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Wednesday, 28 December, 2011

e-Visa system to be launched soon



Coordination meeting on application of e-visa system at entrances and exits of airports, seaports and border gates, and yacht voyage in Kawthoung region, development of Dawei and Myeik tours and establishment of hotel zones in progress.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Dec—Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Tint Hsan addressed a coordination meeting on application of online & Internet for launch of e-visa system at entrances and exits of airports, seaports and border gates, and yacht voyage in Kawthoung region, development of Dawei and Myeik tours and establishment of hotel zones

True patriotism

- * It is very important for every one of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.
- * Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

at the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism yesterday morning. The Union Minister said that the committee for ensuring convenience of foreigners in entering Myanmar was planning to launch electronic visa system to make sure that foreign visitors enter Myanmar easily and swiftly. On line registration service has undergone trials at entrances and exits of airports, seaports and border gates. It is important to make sure that foreign visitors enter and depart Myanmar conveniently as well as having easy access to transportation, adequate accommodation, quality of private service and development of new interesting trips. He then invited suggestions of the attendees for further establishment of hotel zones. He mentioned that the CLMV-4 countries-One Trip Programme would be implemented first as top priority.

Next, the deputy minister, the director-general and managing-director discussed potentials and future plans. In-charge officers of border gates, entrepreneurs, and MD U Kyaw Moe Naing of Myanmar Ease Net Co Ltd explained completed works and follow-up plans.—MNA

THANE unlikely to move towards Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Dec—According to the observations at (5:30) hrs M.S.T today, the cyclonic storm “THANE” over Southeast Bay adjoining Southwest Bay, is centered at about (410) miles Southeast of Chennai, India (about (560)

miles Southwest of Pathein, about (520) miles Southwest of Cocogyun, Myanmar). It is likely to intensify and forecast to move Northwest wards.

Current stage of the cyclonic storm is coded as yellow colour which means

is not moving to Myanmar. Under the influence of cyclonic storm, occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (55-60) mph.

MNA

Electricity bill readings on 1-6 Jan

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Dec—Yangon City Electricity Supply Board (YESB) carries out readings of electric meter for this month, in townships of Yangon Region, from 1 till 6 January 2012.

Starting 1 January

2012, electricity prices will be increased to K 35 per unit from K 25; K 75 per unit from K 50 and USD 0.12 from USD 0.08 respectively.

Readings will be conducted by staff from Townships in cooperation with over 200 from YESB. Departmental officials will supervise it and respective Township General Administration Departments will also provide necessary

assistance. For smooth functioning of it, general public are requested to make cooperation with staff. Dial YESB chairman (09-5055971 and 09-8637403), secretary (09-5100906), joint secretary (09-5100917), chief engineer (09-8600137) and director (Finance) (09-5055973) for any inconvenience.

MNA



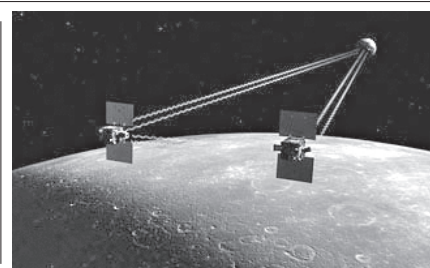
Kenny Dalglish says Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard needs time

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One of 80 cooks helps to measure the world's longest ever Christmas cake, a 1,068 metre-long vanilla flavored log with a bitter chocolate cover, at a hotel in December, 2011 in Shanghai, China.

PAGE 13



Two NASA spacecrafts launched from Florida in September are set to enter orbit around moon over the New Year's weekend to measure the gravity field and lunar interior, according to media reports on Tuesday.

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4th Nay Pyi Taw traffic rules educative talk on 7-11 Jan

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Dec—Under the supervision of Nay Pyi Taw Council, Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee will arrange fourth Nay Pyi Taw traffic rules educative talk on a grand scale in the compound of Aung Mingala Highway Bus Terminal in Pinyinmana, Nay Pyi Taw from 7 to 11 January in 2012.

During the talk, educative booths, departmental booths and sale counters, including traffic rules quiz contests and entertainment programmes will be staged, aiming to lessen traffic accidents and disseminate traffic rules knowledge.

MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 28 December, 2011

Encourage students to do sports

Students need to work hard, but they should also set aside their time for sports and games. All parents want their children to be brilliant and good at schoolwork. So, they may forget to encourage their kids to do some form of sports and games. Doing school lessons all the time can cause a barrier to mind refreshment.

Mind and body can be both strengthened and refreshed by doing sports and games. Refreshed mind can develop memory. Every student therefore should do a certain kind of sport. One can become an outstanding athlete by constantly doing a certain kind of sport that he favours. And, through hard work, he may even become one of the athletes bringing honour to the nation.

Under the aegis of the Education Ministry, inter-basic education school sports competitions for 2011-2012 academic year have been in progress from 25 December to 1 January. The contests include football, volleyball, basketball, Sepak Takraw, traditional cane ball, badminton, tennis, table tennis, Taekwondo, Wushu, Karatedo, swimming, track and field and golf.

The inter-basic education school sports competitions were yearly held from 1990-1991 to 1997-1998. But later on, they were only held at region or state level. With the aim of promoting national sport standard, sports contests at higher and basic education levels and zone and department levels started 2008-2009 academic year.

Myanmar university students took part in eight sports genres of the 15th ASEAN University Games held in Thailand in 2010. Plans are under way to participate regularly in such games held every two years.

All in all, students are urged to try to promote their sport standards for the emergence of brilliant sportsmen who bring honour and glory to the nation.

Outstanding Red Cross leaders honoured in Mon State

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Dec—Outstanding red cross members from regions and states were honoured during a ceremony to conclude the red cross leadership course and prize presentation ceremony at Strand Hotel in Mawlamyine on 23 December.

Mon State Chief Minister U Ohn Myint and President of Myanmar Red

Cross Society Prof Dr Thar Hla Shwe delivered addresses at the ceremony.

At the ceremony, State Chief Minister U Ohn Myint awarded the trainees and presented completion certificates to them.

The Speaker of Mon State Hluttaw and Mon State ministers also awarded the outstanding trainees of the course which was jointly

conducted by Myanmar Red Cross Society and International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Associations.

During the ceremony, President of MRCS Dr Thar Hla Shwe presented gift to Mon State Red Cross Supervisory Committee through Chairman of the committee Dr Aye Nyein. A dinner hosted in honour

of the outstanding red cross leaders was then followed.

After the ceremony, the Mon State Chief Minister and party attended welcoming ceremony of the 75th Kayin New Year Festival in Mawlamyine.

They enjoyed the traditional dances of Kayin national race and cordially greeted national races at the ceremony. —MNA

Basic Computer Course, Basic Maintenance Course opened

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Dec—Opening ceremony of Basic Computer Course No.1/2012 and Basic Maintenance Course No.1/2011 took place at training hall here yesterday morning, with an address by Deputy Minister for Electric Power No.2 U Aung Than Oo.

With the rapid growth of ICT, efforts are being made in all aspects to become a developed country in order that the country can keep abreast of global countries. The Ministry is also making efforts to operate national grid with ICT control system.

A total of 28 trainees are attending 10-week-long computer course and 27, two-week-long maintenance course.—MNA

Health knowledge disseminated

KARATHURI, 27 Dec—The Chairperson of Taninthayi Region Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee and party gave talks on women affairs and facts about HIV/AIDS at Karathuri Sub-township Basic Education High School on 11 December.

They donated school uniforms and exercise books to needy students and books to the library. They accepted membership applications at the hall of sub-township and then provided cash assistance and medicines to the aged, ferrous sulphate, iodized salt and refreshment to expectant mothers.

Township IPRD

Cash donated to funds for repairing bridges

GANGAW, 27 Dec—A ceremony to donate cash to funds for repairing of the suspension bridges in

Gangaw Township was held at Phyo Thiri Yeiktha in Gangaw on 9 December.

The bridges were damaged in overflow of Myittha River in October.

Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Hla Swe of Magway Region Constituency No. 12 donated K 1.6 million for purchase of 200 bags of cement to townseiders.

Kyemon

MRIA to buy rice reserves

YANGON, 27 Dec—Committee for buying rice reserves of Myanmar Rice Industry Association (MRIA) will purchase 1000 tons of Emahta rice for market rice reserves through tender system. Information regarding tender is available at MRIA, No.29, Minyekyawswa Road, Lanmadaw Township, here (ph-218266 and 218267).

MNA

LOCAL SPORTS

Ayeyawady Region in sports activities

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Dec—The mass walk activities for the fourth week of December was held in Pathein on 24 December.

Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung, Region level authorities, departmental personnel, students and local people totalling over 37840 actively took part in the walk.

The Chief Minister attended prize presentation for winners in the golf tournament to mark the centennial anniversary of Ayeyawady Golf Club and its get-together ceremony.

He awarded the championship trophy to Pathein Airbase team in inter-club event and the first prize to U Thein Swe in the professional event.—MNA

Mass walk activities organized

KYAUKME, 27 Dec—The mass walk activities for the fourth week of December was organized in Kyaukme of Shan State (North) on 24 December morning.

Local people participated in the mass walk from the office of District General Administration Department to Township Sports Ground. Later, they took physical exercise.—District IPRD

Pre-Primary School organizes sports events

TAUNGDWINGYI, 27 Dec—As a gesture of hailing the 64th Anniversary Independence Day, the children's physical contest was held at Myoma Pre-Primary School in Taungdwingyi on 24 December.

Local authorities formally opened the contest. Students of the pre-primary school actively took part in 11 sports events.—KYEMON

Monsoon paddy harvested on model plot

AMARAPURA, 27 Dec—The model plot of monsoon paddy was harvested in Hsautawwa Village-tract in Amarapura Township on 10 December.

Region/District and Township level officials supervised the harvesting of paddy.

Ayeyamin strain monsoon paddy at good level on 0.53 acre of farmland produced 93.62 baskets per acre.

Myamma Alin



Earth-caring knowledge shared

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Dec—Jointly organized by Mon State Environmental Conservation Committee and Mawlamyine Township Forest Department, an educative talk on ecological conservation and

mangroves preservation was held at Sepala Village in Chaungsone Township on 3 December. Mon State departmental officials gave talks.

Members of Mon State Environmental Conser-

vation Committee, departmental staff, members of social organizations and locals and students from villages near to the mangrove forests listened to the talks.

MNA





Chinese Defence Minister Liang Guanglie (C, Front) and Nepali Deputy Prime Minister Bijay Kumar Gachhadar (3rd L, Front) pose for group photo in Beijing, capital of China, on 26 Dec, 2011.—XINHUA

Taleban facilitator captured in Afghanistan

KABUL, 27 Dec—A Taleban facilitator was captured on Tuesday by Afghan force and NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan's Logar Province, the ISAF said Tuesday morning.

"An Afghan-led and coalition-supported security force captured a Taleban facilitator during an operation in Pul-e-Alam District, Logar Province today," the ISAF said in a Press release.

The facilitator moved weapons and explosives used in attacks against coalition forces. Additionally, he was involved in a car bomb attack in Logar Province, with Pul-e-Alam as its capital some 60 km south of Afghan Capital of Kabul, earlier this month that killed one civilian and injured nine others, the Press release added.

Separately, the ISAF security force also discovered a weapons cache during a routine patrol in Andar district of the neighbouring Ghazni Province on Tuesday, the release said.

"The cache consisted of one anti-personnel mine, two rocket propelled grenade warheads, two 82 mm mortar rounds and various improvised explosive device (IED) making components," it said. Currently, over 130,000 NATO-led ISAF with majority of them Americans have been serving in Afghanistan.

However, the Taleban militant group, who launched in May this year a rebel offensive against Afghan and NATO forces, has not make comments yet.

MNA/Xinhua

US army probe blames communication delays for deadly 26 November Pak airstrike

WASHINGTON, 27 Dec—A US military probe into the 26 November airstrike has highlighted a breakdown in communication by pointing out that a NATO operations officer in Afghanistan took about 45 minutes to inform a senior allied commander about Pakistan's calls that its outposts were attacked.

According to the US Central Command report, a NATO liaison officer in Pakistan notified the night director in an allied operations centre in Afghanistan at 12:35 am on 26 November but failed to alert a top leader, Major General James Laster until 1:20am, after which the attack had ended.

The NATO officials "did not respond correctly, quickly enough or with the

sense of urgency or initiative required given the gravity of the situation and the well known sensitivity surrounding the Afghan-Pakistan border region," *The New York Times* quoted the report, as saying.

The delay, by at least one officer, raises questions about whether a faster response could have averted the death of Pakistani soldiers. The military's report also revealed that an American AC-130 gunship intruded two miles into Pakistan's airspace to fire on troops, who had attacked a joint American-Afghan ground patrol just across the border in Afghanistan.

The 30-page report also found that competing NATO and American rules of engagement related to

operations along the border "lacked clarity and precision, and were not followed."

The report also highlighted trust deficit between the US and Pakistan by pointing out that American officials did not trust Pakistan enough to give it detailed information about their troop locations in Afghanistan, and Pakistan had not informed NATO of the locations of its new border posts.

The report recommended nine changes, including reviewing and coordinating all orders related to border operations, increased training, improved surveillance before missions, and more updated information on the location of border installations on both sides.

Internet



The village of Xuexiang or "home of snow" is gaining popularity with tourists.—INTERNET

Al-Qaeda group in Iraq says responsible for 22 Dec terror attacks

BAGHDAD, 27 Dec—The front group of the al-Qaeda terror network has claimed responsibility for the 22 Dec string of terror attacks that killed more than 65 people, the local media reported on Tuesday.

