President U Thein Sein receives UN USG for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator

Union-level Peace-Making Committee holds talks with Panhsan Special Region-2 group

Nay Pyi Taw, 6 Dec—President U Thein Sein of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar received a delegation led by UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator Baroness Valerie Amos, at the Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace, here, this evening.

Also present at the call together with the President were Union Ministers Lt-Gen Thein Htay, U Tin Naing Thein and Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin and Deputy Minister U Thant Kyaw. The delegation was accompanied by UN Coordinator in Myanmar Mr Ashok Nigam.

At the call, they had a cordial discussion on further cooperation with UN, providing more humanitarian aids to conflict-affected areas, schools, hospitals and makeshift tents and water and sanitation system and transportation, and disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and education programme.—MNA

Nay Pyi Taw, 5 Dec—Vice-Chairmen of Union-level Peace Making Committee Union Minister at President Office U Aung Min and Pyithu Hluttaw National Races Affairs and Internal Peace-making Committee Chairman U Thein Zaw, members Union Ministers Lt-Gen Thein Htay, U Khin Maung Soe and U Ohn Myint, Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat, Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Maung Maung Swe, Commanders Brig-Gen Aung Soe and Maj-Gen Than Tun Oo and officials arrived in Panhsan by Tatmadaw helicopter yesterday morning. They were welcomed by Panhsan Special Region-2 Vice Chairman and members and national races there.

After that, both sides held discussions on peace making process at the meeting hall of Special Region-2 Headquarters.

At the discussion, Vice-Chairman U Shauk Min Hlyan expressed thanks for the State’s constant assistance for development of Panhsan region and welcomed such assistance. They would adhere and implement the facts included in the agreement (See page 9).

President U Thein Sein poses for documentary photo with delegation led by UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator Baroness Valerie Amos at Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace.—MNA

Vice-Chairmen of Union-level Peace-Making Committee U Aung Min and U Thein Zaw, and Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Thein Htay seen with leaders of Panhsan Special Region-2 group.—MNA
Candle light breaks out fire in Lashio

LASHIO, 6 Nov.—A fire broke out in Lashio at 8 pm on 5 November.

The fire started from candle light offered to the Buddha image at the house of Daw San Yi on Awaya Street in Ward 12 in Lashio.

**Beware of Fire**

The fire was put out by members of Fire Services Department and Auxiliary Fire Brigade together with local people led by Assistant Director U Win Naing of Shan State Fire Services Department. The commanders of District and Township Police Forces, police members of No. 1 and No. 2 police stations, the township administrators and officials with the use of four fire engines from FSD and fire five engines from Auxiliary Fire Brigade. Fire died down at 9.30 pm. In the incident, the fire blazed the whole house but there was no loss and damages.

Lashio Police Station No. 2 takes action against Daw San Yi, daughter U Shin Yin Yin on outbreak of fire.—Myanna Alinn

Illegal trading blocked at borders

Myawady and Muse. Any Myanmar citizens of above 18 years who have not yet may apply to get the ID. They have to pay K 50,000 as registration fee at respective offices of Border Trade Department. The ID is valid for one year. The ID holder will be allowed to import commodities worth K 1 million in trading daily”. said an official of the Border Trade Department. Myanna Alinn

New Light of Myanmar

LOCAL NEWS

Shwesayan Pagoda in Thaton packed with pilgrims of Tazaungdine Festival

YANGON, 6 Dec.—The 2012 Science Film Festival, organized by Goethe Institute, was held at Maha Santsukha Buddhist Missionary Monastery from 9 am to 4 pm on 1 December, attended by over 100 students.

The film festival will be held at Maha Santsukha Buddhist Missionary and Institute Francais on 8 and 9 December.

 Illegal trading blocked at borders

Myawady and 105th-Mile Branch to BEMS was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale androbe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale and robe offering ceremony was held on a grand scale. Myanna Alinn

2012 Science Film Festival held

The festival is aimed at disseminating science knowledge and general science to the students, said a responsible person of Goethe Institute. Myanna Alinn

As Mohnyin has become a district level town, Nyaungbin market was closed down on 1 December in line with the town characteristics. Then, the plots were allotted to vendors in the compound of No. 2 Aungthabye Market.

Myanna Alinn

**BEMS branch upgraded to BEMS**

MEIKITLA, 6 Dec.—A ceremony to upgrade Basic Education Middle School Branch to BEMS was held in Gway-ang Village of Meiktila District for 2012-2013 academic year on 21 November morning.

Then, they presented commemorative pennants to officials. Students presented dances in chorus. The upgrading ceremony of the school was attended by local people and students.

Board of Trustees U Chit Hmyaw formally cut the ribbon to upgrade the school.

Myanna Alinn

**Police officers, local authorities meet in discussions**

MAWLAMYINE, 6 Dec.—A meeting among the commanders of Mon State, Mawlamyn District and Thanbyuzayat Township Police Forces, ward/village administrators and local people was held at the office of Thanbyuzayat Township General Administration on 20 November.

Commander of Mon State Police Force Police Col Myo Swe Win, Commander of Mawlamyn District Police Force Police Lt-Col Zaw Min Oo, Commander of Thanbyuzayat Township Police Force Police Major Min Tun in discussed duty and function of policemen, contributions to public welfare tasks and legal affairs.—Myanna Alinn

**Oil workers, Moe & Moe Co yet to reach agreement**

NAT PAI TAW, 6 Dec.—Workers and owners of oil well and Cherry Yoma Co that has permit to produce crude oil have already reached the agreement in Kalay region but the agreement could not be settled between the workers and owners of oil well and Moe & Moe Co.

“Cherry Yoma Co and our well workers and owners met at the office of Township Administration on 27 October and adopted 10 principles through bilateral talks. Then, we signed these disciplines in the presence of the authorities. Workers of well in the area of Cherry Yoma Co are delighted at signing the 10 points disciplines. I think we all would be convenient in our tasks,” said a local well owner.

“Although Moe & Moe Co and well workers held a coordination meeting at the township administrator’s office on 28 November, the meeting did not meet progress. We all made requests which were same points for Cherry Yoma Co. The meeting did not reach agreement. We submitted application to perform peaceful demonstration to the authorities. I have learnt that the meeting was also attended by 88 Generation Students, Upper Chindwin Network Youth Group and some local media. The local people, well workers and well owners wished to complete the process peacefully. We wish both sides have meet win-win situation,” explained a local well worker.

Myanna Alinn
Obama, Boehner talk; Geithner prepared to go off “cliff”  

WASHINGTON, 6 Dec—Republicans in Congress and President Barack Obama consumed much of Wednesday talking up their positions on the “fiscal cliff” and though Obama and Republican House Speaker John Boehner spoke by phone, neither side offered any new compromises in policy.

Nor was the phone call, a rarity, followed by any immediate announcement of a face-to-face meeting that has been widely anticipated all week and was explicitly requested early in the day by House Representatives Republican leader Eric Cantor.

Asked in an interview with CNBC if the administration was ready to go over the so-called fiscal cliff if Republicans don’t come around on taxes, Obama’s chief negotiator, Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner, responded: “Oh, absolutely.”

Facing spending cuts and tax increases that start to take effect in January unless Congress acts, Republicans on Capitol Hill were repeatedly acknowledging that they were taking a public relations thrashing at the hands of the White House, which has marshalled a campaign-style offensive that involves some of the very “job-creators” Republicans say they are protecting.

Obama met with another such corporate group on Wednesday. The Business Roundtable, renewing its call to include tax hikes on the wealthiest 2 percent of Americans as part of the final resolution and for including an increase in the nation’s borrowing limit.

US stocks rose on Wednesday after Obama also said a deal to avert the fiscal cliff was possible within a week, though he expressed it as a hope not a prediction.

The confrontation has become an endless loop of familiar talking points and well-worn positions. Republican leaders have balked at raising any tax rates, and Democrats have resisted Republican calls for cuts in entitlements like Medicare and Medicaid healthcare programmes.

Obama said there could be a quick deal if Republican leaders dropped their opposition to raising tax rates for those making more than $250,000 (355,347 pounds) a year in exchange for spending cuts and entitlement reforms.

“If we can get the leadership on the Republican side to take that framework, to acknowledge that reality, then the numbers actually aren’t that far apart,” Obama told The Business Roundtable.

“Another way of putting this, is that we can probably solve this in about a week. It’s not that tough, but we need that new space to work through,” he said. — Reuters

Sanctions, government blamed for Iran’s drugs shortage  

Iran

DUBAI/ZURICH, 6 Dec—Doctors in Iran are trying to fend off a creeping health care crisis caused by medicine shortages, due in part to Western economic sanctions but exacerbated by government mismanagement and abuse of the system.

Governing hospitals and pharmacies report a widespread lack of drugs to treat cancer, multiple sclerosis, blood disorders and other serious conditions. Iranian media highlighted the shortages earlier this month through the case of a teenager who died of haemophilia after his family failed to find his medicine. Both the United States and the European Union say their embargoes do not target trade in humanitarian goods. But cutting off Iran’s banking system from the outside world has touched every sector of the economy, resulting in spiraling food prices, a plunging Iranian rial, deepening unemployment and now, hitting health care, analysts and traders say.

Western officials appear increasingly sensitive to allegations the measures put the lives of Iranians in danger.

“There’s a serious shortage of cancer medicine. Thelivesof somemanypatients are at risk,” one cancer specialist said by phone from Tehran.

A wide range of drugs was no longer available, he said, and finding alternatives was a complex challenge.

