oil tankers torched in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 10 Oct—Unknown armed men in southwestern Pakistan Sunday torched two oil tankers, carrying oil for the NATO forces in the neighbouring Afghanistan, police in the region said. Police said that Afghanistan-bound two oil tankers were coming from the port City of Karachi when armed men riding a motorbike set ablaze the two tankers in Bolan District of Balochistan Province.

No one was hurt in the attack. The gunmen fled after the attack. Police and fire brigade personnel reached the site and extinguished the fire.

No group claimed responsibility for the attack. But suspected militants routinely target NATO supplies trucks and oil tankers mostly in Pakistan’s northwest and attacks in Balochistan are rare.

Officials say that about 70 percent supplies for up to 160,000 US-led NATO troops are transported through Pakistan.

The United States has signed deal with Russia for alternate supply route in view of frequent attacks on NATO trucks in Pakistan.—Xinhua

Three suspected robbers killed in northern Philippines

MANILA, 10 Oct—Three suspected robbers were killed following a chase and firefight with policemen in Santo Tomas town in the northern Philippine Province of Batangas on Monday, police said.

Batangas police spokesman Supt Nicolas Torre said patrolling operatives of the Santo Tomas police were about to check two suspicious men in front of a computer shop at San Roque village around 5 am when the two hurriedly boarded a parked jeep driven by a companion.

The suspects fired shots at the policemen before speeding away, prompting the lawmen to engage in a chase, which ended up in a shootout which resulted in the death of the three, said Torre.

Police recovered at the computer shop a bolt cutter, bolstering suspicions that the slain suspects, allegedly members of the so-called Bolt Cutter Gang, are robbers.—Xinhua

Rocket attack kills two civilians, wound another in Afghanistan

ASSADABAD, (Afghanistan) 10 Oct—Two civilians were killed and another was injured as a rocket fired by militants hit a residential area in Kunar Province with Assadabat its capital 185 km east of Afghan capital City Kabul on Tuesday, over taking a multi-storey building under construction near the diplomatic district in the Afghan capital and firing rockets in the direction of several embassy and NATO compounds.

A damaged vehicle is seen after a rocket-propelled attack in Kabul recently. Taleban suicide fighters launched the attack on central Kabul on Tuesday, taking over a multi-storey building under construction near the diplomatic district in the Afghan capital and firing rockets in the direction of several embassy and NATO compounds.

INTERNET

An Afghan policeman keeps watch after an explosion on a police vehicle in Herat Province recently. The motorcycle bomb in western Afghanistan killed a civilian and two policemen, the first female police casualties since the conservative Muslim country began recruiting female officers four years ago.

INTERNET

Iran to be present in int’l waters: navy commander

TEHERAN, 10 Oct—Iranian Navy Commander Rear Admiral Habibollah Sayyari said Sunday that Iran has the undeniable right to be actively present in international waters, the local satellite Press TV reported.

“Based on international law, presence in international waters is the indisputable right of Iran and no country can deprive it of this right,” Sayyari was quoted as saying at a ceremony held to mark the first international mission of Iran’s domestically-built Jamaran destroyer on Sunday.

Iran’s 16th fleet of warships, which include domestically-built Jamaran destroyer and the Bandar Abbas frigate, left for the Gulf of Aden on Sunday in line with efforts to provide security for Iranian trade vessels, said Press TV.

The 1,420-ton destroyer is equipped with modern radars and electronic warfare capabilities. It has a top speed of up to 30 knots and has a helipad. It also features highly advanced anti-aircraft, anti-surface and anti-subsurface systems and is equipped with torpedoes and naval cannons.

The Iranian commander emphasized that the Islamic republic will not carry out an act of aggression against any country but vowed to resist the enemies.

On Sunday, he said that “presence in the Mediterranean Sea, the Suez Canal, south of the Indian Ocean and in international waters is at the top of the Navy’s agenda,” and that Iranian warships would be equipped with long-range anti-ship cruise missiles, according to Press TV.

INTERNET
The diamondback moth (Plutella xylostella), one of the world’s most destructive vegetable pests, has evolved resistance to native Bt (Bacillus thuringiensis) toxins, but it can be killed with genetically modified Bt toxins.—INTERNET

Auckland, Oct—Google’s new software for using Gmail without an Internet connection comes across as a throwback to an era when we weren’t connected all the time and on all sorts of devices, from phones to tablets. The software itself was easy to install and use — once I found it. It requires a Gmail account and won’t work with Yahoo, Hotmail and other Web-based email services.

Also, it works only with Google’s Chrome browser, which means I had to install it on my laptop to start using it. I then had to open the browser and open a new tab to find a link to Google’s Chrome Web Store. After that, I had to find the free Offline Google Mail software among the scores of offerings at the store.

The software is still in a “beta” test mode, a label that Google Inc. sometimes slaps on products for months or years. That’s a way of saying that you may encounter glitches along the way.

Singapore firm working on “indoor GPS”

Singapore, 10 Oct—A Singapore start-up firm has devised an innovative application to allow phone users to have access to their positioning information within buildings, where traditional global positioning system has often proved inaccurate, local daily Business Times reported on Monday.

The firm YFind Positioning System feels that the application can help turn Singapore into the world’s first location-intelligent city.

Ting See Ho, co-founder of the firm, said the application works by first verifying the GPS coordinates to identify the building the user is in, and then collecting RSSI (received signal strength information) readings off WiFi access points within the building.

The information is then sent by the phone to the central positioning server for comparison against records of the radio map of the building, which is calibrated earlier by the company.

Ting said the RSSI readings continually fluctuates, making it difficult to estimate a position.

This is where YFind Positioning System steps in with its patent-pending proba-bilistic algorithms to help accurately estimated the user’s indoor positions.

Once the phone application determines the location, then, it is able to map a course for a shop or other destination within the building where the user wants to go.

“You can think of it as creating an ‘indoor GPS’ environment in the buildings where satellite signals cannot be read,” Ting said.

He said that more than ten organizations in Singapore have approached the company to discuss deployment and partnerships and that it has begun work on three proof-of-concepts.

The company’s immediate goal is to make Singapore the world’s first location-intelligent city before going to other cities, he said.

Xinhua

Netflix kills plan to split off DVD rentals

New York, 10 Oct—Netflix Inc is abandoning its widely panned decision to separate its DVD-by-mail and Internet streaming services because it would make them more difficult to use.

Subscribers will be able to use both services under one account and one password, CEO Reed Hastings said Monday in a blog post.

Investors saw the reversal as an Oscar-worthy move, sending the stock up $1.24, or 9.6 percent, to $12.45, in midday trading.

Less than a month ago, the Netflix said it would split the DVD rental business off on a new website, to be called Qwikster.

Subscribers howled at the move, saying they saw Netflix as a destination for movies in general and didn’t want to manage two accounts.