Xinhua

Iran to buy planes from Russia

TEHERAN, 27 Dec—Iran plans to buy small passenger planes from Russia, *Xinhua* reported Monday.

Talks are on for the purchase of 100-seat capacity planes from Russia, Urban Development Minister Ali Nikzad said.

Russia's Tupolev and Sukhoi types of aircraft are being considered, according to the semi-official *Fars* news agency.

Iran hopes to add 20 new planes to its aircraft fleet in the next few months, Nikzad said.

Internet

China reiterates support to Pakistan's sovereignty

ISLAMABAD, 27 Dec—China Monday reiterated its firm support to Pakistan's endeavour to uphold its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The assurance came during the three-day visit of Chinese President Hu Jintao's representative Dai Bingguo, said China's Ambassador to Pakistan Liu Jian.

Dai Bingguo is an expert on South Asian affairs and his visit took place as a tussle broke out between the Pakistani army and the government.

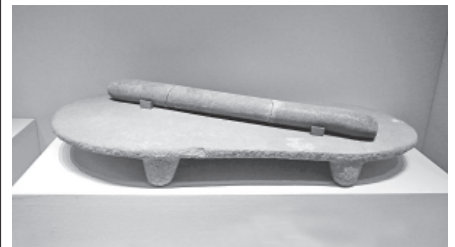
The ambassador said the visit, though short, proved

fruitful, reported *Associated Press* of Pakistan.

He said China supports Pakistan's efforts in maintaining its national stability and unity, creating a sound external environment, developing its economy, and improving the livelihood of its people, by fully exploiting its geographical advantage.

Islamabad has said that its sovereignty was compromised when US commandos flew into Abbottabad 2 May and killed Al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden without informing Pakistan. Also, NATO airstrikes 26 Nov on two Pakistan Army

checkposts left two dozen soldiers dead, sparking outrage in the country. Dai Bingguo emphasized that the international community should fully recognize the significant contributions made by Pakistan for the international campaign against terrorism and continue to render strong support for Pakistan. During the visit, Dai Bingguo held in-depth discussions with Pakistan's civilian and military leaders and reached broad consensus on further promoting China-Pakistan strategic cooperative partnership.—Internet



Stone Quern and Roller, Peiligang Culture (c. 6100-5000 BC), unearthed at Peiligang, Xincheng, Henan Province, 1978. It is exhibited in the section of Life and Production in Neolithic China, an exhibition of Ancient China in the National Museum of China. The Neolithic Age began about 10,000 years ago. This period featured the advent of agriculture, domesticated animals, polished stone tools, and the invention of pottery. People began living in settlements with blood relatives and the economy was gradually transformed into a production-based one.

INTERNET

Two policemen injured in PKK attack in southeast Turkey

ANKARA, 27 Dec—Two Turkish policemen were wounded in an attack staged by members of the outlawed Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK) in southeastern Turkey on Monday, the semi-official *Anatolia* news agency reported.

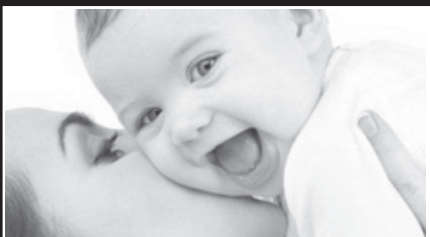
Four PKK members fired on a police post from a moving vehicle, leaving the two police officers injured in Bismil district of Turkey's southeastern Province of Diyarbakir, the report said.

Listed as a terrorist group by Turkey, the United States and the European Union, the PKK took up arms in 1984 to create an ethnic homeland in southeastern Turkey. More than 40,000 people have been killed in conflicts involving the PKK during the past over two decades.

Xinhua



In this photo, F-15SG, a variant of the all-weather multirole fighter F-15E, was chosen by Singapore Air Force in 2005.—INTERNET



Mother-baby emotional bonds influence teenage obesity.—INTERNET

Mother-baby emotional bonds influence teenage obesity

WASHINGTON, 27 Dec—How a mother handles her toddler emotionally could determine whether the latter would pile on the pounds during adolescence, says a new US study. The lower the quality of the child's emotional security and the mother's sensitivity, the higher the risk that a child would be obese at age 15 years, according to the study.

More than a quarter of toddlers who had the lowest-quality emotional relationships with their mothers were obese as teens. This, compared to

13 percent of adolescents who had closer bonds with their mothers in their younger years.

"Childhood obesity could be influenced by interventions that try to improve the emotional bonds between mothers and children rather than focusing only on children's food intake and activity," says Sarah Anderson, assistant professor of epidemiology at Ohio State University who led the study.

Researchers analyzed data from 977 participants which included diverse families living in nine US states whose children were born in 1991.—*Internet*

Health Tip: Learning to eat with dentures

Eating with dentures often requires some practice, and may initially trigger some discomfort and irritation.

The American Dental Association offers these suggestions for adjusting to your new dentures:

- * Start out with soft foods.
- * Cut up your food into small pieces.
- * Eat slowly, carefully using both sides of your mouth.
- * Slowly add a variety of foods until you have resumed your normal diet.
- * Take care when eating foods that are hot, hard or have sharp edges.

Internet

Drug companies are working to develop a pure, more powerful version of a highly abused medicine, which has addiction experts worried that it could spur a new wave of abuse.—INTERNET

Health

Abuse experts worried about new, stronger painkiller

NEW YORK, 27 Dec—Drug companies are working to develop a pure, more powerful version of a highly abused medicine, which has addiction experts worried that it could spur a new wave of abuse.

The new pills contain the highly addictive painkiller hydrocodone, packing up to 10 times the amount of the drug as existing medications such as Vicodin.

Four companies have begun patient testing, and one of them — Zogenix of San Diego — plans to apply early next year to begin marketing its product, Zohydro.

If approved, it would mark the first time patients could legally buy pure hydrocodone.

Existing products combine the drug with nonaddictive painkillers such as acetaminophen.

Critics say they are especially worried about Zohydro, a timed-release drug meant for managing moderate to severe pain, because abusers could crush it to release an intense, immediate high.

"I have a big concern that this could be the next OxyContin," said April Rovero, president of the National Coalition Against Prescription Drug Abuse.

"We just don't need this on the market."

Abusers quickly discovered they could defeat the timed-release feature by crushing the pills.

Purdue Pharma changed the formula to make OxyContin more tamper-resistant, but addicts have moved onto generic oxycodone and other drugs that do not have a timed-release feature.

Oxycodone is now the most-abused medicine in the United States, with hydrocodone second, according to the Drug Enforcement Administration's annual count of drug seizures sent to police drug labs for analysis.

The latest drug tests come as more pharmaceutical companies are getting into the \$10 billion-a-year legal market for powerful — and addictive — opiate narcotics.

Internet



Economic growth set to fall next year

BEIJING, 27 Dec—China's economic growth is expected to fall to about 8.5 percent in 2012, but only if the ongoing eurozone debt crisis doesn't evolve into a new global economic meltdown, a senior economist of the State Council's policy research think tank said on Monday.

In an exclusive interview with *China Daily*, Yu Bin, director-general of the department of macroeconomic research at the Development Research Centre of the State Council, said that economic growth is likely to dip below 9 percent in the fourth quarter, but full-

year growth may be slightly higher. "Eastern coastal cities saw obviously slower economic growth in 2011. Meanwhile, the potential for additional investment in

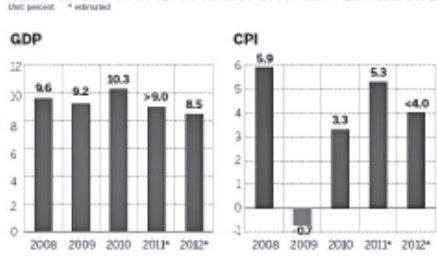
infrastructure continues to shrink, signaling that the potential for economic growth has started to decline," said Yu. China has entered the final stages of high-speed

economic growth after three decades of rapid expansion, said Yu, adding that the economy is under pressure, caused by short-term sluggish demand overlapping with a slower potential growth rate in the medium and long terms. Emerging economies, often seen as the engine of the global economy, are incapable of "unhooking" their connection with the dismal economic situation facing developed economies, influenced by market fluctuations and deteriorating environments for exports and asset fluidity.

China's export growth is forecast to decline to about 10 percent in 2012, from about 20 percent this year, Yu said. The nation's exports to the European Union, its biggest market, have seen a rapid slowdown since September.

Fixed-asset investment growth may fall by about 4 percentage points to 20 percent in 2012, said Yu. The relatively high growth rate seen this year has been largely driven by the high-speed growth of the manufacturing and real estate industries, which account for about 60 percent of fixed-asset investment.—*Xinhua*

YEAR-ON-YEAR CHANGES IN CHINA'S ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE



Year-on-year changes in China's economic performance. XINHUA

Brazil to rank as world's 6th largest economy

RIO DE JANEIRO, 27 Dec—Brazil will surpass Britain to become the sixth largest economy in the world this year, according to a British study published on Monday. The study, published by the Centre for Economics and Business Research (CEBR), shows that the Brazilian GDP for this year will stand at 2.4 trillion US dollars, after that of the US, China, Japan, Germany and France, the world's five largest economies. Brazilian Finance Minister Guido Mantega attributed Brazil's rise to its good performance amid the world financial crisis and the crisis's heavier impact on the British economy.

Mantega predicted that the Brazilian economy would grow 3 percent to 3.5 percent this year, and 4 percent to 5 percent in 2012. According to statistics released by Brazil's Development, Industry and Trade Ministry on Monday, the country's exports from January to the end of last week reached a record high of 250.3 billion US dollars, up 24 percent from the same period last year. Its trade balance from January to the fourth week of December amounted to 26.8 billion US dollars, up 43.1 percent year-on-year, while its trade surplus is expected to reach 29 billion US dollars in 2011, up from last year's 20.27 billion US dollars.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Business

Axis Bank launches Insta Car Loans

KOLKATA, 27 Dec —Axis Bank, India's third largest private bank, on Monday announced the launch of "Insta Car Loans", an auto finance facility that approves instant car loans at various car dealerships and at its branches.

Axis Bank has developed this feature in association with BankBazaar.com. Axis Bank's Insta Car Loan facility offers customers instant in-principle approvals for Car Loans, based on credit checks in real time at designated car dealerships or at Axis Bank branches.

The feature also provides car dealerships instant approvals for their customers without any additional investment in manpower or software as the facility can be accessed with just an internet connection. Jairam Sridharan—Head- Retail Lending and Payments, Axis Bank said, "It is clear that the Indian car buyer is ready to get loans approved instantly on the internet. The Instant Approval process is a logical extension of that desire into the physical world."

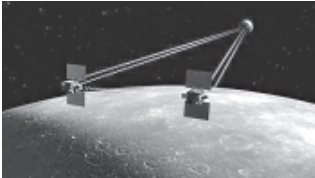
Internet



Journalists inspect Toyota Motor Corp's brand-new compact hybrid vehicle "Aqua" during its unveiling in Tokyo, on 26 Dec, 2011. The Aqua, equipped with a 1.5-liter hybrid system which achieved the world's best mileage of 35.4 kilometres per liter according to Toyota, sells for between 1.69 million yen (US\$21,680) and 1.85 million yen (US\$23,730).

INTERNET

NASA Grail probes ready to orbit moon



Two NASA spacecrafts launched from Florida in September are set to enter orbit around moon over the New Year's weekend to measure the gravity field and lunar interior, according to media reports on Tuesday.—INTERNET

BEIJING, 27 Dec—Two NASA spacecrafts launched from Florida in September are set to enter orbit around moon over the New Year's weekend to measure the gravity field and lunar interior, according to media reports on Tuesday.

NASA scientists want to know the most uneven gravitational field they know of in

the solar system since it will shed light on what is going on beneath the lunar surface.

The twin spacecrafts are named *Grail-A* and *Grail-B*. *Grail-A* will enter the moon's orbit on New Year's Eve, *Grail-B* will follow on New Year's Day.

"The purpose of the GRAIL mission is to obtain gravity data on the Moon. And with that data, the scientists are able to determine the structure of the lunar interior, from crust to core," said David Lehman of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

Once in orbit, the pair will spend two months following each other around the moon. Data collection won't begin until March.

Using the gravity information, scientists can deduce what's below or at the lunar surface such as mountains and craters and may help explain why the far side of the moon is more rugged than the side that faces Earth.

Xinhua

Canadian astronauts could be grounded for years after next mission

MONTREAL, 27 Dec—Canadian astronauts could be stuck on the ground for years following Chris Hadfield's space mission scheduled for 2012.

That six-month visit to the International Space Station, which begins next November when Hadfield blasts off in a Russian spacecraft, will mark the end of a busy era for Canadian space travel.

It's not clear when another Canadian will leave the planet, says an official at the national space agency.

"According to our agreement on the International Space Station



Canadian astronaut Chris Hadfield speaks at the Canadian Aviation and Space Museum in Ottawa on 12 May, 2011.—INTERNET

we don't have a flight — beyond Chris Hadfield — before the end of the decade," Gilles Leclerc, the Canadian Space Agency's director-general of space exploration, said in an interview. In the 27 years since Marc Garneau became the first Canadian to fly into space, a total of eight Canadians have taken 15 space trips, many of them enjoying several voyages into the cosmos.

For the next while, the Canadian space programme will focus on sending not people, but machines into space — like rovers and satellites for earth observation and military

applications.

At one point Canada had six active astronauts. Now there are two young ones, but David Saint-Jacques and Jeremy Hansen still have to undergo a few years of training before any trip. They will still get their chance — eventually.

