Our Three Main National Causes

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

Abhidhamma Day observed across the nation on a grand scale

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Oct—Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut is a day of religious significance for Myanmar people. Up to date, lighting Festival on Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut is held annually dedicated to paying homage to the Lord Buddha in remembrance of descending from Tavatimsa celestial beings abode to Sankassa Nagara of the human beings abode after administering Abhidhamma discourse at Tavatimsa for three months. This year’s Lighting Festival on Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut 1373 ME was held across the nation on a grand scale. (See page 8)

President U Thein Sein, wife Daw Khin Khin Win leave for Republic of India on goodwill visit

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Oct—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, accompanied by a Myanmar goodwill delegation, left here by special aircraft of Myanmar Airways International at 9 am today to pay a goodwill visit to the Republic of India at the invitation of President of the Republic of India Mrs Pratibha DeviSingh Patil.

The goodwill delegation led by President U Thein Sein was seen off at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Vice-President Thihathura U Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife, Vice-President Dr Sai Maikham and wife and Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Lt-Gen Soe Win and wife, Union ministers and their wives, the commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command, deputy ministers, the Chief of Myanmar Police Force and departmental heads, and officials of the Embassy of the Republic of India to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

President U Thein Sein was accompanied by Union Minister for Border Affairs and for Myanmar Industrial Development Lt-Gen Thein Htay, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin and wife, Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing, Union Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung, Union Minister for Industry-1 and for Industry-2 U Soe Thein, Union Minister for Electric Power No.1 U Zaw Min, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development and for Livestock and Fisheries U Tin Nang Thein, Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung, Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay, Union Minister for Science and Technology U Aye Myint, Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint, Lt-Gen Hla Htay Win of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint and senior departmental officials.  

MNA
Disseminate agricultural knowledge

In Myanmar, the majority of the population is farmers residing in rural areas, most of whom are engaged in agriculture and meat and fish production industry. Rural region product development and economic development play a major role in economic growth of the nation.

As the nation’s economy is based on agriculture, agricultural development of rural regions, increased income of rural folks and poverty reduction have become top priorities.

Agriculturalists and farmers will have to work in tandem for improvement of socio-economy of rural folks, poverty alleviation and agricultural development. Agriculturalists on their part will have to make further researches on high yielding strains of rice as well as other crops beneficial to farmers in term of income.

But mere distribution of high yielding strains will not work and technician staff will have to widely disseminate cultivation methods to the workplace of farmers enabling them to apply agricultural methods skillfully.

Nowadays, modern mechanized farmer educative farms have emerged along with vegetable and fruit nurseries, standing as a valuable resource for farmers. Agriculturalists and farmers are to make collaborative efforts for wide dissemination and application of cultivation methods contributing to agricultural development.

Third leg of KENBO Junior Golf Championship on 20 Oct

YANGON, 12 Oct—The third leg of KENBO Junior Golf Championship of Han Golf Masters Junior Golf Series, mainly sponsored by Han Golf Masters Pte Ltd and Aung Kan Bo Trading Co Ltd and organized by Myanmar Golf Federation, will be held at Myanmar Golf Club (9th-Mile), here, on 20 October.

The championship will be categorized as the 8-12 aged, the 13-15 aged, the 16-18 aged and the 19-21 aged events.

The championship will be held in line with the St Andrews golf rules and regional rules.

Those wishing to take part in the championship are to enlist together with copy of citizenship scrutiny card or household registration at Myanmar Golf Club, starting from 9am to 2pm on 18 October.—MNA

RUMFCCI President meets Chinese guests

YANGON, 12 Oct—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Aung met Vice-Chairman of China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) Mr Dong Songgen and party at the federation office here, on 10 October.

They focused on promotion of economic relations between China and Myanmar, holding of GMS Business Summit in Myanmar in December, assistance of CCPIT in opening of RUMFCCI branch in Kunming of Yunnan Province. MNA

Union Labour & SWRR Minister receives UNSG’s Special Envoy of UNISDR

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Oct—Union Minister for Labour and for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Aung Kyi received Special Envoy of the UN Secretary-General Ms Margareta Wahlstrom of United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) Office and party at the ministry, here, at 3.30 pm today.

They exchanged views on undertaking of international disaster risk reduction of the ministry in cooperation with international organizations, poverty alleviation and preventive measures against natural disasters, progress of Myanmar in political, economic and social affairs.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Phone Swe and officials.—MNA

Managers, contestants, panel of judges of regions and states for Performing Arts Competitions arrive in Nay Pyi Taw

Managers, contestants and members of panel of judges of Sagaing Region to participate in Performing Arts Competitions arrive at Nay Pyi Taw Railway Station by train.—MNA

Managers, contestants and members of panel of judges of Chin State to participate in Performing Arts Competitions arrive at Nay Pyi Taw Railway Station by train.—MNA

Managers, contestants and members of panel of judges of Sagai Regions, Chin and Kachin States arrived by train and Yangon Region, Mon and Rakhi States arrived by train and members of panel of judges, managers and contestants of Magway Region arrived here by car.

They were welcomed by Chairman of the Reception and Accommodation Subcommittee Police Col Tun Ohn and members, Deputy Director U Aung Khin of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area General Administration Department, Pobbathiri Township Administrator U Tun Ohn and members, Township Administrator U Tint Kyaw Lwin and officials and accommodated at the hostels.

The remaining members of the panel of judges, managers and contestants from regions and states will arrive here by train and car tomorrow.—MNA
At least 14 killed, 59 wounded in Baghdad bomb attacks

BAGHDAD, 12 Oct—At least 14 people were killed and 59 wounded in car bomb attacks in Baghdad on Wednesday morning, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua.

“Our latest reports said that a total of 14 people were killed and 59 wounded by the attacks on three of Baghdad police stations, “ the source said on condition of anonymity.

The first attack occurred at about 8:20 am (0520 GMT) when a suicide bomber drove his explosives-laden car into the entrance of al-Elwiyah police station in Baghdad’s central District of Karrada, killing four policemen and a civilian, the source said.

The second attack occurred almost simultaneously when a suicide bomber rammed his explosive-laden car into the checkpoint of another police station in Baghdad’s northwestern district of al-Hurriyah, killing three policemen and three civilians, the source added.

Meanwhile, the third attack took place when a booby-trapped car parked outside a police station exploded in Baghdad’s southern district of Eilam, killing three people, he said.

A total of 59 people, including policemen, were wounded by the three attacks, he added.

Violence has been increased in the Iraqi cities as the Iraqi security forces are preparing to take over control of security alone after the proposed departure of US troops by the end of the year.

Roadside bomb kills three Afghan civilians

MAIDAN SHAR, 12 Oct—Three civilians lost their lives in Wardak Province with Maidan Shar as its capital 35 km west of capital City Kabul Monday night, an official said Tuesday.

“A mine planted by Taleban militants in Kashmirian village outside Maidan Shar went off Monday night killing three innocent civilians including a woman,” spokesman for provincial administration Shahidullah Shahid told Xinhua.

Taleban militants who fight Afghan and NATO-led troops and often organize roadside bombing to target security forces have yet to make comment.

Civilians often bear the brunt of war in the war-torn Afghanistan. Five more civilians lost their lives as a roadside bomb struck a vehicle in eastern Kunar Province on Monday.

British unemployment hits 17-year high

LONDON, 12 Oct—The number of people unemployed in Britain jumped to 2.57 million in the three months to August, the highest amount since 1994, official data showed on Wednesday.

