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Four political objectives

- * Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- * National reconsolidation
- * Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- * Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives

- * Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- * Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- * Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- * The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives

- * Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- * Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- * Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- * Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

First regular session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continues for 16th day Queries raised and replied, proposal discussed, approval sought

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw agrees to join ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) as full-fledged member

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—First regular session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continued for the 16th day at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building here at 10 am today. It was attended by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint, Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann, Pyithu Hluttaw representatives and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives.

After taking the position, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint announced the validity and start of the 16th-day first regular session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw as 653 out of 656 representatives attended the session, accounting for 99.54 per cent of attendance.

Members of union level organization Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo, Minister for Immigration and Population U Maung Oo, Minister for Electric Power No.2 and for Construction U Khin Maung Myint answered queries raised by U Hla Maung (a) U Naing Hla Maung of Chaungzon Constituency on “losses of crops due to the impact of climate change” and “to consume electricity at low price” U Min Swe of DaikU Constituency on “continued implementation of irri-



First regular session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for 16th day in progress.—MNA

gation system in Bago Region”, U Tin Maung Win of Mingaladon Constituency on “issuance of citizenship scrutiny card and household registration certificate to every citizen born of Myanmar citizen parents” and U Ye Htut Tin of Pasawng Constituency on “upgrading of Aungban-Loikaw-Maesei motorway and construction of Thanlwin River-crossing bridge (Pasawng)”.

U Hla Maung (a) U Naing Hla Maung of Chaungzon Constituency withdrew his question on “issuance of citizenship scrutiny card” because his question is similar to that of U Sai Mya Maung of Kachin State Constituency No. 10 at Amyotha Hluttaw session, replied by Minister for Home Affairs U Maung Oo.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives discussed proposal submitted by Dr

Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency No.4 on “call on the government to form migrant workers affairs department under an appropriate ministry” and proposal submitted by Dr Aye Maung of Rakhine State Constituency No.1 on “call on the government to pay compensation or provide cash assistance and special loans for regeneration works to national entrepreneur breeders in

case of culling of poultry due to bird flu outbreak”.

Members of union level organization Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi and Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Maung Maung Thein explained and discussed the proposals. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw sought the approval.

After that, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker sought the approval to join ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assem-

bly (AIPA) by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw as a full-fledged member. Pyidaungsu Hluttaw announced that Pyidaungsu Hluttaw agreed the proposal.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced the end of the 16th-day first regular session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the 17th-day first regular session will be held at 10 am on 29 March (Tuesday).

The session came to an end at 3.50 pm.—MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 29 March, 2011

Teach students in parallel with research

Today, the world sees dramatic advancements in science and technology. So, every country is trying to stay in touch with such rapid advancements, using funds and natural and human resources in combination.

Participation of the entire people is to be mobilized in various sectors especially in the political, economic and social sectors. A country can enjoy sustainable progress only if it can stand on its own feet. The nation will be ready to meet the challenges of next years if intellectuals and intelligentsia and the people work in harness.

Across the nation are a massive number of new educational instigations designed to help shape the future of the nation. Each of the 24 regions for special development, for instance, has an arts and science university, a technological university and a university for computer studies. The youth of today can pursue higher education in their regions, as a result.

Teachers are behind the plan to create a society learning constantly to help achieve the Myanmar's educational vision. Youngsters are to be trained and nurtured, and research on industry and technology is to be carried out on a wider scale to bring about well-rounded new generations.

It is, therefore, obligatory for teachers not only to teach and train students but also to do research on traditions and cultures of national races of the regions to which they are posted for scaling up well-educated population and national interests.

Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut of the Ministry of Defence supervising electricity supply for Tahlay.—MNA



Peoples' Desire

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut supervises rescue and relief works in quake-hit areas

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March — Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut of the Ministry of Defence supervised repair of electricity supply system in quake-stricken Tahlay and comforted the local people yesterday evening.

Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut, Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Brig-Gen Than Tun Oo and party held a meeting with members of State level

Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut of the Ministry of Defence provides earthquake victims with flush toilet accessories.

MNA



Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut of the Ministry of Defence supervising supply of drinking water for Tahlay.—MNA

National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee at Meeting Hall of Tahley Station where Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut gave instructions on rescue and relief works in quake-torn township and villages.

Members of the

committee and subcommittees submitted reports on the progress of ongoing rescue and rehabilitation measures. Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut then attended to the needs and provided cash assistance.

Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut oversaw

earlier on the same day the attempt of officials of Development Affairs Committee and related departments to resume potable water supply to Tahley and other quake-ravaged villages as wells, lakes and pipeline system were damaged by the quake. He instructed

to continue chlorinating wells and lakes.

After inspecting heavy machinery clearing the rubble, he met quake victims and provided flush toilet accessories. The use of such toilets was demonstrated.

At Tahley People's Hospital, Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut, the commander and party encouraged health staff providing health care to quake victims.

Thanks to efforts of local authorities and officials concerned, electricity and drinking water systems resumed distribution in Tahlay and other quake affected villages.

MNA



Afghan truck explosion kills 20

KABUL, 28 March—A team of suicide bombers shot their way into the compound of a road construction company in eastern Afghanistan and detonated a truck loaded with explosives, killing 20 people and wounding about 50, the Afghan government said Monday.

The attack occurred late Sunday in the Barmal District of Paktika Province, the Interior Ministry said in a statement.

It said three attackers went up to the gate of the



Suicide bomb attack
A map of Afghanistan locating Barmal district, where a suicide bomb attack targeted a road construction company on Sunday.

INTERNET

Zahir construction company, shot the guard, and then drove a large truck that was full of explosives into the

compound where they detonated it.

The area is located on the border with Pakistan's lawless tribal regions, which serve as safe havens for militants that infiltrate into Afghanistan across the rugged and mountainous frontier.

The region has seen an escalation in violence over the past few months.

Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid claimed responsibility for the attack, saying it was the work of a suicide bomber. He said in an emailed statement that it

was targeting a joint Afghan-NATO operating base.

Mokhlis Afghan, spokesman for provincial Governor Mohibullah Samim, said all the dead and wounded were labourers and there were no Afghan or foreign forces at the site. He added that the explosion was so powerful that little remained of the truck.

Internet



People gathered in the market after fire took place in southern Pakistani port city of Karachi on 28 March, 2011. At least 108 shops and godowns were gutted in a fire, which erupted in the metropolitan's second largest wholesale market, commonly known as the Empress Market of Saddar Town.—XINHUA

Colombian navy rescues 33 people in Pacific

BOGOTA, 28 March—The Colombian navy rescued 33 people from a broken boat drifting in the Pacific Ocean, Colombian Naval Force of the Pacific said Sunday.

Commander of the Naval Force admiral Hernando Wills told *Xinhua* that the boat sailed from Jurado in northwestern Colombia to Buenaventura in the southwestern part of the country.

The boat had "failures in the propulsion" and its occupants had been drifting for some 24 hours before they were rescued, he added.

"We were able to rescue all of them. The navy took them to Malaga base. One lady was nervous, but fortunately there were not any more events," he said.

Seven children were among the 33 rescuees.

The boat had been towed to the Buenaventura port. —Xinhua



Soldiers gather at the site of a bomb attack that occurred in the town of Kanaan, 70 km (43 miles) northeast of Baghdad on 14 March, 2011. A car bomb attack on an Iraqi army unit killed at least eight soldiers and wounded 12 others in Kanaan, officials and security sources said.—INTERNET

Newspaper bomb injures northern California man

SAN FRANCISCO, 28 March—Police in northern California are investigating the origins of a bomb that was concealed inside a newspaper and exploded when a man picked it up off his driveway on Sunday morning.

The man, who was not identified, was taken by ambulance to a hospital with unspecified injuries he suffered in the blast, according to a statement posted online by police in the town of Vacaville, about midway between San Francisco and Sacramento.

The man's injuries were described as "non-fatal," but the blast touched off a security scare that lasted several hours.

Police said they ordered the evacuation of 40 to 50 nearby homes as a precaution as investigators were called in from the Travis Air Force Base bomb squad, the FBI, the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and the California Highway Patrol.

Teams with bomb-sniffing dogs and bomb-detection equipment searched the immediate vicinity for more explosives, but none were found, police said. —Reuters

Two dead, eight hurt after sailboat capsizes off San Diego

SAN DIEGO, 28 March—Two men were killed and eight of their relatives were hurt when the family's rented sailboat capsized in San Diego Bay on Sunday evening, Harbor police said.

The 25-foot sailboat tipped over in the chilly waters between Shelter Island and Harbor Island, just south of the city's airport, at about 5 pm local time.

"The call came in at 5:12 pm, and the harbor police arrived within five minutes," said Marguerite Elicone, spokeswoman for the Port of San Diego, which operates its own police department.

She said patrol officers

on the scene found other boaters pulling victims from the water and performing cardiopulmonary resuscitation "to try to save people."

Two men in their 50s or 60s perished, and the surviving eight family members, two of them children, were taken to area hospitals, Elicone told *Reuters*. The victims' names were being withheld until next of kin could be notified. —Reuters



A boat approaches a dock in San Diego, Calif Sunday, 27 March, 2011, after a sailboat with nine people aboard capsized and sank in the San Diego Bay, leaving two men drowned and seven people injured, authorities said.

INTERNET

Bomb kills NATO soldier in Afghanistan, raises coalition death toll so far this year to 100

KABUL, 28 March—A coalition service member was killed in an attack in southern Afghanistan on Sunday, the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said, raising the coalition death toll so far this year to 100.

Sunday's toll is a grim reminder that militant groups such as the Taliban are still able to inflict heavy losses on coalition forces, but the number is lower when compared to last year. Between 1st January and 27th March, 2010, a total of 131 coalition service members were killed in Afghanistan.

The overall coalition death toll also includes casualties from non-hostile incidents such as vehicle accidents, but

the vast majority of service members are killed as a result of militant attacks. Most die in the southern region of Afghanistan, mainly due to improvised explosive device (IED) attacks.

The casualty on Sunday which raised the year's death toll to 100 was no different from most: ISAF said the service member died in southern Afghanistan as a result of an IED attack, but gave no other details.

The nationality of the fallen service member was also not immediately disclosed. "It is ISAF policy to defer casualty identification procedures to the relevant national authorities," an ISAF statement said. —Internet



File photo shows Iraqi fire fighters douse the flames following a car bomb that ripped through a crowd outside a hospital in Kirkuk.

