Providing food and shelter to flood victims should be top priority

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham provides relief supplies to flood victims in Magway Region

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Oct—Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham together with Union Minister for Border Affairs and for Industrial Development Lt-Gen Thein Htay, Union Minister for Labour and for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Aung Kyi, Union Minister for Health U Khin Maung Myint, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Khin Zaw, Deputy Minister for Education U Ba Shwe, Nay Pyi Taw Council Member U Saw Hla and personnel attended relief supplies donation ceremony to flood victims in Pakokku District this morning.

On arrival at Pakokku, Pakokku District of Magway Region, the Vice-President and party were welcomed by Union Construction Minister U Khin Maung Myint, Magway Region Chief Minister U Phone Maw Shwe, region ministers and departmental officials.

Speaking at the donation ceremony at Tilawkayama Monastery, the Vice-President said that although natural disaster cannot be controlled, preventive measures can be taken to mitigate loss of lives and property.

Wood-cutting should be avoided to prevent floods and inundation and if it is necessary to cut down a tree, ten trees should be grown again, and slash-and-burn farming should be avoided as much as possible, which will contribute to prevention against flood and inundation.

The Union government, Magway region government, wellwishers, and non-governmental organizations within their capacity will collaboratively assist in rehabilitating the flood victims.

The flood victims will be provided with rice, oil, household utensils and cash assistance. The Vice-President comforted flood victims urging them to play a part in rehabilitation tasks, promising that the Union government would provide assistance to them.

Then, the Vice-President presented K 50 million for flood victims to buy construction materials and foodstuffs through Magway Region Chief Minister U Phone Maw Shwe.

The Vice-President also donated K 9.25 million for 106 victims died in floods, K 101.15 million for 2023 flooded households in Pakokku District through officials.

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(See page 8)
**Maintain facilities of Shwegyin Hydropower Project for posterity**

Power supply plays pivotal role in the process of national development. And hydropower projects are being implemented one after another the length and breadth of the nation with the effective application of water resources in abundance.

The opening of Dam and Hydropower Plant of Shwegyin Hydropower Project, implemented by No. 4 Construction of Hydropower Implementation Department of the Ministry of Electric Power No. 1, was held at the power plant near Kyaukkaung Village, six miles north-east of Shwegyin, Bago Region, on 22 October.

The newly-opened 75-megawatt Shwegyin Hydropower Plant is the largest generating capacity in hydropower projects built in Sittoung Basin. The hydropower project is the 17th facility of its kind supplying electricity to national grid and it is the first hydropower project opened in the time of the government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Successful implementation of Shwegyin Hydropower Project will satisfy electricity need of the nation to some extent and contribute to socio-economic life of the local people. Moreover, local people of Shwegyin/Madauk region will have the opportunity to establish small- and medium-scale industries to be able to produce value-added products, creating job opportunities for the local people.

At present, the State generates 3360 megawatts from 17 hydropower plants including Shwegyin Hydropower Plant, Tiyikay coal-fired power plant and 15 gas-fired power plants.

Electricity is instrumental in the industrialization of the nation. Hence, the government is extensively engaged in hydropower projects with domestic and foreign investment. And it is incumbent upon all the people to maintain the facilities and to utilize them systematically and effectively.

**PERSPECTIVES**

Monday, 24 October, 2011

Myanmar Pawnsan chosen world best rice

YANGON, 23 Oct—Pawsan rice of Myanmar was selected as World Best Rice 2011 in World Rice Conference 2011 on 21 October in Ho Chi Minh City of Vietnam.

Pawsan rice internationally known as Myanmar pearl rice is the indigenous strain of Myanmar. It has also won third prize in World Rice Conference 2010 in Philippines. In this year’s competition, Pawnsan stood first grabbing 14 out of the highest mark of 15, 0.2 mark ahead of Jasmine rice of Thailand.

Advisor U Tin Htut Oo and Vice-Chairman U Aung Than Oo of Myanmar Rice Association and other 12 members attended the conference and held discussions with international rice traders and companies.

**Shwedagon Pagoda 2600th Anniversary Buddha Puja niya to be held on grand scale**

NA Y P T T W, 23 Oct—Union Minister for Religious Affairs-Thura U Myint Maung met members of Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees yesterday and coordinated essentials for ongoing renovation works and preparatory works for holding 2600th Anniversary Buddha Puja niya of Shwedagon Pagoda.

The Union Minister called for newly tiling of prayer halls and shrines for convenience of pilgrims, installing elevators at museum, repository of Buddhist Scriptures and archives of Shwedagon Pagoda, building separate staircase to Buddha’s Life Museum with landscape gardening, modernized display of life of Buddha at the museum, holding the 2600th Anniversary Buddha Puja niya on a grand scale under the aegis of the Yangon Region Government, coordinating with related ministries if necessary, colourful illuminations during the Buddha Puja niya, offering Lord Buddha with 840,000 pieces of blooming flowers, and constructing two gateways of grandeur to Shwedagon Pagoda at U Wisara Street.—MNA

**Union A&I Minister views monsoon paddy plantations and integrated farm in Thanlyin**

NA Y P T T W, 23 Oct—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing inspected 10-acre monsoon paddy plantation and farm at manageable scale of Farmer U Nyi Nyi Maung in Thanabin village in Thanlyin Township of Yangon Region yesterday.

The Union Minister tipped concerted efforts as a gear for development of agriculture sector and highlighted the importance of field trips to help farmers develop their plantations. He called for obtaining the yield of 100 baskets per acre and establishing 10 immediate plots with scientific approach. He instructed the officials to make field trips to contribute towards development of farmers.

**Shwechaung Bridge on Pathein-Monywa Road damaged in mountain torrent**

NA Y P T T W, 23 Oct—The 942 feet long RC type No. 2/1 Shwechaung Bridge built by Public Works between miles post No. 0/3 and 0/6 on Pathein-Monywa road was damaged by mountain torrent in heavy rains on 19 October. Due to mountain torrent, eight bridge spans in 31 feet length each and one bridge span in 105 feet length floated into the water at 6.30 am on 20 October.

Under the supervision of the Mawgyaw Region Superintending Engineer of Public Works, the Senior Engineer of Pakokku District and workers are repairing the damages as quickly as possible not to affect the road transport.—MNA

**Golden Heart Library opened in Thazi Tsp**

NA Y P T T W, 23 Oct—Golden Heart Library was opened in Shwehan village of Thazi Township in Meiktila District of Mandalay Region on 20 October. Officials formally opened the library. Donors handed over the documents related to the library through Township Education Officer Daw Than Than Aye.

The donor used K 9.9 million in establishing the library.—MNA

in Vietnam to expand the market of Myanmar rice. While in Vietnam, Myanmar representatives observed rice policies, economy-stimulating measures, modern rice mills and rice plantations and exchanged views on rice industry development with rice-related associations including Vietnam Food Authority.—MNA

**Donate blood**

**Thanlyin Tsp International Year of Forests commemorative essay contest winners awarded**

YANGON, 23 Oct—Myanma Forest Week talks and prize-presentation to winners in essay contest in commemoration of International Year of Forests 2011 were held at No (4) Basic Education High School in Thanlyin on 20 October.

Staff Officer of Township Forest Department U Kyaw Thura gave talks on forestry development and Township officers awarded the winners.—MNA

**The New Light of Myanmar**

Monday, 24 October, 2011
Earthquake hits Turkey, up to 1,000 possibly killed

VAN, (Turkey), 23 Oct—A powerful earthquake which shook southeastern Turkey on Sunday may have killed up to 1,000 people as it triggered the collapse of dozens of buildings across the region, media reported the Kandilli Observatory as saying.

Emergency workers battled to rescue people trapped in buildings in the city of Van and surrounding districts on the banks of Lake Van, near Turkey’s border with Iran. Some 10 buildings collapsed in Van city and about 25-30 buildings were brought to the ground in the nearby district of Ercis, Deputy Prime Minister Besir Atalay told reporters.

“We estimate around 1,000 buildings are damaged and our estimate is for hundreds of lives lost. It could be 500 or 1,000,” Kandilli Observatory general manager Mustafa Ertik told a news conference.

Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan was travelling to Van and the cabinet was expected to discuss the quake at the meeting called for Monday morning.

Turkey’s Red Crescent said one of its local teams was helping to rescue people from a student residence in Ercis. It said it was sending tents, blankets and food to the region. More than 20 aftershocks shook the area, further unsettling residents who ran out on the streets when the initial strong quake struck. Television pictures showed rooms shaking and furniture falling to the ground as people ran from one building.

