

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Friday, 16 December, 2011

## Our Three Main National Causes

\* Non-disintegration of the Union | \* Non-disintegration of National Solidarity | \* Perpetuation of Sovereignty

## Administrators to carry out their daily tasks with pride and genuine goodwill without hopes for any reward

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Dec.—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife Daw Nan Shwe Hmon, who are in Lashio of Shan State (North), together with Union Ministers, Shan State Chief Minister, Deputy Ministers, Departmental Heads and entrepreneurs, left Lashio for Muse by Tatmadaw helicopters yesterday morning.

Upon arrival at No.1 Basic Education High School in Muse, the Vice-President and party inspected teaching aids rooms and learning of students.

The cash donation ceremony for the school was followed. Six entrepreneurs donated K 5 million for school funds and K 5 million for 10 sets of computer and related-materials; the Shan State Chief Minister, K 1 million for school funds; Union Minister for Sports, sport gears; and Shwe Thanlwin Company; 12 set of Sky Net TV receivers through officials and school head.

On arrival at Muse People's Hospital, the Vice-President and party encouraged the patients at patient wards and intensive care unit.

Then, they also inspected infant ward, operation theater, X-ray room, HIV/STD department, Blood Donation Bank, laboratory room, dental outpatient unit.

After that, cash donation ceremony for medical fund was held at the meeting hall of the hospital. Medical fund of K 20 million was donated by Kanbawza Bank Ltd, Loi Hein Co, Shwe Thanlwin Co, Asia World Co, IGE Co and Tamoenye Chantha Co and two set of Sky Net TV receivers by Shwe Thanlwin Co via Medical Superintendent.

The Vice-President and party visited learning of students at BEHS( branch) in Zay Ward in Muse. There, Kanbawza Bank Ltd, ACE Co, IGE Co, Loi Hein Co, Tamoenye Chantha Co, Asia World Co and Shwe Thanlwin Co donated K 120 million for construction of two-storied school building through the school head. The Vice-President and party posed for a documentary photo



*Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham visits Basic Education High School No. 1 in Muse.—MNA*

together with the school head, teachers and entrepreneurs.

Then, the Vice-President, wife and party attended a ceremony to pay obeisance to senior monks held at

Labamyitta Dhammayon of Mahawonmyauk monastery, and offered offertories, rice and oil.

Afterwards, the Vice-President proceeded to Nandaw border trade gate in Muse of Myanmar-China border. At the gate, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Sports U Tint Hsan and Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Kyaw Kyaw Win reported to the Vice-President on daily inflow and outflow of travelers and inspection of import and export for smooth flow of goods.

Regarding the reports, the Vice-President urged officials to undertake more development of tourism industry, to manage quick availability of visa and to carry out the work in line with designated law and regulations.

After that, the Vice-President and party took documentary photo in the front of border post in Muse Nandaw gate.

The Vice-President met administrators of wards and village-tracts and townselders in Muse District and Township at Shweli Yadana Hall in Muse.

Speaking on the occasion, the Vice-President said that he met all administrators of Muse region to urge them to dutifully take up their tasks in line with the changing situation.

After the multiparty democracy general election has been held, all Hluttaw representatives elected by the people are now discharging their duties in three powers, he said.

He said that courts at different levels and judges freely adopt verdicts by practising judicial power.

With regard to legislative power, he said that Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw

(See page 8)



*Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham views displays of beans, maize, sesame and agricultural produce brokerage at checkpoint of Muse 105-mile Border Trade Camp.—MNA*

## PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 16 December, 2011

### March towards destiny of drug elimination

Narcotic drug is posing a major threat to mankind throughout the world. Myanmar is applying two strategies and three tactics in combating danger of narcotic drug.

Two strategies are to exert all-round efforts so as to accelerate the anti-drug campaign as a national concern and to gradually eliminate the practice of poppy cultivation, while improving the economic and social life of the national races and the border areas. Three tactics are the supply elimination, the demand elimination and the law enforcement.

Myanmar is implementing the 15-year narcotic elimination plan as of 1999-2000. A target was set out to complete the plan in 2014 one year ahead of 2015 adopted by the ASEAN.

With momentum, Myanmar is destroying poppy plantations in eliminating the narcotic drugs, while incinerating the seized narcotic drugs for several times.

A plan is underway to open development camps in respective poppy cultivated areas in 2012 for prevention against poppy cultivation. At present, plans on alternative development, uplift of social life, food sufficiency, raising crop cultivation and micro-economy, jointly organized by Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control and Yangon-based UNODC, are being implemented in three townships of Shan State (South), starting from 2010.

Besides realizing the plans on narcotic drug elimination at home, Myanmar is joining hands with international drug control committees. Especially, Myanmar exchanges information with DEA and AFP in addition to China, Thailand and Bangladesh.

Nowadays, Myanmar is accelerating elimination of narcotic drug threatening the mankind in line with the plans.

### Work-coordination meeting of Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee and ministries, Union level departments held

**NAY PYI TAW, 15 Dec—** A work-coordination meeting of Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee and the ministries and Union level departments was held at the meeting hall of No. 3 building of Pyithu Hluttaw Committee of Hluttaw Building here at 1:00 pm today, with an address of Chairman of Committee for Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings U Win Sein.

It was attended by Vice Chairman of the Committee, Secretary and committee members, officials concerned from the ministries and Union level departments.

Chairman U Win Sein discussed matters relating to the queries and the proposals assured at the first second regular session.

Those present at the meeting respectively presented progresses of tasks being carried out, which are related to the queries and the proposals promised at the first second regular session.

The meeting came to an end after the committee chairman had carefully considered the presentations.

MNA

### Myanmar, Brazil to promote bilateral ties

**NAY PYI TAW, 15 Dec—** Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Wunna Maung Lwin received Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Brazil to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr Jose Carlos da Fonseca Junior at 11.30 am at the minister's office here today.

During the meeting, they cordially discussed promotion of bilateral relations and cooperation on matters of mutual interests.

MNA



### Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Banks and Monetary Development Committee meets Harvard economists delegation



Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Banks and Monetary Development Committee U Aung Thaug and members receive Harvard economists led by Mr. Thomas J. Valley. MNA

**YANGON, 15 Dec—** A Harvard economists delegation led by Harvard Economist of United States Mr. Thomas J. Valley, called on Chairman of Pyithu

Hluttaw Banks and Monetary Development Committee U Aung Thaug and members at the meeting hall of Myanmar Banks Association on Sibin Road in Yankin Township

here at 9:00 am today.

Together with the Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Banks and Monetary Development Committee were

Maung Maung Soe, committee members, chairpersons of private banks, directors, administrative directors, and officials concerned.—MNA

### Kayin State Chief Minister drives stakes at chosen places for factories, workshops in Hpa-an Industrial Zone

**NAY PYI TAW, 15 Dec—** A stake-driving ceremony of factories and workshops whose owners are those who invest their property on development of Kayin State took place at Hpa-an Industrial Zone on 7 December, 2011, in the presence of Kayin State Chief Minister U Zaw Min, Chairman of Myanmar Southern Development Co Ltd U Thant Zin Tun, the company members.

Afterwards, the State Chief Minister and party participated in stake-driving activities at the ware House of Myanmar Southern Development Co, the ware houses of Thein Lin Myaing Co and UMH Co, the chosen places for ware house projects including industrial enterprises of the

residents, the chosen places for a sub-power station of Thanlwin Ayera Industrial Production and Construction Co, the chosen place for Myanmar Police Station in Hpa-an Industrial Zone, the chosen place for mobile communication station of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications, the chosen place for a workshop for wearing out of bikes of Myahtaykywe Co.

Besides, the State Chief Minister and party gave a hand for stake-driving events at the chosen place for a ware house of Sein and Thaug Family Co, the chose place for a factory of Shwe Thanlwin Co, and the chosen place for a hotel near Hpa-an Golf Course.—MNA

### 2<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Men's Hockey Tournament continues



**YANGON, 15 Dec—** Second ASEAN Men's Hockey Tournament jointly organized by Asian Hockey Federation

### 12<sup>th</sup> National Badminton Championship (Great Wall) commences

**YANGON, 15 Dec—** The opening of National Badminton Championship (Great Wall)-2011 took place at National Tennis Court in Lanmadaw Township here this morning.

On the occasion, President of Myanmar Badminton Federation U Maung Maung Swe made an introductory speech. First-day matches then started.—MNA

and Myanmar Hockey Federation continued its second day at Theinbyu Hockey Turf yesterday.

Malaysia beat Singapore 3-0 while Thailand won over Myanmar 2-1.

Myanmar will vie with Malaysia at 8 am and Thailand with Singapore at 10 am on 16 December.

MNA

*Hussein al-Asadi, a representative from Iraqi Prime Minister, and US Army Captain Timothy Martin shake hands during a ceremonial handover of Camp Echo in Diwaniya, Iraq, on 14 Dec, 2011. Camp Echo is the 504th military camp handed over from the US to Iraqi military forces. There is only one more camp left to be handed over before on 31 Dec, the deadline of the withdrawal of the US troops in Iraq.—XINHUA*



**Iran ready to start nuclear work in bunker**

VIENNA, 15 Dec—Iran could soon begin sensitive atomic activities in an underground facility deep inside a mountain, diplomatic sources said on Wednesday, a move that would up the ante in a stand-off with big powers demanding Teheran curb such work.

Iranian experts have carried out the necessary preparations at Fordow near the Shi'ite Muslim holy

city of Qom, paving the way for the Islamic Republic to start higher-grade uranium enrichment at the site on a former military base.

The machines, equipment and nuclear material needed have been transferred and installed at Fordow, the sources added, suggesting the work itself — until now conducted above ground at another location — could start when Iran takes the decision.

"They are ready to start feeding," a diplomatic source said, referring to the process in which low-enriched uranium gas is refined by centrifuges to increase the fissile isotope ratio.

Tension is escalating between Western powers and Iran after a UN nuclear watchdog report last month that said Teheran appeared to have worked on designing a nuclear weapon, and that secret research to that end may be continuing.

The United States and its European allies have seized on the unprecedented document by the UN International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to crank up the sanctions pressure on Iran, one of the world's largest oil producers.

Enriched uranium can be used to fuel power plants and other types of reactors, which is Iran's stated aim, or provide material for atomic bombs if processed much further, which the West suspects is the country's ultimate intention.

Reuters



*Iranian students hold up their hands as a sign of unity as they form a human chain around the Uranium Conversion Facility (UCF) to show their support for Iran's nuclear programme in Isfahan, south of Teheran, on 15 Nov, 2011.—INTERNET*

**Bootleg liquor kills 102 people in eastern India**

KOLKATA, 15 Dec—A tainted batch of bootleg liquor killed 102 people and sent dozens more to the hospital in villages outside the eastern Indian city of Kolkata, officials said.

Day labourers and other poor workers began falling ill late Tuesday after drinking the brew that was laced with the toxic methanol around the village of Sangrampur, about 30 kilometres (20 miles) south of Kolkata, according to district magistrate Narayan Swarup Nigam.

"It's a very sad thing that this has happened. Why don't the police stop this? I cannot understand? What connection do they have?" said Anwar Hassan Mullah, who brought six people from his village to the hospital. All of them died, Mullah told

Internet



**NATO soldier killed in militant attack in S Afghanistan**

KABUL, 15 Dec—A NATO soldier was killed in an militant attack in restive Afghanistan's southern region on Wednesday, the military alliance said on Thursday morning.

"An International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) service member died following an militant attack in southern Afghanistan, yesterday," the NATO-led ISAF said in a press release here.

However, the brief release did not reveal the nationality of the victim under ISAF policy, only saying "it is ISAF policy to defer casualty identification procedures to the relevant national authorities."

Troops mainly from US, Britain and Australia have been stationed in the southern region within the framework of ISAF to fight Taleban militants there.

The Taleban-led militancy has been rampant since the militant group announced it would launch a rebel offensive starting from 1 May against Afghan and some 130,000 NATO-led troops in Afghanistan.

A total of 548 foreign soldiers, most of them Americans, have been killed in Afghanistan so far this year.

Xinhua

*A local man, suffering from alcohol poisoning, seen here being carried past a crowd into a hospital, in Guwahati, in 2005. Bootleg liquor is widely consumed in India because of its low cost.*

INTERNET

**Iraqis celebrate US pullout in militant bastion of Fallujah**

FALLUJAH, (Iraq), 15 Dec—Thousands of Iraqis rallied Wednesday in the central City of Fallujah, once the epicentre of anti-US militancy, celebrating the withdrawal of US troops from Iraq.

The demonstrators set US and Israeli flags on fire and raised Iraqi flags along with banners saying "the people want occupation be removed," and "Fallujah is the flame of resistance and symbol of liberation."

"The people of Fallujah insist to make today's celebration a call on all

Iraqis to consolidate the national unity and tolerance to build our homeland," Hameed al-Hashim, mayor of the city told Xinhua.

