

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

THE MOST RELIABLE NEWSPAPER AROUND YOU

Volume XX, Number 184

6th Waxing of Thandingyut 1374 ME

Sunday, 21 October, 2012

Myanmar, Britain to cooperate in development of education, health, human resources

Contestants from regions, states take part in Performing Arts Competition



NAY PYI TAW, 20 Oct—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein received a delegation led by former Prime Minister of Britain Mr. Tony Blair at the anteroom of Presidential Palace, here,

President U Thein Sein poses for documentary photo with former Prime Minister of Britain Mr. Tony Blair.—MNA

at 3.30 pm today.

Also present at the call together with the President were Union Ministers Lt-Gen Ko Ko, U Soe Thein,

U Win Myint, Dr. Mya Aye, Dr. Pe Thet Khin and Dr. Ko Ko Oo, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Zin Yaw and officials. They

had a cordial discussion on cooperation in securing greater development in education, health and human resource sectors.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Oct—The 19th Myanmar National Races' Traditional Performing Arts Competition continued at the designated places in Yezin Universities' Campus in Zeyathiri Township today.

Contestants from Kachin, Mon, Rakhine, Chin and Kayin States, Mandalay, Sagaing, Bago and Ayeyawady Regions participated in the Maha Gita song, old and modern song, dancing, Kwetseik (narration), orchestra,

oboe, xylophone and song composing contests.

Among the spectators were Deputy Ministers U Aung Thein, Dr Lin Aung and U Than Swe, Supreme Court Judge U Aung Zaw Thein, Joint-Secretary of the Organizing Committee Director-General of Fine Arts Department U Yan Naing Oo and members of subcommittees, members of the panel of judges at central and region and state levels and students.

MNA



Maung Min Thint Myat Ko of Mon State taking part in basic level aged 5-10 boys' dancing contest.—MNA

Yangon Expo & Car Show at Kandawgyi

YANGON, 20 Oct—Yangon Expo & Car Show kicked off at Karaweik World Park market festival (Kandawgyi Park), here, yesterday. Soft drinks, clothes, cosmetics, 24 hours health service, digital lock, home video phones, travel companies, water purifiers, car engine oil, brick mould, medicine and employment service agencies are put on show.

The car sale centers also display Hilux Surt, Probox, Harriers, Honda, Lexus, Markx and BMW

etc. According to an official from the car sale center, Probox car is the most popular and best-selling one. The car will be sold in installment. The buyers are to settle 20 percent of the car price in cash and the rest, through hire-purchase system during 6-12 month (or) 48 months in installment. Kanbawza Bank Ltd will offer the service for hire purchase system. The exhibition which will be held from 9 am to 9 pm was packed with buyers and visitors on the first day.

Dimon

Mandalay sees so

“More space for regional news”

Natmauk Tun Shein
Chief editor Mandalay Daily

It is a welcome change that Myanma Alin, Kyemon and The New Light of Myanmar are printed in colour without changing the price. The readers find it in themselves to like the papers in colour. The newspapers should reach into the hands of readers as the night ends. They should run reports, articles and cartoons that are newsworthy and reflect the age. There should be more space for regional news. While private dailies set to hit the news stand, the state-owned newspapers must try more to keep and attract readers.



“Bigger size, more pages and more sections”

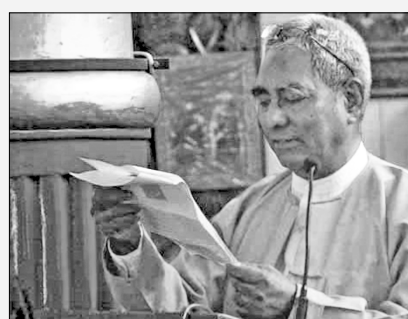
Nyi Sae Min (U Kyaw Zan Hla)

I appreciate international-standard publication of The New Light of Myanmar and expect classy reports, features and commentaries. It will be better with bigger size, more pages and more knowledgeable and entertainment sections.

“Early morning with latest news”

Nyi Pu Lay (Nyein Chan)
Ludu Kyi Pwar Yay Publishing House

In the history of Myanmar's newspaper industry, colour daily is a milestone. While the newspapers are in black and white, the newspapers reach us in the afternoon. And when the colour ones will reach us? I would love to read colour newspapers in early morning, and with latest news.



Octagon becomes sole distributor of Scania in Myanmar

YANGON, 20 Oct—Scania, the Swedish trucks and buses manufacturer, has signed a distributor agreement with Octagon International Services Co Ltd, here today as its sole distributor in Myanmar.

During the signing ceremony, Mr James William Thomas Armstrong, Managing Director of Scania South East Asia, and U Chan Mya, Managing Director of Octagon International Services Co Ltd signed the agreement in the presence of Mr Martin Lundstedt, CEO of Scania Company, Mr Olof Henrik Gudmund Henriksson, Executive Vice President, Franchise and Factory of Sales, U Aik Htun, Chairman of Shwe Taung Development Co Ltd and U Aung Saw Naing, CEO of Shwe Taung Development Co Ltd.

Octagon, member of the Shwe Taung Group,



Mr. James William Thomas Armstrong (Right), Managing Director of Scania South East Asia, and U Chan Mya (Left), Managing Director of Octagon International Services Co Ltd exchange notes after signing sole distributor agreement.—NLM

has imported Scania trucks, buses and generators in Myanmar since 2007, and so far about 500 trucks and buses have been distributed in Myanmar.

Scania trucks and buses,

which are equipped with computerized speed control system, are used for mining and construction works and for long haul transport services in Myanmar, ensuring the safety of

passengers.

All Scania trucks, buses and generators is covered by warranty for one year and service support by mobile service teams of Octagon.

NLM

Fourth regular session of Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw continues

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Oct—Fourth regular session of first Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw continued for fourth day, at Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw yesterday, attended by Speaker of Region Hluttaw U Hsan Hsint, 67 representatives and special guests. At the session, the appointment of U San Maung as Agriculture and Livestock Minister and of U Tin Soe as Social Affairs Minister was put on record.

After that, 20 questions

were answered, the date, set for discussion of amended estimated Cash Account for 2012-2013 financial year and the Budget for 2013-2014 financial year, for discussion of Village Firewood Plantation Bill and Cottage Industries Bill and the proposals on solving confiscated farmland issue and preventive measures against farmland inundation, submitted. The meeting came to an end in the evening.—MNA

Myanmar, Belgium to cooperate in farm sector development

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Oct—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing and agriculturalists from Belgium Mr Thierry Bogaert and Mr Luc Beaucourt and agriculturalists from China, along with local farmers and staff, inspected 440 acres of Paletwe hybrid paddy plantation in Alynlo village, Pynmana Township, here, this morning.

After that, they had a cordial discussion with local farmers on cooperation in agricultural sector development, at the briefing hall.

Then, they visited farmer educative 10 acres of groundnut plantation, jointly

undertaken by Shwe Than Lwin Co and Ayeyahintha Co, farm equipment and paddy strain show room. The Union Minister presented hybrid maize strain, hybrid sunflower strain and Paletwe paddy to the Belgium agriculturalists.

They also visited 100-day Paletwe hybrid paddy strain, hybrid paddy plantation for seed production, three acres of groundnut plantation, thriving Korean hybrid paddy, farmer educative ground nut plantation and five acres of soybean research plantation. The Union Minister then discussed mutual cooperation with the Belgium agriculturalists.

MNA

One died, two injured in KIA-planted landmine blast

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Oct—A KIA group attacked a military column of the Tatmadaw patrolling the outside area of Phakant at Hmaw Maung Gon village in Hmaw Wan ward of Phakant Township in Kachin State with heavy weapons at 10 pm on 17 October, starting the exchange of fire.

Gwan Yaw Tan Gun lost life and Maung Sagalager and Maung Zaw Sai were injured in KIA-planted landmine blast as they, like other villagers, fled the clash.

MNA

Buddha Pujaniya of Kyaikkhami Pagoda 29 Oct-4 Nov

KYAIKKHAMI, 20 Oct—Buddha Pujaniya of Kyaikkhami Yayle Hsandawshin Pagoda will be held in Thanbyuzayat Township of Mon State from 29 October to 4 November.

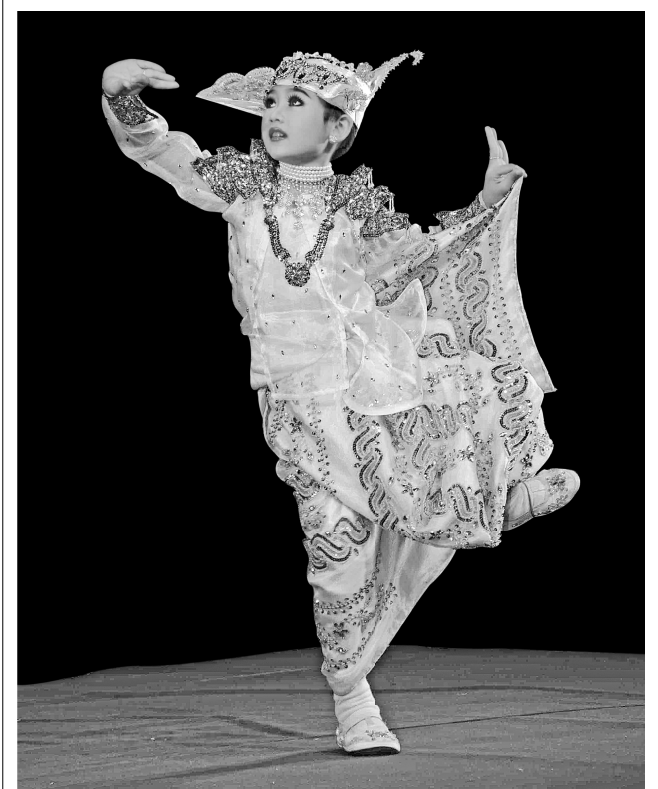
Yangon Theatrical Drama Troupe (Tin Maung Hsan Min Win) and Mawlamyine Theatrical Drama Troupe and Sky Net music band will present entertainment to the people. Moreover, football tournament and Sepak Takraw contest will be held there.

The opening ceremony of the passage way to the Pagoda will be held on 14th waxing of Thadingyut.

In the morning of Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut, the alms bowl will be set adrift into the water. After that, 9000 oil lamps will be ignited dedicating to the Lord Buddha.

The Pujaniya organizing committee has arranged security and safety in accommodation and transportation for the pilgrims far and near. Photo shops and souvenir shops have been allotted for entrepreneurs.

Kyemon



Maung Shine Wai Yan Phyto participates in basic education level aged 5-10 boys' dancing contest. (News on page 1)—MNA

Athletes under intensive training for SEA Games

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Oct—Sports teams are under intensive training for wining medals at XXVII SEA Games (2013) to be held in Myanmar as a host country.

Director-General U Myo Hlaing of Sports and Physical Education Department inspected athletes who are in training for short-range races, Javelin, chain shot-put, pole vault, discus, high jump and shot put, at Nay Pyi Taw Training Center-2, paving of run way, Zeyathiri Sport Ground construction site and sports village in Zabuthiri Township.

After that, the director-general visited National-Level Sport Managers Course

Paletwe pollinated

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Oct—Hybrid paddy research plantation of Waingmaw Township marked the pollination of Paletwe hybrid paddy yesterday.

The ceremony was attended by State Chief Minister U La John Ngan Hsai, State Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Sai Myint Kyaw, Chief Justice of State High Court U Tu Ja, state ministers, the state advocate-general and officials.

The plantation is being operated by State Agriculture Department with the support of Kachin State government.—MNA

(1/2012), which is jointly conducted by International Olympics Committee (IOC) and Myanmar Olympics Committee (MOC).

MNA



A contestant taking part in xylophone contest. (News on page 1)—MNA

Palestinian push for UN upgrade likely to succeed:

Jeremic UN

UNITED NATIONS, 20 Oct — The push by the Palestinians for upgraded status at the United Nations is likely to succeed, the president of the UN General Assembly said on Friday, while warning the United States against cutting UN funding over the issue.

In his first major interview since winning a divisive campaign for the largely ceremonial UN post in June, former Serbian Foreign Minister Vuk Jeremic also said he was seeking to improve coordination between the world body and the Group of 20 bloc of key developed and developing nations.

Having failed last year to secure full UN membership due to US opposition, Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas said last month he would ask the 193-nation General

Assembly to approve a less-ambitious promotion of the Palestinian Authority's observer status to "non-member state," like the Vatican.

It is currently considered an "entity. Jeremic said Abbas is consulting with UN member states and is expected to call for a meeting on the Palestinian issue as early as next month, after the 6 November US presidential election." Most people expect that it is going to be the second half of November," the 37-year-old former Serbian foreign minister told Reuters.

"If they decide to go for it after these consultations, which is what President Abbas announced in his speech in September, most people expect that this is going to pass," Jeremic added.

Reuters

The president of the United Nations General Assembly, Vuk Jeremic of Serbia, speaks during an interview at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, on 19 Oct, 2012.



Lebanon must stay united after blast: France

PARIS, 20 Oct — Lebanon's politicians must stay united and guard against attempts to destabilize the country, French President Francois Hollande said after a car bomb killed a senior intelligence officer in Beirut on Friday. He did not spell out who might be trying to undermine the country through the attack.

But France, the former

colonial power in Lebanon, has repeatedly warned of the risk of the conflict in neighbouring Syria spilling over the border. The Beirut blast killed at least eight people, including intelligence official Wissam al-Hassan, who led the investigation that implicated Syria and Hezbollah in the assassination of former Lebanese prime minister Rafik al-Hariri.

"The head of state calls on all Lebanese politicians to maintain unity in Lebanon and protect it from all destabilization efforts no matter where they come from," Hollande's office said in a statement. "Hassan was killed in this attack. He was a man dedicated to his country, its stability and independence ... His death is a great loss," Hollande said.—Reuters

Bomb threat shuts down Texas A&M University

NEW YORK, 20 Oct — The campus of Texas A&M University, one of the biggest in the United States, was evacuated for several hours on Friday after school officials received a bomb threat, the latest such incident at a US university in recent weeks. The threat came in an anonymous email delivered shortly before noon, Texas A&M spokesman Jason Cook said. All classes were canceled.

The sprawling campus

reopened five hours later except for buildings that had not yet been searched. High-traffic areas including residence halls, an arena and the football stadium were deemed safe, the university said. More than 50,000 students are enrolled at Texas A&M, which has a 5,000-acre (2,025-hectare) campus with hundreds of buildings in College Station, Texas, about 100 miles northwest of Houston.

Texas A&M plays

US

Louisiana State University at home on Saturday and is holding a midnight campus-wide pep rally ahead of the football game. The university told essential personnel and those involved in Friday night activities to report to work as scheduled. The threat was the second delivered by email to a Texas college in the past two days. Three buildings at Texas State University in San Marcos, south of Austin, were evacuated on Thursday.

Reuters



A security officer examines a damaged vehicle at the blast site in southwest Pakistan's Quetta on 19 Oct, 2012. At least three security personnel were killed and 11 others injured as a roadside planted bomb hit a paramilitary force convoy in Quetta on Friday afternoon, reported local media Samaa. — XINHUA

Lebanon's former PM Hariri blames Assad for Beirut bomb

BEIRUT, 20 Oct — Former Lebanese Prime Minister Saad al-Hariri accused Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on Friday of being behind the huge car bomb which killed a senior Lebanese intelligence official in central Beirut. Asked by Lebanon's Future Television who was responsible for the killing, Hariri replied: "Bashar Hafez al-Assad," giving the full name of the Syrian president.

