Union government to spend K 1 billion from K 100-billion-natural-disaster fund in helping earthquake victims

President U Thein Sein on inspection tour of earthquake-hit areas in Mandalay, Sagaing regions

On the occasion, the President said that natural disaster is an unavoidable factor. Not only Myanmar but the global countries are facing natural disasters. Among the natural disasters, storms and tsunami can be forecast and preparedness can be taken for minimizing loss and damage. Earthquake is also an unpredictable natural disaster.
Japanese relief aid for quake victims arrives

YANGON, 24 Nov—Relief supplies donated by Japanese government and people for earthquake victims in Mandalay and Sagaing Regions arrived here by flight of Singapore Airlines on 23 November.

The deputy ambassador of the Japanese embassy handed over 800 blankets, 600 mattresses, 40 generators and 40 sheets of tarpaulin worth $10 million for the earthquake victims.

Officials of the Relief and Resettlement Department accepted the donations.

Myanma Alinn

Kathina offerteries donated to members of the Sangha

MAWLANYINE, 24 Nov—The families of Mon State High Court held the communal Kathina ceremony at the hall of the court in Mawlamyine of Mon State on 18 November.

Chief Justice of the state high court U Khin Maung Gyi and wife Daw Kyi Kyi, high court judges, the Mon State Judicial Officer and officials were present at the ceremony.

They offered meals to members of the Sangha led by Shwehintha monastery Sayadaw of Mawlamyine. Later, they donated Kathina offerteries to members of the Sangha.

Myanma Alinn

Second car rally marks ASEAN-India friendly relations

YANGON, 24 Nov—The second ASEAN-India car rally will be held on 25 November, according to the press conference held at Myanmar Motion Picture Organization on Wingabar Road in Bahan Township.

A total of 24 participants from ten ASEAN countries and CII of India will take part in the rally.

Thirty-one Mahindia-XUV 500 cars will be used in the rally.

On 25 November, the rally will start from Yogyakarta of Indonesia to Huwahati of India. The whole rally will last 22 days.

As a token of showing off the friendly relations and integration in the ASEAN region, the car rally will be held in the near future.

Myanma Alinn

Seized gold wares handed over to owner

MAWLANYINE, 24 Nov—A ceremony to hand over the gold wares seized from the criminal case to owner by Thanbyuzayat Township Police Force of Mon State was held in conjunction with the ceremony to honour the outstanding policemen at the meeting hall of the township General Administration Department on 20 November.

At first, Commander of Mon State Police Force Police Col Myo Swe Win made a speech and handed over 45 items of gold wares weighing 591 ticals and five yways worth $32,540,700 to owner U Kyaw Kyaw Oo of Thakayta Township.

After that, the owner presented $2,500 to outstanding policemen of the township police force through commander of Township Police Force Police Major Min Tun Win.

Myanma Alinn

Trains, stations, railroads upgraded for passengers of rail transportation

YANGON, 24 Nov—With a view to ensuring convenience of passengers, Myanma Railways upgrade coaches and railroads, said an official of Myanma Railways.

“After raising the price of tickets, Myanma Railways focuses on upgrading of the circular railroads and rail tracks, and maintenance of railway stations, said Assistant Manager U Kyaw Myint of Division 7 of Myanma Railways.

“Myanma Railways is earmarked to install 75 fibre seats at the coaches of circular trains and has completed installation of 54 seats. Moreover, a total of 54 coaches have been renewed in painting. The industry has completed six of 20 coaches in major repairing and 17 of 24 locomotives in painting,” he continued.

Myanma Railways is undertaking maintenance not only of coaches but also railway stations for travelling convenience of passengers daily.

“There are 38 railway stations along 29.5 miles long Yangon circular railroad. The railway stations and rail tracks became damaged and decay with the passage of time. Thus, a total of 23 of 38 railway stations have been completed in renovation. We expected to complete maintenance of those facilities at the end of November,” said Assistant Manager (Civil) U Tin Win.

With respect to maintenance of railroads, concrete sleepers have been laid along the circular railroads except the section between Yangon Railway Station and Kyimyindaing Station. All the people are to join hands with the MR in sanitation and maintenance of railway stations and rail tracks.

In Yangon, about 85,000 people rely on rail transportation daily. Thus, Myanma Railways runs 200 plies with the use of 21 coaches.

Myanma Alinn

Local pilgrims to get Internet access free of charge at Shwedagon Pagoda

YANGON, 24 Nov—As the nation is gathering development momentum, Internet access is allowed in various areas.

At present, Internet access is being introduced to the platform of Shwedagon Pagoda where the pilgrims and tourists visit.

From 15 August 2012 to date, the foreigner pilgrims used 2575 access cards. At present, the pilgrims are allowed to use Internet 30 minutes once, but the access duration will be extended in the future, said a responsible person of the Pagoda Board of Trustees.

Foreigner pilgrims may take out 30-minute access cards from the counters opened for foreigners only on the platform to be able to apply Internet free of charge.

Head of Office U Win Kyaw said, “Arrangements are being made to give free Internet access to the local pilgrims.

After creating the connection with the present servers, the people will be allowed to use free Internet access in the early next year.”

At present, the Internet surfers post the facebooks.

That is why the pilgrims who have experienced evening lighting activities and magnificent images of pagoda, stupas and religious edifices on the platform and then may post the images on the facebook.

With the aim of enabling pilgrims to apply Internet free of charge, Crystal Shines Co donated three sets of computer to the Pagoda Board of Trustees.

Myanma Alinn
WASHINGTON, 24 Nov — Senator Saxby Chambliss this week became the latest Republican lawmaker to leases his ties to Grover Norquist, the anti-tax lobbyist famous for getting elected officials to sign a “taxpayer protection pledge.”

The rebellion, albeit a modest one, comes as Republicans prepare to negotiate trillion-dollar spending and tax increases set to start the beginning of 2013. “If we do it, I care more about this,” Chambliss told Georgia Senator Saxby Chambliss late Republican to break with anti-tax lobbyist Norquist, the anti-tax lobbyist famous for getting elected officials to sign a “taxpayer protection pledge.”

A vast majority of elected Republicans have signed the pledge Norquist created in 1986, which commits them to voting against tax increases, and it became a byword for fiscally responsible US conservatives. But its influence, and that of Norquist’s organization, Americans for Tax Reform, may be waning following Republican losses in this month’s elections. 

Some Republicans contend they are only open to raising revenue through economic growth, an impact hard to quantify which Democrats and many economists say is not nearly enough. Republican aids on Capitol Hill have been grousing privately about the attention Norquist gets, worrying that it weakens their ability to negotiate across the aisle.

Representative Scott Rigell, a Virginia Republican who won re-election despite disavowing the pledge, expressed similar sentiments publicly in a 17 November interview on CNN. — Reuters

Senator Chambliss is a member of the so-called Gang of Eight group of senators, a bipartisan alliance working for deficit reduction, formed last year when the country was on the verge of default thanks to a partisan battle over raising the country’s borrowing limit.

The rebellion, albeit a modest one, comes as Republicans prepare to negotiate trillion-dollar spending and tax increases set to start the beginning of 2013. “If we do it, I care more about this,” Chambliss told Georgia

Among the issues to be discussed during the meeting are South Africa’s bilateral relations with China; strengthening cooperation on the African Continent, reform of the global system of governance, and international and regional issues of common interest,” ministerial spokesman Clayson Mnyele said.

And as the leader of the ruling African National Congress, he is well placed to be a key influence in the country’s future direction. South Africa, with its 54 million people and one of the world’s largest economies, is a key player in international affairs.

Wu expressed his appreciation of the province’s achievements during the past 10 years. He urged further measures to implement the missions set down at the 18th CPC National Congress with efforts in economic transformation and scientific development.

He asked the province to continue its coal resources with scientific and technological progress to improve energy efficiency, as well as to strengthen its advantage in equipment manufacturing industry.

He also stressed efforts to enhance the province’s industrial core competitiveness and ensure safe production. Wu urged efforts to create the policy environment to encourage the workers’ legitimate rights and interests and deepen the income distribution system reform. — Xinhua

Three children died in the fire, while more than 100 families were left homeless. — Xinhua
Software firm SAP mulls Shanghai listing

Frankfurt, 24 Nov — German software group SAP is considering a listing in China to give the world’s biggest business software firm the option of tapping financial resources in one of its fastest growing markets.

“We are looking into the possibility of a third listing,” a spokesman said. SAP will have to wait until China has finalised plans to set up an international board in Shanghai to attract foreign listings.

China has been talking about the launch of an international board on the Shanghai Stock Exchange. It was about to kick off the new board in the second half of last year but the move was delayed by the euro zone debt crisis. SAP is already listed in Germany and New York.

The group, which competes with Oracle, IBM and Microsoft, wants to invest $2 billion in China by 2015. It also has a mid-term sales target of 1 billion euros ($1.29 billion) for China, which in the third quarter showed a 40 percent growth in software sales, making it SAP’s sixth-largest market. ($1 = 0.7761 euros)

Financial Group. SAP and Panasonic have chosen divergent survival paths in an industry that was hit by cheaper, more innovative models from Samsung Electronics and other foreign rivals, while the Japanese consumer electronics firm, maker of the Viera TV, is looking to expand its businesses in appliances, solar panels, lithium batteries and automotive components.

A three-year project to improve their fluency in doing maths on paper, where knowledge is obtained by sharing, problem-solving and working together and solving problems, has worked. “We have run into a number of number problems that need to be solved,” said Andy Harrison, director general of the Grenoble-based research centre.

Van Rompuy’s proposal penciled in a 139.5 billion euro ($180.8 billion) budget under the competitiveness-for-growth heading, which includes the EU’s flagship Horizon 2020 research funding programme.

“Too large in the European Union would threaten economic recovery in the bloc, the head of scientific organizations said on Friday after such cuts were proposed. “We believe it would be deeply damaging to future economic growth if we were to cut funding now,” Andrew Harrison, director general of Grenoble-based neutron research centre at the Institut Laue-Langevin, told Reuters. EU leaders on Friday abandoned talks to find a deal on the bloc’s budget for 2014-2020 but European Council President Herman Van Rompuy, who chaired the summit, proposed cuts in a number of areas, including research and innovation, in an effort to reach a deal.

According to a document seen by Reuters, the Commission proposal of 164 billion euros, roughly half of last year but the move was delayed by the euro zone debt crisis. The total subscriber base at the end of September was 67.16 million users. In September, the subscriber base had reduced by 1.9 million users following a whopping 7.1 million fall in August.

Top three operators — Airtel, Vodafone and Idea — which account for about 68 percent of the GSM market, added over 1.2 million users in October, according to the COAI data released today.