Britain’s unemployment rate shot up to 8.1 percent during the quarter, the highest level for 15 years, the Office for National Statistics said in a statement. “The unemployment rate for the three months to August 2011 was 8.1 percent of the economically active population, up 0.4 (percent) on the quarter. The last time the unemployment rate was higher was in the three months to July 1996,” the ONS said.

“The total number of unemployed people increased by 114,000 over the quarter—the largest quarterly increase since the three months to July 2009—to reach 2.57 million. “The number of unemployed people has not been higher since the three months to October 1994,” the ONS added.
S Korean banks’ household lending growth slows in September

SEOUL, 12 Oct—South Korean banks’ lending to households grew at a slower pace in September than a month before due to a reduction in credit loans, the central bank said Wednesday.

Household loans extended by local banks reached 448.7 trillion won (382.65 billion US dollars) as of the end of September, up 0.6 trillion won from a month earlier, the Bank of Korea (BOK) said in a statement.

The September growth was smaller than a 2.5 trillion won on-month increase tallied in August. The slower growth came after household borrowers paid off their credit loans with bonuses for Chuseok holiday that fell on the mid-September.

UNSG’s Message on International Disaster Risk Reduction Day 13 October 2011

Each time disaster strikes, nature is often blamed. Rarely do we think about human actions that increase risk and turn danger into catastrophe. Vulnerability to disaster is growing faster than resilience. Over the past year, we have seen devastating floods, earthquakes, tsunamis and droughts.

Nuclear safety and the threat of multiple technological hazards add even greater urgency. The good news is that some countries have shown how to reduce risk from floods and cyclones. Investments in early warning and other measures are paying dividends.

Yet the economic burden of technological disasters continues to grow. Making the case for investment in risk reduction can be an uphill struggle. Yet much can be gained from spending wisely rather than spending more.

This year’s observance of the International Day for Disaster Reduction recognizes the vital role of children and young people.

In Nepal and elsewhere, schoolchildren are taught the basics of home and building safety.

Risk reduction and climate change adaptation activities involving children in Cuba are now being emulated in other parts of the world. Most recently, more than 600 African, Asian and Latin American young boys and girls developed a Children’s Charter to reduce disaster risk.

The message is clear: Disaster risk reduction should be an everyday concern for everybody.

Let us all invest today for a safer tomorrow.

UNIC/Yangon

Mushroom compound boosts cancer drug

WASHINGTON, 12 Oct—A compound from a wild, poisonous mushroom growing in the southwestern China’s forests, impacts greater punch to a cancer-busting drug, new research shows.

The compound, verticillan A, sensitizes cancer cells to TRAIL, a drug, causing cancer cells to self-destruct, said Kebin Liu, cancer immunologist at the Georgia Health Sciences University Cancer Centre and study co-author.

The compound pre-empts cancer cells from developing resistance to TRAIL (tumor necrosis factor-related apoptosis inducing ligand), reports the journal Cancer Research.

Drug resistance, intrinsic or acquired, is a major problem for cancer patients, accounting for more than 90 percent of treatment failures. “If we can make drugs work again, more people will survive,” Liu said, according to a Georgia Health statement.

“It looks as though most cancer cells have found a way to become resistant and evade its action,” said Wendy Bollag, cell physiologist and Liu’s counterpart in the study. Tenacious cancer cells are also naturally resistant to cell suicide, which is how TRAIL works—

Vitamin E supplement puts men at high risk for prostate cancer

WASHINGTON, 12 Oct—Men who take a daily vitamin E supplement face an increased risk of prostate cancer, a new study has warned.

The finding comes from a report summarizing the latest results of the Selenium and Vitamin E Cancer Prevention Trial (SELECT).

SELECT began in 2001 to test earlier research suggesting selenium and vitamin E supplements may reduce the risk of developing certain cancers.

Some vitamin supplements containing enhanced levels of selenium and vitamin E were marketed to consumers during this time period with claims of reducing cancer risk.

Researchers tracked more than 35,000 men at locations across the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico who took daily doses through the Fall of 2008. The men were divided into four groups: vitamin E and Selenium; vitamin E alone; selenium alone; and placebo. The group taking vitamin E was the only group shown to have a statistically significant increased risk of prostate cancer.

Chocolate consumption lowers stroke risk in females

BEIJING, 12 Oct—For women, chocolate consumption needs to be high, which can lower stroke risk, researchers from the Karolinska Institute, Sweden, reported in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology.

The consumption of chocolate has been demonstrated to reduce diastolic and systolic blood pressure in randomized, short-term trials. Chocolate has also been shown to improve endothelial and platelet function, and to improve insulin resistance.

Susanna Larsson PhD and the team conducted the research on the Swedish Mammography Cohort’s 33,372 adult females aged from 49 to 83 years without history of stroke, coronary heart disease, stroke, or diabetes.

They found those who ate at least two chocolate bars each week appeared to have a 20 percent lower risk of stroke, compared to those of the same age and weight who rarely or never ate chocolate.

But, they found, it was only those in the highest quintile of chocolate consumption who had a significant drop in stroke risk.

In this on 10 Oct, 2011 photo, the box for a Sephora Collection Pink Eyelash Curler is displayed in Philadelphia. Advocates are asking whether breast cancer awareness has lost its focus, and become more about marketing than women’s health. Pinkwashing, a word coined by activists, is a practice being described as when a company or organization does a pink breast cancer promotion, but at the same time sells and profits from pink-theme products. —INTERNET

INTERNET

Industry group lowers Brazil’s 2011 growth forecast to 3.4%

BRASILIA, 12 Oct—The Brazilian National Industry Confederation (CNI) on Tuesday revised down its forecast for Brazil’s economic growth this year to 3.4 percent from 3.8 percent due to the effects of the world economic crisis.

According to the CNI, Brazil’s industry sector will also suffer from the ongoing debt crisis in the United States and Europe. It said that with growth rate of 3.4 percent, Brazil’s GDP for 2011 will have an expansion less than half of what the country registered in 2010 when the economy grew 7.4 percent.

Earlier, according to a Georgia Health statement, the CNI said the government is re-evaluating its growth forecast of between 3.5 percent and 4 percent for 2011.
Comets may be major source of water on earth

Scientists found a comet with the same chemical composition as the Earth’s oceans, suggesting that comets might water the Earth originally, according to Reuters.

Prior to the new findings published online in the journal Nature last week, scientists believed that comets, which are essentially dirty snowballs made of rock, gas and water ice, snowballs made of rock, essentially dirty comets, which are scientists believed that online in the journal Reuters might water the Earth composition as the same chemical components developed a system that allows robots to look around their environment and do research on important research projects, including the development of more commercially viable biofuels, cleaner burning engines, safer nuclear energy and more efficient solar power.

NVIDIA specializes in GPU (graphics processing unit) chips used to enable seamless, rich graphics and smooth action in video games by processing myriad tasks simultaneously through parallel computing.

Rival company AMD will provide powerful chips that process data in sequence as is standard in home or work computers. “Oak Ridge’s decision to base Titan on Tesla GPUs underscores the growing belief that GPU-based heterogeneous computing is the best approach to reach exascale computing levels within the next decade,” said NVIDIA chief technology officer Steve Scott.

Endeavour’s final trip planned

NASA has officially transferred the ownership of the retired space shuttle Endeavour to the California Science Centre on Tuesday. However, the centre will receive the shuttle in the latter half of 2012.

After arriving at LAX and spending a week in a hangar, the shuttle will be prepared for a 14- or 15-hour journey to its new home at the Exposition Park museum next to USC.

The city of Los Angeles will witness 180,000 pounds of metal, which measures 122 feet long and has a wingspan of 78 feet, driving through its streets with top speed about 1 mph.

