President U Thein Sein meets Executive Vice-President of Pew Charitable Trusts

Chin State Education Department gets computers, satellite Internet

HAKA, 17 Oct—The handover of 908 computers, 30 sets of satellite for receiving Internet and one generator worth USD 602,000 donated by DANIDA, Chin National Front (CNF) and Chin State Government to Chin State Education Department took place at Bo Taik Chun hall of Basic Education High School No. 1, here, on 15 October.

At the ceremony, Chin State Chief Minister U Hong Ngai gave a speech and General Secretary Dr Shwe Kha Kha of CNF explained the purpose of the donation. Then, the Chief Minister, the State Hluttaw Speaker, State ministers, DANIDA and guests of the CNF viewed the students studying with computers.—MNA

Japanese Government grants assistance for construction of schools in Myanmar

YANGON, 17 Oct—The Japanese Government, under its Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects (GGP) Scheme, has decided to provide US$ 470,799 to four projects for construction of BEHS (branch) in Abhinet Paygon Village and BEHS in Nyaungu Village in Wakema Township in Ayeyawady Region, BEMS in Khaung Chaungwa Village in Dala Township of Yangon Region and five schools in Mindat Township in Chin State.

Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Mikio NUMATA and the chairman of each construction committee signed the grant contracts yesterday.

It is expected that these projects will provide more than 2,860 students at eight needy schools with better learning and sanitation environment. The Japanese Government has helped various grass-roots projects in Myanmar and 271 schools have been improved under GGP scheme counting from 1998.—NLM

Water from two rivers to be purified for western, southern parts of Yangon

River water from the Koatkowa River in western part of Yangon and from the Toe River in southern part of Yangon will be purified into drinking water for the people in the west and southern parts of Yangon.

Yangon City Development Committee, in cooperation with Japan’s technical team, is carrying out assessments of the quality of water from the two rivers, said U Myo Thein, Assistant Head of the Water and Sanitation Department of the YCDC. Currently, Yangon, Gyoobyu, Hlawgar, Nyaungnapin reservoirs are main sources for water supply to Yangon.

“We are working hard to be able to sufficiently supply drinking water to the people and drinking water supply will reach more parts of Yangon as we will use the water resources in western and southern parts of Yangon,” says U Myo Thein.

The Koatkowa River is located about 18 miles from Nyaungdon and the Toe River is located near Tawtay in southern Yangon.

The townships in western and southern parts of Yangon have got drinking water, but in sufficient. Seikkyikhaunageto and Dala townships in southern part of Yangon are still relying on lakes for drinking water, facing shortage of drinking water in summer.

Upon completion of the two projects, local people in those areas would be supplied with drinking water sufficiently.

By: Maung Maung Myint Swe
Photo: Tin Soe (Myanma Alinn)

Press Conference on recent bombing 18 Oct

Nay Pyi Taw, 17 Oct—Press conference on bombings occurred in some regions these days will be held on 18 October at 2 pm at Mingalar Hall of Region Hluttaw Office, Yangon. Local and foreign correspondents are invited to the press conference.—MNA

For conservation of marine fisheries, forests and wildlife and energy and natural resources.

Moreover, they held talks on the need of financial and technical assistance and works to be done for serving the public interest, importance of formulating short-term and long-term plans on natural resources extraction for the sake of the people and future programs of conducting surveys of cooperation potentials in Myanmar.

Also present at the meeting were Union Ministers U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Myint Hlaing, U Ohn Myint, U Win Tun, U Zeyar Aung and Dr Ko Ko Oo and officials.—MNA

President U Thein Sein poses for documentary photo with Mr. Joshua Reichert, Executive Vice-President of Pew Charitable Trusts based in New York City of the United States.—MNA

Japanese lawmakers attack government “timidity” over Sri Lanka

World powers, Iran agree to hold next round of nuclear talks on 7-8 November
Meeting of ASEAN Task Force on Traditional Medicine commences

YANGON, 17 Oct—As ASEAN Traditional Medicine Task Force was constituted with leaders of respective work groups in 2010, they have adequate experiences to seek better results in traditional medicine sector to some extent, said Deputy Minister for Health Dr Than Aung at the opening of 4th Meeting of ASEAN Task Force on Traditional Medicine at Central Hotel in Bogyoke Aung San Street, here, recently.

He continued that Traditional Medicine Department under the Ministry of Health is providing health care services to the local people at one 100-bed traditional medicine hospital each in Yangon and Mandalay, three 50-bed hospitals in other townships, ten 16-bed hospitals and 243 dispensaries, he added.

He called for coordinating qualification and technological requirements among ASEAN countries so as to uplift traditional medicine sector in providing preliminary health care services to the people.

The meeting was attended by delegates from ASEAN countries for holding discussions on exchange of information on research works, role of traditional medicine in preliminary health care services and training for the traditional medicine practitioners so as to create betterment of health care in ASEAN Community.

Previous meetings were held in Vietnam in 2010, in Indonesia in 2011 and Malaysia in 2012.

Sabin guest house extends new hostels facilitated with air-conditioners

Preparations are being made for hosting the XXVII SEA Games in Nay Pyi Taw on a grand scale.

Sports teams, observers and media persons will come to the SEA Games. It is necessary to give accommodation for them.

At present, hotels in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone are extending the construction of new rooms for the hotels so as to accommodate the visitors of SEA Games.

Under the supervision of Engineering Department (Building) of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee, construction companies are building the 21 hostels with 168 rooms where athletes and visitors will be accommodated during the XXVII SEA Games, at the guest house of Revenue Department in Zabuthiri Township.

So far, construction tasks have been completed by 80 per cent.

Guest house No. 1 was built in 2007 under the supervision of the Revenue Department of the Committee and it is formed with 68 hostels comprising 536 rooms. No. 2 guest house is constituted with 76 hostels comprising 608 rooms.

Both guest houses can accommodate 342 visitors simultaneously. Ordinary room can give accommodation to three guests. Three-person room charge is K 2000 per visitor each. Special room is equipped with air-conditioner that charges K 5000 per guest. So, the special room is charged K 15000 per three guests.

At present, 21 new hostels are under construction for enabling the athletes and observers to take accommodation in group.

At present, those wishing to sit for the examinations of Union Civil Services Board stay at the guest house. Male and female hostels are located separately for the convenience of visitors.

In addition, the service persons on duty from countryside may take shelters at the guest house at fair charge.

Furthermore, motorcycle and saloon tixes are giving transport services to the guests from the hostels to their distinctions.

These hostels will have 168 rooms installed with air-conditioners. Therefore, the hostels of the Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee’s guest houses will have 1320 rooms in total for accommodating over 4000 guests simultaneously.

Applications on electric meters increase in Mahlaing Tsp

MAHLAING, 17 Oct—The Union government is striving for ensuring rural development and poverty alleviation with momentum.

Meanwhile, the ministries concerned also place emphasis on regional development and electrification.

As a result, some local people of Mahlaing Township who could not enjoy electricity in the past are now with electricity not only in the urban but in rural areas.

With regard to applications of electric power, U Kyaw Soe Win, Junior Engineer II of Electricity Supply Enterprise said that after the order to collect maintenance of electric meter per K 500 issued by Ministry of Electric Power, the number of applicants are on the increase.

Up to the end of September, the township has installed 384 houses with electric meters.

He added that in October, the local people submitted applications to the enterprise. It depends on assistance of the region government for installation of electric power supply, he said.

Kyaw Kyaw (Mahl-aing)

INTERNATIONAL WHITE CANE DAY: In commemoration of the International White Cane Day, the Mayor Cup 22nd International White Cane Day was held in Yangon at 6 am on 15 October. The participants actively took part in the commemorative ceremony held at the vast place between City Hall on Maha Bandooola Street and in front of Maha Bandoola Park in Kyauktada Township of Yangon Region.

KYEMON-SAW THEIN WIN
British lawmakers attack government “timidity” over Sri Lanka

LONDON, 17 Oct—Britain’s decision to set aside worries about Sri Lanka’s human rights record and back its selection as host of a Commonwealth leaders’ meeting showed a lack of principle, a panel of lawmakers said on Thursday.

In a critical report, the British parliament’s Foreign Affairs Committee said the government had opposed Sri Lankan attempts to host the meeting in 2011 on human rights grounds, only to support its 2013 bid without seeing evidence of change.

“That approach now appears timid,” it said. “The UK could and should have taken a more principled stand … in the light of the continuing serious human rights abuses in Sri Lanka.”

The Sri Lanka government has faced condemnation of its rights record, in particular for its final campaign against separatist Tamil Tigers, an offensive the United Nations said killed tens of thousands of civilians in 2009.

Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper has said he will not attend the summit. Britain’s David Cameron will go and has promised to raise the issue of the rights.

The British government “should have taken a more robust stand” with its former colony before the November summit in the capital Colombo, the panel said.

Debating whether Cameron should or should not have boycotted the meeting is now counter-productive, it added. Leaders of Commonwealth states—a group of 53 countries, nearly all former British colonies—meet every two years.

