Wolin’s visit: Further demonstration of US commitment to partner with Myanmar

YANGON, 27 Oct—US Deputy Secretary of Treasury Neal S. Wolin’s two-day visit to Myanmar is a further demonstration of US commitment to partner with Myanmar as it walks down the path of reform,” said a Press release of the US Embassy here on Friday at the end of Wolin’s visit.

During his visit, Wolin held substantive and productive discussions with President U Thein Sein, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann, Minister at the President Office U Soe Thein, Finance Minister U Win Shein, Central Bank Governor U Than Nyein and opposition party leader and Parliamentarian Daw Aung San Suu Kyi as well as advisers to the President.

Wolin discussed ways in which the United States can further support economic reform in Myanmar, particularly through assistance to develop Myanmar’s financial sector and improve public financial management, the statement said. Wolin urged the Myanmar Government to continue progress on improving transparency in the country’s banking, enforcement and tax policy and administration.

Welcoming Myanmar’s intention to reform and develop the country’s financial sector, Wolin expressed wishes to facilitate the process. He also encouraged the Myanmar Government to continue strengthening human rights and democracy.

The monthly death toll from attacks in Iraq doubled in September to 365, the highest number of casualties in two years, including a series of bombings targeting Shiite neighborhoods that killed more than 100 people.

Security officials had said they believe insurgents would try to carry out a large attack during the religious holiday, which started on Friday.

Farmers from Kayin State observe hybrid Palethwe paddy plantations

The Union minister called the farmers to employ good agricultural patterns and utilize knowledge gained for regional development.

The excursion group members observed pollination of 100-day hybrid Palethwe paddy plantation and 67-day hybrid paddy plantation.

At 109-acre quality groundnut plantation near Chaiag Village of Dekkhinathiri Township, the excursion group members viewed the neighboring country.

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Wolin’s trip followed the US Administration’s implementation of new legislation signed by President Obama that will provide the United States with flexibility to vote in support of worthwhile financial assistance programmes for the country that will be carried out by international financial institutions such as the World Bank and Asian Development Bank.

The Press release also underlined that the September visit to the United States by U Thein Sein and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi represented a water shed

MNA/Xinhua
A authorities vow to probe into Rakhine incident and take legal actions against instigators

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Oct—Lt-Gen Hla Min of Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office, and Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Thein Htay, together with Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin, Commander of Western Command Brig-Gen Ko Ko Naing and departmental heads, and resident representatives of such UN agencies as WFP, UNOCHA, UHCR led by UN Resident Representative M A Shok Nigam yesterday went to Myebon via Sittway to investigate the real condition of ongoing incident in Rakhine State.

In meeting with Sittway District Deputy Commissioner U Lin Ko Ko and responsible persons at Myebon Township General Administration Department, Lt-Gen Hla Min regarding the incident promised to protect law and property of the public, calling for peace and stability and regulatory compliance without hatred against each other and avoidance of illegal actions. He vowed to probe into the case and take legal actions against the instigators.

Union Minister Lt-Gen Thein Htay said in spite of Rakhine State being rich in natural resources, instability has negative effect on economy, social stability, production and job opportunities in the state while leaving people with mental and physical trauma and damaging the environment. He called for stability and the rule of law within the state, essential for attraction of investment. He called for coordination within the state, essential for attraction of investment. He called for coordination within the state, essential for attraction of investment.

Lt-Gen Hla Min in the Union minister contributed K 0.5 million each and the Rakhine State chief minister foodstuffs, clothes and relief aids to victims.

They then went to Myebon to meet and provide relief aid to displaced people from Samale Village and Yaingthe Village of MaungU Township. — MNA

Destructive acts committed in Thandwe, Kyaukpyu, Pauktaw, Y andbye townships of Rakhine State

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Oct—The state is implementing political and economical reforms to build a new democratic state and is giving educative works to the citizens to be able to abide by the democratic practice.

Due to mob attacks which undermined stability and rule of law started in May in Rakhine State, 119 houses and one building were burnt down in Thandwe, Kyaukpyu, Pauktaw and Yanbye townships of Rakhine State yesterday.

There was no casualty.

One villager house’s wall was damaged due to mob attacks and another villager’s boat was set ablaze at 1:50 am in Jeikaw Village of Thandwe Township.

Similarly, three houses fell under arson attack at 7:30 am in Paikseik ward in Kyaukpyu Township. Local people of the village in Pauktaw Township burnt 74 houses and one building themselves at 8:30 am.

Likewise, 42 houses were set ablaze by the mob in the interests of the region and the State rather than hatred, enmity and action of revenge. At a time when the government is embarking on economic reforms to invite foreign investments and create jobs for people, instability like the ongoing one has certain impact on efforts of the State, the Union minister, adding that the government would conduct immediate rescue works as the first phase and create jobs as the second phase. He called for public participation in seeking resolution for the case which he said would need some time.

UN Resident Representative M A Shok Nigam said the United Nations provides humanitarian assistance without discrimination against races. He urged local people to live together peaceably in line with democratic practices and build together better future.

Representatives of UN agencies put questions to victims and comforted national people to relief camp in Kyaukpyu and Khaungtaw township. — MNA

Formation of Scouts squads, all-round award winners discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Oct—With regard to formation of Scout training supervisor 12:30 pm in War 6 in Yanbye Township.

The Union minister, Rakhine State chief minister and officials from state government, resident representatives from United Nations agencies rushed to those places and inspected rehabilitation tasks and seek ways for rule of law, restoration of stability and prevention against further conflicts. — MNA

Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin meets New Zealand Foreign Minister Mr Murray McCully in Sydney

In New Zealand, the Union Minister also visited Fonterra Cooperative Group Limited dairy farm in Kerikeri, a popular tourism destination in the northern part of New Zealand.

On 24 October, the Union Minister met with Mr Peter Baxter, Director-General of Aus AID at Hyatt Hotel in Canberra, Australia and discussed about the on-going projects and new projects in the areas of education, health and HRD.

In the afternoon, the Union Minister called on Professor Marie R Bashir, Governor of New South Wales at the Government House in Sydney.

In the morning of 25 October, the Union Minister met with Dr Michael Fullilove, Director of the Lowy Institute for International Policy, an Australian Leading Think Tank in Australia and exchanged views on bilateral relations between Myanmar and Australia as well as on the regional and international issues.

Then, the Union Minister and delegation attended a luncheon hosted by Mr Jenny McGregor, Chief Executive Office of the Asialink Think Tank.

The bilateral meeting between Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin and Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Bob Carr was held at 6 pm at the International Hotel in Sydney. During the meeting, the Union Minister expressed Myanmar’s appreciation to Australia for increasing ODA to Myanmar, lifting of sanctions and providing HRD training. The two ministers also had a friendly and cordial discussion on mutually beneficial cooperation in various economic sectors.

Mr Bob Carr reiterated Australia’s continued support to the ongoing reform process in Myanmar and informed Australia’s commitment to increase ODA, humanitarian and HRD assistance including allocation of more scholarships. Australia will also encourage Australian businesses to invest in Myanmar.

During the visit, Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin also visited Myanmar Embassy in Canberra and gave necessary guidance to the staff and families of the Embassy on 23 October.

The visit of the Union Minister for Foreign Affairs to New Zealand was the first Myanmar Foreign Minister’s visit since establishment of foreign relations in 1958. Similarly, the visit to Australia was also the First Myanmar Foreign Minister’s visit since 1984. — MNA
Pakistan leaders call for unity to defeat terrorism, extremism

**Islamabad, 27 Oct—** Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari, and Prime M. instur, Raja Pervez Ashraf, Friday used the messages on the eve of Muslim festival of Eid to urge the nation onto unite against the challenges of terrorism, extremism, sectarianism and target killings, local media reports. “Eid-ul-Adha” will be celebrated in Pakistan on Saturday under tight security and the government has decided to suspend mobile phone service in 13 sensitive areas.

The President said the country today is facing the challenges of terrorism, extremism, sectarianism and target killings and there is a need to inculcate unity, brotherhood, for sacrifice, religious tolerance and high qualities to face these challenges. “We should remember on this auspicious occasion of Eid-ul-Adha, the sacrifices of the people rendered in the war against terrorism to defend the country,” said the President in his message. He called upon the nation to unite for the progress and prosperity of the country by adopting the true spirit of sacrifice, brotherhood, religious tolerance and renouncing the hatred and prejudice.

Prime M. instur said the Eid day demands of the masses is that they adopt sacrifice, benevolence for their brotherhood as their national character and help establish such a tolerant and harmonious society where its members are able to perform their duties in peace and tranquility.

**Shot Pakistani girl recovering fast in UK**

Malala Yousufzai is seen with her father Ziauddin and her two younger brothers Khushal Khan and Atal Khan (R), as she recuperates at the The Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham, in this photograph taken on 25 Oct 2012 and released on 26 Oct 2012.

The Taliban have said they attacked her because she spoke out against the group and praised US President Barack Obama. A cheerful schoolgirl who wants to become a politician, Malala Yousufzai began speaking out against the Pakistani Taliban when she was 11, around the time when the government had effectively ceded control of the Swat Valley to the militants.

