Local people of Thabeikkyin recount her experiences in earthquake.

**Daw Ni of Thabeikkyin**

At present, the people from urban area of Thabeikkyin who faced a strong earthquake hit, we did not know what we should do. Many people run to the football ground. So, we followed them. In the early days, there were many earthquake victims in the football ground of Thabeikkyin. Now, we went back home thanks to assistance of the Union government, region government and local people and current situation. Some of victims have lost houses so they stay at their relatives. I went back my home. Local authorities provided necessary assistance to us. In the town, volunteers participate in the relief and rehabilitation tasks vigorously. In fact, as earthquake cannot be predicted, we all should not worry about rumours,” said local Daw Ni of Thabeikkyin. 

**Nay Pyi Taw, 15 Nov—** Vice-President of the Republic of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham received former Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea Mr Kun Goh at the credentials hall of the Presidential Palace here today.

**Aso present at the call were Union Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security U Maung M yint and deputy ministers U Thant Kyaw, Dr Daw Khin San Y i and U Phone Swe and departmental officials.**

During the meeting, they openly discussed the matters on rural development and poverty reduction programmes in Myanmar, experiences of the ROK in bringing development to rural areas in Korea and rice farming.— MNA

**Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham receives former PM of Republic of Korea**

**Spokespersons and Information Team disbanded**

Republic of the Union of Myanmar President Office Notification No.86/2012

1st Waxing of Tazaungmon, 1374 M.E. (14 November, 2012)

Dissolution of Spokespersons and Information Team

Spokespersons and Information Team that was formed with President Office’s Notification No.75/2011, dated 10 August, 2011 has been disbanded as of today.

Sd/ Thein Sein
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

**Summary of observations at 9.30 hr MST on 15-11-2012**

Nay Pyi Taw, 15 Nov— During the past (24) hours, rain or thundershower have been scattered in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, Shan and Rakhine States, isolated in Upper Sagaing and Yangon Regions. Kachin and Chin States, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above November averages temperatures in Northern Shan, Eastern Shan, Chin, Kayah and Mon States, (5°C) above November averages temperatures in Magway Region and Southern Shan State and about November average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States.

NLM

**Main stadium for Tokyo 2020 bid to be designed by Britain’s Zaha Hadid**

Tokyo, 15 Nov— Britain’s Zaha Hadid Architects have won the design competition for Tokyo’s new National Stadium that will be used as the main venue for the 2020 Olympics if the city wins the right to stage the Games, the Japan Sport Council announced Thursday.

Iraqi-born Zaha Hadid, who designed the Aquatics Centre for this summer’s London Olympics, was chosen among 11 finalists whittled down from 46 applicants, both domestic and abroad.

In 2004, the 62-year-old Hadid won the Pritzker Prize, the architectural equivalent of the Nobel Prize. “The design was truly radical and represents the vibrancy which sport is all about,” said architect Tadao Ando, who chaired the competition committee. “Its impact is what won it.”

The existing National Stadium was built in 1958 for the 1964 Summer Games in Tokyo. The renovated stadium will cost 130 billion yen and will seat 80,000 with a retractable roof.

It’s set to be used for the 2019 Rugby World Cup and the 2020 Olympics — should Tokyo win the bid against Madrid and Istanbul next September.

“It’s so full of life,” Japanese Olympic Committee President Tsunekazu Takeda said. “It will serve as a fantastic symbol of the 2020 Tokyo Olympic bid.”— Kyodo

**M NA**
**NATURAL**

**Two killed, 14 injured in KIA’s attack**

MYITKINNA, 15 Nov—KIA attacked a civilian convoy near 5 Mile Village of Lonekhin Village tract in Phakant Township around 10.30 am yesterday, killing two and wounding 14, said the Kachin State government, adding that the one injured was in critical condition.

The convoy comprised five vehicles carrying 78 convicts in the incident. The convoy was faced with further mine damages.

**Donations invited for repair of damaged pagodas, religious edifices, schools and houses in quake**

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Nov—A strong earthquake at 7 hours 42 minutes and 37 seconds on 11 November, 2012, devastated religious edifices, schools, houses, offices and construction sites and caused casualties in Sagaing, Shwebo, Kyaikmyaung, Khin U, Mandalay, A marapura, Singu, Kyaukse and Thabeikkyin Townships in Sagaing and Mandalay Regions. The Union government is taking rescue and rehabilitation measures at full throttle. Donations of individuals or civil societies are welcomed as the government handles responsibility to repair the damaged pagodas and religious edifices.

Similarly, the government will accept donations from wellwishers, civil societies, NGOs and INGOs at home and abroad to repair the damaged schools, hospitals, dispensaries, pagodas and religious edifices.

**Nay Pyi Taw, 15 Nov—**

- Ministry of Religious Affairs
  - Contact Person: U Khin Aung Myint (Director)
  - Phone: 067-404316/0943120863

- Ministry of Relief and Resettlement
  - Contact Person: U Mya Nyein (Director-General)
  - Phone: 067-404316/0943120863

- Ministry of Culture
  - Contact Person: U Kyaw Oo Lwin (Director-General)
  - Phone: 067-400838/0949202141

- Ministry of Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department
  - Contact Person: U Soe Aung (Director-General)
  - Phone: 067-404030/0986000025

- Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement
  - Contact Person: U Win Htut Oo (Director–Admin)
  - Phone: 067-404030/0986000025

Present at the call together with the Speaker of the Union Parliament and the Deputy Speaker, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker were cordially exchanged views on parliament’s duties, serving of representatives in accordance with the democratic practices, opportunity for cooperation between Myanmar and EU, EU’s more aids to Myanmar’s democratic reform process and local peace-making process.

Present at the call together with the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw were Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Mya Nyein, Chairmen of the Committees U Zaw Myint Pe, U Thein Win, U San Tun, Dr Khin Shwe, Dr Myint Kyi, Col Maung Maung Htoo, U Win Maw, Daw Nan Nib Aye, Daw Khin Waing Kyi and officials from the Hluttaw Office.

**NAY PYI TAW, 15 NOV—**

- Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint received a delegation led by Special Representative and Policy Coordinator Mr Patrick Murphy of the United States of America at Amyotha Hluttaw hall, here, at 3 pm today.

- Present at the call together with the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker were Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyein and the officials of the Hluttaw Office.—MNA

**Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker receives Special Representative and Policy Coordinator Mr Patrick Murphy of the United States of America at Amyotha Hluttaw.** — MNA

**Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker receives US delegation**

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**Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint receives Special Representative and Policy Coordinator Mr Patrick Murphy of the United States of America.** — MNA
**Gaza, 15 Nov**—A Hamas rocket killed three Israelis north of the Gaza Strip on Thursday, drawing the first blood from Israel as the Palestinian death toll rose to 13 and a military showdown lurched closer to all-out war with an invasion of the enclave.

Israeli warplanes bombed targets in and around Gaza city, where tall buildings trembled. Plumes of smoke and dust flared into a sky laced with the offensive begun by the Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) as "organised terrorism".

Israel was more concerned about the mood in Egypt, whose new Islamist government brokered a truce between the two sides on Tuesday only to see it shattered a day later when Israel assassinated the top Hamas military commander. Hamas is an offshoot of the Muslim Brotherhood, which now controls Egypt, Israel’s most powerful Arab neighbour and a crucial ally in its war on Hamas.

In Lebanon, the Iranian-backed Shi’ite militia Hezbollah denounced Israel’s strikes on Gaza as “criminal aggression” and called on Arab states to “stop the genocide”.

