President U Thein Sein sees off Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo on departure for PRC

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Oct — President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein saw off a Myanmar delegation led by Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo, who left here at 9 am today by special flight of Myanmar Airways International to attend the 8th China-ASEAN Expo and Business and Investment Summit to be held in Nanning of Guangxi Zhaung Autonomous Region of the People’s Republic of China at the invitation of the government of the People’s Republic of China.

Together with President U Thein Sein, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services General Min Aung Hlaing, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Lt-Gen Soe Win, Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan, Union Ministers at President Office U Thein Nyunt and U Soe Maung, Union Minister for Mines U Thein Hlaik, Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Sports U Tint Hsan and departmental heads, the Charge d’Affaires at of the embassy of the People’s Republic of China to Myanmar and officials saw off the Myanmar delegation at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.

Members of Myanmar delegation led by Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo were Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development and for Livestock and Fisheries U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister for Science and Technology U Aye Myint, Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Than, Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin, member of Advisory Group at President Office U Hset Aung and senior officers.— MNA

Occasional squalls likely off and along Rakhine Coast

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Oct—According to the observations at (05:30) hrs MST today, yesterday’s land depression which crossed near Bangladesh (Cox’ Bazar) moved northeast direction and now lies as a Low Pressure Area near border of India-Myanmar.

Under the influence of Low Pressure Area, occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along Rakhine Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) mph. Fairly widespread to widespread rain or thundershowers with likelihood of isolated heavyfall in Chin and Rakhine States, Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.
A history to repeat

Many a person takes great interest in football. Football fans are expanding their sphere all around the world day by day. The world today has seen football as a business, rather than sport for health and entertainment.

Once, Myanmar football possessed an impressive record in South East Asia. Myanmar footballers filled the country’s flag high and claimed the loving claps of the people by clinching Asian Cups, South East Asia Cups, Mardika Cups, Park Chun Hee Cups, Jakarta Cups, Marahalim Cups and Asian Youth Cups.

The sterling reputation of Myanmar football is to be salvaged. The workshop is being held in Nay Pyi Taw to seek ways from various points of view, with attendance of officials of Myanmar Football Federation and football clubs, football experts, sports journalists, resource persons and football fanatics.

A total of 16 papers portraying a wide range of perspectives to raise Myanmar football standard have been read out. Sweeping reforms are to be made. While upgrading existing stadiums, football grounds are to be established in wards, villages and basic education schools around the country.

Availability of sports gear at low price is a must. Organizing sports games, nurturing new generation athletes and teaching up-to-the-minute techniques will be carried out constantly.

It’s high time to seek pragmatic ways to improve Myanmar football standard, the national sport. With the sponsorship of the State, MFF, football clubs, journalists, football experts and people are to work in concert to restore once-enviable reputation of Myanmar football.

Myanmar Libraries Foundation donates books

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Oct—The books donation ceremony of Myanmar Libraries Foundation to Lin Yaung Chi Library in Sanngyi Village of Mawlamyine Township was held at the library on 17 October. The village administrator made a speech at the ceremony. Staff Officer Daw Hla Hla Oo of Mawlamyine District Information and Public Relations Department explained the purpose of the donation and presented 250 books worth K 100,000 donated by Myanmar Libraries Foundation to village administrator U Soe Than.—MNA

All this needs to be known

* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
* Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
* Do not be softened whenever appeased

Union A&I Minister receives Vice President of CEIEC

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Oct—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing received Vice President Mr Song Jian and party of China National Electronic Import & Export Corporation (CEIEC) of the People’s Republic of China at the ministry, here, at 8 am yesterday.

They discussed matters related to implementation of river water pumping projects in Nalogy, Myingyan and Mawlamyine townships of arid zone and agricultural integrated development project.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister U Khin Zaw, Director-General U Kyi Htut Win of the Water Resources Utilization Department and Director-General U Hla Kyaw of the Agricultural Planning Department.

MNA

Dy Transport Minister receives Japanese guests

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Oct—Deputy Minister for Transport U Win Shein received Prof Shigeru Matsushima of Tokyo University of Science Graduate School of Innovation Studies Department of Management of Technology and Deputy Director Mr Tomonori Nagase of Southeast Asia and Pacific Department of JICA Headquarters of Japan.—MNA

Sweeping reforms are to be made. While football standard have been read out.

They focused on prospects for mutual cooperation in development of small- and medium-scale industries.

Also present at the call were members of the Small- and Medium-scale Industries Development Subcommittee.—MNA

Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing receives Vice President Mr Song Jian and party of China National Electronic Import & Export Corporation (CEIEC) of the People’s Republic of China.—MNA

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MNA

SPED officers leave for China

YANGON, 20 Oct—Staff officers of Sports and Physical Education Department U Tin Tun Zaw (Hinthada) and U Aye Min Htut (Tachilek) left here for China yesterday morning to attend Training Course on Badminton for Developing Countries to be conducted in Changsha of the People’s Republic of China from 19 October to 13 December.—MNA

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**Impossible to protect all of Bangkok from flood**

**BANGKOK**, 20 Oct—Thailand’s Premier said Thursday that it was impossible to protect all of Bangkok from the country’s worst floods in decades, describing the situation as a “national crisis”.

“We cannot block the water forever,” Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra told reporters, adding that the government would choose which areas of the city to allow the floods to flow through to minimise the damage.

“We need areas that water can be drained through so water can flow out to the sea,” she said.

The government has reinforced the city’s floodwalls in an attempt to prevent the floods pouring into the densely populated city from the central plains, which are several metres under water in places.

Efforts to keep the country’s economic and political heartland dry have been complicated by a seasonal high tide and have also taken a heavy toll on areas outside of the capital.

“Flood waters are coming from every direction and we cannot control them because it’s a huge amount of water. We will try to warn people,” Yingluck said.

“This problem is very overwhelming. It’s a national crisis so I hope to get cooperation from everybody.”

Three months of heavy monsoon rains have killed 320 people, damaged the homes and livelihoods of millions of people, mostly in northern and central Thailand, and forced tens of thousands to seek refuge in shelters. Currently, about one-third of Thailand’s provinces are affected.

The opposition Democrats are calling on the government to declare a state of emergency to make it easier to control people and stop them damaging dykes to ease the flooding in their own areas.

Bangkok governor Sukhumbhand Paribatra warned on Wednesday that seven districts in northern and eastern Bangkok were at risk of inundation because of a broken dyke.

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**James Murdoch knew phone hacking was widespread, UK MPs told**

**LONDON**, 20 Oct—British lawmakers are of the view that News of The World CEO James Murdoch knew much more of the Tabloid’s phone hacking scandal than he has already revealed after evidence emerged that he had been told it was not just the work of a single “rogue reporter”.

Murdoch has told MPs that he was not aware that other journalists on the paper had been implicated in wrongdoing when he authorized a payment to Gordon Taylor, the chief executive of the Professional Footballers’ Association, for more than 400,000 pounds to settle a claim that he had been hacked. But lawyers who acted for News International in negotiating the 2008 settlement yesterday suggested to MPs that Murdoch had been told by the then editor that the practice was more widespread.

MPs were told in July that the editor, Colin Myler, and Tom Crone, the News of the World’s former head of legal matters, met Murdoch on 10 June 2008, after which Murdoch authorised the settlement. But The Telegraph quoted Julian Pike, a partner with Farrer and Co, the law firm that represents the Queen, as saying that Myler also met James Murdoch on 27 May 2008 to discuss the case.—Internet

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**Adolf Hitler ‘personally planned 1934 putsch in Vienna’**

**LONDON**, 20 Oct—German dictator Adolf Hitler personally planned a failed Nazi coup in 1934 that culminated in the assassination of the Austrian chancellor Engelbert Dollfuss, according to new findings by a Viennese historian.