The lawmakers, whose cross-party committee has influence but no binding powers, said there was scant evidence of progress on rights in Sri Lanka since the end of the war.

The panel said the British government was aware of torture in Sri Lanka and attacks on lawyers, reporters and campaigners.

UN human rights chief Navi Pillay said last month the country was drifting towards authoritarian rule.

The Sri Lanka government says its rights record has improved since the war, rejects the criticism as unsubstantiated and biased, and accuses Western states of waging a vendetta.

WASHINGTON, 17 Oct—The United States averted a default while the Republican-run House of Representatives did likewise on Wednesday night.

Under the agreement, the debt ceiling will be raised so the US government can borrow until 7 February and a temporary budget will be drafted to fund government operations until 15 January.

The deal was reached through a series of meetings between Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, a Democrat, and Republican Minority Leader Mitch McConnell.

The move came after Fitch Ratings warned on Tuesday it could cut the US sovereign credit rating, putting US government debt on rating-watch negative due to the protracted congressional budget negotiations.

The parties failed to pass a budget by the 1 October start of fiscal 2014, leading to the partial shutdown of the federal government, as the Republicans sought to thwart the implementation of the so-called Obamacare healthcare insurance reforms. The partial government shutdown affected many non-Americans including tourists as it forced many tourism spots such as the Statue of Liberty in New York, the Grand Canyon National Park and Smithsonian museums in Washington to temporarily close.—Kyodo News

Two dead, 17 injured in Chinese building explosion

HARBIN, 17 Oct—At least two people were killed and another 17 were injured after an explosion on early Thursday morning in a residential building in northeast China’s Heilongjiang Province, local authorities said.

Police in the province’s Jixi City received reports at about 5:26 am that an explosion had occurred at a building in Longshanzhuang International Community, according to the municipal government.

One person died at the scene and another died on the way to the hospital. A number of apartments were also damaged in the explosion, according to the government.

A natural gas leak probably contributed to the explosion, according to an initial investigation by rescuers.—Xinhua

Two African women awarded Women for Change prize

DEAUVELLE, (France), 17 Oct—Two African women won the Women for Change awards at a Women’s Forum Global Meeting here on Wednesday night.

Maria Raharinivorinina from Madagascar and Marie Nono Messina from Cameroon were voted winners among five African women shortlisted for the awards. Each will receive 25,000 euros (34,000 USdolars).

Raharinivorinina established Women’s Home in six small villages in her country to provide women with education and job skills, to inform them of their rights to combat gender discrimination and all forms of violence in an area where women are not educated, have no fortune and are not independent.

Messina’s Hand in Hand programme is to protect orphans from all types of violence and exploitation, to offer them special care to ensure their physical and psychological development and to restore their self-confidence by encouraging them to re-enter society.—Xinhua

Canada to grant honorary citizenship to Malala Yousafzai

OTTAWA, 17 Oct—Pakistan’s teenage activist Malala Yousafzai, who was shot in the head by the Taliban for campaigning for girls’ education, will be granted honorary Canadian citizenship, the Canadian government announced on Wednesday.

She will join an elite group of foreign honourees who include South Africa’s Nelson Mandela and Myanmar’s Aung San Suu Kyi.

“Canada recognizes the courageous and inspiring example set by Malala Yousafzai in risking her life promoting education for young women,” the government said in a speech setting out its priorities for the next two years. “She faced down Taliban for campaigning against girls’ education.”

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**Greenwald exits Guardian for new Omidyar media venture**

WASHINGTON, 17 Oct — Glenn Greenwald, who has made headlines around the world with his reporting on US electronic surveillance programs, is leaving the Guardian newspaper to join a new media venture funded by eBay founder Pierre Omidyar, according to people familiar with the matter. Greenwald, who is based in Brazil and was among the first to report information provided by one-time US National Security Agency (NSA) contractor Edward Snowden, wrote in a blog post on Tuesday that he was presented with a “once-in-a-career dream journalistic opportunity” that he could not pass up.

He did not reveal any specifics of the new media venture but said details would be announced soon. Greenwald did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Two sources familiar with the new venture said the financial backer was Omidyar. It was not immediately clear if he was the only backer or if there were other partners. Omidyar could not immediately be reached for comment.

Omidyar, who is chairman of the board at eBay Inc (EBAY.O) but is not involved in day-to-day operations at the company, has numerous philanthropic, business and political interests, mainly through an investment entity called the Omidyar Network.

Forbes pegged the 46-year-old Omidyar’s net worth at $8.5 billion.

And among his ventures is Honolulu Civil Beat, a news website covering public affairs in Hawaii. Civil Beat aimed to create a new online journalism model with paid subscriptions and respectful comment threads, though it is unclear how successful it has been. Omidyar, a French-born Iranian-American, also founded the Democracy Fund to support “social entrepreneurs working to ensure that our political system is responsive to the public,” according to its website. Omidyar’s active Tom Sawyer, the attraction of the new role he would like to see the Canadian electrical engineer join his venture. However, another source reported, citing a source. Opinions are divided on the potential, with Apple Inc (AAPL.O), which owns both Apple Inc and HTC, said to be interested in producing a smartphone with HTC.

AMAZON SALES

Amazon said it is working on a smartphone, which could be launched in early 2014. The company said it would not comment on any specific product. Amazon is also reported to be developing a device with HTC Corp (2498.TW), putting in a competition to compete with Apple Inc (AAPL.O) and Google Inc (GOOG.O), the Financial Times reported.

One device is already in an advanced stage of development, the paper reported, citing a source. However, another source said Amazon may decide not to release it, according to the report.

The device is likely to be launched in 2014 if Amazon decides to proceed with the project, the newspaper added. If Amazon and HTC could not be immediately reached for comment.

Speculation that Amazon’s decision to launch its own smartphone may have been around for years. In 2011, Citigroup said that Amazon may launch a smartphone in 2012 through a partnership with contract cellphone maker Foxconn International. If Amazon turns to Asia to launch a smartphone, it will be following the example of Google, which tied up with Taiwan’s Asus (2357.TW) and South Korea’s LG Electronics (066570.KS) for its Nexus devices.
Children who stutter differ in brain development

VANCOUVER, 17 Oct — Children who stutter have less grey matter in key regions of the brain responsible for speech production than children who do not stutter, according to a new Canadian study.

The study, published recently in the peer-reviewed journal Cortex, explains how the brain is built for speech production, why people stutter, and affirms the importance of seeking early treatment.

Researchers from the University of Alberta scanned the brains of 28 children ranging from 5 to 12 years old, half of whom had been diagnosed with a stutter.

The remaining half served as a control group. Results showed that the inferior frontal gyrus region of the brain develops abnormally in children who stutter.

According to the researchers, that part of the brain is responsible for controlling articulatory coding — taking information our brains understand about sounds and coding it into speech movements.

“If you think about the characteristics of stuttering, it’s easy to hypothesize that it’s a speech-motor-control problem,” said Deryk Beal, lead author of the study.

Children who stutter have less grey matter in key regions of the brain responsible for speech production than children who do not stutter.

UK unemployment rate steady, claimant count plunges

LONDON, 17 Oct — Britain’s unemployment rate held steady in the three months to August but the sharpest fall in more than 16 years in the number of people claiming jobless benefits showed the labour market was continuing to heal.

Unemployment was 7.7 percent in the June-August period, unchanged from May-July, the Office for National Statistics said on Wednesday. A narrow majority of economists in a Reuters poll had expected the jobless rate to remain unchanged at 7.7 percent.

In the hope of giving Britain’s economic recovery a boost, the Bank of Eng- land said in August it will consider a “bubbly” property boom in the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences lauded the economists’ research on the prices of stocks, bonds and other assets, saying “mis-pricing of assets may con- tribute to financial crises and, as the recent global re- ceSSION illustrates, such cri- ses can damage the overall economy.”

This was the case in the collapse of the US housing market, which helped trig- ger the 2008-2009 global financial crisis. Markers are at risk of committing the same error now, Shiller told Reuters after learning he had won the Nobel prize.

This financial crisis is what we’ve been going through in the last five years has been one that seems to re- peat the failure to under- stand price movements,” Shiller said. Bubbles are created when investors fail to recognize when rising ar- set prices become detached from underlying funda- mentals. Shiller and other economists warn that prices in some markets have risen too far, too fast due to the Fed’s ultra-easy monetary policy.

The benchmark US Standard & Poor’s 500 in- dex hit a record in Septem- ber, though it is generally not considered overvalued based on expectations for corporate earnings results or economic growth.

Shiller’s work led him to suggest in 2005 that the US housing market might be overheating. He helped create a closely watched gage of housing prices, the S&P Case/Shiller In- dex. In June this year, he warned it may have seen a potential new housing bubble in some of America’s largest cities. It is up 12 percent in 2013 that the year. This is a very rapid price increase right now, and I believe that it is ac- celerated somewhat by the Fed’s policy,” he said. Chi- na, Brazil, India, Australia, Norway and Belgium, among other countries, were witnessing similar price rises. — Reuters

Hong Kong says looking into forex manipulation allegations

HONG KONG, 17 Oct — The Hong Kong Monetary Authority said on Wednes- day that it has spoken to foreign regulators about allegations of manipula- tion in the foreign exchange market and is now speaking to banks about it.