An injured Israeli baby is held by a security officer inside an ambulance at the scene where a rocket, fired from Gaza, landed in the southern city of Kiryat Malachi November 15, 2012.—Reuters

**Berlin, 15 Nov**—Germany plans to cut the number of its troops in Afghanistan from 4,760 to 3,300 by the end of February 2014, top government officials said on Wednesday.

Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle and Defence Minister Thomas de Maiziere told reporters that Germany is gradually reducing its forces in Afghanistan. Germany has planned to bring all combat soldiers home by the end of 2014, when Afghan forces are scheduled to take full responsibility for national security. Local media reported that the proposal is expected to be passed in the parliament swiftly. Westerwelle said Germany would continue to provide Afghanistan with long-term non-military assistance after a total withdrawal of combat troops. Germany has already started the phase-out of troops in Afghanistan, where as many as 3,530 German troops were stationed during the peak period a year ago. The number of German soldiers ranks the third in the about 100,000 NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) after the United States and Britain.—Xinhua

**Teheran, 15 Nov**—Iran’s Army and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) have test-fired a range of missiles and unveiled their military achievements in the ongoing joint air defence drill starting on Monday.

Code-named “Modafe’, an-e Aseman-e Velayat 4”, or “The Defenders of the Sky of Guardianship 4”, the seven-day drill is held in an area of more than 850,000 square km, accounting for half of the country, in which a large number of soldiers are participating.

On Wednesday, the third day of the drill, Iran test-fired S-200 air defence missile system “successfully” in the southern port city of Bandar Abbas, said the commander of Iranian Khataam al-Anbia Air Defence Base, Farzad Esmaili, adding that the missile system has been developed for high-altitude targets.

The missile system can also confront strategic aircraft and semi-ballistic missiles, Esmaili was quoted as saying.

In July, 2011, IRGC said Iran had managed to upgrade the Russian-made long-range S-200 air defence system into an entirely new apparatus, according to local media. Also on Wednesday, Iranian air force “successfully” test-fired another two homemade missiles systems, “Qader” and “Ya-Zahra 3”, in the eastern province of Southern Khorasan, the official IRNA news agency reported.

The “Qader” missile is equipped with electro-optic and laser rangefinder systems, while the “Ya-Zahra 3” missile is designed to be used in low altitudes, said the report.

On Tuesday, semi-official Fars news agency reported that Iran “successfully” test-fired the Hawk air defence system.

Ten killed in helicopter crash in NE Iran

**Teheran, 15 Nov**—The death toll of a rescue helicopter crash in northeastern Iran on Wednesday morning has increased to ten, semi-official Mehr news agency reported.

Earlier in the day, a medical emergency official in northeastern Mashhad city told Fars news agency that the helicopter which belonged to Iran’s airforce and was hired by the emergency center of Mashhad was crashed in an operation.

The helicopter was transferring injured people in an accident to a hospital in Mashhad when it crashed in Sineh-Arab region in Khorasan Razavi province in the northeast of Iran, the official, Reza Vafaieinejad, was quoted as saying.

Vafaieinejad said there were ten people onboard the helicopter, including five crew members and five injured in a traffic accident near Mashhad.

He said that the crash took place due to bad whether condition and foggy air so that the pilot had to lower its height, hence, the helicopter hit power cables of high-pressure power and crashed.

Earlier Wednesday, Fars news agency reported that the helicopter were killed and one was seriously injured who was taken to a nearby hospital.—Xinhua
Scientists identify new risk gene for Alzheimer's

CHICAGO, 15 Nov — Two international teams of scientists have identified a rare mutation in a gene linked with inflammation that significantly increases the risk for the most common form of Alzheimer's disease, the first such discovery in at least a decade.

The findings, published on Wednesday in the New England Journal of Medicine, offer new insights into the underpinnings of Alzheimer's, a deadly, brain-wasting disease that robs people of their memories, their independence and their lives.

In separate studies, teams led by privately held deCode Genetics and John Hardy of University College London found that people with a mutation in a gene called TREM2 were four times likely to have Alzheimer's as people who did not have the gene.

"It quadruples the risk of Alzheimer's," said Dr. Kari Stefansson of Reykjavik-based deCode in a telephone interview.

The level of risk compares with ApoE4, the best-known genetic cause of late-onset Alzheimer's, the form of the disease that occurs in older adults.

But this new gene variant is 10 times more rare than ApoE4, which is present in about 40 percent of people with late-onset Alzheimer's.

Rare or not, scientists say the discovery represents a big breakthrough for Alzheimer's research.

"This is one of the most common, most devastating illnesses in humans and we still don't have a very good understanding of what causes the disease," said Dr. Allan Levey, director of the Emory Alzheimer's Disease Centre of Excellence in Atlanta, which helped confirm the deCode findings.

"In my mind, this is very important. It gives us another important clue as to one of the biological factors that contribute to causing the disease," he said.

Scientists go the whole hog in genome mapping

LONDON, 15 Nov — Scientists have mapped the genome of the domestic pig in a project that could enhance the animal's use for meat production and the testing of drugs for human disease.

A study published in science journal Nature identified genes that could be linked with illnesses suffered by farmed pigs, providing a reference tool for selective breeding to increase their resistance to disease.

"This new analysis helps us understand the genetic mechanisms that enable high-quality pork production, feed efficiency and resistance to disease," said Nanny Ramaswamy, director of the US Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

"This knowledge can ultimately help producers breed high-quality swine, lower production costs and improve sustainability."

Researchers said the group, based on data from pigs that have been sequenced at the University of Edinburgh's Roslin Institute in Scotland, which worked on the project with collaborators in the Netherlands and the United States, said the new genome sequence was the first good draft.

"It reaffirms the role our country can play on the global business map," he said after meeting representatives of both companies and the shipping and development ministers.

In 2011 more than 20 million passengers and 1.7 million containers passed through Piraeus, the country's busiest port and a gateway to Eastern Europe, according to the Piraeus Port Authority (OLP).

ATHENS, 15 Nov — Hewlett Packard will transport its goods across Europe, the Middle East and Africa through Greece's biggest port, the Greek government said on Wednesday, after a deal with China's Cosco Pacific that Athens hopes will attract investors and bolster cargo business at its commercial docks.

The agreement is expected to take effect at the end of the year, the government said. Cosco Pacific, one of the world's biggest container terminal operators, signed a deal with Greece in 2008 to run a pier at the state-owned Piraeus port.

HP is the world's largest manufacturer by sales of personal computers.

The conservative-led government of Prime Minister Antonis Samaras has made investment and growth a priority since taking over in June. Greece's battling its biggest economic downturn in six decades.

The Department Ministry, which announced the preliminary agreement, did not place a value on the deal but said it could increase local cargo business at Piraeus by 50 percent. It is also expected to create hundreds of jobs, the ministry said.

HP's merchandise would be distributed by sea through the Cosco terminal and by land through Greece's Trainose, the monopoly that operates 500 freight and passenger routes on 2,500 km (1,550 miles) of railways, the ministry said.

"We see crew and can speak to them," Kuznetsov said. "We expected the cable break "did not lead to loss of control of orbital facilities, including the ISS" because reconfiguration of the operations of ground-based control facilities was conducted".

RIA cited a source as saying the problem could delay the departure of a Russian, an American and a Japanese astronaut from the station, scheduled for 19 November.

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"In my mind, this is very important. It gives us another important clue as to one of the biological factors that contribute to causing the disease," he said.

Reuters
**BUSINESS & HEALTH**

**Even moderate drinking in pregnancy may affect child’s IQ**

**Health**

*London, 15 Nov* — Women who drink even moderate amounts of alcohol while pregnant face a significant risk of lowering their child’s intelligence levels, according to a study by British scientists.

