

## President U Thein Sein attends ceremony to share merits gained for ordination hall of Thein Kyaung monastery in Nyaungbingyisu Village, Pobbathiri Township, cash presentation ceremony for renovation of ancient pagodas and religious edifices

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Nov—A ceremony to share merits gained for the completion of the ordination hall in the compound of Thein Kyaung monastery in Nyaungbingyisu Village, Pobbathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, was held in conjunction with cash presentation ceremony for renovation of ancient pagodas and religious edifices at Mingalar pandal in the compound of the monastery at 7.02 am today.

President U Thein Sein attended the ceremony and presented cash donations.

Also present on the occasion were member of the Sangha led by State Ovadacariya Presiding Sayadaw of Mahavithutarama Zaygon monastery between

Pyinmana Abhidhaja Maha Ratha Guru Bhaddanta Kavisara and Secretary of State Working Committee of the Sangha, Presiding Sayadaw of Ngwetaungtawya Pariyatti Sarhintaik of Tatkon Abhidhaja Maha Ratha Guru Bhaddanta Pannasiri, Union ministers, deputy ministers, Hluttaw representatives, heads of departments, members of social organizations and local people.

(See page 9)

**President U Thein Sein presents offertories to Sayadaw of Ngwetaungtawya Monastery of Tatkon.**—MNA



## Korean film festival opens in Yangon

YANGON, 10 Nov—The 7<sup>th</sup> South Korean Film Festival opened at the Thamada (President) Cinema here Friday as part of the South Korea Week activities which has begun on Thursday under the culture exchange programme between Myanmar and South Korea.

Organized by the South Korean Embassy and hosted by the South Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the festival will put four selected South Korean popular movies on screen, namely “Highway Star,” “Bunt,” “Fly Penguin,” and “Late Blossom.”

The opening ceremony of the film festival was attended by South Korean

actor Choung Kyung-ho and actress Chae Jung-an.

The South Korea Week also comprises South Korean Expo-2012, displaying best products from 55 South Korean companies, K-Pop Cover Dance and Face of



**Choung Kyung-ho**

Myanmar Contest, K-Drama OST Myanmar-South Korea Joint Concert, the 6<sup>th</sup> South Korean Ambassador’s Cup Taekwondo Championship and the 10<sup>th</sup> South Korean Speech Contest.

South Korean film festival has been held in Myanmar since 2006 aimed at strengthening the mutual friendship and boosting cultural exchange between South Korea and Myanmar.—MNA/Xinhua



**Chae Jung-an**

## Contacts for making enquiries about communication services

Those who want to make enquires about communication services including IT services and mobile and fixed line services, can contact the following officials of the Myanma Posts and Telecommunications.

### Mobile Communication Unit

No.	Name	Rank	Mobile	Email/Address
1.	U Htay Win	Chief Engineer	09-8630010	cemobile@mptmail.net.mm
2.	U Soe Aung	Deputy Chief Engineer	09-8630001	ee1_switch@mptmail.net.mm
3.	U Ko Ko Aung	Senior Engineer	09-8500001	ee2_radio@mptmail.net.mm
4.	U Aung Kyaw Thet	Senior Engineer	09-5100027	bhngsm@mptmail.net.mm
5.	Daw Khin Phyo	Senior Engineer	09-5021010	wlugsm@mptmail.net.mm

### Auto Telephone Unit

No.	Name	Rank	Mobile	Email/Address
1.	Daw Cherry Myo Tint	Deputy Chief Engineer (Exchange)	09-450450777 01-380188	
2.	U Zaw Min	Deputy Chief Engineer (Exchange)	09-5021066 01-370188	ee1_swit_cep@mptmail.net.mm
3.	U Than Hlaing	Deputy Chief Engineer (Line)	09-5021055 01-380333	ee1_line_cep@mptmail.net.mm
4.	U Thein Myint Tun	Senior Engineer (Line)	09-5021078 01-222333	
5.	U Aye Min Hlaing	Senior Engineer (Exchange)	09-5021085 01-372188	
6.	U Kyaw Win	Senior Engineer (Exchange)	09-5421099 01-500999	
7.	U Zaw Min Oo	Senior Engineer (OCS)	09-5421077	

### Information and Technology Unit

No.	Name	Rank	Mobile	Email/Address
1.	U Khin Maung Tun	Chief Engineer	09-8630042	khinmaungtun.ceit@mptngw.net.mm
2.	Daw Khin Swe Htay	Deputy Chief Engineer	09-5100050 09-8630050	kshtay@mpt.net.mm
3.	U Ye Naing Moe	Deputy Chief Engineer	09-5021074	yenaingmoe@mptngw.net.mm
4.	Daw Nwe Ni Soe Yin	Senior Engineer	09-2000037	nwenisy@mptngw.net.mm
5.	U Nay Lin Tun	Senior Engineer	09-5021072	naylhtun@mptngw.net.mm
6.	U Aung Thu Hein	Senior Engineer	09-8300056	aungth@mptngw.net.mm
7.	Daw Nyo Nyo Seint	Senior Engineer	09-5021025	nnseint@mptngw.net.mm
8.	Daw Hla Myat Han	Manager	09-5400023	hlamyathan@mptngw.net.mm



**Buddha Images of Eindawya Pagoda**

TATKON, 10 Nov—Shwe Chat Tho (a) Eindawya Pagoda built by Sasana Hitadhaja Mahanayaka title-recipient Sayadaw Yathaegy U Khanti is

situated in Pyaw Village of Gyogyarinn village-tract of Tatkon Township.

According to the facts, the Buddha Images were built more than 75 years

ago. As it is two-mile away from Nyaunglun Village on Yangon-Mandalay Highway, anyone can make a pilgrimage to the land of Buddha Images.—*Kyemon*

**Ambassador of Football For Hope observes training session of Myanmar women footballers**



YANGON, 10 Nov—Princess Inaara Aga Khan of Germany, FIFA-appointed Ambassador of Football For Hope, observed the training session of Myanmar selected women football team and visited Yankin Children Hospital opened

by Ayeyawady Foundation yesterday morning.