The move comes as authorities in Swit- zerland and Britain are probing whether traders in the $5 trillion-a-day mar- ket sought to manipulate exchange rates and foreign currency rates.

“The Hong Kong Mon- etary Authority is aware of the allegations. We have been in communications with the relevant overseas regulators and following up with individual banks,” the de facto central bank said in a statement to Reuters.

Switzerland’s compe- tition commission WEKO and its financial markets regulator FINMA said last month that they had opened investigations into potential manipulation of foreign exchange mar- kets by banks. They did not name the banks under in- vestigation.

Last week, a source familiar with the matter told Reuters the United States was also involved in the probe. Until now, no Asian authority has confirmed it is also in- volved in the investiga- tions.

Royal Bank of Scot- land (RBS.L) has already handed Britain’s financial regulator instant messages sent by a former currency trader to counterparts at other banks, Reuters re- ported last week.

Robert Shiller, one of three American scientists who won the 2013 economics Nobel prize, poses at his home in New Haven, Connecticut on 14 Oct, 2013. — Reuters

Robert Shiller, one of three American scientists who won the 2013 economics Nobel prize on 20 Dec, 2012. — REUTERS

A security guard walks past a directory board of Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) in Hong Kong on 20 Dec, 2012. — REUTERS

Reuter

Shoppers walk past a newspaper advertising board promoting its job supplement in Leicester, central En gland, on 14 Sept, 2011. — Reuters

UK unemployment rate steady, claimant count plunges

LONDON, 17 Oct — Mining group Vedanta (VED.L) has asked share- holders to renew their confidence by backing an offer of up to $3.48 billion ($2.17 bil- lion pounds) to buy In- dian government stakes in two of its subsidiar- ies, as it seeks to stream- line its structure.

Vedanta had been hoping to raise about $9 billion from the sale of state-owned assets this year, and has indicated that it does plan to sell the stakes in toto of Hindustan Zinc (HZNC. NS) and 49 percent of alu- minum producer BALCO.

However, India’s min- ing ministry wants parlia- mentary approval before the Hindustan Zinc sale goes ahead, and the BALCO offer will need special approval from the markets regulator. In January last year, Vedanta, a London- listed natural resources conglomerate, offered India $2.94 billion for its stake in Hindustan Zinc, and $338 million for the shares of a subsidiary in a bid to slim down its byzantine structure.

Vedanta said the government had not formally responded to that offer, or to two sub- sequent letters.

That forced Vedanta to renew permission from shareholders to make fresh offers. As of August last year, it had a mandate to offer, in Indian rupees, the equivalent of $3.38 bil- lion for the Hindustan Zinc shares and $550 million for BALCO, but that mandate has expired. Now, because the government has made it clear it is seeking a lower threshold - permission to offer up to $487 million for BALCO and no more than $3.48 billion for both shares combined. That could still mean higher formal offers for both or either, as the stakeholder’s do not have to be sold simultaneously.

Shareholders have been called to vote on 30 October. If Vedanta buys all the Indian government’s shareholdings, its holdings in Hindustan Zinc and BAL- CO will increase to 94.4 percent and 100 percent re- spectively, and its econom- istic interests will increase to 55 percent and 58.3 percent. Hindustan Zinc shares were up 2 percent on Wednesday, valuing the company at just over $9 billion, and the govern- ment’s 50 percent of about $2.7 billion. — Reuters

Vedanta seeks fresh blessing for £2.2 billion India buyout offers

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In the hope of giving Britain’s economic recovery a boost, the Bank of Eng- land said in August it will not consider raising interest rates before unemployment falls to 7 percent.

The Bank of England forecasts that will not hap- pen before the third quar- ter of 2016. But investors largely expect unemploy- ment to fall much faster and many have put money on the chance of a rate hike in early 2015. Survey of British ser- vices and manufacturing last month suggested employ- ment was picking up along with a broader recovery in the economy.

Wednesday’s data showed the number of peo- ple claiming jobless benefits — a narrower and timelier measure of unemployment — fell by a much bigger-than-expected 41,700 in September. That was the biggest monthly fall in claimant counts since June 1997. August’s data was also revised to show a drop of 41,600, a fall of 9,000 more than first reported.

Even as Britain’s labour market picks up, many peo- ple in work are not seeing an improvement in their living standards.Average weekly earnings growth includ- ing bonuses slowed sharply to 0.7 percent in the three months to August compared with a year earlier. Exclud- ing bonuses, pay grew 0.8 percent. By contrast, infla- tion in September was 2.7 percent.— Reuters

Robert Shiller, one of three American scientists who won the 2013 economics Nobel prize on 20 Dec, 2012. — REUTERS
New Jersey voters elect Democrat Cory Booker to US Senate

NEW YORK, 17 Oct — Democrat Cory Booker, the charismatic mayor of Newark, was the unofficial winner of a New Jersey special election on Wednesday, handily defeating a conservative Republican to fill the state’s vacant US Senate seat.

Booker, 44, spoke to cheering supporters in Newark where he thanked them for turning out to vote against the backdrop of the 16-day government shutdown and partisan battling in Washington.

“It would have been easy to listen to this frustrating negativity and stay home today. But here in New Jersey, more than a million people rejected cynicism and came out on a Wednesday, in the middle of October, three weeks before we have another election, to fight the cynicism,” he said.

“You didn’t just vote, you believed that your vote and choice mattered,” he said.

Booker becomes the first black US senator from New Jersey. In Washington, Booker will join Republican Tim Scott of South Carolina as the nation’s only two black senators.

He will fill the US Senate seat held by Democrat Frank Lautenberg, who died in June at age 89.

Booker, a Rhodes scholar and Yale Law School graduate, rocketed to fame as a booster for the state’s largest city, 12 miles from Manhattan, which has struggled with poverty and persistently high crime.

His first run for mayor was documented in the Oscar-nominated film “Street Fight.” Booker is known to rub shoulders with celebrities and is a near-constant presence on Twitter. During Booker’s tenure as mayor, Newark received a $100 million gift to its schools from Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg, who said he had met Booker and was impressed by his plans.

US Senate candidate Cory Booker hugs his mother Carolyn after delivering a speech during his campaign’s election night event in Newark, New Jersey, on 16 Oct. 2013. — Reuters

Kennedy confirmed as 1st female US envoy to Japan

WASHINGTON, 17 Oct — The US Senate on Wednesday confirmed Caroline Kennedy, the daughter of the late US President John F. Kennedy, as ambassador to Japan.

The Senate endorsed President Barack Obama’s nomination of Kennedy, a 55-year-old attorney, as the country’s first female envoy to Japan at its plenary session.

Kennedy is expected to assume her duties as ambassador in the first half of November, a diplomatic source said.

Kennedy will be tasked with dealing with bilateral issues such as the realignment of US military forces in Japan, in particular the contentious relocation of the Marine Corps’ Futenma Air Station within Okinawa.

More broadly she will need to handle international and regional matters including negotiations toward signing a US-led Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade pact, the strained ties between Japan and China, and North Korea’s nuclear programmes.

Kennedy, who did not have specific ties with Japan, earlier told a hearing at the Senate’s Foreign Relations Committee that she will carry forward the legacy of her father, who was assassinated 50 years ago.

Caroline Kennedy said her father had hoped to be the first president to make a state visit to Japan. Kennedy, who serves as president of the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation, also expressed eagerness to enhance educational exchanges during the hearing.

The committee confirmed the nomination 30 September. — Kyodo News

10 killed in a suicide attack in NW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 17 Oct — At least 10 people including a provincial minister were killed and over 20 others injured in a suicide attack in Pakistan’s northwestern Province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Wednesday evening, officials and local media said.

Deputy Superintendent of Police Jan Mohammad Khan said that the incident took place when the Provincial Law Minister Irsarrullah Gandapur was exchanging Eid greetings with people at his residence in Killachi area of northwestern District of Dera Ismail Khan.

According to eyewitnesses, the suicide bomber shot dead a police guard at the main gate then entered into the main courtyard before exploding his explosive-laden vest near the minister.

“The attack killed 10 persons and injured over 20 others including the elder brother of the minister,” said the police officer.

Police, security forces and rescue teams rushed to the site and shifted the bodies and the injured to the hospital in Dera Ismail Khan, where few of the wounded were reportedly in critical condition.

The minister was elected as a member of the provincial assembly in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province during 11 May general elections, and later joined the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), a party led by Imran Khan that favors talks with the Pakistani Tleban to bring peace in the country. — Xinhua

Typhoon Nari kills 9 Vietnamese

HANOI, 17 Oct — As of late Wednesday, Typhoon Nari killed at least nine, left six others missing, and injured 76 people in Vietnam’s central coastal provinces, reported the Central Committee for Flood and Storm Prevention on Thursday. Property loss is estimated to reach 1.5 trillion VND (71 million US dollars).