INTERNET



Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo replies to questions.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—U Hla Maung (a) U Naing Hla Maung of Chaungzon constituency put questions to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session today, stating that recently harvested paddy were in ruin due to the rain in December 2010. He asked whether to conduct survey of crops damages

A & I Minister replies to “damage of crops due to impact of climate change in Myanmar”

or not, and preparedness measure against future climate change.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo, for his part, explained that it is needed to weekly bring the facts about region-wise paddy growing and harvesting before the ministry after conducting daily surveys at local Land Records Departments. Conducting crops surveys is a necessary procedure the ministry needs to carry out at all times. In December 2010 in Mon State, it was learnt that there were 4.92 inches of rainfall in average three days and higher than normal rainfall 1.3 inches by 3.62 inches. As the farmers in Mon State needed to grow cold season crops and beans and pulses on schedule, they used to pile harvested paddy on embankment and ground before thrashing. Due to collaborative efforts of local authorities, departmental personnel and farmers, there was only slight damage to paddy fields although the paddy in Chaungzon and Mudon townships caught the rains. To take a look at the damages to paddy fields, there were 200 acres in Chaungzon Township and about 150 acres in Mudon Township.

Despite rainwater on recently broadcasting 120 pea acres in Kautmupon village and Kanhwaw village in

Mudon Township, beans and pulses could be grown without more ado. Due to such untimely rainfalls, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation separately asked regions concerned for submitting statistics. According to statistics presented to Agricultural Coordination Organizations in regions and states, there was no crop damage apart from slim spoils.

Based on weather issuance of Meteorology and Hydrology Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation has been making announcement of necessary measures to farmers through newspaper, radio and TV programmes to avoid damages to crop growing and harvesting in case of bleak weather.

In harvesting and thrashing staple paddy, educative talks on harvesting paddy with combine harvesters, moving harvested paddy to shelters and drying method were given to farmers.

Whenever climate change prospects occur, arrangements are being made to avoid damages and to reduce damages by warning in advance on a supervisory basis. All crop growing, harvesting and producing procedures are being surveyed and put them on record.

MNA

A & I Minister replying query on implementation of irrigation system in Bago Region

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—At today's Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session, U Min Swe of DaikU Constituency said that he had known that the government is implementing many dams for irrigation water; that despite having constructed dams in Bago Region, but not irrigation systems; that he would like to know whether they would be implemented or not, and how to implement if so.

For his part, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo said that the irrigation systems are being implemented although dams were constructed in Bago Region; that eight dam projects with irrigation system namely Kawiya, Bieda, Alieni, Min Hla, Bawbin, Gamone, Khaboung and Yenwe Dams are being implemented in that region; that those dams will irrigate a total of 278230 acres of farmland; that Thoneze Dam Project and Khaboung Dam Irrigation system Project are being constructed with loans of OPEC and they would irrigate a total of 88500 acres of

farmland.

The Minister continued that upon completion of irrigation systems being constructed in Bago Region, they would irrigate a total of 366730 acres of farmland; that, irrigation systems are being implemented in other states and regions with the completion of dam projects.

The Minister continued that three irrigation systems—Maday, Pade and Bwetkyi Dam Projects are being constructed in Magway Region; that they would irrigate a total of 17489 acres of farmland; that in Mandalay Region, Chaungmange and Paunglaung Dams with irrigation systems, that would irrigate a total of 43000 acres of farmland; that in Sagaing Region, Myaukyama irrigation system dam project that would irrigate a total of 10000 acres of farmland is being extended; that in Yangon Region, Lagonpyin Dam Project with irrigation system under construction would irrigate a total of 5000 acres of farmland; that in Ayeyawady

Region, Ma Mya Dam Project with irrigation system under construction would irrigate a total of 10000 acres of farmland and Kanyin Dam Project with irrigation system is being constructed with loans of Sudi, and that dam would irrigate a total of 25000 acres of farmland; that in Mon State, Kadike Dam Project with irrigation system is under construction and it would irrigate a total of 10000 acres of farmland; that in Rakhine State, Pyinechaung and Zeechaung Dam Projects with irrigation systems are being constructed and they would irrigate a total of 6000 acres of farmland; that in Shan State (North), Moneyin Dam Project with irrigation system under construction would irrigate a total of 2600 acres of farmland; that in Kayin State, Yebot Dam Project with irrigation system that would irrigate a total of 3000 acres of farmland is under construction.

The Minister said that there would be 498819 acres nationwide upon completion of a total of 23 dam projects with irrigation system; that as a result, not only weather changes would be overturned but the farmers would get many benefits by upgrading irrigation systems.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation would carry on its sectors annually depending on the State's budget.—MNA

Immigration & Population Minister answers question about issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards to citizens born to Myanmar nationals and Household Registration Certificates



U Tin Maung Win of Mingaladon Constituency raises queries.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28—U Tin Maung Win of Mingaladon Constituency raised questions at today's Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session. He questioned whether there is any means to promptly issue citizenship scrutiny cards to citizens born to Myanmar nationals and household registration certificates (Form 10) at low price and when the issuance will start if there is; and whether there is any way to promptly issue official citizenship scrutiny cards and census certificates at low price, based on the lists of the temporary citizenship cards and census certificates issued for a prescribed period, and when the

issuance will start if there is.

In response, Minister for Immigration and Population U Maung Oo said in accord with the law and procedures of the ministry, following points and documents are necessary in applying for citizenship scrutiny cards.

- (1) Applicant must apply in person.
- (2) Original census certificate that includes the applicant and its copy
- (3) The application form for citizenship scrutiny card and the original letter of endorsement issued by Ward PDC concerned proving that the applicant lives in the ward con-

- (4) A copy each of parents' citizenship scrutiny cards / national registration cards
- (5) The original birth certificate (or) the school endorsement and its copy
- (6) The blood test
- (7) Four photos measuring 0.8 x 0.8 inches without spectacles

Likewise, for applying census certificates, a head of household must apply personally together with necessary documents.

There is no charge for issuing census certificates. For applying citizenship scrutiny cards, a person must pay six kyats to the State for



Minister for Immigration and Population U Maung Oo replies to question.—MNA

document fees. For applying again for a citizenship scrutiny card on account of the lost one, a person must pay 10 kyats. Speedy measures are taken if all the requirements of documents are met. Such documents are

necessary to ensure correct facts and data in implementing State projects, correct facts of applicants and one's holding of a single citizenship scrutiny card and census certificate.

(See page 5)

Immigration & Population Minister answers question...

(from page 4)

The lists of temporary citizenship scrutiny cards and household registration are systematically recorded in the office of every township department of the ministry. Those temporary cards were issued for those who have moved to other places without full necessary documents. The ministry staff members are going down to wards and villages for issuing those cards and certificates for those with complete documents.

According to the township level organizational setup, an A-level township office has 18 staff members including a staff officer. The pay scale of the staff officer with the highest rank is K 100,000-2000-110,000 and that of a record keeper with the lowest rank, K 41,000-1000-46,000.

At present, the strength of staff members is only 75 percent of the organizational setup. The strength of staff members disproportionate to the area of township they are assigned to and its population cause delays sometimes. Costs in applying come from photos and other necessary documents of an applicant himself. If preparations are made for necessary documents, there will be few costs and delays.

Measures are being taken to ensure no staff member of the ministry takes bribe. It was already announced at all the township offices on 14-4-2007 that a complaint may be lodged to the director-general of Immigration and National Registration Department, Nay Pyi Taw in person or by letter, by phone or by fax if an applicant does not obtain the citizenship scrutiny card within 28 days from the applying date with complete documents. It has been announced many times in newspapers and journals. In connection with cases of staff member's violation of the rules and regulations, action has been taken.

With the Notification No.435/3(8)2/NaYaKa date 29-4-2007, the State Peace and Development Council assigned duties to form scrutinization committees with heads of township departments of five ministries in every township in order to promptly issue citizenship scrutiny cards to those with the characteristics of a citizen in line with the 1982 Myanmar citizen law. Besides, measures have been taken for everyone who has come of age to be able to hold a certain form of card staring 12-4-2007. And now has reached project level-4. Measures are also being taken to issue the cards to those who have difficulty in submitting complete documents with the endorsement letters of townspeople concerned.

Therefore, it is the task that can be accomplished correctly and easily through cooperation of applicants, ward/village people and the ministry staff, the minister concluded.

MNA

EP-2 Minister replies to query on "to consume electricity at low price"

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March — At today's Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session, U Hla Maung (a) U Naing Hla Maung of Chaungzon Constituency put a question about whether or not there is any plan to be implemented for consuming electricity at low price by the multiparty democracy government like the Parliamentary Democracy Government and when the plan will start if there is, saying that local people of Chaungzon Township in Belukyun of Mon State had made some progress in their cottage industries to a certain extent as the region fully enjoyed electricity in the time of the Parliamentary Democracy Government. Now, electricity insufficiency had weakened the cottage industries, leading to a decline in their living standards.

Regarding the question, Minister for Electric Power No-2 U Khin Maung Myint replied that Chaungzon Township Electrical Engineer's Office was opened on 23-12-1955 in the time of the Parliamentary Democracy Government and supplied electricity to four urban wards with the population of 815 through 80 KVA diesel generator two times a day—from 7 am to 1 pm and 6 pm to 12 pm.

With installation of four more transformers, the region enjoyed more electricity starting from 8-9-1957.

As part of drive for more electricity supply, three more diesel generators with the installation capacity of 150

KVA installed in 1968, 1980 and 1983 together with the 80 KVA diesel generator supplied electricity to Chaungzon and five villages. On 4-8-1987, 608 KVA diesel generator was substituted in the places of old ones and it supplied electricity three hours a day. A 350 KVA diesel generator was installed as an extra generator on 27-11-1997.

In 1955, the price of a gallon of diesel was K 1.50 and the production cost for a unit of electricity was K 0.15. Now the government saw a loss of K 294 in generating a unit of electricity due to high production cost.

With the installation of more transformers in the township, electricity is being supplied to five urban wards two hours a day and to nine villages every two days, benefiting 1978 households with the population of 9891. The numbers of electricity users has increased ninefold compared with that of in the time of the Parliamentary Democracy Government.

For availability of electricity in Chaungzon, the government uses 22800 gallons of diesel a year, distributes electricity at a loss of K 67. 03 million a year and spends K 7.2 million a year for the salary of 10 employees of Chaungzon Township Electrical Engineer's Office.

The government spent K 13.88 million on maintenance of diesel generators, power lines, subpower stations



Minister for Electric Power No-2
U Khin Maung Myint replying queries.—MNA

and building in 2010-11 fiscal year.

It is witnessed that the government is operating electricity supply service at a loss in Chaungzon Township. More electricity is being supplied to towns in Mon States that want to extend the duration of the two-hour electricity supply by forming the committees that paid for the cost of diesel. So it is necessary to understand the goodwill of the state on supplying electricity to Chaungzon Township.—MNA

Aungban-Pinlaung-Loikaw-Mae-sei Road will be upgraded to tarred one, but any plan yet to build Thanlwin Bridge (Pasawng) for the time being



U Ye Htut Tin of
Pasawng Constitu-
ency raising queries.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—At today's session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, U Ye Htut Tin from Pasawng Constituency asked if there are plans to resume the upgrading of Aungban-Loikaw-Mae-sei Road for swift commodity flow, and to construct Thanlwin River Bridge (Mae-sei) on Aungban-Loikaw-Mae-sei Road, and said that he wondered when the projects will begin if there are.

Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint in his reply said that the government is taking measures in various sectors for development of Regions and States including far-flung areas. The Ministry of Construction con-

structs new roads and bridges and upgrades and maintains old ones in Kayah State yearly.

Aungban-Pinlaung-Loikaw-Mae-sei Road, 212 miles and six furlongs long artery, is made up of two sections: 84 miles and six furlongs long section at Shan State (South) and 128 miles long section at Kayah State. Aungban-Loikaw-Mae-sei Road consisting of five sections goes through seven townships in Kayah State. Taunggyi District is upgrading and maintaining the 84 miles and six furlongs long Aungban-Pinlaung-Warikawku (Kayah State border) section in Shan State (South). In 2010-2011 fiscal year,

the ministry resurfaced the section for three miles and upgraded it for 12 miles and built culverts and small bridges along it.

The section in Kayah State stretching from Warikawku and Nanman through Loikaw and Pasawng is linked with the border trade route. The 89 miles and four furlongs long Loikaw-Bawlakhe-Pasawng part is a tarred one, and the 35 miles and four furlongs long Pasawng-Mae-sei-Nanman part, a gravel one. So, the three-mile part is yet to be upgraded to a gravel one.

In Kayah State in 2010-2011 fiscal year, 24 miles section was upgraded, three 15-foot bridges were built,

and 2 miles and 2 furlongs long part was rebuilt. Pasawng-Mae-sei-Nanman-Mae-sei-anman section, part of the border trade route, will be upgraded to a fine one.

The ministry also built six above-180-foot bridges apart from 306-foot Kandarawady Bridge in Loikaw. In addition, 240-foot Hteesekeh Bridge was opened on 29 June 2009, and 228-foot Htoo Creek Bridge, on 9 March 2011.

It constructed Thanlwin River-spanning bridges: Tarpur Bridge (600 feet), Kunlon Bridge (789 feet), and Tarkaw-et Bridge (600 feet) in Shan State (North), Tarkaw Bridge (780 feet) and Tarhsan Bridge (900 feet) in Shan State (South), Hpa-an Bridge (2252 feet) in Kayah State, and Mawlamyine Bridge (11575 feet) in Mon State.

The Thanlwin River is

about 1,800 feet wide in Pasawng, and a Z-craft makes eight runs a day. So, there is not any plan yet to build Thanlwin Bridge (Pasawng) at present. But, if the route copes with grater traffic, a proposal may be submitted to the government for putting the dream into reality.

In Kayah State, 237 miles of roads have been upgraded to tarred ones; 43 miles and five furlongs, to gravel ones and 115 miles and five furlongs, to gravel ones, and 124 miles and three furlongs, to laterite ones, totaling 520 miles and five furlongs, and 371 bridges were built.

In conclusion, the minister said that Aungban-Pinlaung-Loikaw-Mae-sei Road will be upgraded annually to a tarred one, but there is not any plan yet to build Thanlwin Bridge (Pasawng) for the time being.—MNA



Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi responding to question.—MNA

NAYPYI TAW, 28 March—At today's session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, three hluttaw representatives discussed the approved proposal "call on the government to form a migrant workers, affairs department under a suitable ministry submitted by Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency No.4.

U Paik Htwe of Kanma Constituency discussed the proposal, saying that the government is sending workers to foreign countries through overseas licensed employment agencies under a foreign employment law.

According to provisions of Foreign Employment Law (99) Section 25, Sub-section (d), these licensed agencies take responsibilities of the workers to enjoy the rights fully, when they are deprived of rights in foreign countries.

Most of migrant workers who went abroad through brokers and through borders are facing many difficulties. The government is providing necessary assistance to them.

First, for instance, about 1000 Myanmar workers are working at fishing net factory in Khon Kaen, Thailand. They demonstrated on 9-9-2010 because of not getting salary from the factory. Officials from Myanmar embassy in Thailand helped them.

Second, some of the 600 illegal Myanmar workers who are working at garment factory in Amman of Jordan quarreled with some Bangladeshi workers there on 5-1-2010. The company has arranged to send Myanmar workers back. So Myanmar ambassador and officials from the Embassy settled the problem. As a result, the workers got damages and compensation. And they have to continue working there.

Third, more than 2700 illegal workers detained at immigration camps in Malaysia were sent to Myanmar

land in cooperation with respective ministries.

It is obviously seen that the government is undertaking migrant workers' affairs within the framework that should be. So, regarding the proposals of Dr Myat Nyana Soe, no need to continue to discuss, he said.

Afterwards, U Win Oo of Yebyu Constituency said that many of Myanmar citizens go abroad as workers and scholars. Myanmar embassies in respective countries are

they get good reputations and well-paid jobs.

In the world of international sailors, Myanmar sailors earn good reputation and salaries because respective departments and private sector open Maritime University and Maritime Training Institute. To enjoy the rights fully, respective ministries and MOSA are supervising their affairs.

In addition, civil aviation such as cockpit crew and cabin crew will be conducted. To get job opportunities in international airlines, respective departments will conduct the courses in cooperation with private schools.

Many national experts and skilled workers are working abroad for well-paid jobs. The government is establishing port terminals, industrial zones and factories in the nation to create remunerative jobs and to improve the living status of the people. Dawei Deep Sea Port Project, the largest of its kind in Myanmar is on schedule to be completed in 10 years and will create about over 200,000 jobs.

The government is safeguarding the rights of the people, training national workers for overseas jobs for reasonable taxes to the nation, so the proposal should not be under discussion any more.

U Kyi Myint from Latha Constituency said that the term "migrant worker" should be used as "Myanmar citizens working abroad for earnings". A migrant worker is a person who has decided to live in a foreign country for good. He may send remittances to his family or relatives, but illegally. The remittance of a citizen staying abroad for earnings is part of the mother country's GDP and taxes. A national worker overseas may need help from the society of mother country, and the society is willing to extend a helping hand.

It is not difficult to establish a department in this regard, but national workers in foreign countries still need to declare all facts truly.

He disclosed that he is in support of the proposal in principle, but to establish a related department will come true only if legal or illegal national workers in foreign countries declare all facts truly.

Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi said that the proposal is composed of four

points. Regarding the first point, in 2010, the State got 26.92 million US dollars from migrant workers as income taxes. Income taxes stated by the proposer on the 15th-day session are, indeed, remittances.

Regarding the second point, migrant workers should be termed documented migrant workers or undocumented migrant workers. The ASEAN Declaration issued at the 12th ASEAN Summit manifests that receiving states have to protect migrant workers in accordance with the law.

Sending states are also protecting their national migrant workers through MoUs with receiving states concerned. Myanmar government and Thai government signed an MoU on appointment of workers and cooperation on 21 June 2003. Under the MoU, temporary Myanmar passport centres at Myawady, Kawthoung and Tachilek in Myanmar and at Ranong in Thailand. From 10 July 2009 to 28 February 2011, temporary Myanmar passport and identity cards were issued to 408,160 workers. Many more workers are being sent to Thailand through the centres according to the orders.

In 2001, MoUs were signed between Shwe Inwa Agency Co Ltd of the Myanmar War Veterans Organization and agencies in Malaysia to send Myanmar workers to work in. According to the MoU signed between Myanmar and the Republic of Korea, Myanmar has been sending national workers with Employment Permit System (EPS) since 2009. Organizations for protecting Myanmar workers were formed in Malaysia and Thailand in 2009. A Myanmar official of the Ministry of Labour was sent to ROK in January 2011 to provide assistance to national workers there.

Regarding the third point, Overseas Employment Law was promulgated in 1999 and the people were allowed to form overseas job hunting agencies. It prescribes that agencies are responsible for rights of workers in coordination with the foreign companies concerned if a national worker is deprived of rights. In 2010 alone, the two training centres under the ministry and four training centres of agencies trained 5210 skilled workers. Skilled work-

ers were sent only 1.8% of the migrant workers in 2001, and 19.46% in 2010.

National Skill Standard Authority (NSSA) formed in 2007 will be upgraded to an organization at ASEAN level. The ministry is in pursuance of short- and long-term plans to bring about a growing number of skilled workers.

Regarding the fourth point, the ministry does not need to open a department for migrant workers as it has already had an overseas employment division. In this case, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Immigration and Population are working closely as a task force.

Overall, the proposal is intended to make Overseas Employment Mechanism more effective. He admitted that the ministry has yet to carry out many steps.

One of them is that the nation has not had enough necessary institutions. The nation needs to sign more bilateral agreements and upgrade the signed MoUs and MoAs to the ones that can guarantee that can safeguard the interests of Myanmar workers. The ministry is also trying to expedite tasks with the help from IOM. Local and foreign employment agencies and Myanmar migrant workers should choose right tracks, rather than short-sighted shortcuts. Everyone in favour of the interests of migrant workers is urged to render assistance and hold talks for institutional development and cultural change. He wished individuals, agencies and migrant workers improvement in wisdom of big-picture thinking.

The speaker sought the opinion of the proposer.

Dr Myat Nyana Soe expressed thanks for the minister and the representatives for their assessments. He said that he has known well that the government has made all necessary arrangements in that regard. All concerned have to do their bit in the tasks for institutional development and cultural change. He pledged that he will relay the minister's clarification to the people. He reported that his proposal should be documented and it should not go on.

The Hluttaw approved the report and confirmed that the proposal is documented and it is no longer needed to discuss the proposal.—MNA



U Paik Htwe of Kanma Constituency participates in discussion.

MNA



U Win Oo of Yebyu Constituency participates in discussion.

MNA

in cooperation between two officials, starting 4-9-2009. It can be seen that the government helps workers working in foreign countries to enjoy the rights.

The government is taking necessary action on licensed employment agencies and brokers who do not obey existing laws. Authority concerned detected that brokers sent workers overseas illegally. A total of 17 cases were charged in line with the laws.

Altogether 14 overseas employment agencies that failed to follow the licenses provisions were terminated. Ministry of Home Affairs is taking legal action against seven cases because of having no overseas employment licenses.

Myanmar is sharing border with Thailand about 1800 Kilometre. So, Myanmar workers are working in Thailand crossing border camps. Three border camps in Ranong of Thailand issue temporary passports to workers in coordination between Myanmar and Thai governments. The government is sending new workers who want to work in Thai-

providing necessary assistances to them all. They have obligations to pay income taxes and are paying income taxes to Myanmar embassies.

Myanmar embassies in Thailand, Singapore, Japan and UAE settle workers' affairs. In cooperation with local authorities, necessary assistances are being provided to Myanmar workers by forming an association for safeguarding Myanmar workers, including Myanmar ambassadors as patron and Myanmar entrepreneurs as members. Myanmar workers are working in neighboring countries as general workers. Being migrant workers, they have to face difficulties. Under the guidance of the Head of State, this affair is regarded as national plan. And it has been implemented since 2005. Legal work permit in Thailand and passports have been issued to more than 400,000 workers. The government doesn't collect income taxes. Most of legal workers are working in foreign countries as skilled workers after attending training courses in respective ministries and private training schools. Now

Five representatives and Livestock & Fisheries Minister discuss bird flu outbreak and compensation

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—At today Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's session, five representatives discussed the proposal of Dr Aye Maung from Rakhine State Constituency No (1) to "give compensation or provide cash assistance for regeneration of works to national entrepreneur breeders in case of culling of poultry due to bird flu outbreak".