She has been in critical condition since gunman shot her in the head and neck as she left school in Swat, northwest of Islamabad. She could be at risk of further attack if she went back to Pakistan, where Taliban insurgents have issued more death threats against her and her father since she was shot. It’s a miracle for us,” her father said. “She was in a very bad condition ... She is improving with encouraging speed.” British doctors say Malala has every chance of making a good recovery at the special hospital unit, expert in dealing with complex trauma cases. It has treated hundreds of soldiers wounded in Afghanistan.

In echoes of Obama, Romney seeks to adopt mantle of change

Washington, 27 Oct— Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney attempted to adopt the mantle of change on Friday in an economic speech in which he vowed to bring a fresh start to Washington to generate stronger job growth. Romney’s address in the swing state of Iowa was an effort to take on the role President Barack Obama played in 2008, that of an outsider who would represent an abrupt change if he wins the tight 2012 presidential race. In his speech, Romney dismissed Obama as a shadow of his former self, one who wants to protect the status quo and has no plan to repair the weak US economy.

His election is a choice between the status quo and going forward with the same policies of the last four years — or, instead, choosing real change, change that offers promise, promise that the future will be better than the past,” he said.

By billed by his campaign manager speech, Romney’s address was a summ up of his economic argument aimed at voters who have yet to make up their minds, with the presidential election only 11 days away.

US gross domestic product growth for the third quarter of this year was reported at 2 percent on Friday, a figure that both campaigns seized on to support their arguments.

The Obama camp said it was proof that economic growth is taking place, albeit slowly.

“We still have more work to do, today’s GDP growth report, showing the 13th straight quarter of growth, is more evidence that our economy continues to come back from the worst recession since the Great Depression under President Obama’s leadership,” the Obama campaign said.

Romney, on the other hand, said the report was discouraging.

“Slow economic growth means slow job growth and declining take-home pay. This is what four years of President Obama’s policies have produced,” he said.

His speech lacked specifics on what exactly Romney would do to boost the economy other than his five priorities of boosting energy production and trade, improving education, cutting debt and deficits and building small businesses.

Instead, he focused on the big picture, the challenges that awaits the next president, and stressed he would not replicate Obama’s 2009 $787 billion job stimulus package.

“This is the time to double down on the trickle-down government policies that have failed us. It is time for new, bold changes that measure up to the moment, that can bring America’s families the certainty that the future will be better than the past,” he said.— Reuters

Italian Berlusconi sentenced to four years in jail for tax fraud

Milan, Italy, 27 Oct— An Italian court on Friday sentenced Italy’s former prime minister Silvio Berlusconi to four years in jail for tax fraud with the purchase of broadcasting rights by his Mediaset television company. Berlusconi was also banned for three years from public office. Prosecutors in the Italian northern city had asked for him a jail sentence of three years and eight months. The 76-year-old former premier had been charged with tax frauds together with other 11 defendants, including M ediaset’s president Federle Confalonieri, who was acquitted, and American producer Frank Agrama, who was sentenced to three years in prison.

The Milan court also ordered damages proportionally set at 10 million euros (12.9 million US dollars) that Berlusconi and his co-defendants will have to pay to Italian tax authorities.

The trial, started nearly six years ago, focused on broadcasting rights that Berlusconi’s holding company Fininvest bought via offshore companies from groups in the United States for 470 million euros (607 million US dollars) between 1994 and 1999. Berlusconi has now the right to appeal the verdict two times, and will not have to serve any time in jail nor renounce public office until the definite sentence.

The verdict came two days after Berlusconi announced in a statement he will not run in elections scheduled for spring 2013 as the leader of his People of Freedom (Pdl) centre-right party. “It’s another evidence of judicial harassment against Silvio Berlusconi ... We are confident the appeal proceedings will give him reason, and we hope these judgments come quickly,” the leader in pectore of PdL, Angelino Alfano, said in commenting on the ruling.

Spanish King Juan Carlos I (L) shakes hands with Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh at Hyderabad house before a meeting in New Delhi, India, on 26 Oct 2012. The Spanish king is on an official visit to India.— REuters

Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi attends a session at the lower house of the parliament in Rome, Italy, on 26 Oct 2012. The verdict of the trial, started nearly six years ago, focused on broadcasting rights that Berlusconi’s holding company Fininvest bought via offshore companies from groups in the United States for 470 million euros (607 million US dollars) between 1994 and 1999. Berlusconi has now the right to appeal the verdict two times, and will not have to serve any time in jail nor renounce public office until the definite sentence.

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File photo taken on 3 Aug 2011 shows Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi attend a session at the lower house of the parliament in Rome, Italy. Italy’s ex-Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi was sentenced to four years in jail for tax fraud with the purchase of broadcasting rights by his Mediaset television company.

Italian police announced that police were looking for a man who tried to rob a bank in Rome. The thief struck around 10:30 a.m. and fled on foot.

Judge Giuseppe Marini sentenced Mayor Federico Lombardi, 55, to five years in prison. Lombardi, the mayor of Rome’s Trastevere district, was found guilty of ordering the death of 40 police officers who were killed in a robbery in 1984. Lombardi, who had been under house arrest since last year, was not present in court.

US Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney gestures as he delivers a speech on the US economy while campaigning in Ames, Iowa on 26 Oct 2012. Romney said 4 million new homes will be built to replace the 9 million that have failed us. It is time for new, bold changes that measure up to the moment, that can bring America’s families the certainty that the future will be better than the past,” he said.— Reuters

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File photo taken on 3 Aug 2011 shows Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi attend a session at the lower house of the parliament in Rome, Italy. Italy’s ex-Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi was sentenced to four years in jail for tax fraud with the purchase of broadcasting rights by his Mediaset television company.

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New York man who sued Facebook faces criminal charges

NEW YORK, 27 Oct — A New York man was arrested on Friday on charges he forged documents in a multimillion-dollar scheme to defraud Facebook Inc and its chief executive, Mark Zuckerberg, through a lawsuit claiming a huge ownership stake in the Internet company.

Paul Ceglia, 39, a one-time business partner from Wellsville, New York, was charged with mail and wire fraud over what federal prosecutors and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service said was fabricated evidence to support his claim to a large stake in Facebook through a 2003 deal with Zuckerberg.

Ceglia’s accusations against Zuckerberg had marked a bizarre twist to Facebook’s march toward its highly anticipated initial public offering in May. Facebook’s origins were also the focus of a separate legal challenge by Zuckerberg’s Harvard University classmates, the twins Cameron and Tyler Winklevoss, who were chronicled in the 2010 film, “The Social Network.”

Ceglia sued the Silicon Valley company and its chief executive in 2010, claiming that a 2003 contract he signed with Zuckerberg entitled him to a stake in the social media network. Zuckerberg had done programming work for Ceglia’s company, StreetFax.com, while at Harvard University.

This past March, as part of that case, Facebook attorneys released emails sent by Zuckerberg to show Ceglia’s claims were false. The attorneys cited work by forensic experts who found that Ceglia had typed part of an email into a Microsoft Word document and declared it was the text of emails with Zuckerberg.

Ceglia sought “a quick pay day based on a blatant forgery,” U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara in Manhattan said in a statement announcing the criminal charges. “Dressing up a fraud as a lawsuit does not immunize you from prosecution.”

A lawyer for Ceglia could not immediately be reached for comment. “Ceglia used the federal court system to perpetuate his fraud and will now be held accountable for his criminal scheme,” Orin Snyder, a partner at law firm Gibson Dunn who is representing Facebook and Zuckerberg in the civil case, said in a statement. — Reuters

Fossils of first feathered dinosaurs in Western Hemisphere found

VANCOUVER, 27 Oct — Canadian researchers have found the first feathered dinosaur specimens in the Western Hemisphere, the researchers said and suggested that the ornithomimids, as they are scientifically known, should have had feathers and wings.

The study, published on Friday in the prestigious journal Science, was led by paleontologists Darta Zelenitsky from the University of Calgary and Francois Therrien from the Royal Tyrell Museum of Palaeontology.

Zelenitsky said that despite the ornithomimid skeletons known, these specimens are also the first to reveal that ornithomimids were covered in feathers, like several other groups of theropod dinosaurs.

The researchers found evidence of feathers preserved with a juvenile and two adult skeletons of Ornithomimus, a dinosaur that belongs to the group known as ornithomimids, suggesting that ornithomimid dinosaurs would have had feathers.

Besides, the specimens, recovered from 75-million-year-old rocks in the badlands of the Canadian Province of Alberta, reveal an interesting pattern of change in feather plumage developed in more mature individuals suggesting they were used only later in life, perhaps associated with reproductive behaviors like display or egg brooding,” said Therrien.

Previously, feathered dinosaur skeletons had been recovered almost exclusively from fine-grained rocks in China and Germany. The discovery of early wings in dinosaurs is, in a sense too big to fly indicated the initial use of these structures was not for flight, according to the researchers. — Xinhua

Power supply key to solving poverty

VIENNA, 27 Oct — Lack of power resources and the inability to overcome natural catastrophes are two of the main problems facing developing countries, discussions at a scientific research conference concluded on Thursday. Scientists attending the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) conference in Vienna said 600 million people in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia currently have no access to electricity, according to an APA report.

