True patriotism

It is very important for every one of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.

* Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Oct—Patron of the Leading Committee for Organizing the 18th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife Daw Nan Shwe Hmon enjoyed performance of contestants in the competitions this afternoon.

On arrival at assembly hall of Forest Research Department in Yezin Universities’ Campus in Zeyathiri Township where song contest was being held, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife Daw Nan Shwe Hmon were welcomed by Chairman of the Leading Committee for organizing the competitions Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan and wife Daw Kyi Kyi Win and leading committee members.

Patron of the Leading Committee Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife Daw Nan Shwe Hmon together with Chairman of the Leading Committee Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan and wife Daw Kyi Kyi Win, Member Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin, Member of Constitutional Tribunal of the Union U Soe Thein, Secretary Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sanda Khin, Member of Union Civil Services Board Dr Myint Aung, members of the leading committee and subcommittees and members of central panel of judges enjoyed the performance of contestants from Regions and States in the amateur level (second class) women’s stereo song contest.

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, wife and party also enjoyed the amateur level (second class) women’s old/modern song contest at the lecture hall of University of Agriculture till the evening.—MNA

Myanmar Port Authority issues high tide warning

YANGON, 21 Oct—The Myanmar Port Authority has informed the public that exceptionally high Spring of from 20.3 feet to 21.1 feet high above the datum are expected to occur in Yangon River during the period 26th to 30th October 2011. That it is not serious because the high tide have reached up to 21.8 feet high above datum in the year 2009 and 2010 and that the warning is issued only because high tide reaches over 20 feet high above datum.—MNA

Danger water level at Sittoung River

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Oct—According to the 12.30 hr MST observation today, the water level at Sittoung River in Toungoo (604) cm has exceeded by (4) cm above its danger level. It may fall below its danger level (600) cm during the next (24) hours commencing this noon, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.—MNA
Union F&R Minister receives foreign guests

**Hospitality Subcommittee under Leading Committee for Hosting XXVII SEA Games meets**

**NAY PYI TAW, 21 Oct**—Hospitality Subcommittee under Leading Committee for Hosting XXVII SEA Games held a coordination meeting at the Ministry of Sports yesterday.

Secretary of the Committee Chairman of the Subcommittee Deputy Sports Minister U Aye Myint Kyu, directors-general, deputy directors-general and directors of the ministries concerned attended the meeting.

According to observation at 8 pm on 19 October, a low pressure that has centred above northward direction of the Bay of Bengal crossed the land between Maungtaw of Rakhine State and Cox’ Bazar of Bangladesh. Moreover, an observation at 10.30 pm stated that the low pressure may be a land depression that is moving toward Bangladesh and northern coast of Rakhine. It is forecast that the land depression is now on the brown emergency stage. It will move to northeast direction and gradually fade out.

Under the influence of the depression, occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along Rakhine coast. It is reported that surface wind speed in squalls may reach 40 to 50 mph.

The people residing along the Myanmar coastal area are to abide by the facts during and after the storm. During the strong winds, they are to obey the advice of officials concerned for taking shelters and bringing life jackets, tubes of motor vehicle tyres, and empty plastic drums for preparedness against the storm.

They are to take care of the situation that when the eye of storm crosses the area, winds will be calmed down temporarily. However, the stronger winds may blow the area from opposite side about half an hour later. After receiving information that the area is safe from danger of storm, people should return home, beware of danger of snakes and other poisonous creatures and drinking boiled water. Moreover, local people are to harmoniously participate in rescue and relief works as much as possible by joining hands with the officials concerned in preparedness tasks against storms and natural disasters.

**Bago Region troupe stage “Power of Youth” drama**

**NAY PYI TAW, 21 Oct**—Bago Region troupe displayed their performance at “Power of Youth” drama contest of 18th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions at convocation hall of University of Agriculture in Yezin Universities’ Campus in Zeyathiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council this evening.

Among the enthusiasts were members of the leading committee and sub-committees for holding the competitions.—**MNA**

**Union F&R Minister receives foreign guests**

**YANGON, 21 Oct**—Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun received International Monetary Fund Article VIII 2011 Mission Team Leader Deputy Division Chief of Asian Pacific Department Ms Meral Karasulu and representatives of World Bank and ADB.—**MNA**

The meeting focused on technical assistances of IMF on Myanmar’s economic progress, foreign exchange rate, economic and monetary stability and legal reforms.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister U Win Than, Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyem and officials.—**MNA**

**YKKO staff donate blood**

**YANGON, 21 Oct**—To mark its 23rd anniversary, staff of YKKO Kyay Oh & Restaurant collectively donated blood at National Blood Centre in Yangon and 1000-bedded Nay Pyi Taw Hospital today. A total of 93 staff in Yangon and over 20 staff from Nay Pyi Taw participated in the blood donation. Managing-Director U Kyaw Kyaw Naing spoke words of thanks to staff of YKKO and National Blood Centre for their contribution.

**Kenbo Junior Golf Championships conclude**

**YANGON, 21 Oct**—A presentation ceremony of Kenbo Junior Golf Championships of Han Golf Master Junior Golf Series-2011 was held at the 9th-mile Myanmar Golf Club here yesterday.

Responsible per-sonnel awarded winners of the championships.—**MNA**

**Donate blood**

**Perspectives**

**Saturday, 22 October, 2011**

**Take preventative measures against storms**

In Myanmar there are two factors that could trigger storms. Thus, preventative measures are to be taken against storms that may occur early-monsoon period (in April and May) and late-monsoon period (in October and November).

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**Myanmar chess team leaves for Thailand**

**YANGON, 21 Oct**—A Myanmar chess team led by President of Myanmar Chess Federation U Maung Maung Lwin left here by air for Thailand this morning to participate in the 2nd RBSC Polo Club Prajub Cup International to be held in Bangkok of Thailand from 22 to 24 October 2011.

Myanmar chess team comprises Assistant Director U Win Maung Tin of Sports and Physical Education Department as manager, coach U Nay Oo Kyaw Tun and chess players Win Zaw Tun and Tin Aung Khant. **MNA**

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Myanmar chess team comprises Assistant Director U Win Maung Tin of Sports and Physical Education Department as manager, coach U Nay Oo Kyaw Tun and chess players Win Zaw Tun and Tin Aung Khant. **MNA**
Colombian army kills FARC leader and four alleged rebels

Bogota, 21 Oct—The Colombian army said Thursday it had killed a key leader of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) guerrilla group along with four other alleged members.

Jose Nettali Umenza, also known as “Mincho” and believed to be handling most of the FARC’s drug-trafficking business in the Pacific area, died in an explosion in a rural part of the Buenaventura port City in southwestern Colombia, Colombia’s Defence Minister Juan Carlos Pinzon said. Pinzon said that four other alleged FARC rebels died too, while four others were injured. “He said the death of the FARC drug boss is a “major blow against the financial spinal cord of the FARC.”

Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos congratulated the armed forces and Pinzon on the successful operation. “Mincho” served about 41 years in the criminal organization and took part in several kidnappings, including the kidnapping and murder of Congress members, the kidnapping of 120 workers in southern Buenaventura in 2009 as well as six journalists from this same region.——Xinhua

Three soldiers slain in two rebel ambushes in S Philippines

DAVAO CITY, 21 Oct— Three soldiers have been killed following a series of ambushes by suspected secessionist Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) rebels in southern Philippines late Thursday, police said Friday.

The incidents happened barely four hours apart when police and soldiers were attacked by MILF rebels in the towns of Alicia and Kabasalan in Zamboanga Sibugay Province, according to Senior Superintendent Ruben Cariga Sr, provincial police chief.

Troops from the government Army’s 102nd Infantry Brigade were on patrol when they came under attack at Gulayon Village of Alicia around 7:20 pm Thursday, which resulted in the killing of three government troops and wounding of six others, Cariga said.

The second attack occurred around 11:00 pm Thursday when policemen and soldiers conducting patrol operations were fired upon in Simbol Village of Kabasan. Four policemen and a soldier were wounded in the incident, said Cariga.

Police accused the MILF as behind the latest atrocities even as the country was still reeling from the death of 19 soldiers killed in an encounter against the MILF militants in Albarka town in the island-Province of Basilan. Authorities are still continuing pursuit operations against the rebels amid reports of a missing soldier believed held captive by the MILF.——Xinhua

Floodwaters begin seeping into Bangkok suburbs

BANGKOK, 21 Oct—Thailand’s prime minister urged Bangkok’s residents to get ready to move their belongings to higher ground Friday as the country’s worst floods in half a century began seeping into the capital’s outer Districts.

The warning came one day after the government opened several key floodgates in a risky bid to let built-up water flow through the city’s canals toward the sea. Authorities had said the canals could overflow, but it was not known to what degree.