"Who killed Wissam al-Hassan is as clear as day.

Certainly the Lebanese people will not be silent over this heinous crime and I, Saad Hariri, promise that I will not be silent," he said. Hariri's father, Rafik al-Hariri, was killed seven years ago in a bombing which his supporters blamed on Damascus and its ally in Lebanon, Hezbollah.

Druze leader Walid Jumblatt said Hassan's death made Lebanon less safe. "He was our protector. This is a harsh blow but we will not be scared and we should

not accuse anyone inside Lebanon so we don't give Bashar an excuse to seize the country."

"There is an intelligence agency that is deeply rooted in Lebanon — the Syrian intelligence. There's more than one Michel Samaha in the country," Jumblatt told Lebanese television, referring to a pro-Assad Lebanese politician who was arrested in August over a suspected bomb plot linked to Damascus.

Reuters

Pakistani girl shot by Taliban "doing well"

Pakistan

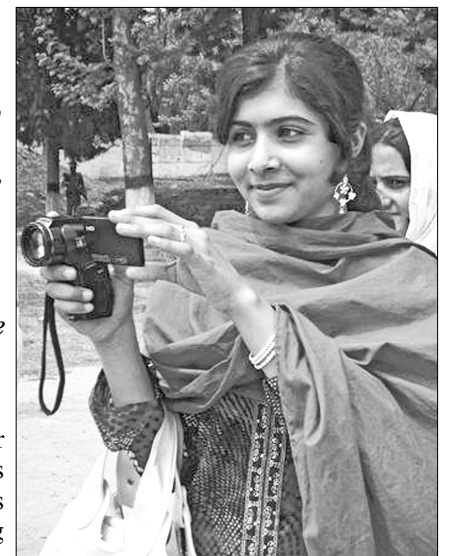
LONDON, 20 Oct — A Pakistani girl shot in the head by Taliban gunmen is "not out of the woods" but is doing well and has been able to stand for the first time, doctors at the British hospital treating her said on Friday. Malala Yousufzai, who was shot for vocally opposing the Taliban, was flown from Pakistan to Birmingham to receive treatment after the attack earlier this month, which drew widespread international condemnation.

She has become a symbol of resistance to the Islamist group's effort to deny women education and other rights. Dave Rosser, medical director of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham, said she was now able to write and appeared to have memory recall despite her brain injuries. "It's clear that she's not out of the woods yet," Rosser told reporters, saying she had sustained a "very, very grave injury". But he said she was "doing very well".

"In fact she was standing

Malala Yousufzai, a 14-year-old schoolgirl, who was wounded in a gun attack, is seen in Swat Valley, northwest Pakistan, in this undated file photo.

REUTERS



with some help for the first time this morning. She's communicating very freely, writing," he said. Rosser said, however, that the teenager was not able to speak because she had undergone a tracheotomy so she could breathe through a tube in her neck, an operation that was performed because her airways had been swollen by the bullet.

Yousufzai was shot as she left school in Swat, northwest of Islamabad. The Taliban said they attacked her because she spoke out against the group and praised

UN condemns "terrorist" killing of Lebanese security official

UNITED NATIONS, 20 Oct — The UN Security Council condemned a bomb attack on Friday that killed senior Lebanese intelligence official Wissam al-Hassan, widely seen as a foe of Syria, and demanded an end to attempts to destabilize Lebanon through political assassinations.

"The members of the Security Council strongly condemned the terrorist attack on 19 Oct, 2012 in Beirut, which killed Brigadier General Wissam al-Hassan," the 15-nation council said in a unanimous agreed-upon statement.

"The members of the Security Council reiterated their unequivocal condemnation of any attempt to destabilize Lebanon through political assassinations and demanded an immediate end to the use of intimidation and violence against political figures," it said.

Reuters

US President Barack Obama. The alleged organizer of the shooting was captured during a 2009 military offensive against the Taliban, but released after three months, two senior officials told Reuters. In a detailed statement about Yousufzai's injuries, Rosser said she had suffered fractures to the base of her skull and to the bone behind her left ear. Her left jawbone is also injured at its joint.

Reuters

Russia may build rocket to destroy Earth-threatening asteroids

Science



The Soyuz TMA-15 spacecraft at the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan.—XINHUA

MOSCOW, 20 Oct—Russia could start building a space rocket capable of destroying asteroids threatening the Earth, chief of rocket and space corporation Energia said Friday.

"There are three large asteroids, including Apo-

phus, whose orbits cross the Earth's orbit and which could hit the Earth in the next several decades," Vitaly Lopota told the state newspaper *Rossiyskaya Gazeta*.

To change the orbit of a small planet of Apophis'

size, a 70-ton rocket was needed to "tow" an asteroid away from Earth or to destroy it with a thermonuclear blast, Lopota said.

Apophis was discovered in 2004. It will approach the Earth dangerously close, at about 30,000

km, which is less than one-tenth of the Moon's distance from Earth, in 2029. Experts calculate impact of a collision between *Apophis* and the Earth will be equal to a 1,700-Megaton explosion.

Lopota said existing Russian rocket carriers with RD-171 engines could be redesigned to produce a rocket capable of destroying an asteroid. Energia was ready to build such a rocket within three to five years, he said.

Currently, RD-171 engines made by NPO Energomash have been used on Zenit-3SL missiles employed in the Russia-Ukraine-Norway-US joint project Sea Launch.

"We call them Tsar Engines, which no other country possesses," Lopota said, referring to Russian artifacts, the Tsar Cannon and Tsar Bell, which were the world's largest in their time.

Xinhua

Apple drops Java after experts warn Mac users on its security

Technology

BOSTON, 20 Oct—Apple Inc is removing old versions of Oracle Corp's Java software from Internet browsers on the computers of its customers when they install the latest update to its Mac operating system.

Apple, which has previously included Java with installations of Mac OS X, announced the move on its support site. It said that customers need to obtain Java directly from Oracle if they want to access web content written the widely used programming language. (<http://support.apple.com/kb/DL1572>) Apple did not provide a reason for the change and both companies declined to comment.

Java is a computer language that enables programmers to write one set of code to run on virtually any type of machine. It is widely used on the Internet so that Web developers can make their sites accessible from multiple browsers running on Macs or Microsoft Windows PCs.

Two years ago both

companies said they had agreed that Apple would one day stop providing Java software to Mac customers and that would Oracle to take on that responsibility. They did not provide a date for that transition.

Apple is implementing that change in the wake of a Java security scare that prompted some security experts to caution computer users to only use Java on an as-needed basis.

Security experts in Europe discovered Java bugs in late August that hackers had exploited to launch attacks. It took Oracle several days to release an update to Java to correct those flaws.

Adam Gowdiak, a researcher with Polish security firm Security Explorations, said on Friday that he has since found two new security bugs in Java that continue to make computers vulnerable to attack.

Gowdiak said that removing Java from Mac browsers reduces the risks of an attack.—Reuters



The logo of Apple is seen on a product displayed at a store in Seoul on 24 August, 2012.—REUTERS

New report blames heat for ancient extinction

WUHAN, 20 Oct—Chinese, British and German scientists have discovered that the worst extinction of the Earth's history happened because the planet was simply too hot to survive.

The discovery about the end-Permian mass extinction, which wiped out the world's species 250 million years ago and was followed by a "dead zone" of five million years in which the planet welcomed no new species, came in a paper published on Friday in *Science*, one of world's top scientific journals.

The joint study by the China University of Geosciences in Wuhan, capital of central China's Hubei Province, the University of Leeds in Britain and the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg in Germany, shows the cause of the lengthy devastation was a temperature rise to lethal levels: around 50 to 60 degrees Celsius on land, and 40 degrees

Celsius at the sea-surface.

"Global warming has long been linked to the end-Permian mass extinction, but this study is the first to show extreme temperatures kept life from re-starting in Equatorial latitudes for millions of years," said the lead author, 27-year-old Yadong Sun, who is completing a joint PhD in geology with the China University of Geosciences and the University of Leeds.

According to Sun, this is also the first study to show water temperatures close to the ocean's surface can reach 40 degrees Celsius, a near-lethal level at which marine life dies and photosynthesis stops. Climate modelers had assumed sea-surface temperatures cannot surpass 30 degrees Celsius.

"The findings may help us understand future climate change," he said.

The dead zone was a strange world, very wet in the tropics but with almost noth-

ing growing. No forests grew, only shrubs and ferns. No fish or marine reptiles were to be found in the tropics, only shellfish, and virtually no land animals existed because their high metabolic rate made it impossible for them to deal with the heat. Only the polar regions provided a refuge from the baking heat. Before this mass extinction, Earth teemed with plants and animals including primitive reptiles and amphibians, and a wide variety of sea creatures including coral and sea lilies.

The "broken world" scenario was caused by a breakdown in global carbon cycling, according to report author Yan Chunbo, a 28-year-old Ph.D. candidate of the China University of Geosciences. In normal circumstances, plants help regulate temperature by absorbing carbon dioxide and burying it as dead plant matter. Without plants, levels of carbon dioxide can rise unchecked, which causes temperatures to increase, Yan explained.

The study is the most detailed temperature record of this study period (252 to 247 million years ago) to date, said Lai Xulong, a professor at the China University of Geosciences and one of the study's co-authors.

Sun and his colleagues collected data from 150,000 ancient conodonts (tiny teeth of extinct eel-like fish) located in two tonnes of rocks from South China. By studying the

Science

ratio of oxygen isotopes in the conodonts, they were able to detect temperature levels hundreds of millions of years ago.

"Nobody has ever dared to say that past climates attained these levels of heat. Hopefully, future global warming won't get anywhere near the temperatures of 250 million years ago, but if it does we have shown that it may take millions of years to recover," said Paul Wignall, professor of the School of Earth and Environment at the University of Leeds and another of the study's co-authors.—Reuters

Activision hopes new Skylanders game is a holiday hit

Technology

SAN FRANCISCO, 20 Oct—Activision Blizzard is betting big on children's fantasy adventure game "Skylanders" this holiday, with the launch of a new title on Sunday and plans for more mobile versions of the console game. The franchise's second offering, "Skylanders: Giants", will hit stores in North America following the success of "Skylanders: Spyro's Adventures" whose US sales have exceeded 286 million game packs, toys and accessories since its 2011 release.

Activision, which is better known for hardcore shooter games, is trying to stem the loss of subscribers from its bread-and-

butter games like "World of Warcraft" and diversify revenue sources. Analysts say the "Skylanders" franchise can generate sales not just from games but also toys and licensed merchandise from apparel to bicycles.

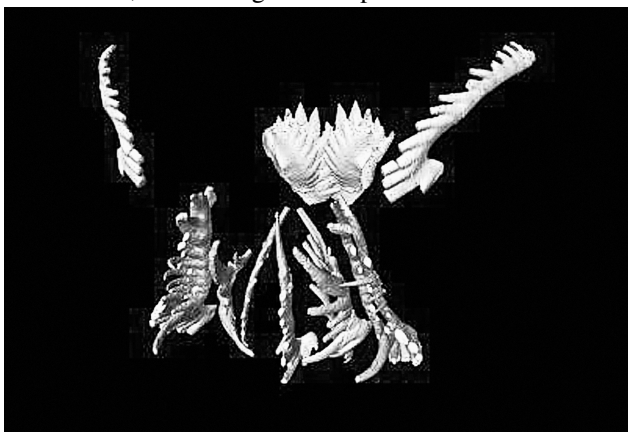
"Skylanders" counts among 2012's top-selling games, helped by a fairly novel concept. It is sold with physical toys that come to life on screen when they are connected to consoles such as Microsoft Corp's Xbox or Sony Corp's PlayStation.

When figurines - priced from \$10 to \$15 - are placed on a small electronic portal, a chip inside them interacts with the console and records

a player's achievements and progress. That concept caught on after the first title, prompting the company to focus on building the brand and expand its licensing program, Activision Publishing Chief Executive Eric Hirshberg said.

"It just starts to take on that body language or footprint of a really meaningful pop-cultural set of characters, the way that Star Wars does or Transformers does," Hirshberg said.

Activision has heavily invested in the Skylanders franchise and marketed products, which are aimed at 5- to 10-year-olds, a demographic dominated by Nintendo Co Ltd.—Xinhua



This is the feeding apparatus of a conodont.
REUTERS

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Canada beef plant samples test negative for E coli

Health

ALBERTA, 20 Oct—Test samples from the XL Foods meat plant in Alberta have come back negative for E coli bacteria, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) said on Friday, moving closer to a decision on whether to reopen the plant, which the agency closed because some of the plant's beef products were contaminated.

Inspection officials tested meat from 5,000

carcasses that were in the Brooks, Alberta, plant before CFIA shut it down. CFIA plans to finalize its recommendations on the plant's reopening over the weekend after further review of its bacterial controls. "We must remain focused on the need to protect consumers," said Paul Mayers, associate vice president of programmes for CFIA. The plant has been closed since September

27 after producing beef contaminated with E. coli bacteria that sickened at least 16 people in Canada. E. coli bacteria can cause illness, or even death, and symptoms include severe stomach cramps, vomiting and diarrhea. Cooking meat to the correct internal temperature kills the bacteria.

Millions of pounds of beef products have been recalled across Canada and in most US states. The recalled beef will be thrown out, rendered or cooked and used in frozen foods or soups, said Harpreet Kochhar, executive director of Western Canadian operations for CFIA. The reprocessed product will not re-enter the food supply unless it is re-tested and found safe, he said. Reprocessing the recalled products is a safe practice since the meat will be cooked, said Rick Holley, a microbiologist at the University of Manitoba.

The recalled meat is under government control in various storage sites. The CFIA also said there is another 12 million pounds of beef from a variety of production dates in storage at XL facilities under government control. XL Foods' options for that meat include rendering or cooking it before further testing, but the company has not told CFIA what it hopes to do.

"We will consider any plan that the company presents and we will assess it relative to the ability to provide assurance that product that is available to consumers is acceptable and the safety of consumers is protected," Mayers said. JBS USA, a unit of Brazilian meat giant JBS SA, took over management of the plant this week and holds an option to buy the Canadian and U.S. operations of privately held XL Foods for \$50 million in cash and \$50 million in JBS SA shares. —Reuters



Hereford Angus Cross cattle are pictured on the Bell L ranch near Airdrie, Alberta, on 30 September, 2012.

REUTERS

Firm dollar, weak Europe crimp US industrials' sales

NEW YORK, 20 Oct—Four top US manufacturers, including General Electric Co (GE) and Honeywell International Corp (HON), reported weaker-than-expected sales on Friday, in a fresh warning to investors that demand around the world remains sluggish.

The ream of recent results sets the stage for an even heavier week of earnings reports next week, including those of global heavyweights such as Caterpillar Inc (CAT.N), Dupont Co (DD.N), 3M Co (MMM.N), Boeing Inc (BA.N), Eli Lilly & Co (LLY.N) and Procter & Gamble (PG.N). GE, Honeywell, Ingersoll Rand Plc (IR) and Parker Hannifin Corp (PH) all took in less revenue than analysts had expected. GE, Honeywell, Ingersoll Rand Plc (IR) and Parker Hannifin Corp (PH) all took in less revenue than analysts had expected.