NASA has an agreement to ship all Canadian astronauts up to the space station as long as it's in orbit, which is until at least 2020. Because it helped build the space station using the giant robotic Canadarms, Canada gets "credits" for trips to the space station.—Internet

Russia has 25,000 undersea radioactive waste sites

MOSCOW, 27 Dec—There are nearly 25,000 hazardous underwater objects containing solid radioactive waste in Russia, an emergency ministry official said Monday.

According to Oleg Kuznetsov, deputy head of special projects at the ministry's rescue service, the ministry has compiled a register of so-called sea hazards, including underwater objects in the Baltic, Barents, White, Kara, and Black Seas as well as in the Sea of Okhotsk and the Sea of Japan.

These underwater objects include nuclear submarines that have sunk and ships with ammunition and oil products, chemicals and radioactive waste.

Their condition has been closely monitored for last 15 years by ministry's

specialists.

The danger is that metal containers can eventually be eroded by sea water, resulting in the leak of hazardous substance.

Hazardous sites with solid radioactive waste sit on the sea-bed mainly at a depth of 500 metres, Kuznetsov said.

Internet



Hundreds of Mexicans gather in front of the Pyramid of the Sun to receive energy from the spring sun on 21 March, 2003 at the ruins of the pre-Hispanic City of Teotihuacan, Mexico. Thousands of people flock to the ancient pyramids near Mexico City every year on the spring equinox to welcome the arrival of spring and to absorb what many people believe to be the special energy of the site.—INTERNET

Scientists can now read our minds

LONDON, 27 Dec—It may seem like something from a science fiction but scientists claim they have found a way to read the human mind.

Researchers at University of California-Los Angeles have developed what they call 'brain reading' method that uses past history to determine future cognitive patterns and thought process, the *Daily Mail* reported.

The researchers

compare the results to Google's predictive search capability, when the website guesses what search terms users are typing before they finish.

The study, led by author Ariana Anderson, a post-doctoral fellow in the Integrative Neuroimaging Technology lab at the

university, was performed on smokers experiencing nicotine cravings.

During the study, MRI brain wave data was analysed to determine which regions of the brain and which neural networks are responsible for resisting nicotine addiction.

Internet

Science



Footsteps in the snow lead from the historic monument of Stonehenge on 9 Jan, 2010, in Wiltshire, England. The UNESCO world heritage site and one the UK's most popular tourist destinations has been closed due to the ice and snow on the approach paths and footways. Britain is continuing to be gripped by the Arctic weather and forecasters are predicting more snow in the next 24hrs and that the cold spell could last for at least another week.—INTERNET

China city tightens control of microblogs

Technology

SHANGHAI, 27 Dec—Shanghai will require microblog users to register under their real names from Monday, state media said, the latest local government in China to implement the rule after a spate of violent protests.

Beijing and the southern Province of Guangdong have also ordered users of weibos — microblogs similar to



People surf the internet on a laptop using the wi-fi connection of a cafe in Shanghai on 14 Jan, 2010.

INTERNET

Twitter — to register using their real names, as authorities tighten their grip on the *Internet*. The move comes amid a surge in social unrest that has been concentrated in the wealthy manufacturing heartland of Guangdong.

Residents protesting against land seizures and a power plant in the province recently posted photos and reports of their demonstrations on weibos, defying official efforts to block news of the incidents.

With more than half a billion Chinese now online, authorities are concerned about the power of the Internet to influence public opinion in a country that maintains tight controls on its traditional media outlets. Shanghai said the new rules aim to "foster a healthy Internet culture" and improve management over social networking, the official *Xinhua* news agency reported late Sunday.

The guidelines will apply to both private and corporate users in Shanghai. Previously, users have been able to set up weibo accounts under assumed names, making it more difficult for authorities to track them, and allowing them to set up new accounts if existing ones are shut down by censors.—Internet



Luis Hernesto Holguin, front, second from right, accompanied by relatives, uses outdoor escalators, newly installed at Comuna 13 shantytown as part of an urbanization plan to improve living conditions of residents, in Medellin, Colombia, on 26 Dec, 2011.

INTERNET

China looks at convergence of TV, Internet, phone in 2012

BEIJING, 27 Dec—China will push ahead with the convergence of television, Internet and telecom services in 2012, a minister said. The government will expand pilot projects to all the municipalities, provincial capitals and other eligible cities next year, said Miao Wei, minister of industry and information technology Monday.

Last year, 12 cities were chosen for the trial, including Beijing and Shanghai, and four provincial capitals, Harbin, Nanjing, Hangzhou and Wuhan, reported *Xinhua*.

The tri-network integration, which allows users to access television, Internet and mobile phone services through a single device, was listed in the government work

report last year as one of the emerging strategic industries for priority development and slated for completion by 2015.

China achieved some progress in facilitating connections of broadcast and telecommunications networks in 2011 and was able to provide consumers with products and services, Miao said.

By the end of November, China's Internet protocol television (IPTV) users have exceeded 11 million, while mobile video subscribers have surpassed 40 million.

The country will strengthen information security as it continues to press ahead development of the IPTV and mobile video next year, Miao added.—*Internet*



Chinese students studying in Israel visit at Yad Vashem's Holocaust History Museum in Jerusalem on 26 Dec, 2011. About 60 Chinese students visited the museum here on Monday at the invitation of the Council for the Promotion of Israeli-China Relations. XINHUA



US President Barack Obama shakes hands with a boy while greeting military personnel and their families at a mess hall at Marine Base Hawaii at Kaneohe Bay on Christmas Day.—*INTERNET*

Kosovo citizens start traveling freely to Serbia

PRISTINA, 27 Dec— After more than a decade Kosovo citizens started to freely travel to Serbia on Monday, following a mutual agreement reached in EU facilitated dialogue in July.

This agreement covers persons, who are now able to travel on the basis of ID cards, and also car insurance and vehicle license plates.

Kosovo Interior Minister Bajram Rexhepi on Monday said the agreement started implementation in all Kosovo-Serbia border crossing points, but due to technical difficulties the implementation has not started in two northern crossings known as gate 1 and 31. "The agreement is valid also for the north but technically insurance companies are still not ready to operate over there," said Rexhepi.

For the time being, vehicle crossings imply insurance expenses between 60 euros (78 US dollars) and 100 euros (130 dollars). Rexhepi said this is an interim charge until

Pristina and Belgrade reach an additional agreement on the issue.

European Commission Liaison Office in Pristina delivered a welcome note on the implementation, saying that "this is exactly why the dialogue was launched, to help improve lives of people."

Kosovo declared independence in 2008 but Belgrade still considers the territory to be a Serbian Province.

Although the EU has not recognized Kosovo's independence, leading European states have exchanged ambassadors with Pristina.—*Xinhua*

More drivers use mobile phones while driving in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 27 Dec— Singapore police issued bills for 271 drivers per month on average for using mobile phones while driving in the first nine months of the year, local media reported on Tuesday.

This represents an increase of 35 percent year on year, the Chinese daily Lianhe Zaobao said.

Singapore now has in place legislations to forbid the dangerous behavior of using mobile phones while driving, and offenders could face fines of up to 2,000 Singapore dollars (1,550 U.S. dollars) or jail terms of up to 12 months, or both.

A total of 2,930 drivers received bills for using cell phones while driving in 2010, up from 2,867 in 2009.

The newspaper said its reporter spotted four drivers using cell phone in about twenty minutes on a busy road in the downtown area, while two were spotted smoking and another driver using a towel to wipe his face.—*Xinhua*

Adolf Hitler's favourite actor dies at 108

LONDON, 27 Dec—A Dutch-born actor who is said to have been a particular favourite of Adolf Hitler, died 24 Dec at a hospital in Starnberg, Germany. He was 108.

Johannes Heesters rose to fame in Germany in the 1930s, becoming a crowd favourite at Berlin's Komische Oper and Admiralspalast. *Sky News* reported.

Even after the war, Heesters was allowed to keep performing because the allies did not believe he was involved in propaganda or Nazi activities.

But his willingness to perform for Hitler's regime meant that he was treated as an outcast in his native country, which had suffered terribly under Nazi occupation.

The actor admitted that it gave him a "heavy heart" not to be able to perform in his homeland, saying he did not believe he had done anything wrong.

"But apart from my career - and the fact

that, through no fault of my own, Adolf Hitler was one of the fans of my art - what have I done?" he had said.

His critics had claimed that he performed for concentration camp staff at Dachau in 1941. Heesters admitted making a visit there, though, at the insistence of authorities, but he denied having performed, despite the testimony of Dachau survivors.

When he tried a comeback in the Netherlands in 1964 - playing the anti-Nazi Captain von Trapp in *The Sound Of Music* - he was booed off stage.

He continued to be a popular performer in Germany well into his old age.

Even when he turned 105 in 2008, he was still performing in a musical comedy in Hamburg. "To have nothing to do, to sit there waiting for little aches and pains, is fundamentally wrong. Life has to be lived," he wrote.—*Internet*



Photo taken on 25 Dec, 2011 shows the lanterns from China's southwestern city Zigong during the Global Winter Wonderland 2011 lantern show held in Great America park, Santa Clara, United States. XINHUA

David Cameron vows to protect kids from raunchy ads

LONDON, 27 Dec—David Cameron is preparing tough new regulations to protect children from raunchy images in advertisements.

The 45-year-old Prime Minister of the United Kingdom wants a crackdown on TV ads aimed at "the commercialisation and sexualisation" of childhood, the *Daily Star* reported.

He has also written to business leaders inviting them for talks at No 10 to impose a new code.

Age ratings for raunchy music videos could also be introduced.

Internet



An artist embroiders arabic characters by a sewing machine during the 5th Convention of International Islamic Arts in Kuwait, on 26 Dec, 2011. Artists from some 20 countries and regions attend the convention which lasts until 7 Jan, 2012. XINHUA

Philippine President Aquino pardons British drug trafficker

MANILA, 27 Dec— Philippine President Benigno S. Aquino III has pardoned a British national who was arrested and convicted of drug trafficking in the early 1990s, the presidential palace confirmed on Monday. He will be deported back to England.

William Robert Burton was arrested in December 1992 while attempting to smuggle 5.6 kilogrammes (12.3 pounds) of marijuana through Ninoy Aquino International Airport in

Manila, the capital of the Philippines. He was sentenced in 1993 to life imprisonment by a local court.

Deputy Presidential Spokesperson Abigail Valte told reporters during a news conference on Monday that Aquino has decided to grant a conditional pardon to Burton. He did not explain why Burton deserves a pardon, but reports have indicated that his health is deteriorating quickly after being diagnosed with an illness.

The pardon includes several conditions which Burton must abide to after he has been released from prison and turned over to the Bureau of Immigration. He has been ordered to pay a fine of 20,000 Philippine pesos (USD 430), he will accept a voluntary deportation back to England and promise never to return to the Philippines and pay for all transportation expenses.

Burton lived in the northern English village of Rufforth in North Yorkshire before his arrest in 1992.

Internet



The combined photo shows one of the main roads in Taiyuan, capital of north China's Shanxi Province, on 20 Dec, 2011 when there was no wind (upper) and 22 Dec, 2011 when wind was blowing. Taiyuan faces environmental challenges as the city experiences the period of heating supply for winter. —XINHUA

250 evacuated as forests burn near Savona

SAVONA, Italy, 27 Dec—Officials evacuated 250 people Monday near a Ligurian Riviera town in Italy that is surrounded by wildfires. One man suffered burns to his hands and torso due to the wildfire, ANSA reported.

Seven water-dumping planes, 100 anti-forest-fire volunteer, 50 firefighters from all over Liguria and southern Piedmont and 15 forest rangers are battling to quell the flames.—Internet

5.1-magnitude quake hits Mindanao, Philippines — USGS

MANILA, 27 Dec — An earthquake measuring 5.1 on the Richter scale jolted Mindanao, the Philippines at 20:34:40 GMT on Monday, the U.S. Geological Survey said. The epicenter, with a depth of 43.20 km, was initially determined to be at 9.3809 degrees north latitude and 126.3537 degrees east longitude.—Xinhua

10 injured in fog-related accidents in UAE

ABU DHABI, 27 Dec — At least 10 people were injured and 25 vehicles were damaged in traffic accidents caused by thick fog on the Dubai-Abu Dhabi road Monday morning. Authorities said one person was seriously injured while seven other people suffered light injuries. Three people were admitted to hospitals.

Director of Traffic and Patrol, Hussain Ahmed Al Harithi, said that mobile hospitals and ambulances managed to rescue all victims trapped in the vehicles and rushed them to hospitals. —Internet



Fire devours the houses in the slum district of Sampaloc in Manila, the Philippines, on 26 Dec, 2011. More than 50 houses were destroyed by the fire.—XINHUA

Dubai government slashes budget deficit by 53 percent

DUBAI, 27 Dec—The government of the sheikhdom of Dubai has announced its budget for 2012, implementing a 53-percent cut in the deficit compared to 2011, Dubai-based *Gulf News* reported Monday.

The projected deficit is estimated to reach 1.82 billion Dirham (about 491 million US dollars), or 53 percent lower than in 2011. Local analysts hailed the move as a sign of budget discipline and a proof that the sheikhdom, part of the Gulf Arab state United Arab Emirates (UAE), is serious in reducing its debt.

The new budget forecasts expenditure of 32.25 billion Dirham (8.79 billion dollars) and 30.43 billion Dirham (8.29 billion dollars) in revenues, according to the budget approved

by Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, vice president and prime minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai.

Against a basic stereotype, Dubai's revenue is not based on oil, but rather from fees, services charges and some small forms of taxes and customs. There is neither an income tax nor value added tax in the sheikhdom. Nine tenths of the UAE oil is located in Abu Dhabi.