An Associated Press Television News team that visited the area on Friday saw water entering homes along the capital’s main Prapa canal. The water had risen to knee-level in some places but damage has so far been minor and not affected Bangkok’s main business District.

Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra told reporters the Prapa canal was a big concern as water levels running through it had risen significantly overnight.

“I would like to ask people in all Districts of Bangkok to get ready to move their belongings to higher ground as a precaution,” Yingluck said, while also urging people “not to panic.”

Gov Sukhumbhand Paribatra said managing the Prapa canal was a “top priority” but vast pools of runoff draining through it from the north are expected to intensify.——Internet

Thai flood death toll reaches 342

BANGKOK, 21 Oct— A total of 342 people were confirmed dead and two people were missing in the floods that have inundated the upper part of the country for almost three months, the Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Department reported on Friday.——Xinhua

Three people killed by armed group in Indonesia’s Papua

JAKARTA, 21 Oct—Three people were killed by an armed group in gold mining area of Freeport Indonesia in Indonesia’s Papua Province on Friday morning, Antara News Agency reported here.

“Preliminary report we have received from authority said that one of our employees and two other people were killed. Another one person was injured,” said PT Freeport Indonesia’s spokesperson Randamiku Siahaan.

Police are investigating the incident. As of Friday noon, the three victims are not yet identified.

The victims were evacuated to the nearest medical clinic of Kuala Kencana. As of today, there are 11 Freeport’s employees, security apparatus and civilians killed while more than 40 people are injured.——Xinhua
Asian stocks mixed as Europe debt crisis lingers

BANGKOK, 21 Oct—Asian markets were mixed Friday as European leaders haggled over a strategy to deal with the continent’s debt crisis once and for all. Japan’s Nikkei 225 index fell less than 0.1 percent to 8,675.60. Hong Kong’s Hang Seng rose 0.3 percent to 18,039.07 and South Korea’s Kospi gained 1.3 percent to 1,827.29. Benchmarks in Taipei, Malaysia and New Zealand fell while those in Australia, Singapore and Indonesia rose.

Wall Street trading was choppy as talks in Europe appeared to falter because of differences between Germany and France over how to protect European banks from the consequences of a default.

A messy default by Greece could lead to deep losses for European banks that hold Greek debt. If that leads them to pull back on lending to each other, it could cause another freeze in global credit markets like the one in late 2008 after Lehman Brothers collapsed. Stocks rose slightly on news that a second summit meeting would take place next week after it became clear that France and Germany would not be able to bridge their difference in time for Sunday’s meeting. The Dow Jones industrial average ended up 0.3 percent to close at 11,541.78. The Standard & Poor’s 500 index rose 0.5 percent to 1,215.39. The Nasdaq composite lost 0.2 percent to 2,598.62.

No link to cancer in large-scale mobile phone study

The largest study of its kind found no link between long-term use of mobile phones and increased risk of brain tumours, the British Medical Journal (BMJ) reported on Friday.—INTERNET

LONDON, 21 Oct—The largest study of its kind found no link between long-term use of mobile phones and increased risk of brain tumours, the British Medical Journal (BMJ) reported on Friday.

Danish researchers found no evidence of enhanced risk among more than 350,000 mobile phone subscribers whose health was monitored over 18 years.

Patrizia Frei, a postdoctoral research fellow at the Danish Cancer Society, and colleagues examined health records from 1990 to 2007 for 358,403 cell phone subscribers. Overall, 10,729 tumours of the central nervous system were diagnosed. But among people with the longest mobile phone use — 13 years or more — cancer rates were nearly the same as for non-subscribers.

“The extended follow-up allowed us to investigate effects in people who had used mobile phones for 10 years or more, and this long-term use was not associated with higher risks of cancer,” the study concluded.

“Further studies with large study populations where the potential for misclassification of exposure and selection bias is minimised are warranted,” the researchers said.

In a commentary, Anders Althorn and Maria Feychting from Sweden’s Karolinska Institute said the new evidence was reassuring but called for continued monitoring of health registers. Testing and using hands-free sets for voice calls lower exposure to potentially harmful radiation, compared to device-to-ear voice calls, by at least 10-fold, they said.—INTERNET

Health Tip: Keep your teeth and gums healthy

Your diet can play a major role in the health of your teeth and gums. The American Dental Association offers these dietary guidelines to help keep your mouth healthy:

* Avoid sodas and fruit drinks sweetened with sugar.
* Limit consumption of candies, cookies, astries and other desserts with added sugar.
* Eat nutritious snacks that are lower in sugar.
* Brush at least twice daily and floss daily.
* Drink water often.
* Keep a food journal and review it for high-sugar foods. Compare your diet to the food pyramid recommendations.—INTERNET

A HP Invent logo is pictured in front of Hewlett-Packard international offices in Meyrin near Geneva on 4 August, 2009.—INTERNET

Business

HP loses strategy chief as overhaul rumbles on

SAN FRANCISCO, 21 Oct—Hewlett-Packard Co’s chief strategy and technology officer has retired, becoming the latest senior executive to leave the storied Silicon Valley giant struggling to restore its tarnished credibility. Shane Robison, 57, will step down on 1 November, ending an 11-year term at the company, which is now pondering a sale or spinoff of its core personal computing division and trying to assure skeptical investors it can restructuring to return to growth.

HP appointed former California gubernatorial candidate Meg Whitman CEO just last month, after firing former leader Leo Apotheker for a series of missteps, including a poor run at convincing Wall Street he had not overpaid for British software firm Autonomy Plc.

Robison, a pivotal figure in crafting long-term strategy for the largest US technology company through mergers and acquisitions and research and development, will not be replaced, HP said in a statement. “Shane has built a powerful innovator for our business groups and other corporate divisions,” Whitman said in the statement. But “in an effort to drive strategy, research and development closer to the company’s businesses, it will not be replacing the role of chief strategy and technology officer,” HP’s statement read.

Shares in the company have plunged 17 percent since 18 August, when it announced the $12 billion acquisition of Autonomy and its decision to consider a spinoff of its PC business, the world’s largest. HP later acknowledged that the decision to announce may have been premature, and may have alienated some partners.—Reuters

Exercise helps increase cancer survival

DALLAS, 21 Oct—Energy balance — calories consumed, offset by the number burned — is gaining attention by US researchers as a way to reduce cancer rates, a surgeon says.

Dr David Euhus, professor of surgery at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Centre in Dallas, said there is a link between being overweight and an increased risk for breast and other forms of cancer.

In addition, regular physical activity is associated with reduced cancer rates and better survival rates for people who do get cancer, Euhus said.

“There are dozens of cancer prevention diets being promoted right now, but not one of them has ever been shown to reduce cancer rates in clinical trials,” Euhus said in a statement. “It’s all about lifestyle. Fad diets work for a time, but it is important to actually change the way you live.”

Overweight people tend to have elevated levels of insulin and other hormones that promote growth of cancer cells, and people who carry excess weight around their midsections seem to have the highest increased risk, Euhus noted.—INTERNET

Men walk in front of the WIG20 index screen at the Warsaw Stock Exchange on 27 September, 2011.—INTERNET

Business
Hawaii astronaut captures image of forming planet

HONOLULU, 21 Oct—Astronomers have captured the first direct image of a planet being born. Adam Kraus, of the University of Hawaii’s Institute for Astronomy, said the planet is being formed out of dust and gas circling a 2-million-year-old star about 450 light years from Earth. The planet itself, based on scientific models of how planets form, is estimated to have started taking shape about 50,000 to 100,000 years ago.

Called LkCa 15 b, it’s the youngest planet ever observed. The previous record holder was about five times older. Kraus presented the discovery Wednesday at NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Centre in Maryland. Kraus and Ireland’s research paper on the discovery is due to appear in *The Astrophysical Journal*.

Scientists hadn’t been able to see such young planets before because the bright light of the stars they’re orbiting outshines them. Kraus and Ireland used two techniques to overcome this obstacle. One method, which is also used by other astronomers, was to change the shape of their mirror to remove light distortions created by the Earth’s atmosphere.

The other, unique method they used was to put masks over most of the telescope mirror. The combination of these two techniques allowed the astronomers to obtain high-resolution images that let them see the faint planet next to the bright star.

The astronomers found the planet while surveying 150 young dusty stars. This led to a more concentrated study of a dozen stars.

Vast water vapor beyond solar system found

BEIJING, 21 Oct—A team of European researchers announced that they have found vast water vapor out of our solar system, according to a study in the US journal Science Friday. Using Herschel Space Observatory, a European Space Agency satellite, the researchers observed that the vast water vapor enveloped a 175-light-year-away star and its surrounding dust disk, which will eventually form a planet. The water vapor, which is “enough to fill thousand of Earth ocean”, may rain down and seed the future oceans on the young planet, as it did on the Earth 4.5 billion years ago, the researchers suggested.