Fallujah once was one of the major redoubts of Iraqi resistance immediately after the US-led invasion in 2003. For weeks in April and November in 2004, Fallujah was under siege by US troops. US aircraft and artillery brutally bombarded the city, some 50 km west of Baghdad, killing and wounding thousands of Iraqi people.—Xinhua

**No threat from package at Credit Suisse in New York**

*Employees are evacuated from the Credit Suisse headquarters in New York on 14 December, 2011. INTERNET*



NEW YORK, 15 Dec—There is no threat from a suspicious package that arrived on Wednesday in the mail at the Credit Suisse headquarters in New York City that forced part of the building to be evacuated, police said.

"It appears to be a legitimate shipment," New York Police spokesman Paul Browne told Reuters, adding that it looked like the package contained camera equipment.

The incident came a week after an envelope containing explosives was sent to the head of Deutsche Bank, Josef Ackermann, in Frankfurt but it was intercepted before it reached him.

Credit Suisse said in a statement that it alerted police after it found two suspicious packages in its mailroom. Police said the company deemed the packages suspicious after a screening of them showed batteries and wires.

A United States official told Reuters last week that FBI agents in Germany were in touch with authorities there about the Deutsche Bank investigation, but that the FBI was not aware of any specific or related threat to New York.

Reuters



*In this Sunday, on 11 Dec, 2011 photo, masked Pakistani Taleban militants take part in a training session in an area of Pakistan's tribal South Waziristan Region along the Afghan border.—INTERNET*

**Journey with Taleban shows militants' resilience**

SOUTH WAZIRISTAN, 15 Dec—For 15 hours, we walked with Taleban fighters through territory supposedly controlled by the Pakistani army and frequently pounded by US drone strikes. Avoiding roads and towns, we easily evaded soldiers and were shown recruits drilling with weapons, militant positions and — from a distance — a compound used by foreign fighters.

The rare trip to South Waziristan revealed the resilience of militants in the northwestern tribal areas, some of whom are also battling Americans soldiers across the frontier in Afghanistan. It also demonstrated that the militants, who once ruled much of South Waziristan from permanent bases with many hundreds of fighters, are now largely a guerrilla force there.—Internet

**Health**

**Novel hydrogel regenerates burnt skin tissues**

WASHINGTON, 15 Dec—Researchers have developed a hydrogel that regenerated healthy and scar-free tissue on skin damaged by severe burns.

The procedure which promotes the formation of new blood vessels and skin, including hair follicles, could lead to greatly improved healing for injured soldiers, fire victims and people with third-degree burns, say researchers.

The treatment involved a simple wound dressing that included a specially designed hydrogel, a water-based, 3D framework of polymers, the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* reported.

This material based on mice tissue tests was developed by researchers from Johns Hopkins' engineering, medical and pathology streams.

Third-degree burns typically destroy the top layers of skin down to the muscle. They require complex medical care and leave behind ugly scarring. But Johns Hopkins team reported that their hydrogel method yielded better results, according to a Hopkins' statement.

"This treatment promoted the development of new blood vessels and the regeneration of complex layers of skin, including hair follicles and the glands that produce skin oil," said study author Sharon Gerecht, assistant professor of chemical and biomolecular engineering.

Gerecht said the hydrogel could form the basis of an inexpensive burn wound treatment that works better than currently available clinical therapies. It would be easy to manufacture hydrogel on a large scale, she added.—*Internet*



**A doctor conducts a scan on a pregnant woman. Stillbirth is often caused by pregnancy complications such as problems with the placenta or preterm labor, said US research published on Tuesday aiming to shed light on the causes and risks.**

INTERNET

**Secrets of 'sleep hormone' may lead to new treatments for insomnia**

WASHINGTON, 15 Dec—Scientists have unravelled the inner workings of melatonin, also known as the "sleep hormone," making a major breakthrough for the development of new and promising treatments for

insomnia. The team from the Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre (RI-MUHC) and McGill University revealed the key role played by the melatonin receptor in the brain that promotes deep, restorative sleep. This discovery led the researchers to develop a novel drug called UCM765, which selectively activates this receptor.

The results may pave the way for the development of new and promising treatments for insomnia, a common public health problem that affects millions of people worldwide.

"We've spent many years to develop medications that act selectively on a single melatonin receptor to specifically promote deep sleep, which we believe is the

key to curing insomnia," said Dr Gabriella Gobbi, a researcher in psychiatry at the RI-MUHC and the study's principal investigator. To date most treatments for insomnia, such as benzodiazepines, have not been selective for deep sleep, and can lead to dependence and cognitive impairment. The research team discovered that two principal melatonin receptors, known as MT1 and MT2, played opposite roles in sleep regulation.

"We discovered that MT1 receptors act on rapid eye movement (REM) sleep and block non-REM sleep, while MT2 receptors favour non-REM sleep, also known as deep sleep," explained Dr Gobbi.

Internet

**Smoking behind most cancer cases**

WASHINGTON, 15 Dec—Smoking has, by far, the largest effect on the risk of cancer, a new study has revealed.

Researchers from the Boston University Medical Centre also provided considerable new information on lifestyle and environmental factors that may relate to the risk of cancer. They found that 19.4 percent of cancer cases in the UK attributable to tobacco use. A poor diet (less intake of fruits and vegetables and fibre and greater intake of meat and salt), obesity, and alcohol are the next most important factors that relate to cancer, with alcohol being calculated to relate to 4.0 percent of cancer cases in the UK. It puts into perspective the importance of targeting certain behaviours for the potential reduction in the risk of cancer.

Internet



**The dollar gained 15 of its major counterparts as Greek lawmakers must approve the 78 billion-euro (\$110 billion) austerity package to receive a loan payment and future financing.**

INTERNET



**Dollar rises on debt concerns**

NEW YORK, 15 Dec—The US dollar rose against major currencies in late New York trading on Wednesday as the yield of newly-issued Italian bonds surged to new euro-era high and the rising US import

prices raised inflation concerns. The Italian government on Wednesday sold 3 billion euros of 5-year bonds and saw yields surge to 6.47 percent, the highest yield at auction since the euro's inception.

The surging borrowing cost worried investors and pressured the euro. The shared currency continued to slip against the dollar and broke the critical level of 1.30 on Wednesday after the pair dipped to 11-month low on previous trading session. Meanwhile, US Labour Department said import prices rose 0.7 percent in November,

the largest increase in seven months. The surging import prices added concerns about the inflation.

The dollar was lifted by risk-aversion appetite. The dollar index rose 0.36 percent to 80.53 on Wednesday. In late Wednesday trading, the dollar bought 78.07 Japanese yen, comparing with 77.97 from late Tuesday. The euro fell to 1.2977 dollars from 1.3043. The British pound also fell to 1.5466 dollars from 1.5487. The dollar rose from 0.9448 Swiss francs to 0.9533, and also rose to 1.0402 Canadian dollars from 1.0322.—*Xinhua*

**Business**

**Business**

**Crude oil closes under \$95 a barrel**

NEW YORK, 15 Dec—Crude oil prices fell below \$95 a barrel Wednesday, losing \$5.19 to close at \$94.95 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Home heating oil fell 9.9 cents to settle at \$2.83 a gallon. Gasoline closed at \$2.50 a gallon, off 12.1 cents.

Henry Hub natural gas picked up less than a penny, closing at \$3.145 per million British thermal units.

At the pump, the national average price of unleaded gasoline dropped slightly from Tuesday's \$3.269 per gallon to \$3.264, AAA said.—*Internet*



**One driver begins the process of a credit card gas purchase in Denver on 15 April, 2011.—INTERNET**

**IEA says high oil prices threaten global economic recovery**

**Business**

SINGAPORE, 15 Dec—High oil prices are threatening the global economic recovery, the International Energy Agency (IEA) Chief Economist Fatih Birol said on Wednesday.

The high oil prices "will have a negative impact on the global economic recovery", Birol said in a speech in Singapore. The IEA has said that the global demand for crude is expected to increase by 1.3 million barrels per day to 90.3 million barrels per day in 2012, even after a downward revision by 200,000 barrels a day. Almost half the growth in demand will be contributed by China, the world's largest emerging economy and the world hub of manufacturing activities. The agency said it expected the international oil prices to rise to 120 US dollars per barrel in 2035.

The Middle East and North Africa is going to supply over 90 percent of the oil demand growth between 2011 and 2015, with the investment required amounting to 100 billion

US dollars per year. However, the crude prices could rise to 150 US dollars per barrel by 2015 if the investment in the Middle East and North Africa runs one-third lower than the 100 billion dollars needed, Birol said.

Birol said the oil producing capacity is now at half the level before the war in Libya, one of the key oil producers.

He suggested that the oil producing countries should boost their output to meet the growing demand amid falling inventories in wealthy countries.

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries is meeting in Vienna to decide whether to change the cartel's output quotas. Birol, who arrived in Singapore from the climate talks in Durban, said the door to capping the climate change at 2 degrees Celsius could be closing on the world if governments failed to act timely. As for the alternative energy sources, Birol said the demand for coal is growing rapidly but its future would depend on man kind's ability to use it more efficiently.—*Xinhua*

## Children's Hospital Boston sends telepresence robots home with post-op patients

## Science

BOSTON, 15 Dec—Children's Hospital Boston is sending some bedside manner home with its discharged patients via a pilot programme that integrates telepresence robots into its regular post-op care regimen.

Using five robots made by Vgo Communications Inc, doctors and nurses are opening a direct line of communication and observation between themselves and patients even as they recover at home.

The 4.5-foot robots go home with patients when they are discharged and are controlled by nurses and doctors back at the hospital. Equipped with audio sensors, articulating cameras, speakers, and a

video screen for a face, the Vgo robots allow doctors and nurses to consult with patients and their parents and collect visual data that can help them adjust a post-op medication regimen or spot signs of an impending complication, all without requiring the patient to trek back to the hospital.

The \$6,000 'bots are connected to the hospital over Verizon's 4G LTE network, so no wireless Internet is required. That means that sans a headline Internet connection, the robots are capable of swapping not just voice or visual data, but data of any kind. Eventually, doctors at Children's Hospital hope the robots will be able to do even more with their patients, like perform some kinds of blood work or urine analysis and



regularly beam the results back to the hospital, moving the normal observation phase of a medical procedure to the more comfortable environment of one's own home.

That's the next step. Right now, Children's Hospital is working to complete a 40-patient-in-home

trial of the robots to see how effective they can be.

If it works, the hospital may increase its fleet of telepresence 'bots and start sending patients home early, replacing routine post-op observation with a friendly robot companion.

Internet



A general view of the site of the ancient Sun Pyramid at the Teotihuacan Citadel outside of Mexico City during the Gran Premio Gigante-Telmex, round 19 of the CART (Championship Auto Racing Teams) Fed Ex Championship Series on 15 Nov, 2002 at the Autodromo Hermanos Rodriguez in Mexico City, Mexico.—INTERNET

## Russian Mars mission called 'impossible'

MOSCOW, 15 Dec—Russia's *Phobos-Grunt* spacecraft, stuck in the wrong orbit for more than a month, will not be able to complete its Mars mission, one of its builders says.

"We should admit that *Phobos-Grunt* has failed to fulfill its main mission of reaching Mars," Viktor Khartov, the head and chief designer of the Lavochkin spacecraft construction bureau, told *RIA Novosti* in Moscow Wednesday. "This is a fact. Mission Impossible."

The spacecraft, launched 9 Nov, was designed to bring back rock and soil samples from the Martian moon Phobos, but has been stranded in a so-called support orbit since its thrusters failed to put it on course for the Red Planet.

It will probably fall back to Earth in mid-January, Khartov said.

Attempts by Russian and European specialists to regain control of the troubled spacecraft have failed, and a special commission has been formed to analyze the causes of the mission failure, *RIA Novosti* said.

Internet

## Supermassive black hole will 'eat' gas cloud

BERLIN, 15 Dec—Researchers have spotted a giant gas cloud spiralling into the supermassive black hole at our galaxy's centre.

Though it is known that black holes draw in everything nearby, it will be the first chance to see one consume such a cloud. As it is torn apart, the turbulent area around the black hole will become unusually bright, giving astronomers a chance to learn more about it.

The cloud, which is described in *Nature*, should meet its end in 2013.

Researchers using the European Southern Observatory's Very Large Telescope estimate that despite its size, the cloud has a total mass of only about three times that of Earth.

They have plotted the

cloud's squashed, oval-shaped path and estimate it has doubled its speed in the last seven years - to 2,350km per second. It should spiral in to within about 40 billion kilometres of the black hole in the middle of 2013.

Our local supermassive black hole, dubbed Sagittarius A\*, lies about 27,000 light-years away, and has a mass about four million times that of our Sun. As the name implies, beyond a certain threshold point—the event horizon—nothing can escape its pull, not even light itself. But outside that regime is a swirling mass of material, not unlike water circling a drain. In astronomical terms, it is a relatively quiet zone about which little is known.