“It is clear that for many of our members two websites would make things more difficult, so we are going to keep Netflix as one place to go for streaming and DVDs,” Hastings said in the blog post.

In July, the company said that customers who want streaming movies and DVDs will have to pay for them separately.

The “Qwikster” announcement was a follow-up to that change. Analysts saw it as a way for Netflix to distance itself from the older DVD business, which has less future potential than Internet streaming.

Even with Monday’s premarket bounce, Netflix’s shares have been savaged by the price change and the “Qwikster” initiative. They’ve lost more than half their value since July.

Internet

The new Fitbit Ultra features a Stair Tracker to help track how many steps you climb each day.

New York, 10 Oct—This week Fitbit launched its second-generation fitness tracking device, called Fitbit Ultra, with new wireless features and lifestyle tracking metrics, as well as its first iPhone app.

The first new offering from the company since its initial launch in 2009, the Ultra upgrades its original wireless-enabled fitness and calorie tracker with a new Stair Tracker, which measures vertical steps with a built-in altimeter. In addition, the new Fitbit features a Stopwatch Challenge for beating previous running times, and a motivational coaching system (notes such as “Walk Me” will appear on the device).

Like its original device, the Ultra features an internal motion detector to track a user’s movements, sleep habits, and calorie burn during both the day and night. The new app includes food-tracking and activity-planning features.

Fitbit Ultra is now available at Fitbit’s website for $99.95 in blue and its new color, plum.

The new device joins a slew of wearable, portable devices that track your movements and aim to get you fit, including the Striiv fitness tracker, which launched on October 15 and blends fitness and gaming with something a bit unexpected—charitable donations. Other devices on the market include Adidas MiCoach Pacer, Affectiva Q Sensor, Basis BodyMedia BodyFit, DigitG, Jawbone UP, and Nike+GPS.—INTERNET

T-Mobile Announces Samsung Galaxy Tab 10.1 & Springboard


The Springboard is a 7-inch tablet with a 1.2 GHz dual-core CPU, 32 GB of expandable memory and a 5-megapixel rear camera, as well as a 1.3-megapixel front-facing camera for video chats. The Samsung Galaxy Tab 10.1 needs no introduction, as it’s already available at Best Buy and Verizon. It sports a 10.1-inch screen, a 1 GHz dual-core Nvidia Tegra 2 CPU, and a duo of 2 and 3-megapixel cameras for your video and photo-taking needs.

Both the Springboard and Samsung Galaxy Tab 10.1 will support T-Mobile’s HSPA+ fast data transfer standard.

T-Mobile hasn’t announced the price for either device, but both should be available “in time for holidays” in T-Mobile retail stores and over at t-mobile.com. The fate of Samsung’s tablet, however, is slightly more uncertain, as Apple plans to seek a preliminary injunction to prevent sales of the device in the US in just a couple of days.

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**Futures signal higher Wall Street opening**

**LONDON, 10 Oct—**Stock index futures pointed to a higher opening for equities on Wall Street on Monday, with futures for the S&P 500, for the Dow Jones and for the Nasdaq 100 rising 0.9 to 1 percent. Government offices and bond markets are closed for the Columbus Day holiday, although US stock markets will be open.

Superior Energy Services Inc has agreed to buy Complete Production Services Inc in a cash-and-stock deal valued at $2.7 billion, creating an entity that could expand its footprint in the oil-field services sector.

The newspaper said, citing sources with direct knowledge.

**MUMBAI, 10 Oct—**Starbucks Corp is finalizing an equity joint venture with India’s Tata Coffee Ltd for opening coffee shops in Asia’s third-largest economy, the Times of India reported on Monday.

Seattle-based Starbucks had held talks with other potential partners in India including fast food chain operator Jubilant Foodworks before settling down with Tata Coffee, the newspaper said, citing sources with direct knowledge.

Tata Coffee’s managing director, Hameed Huq, could not be reached by Reuters at his office in Bangalore, and Starbucks did not immediately respond to a mail seeking comment on the report.

Starbucks had signed a pact with Tata Coffee, part of the Tata industrial conglomerate, in January to buy coffee from India and explore opening retail stores in the country, the companies had said in a statement.

The Times of India said the Starbucks joint venture deal with Tata Coffee would also be backed by other bigger firms within the salt-to-software Tata group.

India’s foreign direct investment regulations will allow Starbucks to hold up to 51 percent in the joint venture and Tata shares may be routed through more than one group entity, including Tata Coffee, the newspaper said.—Reuters

**Starbucks close to cafe JV with Tata Coffee**

**INTERNET**

**Men develop diabetes with less body fat than women**

**GLASGOW, 10 Oct—**Men develop type 2 diabetes at a lower body-mass index (BMI) than women, and this finding helps explain why men have higher rates of diabetes in many parts of the world, researchers report.

They analyzed data from 51,920 men and 43,137 women in Scotland with diabetes and found that average BMI at diabetes diagnosis was 31.83 in men and 33.69 in women. This difference was most noticeable at younger ages, the researchers said.

The study was published online 30 Sept in the journal Diabetologia. The findings confirm the hypothesis that men have to gain less weight to develop diabetes, according to study leader Professor Naveed Sattar, of the Institute of Cardiovascular and Medical Sciences at the University of Glasgow. Fat distribution may explain why men develop diabetes with less weight gain than women.

Men tend to have more fat in their abdominal regions and in their liver than women, while women have greater amounts of “safe” subcutaneous (beneath the skin) fat than men.

“It is worrying that men develop type 2 diabetes at a higher rate than their female counterparts. Research like this will help us understand reasons why and provide greater insight into what we can do to improve prevention of type 2 diabetes,” Dr Victoria King, head of research at Diabetes UK, said in a university news release.—Internet

**Australian skin cancer research discovers two genetic variants**

**BRISBANE, 10 Oct—**Scientists have discovered two new genetic variants that increase the risk of melanoma skin cancer, according to an international study, led by Australia’s Queensland Institute of Medical Research (QIMR), revealed on Monday.

The variants were discovered in the study of the DNA of more than 2,000 Australians with melanoma and over 4,000 without it.

The study found that if a patient had either variant they had a 13 percent increased risk of developing the cancer.

Lead QIMR researcher Stuart MacGregor said that finding these two genetic variants will help increase the ability to predict those individuals most at risk of developing the potentially deadly disease.

“This new finding is exciting as early diagnosis is critical in melanoma to improve the outcome of people who develop the disease,” MacGregor said.

“Identifying these variants is an essential step toward determining accurate risk estimates for the disease,” he said.

“This, in turn, means people will be better informed and can take the right precautions to avoid developing this increasingly common cancer.”

MacGregor said unlike the other 18 variants that are already known, the two new genetic variant do not appear to act by simply changing skin pigmentation or mole count.

