Micro credit schemes to be launched in four townships in Monywa District

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan addresses coordination meeting on rural development and poverty alleviation

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Nov — As part of efforts for implementing the eight tasks for rural development and poverty alleviation, the government would set up micro credit schemes in villages in Pale, Yinmabin, Salingyi and Kani townships on the west bank of the Chindwin River in Monywa District, Sagaing Region.

At the coordination meeting on rural development and poverty alleviation at the Pale Yadana Hall in Pale Township yesterday, Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan clarified the plan for the schemes and a total of K 250 million to be injected into the first phase of the schemes — K 100 million will be allotted to the schemes in Pale Township and K 50 million each to Yinmabin, Salingyi and Kani townships. The schemes would kick off as from December.

The establishment of the micro credit schemes is aimed at providing capital to rural people and flourishing micro credit schemes in rural areas and encouraging the schemes to become non-profit business, he said.

He continued that the public active participation is also invited to much enlarge micro credit scheme.

The work coordination meeting was also attended by Deputy Speaker of Sagaing Region Hluttaw U Thaung Sein, Region Social Affairs Minister Dr Myint Thein, Region Hluttaw representatives, district and township level departmental officials, townelders, responsible persons of Yinmabin, Salingyi and Kani townships, administrators of the wards and villages in Pale Township, and social organization members.

(See page 8)

Yangon International Airport fetches more than US$ 6 mln till this October

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Nov — Yangon International Airport this year received more 20,000 foreign visitors during ten months than last year. Until this October, the arrival and departure of tourists at the airport numbered 601,755, making more than six million US dollars. The cost of airport extension amounted to just over 50,000 million kyats and 13.29 million US dollars.

The aircrafts from Myanmar Airways carrying over 400,000 passengers this year are commuting to 25 cities.

Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung while his visit at the airport yesterday heard reports on tasks of the Navigation Department, control of safe navigation for over 150,000 annually passing over Myanmar airspace, and prospect of saving 65 million US dollars due to installation of navigation radars.

He then called for keeping on maintaining, nurturing skillful electricians and long standing for Myanmar Airways that can do good to the State in conformity with the motto of Myanmar Airways “Safety, Service, Image” and viewed navigation of aircrafts from RSM 970 S Radar and aircraft simulation at ground base training.
**PERSPECTIVES**

**Monday, 14 November, 2011**

**Much products on margin of least benefit**

Freedom of production, trade and services institutes market-oriented economic system. It also defines a direct relationship between producers and consumer people. The market economic system means that producers sell large number of products to consumers, generating least benefit. Practically, some producers take larger margin for benefit on least number of products. In consequence, the market economic system is still far from greater achievement.

For example, sales of commodity on a narrow margin of benefit raise both supply and demand in the market and contribute towards flourishing of market economic system.

Taking privilege of free trade, goods are to be sold with too much benefit become a barrier on right track of market economic system. In fact, sales of goods at least price on a narrower benefit margin is in conformity with the market economic system. However, any business should not be run at a loss.

As businesses are being operated to have benefit, emphasis is to be placed on seeking benefit at proper level.

Market-oriented economic system is essential for a democratic nation. Success in the market economic system contributes much to flourishing of democracy. Only when the market economic system is flourishing across the nation, will price of commodity be stable.

Accordingly, traders including vendors of vegetables, sellers of foodstuffs and textile and dealers of automobiles and real estates should harmoniously participate in realizing the market economic system by selling goods on a narrower margin of benefit.

**Bomb blasts rock Myitkyina, no casualty**

**NAV PYI TAW, 13 Nov—**A series of bomb blast hit Myitkyina of Kachin State yesterday evening, causing no casualty, despite authorities’ successful clearance of an time bomb.

Acting on a tip-off that an suspicious package was found near a lamppost by Aung San Road in Myitkyina, authorities removed a local-made time bomb set to detonate at 9 pm in a plastic box with a diameter of 3-inch and 2-inch in height filled with TNT gunpowder.

An explosion occurred from a bush 40 feet from Sports and Physical Education Department Office in Thida Ward at 9.55 pm and another one followed at 10.15 pm under a plum tree near Sumprabum road and Sethmu junction. The explosions caused no damage.

**Monsoon paddy produced 141 baskets per acre in Pobbathiri Township**

**NAV PYI TAW, 13 Nov—**Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Khin Maung Soe inspected thriving vegetable and fruit plantations at 500-acre farmer educative vegetable and fruit farmland in Pobbathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area this morning.

He also looked into thriving monsoon paddy at farmer educative farm in Aungthukha Village in Dekhinathiri Township. The managing director of Myanmar Agriculture Service and the director-general of Irrigation Department reported on production of above 200 baskets of paddy per acre through good agriculture pattern and adequate supply of irrigated water to summer paddy fields for successful production.

The Union Minister viewed harvesting of 10-acre Palethwe monsoon paddy plantation with the use of modern combined harvester.

The monsoon paddy was produced 141 baskets per acre.—**MNA**

**Union EP-2 Minister inspects gas turbines in Magway, Bago Regions**

**NAV PYI TAW, 13 Nov—**Union Minister for Electric Power No (2) U Khin Maung Soe inspected the switch yard at Mann gas turbine in Minbu District on 11 November.

Next, the Union minister oversaw maintenance of 18.45 MVA gas turbine.

On his arrival at Bago Region Electrical Engineer’s Office in Pyay yesterday, the Union minister called for unity of service personnel, special attention on minimizing unit loss in respective region, district and township for earning more income of the ministry and more efforts not to cause power failure.

He also looked into control room, switch yard and Region/District/ Township Electrical Engineer’s Office which is under construction. After inspecting supply and distribution of electricity and general installation of 230 KV capacitor bank at Swetawung gas turbine in Swetawung Township of Pyay District, the Union minister visited the office of project manager (3) of Electricity Supply Projects Department (South) where he stressed the need for timely completion of works meeting set standards and systematic measures to be taken for minimizing losses and wastage in workforce and investment. — **MNA**

**Education Ministry holds respect-paying ceremony**

**YANGON, 13 Nov —**Organized by the Ministry of Education, the 8th Respect-Paying Ceremony to mark the World Teachers’ Day 2011 was held at Teta Hall of Basic Education High School No (2) in Kamayut Township, here, this morning, attended by 53 out of 92 old teachers.

First, Director-General U Kyaw Thu of No (1) Basic Education Department explained purpose of organizing the ceremony.

Next, Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyu, the director-general and officials presented gifts to old teachers and paid respects to them.

On behalf of old teachers, Chairman of Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science U Than Do and Sayagi U Myo Kyi spoke on the occasion. — **MNA**
Chinese, US presidents meet in Hawaii on bilateral ties

BY ANTON WELSH FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

HONOLULU, 13 Nov—Chinese President Hu Jintao met his US counterpart Barack Obama in Honolulu, Hawaii, Saturday to discuss Sino-US ties and major world and regional issues.

Hu and Obama were meeting before the Economic Leaders Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) scheduled for Saturday and Sunday in Hawaii.

In a meeting with US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton on Thursday in Honolulu, Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi said the Hu-Obama meeting has great significance for the steady development of China-US relations.

He noted that under the current situation, China is ready to make concerted to build a cooperative partnership based on mutual respect and mutual benefit.

Clinton said President Obama looked forward to his meeting with President Hu.

The US side values its cooperative partnership with China, which is not only in the interests of both sides, but also holds great importance to the world at large, she said.

Earlier this month, Hu and Obama met in the sidelines of a summit in Hawaii, that he was beginning steps to “review Japan’s beef import restrictions and expand market access for US beef,” the White House said in a statement.

It cited Obama as saying members of the Trans-Pacific Partnership must meet “high standards,” and said the president had asked his trade representative to begin consultations with Congress and others about any concerns in the agriculture, services and manufacturing sectors over Japan’s admission to the talks. —Internet

16 killed in two attacks in NW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 13 Nov—At least 16 people were killed and nine others injured in two separate attacks that occurred Sunday morning in Pakistan’s northwest tribal area of Khyber Agency which borders Afghanistan, reported local media.

According to local state-owned television PTV, the first attack came at about 10:20 am local time in the Sipah area of Khyber Agency, in which a mortar shell was fired at a house, killing at least eight people including three children and injuring two others.

Shortly after this, another blast was reported at a market place in the Teerah Valley area of the same agency, which reportedly killed eight local militiamen who are fighting against militants in the area and injured seven other people.

No group has claimed responsibility for the two attacks yet.

Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda—Internet

Three killed, 11 injured in attacks in Iraq’s violence

BAGHDAD, 13 Nov—An Iraqi army officer and two people were killed and eleven injured in separate bomb and gunfire attacks in central Iraq, the police said Sunday.

Lieutenant Colonel Shaheen al-Jubouri was killed when a roadside bomb struck his military vehicle near al-Hajaj village north of the city of Tikrit, the capital of Salahuddin Province, a provincial police source told Xinhua.

The blast also wounded Jubouri’s brother who was with him in the vehicle when the blast occurred, the source said.

Salahuddin Province, located in northern central Iraq, is a mainly Sunni Province. Its capital city of Tikrit, some 170 km north of Baghdad, is the hometown of former President Saddam Hussein.

Late on Saturday, a soldier was killed and another wounded when gunmen attacked their checkpoint in Baghdad’s northern district of Adhamiyah, an Interior Ministry source anonymously told Xinhua.

Also in the night, a civilian was killed and another injured when a sticky bomb attacked their car detonated in Qadissiyah District in western Baghdad, the source said.

On Sunday morning, two roadside bombs went off successively near a government-owned electricity office in the city of Tarmiyah, some 40 km north of Baghdad, wounding five civilians, the source added.