However, Uninor and Videocon lost 1.1 million users and 59,151 users respectively, in October, 2012. The subscriber base of Uninor stood at 41.03 million, while that of Videocon stood was at 4.39 million by the month end.

Bharti Airtel, which has 27.74 percent market share, added about 490,000 users to take its subscriber base to 186.41 million. Vodafone India and Idea Cellular added about 480,000 users and 230,000 million users, respectively.

With this, Vodafone’s subscriber base stood at 153.14 million, while that of Idea Cellular was at 115.70 million at the end of October.

Aircel added 170,000 users, taking its subscriber base to 66.78 million in October. State-run MTNL, which operates in Delhi and Mumbai, added 13,652 users in the said month. Another PSU BSNL and private operator Loop Mobile failed to add any subscriber, according to the data.

Star trek desks: Classrooms for the next generation?

“Sci-tech is our lifestyle and we are living together as one big family. We are not just coming together to show the world that we can do it, but also to help encourage more students who want to be scientists and mathematicians,” said Burd.

With this, Vodafone’s subscriber base stood at 153.14 million, while that of Idea Cellular was at 115.70 million at the end of October.

Aircel added 170,000 users, taking its subscriber base to 66.78 million in October. State-run MTNL, which operates in Delhi and Mumbai, added 13,652 users in the said month. Another PSU BSNL and private operator Loop Mobile failed to add any subscriber, according to the data.

The desks are built into the furniture of the classroom to help encourage more collaboration, and are networked, linked to a main smartboard.

A live feed of the desks goes directly to the teacher who can intervene quickly to help a pupil while allowing group work to continue.

Burd’s team found that 45 percent of pupils who used a maths programme on the smart desk system increased the number of unique mathematical expressions they created, compared with 16 percent of those doing it on paper.

Using the new desks helped children work together and solve problems using inventive solutions, the researchers said. “We found our tables encouraged students to collaborate more effectively,” said Burd. “Such collaboration just did not happen when students used paper-based approaches.”

Sony at greater risk than Panasonic in electronics downturn: Fitch

Tokyo, 24 Nov — Panasonic Corp has a better chance than rival Sony Corp of surviving Japan’s consumer electronics slump because of its unglamorous but stable appliance business that is relatively stable consumer appliance business that is competitive in terms of margins”, Matt Jamieson, Fitch’s head of Asia-Pacific, said in a conference call on Friday to explain its ratings downgrade.

Sony, creator of the Walkman, is doubling down on consumer gadgets in a bid to regain ground on consumer electronics firm, Sharp Corp, maker of the Aquos TV, secured a $4.6 billion bail-out by banks including Mizuho Financial Group and Mitsubishi UFJ.

Van Rompuy’s proposal penciled in a 139.5 billion euro ($180.8 billion) budget under the competitiveness-for-growth heading, which includes the EU’s flagship Horizon 2020 research funding programme.

“This is a further cut from a proposal earlier this week of 152 billion euros and down sharply from an original Commission proposal of 164 billion euros.

Although it is unclear if there would be any knock-on effect from the proposed cuts on Horizon 2020 when talks resume early next year, the original budget for the research program was 80 billion euros, roughly half the original pot.

European scientists, whose funding is already under pressure from the economic downturn, will be alarmed at the prospect of cuts to one of the biggest science budgets in the world. Harrison, of the Grenoble-based research centre, joined in lobbying effort with seven other world-leading research organisations to convince the Commission to defend science funding ahead of the budget summit. In a letter to Commission President Jose-Manuel Barroso that was also signed by Rolf Heuer, director general of the CERN research centre in Geneva, the organisations warned that science should be central to Europe’s long-term prosperity.

“A science with a return to growth is the most pressing policy priority across Europe, it is absolutely vital that investment in our scientific resources (both human and technical) is sustained,” they said. — Reuters

Science fund cuts could hurt EU recovery, scientists warn

London, 24 Nov — Cutting science funding in the European Union would threaten economic recovery in the bloc, the head of scientific organizations said on Friday after such cuts were proposed. “We believe it would be deeply damaging to future economic growth if we were to cut funding now,” Andrew Harrison, director general of Grenoble-based neutron research centre at the Institut Laue-Langevin, told Reuters. EU leaders on Friday abandoned talks to find a deal on the bloc’s budget for 2014-2020 but European Council President Herman Van Rompuy, who chaired the summit, proposed cuts in a number of areas, including research and innovation, in an effort to reach a deal.

According to a document seen by Reuters, Van Rompuy’s proposal penciled in a 139.5 billion euro ($180.8 billion) budget under the competitiveness-for-growth heading, which includes the EU’s flagship Horizon 2020 research funding programme.

“This is a further cut from a proposal earlier this week of 152 billion euros and down sharply from an original Commission proposal of 164 billion euros.

Although it is unclear if there would be any knock-on effect from the proposed cuts on Horizon 2020 when talks resume early next year, the original budget for the research program was 80 billion euros, roughly half the original pot.

European scientists, whose funding is already under pressure from the economic downturn, will be alarmed at the prospect of cuts to one of the biggest science budgets in the world. Harrison, of the Grenoble-based research centre, joined in lobbying effort with seven other world-leading research organisations to convince the Commission to defend science funding ahead of the budget summit. In a letter to Commission President Jose-Manuel Barroso that was also signed by Rolf Heuer, director general of the CERN research centre in Geneva, the organisations warned that science should be central to Europe’s long-term prosperity.

“A science with a return to growth is the most pressing policy priority across Europe, it is absolutely vital that investment in our scientific resources (both human and technical) is sustained,” they said. — Reuters

GSM operators add 240,000 subscribers in October: COAI

New Delhi, 24 Nov — A restocking the two-month fall, total subscriber base of GSM operators rose by about 240,000 to 671.91 million users in October, telecom industry body COAI said. The total subscriber base at the end of September was 671.67 million users. In September, the subscriber base had reduced by 1.9 million users following a whopping 7.1 million fall in August.

Top three operators — Airtel, Vodafone and Idea — which account for about 68 percent of the GSM market, added over 1.2 million users in October, according to the COAI data released today.

However, Uninor and Videocon lost 1.1 million users and 59,151 users respectively, in October, 2012. The subscriber base of Uninor stood at 41.03 million, while that of Videocon stood at 4.39 million by the month end.

Bharti Airtel, which has 27.74 percent market share, added about 490,000 users to take its subscriber base to 186.41 million. Vodafone India and Idea Cellular added about 480,000 users and 230,000 million users, respectively.

With this, Vodafone’s subscriber base stood at 153.14 million, while that of Idea Cellular was at 115.70 million at the end of October.

Aircel added 170,000 users, taking its subscriber base to 66.78 million in October. State-run MTNL, which operates in Delhi and Mumbai, added 13,652 users in the said month. Another PSU BSNL and private operator Loop Mobile failed to add any subscriber, according to the data.

The desks are built into the furniture of the classroom to help encourage more collaboration, and are networked, linked to a main smartboard.

A live feed of the desks goes directly to the teacher who can intervene quickly to help a pupil while allowing group work to continue.

Burd’s team found that 45 percent of pupils who used a maths programme on the smart desk system increased the number of unique mathematical expressions they created, compared with 16 percent of those doing it on paper.

Using the new desks helped children work together and solve problems using inventive solutions, the researchers said. “We found our tables encouraged students to collaborate more effectively,” said Burd. “Such collaboration just did not happen when students used paper-based approaches.”
Gas leak causes tea-shop fire in South Okkalapa

A fire broke out at a tea-shop at the corner of Thittha and Thantharmo streets in ward-10 of South Okkalapa Township at about 5 pm on 22 November. A fire started while the gas was being filled from one cylinder to another. Only the shop was on fire. A total of 15 fire engines, three administrative vehicles and an ambulance were at the scene and fire fighters fought for 15 minutes to extinguish the blaze. A passenger minibus skids and over turns

A passenger minibus from No (48) Bus Line in operation along Insein-Thenbyu route skidded and turned over in front of Shwe Phalar Restaurant while trying to avoid a bicyclist near Shinyawadyin bus-stop on Yagon-Insein road in Kamayut Township. The road accident left 18 passengers injured. The remaining amount of money to be repaid by the private sector is USD 706,550,020.

Regional development tasks in M oenyo Township

NAV Pyi TA W, 24 Nov

— A stake-driving ceremony of reconstruction of Hambirak bridge on Shandaw-Innbokkol-M oenyo road in M oenyo Township of Thayawaddy District in Bago Region was held at the bridge on 21 November, attended by Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win and the region ministers. On his arrival at the worksite of Hambirak-Htaindaw-M oenyo road in the township, the chief minister looked into construction works, and observed thriving groundnut plantations in the region. The chief minister attended the opening of self-reliant extended building at M oenyo People’s Hospital. Region Social Affairs Minister Dr Kyaw Oo and a local formally opened the new building which was built with the contributions of K 5 million by the region government.

Social Work in Sagaing

NAV Pyi TA W, 24 Nov

— Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Daw Su Su Hlaing on 16 November looked into providing trainees with vocational training and academic subjects, and damage of quake-hit buildings at School for the Blind, quake-hit school building of Sagaing pre-primary school in Sagaing Region, and the School for the Deaf and newly-built staff quarters at pre-primary school No (1) in Chantrya Township of Mandalay Region and met with trainees at domestic vocational training school. On 18 November, the deputy minister visited training schools and centre in Mandalay region. Then, the deputy minister visited training schools and centre in Mandalay.

Yangon, 24 Nov

A fire broke out at a tea-shop at the corner of Thittha and Thantharmo streets in ward-10 of South Okkalapa Township at about 5 pm on 22 November. A fire started while the gas was being filled from one cylinder to another. Only the shop was on fire. A total of 15 fire engines, three administrative vehicles and an ambulance were at the scene and fire fighters fought for 15 minutes to extinguish the blaze.

Passenger minibus skids and over turns

YANGON, 24 Nov— A passenger minibus from No (48) Bus Line in operation along Insein-Thenbyu route skidded and turned over in front of Shwe Phalar Restaurant near Shinyawadyin bus-stop on Yagon-Insein road in Kamayut Township of Yangon Region. The road accident happened at about 9 am on 22 November. A minibus with vehicle No. (7A/...) carrying more than 30 passengers driven by Thaung Shwe along Insein road to Hiedan had skidded out of control and overturned on the sidewalk in front of Shwe Phalar Restaurant while trying to avoid a bicyclist near Shinyawadyin bus-stop in Kamayut Township. The road accident left 18 passengers on board injured. Those in critical condition were sent to Yangon General Hospital. It is learnt that the driver is still at large.

Press Release No (5/2012)...