Drinking alcohol during pregnancy is considered safe, but alcohol use in pregnancy is a major public health issue. Researchers are investigating the health effects of alcohol consumption during pregnancy, including its impact on IQ scores.

**Most previous studies have used observational evidence, but experts say this may be misleading because, for example, mothers who drink in moderation while pregnant are typically well educated, have good diets and are unlikely to smoke—all factors linked to higher IQ in children and which could mask any negative effects of alcohol.**

**US study published in July found that older, educated women were more likely to drink while pregnant.**

**This study used genetic data from women and children who were part of another study called the Children of the 90s study.**

Since the individual genetic variations that people have in their DNA are not connected to lifestyle and social factors, this kind of study avoids potential complications.

**Lenovo aims to raise EMEA margins by 50 percent**

**Business**

*Dubai, 15 Nov* — Lenovo Group Ltd, on track to become the world’s top PC maker, has bolstered its presence in Europe, the Middle East and Africa (EMEA) and aims to raise regional operating margins by about 50 percent, a top company executive said on Wednesday.

The Chinese company’s profit growth slowed in the second quarter, amid anemic demand and cutbacks, and outpaced results from its main rivals, such as Hewlett-Packard Co, Dell Inc and Apple Inc.

Yet uncertainty over the future of the PC market — seen by some analysts as a “sunset” industry — has been helped by gains in emerging markets, where Lenovo has expanded.

**The company’s operating margin in EMEA was 2 percent in the second quarter and it aims to raise this to 3 percent in the next 16 months — by the end of the fiscal year 2014,** Lenovo president for the EMEA region, told Reuters.

He said the gains were achievable because the company had already beefed up its operations in the Middle East, Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

“It’s a matter of scaling expenses. We have the right set up,” he said.

“We can see growth coming without adding too much in terms of resources. We will start to look into how we can invest in brand building.”

Lenovo’s smartphones, such as LePhones, have gained traction in China as shipments of the PC maker rank second in market share in the second quarter, behind Samsung Electronics, IDC data showed.

The Chinese manufacturer launched smartphones in Russian speaking countries this month, and it was the first time these handsets have been sold in the EMEA region.

**Facebook stock jumps 12.6 percent as share lockup expires**

**San Francisco, 15 Nov* — Shares of Facebook Inc jumped nearly 13 percent on Wednesday, as investors breathed a sigh of relief that expiration of trading restrictions on a huge block of shares failed to trigger an immediate wave of insider selling.

While the lockup is expiring, there is nothing requiring the company to sell stock, said Tim Gershke, chief investment officer at Solaris Group in Bedford Hills, New York. “Given the low price, these long-term holders are deciding to hold the stock, and that is lifting it here as the fear of the expiration subsides.” Roughly 800 million Facebook shares were eligible for sale on Wednesday after restrictions on insider selling were lifted on the biggest block since Facebook’s May initial public offering.

The lockup expiration greatly expands the 921-million-share “float” available for trading on the market until now. “We’ve seen this before with other lockups. People sell them leading up to the lockup period expiring, and then they have a bit of a relief rally,” said Ruyan Jacob, chief executive of the Jach Funds, which does not own Facebook shares. In August, shares of the online reviews website Yelp Inc surged by more than 20 percent on the day that insider trading restrictions expired.

**AT&T sees $1 billion opportunity in company cyber security**

**Barcelona, 15 Nov* — Companies will double or triple spending on cyber security in the coming years as attacks grow more sophisticated and frequent, creating a billion dollar business opportunity for US carrier AT&T Inc, it said on Wednesday.

A tracks on AT&T networks that doubled in the past four months and now tend to be more targeted to evade detection, Frank Jules, president of AT&T’s global enterprise unit, said at the Morgan Stanley TMT conference.

He said they were on a daily basis and they are now getting smaller instead of coming in huge waves, which were easier for us to expose levels.

**US regulators report possible link between caffeine, sleep disorders**

**New York, 15 Nov* — The US Food and Drug Administration confirmed on Wednesday the receipt of reports that another caffeine drink, 5-hour Energy, may have been involved in a number of deaths—in this case 13 over the past four years. The reports were first detailed by the New York Times on Wednesday.

The news follows the FDA’s disclosure last month that it was investigating reports of five deaths that may be related to Monster Beverage’s namesake drinks.

Energy drinks and coffee are the fastest-growing type of soft drink in the United States, with sales rising 17 percent last year to about $5 billion, according to Beverage Digest.

FDA spokeswoman Shelly Burgess said that 5-hour Energy, sold by Living Essentials, has been mentioned in some 90 FDA filings since 2009, including those that involved serious or life-threatening events like heart attacks, convulsions, and in one case, a spontaneous abortion, the New York Times reported.

The Times said another federal agency, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, reported late last year that more than 13,000 emergency room visits in 2009 were associated with energy drinks alone.

**Texas Instruments cuts 1,700 jobs, winds down tablet chip business**

**New York/San Francisco, 15 Nov* — Texas Instruments is eliminating 1,700 jobs, as it winds down its mobile processor business to focus on chips for more profitable markets like cars and home appliances.

Texas Instruments said in September it would halve its investments in the increasingly competitive smartphone and tablet chip business, leading Wall Street to speculate that part of the company’s processor unit, called DM A.P. could be sold. TI’s losses are equivalent to nearly 5 percent of the Austin, Texas-based company’s global workforce.

“Although we will have been better than restructuring but a restructuring is certainly better than nothing,” Sanford Bernstein analyst Stacy Ragen said.

“TI has been under pressure in mobile processors, where it has lost ground to rival Qualcomm Inc. Leading smartphone like security and machine-to-machine technology, which puts mobile SIM cards into everything from cars to vending machines.”

AT&T said in early November it would boost capital spending on its US network by about 16 percent to $22 billion a year for the next three years to upgrade its wireless and wireline networks.

**Samsung Electronics cuts 1,700 jobs, winds down tablet chip business**

**Business**

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**Ephedrine, pseudoephedrine tablets seized in Lashio**

**NAY PYI TAW, 15 Nov** — It is learnt that 100,000 ephedrine tablets and over 500,000 tablets with pseudoephedrine were seized in Lashio on 13 November.

Officials of Shan State Police Force and Lashio special anti-narcotic squad conducted a search of unlicensed four-wheeled Hilux car driving from Myawady street to Buta Street. Two men—Hsam Kwat and Aik Yone—were arrested. According to the investigations, accomplices—Khin Maung Oo (a) Maung Oo, Kay Kay Win, Nann Nmon (a) Ah May were also arrested. — MNA

**Free medical treatment given**

**MANDALAY, 15 Nov** — Under the Women and Child Health Development Project organized by Aungmyathazan Township Health Department, providing local people with free medical treatment and giving health education took place at early Childhood Development and Protection Centre jointly-organized by Social Welfare Department and World Vision Myanmar on 1 November.

A medical team comprising head of township health department and health in-charges Dr San San Aye, Dr Hnin Thida Cho and Dr Khine Zar Lin, nurses led by Matron Daw Cho Cho Myint and midwives and health staff performed free medical treatment to 88 patients and gave educative talks on health to 99 locals. — Kyemon

**Mudon, 15 Nov** — Aimed at providing local people from Mudon and nearby villages with free medical treatment, a free clinic was opened at Dawna street in Myoma (1) ward of Mudon on 1 November.

Mudon free clinic was temporarily opened on Mawlamyine-Thayet by-pass road on 19 August 2011, and the clinic moved to the present building established with the contribution of K 100 million by wellwisher U Khin Maung Win and Daw Khin San Win (Myat Pann Khine Co.) and family of Mandalay.

A fund of more than K5 million was set up for giving free medical treatment to the patients. During the period from the opening date to the end of September, 13080 medical treatments were given to patients and eye surgeries were performed for 79 patients with eye complaint.