“Scientists have long suspected there were these reservoir of cold water hiding in the outer regions of planet disk, now the theory gets considerably stronger.” said astronomer Michiel Hogerheijde of Leiden Observatory in the Netherlands.

The finding not only explained where our Earth’s ocean came from, but also indicated that there are likely to be many “ocean worlds” throughout the galaxies, astronomers added in the report.

Researchers design robot that creates new robots out of foam

NEW YORK, 21 Oct—Shai Revzen and his team of researchers at the Modular Robotics Laboratory of University of Pennsylvania (MORDLAB) have created the Swiss Army knife of robots: a rolling Foambot that synthesizes new foam-bodied robots on-the-fly to meet challenges from a changing environment. It’s no T1000, but still a little terrifying.

Contrary to the glamorous functionality which the media has portrayed robots as having, like C-3PO or Adams’ Marvin or Johnny 5, real-life robots are typically designed to do a specific task. That’s fine unless your robot is being thrust into environments, such as disaster recovery or planetary exploration, where the demands require design adaptability for unanticipated tasks.

That’s how the MORDLAB team is pitching their idea. Adaptable, as well as cheap. They use something called foam synthesis. The Foambot, a small moving platform constructed for the MiniP3R2 robot, packs off-the-shelf insulation foam and clusters of actuators and microcontrollers (robot joints).

The clusters consist of a row of three CKBotS, and attached to either end of the clusters are 5cm bolts. The operator directs the Foambot to deploy the clusters, moving the modules in the right spots for the desired robot design. Then using a laser pointer guided foam nozzle, it sprays the self-hardening foam to connect the clusters and create joints and a body. So far the MORDLAB team has used Foambot to make a foam wormbot and a quadruped which may be modeled after a katydid. Once the progeny is assembled and the foam is dry, the wheeled robot uses onboard software to make its creation dance.

The team points out that the Foambot itself can be used to dispose of hazardous material like broken glass or needles. The foam can also be used in practical ways during fire-fighting or hostage rescue situations.

Lytro camera lets you focus after shooting, now available for pre-order

NEW YORK, 21 Oct—Never worry about your focus again with this high-tech photography wonder. Taking perfect pictures is no easy feat. Modern cameras, while extremely powerful, can require an extraordinary amount of fiddling before you find the right combination for a pristine photo. The Lytro camera changes that by allowing you to snap photos in the moment, and then pick the perfect focus later.

The Lytro uses a technology that captures the entire field of light in any given scene, rather than simply focusing on a single spot. This allows it to capture what its creators call “living pictures” that can be explored long after the shutter closes. When a photo is taken with the Lytro, the user can upload the picture file to a Mac equipped with the included Lytro imaging software. The company notes that a Windows version is currently in development and will hopefully be released in the near future.

From there, the focal point of the photo can be altered to whatever spot you desire, ensuring that unintentionally blurry subjects are a thing of the past. The photos themselves are HD-quality and up to 350 can be stored on the built-in 8GB memory drive of the base model camera. You can pre-order the 8GB Lytro right now for $399, or a 16GB for $499. While those prices may seem a good distance from the bargain bin, keep in mind that up until now, cameras with similar capabilities carried price tags of $30,000 and higher. The Lytro will begin shipping in early 2012.

Below is an example of what the Lytro is capable of. The photo is interactive, and the focal point of the shot is automatically changed to wherever you click. Try clicking on the butterfly in the foreground, then the flowers in the middle of the picture, and then finally the trees in the background to see how the photo can be altered. Check out a plethora of additional Lytro snapshots in our gallery.

Mars probe prepared for launch into orbit

BEIJING, 21 Oct—China’s first Mars probe will be launched between 8 Nov and 20 Nov, after being delayed for two years, a top scientist said.

Yinghua-1, a micro-satellite weighing 110 kilogrammes, will be sent into space with Russia’s Phobos-Grunt mission at the Baikonur Cosmodrome launch site in Kazakhstan. The probe is expected to enter a preset orbit around Mars between August and September next year, said Wu Ji, director of the National Space Science Centre under the Chinese Academy of Sciences. *China News Service*, citing the Russian Federal Space Agency, said the launch will be on 9 Nov. Experts said the project is expected to lead China further into deep space exploration, following two successful lunar probe projects since 2007. —Xinhua
NANNING, 21 Oct—Premier Wen Jiabao said China and ASEAN countries should continue taking advantage of the ASEAN-China Friendship and Exchange Year to increase exchanges and cooperation in culture, education, tourism and youth affairs as he made the keynote speech at the opening ceremony of the eighth China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit (CABIS) in southwest City of Nanning, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

Zhong, the easiest way and doesn’t work, and younger one, is in college dumb. Shamir, the reported. mistak the learnt that it wasn’t a cellphone bill for USD 2,000 daily in data 2,000 texts and also changing to an interna- brothe thought of for a two-week holiday. Aarons has a is by texting.

Normally, that’s not a problem. Aarons has a data plan and the bill usually comes to about USD 175. But then Shami went to Canada for a two-week holiday. Neither Aarons nor her brother thought of changing to an interna- tional plan. Between them the two brothers sent over 2,000 texts and also downloaded videos. At times racking up USD 2,000 daily in data charges.

On receiving the bill Aarons said: “I asked three, four times. I was like ‘Are you serious?’” She told WSVN- Channel 7 News: “I was freaking out. I was shaking, crying. I was like my life is over.” She said that paying the monster bill was impossible.

The phone company has now reduced the bill to USD 2,500 and given Aarons six months to pay it.—Internet

Visitors view Buddhist arts on display at the Myanmar Buddha Culture Exhibition in Nanning, south China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. More than 80 buddhist articles dated from the 9th century AD to the 21st century from Myanmar’s National Museum and Religious Art Museum were on display.—Xinhua

Corruption is like cancer, cut it out: Pakistani daily ISLAMABAD, 21 Oct—Corruption is like cancer that has to be cut out from the society, a Pakistani daily said Friday after the Supreme Court stated that corrupt officials should be sacked. The apex court said the corrupt should be axed - “cut out in the same way that a tumour is cut out”. It was hearing a case of illegal allotment of housing. It wasn’t a single case of inappropriate out-of-turn allotment, but “6,294 tiny tumours that have together formed a vast corrupt tumour. “I’m free of illness,” Chavez said during a visit to the southeastern State of Tachira, citing the medical tests that he had gone through in Cuba, which showed no signs of any malignant cells. “It’s a new Chavez who has come back to Venezuela... a Chavez who once again will be with the people,” he said.

The 57-year-old president was greeted by thousands of supporters in the streets of Tachira on his way to attend a church service, where he expressed thanks for his recovery. Chavez had a surgery in Cuba in June to remove the cancerous tumour, and later received four rounds of chemotherapy from July to September, which his Cuban doctors declared “successful”.

The president said he would continue treatment till a “complete recovery”, as well as undergo further medical examinations to ensure there is no return of cancer cells. Chavez will run for re-election in October 2012 and vowed to win the race. “There is much work to do,” he said.—Xinhua

Three tonne satellite to fall on earth LONDON, 21 Oct—The three tonne ROSAT satellite will fall to earth this week, at any time after Friday, the German Aerospace Agency DLR says.

The X-ray satellite will re-enter between 21 and 24 Oct, its scientists predict, and could strike anywhere on Earth between 53 degrees north and 53 degrees south—including in the US and Britain. The agency calculates that there is a one in 2,000 chance that it might hit someone, the Daily Mail reported.

Fragments—including pieces of a heat-resistant mirror weighing 400 kg—could hit anywhere within a 50-mile wide path along the satellite’s track.

Thirty “individual pieces weighing a total of 1.6 tonnes may reach the surface of the Earth”, the German Aerospace Centre has warned.

ROSAT’s heat-resistant mirror in particular may not burn up upon re-entry and falling debris may include razor-sharp shards.—Internet

Photo taken on 21 Oct, 2011 shows the Nanning International Convention and Exhibition Centre in Nanning, capital of southwest China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. The six-day, Eighth China-ASEAN Expo was opened at the centre on Friday.—Xinhua

Venezuelan president declares recovery from cancer CARACAS, 21 Oct—Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez Thursday said he has recovered from cancer, ending a four-month battle he had with the malignant tumour. “I’m free of illness,” Chavez said during a visit to the southeastern State of Tachira, citing the medical tests that he had gone through in Cuba, which showed no signs of any malignant cells. “It’s a new Chavez who has come back to Venezuela... a Chavez who once again will be with the people,” he said.