U Khin Maung Aye of Sagaing Region Constituency No (7) said that there are many zootomists like anthrax, rabies, tapeworm besides H5N1. There are similar cases in marine breeding industry. And giving compensation whenever there is disease outbreak is not an appropriate solution. There are also outbreaks due to one's negligence and failure to take prevention measures.

When the epidemic began to break out, the neighbouring country observed the disease by giving compensations as a temporary solution to collect information about the pandemic disease and control it. However, they failed to fully protect from the disease.

the procedures of the disease control.

Bird Flu Control Committees are formed in townships, district, states and regions with members of Myanmar Police Forces, township Development Affairs Committee, township Health Department, Livestock Breeding Federation and Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department.

In every township, arrangements have been made to control the disease and to take actions in case of bird flu outbreak.

Township bird flu control committees are formed with three teams—surveillance team, culling team and disinfectant team. Culling team assumes responsibility of culling poultry one-mile radius of the infected layer farm. One kilogram of chicken manure can infect one million of chickens rapidly and that insecticide are sprayed in the area systematically. Complete plans have been prepared for emergency control of bird flu in line with Contingency Plan



**Minister for Livestock and Fisheries
U Maung Maung Thein responding to
question.—MNA**



**U Sai Kyaw Myint of
Mongnai
Constituency holding
discussions.**

MNA



**U Khin Maung Aye
of Sagaing Region
Constituency-7
holding discussions.**

MNA



**U Maung Maung Soe
of Ingapu
Constituency holding
discussions.**

MNA



**Dr Aye Maung of
Rakhine State
Constituency-1
holding discussions.**

MNA

Myanmar saw four flu outbreaks from 2006 to 2010. As livestock breeding organizations have been set up in the country, breeders can exchange information quickly and take preventive measures in time. Giving compensation is unrealistic solution to the problem and biosecurity and disease control should be prioritized in solving the problem.

For food safety, farms are to be provided with reliable health care to ensure bio-security. Measures to be taken for that are already issued. Breeders are to cooperate with Department, and federation to gain knowledge about the disease. Bird density should be restricted in the beginning of cold season when birds come to Myanmar for hibernation.

If breeders are suspicious the poultry infected with disease, they are to report to the nearest vets and Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Departments and follow their instructions to control the disease.

Regarding bio-security, ASEAN nations have discussed and agreed common bio-security management standards scheme to harmonize the animal (both terrestrial and aquatic animals) health control for food safety, so breeders are to realize it.

HPAI disease is a problem which takes time to get stamped out and thus Livestock Breeding Federation in coordination with NGOs should provide cash assistance to the breeders other than giving compensation. Another mean is to provide assistance by setting up a fund by the private sector and the public and breeders themselves should exerted efforts to carry out breeding tasks. So, he disagree the proposal of Dr Aye Maung, said U Khin Maung Aye.

U Maung Maung Soe of Ingapu Constituency said that Dr Aye Maung proposed measures to be taken by the government; that is to systematically cull poultry in the area that requires to be under control, and to launch massive educative campaigns that help public understand and accept

for H.P.A.I Control. Every township now can respond quickly to the disease as swift communication network between sub-village and headquarters and local authorities at different level has been set up.

There will be no unavoidable problems between the breeders and authorities concerned because of educative talks, campaigns to promote bio-security, and similar exercise did by breeders, and consumers. Sample tissues are taken from the poultry died of suspected flu, and then are tested with rapid test kit for influenza Type A and then are quickly sent to diagnostic labs in Yangon and Mandalay to confirm the disease.

As soon as the diagnosis has come out, control zones are designated and sales of chicken and related products are banned in order not to spread of disease and infection to the people.

The proposal suggested that the government should give compensation or provide cash assistance to national entrepreneur breeders. Its means while the breeder himself enjoys the profit of his business, the government has to compensate him when he suffers losses due to various reasons. At present, the State neither can give compensation nor provide cash assistance whenever its private industries suffer losses for various reasons.

Some countries that gave compensation first did not give later. Breeders can have insurance against zootomists from Myanmar Insurance. So, in stead of asking the State to compensate, breeders, sellers and consumers are to realize bio-security measures seriously so that there will no longer be problem.

The total number of poultry culled in the flu outbreaks since 3 March, 2006 is frighteningly high. 28 townships saw five bird flu outbreaks and suffered losses of 862,000 poultry amounting for K 3878 million. It is also the losses of private sector including rural areas where poultry are breed on manageable scale.

It is learnt that in spite of such heavy losses, only a few compensation, financial aid and loans were provided to the breeders who suffered losses, so regeneration works were less effective and consequently, there were some problems as the public refused to cooperate with authorities concerned.

It is learnt that neighbouring nations gave compensation or special loans and supervised regeneration works and in Korea and Australia, breeders got full compensation.

Poultry breeding is vulnerable to climate change and natural disaster. If there is loss, it is the total loss and there is no recovery. So, it is risky.

Regarding profit of poultry breeders, it can be said the work is profitable. In addition to personal profit of breeders, the work supplies food to the people daily, controlling prices of meat and fish and generating jobs.

So The State requires to lay down insurance programmes to protect livestock breeding industry. Article 356 in Chapter (8) of the constitution states that the Union shall protect according to law moveable and immovable properties of every citizen that are lawfully acquired. Dr Aye Maung's suggestions for actions against bird flu are practical, and realistic and thus seconded the proposal said U Maung Maung Soe.

U Kyi Myint of Latha Constituency said that in market economy, each individual breeder has chosen his best occupation based on his qualification without the command of anyone else and sells eggs, fowl, and duck with the highest prices offered. If there are many buyers or there is lesser commodity, he would either store his products or simply raise the price. It is the fact that makes the interests of private and the public different.

The GDP and revenue ratio is only three per cent and the Government has to pay large amount for bridge and road construction and electricity supply from its pocket due to small amount of regional revenue. It can be learnt in the answers of respective ministers to queries raised in the first regular sessions of Hluttaws. Inflation is the root-cause of it. Large revenue can prevent from inflation. Inflation can be prevented if expenditure is leveled with revenue. It should be ended that people are bearing tax burden added to commodity prices.

Businessmen including poultry breeders are already taking necessary actions on their own accord. Businessmen can practice insurance system for agriculture, livestock breeding and trade activities. It is profitable to insure for it can increase loanable fund to other industries, benefiting the both sides.

Each individual needs not to create burden to the nation even if they do nothing for the interest of the nation. Since 1998 to date, the State has reduced taxes and created environment for greater investment of individual, with a view to economic growth through increased per capita income. Businessmen are to work for increase of spillover effect to the society. The proposal of Dr Aye Maung does not fit the market economic system of multi-party democracy system and thus he raised objection to the proposal.

(See page 8)

Five representatives and Livestock ...

(from page 7)

U Khin Maung Yi (a) Khaing Maung Yi of Ahlon Constituency said that the proposal concerns the interests of the entire nation, calling for national-level programmes. It is needed to build livestock industry systematically.

As 60 per cent of breeders in Myanmar are running small-scale farm, with less than 10,000 poultry and thus have difficulty in regenerating their business.

He said he believed in stead of the State giving compensation, it should issue laws to set up anti-bird flu associations under the supervision of the State and seconded Dr Aye Maung's proposal.

In his response, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Maung Maung Thein said that the whole meat and fish sector has been privatized and Myanmar Fisheries federation and Livestock Breeding Federation have been set up as national political forces for private entrepreneurs. Today, zootomists are increasing gradually, posing changeless to humans. The ministry, holding concept that the role of vets is becoming more important gradually, is taking necessary actions.

Myanmar saw four bird flu outbreaks from 2006 to 2010 with outbreaks in Rakhine State in February, in Sagaing in March in 2011. In the first outbreak in 545 farms in Sagaing and Mandalay regions, 660,000 chickens and quails, in the second outbreak in Yangon, Bago regions and Mon State in 76 farms, 110,000, in the second outbreak in Shan State (East) 30000, in the fourth outbreak in Yangon and Sagaing regions in 31 farms, 16000, in the fifth outbreak in Rakhine State and Sagaing region in 151 farms, 97000 were killed, altogether 913000 chickens and quails were killed in 803 farms in 31 townships in five flu outbreaks.

When the bird flu occurred for the first time in 2006, assistance was rendered by Thailand, FAO, OIE, WHO and JICA which has experience in dealings the case. At first, there were some misunderstandings between breeders and authorities concerned, but later they all realized the situation had enabled authorities concerned to control the farm. Livestock Breeding and Veterinary team had to clear the mess. They did it although the job was risky and not a pleasant one.

In the second time in 2007, Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department assumed responsibility to examine the cases to ensure there is no panic among the public, loss to the breeders, delay in commodity flow and harm to the consumers, and issued health certificates.

When H5N1 virus outbreak in 2006 was examined, it was found to be identical to that of Hubei Region, Yunna Province of China. The virus of the second outbreak in 2007 is identical to Fujian in Fuzhan Province of China. So, it can be said that the virus did not spread from Sagaing and Mandalay to Yangon. So, the ministry educate people to pay attention to bio-security.

As the epidemic can spread rapidly with high mortality rate and can also infect to humans, it is required to control effectively and quickly. If people are infected with the virus, it is impossible to kill them and so poultry were killed for the health of the people. The ministry is taking measures in accord with the norms of OIE to control the disease.

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza was listed under listed transmitted diseases infected to animals with notification No (09/2004) dated 6 April, 2004 in accord with Veterinary and Development Law (1993) Articles 14 and 33. Regarding prevention of the listed diseases, the ministry issued notification No (49/99) dated 5 August, 1999.

Avian flu emergency preparedness project (February, 2009) have been drafted under article 15 of the above-mentioned law. Flu control procedures are carried out in accord with the project.

A personnel who was assigned by local authority chaired bird flu prevention committees at township, district, Region and State level. Representatives from Myanmar Police Force, Development Affairs Committee, Health

Department, Livestock and Breeding Federation and related organizations are members of the committee to which secretary is assigned by Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department.

Flu surveillance is carried out when birds are found to die of suspected flu. If avian flu case is suspected, laboratory samples were tested with Rapid Test Kit for Influenza Type A and sent to Mandalay or Yangon Diagnosis Laboratory.

Veterinary Diagnosis Laboratory underwent tests using Rapid Test Kit for Influenza Type A, RT-PCT & Real Time PCR and Virus isolation in embryonated chicken eggs methods to release confirmation of avian flu case. The Director-General submits lab result to the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries if the tests indicate bird flu and confirms the case. The press release is sent to OIE and United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) as well as to public via dailies, televisions and radios.

To control spreading of the virus and prevent transmission to persons, zone is designated and transfer of chicken and related produce is restricted under avian flu prevention ways.