As medical equipment needed for opening of a dental clinic have been donated by U Toe M Kyinta San Win (a) U Bo B and Daw San Lwin and family, plans are underway to attend to the needs of local people in health and social matters. Member doctors of Mudon Medical Association work at the free clinic three days a week alternately on a voluntary basis. — Kyemon

**Mudon sees free clinic**

**Thayet, 15 Nov** — A fire broke out at a manual oil drilling block of Shwe Yar thi company in Padaukpin oil drilling area in Thayet Township of Magway Region at 3.30 am on 14 November.

The fire started due to the friction between a metal container and a pulley while oil drilling from 9 am to 11 am. — Kyemon

**Fourteenth fire of Padaukpin oil drilling area in Thayet**

**Kyemon**

**Myanmar to lead ceremony of recitation of Three repositories of Buddhist Scriptures in Bodh Gaya**

**YANGON, 15 Nov** — With the aim of promoting Tharavadda Buddha Sasana and peace across the globe, the annual ceremony to recite Three repositories of Buddhist Scriptures will be held under the leadership of the Sitagu Sayadaw and members of the Sangha of Gaya in the compound of the Bodh Gaya Pagoda in Gaya of Bihar State in India from 2 to 12 December on a grand scale.

The opening ceremony of recitation of Three repositories of Buddhist Scriptures will be held on 2 December and the closing ceremony on 12 December. The recitations will be carried out from 9 am to 11 am and from 3 pm to 5 pm.

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**Tatkon dwellers throng to friendly football match**

**Kyemon**

**EU Market Access Requirements Awareness Workshop held**

**YANGON, 15 Nov** — The Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry organized a Workshop on EU Market Access Requirements Awareness with the sponsorship of Centre for the Promotion Imports from Developing Countries at UMCCI Training Institute on 12 and 13 November. The workshop attended by associations from the sectors of garment, tourism, marine resources and affiliated associations of the UMCCI focused on requirements of Myanmar products for EU market access. — Kyemon
Information team formed

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Government
Notification No. 81/2012
2nd Waxing of Tazaungmon, 1374 ME
(15 November, 2012)

Formation of Information Team

1. Under the subsection (a), section 24 of the Union Government Law, Information Team has been formed with the following persons in order that it can assume the duties of releasing news and information and holding press conferences occasionally regarding the political, economic, security, military and natural disaster affairs of the State.

(a) U Aung Thein
   Deputy Minister

(b) U Ye Min
   Deputy Director-General
   President Staff Office

(c) U Ye Naing
   General Manager
   News and Periodicals Ministry of Information

(d) U Moe Kyaw Aung
   Director
   Ministry of Information

(e) Aung Soe Thein
   Director
   Union Government Office

(f) Nyan Tun
   Secretary
   Union Government Office

2. The duties of the information committee are as follows:-

(a) To release the State’s news on political, economy, security, military and natural disasters in real time.
(b) To occasionally hold press conference if necessary.
(c) To release press statements.
(d) To serve as proactive media and reactive media regarding current political, economic and security conditions.
(e) To release the real-time news to local and foreign media, regional organizations and international organizations.
(f) To make coordination to give support by linking with information committees formed by the ministries.

By order,
Zaw Than Thin
Secretary
Union Government

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Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Nay Pyi Taw
Notification No.48/2012
2nd Waxing of Tazaungmon 1374 ME
(15 November, 2012)

42 Defence Services Personnel Region Hluttaw or State Hluttaw Representatives substituted

A according to the request made in accordance with Section 33 of Region Hluttaw or State Hluttaw Election Law to substitute 42 Defence Services Personnel Region Hluttaw or State Hluttaw Representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in first multiparty democracy general election held on 7 November 2010, the Union Election Commission scrutinized and substituted 42 Defence Services Personnel Region Hluttaw or State Hluttaw Representatives stated hereunder in Notification No.3/2011 of the commission dated 20-1-2011 with personnel shown against them.

Kachin State Hluttaw

(1) BC 37765
   Captain Thein Than Aye
(2) BC 40099
   Captain Pyae Phyo Aung
(3) BC 41203
   Captain Tin Naing Tun
(4) BC 37954
   Captain Kyaw Zin Maung
(5) BC 38218
   Captain Myo Maung Maung Thwin
(6) BC 39673
   Captain Aung Zaw Haik

Sagaing Region Hluttaw

(7) BC 37777
   Captain Kynnar Thei Khaiing
(8) BC 37964
   Captain Kyaw Kyaw
(9) BC 39853
   Captain Tun Naing Linn

Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw

(10) BC 38465
    Captain Hlaing Bwar

Bago Region Hluttaw

(11) BC 39715
    Captain Aung Linn Naing
(12) BC 39716
    Captain Kyi Khaiing
(13) BC 40183
    Captain Win Kyaw Oo

Mandalay Region Hluttaw

(14) BC 38181
    Captain Ye Min Tun
(15) BC 38203
    Captain Win Thant
(16) BC 38289
    Captain M in Thukha Hlaing
(17) BC 39691
    Captain Zarni Aung
(18) BC 40023
    Captain Zaw Tun Linn

Mon State Hluttaw

(19) BC 40793
    Captain Hein M in Htet
(20) BC 40710
    Captain Nay Myo Thet

Rakhine State Hluttaw

(21) BC 38587
    Captain Kyaw Hsan Win
(22) BC 37555
    Captain Nyein Chan Win
(23) BC 37951
    Captain Ye Linn Aung

Shan State Hluttaw

(24) BC 30863
    Major Ye Naing Oo
(25) BC 37413
    Captain Kyaw Thu Yin
(26) BC 37681
    Captain Thi Han Tun Myat
(27) BC 37703
    Captain Kyaw Min Tun
(28) BC 38841
    Captain Zaw Tun Linn
(29) BC 38947
    Captain Aye Myo Hlaing
(30) BC 39582
    Captain Tun Linn M aung
(31) BC 40733
    Captain Hlaing Myo Min
(32) BC 40745
    Captain Kyaw Zin Phyo
(33) BC 40782
    Captain Zeyer Moe
(34) BC 41303
    Captain Zeyer Myo
(35) BC 41312
    Captain Kyaw Nay Han
(36) BC 33092
    Major Min Naychi Linn

Burmese Military Regions

(37) BC 38564
    Captain Zeyer Phyo
(38) BC 38791
    Captain Hein Phyo
(39) BC 39644
    Captain Aung Than Myo
(40) BC 40878
    Captain Aung Than Myo
(41) BC 41097
    Captain Min Ye Tun
(42) BC 37647
    Captain Kyaw Zeyer Myo

Mandalay Region Hluttaw

By order,
Win Ko
Member
Union Election Commission
Be cautious of clashes

These days, we see a lot of clashes, conflicts and violence around the globe. Today is the age of globalization. With the rapid advancement of IT, there are so many chances to enjoy the up-to-date information through the media. This news may be right or wrong. Some media want to release information ahead of others as quickly as possible without knowing whether or not the news comes from the reliable sources. We all should be cautious in our response to the rumors.

The renewed bout of Rakhine crisis, which first began in June, has raised international concern and is one of the biggest challenges to Myanmar’s reform process. Some criticize that it is national security while others suggest it needs to establish a harmonious society. People there have to suffer the evil consequences of the violence, which has caused a big loss to education, economy and social sectors in the state. The violence has displaced and killed a number of people and lost houses and buildings. Security has been stepped up in the state, with additional police and Tatmadaw men deployed. Bringing peace and stability to Rakhine State may end the incident as quickly as possible. The President also emphasized on the rule of law there. The Investigation Board is formed to expose the real cause of the incident. According to the investigation, there are certain organizations and individuals manipulating the incident. Those organizations and individuals will instigate the outbreak of bloodshed by utilizing fear and hate. Such kind of news is very sensitive.