Meanwhile, three policemen were injured in a roadside bomb explosion near their patrol outside the police station in central Tarmiyah, he said.

Three killed, arrested in Afghanistan

KABUL, 13 Nov—Security forces, during operations, killed three militants and captured 46 other suspects over the past 24 hours, Afghan Interior Ministry said on Sunday. “Afghan National Police (ANP), Afghan army and NDS or intelligence agency in collaboration with NATO-led Coalition Forces launched six joint operations in surrounding areas of the Nangarhar, Pakhtika, Ghazni, Kandahar, Uruzgan and Nimroz provinces over the past 24 hours,” the ministry said in a statement.

“As a result of these operations, three armed insurgents were killed, two wounded and 46 others were arrested by ANP,” it said. The ANP also discovered and confiscated three AK-47 guns, a hand grenade, 30kg Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), 2,700 kilograms ammonium nitrate (use for making IEDs), 18 rocket launchers and three heavy weapons, according to the statement.—Xinhua
**The United Nations Secretary-General**  
**Message on World Diabetes Day**  
**on 14 November 2011**

This year’s World Diabetes Day comes at a time of unprecedented international action to confront this and other non-communicable diseases. Just two months ago, the United Nations General Assembly held its first-ever High-level Meeting on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases, producing a strong Political Declaration with time-bound commitments. Among these was a pledge to make it possible for more people to get quality medicines for diagnosing and treating diabetes by the year 2013. The Political Declaration also called on the private sector to do its part, building on Millennium Development Goal 8, which calls for partnerships with pharmaceutical companies to provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries.

We have seen meaningful progress in this direction. One company has introduced a differential pricing scheme to supply generic insulin to the least developed countries, benefiting three dozen States to date. But this facility cannot respond alone. We must bring in other partners. And we must address inefficient distribution systems and the lack of sufficient public funding for medicines.

World Diabetes Day is an opportunity to raise awareness and to show people living with diabetes that the international community stands with them in their struggle. This is especially important for the 277 million people with diabetes who live in developing countries. Too often, the disease hits the poorest especially hard, leading to heart attacks, strokes, blindness, limb amputations, kidney failure and premature death.

I call on Governments and pharmaceutical companies to give real meaning to our commitments by developing joint strategies to make essential medicines more available and affordable in developing countries, especially for the poorest people who need them. Let us all use World Diabetes Day to work so that people with diabetes everywhere get the care and treatment they deserve.—UNICEF/Yangon

---

**Business**

**Sinochem plans $5.5bn China share flotation**

SHANGHAI, 12 Nov—China’s Sinochem plans to raise up to 35bn yuan ($5.5bn, £3.5bn) from a share sale in Shanghai, it said in a statement to China’s Quanzhou, which would make it the biggest in China this year.

The firm would use the money to fund an oil-refining project in Quanzhou, it said in a statement to China’s ministry of environment.

Sinochem is the fourth largest energy company in China. China’s largest hydroelectric dam builder, Sinohydro, raised 13.5bn yuan in a share sale last month. Analysts said Sinochem’s sale may struggle to wet investors’ appetites. “The market may not get very excited about a listing,” said Ao Chao Wang at UOB Kay Hian in Shanghai.—INTERNET

---

**Health**

**Belgium denies massive increase in cigarette sales**

LONDON, 13 Nov—Belgium denied reports Saturday of a massive increase in tobacco sales due to the lure of the country’s cheap cigarettes and tobacco for discount-seeking smokers from Britain and France.

The finance ministry denied a cover story by the daily Le Soir and radio reports that said cigarette sales leapt 19 percent in the first nine months of the year. Citing exclusive data from the finance ministry, Le Soir said sales of roll-your-own tobacco increased 25 percent. It also reported booming business in filling stations near the Franco-Belgian border, where some owners were quoted saying tobacco sales were outpacing sales of petrol. But Claude Monseur, an advisor to Finance Minister Didier Reynders, later told the Belga news agency that sales were expected to show a 12-month fall and that the discrepancy between the paper’s report and the ministry’s data resulted from a change in the way tobacco products were taxed and the timing.

Health experts had complained in the daily that Belgium’s cheap tobacco goods fanned cancer. While a smoking ban in public spaces was widened in July to cover all cafes, the price of cigarettes remains relatively low in comparison with some countries in Europe.—INTERNET

---

**Health**

**A Chinese woman stops at a magazine stand adorned with a poster showing an obese woman proclaiming the positive benefits of ice cream, happiness, in downtown Beijing, China. Chinese doctors warn obesity could become the country’s biggest health threat as more and more people suffer weight problems.—INTERNET**

---

**Health**

**Beijing residents suffer from diabetes**

BEIJING, 13 Nov—Beijing’s Health Bureau says 8.6 percent of the city’s permanent residents between the ages of 18 and 79 suffer from diabetes.

With Monday’s World Diabetes Day approaching, Mao Yu, the deputy chief of the health bureau, said Saturday diabetes has become one of the most serious health threats in Beijing, Xinhua, China’s state-run news agency, reported. Along with confirmed patients, the bureau said 5.1 percent of Beijing residents in the same age group are potential diabetes patients. Diabetes can be caused by inadequate exercise, a poor diet, drinking, smoking and other unhealthy lifestyles, as well as genetics, Mao said. Obesity is the leading cause of diabetes among children and adolescents.

The Health Bureau of Beijing Municipality is giving free diabetes tests as a campaign to raise awareness and promote World Diabetes Day on Monday.—INTERNET

---

**Business**

**Men walk past a sign of Olympus Corp outside the company’s showroom in Tokyo on 10 Nov, 2011. Tokyo’s stock exchange warned scandal-hit Olympus Corp on Thursday it will be delisted after 62 years as a publicly traded company if it fails to report earnings by December 14, deepening concerns about the Japanese camera-maker’s future.—REUTERS**

---

**Business**

**Japan watchdog may seek levy on Olympus**

TOKYO, 13 Nov—Japan’s securities watchdog is considering recommending that a levy be imposed on Olympus Corp for false financial reports in a move that could prevent its delisting, but may seek criminal charges against former executives and others over dubious M&A deals, a source familiar with the case said on Sunday.

Japanese authorities are investigating Olympus after the company admitted last week that it hid investment losses for decades using funds from M&A payments. Media reports have said police, prosecutors and regulators were joining forces in a rare collaborative effort to examine the cover-up.

The Olympus scandal has rekindled concerns about corporate governance in Japan and worries that other firms may have engaged in similar misdeeds, and politicians have begun considering legal revisions to tighten controls.—REUTERS
London student creates arcade game washing machine

Lee Wei Chen has invented a video game washing machine.

INTERNET

LONDON, 13 Nov—A Taiwanese student reading design at Kingston University in London has invented a video game washing machine. Lee Wei Chen’s creation gives players three lives for £3 — enough for any gamer to complete a full wash.

The 27-year-old said he wanted to encourage students to do their own laundry.

‘I realised that the skills I had developed in the virtual world were useless in the real world. I wanted to make them useful,’ he declared.

The unique creation houses a washing machine in its lower half and an arcade console on top.

Commenting on the design, Mr Chen’s course leader Colin Holden said: ‘This is a big and original idea—examining the possibility of transporting the enjoyment and skills of electronic gaming into the more mundane world of practical electronic devices.

‘He’s chosen two instantly recognisable objects—a washing machine and an arcade game—to illustrate this idea. Together the two objects produce a striking new electronic device.

‘It’s an extremely well-executed design concept.’—INTERNET

Using light, researchers convert 2-D patterns into 3-D objects

CHARLOTTE, (North Carolina State) 13 Nov—Researchers from North Carolina State University have developed a simple way to convert two-dimensional patterns into three-dimensional (3-D) objects using only light. “This is a novel application of existing materials, and has potential for rapid, high-volume manufacturing processes or packaging applications,” says Dr Michael Dickey, an assistant professor of chemical and biomolecular engineering at NC State and co-author of a paper describing the research.

The process is remarkably simple. Researchers take a pre-stressed plastic sheet and run it through a conventional inkjet printer to print bold black lines on the material. The material is then cut into a desired pattern and placed under an infrared light, such as a heat lamp.

The bold black lines absorb more energy than the rest of the material, causing the plastic to contract—creating a hinge that folds the sheets into 3-D shapes. This technique can be used to create a variety of objects, such as cubes or pyramids, without ever having to physically touch the material. The technique is compatible with commercial printing techniques, such as screen printing, roll-to-roll printing, and inkjet printing, that are expensive and high-throughput but inherently 2-D.

By varying the width of the black lines, or hinges, researchers are able to change how far each hinge folds. For example, they can create a hinge that folds 90 degrees for a cube, or a hinge that folds 120 degrees for a pyramid. The wider the hinge, the further it folds. Wider hinges also fold faster, because there is more surface area to absorb energy.—INTERNET

Asus unveils Eee Pad Transformer Prime tablet

SAN FRANCISCO, 13 Nov—Asus has unveiled its Eee Pad Transformer Prime tablet, the follow up to the award-winning Transformer which was named Gadget of the Year at the Stuff Awards last week.

The new tablet will be the first to use Nvidia’s Tegra 3 quad-processor and includes a unique mobile dock. Commenting on the new product, Asus’ CEO Jerry Shen said: ‘The combination between the Eee Pad Transformer Prime and Tegra 3 is the perfect fusion to deliver an uncompromising tablet experience. Together, we bring a whole new mobile computing experience to consumers around the world.’

The 8.3mm slim tablet comes with an 8megapixel rear camera with LED flash, a 1.2megapixel front camera and a battery life of up to 18 hours when combined with the dock.

The Transformer Prime will be offered in the UK with 32GB of storage, a micro SD card slot and 3/5mm combo audio jack.