Based on journal entries by close Hitler associate Joseph Goebbels, historian Kurt Bauer concluded the thwarted “July putsch” of 1934 was devised “with great likelihood by Adolf Hitler personally”, in a newly published article.

According to The Telegraph, on 25 July, 1934, Austrian Nazi partisans attacked the chancellery in Vienna, hoping to force the government to resign and install a regime favourable to Hitler’s Germany.

The coup failed but Dollfuss was shot and killed.

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**NATO: east Afghanistan fight kills 115 militants**

**KABUL**, 20 Oct—NATO says at least 115 militants have been killed in ongoing operations in a northeastern Afghan Province known for being a hotbed of foreign militant fighters.

The US-led alliance said Thursday that it was impossible to protect all of Afghanistan from the country’s worst floods in decades, describing the situation as a “national crisis”.

“We cannot block the water forever,” Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra told reporters, adding that the government would choose which areas of the city to allow the floods to flow through to minimise the damage.

“We need areas that water can be drained through so water can flow out to the sea,” she said.

The government has reinforced the city’s floodwalls in an attempt to prevent the floods pouring into the densely populated city from the central plains, which are several metres under water in places.

Efforts to keep the country’s economic and political heartland dry have been complicated by a seasonal high tide and have also taken a heavy toll on areas outside of the capital.

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The opposition Democrats are calling on the government to declare a state of emergency to make it easier to control people and stop them damaging dykes to ease the flooding in their own areas.

Bangkok governor Sukhumbhand Paribatra warned on Wednesday that seven districts in northern and eastern Bangkok were at risk of inundation because of a broken dyke.

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**Clash in S Philippines leaves one dead, one wounded**

**MANILA**, 20 Oct—One New People’s Army (NPA) member died and one special forces soldier of the Philippine army was wounded when they clashed Thursday morning in Sitio upper Lumbo in Arakan City of North Cotabato Province in southern Philippines, police said.

According to reports from Arakan Police Chief Benjamin Rioflorido, around 30 rebels exchanged intense gun battle with the special forces of the Philippine army assigned to the area.

The local civil society groups said a hundred of families had fled their homes to safer places in Arakan Town.

Authorities are checking if the incident is related to the killing of the Italian priest Faustino Tentorio, who was shot dead by a lone gunman inside a Catholic church compound in North Cotabato on Monday.

The NPA, armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines, has been waging a guerrilla campaign in the countryside for four decades. Military estimates the NPA strength at more than 4,000 men scattered in more than 60 guerrilla fronts throughout the country.

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**Police and soldiers stand near a car with the dead body of a hitman lying inside after a shootout in Veracruz on 19 October, 2011. A police woman who was on radio duty at a police post was shot dead by two hitmen riding in a car. The police and navy shot dead one of the hitman but other managed to escape, according to local media.—REUTERS**

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**An Iraqi man inspects his damaged house after a bomb blast in Baghdad, Iraq, on 18 Oct, 2011. The Monday evening blast near a Baghdad liquor store killed at least seven people and injured another 18, Iraqi medical and police officials said.—INTERNET**

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**Local residents walk in the floodwaters as levels rose after a mud and sandbag wall collapsed in Bang Bua Thong in Nonthaburi Province, suburban Bangkok. —INTERNET**

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**The stricken container ship Rena lists, about 12 nautical miles (22 km) from Tauranga, on the east coast of New Zealand’s North Island on 20 October, 2011.—REUTERS**
**Health**

**US researchers study bed bugs’ resistance**

NEW YORK, 20 Oct—US researchers have uncovered the genetic mechanism that bed bugs use to resist powerful insecticides, according to a study, leading to the hope of more effective ways to combat the pests.

Bed bugs, which have been largely absent from the United States since the 1950s, have returned in force in the last decade in the US, and notably other Western countries in Europe.

They have, in this time, developed unique resistance to the insecticides that are mainly used against them — deltamethrin and beta-cyfluthrin, both leading pyrethroids.

The genetic research released Wednesday in the journal *PLoS One,* published by the Public Library, offers new hope to understand their resistance and find new ways to eradicate the blood-sucking bugs.

“Different bed bug populations within the US and throughout the world may differ in their levels of resistance and resistance strategies, so there is the need for continuous surveillance,” said lead author Zach Adelman, associate professor of entomology at Virginia Tech.

Adelman and the other researchers in the study assessed two populations of bed bugs — “a robust, resistant population” found in 2008, and a “non-resistant population” that has been raised in a lab since 1973.

The study determined how each strain succumbed to the pyrethroids, if at all, and determined that over a 24 hour period it required “5,200 times more deltamethrin or 111 times more beta-cyfluthrin” to kill the modern bed bugs compared to the older specimens.

The bed bug’s bite is a little painful rather than dangerous, but many people are scared because the creature mainly attacks when people are asleep.

**Health**

**Exercise may not limit pregnancy weight gain**

NEW YORK, 20 Oct—Exercising during pregnancy was safe for both moms and babies in a new study of heavy women in Brazil, but fitness classes and at-home exercises didn’t keep moms-to-be from gaining too much weight.

The finding is “not surprising,” according to Dr Patrick Catalano, a maternal-fetal medicine researcher from Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine in Cleveland.

The US-based Institute of Medicine recommends that overweight women should gain between 15 and 25 pounds during pregnancy, and obese women 11 to 20 — less than the amount recommended for normal-weight women.

UNICAMP Medical School in Campinas recruited 82 heavy women who were already between three and five and a half months into their pregnancies.

They split those women into two groups. Half went to weekly exercise classes and got counseled on nutrition, weight gain and home exercises or walking they could do daily. The other women received standard prenatal care advice, but no extra information on exercise. Regardless of whether they were assigned to do group and at-home exercise, about half of the women gained more weight than recommended upper limits.

On average, obese women gained 23 to 24 pounds in both groups. Overweight women gained an average of 22 pounds when they exercised and 36 when they didn’t, but the researchers caution that those findings were based on a small group of only 14 women.

The majority of all babies were born by c-section, but there was no difference in their health at birth based on whether or not moms exercised.

Nascimento and colleagues report in *BJOG: An International Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology,* One of the problems is that historically, women have been given the wrong message about eating and physical activity in pregnancy, said Dr Raoul Artal, head of obstetrics, gynecology and women’s health at Saint Louis University School of Medicine.—Reuters

**Business**

**Amazon to start Japan ebook business**

WASHINGTON, 20 Oct—US online giant Amazon will start a Japanese-language ebook business as early as this year, the Nikkei business daily and *Jiji Press* said Thursday. The company, which already has a strong retail presence in Japan, is in the final stages of talks with major Japanese publishers, the Nikkei said.

Amazon is also considering a launch of its Kindle reader for Japanese customers, the Nikkei said. The company was hoping to start the business in time for the Christmas sales season, *Jiji* said.

Amazon’s Japanese representatives declined to comment on the report. Japanese publishers have been reluctant to provide content to Amazon over concerns that the retailer will sell ebooks at bargain prices, the Nikkei said.

The US firm however appears to be making headway in negotiations by proposing a framework in which the timing and scope of price cuts would be discussed with publishers in advance, the business daily said.

Despite the buzz about ebooks in the rest of the world, Japan has failed to develop the sector so far, offering only a limited number of book titles with several competing technological standards.

The Japanese ebook market was estimated at 65 billion yen ($846 million) in the year to March 2011, compared with roughly two trillion yen for printed books and magazines, according to the *Nikkei.—Internet*

**Business**

**UBS planning to shrink investment-banking unit**

NEW YORK, 20 Oct—Swiss bank UBS AG’s caretaker chief executive Sergio Ermotti has ruled out a sale or spinoff of the investment bank and is planning to shrink the investment-banking unit, the *Wall Street Journal* reported. Ermotti, who was appointed chief following Oswald Gruebel’s resignation after UBS’ investment bank lost $2.3 billion in alleged rogue trading, is working on a major overhaul of UBS’s troubled investment bank. The interim CEO has decided to significantly reduce the scope and size of the investment bank in order to bolster UBS’s focus on its key wealth management business, the report said citing people familiar with Ermotti’s thinking.

