Myanmar-Korea relations and promoting bilateral relations open new chapter

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Oct—President U Thein Sein of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and party arrived back here this morning after paying a State visit to the Republic of Korea, at the invitation of President of the Republic of Korea Mr Lee Myung-bak.

They were welcomed back at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Vice-Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services General Soe Win, Union Ministers, the Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command, departmental heads and deputy head Mr Yun Kang Hyeon from Embassy of the Republic of Korea to Myanmar.

On 8 October, the President visited rural development works in Saemaul Undong Central Training Institute in Seoul. In the afternoon, he also replied to the queries raised by political and foreign affairs correspondent Mr Kim Yong Deok of KBS news Agency at Lotte Hotel.

In the evening, the President met with Ambassador U Nyunt Hlaing, Military Attaché Brig-Gen Myint Hein, staff and their families from Embassy and Military Attaché office and Myanmar students at Myanmar Embassy. Then, he viewed Han River passing through Seoul on the board.

On 9 October, the President delivered speeches at Myanmar Investment Forum held at Korea Trade Investment Promotion Agency (KOTRA) headquarters and a lunch hosted by the Korea Federation of Small and Medium Business (KBBZ) at Lotte Hotel. At 3:30 pm, the President laid a wreath at National Cemetery in Seoul and signed in the visitors’ book.

At 4 pm, President Mr Lee Myung-bak welcomed and received President U Thein Sein, at the Blue House.

At 5 pm, President U Thein Sein and party had a discussion on mutual cooperation between two countries with the ROK President and party.

They cordially discussed opening of new chapters in Myanmar-Korea relations and promoting bilateral relations between two countries, boosting mutual cooperation and friendly relations through exchange visits, establishment of Myanmar Development Institute (MDI) in Myanmar, boosting investment and trade volume between two countries and extension of new village movement being undertaken in Myanmar, cash and technical assistance for electric power, agriculture, transport, communications and rail transportation projects, promoting cooperation of energy sector, cooperation in the sectors of science and technology, environmental conservation, culture and construction, Myanmar’s alternate ASEAN chairmanship in 2014, and cooperation and providing assistance for successful hosting of SEA Games in Myanmar 2013.

After the meeting, respective ministers signed aid framework agreements between two governments and MoU on cooperation of (See page 8)

Scholarship for diploma in nursing in Singapore

YANGON, 12 Oct—On 4 October, University of Nursing from Singapore recruited 45 trainees from Myanmar on a basic of contract free of charge to attend the three-year diploma in nursing course in Republic of Singapore.

The new recruits must be between 16 and 21 years old. They must secure high marks in the matriculation examination. Student allowance and accommodation will be facilitated to the students while attending the course. The university recruits the trainees once a year. So far, a total of 377 have attended the course,” a responsible person from Chantha Aungmyin Co.—Myanma Alinn

Depression over India becomes unimportant

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Oct—According to the observations at 10.30 hrs M.S.T today, the low pressure area over Manipur (India) has become unimportant, the Meteorology and Hydrology Department announced.—MNA
NATIONAL

ASEAN-Socio-Cultural Community Council holds coordination meeting

NAV PYI TAW, 12 Oct—The ministries concerned to host the meetings in 2014 have to assign liaison officers and secretaries groups in order to report back to related ministries concerned in time, however the focal point and skillful communities are arranged for carrying out the tasks when all departments want to do their works utmost smoothly, said Chairman of Myanmar ASEAN-Socio-Cultural Community Council Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu at coordination meeting for preparation of work committee of ASEAN Summit in 2014 and the 8th ASEAN-Socio-Cultural Community Council Meeting held at the ministry this afternoon. MNA

Locals in Kayah State enjoy free medical treatment of mobile military medical teams

NAV PYI TAW, 12 Oct—Kinds handing over ceremony donated by Tatmadaw to locals in Kayah State to ensure regional development tasks and free medical treatment ceremony of mobile military medical team to locals were took place at Dawtamagyi station hospital in Dimawhso Township in Kayah State on 10 October.

State Chief Minister U Khin Maung Soe and Commander Maj-Gen Soe Hlut provided kinds donated by Tatmadaw to officials. Htut provided kinds donated Commander Maj-Gen Soe Hlut to officials.

A total of 180 bags of rice, 276 blankets, clothes, 18 kinds of consumer goods, 5 kinds of personal goods, 3 kinds of stationery and 3 kinds of sports gear were donated to locals of Dawtamagyi village in Dimawhso Township.

Prize presentation marks 3rd Anniversary of Shwe FM

YANGON, 12 Oct—In the Third Anniversary of Shwe FM, the ceremony to present Achievement Award for 2012 was held at the National Theatre in Yangon on 6 October.

The best vocalist award went to So Tay and the best artist award to Benny Phyo and the best attire award to Hinthada Tun Yin, the top song request award for 2012 to Aye Thin Cho Swe, the best performance and Aung Htet Kyaw from Yangon on 6 October.

A traffic accident occurs at Insein Overpass

YANGON, 12 Oct—A Mini truck driven by Tin Htwe from Yangon to Insein along Baho Road hit the bicycle ridden by a man of 54 years at the Overpass Junction Traffic Light in Insein at 1.30 pm on 7 October. Due to reckless driving, the cyclist died on the spot. Traffic Police Force of No. 1 region opened a file of lawsuit against driver Tin Htwe under Section 304 (a) of the criminal law.—Kyemon

Rule of law, anti-corruption and drug fight discussed

NAV PYI TAW, 12 Oct—Union Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin received Deputy Speaker of the Swedish Parliament Mr. Ulf Holm and party at the Credentials Hall of the Union Attorney-General’s Office at 11 am today. Mr. Ulf Holm asked the matters related to rule of law, anti-corruption and endeavors to fight against drug of Myanmar. The attorney-general of the Union clarified implementation for rule of law under management of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Union Attorney-General’s Office and Union High Court with participation of the people. He cordially discussed the important role for elimination of corruption in rule of law and Myanmar’s efforts for fighting against drug with concerted efforts. MNA

Speed boats run along Dawei, Myeik, Kawthoung

DAWEI, 12 Oct—The transport services of speed boats from Dawei to Myeik and Kawthoung in Taninthayi Region resumed in about three months of rainy season. As of 4 October, the No. 77 speed boat runs the Da w e i - M y e i k - Kawthoung route and the No. 27 speed boat, Kawthoung-Dawei route.

Myanma Alin
US defence chief says pre-emptive action possible over cyber threat

WASHINGTON, 12 Oct — The US military could act pre-emptively if it detects an imminent threat of cyber attack, US Defence Secretary Leon Panetta said on Thursday, urging stronger action to bolster America’s defences against such plots.

In what was described by US officials as the first major public declaration of cyber security by a defence secretary, Panetta lamented under-investment under America’s private sector and political gridlock in Washington that he said stymied cyber security legislation. He said a presidential executive order was being considered “while we wait for Congress to act.” Addressing a gathering of business leaders in New York, Panetta warned that unnamed foreign actors were targeting computer systems that operate chemical, electricity and water plants and those that guide transportation.

“We know of specific instances where intruders have successfully gained access to these control systems. We also know that they are seeking to create advanced tools to attack these systems and cause panic, and even the loss of life,” Panetta said. Aggressors could derail passenger trains, contaminate the water supply or shut down cybersecurity.”

To underscore the degree of concern, Panetta pointed to the August cyber attack on Saudi Arabian state oil company, ARAMCO, blamed on the “Shamoon” virus, and a similar one days later that struck Qatar’s natural gas firm, Rasgas. “All told, the Shamoon virus was probably the most destructive attack that the private sector has seen to date,” he said. Panetta said the “Shamoon” virus had been sophisticated and noted that in Saudi Arabia it replaced crucial system files with an image of a burning US flag.

More than 30,000 computers that it infected (at ARAMCO) were rendered useless, he said. Also pointed to recent denial-of-service attacks on major US banks, which delayed or disrupted services on customer websites. One US official, briefing reporters before the speech on condition of anonymity, said the United States knew who carried out the attacks cited in Panetta’s speech, but declined to disclose that information. — Reuters

Gunmen kill Yemeni who worked at US Embassy in Yemen

SANAA, 12Oct — Masked gunmen shot dead a Yemeni man who worked in the security office of the US Embassy in Sanaa on Thursday, in an attack a Yemeni security source said appeared to be the work of al-Qaeda. The incident was the latest of a wave of attacks on officials in the impoverished Arab state, which is battling Islamist militants with Washington’s help. The attackers, on a motorcycle, opened fire on Qussem Aqlan — who headed an embassy security investigation team — near his house in the center of Yemen’s capital, the source told Reuters.

“This operation has the fingerprints of al-Qaeda which carried out similar operations before,” said the source, who asked not to be named. Yemeni-based al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) and other militant groups strengthened their grip on parts of the country during an uprising that ousted veteran President Ali Abdullah Saleh in February. Washington, wary of the growing power of al-Qaeda, has stepped up diplomatic efforts to isolate the militants, with the backing of Saleh’s successor, President Abdrabuh Mansour Hadi.