"Revenues keep missing," said Ken Polcari, managing director of ICAP Equities in New York.

"That is the story that we are hearing across the line."

GE, the largest US conglomerate, said sales at its aviation and healthcare arms dipped 1 percent in the quarter, though analysts noted overall revenue was hurt by a firmer dollar, which diminished the value of its foreign sales. GE shares were down 2.8 percent at \$22.17 on Friday afternoon. GE, the largest US conglomerate, said sales at its aviation and healthcare arms dipped 1 percent in the quarter, though analysts noted overall revenue was hurt by a firmer dollar, which diminished the value of its foreign sales. GE shares were down 2.8 percent at \$22.17 on Friday afternoon. Top GE and Honeywell executives said the third quarter may represent the greatest hit their results take from exchange-rate fluctuations, since the comparison was against a third quarter of 2011 when the dollar was falling after a standoff in Washington over whether to allow a US debt default.—Reuters



A woman stands near a currency exchange in the central street of Kiev in this August 30, 2012 file photograph. General Electric Co reported weaker-than-expected third-quarter revenue, hurt by unfavorable exchange rates, and investors shrugged off an 8.3 percent profit increase and sent the company's shares down more than 2 percent.—REUTERS

McDonald's Q3 results fall short of expectations

Business

CHICAGO, 20 Oct — Shares of McDonald's Corp. fell 4.5 percent in trading Friday on the New York Stock Exchange, as investors responded to a disappointing earnings release showing global comparable sales rose only 1.9 percent in the third quarter the lowest sales growth for McDonald's in around nine years.

Analysts had previously expected a two percent global sales increase for the fast food giant, which had not seen a growth level below two percent since the second quarter of 2003.

McDonald's defended the quarterly sales numbers by noting that the company's three divisions still each

posted positive comparable sales despite a difficult global economy, and that the results additionally reflected a disadvantageous currency exchanges. "While our sales momentum and current financial results reflect today's challenging conditions, we continue to see significant long-term opportunities for brand McDonald's and remain confident in the underlying strength of our business model," said McDonald's Chief Executive Officer Don Thompson.

"We expect near-term top- and bottom-line growth to remain pressured as we focus on driving guest traffic and market share by



Daily multivitamin may prevent cancer in men. REUTERS

Extra pounds tied to higher risk of hospitalization

Health

NEW YORK, 20 Oct—Regardless of lifestyle and other health-related factors, heavier people were more likely than lean ones to be hospitalized for a variety of conditions in a new study from Australia. That was the case not just for obese people, but for the merely overweight as well.

Among middle-aged adults, researchers found that every extra body mass index (BMI) point—equal to about six or seven pounds — was tied to a four-percent higher chance of being admitted to the hospital over a two-year period. "There is considerable evidence that severe obesity is bad for your health, resulting in higher rates of disease and consequently higher use of health services and higher death rates," lead author Rosemary Korda, from the Australian National University in Canberra, told Reuters Health in an email. "What this study shows is that there is a gradual increase in risk of hospitalization as BMI increases, starting with people in the overweight range," she added. "In other words, even being overweight

(but not obese) still increases your risk."

Korda and her colleagues recruited close to 250,000 people age 45 and above from New South Wales. After surveying them about their height, weight and other health and lifestyle issues, the researchers tracked participants through hospital data. Over the next two years, they had more than 61,000 total hospitalizations lasting at least one night.

Korda's team found that among people considered in the normal range for BMI, there were 120 hospitalizations for every 1,000 men and 102 per 1,000 women each year. For those considered severely obese, on the other hand, there were 203 hospitalizations for every 1,000 men and 183 per 1,000 women, on average. Overweight and moderately obese people had hospitalization rates somewhere in between.

That pattern held up even after taking into account whether participants smoked, how physically active they were and their general health at the start of the study.—Reuters



McDonald India shop.—REUTERS



Breast cancer cells are seen in this undated handout photo.

Kuwait ruler orders electoral system changes



Kuwait's Emir Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad Al-Sabah smiles during the opening session of the 23rd Arab League summit in Baghdad on 29 March, 2012. — REUTERS

KUWAIT, 20 Oct — Kuwait's emir said on Friday he had ordered partial changes to the Gulf Arab state's electoral system to fix deficiencies ahead of expected elections, prompting opposition threats to boycott the vote. Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah dissolved parliament last week to pave the way for new election which many hoped would end a persistent political turmoil that had held up development projects in the major oil producer and US ally.

The opposition, which won a parliamentary majority in a February poll, had said it feared authorities would try to push through new voting rules that could help pro-government candidates. "I have directed the government to issue a draft law to make partial amendments to the electoral system, aimed at improving the voting mechanism to

preserve national unity and to strengthen the practice of democracy," the ruler said in a speech aired on state television.

Kuwait's constitutional court had issued a ruling that allowed for any necessary changes to be made to the country's electoral system, he said. He did not elaborate on what the proposed changes should be. Kuwaiti opposition politicians criticized the decision and said calls for boycotting the elections were growing.

"We have announced our position that if there was any meddling, there will be a boycott of the election, and what happened was meddling with the constitution of Kuwait," Hamad al-Matar, a former member of parliament, told Reuters after an opposition meeting.

"I believe there will be big reaction," he added. Faisal al-Mislem, another former MP, said: "There is no need for issuing any decree and we refuse to participate in the elections."

Dhari Al-Rujaib, a youth activist, said there were calls being issued for protests against the emir's decision. "The street is not happy with the decision," he said. Kuwait oil wealth and a generous welfare state have helped it avoid the "Arab Spring" protests that forced out leaders elsewhere in the region. But there have been regular demonstrations in the country since last year, stemming from a struggle between the government dominated by the ruling family and mainly Islamist and tribal lawmakers in parliament.

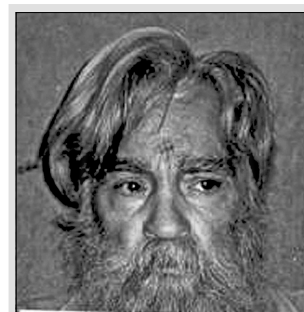
Tensions increased as Kuwaitis waited for the emir to fix a date for the election, which must be held within 60 days from the date of parliament's dissolution. Kuwaiti authorities arrested two opposition politicians on Thursday and interrogated a third after they made comments seen as criticizing the emir.

The former members of parliament spoke at an opposition-led rally of about 5,000 people on Monday where Kuwaitis later clashed with riot police close to

Kuwait

parliament.

The arrests have prompted protests in Kuwait, including one late on Friday, where some 1,000 people had gathered in the center of the capital to demand the release of the detainees. The events prompted the Al-Sabah family to issue a rare statement on Thursday calling for obedience to the emir. The Al-Sabah dynasty has ruled Kuwait for more than 250 years. The 83-year-old emir has led the country since 2006.—Reuters



CALIFORNIA
STATE PRISON
MANSON, C
B-33920
06/16/2011

Convicted mass murderer Charles Manson is shown in this handout picture from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation dated 16 June, 2011.

REUTERS

Los Angeles police explore Manson Family role in dozen cold cases

Crime

NEW YORK, 20 Oct — Detectives are looking at the possible role of the Manson Family in a dozen unsolved killings from four decades ago, and believe old audio tapes from a bankruptcy case hold a key to the cold cases, a police official said.

The so-called Manson Family cult, a collection of runaways and outcasts known for their high-profile spree of at least nine killings in 1969, was brought together by a charismatic ex-convict, Charles Manson.

The 12 unsolved killings police are looking into had "similar circumstances, the same time period" as those committed by Manson's followers, Los Angeles police spokesman Commander Andrew Smith said. "We think there's a chance that they may be related to the Manson Family," he added.

In 1969, Manson became one of the 20th century's most infamous U.S. criminals when he incited his mostly young, female followers to murder in what prosecutors said was part of a twisted plan to

incite a race war between whites and blacks.

Among the victims was actress Sharon Tate, the pregnant wife of filmmaker Roman Polanski, who was stabbed 16 times by members of the cult in the early morning hours of August 9, 1969. Manson, now 77, is serving a life sentence. If police can tie the Manson Family to any unsolved cases, it would confirm longstanding suspicions that they committed more killings.

The revelations about the number of unsolved cases investigators are pursuing comes amid a legal battle between the Los Angeles Police Department and an attorney for Manson follower Charles "Tex" Watson, who is serving a life prison sentence in California.

Los Angeles police, who have gone to court seeking to obtain eight hours of recorded discussions between Watson and his late attorney Bill Boyd, have disclosed few details on the cold cases, including the names of victims or dates of the killings.

Reuters

Families of slain UK soldiers win right to sue government

LONDON, 20 Oct — Relatives of four British soldiers killed in the war in Iraq won the right to sue the government for negligence, in a landmark appeal court ruling on Friday that could open the door for other claims.

Families of some of the soldiers who lost their lives in the 2003 US led invasion had said Britain sent them to the front line with inadequate equipment. Many of the early casualties were inflicted on troops travelling in lightly armoured Snatch Land Rover vehicles designed to confront rioters in Northern Ireland, but ineffective against insurgents' roadside bombs in Iraq.

The court said the British defence ministry had a duty of care towards its employees, including soldiers on the battlefield, and had to provide them with the right gear.

It dismissed the defence ministry's so-called "combat immunity" argument that

the government could not be held responsible for the decisions of commanders in the heat of battle.

"My clients are very pleased with the verdict," Shubhaa Srinivasan, a lawyer representing one of the families told Reuters. "Today's ruling is really not about second guessing the soldiers and decisions they make on the ground in the heat of battle... It's all about whether you're properly equipping troops to do what they're meant to do on the battlefield," she said.

The Appeals Court also upheld a June 2011 High Court ruling that said relatives of two soldiers could not claim for compensation on the grounds that the men's human rights had been violated.

Susan Smith, the mother of Phillip Hewett who was killed in Iraq in July 2005, said she was angered by that second ruling.

Reuters

UK

Leaders meet on Mali crisis but little progress made

Mali

BAMAKO DAKAR, 20 Oct — Regional leaders and international organizations met in Mali's capital Bamako on Friday to seek a response to the occupation of the north of the country by al-Qaeda-linked Islamists, but failed to resolve differences on how to tackle the growing security threat. Mali remains paralyzed by twin crises, with the leadership in Bamako still divided since a March coup that toppled the president and the rebel takeover of the north of the country.

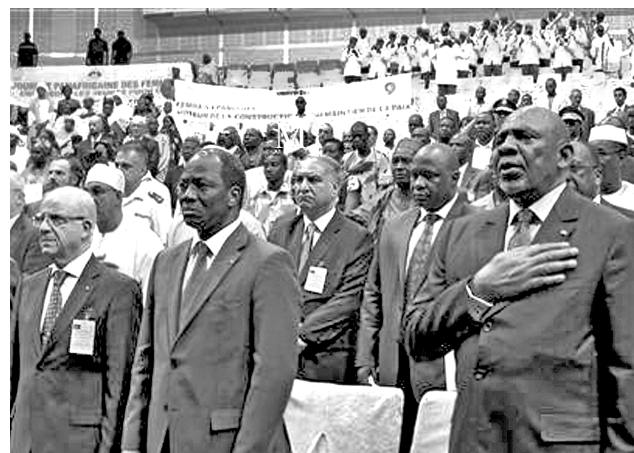
Regional and international efforts to deal with the situation, which has created a safe haven for Islamists and international criminal gangs, have been hampered by divisions over how to help. "The main challenge today is how to deal with the dangerous situation in the north of the country expeditiously," the African Union's new chairperson Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma told the

meeting. "This is a threat we cannot afford to take lightly, and...the danger it poses extends far beyond the African continent. The sooner we deal with it, the better."

In a document adopted during the talks involving Mali's west and north African neighbours, the African Union, the United Nations and the European Union, delegates called for

sanctions against terrorist networks and Malian rebels who refuse to break ties to them and join talks. The African Union and United Nations also announced plans to open permanent offices in Bamako.

But scant measurable headway was made towards harmonizing the positions of those calling for military action and others who prefer to give talks a chance.



Mali's Prime Minister Cheick Modibo Diarra, Burkina Faso's Minister of Foreign Affairs Djibril Bassole and Algeria's Foreign Minister Mourad Medelci stand at attention for the national anthem before the start of a high level international meeting in Bamako, on 19 Oct, 2012. — REUTERS

With six hostages held by the Islamists and fearful of an attack on home soil, former colonial power France is eager for military action. Some West African leaders who worry that Mali's conflict will spill over into their own largely fragile states also favor military action.

The United Nations Security Council last week gave African leaders 45 days to draw up a plan for military intervention to retake control of the north.

However diplomats say any such intervention is months away and there is still no agreement over whether an election should be held to replace Mali's caretaker government before a military operation takes place. Mali's Foreign Minister Tieman Hubert Coulibaly repeated the position of interim President Dioncounda Traore on Friday. "We are not willing to organize elections while the north of the country is occupied," he said. "We were very clear with our partners."

Reuters

Rebuilt Natmin firefighting vessel in trial



YANGON, 20 Oct—Natmin firefighting vessel rebuilt by Pyae Naing Thu Co with the modern technology took over 40 minutes trials at Nanthida Jetty in Seikkan Township at 3 pm on 16 October.

“Our company took responsibility to rebuild the vessel as a new style. It was

facilitated with advanced technology. Hydrants can be used for short and long ranges.

The vessel has capability to pull out the burning ships. The fire engine can put out the burning ships small and large with the use of water and foam.

After conducting tests for several times, our company will hand it over to Myanmar Port Authority. The vessel will use water from the river in putting out the fire,” said manager-in-charge Ko Thant Tun of the company.

Natmin Vessel was damaged in Cyclone Nargis in 2008.—*Myanma Alinn*

Sales of mobile phone worth K 200,000 in low demand

YANGON, 20 Oct—Sales of mobile phone worth K 200,000 is in low demand in the market, said a manager of handset shop on 18 October. “Mobile phones worth K 200,000 have been sold since April and it won the high demand. Due to the information that new type of mobile phone worth K 100,000 will be allowed, the demand of mobile phone worth K 200,000 declined. Some types of handsets are on sales through installment as part of efforts to raise sale revenues,” he said.

With regard to market situation, he expressed his opinion, “As SIM card can



be given free to handset buyer in some countries, the price of mobile phone may be down.”—*Myanma Alinn*

Pyay Ti Oo Education Foundation grants 14 awards

YANGON, 20 Oct—Stipends will be provided by Pyay Ti Oo Education Foundation to 14 outstanding students who will attend the University of Medicine for 2012-2013 academic year, said Academy Pyay Ti Oo.

“Our foundation plans to choose 10 scholarship winners this year. However, the number of winners is added with four more students due to donations of my colleague artistes.

In addition to 10 scholarship winners of the foundation, Academy Soe Myat Thuza, Academy Tun Eindra Bo, actor Phyo Ngwe

Soe and Chit Thu Wai donated cash to the fund for four more students,” the film star told *Myanma Alinn*.

The foundation helps needy students to attend the University of Medicine with scholarship awards. Moreover, the foundation continues provisions to the previous year’s scholarship winners.

The students wishing to secure scholarship awards from the foundation may submit applications to Sein Htay Film Industry on Bogyoke Aung San Street up to 30 October.