(form page 1)

3. Those important findings Auditor-General of the Union reported to the President are published as follows:

1. The Office of the Auditor-General of the Union under provision of the Union Budget Law, emphatically audited accounts of government agencies for 2011-2012 fiscal year, inspected whether the full amount of allotted fund is received and whether the allotted fund are spent effectively and departments adhere to official account procedures and inspected the work progress in line with the procedures.

2. Likewise, region and state level auditor-general offices emphatically audited the accounts of departments and organizations in respective regions and states for 2011-2012 fiscal year in line with procedures.

3. In so doing, the offices at different levels found out the cases of honest mistakes and unordered procedures. During the period of audit, discussions were held with heads of departments concerned and clarified the findings to them while correcting and adjusting the mechanisms.

4. During the period of audit from 1-4-2011 to 30-9-2012, 47 cases of loss of the State were found out in 15 ministries due to embezzlement and collusion of fund allotted by the State, as an important finding in other words an important audit complaint.

5. Following this, heads of government departments and institutions concerned were summoned to Office of the Auditor-General of the Union and Region and State Offices of the Auditor-General from 18-9-2012 to 17-10-2012 and discussions were held on the findings. In so doing, the focus was on compensation of the losses of the State, legal actions against those held accountable, and enforcement measures to ensure non-recurrence of similar cases. Then, such measures were put into practice at 25 departments and institutions of the ministries concerned.

6. Regarding the budget for expenditure for 2011-2012 fiscal year, 15 ministries and 47 departments and service organizations had already repaid K 17426.772 million and USD 162,322.290 out of K 58,398.810 million and USD 232,977.310 to the State in accord with the important findings from 1 April 2011 to 30 September 2012. The remaining amount of money to be repaid is K 40,828.122 million and USD 703,655.020. The amount of money to be repaid due to mismanagement and malpractice of service personnel is K 143.916 million. It is explained below.

(a) Debts from private sector

K 40828.122 million and USD 70655.020

K 35653.707 million

(1) To be repaid by the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries (The sum that private entrepreneurs owe to Livestock, Feedstuff and Diary Product Enterprise for the advance payment, debts on feedstuff and advance payment for the mutually beneficial investment)

(2) To be repaid by the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries (The remaining money to be paid by the private sector for hiring the department-owned plot in Gyokon)

(3) To be repaid by the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism (The remaining money to be paid by those who were allowed to buy Inlayl Kaungdine Hotel and a building at No (128) on Sule Pagoda Road)

(4) To be repaid by the Ministry of Information (The sum to be paid by the private sector as overdue fee in handing over of apartments of Dagon Complex project)

(5) To be repaid by the Ministry of Commerce (Rent payment for the building and sale revenues to be paid by the private sector)

(b) Mismanagement and malpractice

- To be repaid by the ministries in accord with the objection of the audit (Newspaper fees, advertising fees, drawing more money from port tax, drawing more money from railroad construction, no payment for purchasing of things to be used in GMS meeting although expenditure was paid)

7. It is found that actions should be taken against departments and service organizations that did not meet the important findings (objections of the audit) during the fiscal year.

8. Important findings, objections of the audit and actions that had been done while making investigations on expenditures for 2011-2012 fiscal year of government organizations are informed in order to give directive.

4. The sum of K 19.057 million stated in the report on important findings on false statistics of the Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Technology had been repaid to the State on 19 October 2012. As the investigation revealed that there was a malpractice in Myanmar Alumni Daily of the Ministry of Information for 2010-2011 fiscal year, the statement on the situation being carried out by the ministry to repay K 117.701 million to the State had been issued. Arrangements are being made for the sum to be repaid by the Ministry of Rail Transportation to repay to the State.

5. Regarding the report on important findings, The Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries is carrying out close supervision on the debts which are to be settled by the private entrepreneurs by setting a prescribed period for them. Likewise, close supervisions are being carried out by the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, Ministry of Information and Ministry of Commerce to get back the debts which are to be settled by the private entrepreneurs by setting a prescribed period.

Statistics of the Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Technology had been repaid to the State on 19 October 2012. As the investigation revealed that there was a malpractice in Myanmar Alumni Daily of the Ministry of Information for 2010-2011 fiscal year, the statement on the situation being carried out by the ministry to repay K 117.701 million to the State had been issued. Arrangements are being made for the sum to be repaid by the Ministry of Rail Transportation to repay to the State.
Press Release (6/2012)...

(from page 1)

so that they can be enacted. The President returned the 2012 Pyithu Hluttaw Bill and the 2012 Amyotha Hluttaw Bill with ten comments for amendment to the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 30-3-2012 in accordance with section 106 (a) of the Constitution. 3. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw after making coordination sent back the two bills which had been sent back by the President with his comments on 18-11-2012 in accordance with section 106 (b) of the Constitution and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw bylaw 109 to be signed by the President so that they can be enacted. As regards the two bills, the original approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the comments of the President and the final approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw are show against the table hereunder-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S/ N</th>
<th>Pyidaungsu Hluttaw’s original approval</th>
<th>President’s comments</th>
<th>Pyidaungsu Hluttaw’s final approval</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a)</td>
<td>2. (h) The Union level organizations mean the Union Government, the National Defence and Security Council, the Finance Commission, the Union Supreme Court, the Constitutional Tribunal, the Union Election Commission, the Union Auditor-General, and the Union Civil Service Board which have been formed under the Constitution and the committee, the commission and the organization formed by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw. According to the decision of the Constitutional Tribunal on 28-3-2012 that the Union level organizations do not include the committee, the commission and the organization formed by the Hluttaws, and the section should not be enacted.</td>
<td>The definition of the Union level organizations under section 2 (h) covers the committee, the commission and the organization formed by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw. According to the decision of the Constitutional Tribunal on 28-3-2012 that the Union level organizations do not include the committee, the commission and the organization formed by the Hluttaws, and the section should not be enacted.</td>
<td>Pyidaungsu Hluttaw had approved it as its original approval.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b)</td>
<td>2. (i) The Hluttaw representative office means the office opened at the respective constituencies for the Hluttaw representatives to be able to discharge duties. 65. The Hluttaw shall grant the rights to open the Hluttaw representative offices at the township as necessary.</td>
<td>The section 2 (i) provided the definition of the Hluttaw representative office and the section 65 granted the rights to open the office. Under the Constitution, there are 330 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives and 168 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives, and if the rights were granted to open the Hluttaw offices at the townships as necessary there can be problems and adverse consequences such as discrimination which is contrary to democratic practices, financial requirement for the office and staff, task can be carried out for the Hluttaw representatives of the region and the state and the opening of office can be confused as the rights have already been given to the Hluttaw representatives to engage in party politics. Thus, the case at present should not be accepted as bills.</td>
<td>Pyidaungsu Hluttaw had approved it as its original approval.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c)</td>
<td>9. (e) Coordination with the relevant government bodies and authorities for constituencies and national development not to be contrary to the Constitution.</td>
<td>The section 9 (e) is the provision that grants the right to each Hluttaw representative to be coordinated with government bodies for their matters. The section 11 (a) of the Constitution, the power vested in the Hluttaw, the Union Government and the Union Supreme Court is a check and balance among them. No power vested in any person. If they want to apply a check and balance among them, they are to apply organization-wise,</td>
<td>Pyidaungsu Hluttaw had approved it as its original approval.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d)</td>
<td>10. (c) Making question, holding discussion and collecting facts on the issues discussed in Hluttaw and activities of persons or members representing the committees formed in accord with the Constitution. As there are documents and facts which were prohibited to be seen or to be given in accord with the Constitution, Hluttaw laws and other existing laws, the phrase, “except documents or facts which are under prohibition in accord with the Constitution and an existing law” should be added.</td>
<td>Pyidaungsu Hluttaw had approved it as its original approval.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(e)</td>
<td>10. (h) Making contact with them through respective Hluttaw committees if there arises a matter for Hluttaw representatives to coordinate with Union level organizations as necessary. (i) Coordinating through respective Hluttaw committees and informing respective Hluttaw if there arises a matter for Hluttaw representatives to coordinate with Regional/State level organizations and members of organizations as necessary. In making analysis of the supplement to sub-section (h) and (i) of Section 10, each and every Hluttaw representative was allowed to coordinate with Union level organization, Region/State level organization and members of the organizations through respective Hluttaw committees. According to the provision in which members of Union level organization have a right to make invitations and to take part in discussions on the bill or matters related to their organizations in accord with Section 90 and 91, Section 140 and Section 160 of the Constitution, sub-sections (h) and (i) of Section 10 should not be added as Hluttaw representatives were allowed to coordinate with them during the Hluttaw session.</td>
<td>Pyidaungsu Hluttaw had approved it as its original approval.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(f)</td>
<td>10. (j) Invitation of three constituents concerned to observe parliament session with the agreement of the Speaker. Regarding the supplementation of Section 10 (j), though it is appropriate enable observance of it should be added as general provision if it is to be legitimized as part of the law, and to allow presence of three local’s at parliament session should not be supplemented to Article 10.</td>
<td>Pyidaungsu Hluttaw had approved it as its original approval.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(g)</td>
<td>12. (f) A Hluttaw representative if needed to arrange accommodation and necessities on his own in meeting with constituents his constituency shall coordinate with administrative organs or authorities concerned if necessary; he shall ask help from administrative organs or authorities concerned for his security. Section 12 (f) is the privileged provision for accommodation and security of Hluttaw representatives. This provision should however not be supplemented to Section 10 for reasons below—parliamentarians need to be equal to citizens in line with democratic practice as they are visiting their constituencies concerned; parliamentarians have already been exempted from witnessing and detention, the right an ordinary citizen cannot have; and the relationship between the legislature and executive branch under the Constitution doesn’t allow this.</td>
<td>Pyidaungsu Hluttaw had approved it as its original approval.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(h)</td>
<td>13. Hluttaw representatives shall have privileges mentioned below from government departments and institutions (See page 7) As Section 12 (b) prescribed emoluments, accommodation allowances, meal allowances, travel allowances and other</td>
<td>Pyidaungsu Hluttaw had approved it as its original approval.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

S/ N

Sunday, 25 November, 2012

NATIONAL

Press Release (6/2012)
Press Release (6/2012)...

(from page 6)

(1) 63. Hluttaw representatives concerned in coordination with local people can use the development fund distributed to respective constituencies in annual Union budget in line with regulations.

(2) As parliamentarians can discuss and make suggestions on national project bills related to permitted projects in respective regions put forward by the Union ministries in Hluttaw sessions, and the Hluttaw had approved it can use the budget allocation only after the Pyithu Hluttaw has approved it. Article 14 should not be supplemented.

(3) The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw had approved it as its original approval.

(4) The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw had approved it as its original approval.

(5) The proposed Article 63 is provision for conduct related to personality. The qualities of conduct related to personality cannot be defined. The Article of the bill prescribes code of conducts for parliamentarians. MPs if adhere to those codes of conduct shall become reliable persons for consultation. As it is not appropriate to enact law for personalities, the article should not be supplemented.

