State will help flood victims, victims are to work even harder than before

President tours Pakokku District

NAV PYI TAW, 26 Oct—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein, accompanied by Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Lt-Gen Hla Htay Win of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Union Minister for Industry-1 and for Industry-2 U Soe Thein, Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung, Union Minister for Rail Transportation U Aung Min, Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint, Union Minister for Electric Power No. 1 U Zaw Min, Union Minister for Labour and for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Aung Kyi, Union Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Thein Tun, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Khin Zaw, Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyu, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint and officials yesterday morning left here by special Tatmadaw aircraft and arrived at Pakokku Airport in Pakokku District, Magway Region, at 10 am.

The President and party were welcomed by Chief Minister of Magway Region U Phone Maw Shwe, Commander of North-West Command Maj.-Gen Soe Lwin, Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin, Deputy Minister for SWRR U Phone Swe and region ministers.

They went to Pakokku Station and then proceeded to Shwe Creek rail bridge by special train. Union Minister U Aung Min reported on repair works for Shwe Creek rail bridge which was damaged in the erosion of the creek in heavy rains. The President gave instructions on systematic tasks to be carried out for durability of the bridge. They viewed condition of Shwe Creek Bridge damaged in erosion of the creek in heavy rain. Union Minister U Khin Maung Myint reported on damaged Shwe Creek Bridge in overflow of Shwe Creek caused by heavy rains, construction of bailey bridge for smooth transport of local people, the chosen site for new RC bridge and its length. After hearing the reports, the President gave instructions on construction as quickly as possible of strong foundation for the bridge and formation of larger bridge span not to block debris in the water.

The President and party viewed construction of temporary Shwechaung Road on a motorcade.

At Tilawkayama Monastery in Pakokku, the President and party attended the ceremony to present relief supplies and cash assistance to flood victims of Pakokku Township through Region Chief Minister U Phone Maw Shwe. Speaking on the occasion, President U Thein Sein said that lives and property were lost in unprecedented overflow of creek in Pakokku District due to heavy rains. Therefore, rehabilitation works are to be carried out for survival of the flood victims.

At present, three steps of tasks are being undertaken for rehabilitation. For the first step, region, district and township level authorities are to carry out emergency rescue and relief works. In the second step, the Vice-President gave encouragement to

(See page 8)

President U Thein Sein presents cash assistance for family of deceased persons and flood victims in Pakokku Township through Region Chief Minister U Phone Maw Shwe.

MNA
**PERSPECTIVES**

**Revitalize Myanmar arts**

Thursday, 27 October, 2011

The final curtain of 18th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions has come down with the award-presentation of the State to brilliant performers in the national-level contest.

Myanmar cultural arts are difficult, profound and subtle. The Myanmar culture has developed with intertwining branches of arts—singing, dancing, song-composing and musical-instrument playing, all of which can also stand as separate branch. Artists have contributed to Myanmar fine arts with their gifted abilities, experiences and creation.

Yearly, the State has been staging performing arts competitions with a view to rejuvenating Myanmar traditional cultural performing arts which has been preserved by artistes of successive periods. Over 2000 contestants participated in this year’s competitions and over 500 awards were presented.

In the singing contests, contestants competed with Myanmar classical songs and folk songs. In the dancing contests, participants showed exquisite skills based on Myanmar traditional choreography. Talented artistes have emerged in musical-instrument-playing contests and song-composing contests, displaying manual and mental dexterity.

Drama contest and marionette contest have also presented audiences both with knowledge and aesthetic. Drama contests could portray physical, intellectual and moral development of youths as the power of the future nation. Ozi, Dobet contests could also depict joyfulness, honest and polite rivalry, and unity.

Myanmar traditional literature, verses, poems and music are still alive till now, deeply-rooted in the hearts of the people. The onus is on senior artistes and artistes of new generation to develop and flourish Myanmar traditional fine arts while preventing it from vanishing with the elapse of time and under the wave of alien culture.

**Ayeawady Region Chief Minister’s trophy U-19 men’s football tourney continues**

YANGON, 26 October—A six-member delegation led by Vice Minister Mr Tian Jin of General Bureau of National Broadcast, Film and TV of the People’s Republic of China arrived here this evening to pay a study visit to Myanmar. Director-General of Myanmar Radio and Television U Thein Aung, Managing Director of Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise U Aung Myo Myint and departmental officials, Cultural Attaché Mr Gao Hua of Chinese Embassy and personnel of CCTV met the delegation at Yangon International Airport.——MNA

**Dy Construction Minister oversees construction works in Dawei District**

NAV PYI TAW, 26 October—Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint together with Taninthayi Region Minister for Transportation Dr Kyaw Hsan and the director-general of the Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development on 22 October inspected sites chosen for construction of offices and staff quarters of Taninthayi Region DHSHD, Road Construction Project Special Group (16).

Next, the deputy minister looked into blueprints for resettlement of villages in Dawei District and Kamayawkwin bridge on Dawei-Launglon road and Yangon-Myeik (Dawei-Yebyu Mahlwetawng) road section. — MNA

**Public Relations, News Reporting and Photography Course (1/2011)**


Assistant Director U Nyunt Shwe of Kachin State IPRD made an opening address and presented K 100,000 plus a certificate of honour to six-distinction winner Ma Yain Nan, daughter of Myitkyina District IPRD Staff Officer U Bala Yarn. The six-day course is being attended by 25 trainees. — MNA

**Appointment of Netherlands Ambassador agreed on**

NAV PYI TAW, 26 October—The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Mr Johannes Andries Boer as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

He was born in Haarlem on 9 January 1950. He got a MA in Cultural Anthropology at the University of Amsterdam. He joined the Foreign Ministry in 1979 and steadily rose through the ranks. After serving as Director of Rural and Urban Development from 1996 to 1998, he was appointed as Deputy Director-General of International Co-operation until 2004. From 2004 to 2009 he served as Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the OECD office in Paris. At present he was appointed as an inspector of Foreign Service. He is married.——MNA

**Director-General of Myanmar Radio and Television U Thein Aung, Managing Director of Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise U Aung Myo Myint and departmental officials welcome a six-member Chinese delegation led by Vice Minister Mr Tian Jin of General Bureau of National Broadcast, Film and TV of PRC Yangon International Airport.——MNA**

**Delegate of Chinese National Broadcast, Film and TV General Bureau visits Myanmar**

NAV PYI TAW, 26 October—A six-member delegation led by Vice Minister Mr Tian Jin of General Bureau of National Broadcast, Film and TV of the People’s Republic of China arrived here this evening to pay a study visit to Myanmar. Director-General of Myanmar Radio and Television U Thein Aung, Managing Director of Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise U Aung Myo Myint and departmental officials, Cultural Attaché Mr Gao Hua of Chinese Embassy and personnel of CCTV met the delegation at Yangon International Airport.——MNA

**Kalinaung Township Administrator U Soe Thein hands over publications donated by Taninthayi Region Government to Village Administrator U Khin Maung Oo at Alynayaung self-reliant Library in Yarphu Village-tract in Kalinaung Township, Taninthayi Region, at the publications donation ceremony held at the library on 25 September 2011.——MNA**
Bangkok floods could last weeks

BANGKOK, 26 Oct—Thailand’s Prime Minister on Wednesday warned of a “worst-case scenario” following master flooding in the city’s second airport. Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra told reporters that the capital’s flood barriers might not be able to hold back a mass of run-off water from the north as the country continued to grapple with its worst flooding in decades.