Most of the proposed changes are expected to be in parts of the investment bank’s fixed-income business, the report said. In August, the bank unveiled plans to slash about 3,500 jobs, almost half of them from its investment bank, in a bid to shave some 2 billion Swiss francs from annual costs by the end of 2013. Ermotti, who has kept the bank’s board informed of the plans, is likely to announce his plans at an investor meeting on 17 November, the report said.

Ermotti intends to cut the amount of capital at the investment bank’s disposal as he diverts more resources to the wealth management unit, with a focus on Europe, Asia and the US, the report said. UBS was not immediately available for a comment on the Journal report.—Reuters
Third day session of seminar on budgeting process continues

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Oct—Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint and Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann attended the third day session of the seminar on budgeting process at Thabin Hall of Hluttaw Building here at 1.30 pm today.

Also present at the seminar were Pyithu Hluttaw representatives and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives.

Rector/Dean of the Commerce Department of the Institute of Economics (Yangon) Daw Yi Yi Than discussed the Budget Process and Government Accounting and Director (Retd) of the Planning Department Daw Khin Thwe Thwe Myint on Government Budgeting (Capital).

After the scholars answered the queries raised by the representatives, the third day session of the seminar ended in the evening.

Performing Arts Competitions goes on for sixth day

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Oct—The 18th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continued for the sixth day at the designated places in Yezin Universities’ Campus in Zeyathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area today.

Among the enthusiasts were Union Minister for Cooperatives U Ohn Myint, Judge of the Supreme Court of the Union U Mya Thein, member of the Work Committee for Organizing the Competitions Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint, members of the work committee and subcommittees, members of the panel of judges at central level and region and state levels, team managers and contestants, departmental personnel and members of the excursion group of national races from Regions and States, teachers and students of basic education schools in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

A total of 15 contestants took part in the higher education level (women’s) modern song contest, 16 in the amateur level (first class) women’s old/modern song contest, and 10 in the basic education level (men’s) Maha Gita song contest, eight in the amateur level (first class) women’s old/modern song contest, and 10 in the basic education level (men’s) xylophone contest, five in the higher education level (men’s) xylophone contest, five in the basic education level (aged 5-10) girls’ mandolin contest, five in the basic education level (men’s) xylophone contest, two in the girls’ mandolin contest, two in the higher education level (men’s) mandolin contest, and one in the women’s mandolin contest.

Altogether 14 students participated in the basic education level (aged 15-20) men’s donmin contest, 11 in the higher education level (men’s and women’s) song composing contest. Two contestants participated in the basic education level (aged 15-20) men’s mandolin contest and one in the women’s mandolin contest, six in the higher education level (men’s) donmin contest and three in the higher education level (women’s) donmin contest.

Further details of the competition are as follows:

Daw Ohnmar of Bago Region participates in amateur level (first class) women’s old/modern song contest.—MNA

U Win Ko of Yangon Region participates in amateur level (second class) men’s Maha Gita song contest.—MNA

Ma Ei Ei Chaw of Mandalay Region participates in basic education level (aged 15-20) women’s donmin contest.—MNA

Daw Yi Yi Than discussed the Budget Process and Government Accounting and Director (Retd) of the Planning Department Daw Khin Thwe Thwe Myint on Government Budgeting (Capital). After the scholars answered the queries raised by the representatives, the third day session of the seminar ended in the evening.

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MNA

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Daw Ohnmar of Bago Region participates in amateur level (first class) women’s old/modern song contest.—MNA

U Chan Thu (a) Chan Chan troupe of Sagaing Region participates in amateur level (second class) men’s troupe orchestra contest.—MNA

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MNA
Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar receives guests

Mr. Ake Lonnberg of IMF Article VII 2011 Mission.

Roads, bridges, buildings damaged in strong winds, heavy rains in some regions, states

Kywekaing Bridge on Monywa-Pale-Gangaw Road moved 10 feet into downstream; water overflowed about six feet over Maphay Bailey Bridge and water in SabaOh Creek raised about seven feet near Kyundat Village, so transportation cut out temporarily; cables for 50 telephone lines across the Myittha River cut out.

Moreover, some cultural heritages were damaged in the small storm. In this regard, walls, roofs and terraces of five pagodas and Myitkyitaik bridge monastery were destroyed in the strong winds in NyaungU Township.

Union Health Minister meets Malaysian Ambassador

Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin received Malaysian Ambassador to Myanmar Dr. Ahmad Faisal Bin Muhamad at his office here yesterday evening.

They held discussions on matters of development of banking sector and on foreign exchange rate.

Also present at the call were vice-governors of the Central Bank of Myanmar and heads of departments.

MNA

Manntheinga Marionette Troupe participates in “Naymi” Jataka contest

MNA

Our willpower depends on blood sugar levels, claims new book

London, 20 Oct—A new book has suggested that our levels of willpower are directly linked to our consumption of glucose (in other words, sugar).

It promises not only to help people learn self-control, but also to explain why so many of us find it so difficult to say no. The book titled Willpower: Rediscovering The Greatest Human Strength, by Roy F Baumeister and John Tierney is a bestseller in the US, the Daily Mail has reported. “Ask people to name their greatest strengths and they’ll often credit themselves with honesty, kindness, humour, creativity and even modesty — but not self-control,” wrote the authors. “Conversely, when people were asked about their failings, a lack of self-control was top of the list,” they stated. They found that the moments when our glucose levels are at their lowest are the moments when we make poor decisions or fail to get anything done.

By analysing studies performed on groups as diverse as convicts in Finland and children at primary school in America, the authors found that our blood sugar levels, the angrier we feel and, in turn, the less control we have over our brains tend to be linked to our self-control, but also to explain why so many of us find it so difficult to say no. The book titled Willpower: Rediscovering The Greatest Human Strength, by Roy F Baumeister and John Tierney is a bestseller in the US, the Daily Mail has reported. “Ask people to name their greatest strengths and they’ll often credit themselves with honesty, kindness, humour, creativity and even modesty — but not self-control,” wrote the authors. “Conversely, when people were asked about their failings, a lack of self-control was top of the list,” they stated. They found that the moments when our glucose levels are at their lowest are the moments when we make poor decisions or fail to get anything done.

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Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker receives former chairman of Japan-Myanmar Parliamentarian League senior speaker of Japanese House of Counsellors

**Nay Pyi Taw, 20 Oct**—Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint received a delegation led by former Chairman of Japan-Myanmar Parliamentarian League senior speaker of Japanese House of Counsellors Mr Watanabe Hideo at Amyotha Hluttaw hall of Hluttaw Building here this afternoon.

Also present at the call were Deputy Speaker U Mya Nyein, Chairman of the Government’s Guarantees, Pledges, and Undertaking Vetting Committee Dr Aye Maung, Chairman of Education, Health and Culture Committee, Chairman of Japan-Myanmar Friendship Association Dr Khin Shwe and national races representatives.

Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Takashi Saito accompanied the Japanese guests.

Both sides discussed promotion of friendly relations between Myanmar-Japan parliaments and further cementing relationship and friendship between Myanmar and Japan.

Speaker U Khin Aung Myint and the Japanese delegation posed for a documentary photo, after the meeting.

**MNA**

Drama Contest entitled “Power of Youth” continues

**Nay Pyi Taw, 20 Oct**—The Drama Contest entitled “Power of Youth” of the 18th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continued at the convocation of University of Agriculture in Yezin Universities’ Campus in Nay Pyi Taw Zeyathiri Township this evening.

Among the enthusiasts were Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Aung Kyi, Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi, Judge of the Supreme Court of the Union U Htay Aung reported on works of the committee.