Senior researcher at the IIASA Energy Programme (ENE) Shonali Pachauri said sufficient electricity supplies would relieve affected governments financially and are a key to fighting poverty.

“In India a comprehensive energy supply will cost 2000 billion dollars per year,” she said. She added that many households in India still use kerosene for lighting which costs the government a billion dollars a year.

Professor of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Sierra Leone Ogunlade Davidson said more higher-education institutes would be needed to promote regions affected by the problem.

Tech CEOs trade barbs, warm up for holiday tablet wars

SAN FRANCISCO, 27 Oct — The biggest names in consumer technology, stung by a string of disappointing quarterly results this month, are suiting up for what’s shaping to be the fiercest holiday battle in years.

Investors and consumers have already largely written off flaccid quarterly numbers from tech behemoths like Microsoft, Apple, Google and Amazon. What counts is the next 60 days, when the biggest names in technology do battle at a near-unprecedented scale and pace.

Just on Thursday, Amazon compared its Kindle Fire with Apple’s new iPad mini, point by point, in its earnings release, an unusual forum to name rivals. A pFullScreen CEO Tim Cook compared Microsoft’s Surface tablet to an over-engineered car that can fly and float. And Microsoft went for the iPad, saying its Surface beat the storage of all three tablets together. It’s getting ugly.

“The tablet space is where the growth is. That’s why they are all fighting over it. PC shipments are down and some tablet buyers may never buy another PC,” said Michael Al Ies, strategic consulting director in the Technology and Telecom Research Group at Maritz Research. “Last holiday season, we saw a lot of buying of tablets of the $200 to $300 price range. This year, the iPad mini and Amazon’s Kindle Fires are targeted at mid-market. They are trying to ride that wave and win as much as they can.”

The impeding clash is far from decided, however. A favorite Apple has lost some of its aura of invincibility, with Google’s Android and Samsung making inroads into its reign in smartphones, Microsoft’s quickening marketing blitz and Amazon’s Kindle nipping at its heels as the No. 2 tablet in the United States market. That competition could get even more intense in the second quarter with new products from Apple expected.

“I think Apple is actually in a better position as far as the iPad mini is concerned,” said Morgen Davidoff, a researcher at Apple. “Apple is waging a war of what their competitors are not doing and what their services are good for.”

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South Korean technology powerhouse Samsung Electronics Co posted a fourth straight record quarterly profit.— Reuters

South Korea, 27 Oct — South Korean technology powerhouse Samsung Electronics Co posted a fourth straight record quarterly profit of $7.4 billion — with strong sales of its Galaxy range of phones masking sharply lower sales of memory chips.

The record run, though, is likely to end in December, with profit growth slowing even more next year as TV markets stagnate and growth in high-end smartphones eases from the recent breakneck speed. Profit is expected to grow 16 percent next year, down from a

SAMSUNG

LG Display posts first profit in two years on phone, tablet panels

South Korea, 27 Oct — LG Display Co Ltd reported its first quarterly profit in two years on Friday as sales of its screens used in Apple Inc’s iPad and iPhone offset weak demand from TV manufacturers, the South Korean panel maker’s biggest revenue source.

LG Display, which vies with Samsung Electronics Co Ltd’s panel unit for the top position in liquid crystal display (LCD) flat screens globally, reported 253 billion won ($250 million) in operating profit for its July-September third quarter.

That was tad below an average forecast for a 265 billion won profit in a poll of 13 analysts by Thomson Reuters. The profit, LG’s first after seven straight quarters of losses, compared with with a 492 billion won loss a year earlier and a 26 billion won loss in the preceding three months. “We expect profitability to improve further in the fourth quarter, as a host of new mobile devices will launch and increase panel demand,” the firm said in its earnings statement.

LG said it expected LCD panel prices to remain stable in the current quarter, and its flat-screen shipments to rise by a high single digit percentage quarter-on-quarter.— Reuters

Meds a good “first step” for treating alcoholism...— The Times

New York, 27 Oct — Two drugs commonly used to treat alcoholism may be appropriate for people in different stages of recovery, a new analysis confirms — likely because they work differently in the brain.

The drugs, acamprosate (marketed as Campral) and naltrexone (ReVia), are both non-addictive themselves and don’t make users sick when mixed with alcohol. So they’re a good first option for people struggling with alcohol dependence who are motivated to stop drinking but would like to avoid an inpatient programme, researchers said.

In a new analysis of 64 trials evaluating the two medications, researchers from California found acamprosate was more effective at helping people who were not currently drinking stay sober. Naltrexone had a disadvantage when it came to cutting back on heavy drinking and helping recovering alcoholics avoid cravings. All of the trials randomly assigned participants to take one of the drugs or a placebo pill, with drinkers typically also attending therapy sessions. They included about 11,000 people in total. Acamprosate and naltrexone tended to work better when study subjects had stayed away from the drug for at least a few days before starting the drug trials, or had been through a detox programme.— Reuters

Trans fats raise cholesterol, not blood sugar

New York, 27 Oct — Although trans fats raise your levels of “bad” cholesterol, they don’t appear to have lasting impacts on your blood sugar, according to a new review of the medical evidence.

Researchers found that both blood sugar and insulin, the hormone that keeps blood sugar levels in check, were similar regardless of how much trans fats people ate. The link between trans fats and high cholesterol levels is widely accepted, but there have been conflicting results on the effect on blood sugar control, which is involved in diabetes.

Trans fats, technically known as trans fatty acids, are found in animal products and chemically processed vegetable oils.

Researchers who studies linking high consumption of the substances to an increased risk of heart disease, the US Food and Drug Administration has required food makers to disclose trans fat nutrition labels, and some cities and

Health Conference urged to adapt acupuncture to Western world

Sofa, 27 Oct — Acupuncture should be adapted to the Western world, the fifth Bulgarian Acupuncture Congress was told on Friday.

Speaking on during the opening ceremony, Francois Beyens, honorary president of the International Council of Medical Acupuncture added that the practice should also adapt to “the Western way of thinking.” Dr Emil Iliev, president of the Bulgarian Society of Traditional Chinese Medicine said the four-day event would discuss the place of acupuncture in the treatment of diseases of the 21st century.— Xinhua

Health

China’s quality watchdog urges importers to recall Nongshim noodles...— China Daily

Beijing, 27 Oct — China’s consumer quality watchdog on Friday urged importers to recall certain kinds of instant noodles produced by Nongshim, the Republic of Korea (ROK)’s largest instant noodle maker, as some of the noodle packs have been found to contain carcinogens.

The recall would affect six of the company’s products, including Neoguri, bowl-type Neoguri and Sang Sang Noodles, which were found to contain benzopyrene, a compound that can cause lung cancer, according to an online statement from the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ).— Xinhua

Health

McDonald’s has no plans for US sales of packaged coffee

Reuters

New York, 27 Oct — McDonald’s Corp, which next month will start selling packaged coffee in some of its restaurants in Canada, has no current plans to sell bagged coffee in the United States, a spokeswoman said on Friday.— Reuters

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Ancient bronze bell unearthed

MANDALAY, 27 Oct — An ancient bronze bell over 150 years old was uncovered while digging the ground to grow a tree in the compound of Maha Sandamuni Buddha Image at Tampawady ward of Chanmyathazi Township, Mandalay on 25 October. Now the bell which is 3 feet and 2 inches in height, two feet in diameter and 6 feet and 4 inches in girth is being kept at Dhammavihaya M. Monastery. The place where the ancient bell was unearthed is to the south of Sandamuni Pagoda built by King Bodaw U Waing in 1441 M.E.— Kyemon

Myathalun Pagoda’s Buddha Pujiya on 30 Oct

MAYAN, 27 Oct — The 2576th Buddha Pujiya ceremony of Myathalun Pagoda traditionally will be held in conjunction with alms-offering ceremony on 30 October. Well wishers will offer alms, fruits and flowers to the Pagoda at 5 am on 30 October, and lights will be offered at 6 pm on that day. Kyemon

Aesthetic device donated

NAV PAY TA, 27 Oct — Chairperson of Myanmar Matrial and Child Welfare Association Dr Daw Mon Mon Aung and executives donated an aesthetic device worth K 8.7 million for 1000-bed Hospital in Lwe Township to Medical Superintendent Dr Daw Khin San Myint of the hospital on 25 October. The medical superintendent presented the certificate of honour to them. MNA

GSM SIM cards sold in installment

KYANGON, 27 Oct — Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telecommunications is distributing GSM SIM cards by Kanbawza Bank. Out of K 9000 million, K 8000 million have been spent in the building project. It is learnt that works necessary for completion of construction of main structure are being carried out.