“One variant appears to play a role in how DNA is repaired following damage by ultraviolet (UV) radiation, while the other variant may play a role in tumor formation,” he said. Melanoma is one of the most common cancers affecting young people in Australia. It is also the most life threatening type of skin cancer. “Discovering more about the genetic basis of melanoma may help us to better diagnose and treat melanoma in the future,” MacGregor said.
**US hails India’s key role in Afghanistan**

WASHINGTON, 10 Oct—Applauding India’s key role in Afghanistan, the US has said that New Delhi has been helpful in providing training to the security forces of the war-torn country to help improve the situation there. “India has a training presence inside Afghanistan and has (it) for a quite some time. Obviously President (Hamid) Karzai finds that very helpful,” Pentagon spokesman, Capt John Kirby, told reporters last evening.

He welcomed India’s decision to train the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF), a pact on which was inked between the two countries this week during the New Delhi visit of Karzai. Noting that a secure and stable Afghanistan is good for the region, the Pentagon spokesman said this can be achieved by having a strong Afghan security force, in which India is playing a key role now. “Everybody in the region stands to benefit from a secure and stable Afghanistan. The degree to which President Karzai wants to continue its relationship with India, is certainly his decision the elected leader of that sovereign nation,” he said.

“We certainly support that to improve security there. It is not just about Afghanistan. It is a regional issue. India has been helpful in the past, helping train the ANSF (Afghan National Security Forces),” he said.

**Iran to launch research satellite into space**

TEHRAN, 10 Oct—Iran is going to launch domestically-built Navid satellite by Safir satellite launcher by the end of March 2012, the semi-official Mehr news agency reported on Sunday.

Navid (promise) is a research satellite and is currently undergoing pre-launch tests, said the report without further details.

In June, Iran put the Rasad (surveillance) satellite in the orbit to render images to the country.

Iran put a satellite into orbit in 2009 and sent some small animals into space in 2010. It plans to send man into space by 2020.—Xinhua

**S Korea’s farm, food exports top 5 bln USD in nine months**

SEOUL, 10 Oct—South Korea’s exports of food and agricultural products topped 5 billion US dollars in the first nine months of this year due to solid demand from emerging countries, a government report showed Monday.

Overseas shipments of food and farm goods amounted to 5.29 billion dollars during the January-September period, up 30.4 percent from the same period of last year, the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries said in a statement.

The food and farm export growth was faster than last year when the overseas shipments exceeded the 5 billion-dollar mark in November. The ministry expected the nation’s farm exports to reach this year’s target of 7.6 billion dollars if the growth trend continues.

The sustained export growth was mainly attributed to brisk demand from emerging countries such as China and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries, the ministry said.

Xinhua

**Intelligence chiefs warn of planned attacks by 200 UK-based suicide bombers**

LONDON, 10 Oct—British intelligence chiefs have warned the David Cameron Government that at least 200 potential terrorists are actively planning suicide attacks while living freely in Britain.

Though the figure is a “conservative” estimate of the threat facing the country from UK-based Islamist suicide bombers, the intelligence chiefs said that the would-be killers are among 2,000 extremists who are actively planning a terrorist activity of some kind.

According to The Sunday Telegraph, these statistics are contained in a secret government report on the “enduring terrorist threat” facing the UK from al-Qaeda and affiliated organizations.

Both the Secret Intelligence Service, MI6, and the Security Service, MI5, believe al-Qaeda and its affiliates remain as dangerous as ever. The warning comes as Britain begins preparations for next year’s 2012 Olympic Games, which has been described by MI5 as the biggest security operation in the country’s history.

The paper quotes senior sources as saying that these potential attackers may not target Olympic venues, where security will be extremely high, but be tempted to attack areas where crowds are likely to congregate such as train stations and public events.

The 200 British residents thought to be planning suicide attacks, either within the UK or overseas, represent one in 10 of the wider group of 2,000 terrorist plotters.

An intelligence source added that suicide bombers would only be stopped by either a “chance encounter” or by an intelligence-led investigation. But he added that if a terrorist cell was properly organized and secure there would be very little the authorities could do to prevent an attack.

The latest disclosure follows the arrest of six men from Birmingham who were remanded in custody two weeks ago over an alleged UK suicide bombing plot.

Internet

**IAF will induct its C-17 airlifters from 2013**

NEW DELHI, 10 Oct—The Indian Air Force (IAF) will induct in June 2013 the first of the 10 C-17 Globemaster-III heavy airlifters it has purchased from the US, and then order six more.

The IAF chief, Air Chief Marshal Norman Anil Kumar Browne, told India Strategic defence magazine (www.indiastrategic.in) in an interview that Boeing would deliver all the already ordered 10 aircraft between 2013 and 2014, and that once the IAF was satisfied with their performance, six more would be ordered. By 2015, the induction of all the 16 aircraft should be complete.

“C-17 Globemaster III aircraft are expected to be inducted between 2013 and 2015,” he said.

The air chief said that the IAF had actually planned to acquire 20 aircraft but right now, it had the defence ministry’s approval for just 16.—MNA/PTI
Seven aboard missing Russian helicopter alive

MOSCOW, 10 Oct—Rescuers have found the missing Mi-8 helicopter in Russia’s Trans-Baikal region and all seven people aboard the helicopter were alive, local emergency department said on Sunday.

A spokesperson for the regional emergencies department said the helicopter was found at 17:09 Moscow time (1309 GMT), adding that over 110 rescuers and 15 units of special equipment had been involved in the rescue operation.

According to the Press service of the Russian Emergency Situations Ministry, the helicopter had conducted an emergency landing in the Kuryms District of the Trans-Baikal region and nobody aboard the plane was injured. Earlier on Sunday, local reports said the Mi-8 helicopter has been missing in eastern Russia.

The helicopter, which belongs to the Siberian branch of Russia’s Emergency Situations Ministry, lost contact with authorities at 12:45 Moscow time (0845 GMT) in Trans-Baikal area. Later, the plane’s emergency location beacon started to send signals. According to local reports, the plane had been performing a patrol flight over forests in the south of the Trans-Baikal region before it was reportedly missing.—Xinhua

‘Atomic veteran’ seeks VA benefits

FORT WORTH, 10 Oct—One of America’s “atomic veterans” says he wants help from the Veterans Administration for arthritis he links to exposure from atomic bomb testing in the 1950s.