Vice-Chairman of the committee Deputy Minister U Htay Aung reported on works of the committee and those present at the meeting participated in discussion.

The meeting came to an end with the concluding remarks of the Union Minister.—**MNA**

Region Hluttaw Defence Services Personnel Representatives reshuffled


The full text of the Announcement is as follow:-

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Nay Pyi Taw
Announcement No (56/2011)
8th Waning of Thadingyut, 1373 ME
(20 October, 2011)

Region Hluttaw Defence Services Personnel Representatives reshuffled

According to the request made in accord with Section 33 of the Region Hluttaw or State Hluttaw Election Law to reshuffle two Region Hluttaw Defence Services Personnel Representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in first multi-party democracy general election held on 7 November 2010, the Union Election Commission scrutinized and reshuffled the Region Hluttaw Defence Services Personnel Representatives hereunder stated in Announcement No (3/2011) of the commission dated 20-1-2011 with personnel shown against.

Yangon Region Hluttaw

(1) Navy 3667
Lt-Cdr Lin Naing
(2) Navy 4067
Lt-Cdr Yin Tun

(1) Air 2554
Maj Phone Zaw Aung
(2) Army 33123
Maj (Officiating) Aung Aung

By Order,
(Win Ko)
Secretary
Union Election Commission

Committee for smooth entrance of foreign visitors meets

**Nay Pyi Taw, 20 Oct**—Chairman of committee for smooth entrance of foreign visitors Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Tint Hsan addressed the second coordination meeting of the committee of the ministry held at the ministry here this morning.

The Union Minister touched upon entrance, accommodation and transportation for the foreign tourists.

Vice-Chairman of the committee Deputy Minister U Htay Aung reported on works of the committee and those present at the meeting participated in discussion.

The meeting came to an end with the concluding remarks of the Union Minister.—**MNA**

Turkish police seize large quantity of drugs

**Ankara, 20 Oct**—Turkish police impounded large amount of drugs in Istanbul, the eastern province of Van and the southeastern provinces of Hakkari and Sanliurfa last Wednesday. Some 153.6 kilogrammes of heroin and 189 kilogrammes of hashish were seized in synchronous operations in Istanbul, Van and Hakkari and Sanliurfa, according to the report. Police detained 14 people suspected of having links with the illicit drugs, 11 of them sent to prison.

Turkey is a key transit route for drug smuggling from Asia and the Middle East to the European markets.
Second regular session of first Pyithu Hluttaw...

(from page 16)

raw materials and dye in order to manufacture goods in accord with the market demand and export of finished goods.

The onus is on the Industrial Development Committee and Foodstuff, Textile and Household Goods Development subcommittee to render technologies needed for survival and improvement of small- and medium-scale weaving industries, and works are underway. It is necessary to pay excavation tours to textile industries at home at any time before further studies abroad.

Regarding the question raised by U Soe Win of Sanyaung Constituency whether there is a plan to lend industrial development loans directly to small- and medium scale enterprises by the Union government, the Union minister answered that the Union government is striving for all-round development of small- and medium scale enterprises in Myanmar. Myanma Industrial Development Bank is lending appropriate loans with affordable interests to export-oriented and import-substitute enterprises that are in need of capital under the scrutiny of

Myanmar Industries Association. So far, 30396.782 million kyats have been disbursted. So still, there is no plan to loan them directly by the Union government.

In the coming fiscal year, the Union government has planned to loan appropriate amount of money like agricultural loan through Myanma Industrial Development Bank and form SMEs Finance Centre in order to take measures for assistances to SMEs. With the aim of assisting national economic development and improving private enterprises, Central Bank of Myanmar announced that the interest on loan is 15 % as of 1-9-2011 and interest on agricultural loan is 14 %.

Union Minister for Rail Transportation U Aung Min answered two questions about Myanmar Railways by two representatives.

Regarding the question raised by U Myint Lwin of Kyaeikto Constituency who asked whether there is a plan to build express trains from Yangon to Pyay, the deputy minister replied that express train service at present is being run from Yangon to Pyay and back three times a day, and when a modern train arrives the service can be increased to four times a day.

Myanma Railways has planned to repair railway stations in the capitals of Regions and States as first priority, district stations as second priority and township stations as third priority during the open season. Although Kyaeikto railway station is a township station, it is very busy with pilgrims. So plans are underway to repair the station that handled 131000 passengers and fetched over 59 million kyats during the 2010-11 fiscal year for all convenience of passengers. Likewise, overpass is under repair in order to meet township characteristics.

Regarding the question raised by U Win Myint of Pyay Constituency who asked whether there is a plan to run Yangon-Pyay express train two times a day, instead of running one time a day, according to the findings of surveying Yangon-Pyay (No (71) up-train and No (72) down-train on number of passengers a day and a month from January to August 2011, train tickets for No (71) up-train from Monday to Saturday can be bought easily at nearly thirty minutes before its departure and train tickets for No (72) down-train from Saturday to Thursday can also be bought. It is found that No (72) down-train is full of passengers on Fridays due to returns of service personnel passengers from Pyay to Yangon and No (71) up-train is also full of passengers on Sundays due to departures of service personnel passengers from Yangon to Pyay. The train has the capacity 600 seats on five upper class coaches, five ordinary class coaches, one first class coach and one break carriage. As the train can run three more coaches, arrangements will be made for the train to have the capacity of 186 more seats on three coaches.

Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Khin Zaw replied the queries raised by six Hluttaw representatives on agriculture matters.

Regarding the question raised by U Kyaw Myint of Moenyo Constituency who asked whether there is a plan to build a diversion weir for Yangtsum creek, the deputy minister replied that the work in construction of diversion weir started in 2005-06 and finished in 2008-09. The dam that stores about 62,000 acre-feet of water can protect inundation in Moenyo Township in 2007-2008. The dam that costed 62,000 acre-feet can protect inundation in Ward 6 and the entrance road to Okpo to some extent.
Second regular session of first Pyithu Hluttaw...  

(from page 8) Flood preventive measures have been taken that water of Gamon and Katat creeks overflows into Myaung Creek through Linnohyoe drain, east of Okko and then the water flows into Myitmakha River. This rainy season, there were larger volume of rains and mountain torrent. Moreover, Linnohyoe Creek was silted. Thus, water from Gamon and Katat creeks overflowed the urban area. As the town circular dyke of Okko has been built, danger of floods can be prevented to some extent. Katat Creek flows into Gamon Creek and the former has better drainage system. Therefore, these creeks cannot cause floods. To be better drainage system, three miles long section of Linnohyoe Creek and five miles long section of Thaphanbinseik Creek will be dredged.

Coordination will be made with Development Affairs Department for dredging the drains in Okko. After completion of feasibility and land survey for dredging Linnohyoe and Thaphanbinseik Creeks, the designs will be created for the works. After demanding the funds from the State, the tasks will be carried out based on the priority.

U Hay Win of Lewe Constituency asked whether there is a plan to levy the farmland tax at reasonable rate that may not be burden for farmers. The deputy minister replied that the present rate of farmland tax was fixed in the colonial era when 100 baskets of paddy was sold at K 100 and one tical of gold at K 35. To fix the rate of farmland tax, it is necessary to conduct land survey. Although land surveys are to be conducted once every 20 years, more tasks could not be undertaken after finally surveying the land in Myanmar District in 1938 and 1940. Therefore, the farmland tax is being levied at the old rate.

Based on production of crops, price, geographical condition and agricultural production costs, areas of farmland taxes are to be classified. Moreover, types of soil for crops are to be classified. As the old land tax was set for respective soil types in the past, old classification of soil type is not in conformity with current trends. Therefore, it is necessary to actually amend the tax rates in conformity with the market economy for fetching more income for the State. The government is striving for boosting production of crops with the use of quality strains of crops, efficient use of irrigation water, application of good agriculture pattern and conducting agricultural research.