For timely completion of works meeting set standards, coordination between bridge, engineers and Yangon City Development Committee will be made for construction of approach road. The length of the approach road will reach Nanataw traffic lights. It is expected to finish the whole project at the end of April in 2013. — Kyemon

Hledan Overpass set to complete in April, 2013

YANGON, 27 Oct — Managing Director of Shwe Taung Development Co., U Aung Zaw Naing said on 24 October that 60 per cent of the whole project had been completed as the company put all-out efforts in construction of an overpass at Hledan junction in accord with the present time soon after the stake-driving ceremony was held. Hledan Overpass is designed by T.Y. Lin International Pte., Ltd, Singapore. They involve in infrastructure construction and drawing the design of the overpass based on American technology. A traffic engineering company in England provides traffic solutions. The reinforced concrete type facility is under construction.

The Overpass construction project is financed by Kanbawza Bank. Out of K 9000 million, K 8000 million have been spent in the building project. It is learnt that works necessary for completion of construction of main structure are being carried out.

For timely completion of works meeting set standards, coordination between bridge, engineers and Yangon City Development Committee will be made for construction of approach road. The length of the approach road will reach Nanataw traffic lights. It is expected to finish the whole project at the end of April in 2013. — Kyemon

Two car accidents occur within an hour on the same road

PYU, 27 Oct — Two car accidents occurred within an hour on Yangon-Mandalay old road, south of Linyaungkhin village in Pyu Township of Toungoo District, Bago Region on 21 October. A Fuso car carrying loads hit the body of Nissan six-wheeled truck at about 5 am near Linyaungkhin village on Yangon-Mandalay old road, and the Fuso plunged off the road.

Kaytumati Toungoo turns 502 in November

TOUngoo, 27 Oct — A ceremony to mark the 502th Anniversary of Founding Kaytumati Toungoo will be held traditionally. Sports competitions, traditional boat race and singing contests will be reorganized in this year’s commemorative ceremony. Festive-loving people who live in Kaytumati Toungoo and its environs are eager to take part in the festival to be held in November. — Kyemon

Over 6000 year-old fossils uncovered

During the field trip of a group of faculty members of Geology Department of Taunggyi University led by Professor Dr Tin Thein in September 1997, they also unearthed human skeletons from Stone Age, fossilized animal bones and tooth and stone weapons.

Now is the time plans were laid down and research works are being conducted to trace the course of history of Myanmar. Personnel of the ministry concerned were sent to Kalaw, Hopong, Taunggyi and Nyaungshwe Townships in order to uncover the evidences related to Stone Age Culture.— Kyemon

Stalls reduced to ashes in early morning blaze

MYITKINA, 27 Oct — An early morning fire broke out at the stalls on the street, the entrance to the Aport, in Panso ward, Myitkina in the early morning of 25 October, leaving the loss of property worth K 40 million.

The root cause of the fire was an overnight use of electric regulator at the stalls.

The fire started in Yu Sandar Restaurant due to an overheated regulator at 1:40 am on that day.

All together seven fire engines and a tanker put out the fire at 3.15 am.

U Lay Maung (30 yrs) was sued for fire negligence by No (1) Police Station. — Kyemon
Lwejel, peaceful and stable town at Myanmar-China border

MUSE, 27 Oct—Lwejel located at mile post 50 of Myanmar-China border was lack of peace and stability in the past. Due to restoring peace and stability today, a total of 21 offices have been opened in the town for giving services to over 20000 local people under good governance. The town is home to Kachin, Shan and other national races in amity and unity. The town has one Basic Education High School, three churches and two monasteries. The local people are engaged in cultivation of paddy and maize, oil mustard and sugarcane. It is an area where the Myanmar-China border post and the checkpoint have been stationed. Over 100 merchants from both countries are trading commodities daily.

Myanma Alinn

Self-reliant power supply launched

INDAW, 27 Oct—A ceremony to launch the supply of electricity on a self-reliant basis was held in Nannah-Kyun Daw Village of Indaw Township, Sagaing Region, on 23 October. Local authorities cut the ribbon to launch the power supply for the village round the clock.

Myanma Alinn

Respects paid to older persons

NAWNGKIO, 27 Oct—The respect paying ceremony to mark the International Day of Older Person was held at the hall of Township General Administration Department in Nawngkio, Shan State, on 1 October.

On the occasion, Township Administrator U Aung Ko Ko explained the purpose of holding the respect paying ceremony. Those present paid respects to 21 older persons and gave cash assistance and gifts to them.

Myanma Alinn

Motorcycle accident leaves one dead in Tatkon

TATKON, 27 Oct—A car accident occurred on Yangoon-Mandalay Highway in Tatkon of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area at 12 noon on 23 October, leaving one dead.

In the case, Ko Thein Oo, son of U Kyaw Aung of Kangyi Village riding motorcycle went back to his village. He took over the phone card. Unfortunately, he placed himself under the wheel of 12-wheeled truck driven by Ko M Naing, son of U Than M Aung on the opposite way and then he was dragged to 100 feet distance. In the incident, Ko Thein Oo died on the spot.

Traffic Police Force of the Tatkon Police Station is investigating the traffic accident.

Myanma Alinn

Monastery of over 100 years under maintenance

YEDASHE, 27 Oct—A monastery built with 52 posts for over 100 years, one four-post building and Seikathukha corridor are under maintenance in the precinct of Medekke Pagoda, three miles northeast of Y edashe in Bago Region. Thanks to concerted efforts of the Sayadaw in maintenance works, the buildings can be seen without losing their original styles.

Myanma Alinn

Medekke Pagoda Pujiyana is held from 6th waxing of Tagu to fullmoon day in the month of Tagu annually.

Myanma Alinn

6th Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Men’s Volleyball Tournament successfully conclude

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Oct—The prize presentation for 6th Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Men’s Volleyball Tournament was held at Paunglaung Gymnasium in Pyinymma on 23 October afternoon.

In the final match, Defending Champion Industry Ministry beat Defence Ministry 3-2 and retained the champion title.

Member of Union Civil Services Board U Hnin Maung Aye, Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation U Chan Maung and Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Hlay Aung presented prizes to the respective winning teams.

Chairman of National Sports Committee Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan presented the championship shield to Industry Ministry team.

A total of 28 teams from ministries participated in the tournament.

Myanma Alinn

Maize seeds exported to China

YANGON, 27 Oct—Export of maize seeds raised to 3422 tons more than the previous week in October through 105th-mile trade zone of Muse near Myanmar-China border.

From 10 to 16 October, a total of 1335 tons of maize seeds worth US$ 5 million has been exported to China through border trade zone. In the previous week, 9913 tons of maize seeds worth US$ 3.786 million has been exported to China.

Moreover, a total of 34845 tons of maize seeds and 55 tons of maize flour worth US$ 7.226 million has been exported to India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Poland, Singapore and Vietnam through maritime trade from 1 January to 30 September 2012. The price of maize is fixed at US$ 260-280 per ton through FOB.

Myanma Alinn

Pots of Inlay region marketable in Shan State

Pots of Inlay region marketable in Shan State

Wagaung. Moreover, we buy pots from various regions visiting this area. We purchase glazed mortars, basins, bio-fuel stoves, flower pots and water purifier pots.

“People have high demand for sales of flower pots in the months of Wason and Wagaga. Moreover, we sell small basins for orchids. These pots are sold at various prices ranging from K 200 to K 15000. Hotels buy pots and vases worth K 400,000-500,000 by car. They also purchase water purifier pots. In the months of Thadingyut and Tazaungmone, people from various regions visiting Phaungdaw U Pagoda buy many pots,” said pot seller Daw Kyi Kyi Sein.

In addition to pottery industries of Kyauktawing Village, Naungoo Village, four miles south of Kyauktawing Village, also make bigger glazed pots.

Recently, Korean merchants gave order to buy pots for K imchi worth K 1 million in Kyauktawing Village. As such, the pottery industry in Inlay region will have capability to penetrate to the export market in the near future — Myanma Alinn

Railways Museum in Thanbyuzayat

THANBYUZAYAT, 27 Oct—In accord with the Head of Mon State, Thanbyuzayat Railway Museum was opened in six acres of land beside Y-e Dawa railway line at the exit of Thanbyuzayat in 1995.

The museum displayed documentary photos on construction of Myanmar-Thai railroad during the World War Two, plaster statues, and so on including buildings of the museum are damaged and bushes cover many parts of the area for many years.

Foreign tourists and those of foreign news agencies took photos at the museum. In this case, the image of the museum is worse than that of Commonwealth War Cemetery.

In the open season, the Thanbyuzayat Railway Museum should be renovated to enable to earn foreign exchange from their visits while the Thanbyuzayat-Thailand railroad construction project will be implemented.

Myanma Alinn

Mobile clinic project office opened

YANGON, 27 Oct—A mobile clinic project office was opened in the tournament.

Chairman of MNA Professor Dr Kyaw Mint Naing and Representative of Nippon Foundation (Japan) Mr Oo formally opened the office — Myanma Alinn

New Light of Myanmar
Sunday, 28 October, 2012
Should the car horn be banned?