Finding a clear path for it will be a gargantuan task. Organizers are working out the route the spacecraft will take next year from LAX to its new home.

Already, workers have taken images of a tentative route and fed them into a computer model, simulating how the shuttle would move across the city.

Massive stars could be behind cosmic fog of early universe

The researchers used special filters to see where and how the galaxy’s extreme ultraviolet radiation, or UV light, was interacting with nearby gas. They found that the UV light is indeed, evaporating gas in the interstellar medium. And it is doing so along a narrow cone emanating from the galaxy.

“We are not directly seeing the ultraviolet light. We are seeing its signature in the gas around the galaxy,” Zastrow said.

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“We are not directly seeing the ultraviolet light. We are seeing its signature in the gas around the galaxy,” Zastrow said.
Visitors tour the 2011 China (Shanghai) International Musical Instruments Exhibition held in Shanghai, east China, on 11 Oct, 2011. More than 1400 exhibitors from 29 countries and regions attend the four-day exhibition, which kicked off here Tuesday.—XINHUA

One killed by apartment explosion in Turkey’s Istanbul

ISTANBUL, 12 Oct—One person was killed Tuesday by an explosion in an apartment in Turkey’s largest city of Istanbul, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported.

The explosion occurred Tuesday morning in an apartment in Istanbul’s Bahcelievler suburb. It killed the sole occupant of the apartment and injured a woman in an adjoining apartment, Anatolia said.

The injured woman was taken to a hospital for treatment and is reported to be in a stable condition.

The two adjoining apartments were completely destroyed and cars in the vicinity also incurred damage.

Teams from the natural gas distribution company and bomb disposal unit are carrying out investigations to determine the cause of the explosion.—Xinhua

British cabinet secretary to retire

LONDON, 12 Oct—British Cabinet Secretary Gus O’Donnell on Tuesday announced his retirement after serving over thirty years in public affairs.

O’Donnell, 59, Head of the British Civil Service under current practice, would leave his post at the end of the year after 32 years of public service, including six years as Cabinet Secretary and three years as Permanent Secretary to the Treasury.

In recognition of his distinguished service to public life, Prime Minister David Cameron has nominated Gus O’Donnell for a life peerage.

The current Permanent Secretary at No 10 Jeremy Heywood will replace Gus O’Donnell as Cabinet Secretary.—Internet

Spaniard to sue FBI for using his image in Osama poster

MADRID, 12 Oct—Spanish lawmaker Gaspar Llamazares, spokesman for the United Left coalition, plans to sue the US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for using his image to create an updated wanted poster for the late Osama bin Laden.

The photomontage representing bin Laden was distributed in 2010 and published on the FBI web site, which later removed it at the politician’s request.

Llamazares, who received a letter of apology from FBI representatives at the US Embassy in Spain shortly after the incident, said Tuesday that the bureau “has not corrected the situation at all” but only offered “a tiny apology”.

In a statement on Cadena SER radio, the lawmaker recalled that his photo was used not only to recreate a likeness of bin Laden, but also of Atiyah Abd Al-Rahman, whom the CIA killed in August.

Osama was slain in May in the city of Abbottabad, Pakistan, during an operation by US Navy SEALs.

Llamazares noted that the two people represented in the photos made with parts of the lawmaker’s face “have been killed”.

United Left sources have said that since 2010 the politician has contacted several US law firms to file suit against the FBI.

In fact the case was accepted by one law office, but a few months later the US attorneys refused to proceed with the suit without ever saying why.

Llamazares has found a Spanish attorney’s office to take over the case.—Internet

Pirates hijack tanker off Nigerian coast

LAGOS, 12 Oct—The International Maritime Bureau (IMB) Tuesday said pirates have hijacked a tanker off the Nigerian coast.

The tanker carrying products was attacked late Saturday and the vessel and crew were taken to an unknown location, the IMB said, reported Xinhua.

The IMB said on its website that “pirates boarded and hijacked a product tanker drifting whilst awaiting orders” in a location around 90 nautical miles south of Lagos.

The tanker was “sailed to an unknown location”, it said.

It was the second hijacking of tankers in the region within two weeks. On 2 Oct, pirates armed with automatic weapons boarded a chemical tanker off Benin before stealing cash.

NATO task force frees Italian ship seized by pirates

ROME, 12 Oct—The Italian ship seized on Monday by a group of Somali pirates in the Gulf of Aden was freed on Tuesday in a blitz action carried out by a NATO task force, according to a Foreign Ministry statement.

The operation forced the 11 armed pirates on board to surrender, liberating the 23 crew members, seven of whom are Italian, of the Montecristo ship.

The pirates have been arrested by NATO task force operating in the anti-piracy operation dubbed Ocean Shield mission, and all crew members are in good health conditions, Foreign Ministry said. The Italian government is satisfied with the “brilliant operation and the successful cooperation between different institutional actors”, and also happy with the fact the owner of the ship and crew members’ families finally end their nightmare, the statement said.

The Montecristo, heading from the Suez Canal towards Vietnam on Monday, was captured some 620 km off the Somali coast when it had just been escorted there by another Japanese boat into the Gulf of Aden.—Internet

US Senator John McCain (C) speaks to a reporter outside the Senate floor after voting President Barak Obama’s America Jobs Act on Capitol Hill in Washington DC, capital of the United States, on 11 Oct, 2011. The US Senate on Tuesday defeated Obama’s jobs plan in a procedural vote as Republicans and some Democrats objected stimulus spending and a tax surcharge on the rich. XINHUA
Nay Pyi Taw decorated with illumination on Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut

Nay Pyi Taw, 12 Oct—As today, Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut (the Abhidhamma Day), is the public holiday, white elephants Bhaddawady and Nandawady hosted more visitors, from neighbourhood or from around the country, at their shed in the compound of Uppatasanti Pagoda. Staff families and local people picnicked Nay Pyi Taw Fountain Garden. The beauty spot decorated with breathtaking floral landscape and fountains was packed with holiday-goers especially in the evening. Nay Pyi Taw was illuminated with colourful Lights. Office buildings, Nay Pyi Taw City Hall, Nay Pyi Taw Post Office, Gems Museum, Myoma Kyarpan Market, Thabyegon Market, Nay Pyi Taw Junction Centre, Thabyegon Roundabout, Kyarpan Roundabout, Padonna Kyarpan Roundabout and staff quarters celebrated Thadingyut Lighting Festival with lamplights and strings of decorative lights in various colours.—MNA

Thadingyut illuminations at ministries, Nay Pyi Taw City Hall, Nay Pyi Taw Post Office, Gems Museum, markets, roundabouts and staff quarters on evening of Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut. MNA

Families in Britain to pay ‘death tax’?

London, 12 Oct—Families in Britain may have to pay a ‘death tax’ of 170 pounds before laying their loved ones to rest. Meant to improve the quality and accuracy of death statistics and medical certificates of all non-coroner referred deaths, the government proposals would see relatives having to pay out the sum before they can bury their loved ones, the Daily Mail reported. The government proposals for debate in the Commons this week would hit families with a minimum charge to check the cause of death when a relative passes away. The tax would be used to help clarify cause of death and in the long run would allow doctors to plot trends in illnesses. The new scheme would be applied to around 490,000 deaths every year, affecting more than 1,000 families a day, and would hit families with a minimum charge to check the cause of death.—Internet

Photo taken on 6 Oct, 2011 shows the rebuilt playground of a primary school in Yushu, northwest China’s Qinghai Province. Total investment in 1,394 reconstruction projects in earthquake-stricken Yushu added up to 14 billion yuan by the end of September, said government sources in charge of the reconstruction.—XINHUA

Photo taken on 10 Oct, 2011 shows a set of colourful lanterns by the Songhua River in Jilin, northeast China’s Jilin Province. This set of lanterns measuring 20.489 meters high and 180 meters wide is approved to be the highest colourful lantern in the world by Guinness World Records adjudicator.—XINHUA
Religious associations of ministries, regiments and units and townships recite Desana of the Buddha at Uppatasanti Pagoda on Fullmoon Day of Abhidhamma. MNA

Abhidhamma Day observed...