“But I’m fifty percent confident that the inner zone of Bangkok will not be completely flooded,” she said, apparently toning down her comments from the previous evening when she said central Bangkok flooding was “highly likely.”

The crisis has been plagued by contradictory information from national and local authorities, further confusing the city’s 12 million residents who have been bracing for the onslaught of water for days now. A high tide this weekend is expected to surge up Bangkok’s already swollen Chao Phraya river, and Yingluck said a “worst-case scenario” would see parts of low-lying Bangkok submerged in “more than one metre” (3 feet) of water.

Death toll in Turkey earthquake rises to 459

ANKARA, 26 Oct—The death toll from Sunday’s powerful earthquake in southeast Turkey has risen to 459 and the number of the injured to 1,352, the Turkish Prime Ministry’s Disaster and Emergency Administration (AFAD) said Tuesday. About 3,346 search and rescue personnel were dispatched to the quake-hit Province of Van in southeastern Turkey, said AFAD.

Hundreds of others are believed to be trapped under rubble and rescue work is ongoing, Turkish NTV reported.

Eight NYPD officers arrested in gun trafficking scheme

NEW YORK, 26 Oct—Eight active duty and retired New York police officers were arrested on Tuesday for trafficking guns with an estimated street value of over 1 million US dollars.

“The defendants transported 20 firearms, including three M-16 rifles, one shotgun and 16 handguns, the majority of which had obliterated or altered serial numbers, across state lines from New Jersey to New York,” according to a complaint filed Tuesday in Manhattan federal court.

Additionally, investigators said the accused also tried to transport slot machines, stolen cigarettes, and counterfeit goods across state lines. The assistant director in charge of the FBI’s New York office called the crimes “reprehensible,” noting in a statement that “the public trusts the police not only to enforce the law, but to obey it. These crimes, as alleged in the complaint, do nothing but undermine public trust and confidence in law enforcement.”

The case came amid the campaign advocated by New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg with the central theme of getting guns off the streets of New York City.

Pakistan Taleban releases videos showing kidnapped Swiss couple

MIRANSHAI, 26 Oct—The Pakistani Taleban on Tuesday released two videos showing a Swiss couple who were kidnapped in the Pakistan Province of Balochistan about four months ago, reports said. The couple, who are from the Swiss city of Bern, can be seen holding a newspaper dated 15 September in the two videos, which are in English and Swiss-German. The couple called on the Swiss, US and Pakistani authorities to meet the kidnappers’ demands, the swissinfo news portal reported.

The kidnappers, who have been linked to the Tehrik-i-Taleban Pakistan (TTP) terrorist group, is demanding the US government to release Aafia Siddiqui, a Pakistani scientist who was sentenced to an 86-year prison term in 2010 for the attempted murder of a US citizen who had been interrogating Siddiqui in Afghanistan.

In one of the videos, one of the hostage is heard saying “our lives are at risk” if the demands are not met. The terrorist group is also asking for the release of additional imprisoned Pakistanis.

The Swiss couple have been identified as David Oliver, 31, and Widmar Daniela, 29. According to reports, they were travelling in Pakistan’s Province of Balochistan around four months ago when they were abducted by unidentified gunmen.

Three people punished for spreading rumours online

BEIJING, 26 Oct—Three people, including a website editor, have been punished for spreading rumours online, according to a statement issued by the State Internet Information Office on Tuesday.

A Shanghai resident surnamed Li was held in local police custody for 15 days for posting a falsified personal income tax document from the State Administration of Taxation in August, and misleading the public, the statement said.

A university student in southwest China’s Yunnan Province was detained for posting a fake news item about a sick man who killed eight village heads in Yunnan, it said.

The editor of a leading gateway surnamed Pei received a warning from his employer for publishing a microblog entry about an air force fighter crash without confirming the source and facts, the statement said.
**Groupon seeks valuation 5 times 2012 sales**

NEW YORK, 26 Oct—Groupon Inc is seeking an initial public offering valuation of about five times its projected 2012 sales, a source familiar with the situation said on Tuesday. The offering would value Groupon at 11 times estimated 2013 earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) of just under $1 billion, the source said.

On Friday, Groupon unveiled plans to raise as much as $540 million in an initial public offering, less than previously planned, as it grapples with a weak market, executive departures and questions about its accounting and business model.

The daily deals website aims to sell 30 million shares, or less than 5 percent of the company, at between $16 and $18 each, according to a regulatory filing on Friday. Earlier this month, the Chicago-based company reported third-quarter net revenue of $430.2 million. The company, which competes with Google Inc and Amazon.com Inc, declined to comment.

**Drinking more fluids could lower men’s bladder cancer risk**

**BOSTON, 26 Oct**—Men who drink plenty of low-sugar fluids may reduce their risk for bladder cancer, new research suggests.

Although the reason for the association between fluid intake and protection against cancer remains unknown, researchers theorize the fluids may flush out potential cancer-causing agents before they have a chance to cause any damage.

In conducting the study, Jiachen Zhou, a doctoral candidate in epidemiology at Brown University, and colleagues evaluated the fluid intake of nearly 48,000 men who were part of a long-term study. The men, who were aged 40 to 75 when they enrolled in the study in 1986, answered a questionnaire about their fluid intake every four years for more than two decades.

The investigators found that the men with a high daily fluid intake, or those who drank more than 10 cups (2,531 milliliters) per day, had a 24 percent reduced risk for bladder cancer. The study authors concluded that doctors should tell their patients to drink plenty of low-sugar fluids.

Although this link between fluid intake and bladder cancer risk was discovered 10 years ago, the association, the study found, was stronger among younger men.

This could be due to the fact that the men drank less as they aged, particularly water, the researchers pointed out in a news release from the American Association for Cancer Research.

**Nintendo H1 recurring loss seen at $1.32 billion**

**TOKYO, 26 Oct**—Nintendo Co is expected to post a recurring loss of about 100 billion yen ($1.32 billion) in the first half ending on 30 September, much worse than the 55 billion loss the company showed in the first half ending on 30 September 2010.

Oil inventories rose 2.7 million barrels last week while analysts surveyed by Platts, the energy information arm of McGraw-Hill Cos, had predicted an increase of 200,000 barrels. Inventories of gasoline added 153,000 barrels last week while distillates dropped 1.8 million barrels, the API said.

The Energy Department’s Energy Information Administration reports its weekly supply data later Wednesday.

Oil has soared 24 percent from $75 three weeks ago amid growing demand and a squeeze in the US oil market. Brent crude increased Tuesday to $93.17 in New York, its highest price since April 2008.