A neighbour who identified himself only as Fahad said he had noticed strangers roaming the streets over the past three days, suggesting Aqlan was being watched before the attack.

“Once he (Aqlan) stepped out of his house the men shouted his name and when he replied, they shot him in the head and neck,” he said. Aqlan, who was in his 50s and had worked at the embassy for more than a decade, was responsible for coordinating security information between the US Embassy and the Yemeni authorities, the source added. In Washington, US State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland said that main duties included conducting personnel checks ahead of the “foreign service national investigative unit” and serving as a liaison with Yemeni security services. He worked within the office of the embassy’s “regional security officer,” who is responsible protecting the embassy, its personnel and information. She also said initial reports that he was involved in the investigation into the attack last month on the US Embassy by protesters angry over an anti-Islam film made in the United States were incorrect. “We condemn this vicious act in the strongest terms,” the spokeswoman said but declined to comment on who may have been behind the attack or why Aqlan may have been targeted, saying it may or may not have had anything to do with his work.

There have been a number of killings and assassination attempts on security officials and politicians since Yemen’s army drove Islamist fighters out of several southern towns earlier this year. Last month Abdulilah Al-Ashwal, a senior intelligence official, was killed in a drive-by shooting in Sanaa. Restoring stability in Yemen has become an international priority due to fears that al-Qaeda could become further entrenched in a country which flanks oil producer Saudi Arabia and lies along major international shipping lanes. AQAP, regarded as al-Qaeda’s strongest regional affiliate, has mounted operations in Saudi Arabia and tried to launch attacks against the United States.

Turkey says Syria plane carried Russian munitions

A Syrian passenger plane which was forced to land sits at Esenboga airport in Ankara on 10 Oct, 2012. — Reuters

ISTANBUL, 12 Oct — Turkish Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan said on Thursday a Syrian passenger plane forced to land in Ankara was carrying Russian-made missile munitions destined for Syria’s armed forces, ratcheting up regional tensions as the war’s conflict turns to the stir- tgement. Damascus said the plane had been carrying legitimate cargo and described Turkey’s actions as an act of “air piracy”, while Moscow accused Ankara of endangering the lives of Russian passengers when it intercepted the jet late on Wednesday.

The grounding of the plane was another sign of Ankara’s growing assertiveness towards the crisis in Syria.

Turkey’s chief of staff warned on Wednesday the military would use greater force if Syrian shells continued to land in Turkey. “We are ready to do whatever is necessary,” Defense Minister, Erdogan told a news conference. A spokesman for Moscow’s Vnukovo airport told state news agency Itar-Tass everything put on the plane had cleared customs and security checks and no prohibited items were on board.

Asked about Erdogan’s statement, the Russian Foreign Ministry referred to her remarks and declined further comment. Russia’s arms export agency said it had no cargo on the flight, and the Interfax news agency quoted a Russian diplomat as saying the cargo seized by Turkey was not of Russian origin.

Erdogan, whose chief Ghada Abdulatif said in Damascus the plane had been carrying civilian electrical equipment, has become one of Syria’s President Bashar al-Assad’s hardest critics during a 19-month-old uprising that has killed some 30,000 people, providing sanctuary for rebel officers and pushing for a foreign-protected safe zone inside Syria.

Russia has stood behind Assad and an arms industry source said Moscow had not stopped its weapons exports to Damascus. Military jets escorted the Airbus A-320, carrying around 30 passengers, into Ankara airport after Turkey received an intelligence tip-off. The Turkish foreign ministry said the plane had been given a chance to turn back towards Russia while still over the Black Sea, but the pilot chose not to do so.

Hezbollah confirms it sent drone downed over Israel

A still image taken from Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) video footage shows what they say is a small unidentified aircraft shot down in a mid-air interception after it crossed into southern Israel on 6 Oct, 2012. —Reuters

BEIRUT, 12 Oct — Lebanese Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah acknowledged on Thursday sending a drone aircraft that was shot down last weekend after flying some 25 miles into Israel. Nasrallah said in a televised speech that the drone’s parts were manufactured in Iran and it was assembled by members of the Shi’ite Muslim militant movement in Lebanon. He confirmed a statement by Israel’s prime minister earlier in the day saying that Hezbollah was behind the drone flight.

“The resistance in Lebanon sent a sophisticated reconnaissance aircraft from Lebanon... It penetrated the enemy’s iron procedures and entered occupied southern Palestine,” Nasrallah said. He did not recognize the state of Israel. Tensions have increased in the region with Israel threatening to bomb the nuclear sites of Hezbollah’s patron Iran if diplomacy and sanctions fail to stop Iranian nuclear activity the United States says must never develop a weapons capability. Teheran says it is seeking only civilian nuclear energy.

Iran has threatened in turn to attack US military bases in the Middle East and retaliate with cyber attacks. Seeking to underline that Hezbollah was capable of reaching targets well inside Israel, Nasrallah said the drone “flew over sensitive installations inside southern Palestine and was shot down in an area near the Demona nuclear reactor.” —Reuters
Space shuttle Endeavour set for road trip to final Los Angeles home

Los Angeles—12 Oct—The retired space shuttle Endeavour was getting set on Thursday for a road trip unlike any of its previous journeys, one that will see it crawl through the streets of Los Angeles instead of hurtling through the solitary reaches of space. Endeavour will nurse its way out of Los Angeles International Airport at about 2 am on Friday as it begins a two-day ground journey atop a massive wheeled transporter to its final resting place at the California Science Centre on the edge of downtown.

“It’s a working piece of American history. It’s a fantastic technical innovation. It represents the very best, I think, of what people can do when they decide to cooperate and do good things,” said Ken Phillips, aerospace curator at the science centre, where the hulking craft will go on public display.

The California Science Centre beat out a number of other institutions when NASA chose it as the permanent home for the 80-ton winged spaceship that flew from 1992 to 2011. Endeavour has hop-scothed across the country from Cape Canaveral, Florida, on the back of a modified Boeing 747. Spectators have cheered and wept at the sight of the space vehicle, which was taken out of service due to the historic end of the NASA shuttle programme that began with a launch in 1981.

Endeavour has been parked at Los Angeles International Airport since 21 September, when it arrived there after a ceremonial piggyback flight around California. Workers have felled 400 curbside trees along Endeavour’s 12-mile path to ease its road journey. The California Science Centre will plant more than 1,000 trees along the route in place of those uprooted.

Los Angeles City Councilwoman Jan Perry said that when the Endeavour flew over the city last month, she and her colleagues ran up to the roof of City Hall where they watched it with tears in their eyes.

Perry said she remained apprehensive about the road journey, when she said Endeavour will pass through intersections with as little as 6 inches of clearance. She also anticipates large crowds along the way.”It’s once in a lifetime opportunity to see the space shuttle come down your neighborhood streets,” Perry said. “How often does that happen”? Los Angeles police plan to begin closing streets as early as 10 pm on Thursday to prepare for what organizers are calling “Mission 26,” in reference to the shuttle’s 25 previous missions into space. Soon after rolling out of the Los Angeles airport, the shuttle will pass through the nearby city of Inglewood where on Saturday morning it will be star in a massive rally outside an arena where the Los Angeles Lakers once played.—Reuters

Amazon gets US FCC’s OK to sell Kindle Fire 4G tablets

San Francisco, 12 Oct—Amazon.com Inc (AAPL.O) received approval from the US Federal Communications Commission to sell its high-end Kindle Fire 4G tablets, a company spokeswoman said on Wednesday. Amazon unveiled the new tablets last month but the devices had not secured FCC clearance.

The company had to put disclaimers on Web pages and emails promoting the products. FCC approval is required for wireless communications devices to assure that they operate safely and do not improperly interfere with other signals.

The new gadgets are important for Amazon as the world’s largest retailer tries to compete with Apple Inc (AAPL.O) for a slice of the booming tablet market. Amazon brought out a cheap 7 inch Kindle Fire last year, but the new versions come in larger sizes and the most expensive models sport 4G LTE wireless connectivity.

Last month, attorneys and analysts familiar with FCC compliance procedures said the FCC was unlikely to reject the Amazon devices out of hand, or prolong the approval process past its shipping date.

But they said it was unusual for a company to announce major new products without first getting the sign-off from the agency. Amazon is accepting pre-orders now and plans to ship the 4G devices on 26 November.

A company spokesman said last month that Amazon expected to receive FCC approval before 26 November. A company spokesman said last month that Amazon expected to receive FCC approval before 26 November.

Internet shopping drives Australia Post profit

Sydney, 12 Oct—Australia’s love of online shopping has helped Australia Post deliver a 17 percent jump in annual profit, buoyed by a technology once thought to spell the death knell for post offices.