(from page 1) The third Abhidhamma Day was observed in conjunction with 20th Maha Pathana Recitation ceremony at the cave of Nay Pyi Taw Uppatasanti Pagoda this morning. Patron of the Board of Trustees of the Pagoda Union Minister at President Office Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Thein Nyunt and congregation received the Nine Precepts from State Division receiving the Nine Precepts from State Division. MNA

Flag of victory handed over to Mon State performing arts troupe

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Oct—The entertainments of the artistes of Mon State who will take part in the 18th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions 2011 were staged at Mon State Hall on 9 October evening. It was attended by Chief Minister of Mon State U Ohn Myint, State Ministers, departmental officials and public. On 10 October, the Chief Minister gave an address at the ceremony to present the flag of victory to the artistes representing Mon State. He presented the flag and cash assistant to the leader of the artistes group. MNA

Coord meeting for holding Tazaungdaing festival held

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Oct—Taunggyi Education College held seventh teaching skill diploma conferring ceremony yesterday, with an address by Chief Minister of Shan State U Sao Aung Myat. Principal of the college Daw Nan Phyu Phaung conferred diplomas on graduating teachers. The Shan State chief minister also addressed the work coordination meeting for organizing Tazaungdaing Festival at the town hall of Taunggyi. MNA

Pilgrims seen at Kyakhteikawgyaw Pagoda in Kyauktan on Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut. MNA

Abhidhamma Day in progress at Thiri Mingala Kaba Aye Pagoda on Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut.—MNA

Shwekyimyin, Aungtawmu, Nammyot Sutaungpyae and Swetawmyat Pagodas were packed with pilgrims receiving Five or Nine precepts, listening sermons, and practising insight meditation. Likewise, ceremonies to mark Abhidhamma Day were held at pagodas, stupas and religious edifices for the length and breadth of the nation and lights dedicated to paying homage to the Lord Buddha were illuminated at monasteries, residences, offices and religious buildings in the evening.—MNA
Minister U Thein Nyunt and wife donate alms to a Sayadaw.

Pilgrims pay homage to Shwedagon Pagoda on Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut.

Activities Across the Nation on Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut (Abhidhamma Day)

Elephant Festival, symbol...

with dancing elephants and floating sounds of enchanting music.

On Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut, Kyaukse residents climb up Mt. Shwethalyaung, bringing alms, candles, gilded robes, gold elephant toys to the accompaniment of active beat of music. When the pilgrims reach the top, they rotate Shwethalyaung Pagoda clockwise three times and offer elephant toys and alms to the Lord Buddha.

It is learnt that in the reign of King Anawrahta, the King ordered village heads to organize alms donation to the Lord Buddha and Taung festival on every Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut. The origin of elephant donation is said to be prayers of King Anawrahta who wished Bagan residents to share merits gained with him and white elephants which carried tooth relics of Buddha to Bagan by offering white elephants to the Lord Buddha. Since then, elephant donation has been held along with alms donation in Thadingyut.

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Translation: TKK
(Kyemon: 12-10-2011)

Myanmar chess players to participate in 2nd RBCS Polo Club Prajuab Cup International Chess Contest

YANGON, 12 Oct—Win Zaw Tun and Tin Aung Khant, selected players of Myanmar Chess Federation, will compete in 2nd RBCS Polo Club Prajuab Cup International Chess Contest to be held from 22 to 24 October in Bangkok of Thailand.

The participants will be accompanied by Chairman of MCF U Maung Maung Lwin as the team leader, Assistant Director U Win Maung Tin of Sports and Physical Education Department as the manager and member of Myanmar Police Force Nay Oo Kyaw Tun as the coach.—MNA

Yangon sails through semi-final

YANGON, 12 Oct—Yangon Region has come within the reach of the trophy as it thrashed Sagaing Region 10-0 in the semi-final of the 16th Inter-Region/State Women’s Football Tournament (Open) yesterday at Padaetha Sports Ground.

Ayeawady Region plays against Bago Region at Padonna Sports Ground tomorrow and the winning team will meet Yangon Region at Aungian Stadium on 16 October.—MNA

Donate Blood

Traffic lanes will be closed for International White Cane Day race walk

YANGON, 12 Oct—To mark the International White Cane Day, 20th Yangon Mayor Cup race walk of persons with impaired vision will be held on a grand scale on 15 October.

The route will be temporarily closed from 5 am to 8 am.—MNA
Indian industrial output grows 4.1% in August

MUMBAI, 12 Oct—India’s index of industrial production expanded 4.1 percent in August from the same period of last year, said a Press release issued by India’s Central Statistics Office on Wednesday. The growth data is slightly lower than average estimates of 5 percent by economists but higher than the growth rate in July.

Meanwhile, the industrial growth rate in July was revised upward to 3.8 percent from 3.3 percent on provisional basis.

The manufacturing and electricity sector grew 4.5 percent and 9.5 percent in August on year with the mining sector declining 3.6 percent partly due to governmental bans on illegal mining.

As per use-based classification, basic goods, capital goods and intermediate goods showed growth of 5.4 percent, 3.9 percent and 1.3 percent, respectively.

The consumer durables and consumer non-durables posted expansion of 4.6 percent and 3.7 percent, respectively.

India’s industrial output growth is expected to see more slower growth in September taking into account of the weakest purchasing manager index in September by HSBC in last 30 months. Indian index of industrial production has seen great volatility in more than one year’s time due to the fluctuation of capital goods reading and its credit came under criticism and doubt.

The continuous weak growth of industrial production growth could prompt Indian central bank to refrain from another hike of interest rate in the end of October when announcing monetary policy.—Xinhua

Russia to build first nuclear power plant in Belarus

MOSCOW, 12 Oct—Russia and Belarus have signed a contract for constructing the first nuclear power plant in Belarus, media reports said. Russia’s Atomstroyexport will build two nuclear reactors with a total power capacity of 2,400 megawatts near the town of Ostrovets in the western Belarusian region of Grodnob, Xinhua quoted the reports as saying.

In March, Moscow and Minsk signed a preliminary inter-governmental agreement for cooperation in the construction of the first Belarusian nuclear power plant, which is worth USD9.4 billion.

Local experts said the project envisages the construction of four independent safety systems, which will make the Ostrovets plant one of the safest in the world.

Several European countries, however, have protested against the project due to safety and environmental concerns.

The plant is scheduled to be put on service in 2017.—Internet

Children who use e-mail lot brighter

SOUTH, 12 Oct—Kids who used e-mail at home turned out to be lot brighter and more popular than their peers who did not.

Genevieve Johnson, psychology lecturer at Australia’s Curtin University’s School of Education who conducted the study, analysed responses from 51 boys and 44 girls at a Canadian primary school.

She likened the situation of boys who did not use e-mail to that of boys from an earlier era not familiar with TV.

“Think back to when you were a little kid if one of your friends didn’t have a lunch box with the latest cartoon characters on it - because they didn’t watch TV - they were almost socially isolated because they didn’t know what was going on,” Johnson said.

“So when we say that children who use the internet under certain circumstances are more popular - that’s true,” said Johnson, according to a university statement.