Specifically, the storm broke out more than 500 homes and damaged about 12,000 others in Thua Thien-Hue, Da Nang, Quang Nam and Quang Ngai Provinces. More than 350 ha of paddy fields, 3,284 ha of crops were flooded, while 77 fishing vessels sunk or broken, and 95 power poles blew down.

Rainfalls of between 200-400mm were recorded from central Quang Binh to Quang Ngai Provinces, and in the Central Highlands region. As a result, water levels in local rivers were increased, causing floods in low areas. Many reservoirs are now at risk of overflowing, of which 13 units run by hydro-power plants have been discharging the overflow, said the report.

Typhoon Nari made a landfill to Vietnam’s central coastal provinces late on Monday night, with Da Nang city being the storm eye, and it devastated the region until Wednesday morning. It was the 11th storm hitting the country so far this year.— Xinhua

Philippine earthquake death toll rises to 156

MANILA, 17 Oct — The death toll from a recent powerful earthquake in central Philippines jumped to 156 while 22 others were still missing, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) said on Thursday.

According to the state agency, 144 who perished came from Bohol, where the epicenter of the magnitude 7.2 earthquake was located, 11 from Cebu and one from Siargao.

There were 374 individuals who were injured, it said, adding that displaced families continued to swell to over 9,000 or more than 47,000 persons. Most of the displaced families were housed in 61 evacuation centers.

Initial estimate of the damages on roads, bridges and flood control in Bohol and Cebu amounted to 75 million pesos (1.7 million US dollars).

As of 5:00 am local time, the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology recorded 1,213 aftershocks, 24 of which were felt.— Xinhua

Photo shows a two-day international conference in Pyongyang on 16 Oct, 2013, the opening day, North Korea organized the conference on its economic development, with a major focus on foreign investment and special economic zones. — Kyodo News

Dalia Rabin, daughter of late Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, addresses a ceremony marking the 18th anniversary of the death of Yitzhak Rabin at the Mount Herzl cemetery in Jerusalem, on 16 Oct. 2013. Rabin was assassinated in November 1995 after he signed the 1993 Oslo Accords with the Palestinian Authority, then led by Yassar Arafat. — Xinhua

Democratic earthquake death toll rises to 156

Photo shows a two-day international conference in Pyongyang on 16 Oct, 2013, the opening day, North Korea organized the conference on its economic development, with a major focus on foreign investment and special economic zones. — Kyodo News

Caroline Kennedy

Washington, 17 Oct — The US Senate on Wednesday confirmed Caroline Kennedy, the daughter of the late US President John F. Kennedy, as ambassador to Japan.

The Senate endorsed President Barack Obama’s nomination of Kennedy, a 55-year-old attorney, as the country’s first female envoy to Japan at its plenary session.

Kennedy is expected to assume her duties as ambassador in the first half of November, a diplomatic source said.

Kennedy will be tasked with dealing with bilateral issues such as the realignment of US military forces in Japan, in particular the contentious relocation of the Marine Corps’ Futenma Air Station within Okinawa.

More broadly she will need to handle international and regional matters including negotiations toward signing a US-led Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade pact, the strained ties between Japan and China, and North Korea’s nuclear programs.

Kennedy, who did not have specific ties with Japan, earlier told a hearing at the Senate’s Foreign Relations Committee that she will carry forward the legacy of her father, who was assassinated 50 years ago.

Caroline Kennedy said her father had hoped to be the first president to make a state visit to Japan.

Kennedy, who serves as president of the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation, also expressed eagerness to enhance educational exchanges during the hearing.

The committee confirmed the nomination 30 September. — Kyodo News

10 killed in a suicide attack in NW Pakistan

Islamabad, 17 Oct — At least 10 people including a provincial minister were killed and over 20 others injured in a suicide attack in Pakistan’s northwestern Province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Wednesday evening, officials and local media said.

Deputy Superintendent of Police Jan Mohammad Khan said that the incident took place when the Provincial Law Minister Irsarrullah Gandapur was exchanging Eid greetings with people at his residence in Killachi area of northwestern District of Dera Ismail Khan.

According to eyewitnesses, the suicide bomber shot dead a police guard at the main gate then entered into the main courtyard before exploding his explosive-laden vest near the minister.

“The attack killed 10 persons and injured over 20 others including the elder brother of the minister,” said the police officer.

Police, security forces and rescue teams rushed to the site and shifted the bodies and the injured to the hospital in Dera Ismail Khan, where few of the wounded were reportedly in critical condition.

The minister was elected as a member of the provincial assembly in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province during 11 May general elections, and later joined the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), a party led by Imran Khan that favors talks with the Pakistani Taliban to bring peace in the country. — Xinhua
New Light of Myanmar
Friday, 18 October, 2013

LOCAL NEWS

Health Care

Meiktila sees increase in HIV-positive people per month

Meiktila, 17 Oct — There has been an increase in the number of new HIV-positive people in Meiktila recently, seeing 50 reported cases a month, a combined team comprising members of STD/AIDS prevention and control team of the Ministry of Health and The Union, an NGO, said.

Up to date, the number of people affected by HIV in Meiktila is 450. Among them, 381 patients are being provided with ART. In 2013, the number of HIV-positive pregnant women has reached 160, it is learnt.

Since 2007, more than 700-member Yangon Network is giving a helping hand in taking care of people living with HIV in Meiktila, accommodating them at its building in the southern part of Pyithaya in Meiktila.

Rural Region Development

Department sets up signboard

Yangon, 17 Oct — A ceremony to put up the signboard of the Township Rural Region Development Department under Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development was held at the office in Yanbye of Rakhine State recently.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator Aung Kyaw Oo General Administration Department and Head of Township Rural Region Development Department U Tun Khin formally opened the signboard—MMAL-157.

Counterfeit K 1000 notes seized in Tamway Township

Yangon, 17 Oct—Police led by the commander of Tamway Township Police Force acting on a tip-off waited at the tea shop at the corner of Banyadala and 146th street in Ayoegon ward of Banyadala and 146th Township Police Force seized 412 counterfeit K 1000 notes in Tamway Township recently.

After that, the police force seized 5043 counterfeit K 1000 notes, two colour printers used in making counterfeit notes and accessories from them. Further investigation is being conducted—MMAL-Soe Win (SP)

National Sports

Pre-SEA Games Judo Test Match held 17-18 Oct

The gymnasmium at Wunna Theikdi Sports Complex where Judo Test Match is being held in Nay Pyi Taw.

Youth Football Tournament marks interfaith friendship

Photo shows football teams at interfaith friendship youth football tournament.

Photo shows three persons related to the seizures of counterfeit K 1000 notes in Tamway Township on 12 October.

Photo shows SEA Games signboard in Zabuthiri Township.

YANGON, 17 Oct—Arrangements have been made for holding the Pre-SEA Games Judo Test Match soon, said the general secretary of Myanmar Judo Federation recently.

“Like other sports federations, Myanmar Judo Federation organized the Pre-SEA Games Judo Test Match on 17 and 18 October. The sports venue was held Wunna Theikdi Gymnasium. The test match was categorized with eight men’s and women’s classes each. Mainly, reserved players are lined up in the match,” said U Aung Naing Swe.

“Young players will be used in the SEA Games. We expect to secure the medals in the Games. The test match is held with the purpose of achieving victory. Myanmar players are under intensive training with vigorous efforts,” he continued.

At the SEA Games, the Judo event will be held at Zeyathiri C Complex from 18 to 21 December. Zeyathiri Sports Complex is formed with A, B and C complexes to be able to host Sepak Takraw, volleyball, Paccek Silat and Judo events.

Each sports complex is installed with air-conditioners and new seats for 3000 spectators each. MMAL-Maung Shwe Yoe

SE A G ames signboard erected in front of Gems Museum

Photo shows SEA Games signboard erected in front of Gems Museum near front of Gems Museum near Zabuthiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 15 October. Treasurer U Hla Zet of Nay Pyi Taw YMCA made a speech.

The football match ended 1-1 draw. A total of 10 football teams in two groups are taking part in the tournament at Nay Pyi Taw FC Paunglaung Sports Ground and football ground of Yeain Agriculture University up to 24 October. MMAL-406

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Oct—The XXVII SEA Games signboard was erected at the archway of Zabuthiri in front of Gems Museum near Zabuthiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 16 October.

As the SEA Games is drawing near, ministries concerned are making necessary preparations for the games—MMAL-Kyaw Thura

(Nay Pyi Taw)
Vigilance against bombings

Security means the safety of a state or an organization or an individual against criminal activity such as terrorism. Everybody should have a sense of security and vigilance.