Some media want to release information through the media. This news may be right or wrong. Some media want to release information ahead of others as quickly as possible without knowing whether or not the news comes from the reliable sources. We all should be cautious about reporting conflicts. Don’t spark fear and hate. Such kind of news is very sensitive.

Amnesty granted to 31 prisoners

YANGON, 15 Nov— In line with Section 401(i) of Code of Criminal Procedure, the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has granted amnesty to prisoners including the aged and unhealthy prisoners who had served their prison terms in accord with Sub-section (a), Section 204 of the Constitution as of today, for stability of the State and eternal peace, on humanitarians ground, turning them into citizens to participate in nation building tasks in whatever ways they can, realizing magnanimity of the State and extended greetings, and the Chief Minister, the Mayor, the Director and officials of Traders Hotel took part in the ceremony.

Shop complexes and a parking lot with the capacity of 600 cars will be included in the twenty-storey Traders Square Commercial Complex. — MNA
State governments...
(from page 16)
U Sai Maung Tin of Laikha Constituency should be put on record.
Regarding the proposal submitted by U Aung Myint of Gangaw Constituency, Deputy Minister U Aye Maung replied that coordination would be made for farmlands in the forest reserves with ministries concerned after laws and procedures were promulgated and the proposal should be put on record.

U Hla Tun was not yet discussed during the first, second, third and fourth regular sessions of Amyotha Hluttaw that were put on record and monitored.

Bill amending the Constitutional... (from page 16)
Bill amending the Constitutional Tribunal Law.

NAY PYITAW, 15 Nov.—Amyotha Hluttaw held a meeting with Union ministries over the questions and proposals which were not yet raised during the first, second, third and fourth regular sessions of Amyotha Hluttaw at the A myotha Hluttaw Building here at 1 pm today.

During the meeting, U Aung Tun, Chairman of the Amyotha Hluttaw Government’s Guarantee, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee discussed the questions and proposals which were not yet raised during the first, second, third and fourth regular sessions of Amyotha Hluttaw.

18 MPs discussed their proposals which were put forward at the Amyotha Hluttaw and the seven groups organized by the committee held coordination meetings with respective ministries.

The committee chairman reviewed the results of the discussions and the meeting ended.

During the meeting, 24 Union Ministries including Ministry of Border Affairs, Ministry of Information, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Ministry of Electric Power and Ministry of Construction discussed with the committee on 203 questions and 28 proposals which were not yet discussed at the first, second, third and fourth regular session of Amyotha Hluttaw. MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw, 24 Union ministries held coordination meeting over remaining questions, proposals

U Ngun Maung of Haka Constituency submits proposal.

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Amyotha Hluttaw.

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Union Minister at President Office U Soe Maung responded to the proposal to issue directives by the Union government for setting auspicious days of states as public holidays in these states submitted by U Ngun Maung of Haka Constituency that state governments were allowed to make decisions independently in accord with the democratic practices and the Union government would urge the state governments to do this.

Member of Bill Committee SoeYal read out the report of the committee on the Bill to amend the law of constitutional tribunal of the Union sent by Amyotha Hluttaw with no amendment, and Pyithu Hluttaw approved the Bill.

Today’s session ended at 4.35 pm and the date to hold the 14th day session will be announced. — MNA

Border Affairs Minister discusses Rakhine affairs with UN officials

NAY PYITAW, 15 Nov.—Union Minister for Border Affairs Li-Gen Thein Htay met with Head of UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (Myanmar) Ms Barbara Manzi and humanitarian affairs officer UN Regional Civil Military Coordination Officer Mr Sebastian Rodes Stampa, at the Ministry, here, this noon.

They exchanged views on rehabilitation in Rakhine State, prospect for getting more aids from the donors by holding workshop for long-term development and emergence of a harmonious society by creating economic and job opportunities not only for the displaced but also for local people. — MNA

Medical treatment given to the injured in quake-hit townships

NAY PYITAW, 15 Nov.—Ministry of Health is being provided medical treatment to the injured in quake-hit townships of Mandalay and Sagaing Regions and those in critical condition are transferred to Mandalay General Hospital.

A medical team led by Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint performed emergency health care services in Thabeikkyin Township on 11 November. Moreover, medical teams from Mandalay General Hospital and other township hospitals provided health care to quake victims.

Plans are underway to perform emergency health care for victims of quake-hit Thabeikkyin and Singu Townships by specialists from Pyin Oo Lwin, Kayuks and Mektila Hospitals. They gave medical treatment to 103 wounded persons and 361 patients. — MNA
Munich, 15 Nov—

Munich customs warns tourists to Czech Republic of new form of drug smuggling

GERMAN news agency DPA quoted investigators as saying that drug dealers would use unsuspected as saying that drug dealers

would use unsuspected

drug dealers would attach plastic boxes filled with narcotics to tourists’ vehicles with strong magnets.

Christian Schuetz- tekopf, spokesman for the Customs Investigation Office Munich, said the smugglers would then follow the cars on the way to

Germany at a safe distance and wait for an opportunity to remove the boxes.

Five months of investigation have led to the arrest of five suspects aged 21 to 43 years, he said. In recent years, drug smuggling is becoming more and more serious in the Czech Republic because of its geographical position. — Xinhua

Bomb defused near gov’t compound in Yemen

ARAB, 15 Nov—

Yemeni police troops defused an explosive device planted near a government compound in the port City of Aden on Tuesday evening, a security official told Xinhua.

The explosive device was found under a small tree near the main gate of Ar blas Local Council headquarters and was timed to go off overnight by way of remote operation, the security source said on condition of anonymity.

Experts of the anti-bomb unit deactivated the explosive device and foiled the planned terrorist operation, he said. — Xinhua

Heavy rains, floods sweep western Algeria

ALGERIA, 15 Nov—

Heavy rains and floods swept the western region of Algeria, inundating several national roads and blocking some railways, local TSA news websites reported on Tuesday.

In Tiemcen Province, some 560 km west of the capital Algiers, national roads 22 and 66 have been inundated and became inaccessible, a statement released by the National Gendarmerie, according to TSA. Three national roads crossing the country’s southwestern province of El Bayadh were blocked and a bridge collapsed, the source said. In the western province of Sidi Bel-Abbes, floods blocked five national roads, while in the southwestern province of Oran, floods blocked national road 6, TSA said.

Meanwhile, official APS news agency reported that the National Railways Transport Company (SNCF) announced the suspension of the railway section between A in Sefra and Beni Ouenif as well as the section between O ran and Bechar due to the inundation.

A weather report issued on Tuesday warned that heavy rains will continue pouring on Tuesday night and Wednesday mostly in the western region of the North African nation. — Xinhua

Police arrest 11 terror suspects in northern Kenya

GARISsA, 15 Nov—

Kenyan authorities said on Tuesday they have arrested 11 terror suspects including a key mastermind behind a spate of bomb and grenade attacks in the northern part of the East African country.

Regional Commissioner Maa lm Mhammed said the key suspect was arrested on Tuesday in Garissa town near the border with Somalia, following tip off from the members of the public. The 10 others were arrested in the past week. "The police today arrested a key terror suspect, who has been causing harm to Garissa residents. The man is behind all terror attacks on churches and policemen in Garisatown and its environs," Mhammed told Xinhua by telephone on Tuesday. "The man was also behind the killing of a businessman in Garissa town last week and three witnesses have also identified him as the key suspect behind insecurity in Garissa," he added.