—*Myanma Alinn*

Snow Wonder Land presents three new programmes

YANGON, 20 Oct—Snow Wonder Land on Bahan 3rd Street in Bahan Township plans to present three new programmes to the visitors on 20 October, said Managing Director U Kyaw Khaing.

Chinese sculptors created the sculptural works in the past. For the

first programme, Myanmar sculptor U Kyaw Kyaw also created sculptures as part of Myanmar-Chinese cultural cooperation.

The second programme is a play for the children with the use of snow such as driving the car, skiing and throwing of snow.

Series of traffic accident occur in Dawei



DAWEI, 20 Oct—A Dagon Jeep driven by Maung Phyo Min Htaik, 21, of Kyaukhsin Village in Thayetchaung Township hit the lamp-post in front of Taw Win Inn in Dawei at midnight on 16 September.

Then, he bumped with a motorcycle that stopped in front of the shop of Daw Kyu Than near Ottagy Junction.

Dragging the motorcycle, the car hit the shop of Daw Kyu Than again. In the incident, Daw Kyu Than suffered from cutting off of her left toe.

A file of lawsuit was opened against Driver Maung Phyo Min Htaik at Dawei Township Court under section 338 of the Criminal Law.

—*Kyemon*

Myanmar chess players leave for Thailand

YANGON, 20 Oct—A four-member Myanmar chess team left here by air on 18 October to take part in the 3rd RBSE Polo Club Prajuab Cup International Chess Tournament to be held in Bangkok of Thailand from 18 to 24 October 2012.

They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by President of Myanmar Chess Federation U Maung Maung Lwin,

executives and relatives.

The chess team comprises players Nay Oo, Kyaw Tun (Ministry of Home Affairs), Khin Ko, Aung Myo Hlaing (Home Affairs Ministry) and Kyaw Lin Naing (Environmental Conservation and Forestry Ministry).

Myanmar selected player Win Zaw Tun (A&I) secured the first prize in the previous year’s tournament.—*MNA*



Motorcyclist falls under roller

MANDALAY, 20 Oct—A man riding a motorcycle from the junction of 72nd and Ngu Shwe Wah streets in Chanmyathazi Township turned to 72nd street at 10.30 am on 18 October.

The street was being placed with gravel for repaving works.

Unfortunately, the motorcyclist slipped on the gravel and fell under the roller. He died on the spot in the incident.—*Kyemon*

Myanmar, Finland hold economic talks

YANGON, 20 Oct—A total of 115 entrepreneurs from Finland held a discussion on investment and trade with responsible persons of Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce in the second week of October.

They focused on mutual cooperation in information and technological works, media and broadcasting, energy production, pump and paper industry, engineering consultation, manufacturing of heavy machinery, forest products, mining industry and construction tasks.

The entrepreneurs

of Finland are eager to participate in the current economy of Myanmar. The Finnish entrepreneurs are interested in Myanmar labour that is cheaper than that of other countries.

Likewise, Vice-Chairman Mr Masayuki Matsushita of Knsai Economic Foundation and Panasonic Corp of Osaka in Japan and Japanese entrepreneurs and UMFCFI renewed the cooperation agreement signed in 1996 and focused on one stop services and invitation to trainee for ASEAN Kankeiren Management Seminar.

—*Myanma Alinn*

District News

AMD ready to help farmers free of charge

KALAY, 20 Oct—Agricultural Mechanization Department would help plough of cultivation for farmers across the nation free of charge, said an official at the ceremony of free ploughing at the cold season crops land of farmer U Thiha in Kyigon Village-tract in Kalay Township on 18 October morning.

“The New Holland brand tractors provided by India under the India-Myanmar friendship programme were handed over to Kalay District through Sagaing Region Government. Under the management of heads of District and Township General Administration Departments, the tractors will be used in rural development and poverty alleviation tasks”, said

Kalay District Deputy Commissioner U Nyi Nyi Htwe.

“The farmers wishing to plough their farmland with the use of tractors may seek helps from the ward or village administrative offices or Agricultural Mechanization Department. They will not pay charge for tractor, but spend cost of fuel. Tractor consumes one gallon of fuel per acre in harrowing and two gallons per ploughing. They are to pay K 2500 per harrowing and K 5000 per ploughing. The payment will be funded for repairing of machine and poverty alleviation. The department is ready to serve the farmers anywhere,” explained Head of District Agricultural Mechanization Department U Kyaw Kyaw Oo.—*Myanma Alinn*

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 21 October, 2012

Vandalism

Vandalism is any deliberate damage done to someone else's property. It is easy to dismiss it as a minor offence, but it has a big impact on neighbourhoods. Vandalism—spitting betel quid in public areas, painting graffiti, spraying paint on others' properties, dumping rubbish, setting small fires, smashing windows, damaging buildings or other structures, scratching car paint, cutting trees without permission, placing glue into locks, tire slashing, leaving the water running, etc—can be seen in various forms more and more everywhere. If we delay our response, the vandalism will worsen.

One cause of vandalism in society is due to unemployment. Creating more job opportunities can help prevent vandalism. Besides, it is required to heighten public awareness of how consequences of vandalism have a big impact on neighbourhoods through media. Some articles, bylines, stories and cartoons should be one of the highlights of public service media, discouraging readers from these antisocial activities, promoting their sense of responsibility in the community and encouraging children and teenagers to do sports that can reduce their boredom and sense of alienation.

Vandalism may be perpetrated whenever the opportunity exists by children and young persons. Therefore, a great responsibility rests with parents to set good examples. Their active involvement is an answer to curb the growth of vandalism and maintain the beauty of our communities. Parents must realize the importance of monitoring their children's various stages of development as well as any changes in interests, friends and/or attitudes.

The best way to reduce the growth of vandalism is to continuously and repeatedly inform people that vandalism is costing too much, not only in terms of money but through danger to human lives when acts of vandalism went too far, or got out of control. So vandalism significantly affects individuals and the community. Being spent annually on cleaning up and repairing the vandalized damage, money of taxpayers can not be spent on things that can benefit the community.



Cartoon Maung Maung Hnyet

INTERVIEW

Farmers have the rights to sell, mortgage, exchange, lease, give and inherit farmlands

Here is the excerpt of interview with U Myint Swe, Director-General of Settlement and Land Records Department.

Q: What is the purpose of Farmland Law and Fallow Land, Vacant Land and Virgin Land Management Law?

A: Land reform, the most important part of reforming agricultural sector, has been initiated in successive eras. When AFPFL government was in office in the parliamentary democracy era, 1953 Farmland Nationalization Act was enacted. Farmlands from foreigners and national landlords who did not run the farm by themselves were confiscated. These lands were distributed to landless farmers. In 1963, Tenancy Law and Law Safeguarding Peasant Rights were enacted and the interests of the farmers were safeguarded. As these laws are not commensurate with the multiparty democracy and market economy, the new law was enacted in accord with 2008 constitution.

Q: How does that affect the old legislation?

A: The laws were signed by the President on 31-8-2012 and took effect the next day. It means the old laws were revoked.

Q: What are enshrined in the Farmland Law?

A: The most fundamental essence is the law guarantees the ownership of the farmland from generation to generation. The farmers will

have the rights to sell, mortgage, exchange, lease, give and inherit the farmland as per Section 9. They could firmly hold the ownership of the farmland from generation to generation as long as they abide by the rules. They will also have the rights to establish joint venture with investors.

Q: What are the most important facts in the

as regards sale, mortgage, exchange, grant and inheritance of farmlands, the farmers have the legal im-

munity to seek for decision of the respective court.



Myat Soe (Hlaing)

Farmland Law?

A: Farmers will have first to apply for accreditation certificate in accord with the law to enjoy the legal rights. Only when they have accreditation certificates, will they enjoy all the legal rights.

Q: How this certificate could be applied for?

A: The certificate must be applied at ward/village-tract administration office (ward/village-tract farmland management committee) where the farmland exists.

Q: Who and how the certificate will be issued?

A: The certificate will be issued by township farmland management committee with the agreement of district committee.

Q: Which action will be taken against the false applicants?

A: Strict actions are prescribed in Sub-rule (c) of Rule 8 to take legal actions against false applicants.

Q: What are the rights of a farmland owner?

A: Where there is conflict

Q: What is the provision for reimbursement when the farmland is confiscated?

A: Necessary negotiations will be made to reimburse the original owners of the farmland for confiscation of their farmlands without delay in the interest of the nation or the public.

Q: Which approaches will be adopted to settle farmland ownership disputes?

A: The ward/village-tract farmland management committee will hear and pass the decision over the disputes. Appeals could be lodged at township, district and region/state levels. The verdict of region/state committee is final.

Q: Are alluvial lands included in the farmland? Are there any specific provisions for alluvial lands?

A: The word "farmland" covers alluvial lands. Since these are not firm, the ownership varies each year. When there is an alluvial land arose, there are disputes over ownership. Chapter

(12) provides details about the ownership of alluvial lands. The township farmland management committee will designate ownership of alluvial lands.

Q: How will the awareness of the public and the farmers be boosted?

A: To enforce a law, it is important that the public including the farmers understand it and stick to it. Unknowing violation of a law is not permissible. The rights granted by the law should not be signed away as well. Seminars and trainings will be conducted to help all the officials who will enforce the laws and rules in practice digest the provisions. Multiplier courses will continue to be conducted at region/state and district/township levels. It is important that all the entire people including the peasants understand and abide by the Farmland Law that grants the rights including the ownership of farmlands from generation to generation.

Kyemon: 20-10-2012

Translation: HKA

Track & field referee course concludes

YANGON, 20 Oct—With the aim of turning out outstanding athletes, coaches and referees, the coaching and referee courses are opened one after another.

The track and field referee course No. 2/2012, jointly conducted by Myanmar Track & Field Federation and Defence Services Track and Field Subcommittee, concluded at Youth Training Centre in Thuwunna of Yangon Region on 15 October.

Director (Planning

and Research) U Mya Than Htaik of Ministry of Sports, Chairman of Yangon Command Track and Field Subcommittee Commanding Officer of No. 1 Vehicle Store Depot Lt-Col Tin Myint Thein made speeches. Secretary of the subcommittee Major Kyaw Kyaw Oo explained the purpose of training.

Lt-Col Tin Myint Thein presented prizes to the outstanding athletes.

The training course lasted from 5 to 15 October.

Myamma Alinn

MPT focuses on public convenience

YANGON, 20 Oct—A plan is under way to reduce the price of SIM cards for public convenience, disclosed Principal U Kyaw Soe of Telecommunication and Postal Training Centre of Myanma Posts and Telegraphs.

"At present, Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications reduces the price of SIM cards for convenient use of public. There is better potential for reduction of price. It is not true that if the designated number of SIM cards has been sold, the price

would be reduced. There is no decision to reduce price of SIM cards when the designated number of SIM cards has been sold. But, I don't know when the price will be reduced," he said.

He explained, "It is a rumour among the people that action will be taken against those who apply Pingo, Viber and Skype phones through Internet, and lines of telephone will be cut off. Actually, anyone does not give such remarks."

Kyemon

ARTICLE

A HELPING HAND

BY BA THAN

It is October in our land of Pagodas. October is the beginning of the open season. Monsoon, our regular benefactor has left ushering good weather, clear sunshine and the start of the tourist season. It is also the month of Thatingyut by Myanmar calendar auguring many significant activities. The four months of Buddhist Lent begin from Waso (July) to the end of the full moon day of Thatingyut (October) where venerable monks from the Order of the Sanghas after retreat in their respective monasteries are now free to move again. The rural population whose main occupation is agriculture now fold their farm implements and chattel, and await the ripening of the golden paddy for harvest which is not long in coming.

And most important of all is the end of the long wait where the young can begin their marriage ceremonies again. After a long spell of vacation, Cupid the spirited match maker with love-tipped arrows will be busy again to the delight of the lovers waiting matrimony. There are a variety of marriage ceremonies that prevail in our society. The simplest according to our local custom is for the prospective husband to enter the house of his wife-to-be, and hang his *longyi* on the bamboo pole or clothes hanger (*paso-tan-tin, a-kyin lin mayar*). This simple act, if not protested, is enough to signify that marriage is

consummated. Again, if the neighbours living in the 7-house perimeter east and west of the bride's house concur, it amounts to societal approval too. Conversely I wonder if it is also OK when the husband takes back his *longyi* from the hanger to mean it is all over? Can it be simple as that? Pardon me for my imagination running wild.

There are highly elaborate ceremonies, ritualized, tradition-bound which the highly sophisticated celebrate with glamour, pomp and pageantry. It commonly prevails in Mandalay, capital of the last reigning Myanmar kings and seat of Myanmar culture. In highly ritualized ceremonies it was presided by high caste Brahmins called *Ponnas* dressed in white traditional dress with multi-stranded holy threads slung across their shoulders. After the ceremony was over white conch shells were blown to herald the success of the colourful ceremony. They were the legacy of the Myanmar kings.

In Yangon the top choice for holding marriage and reception are the reputable five-star hotels and a string of lesser stars in the descending line of sophistry. In the cosmopolitan environment where pragmatism prevails over tradition, the pledge of marriage takes on the nature of civil contract presided by the judge of the court of judicature. For some philanthropic-

minded families, weddings and receptions are held in Dhamma reception halls, furbished to cater to the demands of the modern society. The proceeds and profits are channeled towards Dhamma charity, or welfare of the sick Sanghas, or towards the upkeep of the ageing wards of the Homes for the Aged.

The author living in Yangon was invited to many weddings and receptions quite frequently. Occasionally he and his *madame* were requested to conduct the rituals such as garlanding the jasmine flowers on the groom and bride, and also fix the wedding rings on their fingers. At times he has to act as master of ceremonies on weddings of relatives and friends. On one such occasion he was inextricably drawn into a tense melodrama in a totally unexpected highly tense situation encountered some time ago.

The author and his better-half were invited to attend a wedding reception at a three-star hotel in downtown. The bride was a distant relative. Thus the gathering exuded an informal and intimate atmosphere. It was ten in the morning. The guests were almost full and the ceremony was to start in 45 minutes. The recorded music droned tediously. Time for nuptial appearance had passed, yet no MC to conduct the ceremony and no sign of bride and groom and parents. Guests and

relatives became concerned, suspecting that something was amiss. The guests with other strings of engagement became fidgety. Sensing the gravity of the situation one enterprising teacher, also a distant relative hurried to the waiting room. The bride and groom were waiting for the call but someone forgot to engage an MC. Parents of the groom were nowhere to be seen. The bride was almost in tears. Sensing the impending disaster and loss of face, the teacher hurried to the stage to do what he could to save the situation.

Music ceased and guests were hushed into silence in anticipation for what was to come, all eyes riveted to the volunteer MC. Mustering all efforts to appear normal he spoke random preliminaries, stuttering and after a few minutes was at a loss for appropriate words to continue. Actually he was a guest like everyone attending the reception and the bride was his student. What he knew was almost nothing except that he was trying to save the situation with nothing in hand. In exasperation he looked around the audience for some elder relative, a savior to help conduct this ceremony with grace and dignity to a happy end. He saw the author and his face lit up with immense relief. By survival instinct without much forethought the MC invited him to the stage to preside over the ceremony. After introduction the teacher left

the stage gleefully.