About 400,000 American servicemen and civilians fell under the category of “atomic veterans” after being exposed to radiation following the US atomic attacks on Japan that brought World War II to an end and during above-ground nuclear bomb tests. A number of soldiers such as former Marine James D Tyler who were positioned within miles of the blast sites consider themselves “guinea pig ground grunts.” The 72-year-old Burleson, Texas, man was an 18-year-old member of Company F, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, when he and the rest of his unit were moved from their base at Camp Pendleton, Calif, to the Nevada Test Site northwest of Las Vegas, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported Saturday. He and his buddies were placed a mere 5 miles away from the blast site in a 6-foot ditch with no more protection than their normal combat gear. It was an experiment. “I think they wanted to see what it would do to us,” Tyler said. “I think they were trying to see how close they could put us to it and not kill us right then.”

“These guys were sworn to secrecy,” said RJ Ritter, national commander of the National Association of Atomic Veterans. “For the official record, it didn’t happen. They were told by a CID officer, ‘What you saw and heard here today didn’t happen.’ Now after all these years they’re free to tell their story, but they are hard-pressed to find someone old enough, including in the military, to understand that it happened.”

Meet the Moroccan man with the world’s largest feet!

MELBOURNE, 10 Oct—A Moroccan man with a rare medical condition has set a new record with the biggest pair of feet in the world.

Brahim Takiallallah also stands more than 246 cm tall, a close height to world’s tallest man, 251cm Sultan Kosen of Turkey.

The school doctor noticed that I was this enormous size and asked me to get some blood tests. I did that, and I was diagnosed with a very rare condition called acromegaly,” News.com.au quoted him as saying.

“Grow bigger is a pituitary gland disorder that causes the body to produce excessive growth hormone. The brain tumour can lead to other problems aside from great size, and Takiallallah was advised to seek surgery.

Five years ago, a French doctor brought him to Paris for treatment.—Internet

Two die in Nev tandem parachuting accident

MESQUITE, 10 Oct—A skydiving instructor and woman died in a tandem jump Sunday in Nevada, authorities said.

Mesquite police said the instructor was dead at the scene and the female victim was pronounced dead at an area hospital, the Mesquite Local News reported. The victims’ names had not been released. An investigation was under way to determine what caused the parachuting accident.—Internet

Harry ‘drives 120 miles to California for beer and burger prior to Apache training’

LONDON, 10 Oct—Prince Harry recently drove 120 miles to the famed McP’s Irish pub in California with three of his colleagues from RAF Wattisham and protection officers to enjoy a burger and beer before undertaking the final stage of his Apache helicopter training.

The third in the line of succession, who had asked to be seated at an outside table, relaxed and chatted happily to the locals and even took a photograph for a couple during his hour-long meal, and was served by a 32-year-old waitress Leah Bentley.

“Harry and his friends were really nice. It took me a minute before I realised who he was. I bantered with him and tried to treat him like any other customer. He and his friends were very good-looking and were nice tippers,” the Daily Mail quoted her as saying.

“He didn’t flirt with me – but I wouldn’t have minded if he had,” she added.

Located in Coronado in San Diego, the bar is owned by a former SEAL.

Internet

A model presents a creation by designer Yourself Bashir Qureshi on the last day of the Karachi Fashion Week in southern Pakistan’s Karachi on 9 Oct, 2011. At least 32 Pakistani and international designers and 70 Pakistani male and female models are participating in the four-day “Fashion Week”. Xinhua

German Chancellor Angela Merkel (R) and visiting French President Nicolas Sarkozy attend a Press conference in Berlin, Germany, on 9 Oct, 2011. Merkel said Sunday that Germany and France have agreed to recapitalise banks according to common criteria. Xinhua

The New Light of Myanmar Tuesday, 11 October, 2011
Flag of victory to Kayah State Performing Arts troupe

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct—Chief Minister of Kayah State U Khin Maung Oo this morning delivered an address at the ceremony to hand over the flag of victory to the artiste troupe that will take part in the 18th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions at the hall of Kayah State Government in Loikaw.

The Chief Minister handed over the flag of victory to the leader of the contestant team.—MNA

9th Myanmar Radiological Society Meeting on 10 Nov

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct—The Myanmar Radiological Society of the Myanmar Medical Association will hold its ninth meeting at Chatrium Hotel here from 10 to 12 November.

Radiologists from Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia and South Korea will also participate in the meeting. Those wishing to attend the meeting may enroll at X-ray Department of Yangon People’s Hospital.—MNA

Request submitted in open letter by Myanmar National Human Rights Commission to President of Republic of Union of Myanmar


The full text of the open letter is as follow:-

Mr. President

1. In a series of steps you have taken in fulfillment of the hopes of the people for good governance, clean government, flourishing of democratic practices, fundamental rights of citizens, rule of law, transparency and accountability, one perceptible step is the establishment of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission on 5 September 2011. It is believed that its establishment is welcomed and supported by the people of Myanmar.

2. The establishment of the Commission is based on the principles relating to the status of national institutions (Paris Principles) contained in United Nations General Assembly resolution A/RES/48/134. Our Commission is the fifth of its kind in the ten-member countries of ASEAN.

3. Myanmar National Human Rights Commission is formed with a view to promoting and safeguarding fundamental rights of citizens enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. It is vested with the competence and responsibilities which include receiving complaints on violations of fundamental rights of citizens, investigating them and communicating its findings to the relevant departments and bodies of the Government for further action. Since its inception, the Commission is fully resolved to perform its responsibilities to protect and promote the fundamental rights of citizens.

4. The establishment of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission is meant to promote and protect the fundamental rights of citizens enshrined in the Constitution. It can also be regarded as fulfilling the hope and aspiration of the international community.

5. Furthermore, the expectation of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and a number of countries is the release of what is referred to as “prisoners of conscience”. The Commission recognizes and appreciates the position of the Government that these are prisoners who have been sentenced to imprisonment for contravening the existing laws.

6. The release of those prisoner, convicted for breaches of the existing laws, who do not pose a threat to the stability of state and public tranquility in the interest of national races will enable them to participate in whatever way they can in the nation-building tasks.

7. For these reasons, Myanmar National Human Rights Commission humbly requests the President, as a reflection of his magnanimity, to grant amnesty to those prisoners and release them from the prisons.

Respectfully,

Sd/ Win Mya
Chairman
(for) Members of Myanmar National Human Rights Commission

Amendment to Note of Election Objection No. 11/2011, No. 12/2011 heard

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct—Chairman of the Union Election Commission U Tin Aye and all members of the commission heard Amendment to Note of Election Objection No. 11/2011 and Amendment to Note of Election Objection No. 12/2011 at the office of the Union Election Commission, here, at 10 am and 1 pm today.

Mandalay Region clinches title in 3rd Inter-Region/State Hockey Championship

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct—Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe this afternoon watched the final match between Yangon Region and Mandalay Region in the 3rd Inter-Region/State Hockey Championship at Theinbyu Hockey Turf Pitch in Mingala Taungnyunt Township.