The Asus Eee Pad Transformer Prime is expected to launch early next year with a suggested retail price of £499.—INTERNET

Russia fails to make contact with probe

MOSCOW, 13 Nov—Russian scientists failed to make contact with the Phobos-Grunt Mars moon probe after its engine failed to put it on course for Mars.

“Attempts to make contact were made overnight and this morning by Russian specialists from the European Space Agency. This was done from Baikonour and other tracking areas, but contact was not established,” a man with the Russian space programme told RIA Novosti Saturday.

The man also said Russia is working with US scientists and has until 21 Nov to make contact with the probe.

The probe, blasted off from the Baikonour Space Centre in Kazakhstan Wednesday, is currently in “support orbit.” It was designed to bring back rock and soil samples from Mars’ moon Phobos. The craft is also carrying China’s first Mars satellite, Yinghuo-1.

INTERNET

Yes to adult stem cells, no embryonic

VATICAN CITY, 13 Nov—Pope Benedict XVI has reaffirmed his opposition to embryonic stem cell research, saying it’s morally wrong to destroy an embryo no matter how beneficial the resulting treatment is.

Benedict made the comments Saturday to participants of a Vatican conference on adult stem cells convened under an unusual new partnership between the Vatican’s culture office and a small US biotech firm, NeoStem Inc.

Church teaching holds that life begins at conception. As a result, the Vatican opposes embryonic stem cell research because embryos are destroyed in the process. It supports research using adult stem cells.

Benedict said: “The destruction of even one human life can never be justified in terms of the benefit that it might conceivably bring to another.”—INTERNET

In this image provided by BMW, form left, BMW i3 Concept and BMW i8 Concept are shown. BMW is showing off a pair of new hybrid and electric concept cars expected to reach dealer showrooms in the next few years.

The German automaker gave journalists in New York a sneak peak of its i3 city car and i8 sports car on 9 Nov, 2011. The cars will officially debut at the Los Angeles auto show next week. Both feature carbon fiber construction, which reduces the weight of the vehicle and the size of its frame. It also allows BMW to construct much of the exteriors out of tinted glass instead of metal, giving them a see-through quality.—INTERNET
Three terror suspects arrested in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 13 Nov—Indonesia arrested three men on Saturday over alleged links to a terror group accused of planning an attack on the Singapore embassy in the capital Jakarta, police said.

National police spokesman Saud Usman Nasution said the arrests took place in Tangerang city on the outskirts of Jakarta. One of the suspects was shot in the leg by anti-terror police as he attempted to escape.

“The investigation is still ongoing and we cannot reveal for the time being their involvement in terror,” he said, adding that during the morning raid police seized two firearms and more than a dozen bullets.

An unnamed anti-terror police officer told AFP the three were linked to 11 terror suspects arrested in July, including ring leader Abu Umar who planned the embassy attack.

Umar had close links with Ahmad Sayid Maulana, killed in a police raid last year at his house, where police found a map of Singapore’s train network.

The underground train station on Orchard Road shopping belt had been circled on the map.

A map of an airport in the city of General Santoso in the southern Philippine island of Mindanao was also among the items found in the house. Following the July arrest, national anti-terror deputy chief Petrus Golose said Abu Umar led the group planning the attack, but there was no mention of when they intended to carry it out.—Internet

Buses being increasingly eyed as preferred medium of terror attacks: US Intelligence

WASHINGTON, 13 Nov—A new US intelligence bulletin has warned that terrorists are increasingly targeting bus networks more than any other mode of surface transport.

“Bus systems are considered attractive terrorist targets because they are relatively soft targets,” FoxNews quoted a two-page report, as saying.

According to US Homeland Security Department, there is no credible intelligence indicating that terrorist groups have immediate plans to target the bus network, but law enforcement bulletins warn that terror groups are trying to recruit bus, train and airline industry employees.

US Transportation Security Administration Director John Pistole had earlier highlighted the threat.

“It’s something that we’ve seen in reporting over time that terrorists around the world clearly are interested in — because of the accessibility, the open architecture — both of buses and rail,” he had said.

The bulletin titled “Terrorist Concerns Regarding Mass Transit Bus Systems,” was sent to law enforcement in Washington on 3 November. The report points out that the bus attacks are more common than air attacks.

The assessment found that over 725 bus attacks have been documented from 2004 through 2009.—Internet

Over one mln Thai employees affected by floods

BANGKOK, 13 Nov—Thai Department of Labour Protection and Welfare on Sunday revealed that over one million employees in 21 provinces have been affected by floods since late July.

According to the department, more than 28,500 manufacturers have been inundated but it estimated that 5,400 of them have resumed their businesses and reemployed over 116,000 employees. As a result, more than 900,000 employees are still on suspension and at a risk of being jobless.

Some 4,500 employees of 15 flood-ravaged factories in central Ayuthaya, Pathum Thani and Chachoeng Sao provinces have so far been terminated.

In order to alleviate widespread effect of the deluge, the department has launched a project to relocate flood-hit employees to work in other flood-free provinces. There have been 530 factories in 41 provinces joining the project with over 66,000 vacancies offered.

US, Russia seek ‘common response’ on Iran

HONOLULU, 13 Nov—President Barack Obama said the United States and Russia would seek a “common response” to Iran’s nuclear challenge, despite strong reservations about new sanctions expressed by Moscow.

After meeting Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, Obama said the sides “reaffirmed our intention to work to shape a common response so we can move Iran to follow its international obligations when it comes to its nuclear programme.”

US officials said before the talks on the eve of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in Hawaii that Obama would personally impress upon Medvedev deep US concerns over a UN watchdog’s report that Iran worked on nuclear arms.

But Moscow, along with China, is cool to US desire for more sanctions on Teheran following the release of the International Atomic Energy Agency report which heightened fears of Israeli military action against Iranian nuclear sites.

US officials have signalled that should UN Security Council permanent members Russia and China oppose further multi-lateral sanctions on Iran, Washington would seek to build support for sanctions elsewhere.

They said Washington would work with “like-minded states” to tighten a sanctions regime which US officials believe has brought the Iranian economy to a near standstill.—Internet

Medical experiment caused 370 deaths in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 13 Nov—An experimental medical procedure carried out by doctors at a Mexican hospital on 500 patients caused 370 deaths between 1994 and 2007, activists have charged.

The procedure was carried out at the National Neurology and Neurosurgery Institute.

Groups like Democratic Doctors and Victims of Crimes Against Humanity said at a press conference in Mexico City that the procedure was carried out without the patients’ consent.

The procedure consisted of implanting a permanent inter-cranial device in patients suffering from hydrocephalus, a condition where there is a buildup of fluid inside the brain. It was “never approved by international health authorities” and that “has caused damaging side effects and even death,” alleged Rodolfo Orlanda, a doctor and member of one of the groups.

María de Lourdes Walkup, whose body was left half-paralysed by the procedure, demands that authorities penalise those responsible.

The organizations have filed a complaint with the attorney general’s office, saying that under Mexican law, experimental treatments require the patients’ previous consent.—Internet
Indonesia short of domestic pilots

JAKARTA, 13 Nov—Due to limited training facilities and expensive pilot training, Indonesia has so far failed to overcome the severe shortage in domestic pilots to accommodate the rapid fleet expansion of local airlines in recent years, the Jakarta Post quoted an official as saying on Saturday.

The Transportation Ministry’s head of human resources development agency, Capt Bobby Mamahit, urged airline operators to temporarily hire foreign pilots or halt their fleet expansions pending the availability of more local pilots.

“The airlines need to be realistic. It’s impossible for us to double the number of fresh-graduate pilots overnight,” said Mamahit.

According to the ministry, the country needs up to 600 new pilots a year, more than three times the total number of pilots the country can produce from the state-run Curug Aviation School in Tangerang city of Banten province, and seven other smaller private aviation schools, some of which are affiliated with local airlines.

As of mid-2011, there were around 7,000 pilots working for domestic airlines, 300 of whom were foreign nationals.

With the rapid increase in air passenger numbers over the past decade, Indonesia is currently home to around 50 airline operators.

Gunmen kill family of five in southern Philippines

COTABATO, 13 Nov—A Philippine army commander says gunmen have shot to death an entire family of five in the country’s volatile south, apparently over a land dispute.

Army Brig Gen Rey Ardo says Jolie Fegurac, his wife and three children were asleep when several men armed with assault rifles peppered their house with gunfire early Saturday in a remote village in Sultan Kudarat Province.

Ardo said Sunday that Fegurac had an argument with a rival family over a long-standing land feud a few days before the attack.

Army troops are hunting down the attackers, who were led by a notorious bandit.

Violent family rivalries, fueled by weak law enforcement and many unlicensed weapons, are prevalent in the southern Philippines, where decades-long Muslim rebellions are also a major concern.

Five hurt, one missing in Ohio house blast

FAIRBORN, 13 Nov—An explosion in a duplex in Fairborn, Ohio, Saturday left five people injured and a sixth missing, authorities said.

Cleveland’s WOIO-TV reported the residence was destroyed and neighbouring homes in the southwestern Ohio community were damaged.

The TV station said the blast occurred after a gas line was ruptured during work on the residence’s water line.

The injured included two adults and three children. An older man was unaccounted for.

The Springfield News-Sun reported cadaver dogs were being used to search for the missing man, who authorities said was one of two workers using a backhoe to dig for a water line when the gas line was struck.

The victims’ conditions were not known, the newspaper said.

Neighbour Cybil Poole said she was sitting in her home when the explosion occurred. She said she found a baby among the injured on the ground in the yard and handed the injured child to its mother before emergency crews arrived.

“It was horrible. It was like a movie scene,” she said. “You see this huge fireball and you see people come out of it on fire.”