4. Some of the provisions in the bill sent to the President for his approval to enact as laws have some shortcomings and thus two messages were sent to the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 23-10-2012 for legal proceeding. The following is the full context of message sent regarding the 2012 Pyithu Hluttaw Bill:

1. 2012 Pyithu Hluttaw Bill was sent to the President to seek his approval and message highlighting ten points to be considered was sent back.

2. Pyidaungsu Hluttaw accepted two points out of 10 remarks of the President and sent back the bill with the remaining eight points as originally passed by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

3. Of the provisions in that bill need to be in conformity with the Constitution as well as the check and balance of three branches of the State sovereignty, the core essence of democratic practice.

4. Therefore, message is sent again urging to proceed with the 2012 Pyithu Hluttaw Bill in line with legal provisions.

5. Likewise, the following is the message sent regarding the 2012 Amyotha Hluttaw Bill:

1. 2012 Amyotha Hluttaw Bill was sent to the President to seek his approval and message highlighting ten points to be considered was sent back.

2. Pyidaungsu Hluttaw accepted two points out of 10 remarks of the President and sent back the bill with the remaining eight points as originally passed by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

3. Of the provisions in that bill need to be in conformity with the Constitution as well as the check and balance of three branches of the State sovereignty, the core essence of democratic practice.

4. Therefore, message is sent again urging to proceed with the 2012 Amyotha Hluttaw Bill in line with legal provisions.

Local News

Taunggyi Tazaungdaing Festival kicks off

Taunggyi, 24 Nov — The opening of Taunggyi Tazaungdaing Festival and hot-air balloon-flying ceremony kicked off at the festive ground of Awaayar Hillcock in Taunggyi at 6 pm on 21 November.

Chairman of leading committee for organizing the festival Shan State Social Affairs Minister Dr Myo Tun and Minister for Development Affairs U Toe Maung formally opened the festival before national races girls, members of Shan traditional cultural troupes and more than 1000 students performed dances.

Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat pressed the button to set off fireworks. Revelers jammed into the festive ground to watch the firework display.

As a gesture of opening the ceremony, hot-balloon groups released Sein-na-pan hot-air balloons.

New Hsin-ma-like Market to be put into service soon

Yangon, 24 Nov — According to Markets Department of Yangon City Development Committee, new Hsin-ma-like market on Strand Road in Kamayut Township will be put into service soon.

The eight-storey market building includes 456 showrooms, 161 shops, 58 apartments and a parking lot for 50 vehicles. The committee designed and financed the construction of the market being built by M other Construction Co., Ltd.

According to an official of the department, the new market is the only one of the committee that still bears the full cost of building the market without making any contracts with other developers.

For construction of new Hsin-ma-like market, no payment is required for shop owners to make. They will be allowed to get back their original places. An official of the department vowed that there is no plan to collect any money from shops owners while upgrading the old markets into new ones under the supervision of the department. — Kyemon
Together, it is possible to stop violence against women, girls

Today is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women which has been commemorated around the world on 25 November each year since 2000. It is an occasion for governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to heighten the public awareness of violence against women under the theme: Using legislation to end violence against women and girls.

Since 1981, women activists have observed the November 25th as a day against violence to commemorate the brutal assassination of the three sisters in the year 1961, who fought hard to end the dictatorship in the Dominican Republic. The 25th day of November as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women was designated by the United Nations General Assembly on 17 December, 1999.

Throughout the globe, women and girls suffer from various forms of violence in the home, on the streets, in schools, the workplace, during conflict and even in time of peace. It includes prevalent forms of domestic and sexual violence, harassment at work, abuse in school, female genital mutilation in armed conflicts and female infanticide in the preference for boys, child marriage, "honour" killings, trafficking of girls and other multiple forms of violence.

The aforementioned violence has thwarted women and girls across the world to live in dignity, has infringed their fundamental human rights and has hampered them from achieving their full potential. These obstacles to the advancement of women have escalated social and economic costs and have seriously impeded progress and prosperity of the world. The right of women and girls to live free of violence is irreversible and fundamental.

On this November 25th, it is required for all governments and partners to make new commitments, to take strong actions to protect women and girls and to translate their promises into concrete actions. Violence against women and girls should not be placed in any society and impunity for perpetrators must not be tolerated. The onus is on all of us to take responsibility for eradicating violence against women and girls. Only then will we have a more just, peaceful and equitable world.

Breeding of milk cows and milk and dairy products development discussed

Union Minister U Ohn Myint holding talks with New Zealand Ambassador Mr Tony Lynch and party. — MNA

U Min Thein presents his credentials to Governor-General of Commonwealth of Australia

Nay Pyi Taw, 25 Nov—U Min Tin Thein, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Commonwealth of Australia, presented his Credentials to Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC CVO, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, on 21 November 2012 in Canberra. — MNA

U Myint Naing presents his credentials to Nigerian President


National Dialogue on Land Tenure and Land Use Rights held

Those attendees pose for documentary photo at National Dialogue on Land Tenure and Land Use Rights. — MNA

Breeding of milk cows and milk and dairy products development discussed

Union Minister U Ohn Myint holding talks with New Zealand Ambassador Mr Tony Lynch and party. — MNA

De Schutter gave talks. Afterwards, the Union ministers, the deputy ministers and attendees posed for a documentary photo. It was also attended by Union ministers U Tin Naing Thein, U Soe Thein, U Win Tun and Dr Kan Zaw, deputy ministers, officials of respective ministries and agencies, Union and Region/State Hluttaw representatives, entre-preneurs, responsible persons of local and international NGOs, officials of UN agencies, diplomats, donor organizations and guests.

The workshop will continue tomorrow. — MNA
The horizon of the people
it is necessary to broaden the local people. Likewise, accor with the wishes of victims.
constructed for the quake in earthquakes would be could minimize the damages.
After that, the buildings that victims can live safely.
temporary buildings in which under way to construct the
housings of the local people.
In addition, the damaged religious edifices would be renovated and rebuilt, he said.
Insisting, the President said that tasks should be
concerning knowledge about earthquake.
The President pointed out that it is necessary to repair the schools damaged in the quake and construct new school buildings for continuous learning of students.
Offices and departmental buildings should be repaired and constructed for smoothly running of administrative mechanism.
A assistance would be provided to resuming of vocational works of the local people.
In addition, the damaged religious edifices would be renovated and rebuilt, he said.

President U Thein Sein cordially greets students at relief camp in Sampanago Village.— MNA

The President went on to say that the reconstruction tasks would be carried out for the quake victims with the assistance of the Union government and well-wishers, and the local people to join hands with the government in the tasks. The President kept one more promise that the construction tasks would be carried out without moving the town area.
Emphasis would be placed on construction of temporary and permanent housings for the people, especially for monasteries at first.
The President said that he was accompanied by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Union ministers and well-wishers to fulfil necessary requirements.
He acknowledged the Tatmadawmen who immediately undertook rescue and relief works for the local people after the rocks of earthquake. So, the local people were urged to try hard for re-operating their vocational works.
After that, the President presented one solar-lamp each to every household. The Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services donated CI sheets and bags of cement to the people for construction of housings.
At Thabeikkyin Hospital, he encouraged patients and provided cash assistance.
At Thayettaw Monastery, they paid homage to Secretary of Township Sangha Nayaka Committee Presiding A bbot of the monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Jotipala and members of the Sangha and supplicated on plans to be implemented for renovation of religious edifices including monasteries and then donated alms.
The President and party arrived at Sampanago Village of Thabeikkyin Township and Malei Village of Kanbalu Township and inspected opening of relief camps, learning of students at temporarily buildings and damages of school buildings.
After comforting the local people, they presented solar lamps to them.

At present, the stake of relief works for the quake victims has finished.
After the rehabilitation tasks should be undertaken for quake victims. Due to the quake, some of the housings were damaged and some housings were in bad conditions for living.
Thus, the plan is underway to construct the temporary buildings in which the victims can live safely.
After that, the buildings that could minimize the damages in earthquakes would be constructed for the quake victims.
He stressed the need to carry out such tasks in accord with the wishes of the local people. Likewise, it is necessary to broaden the horizon of the people undertaken step by step or simultaneously. The Union government would spend K 1 billion on earthquake victims from the K 100-billion-natural-disaster fund.
The State, donors and local people should join hands in rebuilding the housings of the local people.
The expenditure should be calculated to the people in detail for construction tasks. If the people wished to construct ready-made buildings, the constructional materials would be bought from abroad.
The President noted that a systematic layout plan would be laid down for construction of hospitals, schools and roads in rebuilding villages.
Debris of damaged buildings should be removed with the use of heavy machinery, he said.
On arrival at Thabeikkyin, the President and party viewed damaged township police station, departments and housings.
At Thabeikkyin Basic Education High School, the President looked into the learning of students at the temporary buildings.
In meeting with the local people, the President said that the local people should consider that lesser casualty in earthquake was better although they faced the strong quake.
The President kept a promise that the people would possess new buildings for the damages of old buildings. So, they should comfort their offspring.

President U Thein Sein presents cash assistance to a patient at Thabeikkyin makeshift hospital.— MNA

The expenditure should be calculated to the people in detail for construction tasks. If the people wished to construct ready-made buildings, the constructional materials would be bought from abroad.

Relief items seen at malei Village in Kanbalu Township.— MNA

The Union government to spend K 1 billion...
(from page 1)
disaster. However, the recent earthquake jolted at over 7 am on Sunday when the local people were at farming works. Fortunately, although the earthquake was strong, the number of casualties is small.
If the earthquake hit the downtown with epicenter at night where the people are asleep, the number of casualty would be heavy.
After the shakes of earthquake, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham arrived at quake-hit areas and supervised saving the patients in critical conditions, giving medical treatments to the injured people and fulfilling the requirements of the victims.

Sunday, 25 November, 2012

NATIONAL

Union government to spend K 1 billion...
(from page 1)
disaster. However, the recent earthquake jolted at over 7 am on Sunday when the local people were at farming works. Fortunately, although the earthquake was strong, the number of casualties is small.
If the earthquake hit the downtown with epicenter at night where the people are asleep, the number of casualty would be heavy.
After the shakes of earthquake, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham arrived at quake-hit areas and supervised saving the patients in critical conditions, giving medical treatments to the injured people and fulfilling the requirements of the victims.