Last month Iranian media published a list of dozens of drugs in short supply, and others — including chemotherapy treatment drugs — which could no longer be found. — Reuters

Four killed in US drone strike in NW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 6 Dec—At least four people were killed in a US drone strike launched in Pakistan’s northwestern tribal area of North Waziristan on early Thursday morning, reported local media A Ryan.

According to the local media reports, the strike took place at pre-dawn time when US unmanned aircraft fired two missiles at a house suspected of being a militant hideout in the Mir Ali area of North Waziristan, a militancy-hit area bordering Afghanistan.

The identities of the killed are not immediately available.

Ghana tests Africa’s “model democracy”  

Ghana

ACCRA, 6 Dec—Ghana’s clampdown presidential election on Friday will test the country’s reputation as a bulwark for democracy and economic growth in Africa’s so-called coup belt.

The stakes are high with rivals jostling for a chance to oversee a boom in oil revenues that has brought hopes of increased development in a country where the average person makes less than $425 (2.5 pounds) a day.

“Ghana getting it right again will provide real mentorship and a signal for others,” Emmanuel Gyimah-Boadu, director of Acra-based consultancy Centre for Democratic Development, said. Ghana is expected to keep up growth of about 8 percent next year and is increasingly cited by investment bankers and fund managers as an example of Africa’s rise in contrast to the woes of Europe and the United States.

President John Dramani Mahama, who replaced the late John Atta Mills after his death from an illness in July, will face top opposition candidate Nana Akufo-Addo of the New Patriotic Party (NPP), and six others.

Opinion polls point to a tight race between the two main candidates, raising the prospect of a repeat of the near deadlock in 2008 elections, in which Mills defeated Akufo-Addo with a margin of fewer than 100,000 votes. US President Barack Obama called Ghana a “model of democracy in Africa” for stepping back from the brink during those polls, when others might have tipped into conflict.

A disputed election in neighbouring Ivory Coast in 2010 triggered a civil war. Other regional neighbours Mali and Guinea Bissau have tipped into conflict.

The lives of so many patients are no longer available, he said, A currency exchange dealer counts US dollar banknotes at his shop in a shopping centre in northern Teheran in this 24 Oct, 2011 file photo. — Reuters

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S叙利亚NATO envoy jumps to death at Brussels airport

BRUSSELS, 6 Dec—Syria’s ambassador to NATO jumped to his death from a multi-storey carpark at Brussels airport, officials said on Wednesday, and Syria said it was investigating the incident.

Branislav Milinkovic, 52, jumped to his death during a conference of NATO foreign ministers, which did not make any connection between the meeting and his suicide.

“We are shocked and saddened by the tragic death of the Syrian ambassador,” who was highly respected, said an alliance spokeswoman. Brussels prosecutor’s office said: “We can be sure that it was suicide, therefore we are not investigating any further.” The Serbian Foreign Ministry praised Milinkovic as a distinguished diplomat and jurist who would be “remembered as a skilled diplomat, an intellectual and a noble man.”

Milinkovic was appointed ambassador to NATO in 2009 but had already been in Brussels since 2004 as an envoy from the now defunct state union of Serbia and Montenegro. Serbian tabloid newspaper reported that Milinkovic jumped around 10 metres (30 feet) in the presence of Serbia’s assistant foreign minister for security policy, Zoran Vujic. The report, which could not immediately be confirmed, quoted an unnamed foreign ministry source as saying: “It’s possible the man was depressed and that nobody noticed.”

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The lives of so many patients are no longer available, he said, A currency exchange dealer counts US dollar banknotes at his shop in a shopping centre in northern Teheran in this 24 Oct, 2011 file photo. — Reuters

When the very “job-creators” are part of the final package, “we are shocked and saddened by the tragic death of the Syrian ambassador,” a margin of fewer than 100,000 votes. — Reuters

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A mysterious fossil specimen that has been in the museum’s collection for decades has now been identified as most likely coming from a dinosaur that lived about 245 million years ago — 10 to 15 million years earlier than any previously discovered examples.

The creature was about the size of a Labrador dog and has been named Nyasasaurus parringtoni.

This artist rendering shows Nyasasaurus parringtoni, either the earliest dinosaur or the closest dinosaur relative yet discovered in this image released to Reuters on 4 Dec, 2012. Nyasasaurus parringtoni was up to 10 feet long, weighed perhaps 135 pounds and is depicted near plant-eating reptiles of the genus Staurikosaurus.—Reuters

Nokia's Lumia deal with China Mobile raises hopes

SAN FRANCISCO, 6 Dec.—Yahoo Inc said it acquired a five-percenter video chat startup company on Tuesday, in the second deal by new Chief Executive Marissa Mayer to bolster Yahoo’s mobile capabilities.

Yahoo also did not disclose the financial terms of its acquisition of OnTheAir, but said the team would be joining Yahoo’s mobile group.

A Yahoo spokeswomenm said that Yahoo had not plans to offer OnTheAir’s existing product, which lists Web users host live video conversations and was launched in March.

The deal marks the second small, mobile-oriented deal since Mayer became CEO earlier this year. In October, Mayer said that her top priority is to create a coherent mobile strategy for Yahoo and that she intends to double the size of the company’s technical workforce to be working on mobile products. Shares of Yahoo were up 1.5 percent at $18.82 in trading on Tuesday.—Reuters

Verizon CEO says no to Dish spectrum buy, big deals

NEW YORK, 6 Dec.—Verizon Communications, majority owner of the biggest US mobile service, is not interested in buying spectrum from Dish Network and does not plan to make any big acquisitions, its top executive said on Tuesday.

While investors have been speculating that Dish Chairman Charlie Ergen could make a lot of money if he sells Dish’s wireless spectrum holdings to big US mobile operators, Verizon Chief Executive Lowell McAdam told Reuters at an investor conference that his company would not be a buyer. McAdam also told the audience at the UBS Annual Global Media and Communications Conference that his company was not planning any acquisitions as big as its recent purchases of Terremark and Hughes Telematics.

Verizon bought enterprise service provider Terremark last year for $1.4 billion and completed its purchase of Hughes for $612 million in July. It may do more deals in the software space but these would be smaller transactions, McAdam told the conference.

“The lit in the tens of million (dollars) kind of range versus the hundreds of millions kind of range. Right now, I don’t see the value add of a huge acquisition,” McAdam said.

He said Verizon Wireless, the company’s venture with Vodafone Group Plc, is seeing strong phone sales so far in the holiday shopping season. The venture’s strong customer growth in the third quarter, when it won market share from rivals, is continuing in the fourth quarter, he said.

The executive pointed to retailer estimates of sales volume increases of up to 40 percent on the days after Thanksgiving and said, “We saw that kind of improvement.” He declined to say how many of the phones sold were upgrades by existing customers or sales to new customers.

Given the comments, McAdam may be in a position to beat UBS analyst John Hodulik’s expectations for 1.8 million net subscriber additions in the fourth quarter, the analyst said in a research note.

McAdam said he would provide an estimate in January for the financial impact of doing business with Verizon’s network from Hurricane Sandy, which slammed into the US Northeast on 29 October. —Reuters

Nokia's Lumia 920 featuring Windows Phone 8 is displayed during an event in San Francisco, California on 29 Oct, 2012.—Reuters

He said Lumia sales might be helped by the fact China Mobile is the only carrier in China without a contract to sell iPhones. The Lumia phone will be available for order in China by the end of the year, a bit later than expected, Sarkamies said.

Nokia's share of the global smartphone market has plunged to less than 10 percent from 50 percent during its heyday, before the iPhone arrived in 2007. Today, Nokia is reliant on Windows after dumping its own software platforms last year.

Also on Wednesday, Nokia unveiled the Lumia 620, its cheapest Windows 8 smartphone. It will be priced at $290 and begin selling in early 2013.

Verizon logo is seen during the International CTIA WIRELESS Conference & Exposition in New Orleans, Louisiana on 9 May, 2012.—Reuters

Verizon expects to replace damaged copper phone lines with fiber in places such as lower Manhattan, which would allow it to provide more advanced services such as high-speed Internet and television to customers there.

“Plan is to take advantage of this disruption,” McAdam said.

The executive said the company is currently running trials of its planned Internet video service from a partnership with Comcast Inc unit Redbox and plans to launch the service commercially “say how much of the company’s infrastructure is available to partners.”

Nokia’s Lumia 920 and 820 models are seen on display at a Verizon Wireless booth during the CTIA WIRELESS Conference & Exposition in New Orleans, Louisiana on 9 May, 2012.—Reuters

Reuters

The creative was about the size of a Labrador dog and has been named Nyasasaurus parringtoni after southern Africa’s Lake Nyasa, today called Lake Malawi, and Cambridge University’s Rex Par...
China Southern seals $1.9 billion deal to buy 10 Airbus planes

**Business & Health**

**Easter Airlines** (600115.SS) (6070.HK), one of the country’s top three carriers, said in late November it had agreed to buy 60 Airbus A320 aircraft for about $1.9 billion, to be delivered in stages from 2014 to 2016.

**The deal is the second involving Europe’s A irbus and a Chinese aircr ies since the European Union agreed on 12 November to “stop the clock” on plans to force non-EU airlines to adopt its Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS).** China Southern said in a statement that the new aircraft would be funded through internal resources and loans from commercial banks and that the catalogue price of one A 320 was $188 million, though airlines usually pay a lower price tag after negotiations.