Although the farmland tax should be based on price of one basket per acre, it should make assessment for fixing of the rate not to be burden for the farmers who could only produce less than 100 baskets per acre. In levying the land tax at present rate, a total of 129.79 million kyats could be collected on 26.96 million acres of farmlands across the nation. Therefore, it is necessary to raise the present rate of land tax. The levied tax is to be sufficient to cover the expenditure of agriculture, health, education and irrigation tasks, salary of Hluttaw representatives, State service personnel and other costs of the State to some extent. The classification of land was based on the type of land where land survey was conducted. At present, the old types of land have been changed with the cultivation of quality strain of crops, good agriculture pattern and irrigation facilities. Hence, the classification of past farmlands were totally different from the new ones.

As prices of crops and basic foodstuff and production costs and taxes are increasing and inflation rate is rising, the past rates of land tax are not conformity with the present situation. To be able to fix the rate of land tax, it is necessary to adopt a special plan on collection of farmland census and compilation of farmlands, maps and records of farmlands.

He said that he would like to present the brief way in amendment of raising land tax. Land survey teams are to be formed, appointment of service personnel extended and staff trained for survey the lands in the nation simultaneously to be able to classify the lands types based on cultivation of crops that cannot be burden for some farmers. That is why it may take two to three years for implementing the plan.

Thus, the amending the land tax will be submitted to the Union government with the assessment in all aspects. Under the agreement of the Union government, the announcement is to be issued to implement the plan systematically.

U Thein Tun Oo of Amarapura Constituency asked whether there is a plan to designate Taungthaman Lake as a natural watershed area to reclaim the farmlands around the lake. The deputy minister replied that it is true that there were irrigated farmlands around Taungthaman Lake. These farmlands were irrigated from Tamakoose Drain of Hseadawgyi Dam. However, these farmlands hardly ever received irrigated water because they are located at the end of the drain. At present, water has been stored with the sluice gate and thus, these farmlands can now receive irrigated water. However, the number of farmers engaging in the croplands is not on the increase due to development of urban area and many number of other businesses based at Taungthaman Lake.

Storage of water at Taungthaman Lake contributes to the increase of job opportunities of the local people and improvement of their social economic life, preservation of aquatic ecosystem for improvement of environment and biodiversities, preservation of cultural heritage of the nation and attracting the foreign and local tourists. Moreover, it is necessary to deeply consider the sifting in the lake and pollution from fertilizers and chemicals if the ploughing is carried out in the farmlands around the lake.

Therefore, it should not give priority to cultivation of crops considering advantages of systematic storage of water at the lake. If the cultivation is allowed under special circumstances, emphasis is to be placed on harmless activity for perpetual existence of Taungthaman Lake.

Amyotha Hluttaw sent back the Bill to revoke the Fundamental Rights and Responsibilities of the People’s Workers (1964) with its agreement to the approval of Pyithu Hluttaw to Pyithu Hluttaw on 18 October. The bill has been approved with agreement of both Hlutaws. In accord with the Pyithu Hluttaw Rule Section 161, Sub-section (b), it is assumed that the bill was approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. Therefore, the tasks for the bill will be carried out in line with Pyithu Hluttaw Rule Section 161, sub-sections (c) and (d).

The bill was discussed on 22 September and it was delivered to Amyotha Hluttaw on 23 September in accord with the Pyithu Hluttaw Rule Section 160. The 38th-day session of the Pyithu Hluttaw ended at 12.30 pm and the 39th-day session continues at 10 am tomorrow.—MNA

Second regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw...  

(from page 16) visit Mandalay and Yangon through Lashio; there were problems including crimes, lost of foreign tourists and deaths in addition to the breach of existing laws of the State due to travelling of tourists from package tours of the tour companies without tour guides, entering restricted areas with no permission and visiting the regions not included in permitted tour plan; actions were taken against some tour companies and some tourists for these violations; as a result, there is a slight fall in applications for entrance of tourists and foreign visitors through border gates by the tour companies; the ministry is allowing entrance as described in the permission; Chinese visitors are traveling through Muse, Namkham and Kyogak; if they want to proceed to Kutkai, they are allowed to visit there with the permission of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism; the procedures will be undertaken in accord with rules and regulations, based on the needs of local people and the interest of the State.

Aftershocks, Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint replied questions raised by two representatives.

U Pe Thaung of Kachin State Constituency No. 6 asked whether there is a plan to repair roads in Indawgyi area in Mohuyin Township.

The Union Minister replied that the 65-mile long ring road of Indawgyi Lake comprised the 25-mile long road section from Nantmong Village to Nyaungbin Village, the 22 mile-long road section from Nyaungbin Village to Chaingwa-Mana Khaw Village and the 18-mile long road section from Mana Khaw Village to Nantmong Village.

The road section from Nantmong Village to Nyaungbin Village under the Ministry of Construction was being carried out by Kyaukickmmyay Construction Co Ltd under the BOT system. (See page 10)
Second regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw... (from page 9)

The remaining road sections were constructed by the Ministry of Border Affairs in 2010 under the regional development programme, and the ministry would allocate yearly budget for upgrading the roads to the gravel ones.

The 30-mile long road section from Nyawginbin Village in Mohnin Township to Waekha Village in Phakhtan Township was constructed by the Taitmadaw men and local people in the 1995-1996 fiscal year. The road passing through villages could be used in the open season and it was being maintained by Mohnin Township Development Affairs Department.

The 45-mile long earthen road from Lonton Village in Mohnin Township to Hsurn Village in Phakhtan Township was constructed by the Taitmadaw men and local people in the 1995-1996 fiscal year. The road passing through villages could be used in the open season and it was being maintained by Mohnin Township Development Affairs Department.

Regarding the Kalay-Gangaw Road, the Union Minister replied that Waebula Road is 40 miles long and there were under-50-foot-long 11 bridges and under-100-foot-long one bridge on the road. In the rainy season, about 10 jeeps used the road in a week and three to four jeeps used the road per day in the opening season.

Road and bridge construction team led by Falam District senior engineer and the Falam Engineering team was being carried out road works on the 40 miles long road section and maintained the Bridge No. 5/2 in the 2012-13 fiscal year.

Regarding the Kalay-Gangaw Road, the Union Minister replied that the road was 83 miles long, comprising the 59 miles and six furlongs long tarred road section and the 19 miles and seven furlongs long earthen road section and the 19 miles and seven furlongs long earthen road.

With the use the 2011-2012 budget’s funds for maintaining roads and bridges, construction teams led by Kalay District Senior Engineer and Gangaw District Senior Engineer had carried out road works on the 83 miles long road section and maintained bridges on it. The ministry had a plan to seek funds for maintaining Waebula Road in 2012-13 fiscal year but the ministry had no plan to upgrade the road. Kalay-Gangaw Road, including bridges along the road, would be upgraded in the 2012-2013 fiscal year.

Afterwards, Union Minister for Border Affairs and Myanmar Industrial Development Lt-Gen Thein Htay replied the questions raised by two representatives.

Regarding the question of Dr Htay Win of Ayeyawady Region Constituency No. 1, asked whether there was a plan to upgrade Manipura river-crossing bridge and Lonelew creek-crossing bridge linking Bazan Village, Kawdah Village, Kawkwle Village of Falam Township—Htay replied the questions raised by two representatives.

The Union Minister replied that for construction of roads and bridges in Chin State, K 298,179 million from regional development fund have been spent up to 2011-2012 fiscal year and 871 miles six furlongs long earthen road, 35 miles and seven furlongs long gravel road and 19 miles four furlongs long tarred road, three large bridges, one small bridge and nine suspension bridges were constructed with the fund.