**Sleepy teens more prone to weight gain**

**HOUSTON, 26 Oct**—Teens who don’t get enough sleep may find themselves putting on extra pounds and boys, in particular, may be at risk for obesity, new research suggests.

In the study, researchers surveyed 108 male and 147 female students at a Texas high school and found that the average sleep time on weekdays was 6 hours 32 minutes for males and 6 hours 30 minutes for females. The average sleep time on weekends was 9 hours 10 minutes for males and 9 hours 22 minutes for females.

Average body mass index (or BMI, a measurement that takes into account height and weight) was 3.8 percent higher for males who slept 7 hours or less on weekdays than for those who slept more than 7 hours, and 4.7 percent higher for females who slept 7 hours or less on weekdays than for those who slept more than 7 hours, the investigators found.

The researchers also noted that getting less than 8 hours sleep per night was associated with obesity in male teens, with the fewest hours of weekday sleep associated with the highest BMI. But the study didn’t find a link between obesity and weekend sleep hours in teenage girls.

**Oil hovers above $93 amid US crude supply gain**

**SINGAPORE, 26 Oct**—Oil prices hovered above $93 a barrel Wednesday in Asia after a report showed US crude supplies grew more than expected last week, suggesting demand remains sluggish.

Benchmark crude for December delivery was up 16 cents at $93.33 a barrel at midday Singapore time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract rose $1.90, or 2.1 percent, to settle at $93.17 in New York on Tuesday.

Brent crude was up 31 cents at $111.23 a barrel on the ICE Futures Exchange in London.

The American Petroleum Institute said late Tuesday that crude inventories rose 2.7 million barrels last week while analysts surveyed by Platts, the energy information arm of McGraw-Hill Cos, had predicted an increase of 200,000 barrels.

**Health Tip: Clean dentures well**

Dentures, just as with natural teeth, require care and regular cleaning to help maintain a healthy mouth.

The American Dental Association suggests how to care for dentures:

* Remember that dentures are fragile; hold them over something soft such as a folded towel while cleaning them.
* Thoroughly brush dentures daily using a denture brush or soft-bristled toothbrush to remove food particles and plaque.
* Clean dentures with a gentle hand soap or mild dish detergent but never with bleach or an abrasive powdered cleaner.
* Store dentures in water or a dental cleaning solution in a safe place, out of reach of kids and pets.
Spammers create and launch URL shortening services to hide links

WASHINGTON, 26 Oct—According to new information from Symantec, a group of spammers have created a group of 87 spam-friendly, public URL shortening services and are actively using them to circumvent spam filters on popular sites. Using URL shortening scripts that are free and open source, the spammers are churning spam through the service and the public is also free to create links through the URL shorteners, perhaps an attempt to pass off the links as legitimate. All the URL shorteners are using the .info domain and are being operated through contacts in Moscow as well as a hosting company in the United Kingdom.

The links have primarily been appearing in emails with the header titles “It’s a long time since I saw you last!” and “It’s a good thing you came!” Once the spammed email arrives, the user is whisked off to a site like “Pharmacy Express” that promotes the sale of pharmaceutical products. This new tactic by the group of spammers is likely a response to vast improvements in spam detection from popular URL shortening sites.

In the month of October, approximately 0.5 percent of all spam emails used legitimate URL shorteners to hide links with spikes of two to three percent on specific days during the month.

Also included in the report from Symantec, approximately 74 percent of email sent in October 2011 was spam. One out of every 343 emails were identified as phishing attempts and one out of every 235 emails contained some form of malware. Over 3,000 sites were blocked each day by Symantec, but that’s approximately a four percent decrease compared to September 2011. The United States contained the largest number of spammers in the world at about 34 percent of all spammers. Pharmaceutical spam was at the top of the list for the most common type of spam with casino and gambling emails in second and jewelry spam in third.—Internet

New map shows US geothermal resources

DALLAS, 26 Oct—Researchers say US geothermal resources are capable of producing more than 3 million megawatts of power, 10 times that of today’s coal-fired power plants. A study by Southern Methodist University’s Geothermal Laboratory, funded by a grant from Google.org, suggests the country possesses vast reserves of this green energy source generated from the Earth’s heat that are realistically accessible using current technology, an SMU release said Tuesday.

While conventional US geothermal power production has been restricted largely to the western third of the country in geographically unique and tectonically active locations, the new mapping effort has identified significant areas in the eastern two-thirds of the United States, the researchers said. “This assessment of geothermal potential will only improve with time,” SMU geophysicist Professor David Blackwell said. “Our study assumes that we tap only a small fraction of the available stored heat in the Earth’s crust, and our capabilities to capture that heat are expected to grow substantially as we improve upon the energy conversion and ex-plotation factors through technological advances and improved techniques.” The map can be viewed via Google Earth at www.google.org/eggs.—Internet

RIM delays PlayBook OS 2.0 update until next year

NEW YORK, 26 Oct—Given all the other hassles Research In Motion has been experiencing recently, this is news you can bet the company really did not want to have to give – but it’s given it nevertheless. The BlackBerry PlayBook OS 2.0 update will be delayed.

In an entry on the company’s BlackBerry blog posted on Tuesday, senior vice president David J Smith said the Ontario-based company had “made the difficult decision to wait to launch BlackBerry PlayBook OS 2.0 until we are confident we have fully met the expectations of our developers, enterprise customers and end-users.”

For so exactly how long will PlayBook owners be left tapping their fingers? Smith’s answer will please no one: “We expect to deliver the new BlackBerry PlayBook OS to customers in February 2012.”

But worse than that, the blog post says the long-awaited BlackBerry Messenger (BBM) app won’t be included in the update, leaving PlayBook owners having to continue using Bridge with a BlackBerry phone to get it on the tablet – the same goes for email. Calendar and contact apps are also wrapped up in the delay – features which PlayBook owners have been expecting since the tablet was launched in April.

With Amazon’s $89 Kindle Fire about to hit the shelves, it’s hard to believe consumers on the hunt for a tablet will opt for the PlayBook. Several outlets, such as Best Buy, recently cut the cost of all versions of RIM’s PlayBook, with the entry level 16GB device being reduced by $200 to $299.—Internet

Crop scientists now fret about heat not just water

CHICAGO, 26 Oct—Crop scientists in the United States, the world’s largest food exporter, are pondering an odd question: could the danger of global warming really be the heat? For years, as scientists have assembl ed data on climate change and pointed with concern at melting glaciers and other visible changes in the life-giving water cycle, the impact on seasonal rains and irrigation has worried crop watchers most. What would breadbasket like the US Midwest, the Central Asian steppe, the north China Plain or Argentine and Brazilian crop lands be like without normal rains or water tables? Those were seen as longer-term issues of climate change. But scientists now wonder if a more immediate issue is an unusual rise in daytime and, especially, night-time summer temperatures being seen in crop belts around the world.

Interviews with crop researchers at American universities paint the same picture: high temperatures have already shrunk output of many crops and vegetables. “We don’t grow tomatoes in the deep South in the summer. Pollution fails,” said Ken Boote, a crop scientist with the University of Florida.