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Woman gets USD 201,000 mobile phone bill! LONDON, 21 Oct—A woman in south Florida got the shock of her life after she received a cellphone bill for USD 201,000 dollars!

Celina Aarons soon learnt that it wasn’t a mistake, the Daily Mail reported.

Aarons has two brothers who are deaf and dumb. Shamir, the younger one, is in college and doesn’t work, and Aarons is especially close to him. The easiest way for them to communicate is by texting.

Normally, that’s not a problem. Aarons has a data plan and the bill usually comes to about USD 175. But then Shami went to Canada for a two-week holiday. Neither Aarons nor her brother thought of changing to an international plan. Between them the two brothers sent over 2,000 texts and also downloaded videos. At times racking up USD 2,000 daily in data charges.

On receiving the bill Aarons said: “I asked three, four times. I was like ‘Are you serious?’” She told WSVN-Channel 7 News: “I was freaking out. I was shaking, crying. I was like my life is over.” She said that paying the monster bill was impossible.

The phone company has now reduced the bill to USD 2,500 and given Aarons six months to pay it.—Internet

Photo taken on 18 Oct, 2011 shows an emerald art work on display during a donation ceremony of emerald artist Hu Yanrong in the Palace Museum in Beijing, capital of China. More than 30 pieces of emerald sculptures will be on exhibition from 19 Oct to 31 Oct.—Xinhua

Corruption is like cancer, cut it out: Pakistani daily ISLAMABAD, 21 Oct—Corruption is like cancer that has to be cut out from the society, a Pakistani daily said Friday after the Supreme Court stated that corrupt officials should be sacked. The apex court said the corrupt should be axed - “cut out in the same way that a tumour is cut out”. It was hearing a case of illegal allotment of housing. It wasn’t a single case of inappropriate out-of-turn allotment, but “6,294 tiny tumours that have together formed a vast corrupt growth”, the News International said in an editorial. “Given the number of allocations it is clear that this is not something that has happened overnight, or even over a single year - but over a long period of time,” it said.

It said: “Clearly, those ‘influentials’ are not going to be giving up their privileged housing easily or willingly and will fight tooth and nail to keep it. Those who now seek to right wrongs will face pressure, and probably intimidation, in their search for social justice.” “Cancer is pernicious, it hangs on, clings to its own evil life. Cutting it out is the challenge we all face,” it added.—Internet

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A clown takes part in the 16th International Clowns Convention at the Jimenez Rueda Theater in Mexico City, capital of Mexico, on 17 Oct, 2011. The convention gathered over 250 clowns from around the world and opened the “Laughter Fair” that will last until on 20 Oct.—Xinhua

Photo taken on 21 Oct, 2011 shows the Nanning International Convention and Exhibition Centre in Nanning, capital of southwest China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. The six-day, Eighth China-ASEAN Expo was opened at the centre on Friday.—Xinhua

Photo taken on 21 Oct, 2011 shows an emerald art work on display during a donation ceremony of emerald artist Hu Yanrong in the Palace Museum in Beijing, capital of China. More than 30 pieces of emerald sculptures will be on exhibition from 19 Oct to 31 Oct.—Xinhua
Fourth day session of seminar on budgeting process continues

NAY P YI T AW, 21 Oct—Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint and Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann attended the fourth day session of the seminar on budgeting process at Thabin Hall of Hluttaw Building here at 2 pm today.

It was also attended by Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa and representatives of the two Hluttaws.

Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr. Kan Zaw discussed the budgeting process under the topic of budgeting politics and power. It is learnt that Hluttaw representatives will raise queries concerning the topic on 24 October and the deputy minister will discuss another topic—budgeting in the State’s institution process and politics.—MNA

Performing Arts Competitions continue for seventh day

Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan and wife Daw Kyi Kyi Win enjoy participation of Daw Mar Mar Sein of Taninthayi Region in amateur level (second class) women’s old/modern song contest.—MNA

Maung Bo Bo Han of Sagaing Region participates in basic education level (10-15 aged) boys’ piano contest.

Ma Aye Mya Phyu of Yangon Region taking part in basic education level (5-10 aged) girls’ old/modern song contest.—MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint and Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann attend fourth-day session of seminar on budgeting process.—MNA

Ma Khine Thin Kyi of Ayeyawady Region participates in basic education level (5-10 aged) (girls’) harp contest.

Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan and wife Daw Kyi Kyi Win enjoy participation of Daw Mar Mar Sein of Taninthayi Region in amateur level (second class) women’s old/modern song contest.—MNA

A total of 16 contestants took part in the higher education level (men’s) studio song contest, 15 in the amateur level (second class) women’s studio song contest, 16 in the basic education level (aged 5-10) girls’ old/modern song contest, 15 in the basic education level (10-15 aged) men’s old/modern song contest, and 15 in the amateur level (second class) women’s old/modern song contest.

Altogether 16 contestants participated in the amateur level (second class) (men’s and women’s) marionette contest.

Eight contestants competed in the basic education level (10-15 aged) women’s piano contest, nine in the amateur level (second class) (men’s) violin contest, three in the amateur level (second class) (women’s) violin contest, one in the basic education level (15-20) (men’s) violin contest, three in the basic education level (15-20 aged) (women’s) violin contest, five in the basic education level (5-10 aged) girls’ harp contest, six in the amateur level (first class) (men’s) harp contest, one in the amateur level (first class) (women’s) harp contest, five in the basic education level (5-10 aged) oboe contest, six in the basic education level (10-15 aged) oboe contest and three in the basic education level (15-20 aged) oboe contest.

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and legislative work procedures of Shan State government are being carried out as no dramatic measures are found; why Shan State Hluttaw does not come into force; and about the difficulties delaying the process of the Hluttaw, the Union Minister answered that if they are informed to hold discussions, the State governments are holding discussions and giving answers in accord with the authority vested on them so as to be able to cease armed strife between national race armed groups and Tatmadaw which has a direct relation with the issue of the state.

With the aim of ensuring Region or State Hluttaws to come into force, speakers of Region or State Hluttaws were invited to study ongoing second regular session of first Pyithu/Amyotha Hluttaws. Region or State Hluttaws are trying to act like the ongoing Hluttaw session in order to come into force.

Regarding the question raised by U Tun Myint Oo of Monggan Constituency who asked whether there is a right to rehang the picture of a Myanmar independence architecture Arzani leader on the walls of the offices of officers, meeting halls, offices of ward/village tract administrators, departments and schools and government offices, the Union Minister replied that it has been set to hang the picture of the present Head of State regarding the matter of hanging the picture of a leader on the walls of office rooms of officers, meeting halls, offices of ward/village tract administrators, departments and schools and government offices.

Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Kan Zaw answered the queries on economic sector raised by four Hluttaw representatives.

Regarding the question raised by U Win Oo of Yaybuy Constituency, who asked about the brief condition on Dawei deep-water seaport project, plans for development of the region together with the project, arrangements made for resettlement of local people and resuming their farming businesses and arrangements for eight villages as he has heard those villages would move first, the deputy minister replied that a Memorandum of Understanding on Dawei deep-water seaport and industrial zone project between Myanmar Port Authority of the Ministry of Transport and Indian-Thai Development Public Co Ltd (ITD) was signed on 12-6-2008 and an agreement on 2-10-2010. Dawei Special Economic Zone Project, Nyaungbinseik village to Pantininn village and Kalouthta to nearby area; Region government, Dawei Special Economic Zone Supportive Group (temporary) and ITD Co are coordinating to reimburse villagers for loss of annual and perennial crops plantations at current prices; ITD Co have been directed to give back the villages enough land for accommodation and agriculture in new settlement, to reclaim lands for farming and growing perennial crops, to provide them with monthly cash assistance to families in the interval while they are making no profit from farming, to relocate them step by step by allowing them to continue farming in old place while starting corps plantation in new settlement, to help the families start farming if they live on earnings from farming and the crop is in season, to provide monthly cash assistance before the start of next season if the crop is not matured on account of no sales, to avoid suffering lack of income, to allow families who earn livings from perennial crops to grow the same crop in new plantation and then displace there when they are able to make profits from the plantation, and to provide guaranteed monthly and annual cash assistance if they are to displace earlier; coordination has been made to complete construction school, hospital, clinic, bazaar and religious edifices in new settlement at the time of displace; two-storey RC buildings with CI-sheet roofs will be built for displaced families; and plans for convenience of socio-economic status of displaced villagers are included.