Transfer and trading of chicken and related produce, farm equipment and vehicles are limited, permitted and restricted in infected area, restricted area and control area.

Cleaning and disinfection are carried out in farms during flu control period. Flu surveillance and public awareness measures were taken in nearby areas of infected farm.

The director-general, heads of township/district/ Region/State Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department report progress constantly to local authority and the ministry.

If no more flu case is reported in the area from the date of last outbreak to 21-day flu control period, the restrictions are withdrawn.

Director-General's Office of the department carries on works to classify the area as disease free area within 90 days from withdrawal.

Considerable cleaning, spraying pesticide and disease surveillance works are completed under Contingency Plan for HPAI control during 90 days from withdrawal. Breeding is allowed only after post-outbreak surveillance shows no more flu cases.

Averting public panic, breeders' loss and disrupted commodity flow is considering points in disease control measures.

Transmission of flu to officials, volunteers and public is cautiously controlled in disease control measures.

The ministry is joining hands with international organizations — FAO, OIE, United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), World Health Organization (WHO), Care Myanmar, USAID — in taking bird flu control measures since 2006. With the cooperation with FAO in implementing eight plans for avian flu control, laboratory of Yangon Zoological Garden is upgraded to Biosafety level II (BSL II), contributing to drafting contingency plan.

Commercial breeding farms in 11 Regions/States, 28 districts and 54 townships with mass breeding coverage and trading of chicken, duck and related products are recorded. A total of 16200 plasmas and samples for tracking flu have been sent to laboratory. Flu awareness trainings were disseminated to breeders in November and December in 2009 and January in 2010. Starting in June of 2010, bird flu surveillance tasks, upgrading laboratories, public awareness measures, improving bio-safety of breeding farms, bird flu surveillance in regions of birds hibernated, compiling trade reports of chicken, duck, pigs and related produce in markets, drawing trade amount and price map and tracking entrance of bird flu were carried out in 78 townships.

Breeding farms recording, GPS recording and inspecting bio security were being carried out.

Being bird flu resistance makes disruptions in diagnosis.

Countries exercising vaccination practices do not achieve absolute success yet. Vaccination is prohibited by the government in some countries. Myanmar is adopting

Stamping out Policy after considering discussions in international meetings and advices of experts at home and abroad.

United Nations Bird Flu and Influenza A/H1N1 Senior Coordinator Dr David Nabarro recognized Myanmar's successful control of disease transmission and transmission to public in cooperation with related departments and organizations. Two scholars of World Bank leveled Myanmar's disease control when they informed Resident Representative of Myanmar as "one of most successful bird flu and Influenza A/H1N1 control projects in East Asia and Pacific region with aid of World Bank" after concluding their field trip to Myanmar.

Local authority, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs, FAO and Myanmar Fisheries Federation equipped breeders in flu affected Mandalay, Sagaing, Yangon and Bago Regions and Mon State and Shan State (East) with GSM phones, medicines and chicks. They were recommended to receive loans from Myanmar Breeding and Fisheries Development Bank.

Some ASEAN countries provide compensation/ financial aid ranging from 15 to 60 per cent of current price, but some do not due to economic status.

With the approval of management committee meeting of the ministry held on 10 September, 2009, Myanmar Breeding and Fisheries Development Bank invested K 25 m seed fund.

Broiler Breeders and Traders Association (Yangon), established 12 December, 2007, raised its fund to K 40 m and is providing assistance for training breeders, spraying pesticide in markets, extended construction of shops and repair of shops.

FAO Compensation Consultant Dr Rose Azuba Musoke visited Myanmar from 24 January to 20 February in 2008. She submitted report on bird flu outbreak, control and providing compensation and relief, revealing the international community has accepted the concept of providing compensation/relief to inform the outbreak by breeders with the knowledge of stamping out; the compensation/relief system can not be endured solely by the government but by private-public partnership fund. He suggested the cooperation of MFF, BBTA (Yangon) and the ministry has prospects of wider development in bird flu control.

From 2003 to 2011 March, 63 countries were infected by bird flu. Avian flu broke out in Myanmar and other eight nations from January to March in 2011. From 2003 to 2011 March, 311 persons — 142 in Indonesia, 59 in Vietnam, 17 in Thailand, 11 in Cambodia and two in Lao — died of bird flu out of infected 528. As the disease control tasks were carried under international norms in Myanmar, only a girl in Kengtung of Shan State (East) was infected by avian flu and there was no death. To curb breeding in wards, breeding zones had been established.

Establishment of private-public partnership fund, subcommittees, drafting of notifications, directives and regulations and disbursing loans will continue.

Areas which needs disease control had been designated under OIE Protocol, bird flu control procedures had been disseminated through media. The State will not be able to provide compensation now. Myanmar Insurance provides insurance related to animals.

Appropriate assistance had been provided to breeding business and recovery works and will be through Livestock and Breeding Federation. Regarding bank loan, Myanmar Breeding and Fishery Development Bank will disburse loan in accord with banking procedures. As the complete clarification on bird flu was presented, it will not be needed to continue dealing with the proposal.

The speaker asked the will of Dr Aye Maung of Rakhine State Constituency-1, resource person, who requested the withdrawal of proposal and keeping it in record of the hluttaw.

The Hluttaw approved the recording of Dr Aye Maung's proposal to be dealt with by next government and that the Hluttaw need not continue reacting the proposal with the volition of resource person.

MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker comforts hospitalized Amyotha Hluttaw Representative

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint, together with elected Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Mya Nyein and officials, enquired after

Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Tin Myint who is receiving treatment at Nay Pyi Taw People's Hospital (1000-bed) here this evening.

On arrival at the hospital, the Speaker and party were welcomed by Minister for Health

Dr Kyaw Myint, departmental heads, Medical Superintendent of the hospital Dr Daw Phyu Phyu and doctors and nurses.

The Speaker and party comforted U Tin Myint from Bago Region Constituency No (3).

MNA



Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint, elected Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Mya Nyein and Minister Dr Kyaw Myint comfort Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Tin Myint of Bago Region Constituency No. 3.—MNA

Rehabilitation of earthquake-hit areas discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—Secretary of the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Maung Maung Swe, Deputy Minister for Progress of Bor-

Myint held a meeting with district and township Peace and Development Councils at Tachilek yesterday morning to coordinate rehabilitation tasks.

In his speech, the minister said that rehabilitation tasks of the victims

mittees in addition to state level ones.

The deputy ministers held discussions about the tasks. The officials reported on work progress. The minister and deputy ministers granted necessary assistance.

Secretary of NDPCC Minister for SWRR U Maung Maung Swe presents K 5 million contributed by SWRR Ministry for reconstruction of Kyakuni Village.
MNA



der Areas and National Races and Development Affairs U Tin Ngwe, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Paing Soe and Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Kyaw

has been started. Relief supplies are being provided for victims with the End-to-End system. He noted that all departments concerned have to work together. He called for formation of district level com-

The minister presented K 30 million donated by the Union Solidarity and Development Association to the victims through Tachilek District USDP. Tachilek District USDP donated K 10 million for rehabilitation of earthquake-ravaged Kyakuni Village.

The minister also presented K 5 million donated by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement to Kyakuni Village.—MNA

USDP of Tachilek District donates K 10 million for rehabilitation of Kyakuni Village.
MNA



Secretary of NDPCC Minister for SWRR U Maung Maung Swe presents K 30 million donated by USDP for earthquake victims.
MNA



Health staff and officials tending to locals in temporary hospital.—MNA

MCG Co., Ltd opens new show room

YANGON, 27 March— Opening of MCG Co., Ltd (Chigo Air-Con family)'s new show room and service centre, was held at No. 201/A, Kyimyindine Road (lower), Ahlon Township, here, this morning. At the ceremony, Secretary U Maung Maung Lat of Yangon City Electric Supply Board, Chairman of Ahlon Township Peace and Development Council U Win Myint and Managing Director U

Kyaw Swa Myint of MCG Co., Ltd cut the ribbon to open the show room.

As a sole agent, MCG Co., Ltd imports and distributes Chigo Air-con only. The company will distribute a wide variety of new model air-con. For more information, contact No.202/A, Kyimyindine Road (lower), Ahlon Township and dial 01-705060, 216244, 227034 and 098622232 (Fax: 01-227034).—MNA

48th Myanma Gems Emporium sets highest record...

(from page 16)

Lots of sizeable jade at fair floor price, lots of quality jade, display of imperial jade, precious jade lots that can be produced as bracelets and figurines were put on display at the 48th Myanma Gems Emporium.

Deputy Director U Ye Htut of Myanma Gems Emporium, Secretary of

rium. The merchants bought kinds of jade as usual depending on types of jade. Especially, the merchant purchased jade for production of finished goods and keeping them as possession."

The emporium put on display 156 gem lots to be sold through tender system and 50 through competitive bidding

Sein Lwin of Myanma Pearl Enterprise said, "Over 99 per cent of pearl lots were sold at the emporium. We saw competitive purchase due to larger size of pearl more than that of previous ones. Therefore, we fetched the higher prices than the street prices. Most of the buyers were from Japan. Among four pearl production countries, foreigners prefer the pearl of Myanmar. We set plans to raise sales of more pearl lots with attraction."



Gem merchants view jade lots at 48th Myanma Gems Emporium.

the Jade Subcommittee of the 48th Myanma Gems Emporium, explained, "Display area was extended for jade lots for its increased numbers at the emporium. Local and foreign gem merchants went round all the places where jade lots were displayed and they bought jade lots. The recent emporium displayed precious and best quality jade lots like the previous emporium. The amount of proceeds was higher than the mid-year empo-

totalling 206. Of them, eight gem lots were sold through tender system and 22 through competitive bidding totalling 30.

Likewise, it put on display 225 pearl lots to be sold through tender system and 30 through competitive bidding totalling 285. Of them, 223 pearl lots were sold through tender system and 30 through competitive bidding totalling 253.

General Manager U

A total of 4719 foreign gem merchants from eight countries and 4000 local gem merchants, totalling 8719, attended the 48th Myanma Gems Emporium. They were convenient in accommodation due to better services of hotels in Nay Pyi Taw.

The Accommodation Subcommittee made preparations for convenient accommodation of gem merchants at 1680 rooms of 23 hotels in Nay Pyi Taw. On 14 March, 3880 foreign



Gem merchants view jade lots at 48th Myanma Gems Emporium.



General Manager U Sein Lwin of Myanma Pearls Enterprise explains sales of pearl lots.

gem merchants who were the highest number of guests stayed there.

The Reception Subcommittee made arrangements for simultaneously serving 5575 guests at 23 canteens of 23 hotels and 31 restaurants. Especially, Phu Man Lon Restaurant was opened at Hotel Oasis beginning 8 March to focus on sales of seafoods for Chinese gem merchants.

The Accommodation Subcommittee arranged Guangzhou-Nay Pyi Taw chartered flight by Myanmar Airways International, Shantung-Yangon chartered flight by

emporium through Myanmar TV, Myawady TV and dailies on time during the period of emporium. As a result, the people across the nation enjoyed the news of emporium.