“The same goes for snap beans which can no longer be grown in Florida during the summer, he added. “As temperatures rise we are going to have trouble maintaining the yields of crops that we already have,” said Gerald Nelson, an economist with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) who is leading a global project initially funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to identify new crop varieties adapted to climate change.—Reuters

Haze from forest fires engulfs La Paz, City, on 23 August, 2010.—INTERNET
Five new members elected to UN Security Council

UNITED NATIONS, 26 Oct—The UN General Assembly on Monday elected Azerbaijan to a two-year term on the UN Security Council, making it join Pakistan, Morocco, Guatemala and Togo as the five new non-permanent members of the most powerful UN body. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, president of the UN General Assembly, announced the outcome of the election at the end of the 17th round of voting, which started on Friday.

“I congratulate the states which have been elected to the Security Council,” Al-Nasser said. The new council members will serve from 1 Jan, 2012 to 21 Dec, 2013 to replace the five outgoing members of the Security Council—Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Gabon, Lebanon, and Nigeria, whose term of office expires on 31 Dec, 2011.

10 killed in bus overturn in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 26 Oct—At least ten people died and 16 others were injured on Monday near the capital city when a bus they were on board overturned in a ravine, police said.

A total of ten bodies — three women and seven men — were recovered, including a minor, and the injured were taken to nearby hospitals with some in critical conditions, according to police.

The accident happened at 07:45 local time (1245 GMT) in the municipality of Huixquilucan, in the outskirts of Mexico City, where the bus plunged into a 15-metre-deep ravine. Initial police investigations showed that speeding caused the bus driver, 38-year-old Bonifacio Santiago, to lose control of the bus before it fell into the ravine. Santiago, also injured, is receiving treatment in hospital under police monitoring.

Tow teenagers in custody after high school shooting in North Carolina

WASHINGTON, 26 Oct—Two teens were taken into custody after a girl was shot and seriously wounded Monday in a high school shooting in the southeastern state of North Carolina, local media reported.

Caitlyn Abercrombie, 15, was shot in the neck at Cape Fear High School in the city of Fayetteville during lunch time. She was sent to a nearby hospital and was in stable condition following surgery, local news outlet WRAL said.

Two suspects, both students of the high school, were identified after police reviewed surveillance tapes inside the school. They were interviewed by investigators Monday night, but had not been formally charged.

Cumberland County Sheriff Earl “Moose” Butler said he was confident that both students were involved and that they would definitely be charged once investigators finished interviewing them, according to the report.

Butler added that they did not know why the shooting happened, saying the girl might be a “random victim.”

A 22-caliber rifle and a shell casing were recovered on the campus. Witnesses said they heard a pop and then saw the injured girl fall to the ground, but no one saw the shooting.

Cape Fear and the neighbouring Mac Williams Middle School were both temporarily locked down, with no students allowed in or out.

The WRAL report said some parents have had concerns about security at the school, with one parent saying their daughter told them about gang fights on school grounds.

Ukrainian makes flying electric car

KIEV, 26 Oct—A Ukrainian student has received a patent for making a flying electric car that can remain airborne for about an hour.

“Eco-Grieg” is a hybrid electric vehicle and helicopter that is cheap to run. It is also “absolutely green”, Alexander Avramenko, a student at the Ukrainian Small Academy of Sciences, told Xinhua.

Almost everyone can drive it as it has automatic transmission and a desk control console, he said.

The inventor said he expected his product could soon go into mass production.

He said his innovation could be used in areas where road transportation is not permitted.

Russia to launch four Glonass satellites next month

MOSCOW, 26 Oct—Russia plans to add four Glonass navigation satellites to its orbital grouping in November.

Three Glonass-M satellites will be launched on 4 November aboard a Proton-M carrier rocket from the Baikonur space centre in Kazakhstan, while the fourth Glonass-M will be delivered to orbit by a Soyuz 2.1b launch vehicle at the end of November from the Plesetsk space centre, RIA Novosti news agency reported today.

WikiLeaks suspends publishing

LONDON, 26 Oct—Whistleblowing website WikiLeaks is suspending publishing operations in order to concentrate the group’s resources on fighting a “blockade” by credit card companies, its founder Julian Assange has announced.

Speaking at a Press conference in London Monday, Assange said the banking blockade had eliminated 95 percent of WikiLeaks’ revenues.

“If WikiLeaks does not find a way to remove this blockade we will simply not be able to continue by the turn of the new year,” he said.

Guests pose for a group photo in front of a Boeing 737-900ER demonstrated in Beijing, capital of China, on 24 Oct, 2011. A four-city tour featuring the Boeing 737-900ER, one of Boeing’s newest commercial jet planes, was launched in Beijing on Monday. The next-generation airplane is believed to have inviting market prospects in China, according to Boeing’s prediction.
Servicemen and personnel of Kalay Station assisting flood victims in their homecoming

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Oct—In moving back the flood victims of Kalay Township in Sagaing Region, who were evacuated to Aungmingala Theatre in Kalay during the overflows of the Myitha River due to torrential rains, to their original places, servicemen of Kalay Station, members of Myanmar Police Force and Red Cross Society volunteered to transport the victims to their villages. Officials of Kalay Station assisted flood victims in returning to their homes and provided necessary assistance.—MNA

Service personnel and wellwishers donate relief items for flood victims in Pakokku District

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Oct—Severe floods in Pakokku District caused by torrential rains devastated 7608 households, swept away 2106 households, killed 54 in Myang, Paunk and Seikbyu townships in Pakokku Township. The North-West Command and the Central Command provided 90 bags of rice, 100 viss of oil, 160 blankets, clothes, kitchen utensils, five bags of salt, 28 boxes of noodle packages, 40 boxes of drinking water bottles, four boxes of chlorine tablets, and 100 dozens of note books to Thapantauk, Kyunyn, Lethawa and Kinmonkauk villages with military helicopters yesterday.—MNA

Research and Scholarship Workshop held

YANGON, 26 Oct—Research and Scholarship Workshop jointly organized by Ministry of Education and the EU kicked off at Traders Hotel here this morning. It was attended by Deputy Minister for Education U Ba Shwe, Yangon Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myint Thein, directors-general of ministries related to higher education, chairman of Myanmar Arts and Science Society, researchers and scholars. The deputy education minister gave an opening speech and British Ambassador to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr Andrew Richard Heyn extended greetings. The workshop is aimed at informing educational cooperation programmes to undergraduate in high education field, researchers and scholars and promotion of educational cooperation and exchange of scholars between the EU and Myanmar.—MNA

136,581 square miles of forest thriving across Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Oct—In Southeast Asia, Myanmar is located on a significant land stretching the areas covered with evergreen forests in the temperate area of the northern most snow-capped mountain ranges at an altitude of 1931 feet and covered with mangrove and tropical evergreen forests in the southern most. A study shows 5309 square miles of mangrove forests (4 per cent), 21235 square miles of tropical evergreen forests (15 per cent), 51764 square miles of deciduous forests (38 per cent), 13274 square miles of dry forest (10 per cent), 6367 square miles of Indine forests (5 per cent), 34509 square miles of hilly and temperate evergreen forests (25 per cent), 3853 square miles of bushes (3 per cent), totaling 136,581 square miles (100 per cent) in Myanmar.—MNA

Coverage of forest area in entire nation

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Oct—Based on forest management system, studies on coverage of forests and establishment of forest reserves, protected public forests, sanctuaries are as follows:-

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Sr.</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Forest coverage</th>
<th>forest reserve/protected public forest</th>
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THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Thursday, 27 October, 2011
State will help flood victims, ...