Yangon and Mandalay were hit by a series of bomb blasts and scares in recent days. It is not known who mastermind the bombings. But it is evident that those behind the incidents intend to tarnish country’s image. It can be assumed that an organization is committing destructive acts in a systematic way.

People are requested to inform authority concerned as quickly as possible of finding suspicious packages and other objects in public areas such as bus stops, railway stations, markets, schools, hospitals and restaurants.

Terrorists can easily commit destructive acts due to the increasing number of cars and use of high-tech devices in urban areas. Bomb blast at Sawbywarygigone bus stop occurred only at night time. The bombings in Thakaya Township and at Traders Hotel are also like the first case. All our people should be vigilant against the destructive acts.

Wanted

Suspects of Yangon, Mandalay and Toungoo bomb blasts are still at large. People are asked to inform police forces of the bombers.

Two bomb blasts in Namkham of Shan State kill one, injury six

One was dead and six wounded in two bomb blasts in Namkham of Shan State this morning. The first bomb blast occurred at the traffic island about 50 yards east of the first incident at 7:35 am, leaving three injured. The second hand-made bomb exploded at the traffic island about 50 yards east of the first incident at 7:35 am, leaving three injured. Three victims namely Ma Nan Win Cho, U Yan Kyan Shin and Sai Aik Mon are sent to Namkham Hospital. Authorities concerned are carrying out an extensive manhunt for those bombing suspects. People are asked to come forward with information about the suspects to police stations and officials concerned.

Delegation members of Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs’ Association (MWEA) left by air yesterday to attend the 28th Trade Expo Indonesia 2013 to be held in Jakarta of Indonesia from 14 to 20 October. The delegation members are Ma Nan Toe Yadana, Ma Nan Phyo Yadana, Ma Nandar Soe and Ma Soe Soe than of the association. — MNA

Flag of National Prosperity Party  
Seal of National Prosperity Party
Tractors displayed for farmers in Naunghkio

Naunghkio, 17 Oct—The New Holland Tractor Sales Centre was opened at its office in Bantbwe Village. The New Holland Tractor Sales Centre was opened at its office in Bantbwe Village. The head of District Agriculture Department U Htay Oo at Building No (I-1) of the Htutaw Complex, here, this afternoon.

Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Fundamental Rights of Citizens, Democracy and Human Rights Committee meets First Secretary from British Embassy

Nay Pyi Taw, 17 Oct—First Secretary Mr. Wayne Lves of British Embassy paid a call on Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Fundamental Rights of Citizens, Democracy and Human Rights Committee U Htay Oo at Building No (I-1) of the Htutaw Complex, here, this afternoon.

Both sides discussed matters on human rights, legislative affairs to be conformity with new system, human rights activities inside and outside of the Hluttaw, tasks of the committee, national unity and stability and international relations being materialized in accord with the political reform.

The first secretary then presented publications on human rights to Committee Chairman U Htay Oo. MNA

Winners awarded in 20th Performing Arts Competitions

Taunggyi, 17 Oct—The prize presentation of the 20th Myanmar National Races’ Performing Arts Competition was held at the city hall in Taunggyi on 14 October evening, attended by Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu, Chief Minister of Shan State U Sao Aung Myat and officials.

Union Minister U Aye Myint Kyu, Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat and State level officials presented prizes to the winners in the old and modern song contest, Mahagita contest, stereo song contest, dancing contest, Domnin concert, test, piano contest, dancing contest, violin contest and traditional cultural dancing contest at basic education, higher education and amateur levels. The first, second and third prize winners performed entertainments to the guests.—Kyemon-Intharlay (Taunggyi)

Prevention against disaster, rescue of victims exercised

Taunggyi, 17 Oct—Luthram World Federation Myanmar co-operated with Township Fire Services Department, Township Information and Public Relations Department and Township Red Cross Brigade in holding the talks on reduction of natural disaster risk and demonstration in Tuchauanglay Village of Taunggyi Township on 15 October morning.

At first, Head of Township FDS U Saw Maung Than and Deputy Commanding Officer U San Tun of Township Red Cross Brigade gave talks on preventive measures against natural disasters.

Next, the demostra-tion on disaster prevention followed. They participated in warning, packaging of important documents, dry rations, water and materi-als, evacuation of older persons, expectant monther and children to cyclone shelters, collection of popula-tion, medical treatment for injured persons and res-cue exercise at the water.

The demonstration was participated by 50 people from 10 villages in the area of Luthram World Fed-eration (Myanmar) an 50 people from Tuchauanglay Village.

“Thank all the respon-sible persons for their ef-forts in demonstration of prevention against natural disaster. Whatever it may be, we all participate in the demonstration as prac-tical works,” said Daw Mya Than of Tuchauanglay Village.

Kyemon-Myo Hlaing (Taunggyi)

Mahlang needs traffic signs

Mahlang, 17 Oct—Local people wish to put up traffic signs at junctions in Mahlang which is located on Meiktila-Mahlang-Myaingyan Road so as to pro-tect their children against traffic accidents as vehicles run along the roads cross-ing Mahlang urban areas.

In addition, they also wish to place traffic lights and zebra-crossing on the road.
“Status quo with the Palestinians cannot go on”: Israeli president

JERUSALEM, 17 Oct—Israeli President Shimon Peres reiterated the importance of peace between Israel and the Palestinians amid reports of a deadlock in the peace talks, said a statement released by Israeli president’s office on Wednesday.

“The status quo with the Palestinians cannot go on,” Peres said in a ceremony held to commemorate the 18th anniversary of the death of late Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Rabin was assassinated in November 1995 after he signed the 1993 Oslo Accords with the Palestinian Authority, then led by Yasir Arafat.

“Yitzhak kept saying ‘you make peace with your enemies for yourselves, to end the hostilities that are costing us dearly today and might cost us more in the future,’” Peres said, according to the statement.

“Those, who delude themselves that the status quo between us and the Palestinians can last, might become victims of their own illusion. Rabin was killed, but the need to make a historic decision still stands,” the president added.

Peres’ statement came amid recent reports about the progress of the peace talks between Israel and Palestine.

According to recent reports, the negotiations are stuck on the question of the borders of a future Palestinian state and whether or not it would be demilitarized as Israeli demands. According to reports by the Ma‘ariv daily, the talks are on the verge of collapse.

In addition, it reported that Israel is considering a move of land swaps, offering the Palestinians a territory near Nablus in exchange for territories inhabited by Palestinians near the Gush Etzion settlements block in the West Bank.

Earlier, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that Israel is committed to seeking peace with its neighbours in the talks.

Senior Chinese official stresses fight against corruption

BEIJING, 17 Oct—A senior Communist Party of China (CPC) official on Wednesday urged Party officials to set examples in fighting undesirable work styles and keeping self-disciplined.

Speaking at a symposium with provincial-level officials, Wang Qishan, secretary of the CPC Central Commission for Discipline Inspection, said the Party exercises self-discipline and will be strict with its members as the anti-corruption campaign still faces challenges.

To perform clean governance, officials should constantly fight formalism, bureaucracy, hedonism and extravagance, he said, urging strict measures to prevent undesirable work styles. He encouraged officials to resist temptation.

Education, disciplinary systems and punishment should be strengthened to ensure officials are unwilling to, unable to or do not dare to corrupt, he said.

Problems should be rooted out and settled as soon as possible to prevent them from becoming serious, he added.—Xinhua

Obama to meet Iraqi prime minister

UNITED NATIONS, 17 Oct—The United Nations appealed on Wednesday for more troops and helicopters needed so its peacekeeping mission in Mali can effectively stabilize the north of the country and protect civilians from attacks by extremists and armed groups.

The UN force, known as MINUSMA, assumed authority on 1 July from a UN-backed African force in Mali. But while the UN Security Council mandated a 12,600-strong force, there are only some 5,200 troops on the ground.

We are faced with severe challenges,” UN envoy Bert Koenders told the UN Security Council. “The mission lacks critical enablers — such as helicopters — to facilitate rapid deployment and access to remote areas to ensure the protection of civilians. The mission will have to accelerate.”

A report by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said that to reach its authorized strength the force still needs two infantry battalions, an airfield engineering company for the rehabilitation of the airstrips in northern Tessalit and Kidal, an information operations unit and a special forces company.

The mission was dealt a blow by the withdrawal in August of some 1,200 Nigerian troops, who returned home to fight their own homegrown insurgency. Then last month about 150 Chadian troops abandoned their posts in protest at the length of time they had served and demanded their rotation be speeded up.

Troops from the United Nations peacekeeping mission in Mali (MINUSMA) take part in the traditional Bastille Day military parade in Paris on 14 July, 2013.—REUTERS

UN appeals for more troops, helicopters for Mali mission


He also said Obama “looks forward to discussing with Prime Minister Maliki efforts to enhance cooperation in the fields covered under the SFA, and to coordinating on a range of regional issues.”