U Shin Kyaw Win of Seikphyu Constituency asked whether there is a plan to continue printing Myanmar Financial, Economic and Social Status Report. The deputy minister answered that Planning and Finance Ministry compiled financial, economic and social status of Myanmar under the title “Report to the Public” in the time of Union Socialist Republic of Myanmar and National Planning and Economic Development Ministry compiled “Union of Myanmar Financial, Economic and Social Status Report” in the time of State Law and Order Restoration Council and State Peace and Development Council, the books are published yearly till 1997 and from 1998-1999 the printing was suspended since 1998-1999 as the ministry has wide range of undertakings; Central Statistics Board of the ministry is issuing monthly statistics, annual statistics journals, annual statistics journals and CDs instead for local and foreign scholars, researchers, international economic and monetary organizations to provide accurate facts for review; the publication of Myanmar Financial, Economic and Social Status Report will be resumed.

A question raised by U Khin Maung Win of Lammadaw Constituency, asking how many licences of companies have been renewed, many licences of companies are to be renewed; whether there is a plan to speed up the procedures in renewing the licence, the deputy minister replied to two questions. He said that of 2283 companies that submitted to renew the companies’ licences up to 30-9-2011, a total of 1132 companies have been issued original cards and 1151 companies, temporary cards. At present, as the Myanmar Companies Act 1914 and the Special Companies Act 1950 are not conformity with the current period, legal experts are holding coordination for amending them.

In April 2011, the Ministry of Home Affairs has to scrutinize over 3000 companies. Despite assigning duties to Bureau of Special Investigation and Special Branch, as these organizations have not been stationed in most of the towns, the work procedures delayed. According to asking the Ministry of Home Affairs to change the management system, the police stations of Myanmar Police Force take responsibility for scrutinizing the registration and renewal of companies. Although replies were received from the police stations within one or two weeks, the authorities concerned faced the main (See page 9)
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difficult that they found only wrong addresses of the companies and citizenship of students from southern Rakhine previously for more convenience in checking the companies in line with the addresses of the Board of Directors of the companies.

Despite quick processes, the Ministry of Home Affairs is practising the system to recommend the companies, which must be members of the Hotels and Tourism Industries Association, for engaging in hotels and tourism industry. Only when the companies for engaging in mining/jewellery industries are members of the Myanmar Gems Entrepreneurs Association with jewellery trading licences and mining licences, will the ministry recommend them. The registration and renewing of the registration term of companies still delay the procedures from two to five months thus coordination has been made with ministries concerned.

He replied that if the company has paid the tax after coordinating with the Ministry of Finance and Revenue, the company can renew its registration term within one week; and the companies that could not pay the tax cannot be recommended for renewing their registration terms. It can be found that a day procedure was arranged to issue temporary renewal registration card for enabling the company entrepreneur to overcome these difficulties not to stop their works. Only when the respective departments change their management procedures, will the government’s machinery run smoothly and quickly to satisfy the wishes of the people.

In other countries, permission of investment is separate from registration of companies. The companies in other countries are to renew their registration terms once every two years as they do not receive permissions which are unequal to terms once every two years as they do not possess the land, and whether there is a plan to hand over the land of pig farm of the Development Affairs Committee to Kyaukpong BEPS. The Union Minister replied that Seinngon BEPS was opened on the land of DAC in Leikin Ward of Thahton Township, Mon State in 1965. Township Land Records and Settlement Department has Form 105 to subtract from DAC area and it is not owned by the school. To build the brick walls for the school, Thahton Township DTA Office coordinated with Township DAC and a reply was sent that it needs permission of the Union Minister of Border Affairs. Thus, coordination will be continued with the Ministry of Border Affairs.

U Saw Ba Thein of Thaton Constituency asked whether there is a plan to hand over the land of Seinngon BEPS to the school; and if not, whether there is a plan to hand over the land of pig farm of the Development Affairs Committee to Kyaukpong BEPS. The Union Minister replied that Seinngon BEPS was opened on the land of DAC in Leikin Ward of Thahton Township, Mon State in 1965. Township Land Records and Settlement Department has Form 105 to subtract from DAC area and it is not owned by the school. To build the brick walls for the school, Thahton Township DTA Office coordinated with Township DAC and a reply was sent that it needs permission of the Union Minister of Border Affairs. Thus, coordination will be continued with the Ministry of Border Affairs.

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queries raised by two Hluttaw representatives about the rail link.

U Zzhun Kham of Chin State Constituency No (1) asked whether Ministry of Rail Transportation has a plan to construct railroad between Kalay of Sagaing Region and Tamu and the estimated time for rail link launch any.

The Union Minister replied that Kalay-Tamu railroad section is the part of proposed Trans-Asian Railway Southern Corridor from Singapore to Turkey. From 11 October to 2 November 2004, Myanmar Railway (MR) in coordination with Rail India Technical & Economic Services (RITES) conducted land surveys for feasibility and according to the report the route will be 127.4 kilometers in length and the estimated cost is 4294.5 million rupiahs and it is learnt that the railroad in India’s side to be linked with Kalay-Tamu railroad also has not been constructed.

The Department of Rail Transportation is implementing 13 projects with total length of 2255 miles as priority for development of railroad network nationwide. Upon completion of those projects, construction of Kalay-Tamu railroad will be proposed to the government.

U Sai Tin Aung of Khan Chin State Constituency No (5) asked if there is a plan to open office of the Directorate of Transport Administration in Mohunyin.

The Union Minister replied that there are 16581 vehicles and 12934 driving licenses in Mogansain and Thawng townships in Mohunyin District. Expansion of organizational structure has been proposed to the Union Government for opening of the district DTA office and if the Union government approves the proposal, fund for opening of Mohunyin District DTA office will be asked in 2012-2013 fiscal year. Therefore, further measures will be taken if the fund is granted. Before the opening of the office, inspection groups will make regular checks on vehicles five the cost from four to five years previously for more convenience in inspecting vehicles.

Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko replied to queries raised by two Hluttaw representatives.

U Mana Naing of Chin State Constituency No (10) asked whether the Union Government has a plan to reclaim the vacant lands in the plain of Mogansain, Kenpetlet Township of Chin State. The Union Minister replied that most of the people in Chin State practice slash-and-burn farming because of the state being lack in cultivable land, resulting in more and more serious soil depletion, deforestation and climate changes year by year.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, to remedial measures against deforestation, environmental degradation and climatic changes resulted from slash-and-burn farming, has been engaged in high-land land reclamation since 2002-2003 fiscal year. Up to now, 2684 acres have been reclaimed under the arrangement of the A & I Ministry and 4109 acres under farmer’s, totalizing 6793 acres. It was targeted to reclaim 100 acres of high-land farm in 2011-2012 fiscal based on the fund received and so far 52 acres of land reclaimed. (See page 10)
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If a person or organization wishes to reclaim vacant lands in Mong Creek Planet to grow rice and perennial crops, he or it may apply for land reclamation with recommendation letters of township/district General Administration Departments and respective Land Records Department and the approval of Chin State Government to Union Government’s Fellow Land, Vacant Land and Virgin Land Management Central Committee chaired by the Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation and may reclaim the lands in accordance with the instructions of the Central Land Committee under the allowance of Fellow Land, Vacant Land and Virgin Land Management Committee. If someone wishes to reclaim the vacant lands to run irrigated farms, he may propose to Chin State Government with hierarchical recommendation and the State Government will then submit to the Union Government. Then he can reclaim the land with the use of machinery provided by the State Government and Union Government. With the reclamation of high-land farms in hilly regions, slash-and-burn farms can be transformed into regular farms.

U Zhun Khan of Chin State Constituency No. 1 asked a question.

The Union Minister replied that the Republic of the Union of Myanmar is constituted with seven regions, seven states, one self-administered division, five self-administered regions, 68 districts, 330 townships, 82 sub-townships, 396 villages, 3044 wards, 13682 village-tracts and 64346 villages.

The region and state governments, on behalf of the President, assign duties to departmental staff, taking responsibility of ensuring food sufficiency, developing farming and other businesses, and reducing poverty while enforcing law and order. In doing so, ward/village-tract administrators have to deal on the ground and arrangements were made for them to be able to use buildings previously used by ward/village-tract peace and development councils. Those buildings have been renovated under the arrangement of respective district and township, and arrangements were made to be able to build new buildings or use vacant buildings in ward/village-tracts to open offices.

There is a total of 16672 ward/village-tract administrator’s offices across the nation and it is learnt that most of the offices are located in appropriate places in wards/village-tracts and are good enough for ward/village-tract administrators to hold meeting with their sub-ordinate groups. In the past, in holding meeting with residents of wards or village-tracts, previously religious, social buildings and meeting houses of schools and land where people can gather were used as meeting rooms.

The construction of the new building attached with a meeting hall would mean spending the State’s budget on unnecessary issue and would cause decreasing the budget for other development tasks. Still, there is no plan to construct a new building as office buildings have already been constructed, funds would be needed to construct and maintain new buildings, there is no many staff at the administration office and religious buildings are available to hold meetings. If the images of the buildings have not suitable conditions, construction tasks can be carried out after reorganizing the township/district administration office concerned and under the directives of the region/state government concerned.