Thanks to the overage car substitution scheme, changes to car import rules and a sharp drop in car prices, the unhurried street scenes of our commercial city, Yangon, change. Most of the city’s inner-city area, even on the streets of the suburbs, are occupied with a flood of branded, luxurious and newer vehicles. Ticking we encounter first is that we are stuck in traffic and have got to the constant noise of the traffic as Yangon’s roads are more and more congested. Noise is one of the curses of modern-day life. A part from the noise of the traffic, a loud unpleasant noise causing a public nuisance on the busy roads is the blare of car horns tooting.

When is it appropriate for a situation to honk your car horn? It is okay for the horn use to promote safe driving. But it is not going to make the situation better while you are stuck in a traffic jam. Your car horn cannot clear the traffic congestion. The horn use of bus and taxi drivers as a signaling tool to get the other drivers to slow down is going to encourage more reckless driving. As a noise from a horn tooted exceeds 100 decibels, such a loud sound is a nuisance to everyone.

Nonetheless, we must have the horn for dangerous situations. Tapping horn to warn other road users is a safe practice for vehicles driving on the expressway. It is appropriate to honk reasonably to alert other drivers with the aim of getting the driver in front of you at the bus stop, sidewalk, unreasoning honking possibly will encourage more reckless driving. As noise from a horn tooted exceeds 100 decibels, such a loud sound is a nuisance to everyone.

In his speech in meeting with Myanmar entrepreneurs have continued to say that the government is focusing on opportunities in the energy and sustainable development, saving energy and use of green energy for reducing global warming. All the participants signed the agreement to cooperate in the tasks. At Dusit Thani Hotel, the Union Minister received leader of US special diplomatic team and International Energy Cooperation Mr Carlos Pascual and discussed transparency for investors in oil and gas industries in Myanmar, observation of Myanmar to join Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) and invitation of international bidding for vacuum inland offshore blocks.

Likewise, the Union Minister met Oman Oil and Natural Gas Minister Mr Mohammed Al Rumhy andThai Energy Minister Mr Arak Cholitanatonda in Muscat of Oman and discussed cooperation in energy sector and invited their investments in oil and gas and other industries of Myanmar.

Next, the Union Minister delivered an address at Zawtika Weilhead Platform Sail Away Ceremony in Sohar of Oman on 20 October, the World Energy Forum 2012 in Dubai of UAE on 22 October and the LNG Terminal, IPRC Technological College and PT Global Chemical Plants in Rayong Province of Thailand during his visits from 19 to 24 October.

On 20 October, the Union Minister met Oman Oil and Natural Gas Minister Dr Mohammed Al Rumhy and Thai Energy Minister Mr Arak Cholitanatonda in Muscat of Oman and discussed cooperation in energy sector and invited their investments in oil and gas and other industries of Myanmar.

On 22 October, the Union Minister attended the World Energy Forum 2012 in Dubai of UAE. The forum focused on sufficiency of energy and sustainable development, saving energy and use of green energy for reducing global warming. All the participants signed the agreement to cooperate in the tasks.

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Dr Mohammed Al Rumhy was well received by the Myanmar Oil and Natural Gas Minister. Dr Mohammed Al Rumhy and Thai Energy Minister Mr Arak Cholitanatonda talked about the need for cooperation in the energy sector.

The Union Minister gave talks to townsmen, departmental officials and breeders at their homes in Mandalay, Sagaing, Magway, Magway, Bago, Mawlamyine, and Mon State. The Union Minister also visited the Shwebopya Hospital in Mawlamyine and the Integrated Fisheries Development Officers and the fishermen’s cooperative organizations.

On 23 October, the Union Minister visited the gas terminal in Sohar of Oman. The installation of the terminal is expected to be completed in November.

On 24 October, the Union Minister met with the leaders of the Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry. The Union Minister said that the Myanmar government is committed to promoting the development of the country’s economy and is working to attract foreign investment.

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The end of Buddhist Rain Retreat comes with the full moon day of Thidin kyut [October 30 this year]. The word “Thidin” means vows of rain retreat and observance of religious practices. “Kyut” means release. Vows of rain retreat are ever and released for Purima. If any vows of rain retreat are free to go out of their residential monasteries, as they have fulfilled their vows of rain retreat.

The zodiacal name of the month is Tula [Libra] and the zodiacal symbol is a merchant holding balance. “A thawani” asterism of 6 stars resembling a horse’s head in Aries shine bright after the moon. All aquatic bodies in the country are still alive and active and in them are abundance of lotus flowers of five different species (1) white lotus [Nymphaea alba] (2) Blue lotus [Nymphaea stellata] (3) Padoma lotus [Nelumbium Rubra], (3) Blue lotus [Nymphaea alba] different species (1) white lotus [Nelumbium Rubra], (3) Blue lotus [Nymphaea stellata] (4) Padoma lotus [Nelumbium species] and (5) Pourn MaisEll. Thidin kyut comes on the following day.

Therefore lotus flower is traditionally designated as Flower of the month of Thidin kyut. This month was previously called "Than-tu-la" meaning “Than” is paddy crop and “Tu” means month. Hence the name was changed during which paddy plants grow upright. The first name of Thidin kyut was found in the stone inscription of Bagang dated [1212 A.D.] known as Tuyin Taung Saw. Hence the name.

In this new 21st century, the United Nations has designated Teachers’ Day, Senior Citizens’ Day (Aged people) Day, Peace Day, Democracy Day, Non-violence Day, etc. Also in some countries are celebrating Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, Valentine Day and so forth. Many Buddhists, are delighted and participate with heart and soul in the observance of these Days because we have living traditions and ancient traditions of observing such days in our long history.

The Festival of Light in Myanmar is an occasion for joy, happiness, piety, meditation, and merit-making, but in essence it is an auspicious occasion for spiritual delight and merit-making.
Iran Army to hold major drill late October

Iran

TEHERAN, 27 Oct — Iran’s Army is planning to hold a major drill in the western part of the country in late October, Press TV reported on Thursday. “This maneuver will be one of a kind and among the most spectacular drills ever held by the Iranian Army,” an Iranian Army commander, Brigadier General Saeed Arabolou, was quoted as saying.

Arabolou said that airborne and heliborne forces and other units of the Iranian Army’s Ground Forces will take part in the drill, said the report.

The drill, which will be held on 29-31 October in Gilane Gharb District in the western province of Kermanshah, aims to upgrade the combat abilities of the army forces and display defence capabilities of its various divisions.

Iran’s Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) and its Basij voluntary forces held a joint military drill in southeast of Iran’s capital of Teheran on 18-19 October. The Iranian military drills coincide with the ongoing joint military drill of the United States and Israel by the Mediterranean Sea.

On Sunday, the two armies embarked on the three-week-long “Austere Challenge 12” (AC-12) maneuvers, which simulate responses to simultaneous mass missile attacks on Israel from several fronts.

Western countries including the United States and Israel suspect that Iran’s nuclear activities aim at weapons which the Islamic republic denies.

And the United States and Israel have not ruled out the possibility of attacking Iran’s nuclear facilities.

A South Korean soldier takes part in the “Hoguk Exercise” in Seoul, South Korea, on 25 Oct, 2012. South Korea’s annual military exercise dubbed “Hoguk” from 25 Oct to 2 Nov across the country. The South Korean Armed Forces Command (Hoguk) is a joint Press conference held in Seoul on Thursday said Israel had nothing to say about Wednesday’s explosion at an arms factory in Haartoum, Sudan. Israel officially has no comment on the event, the prime minister said at a joint Press conference with visiting Italian Prime Minister Mario Monti in Jerusalem.

The prime minister said that the exercise is nothing to say about the Israeli government blamed Israel for a mysterious explosion in the eastern city of Port Sudan in which one person was killed and 10 others wounded. The government blamed Israel for a number of recent attacks in the area. In May, the Sudanese government blamed Israel for a mysterious explosion in the eastern city of Port Sudan in which one person died, as well as a missile attack in 2011.

The conference, running to 27 Oct with the participation of 320 experts, is organized by IASGO in cooperation with the Chinese Society of Surgeons and the Chinese Society of Minimal Invasive Surgery.

The conference, which focuses on the latest innovative methods and technical achievements in the diagnosis and management of abdominal malignancies, experts will share knowledge and experiences and build the foundations for future cooperation.

“The key is modernizing and upgrading health systems and medical science,” Greek Health Minister Andreas Lykourgos stressed in his welcome address, praising China’s long history and important achievements in science and the value of international collaboration to face challenges.

With fruitful cooperation Greece will overcome the difficulties it is facing at this period,” the Greek official said.

ATHENS, 27 Oct — The 18th International Seminar of the International Association for Surgeons, Gastroenterologists and Oncologists (IASGO), during which top scholars from 16 countries and regions are expected to present import-ant advances in the field, opened in Athens on Thursday.