According to Giyas Gokkent, Chief Economist and Head of Research at National Bank of Abu Dhabi, the government's budget has never been a problem but the debt at the government-related entities was and remains a challenge. The state-owned holding Dubai World is currently restructuring 23.9 billion dollars of debt.—Xinhua

China prepares for 7,000-metre manned submersible dive next year

BEIJING, 27 Dec—China's manned submersible Jiaolong, which reached 5,188 metres below the sea during its deepest dive in the Pacific Ocean this year, will attempt a 7,000-metre dive in 2012, according to the State Oceanic Administration (SOA).

During a national meeting held Monday to sum up the work of oceanic authorities this year and to list tasks for the coming year, Liu Cigui, head of the SOA, urged sound efforts in organizing and conducting the dive mission.

China will promote the development of deep-sea technologies and equipment, including comprehensive

research ships, mothership of manned undersea crafts, and deep-sea autonomous underwater vehicles, according to Liu.

The country will further polar research and step up surveying efforts in the international seabed ore deposit areas that it has gained rights to explore, Liu said.

Jiaolong successfully reached 3,759 metres below the sea during a dive mission in the South China Sea in 2010, making China the fifth country able to send a man 3,500 meters below sea level, following the United States, France, Russia and Japan.—Xinhua



Firefighters work on spot by a burning warehouse in Guilin, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, 26 Dec, 2011. Rubber products in a warehouse caught fire in a warehouse on Monday afternoon. The fire had been under control with no casualties reported.

XINHUA

Wind-blown branch kills Washington girl, nine

OAK HARBOR, 27 Dec—Strong Christmas Day winds knocked out power to thousands of people in Washington state and sent a large tree branch into a vehicle, killing a girl, police say.

Washington State Trooper Keith Leary told *The Seattle Times* the girl, Tobiah Leonard, 9, was killed about 1 pm Sunday when a 1-foot-diameter, 15-foot-long tree branch slammed into the roof of a Ford Explorer on Whidbey Island in Puget Sound. Four other people in the sport utility vehicle were hospitalized for non-life-threatening injuries.

"The wind just snapped that piece of the tree off," Leary said. "It's just a very, very tragic accident — it's not something anybody could have avoided."

The Times said about 37,000 people in the region were without electrical power, many for hours, as a result of wind gusting to more than 45 mph blowing trees into power lines.

The winds proved too much for a 40-year-old kite-surfer, who plummeted into Lake Washington and was plucked to safety by a boater, the US Coast Guard said.

Petty Officer Michelle Mosley told the newspaper the man, who had left from Magnuson Park and was about three-fourths of the way to Kirkland when he fell into the water, was "just wet and mad and a little cold."

Internet

Mount Lokon in Indonesia's N Sumatra erupts

JAKARTA, 27 Dec—Mount Lokon in Tomohon city of Indonesia's North Sulawesi erupted at 03:07 am local time on Tuesday (2207 GMT on Monday). The eruption and its tremor were heard and felt in the post of Mount Lokon about 5 kilometres from the top.

Sutopo Purwo Nugroho, head of Centre of Data Information and Public Relation at the National Agency for Disaster Management (BNPB), said in a statement that smoke from the eruption was not monitored as the volcano was covered by haze.

Nugroho said that the Regional Agency for Disaster Management (BDPB) of North Sulawesi keeps coordinating with the Center for Volcanology and Geologic Hazard Mitigation (PVMBG) and government apparatus to anticipate things related to increasing activities of the volcano. Up till now, he said, Mount Lokon's danger status still at level III. "No need to take refuge. But, people are urged to stay alert," said Nugroho.

Xinhua



Children play in a fountain at Ohiggins Park in Santiago, Chile, on 26 Dec, 2011.—XINHUA

BEPS/BEMS English Language Proficiency and Mathematics Skills Contests held

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Dec—Basic Education Primary and Middle Level English Language Proficiency and Mathematics Skills Contests of the Ministry of Education were held at No. 5 and No. 6 Basic Education High Schools in Zabuthiri Township here today and yesterday, attended by Deputy Minister for Education U Ba Shwe.

The English Language Proficiency contest continued for the second day this morning at No. 5 BEHS in Zabuthiri Township. The deputy minister gave a speech on the occasion and enjoyed the oral and written English language proficiency contests, followed by announcement of prize winners.

Prize presentation will be held at Myanmar International Convention Centre on 30 December.—MNA

Blood donated at North Okkalapa General Hospital

YANGON, 27 Dec—Myitta Yeikmon Blood Donators Association and of Shwepaukkan Myothit Township Maternal and



Kungyan village post-primary school in Butalin Tsp gets new school building

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Dec—Shwepyitha new school building of Kungyan Village Basic Education Post-primary School in Butalin Township in Sagaing Region was opened on 22 December. Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myint Thein, Region Hluttaw representative U Sein Win Hlaing and Region Education Officer U Myint Soe formally opened the school building.

Next, Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye formally unveiled the sign-

board and looked round the new school building. Then, the chief minister spoke on the occasion. The new school building measuring 120 ft x 30 ft x 12 ft was constructed at a cost of K 23.8 million through State funds and K 4 million contributed by wellwishers totalling K 27.8 million.

The Region chief minister went to Indaw river-water pumping project site in Butalin Township. He

fulfilled the needs of electricity supply and agriculture and education for the village.

On 23 December, the chief minister attended the opening of the fifth computer and mobile sales held at Monywa City Hall and of training course No. 13 for production of consumer goods and cosmetics held at Monywa Government Weaving High School. He also attended the final match and prize-presentation cer-

emony of region chief minister's cup inter-district football tourney (Open). On 24 December, the Region chief minister visited Kyaukmyaung sub-township administrator's office and poultry farming zone in Shwebo Township.

On 25 December, the Region chief minister attended the opening of Seinpanwahtar road and Seinpanpyar tar road in Myothit Ward, Monywa.

MNA

Passing-out parade of sub-police inspector course No. 69/2011 held

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Dec—A passing-out parade of sub-police inspector course No. 69/2011 was held at the parade ground of the central police training depot of Myanmar Police Force in Zeebingyi Village, PynOoLwin, this morning.

Present on the occasion were Chief of Myanmar Police Force Kyaw Kyaw Tun, Police Adjutant-General Police Brig-Gen Thein Tint, Police Quartermaster-General Police Brig-Gen

Win Soe, Commandant of the depot Police Brig-Gen Thein Oo, Director of Planning and Training Department Police Col Win Khaung, police officers and guests.

At the passing-out parade, MPF Chief Kyaw Tun took the salute of

sub-police inspectors, inspected the companies and awarded the trainees for their outstanding performance in various subjects.

Next, the MPF Chief delivered a speech. The course was attended by 341 trainees.

MNA

District News

Road constructed in Labutta Tsp

LABUTTA, 27 Dec—With a view to ensuring smooth transport in the region, Engineers of Public Works of Labutta Township supervised construction of one mile long hard road on Labutta-Thingangyi-Pyinsalu Road in Labutta Township.

They also undertook tarmacking of three furlongs long approach road to Hsakyin Creek Bridge on Labutta bank and one furlong on Thingangyi bank.

District IPRD

Fish released into lake

THANAPPIN, 27 Dec—A ceremony to release 10000 fish into the lake was held in Zaypaing Kyunthaya Ward of Thanappin of Bago Region on 20 December.

Bago Region Hluttaw representative U Aye Soe and local authorities, members of Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Women's Affairs Organization participated in the releasing of fish. They then carried out sanitation at the lake.—Township IPRD



Beware of Fire

Winners in basic education primary and middle school level English language and mathematics skill contest announced

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Dec—Winners in basic education primary and middle school level English language and mathematics skill contest held at Nay Pyi Taw Nos. (5) and (6) Basic Education High School on 26 and 27 December were announced today.

In English language skill contest of grade-5 students at primary school level, the first prize goes to Ma Chu Shwe Yi Htet of Yangon Region, the second prize to Maung Phone Myat Thaw of Kachin State, the third prize to Maung Kaung Khant of Mon State. In English language skill contest of grade-

6 students at middle school level, the first prize goes to Ma Hnin Sandi Oo of Yangon Region, the second prize to Ma Nan Hmum Hmum Hsai of Shan State (North) and the third prize to Maung Min Myat Thu of Mon State. In the English language skill contest of grade-7 students at middle school level, the first prize goes to Ma Patriona Thuzar Hmway of Yangon Region, the second prize to Ma Eaint Hmu Kyaw of Ayeyawady Region and the third prize to Maung Hein Min Aung of Mandalay Region. In English language skill contest of grade-8 students at

middle school level, the first prize goes to Ma May Soe Soe Shwe of Yangon Region, the second prize to Maung Aung Thant Kyaw of Kachin State and the third prize to Ma Hnin Aye Wut Yi of Shan State (South). In English language skill contest of grade-9 students at middle school level, the first prize goes to Maung Min Thant of Yangon Region, the second prize to Ma Ester Nan Ei Mon of Kachin State and the third prize to Maung Sai Arkar Myint Myat of Shan State (South).

In mathematics skill contest of grade-5 students at primary school level, the first prize goes to Maung Saw Nyan Myat Sin of Kayin State, the second prize to Ma Phyu Sin Moh Moh of Ayeyawady Region and the third prize to Ma La Wun Khin of Shan State (South). In mathematics skill contest of grade-6 students at middle school level, the first prize goes to Maung Kaung Hset Hein of Ayeyawady Region, the second prize to Ma Aye Khant

Kyaw of Ayeyawady Region and the third prize to Ma Hnin Eain of Yangon Region. In mathematics skill contest of grade-7 students at middle school level, the first prize goes to Ma Mya Theinga Khin of Bago Region (West), the second prize to Maung Min Kyaw Khant of Mandalay Region and the third prize to Maung Aung Kyaw Hein of Magway Region. In mathematics skill contest of grade-8 students at middle school level, the first prize goes to Ma Hnaung Lei Yi Htay of Sagaing Region, the second prize to Ma Shwe Yi Wint Khaing of Yangon Region, the third prize to Ma Han Thwe Aung of Mandalay Region. In mathematics skill contest of grade-9 students at middle school level, the first prize goes to Ma Khant Swe Htet of Bago Region (West), the second prize to Maung Kaung Htet Thu Kyaw of Shan State (South) and the third prize to Maung Hlaing Moe Oo of Yangon Region.

MNA

Fish and Prawn Entrepreneurs Association AGM on 31 Dec

YANGON, 27 Dec—Myanmar Fish and Prawn Entrepreneurs Association, Myanmar Trawlers Association, Myanmar Aquafeed Association, Myanmar Freshwater Farmers Association and Myanmar Ornamental Fish Entrepreneurs Association formed under the aegis of Myanmar Fisheries Federation will meet at MFF Headquarters on Thiri Anawa Hall on Bayintnaung Street at 8:30 am on 31 December. Members of the five associations mentioned above are invited to attend the annual general meeting without fail.—MNA

Kayin State Health Department gives patients free medical treatment

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Dec—A mobile medical group gave free medical treatment to the patients who live near and around Thingan Nyinaung Village at Thingan Nyinaung Station Hospital in Myawady District in Kayin State on 16 December.

The specialists of Kayin State People's Hospital involved in the medical treating activities led by Kayin State medical officer Dr Htay Naung and Superintendent Dr Aye Aye Mu, which was recommended by Kayin State government and Kayin State Health Department.

At the event, Kayin State Chief Minister U Zaw Min made a cash donation for the aged after giving encouragement to the patients at the hospital.

It was known that there were a total of 586 patients who had received medical treatment from the specialists of Hpa-an People's Hospital and Myawady District People's Hospital, and a total of 106 pairs of glasses were donated to the eye patients.

Kayin State Health Department gives medical treatment to the local patients monthly.—MNA

Bokpyin Township harvests model paddy plot

BOKPYIN, 25 Dec—To ensure right production of paddy, the model plot of Hsinthwelat paddy plantation was harvested in Kamachaung Village-tract of Bokpyin Township on 11 December.

Departmental officials, staff and local farmers participated in the harvesting of

paddy that produced 85.36 baskets per acre.

They also harvested one more model plot of paddy. The head of Township Settlement and Land Records Department demonstrated harvesting of model plot.

Township SLRD

Marketable sunflower plants...

(from page 16)

I've planted three acres of sunflowers for seeds and six acres to produce sunflower oil."

Hybrid sunflower strains: Hsin Shwe Kya (2) and Hsin Shwe Kya (3) have been grown on over 2000 acres of plot in the township since 2005. Beginning this

year, farmers carried out seed production task for sufficiency of seeds.

Due to using high-yield sunflower strains, Yamethin Township could produce 150,000 viss of oil, said an official of Myanma Agriculture Service.

Looking forward to ensuring foreign exchange

for the country by penetrating just only into domestic market also into global market, farmers should grow high-yield sunflower seeds. It can be said that Yezin hybrid strain (1) helps ensure oil sufficiency of the country for sure.

Translation: ZZS Kyemon (16-12-2011)

Farmer U Zaw Min Tun who grows sunflower to meet the target.



MRCs provides aids to displaced people in Kachin State

MOHNYIN, 27 Dec—Division heads of Myanmar Red Cross Society led by

MRCs Executive Secretary U Khin Maung Hla and the head and members of Kachin

State Red Cross Nursing Team provided aids to local ethnic people who were



displaced by adverse security condition of their region at Sinkyan camp in Kanpaiktee sub-township in Myitkyina District on 21 December.