The Kandilli Observatory, which initially cited a magnitude of 6.6, said the earthquake struck at 1041 GMT (6:41 am EDT) and was 5 km (3 miles) deep. The US Geological Survey earlier reported that the magnitude was 7.6.—MNA/Reuters

More dust storms expected as Texas drought lingers

LUBBOCK, 23 Oct—The towering wall of billowing red dust roaring across the blue West Texas sky took Monroe Debusk back more than eight decades to the Dust Bowl years when he was growing up on his family’s cotton farm.

The 90-year-old farmer looked out his window Monday and saw the sky darken as a rare 1.5-mile-tall, 250-mile-long dust cloud stretched across the rain-starved land and blotted out the sun.

“I didn’t do anything—just thought back to the way it used to be,” Debusk said, recalling the massive dust storms that overwhelmed the region in the 1930s. “That’s the way they were.”

Meteorologists say people living on Texas’ parched plains could see more dust storms as a record drought tightens its grip across the Southwest. At least six sandstorms hit Phoenix this summer, with the most powerful striking on 5 July and measuring a mile high. But experts say another Dust Bowl is unlikely thanks to modern irrigation and farming techniques aimed at holding soil in place.

Dust storms form when wind whips up loose soil. They aren’t unusual in West Texas, although the size and speed of Monday’s cloud was rare. Typically, the wall of dirt drizzles to only about 1,000 feet in that area, not the 8,000 feet seen with the latest storm, experts said.

In this 18 April, 1935 file photo provided by the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration from the George E Marsh Album, a dust storm approaches Stratford, Texas. Meteorologists say people living on the parched High Plains of Texas could see more of the massive dust storms reminiscent of the Dust Bowl years as a record drought tightens its grip across the Southwest.—INTERNET

Australian authorities were hunting a killer shark which mauled to death an American diver off the country’s west coast as they considered a cull of the giant marine predators. George Thomas Wainwright, 32, from Texas, was brutally savaged by what was believed to be a three-meter (10-foot) great white shark during a dive off Perth’s Rottnest Island on Saturday.

Wainwright had been in Australia on a work visa for about four months, police told AFP. Witnesses saw a flurry of bubbles before Wainwright’s body surfaced with horrific injuries. It is the third fatal shark attack off the west coast in two months. Fisheries officials said a kill order was immediately issued for the shark and six bait lines had been laid in the vicinity of the attack hoping to catch the creature responsible.

Western Australia Premier Colin Barnett said he would consider a shark cull, as well as greater patrols, aerial surveillance and netting off of beaches and boosting the number of sharks fishermen were allowed to catch.

“There’s a lot of anecdotal evidence about the numbers of sharks increasing,” said Barnett.

“Culling could be considered if those sharks are staying around popular beach swimming areas.”—INTERNET

An American diver is believed to be the latest victim of a fatal shark attack in Western Australia, police said on Saturday, just days after a man vanished while swimming in waters off the state capital Perth.—INTERNET

One killed, five wounded in attacks in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 23 Oct—A civilian was killed and five others wounded Saturday in separate gunfire and bomb attacks in and west of Baghdad, the police said. Two gunmen in a car opened fire from their assault rifles at civilians in the town of Ameriyat al-Fallujah near the City of Fallujah, some 50 km west of the Baghdad, killing one person and wounding another before they fled the scene, a source from the provincial operations command told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Iraqi security forces cordoned off the scene and carried out a search operation in the area and arrested two suspects for interrogation, the source said. In Baghdad, four civilians were wounded when a roadside bomb went off near a police patrol in al-Jamia District in the western city, an Interior Ministry source anonymously told Xinhua.—Xinhua

Rocket attacks wounds 12 Afghan civilians

MAIDAN SHAR, 23 Oct—Two rockets fired by militants slammed into a residential area wounded 12 civilians in Wardak Province Saturday night, an official said Sunday.—Xinhua

27 killed in bridge collapse in India

NEW DELHI, 23 Oct—At least 27 people were killed and 60 injured when an overburdened old wooden bridge collapsed in the eastern Indian state of West Bengal Saturday evening, reported local media on Sunday.

The tragedy took place in the Bijnorhi area of West Bengal’s mountainous District of Darjeeling on Saturday, the Indo-Asian News Service quoted district magistrate Soumitra Mohan as saying. The Border Roads Organization-built bridge gave way around 19:00 pm as over 100 people stood on it to listen to speeches of a local political leader, said the report.—Xinhua

A photo taken in this Autumn shows a self-propelled weapon system of missile and gun taking part in a joint military drill of air and land forces held on west China’s plateau area which reached an altitude of 4,500 metres above the sea level. —Xinhua

In this 18 April, 1935 file photo provided by the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration from the George E Marsh Album, a dust storm approaches Stratford, Texas. Meteorologists say people living on the parched High Plains of Texas could see more of the massive dust storms reminiscent of the Dust Bowl years as a record drought tightens its grip across the Southwest.—INTERNET

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**Panasonic to slash domestic chip output**

Tokyo, 23 Oct—Japanese electronics maker Panasonic Corp. will scale back domestic semiconductor output by the end of March 2012 and cut about 1,000 jobs, reflecting its recent move to reduce TV panel production.

According to the Nikkei business daily said on Sunday. All of the firm’s five domestic chip manufacturing facilities, including the state-of-the-art Uozu plant in Toyama prefecture, will cut output, the report said.

The company is expected to outsource more semiconductors from such firms as Taipei Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. and boost its outsourcing ratio from the current 10 percent to around 30-40 percent within a few years, the report said.

Officials with the company were not immediately available for comment. Panasonic will reduce plasma TV panel production and lay off about 1,000 people, a source told Reuters on Thursday, as it cited making television unit struggles to compete with Asian rivals like Samsung Electronics.

**Japan’s Tepco to sell 20 percent stake in wind power unit**

TOKYO, 23 Oct—Tokyo Electric Power Co. (<9501.T>) is likely to sell a 20 percent stake in wind power developer Eurus Energy Holdings to trading firm Toyota Tsusho <8015.T> to help raise funds to compensate victims of Japan’s nuclear crisis, a newspaper said on Sunday.

Tokyo Electric, the owner of the crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant, is expected to sell the stake for a little less than 20 billion yen ($262 million) and post a profit of about 10 billion, which will be used for compensation, the Nikkei business daily reported. The company, better known as Tepco, has issued a statement, saying that it has not made such a decision. Tepco is still reeling from the radiation crisis.

Tepco is still reeling from the radiation crisis at its Fukushima atomic plant triggered by the 11 March earthquake and tsunami in Japan’s northeast. It last month began accepting victims’ applications for compensation, but the troubled utility needs to find funds to foot the cost and is seeking help from a taxpayer-funded bailout body.

Eurus Energy, currently owned 60 percent by Tepco and the rest by Toyota Tsusho, is Japan’s biggest wind power developer and also operates wind power plants abroad. Tepco is preparing an extraordinary operating plan, likely to include asset sales, cost cuts and other restructuring measures, and get government approval before receiving bailout funds.

**Health Tip: Kids should eat healthy, too**

Parents who give their kids healthy meals at home aren’t doing their children any favors by feeding them fatty restaurant fare.

The American Dietetic Association offers these dietary suggestions for kids at restaurants:

- Dine at places that offer balanced, healthy child-size meals and sides.
- Order milk for your child’s drink, and fruit for dessert.
- Order dishes plain, and ask for sauces on the side.
- Choose apple slices, carrots or other healthy dishes in place of fries.
- Let your child choose between two or three healthy choices that you select.
- Make sure your child gets plenty of calcium by adding cheese to a sandwich, or ordering a side of yogurt.

**Parents turn to the Internet before going to the ER**

BOSTON, 23 Oct—One in eight parents goes online to seek medical information about their child’s condition before taking the child to the emergency room, according to new research.

What’s more, many parents would willingly visit sites recommended by their child’s doctor—which means pediatricians should be prepared to offer advice on this topic, according to Dr Purvi Shroff from the University of Louisville in Kentucky.

She presented her findings on Friday at the 2011 national conference of the American Academy of Pediatrics. She found 12 percent of the parents had consulted the Web about their kid’s trouble during the past 24 hours, while half said they had used the Internet at least once in the previous three months for a health-related question about their child.

The most common websites were WebMD and Wikipedia, but few parents used the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website, run by the government, or the American Academy of Pediatrics’ Healthy Children website.

The majority of parent Internet users said they were highly likely to visit a website that was recommended by their child’s doctor.

“Being invested in your child’s health and wanting to learn more and make the best decision for your child is always a good thing. However, when it comes to using the Internet, appropriate use depends on accessing good websites and knowing whether or not the information you find is applicable to your child,” Dr Shroff told Reuters Health.