That looks set to change, though, as the gas cloud approaches.

It does not comprise

enough matter to hold itself together under its own gravity, as a star might, so the cloud will begin to elongate as it meets its doom.

"The idea of an astronaut close to a black hole being stretched out to resemble spaghetti is familiar from science fiction," said lead author of the study Stefan Gillessen, from Max Planck Institute for Extraterrestrial

Physics in Germany.

"But we can now see this happening for real to the newly discovered cloud. It is not going to survive the experience." It is likely that about half of the cloud will be swallowed up, with the remainder flung back out into space.

But this violent process will literally shed light on the closest example we have of an enigmatic celestial object.—Internet



Simulations suggest that the cloud will be ripped to bits and partially swallowed by the black hole.

INTERNET

## Tech Facebook boosts suicide prevention

SAN FRANCISCO, 15 Dec—Facebook is providing a new way for US or Canadian members of the leading online social network to summon help for friends who may be thinking of ending their lives.

A tool rolled out by Facebook lets people report suicidal comments posted by friends, who will immediately be sent email messages urging them to call a hotline or click on a link to start a chat session with a crisis counsellor.

A National Suicide Prevention Lifeline will provide free, confidential counselling at any time of day. "We're proud to expand our partnership with Lifeline, and to provide those in crisis with even more options to seek help," Facebook chief security officer Joe Sullivan said in a release.

"The Lifeline's commitment to suicide prevention has enabled people on Facebook to get fast, meaningful help when they need it most, and we look forward to continuing

our work with them to help save lives," he added.

Lifeline has partnered with California-based Facebook since 2006, according to the organization's project director John Draper.

"Although the Lifeline on average handles 70,000 calls per month, we have heard from our Facebook fans and others that there are many people in crisis who don't feel comfortable picking up the phone," he said.

"This new service provides a way for them to get the help they need in the way they want it."

Nearly 100 people in the US die daily from suicide, with the annual tally topping 36,000, according to US Surgeon General Regina Benjamin.

"For every person who is murdered, two die by suicide," Benjamin said in a statement. "Facebook and the Lifeline are to be commended for addressing one of this nation's most tragic public health problems."—Internet



## Apple plans to buy Israeli flash memory maker Anobit

SAN FRANCISCO, 15 Dec—Apple is in talks to acquire Israeli flash semiconductor maker Anobit for 400 million to 500 million US dollars, US media reported on Tuesday.

Apple is likely interested in Herzliya, Pituach, Israel-based Anobit for an exclusive access to its embedded flash controllers which can significantly boost memory performance of smartphones and tablet computers, said technology news site TechCrunch, citing *Calcalist*, an Israeli newspaper in Hebrew

which first reported the possible acquisition.

Apple already uses Anobit's technology in iPhone, iPad and the MacBook Air.

If the deal works out, it could be Apple's largest acquisition ever, surpassing its 404 million-dollar purchase of NeXT in 1997.

It could also become Apple's first acquisition in Israel and the first with Tim Cook as the chief executive officer of the company since its iconic leader Steve Jobs passed away in early October.

Xinhua

## UK clears Areva/EDF, Westinghouse reactor designs

LONDON, 15 Dec—Britain's nuclear regulator issued interim design approval for Areva and EDF's European Pressurized water Reactor (EPR) and Westinghouse's AP1000 nuclear reactor on Wednesday, paving the way for UK plant developers to use them in new power stations.

"Generic designs for two nuclear reactors proposed for construction in the UK have been granted interim design

acceptance by the independent nuclear safety, security and environment regulators," Britain's Office for Nuclear Regulation said in a statement.

Both companies have additional technicalities to clarify but the regulator said it was satisfied they would resolve remaining issues to gain a full licence, which is needed to start construction and costs applicants around 25 million pounds.

Areva will supply two

1,600-megawatt (MW) EPRs to fellow French company EDF to build Britain's first new nuclear power plant in nearly 20 years at Hinkley Point in Somerset.

"This (announcement) will open the way to construction of the first EPR in the UK and all the benefits our low carbon technology will bring in terms of employment and assured energy supply," said Areva's UK Chairman, Alain-Pierre Raynaud.

Toshiba-owned Westinghouse is banking on a selection of its 1,150 MW reactor by German nuclear group Horizon, which unites rivals EON and RWE.

"This announcement marks a tremendous milestone on the road towards seeing AP1000 reactors built in the UK," said Westinghouse's Vice President for the UK, Middle East & Egypt, Mike Tynan, adding it follows four and a half years of work to gain approval.—Reuters



General view of the Areva nuclear power plant site in Tricastin, southern France, on 25 Nov, 2011.—INTERNET



Egyptians ride horses past the great pyramids on the outskirts of Cairo in March. Tour guides and vendors are divided over the affects an Islamist-dominated parliament might have on the lucrative tourism industry.

INTERNET

## Egypt tour guides debate alcohol and bikini ban

CAIRO, 15 Dec—At the foot of the ancient Pyramids, tour guides and vendors are divided over the affects an Islamist-dominated parliament might have on the lucrative tourist industry.

Egyptians are voting Wednesday in the second-phase of three-round parliamentary elections — the first since president Hosni Mubarak was ousted in February — that Islamic parties are expected to win hands down. Much of the buzz has been sparked by calls from the ultra-conservative Salafists, standing under the banner of the Al-Nur party, for tourism that is "halal," a reference to that which is allowed in Islam. Alcohol, bikinis and mixed bathing would be banned.

"A five-star hotel with no alcohol, a beach for women—sisters—separated from men in a bay where the two sides can enjoy

a vacation for a week without sins," influential cleric Yasser Burhami was quoted by The Arabist website as recommending on Sunday.

"The tourist doesn't have to swim with a bikini and harm our youth."

Speaking on Saturday, Al-Nur party spokesman Nader Bakkar told the Egyptian satellite channel CBC on Saturday "we do not want to ban tourism. On the contrary, we want revenue from tourism to multiply."

Imed, a 30-year-old who offers camel rides outside the pyramids, is far from the beaches, where alcohol and bikinis are still permitted, but is already suffering from a plunge in tourism that followed Mubarak's ouster. Desperately waiting for the tourists to return, he is adamant that an Islamist victory at the polls would doom an industry that accounts for around 10 percent of GDP.—Internet

## Belgian city after deadly rampage asks 'Why?'

LIEGE, (Belgium) 15 Dec—A card at a memorial to the victims asked the question haunting all of Belgium: "Why?"

Why did Nordine Amrani, a 33-year-old with a history of lawbreaking, sweep into this city's holiday shopping centre to unleash a grenade-and-gun rampage that killed three people and wounded 123 others? Why did he then kill himself?

Deepening the mystery, police announced Wednesday that another body had been found, that of a 45-year-old woman, in a shed where Amrani grew cannabis close to his home.

Liege Prosecutor Daniele Reyniers said, after searches of Amrani's house, terrorism could be excluded.

"It was a cleaning lady. This is how she met him yesterday morning," she said. "She dies, shot with a bullet in the head."

The Ferris Wheel at Liege's Christmas market started turning again Wednesday, hoping to restore some festive cheer, but the mood remained black as the coal that once drove this rustbelt city in eastern Belgium.

"The crowds won't show up," said Francoise Robert, a vendor selling miniature castles and Christmas items. "People are scared."

At the outdoor bus depot that Amrani attacked, a long

parade of people bundled against the wind and rain paid tribute to the victims. Young women cried and families lit candles as shards of unswung glass still littered the pavement.

"Warum (why)?" asked one card, surrounded by toys, flowers and candles. The victims included a 1 1/2 year-old toddler and two teenage boys, both students. Five others are reported in critical condition.—Internet



A father and his son mourn as they look at the scene Tuesday's attack in the City centre of Liege, Belgium, on 14 Dec, 2011. The body of a woman has been found in the garage of a grenade-lobbing gunman, bringing to four the number of people killed in an attack in the City of Liege, officials said Wednesday.—INTERNET

## India to make dedicated satellite facility for armed forces

NEW DELHI, 15 Dec—The Indian government Wednesday said that it would soon provide a dedicated satellite facility to the country's armed forces.

"Satellite requirement of the armed forces are being met from the existing facilities. Steps have also been taken for provision of dedicated satellite facilities for the armed forces," Indian Defence Minister AK Antony told the

Parliament.

The minister said an Integrated Space Cell has already been set up for acquiring space capabilities.

"An Integrated Space Cell (ISC) under Headquarter Integrated Defence Staff (HQ IDS) has been constituted in August 2009 and it is coordinating for acquiring requisite space facilities," he said.

He added that the

government has put in place mechanism to effectively exploit space resources for the defence and security of the country.

On the shortage of equipment in armed forces, he said: "Modernization of the armed forces is a continuous process based on threat perception, operational challenges, technological changes and available resources."—Xinhua

## Mob kills 10 suspected pirates in Bangladesh

DHAKA, (Bangladesh) 15 Dec—Bangladesh police say fishermen have beaten to death 10 suspected pirates who were wounded in a gunfight with security forces.

Local police chief Bashir Ahmed says the wounded men were being brought to a police station late Wednesday when hundreds of angry fishermen snatched them from police and beat them to death. He said Thursday that police were far outnumbered by the mob and could not save the suspected pirates.

The deaths occurred in southern Bhola district. The area is 65 miles (104 kilometres) south of the capital, Dhaka.

Piracy is common along the coast of Bangladesh. Fishermen complain that security forces are not doing enough to protect them from pirates.—Internet

## Could US drivers ever abide by cellphone ban?

DALLAS, 15 Dec—Junior Woods has a well-practiced routine for conducting business on the road: While driving throughout rural Arkansas, the electronics salesman steals a glance at his cellphone every so often, checking for text messages and emails.

"I can keep both hands on the steering wheel and just look down my nose and read in 10-second intervals," Woods said in a phone interview from Rogers, Ark. "I'm actually doing that right now."

Like millions of other Americans, Woods uses his car as a mobile office, relying on his phone almost every hour of every workday to stay productive and earn a living. So would drivers ever abide by a proposed ban on almost all cellphone use behind the wheel, even if it is hands-free? Could they afford to?

Those are just a few of

the questions looming over a federal recommendation that seeks to rein in what has become an essential tool of American business.

Woods said the ban, if adopted, would devastate his sales. Because he lives in a rural state, his minimum drive is an hour and a half.

"If I have a 3 1/2-hour drive to Little Rock, and I've got 100 messages to return, it's going to turn that into a six-hour drive," he said. "I've got no secretary. I'm the administrative assistant. I'm the salesman. I'm the sales director."

The National Transportation Safety Board declared Tuesday that texting, emailing or chatting while driving is just too dangerous to be allowed anywhere in the United States. It urged all states to impose total bans except for emergencies.

Internet



A driver uses a cellphone while driving on 14 Dec, 2011, in Los Angeles.—INTERNET

## Thousands of birds make crash landing in Utah

ST GEORGE, 15 Dec—Thousands of migratory birds were killed or injured after apparently mistaking a Wal-Mart parking lot, football fields and other snow-covered areas of southern Utah for bodies of water and plummeting to the ground in what one state wildlife expert called the worst mass bird crash she'd ever seen.

Crews went to work cleaning up the dead birds and rescuing the injured survivors after the creatures crash-landed in the St George area Monday night.

By midday Wednesday, volunteers had helped rescue more than 3,000 birds, releasing them into a nearby pond. There's no count on how many died, although officials estimate it's upwards of 1,500.

"They're just everywhere," said Teresa Griffin, wildlife programme manager for the Utah Division of Wildlife Resource's southern region. "It's been nonstop. All our employees are driving around picking them up, and we've got so many people coming to our office and dropping them off."

No human injuries or property damage have been reported. Officials say stormy conditions probably confused the flock of eared grebes, a duck-like aquatic bird likely making its way to the Mexican coast for the winter.—*Internet*



*In this photo provided by Utah Division of Wildlife Services, a Utah Division of Wildlife Resources employee frees some surviving grebes on 13 Dec, 2011 at Stratton Pond in Hurricane, Utah after thousands of the birds crash landed throughout Southern Utah on Monday night.*  
INTERNET

## NJ Nets owner fails to buy Russia media holding

MOSCOW, 15 Dec—The owner of the New Jersey Nets, who is running against Vladimir Putin in Russia's presidential election, tried without success on Wednesday to buy a leading media holding company in the country.

Mikhail Prokhorov, who is worth about \$18 billion according to Forbes magazine, announced his candidacy earlier this week for the March presidential election.

Prokhorov offered to buy Russia's Kommersant publishing house, but its owner, Alisher Usmanov, said he doesn't plan to sell it. "We're not considering the proposal. ... We're not going to sell the Kommersant publishing house," Usmanov told reporters. He said that he instead offered to buy Prokhorov's stake in the RBK media group, a competitor of Kommersant's. He did not say how Prokhorov had responded, and it was not immediately possible to reach the owner of the US pro-basketball team.