Furthermore, Community Development for Remote Townships (CDRT) of United Nations Development Programme, in coordination with Progress of Border Areas and National Races Development Department, has spent K 27,864 million on construction of 26 suspension bridges and 10 wooden bridges, totaling 36 bridges in 36 villages in Falam Township from 2003 to 2011.

Manipura river-crossing bridge is 320 feet long and 5 feet wide one linking Bazan Village and Kawdah Village and Lonelew creek-crossing bridge is 130 feet long and four feet wide one linking Kawdah Village and Kawkwle Village and both bridges are self-reliant bridges; to upgrade the two suspension bridges, his ministry will make surveys in coordination with Chin State Water Supply Committee and submit reports to Central Committee for Progress of Border Regions and National Races after analysis of findings and feasibility study, and take further steps based on the fund granted.

U Tin Shein of Tanintharyi Region Constituency No. 6 (second) the proposal of U Phone Myint Aung of Yangon Region Constituency No. (3) to the Union Government to "enact necessary by-law for allowing the part of or whole public water supply work to be run under private or public ownership or joint-venture", saying that businessmen are engaged in water supply business to Myeik, while the township development affairs committee is distributing lesser prices for drinking water because of the harmonious roles of the State and the private sector and the proposal is reasonable.

U Ohn Tin of Rakhae State Constituency No. (10) said that the governments carry out water supply tasks for provision of potable drinking water; it is learnt that timely supply of adequate water has become a problem in Yangon due to increased population and other reasons; the country is rich in water resources and water supply business personnel in military departments that are not responsible for military operations", the Hluttaw agreed to discuss the proposal.

Dr Aye Maung of Rakhae State Constituency No. (1) the proposal of the Union Government "to let National Races Affairs Ministers enjoy emoluments equivalent to that of Region/State Minister as prescribed in the constitution."

The Hluttaw decided that the proposal is unnecessary one as the clarifications of the Union Minister made it clear that it has been already permitted.

U Hla Swe of Myawgyi Region Constituency No. (12) proposed the Union Government "to assign female service personnel in military departments that are not responsible for military operations", the Hluttaw agreed to discuss the proposal.
India warns of another global financial crisis brewing

NEW DELHI, 20 Oct—India’s central bank, Reserve Bank of India (RBI), has warned of another financial crisis brewing, as incremental central bank liquidity could bring another asset bubble which would down the world financial system, reported local daily Economic Times electronic edition Thursday.

The newspaper said global liquidity becomes a concern amidst central banks “pegging their lending rates at near zero levels, leaving scope for another asset bubble to take down the global financial system”.

“There is, thus, incontrovertible evidence that there is yet again a huge under-pricing of risks in the financial system and, therefore, it is not a question of if, but when, the generic asset bubble caused by manifold increases in balance sheets of central banks will burst,” the RBI Executive Director VK Sharma was quoted as saying in a address in Singapore this week.

He said one of the major worries this time around, which did not exist back then, is global liquidity, according to the report. Balance sheets of major banks have grown by almost three times from pre-2007 levels, while near-zero policy rates have added 4 trillion US dollars in incremental central bank liquidity.

Sharma also mentioned that the United States has been keeping excess reserves of about 1.5 trillion US dollars with the Federal Reserve rather than lending it to small businesses and households.—Xinhua

Six children linked to imprisonment case

PHILADELPHIA, 20 Oct—Philadelphia police have found six children linked to the woman charged with imprisoning four mentally challenged adults, officials say.

The children are in protective custody, WTXF-TV, Philadelphia, reported Tuesday. Tamara Breeden, 29, one of the four victims, is believed to be the mother of two of the victims.

Linda Weston, 51, the alleged ringleader of a scheme to steal the victims’ Social Security benefits, has been charged with kidnapping and assault. Police discovered Weston’s 19-year-old niece living in Philadelphia and said she appeared to have been beaten and starved.

Weston and two alleged male confederates were arrested after the owner of a building in Northeast Philadelphia found the four adults in a sub-basement Saturday. She had allegedly moved the four from Texas to Florida and then, two weeks ago, to Philadelphia. Breeden was reported missing by her family in Philadelphia in 2005. Police Commissioner Charles Ramsey said Weston had ID for 50 people. Investigators from several jurisdictions and the FBI are looking at her financial records.

“Could there be victims who are no longer with us? I don’t know and I don’t want to alarm anyone who may have a relative that could be a part of this,” Ramsey said.

Internet

Man unfit for trial in son’s beheading

THIBODAUX, 20 Oct—A Louisiana man is not mentally fit to stand trial for allegedly beheading his 7-year-old son, a panel of court-appointed doctors concluded. Jeremiah Wright, 30, will be sent to the Feliciana Forensic Facility in Jackson to receive treatment for at least six months, the (Thibodaux, La.) Daily Comet reported Tuesday. The case will be brought before a judge every six months to determine if Wright has been made fit to stand trial.

Wright faces a first-degree murder charge for allegedly killing his disabled son Jori Lirette 14 Aug in his Thibodaux home. Lirette had cerebral palsy and was wheelchair-bound.

Internet

US listeria death toll rises to 25

WASHINGTON, 20 Oct—A total of 25 people have been killed in 12 US states in a listeria outbreak traced to Colorado cantaloupes, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ( CDC) said Wednesday.

The number of people sickened by the tainted cantaloupes has reached 123 in 26 states, with Pennsylvania reporting its first case. One of the ill patients, a pregnant woman, suffered a miscarriage, the CDC said in a telebriefing.

The listeria outbreak has been the most deadly one since 1998, according to the CDC. Listeria is a common bacterium that typically causes mild illness in healthy people, but can cause severe illness in older people and those with compromised immune systems. It also can cause miscarriages and stillbirths in pregnant women and severe infections in new babies.

The CDC estimates that about 48 million people in the US each year get sick from tainted food, with about 128,000 hospitalized and 3,000 deaths.—Xinhua

Obama’s equipment truck stolen

HENRIED, 20 Oct—A van that contained President Obama’s teleprompter and other communications material has been recovered in Virginia, officials said Tuesday.

 There was no word on whether the equipment was still in the van.

WWBT-TV, Richmond, Va, first reported the theft of the van from where it was parked at the Virginia Centre Commons Courtyard Marriott near Richmond, the Los Angeles Times reported. The vehicle contained a teleprompter, $200,000 in audio equipment and the presidential seals that are placed on Obama’s podium.

The equipment was awaiting the arrival of the president, who is on a three-day tour of North Carolina and Virginia touting his jobs program, now stalled on Capitol Hill.

The vehicle was recovered Monday at a Holiday Inn Express near the Richmond airport, the Times said, but it was unknown whether the equipment was still inside it.

A spokeswoman for the Defence Information Systems Agency, which helps with White House communications, said Tuesday: “A government vehicle was stolen and has been recovered.”

Internet

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Friday, 21 October, 2011
Teens’ IQ fluctuates over time

Beijing, 20 Oct—A Teenager's intelligence is not fixed as usually thought. Instead, it can go through swings in a few years, according to a British study reported online on Nature.

Teenagers' IQ can rise or fall 20 points over time, researchers from Wellcome Trust Centre for Neuroimaging of Kings College, showed in their study.

IQ (short for "intelligent quotient") is an gauge of mental capability measured through a series of standardized tests of language skill, spatial ability, arithmetic, memory and reasoning.

To get the findings, Cathy Price, senior researcher of the study, and her colleagues tested 33 British teenagers between the ages of 12 to 16 in 2004, who had average IQ scores around 100. Then the teenagers were retested four years later.—Xinhua

Book unveils acupuncture’s four-decade journey to America

Beijing, 20 Oct—A new book reveals acupuncture’s four-decade journey to America, from the challenges of achieving legal recognition to it being embraced by a growing number of Western physicians and therapists.