**ArcelorMittal unblocks job-saving investment at Liege**

**Business**

**The logo of Philips is seen at the company’s entrance in Brussels on 6 December, 2012.**

**BRUSSELS, 6 Dec—Philips**, LG Electronics, Samsung SDI and three other firms were fined a record 1.47 billion euros ($1.92 billion) by EU antitrust regulators on Wednesday for fixing prices of TV cathode-ray tubes for more than two decades.

**The biggest penalty, of 334.3 million euros, was imposed on Dutch-based Philips, followed by LG Electronics with 295.6 million euros.**

**The European Commission fined Panasonic Corp 157.5 million euros, Samsung SDI 150.8 million euros, Toshiba Corp 28 million euros, and French company Technicolor 38.6 million euros. Two Panasio joint ventures were also fined.**

**Philips, LG Electronics, four others fined $1.92 billion for EU cartel**

**Business**

**The European Commission raided the companies in late 2007. ($1.07642 euros)**

**Euro zone retail sales fall sharply in October**

**Business**

**EU competition law enforces anticompetitive behavior that are strictly forbidden to companies doing business in Europe,** EU Competition Commissioner Joaquin Almunia said in a statement.

**He will hold a news conference on the case at 1130 GMT on Wednesday.**

**Customers shop at a Tesco shop in Bishop’s Stortford, southern England on 26 Nov, 2012.**

**Friday, 7 December, 2012**
Chin traditional dance at India-ASEAN Car Rally

Kalay, 6 Dec — Arrangements are being made to perform Chin national race traditional dances at the town hall of Kalay for participants of India-ASEAN Rally who will stay overnight at Kalay on 14 December.

“We would like to introduce our Myanmar traditional culture in the world through A SEA N countries. Renowned dances of tribes in Haka, Falam and Tiddim will be performed at the ceremony”, one of the members of Chin traditional culture committee said.

At the ceremony, entertainment programmes on children rights, placing more emphasis on survival of the lives of children, fully ensuring their rights and taking care of mental and physical behaviours of children. At the ceremony, edutainment programmes on child rights were performed with the participation of children. Globetrotters who were in Kyauktawgyi Pagoda enjoyed Myanmar traditional dance performed at the ceremony.— Kyemon

Law Library put into service

Yangon, 6 Dec — An opening of Law Library was held at Room No-01/03 of Asia Plaza Shopping Centre at the corner of Strand Road and Bogyoke Street, here, on 1 December.

It is aimed at ensuring necessary assistance in legal matters of factories and industries. Various kinds of law related books totaling 13960 are available at the library which is being kept open during office hours including Saturday. Books available at the library were donate by Dwar Mynit Kyi (retired law officer), wife of retired Law Professor Judge Kyaw Htin U Sein Hlaing.

Installation of seven-digit landlines carried out free of charge in Taunggyi

Taunggyi, 6 Dec — Technicians of Myanmar Posts and Telegraph communications substituted Daewoo auto exchange with mechanical fault with new one on 17 November.

Aimed at extended installation of landlines and ensuring public convenience, already-installed five-digit landline phones have been replaced with seven-digit ones, adding two new digits before the previous five digits. Installation of seven-digit landlines has been carried out free of charge as of 1 December. Anyone can make a complaint if he was charged for seven-digit landlines installation to the manager of Shan State MPT (Ph: 081 200444).— Kyemon

Industry Ministry honours victorious Women Volleyball Taekwondo athletes

Nay Pyi Taw, 6 Dec — A ceremony to honour outstanding athletes of the Ministry of Industry was held at the meeting hall of the ministry, here, on 30 November.

Union Minister for Industry U Aye Myint spoke words of praise to outstanding athletes of the ministry who secured the championship trophy and five best players awards at the 6th Nay Pyi Taw Inter-ministry Women Volleyball Tournament and bagged four gold, two silver and seven bronze medals, standing fourth at the medal tally, at the ROK Ambassador’s Cup Taekwondo Contest to mark the 37th Anniversary of Myanmar-ROK Diplomatic Ties held at Thuwunna Stadium on 12-13 November.

Next, the manager and coach of the women volleyball team of the ministry handed over the Championship Trophy to the Union minister. Then, the Union minister presented awards to managers of women volleyball team and Taekwondo team of the ministry.

Deputy Minister U Thein Aung presented certificates of honour and awards the best players of the competitions.— MNA

Chin traditional dance in Gangaw

Gangaw sees public service book corner

Gangaw, 6 Dec — Under the programme initiated by Gangaw District Information and Public Relations Department for widening the horizons of local people, a book centre is being kept open near Gangaw-Mandalay and Gangaw-Pakokku bus terminal in northern ward in Gangaw beginning 3 December.

Daily newspapers, monthly magazines, weekly journals and other publications are available at the book corner.

Cash and kind for sustainable development of the public service book centre is invited, and it is being kept open for the readers from 7 am to 5 pm daily.— Kyemon

55th blood donation

Yangon, 6 Dec — U Thein Ngwe (Excellent Performance in Social Field—Third Class award winner) of Computer Section of the New Light of Myanmar Daily donated blood for 55th time at National Blood Centre of Yagon People’s Hospital on 30 November 2012.— NLM
It is known that the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has been a predominantly Theravada Buddhist nation for nearly one thousand years, and over (90) percent of nation’s population has taken faith in Theravada Buddhism since then. Furthermore, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has been recognized as a permanent higher learning centre of genuine Theravada Buddhism not only in the Buddhist world but also throughout the world. According to historical records of Buddhism, the Fifth and Sixth Great Buddhist Councils (Synods) were successfully convened in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar with a view to purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Buddha’s teachings all over the world. The Sixth Great Buddhist Council, which was attended and participated by Mahatthas from five Theravada Buddhist Nations, Laos, Thailand, Cambodia, Sri Lanka and Myanmar, was successfully convened in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in 1954.

In order to carefully preserve genuine Theravada Buddhist Scriptures, a great number of Buddhist Monastic Institutions and Learning Centers of Buddhist Scriptures have been established in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. There are seven kinds of religious examinations including the Sacred Tipitakadharma Tipitakakovida Selection Examination yearly held by the Ministry of Religious Affairs of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. The Seven kinds of religious examinations are as follows:-

1. Tipitakhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination
2. Dhammacarya Selection Examination
3. Pathama Patimokkhovida
4. Pathama alat Examination
5. Patimokkhovida Selection Examination
6. A bhidhamma/ Visudhamagga Examination (only for Laymen and Nuns)
7. Five Nikaya Examination

Out of these seven kinds of religious examinations, the Sacred Tipitakadharma Tipitakakovida Selection Examination has been separately held by the Ministry of Religious Affairs of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar since sixty four years ago. Buddhist monk candidates who wish to appear for this Sacred Tipitakadharma Tipitakakovida Selection Examination must have passed at least the Pathamagya Heroes. Up to now, only thirteen outstanding members of Sangha (Bhikkhus) (Religious Heroes) were presented the Title of Tipitakakovida within 64 years’ duration of the Sacred Tipitakadharma Tipitakakovida Selection Examination. It is learnt that many members of Sangha throughout the country appeared for the Sacred Tipitakadharma Tipitakakovida Selection Examination from year to year. However, most of them were not successful. In fact, the Sacred Tipitakadharma Tipitakakovida Selection Examination is the most difficult of the religious examinations which are yearly held in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Furthermore, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has carefully preserved the genuine Theravada Buddhism for nearly one thousand years. It is learnt that such examination cannot be held in other Theravada Buddhist nations.

Members of Sangha, multi-farious Buddhist people and Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, hand in hand, are striving to propagate, promote and preserve the genuine Theravada Buddhism not only in homeland but also at abroad. We all Buddhists know that the Sangha is the third, viz. (1) Pariyatti Sasana (Learning the Buddha’s teaching), (2) Pathai Sasana (Practical application of the Buddha’s teaching) and (3) Pativeda Sasana (Realization of the Buddha’s teaching). Out of them, the Pariyatti Sasana is the most important one which mainly leads to the purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Buddhist Sasana (the noble teaching of the Buddha). The aims and objectives of holding the Sacred Tipitakadharma Tipitakakovida Selection Examination are to preserve, promote and flourish the genuine Theravada Buddhism all over the world.