Usmanov, a metals magnate, bought Kommersant for \$200 million in 2006. The holding company, which includes Russia's top business daily and other publications, has since expanded into radio and television broadcast.

On Tuesday, Usmanov fired an editor and a senior manager after the Kommersant Vlast weekly published an article about alleged fraud in Russia's 4 Dec parliamentary election and a photo of a ballot containing vulgar words directed at Putin. The weekly's editor, Maxim Kovalsky, said he was told that's why he was fired.—*Internet*



*In this 27 Nov, 2009 file photo, Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, right, looks on as Mikhail Prokhorov signs an agreement, during a Franco-Russian meeting in Rambouillet, France.*  
INTERNET

## Gibbon attacks two children in Malaysia zoo escape

KUALA LUMPUR, 15 Dec—A gibbon attacked two children, including one who was seriously injured, after escaping from an enclosure at a zoo in southern Malaysia, an official said Thursday.

The male siamang first bit a 5-year-old girl on her ankle Tuesday, Malacca Zoo director Ahmad Azhar Mohammed said. Minutes later, the ape attacked a 3-year-old boy and ripped off part of his right thigh, he said.

The girl received outpatient treatment, but the boy, Muhammad Afiq Haziq, was hospitalized in serious condition, the zoo director said. The siamang is a tailless, black-furred gibbon native to forests in Malaysia and Indonesia's Sumatra Province.

The boy's mother, Anita Sulaiman, told *The Star* newspaper that her family was relaxing at an aviary park when they heard people screaming and saw the gibbon charging at visitors. She said the gibbon snatched her son from her husband's arms before biting off part of his thigh.

*Internet*

## Climate goals to lift energy bills 10 percent

LONDON, 15 Dec—Britain's low-carbon goals could increase household energy bills by 10 percent out to 2020, although costs need not rise if homeowners are encouraged to use heating controls and more efficient appliances and lighting, a government adviser said.

In a report, the Committee on Climate Change (CCC) said its best estimate showed the government's low-carbon policies will add 110 pounds to average household energy bills in 2020, compared with an average bill of 1,060 pounds in 2010.

Under a scenario with only "limited success" in achieving existing energy efficiency measures, however, bills could rise by nearly 20 percent.

"If we introduce new policies to stimulate energy efficiency improvement, then bills in 2020 could broadly be contained at current levels," said Adair Turner, chair of the CCC.

The CCC, which reports to parliament on the government's progress in reducing emissions, on Thursday published its first blanket analysis of how the government's climate policy could affect household energy bills.

"The Committee's findings disprove often repeated claims that recent bill increases are due to environmental policy costs and that major investments in low-carbon power capacity will drive dramatic bill increases over the next decade - as high as 3,000 pounds," it said in a statement.

*Reuters*



*An undated handout image released by Al-Andalus, the media branch of Al-Qaeda in the Magreb (AQMI) to the Agence Nouakchott Informations (ANI) on 9 Dec, shows French nationals Philippe Verdon and Serge Lazarevic (R) being held by AQMI at an undisclosed location. Two people have been arrested in Mali for involvement in the abduction of two Frenchmen on 24 November.*

INTERNET

## Two arrested in Mali over French kidnappings

HOMBORI, 15 Dec—A hotel manager and a guide have been arrested in Mali for involvement in the abduction of two Frenchmen in the northern town of Hombori last month, security and judicial sources told AFP Wednesday.

Security and judicial sources confirmed that the unnamed pair were the manager of the hotel where Serge Lazarevic and Philippe Verdon had been staying prior to their kidnap and the guide they used.

The French nationals were abducted by armed men and taken to an unknown destination on 24 November.

The kidnapping was claimed by Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM).

The group also claimed responsibility for the abduction of three Westerners a day later in Timbuktu, northwest Mali. A German

tourist with the three men was shot to death when he tried to resist. The group was started in the late 1990s by radical Algerian Islamists who sought the overthrow of the Algerian government to be replaced with Islamic rule.

AQIM was linked to Al-Qaeda in 2006.

On 9 December, the organization published two photos of hostages surrounded by armed men. One photo was of the Lazarevic and Verdon, the other showed the three snatched from Timbuktu.

In all, 12 kidnapped Europeans are currently being held in north Africa's Sahel region. A previously unknown Al-Qaeda splinter group, calling itself the Movement for Oneness and Jihad in West Africa, has claimed responsibility for three of the kidnappings.

*Internet*



*Philippine Navy small aircrafts fly over the country's newly-acquired Hamilton class warship BRP Gregorio Del Pilar (PF15) during commissioning ceremony on 14 Dec, 2011 at the Manila South Harbor in Manila, Philippines.*

INTERNET

## Tajik women trafficking heroin in shoes caught at China airport

URUMQI, 15 Dec—Two Tajik women who tried to smuggle 945 grams of heroin into China by hiding it in the soles of their shoes were caught at a northwest China airport, local customs officials said Thursday.

The pair, who claimed to be mother and daughter, were caught after arriving at the Urumqi airport in northwest China's Xinjiang

police investigation, local officials said.

The younger woman raised suspicions when she refused to put her shoes through the X-ray scanner. Customs officials poked the bottoms of the shoes with a needle and found two packets of heroin.

The pair have been placed in custody pending a

police investigation, local officials said.

Nearly 5 kg of smuggled drugs have been confiscated at the Urumqi airport so far this year, customs officials said. China has strict laws against drug-related crimes. According to the national penal code, smuggling 50 grams or more of drugs is a crime punishable by death.

*Xinhua*



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and party pose for documentary photo in front of border post at Muse Nandaw Gate of Myanmar-China border.—MNA

## Administrators to carry out their daily...

(from page 1)

as well as Region and State Hluttaws come into operations and they promulgate and amend the laws in conformity with their respective regions.

To practise the executive power, he said that the Union government, Region and State governments and Leading Bodies of Self-Administered Zones are operating their administrative machinery.

Nowadays, he said that all the administrators are to take responsibilities for the tasks of the Union government and state government. He noted that the administrators at different levels must be highly-qualified personnel as Muse is a border area with significant character.

Among the tasks of the region, he pointed out that the administrators are to supervise salient points to avoid the behaviors undermining peace and stability of the region and relations of border area, to contribute towards

combating narcotic drugs, human trafficking and transnational crime, to disseminate public ethics to the people for avoiding betel spits and throwing of garbage indiscriminately to be able to keep Muse clean and pleasant as it is a tourist destination, to study Chinese and English languages in addition to mother tongue for ensuring smooth process of works, to build public toilets and trashes in all wards, to prohibit illegal cutting of trees and encourage growing of more trees emphasizing the environmental conservation, and as railroads will be constructed in the region coming years, it should take more careful for their tasks.

He said that the administrators are to carry out their daily tasks with dignity and genuine goodwill. They should not do their works with the hope for any bribes from the public. Likewise, he noted that they are to be free from bribes and discharge duties with fair management. Moreover, he said that they are responsible for their performances.

He highlighted that the Head of State has given directives that it must be clean government, and deterrent action will be taken against bribery.

In conclusion, he urged the administrators to give helping hand to the people in dealing with their basic needs, religious, economic and social affairs while dutifully taking up their tasks assigned by the State.

The administrators reported on their requirements in education, health and development sectors of respective regions.

The Deputy Commissioner reported on undertakings of development tasks in the district.

The Vice-President attended to the needs.

At the checkpoint of Muse 105-Mile Border Trade Zone, the Vice-President inspected the checkpoint by car and viewed displays of beans, sesame and agricultural produce at the bean, maize, sesame and agricultural brokerage.

After hearing the reports by the responsible persons



Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan presents sports gear for Basic Education High School No. 1 in Muse.—MNA

of the brokerage, he instructed officials to ensure swift flow of commodities.

Later, the Vice-President and party left for Lashio by helicopter.

MNA

## Thailand Trade Exhibition-2011 launched



Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe and officials press button to open Thailand Trade Exhibition-2011.—MNA

YANGON, 15 Dec— An opening ceremony of Thailand Trade Exhibition-2011 took place at Tatmadaw Convention Hall on U Wisara Road in Dagon Township here this morning, with an address of Director-General U Khin Maung Lay of Directorate of Trade under the Ministry of Commerce.

At the event, Chairman of Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of

Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Aung extended greetings and Chargé d'affaire ai of Thai Embassy to Myanmar Mr. Kallayana Vipattipumiprates followed.

Then, Director-General of the Development of International Trade Promotion of Ministry of Commerce Mrs. Nuntawan Sakuntanaka presented purpose of holding Thailand Trade Exhibition-2011.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Deputy Minister for Industry U Myo Aung, Director-General U Khin Maung Lay, Chairman U Win Aung, Director General Mrs. Nuntawan Sakuntanaka and Chargé d'affaire ai of Thai Embassy to Myanmar Mr. Kallayana Vipattipumiprates pressed the button to open the Thai expo.

At Thai Expo, Thai products; electrical devices, medicines, foodstuff, communication and health accessories, cosmetics, construction materials and agricultural implements can be seen at a total of 153 booths displayed by a total of 132 Thai companies, till 18 December, 2011.

MNA

## Myanmar, Japan to share technology for stock market development

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Dec— Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue received Deputy Director Ms Makiko Yamamoto and party of

Policy Research Institute of Japan at the hall of the CBM, here, this morning.

They cordially discussed share of technological expertise for development of stock and

share market in Myanmar and provision of legal assistance.

Also present at the call were the Vice-Governor and heads of departments of the CBM.

MNA

## Substituted vehicles to be taken out without more ado

YANGON, 15 Dec— Customs Department has been taking expeditious measures to take out substituted vehicles in the place of outdated vehicles at respective ports.

Vehicle owners to take out vehicles may submit import declaration forms at export & import supervision branch of Customs Department (Head Office) with related all documents in hand.

If license permit for imported vehicle

and all documents are found authentic, the department will take all necessary steps in an instant. Required tax amount is to be paid at government or private banks with payment order (PO cheque) or at Accounts Session of the Customs Department for those who have opened deposit account at the department not later than 4 pm daily. Measures for import declaration forms are also being taken on Saturday.

MNA



## Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Nyan Tun, wife and party arrive in Dhaka

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Dec—Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Nyan Tun and wife Daw Khin Aye Myint and party to pay a goodwill visit to Bangladesh at the invitation of Chief of the Naval Staff Vice Admiral Zahir Uddin Ahmed, (ND), ndc, psc, of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, left here by air at 8 am on 12 December and arrived at Kurmitola Airbase in Dhaka of Bangladesh at 9.45 am



Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Nyan Tun inspects Guard of Honour of Bangladesh Armed Forces at the naval command in Dhaka. MNA

local time.

They were welcomed by Myanmar Ambassador U Min Lwin and wife, Military Attaché Col Myint Thein and wife, Naval Admin Authority Dhaka Commodore A S M Abdul Baten, (E), ndc, psc, BN of Dhaka and senior military officers of Bangladesh and staff of Myanmar Embassy.

The Commander-in-Chief (Navy) and party laid a wreath at Shikha Anirban in Dhaka and signed the visitors' book.

In the afternoon, Vice-Admiral Nyan Tun arrived at the naval command in Dhaka Station and took the salute of the Guard of Honour of Bangladesh Armed Forces and then inspected the Guard of Honour.

Next, Vice-Admiral Nyan Tun met Vice Admiral Zahir Uddin Ahmed, (ND), ndc, psc. They cordially discussed further strengthening of relations between the two armed forces and bilateral cooperation. Vice-Admiral Nyan Tun

and party called on Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Minister of Defence Mrs Sheikh Hasina at her office at 5.55pm.

Afterwards, the Myanmar Tatmadaw delegation led by Vice-Admiral Nyan Tun attended a dinner hosted by the Bangladeshi Chief of the Naval Staff and exchanged gifts. Later, they posed for documentary photo together with entertainment troupe. MNA

## Workshop on management of Wanbike mangrove forest reserve project held

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Dec—The Forest Department under the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry and FAO jointly held a workshop on management of Wanbike mangrove forest reserve project at Forest Department this morning, with an address by Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun.

After that, on behalf of FAO resident representative, Technical Officer, Region of

Asia and Pacific, Forestry group Mr Jeremy Broadhead extended the greetings.

Officials from Forestry Department discussed the reports by Technical Cooperation and Development Consultant Dr Oswin D Stanley and Mr Jeremy Broadhead.

Afterwards, Dr Oswin D Stanley spoke words of thanks for successful completion of the workshop. MNA

Union Minister U Win Tun speaking at workshop on management of Wanbike mangrove forest reserve project.—MNA

## Dy Hotels and Tourism Minister meets Indonesian Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Dec—Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung received Indonesian Ambassador to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr. Sebastianus Sumarsono at his office here at 10:00 am today.