It is important, she added, that parents be able to talk to pediatricians about what they read on the Internet, and for the pediatrician to place it in context for each child.
German falling satellite entered atmosphere

BERLIN, 23 Oct—A defunct satellite entered the atmosphere early Sunday and pieces of it were expected to crash into the earth, the German Aerospace Centre said. There was no immediate solid evidence to determine above which continent or country the ROSAT scientific research satellite entered the atmosphere, agency spokesman Andreas Schuetz said.

Most parts of the minivan-sized satellite were expected to burn up during re-entry, but up to 30 fragments weighing 1.87 tons (1.7 metric tons) could crash into Earth at speeds up to 280 mph (450 kph). Scientists said hours before the re-entry into the atmosphere that the satellite was not expected to hit Europe, Africa or Australia. According to a precalculated path it could have been above Asia, possibly China, at the time of its re-entry, but Schuetz said he could not confirm whether the satellite actually entered above that area.

The 2.69-ton (2.4 metric ton) scientific ROSAT satellite was launched in 1990 and retired in 1999 after being used for research on black holes and neutron stars and performing the first all-sky survey of X-ray sources with an imaging telescope. Even in the last days, the satellite still circled the planet every 90 minutes, making it hard to predict where on Earth it would eventually come down. A dead NASA satellite fell into the southern Pacific Ocean last month, causing no damage, despite fears it would hit a populated area and cause damage or kill people.

Experts believe about two dozen metal pieces from the bus-sized satellite fell over a 500-mile (800 kilometer) span of uninhabited portion of the world. The NASA climate research satellite entered Earth's atmosphere generally above American Samoa. But falling debris as it broke apart did not start hitting the water for another 300 miles (480 kilometers) to the northeast, southwest of Christmas Island.

BlackBerry maker shows new software

WASHINGTON, 23 Oct—New Software - BlackBerry maker Research In Motion Ltd unveiled a new operating system, BBX, combining existing BlackBerry elements with RIM's previously announced QNX operating system for phones and tablet computers.

THE BACKDROP: RIM is hoping to grab some attention away from the iPhone and Android phones. It has been losing ground to more consumer-friendly offerings from rivals.

SERVICE DISRUPTION: RIM co-CEO Mike Lazaridis made only a brief reference to last week's outages. He said the company restored service as quickly as possible and is working on figuring out the causes and “making this right” for customers.

Motorola revives brand with slim Droid Razr

NEW YORK, 23 Oct—Motorola Mobility is reviving its once-popular Razr brand to tout its latest gadget, the Droid Razr, as the world’s slimmest smartphone.

The company, which agreed to be bought by Google Inc for $12.5 billion, hopes to compete with arch-rival Apple Inc’s iPhone when it kicks off on 22 Oct, 2011 the Razr brand and undergo a complete restructuring.

While the Droid Razr could draw some customers from iPhone at Verizon Wireless, analyst Ross Rubin said it would be unlikely to be as big a hit as Motorola’s previous Razr, which sold more than 130 million units over several years. Only about 10 percent of US consumers would buy a $300 phone, Rubin said. "That’s a relatively small part of the market. At $199, it would be an explosive seller."—Reuters

UN Secretary General’s message for UN Day 24 October 2011

Days from now, the human family will welcome its seven billionth member.

Some say our planet is too crowded. I say we are seven billion strong.

The world has made remarkable progress since the United Nations was born 66 years ago today.

We are living longer. More of our children survive. More and more of us live at peace, under democratic rule of law.

As we have seen in this dramatic year, people everywhere are standing up for their rights and human freedoms.

And yet ... all this progress is under threat. From economic crisis. Rising joblessness and inequality. Climate change.

Around the world, too many people live in fear. Too many people believe their governments and the global economy can no longer deliver for them.

In these turbulent times, there is only one answer: unity of purpose.

Global problems demand global solutions. They compel all nations to unite in action on an agenda for the world’s people.

That is the very mission of the United Nations: To build a better world. To leave no one behind. To stand for the poorest and most vulnerable in the name of global peace and social justice.

On this special day, let us recognize: Never has the United Nations been so needed.

UN/ICTVANG

Belgian Bourne ‘XIII’ lives on in new video game

NEW YORK, 23 Oct—The Jason Bourne-inspired Belgian comic series XIII is to receive another video game conversion, according to a teaser campaign on Facebook.

As a comic book series, XIII has been in print since 1984. The previous XIII game came in 2003, using a graphic novel style that remains somewhat unusual for a shooter, with its eponymous amnesiac secret agent on the hunt for a true identity and on the run from would-be assassins.

However, the original game covered only the first five volumes of what is now a 19-volume collection, leaving plenty of scope for expansion.

It may well be that the iOS, PC and Mac follow-up switches genres from action to adventure, given that Anuman Interactive is best known for its publication of the Syberia, Still Life, and Mysterious Island series.
Premier Wen says people’s livelihood an especially important task

NANNING, 23 Oct—Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said here on Saturday that ensuring and improving people’s well-being must be put at a highly significant position in the nation’s macroeconomic control policies.

“Ensuring people’s livelihood is closely related not only to social and economic advancement, but also to the people’s benefits as well as social harmony and stability,” Wen made these remarks during an inspection tour of Nanning, the host city of the two-day China-ASEAN Expo, in southern China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. During his tour from Friday to Saturday, Wen made field trips to a job fair, farm produce fairs and residential areas in Nanning in order to acquire detailed information about the consumer prices, employment, and the social security system. The Chinese government has made containing price increases a top priority this year. The consumer price index (CPI), a major gauge of inflation, rose 6.1 percent year on year last month, easing from 6.7 percent in July, which was the highest level in more than three years.

However, despite the ease, the inflation currently still far exceeds the government’s full-year target of 4 percent.

Wen urged the local government to attach greater importance to agricultural production and the supply of farm produce at the markets. He also asked the local authorities to think of ways in reducing logistics costs and to enlarge reserves.

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao (R, front) talks to a vendor at a food market in Nanning, capital of southern China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on 21 Oct, 2011. Xinhua

Bangkok bolsters river defences in flood battle

BANGKOK, 23 Oct—Thai troops on Sunday reinforced vulnerable barriers along Bangkok’s Chao Phraya river after a sudden rise in the water level set back efforts to contain the worst floods in decades.

Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra has warned it could take six weeks for the deadly flood to recede, telling residents in the capital to prepare for possible point to the eruption losing strength. As a result the residents of La Restinga, the village closest to the site of the eruption began to return to their homes on Friday night. They had previously been allowed to make only a brief return to their houses in order to collect essential possessions. The permission to allow the residents to return to their village, which has an economy based on tourism and fishing, comes in the wake of explanations by Spanish scientists on Thursday.

Carmen Lopez, of the Spanish National Geog- raphic Institute and Joan Marti of the Board of Scientific Investigation said that the eruption was less powerful than first predicted.—Xinhua

Risk of volcanic eruption off Spain’s island subsides

MADRID, 23 Oct—Residents of the village of La Restinga on the island of El Hierro were allowed on Saturday to return to their homes as the risk of a volcanic eruption subsides. Although the stain in the sea caused by sulphur emitted by the underwater volcano off the coast of the most westerly of the Spanish controlled Canary Islands now surrounds much area of the island, indicators, scientists on Thursday.

New Delhi, 23 Oct—At least 12 people were killed and 10 critically injured by a speeding train in the central Indian state of Chhattisgarh Saturday evening at a manned railway crossing, reported local media Sunday.

The incident took place around 19:00 pm local time near Chhattisgarh’s Bilaspur town, about 110 km from state capital Raipur, when at least 12 people were crushed to death as they tried to cross the rail tracks as a train left the local station, Indo-Asian News Service quoted police Inspector General (Railways) Rajkumar Devangan as saying.

Three trains reached the crossing simultaneously on three different tracks at the crossing and people who were trying to cross over the tracks were caught between speeding trains, according to the report.

12 killed by speeding train in India

Bolivia’s President Evo Morales (C) participates in the celebration of the 185th anniversary of the founding of the province of Muneus, in La Paz, Bolivia, on 22 Oct, 2011. Xinhua

British couple drowns in Spanish flash flood

MADRID, 23 Oct—An elderly British couple drowned after being swept away by a flash flood that coursed through a street market in southeastern Spain, officials said Saturday.

Twenty-five minutes of heavy rain inland of the town of Finestrat caused a torrent to rush downhill Friday through the area in which the market had been set up, regional interior ministry representative Jose Perez Grau said.

Vendors and visitors alike were caught by surprise because it had not been raining in the town itself, he said.

The married couple’s ages were given as 70 and 72 but they were not identified. The Diario de Informacion newspaper said they had been staying at a seaside hotel with relatives in Benidorm, 7 miles (12 kilometres) east of Finestrat.