The 65th Sacred Tipitakadharma Tipitakakovida Selection Examination in the year of 2013

It is learnt that the entitled Ordination of the Sangha who have been enrolled throughout the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, will sit for the 65th Sacred Tipitakadharma Tipitakakovida Selection Examination in the year 2013. Larding and promising (four kinds of requisites) for candidates will be provided by the Ministry of Religious Affairs, other donors and well-wishers throughout (33) days. It is further learnt that devotees, well-wishers and other peoples are cordially invited to visit the Mahapasana Cave (Great Heroes) to pay respects to the Sangha who are sitting for the 65th Sacred Tipitakadharma Tipitakakovida Selection Examination in the year 2013.
New Light of Myanmar

Friday, 7 December, 2012

ARTICLE

Trust in reform

Min Ba Htoo

Civil society is one of the three players which are essential to good governance. The government, the private sector and civil society can enhance the image of good governance and bring public trust for the government. Civil societies play an active role in the reform process, making policy review, analyzing and monitoring government’s performance. Along with monitoring, and conducting an analysis of action and behavior of service personnel are also included. Civil societies not only can establish organizations which deal with social works but also can spotlight reasoning power of the people, public values and social standards. They can encourage vulnerable, marginalized persons and minorities in the separate constituencies to take part in the politics and public service sectors. Moreover, they can also provide the proper and vital knowledge to far-flung areas with shelter and basic social services. So public trust can be accumulated through close relationship and cooperation with civil societies. But aim and type of the civil societies are also important. Community standards can build up social capital such as trust, cooperation and interdependency. It can be said that social capital contributes to ensuring democracy and economic growth. If an organization has a lack of trust on the result of the country, participation in the unofficial political campaigns will occur. Only then the government can have a genuine response to the pressure of civil societies, can public trust on the government be improved. The responsibility and transparency can bring about public trust on the government. The public knows the policies under the administration with responsibility and transparency. They can enjoy more rights to participate in the formulation and implementation of these policies. They can utilize resources of the government and private sector appropriately. Corruption and malpractices can be minimized. Stability and consensus can be developed. Theses facts can facilitate confidence-building between the government and the people. Corruption and lack of responsibility spoil the political process and its outcomes. It limits appropriate planning and implementation. It also weakens political institutions such as judicial sector, parliament and election management body. On the whole, it is loss of trust of the people. The confi-dence in the government would decline if the corruption is rampant and responsibility and transparency mechanism of the government is not effective. Corrupted civil servants who do not respond appropriately to the opinions of the people would grow mistrust and pessimism. Judicial corruption could lead to the rule of law and justice. When the corruption grows incredibly and the rule of law is neglected, the misunderstanding between individuals also grows and then escalates into dissemination of scathing reports of each other. Then, the mistrust covers the whole society. So, the public servants need to show fair and good behaviours. The actions of law enforcement authorities include police and prosecutors have much impact on the social trust.

Civil society and rehabilitation through participation and discussion

We should see the judiciary, social and economic conflict as a result of long-term gradual decline of trust. The loss of community trust could be minimized. Stability and consensus can be developed. Theses facts can facilitate confidence-building between the government and the people. Corruption and lack of responsibility spoil the political process and its outcomes. It limits appropriate planning and implementation. It also weakens political institutions such as judicial sector, parliament and election management body. On the whole, it is loss of trust of the people. The confidence in the government would decline if the corruption is rampant and responsibility and transparency mechanism of the government is not effective. Corrupted civil servants who do not respond appropriately to the opinions of the people would grow mistrust and pessimism. Judicial corruption could lead to the rule of law and justice. When the corruption grows incredibly and the rule of law is neglected, the misunderstanding between individuals also grows and then escalates into dissemination of scathing reports of each other. Then, the mistrust covers the whole society. So, the public servants need to show fair and good behaviours. The actions of law enforcement authorities include police and prosecutors have much impact on the social trust.

During crisis and post-crisis period, the trust in the operation of the administrative mechanism and the government of each country is critical. It depends on many factors. The first factor is that the country in crisis has its own history, culture, political tradition and capacity to recover from dangers. The recovery must be handled by individual countries. Trust must be established in bargaining process. The second factor is that the building of trust in administrative mechanism calls for human capacity. The security and safety of the country, the strong government in accord with the constitution, the reformation of the upper structure, functioning of service industry, economic stability and development, the strong judicial sector and the reformation of various organizations are required.

The third is that the government, hand in hand with the private sector, must employ financial, management, technological and intellectual resources. Trust must be established to improve public services. NGOs and civil societies could provide government services to the poor, remote areas and areas under tensions.

The fourth is trust-building. The mechanism that would help community-based supporting groups to reach out to different societies separated by conflicts is required. Encouraging discussion and participation among communities and improving fundamental social services are a must. (To be continued every Friday)

Trs: Y M HKA

Rural fund spent on milch cows

NA P Y T A W, 6 Dec — Chief Minister of Kachin State U Lai John Ngan Hsai met local people in Nangway Village of Myitkyina Township yesterday morning and stressed the need to breed milch cows with the assistance of technicians. He handed over a 14G run equipment, nitrogen liquid, officials of Bhamo and Mohnin Districts.

Later, the Chief Minister viewed layers at the farm.

MNA

Border Affairs Ministry, UNDP hold workshop on ICDP, CDRT, new programme of UNDP

NA P Y T A W, 6 Dec — Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Zaw Win stressed the need for providing technical assistance from UNDP and cooperation in reforming processes in the country.

In-charges of the respective projects discussed objectives, approaches, strategies, results, expenditure of the projects and matters related to the new programme plans of CDP and CDRT.

MNA

We don’t want an immoral person as our townswelder!

Shwe Ko Oo 2012

Yes, it is pretty sure that only the righteous one will be elected as our ward administrator.

MNA

Friday, 7 December, 2012

PERSPECTIVES

Des pair, 7 December, 2012

Reform in basic education

Recently, loudly-voicing criticisms of Myanmar education system are being heard. During visits to ASEAN countries and US, President U Thein Sein has called for extending their hands to Myanmar’s human resource and educational developments. In reality, Myanmar education system is in urgent need of systematic reforms from primary education level, especially course syllabus, teaching and learning system, infrastructures and balanced ratio of teachers and students. But, high personality of teachers and change of their mindsets are at the core of Myanmar education reform.

Now, the country sees a flood of reforms in all sectors since the new government has taken office. Workshops on transformation of teacher-centred approach to student-centred one are being held. Teachers and students still stick to the parrot teaching and parrot learning methods. Due to it, the students are lack in critical thinking and creative thinking. It can be seen that students always stick to the habit of passing exam alone. So it is very difficult to carry out capacity building without making reforms in basic education sector expect for middle school levels and higher education. It needs to take account of increased losses of human resources due to school drop rate. In an effort to make reforms in basic education sector, course syllabus, assessing system, basic infrastructure, teaching aids, balanced ratio of teachers and students and student-centred approach teaching and learning methods are to be put into consideration. Teachers on their parts are to change their mindset and personality.

In-charges of the Border Affairs Ministry, UNDP hold workshop on ICDP, CDRT, new programme of UNDP

Border Affairs Ministry, UNDP hold workshop on ICDP, CDRT, new programme of UNDP

Deputy Director-General of the Foreign Economic Relations Department Daw Wah Wai Maung stressed the need for providing technical assistance from UNDP and cooperation in reforming processes in the country.

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MNA
Union-level Peace-Making... 

Nay Pyi Taw, 6 Dec — Mr Bertrand Bainvel, the new UNICEF Representative in Myanmar paid a courtesy call on President Thein Sein at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He said that the moment was appropriate given the country's recent history of conflict and the need for reconciliation. Mr Bainvel highlighted the role of international organizations in supporting peace initiatives, emphasizing the importance of cooperation and dialogue. He discussed future cooperation processes and the need for sustained efforts towards stability and development in the region.

Specialists giving prompt treatment to inpatients

Nay Pyi Taw, 6 Dec — Medical superintendents, specialists, medics and nurses of Mandalay and Monywa people's hospitals are giving necessary medical treatment to monks and persons wounded in the incident in Letpadaungta Copper Mining Project, Salingyi Township. In the incident on 29 November, 36 patients including 32 monks were hospitalized to Monywa People's Hospital as inpatients and three monks were transferred to Mandalay General Hospital.

Of the remaining 33, six came out of the hospital after recovery, 14 asked to leave and were discharged and 13 left the hospital on their own volition without being discharged. On 2 December evening, Monywa People's Hospital gave medical treatment to 42 outpatients in total and there didn't remain burnt patients there.

Till 6 December, 109 patients including 100 monks were admitted to Mandalay General Hospital. Of them, 72 directly went to there and the remaining 37 are 21 outpatients and 16 who left the Monywa People's Hospital on their own volition. Currently, 26 monks and five persons are receiving treatment at Mandalay General Hospital with 37 monks being hospitalized at Kandaw Nadi Hospital in Mandalay. Of the monks admitted to Mandalay General Hospital, U Ttkhakhana (68 years) was under intensive care of special medical team comprised of the medical superintendents. He was burnt badly though he was not in critical condition. U Chandossah suffered visual impairment due to facial burns, but his eyes are not damaged, according to oculists.

Deputy ministers from Health Ministry and Religious Affairs Ministry went to Monywa People's Hospital and Mandalay People's Hospital on 2 December to encourage provision of medical treatment to inpatients. Specialists reaggriving prompt treatment to the remaining patients at the hospitals as Health Ministry is providing necessary medicines. — MNA

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Ministry of Foreign Affairs 

Press Release

1. It is learnt that Qatar based A. J Jazeera TV is going to air a documentary relating to so-called “Rohingyas” from December 8 to 12 in Arabic and from December 9 to 13 in English languages. It is also mentioned that the documentary will include accusations of genocide against the so-called “Rohingyas”.

2. The Government of Myanmar has been handling this matter with full transparency when the violence between Banguis and the ethnic Rakhine people broke out in Maungdaw, Mrauk-U, and also in October 2012. The Government has given permission to organization such as UN agencies, INGOs, Diplomatic Corps and MUSLIM A to visit the affected areas to observe the situation by themselves. Moreover, foreign minister and high level delegations from Turkey, Indonesia, Malyasia and other countries as well as from the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (OIC) are also allowed to visit Rakhine State.

3. Providing shelter, relocation and rehabilitation of the homeless victims of the conflict, supplying food, medicine and other humanitarian assistance have also been carried out in a non-discriminatory manner for both affected communities.

4. The Government has taken actions to cease violence and maintaining rule of law in accordance with the law. An Independent Investigation Commission has also been formed to carry out detail investigation of the incidents.