Online sales have been a bright spot in an otherwise lacklustre Australian retail environment, with a local bank estimating Internet-based sales in the year to July 2012 rose 30 percent to A$14 billion. Australia Post reported an overall net profit of A$281 million, and said its parcel division was running at peak levels throughout the year, a trend previously only seen during the hectic Christmas period.

Its traditional mail business, however, has been hit by the rise of Internet email and other electronic communications, costing a loss of A$148 million. In contrast to Australia Post’s bumper earnings, the US Postal Service reported a $5.2 billion loss in just the April through June period.—Reuters

UNSG’s Message on the International Day for Disaster Reduction

13 October 2012

Following is UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon’s message for the International Day for Disaster Reduction, observed on 13 October:

This year’s observance of the International Day for Disaster Reduction seeks to highlight the need for women and girls to be at the forefront of reducing risk and managing the world’s response to natural hazards.

Across the world, women and girls are using their roles within families and communities to strengthen risk reduction.

In Bangladesh, women organized themselves to prepare for and respond to floods by teaching other women how to build portable clay ovens and elevate houses.

In South Africa, marginalized adolescent girls have been empowered to help design plans to reduce the impact of disasters and severe weather.

In the Bolivian Altiplano, indigenous women have consolidated traditional agricultural and climatic knowledge, which resulted in significant reduction of crop losses from hail, frost and flooding.

In Vietnam, villagers have been introduced to disaster reduction issues through customised radio soap operas that incorporate real-life examples and stories from local women.

And following the tsunami and earthquake in Tohoko region, Japan, women played a central role in re-establishing income opportunities, with a special focus on single mothers.

Such efforts advance understanding of how communities can benefit from encouraging women to take leadership roles in disaster risk reduction, and will only become more valuable as climate change intensifies and as the world struggles to cope with extreme weather and disasters that affect an average of more than 200 million people annually.

On this International Day for Disaster Reduction, let us recognize that, as the theme of this year’s observance declares, women and girls are the “[in]visible Force of Resilience”.

China sets sights on collecting samples from Mars

BEIJING, 12 Oct—China, which has yet to put a person on the moon, aims to land probes on more distant Mars to collect samples by 2030, the chief scientist of its lunar orbiter project said in remarks repeated on Wednesday.

China’s ambition to reach Mars is a reflection of its growing economic might, allowing it to develop its space exploration capability. Bringing back samples from Mars was set as a top priority in a recent US-China priorities review, although the cost has been seen as astronomical. But a planning group put out a report in September on how to accomplish the mission affordably. Ouyang Ziyuan, chief scientist of China’s lunar orbiter project, was quoted by the official news agency Xinhua as saying that a three-phase probe to Mars was envisaged: Briefing the Chinese Society of Astronautics on the moon-landing orbiter Chang’e-3, he said that program could help build a telecommunications network that covers a future Mars probe. Chang’e-3 is expected to be launched in the second half of 2013. The three stages of the Mars probe will entail remote sensing, soft-landing and exploration, and the probe would return after automatic sampling, Ouyang said.

Businessmen sit at computer screens checking the Internet and their email in the AOL Cybercafe at in Beverly Hills on 18 April, 2005.— Reuters
US jobless falls to lowest in four and half years

People wait in line to enter a job fair in New York on 15 Aug, 2011. — Reuters

WASHINGTON, 12 Oct — The number of Americans filing new claims for jobless benefits slid last week to the lowest level in more than four and a half years, according to government data that may provide a boost to President Barack Obama a month before voters go to the polls. The Labour Department report on Thursday was the latest to suggest improvement in the jobs market, though the surprisingly large 30,000 drop in new claims may have reflected distortions due to seasonal adjustments that are likely to be smoothed out in coming weeks.

“The overall trend seems to be that the labour market is improving,” said Brian Kim, a currency strategist at RBS Securities in Stamford, Connecticut. A Labour Department analyst said seasonal factors had predicted a very large increase in claims last week, which he said would be typical for the first week of the quarter. Unadjusted claims did rise, but far less than expected, resulting in the sharp drop in the seasonally adjusted figure. He noted that one state reported a decline in claims last week when a rise had been expected. No states had reported a decline for the report, he said.

“We will likely see some payback in the claims data reported next week that through this potential volatility, it does look like the trend in the claims is improving somewhat,” said Dan Silver, an economist at JP Morgan. Silver said that California, given its large population and past “massive swings” in its claims data, was probably the state that caused the sharp drop in the seasonally adjusted figure. But Paul Harris, director of the California Employment Development Department, said the state was not to blame. Harris said California had reported all its unemployment insurance claims on time. According to a published report stating it had not was “incorrect and inaccurate.” A second Labour Department official said “a processing issue” resulted in the state, which he did not identify, reporting fewer claims than expected. — Reuters

BoE to add 50 billion pounds to QE next month on muted recovery

LONDON, 12 Oct — A lukewarm recovery from recession and falling inflation will spur the Bank of England to top up its asset-buying programme with another 50 billion pounds next month, a Reuters poll showed on Thursday.

The economy, meanwhile, probably bounced back to growth of 0.6 percent last quarter, supported by better weather, extra working days and the London Olympic Games, the poll of more than 70 economists taken in the past week predicted.

But it will only expand between 0.2 percent and 0.4 percent in the following four quarters, according to forecasts unchanged from a poll taken last month. “Indicators suggest the economy is barely achieving some growth, which means the BoE will probably have to downgrade its growth forecast again — and continue to add to stimulus with more QE in November,” said Azad Zangana at Schroders. Britain fell back into its second recession in four years at the turn of the year as tough government austerity measures and the euro zone debt crisis stifled the economy.

Gross domestic product contracted for a third quarter between April and June, by 0.4 percent, depressed by one-off factors including unusually wet weather and an extra public holiday to mark Queen Elizabeth’s 60 years on the throne. The International Monetary Fund cuts its economic forecasts for Britain on Monday and said more BoE stimulus — and possibly higher public spending or tax cuts — may be needed if the outlook darkens.

The IMF forecast Britain’s economy would shrink 0.4 percent this year, before growing by a 1.1 percent in 2013, down sharply from its July forecasts of 0.2 percent growth in 2012 and 1.4 percent growth the year after.

Britain’s GDP will end the current year 0.3 percent smaller than how it started, the Reuters poll said, knocked by a downturn in the euro zone — its biggest export market — but agreed with the IMF’s 2013 prediction.

The poll’s 2013 forecast slipped for a fourth month and the IMF said a mix of government austerity, the crisis in parts of the euro zone and higher oil prices had “increased risk and unpredictability”.


Vaccine manufacturers meet in Indonesia to fight infectious diseases

JAKARTA, 12 Oct — The 13th annual meeting of developing countries vaccine manufacturers’ network (DCVMN) is being held here from Monday to Wednesday, from 11 to 13 October to 2 November to fight against infectious diseases in developing countries, local media reported on Thursday.

“Infected disease is still epidemic in many developing countries, prevention of spread can be achieved by increasing capacities of vaccines,” said Rahman Rustan, Chairman of the meeting organizer. Rahman added that the meeting will also encourage vaccine research and development to promote availability and quality of vaccines for developing countries. DCVMN meeting is expected to be a strategic bridge for developing countries to jointly research and develop new vaccines and achieve the goal of healthier communities, he said. According to Rahman, the meeting will be attended by 37 vaccine manufacturers from 14 developing countries including China and India.

The DCVMN was founded in 2000 and groups more than 40 members. As a voluntary and non-profit public health driven association of vaccine manufacturers from developing countries, DCVMN aims to make a consistent supply of quality vaccines that are accessible to developing countries. — Xinhua
Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives Swedish parliamentary delegation

Nav Pyi Taw, 12 Oct—Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received Second Deputy Speaker of Swedish Parliament Mr Ulf Holm and party at Pyithu Hluttaw meeting hall in Hluttaw Complex here this evening.

Present at the call were Secretary of Pyithu Hluttaw—Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union Minister for Foreign Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission U Khin Maung Soe, U Than Tun and personnel of Hluttaw Office.

Their discussion focused on matters related to bilateral ties and cooperation between the two countries and promotion of cooperation between the two parliaments.—MNA

Union Foreign Affairs
Minister discusses cooperation with Carter Center

Nav Pyi Taw, 12 Oct—Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Wama Maung Lwin received Ms Sarah Levi-Shore from The Carter Center, the United States of America at 16.00 pm at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs today.

During the meeting, they cordially discussed cooperation between Myanmar and The Carter Center.—MNA

Chairman of the association U Sai Ba Nyan and Chairman of the group U Win Shwe formally opened the show and viewed round display of fruits.

Next, Deputy Minister Dr Pwint Hsan and Chairman U Sai Ba Nyan made speeches.

On the first day, Ingapu Agricultural Farm manager U Htay Lin and Azin Agricultural Farm manager U Min Hein Win read the papers on production of pomelo, and on the second day, Executive/Expert Dr Than Than Sein of the association, Mr Chan Seng Kit of FAO and U Myo Myint read the papers on safety fruits production.