Citing witnesses, the paper said the couple had gotten tangled in a canvas awning that had come loose and were dragged not far downstream, ending up trapped under a vehicle submerged in three feet (one metre) of water.

Their bodies were only discovered once the water had receded, the paper reported. Five other people were injured.

Britain’s Foreign Office said it was providing consular assistance to the couple’s family.—Internet

Models present creations by BIRYUKOV during the Russia Fashion Week in Moscow, Russia, on 22 Oct, 2011. Xinhua

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MADRID, 23 Oct—Residents of the village of La Restinga on the island of El Hierro were allowed on Saturday to return to their homes as the risk of a volcanic eruption subsides. Although the stain in the sea caused by sulphur emitted by the underwater volcano off the coast of the most westerly of the Spanish controlled Canary Islands now surrounds much area of the island, indicators, scientists on Thursday.

New Delhi, 23 Oct—At least 12 people were killed and 10 critically injured by a speeding train in the central Indian state of Chhattisgarh Saturday evening at a manned railway crossing, reported local media Sunday.

The incident took place around 19:00 pm local time near Chhattisgarh’s Bilaspur town, about 110 km from state capital Raipur, when at least 12 people were crushed to death as they tried to cross the rail tracks as a train left the local station, Indo-Asian News Service quoted police Inspector General (Railways) Rajkumar Devangan as saying.

Three trains reached the crossing simultaneously on three different tracks at the crossing and people who were trying to cross over the tracks were caught between speeding trains, according to the report.

12 killed by speeding train in India

Bolivia’s President Evo Morales (C) participates in the celebration of the 185th anniversary of the founding of the province of Muneus, in La Paz, Bolivia, on 22 Oct, 2011. Xinhua

British couple drowns in Spanish flash flood

MADRID, 23 Oct—An elderly British couple drowned after being swept away by a flash flood that coursed through a street market in southeastern Spain, officials said Saturday.

Twenty-five minutes of heavy rain inland of the town of Finestrat caused a torrent to rush downhill Friday through the area in which the market had been set up, regional interior ministry representative Jose Perez Grau said.

Vendors and visitors alike were caught by surprise because it had not been raining in the town itself, he said.

The married couple’s ages were given as 70 and 72 but they were not identified. The Diario de Informacion newspaper said they had been staying at a seaside hotel with relatives in Benidorm, 7 miles (12 kilometres) east of Finestrat.

Citing witnesses, the paper said the couple had gotten tangled in a canvas awning that had come loose and were dragged not far downstream, ending up trapped under a vehicle submerged in three feet (one metre) of water.

Their bodies were only discovered once the water had receded, the paper reported. Five other people were injured.

Britain’s Foreign Office said it was providing consular assistance to the couple’s family.—Internet

Models present creations by BIRYUKOV during the Russia Fashion Week in Moscow, Russia, on 22 Oct, 2011. Xinhua
Nay Pyi Taw, 23 Oct—Mandalay Region troupe played in “Power of Youth” drama contest of the 18th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions on last day of the contest at Yezin Universities’ Campus in Zeyathiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area this evening.

Among the spectators were Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyu, members of work committee for organizing the competitions, members of panel of judges at central, region and state level and others.

Performing Arts Competitions continues for ninth and final day

Nay Pyi Taw, 23 Oct—The 18th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continued for the ninth day and final day at the designated places in Yezin Universities’ Campus in Zeyathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area today.

Among the enthusiasts were Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw and wife, Joint-Secretary of the Work Committee for Organizing the Performing Arts Competitions Director-General of Fine Arts Department U Yan Naing Oo, members of the work committee and subcommittees, members of panel of judges at central level and region and state level, team managers, contestants, departmental personnel, national race excursion group members, teachers and students of basic education schools in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

Four students participated in the basic education level (5-10 aged) boys’ violin contest and two in the girls’ contest, five contestants in the higher education level (men’s) donmin contest, three in the girls’ contest, two in the amateur level (first class) women’s donmin contest, four in the higher education level (men’s) donmin contest, two in the women’s contest and four in the amateur level (second class) women’s donmin contest.

The competitions successfully came to an end in the evening.—MNA

India-Russian project to develop multi-role transport planes runs in trouble

New Delhi, 23 Oct—The India-Russian project to develop multi-role transport aircraft has run into trouble after New Delhi expressed dissatisfaction over the business plan given by Moscow, sources said on Sunday. “India is not satisfied as Russia has not assigned very little role for Indian experts in the project. Even Indian Defence Minister AK Antony conveyed this to his Russian counterpart Anatoly E Serdyukov during his Europe visit earlier this month,” the sources told media in the national capital.

However, soon a meeting between the two sides would be organized to settle the matter for the project worked out to be 600.7 million US dollars, the sources added. India’s state-owned airframer, Hindustan Aeronautics, had in 2007 signed an agreement with Russian arms export agency Rosoboronexport and United Aircraft to form a joint venture for the project, based in southern City of Bangalore.

The aircraft will have a glass cockpit for electronic instrument displays, fly by wire controls, full authority digital engine control engines, 800 km per hour cruise speed, and range of 2,500 km. India would acquire 45 aircraft while Russia 100. There would be scope for exporting this aircraft, and the plan is to produce a total of 205 aircraft.—Xinhua
Providing food and shelter to... 

(from page 1) 

Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Thein Mhone donated rice, oil, noodle packages, 1500 sets of school uniforms, 500 dozens of note books, clothes and personal goods worth K 10 million and financial assistance of K 10 million, Chairman of Myanmar Natural Disaster Prevention Committee Union Minister for Labour and Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Aung Kyi six kinds of relief items worth K 24,023,125 and 20000 CI sheets worth K 22 million, Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thein Khin 10 first-aid kits, Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint K 2.5 million, Myanmar Rice Development Pyithu Hlutaw Representative U Hay Oo 1000 blankets worth K2.5 million; 395 representatives of Pyithu Hlutaw K3.95 million; 395 representatives of Amyotha Hlutaw K2.2 million, Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation K2.5 million, Magway Region Women’s Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Association K2 million, Myanmar Onion, Garlic & Vegetables Exporters Association 500 bags of rice, Myanmar Oil Dealers Association viss of oil, Myanmar Beans and Pulses and Sesame Traders Association K 2.5 million, SWRR Deputy Minister U Phone Maw Shwe onion and garlic brokers K6,515,000, Chairman of Asia World Express Co Ltd U Maung Maung K10 million, Chairman of Fortune International Co Ltd U Mya Han K10 million; Chairman of Nunn Pyi Tagni Co Ltd U Myo Thihia K10 million and Premier Coffee Mix Co Ltd packs of coffee mix worth K3million and officials concerned accepted the donation. The total amount of cash and kind donated to the flood victims has reached K307,055,650. After the ceremony, the Vice-President visited a monastery education school at Tilakwama Monastery. During the visit, the Vice-President paid respects to Presiding Sayadaw of the monastery Maha Saddhamma Jotikudha Bhadanta Pannavamsa, discussed matters related to the monastic education and the site chosen to construct an iron-reinforced bridge and estimated cost for the construction of the bridge. After hearing reports, the Vice-President assisted in construction of the Bailey bridge and inspected the site chosen to construct the new bridge. During the visit, the Vice-President met with departmental officials and members of social organizations at the township general administration office. At the meeting, Magway Region Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Arnt Maung reported on sending the people to be on alert for a storm, rainfall in Pakokku District on 20 October, damages of six bridges including Shwechaung Bridge due to the rainfall of 4.76 inches, 59 death toll and 47 missing in the district, cattle, crops and buildings destroyed by the floods, relief and resettlement efforts for the flood victims and requirements for construction of a temporary Bailey bridge. Magway Region U Phone Maw Shwe reported on sending relief aids to the flood hit areas which are not easily accessible. In his speech, the Vice-President said that he and Union ministers arrived there to provide necessary assistance to flood victims in Pakokku District. Although alarms on danger of floods that had never occurred in Pakokku District have been given to the local people, some property and lives were lost in floods due to the fact that the local people have lack of experiences and knowledge on preventive measures against dangers of floods. In occurrence of floods, rough flash-flood destroyed a lot of property in a short time. Rescue and relief works, resettlement and rehabilitation were carried out for the flood victims immediately. Arrangements are being made to allot the land, three miles from the town, for those who lost their housings in the floods. Wellwishers and people in addition to the Union government and Magway Region government donate rice, edible oil, personal goods and cash to the flood victims. The administrative bodies are to supervise handing over of cash and kind to the local people as quickly as possible. In line with the fine tradition of the nation, the people donate cash and kind generously. It is sure that they will make more donations. Only when the authorities concerned supervise handing over of cash and kind to the people as soon as possible, will the wellwishers be keenly generous and put more reliance on the State. He stressed the need to place emphasis on food and accommodation in rehabilitation for the victims and to provide necessary assistance for their livelihood. He pointed out that the ministries concerned are to take effective and quick preventive measures against floods for next time if necessary. Today is the best time to perform good practices and educative works for natural disaster preventive measures and conservation of environmental conservation.