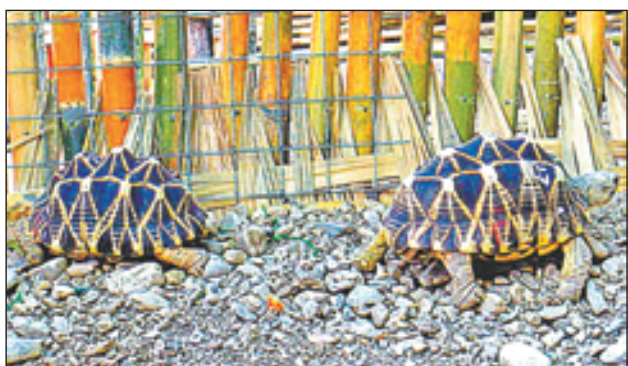
On her tour of Thuwunna Football Stadium, she was welcomed by President of Myanmar Football Federation U Zaw Zaw and General Secretary U Tin Aung, In-charge of women

football team Daw Myat Myat Oo and MFF subdivision in-charges, Head Coach Kumada and coaches and footballers.

Ms. Inaara spoke words of encouragement while meeting with the women footballers. Next, she proceeded to Yankin Children Hospital where the MFF President and officials conducted her around the hospital.

Forty-year-old Ms Inaara, founder of Princess Inaara Foundation which is taking care of social activities, has good relations with FIFA. In 2009, FIFA appointed Ms Inaara as an Ambassador of Football For Hope programme.—*Kyemon*

**Star tortoises in Shwesattaw wildlife Sanctuary**



MAGWAY, 10 Nov—Shwesattaw wildlife sanctuary is situated in the area adjacent to Minbu (Saku), Pwintpyu, Ngape and Sedoktara Township of Magway Region, especially between Mon and Mann creeks.

sanctuary with favourable topography is at an altitude between 600 feet and 3000 feet. The sanctuary has an average annual rainfall of 30 inches. The sanctuary provides a rich habitat for Myanmar golden dears, 113 kinds of wildlife and many rare bird species.

The wildlife sanctuary covering 179.25 square miles of main area and 100.6 square miles of protected forest was established on 29 June 1940 in accord with the Notification No. 210 issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Star tortoises are unique to Shwesattaw sanctuary which is an important habitat for them. The star tortoise's natural habitat is the deciduous forest. Now they are under protection of forestry law.

Shwesattaw wildlife

*Kyemon*

**Alluvial plains on both sides of Ayeyawady River**

SAGAING, 10 Nov—Farmers are ready to plough alluvial plains that are left while river water receded on both sides of Ayeyawady River at the beginning of winter crops cultivation season. Various kinds of beans and pulses, edible oil



crops and kitchen crops like groundnut, sunflower, maize, peas, onion and garlic are included in winter crops.

During the last year's winter crop cultivation season, only groundnut and beans and pulses were grown along Shukhinthar street. Now alluvial plains on the banks of Ayeyawady River are under the plough for cultivation of winter crops. "Alluvial plains

along the Shukhinthar street are suitable for winter crops as thriving winter crop plantations can make this area very popular among those who have a walk along the street," a local said.

People, old and young alike, from Sagaing go for a walk along the Shukhinthar street on the bank of Ayeyawady River in mornings and evenings.

*Kyemon*

**Thaton dwellers put savings into organizing pagoda festivals**

THATON, 10 Nov—Pagoda festivals are annually held in the month of Thadingyut in villages in Thaton Township of Mon State.

Villagers who deal with agricultural businesses spent their savings on organizing pagoda festivals. Thaton has a lot of pagodas. Among them, some are historic pagodas.

Each and every village organizes Shwekyar robe offering ceremonies on a grand scale.

Shwekyar robe offering ceremony of Nyaunghthayar pagoda was held at TadaU model village on 4<sup>th</sup> Waning of Thadingyut. Locals from nearby villages accompanied by dance and music troupes offered Shwekyar robes and provisions to the Pagoda.

Nyaunghthayar Sutaungpyae Pagoda is a historic pagoda built by King Alaungmintaya and

it is located near Yangon-Mawlamyine railroad. Holy relics of Buddha were enshrined in the pagoda. According to the facts, a Sayadaw renovated the pagoda which was in the bush

after the Second World War. Started from 2010, the light-offering ceremony is annually held and this year's ceremony was for the third time.

*Kyemon*



**Reforms attract more tourists**

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Nov—Sweeping reforms in Myanmar attracted more tourists, according to a report in *Myanma Alinn*.

A series of economic and

political reforms initiated by the government since two years ago has also received international approval.

Most of the tourists that visited Myanmar this year are

from Spain, Switzerland, France and Italy.

Myanmar is famous for its rich tourist attractions such as golden pagodas and pristine forests.—*NLM*



*Schoolchildren aged between 13 and 16 of Kyondoe Basic Education High School on 2 November were in training under the supervision of Instructor U Tin Than for a race in which outstanding students will be chosen as selected players for Hpa-an School Sports Meets.*

WORLD

**CIA Director Petraeus resigns, admits**

**US extra-marital affair**

WASHINGTON, 10 Nov—CIA Director David Petraeus resigned as head of the leading US spy agency on Friday, saying he had engaged in an extramarital affair and acknowledging he “showed extremely poor judgment.”

In a letter to the CIA workforce, Petraeus, 60, said he met with President Barack Obama at the White House on Thursday and asked “to be allowed, for personal reasons, to resign from my position.”

Obama, who was re-elected to a second term on Tuesday, said in a statement he had accepted Petraeus’ resignation, praising him for his work at the CIA and for leading US troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Much about the sudden and dramatic turn of events remained unknown Friday evening, including how long the affair had gone on and what prompted Petraeus to resign now, just days after the 2012 presidential election.