Published on Tuesday—World Traditional Medicine Day — "Acupuncture’s Journey to America" by Li Yongming is meticulously researched and contains historic files and interviews with key players in its rise in the West.

The book details the obstacles — both legal and medical — that acupuncture has encountered in America over 40 years. The legal use of acupuncture came about in 1996 when Congress decided to allow the practice into the health care system for the federal employees.—Xinhua

Fewer models in auto subsidy

Beijing, 20 Oct—China’s new subsidy for fuel-efficient vehicles will benefit 26 models after the government this month imposed a more stringent requirement for the grant, the National Development and Reform Commission said on yesterday.

The models, with 49 variations, will be eligible for the 3,000 yuan (US$469) subsidy, the country’s top economic planner said in a statement yesterday.

China introduced the subsidy programme for energy-saving vehicles in 2010 to help boost demand, benefiting more than 340 variations of car models.—Xinhua

A visitor views a piece of jade that dates back to Han Dynasty (202 BC-AD 220) during the 6th China Folk Jade Exhibition in Hangzhou, capital of east China’s Zhejiang Province, on 15 Oct, 2011. More than 200 pieces of jade from the Neolithic Age to modern era are displayed in the exhibition, which kicked off here Saturday. —Xinhua

In this on 12 April, 2011 file photo, grocery carts are stacked outside the Save-a-Lot grocery store in Northfield, Ohio. The supermarket operator also cut the high end of its fiscal 2012 earnings outlook on 19 Oct, 2011. A model displays Canon’s new digital DSLR camera EOS 1D X during a launch event in Seoul, South Korea, on 19 Oct, 2011. The new digital SLR features a newly developed 18-million-pixel CMOS imaging sensor and Dual-Digic 5 image processor and will go on sale in South Korea next year.—Xinhua
Robber used furnace filter to hide face

Authorities in Georgia said a bank robber who used a furnace filter to hide his face from tellers failed to conceal his features from a security camera.

The Forsyth County Sheriff’s Office said the man was wearing gloves and carrying the air filter and a toolbox when he entered the Best Bank in the Kroger supermarket in Cumming shortly after 10 am Monday. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported Tuesday.

“He used the air filter to try to conceal his identity from the employees. I guess he didn’t see the camera,” Deputy Matt Runion said. “He did not produce or threaten to use a weapon during the robbery.”

Investigators said they are working to identify the man, who got away with an unspecified amount of cash.

The man allegedly in the midst of robbing the Best Bank, courtesy of the Forsyth County Sheriff’s Office.

Sharks guard golf course in Australia

Officials at an Australian golf course said they are proud of the attention received by the approximately 12 bull sharks living in a water hazard.

Scott Wagstaff, general manager of the Carbrook Golf Course in Logan, said the sharks have been living in the lake for 17 years, ever since the Logan River covered the course and allowed the sharks to cross into the water hazard, but only recently gained international fame when video footage of the carnivorous fish went viral on the Internet. The (Brisbane) Courier-Mail reported Tuesday. “I reckon most of our members would have seen them at least once. It is a big talking point,” Wagstaff said. “They (the sharks) like red meat and a bit of chicken. They love smelly meat so if there is something going off I’ll throw that in.” Wagstaff said the sharks have done a good job of keeping golfers from attempting to retrieve their balls from the water.

“It is in our contract with our ball collector, he’s not allowed to get in there. I think the sharks will be alright until there is blood in there,” Wagstaff said.

Acting career seems like a dream

LONDON, 20 Oct—Veteran actor Sean Penn says he is so engrossed in relief work in quake-ravaged Haiti that his film career seems like a dream. Penn set up the J/P Haitian Relief Organization in the aftermath of the devastating 2010 earthquake and has helped thousands of needy families rebuild their lives. As a result, the actor took a step back from movies to concentrate on charity.

“It is very strange now. With Haiti, that experience makes much of my prior career kind of a dream in some ways,” pop diva Madonna’s former husband told CNN. “It’s as if, after Haiti, that all of what had once been (in my movie career)... (I feel) proud in some ways and deeply ashamed at other times, a kind of flash reel of one’s career, you know. And the creative part of it and those things, all of that stuff, I think the part of my brain that used to hold onto, it got filled with this, this other reel, over the last two years somehow,” he reflected. However, Penn says he won’t turn his back on Hollywood completely, reports daily-star.co.uk.

“I still have a love affair with the movies. I prefer directing movies than to act,” he said.

We aren’t making plans to marry: Hurley

LONDON, 20 Oct—Actress Elizabeth Hurley says she and cricketer Shane Warne will wait ‘a while’ before they tie the knot so they can ‘enjoy’ being engaged.

Hurley split from her first husband, textile heir Arun Nayar, last December and their divorce was completed in the summer.

Hurley and former Australian cricketer Warne got engaged earlier this month but are not going to rush into a wedding.

“It’s a very exciting time for me and Shane. We aren’t making any immediate plans to get married - we’re going to enjoy being engaged for a while,” contactmusic.com quoted the 46-year-old as saying.

Brenda engaged to Miley’s brother

NEW YORK, 20 Oct—Actress Brenda Song is engaged to ‘Hannah Montana’ star Miley Cyrus’ brother Trace. ‘I am very excited... I asked my girlfriend Brenda Song to marry me and she said YES! We are both very excited to be engaged!’ Trace wrote on his Twitter page, reports people.com.

Miley posted: ‘Trace Cyrus can’t wait for Brenda to be a Cyrus. Couldn’t be more excited about my ‘sister in law to be’ yay.’ Brenda rose to fame with her stint in Disney show ‘The Suite Life of Zack and Cody’, where she played the role of London Tipton.

Nikki Reed, Paul McDonald married

LOS ANGELES, 20 Oct—Actress Nikki Reed has tied the knot with singer Paul McDonald at a private ceremony in California.

“We couldn’t be happier! [We were] surrounded by our family and friends. We’re so glad this day has come!” usmagazine.com quoted the couple, who got married Sunday, as saying.

Reed and McDonald revealed they were engaged in June after dating for two months. They first met at the premiere of ‘Little Red Riding Hood’ in March.

Ryan Gosling obsessed with jackets

LONDON, 20 Oct—Actor Ryan Gosling says he loves buying new jackets. ‘I’m really into jackets. I have a nice collection in my closet. I wore a really stylish jacket in my movie ‘Drive’. I was inspired by these Korean souvenir jackets from the 50s. It’s this white quilted satin jacket with a scorpion on the back. Check it out when you watch the film,’ contactmusic.com quoted Gosling as saying.

However, jackets aren’t the only thing the actor is obsessed with - he also has a deep passion for his car. ‘I love driving around Los Angeles at night in my car. I love my car. It’s a Chevrolet Malibu, which I helped build. I passed the mechanic the tools. I got him lunch. I put some love into that car,’ he added.—Internet

Brenda Song and Miley Cyrus' brother Trace want to get married... Brenda and Miley's brother Trace want to get married...
Barcelona sets club record with Viktoria Plzen win

Barcelona, 20 Oct — Barcelona set a club record by extending its unbeaten streak at the start of the season to 13 games with a 2-0 victory over the Czech Republic's Viktoria Plzen in the Champions League, and Fernando Torres scored twice for Chelsea in a 5-0 rout of Genk on Wednesday night.

Andres Iniesta scored in the 10th minute at Camp Nou off a give-and-go with Lionel Messi, and David Villa added a goal in the 82nd for the defending champions, who had 87 percent possession and improved to 9-0-4 in all competitions.

"The ball just didn’t want to go in the net today," Villa said. "We shot 16 times and could have won 5-0." Barcelona’s previous team mark for longest unbeaten start was set with a 10-0-2 record two years ago.