The team provided family kits, kitchen sets and dignity kits for 1298 population from 236 households of 13 villages at the camp 100 miles far from Myitkyina near China-Myanmar border with four cars. They also carried 40 blankets and 240 fish cans donated by the Kachin State government. They presented the donations directly to the hands of needy refugees.

NLM 001

released by the coal heating used by the inhabitants of Belgrade.

Internet

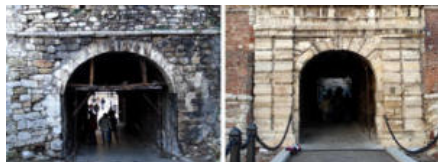
Heritage Site Under Attack by Flowers

SCIENCE DAILY, 27 Dec—The results of a study conducted by Serbian researchers, in collaboration with the Laboratoire de Dynamique, Interactions et Réactivité (LADIR, CNRS/UPMC), are unequivocal: the Belgrade fortress is not only threatened by the effects of coal burning, as was assumed until now, but also by flower

beds! The deterioration of the fortress walls could be partially caused by the large quantities of potassium present in fertilizers used by gardeners and could be responsible for the formation of black crusts on the ramparts. To preserve this heritage, the researchers recommend avoiding excessive use of fertilizers.

Their conclusions are due to

published in the first quarter of 2012 in the Journal of Cultural Heritage and could prove to be of value to other historical sites across the world. In Belgrade, fortifications were built from the Middle Ages on the Kalemegdan plateau, which stands above the confluence of the Danube and Sava rivers. Today, the ramparts of the fortress of the Serbian capital have become a vast public park with flowers and shady areas, near the town centre, attracting inhabitants and tourists alike. However, during the last twenty years or so, black crusts have been spreading on its limestone walls. Until now, these crusts were solely attributed to the high levels of sulfur dioxide



North and South gates of the Belgrade fortress.

Sagaing Region Chief Minister's Cup Inter-District Football Tournament (Open) concludes

YANGON, 27 Dec—Prize-awarding ceremony of Sagaing Region Chief Minister's Cup Inter-District Football Tournament (Open) took place

at sport ground in Monywa on 23 December, in conjunction with final football match. In the football match, Kalay District team won over Sagaing

Region two-nil.

Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye and officials presented awards to winning teams.—MNA

Sitagu Tetlan Free Eye Hospital opens in Loikaw

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Dec—Chief Minister of Kayah State U Khin Maung Oo attended the opening of basic domestic training course No. 52/2011 and advanced tailoring course No. 31/2011 on 19 December.

Next, he attended a ceremony to open Sitagu Tetlan Free Eye Hospital held

in the compound of Kandarawadi Monastery in Loikaw on 20 December. Donor U Shein Win, Chairman of Tetlan Construction Co, explained the purpose of donating the hospital. The

chief minister formally unveiled the signboard and Sitagu Sayadaw Dr Ashin Nanissara explained the purpose of opening the hospital.

MNA

Outstanding students awarded in Letpadan Tsp

YANGON, 27 Dec—Member of Union Civil Services Board Dr Win Myint awarded Ma Hsa Hsa Shwe Zin who got the highest mark in 2010-2011 academic year matriculation exam in Letpadan Township and granted stipend to Maung Wai Phy who stood second at No. 1 Basic Education high School in Letpadan Township yesterday.

He also presented three sets of computers each to Nos (1 & 2) BEHSs and two sets of computers to BEMS (Myoma).

MNA

MMCWA President presents cash aid for conjoined twin operations

YANGON, 27 Dec—President of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Dr Mon Mon Aung visited Yangon Children's Hospital yesterday afternoon and presented cash assistance of K 1 million for surgical operations of Siamese twins through Medial Superintendent Dr Aung Kyi Win and officials who expressed thanks.

MNA

Twenty trainees complete midwifery course in Paung Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Dec—A midwifery course jointly conducted by Paung Township Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee and the township health department concluded yesterday.

The six-month course was participated by 20 female trainees.

During the concluding ceremony at Paung Township General Administration Department,

Chairperson of Mon State MCWSC Daw San San Lwin presented completion certificates and kits to trainees.

Also present at the ceremony were Chairperson of Thaton District MCWSC Daw Yi Yi Lwin members of the committee, and Head of Mon State Health Department. The course was conducted under the supervision of Mon State MCWSC.—MNA

DISTRICT NEWS

Fire drill demonstrated in Pathein

PATHEIN, 27 Dec—An educative talk on fire preventive measures was held in conjunction with the fire drill at the office of Myanma Timber Enterprise (South) in Pathein on 20 December.

Head of Ayeyawady Region Fire Services Department U Myint Soe gave talks on fire preventive measures. Staff and families of MTE participated in the fire drill and demonstrated use of fire extinguisher.—Myanma Alin

Medicines provided to TB patients

YANGON, 27 Dec—A ceremony to present aid to the patients living with TB was held at Hlinethaya Township Hospital on 25 December.

Head of Township Health Department Dr Khin Yupa Soe explained door-to-door health care for TB patients and provision of nutritious aid to them. Afterwards, officials presented medicine and nutritious aid to the patients at their residences.

Myanma Alin

Doctor says Airport scanner ups cancer risk

FORT LAUDERDALE, 27 Dec—Some airport scanners may pose a cancer threat for people over age 65 and women genetically predisposed to breast cancer, a Fort Lauderdale, Fla. doctor said. Dr Edward Dauer, head of radiology at Florida Medical Centre, said the scanners' low dose of radiation penetrates just below skin level, possibly endangering the eye lens, the thyroid and a woman's breasts, the *South Florida Sun Sentinel* reported Sunday.

"I think it's potentially a real danger to the public," he said, explaining that even a small dose could be a risk for people predisposed to cancer. "This is an additional exposure."

The Transportation



A departing passenger undergoes a full-body scan conducted by Transportation Security Administration (TSA) agents at Denver International Airport (DIA) the day before the Thanksgiving holiday on 24 November, 2010 in Denver.
INTERNET

Security Administration said the scanners are safe and cites independent studies that said radiation levels are well below acceptable limits. The

scanners in question use "backscatter technology" to create an image of a passenger that allows security personnel to see whether suspect items

are hidden underneath clothing. The TSA has installed about 250 of the backscatter scanners at 40 US airports, including the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport, and airports in Los Angeles, Chicago, Boston and New York's John F Kennedy International Airport.

The problem, Dauer said, is the machines emit ionizing radiation. "Ionizing means it knocks the electrons out of your body, which breaks your DNA chain, which can cause death or cancer," he said.

The agency also uses more than 540 millimeter-wave scanners, considered a safer option because they don't rely on radiation, the *Sun Sentinel* reported.

Internet



The stabbing scene is cordoned off by the police on Oxford Street, London, Britain, on 26 Dec, 2011. —XINHUA

One stabbed to death, another injured in downtown London

LONDON, 27 Dec—A teenager was stabbed to death in one of the busiest streets in downtown London on Monday, the traditional Boxing Day, while another man was injured in a similar case later in the afternoon.

The first tragedy happened at about 1:45 pm local time (GMT 1345), followed by the second case took place at 6:20 pm local time (GMT 1820). The man who died at the scene in the Oxford Street was 18 years old, said a Metropolitan Police spokesman via telephone interview by *Xinhua*. "It is too early to say whether the two cases were connected," a police officer told *Xinhua* reporter. The injured man was soon taken to hospital, and police said he was not in serious condition. Further information about the victims was not yet available as police are waiting for them to be identified.

Ten people were taken into custody, and two knives were seized for the time being, but the police said the investigation would take time.

A section of Oxford Street has been cordoned off. Oxford Street was one of the most famous and busiest business areas in London. During Boxing Day, thousands of people flocked there for a shopping spree.

MNA/Xinhua

Indian student shot dead in Manchester

LONDON, 27 Dec—A 23-year-old student from India was shot at close range at Salford street here.

Police said the Indian student was in a group of nine students, all from India, when he was shot dead yesterday.

He was approached by two white men in the early hours and shot in the head after a short conversation, police said without giving details of the incident. The gunman was said to be white, in his mid-20s and of slim build. He fled towards Asgard Drive after the killing. Police said the parents of the student, who are in India, have been informed about the incident. Greater Manchester Police said the Indian group who were with the student during the incident have given initial witness statement about the crime.

BBC quoted Chief Superintendent Kevin Mulligan as saying that he "didn't want to go into details" about the conversation the student had with the gunman.

He said, "This appears to be an unprovoked attack and we can't establish motive behind the incident at this time." The *BBC* quoted the official saying, "This appears to be an unprovoked attack and we can't establish a motive at this time. We are investigating every possible aspect and we are in the early stages of the investigation but we are not ruling anything out." The force has increased patrols in the area and officers from Greater Manchester Police's Major Incident Team are working alongside neighbourhood officials investigating the incident, the *BBC* said.—Internet

Acid hurled at two Pakistani teens in Karachi

ISLAMABAD, 27 Dec—Two teenaged girls suffered horrific burns after a man threw acid at them in Pakistan's Karachi City. Kamran threw acid at Zarin, 19, and Irum, 18, in Surjani area. The two teenaged were friends and their families had been former neighbours, *Dawn* reported.

Pakistani parliament's upper house, the Senate, 12 Dec unanimously passed two landmark bills meant to protect women from negative customs and traditions and seeking severe punishments for violators.

The bills, which have already been passed by the lower house, the National Assembly, were moved by Senator Nilofar Bakhtiar. These bills seek to amend the Pakistan Penal Code, 1860 and the Code of Criminal Procedures, 1898. The Anti-Women Practices bill, consisting of five clauses, seeks to penalise evils such as the so-called marriage with the holy Quran, forced marriage and depriving women from inheritance. The other bill, that aims at preventing incidents of throwing acid at women, recommended that whoever hurt by corrosive substances shall be punished with imprisonment for life or imprisonment of either description which shall not be less than 14 years and a minimum fine of Rs one million.—Internet



Indian women pour milk into the Bay of Bengal as they offer prayers to mark the anniversary of the 2004 tsunami at the Marina beach in Chennai, India.—INTERNET



Acehnese children plant paper-made sakura flowers with messages of hopes written on them by Indonesian and Japanese children during the 7th commemoration since the 2004 tsunami in Aceh Besar, Aceh Province, Indonesia.
INTERNET

Thai policeman kills six fellow officers

BANGKOK, 27 Dec—A policeman in southern Thailand shot dead six fellow officers before turning the gun on himself after a drinking session in a police canteen turned sour, local police said Tuesday. The incident, which also left one policeman severely wounded, took place late on Monday in a border patrol police camp in Phatthalung province, some 840 kilometres (520 miles) south of the Capital Bangkok.

"Seven men were found dead including the gunman and one man has critical injuries," Phatthalung police investigator Lieutenant Colonel Prasit Singhapol told AFP by phone.

Prasit said the motive was still unknown but the eight men had been drinking together in the canteen where six of the bodies were found.

"At this stage we think it's a personal conflict," he said. The gunman's body was found some 200 metres (yards) from the scene after he killed himself with the same assault rifle he used against his colleagues, Prasit said.

Internet

Australian man aims to run 700 marathons in 700 days to claim world record

MELBOURNE, 27 Dec—An Australian man has decided to start 700 marathons in 700 days to claim Guinness world record for the fastest circumnavigation of the Earth on foot.

Tom Denniss' journey, which will start on New Year's Eve, will take him to every continent, except Antarctica, and more than 20 countries, but one location was a must for his itinerary - Monument Valley in the US where Gump ended his run.

"I don't know if people will join me like they joined him," the *Daily telegraph* quoted the 50-year-old as saying.

"I'm looking forward to running on the rim of the Grand Canyon, across the Andes Mountains and across the Nullarbor desert.

"I'm also looking forward to running in the Arctic Circle when it's daylight for 24 hours a day," he said.

His only guaranteed company during

the record attempt will be his "small support crew" of his wife and her best friend, travelling in a car behind him all the way.

"Obviously it will be challenging physically but I think the more difficult thing will be the mental challenge of just getting up every day and having another marathon or more in front of you, even when it's cold and wet," Denniss said.

He will start and end his trek at the Opera House, on day one he will run to Bondi Beach as a "warm-up", and the plan is to run 45-50km a day.

His preparation this year has seen him run 20-25km each day.

"I chose the Opera House because it's such a landmark in Australia; it's where Jessica Watson started her round the world sailing - I guess there's a precedent that's been set," he added.

Internet

Discarded X-mas cards can fuel 20 moon trips!

LONDON, 27 Dec— Discarded Christmas cards and wrapping paper can fuel 20 moon trips by a double-decker bus and back — the staggering equivalent of 18 million km.

Imperial College of London scientists have shown how waste paper could be turned into high grade biofuel, with the help of micro-organisms, to power motor vehicles.

Some 1.5 billion cards and 83 sq km of wrapping paper are thrown away by

British residents over Christmas.

This could provide five to 12 million litres of biofuel, enough to run a bus for for 18 million km. But they go into a landfill or are recycled in local schemes, according to an Imperial College statement.

"If one card is assumed to weigh 20 grams and one square metre of wrapping paper is 10 grams, then around 38,300 tonnes of extra paper waste will be generated at Christmas time,"

said study author Richard Murphy from the department of Life Sciences at Imperial College.

"Our research shows that it would be feasible to build waste paper-to-biofuel processing plants that give energy back as transport fuel."