US soldiers from the UN peacekeeping mission in Mali (MINUSMA) take part in the traditional Bastille Day military parade in Paris on 14 July, 2013.—REUTERS

Mexico telecon law should cut Slim market share below 50 percent

MEXICO CITY, 17 Oct—Mexico’s new telecommunications reform should be able to reduce tycoon Carlos Slim’s share of the local mobile phone market to less than 50 percent in the next five years, an influential opposition lawmaker said on Wednesday.

The law, broadly backed across the political spectrum in Mexico, targets Slim’s giant phone company America Movil (AMX:MX) and rival Emilio Azcarraga’s broadcaster Televisa (TLVACP:MX), powerful symbols of the power wielded by a select group of families over Latin America’s second biggest economy.

The government is now drawing up secondary legislation to implement that reform, and Javier Lozano, head of the Senate’s transport and communications committee, said Mexico would have all the tools needed to radically change the telecoms market.

Congress is due to begin debating the secondary laws in coming weeks and some analysts are concerned lobbyists by Slim and his fellow moguls could blunt the impact of the reform.

However, Lozano, one of the most influential telecoms experts in Congress and highly critical of parts of the original bill, did not believe the reform would come undone.

The reform created a new telecommunications regulator known as Telcet, which will be able to force Slim to share infrastructure with rivals, and, if necessary, break up his local operations to spur competition.

“With these instruments at hand, there have to be very visible changes in the medium term,” Lozano, a member of the conservative National Action Party (PAN), said in an interview.

Asked whether the measures would be sufficient to cut Slim’s market share below 50 percent before President Enrique Pena Nieto leaves office in 2018, Lozano said: “I would expect so. Above all, in terms of mobile services.”

Lozano, a former head of the previous telecommunications watchdog Cofetel, said if Mexico did not reduce Slim’s market share below 50 percent by then, the reform “would be a failure.”

Many analysts have been skeptical whether the 73-year-old’s hold on the market can be cut significantly, saying Slim’s competitors must first be prepared to invest large sums.

Some of those competitors argue, however, that they should not risk their money until their operations are broken up because of the power the billionnaire already has in Mexico.

Izetel must formally declare America Movil dominant before it can start to apply tougher regulation, a step due to take place by early next year at the latest. —Reuters
Bangkok opens all sluice gates to drain heavy rain

**BANGKOK, 17 Oct —** The Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) has opened all sluice gates in the eastern area after several hours of heavy rain over the capital. The downpours, which started around 1 am Wednesday, are likely to continue for the next few days.

BMA drainage office chief Adisak Khantee said the city saw the maximum accumulated rainfall in Min Buri (80 milliliters) and Din Daeng (83 millilitres), while water level in canals were on rise.

The office thus took the decision to open all sluice gates in eastern Bangkok to drain excess water out of Bangkok in readiness for the expected rainfall. Officials would continue to monitor the situation, especially as high inflows of seawater are forecast for tomorrow.

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Indonesia takes steps to address high logistic cost

**JAKARTA, 17 Oct —** Indonesia have taken steps to reduce the high logistic cost that has been widely complained by employers, a senior official said.

Speaking in his remarks to open a major trade expo event here on Wednesday, Indonesian Vice President Boediono said improving seaport capacities and intensifying infrastructure projects will improve transportation across the country, which will in turn improve the country’s competitiveness eventually.

Boediono said major projects to boost up the capacity of the capital city’s seaport Tanjung Priok are underway at the moment, and are expected to help reduce the logistic cost within the next two years.

He added that similar projects were also underway in seaports located in far-flung region of eastern Indonesia to address high logistic cost problem.

On land transport, Boediono said part of double railway track projects in the country were scheduled to finish and commence its service in 2014.

“With the double railway tracks, people and goods can be transported double as much by trains. It can significantly reduce transportation cost, thus reducing burden of roads,” the vice president said in the opening of the event scheduled to last through 20 October.

On road infrastructure, the vice president said the government and private sector are now intensifying road expansions and starting new toll road projects.

He, however, said the construction of road infrastructure has been hindered with difficulties on land compensation, particularly in Java. “It makes the projects run a bit sluggish,” he said. He added that the expansion and construction of new airports were also under way, citing the recently-reopened North Sumatra province’s airport of Kuala Namu that has commenced service as major hub for the western part of the country.

“Capacity expansion projects were now underway in Jakarta’s Soekarno-Hatta airport, and the other ones in Surabaya (east Java), Semarang (central Java) and Baliikpapan (east Kalimantan),” Boediono said.—Xinhua

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Philippine president leaves for state visit to South Korea

**MANILA, 17 Oct —** Philippine President Benigno Aquino III left on Thursday morning for a two-day state visit to South Korea despite strong earthquakes that struck parts of Visayas and Mindanao two days ago. In Seoul, Aquino will in turn improve the country’s competitiveness eventually.

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WFP reiterates commitment to combating undernutrition in Laos

**VIENTIANE, 17 Oct —** The World Food Programme (WFP) has emphasized its commitment to combating undernutrition in Lao PDR and across the globe to mark World Food Day on Wednesday.

“Undernourished girls and boys face barriers in health, in school performance and later in the workplace, which limits their human potential and their capacity to contribute to the societies in which they live,” said WFP Executive Director Ertharin Cousin in a WFP Press release on Wednesday.

To increase the positive impact of food security and nutrition, WFP has taken a diverse approach in Lao PDR.

“Work is balanced between the health sector which includes mother and child health nutrition, the education sector and the agricultural sector which aims to improve rural livelihoods. "So far in 2013, WFP has provided assistance to over 199,000 people in the most vulnerable districts, reaching children, women and men in the most remote mountainous area of the country,” said WFP Lao PDR Representative, Bradley Guerrier.

The WFP is also working with the Lao Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment to further improve the Lao Government’s capacity for disaster risk management. The partnership is striving to ensure food and nutritional security in times of emergency. According to WFP, 842 million people, namely more than one in eight people in the world, suffer from chronic hunger. Two billion people lack the vitamins and minerals needed for healthy lives.

“Prioritizing nutrition today is an investment in our collective global future. The investment must involve food, agriculture, health and education systems,” Cousin said.—Xinhua

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Chongryon’s Tokyo office to be acquired for 5 bil yen

**TOKYO, 17 Oct —** A bidder won an auction to acquire the Tokyo headquarters site of the pro-Pyongyang General Association of Korean Residents in Japan, known as Chongryon, for 5.01 billion yen, the Tokyo District Court said Thursday.

The successful bidder is named “Avar Limited Liability Company,” but detailed information, including its location and the names of its representatives, remain unknown.

The bid is due to receive the court’s final approval on Tuesday.

Chongryon, which serves as North Korea’s de facto diplomatic mission in Japan in the absence of diplomatic ties, could be forced to move out of its head office if asked to do so by the successful bidder.

Only two bidders submitted bids in the second round of the auction held from 3 to 10 October, court officials said. In the first round earlier this year, a Buddhist temple in Kagoshima Prefecture offered the highest bidding price of 4.519 million yen for the 10-story head office with two basement floors and the 2,387-square-meter tract of land in Tokyo’s Chiyoda Ward, but it failed to pay the bidding price by the deadline and was eliminated in the second round of the auction.

The temple’s chief priest is known for maintaining close ties with senior officials of the North Korean government and Chongryon. The court decided in July 2012 to hold an auction for Chongryon’s headquarters as demanded by the Japanese government-backed Reso- lution and Collection Corp., which is owed about 62.7 billion yen by Chongryon following the collapse of its financial institutions in Japan for pro-North Korean residents.—Kyodo News

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Liu Zhijie (6th R), acting Chinese consul general in Kolkata, visits the rescued crew members at Haldia Port on Tuesday, 16 Oct 2013. 17 Chinese and one Indonesian crew members of the MV Bingo, a merchant vessel which lost contact with the ground staff on 12 Oct after Cyclone Phailin struck coastal Odisha, have been rescued by Indian coast guards. All crew members are now safe and healthy staying in a hotel at Haldia Port and waiting to return home.—Xinhua

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Former Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi delivers a speech in Kisarazu, Chiba Prefecture, on 16 Oct, 2013. Koizumi called on the government to adopt a policy to do away with nuclear power plants, saying the Japanese economy can sufficiently grow without them.—Kyodo News

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Photo taken on 12 Oct, 2013 shows the night view on the Lhasa River, in Lhasa, capital of southwest China’s Tibet Autonomous Region. —Xinhua

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**Regional**

New Light of Myanmar

**Friday, 18 October, 2013**

12
THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(10/2013)

Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United States Dollars.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.No</th>
<th>Tender No</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Qty</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>IFB -076(2013-2014)</td>
<td>G-250 Ton Hook Block Assy Spares</td>
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<td>IFB -077(2013-2014)</td>
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-Tender Closing Date & Time - 13-11-2013, 1300 Hrs.

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 14th October, 2013 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph: +95 67 - 411097/411206

MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER (2/2013)

1. Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United State Dollar (CIF Yangon) and Myanmar Kyats.