The Communication Subcommittee sold SIM cards worth FEC 20 for GSM telephones and CDMA telephones for smooth communication of local and foreign gem merchants. In addition, the Wi-Fi Internet was served to the user free of charge at Mani Yadana Jade Hall.

With the assistance of Chinese language interpreter Daw Naing

now I can take same quality jade stone. Transport service is better. While in Myanmar, I eat Myanmar meals. After five-six months, I will consider jade stones how to do them. After that, I will decide to make ornaments. I have no jade finished factory. In Nay Pyi Taw, I prefer to breathe fresh air at the vast lands."

Zhou Quannian, aged 59 of Hong Kong of the People's Republic of China, said, "I have been buying gems since 1999 and now is 23th year. I have won the 10-



Gem merchants seen at 48th Myanma Gems Emporium.

China Southern Airlines, and Macao-Yangon chartered flight by Air Macau for smooth transport of foreign gem merchants. While in Nay Pyi Taw, saloon and van Parami Taxis of Bandoola Transport run for more convenience of gem merchants that the mid-year emporium.

The chairman and officials of Information Subcommittee supervised broadcast of news on gem

Naing Maw, we had interviews with some gem merchants from China during the period of emporium.

Chinese gem merchant Hu Yuanfeng, aged 36 of Shanghai of the People's Republic of China said, "This is my second trip to the emporium. Number of jade stones is higher and their display area is larger. I took quality jade in last emporium but

successive-year buyer award and the 20-successive-year buyer award. Engaging in jade works, I must visit Myanmar. If I was absent to visit the emporium once, I will miss chances. Setting aside the achievement in auction, I must arrive in Myanmar. Price of jade is higher in China. I am always observing changes of jade market."

(See page 11)



Gem merchant Hu Yuanfeng of Shanghai of China explains business.

48th Myanmar Gems Emporium sets highest record...

(from page 10)

He continued to say, "It is difficult to achieve success in auction as the couple of emporiums set the higher prices of

goods. Officials made better arrangements. I think if the direct flights to Nay Pyi Taw can be scheduled, it will be best. Moreover, if larger

number of rooms can be arranged at the hotel, it will be best. I met better services of meals and transport. Mani Yadana Jade Hall is vast and it serves the merchants with air-conditioners. Nay Pyi Taw is clean and pleasant and I enjoy



Jewellery shops seen at Mani Yadana Jade Hall in 48th Myanmar Gems Emporium.

fresh air."

As the People's Republic of China is booming economy, jade industry develops. In consequence, the market demand of jade is higher. Although value of US dollar and Euro are declining, value of Yuan is still strong. Entrepreneurs from other fields invest in jade trade. They purchase quality jade lots for making

attendance at the Myanmar Gems Emporium, one for 30-year successive attendance, two for 20-year successive attendance, two for 15-year successive attendance and 27 for 10-year successive attendance.

Moreover, officials presented prize and certificates of honour to the gem merchants who bought the largest amount of jade lots, gem

highest record on sales of largest amount of jade lots and values more than that of previous emporium.

The Myanmar Gems Emporium Organizing Central Committee formed the subcommittees and successfully held the emporiums under new plans in Nay Pyi Taw in cooperation with the Myanmar Gems



Gem merchants observe jade lots at 48th Myanmar Gems Emporium.

finished goods and fetching benefit from the bought jade lots. Therefore, the gems emporiums were attended by increased numbers of merchants including new comers.

Officials presented gifts to one merchant for 40-year successive

lots and pearl lots.

The 48th Myanmar Gems Emporium 2011 was held for the second time in Nay Pyi Taw. It was attended by many gem merchants who purchased jade, jewellery and pearl lots competitively. The 48th emporium sets the

Entrepreneurs Association. As such, the foreign gem merchants can witness progress of Nay Pyi Taw of the Union of Myanmar and enjoy hospitable cultural traditions of Myanmar citizens.

Translation: TTA

New app lets parents read to children from afar

LONDON, 28 March— Parents whose hectic schedules mean they can't be at home when their children go to bed can now buy an app which enables them to read their youngsters a goodnight story or sing them a lullaby from afar.

"Nursery Rhymes with

StoryTime" allows iPad and iPhone 4 users to read their children tales and rhymes like Jack and Jill, Humpty Dumpty and Three Blind Mice from their office desks or anywhere else they may be so their children don't miss out on their bedtime ritual.

Reuters



A tourist communicates with local folk artists during a cultural festival held in a park in the desert of Kum Tag, Shanshan County, northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, on 26 March, 2011. The cultural festival includes folk art performances, recreation facilities and so on, attracting many tourists.

XINHUA

Written plans effective for asthma control

MONTREAL, 28 March—Researchers in Canada say two written action plans — one for after seeing the doctor and one for after hospital treatment — control asthma in children.

Dr Francine Ducharme of the University of Montreal's Department of Pediatrics and the Sainte-Justine University Hospital Centre says having asthma patients adhere to their drug regimes is a major challenge for doctors — 65 percent of children do not use their medication effectively.

"This research shows that, even in the emergency department setting where little time is available to provide education, the provision of a written action plan significantly improved patient adherence to

prescribed inhaled and oral drugs and to physicians' recommendations," Ducharme says in a statement.

The asthma plans include a structured template for the management of short-term, long-term and non-drug treatment of the asthma; key health messages and a self-assessment asthma control tool. The plans have a triplicate form format that gives a copy to the patient, the pharmacist and the doctor.

"The idea is to facilitate the provision of the plan by the physician and to encourage the pharmacist in reinforcing the plan — we're bringing the prescribing doctor, the pharmacist and the patient closer together," Ducharme says.

Internet

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV NP GLORY-4 VOY NO (001)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV NP GLORY-4 VOY NO (001) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.3.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses 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 FREIGHT OVERSEA
EXPRESS CO, LTD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (379)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (379) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.3.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses 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



Visitors watch a mosaic image of Russian cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin in Duna Plaza Shopping Centre in Budapest, Hungary, on 27 March, 2011. A 30 square metres large mosaic image made from 470,016 Lego pieces was finished to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first human spaceflight accomplished on 12 April, 1961.

XINHUA

Invitation To Tender

Sr No	Description	Qty	Issuing Date	Closing Date
1.	Felt	22 Rolls	29.3.2011	9.5.2011
2.	Fiber (4T)	700 Tons	29.3.2011	9.5.2011
3.	Coconut Shell (Burned)	13 Tons	29.3.2011	9.5.2011
4.	Soda Ash Dense	10950 Tons	29.3.2011	9.5.2011
5.	Hammer	40 Nos	29.3.2011	9.5.2011
6.	Heavy Equipment Spare	1 Lot	29.3.2011	9.5.2011
7.	Steel Products	31 Items	29.3.2011	9.5.2011
8.	Electrical Spares	17 Items	29.3.2011	9.5.2011
9.	Heat Resistance Chain & Chain Shoe	1 Lot	29.3.2011	9.5.2011
10.	Kiln Hanging Chain Bolt & Nut	1 Lot	29.3.2011	9.5.2011
11.	Steel Lining Plate Accessories	1 Lot	29.3.2011	9.5.2011

Tender forms and documents are available at the Procurement Department, Myanma Ceramic Enterprise, Ministry of Industry (1), Office No. 41, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours. Tender will be accepted only from Bidder who purchased Tender Documents officially. (For further details, contact telephone number 067-408298)

Myanma Ceramic Industry

Storms pelt Southeast with large hail for second day

This NOAA satellite image taken Tuesday, March 22, 2011 at 02:00 a.m. EDT shows clouds develop across most of the Central US.—INTERNET

CHICAGO, 28 March— Severe thunderstorms storms that raked the Southeast with scattered tornadoes, large hail and high winds on Saturday reemerged across the region on Sunday after an overnight lull, meteorologists said.

The storms on Sunday pelted parts of Georgia, Alabama and South Carolina with hail stones, some as large as tennis balls, but no serious damage was immediately reported.

Internet

**Uncompleted building collapse leaves 1 dead, up to 9 trapped in China**

GUIYANG, 28 March— One person has been confirmed dead and at least six others were trapped after a building under construction collapsed Monday in south-west China's Guizhou Province, local work safety authorities said.

The accident happened around 11 am when a four-story residential building toppled in Yangguan Village in the provincial capital of Guiyang City, said a spokesman with the provincial administration of work safety.—Xinhua

Photo taken on 26 March, 2011 shows a scene of Xiaopang, a villa in Qing Dynasty, in Yangzhou City of east China's Jiangsu Province. — XINHUA

Derailed fuel train on fire in Ontario

PORT HOPE, 28 March —A "red alert" issued after a freight train derailed in Canada, setting one rail car on fire and cutting a gas pipeline, was lifted on Sunday night, officials said. The accident prompted the evacuation of 20 homes within a mile of the track in Port Hope, Ontario, but no injuries were reported, Deputy Police Chief Garry Hull told the Canadian Broadcasting Corp.

The CN train derailed about 12:20 pm, Sgt Pe-

ter Thivierge told the local newspaper, the *Northumberland News*. A hazardous materials team from Toronto was sent to the scene. Jim Feeny of the CN railway said up to 20 of the train's 116 cars left the tracks, *Postmedia News* reported. A resident told CP24.com in Toronto that eight or nine cars were on their sides.

"Some of those cars contain dangerous commodities, (jet) fuel and propane," he said.

Internet

Dairy products crackdown

BEIJING, 28 March — At least 20 percent of domestic companies will be kicked out of the dairy market at the end of this month following the latest inspection by the central government of China's fresh milk and infant formula producers, official sources revealed.

To help Chinese companies win back a bigger share of the domestic market, the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) ordered its local branches to re-inspect dairy enterprises that

had already obtained production licenses. The deadline to do so is 31 March.

According to data released in late February by four provinces and an autonomous region that had completed the reinspection Fujian, Guangdong, Shanxi, Sichuan and Ningxia all but Sichuan saw 30 percent of its dairy companies fail. Those companies will have their licenses revoked by the government. In Sichuan, less than 20 percent of dairy enterprises failed. Mu Jingjun, secretary-general of the China Dairy Industry Association, said it is now time to clarify the situation and air the facts.

Internet

Mine gas leak kills 8, injures three in SW China

GUIYANG, 28 March — Eight workers were killed and three injured in a coal mine gas leak in southwest China's Guizhou Province early Monday, local authorities said.

The accident occurred at about 3:30 am at Luoduo Coal Mine in Yuni Township of Panxian County in Liupanshui City when 95 mine workers were underground.

Eighty-four miners escaped by themselves or were rescued out, said Tan Bo, a deputy director of Panxian county publicity department.

The mine was under technological renovation to expand annual capacity to 300,000 tonnes from 60,000 tonnes, Tan said.