(from page 1)

The victims and supervised gathering of data for the losses. He said that for the third step, he himself arrived there to effectively supervise the work procedures. To do so, he took officials, Union ministers, responsible persons of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation and Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare

ters, responsible persons of Myanmar

to do so, he took officials, Union minis-

effective supervise the work procedures.

At present, he deal with the matters of the authorities concerned to fulfill food, clothing and health needs of the victims. After that, it is necessary to take an adequate time for providing shelter to them and they must fulfill shelter needs of the victims as compulsory task. Plans are to be made to rebuild the schools and provide temporary housings only, and the victims are to improve their housings on their own. The victims are to make long-term plans to be able to stand on their own, without complacency in the life of easy come, easy go.

President U Thein Sein handed over K 4.51 million—K 10,000 each for deceased person and K 10,000 each for 384 household victims of Pakokku Township— to the Region Chief Minister.

Union Minister U Soe Thein donated clothes and household goods worth K 27 million, MWAF edible oil, clothes and K 2.5 million, President of MWAF Daw Thet Thet Zin rice and clothes worth K 7.5 million. Yangon Region Women’s Affairs Organization K 500,000, Magway Region Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee and Region WAO K 2 million and 2023 treated mosquito nets worth K 5,563,800, Union Solidarity and Development Party relief supplies worth K 33.8 million, traders and businessmen, and townsmen/diers Magway Region K 5 million—K 200,000 each for temporary housings, Pakokku Township Chamber of Commerce K 11 million—K 200,000 each for 55 houses, Max Myanmar Co and Aye Nyein Chantha monastery which was damaged by the flash floods.

Aye Nyein Chantha monastery which was damaged by the flash floods.

Aye Nyein Chantha monastery which was damaged by the flash floods.
State will help flood victims, ...

(from page 8)

Next, the President and party left Pakokku by helicopter and arrived in Myaing Township where they spoke words of encouragement and presented cash and kind to flood victims at the town hall.

In his words of encouragement, Union Minister U Thein Tun said the President and Union ministers were there to provide necessary assistance to flood victims not only in Myaing Township but also in Pakokku District. Apart from sending officials concerned, the President himself arrived there to render assistance to flood victims who experienced floods that had never occurred during a 100-year period. Only through collaborative efforts of Union ministers, departmental personnel, responsible persons of social organizations, entrepreneurs, local authorities and townsenders, will livelihoods of flood victims recover as soon as possible.

The Union minister called for more cooperation in making efforts for rehabilitation of flood victims, understanding the government’s goodwill. Arrangements for education of children and temporary shelters for those who lost their homes in the floods are urgently needed. Rehabilitation of flood victims are to be carried out collectively in order to bring them to normal as soon as possible.

Next, cash and kind presentation ceremony followed. The President presented K 760,000—K10000 each for the deceased persons and K 10000 each for 69 household victims—to the Region Chief Minister.

Then, officials received 40 bags of rice donated by the Ministry of Home Affairs, K 5 million and household goods by projects jointly organized by the Ministry of Border Affairs and WFP and UNICEF, 540 bags of rice and five CDMA mobile phones by the family of the Union minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs, staff, relatives and colleagues, clothes and household goods by the Ministry of Industry-1, six kinds of rescue items, cash assistance for rice, C1 sheets and nails by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, 100 dozens of exercise books by the Ministry of Education, K 2 million each by CB Bank, Shwe Thanlwin company, IGE company, IBTC company, Htoo company, Shwetaung company and Kaung Zaw Hein company, 1.5 million by Chanmyaetharyar company, K 1 million each by wellwishers of Hsuwin and Waltaung regions and Myaing Township Association (Yangon) and K 2 million each by Myaing Township Women’s Affairs Organization, Myaing Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association and wellwishers.

Afterwards, the President and party cordially greeted flood victims of Myaing Township and spoke words of encouragement.

The donation to flood victims amounted to K 41,429 million.

The President and party flew over to Pauk Township where they attended cash and kind donation ceremony at Ypyyay BEHS.

In his words of encouragement, Magway Region Chief Minister U Phone Maw Shwe said that floods in Pauk Township destroyed houses, took some lives of animals, destroyed a bridge and a transformer and damaged paddy and crop plantations. Rehabilitation works for recovery of livelihood of flood victims and arrangements for handing over cash assistance of the State and donation of wellwishers to flood victims will be carried out as soon as possible. Measures will be taken for cultivation works to be resumed. Flood victims, for their part, are to take part in rehabilitation works with full capacity while the government is striving for recovery of livelihood of flood victims.

The President presented K 4.01 million—K10000 each for the deceased persons in Pauk Township and K 10 million—K 200,000 each for 50 household victims— to the deceased persons and flood victims in Myaing Township. Today’s donation in cash to the flood victims in Pauk Township amounted to K77.53 million.

Afterwards, the President and party flew to Seikpyu by helicopter and presented relief aids and cash assistance to flood victims at Taungywama Basic Education Post- Primary School in Seikpyu Township.

(See page 10)
State will help flood victims,...

At the ceremony, the Chief Minister of Magway Region comforted the victims saying that the President was there to comfort the victims and to assist in the relief efforts, therefore, people were to coordinate with the officials concerned to be able to carry out rehabilitation efforts effectively, he said. He continued to say that it was important to practice right ways to be able to supply the donation of the government, private and non-governmental organizations to the hands of the flood victims. Under the arrangements of the President, the helicopters dropped foods and clothes to some villages of Seikpyu and Paung townships which were not accessible temporarily, he added. The Tatmadaw men would also make development and rehabilitation efforts in the flood-hit villages, and regarding the loss and damage of crops, assistance would be rendered as soon as possible to farmers to grow cold season crops, he said.

A responsible person of CB Bank presents cash donation to flood victims in Myaing Township.—MNA

Bago Region Chief Minister receives Chinese entrepreneurs

Yangon, 26 Oct—Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win received Chinese entrepreneurs led by Vice-Chairman Mr. Wang Laisheng of Henan Province Economic Chamber of Commerce of China at the office of Bago Region Government yesterday afternoon. They discussed matters related to agriculture, industries and investment in the region.