The Union government is to manage arrangements for regenerate betterment of education and health tasks and to operate transport and vocational tasks as quickly as possible. In conclusion, the Vice-President urged the departmental personnel to realize the Clean Government and Good Governance by effectively and promptly carrying out their tasks in the present time.

The Vice-President and party visited Thihoshin Buddha Image in Pakokku and offered meal, fruit, flower and water to the Buddha Image. Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham signed visitors’ book and donated cash to the Buddha Image. Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham signed visitors’ book and donated cash to the Buddha Image.

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Providing food and ... (from page 8)

Project Group (3) of the Public Works of the Ministry of Construction is implementing the project; the Ministry of Construction is simultaneously implementing five Ayeyawady River-crossing bridges; Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku) on Indian-Myanmar-Thai Tripartite Highway which will be implemented jointly by the three countries; the lower structure of the bridge have been completed cent per cent; installation of steel truss is being carried out; and 93 per cent of the construction of the entire bridge have been completed.

The Vice-President urged the construction staff to take pride of their work in implementation of necessary infrastructures for the State, to do their own bits in all honesty, and to exert efforts to keep pace with modern techniques.

The Vice-President viewed the construction of Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku) from view deck and Approach Bridge.

The Vice-President and party arrived at Pakokku University where Pro-Rector Dr U Cho explained the brief history of the university, number of students, subjects and organization setup of the university.

The Vice-President called for doing maintenance of the university buildings for endurance, filling the academic and administrative needs and conducting subject-wise researches.

The Vice-President and party viewed Yepya bridge, Ohndaw bridge, villages and crop plantations damaged by the flood from Helicopter on their return and arrived back here in the evening.—MNA

Kayin State Chief Minister observes performing health care services at Kamamaung Station Hospital

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Oct—Chief Minister of Kayin State U Tint Hsan observed providing free medical treatment to local people in Kamamaung and Papun district and nearby villages by specialists led by Kayin State Head of Health Department Dr Htay Naung and medical superintendent of Kayin State People’s Hospital Dr Aye Aye Mu under the arrangement of Kayin State government and Health Department at Kamamaung Station Hospital in Papun Township, Papun District.

The Chief Minister presented glasses to eye patients who are undergoing treatment under the arrangement of Kayin State Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee.

Next, the Chief Minister comforted patients and presented cash assistance at the hospital, and inspected operation theater.

A total of 747 patients were provided with free medical treatment by 10 groups of specialists from Hpa-an People’s Hospital and eye patients presented 50 glasses at Kamamaung station hospital. Kayin State MCWSC gave educative talks to those who are hospitalized. Moreover, health staff including specialists are making field trips monthly to villages in order to provide local people with free medical treatment.—MNA

1st Nay Pyi Taw Champion Challenge Cup Tournament concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Oct—Chairman of Myanmar National Sports Committee Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan spoke words of encouragement to athletes who are going to take part in Men/ Women Mini Marathon U-20 and Open contests at the gathering point, in front of Nay Pyi Taw Myoma Market, this morning.

Next, the Union minister watched the friendly-match between Sports and Physical Education Institute (Mandalay) and SPEI (Yangon) women football teams at No (1) Nay Pyi Taw Sports Ground, and paid a look mini marathon contests.

Deputy Minister for Sports U Aye Myint Kyu and officials presented medals and cash awards to winners of mini marathon contests, SPEI (Mandalay) women football team that won the friendly match and athletes who won the race.

Then the Union Minister viewed demonstration on sailing optimistic yacht and enjoyed traditional boat race at Ngalike Dam in Taunggyi and presented prizes to winners.

Afterwards, the Union Minister attended the closing and prize-giving ceremony of the first Nay Pyi Taw Champion Challenge Cup Tournament 2011 at the meeting hall of Ngalike Kantha Hotel.

The Union minister presented Champion Challenge Cup and cash award to Yangon Club. Union Minister U Tint Hsan inspected construction of Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku) from view deck and Approach Bridge.

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Bridge on Pathein-Monywa Road damaged by overloaded tanker

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Oct—Wat kot Bridge on Pathein-Monywa Road was damaged as an overloaded tanker passed on it 11 October. The steel beams and 424/5 on Pathein-Monywa Road was damaged due to the twelve-wheel tanker, and the bridge is being repaired by Pakokku District Public Works.—MNA

The International Forests and Myanmar Forest Week for 2011 observed in Shwedagon Township

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Oct—Shwedagon Township Forest Department of Bago Region organized educative talks and prize-giving ceremony in commemoration of the International Forests and Myanmar Forest Week for 2011 at Yadana Hall of Shwedagon Township BEHS on 21 October.

Responsible persons gave talks on health education, environmental cleanliness, Myanmar Forestry and forest sector and Myanmar education. Next, Assistant Director of Pyay District Forest Department U Than Oo and department heads and responsible persons of township Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Women’s Affairs Federation presented prizes to winners of essay, painting and cartoon contests to mark International Year of Forest-2011 and Myanmar Forest Week.—MNA
**Dozens missing after Nepal bridge collapse**

Kathmandu, 23 Oct—
Rescuers were searching Saturday for more than 40 people, including a bus carrying Indian tourists, after an overloaded suspension bridge collapsed in southern Nepal, killing two people, police said. Emergency personnel had managed to pull just four people alive from the fast-flowing Trishuli River and recovered the bodies of an Indian and a Nepali, said Gorkha District police officer Krishna Acharya.

“A two people have died when the suspension bridge over Trishuli river connecting Gorkha and Chitwan Districts to the Prithvi Highway collapsed this afternoon,” he said. “There were 47 people on the bridge when it crashed and plunged into the river,” he told AFP.

“We have recovered dead bodies of one Indian tourist and a Nepali from the river and rescued four persons who are now undergoing treatment at local hospital.”

Trishuli is Nepal’s most popular rafting river with spectacular gorges and rapids and favoured for its easy accessibility from Kathmandu and Pokhara.

Acharya said a busload of Indian tourists en route to Pokhara had stopped on the bridge for sightseeing when a supporting pole snapped due to the excessive load on the ageing iron structure. “Police personnel are searching for those missing in the river. We don’t have exact numbers of the missing,” he said.

Nepal has hundreds of bridges in the rugged countryside that range from rope or wooden planks to steel and concrete.—Internet

**China airlifts third batch of flood relief goods to Bangkok**

Bangkok, 23 Oct—
Three cargo planes of the Air Force of China arrived in Bangkok on Saturday morning to deliver the third batch of flood relief goods to Thai government.

Chinese Ambassador to Thailand Guan Mu, along with Thai Deputy Prime Minister Yongyuth Wichaidit, presided over the delivering ceremony at Don Muang Airport.

China has donated 259 hovercrafts, 150 water pumps, 210 water filters and 1,300 tents among others worth about 40 million Chinese yuan (6.3 million US dollars) as well as 1 million US dollars in cash to Thailand, according to the Press release of the Chinese embassy.

At least 356 people were confirmed dead in the worst floods in five decades that have inundated the upper part of the country for almost three months.—Xinhua

**NORAD says two aircraft intercepted in DC region**

Washington, 23 Oct—
NORAD says two aircraft have intercepted two civilian aircraft in separate incidents in the Washington region.

The North American Aerospace Defence Command says the first aircraft was out of radio communication Saturday morning. The plane was intercepted by two Air Force F-16s, but once it regained communication it was allowed to proceed.

NORAD says the second aircraft was intercepted by an F-16 and a US Coast Guard HH-65 Dolphin helicopter about an hour later after it entered a restricted airspace. Once it was escorted out of the restricted airspace, the aircraft was allowed to proceed to its original destination.

NORAD did not have details about the aircrafts’ flight plans or exactly where they were intercepted.—Internet

**Brussels summit may help transform European debt crisis into chance**

Beijing, 23 Oct—
This weekend’s summit in Brussels is widely expected to be decisive in solving the eurozone debt crisis, with the European Union (EU) and eurozone governments making last ditch efforts to come up with a solution.

With the deadline fast approaching, EU leaders are desperately trying to find a cure for this destructive crisis, which has already infected Europe as a whole and is now threatening the world beyond.

Agreement on bank recapitalization, further debt relief for defaulting Greece and a strengthening of budget discipline as well as a mechanism reform are due to be reached at the summit.