"If this technology can be developed further, waste paper might ultimately provide a great, environmentally friendly alternative to fossil fuels," Murphy added.—Internet



Visitors take photos of the "Riverside Scenes at the Qingming Festival", an ancient Chinese painting in the Song Dynasty, in Tokyo, Japan, on 26 Dec, 2011. The painting will be on show in public in Tokyo from 2 Jan to 24 Jan, 2012 to welcome the 40th anniversary of the normalization of diplomatic ties between China and Japan. XINHUA



Jia Qinglin (C), chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) National Committee, presides over a meeting attended by members of the CPPCC presidium in Beijing, capital of China, on 26 Dec, 2011. The meeting's main task is to prepare for the 16th session of the Standing Committee of the 11th CPPCC National Committee and the fifth annual session of the CPPCC National Committee, said a statement issued after the meeting.—XINHUA

Helicopter carrying three crashes in Florida, US

WASHINGTON, 27 Dec— A helicopter crashed on Monday in the US state of Florida, killing two medical employees on board and the pilot.

The helicopter carrying the two medical employees from Mayo Clinic flew to the University of Florida to harvest organs. It crashed about 12 miles northeast of Palatka in Florida, said Federal Aviation Administration spokeswoman Kathleen Bergen.

The helicopter departed the hospital in Jacksonville, Florida around 5:45 am local time, but never arrived in Gainesville, Florida, according to Kathy Barbour, a spokeswoman for the Mayo Clinic, local media reported.—Xinhua

False fire alarm empties US airport

CINCINNATI, 27 Dec—A terminal at the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport was evacuated Monday after a fire alarm went off, an airport spokeswoman said.

Barb Schempf said the airport's Terminal 3 was cleared about 7:30 am and was reopened about an hour later when investigators determined there was no fire, *The Cincinnati Enquirer* reported.

All passengers who were evacuated had to go through security procedures again but delays were limited to about 15 minutes in line, Schempf said. Schempf said was unclear why the alarm sounded.—Internet

Australian dad banned from forcing kids to eat and asking about school

MELBOURNE, 27 Dec—A man in Australia has been banned from forcing his children to eat all the food he provides for them at meal times and from interrogating his teenage daughter about her school reports.

The father with his divorced wife had gone to the Family Court of Australia over arrangements for their children, now aged 13 and 11.

The court heard that the 13-year-old girl has an intellectual disability, an IQ significantly below average

and is behind in her education, while her younger brother is a gifted student.

The mother said the father was in denial that their daughter had a severe disorder. She asked the court to order him not to interrogate the teen about school reports in order to prevent damage to her self-esteem.

The mother told the court the father brought the children together and went through their reports and his daughter did not like it.

In the judgment

published last week, Family Court Justice Stuart Fowler ordered that the father be allowed to get copies of the children's reports but restrained him from discussing the daughter's reports and progress at school with her. "The father is only permitted to discuss the school reports and progress of (the daughter) with the mother or the school-teachers," *the Courier Mail* quoted Fowler as saying.

The mother later told the court the father forced the

children to eat, and she believed that was not the way to deal with them.

"It was reported to her by her daughter that 'Dad yelled at me because I wouldn't eat all my dinner'," Justice Fowler said.

As well as restraining him from forcing the children to eat, Justice Fowler has ordered the father not to abuse the children, not physically discipline them, not insist they do tasks beyond their capabilities nor smoke or drink in front of them.

He can contact the children under supervision of his mother or his ex-wife's mother.—Internet



Shoppers pass by a discount poster on Oxford Street, central London, Britain, on 26 Dec, 2011, the traditional Boxing Day. Millions of shoppers in the UK are expected to go to high streets and shopping centres today for big discounts.—XINHUA

Dubai airport foils bid to smuggle drugs

DUBAI, 27 Dec— Authorities at the Dubai International Airport have foiled a bid to smuggle drugs.

The haul, containing about 276,400 pills of the prohibited Tramadol drug, was seized by the Dubai customs.

Omar Al Mehairy, senior manager of Air Cargo Operations, said the contraband was detected during an x-ray examination of the consignment.

Internet



Workers install engine on the bus in a factory of Chongqing Hengtong Bus Co, Ltd, in Chongqing, southwest China, on 26 Dec, 2011. Founded in 1939, the company started the research and development of safe school buses in 2004. Its new type of school bus is equipped with ten leading safety systems to guarantee the safety of passengers. A string of school bus accidents in recent days raised national concern over school transport safety. Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao has called on government departments to "rapidly" draft safety regulations and standards for school buses while further improving the design, production and distribution of the vehicles.—XINHUA

Poisonous bracelets recalled in Britain

LONDON, 27 Dec—Thousands of bracelets found to be beaded with poisonous seeds are being recalled by one of Britain's top tourist attractions and other retailers.

Cornwall county's Eden Project has withdrawn the charms from sale and urged customers to return them after learning that they are strung with the lethal Jequirity bean from Peru, the *Daily Express* reported.

The Jequirity bean is a deadly seed of

the Abrus Precatorius plant which contains abrin, a controlled substance under the Terrorism Act. It kills if just three micrograms are swallowed.

Nearly 40 other outlets have advised customers to return them.

The Eden Project had been selling the bracelet for about a year when one of its horticulturists spotted the poisonous seeds.

Internet

Six die of food poisoning in western Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 27 Dec—At least six people, including a 15-year-old boy, died of food poisoning in two drug rehabilitation centres in the western Mexican City of Guadalajara, local medical officials confirmed on Monday. The state coordinator of aid stations, Oscar Mejia, told reporters Monday morning that about 50 people have taken sausage, vegetables and rice when they presented symptoms of poisoning such as vomiting.

"The first patient appeared with moderate intoxication, but after a while we were called by others that at least 14 were intoxicated. At the site we find that a man had died," he said

Thirty-seven people remained hospitalized, three of them in serious condition. The survivors believed that the causes of mass poisoning might be donated food in the rehabilitation centres. "Almost everything we eat in the place is given, very little is bought and almost everything is by donation, and it happens in most addiction centres," said one survivor.—MNA/Xinhua

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Win Mu Tin
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P. O. Box 60, Yangon

Dated: 28 December 2011

Mead Johnson says its infant formula unrelated to baby death

CHICAGO, 27 Dec—Mead Johnson Nutrition on Sunday said that its new tests on infant formula found no presence of bacteria that related to the death of a baby in Missouri, the United States. A 10-day-old baby on 18 Dec died of a rare infection caused by bacteria known as Cronobacter sakazakii in Missouri, according to the preliminary hospital tests. The source of the bacteria hasn't been determined, but it can be found in powdered formula.

The baby had consumed Mead Johnson's Enfamil Premium Newborn powdered formula. National retailers including Wal-Mart Stores Inc, Walgreen Co, Kroger Co and Safeway have since pulled a batch of the powdered infant formula from their shelves. The US Food and Drug Administration and Centers for Disease Control are seeking to determine the origin of the bacteria and are expected to be testing a variety of possible environmental sources.—Xinhua



People visit the 19th Taipei auto show in Taipei, south-east China's Taiwan, on 24 Dec, 2011. The nine-day auto show, a biennial event which is the largest in Taiwan, kicked off here on Saturday, attracting 34 exhibitors to show more than 200 vehicles.—XINHUA

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (11027)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (11027) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.12.2011 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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ASIAN NAGA VOY NO (8)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ASIAN NAGA VOY NO (8) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.12.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-7 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: EASTERN CAR LINER S'PORE
 PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256924/256914



Don't piss animals off!—XINHUA

New Internet protocol to undergo test

BEIJING, 27 Dec — China is likely to test a new Internet protocol in the next few years in an attempt to further develop the country's Internet, senior officials from the State Council said on Friday. The country will put the Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6)-based network into small-scale com-

mercial pilot use by the end of 2013, and deploy and commercialize the IPv6-based network on a large scale between 2014 and 2015, according to a statement released after an executive meeting of the State Council that was presided over by Premier Wen Jiabao.

"The development of IPv6 is one of the most important tasks for China's Internet industry during the 12th Five-Year Plan period, from 2011 to 2015," said Hu Qiheng, director-general of the Internet Society of China. Analysts believe the transition from the latest Internet protocol, IPv4, to IPv6 is irreversible.

This year, the pool of Internet addresses in IPv4 has come close to being tapped out, and the supply of domain names has run short. Compared with IPv4, IPv6 will offer more IP ad-



Derived from the Boeing 707, E-3A is able to provide all-weather surveillance, command, control and communications.— XINHUA

14,976 cases of medical disputes handled through third-party mediation in 1st ten months, senior health official

BEIJING, 27 Dec—A total of 14,976 cases of medical disputes were handled by the country's emerging third-party mediation organizations, with over 80 percent of them being successfully settled, said Vice Health Minister Zhang Mao. Zhang

told Xinhua recently in an exclusive interview that China has to date set up 1,358 third-party mediation organizations to settle medical disputes.

The third-party mediation organizations have come into being since late 2009

which usually hire retired doctors, medical experts and lawyers to bridge the communication gaps between doctors and patients and direct patients to resort to legal means in settling medical disputes. The third-party mediation system for medical disputes is a latest reform to ease doctor-patient tension that sometimes escalate into violence.

Such incidents erupted several times this year, and in an extreme case in September, a 43-year-old surgeon in Beijing Tongren Hospital was stabbed by a patient into serious injury. The attack was believed to have been triggered by a medical dispute in which the patient alleged that the surgeon had committed malpractice during an operation.

Xinhua

Woman killed at a house in Bilborough

LONDON, 27 Dec—A woman has died after an incident at a house in the Bilborough area of Nottingham. A man, who suffered serious injuries in the same incident in Bosden Close, has been taken to Queen's Medical Centre.

Scenes of crime officers are conducting a forensic examination of the house and Nottinghamshire police have not yet identified the victim. A post-mortem examination will be carried by a Home Office pathologist over the next couple of days. Police are not as yet confirming the exact nature of the incident.

Internet



American woman Bernice Bates is 91 years old and has been awarded the title of "Oldest Yoga Teacher" by Guinness World Records.—XINHUA

Human library shares dreams, promotes understanding

BEIJING, 27 Dec — Since a child, Li Xingning has always dreamed of being a librarian. This Christmas, her dream has come true, only that her books are real people. Beijing's first human library opened Saturday night, with dozens of readers and six "living books" exchanging their life stories and ideas. In a human library, also called living library, readers borrow and return books as they do in a normal one. But books in a human library are real people who engage readers in a direct dialogue. Also, readers can't take a living book out of the library.

"From here we get to know people who have in-

teresting life stories to share, and also to understand who they are and the way they live," said Li Xingning, owner of the human library in Beijing. The 28-year-old architect from Tsinghua University hoped her library to serve as an interactive platform to promote mutual understanding among people who otherwise have no opportunity to meet and talk in real life. "Think about a street singer you always wonder about or an animal protection advocator that you have never met. Here you can borrow such living books and talk with them," she said.

The human library concept originated in Denmark in 2000, and the idea has since spread around the world to over 45 countries. In China, such library has also sprouted in Shanghai and Guangzhou. It aims to reduce prejudices and promote tolerance and understanding via dialogue. A living book is a person that has chosen to be a representative of a certain group. Here in this library, Li Xingning prefers people of action other than only of words. "Our living books here not only have a creative idea about what to do in life, but more importantly they put their ideas into action," she said.

Xinhua

New Internet protocol to undergo test

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Xinhua

Jam jar barred from flight

A woman travelling through Denver International Airport said she was frustrated when agents told her she could not bring a jar of homemade jam on the plane.

Kathleen Triou, who said she makes frequent trips from the airport, said a Transportation Security Administration took her jar of homemade jam on 15 Dec and told her she could not bring it on the plane.

"It was jam. Just homemade jam in a tiny mason jar," Triou said. "They said it has the potential to be bomb material. 'I told the agent, 'It's not gel, not perfume, not cosmetics, just jam.' You could see the seeds in it," she said. The TSA agent would hear none of it and "continued to insist it could not pass through security as it could be bomb material," she said. Triou said she was further frustrated when the agent told her she could not even photograph the jar for her family because they were in a secure area of the airport. She said agents told her she could photograph the jam if she left the secure area.

"At that point, it would have taken at least another 15 minutes to go back through security," Triou said. "It just wasn't worth it. But what's worse is that if this is potentially 'bomb material,' why do they just discard it in a trash can off to the side?" A TSA blog says items such as jam and sauces are only allowed in checked baggage.



Etibar Elchiyev (front) magnetizes a car hood to his body, with a man sitting on it, in a demonstration of his magnetic ability during an attempt to break the Guinness World Record for "Most spoons on a human body" in Tbilisi, on 14 December, 2011.

Boy, 11, ticketed after being hit by SUV

An 11-year-old Texas boy who was ticketed for walking on the wrong side of the street after he was hit by a vehicle has asked for a jury trial.

Noah Popovich, 11, of Texas City, asked a municipal judge Tuesday for a jury trial to fight the citation he received Sept after he was struck by an 18-year-old driver in a sport-utility vehicle while he was walking to Levi Fry Intermediate School, *The Galveston County Daily News* reported Thursday.

Popovich initially continued on to school, but was later sent home due to the pain from his injuries, which were not specified.

Police questioned the driver and Popovich and issued the boy a ticket for walking on the wrong side of the street. The driver was not ticketed.

"First and foremost, I don't want that petty crap on his record," said Ashley Falks, the boy's mother, of the decision to seek a jury trial. "Secondly, I have \$10,000 in medical bills that can be denied by the insurance company if the case isn't dismissed or if he isn't found not guilty."

Teens get probation for poop-laced cake

A trio of former Pennsylvania high school students were sentenced to probation after they admitted to putting human feces on a cake they gave to a classmate.