The government administra tor said the key suspect is being interrogated for several crimes committed in the recent past in the region. "We want him to tell us where he has been taking all firearms from the injured or killed policemen. We want him to tell us who are his collaborators and then arraign him in court later this week," Mhammed said.

He said some of the criminals in custody could be behind very deadly attacks including the killing of 17 worshippers at AIC, a chaplain of the “Uwala” interdenominational church, and a police officer on patrol in Garissa last week. Kenya’s northern region particularly Garissa County has of late witnessed a spate of grenade and gun attack on innocent Kenyans, refugees and the police over the past month which are seen as retaliatory attacks from the Yemeni al-Qaeda Shabaab militias in Somalia since thecapture of theport City of Kismayo. Kenya security forces have repeatedly accused local residents in the restive region of either harbouring members of Al-Shabaab or participating in the attacks, and have repeatedly carried out several operations against local residents. — Xinhua

Brazil faces 2nd highest tax burden in America

RIO DE JANEIRO, 15 Nov—

The latest report showed that Brazil has the second highest tax burden among Latin American countries, after Argentina.

Brazil also had the highest tax to GDP ratio in Latin America from 1990 to 2009, and was surpassed by its neighbour Argentina recently, according to a report released on Tuesday by the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

Currently, taxes in Brazil amount to 32.4 percent of the country’s gross domestic product, it said. The report showed that indirect taxes are especially high in Brazil, compared to OECD members, and the value-added tax (V.A.T) system, operated at sub-national state level, is “complex, leading to predatory tax competition among states, and entailing high compliance and administration costs.”

Direct taxation has also been growing in recent years, although at a slower pace, it said.

The potential pro- growth character of this system is reduced by the combination of the heavy reliance on indirect taxes, the low contribution of personal income taxes to total tax revenues, and the significant weight of social security contributions and payroll taxes,” said the report.

A nurse presents a portable blood glucose meter during a free clinic service for diabetes in Zhongzhou, capital of central China’s Henan Province, on 14 Nov, 2012. An activity of free clinic service was held by Zhengzhou Renmin Hospital to welcome the World Diabetes Day on Wednesday. — Xinhua

US, Britain call for fair elections in Sierra Leone

WASHINGTON, 15 Nov—

The United States and Britain on Tuesday issued a joint statement calling for free, fair and transparent presidential and parliamentary elections in Sierra Leone.

In the joint statement, the two countries called on all Sierra Leoneans to take part in the elections, to abide by the rule of law, and respect the final results. Hailing Sierra Leone’s “considerable progress” over the last decade, the two governments viewed this year’s elections as “critical” for consolidating the country’s gains already being achieved.

“We also urge Sierra Leone’s presidential and parliamentary candidates to adhere to Sierra Leone’s democratic and electoral processes, to renounce violence and incitement to violence, and to ensure that the elections are free, fair, and transparent,” said the statement.

Putting high value on the friendship with the West African country, the two close allies expressed their willingness to work with it to ensure development and peace in the region. — Xinhua

A visually impaired student attends a class inside Al-Qabas school for visually impaired students in the West Bank city of Ramallah on 13 Nov, 2012. — Xinhua

Chinese mergansers rest on the Xiuhu River in east China’s Jiangsu Province, on 12 Nov, 2012. The bird inhabits in forest rivulets and marshes, feeding on fishes and insects. It is endemic to China and has a very small number. — Xinhua

The man is behind all terror attacks on churches and policemen in Garisatown and its environs, Mhammed told Xinhua by telephone on Tuesday. "The man was also behind the killing of a businessman in Garissa town last week and three witnesses have also identified him as the key suspect behind insecurity in Garissa," he added.
China’s Communist Party to unveil new leadership

BEIJING, 15 Nov — China’s ruling Communist Party will unveil a new leadership line-up on Thursday to steer the world’s second-largest economy for the next five years, with Vice President Xi Jinping taking over from outgoing President Hu Jintao as party chief.

The new members of the Politburo Standing Committee — the innermost circle of power in China’s authoritarian government — will emerge around 0300 GMT (10 pm EDT on Wednesday) after a closely controlled vote by the party’s new 205-member central committee, which was installed at the end of a five-yearly party congress on Wednesday. Only Xi and Vice Premier Li Keqiang are certain to be on the new standing committee. Xi will take over Hu’s state position in March at the annual meeting of parliament, when Li will succeed Premier Wen Jiabao.

The committee is expected to be reduced to seven seats from nineteen to make consensus-building easier. The other preferred candidates, according to sources close to the party leadership, are North Korea’s re-elected economic officials Kim Jong-un and Pak Pong Ju, minister of the party’s organization department. The list of preferred candidates includes the party’s inner circle of power, the Politburo Standing Committee. The Politburo, a council which has been decked out with more than 70 members, is the party’s decision-making body.

A small group of these people were on the list for the new central committee, the largest of the party’s top decision-making bodies. Exclusion from this list means a person cannot progress to the Politburo or the inner circle of power. The new leadership will emerge on Thursday morning to “meet the Press” in a room in the cavernous, Soviet-style Great Hall of the People, which has been decked out in enormous red flags.

Intense secrecy has also surrounded who and how many will be promoted to the Politburo, a council of 20-odd members, and the all-powerful standing committee.

The composition of the two elite bodies could give clues to China’s political and economic direction, especially if they end up being dominated by conservatives. A dovetailed reform is pressing Xi to cut back the privileges of state-owned firms, make it easier for rural migrants to settle in cities, fix a fiscal system that encourages local governments to live off land expropriations and, above all, toether the powers of a state that says it’s succumbing to growing and fastening discontent.

Security forces kill two key Taleban commanders in S Afghan province

A handout picture released by the Afghan Ministry of Interior on Wednesday showed the dead餐桌 commanders Mullah Barakat and Mullah Nasir near Lashkar Gah, Helmand province, S Afghanistan. (Reuters)

A handout picture released by the Afghan Ministry of Interior on Wednesday showed the dead餐桌 commanders Mullah Barakat and Mullah Nasir near Lashkar Gah, Helmand province, S Afghanistan. (Reuters)

Army commanders Mullah Barakat and Mullah Nasir were killed during joint operations of Afghan and coalition forces in Nahr-e-Saraj District on Tuesday afternoon. (Reuters)

According to the Afghan Ministry of Interior, the Taleban commanders were killed in Lashkar Gah, S Afghanistan, during a joint operation involving Afghan and NATO forces.

Ambulance crash kills three in Bangladesh’s capital

A handout picture released by the Bangladesh Army on Wednesday showed the dead餐桌 commanders Mullah Barakat and Mullah Nasir near Lashkar Gah, Helmand province, S Afghanistan. (Reuters)

According to a recent report by the Bangladesh Army, three passengers were killed and three others injured when an ambulance carrying a critical heart patient collided head-on with a truck in Bangladesh’s capital Dhaka early on Tuesday. (Reuters)

Three passengers were killed and three others injured when an ambulance carrying a critical heart patient collided head-on with a truck in Bangladesh’s capital Dhaka. (Reuters)

The ambulance was heading to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where the patient was stationed. The driver of the ambulance, who was also the patient’s doctor, was injured in the accident. (Reuters)

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India leads WTO bid to permit subsidies for food stockpiling

Geneva, 15 Nov—A coalition of 46 developing countries led by India has proposed changing World Trade Organization rules to lift the limit on food stockpiling to support poor farmers, according to trade diplomats and a document seen by Reuters on Wednesday.