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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>MPPE/LP/MCY/CAP/T/2</td>
<td>Toyota Towing Tractor (Brand New) for Aviation Fuel Dispenser (2013-2014)</td>
<td>4 Nos</td>
<td>Kyat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>MPPE/LP/TTS/T/1(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Tyre with Tube and Flap</td>
<td>2 Items</td>
<td>Kyat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. -Tender Closing Date & Time - 14-11-2013, 12:00 Hrs.

3. Tender documents are available at our office starting from 15-10-2013 during office hours and for further detail please contact: Phone: 067-411487.

Planning Department
Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise
Ministry of Energy, No (6) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV THIGAYU VOY NO (02/13)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV THIGAYU VOY NO (02/13) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.10.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of W.P.W(7) where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expense s and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm after discharge of cargo to the Vessel. No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S KRUNG THON NAVA CO LTD.

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (345)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (345) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.10.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expense s and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm after discharge of cargo to the Vessel. No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV NOBLE BREEZE VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV NOBLE BREEZE VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.10.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expense s and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel. No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S INTERASIA LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV PACIFIC TRADER VOY NO (012)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PACIFIC TRADER VOY NO (012) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.10.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.L.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expense s and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel. No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797
Brad Pitt, Angelina Jolie sign pre-nuptial agreement

LOS ANGELES, 17 Oct — Hollywood couple Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie have signed a pre-nuptial agreement worth 200 million pounds.

The couple, who raise six children together, are planning to marry over Christmas and Brad Pitt has had his lawyers draw up a 101-page document, which states that, in the event of a split, he will keep his pre-marital 110 million pound fortune and his partner’s 90 million pound assets will also be protected.

And the agreement also states the couple would share equal joint custody of their kids if they ever go their separate ways, reports contactmusic.com. “Angelina has always been a bit reluctant about having a pre-nup but Brad persuaded her it’s for the best,” a source told Gracia magazine.

“He’s a romantic guy, but also very practical, and given they’re worth 200 pounds million between them, with six children and a lot of property across the globe, it definitely makes sense,” the source added.—PTI

Chris Pine confirmed for Horrible Bosses 2

LOS ANGELES, 17 Oct — Star Trek Into Darkness actor Chris Pine will join Jason Bateman, Jason Sudeikis, Charlie Day and Jamie Foxx in the comedy sequel Horrible Bosses 2.

Pine will play the younger half of a father-son duo who steal the stars’ idea for a new invention. Christoph Waltz was previously reported to be in the running for the father role, but is said to be unavailable, reported Variety.

Sean Anders will direct the sequel to Seth Gordon’s 2011 hit, which also featured Jennifer Aniston, Colin Farrell and Kevin Spacey.

Bateman, Sudeikis and Day will reprise their roles from the previous film. Horrible Bosses 2 will open on 26 November, 2014.—PTI

Madonna banned from cinema for texting during movie

LOS ANGELES, 17 Oct — Pop diva Madonna has been banned for Alamo Drafthouse Cinema chain after the Like a Virgin hitmaker wouldn’t stop texting during movie screening.

The 55-year-old singer was allegedly constantly on her mobile during the screening of 12 Years a Slave at the New York Film Festival.

CEO Tim League insisted he will enforce the ban on Madonna after she also reportedly blasted a fellow moviogro who asked her to turn off her cell phone, reported AceShowbiz.

League, the founder and CEO of the Texas-based theater chain, tweet “Until she apologises to movie fans, Madonna is banned from watching movies @drafthouse.”

“Madonna, however entitled she feels she is, is unbearably rude to others around her by texting in a theater,” in reply to a Twitter user who claimed League “is being a bit of sexist douche about this Madonna situation. Madonna isn’t a teenybopper, she is a billion dollar business,” he added.

Asked if he meant what he said about the ban, Madonna responded to the ban or to the accusation that she lashed out at a fellow moviegoer who reminded her about the no texting policy in the theater chain.

An insider previously said when a woman tapped a blonde, who turned out to be Madonna, on the shoulder and told her to put her phone away, the blonde hissed back, “It’s for business... enslaver.”—PTI

Nirvana, Ronstadt and LL Cool J nominated for rock hall of fame

LOS ANGELES, 17 Oct — Alternative rock band Nirvana, singers Linda Ronstadt and Cat Stevens, and pop duo Hall and Oates led nominees for the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame’s 2014 class, the foundation that runs the music museum said on Wednesday.

Nirvana, which helped usher in the grunge rock era of the early and mid-1990s characterized by its fusion of heavy metal with punk rock. Other nominees include US rock groups Kiss, alternative pioneers the Replacements and early rock guitarist Link Wray, along with British rock bands Yes, Deep Purple and the Zombies, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Foundation said in a statement.

Stevens, a Briton, now performs under the name Yusuf Islam.

British singer-songwriter Peter Gabriel, who was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2009 as a member of the rock group Genesis, also earned a nod for his solo work.

American rapper LL Cool J and gangster rap pioneers NWA, which helped launch the solo careers of rapper-producer Dr Dre and rappers Ice Cube and Easy-E, were the only hip-hop artists to garner nominations.

US disco band Chic, funk band the Meters and the Paul Butterfield Blues Band also received nominations for the second consecutive year.

Candidates for the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum — based in Cleveland, Ohio — must have released their debut album or single at least 25 years before 2012 to be eligible.

For the second year, the Hall of Fame will allow fans to vote on which artists and groups will be inducted at rockhall.com/vote and other websites.

Fans have until 10 December to pick their favorites.

Reuters
Arsenal fired by Barcelona-like midfield

LONDON, 17 Oct—With a squad that was derided for being short on quality by frustrated fans in pre-season, Arsenal, who host Norwich City on Saturday, have surprised many by surging to the top of the Premier League table.

The foundation on which their strong start has been built is their barren defending, which has recently been boosted by the arrival of Mesut Ozil from Real Madrid and Mathieu Flamini, who rejoined the club after leaving AC Milan at the end of his contract.

These two have joined Aaron Ramsey, who is fulfilling the promise he showed before breaking his leg in 2010, classy playmaker Santi Cazorla, England’s Jack Wilshere and Czech Tomas Rosicky in battling for limited starting places.

“When you look at teams like Barcelona, their midfield has always been the most important part of their game so hopefully Arsene is very similar,” former Arsenal midfielder Ray Parlour, who won three Premier League titles with them, told the club website (www.arsenal.com).

“lt’s looking very strong, no matter who starts. There is so much depth in the midfield with Mikel Arteta, Mathieu — who has been a great signing - Ozil, Jack Wilshere, (Alex) Oxlade-Chamberlain and Cazorla — so it’s a real headache for the manager.

“Aaron Ramsey’s been the player of the season so far, he’s been superb with the goals he’s scored but the whole midfield are very adaptive now.”

After losing their opening Premier League game 3-1 at home to Aston Villa, Arsenal were revitalised by the signing of Ozil on deadline day, and are unbeaten in the 11 matches they have played since.

The German, who joined from Real Madrid for a club record €42 million pounds (€66.9 million) in a rare show of financial muscle from their naturally cautious manager Arsene Wenger, has handed the north Londoners a huge psychological boost.

“Assists lead to success and I’m the sort of player that likes to create goals,” Ozil said.

“I think a lot of my team mates know me as a player who is not selfish. It’s very important when I create goals or score goals myself. But the most important thing is that the team reaches its goal and plays positive football.”

Arsenal are top on goals scored from Liverpool, who travel to Newcastle United (1145) on Saturday, a fixture they won 6-0 last season.—Reuters

Bale back in Real training before Malaga clash

MADRID, 17 Oct—Gareth Bale returned to full training with his Real Madrid team mates on Wednesday as he continued his recovery from a muscle injury, suggesting he will play a part in Saturday’s La Liga clash at Malaga (1400 GMT). Bale became the world’s most expensive player when he joined the Spanish giants last summer for a fee of 100 million euros in the close season.

Real’s internationals were back working out at the club’s Valdebebas training ground on Wednesday and Bale came through a full session overseen by coach Carlo Ancelotti, the club said on their website (www.realmadrid.com).

“We are in talks with the principal of the elite 36-hole event at the Port Royal Golf Course in the US Open last season.—Reuters

Scott wins Grand Slam title with sizzling finish

PORT ROYAL, (Bermuda), 17 Oct—Masters champion Adam Scott stormed back from four shots behind with 10 holes remaining to clinch the four-man PGA Grand Slam of Golf by two strokes with a scintillating finish in Bermuda on Wednesday.

The Australian, who had trailed by three after the front nine in three-under par 33, then birdied the 13th and 15th before seizing the outright lead with his eagle three at the 17th. US Open champion Rose, who had been four ahead after making four consecutive birdies from the fourth, faded with bogeys on two and was happy with the score. Standing on the 11th tee, didn’t look like a score like that was going to be possible.

But I played very well and managed to slowly claw away at Justin. After he made bogey on 16, I managed to capitalise on that by hitting such a great shot into 17.”