However, curing ailing Europe has proven to be an arduous and time-consuming task.

With Germany and France still at odds over issues like how to increase the firepower of the eurozone’s bailout fund, the two countries’ power struggle is proving counterproductive to the summit’s success.

Germany, France and the remaining European countries are being urged by the global community to assume their responsibilities and strengthen their determination to solve the crisis.

As the two strongest member nations of the eurozone, Germany and France should put aside their differences and put the interests of Europe as a whole first. Only by bridging differences and building mutual trust can they save Europe as a whole.

What eurozone members should do is stop complaining andickering, recognize that bailing out defaulting countries like Greece would ultimately serve their own national interests, and then take swift and concrete action.

Yet as Eurogroup President Jean-Claude Juncker rightly recognized before the summit, “we have to deal with 17 governments and 17 states and 17 parliaments.” As a result, the summit is bound to be long and difficult, and action may not be as swift as hoped for.

**Mexico detains 15-year-old in drug murders**

Cancun, 23 Oct—
Prosecutors said Saturday that a 15-year-old boy has confessed to running a drug trafficking gang on the Mexican resort island of Isla Mujeres and murdering two women who reportedly worked as drug dealers.

It was the second time in less than a year that an extremely young male has been detained as a purported drug gang killer in Mexico. Last November, soldiers arrested a 14-year-old, and then the young people who had been found hanging from a bridge.

Mexican officials say the involvement of youths in such crimes reflects the difficulty drug cartels are having in recruiting adults, but it also raise fears that Mexico’s drug violence may have accustomed young people to extreme levels of violence.

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Guan Mu (front R), Chinese Ambassador to Thailand, and Youngyut Wichaidit (front L), Minister of Interior and Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand, attend a ceremony after the third batch of flood-relief supplies donated by the Chinese government arrived at a military airport in Bangkok, on 22 Oct, 2011.—Xinhua

**Bridge collapses**

Map showing location of the suspension bridge across the Trishuli river which collapsed in Nepal on Saturday.

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Mountain Climbing Competition kicks off in south China

SANYA, 23 Oct—The Mountain Climbing Competition 2011 was held here on Saturday, attracting 100 participants from home and abroad.

Conquering a peak of 1,412 meters above sea level, Wang Zhichen from China’s Chongqing finished first in 38 minutes and 27 seconds.

Chen Chunyan from China’s Shandong reached the peak in 52 minutes and 14 seconds, and became the winner of the girls’ group.

According to the rules, the winner will get 10,000 yuan (about 1,500 US dollars) award.

As the first climbing competition was held successfully last year, this year’s edition attracted more climbers.

Plan to kill Farallones mice a balancing act

Farallon National Wildlife Refuge, 23 Oct—On the craggly, guano-covered Farallon Islands, tiny brown blurs of fur dart furtively across the ground between thousands of holes. This chasm of small rocky islands that just sharply out of the Pacific Ocean 27 miles west of San Francisco is known as “California’s Galapagos” for its abundance of squawking seabirds, barking sea lions and great white sharks.

Yet amid this native menagerie lies an intruder: brown house mice brought by human vessels from another time. And the rodents have now colonized here in a density unseen anywhere else in the world, researchers said.

The mice pose a serious threat to a number of plants and animals that occur here naturally. However, just how to rid the islands of the pests—by dropping poison pellets, or by other methods—has proven to be a lightning rod issue for the US Fish & Wildlife Service, resulting in impassioned opposition.

The service has delayed releasing its plans as viable alternatives are sought.

The mice attract hungry migratory burrowing owls, which make homes in the islands’ roughhewn cliffs. Once the owls are here, the predators also eat a rare gray seabird called the Ashy Storm-petrel, which breeds on the islands and whose numbers are in decline.—Internet

Chinese wine students are boon for Bordeaux

PARIS, 23 Oct—One of France’s oldest Oenology schools, La Tour Blanche, is fighting falling enrolment through a tie-up with a Beijing wine school, the latest in a string of Bordeaux institutes to look East for their future.

The wine school, which just turned 100, today teaches the ropes of the trade to 150 students in the Tour Blanche estate in Sauternes, near the southwestern French wine capital of Bordeaux.

The China scheme will bring 25 extra students into the classrooms in 2013, and 50 in 2014, offering them twin training in wine and food pairing.

At a time of falling enrolment, the numbers are “significant”, said Alex Barrau, director of La Tour Blanche School of Viticulture and Oenology.

“We’ve seen a diminishing number of students in France who sign up in viticulture schools,” he said.

“If you look beyond the classified growth estates, a lot of wine growers are suffering. The recovery from the crisis has not been quick. Students don’t see ‘a future” in the profession, he said.

For La Tour Blanche, the scheme is also a way to pay sales of Sauternes, a sweet white wine made from grapes affected by noble rot that was once coveted by tsars but is often overlooked by today’s consumers.

“The Chinese wine market is in full development, but sweet wines are not really present in the market. For us this is also a way to give them more visibility,” said Barrau.—Internet

Chocolate becoming Japan’s favourite flavour

Tokyo, 23 Oct—Move over azuki and sweet sticky rice. While Japanese pastry chefs may have started using cocoa a few centuries after the West, this once foreign flavour has captured Japan’s confectionery world.

Japanese chocolate makers and pastry chefs were the star guests at the 17th Salon du Chocolat held in Paris this week. One of them, Susumu Koyama, 47, was even named “Best Foreign Chocolatier”—winning out over top masters from celebrated chocolate-making nations like Belgium and Switzerland.

And while “Japanese chocolate” may still strike some as incongruous, cocoa is definitely the rising star in the Land of the Rising Sun, said Susumu.

Fermented tofu with chocolate cream filling was among the creations displayed at the 2011 Salon by Susumu, who was born into a family of Kyoto pastry chefs and said he relies on “instinct” and “nature” to ply his trade.

By the 17th century, chocolate made from the cocoa bean native to South America was a fashionable drink in many parts of Europe but only reached Japan “around 250 years” after it hit the West, Susumu said.—Internet

As a result, most of Japan’s best-known pastries are largely chocolate free. But Susumu said Japanese chocolate makers are now “more and more numerous” and he’s doing his part to boost the trend.—Internet

Chinese says trade with N Korea has nearly doubled

BEIJING, 23 Oct—China’s trade with its close ally North Korea nearly doubled in the first seven months of the year compared with the same period in 2010, state media reported Sunday. The 87 percent increase of the year compared with the same period in 2010, China will outdrink the US to become the world’s thirstiest nation within 20 years.—Internet
DEEPAWALI GREETINGS

May Deepawali, the holy Festival Lights, brighten with the glow of wisdom and dispel the darkness of ignorance. May the Lights of Deepawali bring lasting peace, happiness and prosperity to all

May all the Human Beings be Healthy and Happy

Kyaw Kyaw Naing
President
For All Myanmar Tamil Hindu Foundation (H.Q) Yangon

Man who ‘mistakenly’ received Monster slipper revealed as elaborate PR stunt

LONDON, 23 Oct — A story about a man who mistakenly received a size 1,450 — after manufacturers failed to spot a decimal point in his order. He said he’d ordered a size 13 slipper and a size 14.5 slipper after Chinese order company may have been an elaborate PR stunt.

Tom Boddingham, 27, said he received the oversized slipper after Chinese manufacturers failed to spot a decimal point in his order. He said he’d ordered a size 13 slipper and a size 14.5 slipper after his mismatched feet, but instead received a 1,450 — after manufacturers failed to spot a decimal point in his order. 

The story came complete with a photograph of Mr Boddingham nestled inside his giant shoe, which was the size of a small bed. Mr Boddingham said he planned to sell the giant slipper on eBay.

He said: “It was sent directly from Hong Kong and measures 210 x 130 x 65cms — the same length as a grizzly bear or a family car. “I reckon I must be the owner of the biggest slipper in the world. “I’m going to sell it online and if I can make a few quid out of it then all the better.” The story was picked up by a host of media outlets and Mr Boddingham even went on radio station BBC London 9 to describe his astonishment. Monster Slippers blogged about the incident, claiming the oversized slipper was made after a factory worker read the 14.5 order as 1,450.

Glaciers on China’s Qinghai-Tibet Plateau melting fast due to global warming

XINING, 23 Oct — Glaciers in southwest China’s Qinghai-Tibetan Plateau, the main source of the country’s largest rivers, are melting faster than ever under the influence of global warming, researchers said.

Experts have been conducting research on the waters, geology, glaciers, and wetlands in the headwaters of the Yangtze, Yellow and Lancang rivers in northwest China’s Qinghai Province since 2005. Results from the study show that a large area of the glaciers has melted in the 2,400-square-kilometre region. Glaciers are the largest source of fresh water on the planet. They are also a reliable indicator of climate change, and easy for scientists to observe.