MMCWA gives educative talks, donates cash in Sittway

MMCWA President Dr Mon Mon Aung spoke on the occasion and presented K 20 million for maternal and child care services in Rakhine State. MMCWA President Dr Mon Mon Aung attended the seeds festival and photo show of Myanmar Forestry Week to mark International Year of Forest 2001 at Kanthaya Nursery in Pathein on 21 October. The chief minister then visited No. 3 Basic Education High School in Pathein and presented cash assistance to the school. The chief minister attended the coordination meeting on rural development and poverty alleviation at Ayeawady Region Government Office and attended to the needs...

The futurist: The sustainable Spaceport America

WASHINGTON, 26 Oct—Spaceport America, the first commercial space terminal in the world, is nearly complete, making significant strides in both space travel and sustainable design. A dedication ceremony was held in New Mexico on 17 October. The site, which is entirely owned and paid for by taxpayers and the state of New Mexico, will also be constructed by the Ministry of Construction in this morning and inspected progress of Pakokku in a motorcade. They arrived back Nay Pyi Taw on 9.30 am by Tatmadaw flight. MNA

A responsible person of CB Bank presents cash donation to flood victims in Myaing Township.—MNA

earth and was built to preserve the viewed from the west, where the structure stands in front of the Camino Real historic trail.

Many sustainable and energy-saving elements were designed for the spaceport. The heating and cooling systems use air that has been earth-tempered — drawn into a large tube and passed through the ground, which has a consistent temperature that is cool in the summer and warm in the winter. Though the proposed solar panels were eliminated, the roof of the circular building cantilevers out to shade the east wall of glass.

In addition, the hangers are naturally lit with skylights and large windows. “I was there recently,” said David Hassard, the owner of SMPC Architects, “and I was pleased to see that there was very adequate day lighting without the lights being turned on.”—Internet

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Spinal cord injuries up heart disease risk

WASHINGTON, 26 Oct—Spinal cord injury patients could be at a higher risk of heart disease, a new research has suggested. Damage to the autonomic nervous system is a key predictor of cardiovascular risk, said researcher Rianne Ravensbergen. Heart disease after a SCI is the leading cause of morbidity and mortality in this population. It is well known that regular exercise is beneficial for cardiovascular health.

In people with autonomic dysfunction due to SCI, they may remain at high risk of cardiovascular disease, even if they maintain a healthy lifestyle and exercise regularly, according to Ravensbergen.

“This specific group we should also be looking at whether they have autonomic dysfunction, because this causes a higher risk for heart disease,” she said. The autonomic system controls functions of the body that are automatic, or involuntary – such as activities of the bladder, bowel, gastrointestinal tract, liver, heart, and blood vessels. After SCI the autonomic nerves in the spinal cord can be damaged, leading to widespread abnormalities in autonomic function, and, of particular relevance to Ravensbergen’s work, abnormal control of the heart and blood vessels. In her study, Ravensbergen assessed 20 people with spinal cord injury and 14 able-bodied controls to determine their risk for cardiovascular disease, including measurements for glucose tolerance, body mass index (BMI), body fat and abdominal fat. Those with SCI had decreased glucose tolerance and increased total and abdominal fat. Ravensbergen then divided the SCI group into two subgroups: people with autonomic dysfunction and those without. While both groups had high cholesterol, she was surprised to find that those with autonomic dysfunction had problems with blood sugar. “These people are in a pre-diabetic state, which elevates their risk for heart disease,” she says.—Internet

Japanese nurse sentenced to death in Malaysia for drug trafficking

KUALA LUMPUR, 26 Oct—A Japanese nurse was sentenced to death by hanging in Malaysia on Tuesday for drug trafficking. 36-year-old Mariko Takechi the first Japanese national to be convicted of drug trafficking charge and first sentenced to death, was arrested at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport on 31 October, 2009 for carrying 3.5 kilogrammes of Methamphetamine from Dubai. The high court judge in delivering the verdict rejected Takechi’s testimony that the luggage in which the drugs were found wasn't hers and that she had delivered the luggage from Dubai as a favour for an Iranian acquaintance she met there.

Prosecutor said Takechi could have noted “how heavy the bag was although she could not see the drugs from the outside,” considering the drugs weighed more than three kilogrammes.

“Takeuchi said she took the bag from a friend but she didn’t name him, so according to the judge, her story was suspicious and that was one of the grounds for her to impose the sentence,” Takeuchi’s lawyer Mohamad Rafik Rahem said. “We have actually tried our best as we created a lot of loopholes to the prosecution’s case, unfortunately the judge didn’t want to buy it,” he added.

Perfect drug combos to combat severe diseases come closer to reality

LONDON, 26 Oct—Researchers have found a way of identifying ideal drug combinations, which could help prevent inflammation. These findings could be the first step in the development of new drug combinations to combat severe diseases and conditions.

The multidisciplinary team of researchers, led by Professor Douglas Kell, Professor of Bioanalytical Science at The University of Manchester, developed an evolutionary computer programme, which rapidly sifted through nine billion different combinations of potential drugs.

Sorting and testing 50 drug combinations at a time using robotics in the laboratory, the scientists were able to find effective combinations and then refine them as many times as necessary to find ideal combinations.

Ultimately, they hope this will lead to the development of tailored therapies for treating inflammation.

“Most diseases have complex causes. This makes their analysis a problem of systems biology, and to find novel therapies multiple targets need to be attacked at once,” Professor Kell, who is also Chief Executive of the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, said. “We have devised a strategy, based on Darwinian evolution, to make this considerably easier. Although our immediate interest is inflammation and conditions such as stroke, our approach is universal and is thus applicable to all complex diseases.” Another advantage of choosing ideal drug combinations is that it allows patients to take smaller doses, which reduces potential toxicity concerns. —Internet

Photo taken on 24 Oct, 2011 shows the main hall of the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow, capital of Russia. Bolshoi Theatre, Moscow’s historic theatre, is set to reopen with a gala performance on Friday after six years of closure for renovation.—XINHUA

Use of ‘poisonous’ bath salts as new recreational drugs ‘skyrocketing’

WASHINGTON, 26 Oct—Bath salts, which are considered unsafe for human consumption, are increasingly being used as recreational drugs, US researchers say.

Despite being warned “not for human consumption” in packages, calls for bath salt poisoning incidents have skyrocketed, with 1,782 since January 2011 compared with 302 in all of 2010, said the American Association of Poison Control Centers. The inexpensive powdery substances with benign names contain stimulants not detectable through drug screens.

However, they can produce a “high” along with increased blood pressure, increased heart rate, agitation, hallucinations, extreme paranoia, and delusions, as experienced by the Oklahoma patient. Treatment for ingesting these bath salts is sedation until the side effects wear off, along with supportive care.—Internet

Japanese nurse sentenced to death in Malaysia for drug trafficking

Xinhua

Visitng Chinese Vice Premier Li Keqiang (2nd L) lays a wreath at the Friendship Tower, paying tribute to Chinese soldiers killed in the Korean War, in Pyongyang, capital of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK), on 24 Oct, 2011.—XINHUA

Bomblings in Thai south kill two, wound dozens

PATTANI, 26 Oct—Thailand’s military says a dozen coordinated bomb attacks in the country’s militancy-plagued south have killed at least two people and injured dozens.