A tourist gingerly makes her way on a glass skywalk built along the cliffs of Tianmen Mountain, Zhangjiajie, Hunan province, on Wednesday. —Xinhua

A participant drives a cart during the 2011 Santa Claus Parade marking the beginning of this year’s holiday season in Hamilton, Canada, on 12 Nov, 2011. Xinhua

Twin Otter landing gear units missing in Nepali Int’l Airport

KATHMANDU, 13 Nov—Nepal Airlines Corporation (NAC), the asian national flag carrier which has been reporting a series of thefts of aircraft spare parts, has now announced that two of its Twin Otter landing gear units have gone missing since a month ago.

The equipment, which is a must accessory for aircraft landing and take-off, was sent to London-based AEM Limited for a complete overhaul in September.

Documents show that the overhauled gear was received in mid-October.

“However, we could not find the repaired landing gear when we went to collect it at the cargo complex a month ago,” NAC officials were quoted by Sunday’s Republica daily as saying. NAC paid 140,000 US dollars for the overhaul.

NAC said the equipment was delivered to Nepal via Thai Airways cargo.

“The cargo was cleared through customs and hence should have been in the cargo complex. But when we went to collect it, it was not there,” said the NAC source.—Xinhua

German week begins

BEIJING, 13 Nov—German Culture Week in Shanghai starts tonight with a concert by the 12 cellists of Berlin Philharmonic. Directed by Simon Rattle, the orchestra will perform Ravel’s “Alborada del Gracioso,” Bruckner’s “Symphony No 9 in D Minor” and Hosokawa’s “Concerto for Horn and Orchestra-Moment of Blossoming.”

German Culture Week is part of the 13th China Shanghai International Arts Festival and will continue until 19 November. The cellists will perform at Shanghai Grand Theater while the Mannheim String Quartet will give a concert tonight at Shanghai Concert Hall. The quartet is expected to present works by famous composers such as Haydn, Mozart, Schubert and Beethoven. The week’s programmes have been carefully selected, according to Wolfgang Rohr, Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Shanghai. Rohr said he hopes the culture week will help boost cultural exchanges between the people of China and Germany.—Xinhua

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Monday, 14 November, 2011 7

Beverage bottles on a lake at Chongqing in Southwest China's Chongqing municipality. —INTERNET

Visitors view the fishes in an aquarium during the pets show in Vienna, Austria, on 12 Nov, 2011. The show will end at 13 Nov.—Xinhua

A touristic attraction in Zhangjiajie, Hunan province, China. —INTERNET

The four student boat makers row their boat made of 1,504 empty plastic beverage bottles on a lake at Chongqing University of Science and Technology in Southwest China’s Chongqing municipality. —INTERNET

Documents show that the overhauled gear was received in mid-October. Xinhua
The administrators of Pale, Yinnbin and Salangyi townships reported on tasks being carried out by townships for improvement of livestock breeding and fisheries to ensure rural development and poverty alleviation, development of small-scale production in rural areas, development of private micro credit scheme, ensuring of rural energy security, environmental conservation, and requirements. Staff Officer U Ba Kyaw of Pale Township Cooperative Department touched on loan disbursement and future plans under the arrangement of Sagaing Region Cooperative Syndicate.

After the meeting, the Union Minister greeted the attendees.

### Micro credit schemes to be launched in four…

(from page 1)

The administrators of Pale, Yinnbin and Salangyi townships reported on tasks being carried out by townships for improvement of livestock breeding and fisheries to ensure rural development and poverty alleviation, development of small-scale production in rural areas, development of private micro credit scheme, ensuring of rural energy security, environmental conservation, and requirements. Staff Officer U Ba Kyaw of Pale Township Cooperative Department touched on loan disbursement and future plans under the arrangement of Sagaing Region Cooperative Syndicate.

After the meeting, the Union Minister greeted the attendees.

### Economic linkages strengthening between Myanmar-neighbour countries of South Asia

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Nov—A Myanmar observer delegation led by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint arrived back from Maldives yesterday after attending the 17th Summit of the Heads of Government of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) held in Addu, Maldives, from 9 to 11 November 2011.

The Summit was also attended by the Heads of State and Government, ministers, deputy ministers, ambassadors and senior officials from eight SAARC member countries, representatives of the observer and guest countries/organizations.

The inauguration ceremony of the Summit was held in the afternoon of 11 November at the Main Convention Hall, Convention Centre, Hithadhoo. At the opening ceremony, Mr Jigme Thinley, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Bhutan, Mr Mohame Nasheed, President of the Republic of Maldives and the letter presided over the proceeding of the Summit.

Deputy Minister U Maung Myint attended the opening ceremony of the Summit and delivered a statement, stressing the second attendance of Myanmar as an observer to the SAARC Summit. He stated that the economic linkages between Myanmar and its neighbour countries of South Asia became strengthened as the South Asian nations had achieved economic, social and cultural advancement. Myanmar has joined ASSRC as an observer in view of the country’s geographical importance and the strong historical and cultural linkages with the members of the association.

He also underlined the need to build new bridges to link SAARC to greater Asia and the rest of the world so as to overcome the challenges facing the region and more faster towards economic integration.

The Summit Meeting which was successfully concluded at 17 hrs on 12 April adopted the Final Document of the Summit Declaration. The Summit Declaration include matters relating to international and regional cooperation between members countries, economic and trade and energy sectors, SAARC Development Funds, cooperation in information and communication, cultural cooperation, elimination of discrimination against and abuse of women and children combatting terrorism.

During the Summit, Deputy Minister U Maung Myint also held separate bilateral meeting with Mrs Haula Ahmed Didi, Deputy Foreign Minister of Maldives and held discussions on promotion of bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries.—MNA

### Of education sector, basic education takes on special importance

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Nov—The concluding ceremony of Special Refresher Course for Basic Education Teachers No (43) was held in Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) this morning, with an address by Chairman of Union Civil Service Board U Kyaw Thu.

The ceremony was also attended by Member of UCSB Dr Myint Aung, Mandalay Region Social Affairs Minister Dr Win Hlaing, officials and 1500 trainees.

The UCSB chairman in his address said that human resources development is needed to gather political, economic and defence strengths. Of education sector, basic education takes on special importance. Human Resources Development is a significance step in building a developed nation. Teachers of various regions are to exert all-out efforts in improving education standard of the country. Academic subjects, thoughts and concepts are changing at a breakneck speed in this 21st century, the age of globalization, information technology and knowledge. ICT literacy is a must in the modern world to keep pace with the age. The world of education is chasing the most fruitful educational methods and systems. Every nation is taking education reforms.

The reforms of other countries should be studied. Teachers are life-long learners who are responsible for planting love for learning in their pupils’ minds. Myanmar, as a UN member, needs to devise educational plans for sustainable development in this United Nations Decade on Education for Sustainable Development. Teachers are assigned to implement the aims of the Ministry of Education to improve educational standard of the nation. Only quality teachers can provide quality education. They are encouraged to provide Basic Literacy, Continuing Education, Formal Education and Non-Formal Education for human resources development and poverty alleviation as a national duty.

The UCSB chairman then presented prizes to outstanding trainees and completion certificates to leaders of each company.

The UCSB chairman then cordially greeted the trainees.

### Of education sector, basic education takes on special importance

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Nov—The concluding ceremony of Special Refresher Course for Basic Education Teachers No (43) was held in Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) this morning, with an address by Chairman of Union Civil Service Board U Kyaw Thu.

The ceremony was also attended by Member of UCSB Dr Myint Aung, Mandalay Region Social Affairs Minister Dr Win Hlaing, officials and 1500 trainees.

The UCSB chairman in his address said that human resources development is needed to gather political, economic and defence strengths. Of education sector, basic education takes on special importance. Human Resources Development is a significance step in building a developed nation. Teachers of various regions are to exert all-out efforts in improving education standard of the country. Academic subjects, thoughts and concepts are changing at a breakneck speed in this 21st century, the age of globalization, information technology and knowledge. ICT literacy is a must in the modern world to keep pace with the age. The world of education is chasing the most fruitful educational methods and systems. Every nation is taking education reforms.

The reforms of other countries should be studied. Teachers are life-long learners who are responsible for planting love for learning in their pupils’ minds. Myanmar, as a UN member, needs to devise educational plans for sustainable development in this United Nations Decade on Education for Sustainable Development. Teachers are assigned to implement the aims of the Ministry of Education to improve educational standard of the nation. Only quality teachers can provide quality education. They are encouraged to provide Basic Literacy, Continuing Education, Formal Education and Non-Formal Education for human resources development and poverty alleviation as a national duty.

The UCSB chairman then presented prizes to outstanding trainees and completion certificates to leaders of each company.

The UCSB chairman then cordially greeted the trainees.

### Micro credit schemes to be launched in four…

(from page 1)

The administrators of Pale, Yinnbin and Salangyi townships reported on tasks being carried out by townships for improvement of livestock breeding and fisheries to ensure rural development and poverty alleviation, development of small-scale production in rural areas, development of private micro credit scheme, ensuring of rural energy security, environmental conservation, and requirements. Staff Officer U Ba Kyaw of Pale Township Cooperative Department touched on loan disbursement and future plans under the arrangement of Sagaing Region Cooperative Syndicate.

After the meeting, the Union Minister greeted the attendees.

### Economic linkages strengthening between Myanmar-neighbour countries of South Asia

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Nov—A Myanmar observer delegation led by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint arrived back from Maldives yesterday after attending the 17th Summit of the Heads of Government of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) held in Addu, Maldives, from 9 to 11 November 2011.

The Summit was also attended by the Heads of State and Government, ministers, deputy ministers, ambassadors and senior officials from eight SAARC member countries, representatives of the observer and guest countries/organizations.