Petraeus led the CIA for



*US General David Petraeus gestures during the Senate Intelligence Committee hearing on his nomination to be director of the Central Intelligence Agency on Capitol Hill in Washington in this on 23 June, 2011.—REUTERS*

only 14 months. His sudden departure threatened to usher in a period of instability at the spy agency, which is grappling with a leveling off in its budget after a decade of steady increases.

The agency is also fending off questions about its performance before and after the attack that led to the death of US Ambassador Chris Stevens in Benghazi, Libya.

Obama, who accepted Petraeus’ resignation in a

phonecall with him on Friday afternoon, said Michael Morell, the agency’s long-time deputy director, would serve as acting CIA chief.

Morell is a leading candidate to be Petraeus’ permanent successor, sources said. He earned Obama’s trust when he frequently briefed the president during planning for the operation to take down Osama bin Laden, a senior administration official said.

Reuters

**EU budget talks suspended over dispute**

**on paying this year’s bills EU**

BRUSSELS, 10 Nov—Talks on the European Union’s (EU) 2013 budget collapsed on Friday as its austerity-minded member states refused to plug a funding gap of about 9 billion euros (11.4 billion US dollars) in the EU’s 2012 budget, EU’s lawmakers said.

“The differences between the positions of (the European) Council and (the European) Parliament were too far apart to continue talks overnight,” Alain

Lamassoure, the European Parliament’s (EP) lead negotiator, said in a statement released by the EP.

“The European Commission will now have to present a new proposal to enable talks to resume,” and the Parliament and the Council would have until midnight on Tuesday, when EU finance ministers are scheduled to gather, to reach an agreement, Lamassoure added. The collapse of Friday’s negotiations, which were meant to agree on the

2013 EU budget but hit impasse over the funding gap in the budget of 2012, has dealt a blow to a plan to come out with the EU’s 2014-2020 long-term budget later this month.

The shortfall includes about 1.5 billion euros which should have been paid to Italy, Poland and Spain to compensate victims of flooding or job cuts, as well as funding for the Erasmus student exchange programme. (1 euro = 1.27 US dollars).—Xinhua

**Milo Djukanovic named as Montenegro’s PM-designate**

BELGRADE, 10 Nov—Montenegro’s President Filip Vujanovic on Friday named Milo Djukanovic as prime minister-designate after consultations with political parties, according to news reaching here.

It paved the way for the formal return to power of Djukanovic, a pivotal political figure in Montenegro over the past

two decades. Djukanovic’s candidacy was proposed by his Democratic Party of Socialists (DPS).

Montenegro’s ruling coalition, which consists of the DPS and the Social Democrats Party (SDP), won a parliamentary election on 14 Oct but failed to secure an absolute majority in the 81-seat legislature.

The current coalition government, with 43 seats in parliament, was formed with the inclusion of Bosniak, Croatian and Albanian minority parties. Djukanovic’s nomination will be presented at the next session of the parliament where its passage is considered a mere formality.

In 1991, Djukanovic became the youngest prime minister in Europe at the



*Milo Djukanovic*

age of 29. He later held the position of president and was instrumental in Montenegro’s independence movement, which ended the country’s union with Serbia in 2006 in a referendum.

Montenegro currently suffers from an economic crisis after years of growth buoyed by tourism and a real estate boom and is also facing European Union membership talks.—Xinhua

**Thousands flee Syria in exodus, millions more need aid**

DAMASCUS, 10 Nov—Thousands of Syrians fled their country on Friday in one of the biggest refugee exoduses of the 20-month civil war after rebels seized a border town, and the United Nations warned that millions more still in Syria will need help as winter sets in.

In Qatar, the main opposition group outside Syria elected a new leader. However, it will start talks on Saturday with other factions, including representatives of rebels fighting President Bashar al-Assad’s forces, on forming a wider body that hopes to gain international recognition as a government-in-waiting. The UN said 11,000 refugees had fled in 24 hours, mostly to Turkey. The influx caused alarm in Ankara, which is worried about its ability to cope with such large numbers and has pushed hard, so far without success, for a buffer zone to be set up inside Syria where refugees could be housed.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a UK-based group that compiles opposition activist reports, said at least 20 members of the Syrian security forces were killed when rebel fighters attacked a security headquarters in Ras al-Ain.

Thousands of residents

poured out of the Arab and Kurd town, in the northeastern oil-producing Province of Hasaka, 600 km (375 miles) from Damascus.

Western countries and Syria’s neighbours fear that hardline Islamist groups close to al-Qaeda are growing in influence among rebels on the ground in Syria. An outline agreement could see the SNC and other opposition figures agree on a 60-member political assembly, mirroring the Transitional National Council in Libya, which united opposition to Muammar Gaddafi last year and took power when he fell.

In Geneva, a senior

UN official highlighted the plight of Syrians still in the country. An estimated four million people would need humanitarian aid by early next year when the country is in the grip of winter, up from 2.5 million now, said John Ging, director of operations at the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

“Every day our humanitarian colleagues on the ground are engaging with people who are ever more desperate, ever more fearful for their lives and for the lives of their families because of this conflict,” Ging told a news conference. “Since this

crisis has begun we have not been able to keep pace with the increasing need.”

In the last three months, the mainly Sunni Muslim Arab rebels have captured outposts on the Turkish border, moving towards the northeastern heartland of Syria’s one million Kurds, many of whom have tried to stay clear of violence.

The Kurdish Council, a coalition of Kurdish parties opposed to Assad, called on rebels to pull their fighters out of Ras al-Ain, saying the clashes and fear of Syrian bombardment had prompted most of its 50,000 residents to flee.—Reuters



*Syrians jump over barbed wire as they flee from the Syrian town of Ras al-Ain to the Turkish border town of Ceylanpinar, Sanliurfa Province, on 9 Nov, 2012.*

REUTERS

**Canada’s Harper concludes second Indian visit with hope for expanding bilateral trade**

**Canada**

OTTAWA, 10 Nov—Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper concluded his six-day state visit to India on Friday with a pickup game of street hockey at a boys’ school in information technology and biotechnology powerhouse, Bangalore, where he announced on Thursday that Canada would open a consulate next summer. Formerly serving as Canada’s trade office, the new consulate “will act as a hub” for Canadian representation in southern India and provide consular, immigration and “enhanced” commercial services for Canadian businesses in India’s third largest city with an estimated population of 8.5 million as of 2011.