The surveyed girls were more likely than the boys to use e-mail at home but at school the girls and boys reported very similar use. The similarity between boys’ and girls’ e-mail use suggested internet teaching at school may be closing the technology gender gap.

“We’ve got this impression that the internet, including games, is something bad. This is totally inconsistent with the vast majority of my research,” Johnson said.

“I cannot say that every single online application is associated with positive developmental outcomes - but most are,” she concluded.

Internet

People attend a beer-drinking contest during the Oktoberfest in Blumenau, Brazil, on 8 Oct, 2011. The beer festival Oktoberfest is celebrated in Blumenau, a city founded by German immigrants in 1850. Parades, shows, folk dance performances, contests and other events last till 23 Oct.—Xinhua

Mexico braces for Hurricane Jova

MEXICO CITY, 12 Oct—Mexican emergency staff and the navy were on “maximum alert” on Tuesday, as Hurricane Jova were bearing down on the country’s seven Pacific coastal states and threatening to make landfall in Colima.

“We want to avoid any human tragedy and we are all working together as one team with municipal and state authorities to ensure that children, women and the elderly will be able to count on any necessary help,” Social Development Minister Heriberto Felix told local media.

Schools were closed across Colima state. Nayant state Governor Roberto Sandoval ordered students to go home and asked residents to stay indoors.

Red alerts were also issued for the states of Jalisco, Guerrero, Michoacan, Durango and Sinaloa.

A dangerous storm surge is expected to produce significant coastal flooding near and to the east of where the centre makes landfall. The surge will be accompanied by large and destructive waves,” the Miami-based US National Hurricane Centre (NHC) said.

By 4:30 local time, the Category 2 storm was located 140 km southwest of the port city of Manzanillo with maximum sustained winds reaching 160 kilometers per hour, the NHC said.

“These rains could cause life-threatening flash floods and mud slides over mountainous terrain,” the centre said.

The hurricane’s continuous movements in the past weeks off both Mexico’s Pacific and Gulf coasts have soaked regions across the country, and authorities have also advised citizens in several southern states to exercise “extreme caution.” Serious flooding is expected to hit the southern states, as saturated soils are likely to cause land-slides.

Officials said the hurricane would not affect the two-week Pan American games, which kick off on 14 Oct in Guadalajara, capital city of Jalisco state.—Xinhua

Russia build first nuclear power plant in Belarus

Grodno, western Belarussian region of near the town of Ostrovets in the power capacity of 2,400 megawatts will make the Ostrovets plant one of the safest in the world.

Several European countries, however, have protested against the project due to safety and independent safety systems, which will make the Ostrovets plant one of the safest in the world.

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The plant is scheduled to be put on service in 2017.—Internet

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Internet underwear,” an accident so you should always wear clean clothes, warned Steve van Gerwen, the police officer’s face. St John Ambulance deputy operations manager said that people should be mindful of what they wear when they go out.

One tip that led the FBI to fugitive Boston mob boss Whitey Bulger came from a former Miss Iceland who called from her homeland, The Boston Globe reported.

The newspaper said Sunday it had identified Anna Bjornsdottir, Miss Iceland 1974, as the tipster. Bjornsdottir, a former model and actress who appeared in a number of movies and TV shows, was a part-time neighbor of Bulger and his girlfriend Catherine Greig in Santa Monica, Calif.

Her phone call to the FBI in June, which led to the arrest of Bulger and Greig, earned Bjornsdottir a $2 million reward. She apparently recognized a news photo after the FBI launched a publicity drive about Bulger, who had been on the run since 1994.

Bjornsdottir refused to talk to the Globe on two occasions, the newspaper said. Her husband, Hallidur Gudmundsson, told the newspaper in an e-mail that his wife did not want publicity. Bulger faces a long list of criminal charges in Boston and elsewhere, including murder. Greig is being held on charges of helping a fugitive.

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Five bloggers face trial in UAE

ABU DHABI, 12 Oct— Five United Arab Emirates bloggers are on trial, accused of undermining public order and opposing the government, authorities said.

They are charged with posting blog entries on the online magazine Hetta insulting UAE leaders, calling for a Federal National Council election boycott and urging demonstrations. Gulf News reported Monday.

Ahmad Mohammad Abdullah Gareeb, editor of Hetta, told the court the Web site had been blocked since February 2010.

“The messages were nothing more than constructive criticism of officials,’’ Bin Gareeb said.

The defendants refused to show up for a hearing in protest against what they allege is denial of their basic rights while in custody, defence lawyers said.

Prosecutors said the men insulted the UAE leaders and urged citizens to revolt against them and follow in the footsteps of Egypt’s 25 Jan revolution.

The defendants have pleaded not guilty, and a judge has adjourned the trial until 23 Oct so the defence can prepare its case.

Nude ‘drunk’ driver spits on cops while being arrested

MELBOURNE, 11 Oct— A naked drunk driver, charged with high-range drink driving, spat on the cops when he was being arrested in Darwin.

His breath-alcohol reading indicated a value of 0.154 percent.

There was also a semi-clad woman passenger in his car allegedly possessing cannabis, who was handed over an infringement notice for the drugs.

“The 34-year-old man had a 27-year-old woman passenger said to be possessing cannabis when they crashed in Tiwi at about 4.15am Friday,” the Courier Mail quoted the NT News as saying.

The naked man was aggressive towards police and ambulance staff and purportedly spat on an officer’s face. St John Ambulance deputy operations manager Steve van Gerwen said that people should be mindful of what they wear when they go out.

“You never know when you’re going to have an accident so you should always wear clean undergear,” the Courier Mail quoted Gerwen as saying.—Internet

Child dies in spin dryer

LONDON, 12 Oct — A three-year-old child in Germany died in a tragic accident after he climbed into his home’s spin dryer and his twin brother switched the machine on.

The accident occurred at the home of the boys’ father Martin, 42, who was upstairs at the time the accident occurred. Their mother Natasha, 40, was at work.

Bummel discovered his son lifeless in the dryer in the basement of his home around 7 pm Friday.

A police probe has been launched.—Internet

Crane collapses in China, at least five dead

BEIJING, 12 Oct— A crane collapsed in a wind power equipment company in northwest China’s Gansu Province, killing at least five people, authorities said Tuesday. In the incident in Juquan City, the arm of the crane broke, causing the crane to collapse, the official Xinhua news agency reported, quoting work safety officials. The five workers were crushed, the report said. A sixth worker was injured but his injuries were not believed to be life-threatening, the report said. The cause of the incident was being investigated.—Internet

Bridegrooms put rings on their brides in the group wedding ceremony of 60 pairs of newlyweds in Jinan, east China’s Shandong Province, Oct. 10, 2011. The government encourages group wedding in order to reduce heavy expense for ceremony which amounts to 150,000 yuan (23,100 U.S. dollars) for each couple in Jinan, according to Jinan Wedding Ceremony Association.—Xinhua

Six missing in floods in Turkey

ISTANBUL, 12 Oct— Six people were missing Monday in the Turkish Mediterranean Province of Antalya which was hit by floods after heavy rains, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported.

Six people were found missing after three houses were destroyed in Haskiziloren village in Serik District of Antalya Province, the report quoted Antalya Governor Ahmet Altıparmak as saying. The report added rescue teams have managed to rescue 25 people so far.

Deputy Governor of Antalya Turan Eren said access to the region has been blocked, where three bridges were damaged and phone connections in some villages were cut off due to the floods.