On 7 October, resource persons and pomelo growers held discussions. The chairman and executives of the association awarded the winners in the contest.

Myanmar, India to cooperate in cultural sector

Nav Pyi Taw, 12 Oct—Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu met with Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Dr V. S. Seshadri, at minister’s office here, this noon.

At the call, they had a cordial discussion on cultural cooperation between two countries, works for renovation of Ananda Pagoda in Bagan Region in cooperation with Archaeology Survey of India (ASI) and future cooperation.—MNA

Basic martial arts concludes at UDNR

Mandalay, 12 Oct—University for Development of National Races is nurturing the students to become outstanding persons who will contribute towards development of national races. Seven coaches from Myanmar Martial Arts Federation trained 72 male trainees and 166 female trainees from BEA five-year
**Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham receives former Governor of New Mexico**

Nay Pyi Taw, 12 Oct—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham received former Governor of the State of New Mexico of US Mr Bill Richardson and party at Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace here this morning.

Present on the occasion together with Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham were Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Thant Kyaw and officials.

The two sides frankly discussed assistance for capacity building of Myanmar Parliament and MPs, matters related to crime and punishment, investment in energy and telecommunications sectors, and assistance to Myanmar in necessary sectors.

**Republic of the Union of Myanmar**

**Union Election Commission**

Nay Pyi Taw

**Announcement No. (40/2012)**

12th Waning of Tawthalin, 1374 ME

12th October, 2012

**Five Defence Services Personnel**

Region Hluttaw or State Hluttaw representatives substituted

According to the request made in accord with Section 33 of Region Hluttaw or State Hluttaw Election Law to substitute five Defence Services Personnel Region Hluttaw or State Hluttaw representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in the first multiparty democracy general election held on 7 November 2010, the Union Election Commission scrutinized and substituted the following five Defence Services Personnel Region Hluttaw or State Hluttaw representatives hereunder in Notification No. 3 of 2011 on the commission dated 20-10-2011 and No. 56 of 2011 of the commission dated 20-10-2011 with personnel shown against them.

**Kachin State Hluttaw**

1. (Substitution) BC 33230
   - Major Yazar Hlaing
   - BC 28324
   - Major Kyaw Thu Win

2. (Substitution) BC 27328
   - Major Saw Aung Thaik
   - BC 29132
   - Major Kyaw Thu Win

Bago Region Hluttaw

3. (Substitution) BC 33209
   - Major Myat Ko Ko
   - BC 24860
   - Major Htain Win

4. (Substitution) BC 33219
   - Major Kyaw Zin Htet
   - BC 26166
   - Major Zaw Lwin

Yangon Region Hluttaw

5. (Substitution) BC 31123
   - Major Aung Aung
   - BC 25245
   - Major Kyaw Zin Oo

By order,
- (Win Ko)
  - Member

Union Election Commission

**Stimulant tablets worth K 118 million seized in Lashio**

Htay of Lashio Special Anti-Drug Squad of Shan State (North) and party searched two motorcycles driven by Lamai Naw Taung, 45, son of U Lamai Tun of Region 4 of Ward 6 in Kutkai and Keng Sein Yi, 41 on Shwethein Road near Royal Rose teashop in Ward 12 of Lashio at 6.30 pm on 6 October.

The authorities seized 295 packets of WY brand pink stimulant tablets containing 59000 weighing 5.31 kilos worth K 118 million.

Lashio No 2 Police Station opened files of lawsuit against the two drug traffickers.

**UEC Chairman meets In-charge representative of Carter Center**

Nay Pyi Taw, 12 Oct—Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye received In-charge representative Sarah Levit Shore from US-based the Carter Center, at his office, here, this morning.

At the call, they had a discussion on providing aids to Myanmar’s election affairs.

Also present were UEC members U Myint Naing, U Aung Myint, U Nyunt Tin, U Win Ko and officials.—MNA

**UEC Chairman U Tin Aye receives In-charge representative Sarah Levit Shore of US-based Carter Center.**—MNA

**First ever IAC launched in Nay Pyi Taw GPO**

Nay Pyi Taw, 12 Oct—“Myanmar and the Republic of Korea have cooperated in communication and ICT sector long time ago. ICT plays a crucial role in development of various sectors and has great impact on social and economic development of the nation,” said Union Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Thein Tun in his address at launching of information center at Nay Pyi Taw General Post Office here this morning.

The Union Minister expressed his special thanks to the Korean government at Nay Pyi Taw General Post Office for easy public accessibility is the first of its kind in Myanmar and is aimed to support the ICT development of the country and infrastructural development for introduction of e-government system.

Equipped with training division, internet room and seminar room, the center can be used for conducting IT courses, free public internet access point, and holding seminar, workshop, meeting and video conference. Present on the occasion were Korean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Kim Hae-Yong, senior officials from Ministry of Public Administration and Security and National Information Society Agency (NIA), the deputy CPT minister and officials, personnel of Myanmar Computer Association and invited guests.

After the ceremony, the two ministers held talks on accelerated cooperation in ICT development at the CPT Ministry. The two ministers signed Cooperation in the Area of Informatization between the CPT Ministry of Ministry of Public Administration and Security of Korea.—MNA

**Mr Bill Richardson**
Disaster risk reduction

The nightmare of devastating cyclone Nargis is still haunting Myanmar people who were left cursed with wind phobia since it had proven the destructive power of nature. So weak are we to defend ourselves from cruel blow of environmental catastrophe, but still we can do something to reduce the risks.

Nature is often blamed each time disaster strikes. But, we seldom think about human actions that escalate risk and turn danger into disaster. Nowadays, global population live amidst flood, droughts, tsunamis and earthquakes which now and then appear as headlines on newspapers around the world.

Today marks the International Day for Disaster Reduction 2012, highlighting the role of prevention against disaster. Disaster risk reduction is about understanding our personal and environmental risks of a hazard like earthquake, flood and landslides and seeking ways to reduce this risk so that we are not affected by them or be able to bounce back quickly even if we are affected.

Despite the employment of state-of-the-art technologies in early warning system in developed countries, disasters still inflict heavy casualties. Vulnerability to disaster is growing faster than resilience. In case of Japan, though it had prepared adequately for earthquakes, it still was caught off guard under the sudden attack of catastrophic tsunamis, accentuating the unpredictability of disaster.

It should not be neglected that Myanmar is prone to earthquake, storm and floods due to its geographical features and there have been firm evidences. Therefore, preventive measures must be taken to help reduce disaster risk and it is not the responsibility of the government alone but everyday concern for everybody.

Two persons seized for ordering children to beg

MANDALAY, 12 Oct—At 10 am on 24 September, workers of Sanitation Department under Mandalay City Development Committee seized Ma Hla Win Yi, 19, of Chawseik in Mahaaungmyay Township and Ko Sanay (a) Thein Win, 30 of Chaung Village in Ayeyawady Region for their acts to forcibly order the children to beg the people of Sanitation Department under Mandalay City Development Committee seized Ma Hla Win Yi, 19, of Chawseik in Mahaaungmyay Township and Ko Sanay (a) Thein Win, 30 of Chaung Village in Ayeyawady Region for their acts to forcibly order the children to beg the people.

At 6.30 pm, President Mr Lee Myung-bak hosted a dinner to Myanmar goodwill delegation, at President Residence.

In the evening, the Myanmar goodwill delegation flew to Myanmar via Seoul.—MNA

Capital income would be most salient point of socio-economic development

NAV PVT TAW, 12 Oct—In order to fulfill the requirement of capital income, the most salient point of socio-economic development of rural people, conditions of carrying out micro economic programmes, opening of new village activity plan offices, providing more assistance to arise model villages, establishing rural libraries, sending trainees and skilled persons to villages to provide vocational trainings, providing technical know-how for those trainings and signing MoU between the two countries to implement such kinds of works were discussed by Union Minister for Cooperatives U Kyaw Hsan in meeting with Mr Maeng Hyung Kyo, President of Public Administration and Security of the Republic of Korea and party at the Ministry here, this morning.—MNA

Illegal timbers, logs seized in Bago Region

NAV PVT TAW, 12 Oct—The Forest Department under the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry is joining hands with the people in taking action against those of illegal extraction of timbers and forest products and illegal trafficking of logs.

According to the information that illegal teak sawn timber and teak door frames were found at an oil bowser confiscated at Zigon Township Police Force for traffic accident 7.30 am on 4 October, a team led by the Staff Officer of Forest Department together with Myanmar police force members, ward administrators and local people inspected the bowser and seized illegal sawn teak timber, teak door frames and door timbering weighing 3.5804 tons. On 6 October, the authorities seized 229 logs of teak weighing 33.5820 tons, 976 pieces of sawn teak timber weighing 13.3202 tons, 6286 teak door frames weighing 2.6400 tons, 507 pieces of teak weighing 9.6614 tons, six logs of hardwood weighing 1.1680 tons, 33 teak doors weighing 0.3158 ton, totaling 68.2604 tons, one illegal saw mill and related equipment. Arrangements are being made to take action against the crime brokers under the law.—Myanma Alinn
Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham receives Korean Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Oct—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham received a courtesy call from the Korean Minister of Public Administration and Security Mr Maeng, Hyang Kyu of the Republic of Korea and party at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace here this evening.