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Japan quake-hit nuclear plant “may still be leaking radiation” into sea

Tokyo, 26 Oct—The operator of Japan’s quake-struck Fukushima nuclear power plant said on Friday it could not rule out the possibility that it may still be leaking radiation into the sea. A massive earthquake and tsunami in March 2011 triggered fatal meltdowns at the plant, causing radiation leakage, contamination of food and water and mass evacuations, although the government declared in December that the disaster was under control. The comment by Tokyo Electric Power Co follows a US academic journal Science article that said high radiation levels in bottom-dwelling fish caught off Fukushima prefecture indicate continued radiation leaking from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant.

A sked if Tokyo Electric, also known as Tepco, could confirm that the plant is not leaking radiation into the sea any more, a spokeswoman said: “Tepco cannot say such a thing, but we have confirmed that radiation levels are declining in both the sea water and seabed soil around the plant.” Ken Buesseler, senior scientist at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution of the United States, said in his article on the Science website that little change in radioactive cesium levels found in Fukushima fish suggested a continued leak.

“The fact that many fish are just as contaminated today with cesium 134 and cesium 137 as they were more than one year ago implies that cesium is still being released to the food chain,” he said. —Reuters

Cambodian, US naval senior officials talk to boost ties

WASHINGTON, 27 Oct—Cambodian and the United States Navy ships have officially visited Cambodia for 221 times with 25 warships for joint exercises. He said Cambodia is still facing the shortages of modern marine equipment, and ships in defending maritime territory and the country is committed to fighting against terrorism, drug and human trafficking, and weapon smuggling.

He said that joint exercises between the US and Cambodian naval forces have helped build professionalism and capacities for both sides. Mabus added that in the next few years, about 60 percent of U.S. fleets will be deployed in Asia-Pacific and the United States is growing the number of the naval ships in the Asia-Pacific to at least 300 ships so that the United States and Cambodia will have more opportunities to work together to fight against terrorism and other forms of maritime infringements.

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Kansai Electric to propose pay cut as rising costs for fuel

Osaka, 27 Oct—Japan’s Kansai Electric Power Co is considering proposing a 10 percent to 20 percent pay cut plan for its employees in an effort to reduce costs as its earnings are unlikely to recover due to rising fuel costs for power generation, local newspaper reported on Friday. The Kansai-based power utility will trim the salaries, including bonuses, for a year, and the planned cut follows the similar action to reduce salaries by 15 percent for its executives, which has been taken since March this year, according to the Mainichi Shimbun daily newspaper.

Since the utility’s management problem has already caused serious effects on the corporate bond market as well as electricity rates throughout Japan, the company in April 2013, the salary reduction is not avoidable. The report said the company is expected to present the proposal to the labour union for approval next month.

The salary reduction for workers could be the first case since 1951 when the company was founded.

Chinese President Hu Jintao (C), visits an exhibition featuring China’s progress in political, economic, cultural and ecological spheres over the past decade, in Beijing, capital of China, on 26 Oct 2012. The exhibition, entitled “Scientific Development and Splendid Achievements,” includes 2,110 photographs and 204 charts, as well as 765 objects, video clips and electronic photo albums. —Xinhua

China on orange alert with high waves expected

BEIJING, 27 Oct—Typhoon Son-Tinh is expected to cause high waves in the South China Sea with the country issuing an orange level wave warning on Saturday morning. The National Marine Environmental Forecasting Centre of the tropical storm developed into a typhoon early Saturday morning and was heading toward the northwest with the same strength or slightly gaining force. Orange alert is the second highest level on China’s four-tier color-coded warning system for strong winds.

Son-Tinh is expected to sweep the South China Sea off Hainan Island during Saturday night. The Typhoon approached, waves five to eight meters will be seen in the eastern and southern Hainan Province. Therefore, there will be a large wave of up to 15 meters in the eastern and southern coastal areas of the country’s meteorological authority said Saturday. —Xinhua

A vehicle moves on the waterlogged road in rain in Sanya, south China’s Hainan province on 27 Oct, 2012. Son-Tinh, the 23rd tropical storm this year, strengthened to typhoon on early Saturday morning and is expected to bring rainstorms and gales to China’s southern coastal areas, the country’s meteorological authority said Saturday. —Xinhua

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Son-Tinh is expected to sweep the South China Sea off Hainan Island during Saturday night. The Typhoon approached, waves five to eight meters will be seen in the eastern and southern Hainan Province. Therefore, there will be a large wave of up to 15 meters in the eastern and southern coastal areas of the country’s meteorological authority said Saturday. —Xinhua

A vehicle moves on the waterlogged road in rain in Sanya, south China’s Hainan province on 27 Oct, 2012. Son-Tinh, the 23rd tropical storm this year, strengthened to typhoon on early Saturday morning and is expected to bring rainstorms and gales to China’s southern coastal areas, the country’s meteorological authority said Saturday. —Xinhua

Kansai Electric Co is considering proposing a 10 percent to 20 percent pay cut plan for its employees in an effort to reduce costs as its earnings are unlikely to recover due to rising fuel costs for power generation, local newspaper reported on Friday. The Kansai-based power utility will trim the salaries, including bonuses, for a year, and the planned cut follows the similar action to reduce salaries by 15 percent for its executives, which has been taken since March this year, according to the Mainichi Shimbun daily newspaper.

Since the utility’s management problem has already caused serious effects on the corporate bond market as well as electricity rates throughout Japan, the company in April 2013, the salary reduction is not avoidable. The report said the company is expected to present the proposal to the labour union for approval next month.

The salary reduction for workers could be the first case since 1951 when the company was founded.
**Two British athletes’ Olympic medals stolen**

*London, 27 Oct — Two British athletes’ Olympic medals were stolen on Wednesday after the leaving a Buckingham Palace reception with Queen Elizabeth II honour British athletes who took part in London Olympic Games.*

Rowers Alex Partridge and hockey player Hannah MacLeod publicized the search for their missing Olympic bronze medals on Twitter. Partridge, 31, said both his Olympic blazer and medal were stolen. A 29-year-old man was later arrested in connection with the inquiry, but the police said the medals still hadn’t been found. The 28-year-old MacLeod also said on Twitter that she was “devastated” after her medal was taken at the same time.

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**Archaeology**

**Archaeologists uncover oldest tomb of M ayalan ruler**

*Mexico City, 27 Oct — Archaeologists announced on Thursday that they have uncovered one of the oldest royal Mayan tombs.*

Experts said the grave, discovered at Guatemala’s Tak'alik Ab’aj site, belonged to King K’utz Choman, a priest who is believed to rule around 700 BC and be buried sometime between 700 and 400 BC, a time of transition between the Olmec and early Mayan cultures, or the “dawn of the Mayan era.”

The ancient tomb could shed light on the formation of the Mayan civilization, making it “the biggest archeological discovery of 2012,” experts said.

The king’s burial site features sophisticated reliefs, including six female figurines and a spectacular loincloth carrying the image of a ritual vessel, which was a symbol of power and high economic status.

—Xinhua

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**Brazillian sexagenarian gives birth to twins**

*Rio de Janeiro, 27 Oct — A 61-year-old Brazilian woman gave birth to twins Thursday night, local Press said on Thursday. “I am very happy, I fulfilled my dream of becoming a mother,” the mother Antonia Leticia A.S. said. “I have always wanted to be a mother. We did not have many financial means, but we saved up to fulfill our dream.” The twins, a boy and a girl who were named Sofia and Roberto, were born premature at 26 weeks of pregnancy, weighing only 900 grams. They will remain in the intensive care unit of a local hospital for a few weeks until they gain more weight. Doctors chose to do the delivery earlier due to high blood pressure problems suffered by the mother. “The mother is well, despite the high risk of a gestational hypertension,” said Doctor M arco Antonio Antun. The mother had been trying to conceive for over two decades, and underwent fertility treatments, which included four artificial insemination attempts. She and her 55-year-old husband had previously tried to adopt a child, but were denied due to their advanced age.*

—Xinhua

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**Eyelash extensions all the rage among women of all ages**

*Tokyo, 27 Oct — No longer the preserve of celebrities or teens, eyelash extensions have become a popular beauty procedure among women in a wide range of ages, with a recent surge in the number of salons where therapists specialising in the treatment. Semi-permanent eyelash extensions used to be a beauty technique just for celebrities such as fashion models,” said M aki M iura, head of the Japan Eyelash Association. “But the price for a full set (of extensions) has declined to about 10,000 yen and (the procedure) has spread rapidly among ordinary customers over the last three years.” M iura said. — Kyodo News*

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**Pressure on BOJ to act mounts as deflation persists**

*Tokyo, 27 Oct — Japan remains mired in deflation, price data showed on Friday, piling pressure on the central bank to deliver more stimulus next week to keep the world’s third-largest economy from sliding into recession.*

The government also kept up the heat with Economy Minister Seiji Maehara calling for joint decisive action of the government and the central bank to support the economy. “Central banks around the world are easing monetary policy. The BOJ itself set a 1 percent inflation goal in February but hasn’t been achieved. As price falls are continuing, I want to ask the central bank to pursue powerful monetary easing,” Maehara told reporters after a cabinet meeting.

The government can send its representatives to BOJ meetings and Maehara has said he wanted to attend the one next week. The central bank is expected to cut its growth and price projections at the 30 October policy meeting and admit that it was further away from reaching the inflation goal than earlier thought.