Sunday, 25 November, 2012

NATIONAL

Union government to spend K 1 billion...
(from page 1)
disaster. However, the recent earthquake jolted at over 7 am on Sunday when the local people were at farming works. Fortunately, although the earthquake was strong, the number of casualties is small.
If the earthquake hit the downtown with epicenter at night where the people are asleep, the number of casualty would be heavy.
After the shakes of earthquake, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham arrived at quake-hit areas and supervised saving the patients in critical conditions, giving medical treatments to the injured people and fulfilling the requirements of the victims.
Mursi draws fire with new Egypt decree

Cairo, 24 Nov—Egyptian President Mohamed Mursi triggered controversy on Thursday by issuing a decree likely to lead to retrials of Hosni Mubarak and his aides but which was compared to the ousted leader’s autocratic ways.

As well as ordering retrials for Mubarak-era officials responsible for violence during the uprising against his rule, the decree shielded from legal challenge an Islamist-dominated assembly writing Egypt’s new constitution.

It gave the same protection to the upper house of parliament, dominated by Islamists allied to Mursi, and assigned the president new powers that allowed him to sack the Mubarak-era prosecutor general and appoint a new one.

It stated that all decisions taken by Mursi until the election of a new parliament were exempt from legal challenge.

Presented as a move to “protect the revolution”, the decree won immediate praise from Mursi’s allies but stoked fears among secular-minded Egyptians that the Muslim Brotherhood and its allies aim to dominate the new Egypt. It seemed likely to deepen the divisions that have plagued the post-Mubarak era.

“These decisions will feed discord in Egyptian politics and will be far from creating a favourable climate for restoration of economic growth,” Mustafa Kamal Al-Sayyid, a professor of political science at Cairo University, said. Leading liberal politician Moammar ElBaradei, writing on his Twitter account, said Mursi had "upset all state powers and appointed himself Egypt’s new pharaoh.”—Reuters

Mexican president wants to change his country’s name ... to Mexico

Mexico City, 24 Nov—Mexican President Felipe Calderon has one non-urgent item pending on his agenda in the dying days of his presidency — he wants to change his country’s name.

Calderon sent a bill to Congress on Thursday to change the constitution to tweak his nation’s official name from Estados Unidos Mexicanos, or United States of Mexico, to plain old Mexico — as the country is already known the world over.

Mexico was given its name of Estados Unidos Mexicanos in the 19th century, when the country’s post-revolutionary founders harked to the United States of America as an example of democracy and freedom to follow.

“The name of our country no longer needs to emulate that of other nations,” Calderon said. “Forgive me for the expression, but Mexico’s name is MEXICO.”—Reuters

MEXICO'S President Felipe Calderon waves to the crowd after preceding for the last time as President over a military parade in celebration of the 102nd anniversary of the Mexican Revolution on Zocalo Square in Mexico City on 20 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

MEXICO CITY, 24 Nov—Mexican President Felipe Calderon has one non-urgent item pending on his agenda in the dying days of his presidency — he wants to change his country’s name.

Calderon sent a bill to Congress on Thursday to change the constitution to tweak his nation’s official name from Estados Unidos Mexicanos, or United States of Mexico, to plain old Mexico — as the country is already known the world over.

Mexico was given its name of Estados Unidos Mexicanos in the 19th century, when the country’s post-revolutionary founders harked to the United States of America as an example of democracy and freedom to follow.

“The name of our country no longer needs to emulate that of other nations,” Calderon said. “Forgive me for the expression, but Mexico’s name is MEXICO.”—Reuters

South Korea says IEA wants its nuclear sector to be more transparent

Seoul, 24 Nov—The International Energy Agency (IEA) wants South Korea to bring more transparency to its nuclear power sector and strengthen the independence of regulators to increase trust in the safety of its plants, the economy ministry said on Friday. The agency, which advises industrialized nations and represents 38 oil-importing countries, was due later on Friday to unveil a report on South Korea’s energy policies for the first time since 2006.—REUTERS

FREE Syrian Army fighters pose near a tank after they said they fought and defeated government troops at military base at the town of Arbeen near Aleppo on 19 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS
**REGIONAL**

**S Korea's independent presidential candidate bows out of race**

SOUTH, 24 Nov—South Korea's independent presidential candidate Ahn Cheol-soo quit the presidential race on Friday after talks with his liberal rival over merging their campaigns failed to make a breakthrough.

Ahn, who is now the only candidate in the race, gave up his candidacy. Moon Jae-in is now the only candidate in the nomination. Moon Jae-in's campaign failed to overcome the vote splitting and shore up his liberal base to defeat the centre-left main opposition Democratic United Party.

Nepal is now the only candidate in the presidential nomination.

**Indonesia awards peace prize to former Brazilian president**

NEW DELHI, 23 Nov—Indonesia has awarded its Indra Gandhi Prize for Peace, disarmament and development to former Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva on Thursday, local media reported on Friday.

President Lula was conferred the prize by Indonesian President Pranab Mukherjee at a function in the national capital for his outstanding contribution to the cause of eliminating hunger and promoting inclusive growth in Brazil, for his advocacy of stronger ties among the developing economies and for his signal contribution to the cause of the India-Brazil partnership, the reports said.

In awarding the prize for 2010 to President Lula, we are honouring today an outstanding champion of the developing world. President Lula has been a transformative figure in Brazil. The people of India hold you in high esteem.

**Vietnam's year-end NA session decides country's crucial issues**

HANOI, 24 Nov—The 13th National Assembly (NA) of Vietnam closed its fourth session in capital Hanoi on Friday after deciding a number of the country's crucial issues. During the one-month session, law-makers have passed nine laws and two resolutions, among those requiring the top leaders to involve in annual confidence vote from 2013.

Nguyen Sinh Hung, NA Chairman said in his closing speech that 2013 is a transitional year for the country to begin a new development phase with new requirements for socio-economic growth and solving social problems.

The NA approved a no-confidence vote. Officials who receive votes of no-confidence will be asked to step down from their posts. Also on Friday, deputies agreed on the Resolution on the people's opinions on the draft amendment of the Constitution in 1992. One hundred percent of deputies shared the view that amending and supplementing the 1992 Constitution is crucial for the entire Party and people to fortify a political-legal foundation to serve the nation in the new development stage.

The amendments and supplements will be made public to garner people’s comments from 2 January, 2013 and tabled for approval by the NA by the end of the year. A part from the Resolution on conducting vote of confidence and on people’s opinions on the draft amendment of the Constitution in 1992, the amendments have also approved nine laws including Law on State Reserve, Law on the Capital City and Law on Anti-corruption (amended), Law on Land (amended), and gave opinions to six draft other laws to ensure that they keep abreast with reality.

**Photographers take pictures of scenery on Lushan Mountain in east China's Jiangxi Province, on 23 Nov, 2012.**—Xinhua

Two of the four Chinese oil workers who were released by members of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) guerrilla group, arrive at El Dorado International Airport, in Bogota, Colombia, on 23 Nov, 2012. —Xinhua

Four released Chinese citizens fly back to China

BOGOTA, 24 Nov—Four Chinese hostages recently released in Colombia flew back to China on Friday to reunite with their families after 17 months of captivity. Without any statement to the press, the three Chinese oil company engineers and their translator looked excited before boarding the Air France AF423 flight, which left Bogota around 6:30 pm (0330 GMT).

The Chinese citizens were abducted on 8 June, 2011 in southern Colombia and turned over Wednesday night to the International Committee of the Red Cross by “unidentified men” in civilian clothes. The Colombian government said the rebel Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) was behind the kidnapping.

Chinese Ambassador to Colombia Wang Xiaoyuan came to see them off at the airport and told Xinhua that the current President Lee Myung-bak is constitutionally barred from seeking a second five-year term.

**One cop dead, one civilian wounded as rebels attack N Philippines construction firm**

MANILA, 24 Nov—One policeman died, while a civilian was injured after leftist rebels attacked Friday a construction firm in the northern Philippine province of Aurora.

Lt. Tala Servidad, spokeswoman of the Army’s 7th Infantry Division, said New People’s Army rebels went to Villa village in N. Aurora town and burned a backhoe and a dump truck owned by AP Palacios Construction.

The company has been contracted by the government to build a road that will connect Aurora Province to Metro Manila.

Servidad said the rebels attacked Palacios because the owner refuses to pay the revolutionary tax. She said that soldiers from the Army’s 48th Infantry Battalion and local policemen went to Villa village to clear the area. But they were attacked by rebels, who killed a police officer and wounded the civilian in the area.

**New releases of palm tree leaves in Lhasa, capital of southwest China’s Tibet Autonomous Region, on 21 Nov, 2012.**—Xinhua

**Researchers study Palm-Live Manuscripts of Buddhist Sutras in Lhasa, capital of southwest China’s Tibet Autonomous Region, on 21 Nov, 2012.**—Xinhua

The palm-leaf manuscripts of Buddhist sutras have been well preserved in China. Palm-leaf sutras refer to the Buddhist classics inscribed on the leaves of palm tree. The sutras are oldest palm-leaf inscriptions in India and was introduced into China more than 1,000 years ago during the Tang Dynasty (618-907).—Xinhua
Catalans face up to economic risks of independence

Spain

Madrid/Barcelona, 24 Nov — Industrious Catalans widely believe their world-class companies and export-focused economy are almost the size of Portugal’s — would be better off without the rest of Spain.

As the region prepares for regional elections that may set it on course for secession, that contention is being tested by a raft of reports into the financial fallout of a split of Europe’s fifth biggest economy.

It would take years to happen and businesses themselves are reluctant to discuss the possibility publicly, but privately senior managers say they are deeply concerned at the risk Catalonia could be forced out of the union even if it were only for a time.

Other problems relate to the scale of Spain’s — and the region’s — existing debt problems as well as how much more it may cost banks and companies to find funding outside the euro zone. “Economists are taking part in a war of statistics,” said Pere Puig Bastard, economist at Spain’s ESAVE business and law school.

“From an economic standpoint, it’s impossible to establish the impact of how long we would live in legal limbo and it’s a bad time to be hitting investments.”

A growing number of the northern region’s 7.5 million people want to break away from Spain as a recession fosters frustration over tax structure by which Catalonia pays an estimated 16 billion more to Madrid than it receives in return.

Sunday’s regional election is expected to re-elect the conservative Convergence and Union party, whose leader Artur Mas has pledged to hold a referendum on independence.

New Zealand aims for stronger Latin American ties as Pacific Alliance observer

Wellington, 24 Nov — New Zealand is hoping to strengthen ties with Latin America after being given observer status to the Pacific Alliance group, which aims for free trade and economic integration with a focus on countries in the Americas.

New Zealand valued its engagement with the “like-minded” nations of the Pacific Alliance, which comprises Mexico, Chile, Colombia and Peru, Trade Minister Tim Groser said in a statement.

“Intensifying our relationship with them via the Pacific Alliance provides real opportunities for New Zealand trade with the region,” said Groser.

The Pacific Alliance was formed in April 2011, with the aim of facilitating regional economic integration in a way that complemented existing bilateral agreements between members.