Now the author was stuck. His predicament was also the same, because he knew almost nothing. But sadly there was no time to lose and he must act fast. He stood up hurriedly. Someone with presence of mind shoved an invitation card into his hands. It was a straw he could hold to save the distressed bride and groom. Now all eyes were focused on him as he walked steadily to the stage. Unlike the young teacher he had mellowed with experience and maturity through the years. He had seen much of the world and had confidence, only a little shaky at the unexpected turn of events. Extemporaneously, tactics and *modus operandi* were already charted out to cope with the emergency.

In a moment he was on stage. Without much ado he called upon the bride and groom to present themselves with parents and entourage to the stage and face the audience who had waited so patiently to honour them. The bridal music chimed with the shaky steps of the bride and groom. On stage the bride and groom stood cupped their hands in obeisance and sat down on their assigned settee.

Then the author lent a compassionate helping hand by conducting the ceremony. What he spoke was being drilled subconsciously repeatedly through many weddings and receptions he had attended and a few ceremonies he had conducted in a more orderly manner. In such critical

moment as this, it was a miracle everything could be recalled and fitted snugly in place. He delivered the prayers, words of advice, invocations in Pali, Suttas and Mantras, and blessings for long wedded life, good fortune and many children. How all came out flawlessly in proper sequence was the result of compassion, *cetana* and *metta* to bring the ceremony into a graceful end and save the newlyweds from loss of face. Then as *finale*, words of thanks to the guardian angels, parents, guests, caterers and *good heavens* it was over. Jubilant sound of music was heard again but never was the melody so sweet and soothing as the tension was broken for good.

The author was highly tense as he went through the ritualized process, not many errors or slips, bringing giggles from young members while *Madam* watched with abated breath. Now all could heave a long sigh of relief. Sound of clapping echoed through the reception hall, but for whom the author had not the faintest idea or did it matter at all? Faces were saved thanks to ingenuity of the alert teacher and a precious helping hand of the author. It was indeed no fiction but a true story.

Thatingyut is just days away and a flurry of marriage and receptions will come in seasonal pattern. This little episode will help bring smiles as the elderly author recounts his experience for the readers to enjoy and ponder as an eerie way of life !!!

two thirds of the way to Letkokkon, thanks to the donations of a philanthropist. Construction has already begun and within a year, travellers from Yangon can reach Letkokkon in about the same time it takes to go the Yangon International Airport from the city centre in heavy traffic. However, one does not need to wait to visit Letkokkon. The journey over water is available now and only takes around 2 hours from the Botataung jetty with plenty of scenic views along the way. When we left Letkokkon and just as when we came, there was a crowd of villagers waving us away and wishing as well. Spending a couple of days away from the suffocating hustle and bustle of Yangon, I left completely refreshed and recharged.

Yangon's nearest and newest eco-tourism resort launching shortly

The Village of Letkokkon, is a hidden gem known to only a few these days, although its only 30 miles from Yangon's Central Business District. Letkokkon once enjoyed a golden age and it was never short of visitors. This is not surprising given many of its natural beauties. Over the years, for some reason or another, it somehow slipped from money.

Today a team of entrepreneurs with a spirit for adventure and love for nature has decided to invest in Letkokkon and return it to its former glory. The team from Orchid Hotel and Natural Tours & Travel bringing with them some of the best minds in architecture and eco-design

with the help of enthusiastic and talented young locals are now working hand in hand to create a natural eco-tourism haven. And there is a lot to be excited about. Along the shores of Letkokkon, there is a variety of colourful plants. It's mangrove lined coast is also teaming with fresh fish and prawns. There is also an intriguing island, just a stone throw away from the shore line.

This adventurous team of entrepreneurs says they plan to build this new muddy water resort by responsibly using as much naturally available materials locally. The accommodation will be a mixture of chalets and luxury tents which will be environmentally friendly.

Visitors will have plenty to do including fishing in the rich mangroves, tracking or biking along the island in front or going for a stroll in the beautiful village full of warm and friendly locals who are also willing to help. I thoroughly enjoyed lying on the shore and watching the sunset and sunrise. Somehow the combination of the muddy river water mixing with the seawater

especially at sunset is a sight to behold. Although the resort will have to be built from scratch, I was told that the soft launch of this resort will be as early as 1 November this year.

We left for Letkokkon from Yangon at 7.00 am along with the resort's hospitality management trainees on the fast Orchid Speed boat and arrived at 9.15 am where we were greeted by the friendly villagers.

These trainees went through a careful selection process at the Orchid Hotel Yangon, but most of them have one thing in common, they are all from

Maung Maung (Yangon University)

the surrounding areas of Letkokkon. The MD of Orchid Group of Hotels U Htay Aung explains that it is the group's policy of ensuring the development of the local community.

US military vows new measures in Okinawa after suspected rape

WASHINGTON, 20 Oct — The US military said on Thursday it would soon announce new measures to “ensure responsible behaviour” by American troops on Japan’s southern island of Okinawa, after the suspected rape of a Japanese woman threatened to strain ties between the allies. The incident, which led to the arrests on Tuesday of two US servicemen, has thrown new scrutiny on the behaviour of the large contingent of American military troops on the island, located in the East China Sea close to mainland China.

Okinawa, occupied by the United States from 1945 to 1972, accounts for less than 1 percent of Japan’s total land but hosts three-quarters of the US military facilities in the country in

terms of land area. It also plays host to more than half the 47,000 American troops stationed in Japan. After the arrests, Japanese Defence Minister Satoshi Morimoto vowed to press the United States for measures for stricter discipline. Okinawa Governor Hirokazu Nakaima described the incident as “madness.”

Pentagon spokesman George Little said the US military was working closely with Japanese authorities investigating the incident and added in a statement, “We deeply regret any grief and trauma the victim may have endured.” We are also examining and will soon announce a package of measures to ensure responsible behaviour and to demonstrate our commitment to maintaining



US Ambassador to Japan John Roos (C) delivers a statement after a meeting with Japan’s Senior Vice Foreign Minister Shuji Kira (not in picture) at the Foreign Ministry in Tokyo, in this photo by Kyodo on 17 Oct, 2012. — REUTERS

positive relationships with the local communities that host our forces,” Little said. The Pentagon declined to elaborate on the measures being developed.

Friction over US bases on Okinawa intensified after the 1995 gang rape of a 12-year-old Japanese schoolgirl by three US servicemen. The case sparked widespread protests by Okinawans,

who had long resented the American presence due to crime, noise and deadly accidents. Outrage over the latest case of suspected rape comes at a time when public opinion in Okinawa is at odds with Tokyo for allowing the US deployment of Osprey hybrid aircraft on the island despite lingering Japanese concerns about their safety. — Reuters

Newsweek magazine to end print edition, go all-digital

WASHINGTON, 20 Oct — *Newsweek*, the New York-based and internationally distributed news magazine, announced on Thursday it would end its print publication and transition to an all-digital format in early 2013. Tina Brown, the editor-in-chief and Baba Shetty, the CEO of the *Daily Beast* and *Newsweek* made the announcement through a blog post on the website *The Daily Beast*, which merged with the *Newsweek* in 2010.

The last print edition in the United States will be the 31 December issue, right before the well-known magazine turns 80 years old. *Newsweek Global*, as the all-digital publication will be named, will be a

“single, worldwide edition targeted for a highly mobile, opinion-leading audience” who want to learn about world events. “We are transitioning *Newsweek*, not saying goodbye to it,” wrote the announcement, stressing the decision was not about the quality of the brand, but about “the challenging economics of print publishing and distribution.”

“In our judgement, we have reached a tipping point at which we can most efficiently and effectively reach our readers in all-digital format,” said Brown and Shetty.

Since the merger, both the *Daily Beast* and *Newsweek* have demonstrated explosive online growth in the process. The *Daily Beast* now attracts more than 15 million unique visitors a month, increasing 70 percent in the past year alone.

Xinhua

London sanitation show aims to make “poo” hot topic

UK

LONDON, 20 Oct — Human defecation remains a taboo subject, despite the fact that 2.5 billion people lack toilets, causing a global health crisis that kills more than a million children each year. The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) hopes a new exhibition opening on Thursday will make sanitation easier to discuss. The show is part of its efforts to help fight diseases causing diarrhoea, which kill more children than malaria, HIV/AIDS and measles combined.

“People don’t talk about poo enough, and if we don’t talk about poo, how are we going to solve the problem of diarrhoeal diseases?” asked Val Curtis, director of the LSHTM’s Hygiene Centre. “We want to make shit sexy — make talking about shit possible,” Curtis told AlertNet, a humanitarian news service run by the Thomson Reuters Foundation, adding that proper handwashing with soap could prevent 600,000 deaths a year from diseases like diarrhoea and respiratory

infections. “You’ve got to know your enemy and look your enemy in the face. Some people say it’s not acceptable for academics to go around talking about shit, but it’s not acceptable for 600,000 children to be dying unnecessarily because we don’t talk about shit,” she said. The month-long exhibition, which includes a selection of toilet designs, scientific tools for the study of faeces and a small golden poo sculpture seated on a red cushion, is timed to coincide with Global Handwashing Day on 15 October and World Toilet Day on 19 November. The school expects at least 4,000 people to see the show.

The poo sculpture is the model for The Golden Poo Award 2012 — the Oscar of the sanitation sector, organized by PooP Creative Ltd and the London Short Film Festival. A film titled “Men, Loos and Number Twos” won the “Number One Award”, and another short film, “Pushing4Change”, won the “Number Two Award”.

Reuters

Costa Rica’s San Jose airport reopens after plane runway skid

SAN JOSE, 20 Oct — Costa Rica’s main international airport reopened on Thursday after shutting down for two hours when the tires of a plane burst upon landing, sending it skidding along the runway.

The capital’s Juan Santamaria International Airport, the biggest passenger hub for the popular tourist destination, resumed operations shortly after the plane was removed from the runway at about 6 pm local time, said Maria Amalia Revelo, commercial director for the company that manages the airport.

The plane, a Taca Airlines Airbus 321, carried

146 passengers and none were injured, said national fire chief Hector Chaves. The flight originated in El Salvador. The airport closure was ordered after the plane skidded to a halt and blocked a runway.

Authorities said an investigation into the cause of the incident was under way. Rain fell all afternoon at the airport. As a result of the closure, 11 Taca flights were rerouted to airports in Panama, El Salvador and Guatemala. In 2011, the airport handled 3.2 million passengers, making it Central America’s third busiest, said Revelo.

Reuters



A customer views a mobile phone with the new Windows 7 operating system after its arrival in British shops, in central London on 21 October.

REUTERS

Gunman commits suicide after killing three at Florida beauty salon

Crime

CASSELBERRY, FLORIDA, 20 Oct — A gunman opened fire at a central Florida beauty salon on Thursday, killing three women and wounding another before fleeing and committing suicide at a nearby house, police said.

The gunman walked into the salon and shot four women at the Las Dominicanas M & M Salon in Casselberry, Florida, an Orlando suburb. The wounded woman, a stylist at the beauty shop, was being treated at a local hospital, Casselberry Police spokeswoman Sara Brady said. Police identified the

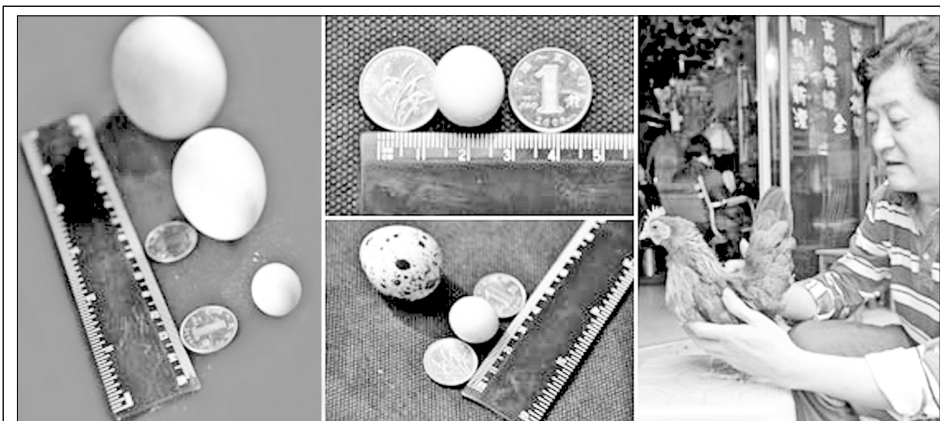
shooter as 36-year-old Bradford Baumet, who was served on 9 October with a domestic violence injunction and was scheduled to appear in court on Thursday.

The woman who obtained the restraining order was Marcia Santiago, the wounded stylist, Brady said. It was not immediately clear what the relationship between Baumet and Santiago was, she said. Police said at least eight people were inside the salon at the time of the shooting. Two people ran safely out the front door. One woman escaped by hiding in

a bathroom and another ran out the back door, Brady said.

Two distraught women standing outside the beauty salon who described themselves as relatives of the shooter said the gunman was mentally unstable, according to a video posted on the website of the Orlando Sentinel. The women said they had recently urged Santiago to take out a restraining order against him. “My cousin has been having problems. He’s mentally not there,” the unidentified woman said on the video.

Reuters



An ornamental hen gave birth to an egg that is 2 centimeters long on 15 Oct, 2012. The egg weighs 2.58 grams and it is smaller than a coin of 1 Jiao. — XINHUA

Chinese artworks on display in Japan's

Culture

Nagasaki

OSAKA, 20 Oct — An exhibition featuring artworks from China's Fujian Museum is being held at a museum in Nagasaki City, southwestern Japan, *Kyodo News* reported on Friday.

Artworks on display at the Nagasaki Museum of History and Culture include a Fujian-made bowl that was imported to Japan and a statue of a Chinese goddess of the sea. Fujian and Nagasaki have a long

history of exchanges. Ties between the two dated back to ancient times when Japan sent its emissaries to China in the days of the Tang dynasty to learn about advanced Chinese technology and scholarship, the report said.

The art show, which will run through 30 November, is being held at a time when relations between China and Japan remain strained following the Japanese government's illegal buying

of China's Diaoyu Island and its affiliated islands in the East China Sea.

"We want visitors to learn that the two countries' cultures have been enriched through bilateral exchanges, particularly at a time like this when Japan-China relations are on the rocks," the report quoted Koichiro Fukase, a senior researcher at the Nagasaki museum, as saying.

Xinhua



People visit the 19th Zhejiang Real Estate Expo in Hangzhou, capital of east China's Zhejiang Province, on 19 Oct, 2012. Seventy-six enterprises displayed a total of 126 real estate projects at the expo that kicked off on Friday.— XINHUA

Russia to launch five communication satellites next year

Russia

MOSCOW, 20 Oct — Russia is set to launch five communication satellites in 2013, their producer's chief designer said on Friday. "The first in line is *Express-AM5*. We will be ready to launch it in the second quarter of 2013," Nikolai Testoyedov, head of the Informational

Satellite Systems company, told the *Interfax* news agency. *Express-AM5* will carry a Canadian-made telecommunications device, said Testoyedov, whose company is based in Krasnoyarsk region in Siberia.