Present at the call together with Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham were Under-Secretary-General of the Government, Communications, Posts and Telecommunications U Thein Tun, Deputy Ministers Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint, U Zin Yaw and U Ye Htut and personnel. The Korean Minister was accompanied by Korean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Kim Hae-Yong and Resident Representative of KOICA (Myanmar Office) Mr Shin Man Shik.

They frankly discussed cementing of bilateral ties, human resources development in education, health and technology sectors and further cooperation in other economic sectors.—MNA

Government has proven itself to carry…

(from page 16)

Preparedness and preventive measures are to be enhanced and speed up. That’s why, one of the reasons, the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) is encouraging its member countries to allocate State fund for disaster risk reduction activities, not just in the country, but also in the region to keep abreast with the neighbouring countries. The ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) was successfully established in Jakarta, Indonesia to enable dissemination of information on natural disaster management and emergency relief assistance among ASEAN member countries, and Myanmar is one of the signatories of the Agreement on the Establishment of AHA Centre.

In conclusion, he called for active participation of the entire public, in the disaster awareness programmes, preparedness, emergency response, rehabilitation and resettlement, the inclusion of natural disaster risk reduction in the plans of all relevant departments, and social organization to be able to carry out their respective responsibilities.

Afterwards, UNRC Resident Coordinator Mr. Bijay Karmachara read out the message sent by UN Secretary-General on the International Day for Disaster Reduction. Union Ministers Dr Dw Taw Myat Oo Hnin, U Aung Kyi, U Thein Tun, U Nyan Tun Aung, U Khin Yi, Dr Mya Aye, Dr Pe Thein Khin and UNRC Resident Coordinator Mr. Bijay Karmachara awarded winner students of the essay, painting, poem and article contests.

As a gesture of the International Day for Disaster Reduction, those present on the occasion enjoyed the movie on rehearsal for “Tsunami”, made in Thingangyi Village in Labutta District in Labutta Township in 11 October.

The Union Ministers and guests, then, viewed documentary photos in the booth.—MNA

Breeding of broilers inspected

Union Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint inspected breeding of broilers at the livestock breeding farm of Feedstuff and Dairy Products Enterprise in Khaingkamm Village of Tiddim on 10 October.

Development tasks in Twantay,

Kawhmu Tsp inspected

Yangon Region Minister for Development Affairs Yangon Mayor U Hla Myint on 8 October looked into progress of Yegyaw Bridge construction project in Twantay Township and donated exercise books and stationery to basic education schools in Hsukalat Yegyaw Village of Kawhmu Township.

Preliminary meeting on ICT Investment Forum held

Deputy Minister for Communications, Posts and Telecommunications U Thaung Tin stressed the needs to discuss application for e-Government Sector and business opportunity at the preliminary meeting of ICT Investment Forum held at the ministry on 10 October.

Repaved road put into service

The repaved Shwechi-2 Street was commissioned into service in Pinnama of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 11 October morning. The road is 3500 feet long and 18 feet wide, built at a cost of K 70 million.

Four electric cars donated to Yangon Region Government

Four electric cars Rupa Theikdi Electric Car Co based on research of ILBC were donated to Yangon Region Government at the latter’s office on 11 October. The car carries six 12V batteries. The batteries generated electricity for four hours can be used for 100 km drive and 80km/hr.
Hunt for 10-year-old Colorado girl turns up dismembered body

WESTMINSTER, 12 Oct — The search for a 10-year-old Colorado girl who went missing on her way to school has led to the discovery of a dismembered body at a park several miles from where the fifth-grader vanished, police said on Thursday. But Westminster Police Inspector Trevor Materasso said authorities may release the identity of the body on Friday after leaving it at a park in the Denver suburb of Westminster.

Her mother, Sarah Ridgeway, said she last saw her daughter when the girl left home for the short walk to school. A night-shift worker, Sarah Ridgeway said she sleeps during the day and did not hear the phone call from the school notifying her that Jessica was absent, so it was several hours before she was reported missing.

Police said on Wednesday that the girl’s parents were not suspects in their daughter’s disappearance, and they were shifting the probe toward a stranger abduction. The girl’s father, Jeremiah Bryant, lives in Missouri and came to Colorado when he learned his daughter was missing, police said. The causes of national headlines in the days following Jessica’s disappearance, several bloodhound scores and scores of volunteers scoured the girl’s neighborhood looking for any clue to her whereabouts.

Jessica Ridgeway, 10, who vanished on 5 Oct, 2012, after leaving her school in the Denver suburb of Westminster, Colorado is shown in this undated photograph. Reuters

Death toll of US drone strike in Pakistan rises to 16

ISLAMABAD, 12 Oct — The death toll of the US drone strike launched on Thursday in Pakistan’s northwestern tribal region has risen to 16 while leaving several others injured, local media reported. According to local Urdu TV Channel Geo News, the US piloted plane targeted a religious seminary in the Buzurg area of Upper Orakzai, one of Pakistan’s seven northwestern restive tribal regions near Afghanistan border.

The drone fired four missiles at the compound that killed seven people on the spot while injuring 15 others. Local media, quoting some sources, reported that seven people were killed on the spot while nine others succumbed to their injuries on the way to hospital. The seminary was being run under the supervision of Maulvi Shakirullah, who is considered to be a close aid of Haqani Network. There was no report about Shakirullah, whether he was present in the school at the time of attack or not.

Earlier on Wednesday morning, at least five people were killed when an US drone strike fired at a suspected compound in the country’s northwest tribal area of North Waziristan. According to Xinhua’s tally, Thursday’s strike is the 33rd of its kind in Pakistan, coming to the 16th since 2012 in which at least 243 people have been killed so far.

The US and the NATO forces, among their alleged targets believe that Pakistan’s bordering areas especially North Waziristan is the safe haven for Al-Qaeda, who was present in the school at the time of attack or not.

Media reports of Japan’s shift to the right exaggerated: ambassador

WASHINGTON, 12 Oct — Japanese Ambassador to the United States Ichiro Fujisaki on Wednesday described recent US-Japan government shifting to the right following territorial rows with its neighbours as “vastly exaggerated.” “Japan will continue to deal with these issues in a calm manner,” he told reporters on Thursday. While the US-Japan joint statement, the US and Japan’s special representative for Korean Peninsula peace and security issues, the department said.

“The trilateral meeting is part of an ongoing dialogue among the three countries to exchange views on the current situation on the Korean Peninsula and reaffirm our continued close coordination on North Korea issues,” the agency said in a statement. In addition, Davies will hold bilateral consultations with his Japanese and ROK counterparts during his visit to Tokyo next week, the agency noted.

In his eight-day travel to Asia starting on Saturday, which will take him to Japan, ROK, China, Myanmar and India, Deputy Secretary of State William Burns will also discuss the DPRK issue, “We always talk about North Korea when we’re in North Asia and our efforts to try to get them to show some new movement and new commitment in the context of the proposals that the six parties have made,” State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland told reporters on Thursday.

The six-party talks involve the DPRK, ROK, Japan, China, Russia and the United States over denuclearization on the Korean Peninsula. In a 2005 joint statement, the DPRK committed itself to abandoning all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programs and returning at an early date to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

US, Japan, ROK to meet on DPRK Dialogue

WASHINGTON, 12 Oct — On the sidelines of the US, Japan and Republic of Korea (ROK) will meet next week in Tokyo on issues relating to the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK), the US State Department said on Thursday.

The trilateral dialogue slated for 17 October will be attended by Glyn Davies, US special representative for DPRK policy, ShinSUkiyugy, director general for Asian and Oceanian affairs at Japan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Lim Sung-nam, ROK’s special representative for Korean Peninsula peace and security issues, the department said.

“Kudos to the Fund for having the courage to say this, which means bucking some powerful players as well as admitting that its own analysis was flawed,” Krugman wrote on his blog.

While the IMF’s official line was that changing the rules for debt reduction, it urged swifter policy action, both in Europe and in the United States, to remove economic uncertainty and help lift anemic global economic growth. The IMF meetings officially started on Wednesday, with Japan’s Crown Prince in attendance. Lagarde followed with some blunt warnings for the Fund’s 188 member countries that they were losing momentum in reforming the global financial system, a running theme in the days following the report. She said it was not much safer than in 2008, when the collapse of Lehman Brothers triggered a global meltdown.