Xinhua

A visitor views a stone during a rare stone exhibition held in Qinglong County, southwest China’s Guizhou Province, 10 Oct, 2011. —Xinhua

The New Light of Myanmar Thursday, 13 October, 2011

This FBI photograph taken in 1994 shows one of the FBI’s most wanted fugitives, James “Whitey” Bulger, who was arrested 23 June, 2011. —INTERNET

Five bloggers face trial in UAE

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Prosecutors said the men insulted the UAE leaders and urged citizens to revolt against them and follow in the footsteps of Egypt’s 25 Jan revolution.

The defendants have pleaded not guilty, and a judge has adjourned the trial until 23 Oct so the defence can prepare its case.—Internet
Dad taking photos of daughter gets grilled by cops, banned from mall

GLASGOW, 12 Oct.—A father taking pictures of his daughter at a shopping center near Glasgow, Scotland, says he was banned from the mall and threatened with having his camera phone confiscated in the interest of preventing terrorism when he refused to delete the photos. Chris White, 45, says police were called last week after he took photos of his 4-year-old daughter, Hazel, eating ice cream at Braehead shopping center, and a security guard approached him and asked him to delete the pictures and then banned him from the mall, the Daily Record reports.

Ministry of Information
Printing and Publishing Enterprise
Invitation to opened tender for purchasing paper, ink and printing items

Ministry of Information for Purchasing the following Paper, Ink and Printing Items

Paper, Ink and Printing Items

1. Newsprint Paper (48.8 Gsm) 1966 MTS/TNE
2. Sheeted Offset Ink (a) Green (5kg/Tin) 450 Kgs/Kgm
(b) Gold (1 kg/Tin) 5 Kgs/Kgm
3. Imagewriter Film (a) FP Film (45.9 cm x 61 m) 4 Rolls/NMB
(b) Blue Print Paper 5 Rolls/NMB
4. Plate & Chemicals
   (a) Negative Plate
      (1) 915 x 626 x 0.3 mm 4700 Shrs/NMB
      (2) 1035 x 740 x 0.3 mm 500 Shrs/NMB
      (3) 690 x 550 x 0.3 mm 80 Shrs/NMB
      (4) 889 x 609 x 0.3 mm 250 Shrs/NMB
      (b) Positive Plate (1050 x 785 x 0.3 mm) 200 Shrs/NMB
      (c) Wipe on Developer
         (1) Gum Solution (5 Lit/Bot) 250 LTR
         (2) Fountain Solution (5 Lit/Bot) 295 LTR
         (3) Plate Cleaner (1 Lit/Bot) 70 LTR
         (4) Positive Plate Cleaner (1 Lit/Bot) 30 LTR
      (d) Gum Arabic (1 Lit/Bot) 165 LTR
5. Sticking Wire
   (a) 23 Gauge (2kg/Coil) 1700 Coils/NMB
   (b) 24 Gauge (2kg/Coil) 400 Coils/NMB
   (c) 22 Gauge (5kg/Coil) 120 Coils/NMB
6. Printing Items
   (a) Master Roll (GRORA)
      15 Rolls/NMB
   (b) Rubber Blanket
      (1) 1515 x 636 W x 1 9 mm 15 Shrs/NMB
      (c) Rubber Blanket (With T-Bar)
         (1) 760 x 778 W x 1.95 mm 10 Shrs/NMB
         (2) 785 x 740 W x 1.96 mm 15 Shrs/NMB
         (3) 809 x 626 W x 1.96 mm 15 Shrs/NMB
         (4) 850 x 775 W x 1.95 mm 10 Shrs/NMB
         (5) 889 x 626 W x 3 7 mm 15 Shrs/NMB
         (6) 915 x 626 x 1.9 mm 10 Shrs/NMB
   (d) Dampening Roller Hose
      (1) Dampening Roller Hose 3 1/2" (NBG 423) (25m/Coil)
         2 Coils/NMB
      (2) Dampening Roller Hose 4" (NBG 423) (25m/Coil)
         1 Coil/NMB
      (3) Dupliplate JP-755 Master Roll (CPMT 2:1) 20 Coils/MB
      (4) Dupliplate JP-755 Ink (CPI 10) 30 Coils/NMB
   7. Gold Powder (Ready For Ink) 110 Kgs/KGM
   8. Machine Spare Parts

2. Forms of opened tender and detailed information may be taken out from the following address from 9:30 am to 16.00 pm daily from 10-10-2011 to 27-10-2011.

3. The forms of opened tender are to be submitted in the presence of members of the tender committee at the Office No.7 in Nay Pyi Taw from 13:00 pm to 14:00 pm on 28-10-2011. The tender application forms that were over the prescribed period will not be considered.

Ocean teal reveals ‘megavirus’

LONDON, 12 Oct.—The largest virus yet discovered has been isolated from ocean water pulled up off the coast of Chile. Called Megavirus chilensis, it is 10 to 20 times wider than the average virus.

It just beats the previous record holder, Mimivirus, which was found in a water cooling tower in the UK in 1992. Scientists tell the journal PNAS that Megavirus probably infects amoebas, single-celled organisms that are floating free in the sea. The particle measures about 0.7 micrometres (thousandths of a milli-metre) in diameter.

"It is bigger than some bacteria," explained Professor Jean-Michel Claverie, from Aix-Mar- seille University, Mar seille, France. "You don't need an electron microscope to see it; you can see it with an ordinary light microscope," he told BBC News.

Viruses cannot copy themselves; they need to invade a host cell if they want to replicate.

Like Mimivirus, Megavirus has hair-like structures, or fibrils, on the exterior of its shell, or capsid, that probably attract unsuspecting amoebas looking to prey on bacteria displaying similar features.
Firefighters won’t be disciplined for porn
Los Angeles officials said firefighters accused of allowing fire engines to be used in two pornographic films will not face disciplinary actions.
Councilman Dennis Zine said he received a letter from Chief Brian Cummings explaining the City Charter prohibits firefighters from being disciplined for actions that occurred more than two years ago, and both alleged incidents took place prior to 2009, the Los Angeles Times reported Wednesday.
Zine said Tuesday he met with Cummings and the investigation into the allegations, which involved Engine 263 from Firehouse 63 and Engine 41 from Firehouse 41, will continue, but the firefighters involved cannot be punished.
“‘There’s no discipline they could administer,’” Zine said.

Students raise thumbs instead of hands
Some parents are criticizing a British school for replacing hand raising to answer questions with thumb raising.
The Burlington Junior School in Bridlington, England, which previously attempted to replace hand raising with the raising of colored signs, recently announced students are being encouraged to put up their thumbs instead of raising their hands to get the teacher’s attention, The Sun reported Tuesday.
Headteacher Cherylle Adams described the policy as not a “big deal” and “something all the children have accepted.”
“These ideas help make the class environment calmer and encourages quieter pupils to share ideas,” Adams said.
However, Dave Campleman, 44, who has two children at the school, said he does not agree.
“I thought it was a joke at first,” he said. “It’s daft. Kids are used to putting their hands up — being told to do something different just confuses them.”

I try to live in the moment:
Emma Stone
Actress Emma Stone London, 12 Oct— Actress Emma Stone
says she tries not to get “overwhelmed” by her Hollywood success and says she tries to live in the moment.
“I’m very aware that it’s a moment. If I ever get overwhelmed by everything that’s happening to me, I think, ‘Get over it sweetie. It will be gone one day,’” Contactmusic.com quoted her as saying.
“There’s going to be another 22-year-old redhead on my heels. It’s inevitable and there’s nothing I can do about it, so I try to live in the moment,” she added.