After the final, vice-presidents of Myanmar Hockey Federation, the deputy director-general of Sports and Physical Education Department, the Yangon Region Minister for Social Affairs, the Region Minister for Security and Border Affairs, and the Region Minister for Transport awarded cash awards and individual prizes to the best player, third prize winning Ayeyawady Region, second prize winning Yangon Region and champion Mandalay Region.

The Chief Minister presented championship shield and duplicate shield to Mandalay Region team.—MNA

Contact addresses for car swap enquiry

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct—The government is planning to switch currently-used old private motorcars with new ones in public interest.

The plan was publicized in 11 September daily and started since 19 September.

Various rumours are circulating in car market about issuance of special car import permit after the used ones were handed over. Businessmen and profit-seekers aiming at playing car market fabricated stories and forged documents, causing public irritation.

The Ministry of Commerce provides contact addresses for detailed enquiry about releasing overage cars and special car import permit. The addresses are Head of Office of the Ministry, Ph: 067-408002, Fax: 067-408004; deputy Head of Office, Ph: 067-408216; and Director (Policy), Ph: 067-408232, Director (OSS Group), Ph: 067-408316 and 09-8300320.—MNA
Military columns seize arms and...

(from page 16)

The military column continued in hot pursuit of that KIA group. At 6 pm on 8 October, the column seized one AK-47, 60 rounds of ammunition, two magazines, and one set of uniform installed with Cpl badge of KIA (Kachin) group from 60 square feet brick building roofing with corrugated iron sheets, two 60 mm mortars, one M-21, one magazine, 10 rounds of ammunition, five blocks of gunpowder, 1020 stimulant tablets, seven five-gallon containers of sulphuric acid, two packets containing about three viss of assorted gunpowder, about half of condensed milk tin of powder assumed to be used in narcotic drug production, 160 packets of dry ration and two motorcycles from brick water tank closed with concrete, west of the building, documents on CV of KIA group, 521,340 stimulant tablets, one machine for production of tablets, four table...

Narcotics and drug-production equipment seized from KIA armed group in Muse Township of Muse District in Shan State.

MNA

15 members of KNU/KNLA return to...

(from page 16)

Saw El Htoo at major level of KNU/KNLA reported that in the past, they lived separately from the families without any future guarantee. Although the State offered a chance to join hands with the Tatmadaw for formation of the Border Guard Force, leaders of KNU/KNLA Peace Council did not participate in formation of the BGF and lived in their camps. They were always worried about their life. Therefore, the group members held meetings among them and gathered arms and ammunition to be handed over to the State. Then, they returned to the legal fold. They do not want to be an opposition group against the State, and they came to the legal fold of their own accord for shaping their life safely and peacefully under the protection of the government. He asked officials to look after them in necessity. He then handed over their arms and ammunition to State Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Hay Myint Aung. Mon State Government provided K 1.5 million for 15 members of the group that returned to the legal fold after unconditionally handing over their arms and ammunition, and Mon State Police Force 15 bags of rice and 15 viss of edible oil to them.—MNA

Myanmar to compete in AFF Women’s Championship 2011

YANGON, 10 Oct—The Myanmar National Women’s Team will take part in the AFF Women’s Championship 2011 to be held in Vientiane of Laos from 16 to 26 October. The Myanmar women’s team is formed with goalkeeper May Khin Yamin and Mya Phyu Ngon, defenders Myint Myint Aye, San San Maw, Su Su Wai, Nan Hnin Hnin Htwe, Shwe Sin Aung, Khin Than Wai and Thida Mar and strikers Khin Marlar Tun, Mai Nilar Htwe, Yi Yi Oo and Naw Ahlo Wah Phaw.

The team will comprise Secretary of the team Staff Officer Daw Aye Aye Maw of Sports and Physical Education Department, Japanese Chief Coach Mr Kumada Yoshi Nori, Assistant Coach Daw Thein Maung Nhaw Shwe, Team Medical Officer Assistant Surgeon Dr Khin Saw Oo of Yangon General Hospital and Japanese interpreter Daw Theingi Aung led by team leader and manager Daw Muat Myat Oo of Myanmar Football Federation.

Time to celebrate Thadingyut

YANGON, 10 Oct—Thadingyut lighting festival will be celebrated along with first cartoon show at the 50th Street (Upper Block), No. 10 Ward of Pazundaung Township here tomorrow to 13 October.

Enthusiasts can enjoy over 200 works of famous cartoonists on 3x2 feet vinyl, said one of the organizers who added that the lighting festival is prepared to be further illuminated with adult and child singing contests, stage-show, and open movie show in No. 7 Ward, No. 8 Ward, No. 9 Ward, Yekyaw and No.10 Ward. Prizes will be given to three shops and ten houses of best Thadingyut illuminations in No. 10 Ward. The festival organizing committee said that it will prohibit gambling and strictly enforce rules during the festival period, taking tight security measures.—MNA

Southwest monsoon withdraws from Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct—The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology announced today that southwest monsoon has withdrawn from the South Bay, Andaman Sea and the whole country during the past (24) hours.—MNA
Former Weezer bassist Mikey Welsh found dead in Chicago

BEIJING, 10 Oct—Mikey Welsh, most famously known as the former bassist for the rock band Weezer, died unexpectedly in a Chicago hotel on Saturday, the band said on Sunday.

Workers at the Raphaello Hotel found Welsh unresponsive and not breathing when they went to his room on Saturday afternoon after he failed to check out as scheduled, police said.

The cause of his death was not immediately known. Police are conducting a death investigation related to the case, pending autopsy results and toxicology tests. It sometimes takes two months for the results of toxicology tests.

Welsh, 40, who left the band a decade ago, had been in Chicago to attend Weezer’s appearance at RiotFest on Sunday night, a concert that will go on as scheduled, the band said on its website in notifying fans of his death.

A decade ago, he had achieved fame as the bassist for the band Weezer, replacing the band’s longtime bassist Matt Sharp, according to Welsh’s official website.

The band remembered Welsh as a vital chapter to their history and one to never “shy away from the absurd, dangerous or strange,” according to a statement on Weezer’s website.

Welsh left the band in 2001 shortly after, saying he had suffered a nervous breakdown, resurfacing later as an artist and painter.

Welsh said in a posting on his Facebook page earlier in October that he was looking forward to meeting up with the band in Chicago.

Thyroid testing begins for children

TOKYO, 10 Oct—Japan began testing about 360,000 children in Fukushima Prefecture Sunday for any thyroid gland damage caused by radiation from the nuclear crisis there.

The children are receiving the ultrasonic thyroid examinations because of the radiation leak at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant whose reactors were crippled by the 11 March earthquake and tsunami. The thyroid gland in children is particularly vulnerable to radiation damage.

Authorities said the scale of the testing is unprecedented in the world, Kyodo News reported.