The grouping brought together a population of 215 million and combined GDP of more than 2 trillion US dollars. Together Mexico, Chile, Colombia and Peru accounted for 35 percent of the GDP of Latin America and the Caribbean, and represented more than half of the region’s trade.

New Zealand already worked closely with Mexico, Chile and Peru in the context of the Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade negotiations and Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), and shared with all members the goal of Asia-Pacific economic integration.

“Observer status offers New Zealand an additional strand to our already warm and comprehensive relationships with each Pacific Alliance member,” said Groser.

“An observer, New Zealand will be better placed to build our existing relationships, and to share experiences and learning on integration within the Asia-Pacific region.”

New Zealand joins Australia, Canada, Spain and Uruguay as observer states, along with Costa Rica and Panama, two countries that are candidates for full Pacific Alliance membership. — Xinhua

Holiday shopping marathon starts as consumer sentiment shaky

New York, 24 Nov — Add this to the list of things some people are thankful for: stores open on Thanksgiving Day. That’s how Janet Guerrero, 24, felt when shopping on Thursday afternoon at a Wal-Mart in Westbury, Long Island, because she had nothing to wear to dinner. “It’s an emergency,” she said.

Sunday’s regional election is expected to re-elect the conservative Convergence and Union party, whose leader Artur Mas has pledged to hold a referendum on independence.

New Zealand aims for stronger Latin American ties as Pacific Alliance observer

Wellington, 24 Nov — New Zealand is hoping to strengthen ties with Latin America after being given observer status to the Pacific Alliance group, which aims for free trade and economic integration with a focus on countries in the Americas.

New Zealand valued its engagement with the “like-minded” nations of the Pacific Alliance, which comprises Mexico, Chile, Colombia and Peru, Trade Minister Tim Groser said in a statement.

“Intensifying our relationship with them via the Pacific Alliance provides real opportunities for New Zealand trade with the region,” said Groser.

The Pacific Alliance was formed in April 2011, with the aim of facilitating regional economic integration in a way that complemented existing bilateral agreements between members.

The grouping brought together a population of 215 million and combined GDP of more than 2 trillion US dollars. Together Mexico, Chile, Colombia and Peru accounted for 35 percent of the GDP of Latin America and the Caribbean, and represented more than half of the region’s trade.

New Zealand already worked closely with Mexico, Chile and Peru in the context of the Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade negotiations and Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), and shared with all members the goal of Asia-Pacific economic integration.

“Observer status offers New Zealand an additional strand to our already warm and comprehensive relationships with each Pacific Alliance member,” said Groser.

“An observer, New Zealand will be better placed to build our existing relationships, and to share experiences and learning on integration within the Asia-Pacific region.”

New Zealand joins Australia, Canada, Spain and Uruguay as observer states, along with Costa Rica and Panama, two countries that are candidates for full Pacific Alliance membership. — Xinhua

New Zealand aims for stronger Latin American ties as Pacific Alliance observer

Wellington, 24 Nov — New Zealand is hoping to strengthen ties with Latin America after being given observer status to the Pacific Alliance group, which aims for free trade and economic integration with a focus on countries in the Americas.

New Zealand valued its engagement with the “like-minded” nations of the Pacific Alliance, which comprises Mexico, Chile, Colombia and Peru, Trade Minister Tim Groser said in a statement.

“Intensifying our relationship with them via the Pacific Alliance provides real opportunities for New Zealand trade with the region,” said Groser.

The Pacific Alliance was formed in April 2011, with the aim of facilitating regional economic integration in a way that complemented existing bilateral agreements between members.

The grouping brought together a population of 215 million and combined GDP of more than 2 trillion US dollars. Together Mexico, Chile, Colombia and Peru accounted for 35 percent of the GDP of Latin America and the Caribbean, and represented more than half of the region’s trade.

New Zealand already worked closely with Mexico, Chile and Peru in the context of the Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade negotiations and Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), and shared with all members the goal of Asia-Pacific economic integration.

“Observer status offers New Zealand an additional strand to our already warm and comprehensive relationships with each Pacific Alliance member,” said Groser.

“An observer, New Zealand will be better placed to build our existing relationships, and to share experiences and learning on integration within the Asia-Pacific region.”

New Zealand joins Australia, Canada, Spain and Uruguay as observer states, along with Costa Rica and Panama, two countries that are candidates for full Pacific Alliance membership. — Xinhua

New Zealand aims for stronger Latin American ties as Pacific Alliance observer

Wellington, 24 Nov — New Zealand is hoping to strengthen ties with Latin America after being given observer status to the Pacific Alliance group, which aims for free trade and economic integration with a focus on countries in the Americas.

New Zealand valued its engagement with the “like-minded” nations of the Pacific Alliance, which comprises Mexico, Chile, Colombia and Peru, Trade Minister Tim Groser said in a statement.

“Intensifying our relationship with them via the Pacific Alliance provides real opportunities for New Zealand trade with the region,” said Groser.

The Pacific Alliance was formed in April 2011, with the aim of facilitating regional economic integration in a way that complemented existing bilateral agreements between members.

The grouping brought together a population of 215 million and combined GDP of more than 2 trillion US dollars. Together Mexico, Chile, Colombia and Peru accounted for 35 percent of the GDP of Latin America and the Caribbean, and represented more than half of the region’s trade.

New Zealand already worked closely with Mexico, Chile and Peru in the context of the Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade negotiations and Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), and shared with all members the goal of Asia-Pacific economic integration.

“Observer status offers New Zealand an additional strand to our already warm and comprehensive relationships with each Pacific Alliance member,” said Groser.

“An observer, New Zealand will be better placed to build our existing relationships, and to share experiences and learning on integration within the Asia-Pacific region.”

New Zealand joins Australia, Canada, Spain and Uruguay as observer states, along with Costa Rica and Panama, two countries that are candidates for full Pacific Alliance membership. — Xinhua

New Zealand aims for stronger Latin American ties as Pacific Alliance observer

Wellington, 24 Nov — New Zealand is hoping to strengthen ties with Latin America after being given observer status to the Pacific Alliance group, which aims for free trade and economic integration with a focus on countries in the Americas.

New Zealand valued its engagement with the “like-minded” nations of the Pacific Alliance, which comprises Mexico, Chile, Colombia and Peru, Trade Minister Tim Groser said in a statement.

“Intensifying our relationship with them via the Pacific Alliance provides real opportunities for New Zealand trade with the region,” said Groser.

The Pacific Alliance was formed in April 2011, with the aim of facilitating regional economic integration in a way that complemented existing bilateral agreements between members.

The grouping brought together a population of 215 million and combined GDP of more than 2 trillion US dollars. Together Mexico, Chile, Colombia and Peru accounted for 35 percent of the GDP of Latin America and the Caribbean, and represented more than half of the region’s trade.

New Zealand already worked closely with Mexico, Chile and Peru in the context of the Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade negotiations and Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), and shared with all members the goal of Asia-Pacific economic integration.

“Observer status offers New Zealand an additional strand to our already warm and comprehensive relationships with each Pacific Alliance member,” said Groser.

“An observer, New Zealand will be better placed to build our existing relationships, and to share experiences and learning on integration within the Asia-Pacific region.”

New Zealand joins Australia, Canada, Spain and Uruguay as observer states, along with Costa Rica and Panama, two countries that are candidates for full Pacific Alliance membership. — Xinhua
Shah Rukh Khan scared of daughter
Suhan

Mumbai, 24 Nov — The father of Halle Berry — bought a home in Beverly Hills.

She says she’ll be able to pick up where they left off. She has even asked Harry if he’ll look at some books with her, since he knows the area.

However, insiders believe that Harry, 18, won’t be too impressed with her plan.

The source added: “I’m sure how Harry will cope if Taylor does move in down the road.”

If Taylor does buy a London house to be near Harry, it won’t be the first time she has let love influence her property purchases.

In August, the We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together hitmaker bought a $4.9 million 13-room property in Hyannis Port, Massachusetts after spending time in the area with Conor, 18, and the property is across the street from his grandfather’s home.

According to reports, Salmaan Khan, but only for cash

Mumbai, 24 Nov — According to reports, Salman Khan was unavailable to receive his award at the People’s Choice awards event recently.

Katrina Kaif proclaimed that she would have done it provided she got a certain per cent of commission from Salman Khan’s pay for the movie.

Mumbai, 24 Nov — According to reports, Salmaan Khan’s fiancé, French actor Gabriel Aubry, 37, was later released on $20,000 bail after being charged with misdemeanor battery following a fistfight with Berry’s daughter.

Berry’s request to move to this area of the city which the police said.

The altercation occurred during a custodial hand-off involving Berry’s 4-year-old daughter with Auby, Nahla, according to Los Angeles police officer Julie Boyer.

Following the scuffle, Aubry and Martinez were both taken to Cedars-Sinai Medical Center with “non-life-threatening injuries,” Boyer said.

Auby is due to appear in court on 13 December. Berry, 46, who won a best actress Oscar for her role in 2001 film “monster’s Ball,” has been embroiled in a bitter custody battle with Aubry since they broke up in April 2010. Earlier this month, a judge denied Berry’s request to move to France with Nahla.

Berry and Martinez met while filming the movie “Dark Tide.” They announced their engagement in March. A judge has since issued an emergency protective order requiring Aubry to stay at least 100 yards (meters) from Berry, their daughter and Martinez, according to celebrity website, TMZ.com — Reuters.

Taylor Swift moving to London to be near new boyfriend

New Delhi, 24 Nov — Singer Taylor Swift has reportedly begun house-hunting in the UK and is ideally looking for a place close to the £3 million home in the Primrose Hill area of the city which the One Direction hunk Harry Styles — who she has been romantically linked with since splitting from Conor Kennedy — bought earlier this year.

A source told LOOK magazine: “Taylor says the reason she bought in the UK is across the street from his granddaughter’s home. Additionally, the country singer bought a home in Nashville for $2.5 million in 2011. She also owns a huge penthouse apartment in the city, as well as a $3.3 million home in Beverly Hills.

Halle Berry’s ex headed to court after Thanksgiving brawl

Los Angeles, 24 Nov — The father of Halle Berry’s daughter is headed to court after he was arrested following a fistfight with her fiancé outside the Oscar winning actress’ Los Angeles home on Thanksgiving, police said.

Canadian model Gabriel Aubry, 37, was later released on $20,000 bail after being charged with misdemeanor battery following the punch-up with Berry’s fiancé, French actor Olivier Martinez, 46, in the driveway of her house on Thursday.

The altercation occurred during a custodial hand-off involving Berry’s 4-year-old daughter with Aubry, Nahla, according to Los Angeles police officer Julie Boyer.