“Japan’s core consumer prices fell 0.1 percent in the year to September, slightly less than expected, but economists said that was only due to higher energy costs and masked persistent deflationary pressures in the weakening economy. The data follow recent statistics showing last month’s exports posted their biggest annual drop since the aftermath of the 2011 earthquake while manufacturers’ mood hit its lowest since early 2010, as the diplomatic row with China threatens the export-reliant economy amid the global slowdown. ‘Prices have turned out weaker than the BOJ expected and the economy is slowing more than the bank anticipated, with both exports and domestic demand weakening,’ said Yoshimasa Murayama, chief economist at Itochu Economic Research Institute in Tokyo. ‘As such, I expect the BOJ will top up its asset-buying program by 10 trillion yen next year as it comes under pressure from the real economy as well as from politics.’ — Reuters*

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Arnold Schwarzenegger to reprise “Conan” movie role

Los Angeles, 27 Oct — Arnold Schwarzenegger is reprising one of his most famous movie roles — Conan the Barbarian — for an upcoming sequel, Universal Pictures said on Friday. Schwarzenegger, 65, will play the sword-swinging hero in “The Legend of Conan,” 30 years after the film that launched the Austrian body-builder as a Hollywood star. “I always loved the Conan character, and I’m honoured to be asked to step into the role once again,” Schwarzeneggersaid in a statement.

The original films, 1982’s “Conan the Barbarian” and 1984’s “Conan The Destroyer,” together grossed more than $70 million at US box office.

The “Conan” franchise was remade in 2011 with “Game of Thrones” star Jason Momoa, but the film — also called “Conan the Barbarian” — failed to repeat the success of its predecessors, earning only $21 million at the North American box office, according to film tracking site BoxOfficeMojo.com.

The new “Conan” film is the latest Hollywood venture by Schwarzenegger since the action movie hero ended his term as governor of California in January 2011. He starred alongside Hollywood’s veteran action heroes in this summer’s “The Expendables 2,” and is lined up to star in five other films, including thriller “Ten” and “Triples,” a sequel to his hit 1988 comedy “Twins” alongside co-star Danny DeVito.

Schwarzenegger, a Republican, also launched a global policy think-tank in his name at the University of Southern California, and released a memoir in October, “Total Recall: My Unbelievably True Life.”

The book revealed details of the child Schwarzenegger fathered with his family’s housekeeper 15 years ago, while married to Maria Shriver.

Reuter

Justin Bieber likes to travel with Selena Gomez


The 18-year-old singer said dating in the public eye can be difficult but he can not understand why some famous men refuse to admit to their relationships and force their girlfriends to travel apart from them, reported Showbizspy.

“I never make (Selena) separate from me because I don’t want her to ever feel like I’m ashamed of her.”

PTI

Robert Pattinson, Kristen Stewart still have trust issues

Los Angeles, 27 Oct — Hollywood couple Robert Pattinson and Kristen Stewart reportedly still have trust issues, even though they have reconciled after the cheating scandal.

The 22-year-old actress admitted to having cheated on Pattinson with married director Rupert Sanders three months back, reported People magazine.

“There’s still healing to do and trust issue but Kristen will do whatever it takes. Robert never stopped loving her, so took her back,” a source said.

PTI

Arnold Schwarzenegger

Robert Pattinson

Justin Timberlake apologizes for “distasteful” video

Los Angeles, 27 Oct — Singer Justin Timberlake apologized on Friday for what he called a “distasteful” video that features homeless people in Los Angeles congratulating him and new wife Jessica Biel on their wedding.

The video was made by a friend of Timberlake’s and intended as a humorous gift for the couple’s lavish wedding in Italy last week. The joke backfired when gossip website Gawker got hold of the video and celebrity news site TMZ.com tracked down one of the homeless men, who said he had been paid $400 for appearing in it.

In an open letter on his website, Timberlake said he had no knowledge of the video and “had absolutely ZERO contribution to it” but agreed that it was “distasteful and was “made as a joke and not in any way in mockery”. My friends are good people. This was clearly a lapse in judgment which I’m sure no one who is reading this is exempt from. But, I don’t believe it was made to be insensitive. More so, I think it was made as a joke on me not having my own wedding (which IS kind of funny if you think about it),” the “Sexyback” singer said.

“Like many silly rumors that I have been made aware of about the week. It was NOT shown at my wedding...I think we can all agree that it was distasteful, even though that was not its intention.”

Imberlake signed off lightheartedly, saying “I’m having my friend do at least 100 hours of community service... Boom.” Gawker was forced to remove the video from their site earlier this week when they were threatened with a lawsuit from attorneys representing Timberlake’s friend, Justin Huchel, who said the film was stolen and was “to be used and exhibited privately at Justin Timberlake’s wedding as a private joke without Mr. Timberlake’s knowledge.”

Timberlake, 31, a former member of 1990s boy band N’Sync who has forged a Hollywood acting career, married “Total Recall” actress Biel, 30, in southern Italy last week with close friends and family in attendance.

PTI

PTI
Maria Sharapova of Russia on Friday.

A final of the Valencia Open

David Ferrer in the quarter-

seed and Spanish compatriot

was beaten 6-3, 7-5 by top

World Tour Finals in London

of making next month's

Nicolas Almagro's chances

Since the Black Sea resort

Sharapova has

— Maria Sharapova

defending

who replaced

an alternate

with Stosur,

before her tie

women event,

of the season-

the semifinals

already qualified for

the Tour Finals.

Ferrer, like world

number 12 Almagro a double

champion in Valencia, will play

Van Dodgor on Saturday

for a place in the final after the

Croatian qualifier upset

compatriot and seventh seed

M. Marin Cilic 6-2, 7-6.

Cilic needed a win

against 110th-ranked Dodgor

to boost his slim hopes of

making it through to the

Tour finals but came

up short in the pair's

first meeting on the

ATP Tour. Reuters

Sharapova beats

WTA Championships

Stosur at

Istanbul, 27 Oct

— Maria Sharapova

brushed aside Sam

Stosur 6-0, 6-3 at the

WTA Championships

here on Friday. Sharapova

has already qualified for

the semifinals of the season-

ending eight-

women event, before her tie

with Stosur, an alternate

who replaced defending

champion Petra

Kvitova, who withdrew because

of illness. Xinhua

Russia to set Sochi medal goals in next

spring

Moscow, 27 Oct—

Russian government would

set its medal goals for the

2014 Sochi Winter Olympics

until the spring, Sports

Minister Vitaly Mutko said

Friday.

Since the Black Sea resort

of Sochi would host a number

of competitions in all Winter

Olympic sports items to test

the newly built facilities,

Russian government would

set winning goals pending the

athletes’ performances

during the new winter sports

season, M u t k o r e l a d R - S p o r t .

At the end of the season,

while authorities would

'formulate a target with high-
scores on the Sochi Olympics'

and we’ll tell Russian citizens

honestly what we want from

this national squad," M u t k o

added. In winter 2012-2013,

a series of test competitions

will be held in the Olympics

venues.

The International

Olympic Committee (IOC)

said on earlier October that

the preparations for the 2014

Winter Games in Sochi were

"impecable".

Under the theme of "Hot. Cool. Yours.",

the Sochi Olympics will be

opened on 7 February, 2014

and run until 23 February.

The Games will feature

98 medal events, which is

more than twice the number

of the 2010 Winter Olympics

in Vancouver, Canada.

Xinhua

Sharapova sweeps past

Samantha Stosur of Australia

6-0, 6-3 while Agnieszka

Radwanska, the No 4 seed

from Poland, booked a

semifinal with Serena

Williams of the U.S. after

defeating Italian Sara

Errani 6-7, 7-5 and

6-4. Xinhua
Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL
(28-10-12 09:30 am - 29-10-12 09:30 am) MST

News
Thadingyut Lighting Festival with Great Devotions
Vietnam Expo 2012 (Press Conference)
News
Road to 27th Sea Games (8-admin)
Semi Final Contest Mr. and Ms. Tai WIn
A Glimpse of Japan’s Heritage "Okinawa World Heritage"
News
Fortune of human Correlated with Astro Science 12 Sign A scendants in November 2012

The late-season hybrid storm will have all of the ingredients needed for a large storm. The circulation of this storm as it approaches the coast could cover about the eastern third of the United States, said Louis Uccellini, the National Environmental Prediction. He stopped short of calling Sandy possibly the worst storm to hit the US in the top 10, was accompanied by the local motor sport’s patron by his mother and friend, Information and Media, Information and Publicity Minister Webster Shamu. Joice Mujuru expressed good wishes to Formula 2 driver Axcil Jefferies and urged him to continue flying the country’s flag high in Europe as part of efforts to change its perception abroad.

Zimbabwe Vice President Mujuru meets Formula 2 driver J efferies

HARARE, 27 Oct— Zimbabwe Vice President Joice Mujuru expressed good wishes to Formula 2 driver Axcil Jefferies and urged him to continue flying the country’s flag high in Europe as part of efforts to change its perception abroad. Jefferies said he felt proud to be a Zimbabwean, especially after receiving overwhelming support. During the last two years, Jefferies’ parents had to sell their home and business to support his son’s pursuit of his dream of competing against the world’s best.