An expert with Qinghai’s Three-River Headwaters Office said the cluster of some 80 glaciers around the Aemye Ma-chhen Range, the source of the Yellow River headwaters, is shrinking especially fast.

“I can sometimes see the Ameye Ma-chhen Range on the plane. But I worry that we are not likely to see the glaciers there in ten years or more,” Li Xiaoman, deputy head of the office, said.

Russia starts expedition to track snow leopards

IRKUTSK, 23 Oct — Russian scientists started Friday an expedition to track the endangered snow leopards in southern Siberia, the RIA Novosti news agency reported. A research team will travel to the Altai-Sayan mountainous region to collect data on the snow leopard population and its habitat range.

This is the third phase of the expedition “On the Trail of Snow Leopards.” The results will be presented in late November. In 2010, Russia launched five-year program to study and monitor the snow leopard population in southern Siberia.
A Detroit-area restaurant has cooked up another giant burger. The Detroit News reports that Mallie’s Sports Grill & Bar in Southgate made a 338-pound “Absolutely Ridiculous Burger” on Thursday. A crowd of people gathered to savorate over the unveiling of the massive $2,000 menu item. The 3-foot-high sandwich packs 540,000 calories and takes 22 hours to cook. Manager Jason Jones says it comes with fries and a drink.

Over the years, Mallie’s has drawn attention for cooking up monstrous burgers. In 2008, the restaurant produced a 134-pound burger. Six months later it made one weighing 164 pounds. In 2009, it built 186-pound burger and in January it created one that topped the scales at 319 pounds.

There was no word on how the burger tasted.

A man reunitied with long-lost Camaro

A Missouri man said the old flame was rekindled when he travelled to Utah to take possession of the Chevy Camaro stolen from him 16 years ago.

Edward Neeley of Jefferson City signed the paperwork in Salt Lake City needed to secure the release of his red 1969 muscle car he had named Chelsey Pearl. “She’s back,” Neeley joked as he prepared Chelsey for shipment to Missouri. “She already loves me, I can tell.” The (Salt Lake City) Desert News said Ed and Chelsey were torn asunder in 1995 when a thief stole the classic vehicle. Neeley stumbled upon the missing car being offered for sale by a Syracuse man. The Syracuse man had bought the car four years earlier on eBay. Neeley recognized the picture and obtained a police report from Syracuse that revealed the VIN number had been changed to a number that belonged to a Chevy Chevelle.

Investigators said the switch was missed by officials when the Camaro was registered in Utah, and they have no idea how many hands Chelsey went through before winding up with Neeley once again.

Police say man stole iPhone from boy, 6

Police in Florida said they are using security camera footage to try to identify a man who snatched an iPhone from the hands of a 6-year-old boy.

Palm Bay police said an employee of Lin’s Garden restaurant told detectives the suspect, described as a black man in his late teens, came into the eatery briefly 15 Oct then returned a short while later and grabbed the phone from the hands of the employee’s 6-year-old son.

Investigators said no one was injured and they have security camera footage revealing the man’s face.

“Fortunately we have a good image of the suspect from the surveillance video,” Detective Luis Figueroa said. “We’re hoping someone can help identify him.

Spielberg ‘brings Tintin home’

Hollywood-style

BRUSSELS, 23 Oct—Belgium rolled out the red carpet for Tintin, its most celebrated son, as Steven Spielberg offered a Hollywood-style premiere of his blockbuster-to-be to enthusiastic crowds in the comic book hero’s home city.

“It is a great honour for us to bring Tintin home,” Spielberg told a news conference. “It was important to me. Brussels is his birthplace. Tintin is coming back.”

Fans swamped the city centre as airborne acrobats danced dangling from wires across giant scenes from the Tintin albums, and a parade of vintage cars, as portrayed by author Herge in albums set in the 1940s, cranked into town.

Country singer Loretta Lynn in hospital with pneumonia

LOUISIANA, 23 Oct—Country music singer Loretta Lynn, who grew up poor in Kentucky’s coal-mining country before rising to fame, has canceled two performances after being diagnosed with pneumonia, a statement on her website said on Saturday. “Loretta regretfully must cancel her shows for this weekend, due to illness,” the statement said of the 76-year-old music icon. The Paramount Arts Centre in Ashland, Kentucky, said on its website the singer had been hospitalized, and that her performance would be rescheduled. A spokes-man for Lynn was not immediately available for comment. “Doctors have diagnosed her as the beginning stages pneumo-

American actor Tom Hanks attends the world premiere of “Larry Crowne” at Westfield on London on 6 June, 2011.——INTERNET

Tom Hanks developing series for HBO

HOLLYWOOD, 23 Oct—Veteran US star Tom Hanks is in the development phase of a new comedy series for HBO about college athletes, the network said.

Hanks is aboard as an executive producer along with Gary Goetzman, who worked with Hanks on the HBO miniseries “John Adams,” “Band of Brothers” and “The Pacific.”

The new series, titled “Players,” is slated as a half-hour comedy about the lives of college athletes. The Hollywood Reported said James Evans and Darrel Scott were handling the producer chores.——INTERNET

Take That’s Williams goes solo again

LONDON, 23 Oct—Robbie Williams says he is quitting the reconstituted British band Take That again after taking part in their reunion tour earlier this year.

Williams reportedly banked about $16 million on the European tour and plans to return to his solo career with a new record label and an album in the works, Britain’s Daily Mail said Saturday.

The newspaper said it remains to be seen if Williams’ most-recent stint with Take That would revitalize the 37-year-old singer’s solo career. His two solo albums for EMI were panned by some critics and never generated the sales Take That enjoyed in the 1990s.

News Album

Collection of weird animals.

Halloween dog parade in New York: A pet dog dressed in costumes attends the Halloween Dog Parade in New York on Saturday.

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Real Madrid go top as Barca held

MADRID, 23 Oct — Cristiano Ronaldo scored a hat-trick as Real Madrid won 4-0 away to Malaga on Saturday night. The Portuguese international was back to his best as Real Madrid tore into a Malaga side that was looking forward to showing its potential after making a series of big money signings over the summer. Gonzalo Higuain put Madrid ahead after just 10 minutes and Ronaldo completed his hat-trick before the break.

He scored from close range following an Angel Di Maria cross, fired home from the edge of the penalty area and then scored a clever flick from close range as Malaga failed to defend a corner. The win was enough to take Madrid to the top of the table after Barcelona were held to a 0-0 draw at home to Sevilla. Sevilla keeper Javi Varas was the hero of the night with a string of incredible saves, including an injury time penalty from Leo Messi as Barcelona threw everything at a well-organized Sevilla side, but were unable to score. — Xinhua

Blackburn 1-2 Tottenham: Classy Van der Vaart scores twice to down plucky Rovers

BLACKBURN, 23 Oct — Two goals from Rafael van der Vaart condemned Blackburn to another home defeat as Spurs recorded a 2-1 victory, which leaves the pressure mounting on Rovers boss Steve Kean. Despite a strong performance from the home side they lacked quality in front of goal and were punished by two excellent strikes from Spurs’ Dutch forward. Mauro Formica had got his side back into the game before van der Vaart struck to seal the points for the visitors.

Despite Blackburn creating some good chances it was the visitors who opened the scoring in the 14th minute through van der Vaart, Adebayor held possession up on the right wing and waited for Kyle Walker to surge passed him on the overlap, the young full back received the pass and flew past Givet before rolling the ball back to van der Vaart who calmly side footed the ball into the back of the net from 10 yards.

The Dutch midfielder had been dominating the game but in the 27th minute the hosts got themselves back into the game through Formica. Pedersen sent a free kick into the penalty area where Samba beat Parker and Kaboul in the wall. Formica sent a free kick into the penalty area and then scored a clever flick from close range as Malaga failed to defend a corner. The win was enough to take Madrid to the top of the table after Barcelona were held to a 0-0 draw at home to Sevilla. Sevilla keeper Javi Varas was the hero of the night with a string of incredible saves, including an injury time penalty from Leo Messi as Barcelona threw everything at a well-organized Sevilla side, but were unable to score. — Xinhua

Barcelona 0-0 Sevilla

BARCELONA, 23 Oct — Visiting goalkeeper Javi Varas was the star of the show as Barcelona and Sevilla played out a 0-0 draw at Camp Nou in La Liga this evening. Barcelona dominated possession in the first half, and managed to create a few decent chances, but Sevilla goalkeeper Varas was the outstanding performer in the first half, pulling off numerous saves.