Local work safety authorities were investigating cause of the accident.—Xinhua



Students take part in a robot contest in Suzhou, east China's Jiangsu Province, on 26 March, 2011. A total of 273 students from 63 middle schools and primary schools in Suzhou attended a robot contest on Saturday. The robots competed in games such as football, basketball and so on.— XINHUA

Fan throws banana at Brazil striker Neymar

A banana was thrown on to the pitch towards Brazil striker Neymar during Sunday's 2-0 friendly win over Scotland at the Emirates Stadium.

The 19-year-old, who scored both goals, had been regularly jeered by Scotland fans unhappy at what they considered his feigning of injury in the early stages.

He said he did not

see the banana being thrown but saw it on the ground next to him as he was near the touchline.

"It's sad that these things happen but I'm not going to worry about it too much," Neymar told *Reuters*.

"It was a marvellous day and certainly one to remember."

Brazil coach Mano Menezes said he had not seen the incident but that

if it had happened it was "lamentable."

Midfielder Lucas Leiva, who plays in England for Liverpool, told Brazil's Globo TV Sports channel: "There is no room for racism nowadays."

"Europe, which is considered the first world, is the place where this thing happens more. Today, colour and race shouldn't mean anything."

News Album



Five-day-old ostriches eat on the Maasai Ostrich Farm, 45 kilometres from Nairobi, capital of Kenya, on 27 March, 2011. The Maasai Ostrich Farm, covering 200 acres of rolling grasslands, supplies Kenya and overseas countries with ostrich meat, feather, skin and livestock since 1991. The Maasai Ostrich Farm has a total of 1000 ostriches being reared in the area. There are two types of ostriches on the farm, the blue neck ostrich and the Masai ostrich.

Indonesia airport foils smugglers with 40 pythons

Indonesian airport officials said they had foiled an attempt by two Kuwaitis to smuggle 40 pythons in their luggage.

Suspects Yaqub Ebrahim and Ali Hasan were caught Friday at Jakarta's international airport as they tried to carry the sedated serpents onto an Emirates Airlines flight to Dubai.

"From many foiled cases, people often use the flights to Dubai to smuggle illegal animals," Salahudin Rafi, operational and technical director at airport operator Angkasa Pura II, said in an emailed statement to *AFP*.

He said the suspects usually sedated the animals so officers could not detect them.

"For the sake of flight safety and



This file photo shows a pair of pet pythons. Indonesian airport officials said Saturday they had foiled an attempt by two Kuwaitis to smuggle 40 pythons in their luggage.

security, no animals are allowed to be brought onto aircraft without permission and special handling. Especially pythons, which are considered as wild animals," Rafi said.

The two suspects were questioned by airport authorities and the pythons were taken to the animal quarantine centre at the airport.

NY zoo closes reptile house after cobra disappears

A poisonous cobra has vanished from an enclosure outside public view at the Bronx Zoo, and its Reptile House remained closed Sunday as a precaution while zoo workers searched for the missing reptile.

While the roughly 20-inch-long Egyptian cobra — a highly venomous species of snake — has been unaccounted for since Friday afternoon, zoo officials say they're confident it hasn't gone far and isn't in a public area. Its enclosure was in an isolation area not open to visitors.

"To understand the situation, you have to understand snakes," zoo Director Jim Breheny said in an email Sunday.

Reese Witherspoon weds agent beau in California

LOS ANGELES, 28 March—Reese Witherspoon has walked down the aisle.

A spokeswoman for the actress says the "Walk the Line" star wed her fiancé, Holly-wood agent Jim Toth, in Ojai, Calif, about 90 miles north of Los Angeles. Publicist Nicole Perna did not reveal details about the Saturday

ceremony.

Usmagazine.com first reported the nuptials.

The Oscar-winning actress and Toth announced their engagement in December.

Toth is an agent for Creative Artists Agency, which represents Witherspoon through another agent.

The 35-year-old actress

won an Acad-emy Award for her portrayal of June Carter in 2005's "Walk the Line." Witherspoon's other film credits include "Legally Blonde," "Four Christmases" and the forthcoming "Water for Elephants."

She was previously married to actor Ryan Phillippe, with whom she has two children: 11-year-



Reese Witherspoon

old daughter Ava and 7-year-old son Deacon.

Internet

Antoine Fuqua to direct Chinese concubine romance

HONG KONG, 28 March—"Training Day" director Antoine Fuqua has signed on to direct a Chinese biopic about a legendary concubine.

The as-yet-untitled film will tell the tragic love story involving imperial consort Yang Guifei, one of the four famed beauties of ancient China, and 8th century Emperor Xuanzong, the longest reigning monarch of the Tang Dynasty. Their love affair has been widely celebrated by classical poets and is the subject of paintings, Chinese operas, books and television shows in the subsequent millennium.

The \$30 million Chinese-language project has been in development for two years. The script is now being finalized and casting is underway. Production will begin in locations across China later this year for a targeted 2012 release. Fuqua is also slated to direct Morgan Creek's Tupac Shakur biopic in late spring/early summer.—*Reuters*



Cast member David Hasselhoff (C) and daughters Taylor Ann (L) and Hayley Amber (R) attend the premiere of the film "Hop" in Los Angeles on 27 March, 2011.—XINHUA

Arcade Fire, Justin Bieber win Canada music awards

TORONTO, 28 March—Fresh from their surprise win of the top prize at the Grammys last month, indie Montreal rockers Arcade Fire took home four prizes at Canada's Juno Awards in Toronto.

But the band didn't have the spotlight all to itself on Sunday: Justin Bieber took home his first-ever trophies. On the other hand, ceremony host Drake was snubbed despite leading the field with six nominations.

Arcade Fire won Junos for best group, best album and alternative album ("The Suburbs"), and best songwriter. The statuettes join its Grammy for album

of the year.

Bieber, overlooked at the Grammys, predictably won the fan choice Juno award — the only competition determined by ordinary fans — and best pop album ("My World 2.0"). The teen sensation, on tour in Europe, sent a video message of thanks.

"I want to thank the fans so much for being so supportive, buying my albums and voting for me... All right — peace, Junos," he said.

Bieber was outshone by Neil Young in the best artist competition. Young also received a humanitarian award.—*Reuters*



A model presents creation designed by Lee Angel during the fashion show of the China Fashion Week in Beijing, capital of China, on 27 March, 2011.—XINHUA

Marseille president confident Deschamps will stay

PARIS, 28 March — Marseille president Jean-Claude Dassier tried to allay fears of Didier Deschamps leaving the club by saying Sunday that he did “not doubt for one second” that the coach would stay put next year. “I’ll do what I must so he stays,” Dassier told Canal Plus. “I’ve seen that the transfer market



Marseille president Jean-Claude Dassier

opened early at Marseille.

“It’s a clear undertaking of destabilisation of the club and it must stop,” Dassier added: “I’m convinced that he (Deschamps) will stay with us.” Another coach who has been subject of much transfer rumour is Lyon’s Claude Puel, but his club president Jean-Michel Aulas said he would “in principle” fulfil his contract. “There’s one year left on his contract and there’s no reason in principle that things don’t carry on as are for the last year of his contract.”

Internet

SPORTS

Sao Paulo defeat Corinthians as Ceni scores 100th career goal

RIO DE JANEIRO, 28 March — In the classic match against rivals Corinthians, Sao Paulo won 2-1 on Sunday in the 16th round of the Sao Paulo state championship. Veteran goalie Rogerio Ceni scored his 100th career goal for Sao Paulo, aiding his team to victory, marking his team’s first win over the rivals in four years.

Sao Paulo scored the game’s first goal in the 39th minute. Controlling the ball from outside the penalty box, Dagoberto pelted a shot that sailed into the upper left corner of the Corinthians goal. Goalie Rogerio Ceni scored his team’s second goal in the 53rd minute. Commanding a free kick at the top of the penalty box, Ceni drove the ball with perfection into the right angle of the goal. — Internet

Laird survives early collapse to win Bay Hill

ORLANDO, 28 March — All that stood between Martin Laird and victory at Bay Hill were two putts from just inside 90 feet on the 18th hole, which didn’t seem all that long considering what he already had been through on Sunday. First came a stunning collapse that took him from a three-shot lead to a three-shot deficit in a span of seven holes. He was three shots behind when he walked off the 14th green, two shots ahead as he headed to the 17th tee.

Laird knocked the first putt up to 3 1/2 feet, then jabbed his fist when he rolled in the par putt to win the Arnold Palmer Invitational. “That was a hell of a day,” Laird said.



Martin Laird, of Scotland

“That was a tough fight out there. It was a battle out there, but you know, it makes it even sweeter at the end when I got this trophy.” In the toughest final round on the PGA Tour this year, Laird was strong at the end with two birdies and two clutch pars to close with a 3-over 75, the highest final round by a winner in the 33-year history at Bay Hill. — Internet



Algeria’s Gazale (L) fights with Morocco’s Selimani during their Group D qualifying match for the African Cup of Nations CAN-2012 held in Annaba, east of Algeria, on 27 March, 2011. Algeria won by 1-0. —INTERNET

Drogba spells double trouble for Benin



Chelsea striker Didier Drogba

JOHANNESBURG, 28 March — Chelsea striker Didier Drogba scored twice as Ivory Coast hit back to defeat Benin 2-1 and maintain their perfect record in 2012 Africa Cup of Nations qualifiers. Recalled after missing Group H victories over Rwanda and Burundi, Drogba levelled on the

stroke of half-time and snatched the 74th-minute winner in Ghana capital Accra.

Benin had stunned the ‘Elephants’ by taking an early lead through Seidath Tchomogo as they chased a victory that would have lifted them into first position on the table.

The fixture was moved from Abidjan for security reasons as Ivory Coast has seen increasingly violent unrest following a disputed presidential election result with incumbent Laurent Gbagbo refusing to accept defeat.

Internet

Del Potro bounces Soderling from Miami Masters tennis event

MIAMI, 28 March — Former US Open champion Juan Martin Del Potro stormed further down his comeback path Sunday, the unseeded Argentinian stunning fourth seed Robin Soderling 6-3, 6-2 in the Miami WTA and ATP Masters.

Del Potro, who beat Roger Federer for the 2009 US Open crown but then missed eight months in 2010 as he recovered from wrist surgery, thrilled his fans at Crandon Park as he beat one of ATP’s standouts to reach the fourth round. No one had won more matches this year than Sweden’s Soderling, who has claimed 20 matches and three titles.

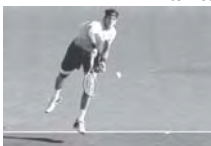
But now Del Potro has pulled alongside as he pro-

duced his 20th win of 2011.

Del Potro, ranked 51st but climbing fast, has won five of his last seven matches against top-four players and has now beaten Soderling in their past three encounters.

Spain’s David Ferrer, the world number six, also produced a third-round victory as he defeated Indian Somdev Devvarman 6-4, 6-2. Mardy Fish kept the US flag flying as he defeated Frenchman Richard Gasquet 6-4, 6-3.