Jefferies leaves Harare for Europe on Friday afternoon to start preparations for the new season which begins in March next year.— Xinhua

Typhoon Son-Tinh to bring rainstorms to S China

BEIJING, 27 Oct— Son-Tinh, the 23rd tropical storm this year, strengthened to typhoon early Saturday morning and is expected to bring rainstorms and gales to China’s southern coastal areas, the country’s meteorological authority said on Saturday. The National Meteorological Centre of China said the center of Son-Tinh, which is gaining strength, was 75 kilometres to the southwest of Sanya, anewly established city in the South China Sea, at 5 a.m. Saturday. It was moving northweastward at a speed of 20 to 25 km per hour. The approaching Son-Tinh is expected to bring heavy rainfall and strong wind to the southern parts of China, including parts of Hainan Province and Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region in the coming two days. Rainfall is expected to vary between 25 and 50 millimetres per hour, with gusts of up to 40 metres per hour in some areas. The centre of the typhoon is expected to move northward on Friday after coming ashore early next week. — Xinhua

Dodd-Frank forces European banks to review US deals

LONDON, 27 Oct— Some European banks are ordering their broker in China and even quitting trading some derivatives with US-based peers in a protest against tough new American rules. The Dodd-Frank regulations, which come into force in early 2013, will subject non-US banks to foreign as well as domestic regulatory scrutiny in derivatives trading, impo-sing a fresh bureaucratic burden.

But some mid-sized non-US banks have told their brokers to stop doing trades with US firms, in the hope of avoiding the $8 billion threshold and the burden of becoming a US-regulated dealer.

“Numerous counter-parties in Europe and Asia have requested they do not face US-based counterparties so they do not build up any swap volumes towards the US regulators want all active participants in the US derivatives market. But some mid-sized non-US banks have told their brokers to stop doing trades with US firms, in the hope of avoiding the $8 billion threshold and the burden of becoming a US-regulated dealer. "Numerous counter-parties in Europe and Asia have requested they do not face US-based counterparties so they do not build up any swap volumes towards the US regulatory authorities," said a senior European swaps broker, who declined to be named in line with client confidentiality constraints.

A customer makes a withdrawal from a Nordea automatic tel ler machine in Stockholm on 29 Aug, 2011.— Reuters

Hurricane Sandy is seen churning towards the United States in this NASA handout satellite image taken on 26 Oct, 2012.— Reuters

Hurricane Sandy slogs toward US, 41 killed in Caribbean

NEW YORK, 27 Oct— Hurricane Sandy, a late-season Atlantic cyclone that threatens to be one of the worst storms to hit the Northeast in decades, slowed its northward advance on Friday after killing at least 41 people in the Caribbean. Forecasters said wind damage, widespread power outages and coastal and inland flooding were anticipated across a broad swath of the densely populated US East Coast when Sandy comes ashore early next week.

We’re expecting a large, strong storm. The circulation of this storm as it approaches the coast could cover about the eastern third of the United States, said Louis Uccellini, director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Centers for Environ-mental Prediction. The late-season hybrid storm has been dubbed “Frankenstorm” by some weather watchers because it will combine elements of a tropical cyclone and a winter storm. Forecast models show it will have all of the ingredients to morph into a massive and potentially catastrophic “super storm.”— Reuters

Northeast in 100 years, as some weather watchers were doing, but said Sandy was shaping up to go down as a storm of “historic proportions. The late-season hybrid storm has been dubbed “Frankenstorm” by some

Word! (2)

Learning English

This week, we are going to learn from words of a politician, a pollster and an angry father.

“T’Hailand has become a Wild West movie.”
Chuwit Kamolvisit
Thai politician

The massage parlour tycoon-turned politician groaned about looming gun crime in Thailand. According to a Reuters report, the Southeast Asian nation witnessed relatively high 5.3 gun murders per 100,000 people in 2001. The politician dubbed the escalating gun war in the “Land of Smiles” the Hollywood action blockbuster.

“T’Hailand has already been a setting for Hollywood films of which “Bangkok Dangerous” is the most famous one.

“It’s very much neck and neck.”
Julia Clark
Ipsos pollster

US presidential election is nearing and the final debate has been wrapped up. A poll by Reuters and Ipsos indicated a tough race between Democrat incumbent Obama and former Governor Mitt Romney for the White House. The pollster said the result is the battle is very much tightened, but with Obama has voted early and urged the citizens to do so.

“Y’ou have crossed the line and bitten off a lot more than you can chew.”
Michael Lohan
Father of troubled Hollywood star Lindsay Lohan

Michael Lohan has warned the crowd around his party-loving daughter against “misogynist morals” for recent quarrel with her mother. But the 26-year-old said she is “done” with her father as he betrayed the trust she confided in him by publicizing the private conservation. She also admitted that she told a huge lie to his father that her mother Dina is on cocaine.

Typhoon Son-Tinh to bring rainstorms to S China

A great story of each day is written in every life. One of the most beautiful stories of all, is the story of growing up. It’s a story of wonder and discovery, joy and sorrow, and finally the story of becoming who we are.” — Elizabeth Lesser

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Sunday, 28 October, 2012
More private investment invited for solving visitors’ difficulties

YANGON, 27 Oct—More private investment in Yangon International Airport under the Ministry of Transport extension tasks, airport services, management and maintenance are invited. An press conference for those projects was held at Institute of Civil Aviation on 25 October, attended by those from respective fields.

Woods loses ground in Malaysia, Van Pelt flirts with 59

KUALA LUMPUR, 27 Oct—Tiger Woods found lakes, bunkers and cart paths to stall his third round charge up the CIMB Classic leaderboard on Saturday, as Bo Van Pelt grabbed a share of the lead after flirting with golf’s magical 59.

Defending champion Van Pelt double-bogeyed the last to sign for a nine-under-par 62 and sit at the top of the leaderboard on 16-under 266 alongside overnight front-runner Robert Garrigus (69), with Woods (69) a further five shots back in joint 10th. Heavy rain in Malaysia led to a second day of preferred lies at the soggy Mines Golf Course, leaving the course exposed to super scoring with only five of the 48 players in the field going over par in their third round.

Woods had raced to the turn in 30 after five birdies and four pars but his round turned in 30 after five birdies with only five of the 48 exposed to supreme scoring. His round was completed in 33 after a bogey on the 18th. 

ASEAN Chess Game Pre-SEA Games Event concludes

YANGON, 27 Oct—The prize presentation ceremony of ASEAN Chess Game 2012 Pre-SEA Games Event jointly organized by Sports and Physical Education Department and Myanamar Chess Federation took place at Central Hotel on Bogyoke Aung San Street here this evening. The competition was one of the events organized as part of ASEAN Games 2013.

In echoes of Obama, Romney seeks to adopt mantle of change

Washington, 27 Oct—(Reuters)—US President Barack Obama and his Republican challenger Mitt Romney have both been accused of “pretending” to be one of their own communities as the presidential election campaign enters its final week.

Chinese President Hu Jintao (C), visits an exhibition featuring China’s progress in political, economic, cultural and ecological spheres over the past decade, in Beijing, capital of China, on 26 Oct 2012.

Low pressure area over South Bay of Bengal

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Oct—According to the observations at 1.30 hrs MST today, a low pressure area is moving over South Bay of Bengal and is likely to intensify into a cyclonic storm over the Bay of Bengal.

Child care system discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Oct—Chin State Committee of the Child Rights held the meeting 1/2012 at the hall of State Government yesterday. Local authorities and officials commented on discussed protection of children and establishment of child care system.

Stoner takes pole at Phillip Island

"A world of difference."

"There's a world of difference between newspapers of the past and Kyemon in my hands. This edition brings more sections. Quality of the colour paper is improved. I would love to see more interesting reports. I found an obituary of an acquaintance of mine in Bogalay. All four of our staffs of bought a newspaper each at 5 am. Our family distanced ourselves away from newspapers. Now we've become the subscribers."

"No overnight change."

"In fact, I'm not a Yangonite. I'm here on a visit and going back home. I first thought it was a journal. I found it was Kyemon when it came nearer. I bought it from a vendor to read while waiting for the plane. It's cheap. I know the newspapers are changing and become better, I accept that Rome is not built in a day. I think the gradual change is better and firmer."

"More pages, please!"

"Inform sharp, win more audiences."

"I'm going to have to roar out of the blocks, hoting a 12 foot birdie put from the fringe on the short par-four first as he finally found some form after two days of struggles."

"I added a couple of bad decisions, bad swings on top of that, but all-in-all I made too many mistakes and on a golf course that is playing this benign, you can’t afford to do that," Woods told reporters.

Chinese President Hu Jintao (C), visits an exhibition featuring China's progress in political, economic, cultural and ecological spheres over the past decade, in Beijing, capital of China, on 26 Oct 2012.

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