The inauguration ceremony of the Summit was held in the afternoon of 11 November at the Main Conference Hall, Convention Centre, Hithadhoo. At the opening ceremony, Mr Jigme Thinley, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Bhutan, Mr Mohame Nasheed, President of the Republic of Maldives and the letter presided over the proceeding of the Summit.

Deputy Minister U Maung Myint attended the opening ceremony of the Summit and delivered a statement, stressing the second attendance of Myanmar as an observer to the SAARC Summit. He stated that the economic linkages between Myanmar and its neighbour countries of South Asia became strengthened as the South Asian nations had achieved economic, social and cultural advancement. Myanmar has joined ASSRC as an observer in view of the country’s geographical importance and the strong historical and cultural linkages with the members of the association.

He also underlined the need to build new bridges to link SAARC to greater Asia and the rest of the world so as to overcome the challenges facing the region and more faster towards economic integration.

The Summit Meeting which was successfully concluded at 17 hrs on 12 April adopted the Final Document of the Summit Declaration. The Summit Declaration include matters relating to international and regional cooperation between members countries, economic and trade and energy sectors, SAARC Development Funds, cooperation in information and communication, cultural cooperation, elimination of discrimination against and abuse of women and children combatting terrorism.

During the Summit, Deputy Minister U Maung Myint also held separate bilateral meeting with Mrs Haula Ahmed Didi, Deputy Foreign Minister of Maldives and held discussions on promotion of bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries.—MNA

### Of education sector, basic education takes on special importance

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Nov—The concluding ceremony of Special Refresher Course for Basic Education Teachers No (43) was held in Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) this morning, with an address by Chairman of Union Civil Service Board U Kyaw Thu.

The ceremony was also attended by Member of UCSB Dr Myint Aung, Mandalay Region Social Affairs Minister Dr Win Hlaing, officials and 1500 trainees.

The UCSB chairman in his address said that human resources development is needed to gather political, economic and defence strengths. Of education sector, basic education takes on special importance. Human Resources Development is a significance step in building a developed nation. Teachers of various regions are to exert all-out efforts in improving education standard of the country. Academic subjects, thoughts and concepts are changing at a breakneck speed in this 21st century, the age of globalization, information technology and knowledge. ICT literacy is a must in the modern world to keep pace with the age. The world of education is chasing the most fruitful educational methods and systems. Every nation is taking education reforms.

The reforms of other countries should be studied. Teachers are life-long learners who are responsible for planting love for learning in their pupils’ minds. Myanmar, as a UN member, needs to devise educational plans for sustainable development in this United Nations Decade on Education for Sustainable Development. Teachers are assigned to implement the aims of the Ministry of Education to improve educational standard of the nation. Only quality teachers can provide quality education. They are encouraged to provide Basic Literacy, Continuing Education, Formal Education and Non-Formal Education for human resources development and poverty alleviation as a national duty.

The UCSB chairman then presented prizes to outstanding trainees and completion certificates to leaders of each company.

The UCSB chairman then cordially greeted the trainees.
Uppatasanti Pagoda thronged with monks, pilgrims paying homage to Sacred Buddha Tooth Relic

NAI PYI TAW, 13 Nov—as Sacred Buddha Tooth Relic convoyed for the fourth time from the People’s Republic of China to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, being kept temporarily for the eighth day in front of Maha Mamayma Gotama Buddha Patima Yadana jade Buddha image at the eastward in the cave of Nay Pyi Taw Uppatasanti Pagoda, the pagoda was packed with monks and pilgrims from dawn to dusk the evening today.

Today is holiday. Departmental personnel and families in groups like pilgrims from various regions of the country paid obeisance to the Sacred Buddha Tooth Relic and made donations.

Dr Tun Min Latt-Daw Win Min Soe and family of Nay Pyi Taw, and Daw Nwe Nwe Aye and family of Pyinmana K 205,000, Withakha religious association of Pinlaung Township of Shan State K 170,000, Aung Myo Ko-Ma Yuzana Aye K 30,000 and US$ 100 in memory of late U Ohn Thida Myint and family one pair of gold earings worth about K 175,000, Daw Tin May Thein-Ma Aye and family of Nay Pyi Taw, and Daw Nwe Nwe Aye and family two pairs of earings made of diamond and jewellery worth about K 240,000, U Hla Kyi Maung-Daw Yi Yi Huay and family two gold rings worth about K 175,000, Daw Tin May Thein-Ma Aye Thida Myint and family one pair of gold earings and one gold ring worth about K 169,500, and other wellwishers who donated above K 100,000 and 80 wellwishers who donated various items of jewellery.

The chairman and members of the financial subcommittee accepted the donations and presented certificates of honour to them.

Buddhist devotees pay obeisance to Sacred Buddha Tooth Relic conveyed for the fourth time from the People’s Republic of China.—MNA

Chinese Dy Director of Internal & Judicial Affairs Committee of NPC arrives

NAI PYI TAW, 13 Nov—A Chinese delegation led by Mr. Bai Jingfu, Deputy Director of the Internal and Judicial Affairs Committee of the National People’s Congress of the People’s Republic of China, visited Maha Myatmuni Buddha Image and U Pein Bridge in Mandalay this morning. They left Mandalay this evening by air for Nay Pyi Taw. They were seen off at Mandalay International Airport by Deputy Speaker of Mandalay Region Hluttaw U Aung Htay Kyaw and members.

The Chinese delegation was welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Judiciary and Legal Affairs Committee Thura U Aung Ko, Chairman of Internal Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo and officials.—MNA

Blast outside Namhkam police station kills one police officer, wounds three others

NAI PYI TAW, 13 Nov—A bomb exploded outside the fence of Namhkam police station in Namhkam Township of Shan State on 10 November night, leaving one police officer dead and one police lance corporal and two women injured.

At 8.45 pm on 10 November, a person behind the driver of motorcycle threw a one-foot-square paper packet packaged with polyethylene back on Myawady Road outside the police station and they drove away.

Acting on the tip-off, Police Sub-inspector Zaw Htoo Khoung Hsan and party went to the packet to be inspected. Near the packet, they faced an explosion. In the incident, Police Sub-inspector Zaw Htoo Khoung Hsan, police U Cpl Kyaw Swa Moe and two women were wounded. Although the injured were under treatment at Namhkam Township People’s Hospital, Police Sub-inspector Zaw Htoo Khoung Hsan died of injuries. The remaining three injured were taken to Muse District People’s Hospital.

The officials concerned are in a hot pursuit of two bomb exploders.

MNA

Papa Taung Kalat: A place...

(from page 16)

The 4817 feet high Papa Taung Kalat is located in the area covered with evergreen forests. The Taung Kalat with picturesque scenes and a panoramic view one can enjoys from the top is unique in the plain region of the central part of Myanmar. Its rich herbs and large numbers of natural springs can attract not only local pilgrims but also foreign tourists.

A local tour guide said that foreign tourists are delighted to enjoy the scene of feeding food to moneys by local pilgrims and panoramic views to see the Taungmagyi and the ancient city of Bagan from the peak of the Taung Kalat.

Papa region is a place of interest not only for local pilgrims but also for foreign tourists, contributing towards the nation’s foreign incomes as a tourist destination.

Translation: YM

Kyaemon: 12-11-2011
Five vehicles involved in accident at Victoria Street

A technician checks the safety condition of a subway train at a base of metro line 8 at late night in Shanghai, east China, on 8 Nov, 2011. Eleven metro lines in Shanghai cover a total length of more than 425 kilometres. Technicians scattered in 18 metro bases, checking and repairing 370 subway trains. Usually, the technicians have to work all night long in order to ensure the trains run safely.—Xinhua

Singapore, 13 Nov—An accident involving five vehicles took place at the junction of Victoria Street and Bras Basah Road on Sunday morning. The accident happened at about 7am, involving a Night Owl SBS Transit bus, a van, a car and two taxis. Police said four people were injured and sent to hospital. Witnesses said the bus had swerved at the traffic junction to avoid an oncoming Silvercab but still ended up colliding with the taxi. Witnesses said the taxi driver and his passengers were hurt and sent to hospital. The bus is then said to have clipped another three vehicles that were waiting at the junction, before it finally plunged into a lamp post outside Carlton Hotel. —Internet

Drunk woman bites off beau’s scrotum

London, 13 Nov—A mother of four bit off her boyfriend’s scrotum during a drunken fight in a British town, but a court has spared her a prison term.

The incident occurred when Maria Topp, 44, from Gateshead town attacked Martin Douglas, 45, as they went on a 10-hour drinking binge in February, the Daily Mail reported.

The man called up police from his home for help. They found him with a ripped and bloodied scrotum. He also had a bite to his tricep and multiple scratches. Douglas was rushed to a hospital for emergency surgery to reattach his genitals and was given intravenous pain relief.

At the Newcastle Crown Court, Topp pleaded guilty to the charge but denied remembering the biting incident.

The 44-year-old received a 12-month suspended jail sentence for grievous bodily harm, and was ordered to carry out 150 hours of unpaid work.—Internet

Seven miners trapped by coal mine flooding in NW China

Lanzhou, 13 Nov—Seven miners are trapped underground after a flooding occurred early Sunday morning in a coal mine in northwest China’s Gansu Province, local work safety watchdog said.

The provincial production safety administration said the flooding happened at the wee hours in Sijishan Tongda Coal Mine in Jingtai County. Rescuers are pumping water out of the coal mine.—Xinhua

Death toll rises to 34 in SW China coal mine gas leak

Shizong (Yunnan), 13 Nov—Thirty four miners have been confirmed dead after a gas leak occurred in a coal mine in southwest China’s Yunnan Province Thursday morning, rescue headquarters said Sunday. As of 9:30 am Sunday, 34 bodies have been found, and nine miners are still trapped underground at Shizhuang Coal Mine, located in the county of Shizong near the city of Qujing, according to Qujing government spokesman Li Jianjun. Hundreds of rescuers are continuing to search for the trapped miners, Li said. He said another 181-meter-long section of the tunnel has yet to be cleared, warning that a risk of large amounts of gas underground would hamper the operation.