The *Express-AM6* satellites will also be ready at

that time, he said, adding that financing for the launches has been arriving as scheduled. *Express-AM5* and *Express-AM6* are designed for providing Russian territory with digital radio and TV broadcasting as well as for the government's communications needs.—*Xinhua*

Russia tests Topol intercontinental missile

MOSCOW, 20 Oct — Russian Strategic and Space Forces successfully tested an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) *Topol*, Russian Defence Ministry said on Friday. "The aims of the test were to confirm stability of the basic technical parameters of the missiles of that class and to estimate possibility of their service life extension to 25 years," the ministry's spokesman Vadim Koval told local media.

The service life of *Topol* was initially 10 years, later it was extended to 15 years. The Kremlin ordered to keep these missiles on active service for 25 years. This allows Russian armed forces to replace the aging missiles

with the new generation's *Yars* gradually with little additional funding. *Topol RS-12M* (SS-25 "Sickle" by NATO classification) was launched from Plesetsk space centre in northern Russia.

The missile's warhead hit the target on Kamchatka Peninsula in the Far East. *Topol* ICBM is the principal 3-stage missile mobile system of the Russian Strategic Forces with the range over 10,000 km. Russia by the end of 2010 had over 170 missiles of this type on duty. Now they are expected to stay on service until 2019, according to the Commander of the Strategic Forces Col Gen Sergei Karakayev.

Xinhua

Cold front to drop temperatures in north China

China

China

BEIJING, 20 Oct — China's meteorological authorities on Saturday forecast strong winds and temperature drops in most regions in the north due to a sweeping cold front.

On Saturday and Sunday, some areas in southern Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, north China as well as regions along the Yellow and Huai rivers will experience temperature drops of 6 to 8 degrees Celsius, the National Meteorological Centre (NMC) said on its website.

Certain parts in Qinghai, Inner Mongolia, Gansu, Ningxia and Shaanxi will see temperature slump by as much as 10 degrees Celsius, the NMC said, adding most above-mentioned regions will be hit by winds scaling at level 4 to 6.

The NMC also forecast increasing rainfalls and snows in east and central China. Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, Jilin and Heilongjiang are likely to receive heavy snows or blizzards over the coming three days, the NMC added.

Xinhua



An e-tricycle is charged in metropolitan Manila in September 2012. The Asian Development Bank is providing a \$300 million loan to the Philippine government for the delivery of 100,000 e-tricycles by 2016, aimed at reducing greenhouse gases, boosting drivers' income and stimulating local production of e-vehicle motors.

KYODO NEWS

Crime

Six men stabbed at Hakata train station in Fukuoka Pref, suspect held

FUKUOKA, 20 Oct — Six men were stabbed at JR Hakata Station in Fukuoka city early Saturday morning, with five of them taken to hospital with injuries that did not appear to be life-threatening, firefighters said.

Fukuoka prefectural police said they arrested the man who they believe to be the assailant, Kimitaka Nakano, 26, who is from the city. He is suspected of injuring a passerby with a kitchen knife with a 17-centimetre blade and violating the Swords and Firearms Control Law.

The police believe Nakano, who described himself as unemployed, did not know any of the victims. They quoted the man as saying he "wanted to stab people."

Kyodo News

Two people die in fighting between rival rebel groups in S Philippines

Philippines

MANILA, 20 Oct — At least two people died in a recent clash between the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and its breakaway group Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Movement (BIFM) in a remote area in Southern Philippines, military said on Saturday.

Major General Rey Ardo, commander of the Army's 6th Infantry Division, said the fighting erupted in Mamasapano town, Maguindanao Province on last Thursday, several days after the MILF signed a framework agreement with the government.

However, Ardo sought to downplay the fighting, saying it was merely caused by a long-standing clan war

between some members of the two sides. "Those groups have standing clan war... they are into conflict long before," said Ardo, adding that the fighting has nothing to do with the framework agreement signed last Monday.

"We are monitoring the situation in case it (conflict) would escalate and cause more evacuation," he added. MILF, the country's largest rebel group which has been pushing for an independent Islamic state in Mindanao, signed a peace framework agreement with the Philippine government on 15 October. BIFM, which belonged to MILF, broke away from the group in 2010.

Xinhua



An actress plays a porcelain Erhu, Chinese traditional musical instrument, during the 2012 China Jingdezhen International Ceramic Fair, in Jingdezhen City, east China's Jiangxi Province, on 18 Oct, 2012. Many kinds of porcelain musical instruments were displayed during the five-day event which kicked off on Thursday.

XINHUA

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV BIENDONG TRADER VOY NO (1242)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BIENDONG TRADER VOY NO (1242) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.10.2012 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 CHINA SHIPPING (MALAY-
SIA) AGENCY SDN BHD

British engineers create petrol from air and water

LONDON, 20 Oct — A small British company has developed a way to create petrol from air and water, technology it hopes may one day contribute to large-scale production of green fuels. Engineers at Air Fuel Synthesis (AFS) in Teeside, northern England, say they have produced 5 litres of synthetic petrol over a period of three months.

The technique involves extracting carbon dioxide from air and hydrogen from water, and combining them in a reactor with a catalyst to make methanol.

The methanol is then converted into petrol. By using renewable energy to power the process, it is possible to create carbon-neutral fuel that can be used in an identical way to standard petrol, scientists behind the technology say.

"It's actually cleaner because it's synthetic," Peter Harrison, chief executive officer of AFS, said in an interview.

"You just make what you need to make in terms of the contents of it, so it

doesn't contain what might be seen as pollutants, like sulphur," he said.

The work is part of a two-year project that has so far cost around 1 million pounds (\$1.6 million).

The green petrol will not appear on forecourts any time soon, though. "We can't make (the petrol) at pump prices, but we will do eventually," Harrison said. "All we need is renewable energy to make it, and so when oil becomes a problem we will be able to make a contribution to keep cars moving or to keep aeroplanes moving."

AFS said it was confident the technology could be scaled up to refinery size in the future.

Each of the processes that go into making the fuel already take place separately on an industrial scale. For now, however, AFS plans to build a commercial plant in the next two years that will produce around 1,200 litres a day of specialist fuels for the motorsports sector, Harrison said.

Reuters

Star Trek fans tie the knot at "Klingon wedding"

LONDON, 20 Oct — One couple has boldly gone where no other has gone before by tying the knot in Britain's first Klingon wedding ceremony at a Star Trek convention to celebrate the much-loved TV series in London on Friday. The couple, 23-year-old Jossie Sockertopp and 29-year-old Sonnie Gustavsson, came from their native Sweden to marry at the "Destination Star Trek London" event, which will see 17,000 "trekkies" flock to London's ExCel centre this weekend.

The pair, who met four years ago at the retirement home where they both work, were inspired to hold the ceremony after watching an episode of "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine", in which Klingon character Worf marries science officer Jadzia Dax in a traditional Klingon ceremony. "We saw the clip from the series...and we thought it was very romantic about beating hearts and a battle for each other. We really liked it, that's why we want to do this," Sockertopp

said.

It took around three months to plan the event, which was Britain's first wedding ceremony to contain blessings in Klingon, the guttural-sounding language spoken by the Star Trek

stringy black manes completed the look.

Three bangs of a gong ushered the bride and groom to an altar adorned with decorative screens and a throne made from animal bone and hide. The celebrant,

sounded similar to the Welsh language.

It was the second wedding in two days for the couple, who had a legal ceremony at a registry office in Sweden on Thursday. "The legal part is done, this is just a fun ceremony," Sockertopp said. Both weddings had been kept a secret from their families until a few days before the newlyweds jetted to London. None of their relatives attended the Star Trek-themed nuptials.

"Mum didn't talk to me for three days and my father wonders if there is something contagious about weddings as my big sister got married in secret last week.

It must be something in the gene pool," Gustavsson said. The newlyweds will spend their honeymoon at the convention, which sees all five captains from the Star Trek TV series appear on stage together for the first time. The gathering is the first major Star Trek live event in Britain, for more than a decade.

Reuters



Sonnie Gustavsson (L) and Jossie Sockertopp from Sweden pose with their wedding cake after getting married in a Klingon wedding ceremony at the "Destination Star Trek London" convention in London on 19 Oct, 2012. — REUTERS

characters of the same name. The bride eschewed the traditional human white dress for a floor-length red robe with a diamante headdress, matching her husband-to-be.

Prosthetic foreheads with deep wrinkles and

Peter Wyllie, conducted the wedding ceremony and included some phrases in Klingon. "That was a bit of a challenge and I hope I got some of the sounds right. I had it written phonetically, so that made it a little easier," he said, adding that it

Threatened species listing for polar bears contested in US

WASHINGTON, 20 Oct — Polar bears' designation as a threatened species was challenged in a US appeals court on Friday, with a lawyer for Alaska and other parties arguing that regulators had failed to back up the listing.

Alaska and other plaintiffs that include hunters and the California Cattlemen's Association are appealing a federal court ruling last year that upheld the Interior Department's 2008 designation of the bears as threatened because their icy habitat is melting away.

Murray Feldman, a lawyer for Alaska and other appellants, told the US Court of Appeals for the

District of Columbia that the government had failed to show how the big white bears likely would be nearing extinction at the middle of this century.

The department's decision on the Arctic mammals was "arbitrary and capricious" since it was based on flawed models, Feldman said in oral arguments before a three-judge panel.

Katherine Hazard, a lawyer for the department's Fish and Wildlife Service, said that the designation relied on decades of research and long-term trends underpinned it.

"The agency needs to make a determination based on the best available science,

which the agency did here," she said. A designation that a species is threatened means that it is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future in all or a significant part of its range.

Bruce Woods, a Fish and Wildlife spokesman,

mid-September, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency reported this month.

A decision by the appeals court is not expected for months. Alaska and oil companies have argued that Endangered Species Act protections for polar bears



A polar bear swims underwater at the St-Felicien Wildlife Zoo in St-Felicien, Quebec, in this 31 Oct, 2011 file photo. — REUTERS

said the listing drew more attention to the bears' plight and also triggered funding for programmes including patrols to limit contact with humans and a recovery plan for the bears. Arctic sea ice shrank to a record low of 1.32 million square miles (3.41 million square km) by

diminish opportunities for Alaska energy development.

The state has said in its appeals court filing that bears have survived previous warming periods and most populations have grown or remained stable despite shrinkage of ice.

Reuters

Bank of Scotland fined 4.2 million pounds for mortgage errors

LONDON, 20 Oct — Britain's financial regulator has fined Bank of Scotland (BoS) 4.2 million pounds for failures in its systems which meant it held inaccurate mortgage records for 250,000 of its customers. The Financial Services Authority (FSA) said on Friday that BoS, now part of Lloyds Banking Group, relied on incorrect records for considerable periods of time between 2004 and 2011.

"These mistakes stemmed from the fact that Bank of Scotland had an



A man is seen behind the entrance door of the offices of the Financial Services Authority (FSA) in Canary Wharf, London, on 19 Nov, 2010.

REUTERS

inadequate mortgage records system meaning they could not identify which of those 250,000 customers were

subject to a cap on their standard variable rate," said Tracy McDermott, FSA director of enforcement and

financial crime. The FSA said that, while monitoring a consumer website, it found a number of customers complaining they had been wrongly excluded from having a cap on their standard variable mortgage rate and had not received subsequent goodwill payments. The problem was compounded when more than 22,000 mortgage holders who should not have been included in the programme were mistakenly awarded goodwill payments totalling 20.4 million pounds.

Reuters

ENTERTAINMENT

Taylor Swift paints love "Red" in new albums

NEW YORK, 20 Oct—Country-pop star Taylor Swift has won over a legion of devoted fans in the past six years with her raw, honest lyrics of romance and heartbreak.

Now, at the grand age of 22, the five-time Grammy winner is says her new record "Red," to be released on Monday, "the most adventurous album I've ever made." "Red" is really kind of diary entries of the last two years of my life," Swift told Reuters in a telephone interview.

"There were beginnings and ends and there were ups and downs, and lessons that I learned and then had to learn all over again the exact same way ... the ups and downs of the whole experience of falling in love and being let down and letting go and starting over," she said.

"Red," Swift's follow-up to her 2010 best-seller "Speak Now," sees the singer-songwriter collaborate with the likes of British singer Ed Sheeran and pop music producer Max Martin. The catchy pop-infused lead single "We Are Never Ever Getting Back

Together" was an instant hit when it was released in September, becoming Billboard's most-downloaded first week digital single.

And like many of



Taylor Swift

Swift's other songs, it had fans guessing over which of her many brief but high-profile romances she was referring to. John Mayer? Joe Jonas? Taylor Lautner? Jake Gyllenhaal? Swift isn't telling.

"It helps me to know that 90 percent of what those little blog posts and articles say isn't true at all," said Swift, who is currently dating Conor Kennedy, 18, the son of Robert

F Kennedy Jr. "The one bit of privacy that I have is knowing that I know who inspired those songs and I don't tell anyone. "For me, keeping my private life

private and only sharing it with people through my music allows me to have that connection with my fans and not shut them out of anything. But it allows me to also have something that's just mine." The singer has dealt with her fair share of critics expounding on everything from her music to her personal life.

Although she used her Grammy-winning song "Mean" to send them a

message, Swift claims she doesn't pay much attention to what people say.

"I don't really read anything so I don't know what's being said, which kind of allows me to make music from a pure place of just making the music that I love, Swift said. "People have been saying I was too pop since my first album so I'm used to that."

Along with music, Swift has become a branding powerhouse, with a line of lucrative sponsorship deals. She was named the highest-earning celebrity under 30 this year by Forbes magazine, which estimated her 2011 earnings to be \$57 million.

Despite her superstar status, the singer is keen to keep herself grounded, crediting her friends for providing her with "some semblance of a normal life." "I got to understanding how much I need my friends and how much I need to call them when I'm not around them ... because it turns out I am the kind of person that needs to run everything by my friends no matter what," Swift said with a laugh.

Reuters

Justin Timberlake, Jessica Biel marry in Italy

NEW YORK, 20 Oct—Hollywood couple Justin Timberlake and Jessica Biel have married in southern Italy, People magazine said on Friday.

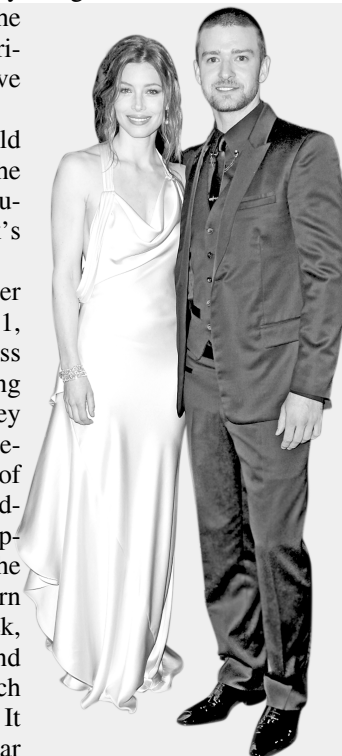
"It's great to be married, the ceremony was beautiful and it was so special to be surrounded by our family and friends," the couple told the US celebrity magazine in an exclusive statement.

People said it would carry full details of the wedding, including exclusive photos, in next week's edition.

"Sexy Back" singer and actor Timberlake, 31, and "Total Recall" actress Biel, 30, have been dating on and off since 2007. They announced their engagement at the beginning of 2012, and carefully shielded the details of their nuptials from the public. The pair have been in southern Italy for much of the week, partying with friends and wedding guests on a beach before exchanging vows. It was not immediately clear on which day the ceremony took place. Timberlake has

previously had high-profile relationships with pop singer Britney Spears and actress Cameron Diaz.