Earlier in the week, Harper and Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh announced the conclusion

of negotiations for a bilateral arrangement that will implement the Nuclear Cooperation Agreement signed between Canada and India in June 2010 and “generate millions of dollars in new business contacts between our countries,” said Harper. The agreement will enable Canadian firms to export and import controlled nuclear materials, equipment and technology to and from India to facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards.

According to Harper’s office, Canadian nuclear-energy production generates about 5 billion Canadian dollars in annual revenues, while the country’s nuclear industry is responsible for a billion dollars in uranium exports annually.—Xinhua

## SCIENCE &amp; TECHNOLOGY

## Stone Age skeletons found in well a mystery to

**Science** Israeli archaeologists

JERUSALEM, 10 Nov — Israeli archaeologists are scratching their heads after unearthing two skeletons of over 8,000 years old at the bottom of an ancient water well. The mystery widened when researchers found that remains belong to a young woman of 20-year-old and an older man between 30 and 40. Archaeologists believe that either both of them accidentally fell into the well or were murdered and then dumped inside.

"We're still investigating what happened to the couple, we have to do an autopsy to find out if they were murdered and also look into the artifacts and rocks found over them," excavation director Yotam Teper told *Xinhua* on Thursday. The well is eight-meter deep and was used by farmers during the Neolithic period to bring water to the settlement. The

well was discovered numerous artifacts that have been excavated so far from the well indicate that the well ended up being used as a dump after it became polluted.

Among these finds are a pair of sickle blades used for harvesting as well as arrow heads and other stone artifacts that are helping researchers shed light on how Neolithic farming settlements lived. "We found a small water channel used to bring water from the well to the small farms around it. We're still excavating the area, but so far, what we have found will help us understand more about this period," Teper said. "There's only two more wells from the Neolithic that have been unearthed so far in Israel, and not that many in the world, so this find is of great significance."

The well was discovered

in September at the archaeological site of Enot Nisanit, by archaeologists who were excavating in the Jezreel Valley. "The exposure of these wells makes an important contribution to the study of man's culture and economy in a period when pottery vessels and metallic objects had still not yet been invented," Dr. Omri Barzilai, head of the Prehistory Branch of the Israel Antiquities Authority said.

"It seems that ancient man tried to devise ways of protecting his drinking water from potential contamination by the animals he raised, and therefore he enclosed the water in places that were not accessible to them," Barzilai said. The Israel Antiquities Authority will preserve the well and exhibit it as part of the sites around Tel Megiddo in the different periods. — *Xinhua*

## Intel, HP tout newest Itanium server

**Tech** technology

A woman walks past an Intel logo at the 2012 Computex in Taipei on 5 June, 2012. — Reuters

SAN FRANCISCO, 10 Nov — Intel and Hewlett-Packard Co unveiled new server technology based on the high-end niche Itanium processors at the centre of a recent dispute between Hewlett-Packard and Oracle Corp.

The future of servers built with Itanium chips was thrown into doubt last year due to a bitter legal battle between long-time partners HP and Oracle and it remains

unclear to some experts even after a California state court judge ruled in favour of HP.

Intel and HP held a news conference on Thursday announcing the availability of the newest version of Itanium and introducing new HP servers using the chips. HP will keep offering its customers choices between servers based on heavy-duty Itanium chips and Intel's more widely used "x86"

chips, said Ric Lewis, vice president and interim general manager of HP's Business Critical Systems.

Rory McInerney, vice president of Intel's architecture group said that future Itanium chips would be built using some of the key features found in the company's more widely used Xeon server processors. He did not say when future chips would be released.

Once envisioned as a high-end processor that could become pervasive across the server industry, Itanium suffered a series of setbacks and was eventually overtaken by 64-bit chips based on Intel's x86 architecture, which is now widely used in the PC industry. Software created for x86 servers is not compatible with Itanium servers, which are mostly sold by HP.

Reuters

**Tech**

SINGAPORE, 10 Nov — Google launched a service on Thursday it hopes will push millions of people in the developing world to access the Internet—and Google's ads—via basic mobile phones. Google is launching the service, called Free Zone, first in the Philippines via local carrier Globe Telecom.

The service allows phones with an Internet connection but limited functionality to access basic Google products like search, email and its social networking service Google+ for free. Users could access websites that show up in Google's search results for free, but any website outside those results would prompt an invitation to subscribe to the mobile operator's data plan.

"It's aimed at the next billion users of the Internet, many of whom will be

in emerging markets and encounter the Internet first on a mobile phone, without ever owning a PC," Abdel Karim Mardini, product manager for Google, told Reuters. Google and Globe hope that by offering a free layer of services they will entice users of so-called feature

countries soon.

While developing countries like the Philippines have been enthusiastic early adopters of cellphones, there are still millions who either use phones too basic to be used for Internet services, or who are reluctant to shell out for more expensive

reported in September that while smartphone sales are growing rapidly in Southeast Asia, the more basic feature phones still outnumber their more expensive counterparts.

The Philippines, for example, saw a three-fold growth of smartphones in the 12 months up to September, but despite boosting their share, such devices still accounted for only 24 percent of all mobile phones. Globe and Google are not the only players in the Philippines to target non-smartphone users by offering them a cheaper way to access Internet services. Since launching a pared down Internet service last year, for example, Globe rival Smart Communications said the half million users who signed up spent 150 percent more on average per month than its other subscribers. — Reuters



phones to move beyond just making phone calls and sending SMS messages to sign up for Internet services. Such services are more lucrative for carriers. Google makes most of its money through ads on web pages. It says it plans to roll out the service in other

services. Phones running Google's Android operating system now account for three quarters of all smartphones shipped, according to consultancy IDC.