Scott had covered the front nine in three-under 33, then birdied the 13th and 15th before seizing the outright lead with his eagle three at the 17th. US Open champion Rose, who had been four ahead after making four consecutive birdies from the fourth, faded with bogeys on two of the last 10 holes on the way to a 69 and second place at six under.

“I started with a two-shot lead and somebody had to shoot well to beat me,” said Englishman Rose, who had been two ahead of American Jason Dufner overnight after opening with a 67.

“When you’re in that position you want to close it out, but when somebody finishes it out like that, you have to tip your hat and say, you were beaten rather than losing.”

PGA Championship winner Dufner was a further three shots back after closing with a 70 while defending champion Padraig Harrington of Ireland (71) finished third over 61.

Harrington, a three-times major winner, was at six-under par after closing with a 67 after opening with a 70.

For the player of the season so far, he’s been superb with the goals he’s scored but the whole midfield are very adaptive now.”

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Arsenal are top on goals scored from Liverpool, who travel to Newcastle United (1145) on Saturday, a fixture they won 6-0 last season.—Reuters

England to renew Germany rivalry in World Cup warm-up

LONDON, 17 Oct—England are set to host old rivals Germany in a friendly at Wembley in November as both teams prepare for the 2014 World Cup finals in Brazil.

England, who guaranteed their spot in next year’s tournament with a 2-0 win over Poland on Tuesday, have pencilled in the fixture for 19 November, the English FA’s managing director Adrian Bevington said.

They will also play a non-European team earlier that week and are planning to host Denmark in March.

But that is any great secret that we are expecting to play Germany in the second of the two games next month,” Bevington told the BBC. “That would conclude the 150th anniversary celebrations of the FA so it would be a great way to end the year.”

“We are in talks with non-European opponents at the moment over the first game, which would be on Saturday (16 November). That is still to be confirmed.

“We had been looking to play Uruguay in the first game, but they are now in the World Cup play offs so we are speaking with other opponents.”

Germany secured their spot at the World Cup finals with a 3-0 win over Ireland on Friday and finished their qualifying campaign with a 3-5 victory in Sweden.—Reuters

England fans celebrate after the final whistle of 2014 World Cup qualifying soccer match at Wembley Stadium in London on 15 October, 2013. —Reuters

Japan lose to Belarus in friendly ZHODZINA, Belarus - Japan goalkeeper Eiji Kawashima is unable to prevent Belarus midfielder Yan Tigvor (R) from scoring just before halftime in a soccer friendly in Zhodzina, Belarus, on 15 Oct, 2013. Belarus won 1-0.—KYODO NEWS

Scott told reporters after setting up his win at the 17th with a brilliant six-iron from 190 yards that finished a few inches from the cup for a tap-in eagle.

“Fun, but a trying couple of days here really, especially today. It felt like a long round out there but I was happy with the result.”

Stylistic in nature, the 2013 tournament was played over the same course as the 1996 tournament. Scott had covered the front nine in three-under 33, then birdied the 13th and 15th before seizing the outright lead with his eagle three at the 17th. US Open champion Rose, who had been four ahead after making four consecutive birdies from the fourth, faded with bogeys on two

International team member Adam Scott of Australia.
Beloved son of late U Phoe Pyawt and Daw Poe Yin, beloved husband of late Dr. Daw Khin Hwai of No.283, U Wisara Rd, Sanchaung T/S, Yangon. Beloved father of Yi Yi Win (Language Consultant)-Soe Kyu (Sumitomo), (Aung Win)-Ei Ei Cho, Aye Aye Win (Associated Press)-Min Zaw (Tokyo Shimbum), Phyu Phyu Win and grandfather of (7), has expired in Yangon on 17th Oct 2013 at 2:12 pm. The funeral and cremation ceremony will be held at 12:00 pm on 20th Oct 2013, at Yewwadi Cemetery.

U Sein Win Kyudo News
Aged (92) years

CONDOLENCES
Guardian U Sein Win (92 years)
Founding Father & Honorary Patron for Life
Foreign Correspondents Club of Myanmar
We would like to express our deepest condolences at the loss of Guardian U Sein Win, the founding father and honorary patron for life of Foreign Correspondents Club of Myanmar as well as the beloved father of our members U Min Zaw (Tokyo Shimbum)-Daw Aye Aye Win (AP) at 2:12 pm on 17 Oct 2013.

Members of Foreign Correspondents Club of Myanmar

Asleep In Jesus
Rev. Dr. Chin Do Khun (a) Dr. Do Khun
D.D., D.Min., Ph.D.
Founder and President of Global Outreach & Community Development (USA)
Founder and President of Myanmar Living Water (Yangon)
General Secretary of Global Zomi Alliance (GZAI)
Hatlang Beh

Son of (Pa Lum Za Gtn - Pi Cing Za Dm) of Sai Pimtal Village, Tanzang Township, Chin State, Brother of Nu Naing Khin Cin + Pa Cing Khin Suan, Pa Naing Khin Cin + Nu Cing Ngaih Man, (Pa Cing Naing Thang) + Nu Thang Naing Zen, Pa Khial Za Cing + Nu Naing Man Yang, Pa Khial Lam Mang (+ Peter Mangiu (MGBT, M.Th.1st yr) + Nu Dam Sian Nem (Myanmar Living Water), Father of Lia Mary Cho, Tsonga, who missed...
**C-in-C meets Chairman of Central Military Commission of PLA**

**NAY PYI TAW, 17 Oct—**
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing met with Mr Xi Jinping, President of China and Chairman of the Central Military Commission of the People’s Liberation Army of China, at Bayi Hall in Beijing yesterday.

China has attached great importance to the relations with Myanmar and it would help the two countries to ensure border security and benefit the two peoples, Mr Xi Jinping said at the meeting.

He also expressed delight for the comprehensive strategic partnership which was upgraded from the Pauk-phaw relations between the two countries and good relations between the two governments, armed forces and the peoples.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing said he believed that his 6th visit to China would strengthen the relations between the two armed forces and expressed thanks for the openly exchanging views of the two chiefs of armed forces.

He pledged that Myanmar would make efforts for strengthening the future bilateral relations, noting that Myanmar also have attached great importance to the comprehensive strategic partnership.

Myanmar’s Tatmadaw has fully supported the reforms being carried out by the government led by President U Thein Sein and would participate in building a peaceful and developed country of all national races, he added.

The Myanmar military delegation visited the Great Wall and Ling Guang Shin Buddha’s Tooth Relic Temple yesterday. —MNA

**Lecturers, students from UFL (Yangon) attend workshops in Thailand**

**NAY PYI TAW, 17 Oct—**
With the assistance of International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA) of Thailand, the two lecturers from Thai Language Department of University of Foreign Languages (Yangon) and fifteen undergraduate students left here by air on 15 October morning to attend the workshops to be held at Naresuan University in Thailand.

Assistant Lecturers Daw Khan Thidar Soe and Daw Ohnmar Aung will attend a workshop on publications to be held at Naresuan University from 15 to 29 October and observe learning publications and teaching aids.

Similarly, the fifteen students will attend workshops on learning Thai language to be held at the same university from 15 to 29 October and observe education, culture and traditional customs of Thailand, cultural sites in Sukhothai and Ayudhya ancient cities and visit Naresuan University and Mahidol University.

The MoU was signed between University of Foreign Languages (Yangon) and Naresuan University in May this year and it is first time as student’s exchange with the support of TICA. —MNA

**Chartered flight with 190 tourists arrive in Mandalay**

**NAY PYI TAW, 17 Oct—**
A Chartered Flight, QF 6034 carrying 190 tourists and 29 flight crew, arrived in Mandalay yesterday afternoon to spend three-day-long holiday.

They will visit Mandalay, Mingun, Sagaing and PyinOoLwin.

The Chartered Flight was jointly organized by the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism and Destination Asia Co Ltd.

The tourists were welcomed at the Mandalay International Airport by school children.

They will leave Mandalay for New Delhi on 19 October. —MNA

**Discussion on Japan-Myanmar International Fire and Disaster Management held**

**YANGON, 17 Oct—**
Discussion on Japan-Myanmar International Fire and Disaster Management was held at Fire Research and Knowledge Dissemination Division in Sangyoung Township this morning, with an address by Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig.-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint.

The deputy minister said that he believes the outcomes from the discussion will be beneficial to the two peoples.

Director General Mr. Muroa Tetsuo of FDMA discussed preventive measures against fire in Japan and Vice President Mr. Kadokura Toru from FDMA College, nurturing of human resource of the fire fighters in Japan.

Next, Director U Kyaw Moe of FSD reported on matters related to functions of Myanmar fire brigade; Deputy Director U Kyi Win role of MFB for natural disaster risk management and Deputy Director U Thein Tun Oo reviews on fire preventive system of Myanmar.

Afterwards, Mr. Muroa Tetsuo of FDMA and Director General U Tun Moe of FSD spoke words of thanks and the Japanese entrepreneurs explained facts about fire fighting equipments. —MNA

**Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Nyan Tun presents certificate to an official from Thailand.** —MNA