The mine was operating illegally, having had its license revoked a year ago, according to a statement from the provincial coal safety supervision bureau. The bureau ordered the mine to stop production in April. —Xinhua

Women can’t keep secrets for more than 32 minutes

London, 13 Nov—Women are overcome by the desire to gossip and can typically wait no longer than 32 minutes before spilling the beans, a new study has claimed.

According to the study of 3,000 women by facial skincare brand Simple, one in ten admitted to being unable to keep a secret, no matter how personal or confidential the news is, whereas 85 percent said that they relish hearing gossip from others.

Depending on who the gossip is about, a woman’s husband, mother or best friend is most likely to be the initial recipients of the information.

Almost half of the women questioned said that they often felt the need to offload their secrets to someone while they relish hearing gossip from others.

“Spilling the beans in just 32 minutes is very fast work, but with modern technology someone’s juicy secret can be spread to huge amounts of people all over the world in a very short space of time.”

“We are all guilty of sharing people’s secrets but there is a difference between idle chit-chat and sharing someone’s most sacred secret,” the spokesperson added.
Flash floods hit western Singapore

SINGAPORE, 13 Nov—Flash floods hit various parts of western Singapore on Saturday.

According to the National Environment Agency (NEA), the highest rainfall recorded as at 5:30 pm was 91.4 mm at Kent Ridge in the West Coast area.

Heavy downpour causes canal at Clementi to overflow.—INTERNET

The afternoon heavy downpour caused a canal at Block 611 in Clementi West to overflow.

One resident at the bridge here,” said Mr Lim, a Clementi West resident. Mr Lim said the flood lasted for about 45 minutes.

Turkish security forces kill ferry hijacker

ANKARA, 13 Nov—Security forces killed a man who hijacked a ferry in northwest Turkey and demanded the incident be shown on live television, authorities said.

The man hijacked the ferry with 24 onboard Friday night near Izmit, according to a provincial governor. He went to the captain’s quarters aboard the ferry Kartepe about 5 pm and took the captain hostage, Ercan Topaca, the governor of Kocaeli province, told CNN Turk.

The governor communicated with the captain during the incident. “I am in touch with the captain, but the captain has to say what the hijacker tells him to say. He can’t say anything else,” Topaca said Friday.

At one point, the hijacker demanded that the incident be shown on television, Topaca said.

The three missing were found after other members of the team went out searching for them. The incident happened weeks after three South Korean climbers went missing in Nepal’s Mount Annapurna on 18 October. The KAF said Kim had taken part in the search and rescue effort.

The incident is on the Marmara Sea, which lies between the Mediterranean and Aegean seas to the southwest and the Black Sea to the northeast.

Cold front brings strong wind to north China, temperatures plummeting

BEIJING, 13 Nov—A cold spell sweeping north China will bring strong wind and drop down temperatures by up to 10 degrees Celsius in some areas, China’s meteorological authorities said Sunday.

The cold front will also bring snow and rainfall to the country’s northeastern regions on Sunday, the National Meteorological Centre (NMC) said.

Temperatures are expected to further drop in northern and northeastern parts of the country, falling by six to 12 degrees Celsius in some areas, the NMC said.

Strong northerly winds of level four to six will blow through most parts of North China and Yellow River-Huaihe River region, the NMC said.

Agrometeorological experts have warned citizens in the affected regions to guard against sharp temperature drop and consequent frozen road surface.

Two South Korean climbers die in the Himalayas

SEOUL, 13 Nov—Two South Korean climbers were killed on Friday while trying to scale the Mount Cholatse in the Nepalese Himalayas, local media reported on Saturday.

The Korean Alpine Federation (KAF) said 43-year-old Kim Hyung-il, the leader of the team, and Chang Ji-myoeong fell to their deaths on Friday while trying to reach the top of the 6,440-metre (21,130-feet) high mountain.

The two had set out to reach Cholatse’s summit in 36 hours and were killed at an altitude of about 5,100 metres (16,730 feet), the Yonhap news agency reported on Saturday. The bodies were found after other members of the team went searching for them.

A Mexican shop making guitars since 1947

LOS ANGELES, 13 Nov—A Mexican family that set up a guitar workshop in Los Angeles in 1947 has carved out many such instruments for musical greats like Spanish classical guitarist Andres Segovia and multiple Grammy Award-winning American rock band Los Lobos.

Puerto Rican composer Jose Feliciano and American singer-songwriter Jackson Browne are also among the artists who have relied on the “Candelas Guitars” workshop for instruments crafted to their unique specifications.

Ranging in price from $1,000 to $16,000, the guitars are made by hand at Los Angeles’ Boyle Heights neighbourhood.

“But the story began in Torreon, Mexico, where my grandfather Porfirio and my great uncle Candelario Delgado, known as ‘The Candelas Brothers’, made the first guitar in 1928,” current owner Tomas Delgado said.—INTERNET

Army soldiers give residents a ride through flood waters in Bangkok on 12 Nov, 2011. INTERNET

People stand beside a road as a rollover happened to a pickup truck in Nagqu, southwest China’s Tibet Autonomous Region, on 12 Nov, 2011. Due to the snow in Nagqu during the evening on 11 Nov, part of the road linking Xining in Qinghai Province and Lhasa in Tibet was covered by ice.

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Monday, 14 November, 2011

Internet
were also treated for gum disease but did not have and had fat cells from the abdomen removed. A body mass index of 39, had gastric bypass surgery people with gum disease. Half, who had an average Bissada said. A pilot study involved 31 obese fetal death, heart disease, diabetes and arthritis, gum disease can erode bone and cause tooth loss. It can also cause breaks in the gums where

**Gum disease improves if less belly fat**

CLEVELAND, 13 Nov—The human body is better at fighting gum disease when fat cells, which trigger inflammation, disappear after weight loss, US researchers found. Nabil Bissada, head of the department of periodontics at Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine, said inflammation from the periodontal disease can disappear after weight loss, among other things.

Aiding the investigation into the scale of the scheme was US space agency Nasa which first discovered the malicious software on 130 of its computers. Security firms said it was the "biggest cyber criminal take down in history." About 500,000 of the affected computers were in the US and many of the millions inadvertently enrolled in the fraud scheme were in government offices, schools, and corporations.

"We decided to beef up our police units and set up...groups composed of our most experienced detectives who specialise in..." Our lead investigator and set up the CT scan. Dr. Penney said the fossil was "extremely rare." Baltic amber, the fossilised resin of trees from the area around the Baltic Sea, can contain fossilised arthropods—spiders, crabs and crustaceans—within it, which Dr. Penney said were "preserved with life-like fidelity."

"The size of the mite means it is barely visible without a microscope and it was not possible to identify it without the CT scan," he said. "CT allowed us to digitally dissect the mite and observe the spider in order to reveal the important features on the underside required for identification," he said.

Police find mummified corpses in historian's apartment

MOSCOW, 13 Nov—A historian has been arrested in central Russia after police found the corpses of 29 women, dressed as dolls, in his apartment, authorities said this week.

Suspected Russian grave robber nabbed.—INTERNET

But even seasoned investigators and forensic experts were shocked when their investigation led them to the historian and the contents of his apartment, where the women's mummified bodies were found. The corpses were those of women who died between the ages of 15 to 25, officials said.—INTERNET

**US dismantles 'massive' cyber crime syndicate**

NEW YORK, 13 Nov—Cyber criminals who are alleged to have made $14m (95m) from advertising fraud have been arrested in Estonia. The FBI alleged that the gang infected more than four million computers in 100 countries with code that redirected users to online ads. The six arrested are Estonian nationals while the seventh member of the gang, a Russian, remains at large. Security firms hailed the arrests as the "biggest cyber criminal take down in history."

**Fifth major Blues festival being held in Nepal**

KATHMANDU, 13 Nov—People from the Nepali capital Kathmandu are swinging in the melody of the Blues music in the 5th Himalayan Blues festival that kicked off in Kathmandu from 10 November. The festival has an array of world class musicians from different parts of the world including Ireland, Germany, Australia, Russia, Sweden and with bands from Nepal performing in the festival.

"We decided to beef up our police units and set up...groups composed of our most experienced detectives who specialise in..." Our lead investigator and set up the CT scan. Dr. Penney said the fossil was "extremely rare." Baltic amber, the fossilised resin of trees from the area around the Baltic Sea, can contain fossilised arthropods—spiders, crabs and crustaceans—within it, which Dr. Penney said were "preserved with life-like fidelity."

"The size of the mite means it is barely visible without a microscope and it was not possible to identify it without the CT scan," he said. "CT allowed us to digitally dissect the mite and observe the spider in order to reveal the important features on the underside required for identification," he said.

Police find mummified corpses in historian's apartment

MOSCOW, 13 Nov—A historian has been arrested in central Russia after police found the corpses of 29 women, dressed as dolls, in his apartment, authorities said this week. The 45-year-old man, who police did not identify, has been charged with desecrating bodies and graves, officials said. Video released by police showed an eerie collection of what looks like life-sized dolls, outfitted in shabby dresses and headscarves, their hands and faces wrapped in fabric. Authorities say the man also stole clothes from the graves when he took the bodies and the dead bodies at several cemeteries in and around Nizhny Novgorod, about 250 miles east of Moscow. The incidents started about two years ago, authorities said, with each case producing a public uproar in the region. Gribakin said police went the extra mile to find the culprit. "Our leading theory was that it was done by some extremist organizations," Gribakin said.