But that still leaves a lot of phones. The GfK Group, a research company which measures consumer habits,

## Collapse of Classic Maya civilization linked to drought

WASHINGTON, 10 Nov — The Classic Maya culture thrived in rainy times and then collapsed in turmoil as the weather turned to drought, according to new research to be published on Friday in journal *Science*.

An international project has created a precisely-dated record of rainfall from cave deposits in the Classic Maya region, and compared it to a 'war index' of hostile events recorded on stone monuments. The research has enabled the team to create a unique historical timeline linking climate and culture in

unprecedented detail.

The war index is based on how often certain keywords occurred in Mayan inscriptions on carved stone monuments, and the researchers were able to chart how increases in war and unrest were associated with periods of drought.

The new datasets provide a unique insight into how a civilization prospered and developed, expanding into large cities, during a period of favorable climate and then collapsed following climate change between AD 660 and 1100.

Maya rulers commissioned monuments to record events and the research team found the frequency of texts carved on stone monuments pointing to status rivalry, war and strategic alliances increased significantly between AD 660 and 900, during the drying trend.

The role of climate change in the fall of the classic Maya civilization had previously been suggested, but remained controversial due to dating uncertainties in previous climate records.

The research team

reconstructed rainfall for the last 2000 years using the chemistry of stalagmites from Yok Balum cave in Belize.

The cave is located 1.5 kilometres from the Classic Period Maya site of Uxbenka and is close to other major Maya centres, all influenced by the same climate systems. Then, because the Mayans recorded political events and their dates meticulously on carved stone monuments, the team was able to compare its climate reconstruction with the changing frequency of warfare. — *Xinhua*



Twitter's CEO Dick Costolo gestures during a conference at the Cannes Lions in Cannes on 20 June, 2012. Cannes Lions is the International Festival of creativity. — REUTERS

**Twitter mistakenly resets passwords of large number of users**

BOSTON, 10 Nov — Twitter said that it mistakenly reset the passwords of "a large number" of its more than 140 million active users while conducting routine security screening to identify accounts that may have been compromised.

"In instances when we believe an account may have been compromised, we reset the password and send an email letting the account owner know this

has happened," Twitter said in its blog on Thursday. "In this case, we unintentionally reset passwords of a larger number of accounts, beyond those that we believed to have been compromised."

Carolyn Penner, a spokeswoman for the social-networking site, declined to say how many Twitter accounts were affected by the error. She said that there had not been a security breach. — Reuters

**New habitable zone super-Earth found in exosolar system**

WASHINGTON, 10 Nov — An international team of astronomers have discovered a new super-Earth in the habitable zone, where liquid water and a stable atmosphere could reside, around the nearby star HD 40307, the Carnegie Institute for Science announced on Thursday in a statement.

It is one of the three new super-Earths found around the star that has three other low-mass planets orbiting it. The study will be published in *Astronomy & Astrophysics*.

HD 40307 is a dwarf star that is somewhat smaller and less luminous than the Sun that is about 42 light years away (12.88 parsecs). — *Xinhua*

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Cancer trials can lack clear information on biopsies

NEW YORK, 10 Nov — People participating in cancer drug trials aren't always given the most straightforward explanation of possible risks and benefits from invasive procedures that may be involved, according to a new study. Biopsies of tumour tissue can help researchers figure out how well a test drug is working—but the invasive, sometimes painful procedures are typically of little benefit to study participants themselves.

The new findings show more than five percent of biopsies in such trials may result in complications, but that informed consent documents spend less time explaining those risks than they do for simple blood draws, which are much less invasive. "Most of these procedures don't have any therapeutic value for patients, they are burdensome, they're painful and they carry risk," said Jonathan Kimmelman, from the Biomedical Ethics Unit at McGill University in Montreal, Canada.

"Before you do a procedure like that on

patients, you really want to have their adequate informed consent," Kimmelman, who wasn't involved in the new study, told *Reuters Health*. "The only reason (patients) should submit to them is to contribute to science in some way," and not with the hope the biopsies will help them get better, he said.

For the new study, researchers from the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Centre in Houston reviewed 57 cancer trials by their institution that involved tumor biopsies for study subjects and were conducted in 2005 through 2010. In 38 of those trials, a biopsy was mandatory for all participants, often as a way for researchers to tell if the drug in question had worked as intended.

In some other cases, biopsies were used as pre-study checks to see if patients had the right type of tumor for a certain targeted drug. Lead author Dr Michael Overman and his colleagues found almost all informed consent documents didn't specifically address the

research alternatives to biopsies or the lack of likely benefits for patients themselves. The average document had just 39 words addressing the potential risks from study biopsies, compared to 48 words for blood draws.

In those trials, 576 patients had a total of 745 tumor biopsies—including lung, liver and head and neck biopsies. Thirty-nine of those resulted in complications, such as lung air leaks and bleeding, and six in major complications requiring patients to be hospitalized or to get further surgery, according to findings published Monday in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*. Overman said one of the problems has been that until now, there hasn't been enough available data for study investigators to give patients a reliable estimate of their chance of a biopsy-related complication.

"The informed consent documents that are used are not always as clear as they could be," Kimmelman said. He added that not all cancer

studies requiring biopsies are of the highest quality. And some don't make it into the published scientific literature, where they could potentially help determine if a drug is approved or could guide treatment decisions for future patients. "I think a lot of patients understandably think that when they're volunteering for these studies they're giving tissue for what is cutting-edge science, and sometimes that's true, but not always," Kimmelman said.

Both researchers agreed that as more targeted drugs are designed for patients with very specific types of cancer, research biopsies will become increasingly necessary to determine how well those drugs are working on the tumor itself. "I think giving biopsies is a good thing. I think you learn from it, but you need to do it in an honest fashion," Overman told *Reuters Health*. Especially in early drug studies, the patients involved typically have few established treatment options. —Reuters

Health

Home blood pressure monitors show mixed results

NEW YORK, 10 Nov — Home blood pressure monitors may be useful to some older adults who have suffered a stroke, but little help to others, according to a UK study. Past studies have found that home monitoring may aid blood pressure control, with a 2010 review of 37 clinical trials finding that, overall, people who used monitors shaved a few extra points from their blood pressure. They were also more likely to cut down on medication.