At the meeting, they discussed airline programmes between the two

countries, designation of sister cities, promotion of pilgrimage tour and investment in Myanmar's tourism sector, and the Indonesian ambassador expressed his honour over increased tourists arrival and emergence of modern hotels in Nay Pyi Taw.

Present at the meeting



were Director-General of the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism and officials concerned.—MNA



Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung receives Indonesian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Sebastianus Sumarsono.—MNA

## DISTRICT NEWS

### Local farmers harvest model paddy plots

SITTWAY, 15 Dec—The 0.80 acre model plot of Shwewahnton monsoon paddy of farmer U Than Lone Aung was harvested in Thet Village-tract in Ponnagyun Township on 28 November. The production of model plot hit 75.4 baskets per acre. MAS

In Yachaung Village-tract, 2.05 acres of Yezin-3 monsoon paddy model plot was harvested the same day. Production of the model paddy plot reached 101.15 baskets per acre.

### Training courses conclude at Vocation School

PAKOKKU, 15 Dec—The Advanced Tailoring Course No. 15 and the Basic Domestic Science Course No. 18 concluded at Women's Vocational Training School on 2 December.

District and township level officials awarded outstanding trainees. Chairperson of District Women's Affairs Organization Dr Yi Yi May presented completion certificates to the trainees.—Myanma Alin

## LOCAL SPORTS

### Yangon Region clinches titles in badminton championship

YANGON, 15 Dec—A ceremony to present prizes to the winners in the 43<sup>rd</sup> Inter-Region/State Badminton Championship was held at the National Badminton Gymnasium in Lanmadaw Township yesterday morning.

General Secretary of Myanmar Women's Sports Federation Daw L Khun Yi and the vice-president gave prizes to the

respective winners. President U Maung Maung Swe presented best player awards to Shoon Le Khaing (Yangon Region) and Lin Htet Kyu (Yangon Region).

Deputy Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Ohn Myint Oo awarded championship shields and duplicate shields to Yangon Region women's and men's teams.—Myanma Alin

### Traditional boat race trial held

MAUBIN, 15 Dec—Patheingyi Club held a sport trial in traditional boat race on 12 December at Papin Village of Maubin Township to join Champion Challenge Club of Ayeyawady Region.

Four villages from Maletto Village-

tract took part in the traditional boat race. Qualified rowers were selected for the champion challenge club representing Ayeyawady Region. Township Administrator U Nyi Nyi Lin awarded the qualified rowers.—District/IPRD





Members of the Beijing Police Special Weapons And Tactics (SWAT) team take part in a mock rescue drill during a police open day in Beijing, on 10 Dec, 2011. XINHUA

## Israel set to free 550 prisoners to finalize swap deal with Hamas

JERUSALEM, 15 Dec—Israel Prison Service (IPS) on Wednesday evening announced a list of 550 Palestinian and Arab prisoners, who are slated to be released as the second phase of a prisoner-swap deal between Israel and Hamas. “Pursuant to the Government of Israel’s decision ... 550 prisoners will be released on Sunday,” said an IPS statement.

After preliminary identification and medical checks, the prisoners will on

Thursday night be escorted to two detention facilities, from where they will leave for West Bank and Gaza.

According to local *Ynet* news service, some 400 of them have already served two-thirds of their jail terms.

The release of these inmates is the second and final stage of a landmark swap deal,

in which Israel sets free 1,027 Palestinian and Arab prisoners in exchange for captive Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit.

The first batch of 477 prisoners were released on 18 Oct, the same day Shalit returned home after being held by Hamas for over five years.—*Xinhua*

## Caribbean-bound cruise ship rescues two ocean rowers

SAN JUAN, (Puerto Rico), 15 Dec—A Caribbean-bound cruise ship has rescued two men whose small boat capsized as they rowed across the Atlantic.

The *Crystal Serenity* picked up the pair from a life raft about 480 miles (772 kilometres) west of the Canary Islands. The men said they had been in the raft about 10 hours when they were rescued Wednesday, apparently unharmed.

A large wave sank the boat of British rower Tom Fancett and Dutch rower Tom Sauer. The men were competing with 16 other boats in the 2011 Atlantic Challenge Race.

Britain’s coast guard was alerted and sent out a request for help.

Ship operator Crystal Cruises says the *Crystal Serenity* diverted south and spent five hours searching for the men. The ship was en route to St Maarten.—*Internet*

## Ohio boy who weighed 200 pounds to live with uncle

CLEVELAND, 15 Dec—A boy removed from his mother’s custody over health concerns when his weight ballooned to more than 200 pounds will be taken from foster care and placed in the custody of an uncle, a judge ruled Wednesday.

Judge John Hoffman also said the boy, who celebrated his 9th birthday Wednesday but didn’t appear in court, would be allowed a weeklong visit with his mother for

Christmas. His name was withheld by Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court.

The mother left court without commenting, but the placement with her brother living in the Columbus area had been accepted by all sides before it was announced during a brief court hearing.

The court-appointed attorney representing the boy’s interests, John Lawson, said he was sure the youngest would be happy with the agreement.

“This is only an interim plan because the real goal of everybody here is to get him back in his home with his mother and his sibling,” a brother, Lawson said.

“He’s a very smart boy and I think he’s got goals about himself,” Lawson said, including losing weight.

While in foster care, the boy’s weight dropped from about 200 pounds to 192.

Mary Louise Madigan, speaking for the Cuyahoga County Children and Family Services agency that sought foster care for the boy over weight-related health issues, said having the uncle caring for the boy was part of the county’s goal of getting him to a healthy weight and back with his mother.

“He’s in a least restrictive placement with a family member and I think that’s what the court was looking at,” she said.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Ohio joined the case on the boy’s behalf and said he should be with his family.—*Internet*



Attorney John Lawson, who represents the boy, speaks to the media after a court proceeding on 14 Dec, 2011, in Cleveland. An Ohio judge says a third-grader who was taken from his mother after his weight topped 200 pounds will be removed from foster care and placed in his uncle’s custody. The judge says the boy’s weight has dropped to 192 pounds while he’s been in foster care for two months.—*INTERNET*



A hunter rests with his tame golden eagle during an annual hunting competition outside Almaty on 9 Dec, 2011.—*INTERNET*

## Colo, SD eyed for Yellowstone bison

BILLINGS, (Mont), 15 Dec—For the first time in decades, the federal government is considering moving bison captured leaving Yellowstone National Park to public lands in Colorado, South Dakota and elsewhere as part of efforts to curb periodic slaughters of the animals.

However, Montana Gov Brian Schweitzer said Wednesday the animals belong to his state and he will block any attempt to move them.

In a Tuesday letter obtained by *The Associated Press*, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar told Schweitzer his agency is looking at relocation sites including Badlands National Park on South Dakota’s Pine Ridge Indian Reservation and Great Sand Dunes National Park in Colorado.

Salazar also mentioned Wyoming’s Wind River

Reservation, where a prior attempt to place Yellowstone bison collapsed two years ago.

The proposal came as state and federal officials have been trying to come up with alternatives to the periodic slaughter of bison leaving the park in search of food. Cattle ranchers say those migrations raise the chance of livestock being infected by diseased bison.

Many of Yellowstone’s 3,700 bison have been exposed to the disease brucellosis, yet the animals remain prized for their pure genetics. The bison to be transferred have been tested and are considered disease-free.

“I want to work with you to manage bison numbers and reduce disease prevalence in the Yellowstone herd,” Salazar wrote to Schweitzer. “While

the Department of Interior alone cannot resolve this issue, I am willing to look at options of moving



Yellowstone bison onto other DOI properties.” After receiving the letter, Schweitzer issued an order blocking any fish and wildlife shipments by the Interior Department in Montana. The governor wants the bison to go to the National Bison Range near Moiese in western Montana.

*Internet*

In this 17 March, 2011 file photo bison roam outside Yellowstone National Park in Gardiner, Mont. INTERNET

## Rescuers mobilize after report of buried miners

MULLAN, (Idaho), 15 Dec—An Idaho sheriff’s officer says an underground rescue team has been sent to a mine after authorities received a report that miners have either been trapped or buried. Shoshone County sheriff’s Capt Holly Lindsey says Wednesday night that it’s unknown how many miners are involved or whether there are any injuries at the Lucky Friday Mine in northern Idaho. Lindsey says air and ground ambulances have been dispatched, and the

sheriff was also headed to the mine for a first-hand assessment. Hecla Mining Co operates the Lucky Friday, one of the nation’s deepest underground mines. A Hecla spokeswoman didn’t immediately return a call from *The Associated Press*.

A roof collapse in a tunnel more than a mile underground trapped a 53-year-old silver miner at the mine in April. Crews recovered the man’s body nine days later.

*Internet*

## Heavy fog causes flight delays in Xinjiang

URUMQI, 15 Dec—A heavy fog blanketed Urumqi, capital of northwest China’s Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, on Thursday morning, delaying dozens of flights and stranding more than 1,000 passengers.

Forty-six flights were delayed as of 10:30 am, including 27 planned takeoffs and 19 arrivals, the airport authority said in a Press release.

Some inbound flights were forced to land at the Turpan, Kashi and Dunhuang airports, it said. More than 1,000 passengers were stranded at the airport as of 11 am and there have been no signs of an immediate clear-up, the Press release said.

The local weather bureau said the fog began at 3 am and visibility at the airport was around 100 metres.—*Xinhua*

## Helping drivers make switch to electric cars

BEIJING, 15 Dec—Despite a slow increase in the domestic sales of electric cars, Chinese buyers are expected to become more willing to drive these alternative-fuel vehicles in the near future, said an industry insider.

“With an affordable and sustainable battery switching model and more favourable government policies, it is easier to persuade Chinese buyers to purchase an electric car,” said Idan Ofer, board chairman of Better Place, a global provider of battery-switching stations for electric cars.

China has sought to encourage the development of electric vehicles to promote the use of clean

energy, but a genuine increase in sales has yet to come. Potential customers have been left cold by the high cost of electric cars, their small driving range and,

particularly, the under-developed charging infrastructure.

For example, the E6 electric car produced by the Shenzhen-based BYD

Automobile Co Ltd, accounts for less than 2 percent of the company’s production capacity, company sources said.

“If you analyze the Chinese car market, you’ll find that a lot of Chinese buyers are unlike those in Europe,” Ofer said.

“Most Chinese are new buyers who don’t have a history of car ownership, so they don’t know what it is like to drive such a car.

“In the West, most people are not first-time buyers. They have a long history of using gasoline-powered cars. If you tell Chinese buyers what an electric car is and how convenient it is to charge the battery, they will prefer the green car.”—Xinhua



**A man charges a BYD Co Ltd electric vehicle in Shenzhen. China is encouraging the development of electric vehicles to promote the use of clean energy, but a genuine increase in sales has yet to come.—INTERNET**

## London 2012 ticket resale plans confirmed

LONDON, 15 Dec—The London Organizing Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games (LOCOG) has confirmed details of its ticket resale process for Olympic and Paralympic ticket holders here on Wednesday.

Those who have bought tickets directly from LOCOG before 6 January 2012 will be able to resell their tickets via www.tickets.london2012.com from 6 January 2012 until 3 February 2012. There will then be further opportunities to resell from Spring 2012.

The resale process will allow those who are no longer able to attend or no longer want their tickets to sell them to other sports fans and help ensure that venues are full at Games time.

Those who purchased tickets from LOCOG and wish

to resell them will be able to choose which tickets they wish to resell via their ticketing account on www.tickets.london2012.com.

“I’m convinced that most people will want to hold on to their tickets,” LOCOG CEO Paul Deighton said.

“But we are pleased to offer this resale programme which will give those who wish to use it, an opportunity to securely sell their tickets to others who wish to go to the Games or purchase more tickets and help us to achieve our aim of having full venues.”

Remaining tickets for the Olympic Football Tournament and the Paralympic Games are currently on sale until 6 February 2012 when the seat allocation process will begin.

Xinhua



**Children pose with Polipaka Gattaiah, who stands at seven-and-a-half feet (2.28 metres) and claims to be the tallest man in India, at the arts and crafts centre in the southern Indian City of Hyderabad on 11 December, 2011. Gattaiah entertains people who visit the centre. Visitors often give money to the 38-year-old man and pose for photographs with him. In March 2011, he was given a prosthetic foot by a charitable organization after it was amputated a few years earlier because of an infection. It is said to be the longest prosthetic foot ever made, according to local media. Gattaiah is paid 6500 rupees (\$130) a month by the state tourism department, officials said.**

INTERNET

## Vietnam to earn \$600 mln from fruits, vegetables exports in 2011

HANOI, 15 Dec—Vietnam’s fruits and vegetables export turnover is estimated to reach 600 million US dollars this year, making the country among the top-five largest Asian exporters in the field.

The news was announced by Vice President of the Vietnam Fruits and Vegetables Association (VFVA) Huynh Quang Dau at an international conference on Vietnamese tropical fruits and vegetables held in southern Ho Chi Minh City on Wednesday, reported Vietnam News Agency.