The military’s Internal Security Operations Command says suspected militants detonated bombs at 12 spots across the southern town of Yala, including a school, shops and hotels. The explosions caused power outages. —Internet

Police gave during a funeral of their comrade, killed in an attack by militants, in Baghdad on 24 October, 2011. Bombers and gunmen targeting Iraqi traffic police across Baghdad killed at least five people, including two policemen, and wounded around 30 people on Monday, police said. —INTERNET

Perfect drug combos to combat severe diseases come closer to reality

Xinhua

Several girls from Uyghur ethnic group perform a local dance in Zepu County, northwest China’s Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, on 18 Oct, 2011. Zepu County in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region is an area mostly inhabited by people of Uygur ethnic group. The natural sceneries, traditional customs and life styles there all deliver a strong sense of the Uygur culture.—XINHUA

Photo taken on 24 Oct, 2011 shows the main hall of the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow, capital of Russia. Bolshoi Theatre, Moscow’s historic theatre, is set to reopen with a gala performance on Friday after six years of closure for renovation.—XINHUA
Chinese scientists make breakthrough in leprosy treatment

JINAN, 26 Oct — Chinese scientists have made a breakthrough that could lead to more effective treatments for leprosy. A team from Shandong Provincial Institute of Dermatology and Venereology in east China has identified two new risk variants near IL23R and RAB38 genes that are responsible for the disease, according to a paper published online Monday in the scientific journal Nature Genetics.

Knowing that the two gene variants influence susceptibility to leprosy, doctors could diagnose the disease in sufferers earlier in its course, as well as to develop new treatments. A genetic database could now be built up to predict those people particularly susceptible to leprosy, said Zhang Fenfeng, the leader of the research team.

An office of Alibaba Group Holding Ltd in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province. The company’s 7-inch tablet made its debut at the China Mobile Internet Summit in Hangzhou on Monday. — Xinhua

Steve Jobs bio expected to be Amazon’s best seller

BEIJING, 26 Oct — Steve Jobs, Apple’s co-founder and former CEO, may be one of the great men who will still be influential after their deaths. The new biography of Steve Jobs is likely to be the top-selling book of 2011 of Amazon.com Inc, an online book retailer, according to Amazon spokeswoman Brittany Turner on Monday. “It could very likely be our top-selling book of the year,” Turner said in a statement cited by the Reuters. Steve Jobs, written by Walter Isaacson, former Time magazine managing editor, was landed on shelves in bookstores Monday.

But its digital version was reported to be released late on Sunday on Apple’s iBooks online store and Amazon’s Kindle ebook store. Since its release, the biography, both electronic and physical versions, has performed very well in Amazon.—Internet

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Quake hits Izu Islands, Japan

Tokyo, 26 Oct—An earthquake measuring 5.3 on the Richter scale jolted Izu Islands, Japan Region at 19:34:12 GMT on Tuesday, the US Geological Survey said. The epicentre, with a depth of 10.20 km, was initially determined to be at 32.0549 degrees north latitude and 138.3387 degrees east longitude.

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Residents in Shenyang, capital of Northeast China’s Liaoning Province, look at templates of the second generation ID card during their visit to the provincial public security department on 23 March. — Xinhua

ID cards may carry fingerprint data

BEIJING, 26 Oct — Lawmakers reviewed a proposed amendment on Monday that would allow fingerprint data on resident identity cards. A draft amendment of the Resident Identity Cards Law requires fingerprint data to safeguard public security and make the cards harder to forge.

Fingerprinters would make it easier to identify the cardholder and allow the card to be used across a range of areas, including banking, education, transport and medical, Yang Huaxiang, vice-minister of public security, said on Monday while explaining the draft to the National People’s Congress Standing Committee. Each citizen above the age of 16 is required to carry an identity card and the Ministry of Public Security is responsible for the cards.

China started to issue the second-generation ID cards, which use digital anti-forgery technology, in 2004 and by the end of last year, 1.04 billion people had got new cards, according to figures from the Ministry of Public Security. The first generation ID cards, which are still valid, will become obsolete on 1 Jan, 2013, according to the draft amendment.—Xinhua

Blind dog and her seeing-eye dog looking for a home

LONDON, 26 Oct — An animal shelter has been inundated with offers of help after it requested a home for a pair of Great Danes, one of which is blind, and totally dependent on the other. Louise Campbell, the manager of Dogs Trust Shrewsbury, said Monday evening that more than 200 people have responded to the call for help and possibly a new home since the shelter — This undated photo made available by Dogs Trust, UK shows Lily the Great Dane, left, and Maddison, her best friend and guide dog at the Shrewsbury Dogs Trust care, in Telford, England.—Internet

A blind dog and her seeing-eye dog looking for a home.

The epicentre was initially determined to be at 15.0351 degrees south latitude and 167.3081 degrees east longitude.

Quake hits Vanuatu

VANUATU, 26 Oct — An earthquake measuring 5.2 on the Richter scale jolted Vanuatu at 19:34:20 GMT on Tuesday, the US Geological Survey said. The epicentre, with a depth of 10.20 km, was initially determined to be at 32.0549 degrees north latitude and 138.3387 degrees east longitude.

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Robin Williams marries for the third time

Actor Robin Williams has married graphic designer Susan Schneider in a private ceremony, his representative said.

The 60-year-old actor tied the knot with Schneider on Sunday at the luxurious Meadowood Resort in California’s Napa Valley.

The guest list included Steven Spielberg, George Lucas and Billy Crystal. Robin’s actress daughter Zelda, 22, took to her Twitter page to reveal the details of the wedding.

She wrote: “Let the wedding madness begin! Dad just called to tell me he is antibiotics. And we thought their story was an important one for us to tell.”

“I’m a redhead polygamist... The wedding festivities rage on but I’m a redhead polygamist... The wedding festivities rage on but my tired feet are done. Think it’s time to lay in the tub, eat m&m’s and write.”

Williams met the graphic designer shortly before he underwent heart surgery in early 2009 and Susan helped nurse him back to health.

Posh’s designer line rakes in £15m

London, 26 Oct — Victoria Beckham’s clothing range generated sales of more than £15 million in the first three months of this year. The designer, it seems has turned a supposedly small dress line into a global success.

Celebrities from Kate Winslet to singer Cheryl Cole flaunt the 29-year-old designer’s dresses.

“Victoria never dreamed her clothing range would be successful. She is close to eclipsing David!” The Daily Mail quoted a source as saying. It is estimated that her fashion business will exceed all expectations with its sales figures up by 71 percent on last season for the first quarter of 2011. If they continue at the same level, sales at the business, based in London and Los Angeles, could top £60 million pounds this year.

Lea Michele enjoying singlehood

London, 26 Oct — “Glee” actress Lea Michele says she is having a “great time” since splitting from actor boyfriend Theo Stockman but insists she is still on good terms with him.

Michele and Stockman ended their 22-month romance in September.

“I’m having a great time. I feel like they say ‘You lose a boyfriend and you gain a best friend’ and that’s really my situation...”