The proposal by the so-called G33 group of countries, which includes China, Indonesia, Pakistan and Zimbabwe, revives an idea previously contained in the Doha Round of trade talks that collapsed last year. “Significant progress has already been achieved in the Doha Round negotiations which recognize the serious concerns of food security in developing countries,” said the proposal, which was circulated to WTO members on Tuesday. “This has assumed the character of a global concern in the past few years with a need for urgent action.”

Each of the 157 members of the WTO has to agree to limits on its trade-distorting subsidies, known as its “aggregate measure of support” (AMS), when it joins the global trade club.

The proposal would amend the WTO’s Agreement on Agriculture to permit more exemptions to the limits on such subsidies.

“Acquisition of stocks of foodstuffs by developing country Members with the objective of supporting low-income or resource-poor producers shall not be required to be accounted for in the AMS,” said the proposal, which will be debated at a closed-door meeting on Friday. "Three years since the combative leader hailed the law as the start of a new era of media diversity, Clarin has refused to start selling off radio, television and internet licenses and she has given the company until 7 December to comply or have them auctioned by the state instead.

Clarin has vowed to resist and says it was protected by court injunctions for as long as there was no definitive ruling on the constitutionality of the law. Under the per salutum regulatory clause passed by 135-95 by the government-controlled Congress, the Supreme Court would be able to reject any government request to intervene. If the government asked the court to decide on the Clarin case, and it accepted jurisdiction, the media conglomerate could have less time to comply with the broadcast law’s stipulation that it sell off “excess” licenses.

However, legal specialists say a refusal by the court to intervene—or a ruling that was unfavourable to the government — could trigger a conflict between the powers of state.

Opposition lawmaker Graciela Camano said the new per salutum regulation was “an appendix to the media law.” Fernandez ally Diana Conti, however, said using the per salutum was aimed at ending “government by judges” and criticized judges who “put the brakes” on laws.—Reuters

UK green-lights new tidal energy projects

London, 15 Nov—The UK gave the go-ahead to the first tidal energy projects on Wednesday, tip-toeing forward on efforts to boost a sector that could generate 20 percent of the country’s electricity.

The Crown Estate, which administers land and offshore development rights, said the three projects could proceed further with their plans subject to final approval from regional authorities following public consultation.

Concerns about environmental impact and huge costs in 2010 persuaded the British government to block public funding for a huge tidal energy barrage in the Severn estuary, but around 50 million pounds of public money has been made available for smaller projects through the Carbon Trust.

The latest awards take the total number of UK wave and tidal sites under development or operation to 41. “This is great news not only for the developers involved but also for the industry as a whole because it shows the level of confidence that exists around this technology,” said Renewables UK, a lobby group for low carbon technologies.

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I’d love to work with Shah Rukh Khan, Salman Khan again: Sana Saeed

MUMBAI, 15 Nov — Sana Saeed, the little girl who played Shah Rukh Khan’s daughter in Kuch Kuch Hota Hai, is all grown up now and says she would love to team up with SRK and Salman Khan again.

“I am very biased when it comes to Khans. I would love to work with all the Khans. Who would want to miss such a golden opportunity? But I was lucky enough to work with Shah Rukh and Salman in my first film and I would love to work with them again,” Sana told IANS. She was last seen on the big screen in Salman Khan-starrer Har Dil Jo Pyar Karega... (2000).

In between, she appeared on the small screen in shows like Babul Ka Aangann Chhoe Gaye Na and Lo Ho Gayi Pooja Iss Ghar Ki.

“I was just 10 when Karan Johar’s directorial debut Kuch Kuch Hota Hai came out and at 24-year-old Paul Raef was the first paparazzo. Celebrity photographer Paul Raef was the first person to be prosecuted under the state’s law that criminalizes dangerous driving when taking photos commercially.

Raef was charged in July with two counts of violating the law stemming from a 6 July incident on a Los Angeles freeway — Criminal charges filed against a photographer who pursued teen pop star Justin Bieber at high speeds on a Los Angeles freeway in July were thrown out on Wednesday, striking a blow to California’s crackdown on overly aggressive paparazzi.

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Tom Judge threw out Justin Bieber paparazzo chase case.

Los Angeles, 15 Nov — Raef could have faced up to a year in prison and $3,500 in fines, if convicted. His attorney, Brad Kaiserman, said the law is “about protecting celebrities.” A message left with Bieber’s publicist requesting comment was not immediately returned.

Paul Raef was the first paparazzo to be prosecuted under California’s crackdown on overly aggressive paparazzi, striking a blow on a Los Angeles freeway Thursday, striking a blow to California's crackdown on overly aggressive paparazzi.

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A statement with an advance copy of the letter was released on Wednesday by musicFirst, a coalition of musicians and music companies that opposes the online music company’s push to change how artists are compensated.

Billy Joel, Rihanna fight over compensation

New York, 15 Nov— Some of music’s most notable names including Billy Joel, Rihanna and Missy Elliott have signed an open letter to Pandora Media Inc opposing the online music company’s push to change how artists are compensated.

Pandora is currently lobbying lawmakers in the US Congress to pass the “Internet Radio Fairness Act,” which would change regulation of how royalties are paid to artists. A group of 125 musicians who say they are fans of Pandora argue the bill would cut by 85 percent the amount of money an artist receives when his or her songs are played on the Internet.

“Why is the company asking Congress once again to step in and gut the royalties that thousands of musicians rely on? That’s not fair and that’s not how partners work together,” said the letter, to be published this weekend in Billboard, the influential music industry magazine.

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Advancements in the guide to the book as well. It seems the Twilight fans have grossed more than $2.5 billion at the world-wide box office.

For director Bill Condon, who shot both parts of “Breaking Dawn” together and split into two movies post-production, the fifth and final film was all about the fans — who get a surprise twist to the ending.

“The real challenge was to make sure it was a satisfying climax,” Condon told reporters. “The film opens with an overture of all the main scenes from all five movies, and at the end, L. (embattled) it back to the spirit of the old movies.”

The movie pays homage to the angst-ridden teenage romance between Bella and Edward that was underscoring the off-screen real-life romance between Stewart, 22, and Pattinson, 26.

“Breaking Dawn-Part 2” shifts the action from a love story to a family story, as the Cullen clan recruit their extended vampire family to protect Bella and Edward that was underscored by the off-screen real-life romance between Stewart, 22, and Pattinson, 26.

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Money can’t always buy success, Miami deal shows

**NEW YORK, 15 Nov**—Spending vast amounts of money is no guarantee for instant success, as the Miami Marlins discovered.

The US team is under fire for a proposal to trade their most expensive players to Toronto.

Major League Baseball executives on Wednesday were still pouring over terms agreed by the sides before approving a swap that would shift high-priced players including Jose Reyes, Josh Johnson and Mark Buehrle from the Marlins to the Blue Jays and slice some $160 million off Miami’s payroll.

The proposed deal, which unsurprisingly produced howls of protest from Miami fans and squawks of delight in Toronto, comes about three months after the October qualifying games and Klinsmann, who had been critical of the player, praised his contribution.

“I think you saw Jozy Altidore was just a handful. He gets a big one for his performance,” he said.

The US start the final phase of qualification for the World Cup away to Honduras on 6 February.

It was important for us to conclude their all-time top strike Juan Agudelo and pear for 19-year-old for Norwegian champions.

Altidore today was a handout. Figure it out,” Loria, who turned 38 on 14 September, said.

The former New York Mets became the first knuckleball pitcher ever to win a Cy Young Award, while Tampa Bay Rays’ left-hander David Price won the American League’s top pitching award after the closest vote in 43 years.

Dickey, who turned 38 last month, confounded hit- ters by being able to change speeds on his dipping, darting knuckleball, posting a 20-6 record with a 2.73 earned run average. He led the National League in innings (233.2) and strikeouts (230).