Former Avon Grove High School students Mayra Flores, 19, Ana Mireles, 18, and Sandra Ortiz, 18, all of Avondale, were each sentenced to 22 months of probation on conspiracy and reckless endangerment charges after they pleaded guilty Monday and admitted to putting feces on the

birthday cake for another student in March, *The (West Chester) Daily Local News* reported Thursday.

Common Pleas Judge William Mahon stipulated the 200 community service hours required under the probation must be served performing tasks such as cleaning toilets, urinals and bed pans at local senior centres. Flores and Mireles were also ordered to spend the first two months of their probation sentences on electronic home confinement.



One of 80 cooks helps to measure the world's longest ever Christmas cake, a 1,068 metre-long vanilla flavored log with a bitter chocolate cover, at a hotel in Dec, 2011 in Shanghai, China.

News Album



Actress Charlize Theron, star of director Jason Reitman's film "Young Adult", poses at the film's premiere in Beverly Hills, California on 15 December, 2011.—INTERNET

Charlize Theron calls herself 'miserable'

LONDON, 27 Dec—Actress Charlize Theron considers herself a "miserable" person.

The 36-year-old stars as self-destructive teen author Mavis in forthcoming comedy "Young Adult" and insists she didn't have to try too hard to achieve the series of unpleasant expressions her character displays.

When asked about whether she has to try too hard to get into the character, she says no.

"No as I'm a miserable. I realised how important it was, just the look on the face thing, when we did the first four days in Minneapolis. By day two I was like, "Wow this is really kind of insular," contactmusic.com quoted Theron as saying.

"I realised I had to come up with a way to show who this character was without really saying that much," she added.

Internet

Debra Messing to continue living with estranged hubby Daniel Zelman

LONDON, 27 Dec—Actress Debra Messing has "no immediate plans" to divorce her estranged husband Daniel Zelman as they are happy living together in New York to raise their young son.

The "Will and Grace" star's representative had earlier this week that Messing and screenwriter Zelman had

ended their 10-year marriage earlier this year while insisting that the separation was "entirely mutual".

However, the pair continues to share a home in the Big Apple for the sake of their seven-year-old son, Roman, and since their arrangement is working smoothly, they are in no rush to file legal papers to make



Actress Debra Messing the split official, the Daily Express reported.

A spokesperson for the former couple told UsMagazine.com, that they plan to continue living together for sometime for the sake of their son. "In the short term they plan on continuing to live together with their son, then gradually transition into a new living situation," the spokesperson said.—*Internet*

Mel Gibson's divorce with wife dubbed Hollywood's costliest at 271million-pound

LONDON, 27 Dec—Mel Gibson's ex-wife has been awarded a massive 271 million-pound payout in what is thought to be Hollywood's 'biggest-ever divorce deal.

Ending the 30-years marriage, mother-of-seven Robyn was handed half of the 'Braveheart' star's total fortune because they did not have a pre-nuptial agreement.

Robyn, who has reverted to her maiden name of Moore, filed for divorce from the 55-year-old actor after pictures emerged of him frolicking on



Mel Gibson

the beach at their Costa Rica holiday home with Russian pianist Oksana Grigorieva.

Robyn will also receive half his fees for the films he made during their marriage.

According to court papers, the couple have made private arrangements for the support of their 12-year-old son Thomas, their only minor child, the Mirror reported.

The previous costliest Hollywood divorces are Neil Diamond's 95 million-pound settlement with Marcia Murphy and Steven Spielberg's 64 million-pound payout to Amy Irving in 1989 after being married for just four years.—*Internet*

Bullock plans photo shoot for son

LONDON, 26 Dec—Actress Sandra Bullock is organizing a festive-themed photoshoot for her son Louis so she can show him the pictures when he is older.

The 47-year-old adopted Louis from New Orleans last year and admits she's looking forward to spending the Christmas holiday season with her little boy.



Actress Sandra Bullock

"I want the photo ops to be really great because he's not going to remember it, but he'll remember it by the photos and when he's 16 and says, 'I hate you, you're a horrible mother!' I'll go, 'Do you see this Christmas? Do you see that I got you that life-size lion? Shut up! Get in your room and do your homework. I was a good mother then,'" femalefirst.co.uk quoted Bullock as saying.

Internet

Jim Carrey spotted holding hands with new mystery girl

LONDON, 27 Dec —Jim Carrey was spotted holding hands with a new mystery woman in Los Angeles this week.

The 49-year-old actor has finally moved on from longterm love Jenny McCarthy, with whom he split in April 2010 after a five-year relationship and has largely been single since the break-up.

Apparently, the 'Bruce Almighty' star has found love again, as he was pictured with a blonde woman at the Guns N' Roses reunion concert at The Forum on 22 Dec, the *Daily Express* reported.

The pair walked along holding hands as Carrey sported a huge grin.

Internet



Jim Carrey

Jose Mourinho eyes return to Premier League management

LONDON, 27 Dec — Former Chelsea boss Jose Mourinho has said his next step in management will be a return to the Premier League. The Portuguese is currently coach of Spanish side Real Madrid but admitted that, while he is happy there, his "passion is in England". Speaking to Lord Coe, who was guest editing BBC Radio 4's Today programme on Boxing Day, Mourinho added: "My next step will be to go back [to England]." He then joked with Coe: "Get me a club in a couple of years."

Mourinho, who left Chelsea in 2007 after winning two Premier League titles, the FA Cup and League Cup, went on to win the treble of Champions League, Italian league and cup with Inter Milan before moving to Madrid in 2010. He has guided Real to the top of the Primera Division, three points clear of Barcelona going into the winter break. "I believe it is probably the biggest club in the history of football. I didn't want to miss the chance to



Mourinho is interested in succeeding Sir Alex Ferguson at Manchester United

work here," Mourinho said of Real Madrid. "But my next step will be to go back [to England] if possible and stay for a long time."

Mourinho has long been linked with a move to Manchester United when Sir Alex Ferguson retires. In July 2009, while manager of Inter, Mourinho said: "I would consider going to Manchester United but United have to consider if they want me to succeed Sir Alex Ferguson. If they do, then of course." However, earlier this year, Ferguson said: "It's difficult for me to say when my position will be available. It will be my health that decides. I will continue until I no longer feel the energy that has always accompanied me."

Internet

Manchester United defender Evans sidelined for two weeks



Manchester United defender Jonny Evans

LONDON, 27 Dec—Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson said on Monday that defender Jonny Evans will be out of action for two weeks after suffering a calf injury during the champions'

5-0 win over Wigan on Monday. Ferguson also said after the match that Evans will not make the New Year's Eve encounter with Blackburn.

"Jonny came off injured. He has a calf injury and will be out for two weeks," Ferguson said. "We have had a nightmare the last few days. Phil Jones and Chris Smalling have both been ill. Rio Ferdinand called off yesterday with a back injury and Jonny Evans has come off at half-time. It does put you under pressure," he said.

Xinhua

Rangers red card appeal means Lee McCulloch can face Celtic

LONDON, 27 Dec—Rangers will have midfielder Lee McCulloch available to face Celtic on Wednesday after the club appealed his red card at St Mirren on Saturday. The experienced McCulloch was dismissed for aiming an elbow at Graham Carey in Rangers' 2-1 defeat in Paisley. The Scottish Football Association will not hear his appeal until 5 January at the earliest, so he can face former club Motherwell at Ibrox on 2 January. Dorin Goian, though, is suspended for the Old Firm derby at Celtic Park. The match against the Buddies had started well for the Scottish Premier League leaders when Lee Wallace opened his goalscoring account for the club after 11 minutes. But McCulloch was sent off by referee Steven McLean when jostling in the penalty area at a free kick and St Mirren hit back with goals from Aaron Mooy and Paul McGowan late in the first half. And McCoist thought the red card was pivotal to the outcome of the match.—Internet



McCulloch was sent off after 24 minutes at St Mirren Park

Agent says Fabio Quagliarella will stay at Juventus despite the potential arrival of Roma's Marco Borriello

ROME, 27 Dec—Fabio Quagliarella's future at Juventus does not depend on the potential arrival of Roma's Marco Borriello, the player's agent has indicated. Italian sources suggest that Juventus is closing in on the Italian striker, with a meeting between the two clubs scheduled for this week.

Borriello's arrival would push Quagliarella, who has so far made just eight appearances this season, further down the pecking order at Juventus, but the 28-year-old is not thinking about leaving the club.—Internet

Lambert says Redknapp is one of the best

LONDON, 27 Dec—Norwich's Paul Lambert says Tottenham's Harry Redknapp is one of the best man managers in football. The two bosses face each other on Tuesday when Norwich host high-flying Tottenham at Carrow Road. Both clubs have enjoyed a successful start to the season, with Spurs third and in touch with the League leaders and Norwich lying ninth in their first year back in the Barclays Premier League.

Lambert says his side face the stiffest of tests against the north London club, adding "They are top, top side and playing really well. The squad Harry has are incredible; the players they have got are different class. But you have still got to man-manage them and Harry is one of the best at doing that. He is phenomenal."

"They are a fantastic football side and playing entertaining football. They are vy-

ing for the title and Champions League football. The magnitude of this game is vast." Despite Norwich's promising campaign so far, Lambert says their ambition remains to avoid the drop. "Staying in the League is the main objective," he added. "If we do that it will surpass anything we have done here and we've had some terrific highs. We need to continue to drive on and see where it takes us."

Internet



Norwich boss Paul Lambert has guided his side to ninth in the table

International Sports

English Premier League leading scorers

LONDON, 27 Dec—Following are the leading scorers in the English Premier League after Monday's matches:

- 16 goals: van Persie (Arsenal)
- 14: Ba (Newcastle)
- 13: Aguerro (Manchester City), Rooney (Manchester United)
- 10: Dzeko (Manchester City), Yakubu (Blackburn)
- 9: Adebayor (Tottenham), Sturridge (Chelsea)
- 8: Balotelli (Manchester City)
- 7: Helguson (QPR), Holt (Norwich City), Klasnic (Bolton), Lampard (Chelsea)
- 6: Chicharito (Manchester United), Defoe (Tottenham), Dempsey (Fulham), Fletcher (Wolverhampton), Morrison (Norwich City), Nani (Manchester United), van der Vaart (Tottenham)
- 5: Agbonlahor (Aston Villa), Bale (Tottenham), Bent (Aston Villa), Graham (Swansea City), Johnson (Manchester City), Larsson (Sunderland), Long (West Bromwich), Silva (Manchester City), Suarez (Liverpool)

Xinhua

Eusebio could leave hospital by Friday, says medical director

LISBON, 27 Dec—Legendary Portuguese striker Eusebio could be discharged from hospital by the end of the week as he continues to fight off his bout of pneumonia. The former Benfica star was taken to the Hospital da Luz last Wednesday after it was discovered that he had contracted a form of bilateral pneumonia that affects both lungs. However, medical director Jose Roquette, who has overseen Eusebio's condition since his arrival, has confirmed that he has made great strides in restoring his health and that he is firmly on course to leaving the hospital in the coming days. "Our forecast is that he could be discharged on either Thursday and Friday. He might be able to be home by then," Roquette was quoted as saying by AS.



Legendary Portuguese striker Eusebio

"Eusebio has experienced a good night and is progressing well. We have reduced the level of monitoring and will now go to a room where he can enjoy the company of his family." His condition has improved as expected and has been an excellent patient." Eusebio, who turns 70 in January, had already shown promising signs following his transfer from the intensive care unit on Saturday in order to spend Christmas with his family in the hospital.

Internet

Kenny Dalglish says Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard needs time

LIVERPOOL, 27 Dec—Liverpool boss Kenny Dalglish welcomed captain Steven Gerrard's return from injury but warned it would take time for the skipper to regain full fitness. Gerrard's 20-minute cameo was a rare bright spot for the Reds in a 1-1 home draw with bottom club Blackburn.

"It's fantastic that he's got back and he looks a lot stronger and a lot fitter now than he was in years gone by I think," said Dalglish. "But he needs some time on the



Gerrard has only made six appearances this season

pitch now to get him back to full fitness." Gerrard was making his first appearance since 22 October after undergoing treatment on an infected right ankle.

The injury came only one month after he had returned from a six-month absence following groin surgery.

After coming on for Charlie Adam with the score at 1-1, Gerrard created a chance for Maxi Rodriguez with his first touch - a curling free-kick which the Argentine headed over the bar.

But even the inspirational skipper could not prevent Liverpool drawing at home for the sixth time in nine league games this season. "The difficulty was who to take off because it wasn't as if we were playing poorly," added Dalglish.

Internet

Stoke and Aston Villa draw blank

LONDON, 27 Dec—The woodwork denied both Aston Villa and Stoke as they played out a goalless draw at the Britannia Stadium on Boxing Day. Villa's Emile Heskey came closest to breaking the deadlock in the first half, rattling Thomas Sorensen's left-hand post with a clever glancing header from Charles N'Zogbia's corner in the 21st minute.

Heskey missed the second half because of injury and his replacement, Nathan Delfouneso, saw Sorensen divert a goal-

bound strike from six yards for a corner in the 53rd minute. Stoke's best chance came from a 70th-minute corner when Marc Wilson clattered the crossbar, with Gabriel Agbonlahor clearing the ball off the line to safety. Stoke consolidate their place in eighth in the Barclays Premier League table with 25 points, with Villa five points adrift in 12th spot.—Internet



Stoke striker Kenwyne Jones was kept quiet by a Villa defence led by Richard Dunne

Nepal holds 8th international elephant race

SAURAHA, 27 Dec—The eighth edition of the International Elephant Race began Monday at the Baghmara Community Forest, the buffer zone of the Chitwan National Park in central Nepal. More than 20 elephants and calves are taking part in the elephant race and football match.