The new study, which appeared in the *Canadian Medical Association Journal*, focused on patients who'd recently had a stroke—a group that hasn't really been studied when it comes to home blood pressure monitoring. "Overall, home monitoring did not improve blood pressure control in patients with hypertension and a history of stroke," wrote lead researcher Sally Kerry, a researcher at Queen Mary, University of London.

The exception, though, was patients whose blood

pressure was poorly controlled at the study's start, meaning it was above the standard high blood pressure cutoff of 140/90 mm Hg. In that case, patients given a home monitor cut an average of 11 points from their systolic blood pressure—the top number in the reading. That compared with just under five points among patients who were not given the devices.

Kerry's team randomly assigned the patients to either stick with standard care only or get a home monitor, along with instructions on how to use it and periodic phone calls from a nurse to check on how they were doing. Over the next year, the results were mixed. Among the patients who didn't seem to benefit were those who'd been left disabled by their stroke, while non-disabled patients cut about four points. "Some patients had difficulty carrying out monitoring because they did not have a carer who lived with them to help," said Kerry.

Reuters

Galaxy S3 takes No 1 position in smartphone market

NEW YORK, 10 Nov — Samsung Electronics' Galaxy S3 became the world's best-selling smartphone model last quarter, pushing aside Apple Inc's iPhone, which has dominated the

chart for more than two years, research firm Strategy Analytics said on Thursday.

Strategy Analytics estimated Samsung sold 18 million S3 models in the third quarter, compared

with iPhone 4S sales of 16.2 million.

Strong sales of the flagship Galaxy S3—which comes with a large 4.8 inch touchscreen—helped Samsung post a record \$7.3 billion operating profit in the July-September quarter.

"Samsung's Galaxy S3 has proven wildly popular with consumers and operators across North America, Europe and Asia," said analyst Neil Mawston, adding the new iPhone 5 would likely reclaim the top spot for Apple in the current quarter. —Reuters



Samsung Electronics' Galaxy S III is displayed at a store in Seoul on 27 Aug, 2012. — REUTERS

Icahn says has considered Netflix takeover, no decision made

NEW YORK, 10 Nov — Activist investor Carl Icahn said on Thursday he has considered a hostile takeover bid for Netflix but was uncertain he stood a chance of acquiring the Internet streaming service in which he holds a 10 percent stake. Asked by TV network CNBC whether he would "go hostile" on Netflix, Icahn said: "The thought had certainly entered my mind. I have to admit I think about it, but we haven't made that decision."

While Icahn said a hostile takeover was "certainly an alternative," he downplayed the possibility several times. He added that he would not be able to pay as much for Netflix as a "synergistic buyer" looking to acquire an Internet movie and TV subscription service. Netflix has been the subject of periodic speculation that it could be acquired, with names of potential buyers including Microsoft Corp and Amazon.com Inc.

A Netflix spokesman

had no comment on Icahn's remarks on Thursday. Icahn last month disclosed he had amassed 9.98 percent of Netflix shares.

Reuters



Investor Carl Icahn in this file photo taken on 27 June, 2007. — REUTERS

Business

Amazon unveils wine marketplace in some US states

SAN FRANCISCO, 10 Nov — Amazon.com Inc unveiled a new online wine marketplace on Thursday, in the company's second attempt to crack a sector curtailed by a tangle of complex regulations. Amazon Wine launched more than 1,000 wines from wineries in the United States, including Francis Ford Coppola, Hall, Mark Ryan, Eden Canyon, Pepper Bridge and Roadhouse. The world's largest Internet retailer said customers could order up to six bottles for a shipping fee of \$9.99.

The service will be available to California, Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming and the District of Columbia. Amazon said more states will be added "soon." Indeed, the limited number of states highlights the challenges of online wine sales due to regulations governing the sale and delivery of alcohol across US state borders. Amazon had tried getting into the online wine business a few years ago, but put the effort on hold.

Wine.com launched its own online wine marketplace



A box from Amazon.com is pictured on the porch of a house in Golden, Colorado on 23 July, 2008.

REUTERS

earlier this week, ahead of Amazon's move, which had been reported recently. Wine.com, which has been in the online wine business for 14 years, launched its marketplace with shipping to 20 states and also offered wines from countries outside the United States, including France, Italy, Spain and Australia. "Amazon has not offered us anything at this stage," said Jean-Charles Boisset, president of Boisset Family Estates. "We have contacted them and would love to talk."

Boisset has wineries in the United States, including

De Loach and Buena Vista, and also imports a lot of wine from its wineries in France and Italy. Boisset is working with Wine.com on its new marketplace. A marketplace approach is better than the traditional wholesale distribution system because it allows smaller wineries to reach consumers more directly. Boisset has sold its wines through Wine.com for years. The new marketplace will help the company offer more unique wines that were previously only available from tasting rooms at its wineries, Boisset said.

Reuters

## Husband of slain Iraqi-American woman arrested in her death

SAN DIEGO, 10 Nov—The husband of an Iraqi-American woman who was beaten to death near San Diego in March in a killing initially probed as a possible anti-Muslim hate crime has been arrested for her murder, police said on Friday.

Shaima Alawadi, a 32-year-old mother of five, was found bludgeoned to death in her home in the San Diego suburb of El Cajon, home to a large Arab-American population, and died of her injuries several days later.

A threatening note found at the scene suggested Alawadi might have been targeted because of her ethnicity.

In a sign of how closely the case was being watched, the US State Department expressed condolences for her death, and Iraqi government officials attended her funeral in Iraq.



**Kassim Alhimidi speaks during a memorial service for Kassim's wife Shaima Alawadi held at the Imam Ali Ibn Abi Talib Centre in Lakeside, California in this on 27 March, 2012 file photo. —REUTERS**

A friend of the family, Sura Alzaidy, told the *San Diego Union Tribune* newspaper at the time that the note found near Alawadi read: "Go back to your own country. You're a terrorist."