"We decided to beef up our police units and set up ... groups composed of our most experienced detectives who specialize in extremist crimes."

Fifth major Blues festival being held in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 13 Nov—People from the Nepali capital Kathmandu are swinging in the melody of the Blues music in the 5th Himalayan Blues festival that kicked off in Kathmandu from 10 November. The festival has an array of world class musicians from different parts of the world including Ireland, Germany, Australia, Russia, Sweden and with bands from Nepal performing in the festival. The festival which originated in 2007 has also been expanded to India promoting Himalayan Blues as an Asian Music festival. The festival which is very popular amongst the tourist is also being supported by the Nepal Tourism Board and by the missions based in Nepal through cultural grants. According to the organizers, hundreds of foreign and local people are expected to attend the festival.

**Police find mummified corpses in historian’s apartment**

MOSCOW, 13 Nov—A historian has been arrested in central Russia after police found the corpses of 29 women, dressed as dolls, in his apartment, authorities said this week. The 45-year-old man, who police did not identify, has been charged with desecrating bodies and graves, officials said. Video released by police showed an eerie collection of what looks like life-sized dolls, outfitted in shabby dresses and headscarves, their hands and faces wrapped in fabric. Authorities say the man also stole clothes from the graves when he took the bodies and the dead bodies at several cemeteries in and around Nizhny Novgorod, about 250 miles east of Moscow. The incidents started about two years ago, authorities said, with each case producing a public uproar in the region. Gribakin said police went the extra mile to find the culprit. "Our leading theory was that it was done by some extremist organizations," Gribakin said.

"We decided to beef up our police units and set up ... groups composed of our most experienced detectives who specialize in extremist crimes."

**Police find mummified corpses in historian’s apartment**

MOSCOW, 13 Nov—A historian has been arrested in central Russia after police found the corpses of 29 women, dressed as dolls, in his apartment, authorities said this week. The 45-year-old man, who police did not identify, has been charged with desecrating bodies and graves, officials said. Video released by police showed an eerie collection of what looks like life-sized dolls, outfitted in shabby dresses and headscarves, their hands and faces wrapped in fabric. Authorities say the man also stole clothes from the graves when he took the bodies and the dead bodies at several cemeteries in and around Nizhny Novgorod, about 250 miles east of Moscow. The incidents started about two years ago, authorities said, with each case producing a public uproar in the region. Gribakin said police went the extra mile to find the culprit. "Our leading theory was that it was done by some extremist organizations," Gribakin said.

"We decided to beef up our police units and set up ... groups composed of our most experienced detectives who specialize in extremist crimes."

But even seasoned investigators and forensic experts were shocked when their investigation led them to the historian and the contents of his apartment, where the women's mummified bodies were found. The corpses were those of women who died between the ages of 15 to 25, officials said.—INTERNET
Police: Teen swiped officer’s iPhone

Swedish police said they arrested a teenager who allegedly swiped an undercover officer’s phone while showing off a soccer move.

Malmo police said the officer was on undercover patrol when the Spanish 19-year-old, who was with two friends, introduced himself and said he was in Sweden on vacation, The Local reported Wednesday. The teenager discussed soccer with the officer and the pair discussed Swedish

Tires stolen off sheriff’s new cruiser

A South Carolina sheriff’s department said someone stole the tires off a new cruiser while it was waiting to be detailed and left it on cinder blocks.

Dorchester County sheriff’s deputies said the car was left overnight Monday at Mr. Sign in Summerville so it could be detailed with law enforcement markings and shop manager Jamie Lucarelli arrived at 7:30am Tuesday to find the tires had been stolen and the car was on cinder blocks. The (Charleston, SC) Post and Courier, Charleston reported Wednesday.

“They jacked it up, grabbed the wheels and took off,” Lucarelli said. “They were brute.”

Deputies said the new radial tires were valued at $1,600 total. “It just shows nobody is immune,” Sheriff’s Maj John Garrison said. “If they’ll take it from us, they’ll take it from anybody.”

Powers, Whitbread join ‘Celebrity’ cast

London, 13 Nov—Actresses Stefanie Powers, Crissy Rock and Lorraine Chase have joined the cast of the British competition show “I’m a Celebrity... Get Me Out of Here!” The BBC said former Olympic athlete Fatima Whitbread, former jockey Willie Carson, comedian

Calle 13 wins nine Latin Grammy awards

Calle 13, EduardoJose Cabra Martínez (L) and Ren Pérez Joglar appear backstage with some of the 19 awards including Record of the Year and Album of the Year they won at the 12th annual Latin Grammy Awards at the Mandalay Bay in Las Vegas, Nevada on 18 Nov, 2011.

Calle 13, Eduardo Jos Cabra Martínez (L) and Ren Pérez Joglar appear backstage with some of the 19 awards including Record of the Year and Album of the Year they won at the 12th annual Latin Grammy Awards at the Mandalay Bay in Las Vegas, Nevada on 18 Nov, 2011.

Swedish police arrested a teenager who allegedly swiped an undercover officer’s phone while showing off a soccer move.

Swedish police arrested a teenager who allegedly swiped an undercover officer’s phone while showing off a soccer move.

Justin Bieber, Selena Gomez’s penthouse date

London, 13 Nov—Justin Bieber treated Selena Gomez to a USD 1,100 a night penthouse suite when they stayed in Paris this week. The “Baby” star was in the French capital to promote his new Christmas album and he and Selena stayed in the Paris Arc de Triomphe hotel for four nights, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

Justin Bieber, Selena Gomez’s penthouse date

“Justin and Selena stayed in the most beautiful penthouse suite overlooking the Eiffel Tower. This was the perfect suite for them because it is so romantic,” said a source.

“They never left the room when they returned to it and didn’t bother with room service, but the times they were seen together they were always extremely polite and very cordial to the staff,” he added.—Internet

Burglar caught twice in same night

Florida officials said a burglar was twice caught in the act in the same night and left some blood behind at one of the crime scenes.

The Volusia County Sheriff’s Office said Peter Studley, 52, of Ormond Park, allegedly broke into the manager’s room Saturday at the Vanguard Motel, where he had been staying for about a month, and was caught taking money and valuables by the manager, who recognized him.

News Album

Actresses Stefanie Powers

McKellar, Ohno to star in Syfy movie

New York, 12 Nov—Actress Danica McKellar and Olympic speed skating champion Apolo Ohno are to star in the US television movie, “Tasmanian Devil,” Syfy announced.

Production on the telepicture is to begin in British Columbia this month, the cable network said Friday.

Kenneth Mitchell will also star in “Tasmanian Devil,” which is scheduled to premiere on Syfy in 2012.

“Base jumpers in a remote Tasmanian national park are pursued by grizzly bear-sized Tasmanian Devils — legendary creatures created to protect the land from intruders,” a synopsis said.—Internet

Katie Holmes talks turkey with Martha Stewart

New York, 13 Nov—Hollywood actress Katie Holmes says dressing a turkey for her film “Pieces of April” has permanently turned her off the task in real life.

Holmes recalled how disgusted she was by the experience when she taped an episode of “The Martha Stewart Show.”

The appearance is to air Tuesday. “I had to pull everything out,” she said, referring to how she removed the bag with the neck and giblets from the bird for the film.

“I had to call my mom and say, ‘Thank you for all

the Thanksgivings and I’m never going to make one,’” Holmes told Stewart.

The talk-show host and holiday expert then asked the actress if she ever plucked the feathers out of a turkey, to which Holmes replied, “No.”—Internet

Frank McKellar, who will star in the television movie “Tasmanian Devil.”

Actress Danica McKellar, Ohno to star in Syfy movie

Katie Holmes

Hollywood actress Katie Holmes

Swiss company, The Wall AG, has designed the “Universal World House”. It is a 5,000, 390-square-foot modular house, complete with plumbing, sleeping facilities to support up to 8 residents, and a convertible closed/open-air kitchen with table and benches. The secret of its construction is its “paper” shell; the resin-soaked cellulose, made from recycled paper, is shaped into honeycomb walls, which provide structural integrity and insulation to the houses. Countries that have placed orders for the UWH, include Nigeria and Angola.

Powers, Whitbread join the cast of the British competition show “I’m a Celebrity... Get Me Out of Here!” It’s a USD 5,000, 390-square-foot modular house, complete with plumbing, sleeping facilities to support up to 8 residents, and a convertible closed/open-air kitchen with table and benches. The secret of its construction is its “paper” shell; the resin-soaked cellulose, made from recycled paper, is shaped into honeycomb walls, which provide structural integrity and insulation to the houses. Countries that have placed orders for the UWH, include Nigeria and Angola.

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Monday, 14 November, 2011 13
**Myanmar football team so close to semi-final with impressive win over Philippines**

**The New Light of Myanmar** Monday, 14 November, 2011

We had equal chances on offense but just couldn’t convert,” said Phil team manager Dan Palani. “There were several lapses on defense and it showed that we have a very young, inexperienced team,” Palani added. Myanmar team captain Aye Saz broke the ice on the 11th minute and Kyaw Zayar Win made it two-zero before the half with a good finish on the 41st. The Filipinos put defensive pressure on their return from the halftime to no avail, hit thrice more by the efficient Myanmar strikers.

Struggling and all, the Filipinos got into deeper trouble with Manny Ort sent out by a second yellow card on the 88th minute. The Myanmar seek to formalize entry into the semifinals in tangling with third-running Timor Leste and the Junior Azkals seek some measure of pride and respect in going for a win versus Brunei Darussalam at 4 pm on 15 Nov.—Internet

**Bolt, Pearson named athletes of the year**

Monaco, 13 Nov — Jamaican Usain Bolt and Australian Sally Pearson were named Athletes of the Year by the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) on Saturday.