5. The Ministry reaffirmed that the government security forces and local authorities have never involved in the communal violence or racial and religious discrimination in Rakhine State as accused by some media and organizations. The Head of State and other responsible officials have also declared this to the world at the UN General Assembly, ASEAN Summit and the Non-Aligned Summit.

6. Therefore, the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar strongly opposes and rejects the attempt made by A. J Jazeera to broadcast the documentary by exaggerating and fabricating the incidents in Rakhine State.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Nay Pyi Taw
Dated: 6 December, 2012

Union-level Peace-Making...

Nay Pyi Taw, 6 Dec — Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa held talks with United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator Valerie Amos and party meet local people in Maungdaw Township.— MNA

Psychological support given to victims in Myebon, Pauktaw, Maungtaw and Sittway in Rakhine State

Union Minister Lt-Gen Thein Htay, UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator Baroness Valerie Amos and party meet local people in Maungdaw Township.— MNA

Friday, 7 December, 2012
Software guru McAfee arrested in Guatemala for illegal entry

LOUISVILLE, 6 Dec—The London hospital treating Prince William's pregnant wife Kate for severe morning sickness admitted on Wednesday it had fallen for a prank call from an Australian radio station, relayed personal details about her condition.

Kate, the Duchess of Cambridge, was admitted to the King Edward VII Hospital in central London on Monday suffering from hyperemesis gravidarum, very acute morning sickness which causes severe nausea and vomiting.

News of her pregnancy and her hospitalisation has generated a worldwide media frenzy with journalists following the royal duo, they were putthrough to the ward where Kate is being treated and given intimate details about how she was faring.

"She is sleeping at the moment," a flustered-wounding nurse told the presenters, who called in the early hours of Tuesday morning.

"She's been given some fluids to rehydrate her because she was quite dehydrated when she came in. But she's stable at the moment." The nurse tells the duo that they would be welcome to come and visit after 9 am when Kate has been "freshened up”.

"She hasn’t had any vomiting. She is sleeping at the moment and she has had an uneventful night,” a flustered-wounding nurse told the presenters, who called in the early hours of Tuesday morning.

"She’s been given some fluids to rehydrate her because she was quite dehydrated when she came in. But she’s stable at the moment." The nurse tells the duo that they would be welcome to come and visit after 9 am when Kate has been "freshened up”.

Hospital divulges Kate's condition in radio hoax

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The three states combined are seeking at least $82 billion from the federal government to make emergency repairs. A sizeable chunk would be used to build up tunnels, transportation, power facilities, water systems and other infrastructure to better withstand future storms. Whether states and towns get money for those projects depends on in the region, Congress can reach an agreement on deficit reduction and avoid tumbling over the so-called fiscal cliff in January. —Reuters

Brazilian architect Oscar Niemeyer dies, aged 104

President Dilma Rousseff, whose office sits among the landmark buildings Niemeyer designed for the modernist capital city of Brasilia, paid tribute by calling him "a revolutionary, the mentor of new architecture, beautiful, logical, and, as he himself defined it, inventive.”

"His body will lie in state at the presidential palace. Starting in the 1930s, Niemeyer’s career spanned nine decades. His distinctive glass and white-concrete buildings include such landmarks as the UN Secretariat in New York, the Communist Party headquarters in Paris and the Roman Catholic Cathedral in Brasilia.

He won the 1988 Pritzker Architecture Prize, considered the "Nobel Prize of Architecture" for the Brasilia cathedral. Its "Crown of Thorns" cupola fills the church with light and a sense of soaring grandeur even though most of the building is underground. —Reuters

Software guru McAfee arrested in Guatemala for illegal entry

JAKARTA, 6 Dec—Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono on Wednesday gave an instruction to authorities to forge a monitoring system that can monitor the process of business license issuance, a move that aims to boost investment climate in the Southeast Asia’s largest economy.

The instruction was made as a number of investment plans have faced obstacles on licensing.

"I issue an instruction to immediately set up a monitoring system for the smooth process of business permit issuance," President Yudhoyono said.

The problems could be found at ministries and the regional government, which have made the country suffer great loss, he said.

"The problems on licensing could lead the country suffering loss of trillions of rupiah," said Yudhoyono. Growing investment,

McAfee has been living in the tiny Central American nation for about three years.

He was one of Silicon Valley's first entrepreneurs to build an Internet fortune. The former Lockheed systems consultant started McAfee Associates in the late 1980s. McAfee currently has no relationship with the company, which has been sold to Intel Corp.—Reuters

Indonesia to set up monitoring system for business permit

The estimated 25,000 construction jobs created in the Big Apple and other projects created in the region should be used to beef up tunnels, transportation, power facilities, water systems and other infrastructure to better withstand future storms. Whether states and towns get money for those projects depends on in the region, Congress can reach an agreement on deficit reduction and avoid tumbling over the so-called fiscal cliff in January. —Reuters

Construction workers repair roads destroyed by Hurricane Sandy, one month after the storm made landfall, in Mantoloking, New Jersey, on 29 Nov, 2012.

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**China**

Moscow, 6 Dec—Premier Wen Jiabao said on Wednesday in Moscow that China will continue to make relations with Russia one of its priorities.

Wen made the remarks in a written speech delivered at the airport after a visit to Kyrgyzstan, where the Chinese premier attended the prime ministers’ meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO).

Wen said that the strategic partnership with Russia should remain an important foundation of the country’s foreign policy.

Wen said that China and Russia should continue to deepen the comprehensive strategic coordination partnership and push their cooperation to a higher level.

“The consensus reached by the heads of state of the two countries in June and striving to realize the 10-year plan for China-Russia relations, he stressed. Wen said that further development of bilateral relations will contribute to world peace, stability and prosperity.

Wen was expected to hold talks with Russian leaders and exchange views with them during his coming official visit on issues relating to bilateral ties, international and regional issues and other matters of common concern. “The consensus to be reached will inject more dynamics into the continued sound and stable development of the comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination between China and Russia,” he said, adding that the annual meeting mechanisms between the two prime ministers have played a special role in strengthening and deepening pragmatic cooperation between the two neighbours.

**Philippines**

Philippines hopes for survivors as strongest typhoon kills 325

Residents clean their sofa outside their destroyed house after Typhoon Bopha hit Compostela Valley, southern Philippines on 5 December, 2012.— Reuters

New BATAAN, 6 Dec— Dozens of soldiers and rescue workers pulled out bodies from mud-drenched debris after the strongest typhoon this year killed at least 325 people in the southern Philippines, with hundreds still missing.

Hundreds of residents left homeless in Compostela Valley, the worst hit province, were being evacuated by trucks to crowded shelters in towns centres on Thursday.

Typhoon Bopha, with central winds of 115 kph (75 mph) and gusts of up to 145 kph (93 mph), was moving west-northwest of the central Philippines and was expected to be over the South China Sea on Friday.

Based on tallies from the national disaster agency, 325 people were killed and 379 were missing after Bopha triggered landslides and floods along the coast and in farming and mining towns inland in the southern M Indanao region.

The death toll could rise further, with local government officials reporting higher numbers of missing and dead. A bout 20 typhoons hit the Philippines every year, often causing destruction.

Almost exactly a year ago, Typhoon W ash killed 5,500 people in M indanao. Arturo “A” Y, governor of Compostela Valley, said latest estimates show 200 died and almost 600 remained missing in his province.

Official tally by the disaster agency shows 184 died and 356 missing in Compostela Valley.

Uguy said search and rescue operations were continuing, particularly in farming towns in New Bataan in the town, where a three-year-old child was plucked from under a crumpled house on Wednesday, more than 24 hours after the typhoon hit land. The child’s mother and a sibling are missing.

**Indonesia**

Indonesia approves landmark forest protection project

SINGAPORE, 6 Dec—Indonesia on Wednesday approved a rain forest conservation project that sets aside an area roughly the size of Singapore and rewards investors with tradable carbon credits in the first of its kind in winning backing in the country.

Four years in the making, the Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve will protect nearly 80,000 hectares (200,000 acres), much of it carbon-rich peat swamp forest at risk of being felled for palm oil plantations.

Russian energy giant Gazprom and German insurance firm Allianz are backers of the project, the world’s first on deep peat.

A senior Indonesian official announced the approval on the sidelines of UN climate talks in Doha, Qatar. Forestry Minister Zulfiqri Hasan signed a letter last week saying the project had passed all the key steps.

“We hope projects like Rimba Raya will lead the way in proving that conservation can address the rural development needs of the communities and also preserve our forests for generations to come,” Hasan said in a statement.

Indonesia has the world’s third-largest expanse of tropical forests but these are disappearing quickly in the rush to grow more food and exploit timber and mineral wealth. Forest clearance is a major source of greenhouse gases.

**New Zealand**

Violent storm leaves three dead in New Zealand

WELLINGTON, 6 Dec— At least three people were reported killed and an unknown number were injured when a tornado ripped through New Zealand’s largest city of Auckland during a violent storm on Thursday.

The service reported that two of those killed were in a truck carrying a concrete slab at a construction site in the west Auckland suburb of Hobsonville.

The tornado, which struck at about 12:15 pm local time, ripped roofs off houses, uprooted trees and scattered debris over a 1-km wide path through west Auckland.

The service, thenational meteorological agency, warned that more tornadoes were possible as the storm moved southwards towards the Waikato region.

Winds were gusting at faster than 110 km per hour at around 1 pm, MetService forecaster Dan Corbett told Radio New Zealand.