Tennessee native Timberlake, who rose to fame in the boy band N'Sync, forged a successful solo music career before moving into films.—Reuters



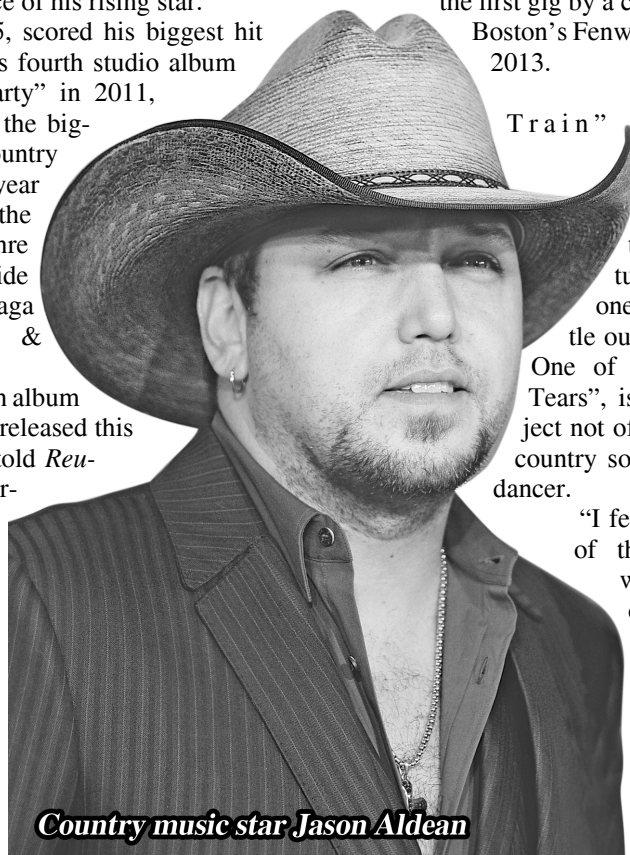
Justin Timberlake and Jessica Biel

After the party, Jason Aldean rides "Night Train" for success

NEW YORK, 20 Oct—After kicking up a storm with the success of "My Kinda Party", country music singer Jason Aldean is feeling the pressure for "Night Train" to keep up the pace of his rising star.

Aldean, 35, scored his biggest hit to date with his fourth studio album "My Kinda Party" in 2011, which became the biggest-selling country album of the year and also hit the top five all-genre rating alongside Adele, Lady Gaga and Mumford & Sons.

For his fifth album "Night Train", released this week, Aldean told Reuters in an interview he was aware of high expectations surrounding the follow-up record. "I tried not to add any more pressure to myself," Aldean said. "I feel like what's put us



Country music star Jason Aldean

in this position is me doing the things I always have - trusting my instinct to find the best songs." Aldean said the album's title track "Night Train" was a perfect description of his career right now. "The train is moving, and it's moving at a rapid pace."

The new album has so far been well

received, with lead single "Take a Little Ride" becoming the biggest country music digital debut by a male artist in July.

It helped Aldean secure what will be the first gig by a country artist at Boston's Fenway Park in July 2013.

"Night Train" features 15 songs that range from what Aldean terms his core tunes to the ones that are a little outside the lines. One of those, "Black Tears", is about a subject not often found in a country song - an exotic dancer.

"I feel like it's one of the most well written songs on the record, and it's probably one of the coolest sounding tracks we've ever cut on any album, dark and mysterious but real."

One of Aldean's most personal songs on the album is "Wheels Rollin'", written specifically for him by Nashville songwriters Neil Thrasher, Wendell Mobley and Hillary Lindsey.

Reuters

Saif, Kareena to perform at People's Choice Awards



Saif Ali Khan

MUMBAI, 20 Oct — Newly wed couple Saif Ali Khan and Kareena Kapoor are set to perform at the India's own version of People's Choice Awards (PCA).

This will be the couple's first live performance after their marriage, which took place on Oct 16 in Mumbai, followed by a grand reception in Delhi last night.

The awards, which will be held on October 27, will also witness performances by dancing diva Madhuri Dixit, Parineeti Chopra and Priyanka Chopra.—PTI News

Tom Hanks slips from nice guy rep with a Big-worthy swear

WASHINGTON, 20 Oct—Tom Hanks, the "Big" star often cited for his family-friendly appeal, may have put a dent in his G-rated reputation on Friday when he uttered a particularly grown-up word on ABC's "Good Morning America."

Hanks appeared on the show to promote his coming science fiction/philosophical movie "Cloud Atlas" when anchor Elizabeth Vargas coaxed him into speaking a few lines in the voice of his character in the film.

Hanks, whose credits also include "Forrest Gump," "Sleepless in Seattle" and the "Toy Story" series, initially balked at the suggestion because his character in the new movie speaks in expletive-riddled sentences.

Vargas then suggested he just speak in the accent of his character, eccentric physician Henry Goose. Several seconds into the impersonation, out came the F-bomb.

"Oy, oy, I want people to buy me book ... me fucking book," Hanks said,



Actor Tom Hanks

instantly realizing his gaffe and throwing his hand over his mouth.

"We are so sorry, uh, Good Morning America," a visibly flushed Vargas said straight away. Hanks also immediately apologized.

"Man, oh man," Hanks said. "I'm so sorry. I slipped into a brand of acting."

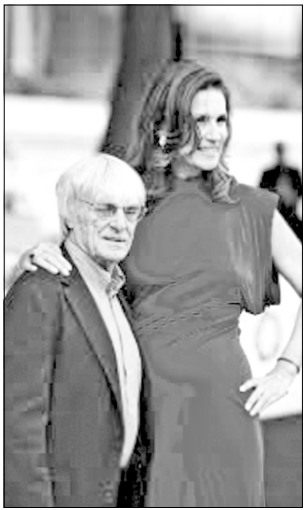
"I have never done that before," he said. "I would apologize to the kids in America watching this right now."

"And let me say that next time I am on the show there will be a 7-second delay," Hanks said.

Reuters

New Jersey race to be postponed :

Motor Racing



Formula One commercial supremo Bernie Ecclestone is pictured in this undated photo

NEW YORK, 20 Oct—Next year's inaugural Grand Prix of America in New Jersey will be postponed to 2014 because local organizers need more time to prepare, race organizers said on Friday.

"They've run out of time," Formula One supremo Bernie Ecclestone told Reuters. "There's all sorts of things...and they didn't quite think it all through. They've had a wake-up call but the wake-up call came too late.

organizers

"They couldn't get everything ready in time," added the 81-year-old. "That's the bottom line."

Organizers said the plan now was for a race in 2014, when the Russian Black Sea resort of Sochi is also due to make its debut on the calendar after that year's Winter Olympics there.

The waterfront Grand Prix of America, with the New York skyline as a backdrop, had been penciled in for June 16 next year with an asterisk against it.

It would have followed a weekend after the Canadian Grand Prix in Montreal as a North American double-header.

Ecclestone had raised doubts about the Jersey race in September when he said organizers had not complied with the terms and conditions of the contract, which he added had subsequently lapsed.

Organizers issued a statement on Friday saying construction issues included needing additional time for the development of facilities along the Hudson Riverfront and for finishing the second

pits and paddock garage on the site. "We are going to be racing at Port Imperial, unfortunately just not as soon as we hoped and expected," said promoter Leo Hindery, Jr. "We remain 100 percent committed to the Grand Prix of America at Port Imperial."

The New Jersey race would have given the United States a second round of the championship after this season's inaugural grand prix at the new Circuit of the Americas in Austin, Texas, next month.

Formula One has not raced in the United States since 2007, when the U.S. Grand Prix was held at Indianapolis, but teams are eager to return to a country that is a key market for sponsors and car manufacturers but one that the sport has found hard to crack over the years.

When the 10-year-deal for New Jersey was agreed a year ago, state governor Chris Christie said the three-day race weekend was likely to attract upwards of 100,000 people a day with a significant economic impact.

Reuters

Hart resigns as Canada coach following World Cup exit

Soccer

OTTAWA, 20 Oct—Two days after Canada was eliminated from the 2014 World Cup CONCACAF qualifying zone, Stephen Hart has resigned as the head coach, said Canadian Soccer Association on Thursday.

Victor Montagliani, president of the CSA, confirmed that Hart had quit.

Canada, who needed a tie or win to advance to next year's six-nation finals in North and Central America and the Caribbean, lost 8-1 to Honduras on Tuesday.

The seven-goal loss was its largest margin since an 8-0 defeat at Mexico in 1993.

Hartan, who had an interim stint in 2006-07 and was hired in December 2009, managed Canada to a 20-15-10 record.

Reuters



Stephen Hart

Former Fenerbahce playmaker Alex signs two-year deal with Coritiba

RIO DE JANEIRO, 20 Oct—Brazilian top-flight club Coritiba has confirmed the signing of former Fenerbahce playmaker Alex on a two-year contract.

The 35-year-old was officially presented to the club's fans on Thursday

afternoon, just hours after the club announced his arrival on a free transfer from the Turkish club. "I always said that I would come back one day and here I am," said Alex, who began his professional career with Coritiba in 1995.

"In my opinion Coritiba

is not far from the top teams in the competition. In terms of administration, it is very well run. I am proud to be a part of this club."

After leaving Coritiba in 1997 Alex moved to Palmeiras before stints at Flamengo, Cruzeiro and Italy's Parma.

Xinhua

Di Matteo refuses to confirm Terry's captaincy

Soccer

captaincy



Roberto Di Matteo

LONDON, 20 Oct—Chelsea manager Roberto Di Matteo refused to confirm whether John Terry would remain as club captain, with his four-match domestic ban for racially abusing Anton Ferdinand due to start with Saturday's game against Tottenham Hotspur.

Terry was banned for four matches and fined 220,000 pounds (\$354,900) this month after an independent Football Association (FA) commission found him guilty of abusing Ferdinand last year.

He had until Thursday to appeal but instead issued an apology for the insult saying

he was accepting the ban, which applies to domestic games only.

Chelsea said on Thursday that they had taken disciplinary action against the defender but Di Matteo would not elaborate on Friday at a tense news conference at the club's training ground at Cobham, south of London.

"We do not discuss publicly the disciplinary matters we take against our players. They remain confidential. You will have to wait and see," Di Matteo told reporters when asked if Terry would remain as captain.

"They are internal

matters, the action we take against our players, and we are not going to discuss it."

Although he is banned from domestic matches, Terry can play in the Champions League. Asked if he would captain the side against Shakhtar Donetsk in Ukraine next week, Di Matteo said: "You will have to wait until Tuesday."

GENERAL APOLOGY

Although Terry did not apologise directly to Ferdinand in his statement on Thursday, Di Matteo said the club backed his apology.

"I think he has apologised generally to everyone including the Ferdinand family," said Di Matteo.

"I don't think it was a matter of not apologising directly but it's an apology for the language he used in the game. He realises it was inappropriate to do so and he has been banned and fined by the FA for that."

This weekend marks the first anniversary of the QPR-Chelsea match when the incident occurred and is also the designated anti-racism weekend promoted by the Kick It Out campaign with players due to wear their slogan on their warm-up tops before matches.—Reuters

Atwal grabs lead at Sea Island, Furyk and

Love one back

WASHINGTON, 20 Oct—India's Arjun Atwal carded eight birdies and a lone bogey to rocket into a one-shot lead over Davis Love III and Jim Furyk after Friday's second round of the McGladrey Classic at Sea Island in Georgia.

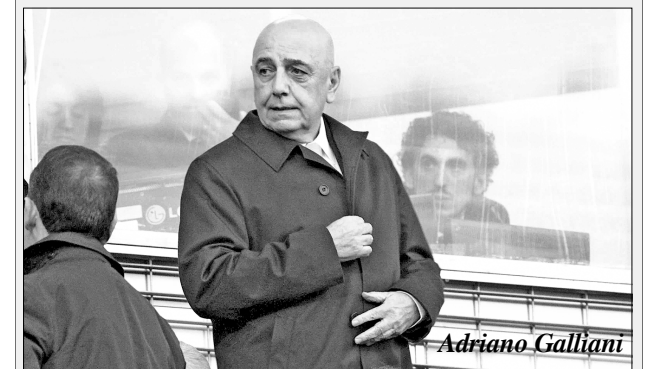
Atwal has not won anywhere since his maiden PGA Tour win in 2010 and his best finish this year is a share of 19th place at the St Jude Classic in June but the 39-year-old was sublime en route to a seven-under-par 63 on the Seaside Course.

It moved Atwal, who has made just 11 cuts in 25 starts this year, to a 10-under-par total 130, one shot clear of host and 2012 US Ryder Cup captain Love (66) and veteran

Furyk (65) at nine under. PGA Tour rookie and overnight co-leader Bud Cauley was two shots off the pace after following up his opening-round 62 with an even-par 70, in a share of fourth place with

Americans David Toms (67) and Australian Gavin Coles (65) at eight-under. American Michael Thompson (68) was in a group of six players tied for seventh place, three shots behind Atwal.—Reuters

Allegri never at risk, says Galliani



Adriano Galliani

MILAN, 20 Oct—AC Milan vice president Adriano Galliani has insisted that the Rossoneri boss Massimiliano Allegri is never in danger of being sacked despite the poor start of his side's campaign this season.

Milan suffer four losses from their first seven Serie A games, and Allegri was alleged to be under huge pressure.

Galliani, speaking ahead

of this weekend's game at Lazio, seemed to assure him of his future at Milan.

"We've never thought about changing the coach," he told Sky Sport Italia. "We have the greatest faith in Allegri. "With him at the helm, we collected more points than anyone - 162 points to be exact. He opened a new era and we are sure that we will return to the top," he said.—Xinhua

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(21-10-12 09:30 am ~ 22-10-12 09:30 am)

MST

- * News
- * Thadingyut Festival, Heart & Soul
- * News
- * A Glimpse of Japan's Heritage "Jomon Archeological Sites in Tohoku"
- * Music Programme
- * News
- * Stylish Creation of Designer
- * News
- * Pagoda Forest in Pa-O Land
- * News
- * Myanmar-Korea Power

- Technical Seminar and Material Presentation
- * News
- * Perfect Combination of Art and Nature
- * News
- * Myanmar Indonesia Joint Cultural Show 2012
- * News
- * Myanmar Movie "Hmone Shwe Yi"

MYANMAR TV

(21-10-2012, Sunday)

- 7:00 am
- 1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
- 7:25 am
- 2. To Be Healthy Exercise
- 7:30 am
- 3. Morning News

- 7:40 am
- 4. Dhamma Puja Song
- 7:50 am
- 5. 19th Myanmar National Races' Traditional Performing Arts Competition (2012) (Music)
- 11:00 am
- 6. Martial Song
- 11:10 am
- 7. Musical Programme
- 11:15 am
- 8. Round Up Of The Week's TV Local News
- 12:25 pm
- 9. How It's Works
- 12:50 pm
- 10. Myanmar Movie
- 2:30 pm
- 11. Teleplay
- 2:55 pm
- 12. International News

- 4:25 pm
- 13. Dances of National Race
- 4:30 am
- 14. 19th Myanmar National Races' Traditional Performing Arts Competition (2012) (Song)
- 5:00 pm
- 15. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
- 5:30 pm
- 16. Sing & Enjoy
- 6:20 pm
- 17. Cartoon Series
- 6:40 pm
- 18. Tamyethnar Takwetsar
- 7:00 pm
- 19. TV Drama Series
- 8:00 pm
- 20. News
- 21. Nostalgia to Myanmar Cultural Arts

OBITUARY

For Prof. Daw Khin Aye Win (Age 74) The Happy Moments we had, we shall cherish - The Good Deeds she has done, will never Perish - She will always remain with us, in our Thoughts - The Kindness, Patience & Tolerance, for all the battles she Fought -

From
The Family of Dr. Kyaw Win
Daw Kyi Kyi Chit Mg (Mis. Kyaw Win)
Dr Htut Kyaw Win (U.S.A)
Daw Aye Sanda Kyaw Win, U Aung Kyaw Soe & Ma Thantha (U.K)
U Aung Kyaw Win & Daw Kyi Kyi San (Singapore)

5.2-magnitude quake hits south of the Fiji Islands

Fiji, 20 Oct—An earthquake measuring 5.2 on the Richter scale jolted south of the Fiji Islands at 2012-10-19 17:22: 03 GMT on Fri , the US Geological Survey said. The epicenter, with

Earthquake

a depth of 14.00 km, was initially determined to be at 21.0902 degrees south latitude and 176.4360 degrees east longitude.—Xinhua

NLM

Learning English

Word!