Death toll of US drone strike in Pakistan rises to 16

© Reuters

The wounded is rushed to a hospital in Turkey’s southeastern province of Diyarbakir on 11 Oct, 2012. One military officer was killed and several others wounded when a military helicopter crashed into a cliff in Turkey’s southeastern province of Diyarbakir on Thursday, private Dogan news agency reported. — Xinhua

The US media had argued that Japan’s shift was developing into an “emotional one” and handing the matter peacefully. He also said the US government has repeatedly confirmed that it does not want nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programs and returning at an early date to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

Meanwhile, the Japanese Embassy in the United States protested against The Wall Street Journal’s advertising of advertisements on Wednesday placed by Taiwan promoting the China over the Japan-administered Senkaku Islands, claimed by China and Taiwan, and with South Korea over the islets in the Sea of Japan known in Japan as Takeshima and in South Korea as Dokdo. The day of using force or coercion to solve disputes over land should be left in the last century, Fujisaki said, noting the importance of preventing the issue from developing into an “emotional one” and handling the matter peacefully. He also said the US government has repeatedly confirmed that the Senkaku Islands are covered by Japan-US Security Treaty, “So there is no reason to constitute an important deterrence,” he said.

While the US-Japan joint statement, the US and Japan’s special representative for Korean Peninsula peace and security issues, the department said.

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Crown Prince gives thanks for intl support for disaster-hit Japan

Tokyo, 12 Oct — Japanese Crown Prince Naruhito on Friday extended his gratitude for the international support after the 2011 earthquake and tsunami struck northeastern Japan, at the annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

In the opening address of the plenary meeting, the crown prince said, “I am glad that today I can show you a nation that is recovering steadily from the damage, thanks to the support of the international community.”

Noting that international cooperation is crucial in promoting economic growth, stabilizing international finance, restoring employment and reducing poverty, he expressed hope that the IMF and the World Bank will play an increasingly important role in tackling the global challenges.

The crown prince said Japan recognized the importance of mutual assistance and solidarity after the deadly earthquake, adding such values are also important to the international community.

“I hope that the annual meetings held here in Japan will offer an opportunity to strengthen the solidarity among countries, which will help to promote our efforts in unity for addressing global challenges,” he said.

Japan, China officials agree to seek breakthrough in frayed ties over Senkakus

Tokyo, 12 Oct — Senior Japanese and Chinese government officials agreed on Thursday to hold bilateral vice minister-level talks soon to seek a breakthrough regarding a territorial dispute which has severely strained relations between the two countries over recent months, the Japanese Foreign Ministry said.

The agreement was reached at a meeting in Tokyo between Shinsuke Sugiyama, director general of the Japanese ministry’s Asian and Oceanian Affairs Bureau, and Luo Zhaohui, director general of the Chinese Foreign Ministry’s Asian Affairs Department, it said.

The territorial dispute over the Japanese-administered Senkaku Islands in the East China Sea intensified after the Japanese government purchased three of the five main islands in the group from their Japanese owner a month ago.

China claims that the islands have been part of its territory since ancient times and that Japan “stole” the islands from China in 1895 at the end of the Sino-Japanese War.

Toyota recalls 53,000 cars in Indonesia

Jakarta, 12 Oct — A total of 53,000 Toyota cars in Indonesia have been recalled due to faulty window switches, local media reported on Friday.

The recall applies to Yaris, Vios, Corolla Altis and Camry models produced between 2006 and 2008, Toyota Asia Motor’s marketing director, Joko Trisianto, said on Thursday.

He added that the recall was part of the global recall of 7.43 million vehicles announced on Wednesday by Japan-based Toyota.

“Indonesia, we’ve identified that four models produced in Thailand in 2006-08, namely the Yaris, Vios, Corolla Altis and Camry, are probably having a problem with their master power-window switches,” Joko said.

The prime ministers of the three countries will sign a joint declaration at the end of the summit, according to the release.

Joko said a lack of lubrication used to smooth the master switch’s movements was likely to blame for the problem, which was not with the driver’s side window, but with the cars’ three other windows.

According to him, Toyota Asia Motor, the sole distributor of Toyota vehicles in Indonesia, would soon ask local owners of the four cars to pay a visit to their nearest Toyota dealer.

“Our dealers are preparing to make calls and are scheduling the checks,” Joko said.

Indonesia’s Bali recalls horror of bombs 10 years on

Kuta, (Indonesia), 12 Oct — Worshippers at the Ar-Rahmat mosque in the Indonesian town of Kuta have prayed every night for the past 10 years for the victims of bombs that blew up in their tourist town on Bali island in 2002. “We will pray for the rest of our lives,” said Usman, a Kuta resident, wearing a white gown and skullcap that mark him out as a Muslim on the mostly Hindu Indonesian island.

Usman heard the explosions on 12 Oct, 2002, when two Islamist suicide bombers set off explosives at nightclubs packed with tourists killing 202 people, including 88 Australians and one of Usman’s close friends, whose remains were never found. The blasts, just over a year after the 11 Sept, 2001, attacks on the United States, were a watershed for Indonesia, a secular state with the world’s largest population of Muslims, the majority of whom are moderate. The bombs forced Indonesia to confront the presence of a small but dedicated group of followers of Osama bin Laden bent on attacking Western targets.

For Australia, the Bali bombs were the worst peace-time attack on its citizens, many of whom regard a holiday on Bali as a sun-drenched rite of passage.

One effect of the attacks was to strengthen relations between the neighbors who had long eyed each other suspiciously. Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard and Indonesian Foreign Minister Marty Natalegawa, along with relatives of some of Usman’s friends, attended a ceremony in Bali on Friday to commemorate the 10th anniversary.

“They attacked our people and through them, sought to overwhelm our values. Here on these bustling streets, they inflicted hearing pain and grief that will never end,” Gillard told the commemoration.

“But even as the debris fell, it was obvious the attack on our sense of ourselves — as Australians, as human beings — had failed,” she said.

The attack also scarred Bali, a majority Hindu island until then seen as a tropical paradise of gentle people, temples and rice terraces shimmering on the fertile flanks of volcanoes.

Workers place flowers on a photo of a 2002 Bali bomb blasts victim, in front of the memorial monument, ahead of the tenth anniversary of the incident in Kuta, Bali on 11 Oct, 2012. — Reuters
Five countries, Romero said. — to authorities of the five South American countries.

Bolivia, Brazil, Peru to forge transit for drugs, mostly headed to Brazil and Europe.

It is essential to hold a trilateral meeting to coordinate

Promising as it is, the project has its critics. The main objection is to the deal for a Dutch firm to supply the equipment for the power plant in east China's Shanghai. The largest project of landfill gas power generation in Asia was connected

Huawei (the Netherlands) a very popular model among

The Hague, 12 Oct — Shortly after a US congressional investigation report published in Washington last week, Huawei and ZTE, two Chinese telecom giants, have been targeted by yet another report, this time by a US government agency. The US Congress issued a report, alleging that Huawei and ZTE, the Chinese telecom companies, have been involved in "suspicious activities." The report says Huawei and ZTE have been involved in "suspicious activities" that could pose a threat to national security.

China's Huawei faces inter's barriers but should not be scared away

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Mila Kunis favourite for Fifty Shades Of Grey role?

London, 12 Oct—Actress Mila Kunis has emerged as the frontrunner for the lead role of Anastasia Steele in the Fifty Shades Of Grey film. The Black Swan actress has been tipped to be cast as Steele in the movie adaptation of the saucy novel after being crowned the Sexiest Woman Alive by men’s magazine Esquire, reported Sun Online.

The 26-year-old brunette’s girl-next-door charm has propelled her to the top of the list of actresses being considered to play the naive female lead, who becomes lured into an S&M lifestyle by billionaire Christian Grey.

Harry Potter star Emma Watson and Twilight actress Kristen Stewart are also favourites to star in the big screen adaptation of EL James’ erotic bestseller. Ryan Gosling and The Vampire Diaries star Ian Somerhalder are popular choices to play mysterious businessman Christian. Meanwhile, Kelly Macdonald has been chosen to write for Universal and Focus Features’ next movie.—PTI

Richard Gere asked to leave restaurant after flirting

New York, 12 Oct—Hollywood actor Richard Gere was ordered out of a restaurant by an irate husband after allegedly flirting with his wife.

Gere’s close attention to an attractive blonde at the restaurant led to confrontation with her angry husband. The 63-year-old actor, who is married to actress Carey Lowell, was told to stay away from the woman after he reportedly left his table to chat to her, reported New York Post online.

“Gere was told to ‘Get out of here’ after he made a beeline for the woman. He had been staring at the woman while they both dined at the restaurant,” a source said.

Gere was at the restaurant celebrating with his agents after picking up a lifetime achievement award at the Hampton’s International Film Festival. Over dinner the unnamed is said to have caught Gere’s eye. “He kept staring at this woman. Her husband seemed agitated by it. He approached the other table. He didn’t acknowledge anyone around her. He was leaning in and trying to talk to her, leaning into her ear,” the source added.

Gere is said to have ignominiously been given the shouted threat, and continued to talk to the woman before making his exit. The husband is said to have followed Gere outside to make sure that he left the restaurant where other A-list celebrities including actress Meryl Streep, Alec Baldwin and Gweneth Paltrow’s mother Blythe Danner were dining.