Afterwards, U Than Swe of Taninthayi Region constituency No. 2 asked whether the two ivory of the Royal White Elephant Nibbana Pissaya Naga Raza Sadan owned by the King Badon (Bo Daw Paya) were at the museum of the Forest Department (Yangon).

Deputy Minister for Culture Sandar Khin replied that over man-high two ivory are kept at the museum of the Forest Department (Yangon) of the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry. Visitors to the museum can gain knowledge on the Royal White Elephant as the two ivory are kept in a room decorated with paintings of the building for the Royal White Elephant Flag. Umbrella and staff and records on how the Royal White Elephant was found also displayed there.

Regarding the two ivory, it is learnt that they were brought to Israel by Lord William Bradford when Myanmar was occupied by British in 1885. In May, 1892, he presented the two ivory to the grandchild of the Duke of the Waterford as a gift. In 1931, father of the duke of the Waterford donated the two ivory to the National Museum in Dublin. The museum presented the two ivory to the Duke of Dublin to be sent them to the museum in Yangon, and the two ivory were handed over to the then Myanmar Ambassador to the England in May, 1965. At the museum, skeletons, remains and tusks of mammals are displayed. Besides, primate fossils of animals are displayed at the museum.

The Union Minister said the two ivories should be kept on display at the museum as they are systematically kept on a grand scale with full records and shown to the public. Still, there is no plan to move the two ivory to the National Museum (Yangon). The ministries concerned would coordinate to show the two ivory at the Konbaung Dynasty Booth of the National Museum in Nay Pyi Taw when the museum is completed.

The Hluttaw made decision to change the question to a proposal urging the Union Government to show the two ivory of the Royal White Elephant Nibbana Pissaya Naga Raza Sadan as public at the National Museum in Nay Pyi Taw in stead of keeping them at the museum of the Forest Department (Yangon) when the museum is completed.

Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Khin Zaw replied to questions.—MINA

In central Myanmar, one acre of farmland needs water from 4.5 ft to 6.5 ft in rainy season and from 5.5 ft to 7.5 ft in summer for one cultivation season. For oil crops cultivation, one acre needs water from 2.5 ft to 4 ft. Females in central need more water than farmland in lower Myanmar. In central Myanmar, a dam should release 2.5 ft of water to reach 1 ft in depth in farmland. For the sandy land, the dam has to release more water as there are conveyance losses while the water flows along the canals.

There will have fully enough irrigation water if 152 acres of summer paddy if about five feet of need of water percentage is supplied for an acre of monsoon paddy. In doing so, only for totally 200 acres of summer paddy could grow with extra amount of water. In the year with heavy rains, as the reservoir gets less distribution of water to the farm lands of monsoon paddy, summer paddy gets more irrigation water than before.

If water in the store tanks of the reservoir is used for growing, only paddy shouldn’t be grown. It also needs to grow crops such as groundnut, sesame, greenbean, sunflower because they are crops that can be grown with less water. The Irrigation Department has been using inflow of water into the reservoir beneficially, and there is no way to lose water due to unable water management.

The proposal “to assign female service personnel in military departments that are not responsible for military operations” tabled by U Hla Swe of Magway Region Constituency No. 12 was agreed by U Mahn Kan Nyunt of Kayin State Constituency No 2 and U Saw Tun Mya Aung of Kayin State Constituency No. 5. On account of no prohibition of assigning female service personnel in the military departments in the Constitution. There were outstanding female service personnel served in military departments before now. Female nursing cardets treated the patients kindly too. So, serving in military departments is not heavy for female persons. Indeed, they need only an allowance to serve in. So, female persons should be assigned in the military departments that are not responsible for military operations.

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Deputy Minister for Defence Capt Aung Thaw replied that since 1948, female service personnel were assigned to the units under Office of the Chief of Defence Industries, under the Office of the Director of Public Relations and Psychological, under Directorate of Odnance and under Directorate of Medical Services, and service personnel will be appointed when necessary.

The Hluttaw agreed the proposal.

The proposal urging the Union Government to supervise the cooperation between farmers and entrepreneurs in the agricultural sector not to lose the opportunities of farmers tabled by U Swe Aung of Yangon Region Constituency No. 12 was proved by Dr Myint Kyi of Yangon Region Constituency N. 8, U Tin Yu of Yangon Region Constituency No. 11. They discussed that farmers in Dagon Myothit (East), (south) and (seikkan) townships have worked in their farmlands since many years ago. However, problems have arisen since 2008 when the State has allowed win-win cooperation between the local farmers and entrepreneurs with the aim of transition from the traditional farming to mechanized farming. Therefore, the State should supervise and handle the issue, they urged.

The 38th day second regular session of the first Amyotha Hluttaw adjourned at 12:25 pm and the 39th day session will be held on 24 October, 2011. Union Ministers replied to 7 questions raised by the Hluttaw representatives and one question was changed into proposal and one proposal was approved and one proposal was discussed at today’s session.—MNA

50 money exchange counters go into operation

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Oct—Central Bank of Myanmar has opened new money exchange counter on Theinbyu Road on 1 October, allowing exchanging of USD, Euro, Singapore dollars and FEC with Myanmar Kyats. It has permitted local private banks to run a total of 50 money exchange counters at banks, airports, hotels, shopping centers and major tourist destinations since 24 October in order that foreigners, globe-trotters, and citizens can exchange foreign currencies in convenience.—MNA

Two tremors jolt San Francisco Bay

SAN FRANCISCO, 21 Oct—Two earthquakes created large jobs in San Francisco Bay Area Thursday afternoon and night after millions of Californians ducked for cover in an earthquake drill earlier in the day.

According to the US Geological Survey (USGS), a quake with a magnitude of 3.8 hit at 8:16 pm local time (0316 GMT), about 1.6 km east of Berkeley, a city on the east shore of the San Francisco Bay in Northern California. The USGS said the quake was the aftershock to another 4.0-magnitude quake, which occurred at 2:41 pm local time (2141 GMT) and centered some 3.2 km southeast of Berkeley.

The two quakes were widely felt in the San Francisco Bay Area. A local resident, who was some 48 km from Berkeley when the quakes occurred, told Xinhua that she felt a sudden jolt and a big shake for one of the quakes.

There have been no reports of damage or injuries from the two quakes. Keith Knudsen, deputy director of the USGS Earthquake Science Centre in Menlo Park, California, told local KTVU that Thursday’s quake was a standard Hayward Fault Line quake, which is a geological fault zone on the east side of San Francisco Bay capable of generating significantly destructive earthquakes.

He said there is a roughly 5 percent chance that the afternoon’s quake could be a foreshock to a larger seismic event. Xinhua
Steve Jobs refused cancer treatment for too long, says biographer

London, 21 Oct—Apple co-founder Steve Jobs refused potentially life-saving cancer surgery for nine months, shrugging off his family’s protests and opting instead for a narrative medicine, according to his biographer. When Jobs eventually sought surgery, the rare form of pancreatic cancer had spread to the tissues surrounding the organ, his biographer, Walter Isaacson, said in an interview with 60 Minutes on CBS, to be aired on Sunday.

Jobs also played down the seriousness of his condition and told everyone he was cured but kept receiving treatment in secret, Isaacson said in the interview. The biography hits bookstores on 24 October and emerged from scores of interviews with Jobs. It is expected to paint an unprecedented, no-holds-barred portrait of a man who fiercely guarded his privacy, but whose death ignited a global outpouring of grief and tribute.

Sri Lankan, Canadian airlines in code share to boost market

Colombo, 21 Oct—The national carrier of Asia’s fast growing tourism market, Sri Lankan Airlines and Air Canada have announced a code share agreement to boost travel between the two countries, officials said here in a statement on Friday. The new services will enhance Sri Lankan Airlines services by providing an extended service connecting gateway points in Frankfurt, Paris, London and Hong Kong to Toronto, Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Ottawa, Montreal, Halifax and St John’s in Canada. Canada’s flag carrier is the 15th largest commercial airline in the world and serves 31 million customers annually. The travel market between Canada and Sri Lanka has been growing at a double-digit rate and this agreement will allow customers to easily connect at main European gateways of Frankfurt, London and Paris, the statement said.

The code share agreement gives both airlines the ability to offer customers connections between Air Canada and Sri Lankan on a single ticket itinerary, checked baggage and other benefits that will create a seamless travel experience.