While police at the time said they were considering hate as a motive, they warned against definitively drawing

such a conclusion. Court papers filed in the case later painted a portrait of a family in turmoil.

It was the daughter, home at the time of the attack, who discovered her mother unconscious and bleeding on the floor of the family home after Alawadi was struck at least six times by a heavy object, suffering at least four skull fractures.

The daughter told police at the time that she heard her mother squeal, followed by the sound of breaking glass, which she took to be her mother dropping a plate. Ten minutes later, she said she discovered her mother on the floor, and called 911.

Alawadi and her husband arrived in the United States in 1993.

She was buried in the holy Shi'ite City of Najaf, 100 miles south of Iraq's capital, Baghdad.

Reuters

## IFAD extends grant funding to DR Congo to boost food security

DR Congo

ROME, 10 Nov—The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) will provide a grant of 68.4 million US dollars to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DR Congo) to improve food security, the IFAD said on Friday.

A grant agreement for the Kinshasa Food Supply Centre Support Programme was signed on Friday by Roger Shulungu Runika, deputy finance minister of DR Congo, and IFAD President Kanayo FNwanze, the Rome-based organization said. Currently, the growth of the African country's agriculture sector, which contributes to nearly 40 percent of gross domestic product, is 2 percent per year, far slower than the increase of its population, the IFAD noted.

Although the country is vast and fertile, its agriculture sector has continued suf-

fering from under investment, said Rasha Omar, IFAD Country Programme Manager for the country.

"Without security, stability and government commitment to the sector, rural development and food security cannot become a reality" in the country, he said. The programme, aiming to boost the productivity and income of smallholder farmers in the western part of the country, is expected

to improve the production of vegetable gardens and staple food crops, as well as their supply to the main urban markets.

It will train women and young people to build their capacity in production, processing and marketing, while ensuring rehabilitation and maintenance of roads and hydro-agricultural infrastructure.

Xinhua

## US announces 6.7-bln-dollar arms sale to Saudi Arabia

US

WASHINGTON, 10 Nov—The Pentagon announced a proposed deal on Friday to sell to Saudi Arabia 20 cargo aircraft and five refueling planes, which is worth 6.7 billion US dollars.

The Defence Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA), a Pentagon organ in charge of foreign arms

sales, said in a statement that it notified Congress on Thursday of the proposed deal to sell to Saudi Arabia 20 C-130J-30 Aircraft and 5 KC-130J Air Refueling Aircraft, as well as associated equipment, parts, training and logistical support.

"This proposed sale of C-130J-30 and KC-130J assets will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a friendly country that has been, and continues to be, an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East," the DSCA said.

Saudi Arabia needs these aircraft to sustain its aging fleet, which faces increasing obsolescence, as they "will provide a modern configuration, improve reliability and enhance the Royal Saudi Air Force's ability to effectively field, support, and employ these aircraft," the DSCA added.

It noted, at the same time, that the proposed arms sale "will not alter the basic military balance in the region."

The prime contractors will be Lockheed-Martin in Bethesda, Maryland, General Electric Aviation Systems in Sterling, Virginia, and Rolls Royce Corporation in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Xinhua

## US House Speaker urges Obama to lead on debt talks

US

WASHINGTON, 10 Nov—US President Barack Obama should play a leading role in resolving the imminent "fiscal cliff" through bipartisan negotiations, John Boehner, Speaker of the US House of Representatives, said here on Friday.

A bipartisan deal to avoid the "fiscal cliff" should include entitlement reform, tax reform and lower tax rates, Boehner told reporters at a Friday Press conference, adding that he was hopeful that "productive conversations" could begin soon.

The top Republican lawmaker of the House

stressed that he opposed higher tax rates to solve the nation's fiscal challenge, citing a study from Ernst & Young that raising the income tax rates for the wealthy would destroy nearly 700,000 jobs in the country. Unless US Congress acts by the end of this year, a combination of tax hikes and sweeping spending cuts, dubbed as the "fiscal cliff" and with the combined amount of about 600 billion US dollars, was set to kick in. Democrats and Republicans locked horns over how to reduce the nation's public debt hovering at 16.2 trillion dollars and tide over the "fiscal cliff."—Xinhua

## World Bank extends 400-mln-dollar credit to Serbia

Serbia

BELGRADE, 10 Nov—The World Bank on Friday pledged to help prop up the Serbian state budget with an additional 400 million US dollars, reported Radio Television Serbia (RTS).

Jane Armitage, World Bank Director and Regional Coordinator for Southeast Europe, told reporters after meeting with Serbian Prime Minister Ivica Dacic that the World Bank's goal for budget support was to assist with the reform of public expenditures.

According to Armitage, "the decline (in Serbian

GDP) will be 1.5 percent this year" which is predicted to be the "worst in the region".

On a more optimistic note, she stated that 2.5 percent growth was expected next year due to projected improvements in agricultural, automobile manufacturing at the Fiat plant in Serbia and an increase in foreign investment.

The World Bank funds are, however, contingent on Serbia reaching a new agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF). An IMF delegation is scheduled to arrive in Belgrade on 13 November.

Xinhua



**Britain's Prince Charles (C front) meets crowds at the Bondi Beach in Sydney, Australia, on 9 Nov, 2012. Britain's Prince Charles and his wife Camilla have arrived in Sydney, enjoying a barge ride on the Sydney harbor before a morning tea with Australian Defence Force personnel and their families, local media reported on Friday. —XINHUA**

## Guard killed at Swedish PM's residence works there for several years

Sweden

STOCKHOLM, 10 Nov—The security guard killed at Swedish prime minister's residence on Friday afternoon was confirmed to have worked there for several years.

The guard, about 50 years old and living in Stockholm, was found dead with his hand gun next to him by a colleague back from lunch in the sentry box near the entrance of the prime minister's residence Sager Palace in Stockholm, according to local media.