Internet



Juan Martin Del Potro of Argentina

New captain for England again as Terry released

LONDON, 28 March — England coach Fabio Capello will have to choose another captain for Tuesday’s friendly with Ghana as he released John Terry for the match because he has Champions League commitments the week after. Terry’s Chelsea team-mates Ashley Cole and Frank Lampard — a scorer in the 2-0 win over Wales in their Euro 2012 qualifier on Saturday — Spurs central defender Michael Dawson and Manchester United striker Wayne Rooney were also allowed to leave.

All five players played in the Wales game, but Capello has retained Dawson’s Spurs team-mates Peter Crouch, Jermain Defoe and Aaron Lennon as they didn’t

make an appearance. Capello, who attracted severe criticism in the manner he handled the reappointment of Terry in place of Rio Ferdinand as skipper, is likely to field a completely different lineup to the one that eased to victory in Cardiff.

Internet



England coach Fabio Capello will have to choose another captain for Tuesday’s friendly with Ghana as he released John Terry, for the match because he has Champions League commitments the week after. — INTERNET

Inter: Sneijder not to join Manchester United

ROME, 28 March — Inter president Massimo Moratti has denied midfielder Wesley Sneijder will leave the San Siro and join Manchester United. Sneijder will end his contract with Inter in 2015, and Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson has seen him as a replacement for Paul Scholes.

Manchester United, however, may be dissuaded from making a bid following the 26-year-old’s valuation of 40 million pounds along with a wage of 140,000 per week, according to some reports. “The interest from Manchester United in Sneijder is real,” Moratti was quoted as saying. —Internet

Sandra Gal wins Kia Classic



Sandra Gal, of Germany

INDUSTRY, 28 March — Sandra Gal won the Kia Classic on Sunday to become the second German winner in LPGA Tour history, beating second-ranked Jiyai Shin with a 2-foot birdie putt on the final hole. The 25-year-old Gal, a former University of Florida player, made the winning putt after Shin’s 5-foot birdie attempt caught the

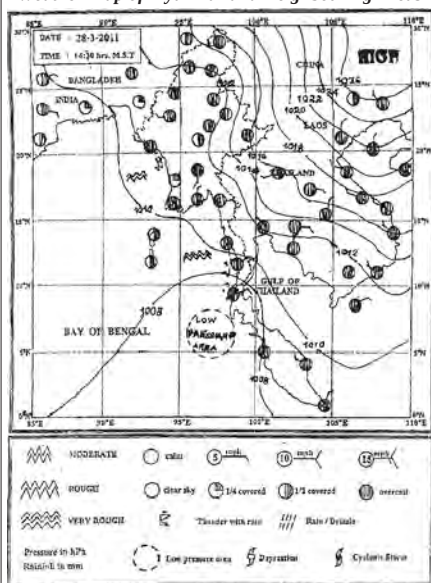
right edge and spun out.

“It was big pressure, she was so close to the hole,” Shin said. “I was thinking I had to make it.” Gal closed with a 2-under 71 to finish at 16-under 276 on the Industry Hills Golf Club course at Pacific Palms. She set up the winning birdie with a sand wedge shot from 83 yards on the par-5 18th. “I was trying to hole it,” Gal said. “I came close. I thought I made it.”

Tina Fischer is the only other Germany champion. She won the 2001 Asahi Ryokuen International. “I had the belief coming out this morning that I could win,” Gal said. “I thought I could do it. I just tried to play the course instead of Jiyai.” Shin, an eight-time winner on the LPGA Tour, finished with a 73.

Internet

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Monday, 28th March, 2011

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T.

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kayah State, fairly widespread in Taninthayi Region, Shan and Chin States, scattered in Upper Sagaing Region, Kachin, Rakhine and Kayin States and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States. Day temperatures were (3°C) above March average temperatures in Kachin State and (3°C) to (4°C) below March average temperature in Lower Sagaing and Bago Regions, Northern Shan and Chin States, (5°C) to (6°C) below March average temperature in Mandalay, Yangon and Taninthayi Regions, Mon State, (7°C) to (8°C) below March average temperature in Upper Sagaing Region and Kayin State and about March average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperatures were Nay Pyi Taw (Yezin), Nay Pyi Taw (Pyinmana) and Aungmye (38°C) each. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Loikaw (1.53) inches, Zaungtu (1.05) inches, Namhsam (0.71) inch, Kawthoung (0.55) inch, and Loilem (0.39) inch.

Nay Pyi Taw

Maximum temperature on 27-3-2011 was 100°F. Minimum temperature on 28-3-2011 was 70°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 28-3-2011 was (69%). Rainfall on 28-3-2011 was (Nil).

Yangon (Kaba-Aye)

Maximum temperature on 27-3-2011 was 89°F. Minimum temperature on 28-3-2011 was 73°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 28-3-2011 was (54%). Total sunshine hours on

27-3-2011 was (2.5) hours (Approx).

Rainfall on 28-3-2011 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon each. Total rainfall since 1-1-2011 was (5.79) inches at Mingaladon, (6.89) inches at Kaba-Aye and (7.09) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (10) mph from Southeast at (12:30) hours MST on 27-3-2011.

Bay Inference: According to the observations at (12:30) hrs MST today, the Low Pressure Area has formed over South Andaman Sea. Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and partly cloudy in the South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of the 29th March 2011: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Lower Sagaing and Magway Regions, Rakhine and Chin States and scattered in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of rain or thundershowers will be isolated in the Lower Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 29-3-2011: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 29-3-2011: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 29-3-2011: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Hip-hop DJ Megatron shot dead in NYC

NEW YORK, 28 March— A Staten Island disc jockey and popular hip hop TV personality was shot dead early Sunday in a possible gang hit, New York police said.

DJ Megatron, 32, whose given name was Corey McGriff, was on his block when his killer came upon him about 2 am and fired a single shot, police told the *New York Daily News*.

A witness who heard the shot called 911, but when medics arrived at the scene, he was dead.

Forensics teams combed the crime scene for more than 4 hours, and police appealed for witnesses to come forward.

"I can't see it being a personal thing because I don't know of anybody who had a personal issue with him," one friend who asked not to be identified said.

A few months ago, a person claiming to be



DJ Megatron

owed money by Megatron began posting hostile, threatening messages on his YouTube videos.

Police could not say whether the commenter is a possible suspect.

One police source said Megatron did not seem to be a robbery victim. He was a DJ on New York's Hot 97 radio before joining BET's "106 & Park" programme.—*Internet*

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL Programme Schedule (29-3-2011) (Tuesday)

Transmissions	Times
Local	- (09:00am~11:00am)MST
Oversea Transmission	- (29-3-11 09:30 am ~ 30-3-11 09:30 am) MST

Local Transmission

- * Opening
- * News
- * Bagan, the Rhapsody of Myanma Culture
- * News
- * Spotlight on the Star "Tin Tin Nyo, Her Life & Her Movies"
- * News
- * Music Gallery
- * News
- * Ar Khar New Year Festival

Oversea Transmission

- * Opening
- * News
- * Bagan, the Rhapsody of Myanma Culture
- * News
- * Spotlight on the Star "Tin Tin Nyo, Her Life & Her Movies"
- * News
- * Offshore Challenge
- * News
- * Ar Khar New Year Festival
- * News
- * Wonderful Pagodas on the Mount "Akauk"
- * News
- * Youth of the Future (Vocalist)
- * News
- * Sitagu International buddhist Academy (SIBA)
- * News
- * Typical Traditional Dress for Ladies
- * Myanmar Movie "Love Servant"



Tuesday,
29 March
View on today

7:00 am

1. Paritta By Hilly
Region Missionary
Sayadaw

7:15 am

2. Dhamma Puja Song

7:25 am

3. To Be Healthy
Exercise

7:30 am

4. Morning News

7:40 am

5. Nice & Sweet Song

7:50 am

6. Health Programme

8:00 am

7. Dance Of National
Races

8:10 am

8. Songs Of Yester
Years

8:25 am

9. Myanmar Traditional
Cultural Performing
Arts Competitions

8:40 am

10. International News

8:45 am

11. Musical Programme

4:00 pm

1. Martial Song

4:05 pm

2. Musical Programme

4:15 pm

3. Teleplay (Health)

4:25 pm

4. The Mirror Images
Of The Musical
Oldies

4:40 pm

5. University Of
Distance Education
(TV Lectures)
-First Year
(Zoology)

4:55 pm

6. Songs For
Upholding
National Spirit

5:10 pm

7. Sweet Melody

5:25 pm

8. Star Garden

6:00 pm

9. Evening News

6:15 pm

10. Weather Report

6:20 pm

11. Kyae Pwint Myaye
Yin Khone Than

6:45 pm

12. TV Drama Series

8:00 pm

13. News

14. International News

15. Weather Report

16. Just for Laughs

17. TV Drama Series

- ★ Only with stability and peace will the nation develop
- ★ Only with stability and peace will democratization process be successful

- ★ Anarchy begets anarchy, not democracy
- ★ Riots beget riots, not democracy
- ★ Democracy can be introduced only through constitution

People's Desire

- We favour peace and stability
- We favour development
- We oppose unrest and violence
- Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

- ★ VOA, BBC-sowing hatred among the people
- ★ RFA, DVB-generating public outrage
- ★ Do not allow ourselves to be swayed by killer broadcasts designed to cause troubles

48th Myanmar Gems Emporium sets highest record on sales of largest jade lots

Article: Tin Htwe (MNA); Photos: Ko Htwe & Htein Nan Naw (MNA)



Local and foreign gem merchants observing jade lots at 48th Myanmar Gems Emporium held at Mani Yadana Jade Hall near Gems Museum in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

The Myanmar Gems Emporium held for the second time in Nay Pyi Taw has completed successfully. The 48th Myanmar Gems Emporium, which took place at Mani Yadana Jade Hall near the Gems Museum in Nay Pyi Taw from 10 to 22 March, has set records on display of the largest

number of jade lots, sales of the largest lots of jade, the highest amount of proceeds from the sales and the arrival of local and foreign gem merchants.

A total of 16926 lots of jade were displayed to be sold in the 48th Myanmar Gems Emporium. Jade lots in the 48th emporium were much many

jade lots and needed more place than that of the 2010 Mid-year emporium. Therefore, jade lots were displayed not only around Mani Yadana Jade Hall but also near the car parking and around the Gems Museum (Nay Pyi Taw).

In the 48th Myanmar Gems Emporium, 13380 lots of jade were sold through tender and 228 lots of jade through competitive bidding system, totalling 13608 lots. Indeed, these lots were larger than the previous emporiums. Jade lots were sold two times more than the previous year and amount of proceeds and higher than that of previous emporiums. Moreover, prices of quality jade lots were in high.

(See page 10)

Low pressure area occurs over Andaman Sea

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—Department of Meteorology and Hydrology announced today that according to the observations at (12:30) hrs MST today, a low pressure area forms over south of Andaman Sea. This system is under watch further intensify.

Influence of the low pressure area, squall with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthyai coasts. Surface wind speed in squall may reach (35) to (40) m.p.h.—MNA