Singapore woman fights casino over huge jackpot win

Singapore, 21 Oct—A Singapore woman playing slot machines at the Marina Bay Sands for the first time was fighting the casino for a jackpot win of 416,742.11 Singapore dollars (328,143 US dollars), local daily Straits Times reported on Friday, Choo Hong Eng, a 58-year-old vegetarian food stall runner, said the machine seemed to get stuck in less than half an hour when she played there on Tuesday. A fellow gamer, when asked to help, found that the screen was displaying the number 416,742.11 Singapore dollars and above it “cash bonus.”

US study shows human antibody treatment protects monkeys from Hendra virus disease

Washington, 21 Oct—A human antibody given to monkeys infected with the deadly Hendra virus completely protected them from disease, according to a study released on Wednesday by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and their collaborators. Hendra and the closely related Nipah viruses, both rare viruses that are part of the NIH biodfiere research programme, target the lungs and brain and have human case fatality rates of 60 percent and more than 75 percent, respectively.

These diseases in monkeys mirror what happens in humans, and the study results are cause for hope that the antibody, named m102.4, ultimately may be developed into a possible treatment for people who become infected with these viruses. In May 2010, shortly after the NIH study in monkeys successfully concluded, Australian health officials requested m102.4 for emergency use in a woman and her 12-year-old daughter. They had been exposed to Hendra virus from an ill horse that ultimately was euthanized.

Apple CEO Steve Jobs in October 2010. His biographer has said he refused cancer treatment for too long.

China’s icebreaker will set sail on new Antarctic expedition in November

Tianjin, 21 Oct—The Chinese research vessel and icebreaker Xuelong, or “Snow Dragon,” is due to depart in November for a six-month Antarctic expedition, the vessel’s 28th voyage since 1984, an official said on Thursday. Xuelong, an A2-class icebreaker capable of breaking ice 1.2 metres thick, will leave the northern port of Tianjin on 3 November with a crew of 172 to work on 31 scientific research assignments, said Qi Tanchou, director of the polar region expedition office of the State Oceanic Administration.

The ship will also bring supplies to China’s two Antarctic stations, while a team will be sent to the third station, Kunlun, which is located at the highest point on the Antarctic continent at 4,000 meters above sea level, for scientific research, Qi said.

Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer speaks at the launch of the company’s Microsoft 365 cloud service in New York, on 28 June, 2011.
**Burglar found sleeping in car**

Florida police said a man accused of burglarizing several cars was arrested after the owner of one of the vehicles drove it away with him sleeping in the back.

Miami Beach police said Joe Jesus German, 19, stole property from several vehicles Sunday in a valet parking garage at the Fontainebleau Resort before falling asleep in the back of a white Infinity, WTVJ-TV, Miami, reported Tuesday.

“The defendant was later located inside of a vehicle he burglarized by the vehicle owner who was driving home and found defendant passed out in his back seat,” the arrest report said. Alan Rodriguez, the vehicle’s owner, said he was driving with his uncle when they noticed the man sleeping in the back, WFOR-TV, Miami, reported.

**Boy, three, called 911 when mother fell**

A Tennessee woman who was rendered unconscious by a fall down the stairs said she is proud of her 3-year-old son for calling 911.

Heidi Rafferty of Clarksville said she was climbing the stairs to use the restroom at her home when she fell down the stairs and was knocked unconscious, WSMV-TV, Nashville, reported Wednesday.

“The next thing I remember, I woke up in the hospital,” Rafferty said. She said she was told her 3-year-old son, Bailey, had called 911 and informed dispatchers of her fall. He was given a plastic badge by police for knowing what to do in an emergency.

“I’ve always told him since he was 2, if something ever happens to mommy, or if mommy’s not around, dial these numbers and call these people,” said Rafferty, who suffered a mild concussion and a torn muscle.

**Kate writes moving letter to boy fighting leukaemia**

LONDON, 21 Oct—The Duchess of Cambridge, Kate Middleton wrote a moving letter to a nine-year-old boy who is battling leukaemia.

Kate, 29, wrote the heartfelt note to the boy after her visit to the children’s cancer unit at the Royal Marsden Hospital in Sutton, Surrey, reports the Daily Express. The Duchess met Fabian Bate at the Fontainebleau Resort before falling asleep in the back of a white Infinity, WTVJ-TV, Miami, reported Tuesday.

“Although, Kate has met hundreds of children after her engagement to Prince William, but the plight of young Fabian has affected her the most.

“I was so touched by your strength of character,” she told the youngster, who hopes to have a bone marrow transplant from one of his two sisters in December.—Internet

**Bon Jovi opens charity restaurant**

WASHINGTON, 21 Oct—American rocker Jon Bon Jovi has opened a charity restaurant named the Soul Kitchen to help fight hunger.

“The Soul Kitchen opened its doors for the first time Wednesday in New Jersey, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

The diner features a pay-what-you-can system, which allows patrons to offer up the amount of cash they feel is appropriate to cover their meal.

Customers who don’t have money to contribute can instead lend a hand with cleaning duties.

**Kate Moss’ yoga statue sold for GBP 577,250**

LONDON, 21 Oct—A 18-carat gold statue of Kate Moss in a provocative yoga pose has been sold for 577,250 pounds at Sotheby’s. The supermodel’s statue is called Microcosmos (Siren), and has been sold to an anonymous Asian telephone bidder.

The provocative statue - which features the supermodel posing with her legs behind her back, is a smaller 10kg version of Marc Quinn’s 50kg Siren, created in 2008.

That original bigger version cost 1.5million pounds to make, of which 1million pounds was just the price of the gold.

The smaller Microcosmos is one of four identical pieces will have cost about 200,000 pounds just for the gold, and was part of a private collection.—Internet

**Expert: UFO reported in South Dakota likely a meteor**

The National Weather Service said a flash of light over South Dakota, labeled a UFO by some, was likely a meteor entering the atmosphere.

Tim Masters, a technician with the National Weather Service in Sioux Falls, said the flash of light reported in the sky over the area around Brandon and Hartford around 3:30 am Wednesday was likely a meteor, The (Sioux Falls) Argus Leader reported Thursday.

“It wasn’t a UFO. It was a meteor,” he said. “It lit up the sky pretty bright.”

“We just know that it’s probably just a little rock that fell through the atmosphere and probably burned up when it fell down,” Masters said.

Masters said the meteor appears to have been isolated and was not a part of a meteor shower.

**Kate Middleton, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, at a fundraising gala evening in aid of the Child Bereavement Charity, one of Prince William’s charities at St James’s Palace.—INTERNET**

**Emma Watson resumes studies at Oxford**

LONDON, 21 Oct—‘Harry Potter’ star Emma Watson has resumed her studies after starting classes at Oxford University.

Watson, 21, best known for playing studious witch ‘Hermione Granger' in the hit franchise, is a student at Rhode Island’s Brown University but has been transferred to Oxford’s Worcester College for a year abroad.

She has warned fans in a post on her official blog published on 16th October that she’ll be out of the spotlight for a while as she continues her English literature classes.

**British actress Kate Winslet**

Kate Winslet doesn’t do crash diets

LONDON, 21 Oct—British actress Kate Winslet says she never follows crash dieting and would rather encourage young girls to have a healthy body image.

“I am not a twig - and refuse to be a twig. I would like young girls who are screwed up about their bodies to think that it’s possible to have a healthy shape,” Winslet said.

“I don’t do crash diets or eat fish rather than meat and salads until they come out of my ears,” contactmusic.com quoted the 36-year-old as saying.—Internet

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Barcelona look to New Masia for New Messi

Barcelona, 21 Oct—Barcelona’s technical staff all agreed—the little Argentine kid who had just completed a trial for the Spanish club was one of the most exciting prospects they had seen. “Excellent shooting ability, extremely fast with the ball at his feet, low centre of gravity that gives him great balance on the move, intelligent and mentally astute,” read their report.

It was early October 2000 and the talented 13-year-old about to win a coveted place at the club’s youth academy was future double World Player of the Year Lionel Messi. Now 24, Messi is the most famous product of the academy known as “La Masia” after the quaint 18th-century Catalan stone farmhouse next to the Nou Camp stadium where a handful of recruits were housed almost exactly this time.

Internet

Monfils the lone seed to advance in Stockholm

STOCKHOLM, 21 Oct—Gaël Monfils of France was the only seeded player to advance during a day of upsets in the second round of the Stockholm Open on Thursday. The 2008 US Open champion Monfils beat Bernard Tomic of Australia 6-4, 6-7 (4), 6-4 and will next face fifth-seeded South African Kevin Anderson in the quarterfinals.