The tournament is also known as the “elephant festival” in the region as elephants take part in different contests.

Monday saw the heats of the elephant race. The winners will participate in the finals on Wednesday. The three-day festival also features a beauty pageant where traditionally decorated elephants are paraded before judges.

According to organizers, ten different teams from Nepal, the United Kingdom, China, Germany, Brazil and a few other nations are taking part this year. About 10-thousand people in the area are directly dependent on the elephant-based tourism industry and the survival of the

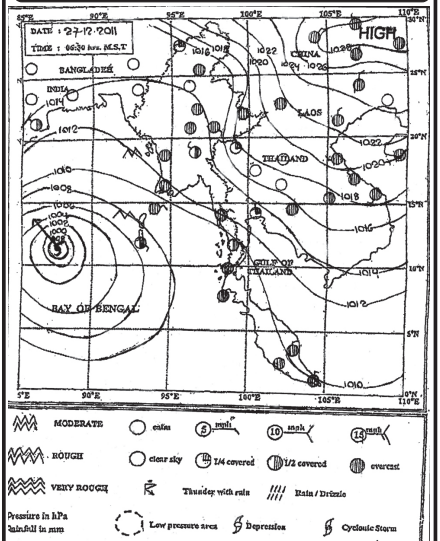


A mahout controls an elephant during an exhibition soccer match during the elephant festival in Sauraha.

elephants is crucial for their livelihood.

The tournament also features a boat race and a cart race. The aim of the event is to promote internal and external tourism in the region.—Internet

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 28th December, 2011

No.	Regions/States	Temperature (C/F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	25/77	14/57	Partly cloudy	
2	Kayah	21/70	14/57	Isolated rain	(80%)
3	Kayah	32/90	15/59	Partly cloudy	
4	Chin	17/63	04/39	Isolated rain	(80%)
5	Upper Sagaing	27/81	14/57	Isolated rain	(80%)
6	Lower Sagaing	27/81	19/66	Isolated rain	(80%)
7	Tanintharyi	32/90	20/68	Isolated rain	(80%)
8	Hago	29/84	19/66	Isolated rain	(80%)
9	Magway	24/75	20/68	Isolated rain	(80%)
10	Mandalay	26/79	21/70	Isolated rain	(80%)
11	Man	31/88	20/68	Partly cloudy	
12	Yangon	31/88	21/70	Isolated rain	(80%)
13	Rakhine	27/81	23/73	Isolated rain	(80%)
14	Southern Shan	17/63	12/54	Isolated rain	(80%)
15	Northern Shan	23/72	12/54	Isolated rain	(80%)
16	Eastern Shan	19/66	15/59	Isolated rain	(80%)
17	Ayeyawady	25/77	21/70	Isolated rain	(80%)
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	26/79	21/70	Likelihood of isolated rain	(60%)
19	Neighbouring Yangon	31/88	21/70	Likelihood of isolated rain	(60%)
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	26/79	21/70	Likelihood of isolated rain	(60%)

During the past (24) hours, rain have been scattered in Magway Region and Shan State, isolated in Mandalay and Yangon Regions, Rakhine State and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States. Night temperatures were 21°C to 14°C above December average temperatures in Lower Sagaing and Hago Regions, Kachin, Shan and Mon States, 15°C to 6°C above December average temperatures in Mandalay and Magway Regions, Kayah State, 7°C above December average temperatures in Rakhine State and about December average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant night temperature were Patheingyi (2°C) and Maktla (4°C). The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Nansan (0.15) inch and Taungthaingyi (0.12) inch.

According to the observation at (12:30) hrs M.S.T today, the cyclonic storm, THANE, over Southeast Bay adjoining Southwest Bay, is centered about (410) miles Southeast of Chennai, India (about 560) miles Southwest of Patheingyi, about (520) miles Southwest of Cocongay, Myanmar). It is likely to intensify and hence to move North-Northeastwards. Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman sea and North Bay and cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

State of the Sea: Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (25-60) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of likelihood of isolated rain in the Coastal areas.

DISTRICT NEWS



Furniture Course opened

LABUTTA, 27 Dec—The Labutta Township Committee of Child Rights of Ayeyawady Region organized the opening of Furniture Course No. 2/2-11 at the Youth Arman Training School of Social Welfare Department in Labutta Myothit on 11 December.

The trainers will provide training course to the trainees on making of five kinds of furniture, and construction of storm-resistant wooden and bamboo houses in the training.—District IPRD

Talks on environmental conservation organized



YANGON, 27 Dec—Ahlon Township Forest Department organized the talks on environmental conservation and protection of wildlife at Basic Education Middle School No 18 in Seikkyi-U Mya-Ngasin Ward of Kyimyindine Township on 17 December.

Staff Officer U Hnin Aung Hsan gave a talk and replied to queries raised by those present.

Myanma Alin

Specialists provide free treatment

KAUWHOUNG, 27 Dec—A specialist team of Kawthoung District People's Hospital led by Medical Superintendent Dr San San Thi provided free health care services to the people of Aungba Model Village in Kawthoung Township on 10 December.

They also disseminated health knowledge to the local people.

The specialists gave medical treatment to 391 patients.—District IPRD

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(28-12-11 09:30 am ~ 29-12-11 09:30 am) MST

Oversea Transmission

- * News
- * Towards a Peaceful and Disciplined Democratic New Nation (Agriculture)
- * News
- * Towards a Peaceful and Disciplined Democratic New Nation (Forestry & Livestock & Fisheries)
- * Charming & Fragrant Sabai
- * News
- * Songs for you
- * News
- * Golden Dreams & His Art (Academy Diramo)
- * News
- * I love Myanmar
- * News
- * Music Gallery
- * News
- * Famous Pagodas of Sagaing
- * Culture Stage
- * News
- * Kyi Hla Han's Journey
- * Myanmar Movies
- * "Unchangeable Love"

MYANMAR TV

(28-12-2011) (Wednesday)

- 7:00 am
- 1. Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
- 7:30 am
- 2. Morning News
- 7:40 am
- 3. Nice and Sweet Song
- 7:55 am
- 4. Health Programme
- 8:10 am
- 5. Cultural Dances
- 8:25 am
- 6. Documentary
- 8:40 am
- 7. International News
- 4:00 pm
- 8. Martial Song
- 4:30 pm
- 9. Dance of National Races
- 4:55 pm
- 10. Songs for Upholding National Spirit
- 5:45 pm
- 11. "ASEAN" Programme
- 7:00 pm
- 12. Documentary
- 8:00 pm
- 13. News
- 14. Korea NG Award
- 15. TV Drama Series
- 16. Myanmar Video Feature

Bipasha Basu thanks Bobby, Akshay for career

MUMBAI, 27 Dec—Model-turned-actress Bipasha Basu feels her co-stars Bobby Deol and Akshay Kumar's support during her initial years helped her to become a full time actor.

"Both Bobby and Akshay are going to be my favourites because I didn't know what I was doing in 'Ajnabee' and the kind of support they gave me, including the directors, that I decided to be an actor," said the 32-year-old here Monday.

Abbas-Mustan directed hit thriller "Ajnabee" (2001), starring Bobby and Akshay. "I called Bobby - Bobby Doll for a long time and he calls me Bipshaw. When such terms are exchanged between co-stars, then you know that there is genuine affection," said Bipasha. She was asked how she felt working with Bobby again after a gap of 10 years in "Players".

Usually actresses don't get along but Bipasha says that she had a good time with Sonam Kapoor who also features in the Abbas-Mustan directed action thriller set for 6 Jan release. "Sonam is a wonderful girl. I am talkative and she is equally talkative, may be a bit more. We had a wonderful



Model-turned-actress Bipasha Basu

time as every single member of the cast was very comfortable and confident in their space. We used to hang out together. We liked working together

and you can see the chemistry on screen," she said. Bipasha also recalled her long association with A B h i s h e k Bachchan.

"I think we did a screen test together for 'Akhri Mughal'.

The movie was never made. Now we have grown as individuals, actors, and friends. We had a blast together," she said.

Internet

Myanma Gems Emporium continues for third day

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Dec—Mid-year Myanma Gems Emporium 2011 organized by Myanma Gems Emporium Organizing Central Committee continued for the third day at Mani Yadana Jade Hall near Nay Pyi Taw Gems Museum today.

The emporium was packed with local and foreign gems merchants as Secretary of Myanma Gems Emporium Organizing Central Committee Managing Director of Myanma Gems Enterprise U Thein Swe and personnel supervised tender-submitting process.

A total of 153 lots of gems were sold through open tender and competitive bidding systems and 1873 jade lots through the open tender.

The emporium will be held until 3rd January, 2012 during which jade lots will be on sale through the open tender from 27 to 31 December and the competitive bidding system from 1 to 3 January, 2011.

MNA



Local and foreign gems merchants observe jade lots at Mid-year Myanma Gems Emporium 2011 at Mani Yadana Jade Hall.
MNA

Waterway of Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku) designated

YANGON, 27 Dec—The waterway between piers 19 and 20 Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku) has been set for downstream vessels and that between piers 18 and 19 for upstream vessels. The waterway will be opened as of 28 December.

The clearance area is 262 feet with the height of 52 feet from above the highest water level. Green triangle sign, lighted at night, will be kept at the entrance while red cross mark, also illuminated at

night, at the entrance of restricted waterway.

Vessels are to draw abreast to each other between the two piers as the edge of the foundation of pile is emerging about 15 feet, to pass separately with tugboats and to approach the entrance from a sufficient distance giving priority to the upstream vessels, the warning issued by Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems suggests.

MNA

Timetable of National Literary Award-presenting ceremony changes

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Dec—Prize-awarding ceremony of Lifetime Achievement National Literary Award and National Literary Award will be held at meeting hall of Ministry of Information here, at 8 am on 29 December in place of 9 am on the same day.—MNA

Vocational courses open

MAUNGTAW, 27 Dec—The Women's Vocational Training School of Education and Training Department opened the Basic Domestic Science Course No. 34 and the Advanced Tailoring Course No. 30 in Maungtao on 2 December. District Administrator U Aung Myint Soe made a speech. Both courses last 14 weeks.

District IPRD

Fuel-wood distributed

PYAY, 27 Dec—A ceremony to distribute fuel-wood to local people, organized by Pyay Township Forest Department, was held at five-acre village fuel-wood plantation in Letpan-aing Village on 11 December.

Deputy Director U Kyaw Lwin of Bago Region Forest Department, township level officials and staff of Forest Department presented 50 tons of fuel-wood to 80 households of the village.

Township IPRD

ECG donated to township hospital

THABAUNG, 27 Dec—Wellwisher Daw Kyin and family on Chanmye Thayar Road in Thabaung donated an ECG worth K 1.2 million to Thabaung Township People's Hospital on 13 December.

Head of Township Health Department Dr Thant Lwin accepted donations.

Township HD

Marketable sunflower plants thriving in Tatkon

Byline: *Phyo Sanda Myint*, Photos: *Khin Maung Win (Kyemon)*



Yezin hybrid strain (1) sunflower plantation grown through good agriculture pattern.

The government has been providing assistance to growing of marketable crops agreeable to soil and climate of respective regions so that the growers can enjoy high living standard gaining benefits from regional crops. Farmers need to use quality strains and establish seed production system applying good agriculture pattern

(GAP).

Technology jump concurrent with 14 points of GAP is much more beneficial to farmers than traditional growing patterns and ensures higher quality and quantity.

On the grounds that farmers enjoy more income, high-quality sunflower strain (Yezin hybrid-1) has been grown in Myanma

Agriculture Service research farm (Tatkon) as a test. Farmers are now growing quality sunflower strains on a commercial scale.

There are male and female seeds in sunflowers. Oil can be produced from male sunflower seeds by growing four lines of female plant by one line of male plant. Flowers from female

plant can be replanted for seed production process.

Sunflower crops can be harvested within 85 days. One basket of sunflowers produces four viss and 50 ticks of edible oil and so, one acre of sunflowers can produce 220 viss of edible oil.

As sunflower oil is type of unsaturated fat, it proves advantageous to health, especially to eyes, hair health, hypertension and heart disease.

Sunflower farmer U Zaw Min Tun of Hsegyi Village of Yamethin Township explained, "I grew high-yield Yezin hybrid-1 sunflower seed last year. Fifty-two baskets could be produced per acre. As a result of meeting sunflower production rate, FAO awarded me on 16 October of World Food Day.

(See page 9)



Steven Fletcher equalises with his swooping header for Wolves.
Arsenal 1-1 Wolves

LONDON, 27 Dec—Ten-man Wolverhampton Wanderers held out to secure a 1-1 draw away at Arsenal this afternoon. All looked to be going well for Arsene Wenger's Gunners when they took an eighth minute lead through Ivorian striker Gervinho. Loanee Yossi Benayoun, making his first Premier League start for Arsenal, threaded a pass through and Gervinho took his time before slotting the ball past Wayne Hennessey.

However, seven minutes before the break Steven Fletcher draw Wolves level in fortuitous circumstances. Stephen Hunt produced a shot from the edge of the area that deflected off the Scottish striker and wrong-footed Wojciech Szczesny in the Arsenal goal. Visiting goalkeeper Hennessey was called into action on numerous occasions after the restart, with two saves in particular from Robin van Persie and Per Mertesacker catching the eye. The task was made harder for Mick McCarthy's Wolves 15 minutes from time when Nenad Milijas was handed a straight red card by Stuart Attwell for a high challenge on Mikel Arteta. Nevertheless, the Wolves rearguard held firm despite a large amount of pressure to claim a point that has moved them up to 16th in the Premier League table.—Internet