Following the scuffle, Aubry and Martinez were both taken to Cedars-Sinai Medical Center with “non-life-threatening injuries,” Boyer said.

Auby is due to appear in court on 13 December. Berry, 46, who won a best actress Oscar for her role in 2001 film “Monster’s Ball,” has been embroiled in a bitter custody battle with Aubry since they broke up in April 2010. Earlier this month, a judge denied Berry’s request to move to France with Nahla.

Berry and Martinez met while filming the movie “Dark Tide.” They announced their engagement in March. A judge has since issued an emergency protective order requiring Aubry to stay at least 100 yards (meters) from Berry, their daughter and Martinez, according to celebrity website, TMZ.com — Reuters.

In the film, Prabhu plays a dance teacher from Chennai.— PTI

PTI

Katrina Kaif will accept awards for Salman Khan, but only for cash

Mumbai, 24 Nov — According to reports, Salmaan Khan was unavailable to receive his award at the People’s Choice awards event recently.

Katrina Kaif proclaimed that she would have done it provided she got a certain per cent of commission from Salman Khan’s pay for the movie.

Mumbai, 24 Nov — A judge denied Berry’s request to move to France with Nahla.

The altercation occurred during a custodial hand-off involving Berry’s 4-year-old daughter with Aubry, Nahla, according to Los Angeles police officer Julie Boyer.

Following the scuffle, Aubry and Martinez were both taken to Cedars-Sinai Medical Center with “non-life-threatening injuries,” Boyer said.

Auby is due to appear in court on 13 December. Berry, 46, who won a best actress Oscar for her role in 2001 film “Monster’s Ball,” has been embroiled in a bitter custody battle with Aubry since they broke up in April 2010. Earlier this month, a judge denied Berry’s request to move to France with Nahla.

Berry and Martinez met while filming the movie “Dark Tide.” They announced their engagement in March. A judge has since issued an emergency protective order requiring Aubry to stay at least 100 yards (meters) from Berry, their daughter and Martinez, according to celebrity website, TMZ.com — Reuters.

Aubry, Nahla, according to reports, Salmaan Khan was unavailable to receive his award at the People’s Choice awards event recently.

Katrina Kaif proclaimed that she would have done it provided she got a certain per cent of commission from Salman Khan’s pay for the movie.

Mumbai, 24 Nov — According to reports, Salmaan Khan was unavailable to receive his award at the People’s Choice awards event recently.

Katrina Kaif proclaimed that she would have done it provided she got a certain per cent of commission from Salman Khan’s pay for the movie.

Mumbai, 24 Nov — According to reports, Salmaan Khan was unavailable to receive his award at the People’s Choice awards event recently.

Katrina Kaif proclaimed that she would have done it provided she got a certain per cent of commission from Salman Khan’s pay for the movie.

Mumbai, 24 Nov — According to reports, Salmaan Khan was unavailable to receive his award at the People’s Choice awards event recently.

Katrina Kaif proclaimed that she would have done it provided she got a certain per cent of commission from Salman Khan’s pay for the movie.

Mumbai, 24 Nov — According to reports, Salmaan Khan was unavailable to receive his award at the People’s Choice awards event recently.

Katrina Kaif proclaimed that she would have done it provided she got a certain per cent of commission from Salman Khan’s pay for the movie.

Mumbai, 24 Nov — According to reports, Salmaan Khan was unavailable to receive his award at the People’s Choice awards event recently.

Katrina Kaif proclaimed that she would have done it provided she got a certain per cent of commission from Salman Khan’s pay for the movie.

Mumbai, 24 Nov — According to reports, Salmaan Khan was unavailable to receive his award at the People’s Choice awards event recently.

Katrina Kaif proclaimed that she would have done it provided she got a certain per cent of commission from Salman Khan’s pay for the movie.

Mumbai, 24 Nov — According to reports, Salmaan Khan was unavailable to receive his award at the People’s Choice awards event recently.

Katrina Kaif proclaimed that she would have done it provided she got a certain per cent of commission from Salman Khan’s pay for the movie.

Mumbai, 24 Nov — According to reports, Salmaan Khan was unavailable to receive his award at the People’s Choice awards event recently.

Katrina Kaif proclaimed that she would have done it provided she got a certain per cent of commission from Salman Khan’s pay for the movie.

Mumbai, 24 Nov — According to reports, Salmaan Khan was unavailable to receive his award at the People’s Choice awards event recently.

Katrina Kaif proclaimed that she would have done it provided she got a certain per cent of commission from Salman Khan’s pay for the movie.
Ghana’s Ayew shortlisted for African player of the year award

Abedi Ayew Pele, together with reigning player of the year Yaya Toure, fourie, Didier Drogba, Alexander Song and Demba Ba, will be voting for the award to be decided at an Awards Gala to be held at the 8 August Hall of the State House here on 20 December.

The best player of 2012 and the winners in other award categories will also be revealed at the televised gala in Accra, Ayew, who plays for French Ligue 1 side Marseille, was the runner-up in last year’s award. The main objective of the award is to honour African men and women who have excelled and also contributed to the development of the game of football in and outside the African continent.

The other categories for which winners will be announced include National Team of the Year, Women’s Footballer of the Year, Women’s National Team of the Year, Men’s National Team of the Year, Club of the Year, Most Promising Talent of the Year, Coach of the Year, Referee of the Year, Legend Award, Fair Play Award, Platinum Award as well as Africa Finest XI.

Arsenal extends shirt sponsorship with Emirates

London, 24 Nov — Arsenal has extended their shirt sponsorship deal with international airline Emirates for five years and 150 million pounds.

The company’s logo will appear on the Gunners’ shirts until the end of the 2018/2019 season. Emirates began their partnership with Arsenal in 2004 when the airline secured naming rights for their shirt sponsorship deal with international club.

The deal will now be worth 30 million pounds a year, with the airline saying it is worth the investment due to the club’s high profile.

Jamaica’s double Olympic champion sprinter Usain Bolt stikes a pose while inaugurating a Puma store in Barcelona on 23 Nov, 2012. — Reuters

Kobayashi sets up website to try and raise F1 funds

Sao Paulo, 24 Nov — Kamui Kobayashi, Japan’s only current Formula One driver, is hoping a website campaign can help raise the funds to keep him on the starting grid next season after being dropped by the Sauber team. Speaking to reporters at the season-ending Brazilian Grand Prix on Friday after Sauber announced Mexican Esteban Gutierrez would be taking his place in 2013, Kobayashi did his best to sound confident.

“We see I think still some seats that are available so we try to get a seat,” he said. “If we can find some sponsor or the like, we can talk to everyone to find out what’s available.”

The Japanese driver has several Mexican sponsors and will be looking to build a stronger support network for next year’s seat.” Kobayashi said.

Sauber Formula One driver Kamui Kobayashi of Japan gets ready for the first practice session of the Indian F1 Grand Prix at the Buddh International Circuit in Greater Noida, on the outskirts of New Delhi, on 26 Oct, 2012. — Reuters

Bolt feels conscious need for speed in 2013

Barcelona, 24 Nov — Conscious that he is not getting any younger, Usain Bolt will be focusing on pure speed next year after return to his Olympic 100 and 200 metres titles in London.

The charismatic Jamacian, who turns 27 in August, holds the world records in both sprints and will be looking to better those marks, set at the world championship in Berlin in 2009, during 2013, he told Reuters Television on Friday.

“It’s all about speed this year, trying to see how fast as I can go,” he said in an interview in Barcelona, where he is attending the IAAF centenary celebrations. “I want to see what I can do,” he added. “I’m getting older so I should try to go as fast as I possibly can now. So I think that will be the main focus as long as everything goes smooth as we want it to, no injuries and stuff, it should be a good season.”

Bolt has said he wants to keep seeking fresh challenges after becoming the first man to retain both the 100 and 200 Olympic crowns, including possibly running the 400 metres or even competing in long jump. However, he ruled out the latter on Friday, saying his coach had warned him about the risk of injury.

“I have discussed it with my coach (Glen Mills) and he has explained to me that the majority of the time with long jumpers, it messes with your knees,” Bolt said. “If you want to try long jump it’s kind of hard because then you could pick up some knee problems and then you never know, it might be a career threatening injury. For me I think I’ll just avoid long jump and think about something else.”

Reuters

Toronto Argonauts players are interviewed on the field behind the Grey Cup logo during practice ahead of the 100th Grey Cup CFL football game in Toronto on 23 Nov, 2012. — Reuters

Son of Chef restaurant owner, who arrived in Formula One with Toyota support but no other backing and joined Sauber when the carmaker pulled out at the end of 2009. “For Sauber it is my last race but for myself I think it is different. “Everybody looks really worried but I don’t really worry at the moment, I try to work hard to get sponsors and

Toronto, 24 Nov — Ice hockey may be Canada’s national obsession but for 100 years the Grey Cup has thrown a massive party, a gridiron celebration that unites a country often divided by language and cultural sensibilities. The Grey Cup, the name of the Canadian Football League’s (CFL) championship game and the trophy awarded to the winner, will be carried high by either the host Toronto Argonauts or host city is part of the East Division.

The league by failed franchises. Geography may point to crisis, the Grey Cup has spent much of its existence lurking from crisis to crisis, the Grey Cup has remained a treasured sport but now it is also a forced realignment of the football fraternity party. The East-West rivalry that provided the original foundation for the championship game has faded, the great divide grayed by a doomed expansion to the United States and a forced realignment of the league by failed franchises.

Toronto Argonauts are instantly recognizable to the throngs of reporters, the CFL’s lower-key version requires members from the competing teams to wear name tags. Still, millions of Canadians gather around televisions each year in late November to watch and cheer a game where many could not even name a single player.

Even Queen Elizabeth took a moment to observe this year’s game, which marks the 100th Grey Cup. “It is with great pleasure that I extend my sincere thanks to all Canadians as they prepare to mark this year’s game, which took a moment to observe a moment of quiet reflection and jubilee as Queen of Canada.”

The Grey Cup logo during practice ahead of the 100th Grey Cup CFL football game in Toronto on 23 Nov, 2012. — Reuters

Reuters

Sauber announced Mexican Esteban Gutierrez would be taking his place in 2013, Kobayashi did his best to sound confident.

“We see I think still some seats that are available so we try to get a seat,” he said. “If we can find some sponsor or the like, we can talk to everyone to find out what’s available.”

The Japanese driver has several Mexican sponsors and will be looking to build a stronger support network for next year’s seat.” Kobayashi said.

Sauber Formula One driver Kamui Kobayashi of Japan gets ready for the first practice session of the Indian F1 Grand Prix at the Buddh International Circuit in Greater Noida, on the outskirts of New Delhi, on 26 Oct, 2012. — Reuters

Bolt feels conscious need for speed in 2013

Barcelona, 24 Nov — Conscious that he is not getting any younger, Usain Bolt will be focusing on pure speed next year after return to his Olympic 100 and 200 metres titles in London.