Unseeded Argentine David Nalbandian took the most emphatic victory of the day, beating seventh-seeded Ivan Dodig of Croatia 6-1, 6-1. He will next face American James Blake, who beat second-seeded Juan Martin Del Potro of Argentina, the 2009 US Open champion, on Wednesday. Jarolík Nieminen of Finland upset third-seeded Stanislas Wawrinka of Switzerland 6-3, 6-4 in the second round, while fourth-seeded Juan Ignacio Chela also exited.—Internet

Monfils of France

Top tennis agent Ken Meyerson dies at 48

FLORIDA, 21 Oct—Tennis agent Ken Meyerson, who represented Grand Slam winners Andy Roddick, Chris Evert and Justine Henin, has died. He was 48. Meyerson died on Wednesday night at his home in Florida, according to a statement by his agency, Lagardere Unlimited. The cause of death was not immediately known. Meyerson had been president of Lagardere’s tennis division since 2009.

“Ken was a very hard worker and was always determined to do his best, both for his clients and for the company,” agency chairman Arnaud Lagardere said in the statement. “His clients were his extended family and there was nothing he wouldn’t, or couldn’t, accomplish on their behalf. Ken is, and will remain, an inspiration to all of our agents.”

Before joining Lagardere, Meyerson was president of BEST Tennis from 2004-06. During a nearly 25-year career in tennis that began in 1987, Meyerson also worked with ProServ, one of the earliest sports management firms, and the SFX Sports Group.—Internet

Top tennis agent Ken Meyerson dies at 48

Confederations Cup locations defined for Brazil in 2013

RIO DE JANEIRO, 21 Oct—The world soccer governing body FIFA announced the locations of the 2013 Confederations Cup in Brazil on Thursday.

The nation’s capital, Brasilia, will hold the opening match of the precursor to the 2014 World Cup.

Only five other cities will host the Confederations Cup. They are Belo Horizonte, Fortaleza, Recife, Rio de Janeiro and Salvador. Additionally, FIFA also specified that Corinthians’ new stadium in Sao Paulo, the Itaquerao, will be the site of the opening ceremonies and inaugural match of the 2014 World Cup, scheduled for 12 June.

Internet

FA appoints Team Britain head coaches

LONDON, 21 Oct—Stuart Pearce and Hope Powell have been appointed as the managers of Britain football teams who will compete at London 2012 Olympic Games, announced the FA on Thursday. Pearce, England Under-21s head coach, was named as the men’s football team manager while Powell, who has been England women’s coach since 1998, was appointed to lead the women’s team.

The British Olympic Association reached an agreement with The FA in June for Team Britain to return to the pitch in a men’s Olympic football tournament for the first time since the 1960 Rome Games, and compete in the women’s Olympic football tournament for the first time ever.

FA Chairman David Bernstein said, “I am delighted for both Hope and Stuart that they will lead us into next summer’s Olympic football tournament. With their excellent track record and experience I am convinced we have chosen the best coaches for these positions.” The FA’s player evaluation and selection process will begin at once.

Internet

Hanover draw with Copenhagen 2-2 at Europa League

BERLIN, 21 Oct—Hanover gave twice away a lead to share points with efficient Copenhagen in group B of UEFA Europa League on Thursday.

German Bundesliga team Hanover dominated the team against harmless Copenhagen. Thus Hanover defender Christian Pander opened the scoring after he exploited a disastrous misplaced pass by Copenhagen’s defence at the 24th minute when he hammered the ball into top left.

From then on, Hanover retreated with the neat lead but they were able to govern the lead against offensively harmless Copenhagen. At the 67th minute Copenhagen striker Dame N’Doye flabbergasted the host when he headed home a corner from very close distance to equalize the score.

Hanover took over control again to take the 2-1 lead through midfielder Sergio Pinto who hammered home a clearance attempt in the 81st minute.

It looked like a neat win for Hanover but Copenhagen came back again as Copenhagen striker Cesar Santin nutmeged Hanover goalkeeper Ron Robert Zieler after a one two with team mate NDoyle second before final whistle to flabbergast the host.

“Today, we had the chance to lead the group but, unfortunately, we gave away a big point. On this level you have to stay focused over ninety minutes,” Hanover coach Mirko Sloma said after the late tie.
Weather forecast for 22nd October, 2011

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Bollywood star Shah Rukh Khan in copyright row

MUMBAI, 21 Oct—Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan was on Friday ordered to deposit $200,000 with an Indian court after a scriptwriter claimed that the star’s new superhero film had breached copyright.

Two judges at the Bombay High Court said there appeared to be a prima facie infringement of intellectual property and told Khan to pay 10 million rupees to the court or risk the release of “Ra.One” being postponed. Scriptwriter Yash Patnaik took Khan, his Red Chillies Entertainment production company and the film’s distributors, Eros Entertainment, to court, claiming that he owned the copyright on the concept.

He said he was not given due credit and is also claiming that he should receive 10 percent of the film’s profits. Passing the order, Chief Justice Mohit Shah and judge Roshan Dalvi observed that it was “unfortunate that people in the film industry use others’ concepts and then don’t want to pay or give them credit”.

The case was adjourned for a further hearing. “Ra.One”, which cost an estimated $20 million to make and is packed with special effects, is due out in India next Wednesday, with Khan playing superhero “G.One” who fights the evil “Ra.One” to save humanity.—INTERNET

Indian actor Shahrukh Khan announces the official video game based on his Hindi film “Ra.One” in Mumbai. Khan has been ordered to deposit $200,000 with an Indian court after a scriptwriter claimed that the star’s new superhero film had breached copyright.—INTERNET

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Second regular session of first Pyithu Hluttaw continues for 39th day
Ten questions answered, one new proposal submitted

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Oct — The second regular session of the first Pyithu Hluttaw continued for 39th day at the hall of Pyithu Hluttaw of Hluttaw Building, here, at 10 am today, attended by Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Khin Aung Myint and 372 Hluttaw representatives.

At the today’s session, ten questions were answered and one new proposal was submitted.

Regarding the question raised by U Than Soe of Thazi Constituency who asked whether there is a plan to take necessary measures after making thorough analysis of advantages and disadvantages caused by sale of domestically-produced gasoline at a fixed price, Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay replied that the government faced a loss of K 26.64 billion including transport and service charges up to the end of August 2011 from June 2010 when private sector was allowed to engage in fuel sale and distribution as the government asked the private-owned fuel stations to sell gasoline at fixed 2500 kyats-per-gallon.

Although the government has arranged at a loss, showing goodwill to the people, it is found that people, indeed, cannot enjoy the benefit, only a group of persons are benefited, people are to join the queue, there arises bad behaviours, a vast crowd gathers frequently, bringing unwanted problems and people are to use unqualified gasoline that are sold outside when they cannot afford to join the queue. With the aim of ensuring effective use of State funds in the businesses which are being run in the interest of the State and people, the Ministry of Energy assumed that the price of domestically-produced gasoline should be changed appropriately instead of selling at a loss.

In accord with the market economy, measures will be taken to report the matter of changing the price of domestically-produced gasoline from the fixed price to market price to the Union government at an opportune time. Measures will be taken after informing the public in advance of the matter of changing price.

Union Minister at President Office U Soe Maung answered two queries on administrative matters raised by two Hluttaw representatives.

Regarding the question raised by U Sai Thida Kyaw of Mongyal Constituency who asked how executive (See page 8)

Second regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw continues for 38th day
Seven questions answered, one proposal approved, one proposal discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Oct — The second regular session of the first Amyotha Hluttaw continued for 38th day at Amyotha Hluttaw hall of Hluttaw Building here today, attended by Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint and 207 representatives.

U San Pyae of Kachin State Constituency No (7) asked a question about permit for lapidary process of jades in Mogauk of Kachin State and selling polished products abroad and Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htaik replied that according to Article 17 of Myanma Gems Law, a company or an organization with the license can make jewellery by cutting and polishing raw gems after registering and paying gems tax for the gems mine. It is free to sell and buy the polished products and jewellery in local market in line with set rules.

According to Paragraph 4 (c) of Region or State Hluttaw legislative list of Article 188 of the constitution, it is stated that lapidary process can be made in region or state and thus Mogauk of Kachin State has the right to cut and polish raw jades in line with the constitution after paying taxes in accordance with Myanma Gems Law.

Raw jades and value-added jewellery made from raw jades can be freely carried and sold in the country except 19 border towns according to Article 54 (b) of Myanma Gems Law. Measures are being taken to allow taking jewellery legally to abroad by road, water and air by setting up one-stop service centre in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay and Yangon that will collect taxes on those jewelry.

So, jades from Phakant Region can be cut and polished in Mogauk and the value-added finished products such as jewellery and sculptures made of raw jades can be sold anywhere in the country except in border regions. Establishment of coordination centre each in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay is on tap to be able to legally export gems to abroad after paying set taxes.

Union Minister for Rail Transportation U Aung Min replied to (See page 9)