The report said the prefectural government decided to implement the wide-scale programme because of parents’ concerns about evidence of increased thyroid cancer among children after the 1986 Chernobyl disaster in Ukraine.

Among the first to face the tests at the Fukushima Medical University are children from the two towns nearest to the quake-hit nuclear plant, the Voice of America reported.

The 11 March disaster also killed or left missing about 20,000 people and caused damage to the Japanese economy running into the hundreds of billions of dollars.

Dr Shinichi Suzuki at the medical university said it will take several years to carry out preliminary examinations of those ages 18 and under as it can take a long time for any irregularities in the thyroid to manifest as cancer, the VOA reported.

There will be follow-up tests every two years until the children reach the age of 20 and similar tests will be done every five years after that.

The leak of radiation from the plant has yet to be fully halted, and thousands of people who lived within a 12.5-mile radius of the plant have not been allowed to return home.

Two robots play pingpong at Zhejiang University in Hangzhou, east China’s Zhejiang province, on 9 Oct, 2011. Two smart robots that are able to track the movements of a table tennis ball and play back through a motion control system equipped with a built-in camera and an intelligence processing unit were unveiled by a lab of Zhejiang University here Sunday.—Xinhua

Small plane crash wounds pilot in south Russia

MOSCOW, 10 Oct—An Antonov biplane crashed Sunday in the Krasnodar territory in south Russia, injuring the pilot, local emergencies ministry spokesman said on Sunday.

According to the spokesman, the An-2 plane crashed at about 12:00 Moscow time (0800 GMT) near the village of Zasovskaya.

“According to preliminary information, there was only one pilot aboard the plane. The pilot survived the crash and was hospitalized,” the spokesman told reporters.

Xinhua
Floods claim 207 lives, affect 1.2 million people in Cambodia

The Mekong River and flash floods had killed at least 207 people and affected about 1.2 million people in 19 inundated cities and provinces in Cambodia, Nhim Vanda, the first vice president of the National Committee for Disaster Management, said on Monday in a Press briefing.

“Among the dead, 52 percent is children,” he said. More than 300,000 hectares of rice paddies have been affected and other 100,000 hectares of rice paddies were completely damaged. Some 600 houses were swept away by floods and other 196,600 houses, 1,132 schools and 400 Buddhist pagodas are inundated.

Flooding this year seems comparable to the damage in the floods in the year 2000 of 161 million US dollars,” he said. Meanwhile, Nhim Vanda said that the government of Cambodia has released 1,900 tons of milled rice to distribute emergency relief to more than 70,000 families with about 280,000 people out of the 100,000 families who have been evacuated to higher ground.

Tropical Storm Irwin holding steady

MIAMI, 10 Oct—Pacific Tropical Storm Irwin was still far out to sea Sunday night, posing no threat to the western US and Mexican coasts, US forecasters said.

At 8 am PDT, the US National Hurricane Centre in Miami said Irwin was 785 miles southwest of the southern tip of Baja, Calif, moving to the east at 6 mph. The ninth named Pacific storm of the year had sustained winds of 50 mph, the forecasters said.

Irwin likely will gain some forward speed but forecasters said little change is expected in its wind strength as it continues on its current track for the next couple of days.

Tropical storm-force winds were extending as far as 85 miles from the storm’s center. There were no coastal weather watches or warnings posted.

Moderate earthquake jolts northeast Japan

TOKYO, 10 Oct—An earthquake measuring 5.6 on the Richter scale on Monday hit Fukushima Prefecture and its vicinity in northeast Japan, said the Japan Meteorological Agency.

The focus of the quake, which occurred at 11:46 am local time (02:46 GMT), was located some 50 km under the sea off Fukushima, said the agency. There were no immediate reports of casualties or damage to properties, and no tsunami warning was issued.

Seven rescued after boat sinks off Fla Keys

MIAMI, 10 Oct—Seven people were fished from the water off the Florida Keys Sunday, almost a day after their boat sank, leaving one elderly woman dead, authorities said.

The US Coast Guard in Miami said the group’s recreational boat capsized in rough waters about noon Saturday and sank.

Toxic oil spilled from a Liberian-flagged cargo ship stuck on a reef off New Zealand began washing ashore around the port City of Tauranga, 10 October, 2011, New Zealand. The 47,000 tonne vessel Rena struck a reef on Wednesday causing an oil leak that has spread over five kilometres. Authorities are preparing for the worst environmental disaster in New Zealand history should the vessel break up and spill 1,700 tonnes of fuel into the Bay of Plenty.—Xinhua

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Flooding this year seems comparable to the damage in the floods in the year 2000 of 161 million US dollars,” he said. Meanwhile, Nhim Vanda said that the government of Cambod dia has released 1,900 tons of milled rice to distribute to the victims. So far, the government of Cambodia, Cambodian Red Cross, and other charitable countries and organizations has distributed emergency relief to more than 70,000 families with about 280,000 people out of the 100,000 families who have been evacuated to higher ground.

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV PULAU CEBU VOY NO (41)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV PULAU CEBU VOY NO (41) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 9.10.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-5 where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses 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 final 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: Eastern-Car Liner
Singapore Pte Ltd
Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV NAVARRA VOY NO (1109)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV NAVARRA VOY NO (1109) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.10.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses 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 final 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: Citic-SHIP Management Ltd
Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (453)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (453) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.10.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W-1 where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses 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 final 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: SANG THAI Shipping Co Ltd
Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV RAINBOW ANGEL VOY NO (7)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV RAINBOW ANGEL VOY NO (7) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.10.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-6 where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses 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 final 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: Eastern-Car Liner
Singapore Pte Ltd
Phone No: 256924/256914

Foot-and-mouth disease found with cattle in Tibet; epidemic contained

BEIJING, 10 Oct — Cattle in southwest China’s Tibet Autonomous Region were found with foot-and-mouth disease, the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) announced Monday.

The virus was detected in 7 cattle in the Nyingchi area in Tibet on 30 Sept, the MOA said. Test results on Sunday revealed that the cattle were carrying the O-type virus. Xinhua

Cop uses ring finger to stop a shooting

NEW YORK, 10 Oct — A New York City police officer saved his own life by sticking his finger between the hammer and cylinder of a gun jammed in his stomach by a suspect.

Brooklyn Sgt Michael Miller ended up with only a broken finger, the New York Daily News reported on Sunday. Miller and Officer William Reddin pulled over a speeding car in the Bedford-Stuyvesant neighbourhood in Brooklyn. — Internet

Report: Swiss locate two stolen Picassos in Serbia

GROSAVA, 10 Oct — Swiss broadcaster SF reports that two stolen Pablo Picasso paintings worth millions of dollars have been found in Serbia. SF cites a Swiss prosecutor saying the oil paintings are in a safe location. Schweyz cantonal (state) prosecutor Charles Faessler told SF in a programme aired late Friday that Switzerland has submitted a request to Serbia for the paintings to be returned.—Internet
Robber prayed with victim

Police in Pennsylvania said they arrested an alleged robber who knelt on the floor near his wheelchair-bound victim while she prayed.