The charismatic Jamacian, who turns 27 in August, holds the world records in both sprints and will be looking to better those marks, set at the world championship in Berlin in 2009, during 2013, he told Reuters Television on Friday.

“It’s all about speed this year, trying to see how fast as I can go,” he said in an interview in Barcelona, where he is attending the IAAF centenary celebrations. “I want to see what I can do,” he added. “I’m getting older so I should try to go as fast as I possibly can now. So I think that will be the main focus as long as everything goes smooth as we want it to, no injuries and stuff, it should be a good season.”

Bolt has said he wants to keep seeking fresh challenges after becoming the first man to retain both the 100 and 200 Olympic crowns, including possibly running the 400 metres or even competing in long jump. However, he ruled out the latter on Friday, saying his coach had warned him about the risk of injury.

“I have discussed it with my coach (Glen Mills) and he has explained to me that the majority of the time with long jumpers, it messes with your knees,” Bolt said. “If you want to try long jump it’s kind of hard because then you could pick up some knee problems and then you never know, it might be a career threatening injury. For me I think I’ll just avoid long jump and think about something else.”

Reuters

Toronto Argonauts players are interviewed on the field behind the Grey Cup logo during practice ahead of the 100th Grey Cup CFL football game in Toronto on 23 Nov, 2012. — Reuters

Son of Chef restaurant owner, who arrived in Formula One with Toyota support but no other backing and joined Sauber when the carmaker pulled out at the end of 2009. “For Sauber it is my last race but for myself I think it is different. “Everybody looks really worried but I don’t really worry at the moment, I try to work hard to get sponsors and

Toronto, 24 Nov — Ice hockey may be Canada’s national obsession but for 100 years the Grey Cup has thrown a massive party, a gridiron celebration that unites a country often divided by language and cultural sensibilities. The Grey Cup, the name of the Canadian Football League’s (CFL) championship game and the trophy awarded to the winner, will be carried high by either the host Toronto Argonauts or the Calgary Stampeders.

The game will be broadcast in 187 countries but with just eight CFL teams spread across the country, the league maintains a folky, small-town charm. Unlike the Super Bowl’s media day where National Football League (NFL) players are instantly recognizable to the throngs of reporters, the CFL’s lower-key version requires
Two killed, six wounded in Afghan violence

KABUL, 24 Nov—At least two people were killed and six others were wounded in separate roadside bombings and a gunfire attack in Afghanistan on Thursday.

A member of Afghan Intelligence agency named Taj Mohammad was killed in a drive-by shooting at around 5 pm local time in Shindand district in western Herat Province, District police chief, Ghalam Sakhi Hossaini, told Xinhua, adding the attacker fled the site shortly after the incident.

Separately, a woman was killed and a child was wounded in a roadside bombing targeting a police unit also in Shindand in the province 640 km west of capital city of Kabul, Housaini said, adding no member of the police mobile was harmed in the attack. In addition, five policemen were wounded in a roadside bomb attack in Surkh Rod district in eastern Nagarzai Province earlier Thursday, a police spokesman in the province 120 km east of Kabul told Xinhua.

No group claimed responsibility for the attacks, so far. However, the Taliban insurgent group, which has been waging an insurgency since its regime was toppled by a US-led invasion in late 2001, was often responsible for such attacks.

Xinhua

France faces twin tasks of aging nuclear fleet, staff

PARIS, 24 Nov—An ageing fleet of nuclear power plants and retirement of half of EDF’s nuclear staff in the next 5 years are the main challenges the French nuclear safety watchdog is facing and will have to deal with, its new head said on Thursday.

France, the most nuclear-reliant nation in the world, will have to decide in the next few years whether to extend the lifespan of its 58 nuclear reactors to over 40 years, at a time it is trying to cut its nuclear dependence from the atomic.

“We have a nuclear fleet which was built in the 1960s, 70s, 80s. So we arrive at a time when these plants get close to 30 years of age. The ageing of these facilities is a new factor, even for a fence-sitter,” Pierre-Franck Chevet told Reuters in his first interview since he took office this month.

“Can we go over 40 years? We have no answer on that yet. We are preparing a full report from EDF which will bring us to take a decision in 2013,” said Chevet, who took over from Andre-Claude Lacombe, who retired after 20 years in the post.— Reuters

**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL**

(25-11-12 09:30 am – 26-11-12 09:30 am) M ST

* News
  * The difference between Samahameditation and Vipassana meditation (Part-1)
  * News
  * Music Programme
  * The Unstable Robe
  * Weaving Ceremony
  * News
  * Extraordinary Taunggyi Tazaungdaing Festival
  * News
  * The month filled with various celestial bodies, the night when planets and astronomical property
  * News
  * MI People’s Celebrities

“Those who keep secret heart beat”
* News
* Myanmar 2010 Agriculture Census
* News
* A Movie To Ease Traffic Census
* News
* A Movie To Ease Traffic Jam
* News
* Buddhist Religious Relevant Myanmar-Japan Goodwill Photographic Exhibition
* “Myanmar Movie “Nu Nu Ngie Nge”

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Programme</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:15 am</td>
<td>2. Dhamma Puja Song</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:25 am</td>
<td>3. To Be Healthy Exercise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:40 am</td>
<td>4. Nice &amp; Sweet Song</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>5. (38) Phyar Mingalas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:25 am</td>
<td>6. Performance with Song</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>7. Songs Of Tazaungdaing Festival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>8. Martial Song</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15 am</td>
<td>9. Round Up Of The Week’s International News</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:25 pm</td>
<td>10. How It’s Works</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:50 pm</td>
<td>11. Myanmar Movies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:05 pm</td>
<td>13. Musical Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:15 pm</td>
<td>14. Song of National Race</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:20 pm</td>
<td>15. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) Summer 2012 Year (English)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:35 pm</td>
<td>16. Songs For Upholding National Spirit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:55 pm</td>
<td>17. Sing &amp; Enjoy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:20 pm</td>
<td>18. Cartoon Series 6:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 pm</td>
<td>19. Taungthein Takwektar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:20 pm</td>
<td>20. News</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 pm</td>
<td>21. TV Drama Series</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:45 pm</td>
<td>22. New Melody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Vehicle pile-up leaves five dead, two injured in SE China**

FUZHOU, 24 Nov—Five people have died and two others injured in a pileup involving five vehicles on the expressway in southeast China’s Fujian Province, local authorities said.

The accident happened around 9:15 am when an out-of-control loaded trailer hit four vehicles in Fuding City along the expressway from Shenyang to Hakou, according to a spokesman with the Fuding City government.

The two injured people were carrying slight injuries and sent to hospital, the spokesman said.

Traffic has resumed on the expressway section, and the cause of the accident is being investigated.

Xinhua

**Rescuers work at the scene of a vehicle pileup on the Shenyang-Haikou Expressway in Fuding, southeast China’s Fujian Province, on 22 Nov, 2012. Five people have died and two others injured in a pileup involving five vehicles in the Fuding section of the Shenyang-Hai Kou Expressway on Thursday morning. The two injured people were carrying slight injuries and sent to hospital. Traffic has resumed on the expressway section, and the cause of the accident is being investigated.**

**Donate Blood**

**A deep in Jesus**

Zeya Kyaw Htin U Tin Gyi (Aged 94)
Lieutenant Colonel Retired R&D

Managing Director of Number 3 Mining Enterprise (Retired)

Born Sept 20th, 1922 passed away Nov 23rd, 2012 at Number 5 Bazar Road, Bawteik, Yankin Tp, beloved husband of Daw Nie N, brother of Mrs Olive Neville Roberts, U San Hla-Daw Kyi, U Ohn Pe (Daw Khin Soe), U Mya San-Daw Thit Htet, father of U Tin Maung Gyi, Chief Engineer (MIL)–Daw Khin Thanda Lwin, grandfather of El Darli Maung and Zayar Maung, and father of Daw Su Su Gyi retired MOGE. At 2 pm Sunday, Nov 25 from above residence, the bus will leave to 3 Y’ay Way Christian Cemetery for entomment. Funeral service will be held at 3 pm of Y’ay Way Christian Cemetery.

Bereaved Family

**China**
A administrative matters of education, health committees, commission of Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw discussed

NAV PI TAW, 24 Nov — A coordination meeting on administrative matters of education and health committees and commission of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw was held at Zabuthiri Hall of Hluttaw Building, here, this morning.

It was attended by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann, chairpersons, secretaries and members of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw committees and commission, officials of the ministries of the Union government and Hluttaw Office.

First, the Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw spoke on the occasion, and chairpersons, secretaries and members of committees reported on education, health and administrative matters.

Next, those present held discussions, and the meeting came to an end with concluding remarks by the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker.

MNA

Myanmar tie 1-1 draw with Vietnam in Suzuki Cup opener

BANGKOK, 24 Nov— Vietnam and Myanmar played to a 1-1 draw in the first game of the 2012 Suzuki Cup, Saturday at the Rajamangala Stadium in Thailand. In front of a sparse but noisy crowd, the match was first delayed due to frequent blackouts caused by rain and lightning.

When the game did get started the pitch had suffered a bit and was patchy. Both teams took awhile to get into the game and adapt to the conditions before Vietnam opened the scoring through Le Tan Tai’s header in the 35th minute.

Vietnam continued to control the game in the first half but couldn’t add to their lead. The halftime break came as a welcome relief for Myanmar. Vietnam could have doubled their lead after the break as Nguyen Trong Hoang played a nice one-two and beat his man before picking out a teammate in the area. But he could only push the ball over the top for Kyi Lin to keep his side in the game.

Kyi Lin had the chances to win the game for Myanmar later but he proved too greedy in the next chance, not passing to the open man on his right, before shooting just wide in the 80th minute.

Vietnam pressed and were relentless in the last few minutes, winning several corners, free-kicks, and trying to break down the Myanmar defence. But it proved too little, too late as they had to settle for a draw.

Aung Kyaw stepped up and drove the ball to his left. The goalkeeper got a hand to the penalty but couldn’t keep it out and Myanmar drew level. Myanmar countered soon after and with Kyi Lin chasing another ball over the top he almost made them pay as he got one on one with the keeper, Duong Hong Son, as he got one on one with the keeper. Duong Hong Son, in goal for Vietnam, made himself big and managed to block the shot up high, keeping his side in the game.

Executive Rob Fyfe said that the effort and passion that we have with the magical world of the Lord of the Rings and the Hobbit. The airline has dubbed itself the “Airline of Middle Earth”, and said another Hobbity-inspired Boeing 777 would be unveiled in November next year ahead of the second Hobbit movie.

NLM