The storm also closed roads and police urged motorists to beware of flash floods. Auckland Mayor Len Brown issued a statement telling people to stay inside if possible and to take great care if they were driving.

The last serious tornado in Auckland left one man dead in the north of the city in May last year.— XinHua

**Vietnam**

Vietnam-Japan hold 3rd strategic partnership dialogue in Hanoi

HANOI, 6 Dec— The Third Vietnam-Japan strategic partnership dialogue was held in Vietnam’s capital Hanoi on Wednesday to enhance bilateral ties.

The Vietnam-Japan Strategic Partnership Dialogue was held in Vietnam’s capital Hanoi on Wednesday to enhance bilateral ties.

The Japan-Vietnam strategic partnership, the policies of foreign affairs, security and national defence of each side, and issues of mutual concern.

Both sides agreed to further strengthen bilateral cooperation and coordination at regional and international forums in the context of global fast-changing situation, to hold the next dialogue in Tokyo in 2013.

On the same day, Vietnam Foreign Minister Pham Binh Minh met with Japanese Foreign Minister Akitaka Saiki, exchanged viewpoints on the Vietnam-Japan strategic partnership, the policies of foreign affairs, security and national defence of each side, and issues of mutual concern.

During the talks, Minh highly evaluated outcomes of the third Vietnam-Japan strategic partnership dialogue, saying they contributed to further boosting the bilateral ties and deepening mutual understanding between the two countries and peoples, for peace, stability, cooperation and development in the region and the world as a whole. Minh also spoke highly of the development of bilateral relations, particularly in economy and trade, and thanked the Japanese government to grant Vietnam with 1.2 billion US dollars as official development assistance (ODA) for Phase 1 of the fiscal year 2012.

He also urged both sides to closely co-ordinate in preparing for the “Vietnam-Japan Friendship Year 2013” on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Vietnam-Japan diplomatic ties in 2013.— XinHua

**Indonesia**

Two shallow quakes hit Indonesia

JAKARTA, 6 Dec— Two earthquakes measuring 5.4 and 5.0 jolted Sumatra and M aluku islands of Indonesia on Thursday, the Meteorology and Geophysics Agency reported here.

The 5.4 magnitude quake struck at 9:24 am Jakarta Time with epicenter at 637 km southwest Simeulue of A ceh province and with the depth at 18 km, the agency said.

The other quake jolted at 8:15 am Jakarta Time with epicenter at 61 km northeast M aluku Tengah and with the depth at 10 km, the agency said.

Indonesia sits on a vulnerable quake-hit zone so called “the Pacific Ring of Fire”.— XinHua
US military court appoints new judge in Fort Hood massacre case

SAN ANTONIO, 6 Dec.— The US Army appointed on Tuesday a military judge who has presided over several closely watched cases to the new judge in the court martial of alleged Fort Hood gunman Major Nidal Hasan, according to an Army statement.

The appointment of Colonel Tara Osborn comes one day after the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces removed Colonel Gregory Gross from the case, questioning his impartiality.

Osborn is currently chief judge for the Army’s Second Judicial Circuit. In that role, Osborn has presided over criminal trials and oversees judicial operations at military operations in seven southeastern states, according to the Army.

Osborn is also a former military prosecutor and a former special counsel to the Assistant Attorney General in the US Department of Justice. She was the first Judge Advocate General officer in Iraq, where she was awarded the Bronze Star.

A mong the cases Osborn has handled is the court martial of a Fort Stewart soldier who was charged with murdering his squad leader and another sergeant at a forward patrol base in Iraq in 2008.

Like the Hasan case, that court martial involved the possibility of the death penalty.

Hasan, 42, is charged with killing 13 soldiers and support personnel when he opened fire inside a billeting room at Fort Hood in November of 2009. It is the worst shooting incident ever at a US Army post.

Philip Anzio, a prominent California-based trial consultant who is not involved in the Hasan case, said the replacement of the judge after several months of delays may jump-start the case.— Reuters

Arab Spring to take years to improve women’s rights

LONDON, 6 Dec.—The Arab Spring is failing to deliver greater political power to women in the region or to offer them better protection from sexual harassment, but may yet yield a more female-friendly reform, a conference on women’s rights heard on Tuesday.

Human rights campaigners had hoped that women’s involvement in protests that toppled governments in Tunisia, Egypt and Yemen and overthrew Muammar Gaddafi in Libya would lead to more power for women in Arab states.

The uprisings unrested a string of autocrats and triggered some change, including relatively free elections. But two years after the first uprising erupted, activists said women had seen precious few gains and that the rise of Islamist governments in the region was fuelling concern about growing conservatism.

Dina Wabaa, an activist and coordinator of the Women’s Committee in the newly established Egyptian Democratic Social Party, described recent changes in Egypt as “alarming”, saying a proposed constitution drafted by only men would endanger women’s rights and social justice. The draft constitution will be put to a vote on 15 December.

“It feels like two years have gone by and with all these sacrifices for nothing,” she told the conference, organized by the Thomson Reuters Foundation and the International Herald Tribune.

In Egypt, a quota for female representation in parliament has been abolished, while in Tunisia, where originally 30 percent of assembly members are female. However, local women’s rights groups complain that women ended up with only a handful of posts in a transitional cabinet of over 40 ministers.

Recent episodes of sexual harassment in Tunisia and Egypt, and the handling of these incidents were also of deep concern, women’s rights activists said.— Reuters

Doha climate conference begins high-level talks

Qatar: Doha, 6 Dec.— The ongoing UN climate conference began its high-level talks here on Tuesday, after the first week of meetings made little progress.

Qatar’s Emir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani attended the opening ceremony and highlighted the importance his country attaches to averting climate change and protecting the environment.

The emir also pledged Qatar’s contribution to green technologies which can help strike an optimum equilibrium between the need for energy and emission reduction.

Christiana Figueres, executive secretary of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, reminded the delegates that “the eyes of the world” and “the urgency of this issue are upon them, encouraging them to improve long-term global adaptation and mitigation responses and chart the course of future efforts.

In the high-level segment, the delegates will continue to discuss the two thorny issues left unsolved at the lower level of talks — the extension of the Kyoto Protocol (KP) and the implementation of developed countries’ pledged finance support.

Talks on the KP track last week divided on the details of the accord’s second commitment period, including its length and strength as well as the carry-over unused carbon permits to the extension.

The negotiators also disagreed on whether to allow countries that plan to retreat from KP to continue using its market mechanism to meet their national emission cut targets.—Xinhua
Kate Hudson keeping wedding details top secret

Los Angeles, 6 Dec—The 33-year-old actress—who models for makeup brand Almay—also opened up about her beauty regime and admitted she is a beauty product junkie. "Something Borrowed" actress Kate Hudson—who announced her engagement to Muse singer Matthew Bellamy in April, 2011—said she wants to keep details of their special day firmly under wraps until after it happens but confirmed they already have a few details organised. The mother-of-two who shares son Ryder, seven, with ex-husband Chris Robinson and son Bing, one, with fiance Matt, told USA Today newspaper: "I think until the day we get married, the answer is going to be, 'We have no intention right now of getting married.' And then you'll find out we got married. We have an idea. It's starting to formulate but it's a timing thing. But honestly, right now, Matt is touring. Ryder is in school. I'm working." She said: "I have quite a bit. I don't use all of it. You buy makeup because it's fun but you have your staples and for me, it's the most natural-looking makeup. Sometimes you end up buying some sort of crazy yellow eye shadow, but I end up using the same stuff. I'm so loyal to specific products. "I'm trying not to stay in the sun anymore. It burns me out. The sun makes me really sad. I'm really trying to stick on the SPF."—PTI

Olivier won't pursue criminal charges against Gabriel Aubry

Los Angeles, 6 Dec—Olivier Martinez is "no longer interested" in pursuing criminal charges against Gabriel Aubry. The two men were involved in a brawl last month when the model returned his ex-girlfriend's 4-year-old daughter Nahla to the home she shares with his ex-partner Halle Berry and French actor Olivier but one of the conditions reached by the former couple in a settlement last week was that Olivier wouldn't take the matter any further. A source said: "Olivier informed the LAPD and the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office that he was no longer interested in pursuing criminal charges against Aubry. The LAPD had turned the case over to the Attorney's Office to determine if any charges should be filed. However, since the complaining witness has subsequently indicated he doesn't want to proceed, it is likely the case is dead on arrival. Aubry and Berry worked out a confidential settlement last week that included specific language about how none of the parties—Halle, Gabriel or Olivier—would pursue criminal charges against the another. All sides managed to agree to satisfactory terms with the focus being on ending the mayhem for the sake of Halle and Gabriel's daughter Nahla." In addition, Gabriel—who despite being identified as the one who started the fight in police reports suffered extensive injuries to his face and had agreed to drop his bid for a permanent restraining order against Olivier. The source continued: Gabriel suffered horrific injuries from the fight, but as part of the settlement he reached with Halle on Thursday (29.12.12) he agreed to drop the bid for the permanent restraining order against Olivier. "Gabriel feels there are enough layers of protection in the settlement agreement that will protect him and Nahla."—PTI