"I said before that we had to stop Messi, Iniesta and Xavi," Plzen coach Pavel Vrba said. "As far as their individual talent goes, they are the best in the world. I would say they are perfection." AC Milan, like Barcelona 2-0 in Group H, defeated visiting BATE Borisov of Belarus 2-0 on goals by Zlatan Ibrahimovic in the 33rd minute and Kevin-Prince Boateng in the 70th. The top two teams in each group advance.

AC Milan beats BATE 2-0 in Champions League

Milan, 20 Oct — Zlatan Ibrahimovic and Kevin-Prince Boateng scored to give AC Milan a comfortable 2-0 victory over BATE Borisov in the Champions League on Wednesday.

Ibrahimovic sent Milan on its way in the 33rd minute and Boateng sealed the victory—which had never looked in doubt—with 20 minutes to go.

BATE’s best chance came after a glaring error from Mark van Bommel but Milan goalkeeper Christian Abbiati was on hand to spare his teammate’s blushes.

Milan sits top of Group H, level on seven points with Barcelona, which beat Viktoria Plzen 2-0. BATE and Plzen have one point.

Massimiliano Allegri’s side should have made its win more comfortable as it wasted a sackful of chances, as well as seeing Alberto Aquilani send a powerful effort crashing off the woodwork.

Arsene Wenger hails Arsenal effort after late Aaron Ramsey winner against Marseille

London, 20 Oct — Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger hit back at critics who questioned his side’s defensive capabilities after a late 1-0 victory over Marseille in the Champions League.

The Gunners jumped to the top of Group F with Aaron Ramsey’s 92nd minute strike giving them all three points. Wenger was impressed with the patience shown before the late goal.

‘For qualification it was a very important goal, for the confidence as well. The game was a bit scrappy and we needed to be patient, but after the first half we controlled the game,” he told ITV.

‘Marseille defended in a very disciplined way and it was difficult to create chances, but you could see in the last 15 minutes we started to create opportunities and it was a question of intelligence, discipline and patience.’

Wenger went on to hail the spirit within the Gunners camp and promised further improvement upon Wednesday’s victory, after a slow start to the domestic season.

FIFA to end intrigue over 2014 World Cup venues

Zurich, 20 Oct — FIFA is set to end years of intrigue on Thursday when it announces which Brazilian cities will stage which matches at the 2014 World Cup including the opening game and the final.

RIO de Janeiro’s Maracana stadium is seen as certain to get the final, the self-styled ‘Marvellous City’ having already been named as host for the International Broadcast Centre.

However, there is still great anticipation over which city will stage the prestigious opening game, the lobbying having started virtually the minute Brazil was confirmed as host nation four years ago.

Ogilvy criticizes Couples early Woods pick

Melbourne, 20 Oct — Australian player Geoff Ogilvy criticized Fred Couples for giving Tiger Woods a Presidents Cup captain’s pick a month early.

Ogilvy, a member of the International team that will play the United States next month at Royal Melbourne, said in a telephone conference call Thursday he didn’t agree with Couples’ move to publicly assure Woods of a captain’s pick before they had to be made.

Couples added Woods and Tour Championship winner Bill Haas to the 10 automatic picks, leaving out PGA Championship winner Keegan Bradley. Bradley, the PGA Grand Slam winner Wednesday in Bermuda, could still end up at Royal Melbourne as an injury replacement for Steve Stricker, fighting a herniated disk in his neck.

Juan Carlos Cacho of Panama celebrates the first goal scored against Tauru of Panama during their Concacaf Champions Cup match at the Olympic Stadium in Mexico City on 19 Oct, 2011.
**Freed tigers, lions and bears cause panic in Ohio**

ZANESVILLE, 20 Oct—Dozens of exotic animals including tigers, lions and bears were let loose on Ohio farmland by their owner before he committed suicide, sparking a shoot-to-kill hunt in which 49 of the wild beasts, including 18 endangered Bengal tigers, were killed.

The huge animals roamed inside and outside the 73-acre (30-hectare) farm near Zanesville in eastern Ohio, schools were shut and panicked residents were told to stay inside on Wednesday.

Authorities killed 49 of the 56 animals, some at close range, including the tigers, six black bears, two grizzlies, two wolves and 17 lions, said Muskingum County Sheriff Matt Lutz. A macaque monkey, possibly carrying the Herpes B virus, remained at large. A wolf Lutz said was on an interstate highway and was hit by a truck.

The dead animals have been buried near Zanesville, and schools were shut and panicked residents were told to stay inside on Wednesday.

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They were on their way out, they were put down.”

"The dead animals have been buried on the farm, he said. Survivors were taken to the Columbus Zoo, including three leopards, a grizzly and two macaque monkeys.

Owner Terry Thompson, 62, who had been charged with animal cruelty 11 times since 2004, was found dead from an apparently self-inflicted wound when authorities went to the farm on Tuesday after reports of animals running free. Lutz said they found gazelles and animal pens open, but no suicide note. Reuters
NAY PYI TAW, 20 Oct — The second regular session of the first Pyithu Hluttaw continued for 38th day at the hall of Pyithu Hluttaw of Hluttaw Building, here, at 10.05 am today, attended by Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann and 379 Hluttaw representatives.

At the today’s session, 10 questions were answered and one bill was approved.

Pyithu Hluttaw on 18 October received Hluttaw Office Bill approved and sent by Amyotha Hluttaw and delivered copies of the bill to Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee and representatives in order to continue to carry out in accord with Pyithu Hluttaw Rule 167, sub-rule (b) and (c).

Union Minister for Industry-1 and for Industry-2 U Soe Thein answered two questions about industrial sector raised by two representatives.

Regarding the question raised by U Than Myint of Wundwin Constituency who asked whether there is a plan to make arrangements for them to have contacts in import of raw materials and dye for survival and improvement of small-and medium-scale weaving industries in Wundwin Township, have access to foreign markets and for sending entrepreneurs abroad under the government programme, the Union minister replied that there are 17 factories under Myanma Textile Industries of Ministry of Industry-1. Arrangements are being made for those who are willing to study production process and technology of the factories. It is required for entrepreneurs to contact with the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Myanmar Garment Entrepreneurs Association for import of raw materials.

Pyithu Hluttaw representatives sign attendance book.—MNA

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Second regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw continues for 37th day
Five queries answered, one proposal decided as unnecessary, two new proposals submitted

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Oct—The second regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw continued for 37th day at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building, here at 10 am today.

Today’s session was attended by Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint and 210 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives.

U Sai Win Maung of Shan State Constituency (5) asked “whether there is a plan to allow Chinese visitors to stay in Myanmar border towns for a night, to allow them two-day stay to visit Muse, Namhkam, Kyugok and Kutkai, and when it will start if one of night trips is allowed.” Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi answered that Agreement on Myanmar-China Border Regions Management and Cooperation was signed in Yangon on 25 March 1997; the agreement allows visitors of both countries to cross the border through eight border gates—Muse-Ruili, Kyugok-Wandeng, Chinshwehaw-Mantang, Kanpaiktee-Huazhou (Hong Giao), Mongla-Dalu, Lwejel-Jinfan, Yanlongzhai-Namhsa and Namhkam-NaodaO; Chinese citizens are allowed to live within 10 kilometers or six miles in Myanmar for six nights or seven days with Border Pass and Temporary Border Pass issued with the charge of five Yuan per visitor; the issuance started on 18-9-2006 and is still in force to date; a total of 7540 visitors entered through Kyugok (Panghsan) border gate in 2009, 5611 in 2010 and 3803 till September in 2011; so, the six-night or seven-day visit to border region is already allowed; in accord with order for travel permission for foreign tourists of the Ministry of Home Affairs dated 10-4-1996, visitors from China entered through Muse, Namhkam, Kyugok and Kunlon gates in Shan State (North) on Package Tour of tourcompanies are allowed to visit Lashio and foreign tourists with Passport and Visa on Package Tour of private tour companies entered through Muse, Namhkam, Kyugok and Kunlon gates are allowed to

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