A spokesman for Gere claimed the incident had been misinterpreted. “Reality is, he was at a table with his agents and their wives. On his way out, he stopped to say hi to the people at that table, and joked with the people briefly before leaving,” said his spokesman.—PTI

Tom Hanks to make Broadway debut in new Nora Ephron play

New York, 12 Oct—Tom Hanks will make his Broadway debut playing a tabloid journalist in “Lucky Guy”, a new drama by the late Nora Ephron, producers said in a statement on Thursday.

The Hollywood star will continue his long collaboration with Ephron who has included “Sleepless in Seattle” in 1993 and “You’ve Got Mail” in 1998. Ephron died in June at the age of 71 of complications from leukemia.

Based on a true story, “Lucky Guy” opens in April next year, the statement said, and dramatizes the rise and fall of former tabloid columnist Mike McAlary as he covers the police scandals of a polarized, crime-ridden 1980s New York. McAlary, died aged 41 in 1998, Hanks, 56, has won two best actor Oscars for his performances in “Philadelphia” and “Forest Gump” and is known for other popular films, but his stage acting has been limited to small Shakespeare productions in the 1970s.

Ephron started a tabloid reporter before becoming known as a writer of essays, books and screenplays. She penned romantic comedies such as 1989’s “When Harry Met Sally”, and wrote and directed 2009’s “Julie & Julia.”

“Lucky Guy” is billed as an off-Broadway play, “Imaginary Friends”, was produced in 2002 and starred Cherry Jones and Swoosie Kurtz. The play was largely panned by critics. She also co-authored “Love, Loss, and What I Wore” with her sister Delia, which was performed Off-Broadway to positive reviews in 2009 and enjoyed a long run followed by a national tour.

Other actors at the event included Chra Hemsworth and Bill Paxton turned out for Matt. Tom had arrived solo, but was soon having fun with his A-list friends. They all had a fantastic night enjoying the raucous stage shows and partying until the end of the night.”

Tom Cruise spanked by a drag queen in London

New Delhi, 12 Oct—Tom Cruise was spanked by a drag queen during a night out in London.

The actor was invited to Matt Damon’s 42nd birthday bash by his All You Need Is Love co-star Emily Blunt whose husband John Krasinski arranged the celebrations at The Box nightclub and Tom and Matt were both cornered by the drag queen.

An insider told The Daily Star newspaper: “Emily Blunt’s husband John Krasinski organized the kinky party, and chose to have it at Simon Hammerstein’s The Box club. He knew the birthday boy would see the funny side. Within the first extra spanking, of course, as it was his special night.”

Other actors at the event included Chris Hemsworth and Bill Paxton who turned out for Matt. Tom had arrived solo, but was soon having fun with his A-list friends.

The insider added: “It was a celebrity-packed night, with stars including Chris Hemsworth and Bill Paxton turning out for Matt. Tom had arrived solo, but was soon having fun with his A-list friends. They all had a fantastic night enjoying the raucous stage shows and partying until the end of the night.”

UK singer Brightman to be Russia’s next space tourist

Moscow, 12 Oct—British singer Sarah Brightman said on Wednesday she had bought a seat to fly on a Russian spaceship, describing it as a chance to live out a childhood desire “beyond her wildest dreams”.

“I am more excited about this than I have been about anything I have done to date,” Brightman, 52, who once had a hit song called “I Lost My Heart to a Starship Trooper”, plans to rocket to some 250 miles (400 km) above Earth to the International Space Station — becoming the first space tourist since Cirque du Soleil founder Guy Laliberte donned a red clown’s nose on his 2008 trip.

“Most of my life I have felt an incredible desire to take the journey to space that I have now begun,” she said.

“2012 is my year to achieve my ambitions, and to be in space,” the singer, who has made a career out of becoming the first tourist.

Cast member Tom Hanks (L) and his wife Rita Wilson arrive for the premiere of the film “Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close” in New York, on 15 Dec, 2011.—REUTERS

Richard Gere with wife Carey Lowell.

Actor Jim Carrey

Jim Carrey dating a 26-year-old make-up artist

New Delhi, 12 Oct—Actor Jim Carrey, 50, is said to be dating a make-up artist in Hollywood — and she’s already worked on many film sets since arriving in the States. She’s very focused on making this work and will do anything she can to make sure she’s successful. “And dating Jim certainly can’t hurt her career. His status will certainly give her a leg up in the industry and open doors for her that could have been more difficult if she didn’t know him.” She’s definitely living in a dream world right now.”

Jim was previously married to waitress Melissa Womer from 1987 to 1995 and his ‘Dumb and Dumber’ co-star Lauren Holly from 1996 to 1997, and to actress. He split from long-term girlfriend Jenny McCarthy in 2010. —PTI

The Insider added: “It was a celebrity-packed night, with stars including Chris Hemsworth and Bill Paxton turning out for Matt. Tom had arrived solo, but was soon having fun with his A-list friends. They all had a fantastic night enjoying the raucous stage shows and partying until the end of the night.”

London, 12 Oct—-The Black Swan actress has been tipped to be cast as Steele in the movie adaptation of the saucy novel after being crowned the Sexiest Woman Alive by men’s magazine Esquire, reported Sun Online.

The 26-year-old brunette’s girl-next-door charm has propelled her to the top of the list of actresses being considered to play the naive female lead, who becomes lured into an S&M lifestyle by billionaire Christian Grey.

Harry Potter star Emma Watson and Twilight actress Kristen Stewart are also favourites to star in the big screen adaptation of EL James’ erotic bestseller. Ryan Gosling and The Vampire Diaries star Ian Somerhalder are popular choices to play mysterious businessman Christian. Meanwhile, Kelly Macdonald has been chosen to write for Universal and Focus Features’ new movie.—PTI
**SPORTS**

**Soccer**

**Brazil's Kaka (L) celebrates with Oscar after Oscar's goal in their international soccer match against Iraq at Swedbank Stadium in Malmo on 11 October, 2012.**

**Tennis**

**Naomi Osaka of Japan (R) and her coach Shizuka Nagashima (L) are seen during a practice session on court one in preparation for the women's singles semi-final at the Australian Open tennis tournament in Melbourne, 30 January, 2013.**

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**Button focuses on F1 constructors’ title**

McLaren Formula One driver Jenson Button of Britain who put his Ferrari’s Fernando Alonso with five races, worth 125 points in total, still to come.

McLaren are second in the constructors’ standings, a far less massive 41 behind champions Red Bull with 43 available at every race.

“We can claw that back (the deficit) in one race,” said the 27-year-old, who is joining Mercedes next year.

“Having the drivers’ championship is such a slim opportunity and if it happens, it happens. But I am not going to get too excited about it.” Hamilton is fourth overall, 42 behind Alonso, after finishing fifth in Japan last Sunday with Button fourth. Red Bull still scored five more points thanks to Sebastian Vettel winning and Australian Mark Webber coming ninth.

Red Bull were dominant in Suzuka, with double world champion Vettel winning from pole and setting the fastest lap but Hamilton was far from downcast after discovering that his car had a mechanical problem. The 2008 champion was particularly relieved that the problem had been traced to a particular part and that his car’s lack of pace was attributable to it rather than a mistake in setup choices.

Hamilton, winner of three races this year, had blamed himself after Suzuka for going in a wrong direction.

“I know my car really well so I know...it’s very rare that I get it wrong and if I do it’s only a little bit wrong and I can still manage with it,” said the 27-year-old, who is joining Mercedes next year.

“But this was worse. I had ever set it up and I was really shocked that I had done that and thought it was my fault. Fortunately after the race the guys did an analysis and found that we had a failure of part of the rear suspension.

“That’s comforting because it means I’m not crazy and happy that we found it so it won’t be a problem this weekend.” —Reuters

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**Kaka scores on return for six-goal Brazil**

Kaka scored on his Brazil comeback after a two-year absence and Oscar notched a brace as the 2014 World Cup hosts demolished Iraq 6-0 in a friendly on Monday.

Brazil coach Luiz Felipe Scolari says the 27-year-old forward is fully recovered from a knee problem that curtailed his 2012 campaign and was expected to play a key role in the team’s World Cup campaign.

Scolari said the returning half-back should have scored more goals in a 3-0 win over Peru, but the former AC Milan playmaker is content to be back in contention.

Brazil’s international stars, including Oscar and Kaka, are returning from the Confederation Cup that finished last month.

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**Soccer**

**Djokovic reaches Shanghai quarters with ease**

Serbia's Novak Djokovic celebrates against Spain's Feliciano Lopez after taking a 6-1, 6-4 victory in their Guangzhou Open first round match in the Shanghai Masters tennis tournament in Shanghai, October 14, 2012.

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**Golf**

**Ashley Cole and Wayne Rooney in training section.**

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**Djokovic reaches Shanghai quarters with ease**

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**Soccer**

**Brazil’s Kaka (L) celebrates with Oscar after Oscar’s goal in their international soccer match against Iraq at Swedbank Stadium in Malmo on 11 October, 2012.**
Uruguay striker Suarez says he must improve attitude

MONTEVIDEO, 12 Oct—Uruguay’s Luis Suarez, in the eye of a diving storm in England, has recognised refereeing decisions to avoid more suspensions.