In the first ten months, the country earned 515 million US dollars from fruits and vegetables exports, up 40 percent year-on-year, reported VFVA.

Main fruit exports included dragon fruit, star apple, mangosteen, longan and litchi, which are exported in big quantity to European and Asian countries, of which Japan took the most. Currently, fruit export value to Japan reached more than 51.2 million US dollars, up 21 percent year-on-year.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) forecast in 2012 the world’s demand on agricultural products will be on the rise, which will boost Vietnam’s fruits and vegetables exports.

To promote more exports, VFVA advised the farmers and related businesses to apply the Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) to meet strict requirements on product quality from the importers.—Xinhua

## India, Russia to boost cooperation of private sectors

NEW DELHI, 15 Dec—India and Russia expected to boost economic cooperation between the private sectors of the two countries during the visit by Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to Moscow on Thursday, reported local daily Thursday.

Meanwhile, the differences over India’s nuclear liability law and the failure to arrive at the terms of credit ensured the commercial contract for two more nuclear reactors at Kudankulam, Tamil Nadu in southern India, remain a work in progress, said the *Hindustan Times*.

At the annual India-Russian summit, Singh would have a restricted meeting followed by delegation level talks with Russian President Dmitry Medvedev on 16 Dec. He will also meet with Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin.

The Russian President and Prime Minister will have a joint interaction with Indian and Russian chief executive officers to boost the bilateral trade, said the report.

Xinhua

## S Korea’s trade surplus contracts to 3.54 bln USD in November

SEOUL, 15 Dec—South Korea’s trade surplus contracted to 3.54 billion US dollars last month due to a reduction in exports to Europe, the customs office said Thursday. Trade surplus reached 3.54 billion dollars in November, down from 4.07 billion dollars tallied in the previous month, according to the Korea Customs Service (KCS). For the first 11 months of this year, the accumulative trade surplus amounted to 29.3 billion dollars, down from 37.1 billion dollars recorded in the same period of last year.

The country’s trade balance has been in the black for 22 straight months in November despite Europe’s debt crisis and economic slowdown in advanced nations. Exports grew 12.7 percent on-year to reach 46.49 billion dollars last month due to solid demand for major export items such as petroleum products, cars and steel products that jumped by 46 percent, 33 percent and 18.2 percent on an on-year basis respectively.

Overseas shipments of ships expanded 6.7 percent on-year in November after contracting for the previous two months, but exports of mobile communication devices, display panels and semiconductors shrank by 27 percent, 5.9 percent and 1 percent each over the cited period.

By country, overseas shipments to Japan and the Southeast Asian countries increased by 26.7 percent and 21.2 percent each on-year in November, while exports bound for China and the United States grew 6 percent and 21.2 percent respectively.

In contrast, exports to the European Union (EU) contracted 5.1 percent on-year to 4.03 billion dollars last month, sending the nation’s trade deficit with the EU members to 380 million dollars. Meanwhile, imports expanded 11.1 percent on-year to 42.96 billion dollars in November due to robust demand for raw materials and consumer goods.—Xinhua



**Moroccan fishing boats are seen in Rabat 2008. European Parliament lawmakers blocked a deal Wednesday allowing special access for EU fishermen to Moroccan waters, prompting Morocco to issue an immediate ban on European fishing boats.**

INTERNET



**A general view of the site of the ancient Sun Pyramid at the Teotihuacan Citadel outside of Mexico City during the Gran Premio Gigante-Telmex, round 19 of the CART (Championship Auto Racing Teams) Fed Ex Championship Series on 15 Nov, 2002 at the Autodromo Hermanos Rodriguez in Mexico City, Mexico.**

INTERNET

**MARRIAGE ANNOUNCEMENT**

**KYAW MIN TUN**

The son of U Maung Maung Khin @ Wong Khin Yu and Daw Tin Tin Hla residing at Yangon, Myanmar married to

**EI SWE LINN**

The daughter of U Shin Nyunt and Daw Mya Aye residing at Yangon, Myanmar on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2011 by entering marriage agreement before Yangon Region, High Court.

Parents of both sides  
Kyaw Min Tun & Ei Swe Linn

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV KOTA RUKUN VOY NO (09A)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTARUKUN VOY NO (09A) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.12.2011 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

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (11026)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (11026) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.12.2011 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 T.S LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797



**Cuban, US scientists discuss cooperation**

HAVANA, 15 Dec — US and Cuban scientists met here Monday to seek ways to enhance cooperation in joint projects in health, environment and technology, said the Cuban Academy of Sciences (CAS). Co-organized by the CAS and the American Association for the Advance of Sciences (AAAS), the five-day event is aimed at achieving "a scientific sustainable cooperation between the two countries without formal relations since 1961," said CAS.

The 17-strong US group included 2003 Nobel laureate in chemistry and former AAAS President Peter Agre from John Hopkins University, neuroscience expert Mark Rasenick from Illinois University, as well as specialists in cellular, marine and agricultural biology, biochemistry and tropical diseases. —Xinhua

**TRADEMARK CAUTION**

Glaxo Group Limited of Glaxo Wellcome House, Berkeley Avenue, Greenford, Middlesex, UB6 0NN, England is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following trademark:

**SUNISA**

(Reg. No. IV/3161/2003)  
(Reg. No. IV/10816/2011)

used in respect of - "Pharmaceutical preparations and substances for the prevention/ treatment and/or alleviation of diseases of the nervous system"

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use or any other infringement whatsoever of this trademark will be dealt with according to law.

Thein Aung B.Sc., R.L.D.B.L Advocate  
**MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM**  
E-mail: mtpp@mptmail.net.mm  
Tel: 376318 G.P.O Box: 666  
Yangon. 16 December 2011

**TRADE MARK CAUTION**

sanofi-aventis, a Company incorporated in France, of 174 avenue de France, 75013 Paris, FRANCE, is the Owner of the following Trade Marks:-

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Reg. No. 5677/2011

**INTROSTAR**

Reg. No. 5678/2011

In respect of "Class 10: Diagnostic apparatus for glycemia level, injectable insulin pens"

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Marks will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin  
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L  
for sanofi-aventis  
P. O. Box 60, Yangon  
Dated: 16 December 2011

*Nuclear explosions in a short time release large mass of hot, low-density gases, generating the horrible mushroom clouds. — XINHUA*



**ASEAN+3 MACROECONOMIC RESEARCH OFFICE (AMRO)  
ECONOMIST / BUDGET, HR & COORDINATION OFFICER /  
LEGAL OFFICER / SENIOR COORDINATION OFFICER**

AMRO, located in Singapore, was established in April 2011 by ASEAN+3 Finance Ministries and Central Banks to (a) conduct macroeconomic and financial surveillance of the members, (b) provide the members with policy recommendations to mitigate economic and financial risks, and (c) assist the members if they are utilising financial resources of the CMIM.

AMRO is looking for **5 Economists, 1 Budget, HR & Coordination Officer, 1 Legal Officer, and 1 Senior Coordination Officer**, starting from early 2012 (three-year fixed term, to be extendable at the discretion of AMRO Director). The details of job scopes are available at <http://jobs.economist.com/employer/971/amro/>.

The candidate should possess: (i) an advanced degree in Economics, Finance, Business Administration, Laws or related fields from a reputable university; (ii) Excellent analytic skills in relevant areas; (iii) At least 5 years (or 10 years for Senior Coordination Officer) of relevant working experiences; (iv) Excellent oral and written communication skills in English; and (v) a nationality of ASEAN+3 countries. AMRO offers competitive level of remuneration and, for non-Singaporeans, expatriate benefit packages (e.g., housing assistance) pursuant to the internal guidelines.

Qualified candidates should send your (a) CV, (b) brief description on the relevant working experiences, and (c) earliest starting date of employment at AMRO, by **18 December** (GMT+8) to the following:

**Economist:** <economist2012@amro-asia.org>  
**Budget, HR & Coordination Officer:** <budget2012@amro-asia.org>  
**Legal Officer:** <legal2012@amro-asia.org>  
**Senior Coordination Officer:** <coordination2012@amro-asia.org>

AMRO will acknowledge the receipt of your application. However, only short-listed candidates will be contacted for interviews.

**Boeing 787 Dreamliner makes debut in Ethiopia for African tour**

ADDIS ABABA, 15 Dec — Touring the world, Boeing 787 Dreamliner on Sunday touched down in Addis Ababa, capital of Ethiopia, first on Africa's soil. After a four-day stay in Ethiopia, the aircraft will fly to Nairobi, Kenya as part of Boeing's 787 Dream Tour, a six-month worldwide tour featuring the Dreamliner. Ethiopian's officials, employees and invited guests on Monday started having a closer look at the innovations and advanced technologies of the 787 at the Addis Ababa Bole International Airport.

Briefing journalists at the airport, representatives from Boeing said the company has been a partner with the Ethiopian Airlines for many years. According to the Ethiopian Airlines, Vice President Flight Operations of the Ethiopian Airlines Desta Zeru flew the new aircraft from Haikou, China to Addis Ababa, becoming the first African captain to fly the 787. "Aviation throughout Africa continues to grow at a

pace faster than the world average and it is airplanes like the game-changing 787, and airliners like Ethiopian Airlines, that will help spur that growth," said Van Rex Gallard, vice president of sales for Africa, Latin America & Caribbean of Boeing Commercial Airplanes.

"The 787 is the perfect airplane to carry Africa into the future of aviation due to

its low operating costs, size, and range. Boeing is very pleased we are able to showcase this airplane to the customers who put their faith in Boeing and the cutting-edge technology of this airplane," said Gallard. Tewolde Gebremariam, CEO of the Ethiopian Airlines, said the Ethiopian Airlines will be starting flying with Boeing 787 between April and June in 2012. — Xinhua

**Thieves with brass neck sought after tubas disappear**

LOS ANGELES, 15 Dec — Police in Los Angeles are advising the city's schools to tighten security after a rash of burglaries in which thieves have broken into music department classrooms and made off with tubas. The large brass instruments are worth over \$5,000 (£3,200) when new and half that second-hand. Even a badly dented specimen is worth hundreds of dollars on the scrap-metal market.

There are several tuba players in most high-school marching bands, which perform at football games and other ceremonial occasions. But in East Los Angeles, the area where the burglaries are occurring, many schools are now unable to field a full band. "We still have three tubas left, but we have more players than instruments," Ruben Gonzalez Jr, the band leader at South Gate High School, told the Los Angeles Times. He's lost five tubas so far this term.

Internet

**Scientists at Cern 'Glimpse God particle'**

CERN, 15 Dec — Scientists are set to confirm they have caught a glimpse of the elusive 'God particle' — the so far theoretical concept that helps to explain some of the mysteries of the Universe.

The Cern physics research centre in Switzerland is expected to reveal that experiments in the Large Hadron Collider have produced signals that provide the clearest evidence yet that the sub-atomic particle exists. "I am feeling quite a level of excitement," said Oliver Buchmueller, one of the senior scientists seeking the particle.

The Higgs particle, or boson, is a key missing piece in the most widely accepted theory of physics — called the Standard Model — which describes how particles and forces interact. For more than a year scientists at Cern have been firing particles in

opposite directions around a 27km long ring-shaped tunnel 100m below ground. When the particles have accelerated to almost the speed of light they are encouraged to collide. Sensitive detectors are then used to examine the debris for new particles. — Internet



Scientists at Cern fire particles in opposite directions around a 27km long ring-shaped tunnel 100m below ground. — INTERNET

## 1,300 jump into cold Pennsylvania river

Organizers of the Pittsburgh Polar Plunge said nearly 1,300 people jumped into the frigid Allegheny River to raise money for Special Olympics Pennsylvania.

The organizers said the Sunday event, which marked its second year, raised \$275,000 to \$300,000 for Special Olympics Pennsylvania, nearly double the amount raised last year, the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* reported Monday. The air temperature was in the mid-20s and the water temperature was in the upper 30s during the plunge, officials said. "It's amazing, just amazing," said Eric Cushing, spokesman for Special Olympics Pennsylvania. "It's exceeded our every possible expectation."

"The polar plunges are growing by leaps and bounds," Cushing said. "They are a huge driver of revenue for us, and they are growing."

Special Olympics Pennsylvania sponsors similar events in York, Harrisburg, Philadelphia and the Laurel Highlands.

## Woman collects 1,700 Christmas decorations

A Welsh woman who has been collecting Christmas decorations since 2002 said she now has 1,700 of them hanging from her ceiling.

Sylvia Pope, 68, of Swansea said she has been collecting the baubles for nine years and now has so many she began hanging them in September to ensure her home is ready for Christmas, Wales on Sunday reported.

"I don't rush it. If I started at the beginning of December I would be up and down then and wouldn't do such a good job," Pope said.