Julia Roberts won’t tell kids of Evil Queen role in Snow White
WASHINGTON, 12 Oct—Julia Roberts has revealed that she can’t tell her children that she is playing the Evil Queen in the new Snow White movie because they are scared of the character.
The 43-year-old actress says that her kids are so scared of the Disney cartoon version of the story, that they have nightmares.
“I haven’t liked spelled it out that I’m the Evil Queen. Because I showed them [Disney’s] ‘Snow White’ and they had nightmares and they cried,” Contactmusic quoted her as telling Access Hollywood.

Arnold Schwarzenegger to reprise ‘Terminator’ role
Arnold Schwarzenegger is reportedly set to reprise his most famous role as ‘The Terminator’. The 64-year-old actor, who was recently entangled in the controversy surrounding the end of his marriage, seems to be back on track, reports the Daily Express. Since his political career ended as the Californian governor Schwarzenegger has starred in several action films and now he is all set to render the most famous role of his career as the ‘Terminator’, despite the fact that he’ll be 66 by the time it starts filming.

Robert Downey, JR wants to direct movies after retiring from acting
WASHINGTON, 12 Oct—Hollywood actor Robert Downey, JR. has revealed that he would like to become a director after retiring from acting.
Downey, 46, remembered co-actor Mel Gibson dismissing the idea to ever direct a movie while they were working on ‘Air America’ in 1990, and soon after was taking charge behind-the-scenes. The ‘Iron Man’ has decided to follow in the footsteps of his co-star. “The great thing was working with Mel right before he went off and did Hamlet and started directing. I remember him telling someone on the set, ‘I would never be a director, it’s a terrible idea,’ and three years later he couldn’t not direct,” Contactmusic quoted the actor as telling Los Angeles Times—Internet

Penelope Cruz back in Rome for film shoot
ROME, 12 Oct—Penelope Cruz returned to Rome to continue filming the Sergio Castellitto movie “Venuto al Mondo” that started production in September on location in Sarajevo and Croatia, Italian media said.
The Spanish actress, who was in Rome several weeks ago shooting the Woody Allen film “Bop Decameron”, is staying at a hotel far from the downtown area with her son Leo, sources close to the actress said.
The star of “Vicky Cristina Barcelona” does not eat out at restaurants and will give no press conferences. The only invitations she accepts are to the filmmaker’s home. The movie, inspired by the like-named novel by Margaret Mazzantini, Castellito’s wife and one of Italy’s most popular writers, tells the story of a mother’s trip with her 16-year-old son to the Sarajevo of today, the hometown of her father who was killed while still a young man during the 1992-95 Bosnian war.
Co-starring with Cruz is actor Emile Hirsch. The production crew will remain in the Italian capital until 26 Oct, Italian media said.
Sweden down Dutch to seal Euro 2012

STOCKHOLM, 12 Oct—Swedish secured automatic qualification for the Euro 2012 finals with a nervy 3-2 win over Holland here on Tuesday.

With the Dutch already assured of top spot in Group E the pressure was on Sweden to stop the Orange's unbeaten run to top next year's championship in Ukraine and Poland to emerge as the best of all the other second-placed teams and so avoid the play-offs. Kim Kallstrom, Lyon's left-footed midfielder, put the Scandinavians into a 14th minute lead, defeating Dutch keeper Michel Vorm from a direct free kick awarded after defender Gregory van der Wiel fouled Johan Elmander.

Sweden's keeper Andreas Isaksson kept the hosts' on a level footing when denying Robin van Persie as half time approached. .

Sweden's Kim Kallstrom celebrates after he scored a goal during the Euro 2012 Group E qualifying football match against Netherlands.—INTERNET

Jaime Ayovi leads Ecuador over US 1-0

LOS ANGELES, 12 Oct—Tiger Woods is awfully happy he could announce his own name in the field of the Chevron World Challenge.

Woods expressed gratitude to the tournament committee Tuesday after squeaking into the event he hosts. His world ranking barely stayed in the top 50 last month, just high enough to qualify for an exemption, and he'll be at Sherwood Country Club in seven weeks for the final event of his so-far winless season.

After a brutal two-year stretch of personal turmoil and reinvention, Woods appears eager to continue his climb back from his lowest low. Woods has dropped from No. 49 to

Brazil’s Mancini facing jail for alleged assault

BRASILIA, 12 Oct—A judge has requested a three year eight month jail term be imposed on Brazilian footballer Mancini for the alleged sexual assault of a young woman at a party organised by teammate Ronaldinho, the Italian press reported Tuesday.

Former Roma, Inter and AC Milan winger Mancini is accused of taking advantage of a drunken Brazilian woman at a party hosted by Ronaldinho in Milan last December. The seven-times capped player is alleged to have offered to escort the model home, before taking her to his apartment where the attack occurred.—Internet

Brazil’s Mancini (L) is challenged by Venezuela’s Luis Sejas during a FIFA World Cup 2010 qualifier at the Pueblo Nuevo Stadium in San Cristobal, Venezuela.—INTERNET

Russia thrash Andorra, through to Euro 2012

MOSCOW, 12 Oct—Russia comfortably clinched their place at the Euro 2012 finals with a 6-0 win over qualifying group B minnows Andorra here on Tuesday.

“I’m proud of my team as we were the better team today and in the entire qualifying campaign,” Russia’s manager Dick Advocaat said. “It was a really impressive performance tonight. Now we need to prepare the best possible way for the final.”

Alas Dragoevo netted a double, while Sergei Ignashevich, Roman Pavlyuchenko, Denis Glushakov and substitute Diniyar Bilyaletdinov also scored as Advocat’s men sealed first place in the group with 23 points, two more than runners up the Republic of Ireland, who beat Armenia 2-1.

Marc Pujol of Andorra (C) vies for ball with Andrey Arshavin (R) of Russia during their Euro 2012 Group B qualifying football match.—INTERNET

Tiger Woods grateful for spot in his own tourny

Jammed Ayovi leads Ecuador over US 1-0

USA’s head coach Jurgen Klinsmann talks to his team in the second half of the match. —INTERNET

Ireland’s Trapattionhi happy to take chances in play-off

DUBLIN, 12 Oct—Republic of Ireland manager Giovanni Trapattoni insists his players can handle whatever is thrown at them in their Euro 2012 play-offs.

Trapattoni’s side secured second place in Group B with a 2-1 win over Armenia at the Aviva Stadium on Tuesday and now they await their fate in the draw for the Euro 2012 play-offs.

Republic of Ireland’s Damien Duff (R) and Armenia’s Karlen Mkrtchyan during the Group B Euro 2012 qualifying match on 11 Oct, 2011.—INTERNET

Nadal plots return to top form

MADRID, 12 Oct—World number two Rafael Nadal Tuesday targeted a return to the form that won him three Grand Slams in a single season, admitting his game had dipped since his stellar 2010 campaign.

The Spaniard, for many years locked in a battle with Swiss great Roger Federer for tennis supremacy, has seen his crown taken this year by Serbia’s Novak Djokovic, who has swept all before him and won three Slams of his own.

Nadal, 25, who won the French Open, Wimbledon and US Open back-to-back last year, said his game had since faltered a little, contributing to his losing seven of 10 finals in 2011. “I believe Rafa 2010 had something more special than Rafa 2011, especially in tough situations,” Nadal said ahead of his first match at the Shanghai Masters against compatriot Guillermo Garcia-Lopez on Wednesday.—INTERNET

Rafael Nadal listens to a question during a press conference at the 2011 Shanghai Rolex Masters tournament at the Qizhong Tennis Center.—INTERNET

SPORTS

Denmark, France make Euro 2012

LONDON, 12 Oct—Denmark gained an automatic spot at the 2012 European Championship at the expense of Portugal on Tuesday while France needed a late penalty kick in a 1-1 draw with Bosnian-Herzegovina to qualify.