New Castle police said the woman opened her inside door when she heard a knock Friday evening and saw a man who then pulled on the outside door and broke the chain, the New Castle News reported Thursday.

The woman told police the man asked for money and she gave him $5, but he pushed past her and took $20 from her purse.

“I’m sorry. I’ve never done this before. I’m desperate,” the woman quoted the robber as saying. The woman said she began to pray and the man knelt down on the floor until she finished, the newspaper reported.

Police said a Shenango Township officer spotted a man matching the robber’s description and was able to retrieve his dropped backpack while giving chase.

Woman spared jail for assault on ‘witch’

A woman who spent her wedding night in jail after assaulting a neighbour in rural England she thought was a witch was spared a prison term Thursday.

Imogen Hope, 37, of Halifax received a 12-month suspended sentence, the Halifax Courier reported. She appeared in a magistrate’s court where she was found guilty of an assault on Doris Pilling.

Pilling, who lives next door to Hope’s new in-laws — and one house over from Hope and her husband — said her neighbour banged on her door late in the evening July 19 and that Hope’s husband accused her of being a “white witch” and cursing his father and giving him cancer.

Pilling, a nursing student, said she is a practicing pagan who works with herbs and crystals but does not do curses. Hope had been married earlier that day at the registry office and then spent the evening at the pub celebrating. Pilling said she did not try to fight back for fear of the earthly powers she learned in the Army: “I was trained to kill.”

Hope and her husband said Pilling provoked the confrontation.

Woman gets 18 months for sinking yacht

A “manipulative, angry” woman who admitted sinking her estranged husband’s yacht was sentenced in a British court Thursday to 18 months behind bars.

Mandy Fleming, 47, of Sheerness in Kent, cried when she heard she would be jailed, The Guardian reported. She entered a guilty plea last month at the Old Bailey in London to endangering life through criminal damage.

“You were a manipulative, angry and troubled individual,” the judge, Richard Hone, told her.

Fleming and her husband, who have since divorced, were separated in 2004 when she went to his boat, the Double Dragon, for a sexual encounter with a couple, Mark Gadsdon, the prosecutor, said. The boat was docked at the time at a marina in Brighton.

Johnny Depp to work in biopic

Los Angeles, 10 Oct— Actor Johnny Depp will play the lead in a biopic on author Dr. Seuss.

Depp will also produce the film with Christi Dembrowski, Christopher Meledandri and David Kennedy.

Tilda Swinton to quit acting?

London, 10 Oct— Actress Tilda Swinton recently hinted at quitting her movie career when she said acting was “a major mistake.”

“I’m not really interested in acting. I’ve given up waiting for an epiphany of interest to strike. Acting is a red herrring and a major mistake and I’m still trying to get back on track,” express.co.uk quoted Swinton as saying.

“Every time I’m in a film I’m determined it’s the last I’m in then I’ll fall into a conversation with someone and we’ll learn a new lesson.

“I’ve learned how to act by using my body. Director Wang has taught me how to express feelings with the use of body,” said Song.

Song attended the Busan International Film Festival to promote her new South Korean film, “A Reason to Live,” directed by local filmmaker Lee Jeong-hyang. The actress said that she can find some similarities between both directors, Wang and Lee.

“The two directors pay attention to the details of the movies, and cares about every little thing of the movies,” said Song.

Song

Lohan sued for unpaid limo bill

Los Angeles, 10 Oct— Actress Lindsay Lohan has been sued after she failed to pay a bill for using a limousine in 2009.

The Elite Transportation Limo and Security Services says Lohan used its services February-May 2009. The services cost of USD 33,978.

It says Lohan has not paid up and the star is being sued for the full amount plus costs, totalling USD 90,585, according to Tmz.com.—Internet

Xinhua

Actress Lindsay Lohan

Song

S Korean actress Song Hye-gyo shares her experience filming first Chinese movie

Busan, 10 Oct— South Korean actress Song Hye-gyo said Saturday she feels like going back to a beginning actress when she works on a film in China.

“I’m filming my first Chinese movie, and there are many difficulties from working in South Korea,” Song told at a Press conference held on the sidelines of the Busan International Film Festival. “There are also some difficulties with doing lines in Chinese, and all make me feel like I’m new again.”

She is currently working with director Wong Kar-wai of China’s Hong Kong, making “Legend of Yip Man.”

Song said she has mostly played static characters in her career, and her role in the Wang’s movie is quite similar, yet she has learned a new lesson.

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S Korean actress Song Hye-gyo attends the press conference of the film “A Reason to Live” at the 16th Busan International Film Festival (BIFF) in Busan, South Korea, on 8 Oct, 2011.–Xinhua

Song

Actress Tilda Swinton

Actress Lindsay Lohan

I'm new again.”

and all make me feel like I’m new again.”

and her role in the Wang’s movie is quite similar, yet she has learned a new lesson.

“I’ve learned how to act by using my body. Director Wang has taught me how to express feelings with the use of body,” said Song.

Song attended the Busan International Film Festival to promote her new South Korean film, “A Reason to Live,” directed by local filmmaker Lee Jeong-hyang. The actress said that she can find some similarities between both directors, Wang and Lee.

“The two directors pay attention to the details of the movies, and cares about every little thing of the movies,” said Song.

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Río Ferdinand has set his sights on the Barclays Premier League title

**The 29th round of the Brazilian Championship is full of expectation**

**Rio de Janeiro, 10 Oct** — With the 2011 Brazilian Championship entering its final stretch, the 29th round of play offers plenty of excitement. In the first day of the 29th round, leader Corinthians will look to maintain its dominance while at home against Botafogo on 12 October. 

Other matches will take place on that date as Sao Paulo will receive Internacionais, Flamengo plays host to Palmeiras, Gremio receives Figuerense, Avaí welcomes Atlético-GO, Cruzeiro travels to face Bahia and Ceara travels to match up against last place America-MG — Xinhua

**Gary Neville**

The Barclays Premier League was set to return to action on Tuesday, with Manchester United facing a tough test against Arsenal. Neville, speaking ahead of the match, expressed his confidence in United's ability to bounce back from their defeat to West Ham United last weekend. "We have got a good team," he said. "We are playing well and we will be ready to face Arsenal." — Xinhua

**Leon Osman**

Osman happy with added duties

**London, 10 Oct** — Leon Osman is happy to take on extra playmaking duties in midfield for Everton now Mikel Arteta has left the club. The Toffees lost their chief creator for Arsenal on transfer deadline day, but Osman has proved an influential figure for the Merseyside outfit during his lengthy career at Goodison Park and is comfortable being the man to "make things happen" for them from the middle of the park.