Eddie Murphy named most over-paid actor in Hollywood

Los Angeles, 6 Dec—Eddie Murphy has been named the most over-paid actor in Hollywood. The 51-year-old actor—whose recent films include "Imagine That", "A Thousand Words" and "Meet Dave"—is reportedly no longer popular at the box office despite being paid a huge amount of money to star in huge number of movies. According to a Forbes magazine article, for every $1 Eddie was paid for his last three movies, they returned an estimated average of $2.30. His movie "Tower Heist" which was released last year also failed to wow audiences and earned just over double its budget of $75 million. Earlier this year, Eddie revealed he is in talks to make a Beverly Hills Cop TV show. One of the comedian and actor's best loved roles was as wise cracking detective Axel Foley in the three action/comedy films of the late 80s and he's working on bringing him back. He said: "Most I'm trying to do with 'Beverly Hills Cop' now is produce a TV show starring Axel Foley's son, and Axel is the chief of police now in Detroit. "I'd do the pilot, show up here and there." According to the magazine, a movie has to earn twice its production budget in ticket sales, plus the millions spent on marketing to be considered a financial success. Katherine Heigl came second in the list of most overpaid stars as her most recent film "One For The Money" earned just $37 million and cost $40 million to make. Reese Witherspoon—who recently gave birth to her third child—also failed to lure audiences to the cinema this year. Other surprising actors on the list include Sandra Bullock and Jack Black. —PTI

Amanda Seyfried dressed as Kermit the Frog for Les Miserables cast

Los Angeles, 6 Dec—Amanda Seyfried entertained her Les Miserables castmates by rapping Eminem's "Lose Yourself" while dressed as Kermit the Frog. The entire cast got together at a karaoke night arranged by Russell Crowe before shooting the adaptation of the famous musical and Anne Hathaway revealed Amanda impressed everyone with her skills. She said: "You never lived until you see something as adorable as Amanda wearing a green Kermit suit rapping to Eminem's Lose Yourself. "Russell arranged Friday night dinner for us all to bond and then he had a keyboard in his place and he had somebody play piano. We were all very nervous and self-conscious, but he got us all singing." The bonding session helped the cast—which also includes Hugh Jackman—to relax and make filming the emotional musical easier. Anne added: "And then all of a sudden when we went to work on Monday, we were all way more relaxed with each other and we didn't feel we had to say sorry for warming up, or like, we had to explain ourselves singing. It just kind of cut straight through all the b.s. and got us working together as a cast."—Reuters

Leonardo DiCaprio injured on Django Unchained set

Los Angeles, 6 Dec—Leonardo DiCaprio was so in character on the sets of his upcoming film "Django Unchained" that he slashed his hand hard on a table and injured himself. The actor notched stitches after smashing the glass and slicing open his hand while filming a dramatic scene as ruthless plantation owner Calvin Candie in Quentin Tarantino's upcoming film, reported Variety online. "Leo had slashed his hand on the table countless times and he moved his hand further and he crushed a crystal cordial glass," producer Stacey Sher said, "Blood was dripping down his hand. He never broke character. He kept going. He was in such a zone. It was very intense. He required stitches." Sher is convinced audiences will love DiCaprio's performance, adding, "Quentin has this great tradition of villains in his films and Calvin Candie is one of the most vibrant he's ever created." "Leonardo didn't shy away from playing all of the different facets of a truly horrible human being. Their collaboration raised the stakes and made for an exciting atmosphere on the set."—PTI
**New Light of Myanmar**

**SPORTS**

**Tennis**

**Los Angeles, 6 Dec** — Four-times major champion Phil Mickelson will launch his 2013 PGA Tour campaign at next month’s Honda Classic and won the title in 2002 and 2004. “We’re excited about it,” Humana Challenge executive director Bob Marra said during an event in Sao Paulo. "It’s a two-time winner here ... and he’s Phil Mickelson. "The legacy Phil has left on our event is undeniable, his popularity among our fans is remarkable. We could not be more pleased to have him start his season with us again." M urra said that A merican world number nine Brandt Snedeker, the 2012 FedExCup champion, had also confirmed he would play in the 17-20 January event in the California desert. American Mark Wilson will be back to defend his Humana Challenge title, having triumphed by two shots at La Quinta in January. — Reuters

**Bryant becomes youngest scorer of 30,000 points**

**Los Angeles, 6 Dec** — Los Angeles Lakers shooting guard Kobe Bryant became the youngest player to score 30,000 NBA career points during the first half of Wednesday’s game against the New Orleans Hornets. Needing 13 more points to hit that mark before the start of the game, Kobe Bryant scored his 13th and 14th points on a short jumper with just over a minute remaining before halftime. At the age of 34, the 14-time All-Star became only the fifth player to reach 30,000 in career points. — Reuters

**Mickelson to start 2013 PGA Tour season at La Quinta**

**Los Angeles, 6 Dec** — The American left-hander is the leading all-time money winner at the 72-hole pro-am celebrity event, previously known as the Bob Hope Classic, and won the title in 2002 and 2004. "We’re excited about it,” Humana Challenge executive director Bob Marra said during a news conference at La Quinta. “He’s a two-time winner here ... and he's Phil Mickelson. "The legacy Phil has left on our event is undeniable, his popularity among our fans is remarkable. We could not be more pleased to have him start his season with us again." M urra said that A merican world number nine Brandt Snedeker, the 2012 FedExCup champion, had also confirmed he would play in the 17-20 January event in the California desert. American Mark Wilson will be back to defend his Humana Challenge title, having triumphed by two shots at La Quinta in January. — Reuters

**Real Madrid to open football school in Nicaragua**

**Managua, 6 Dec** — Spanish La Liga club Real Madrid plans to open a football school next year in Nicaragua, diplomatic sources said on Wednesday. A delegation from the team will visit the Central American nation next month as part of the club’s plans to open the facility in the northern city of Esteli, Nicaragua’s ambas- sador to Spain Augusto Zamora and the President of Real Madrid Fiorentino Perez said in a joint statement.

An agreement to open the soccer school for both girls and boys was signed last June, according to the statement posted on Nicaragua’s state-run news portal El 19 Digital, which added the project has been in the works since 2009. A mbassador Zamora acting as the representa- tive of Esteli’s mayor’s office, the parties said, adding "the Nicaraguan government helped to bring about the successful agreement signed with Real Madrid."

Local team Real Este- li Club also helped to turn the Real Madrid school into a reality, the statement said. The soccer school will be headquartered at Esteli’s independence stadium, 14 km northeast of the Nicaragua capital Managua, and is expected to be officially inaugurated in the first two months of 2013. — Xinhua

**Riquelme flags comeback in Brazil**

**Rio de Janeiro, 6 Dec** — Former Argentina interna- tional midfielder Juan Roman Riquelme has revealed the possibility of playing in Brazil next year. He had been on the pitch for 24 minutes when he was substituted to help the side recover from going a goal down and Barca fans will be holding their breath until the club are able to release in- formation about his injury. Barca coach Tito Vilanova lived up to his pre-match declarations and played a side filled with players needing match fit- ness and others from the B-team. That saw Rainha and Thiago Alcantara share a first team place alongside others such as David Villa and Christian Tello, but the big surprise was Messi’s absence from the starting XI when everyone had expected to see him lead the line in a clash with Benfica forca Artur.

Messi has not played since quitting Ar- gentina’s Boca juniors in July after a 3-1 aggregate loss to Brazil’s Corinthians in the Copa Libertadores final.

He praised the standard of Brazil’s domestic competition and reserved special praise for Santos and Brazil striker Neymar. "Neymar is one of the great players right now alongside (Lionel) Messi, (Andres) Iniesta and Cristiano Ronaldo. It gives me great pleasure to watch players of his class," Riquelme added. — Xinhua

Messi injured as Barca draw with Benfica

**Barcelona, 6 Dec** — Leo Messi was carried off the pitch with an apparent hamstring injury to damage his leading role as FC Barcelona drew 0-0 at home to Benfica in the Champions League on Wednesday night. The Argentinian striker, who is just one goal off the record of Gerd Muller of scoring 85 goals in a calen- der year, had to be stret- ched off the pitch with eight minutes remaining after appearing to damage his left knee in a clash with Benfica keeper Artur. He had only been on the pitch for 24 minutes when he was substituted to help the side recover from going a goal down and Barca fans will be holding their breath until the club are able to release in- formation about his injury. Barca coach Tito Vilanova lived up to his pre-match declarations and played a side filled with players needing match fitness and others from the B-team. That saw Rainha and Thiago Alcantara share a first team place alongside others such as David Villa and Christian Tello, but the big surprise was Messi’s absence from the starting XI when everyone had expected to see him lead the line in a clash with Benfica forca Artur.

**Aussie rowing champion Ginn finally calls it quits**

**Sydney, 6 Dec** — Three-times Olympic champion Drew Ginn has finally bowed to his battered body and called time on his rowing career but will continue to be involved in Australia’s quest for gold as a coach, Rowing Aus- tralia said on Thursday. Ginn failed in his bid to become the first Australian man to win gold in four different Olympics when his boat finished second to Britain in the blue riband coxless fours race in London earlier this year. The 37-year-old, who won gold in Atlanta, Athens and Beijing but missed out on the Sydney Olympics through injury, had not ruled out go- to Olympic gold medal after his victory in the single sculls in the Sydney Olympic Games in 1996. He was a two-time world rowing champion, and called time on his career last year. — Reuters

**Mensah wins 57kg title at African Games**

**Accra, 6 Dec** — Mensah, who knocked out 1984 Olympic gold med- alist Michaela Walsh of the USA in the final, won his third straight African Games title when he defeated Karamoko Diawo of Mauritania in the final of the middleweight (57kg) category. Mensah claimed Olympic qualification for his fourth consecutive Olympic Games. — Reuters

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Márquez’ motivation all about vindication in the ring

LAS VEGAS, 6 Dec — Juan Manuel Márquez’s sole motivation for Saturday’s non-title welterweight clash with arch-rival Manny Pacquiao is the prospect of finally being able to celebrate victory over the Filipino in the ring, the Mexican said on Wednesday. “I want them (his corner) to raise my hand (in triumph),” Márquez told reporters at the MGM Grand, the Mexican said.