In Napa Valley. Resort in California’s luxurious Meadowood said.

money, his representative designer Susan Schnei-

dition 2012” fashion show in China Fashion Week for Spring/Summer 2012 in Beijing, on 25 Oct. Altogether 44 fashion shows of over 40 designers will be presented in the Fashion week. —Xinhua

He is expecting a baby son away from a career in showbusiness because she grew up feeling “isolated” as a child star.

The 24-year-old, who is expecting a baby boy with husband Mike Comrie next year, was thrust into the spotlight as a 14-year-old with the lead role in Disney TV show “Lizzie McGuire”.

“I don’t think there’s a way to stop it... I think kids know what they want but I just pray to God that’s not what he (my son) wants. From when I started to now, the industry is so different. I mean, there’s such an obsession with people’s private lives that I really don’t think there was before,” contactmusic.com quoted Duff as saying.

“These shows about digging into people’s lives and wanting to embarrass everybody and show that, like, we’re human beings, too. It’s just so invasive, and it’s just a different business than it used to be,” she added. —Internet

Robber waited in line at Starbucks

San Diegopolice said a patient robber waited in line at a Starbucks before telling a clerk he was robbing the store.

Police said the man, described as white and between 35 and 40 years old, was wearing all black with a bandanna over his face Sunday morning when he entered the Starbucks at Garnet Avenue and Gresham Street and waited in line until he reached a clerk.

The San Diego Union-Tribune reported Monday. Investigators said the man did not display a weapon when he told the clerk he was robbing the store and demanded money. The man fled in a full-size pickup with an undisclosed amount of cash, police said.

Items stolen by Ivanko, which she claimed to be cursed included minks coats. —INTERNET

“Ivanko, as she called herself, told people their future and was interested in any valuable things they had on them,” police said.

“She then would announce that exactly those belongings carried a curse and took them away for ‘curse removal.’”

Authorities said the woman fled to Moscow, where she was arrested and the stolen items were recovered. The woman is currently back in Tomsk awaiting trial, police said.

The valuables she is accused of stealing include mink coats, cellphones, a laptop computer, gold jewelry and high-end boots.

Thief claimed items were cursed

Russian authorities said they have arrested a woman accused of stealing valuables under the guise of removing curses from the objects.

Police in Tomsk, in western Siberia, said the Ukrainian woman, whose name was not released, claimed to be a fortune-teller, faith healer and curse remover, RIA Novosti reported.

Calif zoo gets four rescued tigers

Officials at a California zoo said they changed their plans to take only one rescued tiger when they met all four of the sisters.

Erica Calcagno, a zookeeper with the Oakland Zoo, said officials had planned to bring only one tiger home from a trip to the Gladys Porter Zoo in Brownsville, Texas, but they decided to take all four felines after seeing them together at the Texas zoo, where they were taken after being rescued from a roadside attraction, the San Francisco Chronicle reported Wednesday.

“There’s no way we could take just one,” Calcagno said. “They’re gorgeous. Even when they’re sleeping they’re gorgeous. And we thought their story was an important one for us to tell.”

The zoo said the 6-year-old tigers, named Molly, Milou, Ginger and Grace, will go on display alongside the zoo’s 12-year-old female tiger, Torako, at the facility.
Moyes hopeful over Fellaini deal

Gerrard wants Champions League return

Van der Vaart hails ‘amazing’ defence

Record breaker Xavi gives Barcelona 1-0 win in Malaga

Golf-The weather headache for PGA Tour organizers

Muster’s comeback ends with loss in Vienna

Coyle wants Bolton to shine
Stosur brought back to earth by Azarenka

ISTANBUL, 26 Oct—Samantha Stosur came crashing back to earth on Wednesday when Australian was crushed in her second match at the WTA Championships by a fired-up Victoria Azarenka.

Less than 24 hours after recording a first victory in 10 attempts over Maria Sharapova to open her White Group campaign, Stosur failed to trouble Azarenka, losing 6-2 6-2 to the Belarusian in the Sinan Erdem Arena.

Azarenka, who did not play on Tuesday, looked far fresher than the US Open champion, keeping the 27-year-old on the back foot with searing groundstrokes, most of which were accompanied by her trademark whine.

Stosur’s heavy topspin and slice had little effect on the bright green and purple indoor court and she never looked like breaking a second jinx, slipping to a fifth loss in five against world number one Caroline Wozniacki taking on Vera Zvonareva in Red Group.

Victory for Wozniacki and defeat for Sharapova would confirm the 21-year-old Dane as the year-end number one for the second consecutive season.
Union I&P Minister inspects issuance of household registration lists and citizenship scrutiny cards

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Oct — Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi accompanied by officials inspected process of issuing household registration lists and citizenship scrutiny cards to local people and students who attained the age of 10 by staff of Immigration and National Registration Department in line with the rules relaxation system under the special programme at Basic Education Post Primary School in Phayalay Village in Bago Township of Bago Region on 23 October.

In meeting with those present, the Union Minister elaborated plans to be used in solving work difficulties and stressed the need for officials to maintain and use household registration lists and citizenship scrutiny cards systematically and not to re-write on it of their own accord as they are record of individuals.

Afterwards, Union Minister U Khin Yi answered queries raised by local people. And the Union Minister then fulfilled the requirements after making coordination with officials concerned and cordially greeted local people.

MNA

Union Immigration and Population Minister U Khin Yi views issuance of household registration lists and citizenship scrutiny cards in Phayalay Village of Bago Township.—MNA

Union EP-2 Minister inspects construction site of Myaukpyin main power station (branch) in Mandalay District

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Oct — Union Minister for Electric Power No. 2 U Khin Maung Soe arrived at the construction site of 230 KV Myaukpyin main power station (branch) in Mandalay District on 24 October. At the briefing hall of the station, project managers in Mandalay District reported to the Union minister on progress of construction of civil works, switchyard which is under construction and arrival of machines, progress of installation of two 230/33/11 KV 100 MVA transformers and ongoing tasks. The project director and the chief engineer made supplementary reports. After hearing reports on progress of installation of 33 KV power lines and better electricity supply for Mandalay Region upon completion of Myaukpyin main power station (branch), Union Minister U Khin Maung Soe looked into the battery room, switch gear room, control room and switch yard.

MNA

Deputy Information Minister attends China-ASEAN Book Fair and Publishing Expo

Delegation of Chinese National Broadcast, Film and TV General Bureau visits Myanmar

Gerrard wants Champions League return

China plans space lab docking

“Hto” festival held in Haka

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Oct — Chin traditional “Hto” festival was overwhelmingly held in City Hall of Haka on 20 October. Chin State Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Zaw Min Oo attended the festival.

The Chin traditional New Year festival, annually held in Thadingyut after the harvest time, is the noblest among festivals of Chin nationals portraying the unity.

Outstanding students were awarded and youths performed traditional dances.—MNA

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (26-10-2011)

Nay Pyi Taw (Yezin) (0.63) inch
Kawthoung (1.09) inches
PyinOoLwin (0.48) inch
Okpo (0.43) inch