Pope, who has ornaments from as far away as New York and Egypt, said the cheapest decorations in her collection cost about 90 cents and the priciest cost nearly \$25 apiece.

Pope, who turns 69 the day after Christmas, said her collection is not yet complete. "There's still quite a lot of space up there," she said.



Guinness World Records adjudicator Seyda Subasi Gemic, left, poses with Albanian artist Saimir Strati in front of his coffee bean mosaic in Tirana on 12 December, 2011. The mosaic, made with a million coffee beans, depicting five musicians, entered the Guinness World Records on Monday as the world's largest coffee bean mosaic. Strati used 140 kg (309 pounds) of coffee beans, some roasted black, some average and some not roasted at all, to portray a Brazilian dancer, a Japanese drummer, a US country music singer, a European accordionist and an African drummer.

## Police car ends up vertical

Miami Police said an investigation has been opened into how a police officer managed to drive his cruiser into a vertical position on a light pole.

Police said the officer, who was not injured, wound up with his vehicle in a vertical position alongside the light pole Tuesday morning and the car was tangled in wires attached to the pole, WSVN-TV, Miami, reported Tuesday.

Investigators said they are looking into the cause of the crash. Resident Donovan French said he was able to take some pictures before the cruiser was removed. "What I'm going to do with the footage is, I have to let the world know a police car has went up on the pole on my block," French said.

## News Album

## Australian official uses profanity on TV

The Australian official in charge of broadcasting standards apologized for using profanity on live TV during children's viewing hours. Communications Minister Stephen Conroy dropped the F-bomb Monday while answering a question about the risk for investment in the country at the National Press Club in Canberra, the *Melbourne Herald Sun* reported Tuesday. "If a tax goes up, God, that is sovereign risk. But if a tax goes down, [expletive] fantastic," Conroy said.

The event was broadcast by the Australian Broadcasting Corp ahead of "Meerkat Manor," a popular children's show starring puppets. Conroy issued an apology for using the foul language. "It was completely accidental and I sincerely regret doing so. I apologize for any offense I may have caused," he said.

## Man's stolen Pearl Jam guitar recovered



(L-R) Pearl Jam's Stone Gossard, Jeff Ament, Eddie Vedder and Matt Cameron attend the 'Pearl Jam Twenty' premiere at the Princess of Wales theater.—INTERNET

BURLINGTON, 15 Dec—Two men face charges they stole a guitar owned by a Vermont man whose brother got it from Pearl Jam three months before he died of cancer, police said. *The Burlington Free Press* reported the 1972 Fender Telecaster, which once belonged to Pearl Jam's Mike McCready, had been recovered, but the band members' signatures were removed. It was being held as evidence for the time being.

Jeffrey Leduc, 25, and Timothy Crews, 51, were arrested Sunday on charges of felony possession of stolen property after police received tips from the public regarding the theft. The guitar was stolen from Ben Hardy's Burlington apartment when he was out of the country in late November-early December. Pearl Jam presented the instrument to Ben's brother Josh through the Make-A-Wish Foundation in October 1992. Josh died of a brain tumor three months later, the *Press* reported.—Internet

## Brooke Mueller back in rehab

LOS ANGELES, 15 Dec—Brooke Mueller, the ex-wife of US actor Charlie Sheen, has entered long-term, inpatient rehabilitation to deal with her drug addiction, her publicist said. Mueller and Sheen are the parents of 2-year-old twin sons. "Brooke has decided to remove herself from the media spotlight and has entered a long-term, inpatient treatment centre



Charlie Sheen and wife Brooke Mueller

## Tom Cruise plans global celebration for 50th birthday

LONDON, 15 Dec—Hollywood actor Tom Cruise, currently busy promoting his next movie, "Mission Impossible: The Ghost Protocol", plans to celebrate his 50th birthday in a grand way by visiting every country he has been to, and party there.

"I'm gonna be 50 on 3 July and I think we'll have a big party.

I'm gonna have a party in every country. I'm gonna go, 'Look, I'm 50, man! Where's my party?' femalefirst.co.uk quoted Tom as saying.

"Mission Impossible: The Ghost Protocol" is the fourth movie installment of the "Mission Impossible" franchise that started in 1996 with Cruise playing the lead role of Ethan Hunt.

Tom was recently in India for a special screening of "Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol", 15 days prior to its general release on



Hollywood actor Tom Cruise

21 Dec.

The movie, that has a part of it shot in India, will also see Bollywood actor Anil Kapoor playing Brij Nath, a wealthy Indian businessman.

Internet

## Angelina Jolie's latest film slammed as 'racist'

LONDON, 15 Dec—Angelina Jolie's latest film 'In The Country Of Blood And Honey' has been termed racist by protestors who want it to be banned.

The actress' film is about a Serb soldier who finds his ex-lover, a Muslim Bosnian woman, among sex slaves in a camp.

Serbs from Bosnia



Angelina Jolie

Herzegovina are furious that the movie shows their people raping Muslim women prisoners in the 1990s Balkan war.

Branislav Dukic from the Serb Association Of War Victims said that they would do their best to ban the movie. "We'll do our best to ban the film," the *Daily Star* quoted him as saying.

Internet

## Van Dyke to present Moore with SAG Award

LOS ANGELES, 15 Dec—Dick Van Dyke is to present the Screen Actors Guild's 48th Life Achievement Award to Mary Tyler Moore at a ceremony in Los Angeles next month.

The announcement was made Tuesday by the awards show's executive producer and director Jeff Margolis. SAG is honoring Moore for her career achievement and humanitarian accomplishments. The 18th annual Screen Actors Guild Awards is to air 29 Jan on TNT and TBS. Moore and Van



Actor and dancer Dick Van Dyke

Dyke played suburban couple Rob and Laura Petrie from 1961 to 1966 in Van Dyke's eponymous sitcom based on the experiences of comedy writer Carl Reiner. In 1969, Van Dyke and Moore reunited

for a one-hour variety special called "Dick Van Dyke and the Other Woman." They collaborated again in a 1979 episode of "The Mary Tyler Moore Hour," reprising their roles as the Petries in a comedic sketch, and co-starred in a PBS version of D.L. Coburn's Pulitzer Prize-winning stage play "The Gin Game" in 2002. The two reunited one more time in 2004 for "The Dick Van Dyke Show Revisited," written by Reiner and starring other surviving members of the original show's cast.—Internet

where she can focus on her recovery without distraction," her publicist said in a statement issued to UsMagazine.com Tuesday.

The representative said Mueller had already checked into a facility, but declined to say which one or how long she intends to stay there.

"Out of respect for her privacy, no further information will be released about her treatment.

Brooke's goal is to maintain her sobriety and she believes this is the best option to reach that goal," the statement said. Her sons Bob and Max "will remain in their home and familiar surroundings and be under the care of their longtime nanny" until she gets home, the statement said. Sheen has also battled addictions to drugs and alcohol.

He was fired from his popular sitcom "Two and a Half Men" this year because of his substance-abuse issues and erratic behaviour.

Internet

## Dan Jenkins selected for Hall of Fame

JACKSONVILLE, 15 Dec — Sixty years after he wrote from the first of 210 major championships, Dan Jenkins is headed for the World Golf Hall of Fame.

Jenkins, 82, will be only the sixth media member in the hall when he is inducted May 7 at the World Golf Village along with Phil Mickelson, Hollis Stacy and two other inductees who are to be announced Thursday in London.

His career goes from Ben Hogan to Tiger Woods, from the manual typewriter to Twitter, and Jenkins is still going. He previously worked for the Fort Worth Press, the Dallas Times Herald and Sports Illustrated, and he has been writing for Golf Digest since 1985. Jenkins also has written 20 books, including "Dead Solid Perfect."

"Being from Fort Worth, I would follow Ben Hogan and Byron Nelson anywhere," Jenkins said Wednesday on a conference call to announce that he was selected through the Lifetime



Dan Jenkins

Achievement category. "Since they're in there, I'm happy to be the third guy from Fort Worth so included."

"I'm delighted to be in such good company with the people who are already in there, especially the players."

The other five media members in the Hall of Fame are writers Herbert Warren Wind, Bob Harlow, Herb Graffis, Bernard Darwin and television producer Frank Chirkinian. They were inducted posthumously.

"I should note that over the years, the World Golf Hall of Fame has been very sparse in their recognition of people from Dan's craft, only recognizing the very, very best," PGA Tour commissioner Tim Finchem said.

Internet

## Francesco Totti: I'm thinking of leaving Roma

ROME, 15 Dec — Roma captain Francesco Totti has reacted angrily to supposed criticism from the team's supporters by claiming he is considering leaving the club with which he has spent his whole career.

The 35-year-old forward has featured sparingly under Luis Enrique this term and has yet to find the back of the net, missing a crucial penalty on Monday in Roma's 1-1 home draw against Juventus.

Roma spent big in the summer, signing a number of recognized stars including two strikers, Bojan Krkic and Pablo Osvaldo.

Speaking before the club's Christmas dinner to Sky Sport Italia, Totti stated: "I've thought of leaving



Roma captain Francesco Totti

Roma, especially recently. I'm sorry to hear some of the statements made by Roma supporters. If they have a problem with me being in Rome, I can go away."

Totti made his first appearance for the club in March 1993, with former coach Vujadin Boskov choosing to play him in the 2-0 victory against Brescia as a 16-year-old.

The attacker is currently fifth in the list of all-time Serie A goalscorers, grabbing 207 goals in 481 appearances so far.

Roma is 10th in Serie A this term and faces a tricky trip to Napoli on Sunday where it will be hoping to improve on recent performances.—Internet

## Carlos Tevez: I would like to rejoin Boca Juniors

LONDON, 15 Dec — Unhappy Manchester City striker Carlos Tevez has revealed that he does not want to return to England and wants to join his boyhood club Boca Juniors.

"I don't care if I have to take a wage cut. I'm tired of traveling and going back and forth. I'm not going back to England," Tevez told Gente. "[I want to] start the pre-season with Boca and play the Copa Libertadores with them."

The 27-year-old has been out of favor with Roberto Mancini this season, and has not featured for the team since refusing to come on as a substitute against Bayern Munich in the Champions League in September.

AC Milan, Paris Saint-Germain and Brazilian Serie A champion Corinthians have all also been heavily linked with the forward.

Despite Tevez's intentions to play for Boca, the club has already gone on record in stating it would not be able to afford the forward, who is rated at around 40 million euros.

Internet



Carlos Tevez

## Paris Saint-Germain 4-2 Athletic Bilbao

PARIS, 15 Dec — A late own goal from Inigo Perez and a penalty from Guillaume Hoarau were enough to secure a 4-2 victory for Paris Saint-Germain against Athletic Bilbao in Group F action at the Parc des Princes on Wednesday evening, but its efforts were not enough to progress to the knockout stages of the Europa League.

To progress to the round of 32, PSG needed a positive result against the Spanish and for Salzburg to drop points against Slovan Bratislava. With the Spanish side fielding a weakened team, the home side's goal seemed obtainable. Sloppy set-piece defending at the beginning of the match worsened its chances.

From a David Lopez right-sided corner in the third minute of play, an unmarked Aurtenetxe rose to brilliantly header past



Nicolas Douche who still managed to get a touch, but not enough to keep the ball out of his goal.

The home side recovered and it was due to further incompetent defending from set pieces that it equalized. A Nene free-kick was flicked on and found a completely open Javier Pastore who simply had to slide the ball past Raul Fernandez to level the match.

From a set-piece, les Parisiens made their dominance count. A swinging cross was put into the 18-yard box where Mathieu Bodmer was able to connect from the near post with a stunning header which found the top corner of the far side to put the home side ahead before halftime.

In the second half, PSG continued to control the flow of play, but through some individual brilliance, the away side managed to equalize. Picking up the ball from around 35 yards, Lopez found space and unleashed a cracker of a strike which blew past Raul and once again leveled the scoreline.

Lopez's goal seemed to deflate PSG and a missed penalty from Nene would have added addition misery onto the hosts. However, less than a minute after Nene's miss, PSG equalized. Mevlut Erding found space on the right and crossed into the box. A diving Perez connected with the ball and pushed it into his own net.—Internet

## Ramsey: We have to bond and gel as a team to ensure success



Arsenal's Aaron Ramsey

LONDON, 15 Dec — Aaron Ramsey has hailed Arsenal's young prospects and insists the growing understanding in midfield is setting up the club for a bright future.

The Welshman is among a number of young rising

stars at the Emirates, with the likes of Jack Wilshere, Francis Coquelin and Emmanuel Frimpong at Arsene Wenger's disposal having broken into the first team.

"There's plenty of young talent there and we have to bond even more and gel as a team throughout the years," Ramsey told Arsenal Player. "Hopefully we'll make it successful for many years."

And the 20-year-old believes it is key that they continue to work together in order to bond as a team and

ensure a successful future for the club.