Márquez has fought Pacquiao three times, most recently 13 months ago in the same MGM Grand ring where they will meet on Saturday, but on none of those occasions has he been declared the winner. Officially, the tally stands at two Pacquiao wins and one draw, though many fans and boxing writers believe Márquez could legitimately have won all three encounters. “People tell me, ‘You really beat him’, in the last three fights,” said the Mexican (54-6-1, 39 KOs), a three-division world champion. “A lot of people feel I beat him. But I want to have my hand raised. I want the judges to really look at what they’re doing and get it right this time.”

When the fighters last met, Pacquiao narrowly retained his WBO welterweight title with a controversial majority decision and boos from disgruntled Márquez fans echoed around the arena after the shock decision was announced. For his part, Pacquiao appears to be growing increasingly frustrated by the Mexican’s insistence that he was the deserved winner of their previous three contests, particularly because of the counter-punching style favored by Márquez. “He always claims he won the fights,” said Pacquiao (54-4, 38 KOs) who has won world titles in eight weight divisions. “So he needs to prove something. ‘You cannot say, ‘Yes I won the fight’ when you are always backing off. It’s contradictory. If you’re claiming you won the fight, then you have to press the action.”

The four-fight rivalry between the two boxers almost failed to last one round. Pacquiao knocked down Márquez three times in the opening round of their first encounter in 2004, but the Mexican rallied to outbox his opponent and eke out a draw. In their second meeting four years later, Pacquiao knocked down Márquez in the third round, which proved the difference after he won a close split decision. Their third bout was adjudged a majority decision victory for the Filipino southpaw, despite Pacquiao’s surprisingly unimpressive display. "I thought Manny won that fight," Pacquiao’s trainer Freddie Roach said on Wednesday. "But the boxing was very loud and very vocal. ‘Someone said, ‘Why aren’t you smiling? You won the fight’. And I said, ‘I’m too hard to smile when you’re being booed that bad’.”

Pacquiao acknowledged that his series of fights with Márquez had been the defining rivalry of his career. “When you say ‘Mike Tyson’, you think 'Muhammad Ali’, you think ‘Joe Frazier’,” the Filipino said. “And I think when you say ‘Manny Pacquiao’, you think ‘Juan M. anuel Márquez’.

And when you say ‘Márquez’, you think ‘Manny Pacquiao’.” But neither man is expecting a fifth fight, whatever happens in the ring on Saturday. The fourth bout, they insist, will be the last. “This is the last fight with Manny,” said Marquez. “I don’t know what will happen in the ring, but this is the last time.”

Culprits in London ticket affair get off lightly

LICHIUANNE, 6 Dec — A number of national Olympic committees (NOCs) and authorised Games ticket resellers got off with a slap on the wrist by the International Olympic Committee on Wednesday for breaching ticket rules ahead of this year’s London Olympics.

A report by Britain’s Sunday Times newspaper in June said that NOCs and Authorised Ticket Resellers (ATRs) representing some 54 nations had broken rules over the sale of London tickets. The newspaper reported that numerous NOCs and ATRs were offering to buy or sell tickets outside their territories, to sell tickets at inflated prices or sell tickets to unauthorised resellers, triggering an IOC investigation.

IOC President Jacques Rogge said the Olympic charter did not allow for sanctions to be issued to individuals within NOCs who will get off with a warning. “You can suspend it (NOC), fine it, but for reasons pertaining to legal issues we have no authority on the people themselves,” Rogge told reporters after the IOC’s ethics commission proposed the NOCs reprimand or warn their own people.

“We are studying if this could be changed in the ethics code,” Rogge said.

The London Olympics started a little over a month later on 27 July with most sports sold out early in the ticketing process and more than a million people unsuccessful in an initial ballot last year. —Reuters

Security at Stratford station stop non ticket holders from entering Westfield by the Olympic Park for the 2012 Olympic Games opening ceremony in London on 27 July, 2012. —Reuters

42nd Maha Kathina robe offering ceremony held

YANGON, 6 Dec — The 42nd Maha Kathina ceremony was held at Kyakhta-baung Pagoda on 28 November. Kyakhta-baung Pagoda administered Ovadakatha, Mon State Chief Minister U Ohn Myint, wellwishe Wu Nuna Kyawhtin Dr Khin Shwe and officials donated Kathina robes and alms to members of the Sangha. Dr Khin Shwe and family bring 10 000 000 kyats of golden umbrella, golden pennant-shaped vase and jewellery diamond orb to be installed atop Kyakhta-baung Pagoda to Sayadaw Bhuddanta Pathidipa and U Zaw Tha-taw Nanda Hlaing and family 20 ticals of gold. —Myanma Alinn

New Light of Myanmar

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

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Bagan, Our Pride and Glory of the Past

A Annual Festival of Magnificent Pagoda in Shwebo

News

ASEAN-INDIA Cars Rally 2012

Media Dialogue

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Poe wah Rakhe Traditional Dance

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Speaker of Pyidaungsu, Amyotha Hluttaw holds talks with UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator

YANGON, 6 Dec — Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker and Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint received a delegation led by Baroness Valerie Amos, UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of the Hluttaw Complex, here, at 3:20 pm today.

Also present at the call were Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Mya Nyien, Chairman of Public Complaints and Appeal Committee U Aung Nyien, Chairman of International Relations Committee Col Maung Maung Htoo and officials from the Hluttaw office.

The meeting focused on natural disaster preparedness and rehabilitation tasks, peace and development in Rakhine and Kachin States — MNA

**Yangon Living & Car Show, Chinese Industrial Products Expo Myanmar opened**

YANGON, 6 Dec — The opening of Yangon Living & Car Show took place at Myyard ground on U Wisaya Road in Dagon Township, here, this morning. Yangon Region Minister for Planning and Economy U Than Myint, Minister for Transport U Aung Khin, Chairman of organizing committee U Aung Phone Myint and responsible persons of the companies that sponsored the show formally opened the Show.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe and party viewed round the Show. A total of 200 booths of 70 companies are being displayed at the show that will be held up to 9 December.

Next, the chief minister attended the Milestone Worth Celebrating (CB Bank) ceremony held at Chatrium Hotel.

SoutheastAsia President Mr. Matthew Driver of Master Card Worldwide extended greetings at the ceremony. Then Director-General U Maung Maung of the Central Bank of Myanmar made an address and CB Bank President U Khin Maung Aye gave an account of Master Card in CB Bank.

The opening of Chinese Industrial Products Expo Myanmar 2012 held at the Tarmadaw Convention Hall.

Deputy Director-General Mr. Zhu Zhongxing of the Ministry of Commerce and Economic and Trade Development Bureau of the Ministry of Commerce of the People’s Republic of China and Economic and Commercial Councillor Mr. Jin Honggen explained purpose of holding the Expo.

Deputy Minister for Commerce Dr Pwint Hsan and UMFCCI Vice-President U Aung Linwun spoke on the occasion.

Next, the Chief Minister, the deputy minister, UMFCCI vice-president, the Chinese commercial councilor formally opened the Expo, and viewed round the booths.

Farm equipment, construction materials, electrical and electronics, household utensils are being displayed at 60 booths of 50 companies at the Expo which will be held up to 8 December.

5 killed in clash outside Egyptian presidential palace

CAIRO, 6 Dec — Five people have been killed in the overnight clash between opponents and supporters of Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi.

Egyptian military forces, as Morsi’s supporters formed their so-called “committees” to bar opponents from nearing the vicinity of the presidential palace.

The two sides threw Molotov cocktails and rocks at each other, while hundreds of security troops were deployed to separate between them, MENA said.

The latest victim, 22-year-old Mohamed Mhamid al-Sanousi, died of a bullet in the chest, MENA added.

According to the Health Ministry, as of Thursday morning, as many as 446 people were injured during the clash.

Tens of thousands of Egyptians on Tuesday marched to the presidential palace in Cairo’s Abbassia district to protest against the constitutional declaration issued by Morsi and the draft constitution mainly written by Islamists.

On Nov. 22, Morsi issued a new constitutional declaration which rules that all laws, decrees and constitutional declarations issued by the president since he came into office on June 30 are final and unchangeable by anybody, which triggered a nationwide wave of protests and demonstrations.

Protesters did not calm down even though Morsi later promised that the declaration was only temporary and would be withdrawn as soon as the draft constitution was approved by Egyptians in the upcoming referendum, which was later slated for Dec. 15.

Slight earthquake jolts near Thabeikkyin

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Dec — A slight earthquake of magnitude 4.0 richter Scale with its epicenter inside Myanmar (about 7 miles south of Thabeikkyin) about 55 miles north-northwest of Mandalay seismological observatory was recorded at 14 hrs 57 min M ST today.

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr M.S.T. on 6-12-2012

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Dec — During the past (24) hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions, Rakhine and Mon States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Night temperatures were (4°C) above December average temperature in M on State and about December average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States.

Bay Inference

Weather is partly cloudy in the South Bay and generally fair in the Naadanman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

State of the Sea

Seas will be moderate in Myanmarn waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days

Except southern Myanmarn areas, likelihood of slight decrease of night temperatures in the remaining Regions and States.

NLM