There was drama in injury time as Federico Fazio brought down Andres Iniesta in the penalty area and Barcelona were awarded a penalty kick. — Internet

9-man Chelsea goes down 1-0 at QPR

LONDON, 23 Oct — Chelsea had two players sent off in a 1-0 defeat at Queen Park Rangers on Sunday that left Andre Villas-Boas’ team six points behind Premier League leader Manchester City in the title race. Heidar Helguson put QPR ahead from the penalty spot after being fouled by David Luiz before the visitors’ discipline deserted them ahead of the break in a fiery London derby at Loftus Road.

Portuguese defender Jose Bosingwa was the first Chelsea player to receive a red card for a two-footed lunge on Adel Taarabt. It was third-place Chelsea’s second defeat of the season. — Internet

Saha late show stuns Fulham

LONDON, 23 Oct — Louis Saha returned to haunt Fulham as his late goal inspired Everton’s dramatic 3-1 victory at Craven Cottage on Sunday.

Substitute Saha struck in stoppage time before Jack Rodwell scored Everton’s third to ensure David Moyes’ side ended a run of three successive defeats.

Everton had taken a third minute lead when Royston Drenthe struck from long-range, but it looked liked Fulham had earned a share of the spoils thanks to substitute Bryan Ruiz’s exquisite equaliser in the second half.

However, Fulham striker Bobby Zamora missed a sitter and Saha and Rodwell made him pay. Despite having lost their last three matches, Everton were quickly into their stride and incisive passing through the middle saw the ball fall to Drenthe, who smashed home from 30 yards.

Fulham looked shellshocked as the Toffees continued to press forward and only John Arne Riise’s block thwarted Sylvain Distin minutes later. — Internet

Van Persie rescues Arsenal in 3-1 win over Stoke

LONDON, 23 Oct — Robin van Persie came off the bench to score a quickfire double as rejuvenated Arsenal beat Stoke 3-1 on Sunday to grab its fourth straight home victory in the Premier League.

The Netherlands striker put the hosts in front for the second time in the match in the 73rd minute — seven minutes after coming on as a substitute — and made the game safe in the 82nd with his seventh league goal of the season. Ivory Coast forward Gervinho gave Arsenal the lead in the 27th only for Peter Crouch to equalize from close range seven minutes later for Stoke.

AC Milan beats Lecce 4-3 after trailing 3-0

MILAN, 23 Oct — Substitute Kevin-Prince Boateng scored a hat trick as a stunning second-half comeback 4-3 win over Lecce. AC Milan saw the Serie A champions recover from three goals down to beat Lecce 4-3.

Giulermo Giacomazzi headed Lecce in front in the fourth minute, while Massimo Oddo converted a penalty kick and Carlos Grossmuller added a third before halftime. But Boateng came off the bench for Robinho and grabbed one back for Milan four minutes into the second half. The Ghana international completed his hat trick within 14 minutes and Mario Yepes grabbed the winner with seven minutes left. “I would say that our approach to the game was awful,” Milan coach Massimiliano Allegri said. — Internet

Chelsea’s Didier Drogba comes in with a late challenge on Queens Park Rangers’ Adel Taarabt (2nd L) as referee Chris Foy (L) looks on during their English Premier League soccer match at Loftus Road in London, 23 October, 2011. — Internet

Barcelona’s Didier Drogba comes in with a late challenge on Queens Park Rangers’ Adel Taarabt (2nd L) as referee Chris Foy (L) looks on during their English Premier League soccer match against Blackburm Rovers at Ewood Park in Blackburn, northern England, 23 October, 2011. — Internet

Chelsea’s Didier Drogba comes in with a late challenge on Queens Park Rangers’ Adel Taarabt (2nd L) as referee Chris Foy (L) looks on during their English Premier League soccer match at Loftus Road in London, 23 October, 2011. — Internet
Balotelli on fire as Man City thrash United

Manchester, 23 Oct—Mario Balotelli scored twice as Manchester City defeated Manchester United 6-1 to go five points clear at the top of the Premier League on Sunday after their biggest win at Old Trafford for 85 years.

Balotelli—who was forced to flee his home on Saturday following a bizarre late night blaze triggered by fireworks—lit the fuse on City’s title challenge after being named in the starting line-up by Roberto Mancini. The 21-year-old Italian fired City ahead in the 22nd minute and added a second on the hour mark before Argentine striker Sergio Aguero netted a third in the 69th minute.

A brace of late goals from Edin Dzeko and a David Silva finish completed City’s scoring on a memorable afternoon as United suffered their worst home defeat in Premier League history.

United—who had Jonny Evans sent off two minutes into the second half—scored a memorable late goal through Darren Fletcher but it was scant consolation after a chastening afternoon for Sir Alex Ferguson’s men. The defeat was United’s first league loss at Old Trafford since April 2010 and left City in pole position at the top of the table.

Balotelli’s first came midway through the opening 45 minutes, the striker coolly stroking home from the edge of the area after neat play between Silva and James Milner. The £24 million man celebrated his strike by removing his jersey to expose a t-shirt with the slogan—“Why Always Me?—which delighted his team-mates but irked referee Mark Clattenburg who promptly booked the forward. A shellshocked United struggled to mount much of a response for the remainder of the half, and were limited to only a couple of long-range efforts from Anderson and Wayne Rooney from distance.—Internet

Manchester City’s Italian striker Mario Balotelli celebrates scoring his second goal during the team’s English Premier League football match against Manchester United at Old Trafford in Manchester.—Internet

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Summary of observations at 8:40 am MST on today.

**Weather forecast for 24th October, 2011**

**MANCHESTER, 23 Oct—**

**Balotelli on fire as Man City thrash United**

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Yangon Port to accommodate 35 vessels at 34 jetties to double freight handling

Yesterday morning, Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung inspected progress of Yangon Port by Thameehla Vessel. The Managing Director of Myanmar Port Authority reported on arrival of foreign vessels at Yangon Port, handling of freight, earning of incomes and extension of Yangon Port. The Union Minister said that at present, Yangon Port can accommodate 17 ocean liners at 17 jetties. In future, 17 more jetties will be built to accommodate 18 foreign vessels. So, there will be 34 jetties where 35 foreign vessels can dock. And the port will be able to double handling the freight and earn over 50 million dollars. Special emphasis is to be placed on maintenance of jetties and safety work. It is necessary to seek ways and means for serving the interest of the State in drawing the master plan for docking 35000-ton vessels at Yangon Port. As imported cars will arrive for the first time at the port in October by vessel, arrangements are to be made for giving out imported cars to the owners through smooth process. On completion of Dawei and Kyaukpyu deep sea ports, Myanmar can play a key role in Southeast Asia. Thus, all the staff members are to make utmost efforts with genuine goodwill in their respective sectors.

At Ahlon Dockyard of Inland Water Transport, the Union Minister stressed the need for the workers to study modern technology as the dockyard will place emphasis on maintenance of old vessels and construction of new vessels for IWT. Then, he heard reports on strength of vessels, routes, incomes and expenditure of six commodities transport branches, target income and actual income, maintenance of vessels, construction of new vessels, and availability of new plot for Ahlon Dockyard presented by Managing Director U Soe Tint of IWT and organizational setup of Ahlon Dockyard, strength of staff, maintenance and construction of vessels and barges by the Deputy Superintending Engineer of the dock.

After inspecting maintenance and construction of vessels and barges, the Union Minister gave instructions on timely completion of works, practising thriftiness and priority on worksite safety.

Union I&P Minister inspects immigration control process at Yangon International Airport

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Oct — Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi inspected the extended opening of immigration counters, works to be carried out for putting up of signs and immigration control process at Yangon International Airport yesterday morning.

The Union Minister also oversaw functions of immigration counters and office, and asked about difficulties over work.

At the office of Yangon Region Immigration and National Registration Department, the Union minister heard reports on entry visas and visa application process, foreign visitors who entered and settled in Yangon Region with different kinds of visas and immigration control works presented by Head of Yangon Region Immigration and National Registration U Ye Tun Oo and Director-General of Immigration and National Registration Department U Maung Maung Than and officials.

The Union minister called for immigration officers to elaborate dos and donts to the relevant departments and companies, to ensure systematic moment of foreigners during their stay and exert collaborative efforts in immigration control process and attended to the needs of officials concerned.

Education Ministry calls for school sanitation

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Oct—The Ministry of Education drafts Education Calendar for educational development of entire basic education schools in each academic year as the ministry is doubling its efforts to improve basic education standard.

According to the Education Calendar for 2011-2012 academic year, 29 October (Saturday) is School Sanitation Day. The authority concerned has urged all teachers and students of basic education schools to cooperate in five school-sanitation tasks under the leadership of headmasters.

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall

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(23-10-2011)