"It's important that you have that core, that you've been together for a few years and you understand each other," he told the website. "It'll only make us stronger because you realise what to do on the pitch." —Internet

Paris Saint-Germain's forward Guillaume Hoarau (R) vies with Athletic Bilbao's midfielder Anter Iurraspe during the UEFA Europa league football match at the Parc des Princes stadium in Paris.—INTERNET

## International Sports

### Real Madrid's Kaka targets quick return to top spot in La Liga

MADRID, 15 Dec — Real Madrid playmaker Kaka says his side will be looking to retake top spot in La Liga by securing a positive result against Sevilla on Saturday.

"We are going to Sevilla eager to take back top place in the table," he is quoted as saying by AS.

The Santiago Bernabeu outfit was replaced at the summit by Barcelona following Saturday's 3-1 defeat against Pep Guardiola's side in the Clasico. However, Madrid has the chance to

leapfrog its archrival over the weekend.

Kaka, the Brazil international, also hailed the importance of his side's 2-0 Copa del Rey victory against Ponferradina following the Clasico defeat.—Internet



Real Madrid's Kaka

## Universidad de Chile wins Copa Sudamericana final

SANTIAGO, 15 Dec — Universidad de Chile won its first continental competition Wednesday with a 3-0 victory over Ecuador's Liga de Quito in the second leg of the Copa Sudamericana final.

Striker Eduardo Vargas scored two goals and Gustavo Lorenzetti found the other to give Universidad a 4-0 aggregate win after Vargas got the only goal in Thursday's first leg. Vargas finished the tournament as top scorer with 11 goals.

"The sensation is unforgettable and in time it's going to have an even bigger impact. To be part of history does not have a price," Universidad coach Jorge Luis Sampaoli said.

Universidad de Chile took an early lead in just the third minute after a right-wing cross was cleared by a defender into the path of Vargas, who beat the goalkeeper with a left-footed shot from just inside the area.

Sharp passing opened up the Liga de Quito defense late in the second half, leaving Lorenzetti just a tap in Universidad's second goal in the 79th minute.

Universidad was reduced to 10 men in the 84th minute when Matias Rodriguez was sent off for a late tackle, but Vargas put the win beyond doubt three minutes later when he evaded two defenders and lofted the ball over the keeper and into the net.

"He's an extraordinary player and he deserves what he



Chile's Universidad de Chile's players celebrate at the end of the Copa Sudamericana final soccer match against Ecuador's Liga Deportiva Universitaria in Santiago, Chile, on 14 Dec.—INTERNET

is living," Universidad's Diego Rivarola said of Vargas. "He's got a great future, I hope he does well. After this, he'll surely leave."

The Copa Sudamericana is South America's second most important continental club competition after the Copa Libertadores, which begins in February.—Internet

**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL  
Programme Schedule  
(16-12-2011) (Friday)**

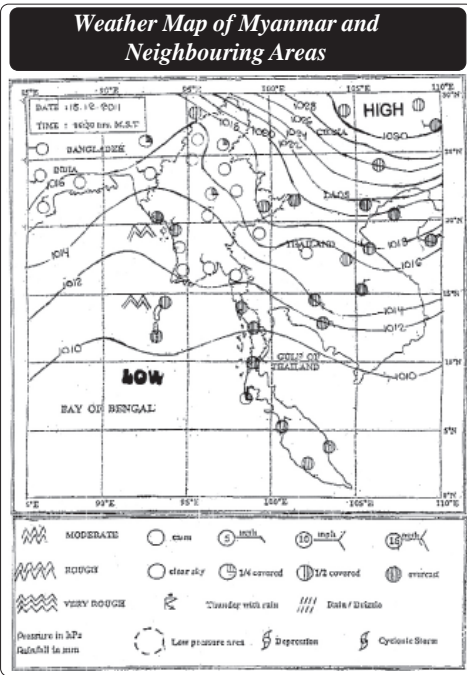
	<u>Transmissions</u>	<u>Times</u>
Local	-	(09:00am ~ 11:00am)MST
Overseas Transmission	-	(16-12-11 09:30 am ~17-12-11 09:30 am) MST

**Local Transmission**

- \* Opening
- \* News
- \* Chanmyay Yeik Thar Meditation Centre (Chaw Dwin Gone)
- \* News
- \* Let's Have Delicacies!
- \* Flying Over Mrauk-Oo
- \* News
- \* Music Gallery

- \* News
- \* Yathe Taung Township in a nut-shell
- Overseas Transmission**
- \* Opening
- \* News
- \* Chanmyay Yeik Thar Meditation Centre (Chaw Dwin Gone)
- \* News
- \* Let's Have Delicacies!
- \* Flying Over Mrauk-Oo

- \* News
- \* Music Gallery
- \* News
- \* Yathe Taung Township in a nut-shell
- \* News
- \* Youth & Volunteer Service
- \* News
- \* Record Album
- \* News
- \* Profile of Myanmar Native Orchids
- \* Culture Stage
- \* News
- \* Me N My Travel "Pyin Oo Lwin"
- \* Myanmar Movies "Whom do you love most"



**Friday,  
16 December  
View on today**

- 7:00 am  
1. Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw -Uppatasanti Paritta
- 7:30 am  
2. Morning News
- 7:40 am  
3. Dhamma Puja Song

- 7:50 am  
4. Nice & Sweet Song
- 8:00 am  
5. Health Programme
- 8:10 am  
6. The Mirror Images of the Musical Olides
- 8:20 am  
7. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions
- 8:30 am  
8. Musical Programme
- 8:40 am  
9. International News
- 8:45 am  
10. Documentary
- 4:00 pm  
1. Martial Song
- 4:10 pm  
2. Musical Programme

- 4:20 pm  
3. Song of National Races
- 4:30 pm  
4. Instrumental Music
- 4:35 pm  
5. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -First Year (Geography)
- 4:50 pm  
6. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
- 4:55 pm  
7. Songs of Yester Years
- 5:10 pm  
8. Documentary

- 5:25 pm  
9. Myanmar Leangue
- 5:45 pm  
10. "Sports Highlight"
- 6:00 pm  
11. Evening News
- 6:15 pm  
12. Weather Report
- 6:20 pm  
13. Internet Garden
- 7:00 pm  
14. TV Drama Series
- 8:00 pm  
15. News
16. International News
17. Weather Report
18. Just for Laughs (Gags Asia)
19. TV Drama Series
20. Song Lovers

**Weather forecast for 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2011**

Regions/States	Temperature (°C/°F)		For Tomorrow	
	Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
Kachin	27/81	11/52	Likelihood of isolated light rain	(60%)
Kayah	26/79	09/48	Partly cloudy	
Kayin	33/91	16/61	Partly cloudy	
Chin	18/64	-02/28	Partly cloudy	
Upper Sagaing	26/79	12/54	Partly cloudy	
Lower Sagaing	29/84	15/59	Generally fair weather	
Taninthayi	34/93	18/64	Likelihood of isolated light rain	(60%)
Bago	30/86	16/61	Partly cloudy	
Magway	30/86	16/61	Generally fair weather	
Mandalay	39/84	14/57	Generally fair weather	
Mon	33/91	18/64	Partly cloudy	
Yangon	33/91	18/64	Partly cloudy	
Rakhine	29/84	14/57	Partly cloudy	
Southern Shan	24/75	07/45	Partly cloudy	
Northern Shan	25/77	07/45	Partly cloudy	
Eastern Shan	27/81	09/48	Partly cloudy	
Ayeyawady	30/86	17/63	Partly cloudy	
Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	31/88	15/59	Generally fair weather	
Neighbouring Yangon	33/91	18/64	Partly cloudy	
Neighbouring Mandalay	29/84	14/57	Generally fair weather	

During the past (24) hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions, Shan and Rakhine States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below December averages temperatures in Mandalay and Taninthayi Regions, Kayin State, (6°C) below December average temperatures. In Chin State and about December average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant night temperature were Hakha (-2°C), Pinlaung (3°C), Heho and Mogoke (4°C).

According to the observations at (09:30) hrs MST today, the depression over South of (Con Son) island, Southern Vietnam has become unimportant.

Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in Andaman sea and South Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperatures in the Eastern Myanmar areas.

**Rare white rainbow lights up the North Pole**



**Cold voyage: As their ice breaking ship cruised through the chilly waters, Sam clocked the arching rainbow, but was stunned to see it was completely white.— INTERNET**

LONDON, 15 Dec — This is the amazing year it was still fairly light. 'At first it just looked like a cloud, but as we got closer it was a solid rainbow, but white. 'We were so impressed with it we all got off onto a floating slab of ice to take a closer look.

It is actually closer than it looks in the pictures. 'I was stunned and amazed by the natural miracle. Despite the fact I am totally obsessed with photography, I sometimes forgot to press the shutter button. 'I was just staring at the natural wonder in front of me.'

The 51-year-old, from Russia, said: 'It was around midnight, but because of the time of

Internet



**“Beyond 2012: Towards a New Decade of GMS Strategic Development Partnership”**

## Nay Pyi Taw to host 4<sup>th</sup> Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) Summit on 19-20 Dec

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Dec—Greater Mekong Sub-region countries: Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam initiated economic cooperation scheme in 1992 and have been holding its summits with the assistance of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) alternately every three years. The Fourth GMS Summit will be held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 19 and 20 December

this year.

This year GMS Summit to be held at Myanmar International Convention Centre (MICC) in Nay Pyi Taw will be attended by State heads, departmental heads, officials, entrepreneurs, scholars from six member countries and ADB, sticking to speeding up economic growth in GMS countries and along economic corridor.—MNA

## Lt-Gen Hla Htay Win, wife welcome back Myanmar Tatmadaw delegation

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Dec—Lt-Gen Hla Htay Win of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and wife Daw Mar Mar Wai welcomed back the Myanmar Tatmadaw visit led by Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Nyan Tun and wife Daw Khin Aye Myint who paid a goodwill visit to the People’s Republic of Bangladesh at the invitation of Chief of the Naval Staff of Bangladesh Vice Admiral Zahir Uddin Ahmed, at Nay Pyi Taw Airport this afternoon.

Also present at the airport to welcome back the delegation were Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein and wife, senior military officers and their wives of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and the

commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command. Members of the delegation Commodore Tin Aung San of Kyaukpyu Station and senior military officers and Defence Attaché of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh Brig-Gen MD Shahidul Hague, psc, also arrived back on the same flight.—MNA

*Lt-Gen Hla Htay Win of Office of the Commander-in-Chief welcomes back Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Nyan Tun who paid goodwill visit to People’s Republic of Bangladesh.*

MNA



## Pakokku dwellers participate in mass walk

PAKOKKU, 15 Dec—The mass walk activity, organized by Pakokku District and Township General Administration Departments, was held in Pakokku on 3 December morning.

Participants started mass walk from Myoma Road, north of Independence Park and finished at District Sports Ground where they took physical exercises.

Departmental personnel, local people and students, totaling over 3000, participated in the mass walk.

Myanma Alin

## London 2012 ticket resale plans confirmed



LONDON, 14 Dec—The London Organizing Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games (LOCOG) has confirmed details of its ticket resale process for Olympic and Paralympic ticket holders here on Wednesday.

Those who have bought tickets directly from LOCOG before 6 January 2012 will be able to resell their tickets via [www.tickets.london2012.com](http://www.tickets.london2012.com) from 6 January 2012 until 3 February 2012. There will then be further opportunities to resell from Spring 2012.

The resale process will allow those who are no longer able to attend or no longer want their tickets to sell them to other sports fans and help ensure that venues are full at Games time.

Those who purchased tickets from LOCOG and wish to resell them will be able to choose which tickets they wish to resell via their ticketing account on [www.tickets.london2012.com](http://www.tickets.london2012.com).

“I’m convinced that most people will want to hold on to their tickets,” LOCOG CEO Paul Deighton said.

“But we are pleased to offer this resale programme which will give those who wish to use it, an opportunity to securely sell their tickets to others who wish to go to the Games or purchase more tickets and help us to achieve our aim of having full venues.”

Remaining tickets for the Olympic Football Tournament and the Paralympic Games are currently on sale until 6 February 2012 when the seat allocation process will begin.—Internet

## Significant night temperature (16-12-2011)

Haka	(-2°C)
Pinlaung	(3°C)
Heho	(4°C)
Mogok	(4°C)



**Myanmar, Brazil to promote bilateral ties**

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**Secrets of ‘sleep hormone’ may lead to new treatments for insomnia**

PAGE 4

**Smoking behind most cancer cases**



PAGE 4

## Affiliated BEPS gets new building

WAKEMA, 15 Dec—The opening ceremony of new building for Affiliated Basic Education Primary School was held in Kyaungsha Village of Wakema Township, Ayeyawady Region, on 6 December.

Township level departmental officials explained matters related to the new building.

The school building, 60 feet long and 30 feet wide, was built at a cost of K 15 million sponsored by U Tha Toe Hein-Daw Soe Marlar (Myanma Awba family).

Myanma Alin