Bolt, winning the award for the third time, bounced back from disqualification for false starting in the world 100 metres final to retain his 200m title, before anchoring Jamaica to win the 4x100m relay in a world record time. Pearson enjoyed a phenomenal season, winning 15 of 16 races and taking the world 100m hurdles title in 12.28 seconds, the fastest time in 19 years. Bolt beat compatriot and 100m world champion Yohan Blake, along with Kenyan David Rudisha, to the award, while Pearson pipped Kenyan world 5,000 and 10,000m champion Vivian Cheruiyot and world shot put champion Valerie Adams.

Bolt ran the second fastest 200m of all time — second only to the Olympic champion.—Internet

**Capello praises young players after England surprise Spain**

London, 13 Nov

Fabio Capello’s decision to throw youngsters into the fray at Wembley against a full-strength Spain side looked fraught with danger but it worked out well as England enjoyed a 1-0 victory over the world and European champions in a friendly on Saturday. Phil Jones and his Manchester United teammate Danny Welbeck and Everton’s Jack Rodwell all drew praise from Capello, while Tottenham Hotspur right back Kyle Walker also came on late to win his first cap.

Jones, who plays in the back four for United but earned his second England cap in midfield, was given the unenviable task of breaking up the visitors’ mesmeric passing patterns, and despite chasing shadows at times he stuck to his task.—Internet

**Singapore wins bid to host SEA Games in 2015**

Singapore, 13 Nov — Singapore has been given the official approval to host the 2015 Southeast Asian Games, local media reported on Sunday. The Southeast Asian Games Federation approved the republic’s bid to host the biennial event at a meeting in Palembang, Indonesia, on Saturday evening, local daily Straits Times said. “Our neighbours in ASEAN have agreed for us to host the Games and we’re very grateful for that,” Singapore’s Deputy Prime Minister Teo Chee Hean was quoted as saying. “Now we have four years to plan for the games and, from now on, the planning will take place.” Singapore first expressed interest in February to stage the event after the original host Cambodia said it did not have the resources to do it, and officially announced its bid last week. No other countries were bidding.—Internet

**Berbatov praise for Ferguson**

London, 13 Nov — Manchester United striker Dimitar Berbatov has spoken of his admiration for manager Sir Alex Ferguson. Despite being on the fringes of selection, the Bulgarian remains a huge fan of the Scot who recently celebrated 25 years in the Old Trafford hot-seat. The 30-year-old, who has made just one start in the Barclays Premier League this season, is now in the final year of his contract — although United have a unilateral option to extend by further year — and has recently been linked with Paris St Germain and Galatasaray, but the situation has not affected his relationship with Ferguson.

Berbatov told MUTV: “The way he treats players is unbelievable. Even when not playing or you’re injured, he’s still speaking with you and encouraging. He makes you feel special and lets you know your place in the team.” Berbatov feels it is up to him to impress in training and win his place back in the side. He finds playing for Ferguson inspirational.—Internet

**Federer defeats Berdych into Paris Masters final**

Paris, 13 Nov — Roger Federer defeated Tomas Berdych 6-4, 6-3 on Saturday to reach the Paris Masters final for the first time in his career. The 30-year-old Swiss holder of 16 Grand Slam titles will play on Sunday the winner between 2008 titlist Jo-Wilfried Tsonga of France and American giant John Isner.

A break of serve in the first game of each set was all the former world No 1 needed to see off the challenge of Berdych who beat second seed Andy Murray in a marathon quarterfinal on Friday. Federer won the 800th match of his career on Friday when he defeated Juan Monaco in the quarterfinals. Federer made a storming start against a player who had given him problems in the past. He immediately took a tie for big Czech on the defensive and clinched a first break of serve when a rasping cross-court forehand forced an error. The third seed powered through his own serve and had a break point to go 3-0 up in the next game before Berdych finally started to find his range.—Internet

**Singapore football team so close to semi-final with impressive win over Philippines**

The Philippine U23 Azkals eventually got the boot in the 26th SEA Games football competition, badly outclassed by a talented Myanmar side, 0-5, at the Stadion Lebak Bulus here last night. The Myanmar, traditional regional power, aching to perform well after missing the top three in 2009, stamped their class on the Filipinos, dominating the match with their best perfor-
China to head towards mild growth in coming years: gov’t economists

Beijing, 13 Nov—Despite a fast economic growth China registered during the past years, economists projected the country to experience a lower pace of growth for the next few years.

The coming slowdown will be a normal outcome as the continuous global downturn hurts China’s exports while the country striving to adjust its development pattern to weaken the economy off its reliance on exports, said Li Yang, vice president of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, a government think tank.

The two trends will continue in the coming years and weigh on exports, one of the three major engines that power China’s fast expansion — exports, investment and consumption, Li said Saturday at a forum held by Caixin Media, a business news group in China.

Li said the country’s annual growth rate is likely slow to between 8 and 8.5 percent in the coming 10 years, while expecting the country’s annual trade surplus to account for less than 2 percent of its GDP this year.

A sculpture made from rocks is seen on the shore of the Dead Sea 27 November, 2008. Warnings continue that the Dead Sea is slowly but surely drying up, and could be gone completely in 50 years if no action is taken. The water level is dropping at close to one metre (three feet) per year due to a sharp decrease in inflow from the Jordan and other rivers whose waters now irrigate fields.

China to head towards mild growth in coming years: gov’t economists

Beijing, 13 Nov—Despite a fast economic growth China registered during the past years, economists projected the country to experience a lower pace of growth for the next few years.

The coming slowdown will be a normal outcome as the continuous global downturn hurts China’s exports while the country striving to adjust its development pattern to weaken the economy off its reliance on exports, said Li Yang, vice president of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, a government think tank.

The two trends will continue in the coming years and weigh on exports, one of the three major engines that power China’s fast expansion — exports, investment and consumption, Li said Saturday at a forum held by Caixin Media, a business news group in China.

Li said the country’s annual growth rate is likely slow to between 8 and 8.5 percent in the coming 10 years, while expecting the country’s annual trade surplus to account for less than 2 percent of its GDP this year.

A sculpture made from rocks is seen on the shore of the Dead Sea 27 November, 2008. Warnings continue that the Dead Sea is slowly but surely drying up, and could be gone completely in 50 years if no action is taken. The water level is dropping at close to one metre (three feet) per year due to a sharp decrease in inflow from the Jordan and other rivers whose waters now irrigate fields.

REUTERS
Finishing touches being put to Ayeyawady Bridge (Nyaungdon)

YANGON, 13 NOV — On his arrival at the construction site of Ayeyawady Bridge (Nyaungdon) on the side of Pathein yesterday, Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint inspected preparation for opening ceremony, giving a finishing touches to the main structure of the bridge and tarmacking of the approach road on the side of Yangon.

The bridge built by Special Project Group-5 is located in Nyaungdon Township of Maubin District, Ayeyawady Region. The 7402 feet long rail-cum-road bridge has a 28 feet wide two-lane motorway and 14 feet wide railroad flanked by two pedestrian walks which is 3 feet and three inches wide each. Two approach roads on both sides are 3412 feet long and two railroads are 13143 feet long. Its water clearance area is 262 feet wide and 75 feet high. The bridge can withstand 75 tons load of a vehicle.

Popa Taung Kalat: A place of interest for local pilgrims, foreign tourists

Local pilgrims and foreign tourists are thronging Taung Kalat of Mt. Popa situated in Popa village of Kyaukpadaw Township.

A local vendor said that the Taung Kalat of Mt. Popa is daily crowded with foreign tourists and local pilgrims around the year. They visit there mostly on their way back from Bagan-NyaungU. In December holidays, groups of holiday-makers from schools go mass-hiking to the peak. The significant day of Mt. Popa falls on 2nd Waxing of Tawthalin yearly. The victorious day of Aba Bo Min Khuang is celebrated on a grand scale on that day. Spiritual members from four corners of the nation take part in the celebration individually or in groups every year. The summit of the Taung Kalat is packed with the participants on that day, leaving no room for a step. (See page 9)

Sky Net broadcasts live recording of Sacred Buddha Tooth Relic

NAY PYI TAW, 13 NOV — Sky Net launches DTH-system Dhamma Channel on 14 November to bring round-the-clock live coverage of the Sacred Buddha Tooth Relic to people length and breadth of the country.

The channel stops airing on 24 December, the date set for conveyance of the Sacred Buddha Tooth Relic back to China.

The Sacred Buddha Tooth Relic was conveyed to Myanmar from China for fourth time on 6 November and is displayed in the cave of Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw from 7 to 21 November, in the cave of Maha Passana cave on Kaba Aye Hillock in Yangon, and in Maha Atulawaiyan (the unrivalled) Monastery in Mandalay from 8 to 23 December.

To update DTH Receiver, click Menu and select Installation. The DTH Receiver will require you to enter Password plus four zeros. To pay homage to the Sacred Buddha Tooth Relic on Dhamma channel, complete Auto Scan.—MNA

Myanmar athletes bag two more silver medals, five more bronze

YANGON, 13 NOV — The XXVII SEA Games continued today. Kay Kaing Myo Tun clinched the silver medal at 20 kilometres walk event, Win Htaik the silver medal at 200 metres C-1 canoeing event, Win Htaik and Ye Aung Soe the bronze medal at 200 metres C-2 canoeing event, San Toe the bronze medal at under 60 kg men’s Karatedo event, Ywatt Wah Tun the bronze medal at 62-67 kg (welter Weight) Taekwando event and Kyaw Oo and Nay Thway Oo the bronze medal each at English Billiard Single event respectively. — MNA