Former champion Greece and Russia also clinched places at next summer’s tournament in Ukraine and Poland with victories in the final round of qualifying games. Sweden beat the Netherlands 3-2 to advance as the runner-up with the best record from the nine groups.

A 2-0 defeat in Copenhagen dropped Portugal into next month’s qualification playoffs, along with Turkey, Ireland, Estonia, Bosnian-Herzegovina, Croatia and Czech Republic.

Defending champion Spain and Germany won to finish group play with perfect records.—Internet

Denmark's Nicklas Bendtner jubilates after scoring to take the score to 2-0, when Denmark met Portugal during their Euro 2012 qualifying soccer match.—INTERNET

Sweden’s Kim Kallstrom celebrates after he scored a goal during the Euro 2012 Group E qualifying football match against Netherlands.—INTERNET

Tiger Woods, right, hugs sportscaster Jim Hill after winning the Chevron World Challenge golf tournament in San Anselmo, California. —INTERNET

The New Light of Myanmar Thursday, 13 October, 2011

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR   Thursday, 13  October,  2011

SP R O T S
Summary of observations at 09:00am MST on today.

India, South Africa sign MoU on electoral cooperation

New Delhi, 12 Oct—India and South Africa today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to facilitate exchange of knowledge and experience related to the study, reform and management of election administration systems, promotion and implementation of educational research and training programmes, and mutual exchanges to enhance experience in electoral management and administration.

The MoU also envisages holding conferences on topics of common interest. The MoU was signed by the Chief Election Commissioner of India, Dr S Y Quraishi, and the Chairperson of the Electoral Commission of South Africa, Dr Brigalia Bam.

Electoral Commissioners V S Sampath and H S Brahma, diplomats and senior officials of the Election Commissions of India and South Africa were present at the signing ceremony.

The Chairperson of the Electoral Commission of South Africa, Dr Brigalia Bam, is on a visit to India for strengthening bilateral cooperation between the two Election Commissions.

She is accompanied by her Deputy Chief Electoral Officer Mosotho Moepya. Earlier, the two Election Commissions held bilateral discussions, and explored ways of working jointly to promote participatory democracy and best electoral processes in other countries, particularly in Africa, and possibilities of training electoral officials and other stakeholders, at the India International Institute of Democracy and Election Management of the Election Commission of India.—MNA/PTI

This photo provided by the Association of Surfing Professionals shows Jordy Smith, of South Africa, competing in the Quiksilver Pro France surfing competition in Hossegor, France, on 11 Oct 2011.—INTERNET

Weather forecast for 13th October, 2011

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Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

India, South Africa sign MoU on electoral cooperation

New Delhi, 12 Oct—India and South Africa today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to facilitate exchange of knowledge and experience related to the study, reform and management of election administration systems, promotion and implementation of educational research and training programmes, and mutual exchanges to enhance experience in electoral management and administration.

The MoU also envisages holding conferences on topics of common interest. The MoU was signed by the Chief Election Commissioner of India, Dr S Y Quraishi, and the Chairperson of the Electoral Commission of South Africa, Dr Brigalia Bam.

Electoral Commissioners V S Sampath and H S Brahma, diplomats and senior officials of the Election Commissions of India and South Africa were present at the signing ceremony.

The Chairperson of the Electoral Commission of South Africa, Dr Brigalia Bam, is on a visit to India for strengthening bilateral cooperation between the two Election Commissions.

She is accompanied by her Deputy Chief Electoral Officer Mosotho Moepya. Earlier, the two Election Commissions held bilateral discussions, and explored ways of working jointly to promote participatory democracy and best electoral processes in other countries, particularly in Africa, and possibilities of training electoral officials and other stakeholders, at the India International Institute of Democracy and Election Management of the Election Commission of India.—MNA/PTI

This photo provided by the Association of Surfing Professionals shows Jordy Smith, of South Africa, competing in the Quiksilver Pro France surfing competition in Hossegor, France, on 11 Oct 2011.—INTERNET

Weather forecast for 13th October, 2011

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Union Environmental Conservation and Forestry Minister calls for eco-system conservation

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Oct—Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun visited 125-acre watershed mixed-plantations established by Dry Zones Greening Department in Salingyi Township, Monywa District on 10 October and stressed the need for successful implementation of four main tasks of Dry Zones Greening Department, establishment of locally-grown environmental conservation plantations for long term apart from Eucalyptus plantations, conservation of watershed areas of Chindwin River and its eco-system through coordinated and collaborative efforts.

The Union Minister then proceeded to No.75 Sawmill and No.1 Plywood Mill under Myanmar Timber Enterprise in Monywa. He inspected the production process of No.5 Plywood Mill yesterday and called for increased production of value-added wood products to penetrate other markets apart from current markets of India and Korea so as to be able to earn more foreign currencies and special attention on staff welfare.

Union Minister U Win Tun, while meeting his staff members at the briefing hall of Bodhitahtaung Greening Region, urged them to conserve and develop natural forests in Kyaukka and Shwemyintin protected reserve.—MNA

Elephant Festival, symbol of Kyaukse

Elephant festival is held on 14 Waxing and Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut in Kyaukse in Mandalay Region yearly. It is not the festival of real elephants but of inanimate ones made of bamboos and paper. It is the perfect combination of craftsmanship and arts of dancing. Kyaukse is the only town in Myanmar in which elephant festival can be seen in other words elephant is an emblem of Kyaukse. The festival dates back over one hundred years ago and is widely known across Myanmar.

Kyaukse lies on the right bank of Zawgyi River. It is a famous town on Yangon-Mandalay railroad, being situated 27 miles from Mandalay and 359 miles from Yangon.

Two white elephants, 10 elephants adorned with sequins, 12 traditional elephants, 10 baby elephants, altogether 32 elephants amused the audience at the opening of elephant donation ceremony at the foot of Mt. Shwethalyaung in Kyaukse in 2010.

A total of 18 elephants competed in the 2010 elephant-offering ceremony in Kyaukse before three referee stands. On that day, crowded Kyaukse Central Market and downtown Kyaukse was alive (See page 9).

China wins men’s team title in gymnastics worlds

TOKYO, 12 Oct — China won the men’s team gold medal of the gymnastics worlds championships for the fifth time in a row Wednesday, holding off host Japan and the United States, which took the second and third place.

China, the 2008 Beijing Olympic champions, scored 275.161 points, outperforming Japan’s 273.093 and 273.083 of the United States.

Ranking third in the qualification round, China and Japan were neck-to-neck until the last rotation, when Japan’s Yusuke Tanaka and Kohei Uchimura both fell from the horizontal bar, while China’s Zhang Chenglong and Zou Kai put on a flawless performance on the floor.—Internet

Unregistered vehicles to be impounded

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Oct — Road Transport Administration Department issued a notification that if unregistered vehicles running on the public area are found to be using forged certificates and number plates, and number plates of other vehicles, drivers will be dealt with a lawsuit and have their vehicles impounded under Sections 21 and 28 in Chapter (6) of 1964 Vehicle Act and Sections 5 (1) and 5 (3) of 1947 Import & Export Supervisory Act (Provisional).—MNA

Vitamin E supplement puts men at high risk for prostate cancer

Players of China (C), Japan (L) and the United States pose at the podium after the men’s team final at the 43rd Artistic Gymnastics World Championships in Tokyo, Japan, Oct. 12, 2011.—INTERNET

Nay Pyi Taw decorated with illumination on Fullmoon Day

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