English is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world only after Chinese and Spanish and second only to French in number of secondary speakers. Nothing is a sin to English if we can convey a straight message. You would probably find it hard to play catch up in the unending stream of English. It isn't such difficult — even if it isn't a piece of cake — if we could uncover the contextual clues to the meaning. We'll here explore some operative words in media out of our fellow English speakers' mouths.

"Breathing space"

Greek Prime Minister Antonis Samaras

The Greek Premier recently demanded a "breathing space" as his country has been exhausting in breathless austerity measures, sending a message to eurozone leaders asking for a two-year extension of the country's implementation of economic reforms. Eurozone leaders including German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President François Hollande are still pushing Greece to fulfill bailout pledges and complete the grueling race of its economic reforms to assure its future in the eurozone.

"I'm going to answer all the questions inside the ring."

Middleweight champion Arthur Abraham

Abraham, 32, has taken over the world middleweight belt again from Stieglitz after a successful title challenging campaign in Germany as the defending champion failed to survive the seventh challenge.

Speaking to the media before the showdown, Abraham said he would prove a point at the bout and grabbed his last chance with both hands just ahead of his retirement. His powerful fists really did the talking in the ring. Hear?

"If you don't feel a hundred percent, you can't compete at a hundred percent."

Danish tennis player Caroline Wozniacki

The former world No. 1 left court empty, dropping the first set against Russia's Mari Kirilenko in New Haven semifinal, because of a knee injury she picked up in the quarterfinal.

In post-match reaction, Wozniacki moaned at her fitness, saying she could not launch her all-out strikes. The injury also forced her into a frustrating loss at the first round of the prestigious US Open.

Pileup triggers fires in north China; casualties unknown

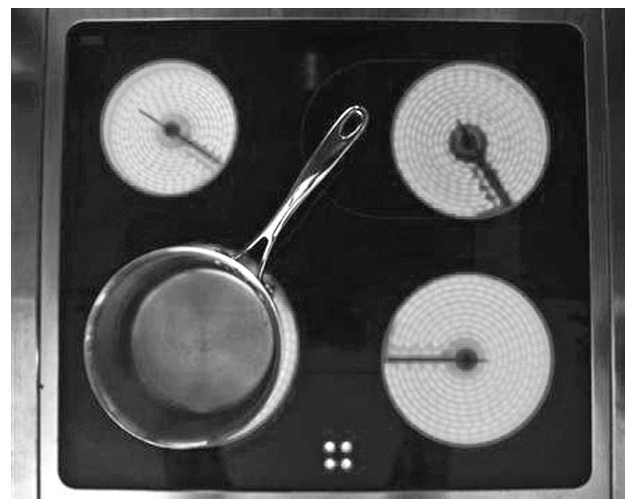
SHIAZHUANG, 20 Oct—About 30 vehicles piled up one upon another due to heavy fog on an expressway in north China's Hebei Province on Saturday morning, triggering fires among many of them, local authorities

said. But casualties are not immediately known. The accident happened around 7 am at the Tangshan-Tianjin Expressway near Tangshan City, a municipal government spokesman said.

A rescue operation has been launched, the spokesman said. The accident also triggered serious traffic jams on the expressway and a nearby highway, he added.

Xinhua

Ofgem stops short of energy tariff ruling



Lit hobs glow from an electric cooker in Edinburgh, Scotland on 14 Oct, 2008.—REUTERS

LONDON, 20 Oct—Energy regulator Ofgem stopped short of endorsing Prime Minister David Cameron's pledge to force suppliers to give their cheapest tariff to consumers, in measures to simplify domestic gas and electricity bills on Friday. The Ofgem proposals follow a review of the household energy market that identified tariff complexity, poor supplier behaviour and a lack of transparency and competition in a market dominated

by six gas and electricity utilities. Cameron took the sector by surprise on Wednesday when he said that Britain would introduce laws to make energy suppliers give customers the lowest tariffs amid frustration over rising consumer bills. Energy Minister John Hayes later backtracked on Cameron's pledge and said the government was only considering introducing such a law. Ofgem's decision to omit such measures likely

reflects the risks and difficulties of implementation.

The prime minister's announcement raised fears that it would actually disadvantage consumers as suppliers would react by simply withdrawing their lowest tariffs from the market. Instead, Ofgem said it was consulting on banning complex multi-tier tariffs, making all tariffs show a standing charge and single unit price, and limiting the number of tariffs each supplier was allowed to offer.

The proposals would also force suppliers to print their cheapest tariff on consumers' bills, ensure fair treatment under threat of fines and the regulator would take steps to promote collective switching. The chairman of the energy and climate change select committee, Tim Yeo, warned that investors may take their money elsewhere if last-minute attempts to write Cameron's pledge into a forthcoming Energy Bill delay its November publication date.

Reuters

Russian helicopter in Afghanistan lands safely after being attacked

Afghanistan

Moscow, 20 Oct— No Russian citizens were hurt when a helicopter with the Russian crew was attacked from the ground in Afghanistan, the Foreign Ministry said on Friday. "The Mi-8 helicopter belonging to UTAir airline was fired 35 km off the town of Gardez. No one was hurt," the ministry said in a statement on its website.

According to the ministry, the helicopter with seven passengers onboard was on its way from the eastern Afghan city of Jalalabad to Gardez. All passengers were the servicemen of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Forces (ISAF). There were also 300 kg of cargo onboard. The Russian three-man crew of the helicopter

changed its route and landed in Kabul airport after the incident. After landing from a 900-meter altitude, the crew found four bullet holes in the helicopter's hull. Russia supports ISAF operations and has offered a base in the city of Ulyanovsk for transit of ISAF consignment being withdrawn from Afghanistan.

Xinhua

Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw arrives back

YANGON, 20 Oct—A Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyein arrived back here by air this evening after paying a goodwill visit to Germany.

The delegation was welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Deputy Speaker of Yangon Region Hluttaw U Tin Aung and officials.

The Deputy Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw was accompanied by Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting U Win Sein, member of Pyithu Hluttaw Citizens' Fundamental

Rights, Democracy and Human Rights Committee U Tin Maung Win, member of Pyithu Hluttaw Banks and Monetary Affairs Development Committee U Win Myint, member of Pyithu Hluttaw Transportation Development Committee U Myo Swe, member of Pyithu Hluttaw Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Development Committee U Aung Thant, member of Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee U Kyaw Kyaw, member of Amyotha Hluttaw National Planning Committee U Sai Thant Zin and member of Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee U Aung Kyi Nyunt.

MNA

MEF officials come back from Malaysia

YANGON, 20 Oct—A delegation led by Vice-President of Myanmar Equestrian Federation (MEF) U Nyan Lin and executive members Dr Hsan Tun Oo, Dr Than Naing and Daw Aye Thet Tar, arrived back here yesterday evening after attending the Fei Endurance Judges and Veterinary 2

Star Level Course that was conducted by Equestrian Association of Malaysia from 14 to 18 October. They were welcomed back at the Yangon International Airport by the MEF President and executives and officials from Sports and Physical Education Department.

MNA

Buyer-Seller Meet on 29 October

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Oct—The Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry will organize a Buyer-Seller Meet for Myanmar and Indian businessmen at the UMFCCI building, here, on 29 October (Monday).

It is learnt that Indian businessmen are interested in doing businesses with Myanmar entrepreneurs on mutual basis in the areas of

art and handicraft, tourism, industry, environmental conservation, timber, agriculture, pulses and beans, mineral, garment, chemical industry, pharmaceutical industry, farm equipment, plate print, and fuel. A 13-member Indian business delegation led by Mr. G.L. Goenka of Indo Myanmar Chamber of Commerce in Mumbai will take part in the meeting.

MNA

Korean overseas volunteers reach out rural areas



Korean volunteers in Myanmar dress pose for photo during World Friends Korea Conference for Representatives of Host Organization 2012.—NLM

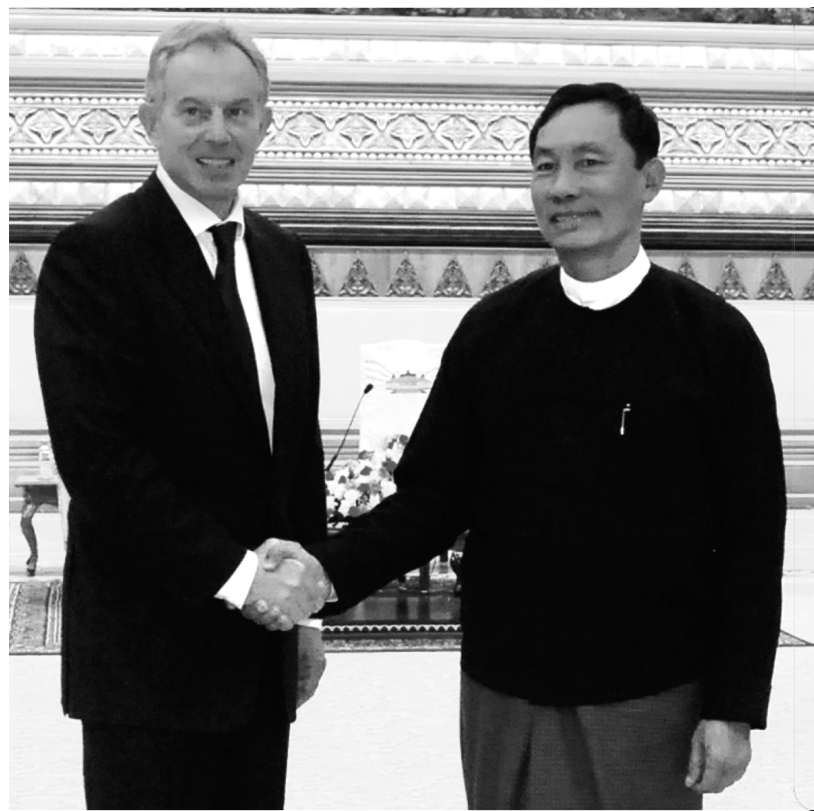
YANGON, 20 Oct—World Friends Korea Conference for Representatives of Host Organization 2012 was held at the Sedona Hotel here

Thura U Shwe Mann holds talks with Blair on bilateral ties

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Oct—Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received former Prime Minister of Britain Mr. Tony Blair at Zabuthiri Hall of Hluttaw Complex, here, at 4.30 pm today.

Also present at the call together with the Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw were Chairmen of the Pyithu Hluttaw Committees U Soe Tha, U Maung Maung Thein, U Thein Zaw, U Thein Swe, U Hla Myint Oo and U T Khun Myat, and officials.

The former British Prime Minister was accompanied by British Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Andrew Heyn. At the call, they discussed cooperation in bilateral ties and Hluttaw affairs in a cordial manner.—MNA



Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann shakes hands with former Prime Minister of Britain Mr. Tony Blair at Zabuthiri Hall of Hluttaw Complex.

MNA

Japanese Government grants US\$ 76590 for rehabilitation centre at EYGH

YANGON, 20 Oct—According to the Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects, Japanese Government granted US\$ 76590 for a humanitarian programme entitled “the Project for Construction of Rehabilitation Centre in East Yangon General Hospital”. The opening and handing over ceremony of Rehabilitation Centre was held on 18 October.

This assistance is expected to benefit the people of Myanmar by improving the quality of rehabilitation services, and further strengthen existing friendly relations between

Japan and Myanmar.

Rehabilitation Centre of the hospital located in Botahtaung Township was built in 1978. It provides treatment to about 900 patients monthly. The centre possesses much useful equipment, but most equipment cannot be put into good use due to lack of space. In order to grade the quality of rehabilitation services at the hospital, the Japanese government has provided funding through its GGP scheme for the construction of a new rehabilitation centre for treatment and exercise therapy.

NLM

to Korea H.E. Mr Kim Hae-Yong pledged that the Republic of Korea will make efforts for assisting in development of Myanmar and strengthening relations between the two countries.

Ms An Ju-Young (a) Sandar, one of the 17 Korean volunteers in Myanmar currently helping local people and students lead better lives by providing know-how in their specialized fields local people, said she was currently teaching 2D design and 3D design, etc to teachers at the Thagara Industrial Training School in central Myanmar by

Israeli navy takes over Gaza-bound ship

GAZA, 20 Oct—The Israeli navy took over a Gaza-bound ship carrying international pro-Palestinian activists Saturday, Israel Radio reported.

The radio quoted an Israeli army spokesperson as saying that the operation to intercept Estelle, the Finnish-flagged Swedish ship, was in accordance with a government decision to prevent the boat from reaching Gaza.

The aim of the ship is to challenge Israel's naval blockade on the Hamas-controlled enclave. It carries symbolic humanitarian aid and activists from Europe and Canada, including some parliamentarians.

According to the Israeli

radio, the takeover process was peaceful. The Israeli naval forces boarded the ship after its crew refused to turn away from Gaza waters.

Amjad al-Shawa, head of the Palestinian Non-Government Organizations Network (PNGO) who was on constant contact with the activists, said communication with the ship was cut.

The boat set sail from Sweden three months ago, making stops in several European ports to pick up the activists and the aid.

Last week, Israel notified Finland that the boat will be stopped if it tried to enter Gaza's waters.

Xinhua

sharing her expertise and know-how with them, thinking about helping those who help them when they were in poor.

World Friends Korea's overseas volunteer program for Myanmar started in 1998, and so far around 120 Korean volunteers have already contributed their expertise to the Myanmar people.

Under the program, around 9600 volunteers had been sent to 69 nations, and about 1500 volunteers are currently providing voluntary services to the people in all corners of the world. Under the program, volunteers are given positions where

they can best use their expertise. The areas include education, health, rural development, information and communication technology and sports.

This year, over 4,300 Korean nationals will be sent to partner countries to become “friends for those in need” across the globe and realize a vision of all mankind's prosperity through sharing and enhanced mutual understanding.

During the conference, the Korean nationals who are currently volunteering in Myanmar shared their volunteer experience in Myanmar.—NLM