"We have got a good squad in place here and good players so we are looking forward." The 30-year-old added; "I have found myself playing a bit more centrally, which has been good for me and hopefully I can continue to do so." — Internet

**Leon Osman**

Former Manchester United right-back and England defender

**Gary Neville**

Río Ferdinand has set his sights on the Barclays Premier League title

**Schweinsteiger says Germans very proud of Vettel**

**DUESSELDORF, 10 Oct** — The German football squad are "very proud" of Sebastian Vettel, international midfielder Bastian Schweinsteiger said Sunday, a day after his comrade retained his world title.

"He's essentially a hero as it's an exceptional achievement to win two world titles at such a young age," the Bayern Munich star said as the squad gathered in Düsseldorf ahead of Tuesday's final Euro 2012 qualifier at home to Belgium. Coach Joachim Löw also saluted Vettel for his "competence, discipline and mental strength" and said the 24-year-old should be regarded as "one of the top German sportsmen of all time."

Vettel earlier became the youngest driver ever to retain the Formula One crown when his third place at Suzuka was sufficient to retain last year's title. At just 24 years and 98 days, Vettel outstrips fellow consecutive winners Alberto Ascari, Juan Manuel Fangio, Jack Brabham, Alain Prost, Senna, Schumacher, Mika Hakkinen and Fernando Alonso as the youngest driver to achieve the feat.

**Spain’s Albiol suffers facial injury in training**

**Madrid, 10 Oct** — Spanish defender Raúl Albiol suffered a facial injury Sunday during training ahead of the final Euro 2012 Group I qualifier between the defending champions and second-placed Scotland.

The Spanish Football Federation (RFEF) said in a statement Albiol would undergo scans to ascertain the exact damage before a final decision was taken as to whether he would be fit to play on Tuesday. Spain have already qualified for next year's finals, being co-hosted by Poland and Ukraine, while Scotland will hope they match the result of third-placed Czech Republic's match away to Lithuania to seal their place in the play-offs. — Internet

**Spanish defender Raúl Albiol**

Iran women soccer team beats Syria 4-1

**Tehran, 10 Oct** — Iran’s women football team defeated Syria 4-1 in the 4th West Asian Women’s Football Championship, the local Mehr news agency reported on Sunday.

The match was held at the Sultan bin Zayed Stadium in Abu Dhabi on Saturday. Iran has already defeated the United Arab Emirates 4-1 and Lebanon 6-1 in Group B of the competitions. — Xinhua

**Agnieszka Radwanska of Poland holds the trophy during the awarding ceremony for the final of women's singles at China Open Tennis Tournament in Beijing, China on 9 Oct, 2011. — Xinhua**

**England’s Wayne Rooney (R) is given a red card during the Euro 2012 group G qualifying football match Montenegro vs England in Podgorica, on 7 October. — Internet**

**Capello warns Rooney over Euro 2012 place**

**London, 10 Oct** — England coach Fabio Capello has warned Wayne Rooney that he cannot expect to stroll back into the Euro 2012 reckoning after serving his suspension for his red card in Montenegro.

Rooney will serve at least a one-match ban at the finals in Poland and Ukraine next summer after the Manchester United star suffered the sixth sending off of his career and Capello said he will have no hesitation to look at alternatives.

“Yes,” replied Capello, when asked if he was prepared to leave Rooney out of his team. “In my life as a manager I have put on the bench a lot of players. I always decided who was the best player at that moment.” The Italian added: “I need to find the solution for the first game, or two games, that Rooney will not play. “And if we find that solution, he needs to work to return to the first 11. “You know me. Sometimes I make mistakes but I try to select the best players, in the best moment of form.”—Internet

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Indian language literature goes to Frankfurt Book Fair

NEW DELHI, 10 Oct—In a first showcase of Indian indigenous writing, a literary panorama featuring works by over 30 language writers will be on display at the Frankfurt Book Fair in a pilot exhibition for readers and publishers from Europe, the US and other countries. The literary panorama, initiated by the union culture ministry under the ‘ILA: Indian Literature Abroad’ project, will be held 12-16 Oct.

The project aims to carry the diversity of contemporary regional Indian literature from the grassroots to the world through source translation, which involves creation of original work directly through source translation, which involves creation of original work directly.

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NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct—A KIA group opened fire at Tima work camp in Muse Township of Muse District in Shan State at about 1.30 pm on 21 September and took three members of Myanmar Police Force, three staff of Myanmar Correctional Department, eight small arms and 55 prisoners of the work camp.

The military column was in hot pursuit of the KIA group. During the skirmish from 25 September to 6 October, the military column seized 12 assorted small arms, 16 assorted mines, 45 bags of gunpowder, nine bars of gunpowder, four vehicles without licence, nine motorcycles, 46 buildings, 59 tents and 244 bags of rice. The military column rescued three police members, three staff of MCD and 37 prisoners of the work camp. The remaining 18 prisoners from the work camp managed to escape as fugitives from the incident.

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct—Military columns seize arms and ammunition, narcotic drugs, machinery for production of narcotic drugs in Muse District, Shan State.

—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct—A 15-member group led by Saw El Htoo and Saw El Sae at major level of KNU/KNLA Peace Council return to legal fold, having realized the goodwill and attitude of the State.

—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct—The State is building a modern and developed democratic new nation in line with the constitution. Some national race armed groups who realize the goodwill and genuine attitude of the State are exchanging arms for peace in groups or individuals to join hands with the people in undertaking development tasks of the nation.

A 15-member group led by Saw El Htoo and Saw El Sae at major level of KNU/KNLA Peace Council, bringing along with five .45 pistols, one .38 special revolver, one .30 carbine, one grenade rifle, one RPG-2, one long-barrel nine-shot-gun, 11 RPG shells, 10 grenades, two car mines, two packets of soft TNTs, 274 rounds of ammunition and eight assorted magazines returned to the legal fold in South-East Command area yesterday.

A ceremony to welcome 15 persons who have returned to the legal fold after unconditionally handing over their weapons was held at the Mon State hall in Mawlamyine at 11 am today.

It was also attended by Mon State Chief Minister U Ohn Myint, state ministers, state, district and township level departmental personnel and town elders.

Flood Bulletin

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct—According to the (12:30) hr M.S.T observation today, the water level of Sittoung River at Toungoo (632) cm has exceeded by (32) cm (about 1 ft) above its danger level. It may fall below its danger level (600) cm during the next (48) hours commencing noon today, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.

—MNA

Union Electric Power No (2) Minister inspects Bayintnaung main power station

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Capello warns Rooney over Euro 2012 place

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Radwanska survives 154-minute battle to lift China Open title