World Cup qualifier against Argentina in Mendoza return in the 1-1 draw with Ecuador.

carrying a yellow card who will miss Tuesday’s match.

realise what you have to correct,” Suarez told the on Thursday. “I’m 25 and there are things that I must improve on, the pitch, how I’ve played since I was a kid. I try to correct it in my anxiety makes me play that way.

a lot, talk and protest and those are things I must

Suarez was suspended for eight matches last season for biting England’s Gary Cahill during the 2014 World Cup qualifying game in Manaus.

Fisher said he was more nervous watching than he was while making his debut at the biennial team event two years ago.

“I’ve experienced it in Wales and it’s something that I think,” said once—you’ve played in one, you never want to miss another one,” Fisher said of his twice-major winner former team mate, now the world number one.

So that did spur me to get out and work hard. I think 17th in the world was my best, I’m not there now but I’m working hard and I’m improving, so one step at a time and we’ll be back hopefully soon enough.”

Fisher, currently ranked 140, has not won for over two years before he secured a berth at Colín Montgomerie’s 2010 team in Wales and scored two points from four in Europe’s nailbiting one-point triumph.—Reuters

Death toll from meningitis outbreak climbs to 14 in US

WASHINGTON, 12 Oct—At least 14 Americans have been killed, 156 others sickened in a deadly fungal meningitis outbreak linked to contaminated drug, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported on Thursday.

The outbreak has claimed lives in six states—Tennessee, Michigan, Maryland, Florida and Indiana, the CDC said in its latest update. Tennessee remained the hardest-hit state with 49 cases; Michigan added 11 cases and was at 39 on Thursday, with Virginia adding three to reach 30 and Indiana six to reach 21.

Public health officials were contacting patients in 23 states who received the potentially contaminated steroid injection — typically for back pain — and urging them to be tested for the rare fungal infection. The CDC said some 14,000 patients could be at risk of contracting meningitis.

The Food and Drug Administration said it has detected a fungal contaminant in a sealed vial of the drug produced by the New England Compounding Centre. While further testing is required to confirm it was the source of the outbreak, the company has issued a recall of all of its products and shut down all operations.

Mobile Internet access booming in New Zealand

WELLINGTON, 12 Oct—More than half of New Zealanders are now accessing the Internet through their mobile phones, the government statistics agency announced on Friday.

Total Internet connections by mobile phone rose by 34 percent in the 12 months ending June to more than 2.5 million, according to Statistics New Zealand’s Internet Service Provider Survey.

“Smartphone use is rising quickly, and people are increasingly connecting to the Internet using these devices wherever they go,” information and communication technology statistics manager Hamith Hill said in a statement. “Using the Internet to shop, look for places to visit, or even watch their favorite TV shows is becoming a part of everyday life for Kiwis.”

Internet service providers had increased their data caps, so there was more choice and flexibility when surfing the web on fixed broadband connections, he said.

The 31-year-old Englishman, who took a joint one-shot lead in Vilamoura with Scotland’s Stephen Gallacher on Thursday, helped Europe win at Celtic Manor in 2010 but was reduced to being a spectator for last month’s miraculous comeback win at Medinah.

Despite watching Europe reel in a four-point deficit to beat America 14-1/2 - 13-1/2 from his sofa, he said the team’s unexpected success had been a huge moment for him.

“If that doesn’t inspire me and all of these other guys to get in the Ryder Cup then you shouldn’t be playing the game of golf,” Fisher told the European Tour’s website (www.europeantour.com).

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Focus Myanmar TV Programme

* Kid’s Talent
* Trustable and Public Company
* News
* Bagan: The Land of Pagoda
* News
* 24th International Maritime
* English Conference
* Myanmar Movie “Only Mom Can...”

MYANMAR TV
(10-12-2012, Saturday)
7:00 am
1. Paritta By Hilly Region
Missionary Sayadaw
2:25 am
2. To Be Healthy Exercise
7:40 am
3. Niece & Sweet Song
7:45 am
4. Health Programme
7:50 am
5. Documentary
8:05 am
6. Poem Garden
8:20 am
7. Selected Songs For 19th
Myanmar Traditional
Cultural Performing Arts
Competition (2012) (Oldies & Mono
Classical) (Higher Education
Level) (Women)
11:00 am
8. Martial Song
11:50 am
9. Round Up Of The
Week’s TV Local News
10. Teleplay
2:45 pm
11. AFF Cup 2012 Group
Stage Foot ball (Live)
(Laos Vs Myanmar)
4:55 pm
12. Songs for Upholding
National Spirit
5:00 pm
13. International Science
News
5:10 pm
14. Dance of National
Races
5:20 pm
15. Beautiful “ASEAN”
6:35 pm
16. Celebrity and Dinner
8:00 pm
17. News
18. Cartoon Series
19. TV Drama Series
20. Gintagule Phwinbuah
Government has proven itself to carry out disaster risk reduction activities, not just in the country, but also in the region to keep abreast of neighbouring countries.

CBM has yet to give permission to any foreign banks

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Oct—Some journals reported recently that an investment bank is established in Myanmar firstly. At present, the Central Bank of Myanmar hasn’t granted permits to any foreign banking services yet. And the Directorate of Investment and Companies Administration had yet to allow company registration, announced the Ministry of Finance and Revenue.

The press release states that those wishing to run the monetary service as well as banking is to have permission from the Central Bank of Myanmar in line with the existing laws. To avoid the fraud, people may inquire at the Ministry of Finance and Revenue.

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham addresses ceremony of International Day for Disaster Reduction 2012.

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Oct—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham addressed the ceremony of the International Day for Disaster Reduction 2012 held at Myanmar International Convention Centre, here, at 8:45 am today.

Also present on the occasion together with the Vice-President were Union Ministers and Deputy Ministers, UN Resident Coordinator Mr. Bijay Karmacharya and officials concerned, NGOs, INGOs, students who won prizes in the International Day for Disaster Reduction 2012 high-school level and middle-school level essay and painting contests and their families and distinguished guests.

In his speech, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham said that natural disaster is accepted as the unexpected event caused by nature, such as, fire, landslide, cyclone, flood, earthquake and tsunami. And so, the theme of this year IDDR Event is “Women and Girls; the invisible force of Resilience”. Each vulnerable group has been prioritized by the UN as the target group for each and every year’s annual occasion.

The reason to pay special attention to women and girls this year is that the role of women and girls is the backbone of society, working in the field. It acts as a role model for the children. Regardless of the difficulty of the situation, women and girls have always worked without any complaint.

In disaster risk reduction activities, along with other member societies, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association (MMWCA) and Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation (MWAF) are also taking an active role. Further more, it is necessary to encourage these visible and invisible forces of women and girls in safeguarding the communities, before, during and after the disasters, and it is also important for the public to acknowledge and recognize these capabilities.

Today, every country around the world is experiencing the negative impacts of global warming and climate change. The year 2011 alone, 302 cases of natural disasters were registered throughout the world, claiming more than 29,000 lives and resulting in the loss and damage of US$ 366 billion. Altogether 101 national suffered from the impacts of those natural disasters, and the Philippines, the United State of America, the People’s Republic of China, India and Indonesia were the most seriously affected countries among them.

The Philippines, as ASEAN member country, had an unfortunate experience of 33 natural disaster incidents in 2011 alone. According to the statistics, the highest number of human causalities were recorded in seven Asian countries out of top countries, and the causalities among them are said to be top 83.1 percent of the global causalities.

So, it is appropriate to say that the Continent of Asia where we are living is one of the hot-spot areas frequently hit by natural disasters. These highlight that our disaster risk reduction activities, not only in our own countries but also in the region, are a matter of priority.

As an ASEAN member country, Myanmar is committed to the principles and objectives of the Association for Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). Myanmar is committed to the purpose of the Declaration of ASEAN Concord III on disaster reduction, which is to develop the capacity of ASEAN to reduce the risk and impact of disasters, and to contribute in the development of a disaster-reducing region within the ASEAN community. Myanmar is committed to the implementation of the National Action Plan for Disaster Reduction 2012.

The Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement is responsible for coordination, planning and monitoring of disaster risk reduction activities at the national level. A National Implementation Committee has been set up which consists of the Vice-President of the Union, Prime Minister, Union Ministers, Vice-Presidents of the Parliament, Deputy Ministers, UN Resident Coordinator and other officials concerned. The Committee is currently chaired by Dr. Sai Maung Maung, Vice-President of the Union.

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In the UN declaration, it is stated that “Each country should develop, strengthen and maintain capacity of disaster risk reduction in a way to protect its people and its environment from the impacts of natural disasters and to ensure that the economy is able to recover as quickly as possible from the effects of disasters.”

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