It was a breakthrough year for Dickey, who the previous season was 8-13 and has a career mark of 61-56 over 10 seasons.

Dickey received 27 of 32 first-place votes cast and five second-place votes for a comfortable win with 209 points.

Finishing second was last year’s winner Clayton Kershaw of the Los Angeles Dodgers. The lefty, who was 14-4 with a league-leading 2.53 ERA, got 98 points, with Washington Nationals’ left-hander Gio Gonzalez (21-8, 2.89 ERA) taking third place.

Price was second in the American League voting two years ago but came out on top this time, edging last season’s Cy Young and Most Valuable Player winner Justin Verlander of the Detroit Tigers by the narrowest margin since a tie in the 1969 voting.

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Obama speaks to Israeli, Egyptian leaders about Gaza violence

US President Barack Obama addresses his first news conference since his reelection, at the White House in Washington on 14 November, 2012.— Reuters

President Barack Obama spoke to Israeli and Egyptian leaders about the rocket attacks being launched from Gaza into Israel and the escalating violence in Gaza, the White House said in a statement.

"The president urged Prime Minister Netanyah to make every effort to avoid civilian casualties. The two agreed that Hamas needs to stop its attacks on Israel to allow the situation to de-escalate," the statement said.

"The president also spoke with President Morsi given Egypt’s central role in preserving regional security. In their conversation, President Obama confirmed that the government has taken steps to de-escalate the situation and would stand in close touch in the days ahead, the White House said.

Egypt, only one of two Arab countries with a peace treaty with Israel, has played a role in recent years brokering a suspension of hostilities between Israel and Hamas militants who rule in the Gaza Strip.

Morsi, Egypt’s new Islamist president, has been under pressure from the military and the Arab world to stand up to Israel. Egypt maintains contacts with Hamas’ leadership in Gaza and has diplomatic relations with Israel. Egypt’s military receives heavy US aid, and Cairo is looking to Washington for development assistance and debt forgiveness to help its ailing economy.

Israel’s Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu welcomed the US intervention, and said it should be backed up by an international conference in Washington.

IMF ready to provide funds to help Tunisia recovery

The International Monetary Fund is willing to provide external financing to Tunisia to help it recover from last year’s political turmoil, David Lipton, the IMF’s first deputy managing director, said in a statement on Wednesday.

"The IMF stands ready to help Tunisia with policy advice, technical assistance and, if appropriate, financing," said Lipton, who visited the country this week and met with political and business leaders.

Tunisia was swept up in the Arab Spring uprisings last year across the Middle East and North Africa, which toppled its ruler after an almost 23-year reign. Since then, several countries in the region have struggled to regain economic stability while dealing with political transition and a slowing global economy. Governments have spent billions to create jobs and cope with rising living costs.

In its annual assessment of Tunisia earlier this year, the IMF said the country’s debt crisis and internal tensions could affect its ability to attract foreign investment and reduce the risk of a financial crisis.

Lipton said countries in transition do not need IMF funds to improve their balance sheets but need advice and technical assistance to help Tunisia with policy reform and a financial program to help it recover from last year’s recession.

The IMF said the north African country is still struggling to cope with rising living costs. Governments have spent billions to create jobs and improve the welfare of Tunisians, who are set to vote in elections next year.

Two killed by asphyxiation in steel factory in central France

Paris, 15 Nov— Two people died of asphyxiation on Wednesday morning at the steel plant in Aperam in Nievre, central France, local media reported.

During a maintenance operation that caused a drop in oxygen levels, two workers aged 41 and 62 years old, died at steel plant Aperam, majority owned by Mittal group, RTL radio said.

A carbon monoxide element, a malfunction in an oven would have lowered the oxygen, it added. Ten other workers were also affected, according to the report.

Xinhua

Iran plans to launch new homemade satellite in three months

PERSIAN GULF, 15 Nov— President of Iran’s MirKabir University of Technology Alireza Farahii announced on Wednesday the country is preparing to launch a new homemade satellite, called Nahid (Venus), into orbit in the next three months, semi-official Fars news agency reported.

Researchers at the university have completed the industrial phases of the project and now are working on the launch phase, said Farahii without elaborating on the mission or type of the satellite.

The centre, with a depth of 6.6 km, was initially determined to be at 5.7427 degrees south latitude and 151.5574 degrees east longitude.

Xinhua
State governments allowed to make decisions independently in accord with democratic practices

Pyithu Hluttaw representatives seen on their arrival at Pyithu Hluttaw.— MNA

Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Police Maj-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun answered two questions on administrative matters raised by Daw Nann Sae Awa of Hpa-an Constituency No.11 and U Tint Myint of Maungkun Constituency that plans for conservation of natural resources and environment would be made in accord with environmental conservation law and bylaws in cooperation with departments concerned, INGOs and NGOs; and that timber extraction would not be allowed in Taungkaing forest reserve and it would be allowed in Namtaung forest reserve in accord with rules and regulations for 2012-2013 fiscal year. Supervision would be made on the regional development tasks of the company.

Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint responded to the questions on construction matters raised by U In Phin Hsae of Machankaw Constituency and Daw Lei Lei Win Swe of Tamway Constituency that temporary bridges would be built on Myitkyina-Puto road starting from November 2012 and construction of new bridges would be carried out in accord with the progress in security situation; and that the budget for construction of flyovers in Yangon would be rest on the verdict of the court after making investigations on the case; and that the act of sending victims of road accidents to the nearby hospitals by duty-conscious persons was not against the law.

Deputy Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Aye Myint Maung answered the questions on forestry matters raised by U Soe Win of Sangyoung Constituency and U Tun Myint Oo of Maungpun Constituency.

With respect to the question of U Maung Saw representatives.

U Khin Aung Myint and 195 Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker seen on their arrival at Pyithu Hluttaw.— MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw regular session in progress.— MNA

CNG conversion was not allowed in new cars as the cars could use alternative fuels. Third, respective Region Government, All Buses Lines Supervisory Committee and Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee were handling traffic jams and dropping running rate of buses.

With respect to the question of U Kyaw Tun Aung of Rakhine State Constituency No.3 on development of public bus line system in Yangon, the deputy minister said that firstly, Ministry of Energy did not put any restrictions on CNG conversion. Secondly, CNG was mainly used in electric power and transportation sectors due to the limitation to the availability of onshore gas.

Free medical treatment provided to local people in Kayin State

With respect to the question of U Win Thein of Ayeyawady Region Constituency No.9 on paving of gravel roads and electricity supply in Pantanaw Township, he said that paving of earth and gravel roads in west ward in the township would be implemented based on Township Development Affairs Committee’s annual funds collected. Regarding the electric power supply, Regional Electric Engineering Office would carry out power supply in new wards in coordination with Myanmar Electric Supply Enterprise and local administrator and township Development Affairs Committee.

Regarding the question of U Phone Myint of Yangon Region Constituency No.3 on exemption on rice basket collected by Tatmadaw, Deputy Minister for Defence Maj-Gen Kyaw Nyunt replied that pasture lands had been transformed into farmlands in Pale Pauk village-tract in Minbya Township and these lands had official permit. As Operation Control Command No.9 could not grow rice, 15 farmers were allowed to do farming without collecting tenancy from them.

Deputy Minister at President Office U Aung Thein replied to the question of U Win Thein of Ayeyawady Region Constituency No.9 on paving of gravel roads and electricity supply in Pantanaw Township, he said that paving of earth and gravel roads in west ward in the township would be implemented based on Township Development Affairs Committee’s annual funds collected. Regarding the electric power supply, Regional Electric Engineering Office would carry out power supply in new wards in coordination with Myanmar Electric Supply Enterprise and local administrator and township Development Affairs Committee.

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