Prime Minister Fredrik Reinfeldt and his family were not in the Sager Palace at the time.

Police are investigating whether the death was a suicide or a work-related accident.

"With the information I have, I tend to believe it is a tragic accident. We are now focusing on helping the relatives and colleagues," Anders Lonnebo, president of the security guard company the Swedish Security Service, was quoted as saying by the Swedish daily *Dagens Nyheter*.

The company, with 900 employed guards, has been serving the prime minister's residence since 2006. The dead guard had

already been working for the government's offices since 1984 before entering the company in 2006 and was a very experienced guard.

Xinhua



**A car drives along the Nairobi-Thika Super Highway in Kenya, on 9 Nov, 2012. Kenya's President Mwai Kibaki officially opened the Nairobi-Thika Super Highway on Friday. XINHUA**

LOCAL NEWS

Basic commodity prices soaring



NAY PYI TAW, 10 Nov—Despite stable rice price, the prices of basic kitchen crops are soaring, according to market sources.

The prices of onion and garlic are going up in this November rapidly, according to a report in *Myanma Alinn*.

The chili price is on constant increase with no sign of going down. The market sources also said the import of these basic commodities have contributed to the price hikes.—NLM

Myanmar hosts Asian youth weightlifting championships



NAY PYI TAW, 10 Nov—Myanmar hosted Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships 2012 at Theinbyu

Gymnasium in Mingala Taungnyunt Township of Yangon yesterday, *Myanma Alinn* reported.

President of International Weightlifting Federation Mr Tamas Ajan, Secretary of Asian Weightlifting Federation Mr Ali Moradi and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President of Asian Weightlifting Federation Maj-Gen Intarat Yodbangloey and President of Myanmar Weightlifting Federation U Thet Lin were among the spectators of the tournament.

Thuza, selected Myanmar weightlifter,

bagged three golds while Zin May Oo, Khaing Khaing, May Phyo Moe and Min Min also secured prizes in respective events of the championships.

Thuza (Myanmar) secured three gold medals in women's 63 kilos events, followed by Han So Jin (KOA) and Saizollayeva Maira (KAZ) at yesterday's competition.

Amy Lwin of Myanmar bagged three bronze medals in women's 99 kilos.

NLM

Yatanarpon Teleport confirms potential change in calculation of mobile network fee

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Nov—Yatanarpon Teleport confirmed that the internet fee calculation would be performed by data transfer rate, *Myanma Alinn* reported. "We've planned to introduce the change," *Myanma Alinn* quoted an official who declined to give more details. Internet fee through mobile phones is currently being collected by usage time.

But there are still complaints about the connection of mobile

internet. "The connection has slowed down significantly," Ma Thiri Thu, a company staff, said.

"The most important things are cheaper fee and better connection."

NLM



Zeyathiri Tsp gets new school

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Nov—Sibingyi village in Zeyathiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area got a new school, according to a *Myanma Alinn* report.

The ceremony to hand over the school building to the education department was held at the school yesterday.

The in-charge of

UTZL Company handed over documents related to the school to the township education officer at the ceremony.

NLM



Hanthawady car market remains sluggish

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Nov—Once-crowded Hanthawady car market is indulging itself with reminiscences of the past hustle and bustle.

Car market has been shifted to emerging car showrooms and exhibitions, a *Myanma Alinn* report

suggest.

People lose interests in Hanthawady car market as they are attracted by automobiles that offer a series of discount, according to Ko Myo, an agent of the market. The market of cars with outdated models is hard to grasp, veteran agent U Aye Soe said.—NLM



Zeyar Shwe Myay cruise into MNL knock-out stage



NAY PYI TAW, 10 Nov—Zeyar Shwe Myay FC booked a place in quarterfinals after beating Rakhine United FC through penalty shoot-out in hard-fought battle at Padoma Stadium in Yangon yesterday.

Yadanabon FC and Magway FC also secured places in quarterfinals after beating Kanbawza FC and Manawmyay FC respectively, *Myanma Alinn* reported.

Zeyar Shwe Myay influenced the rivals the whole match but failed to deliver the winning goal in 1-1 draw.

Ayeyawady played Chin in Padoma Stadium while Hanthawady met Zwegabin in Salin Stadium and Yangon

faces Nay Pyi Taw in Aung San Stadium today.

NLM

Heavy rain sink paddy fields in Mohnyin

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Nov—Heavy rainfall on 6 and 7 November in Kachin State sunk more than 20,000 acres of paddy in Mohnyin, according to a *Myanma Alinn* report.

According to an official of the research farm that witnessed inundation, the decline of paddy quality is the maximum effect. The source did not expect the major loss.

Some farmers said there would be decline in yield.

The Meteorology and Hydrology Department had issued an early warning about the scattered showers.

NLM



Fire breaks out in Padaukpin oil well for second time in November



NAY PYI TAW, 10 Nov—A fire broke out at Padaukpin oil well of Shwe Yarthi oil company in Thayet Township in Thayet District of Magway Region on 8 November for second time in a month, *Myanma Alinn* reported.

Equipment from three oil wells and 25 barrels of

crude oil were lost in the fire that burnt down three tents of the staff of the company.

The fire started at 1.40 am was put out about an hour later.

Thayet Township police station filed a lawsuit against recklessness of the suspect Kyaw Swa.

NLM

## PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 11 November, 2012

## Let's pay more attention to vagrant children

It is learnt that Yangon City Development Committee is launching a two-week special campaign to get vagrants and homeless children off the streets starting from 6 November. It is a ray of hope for child scavengers and child beggars who are abused, neglected and denied their basic rights. Unless we pay more attention to these vagrant children, they may actually become a criminal element one day.

The term "vagrant children" refers to minors who are spending their childhood days by begging or scavenging for rubbish and wandering here and there without the protection of legal guardians, fixed incomes and residences. People always take no notice of them as their voices are too weak. Whatever they have multiple reasons that cause them to become beggars or scavengers, they all have in common is their vulnerability to labour exploitation, trafficking, prostitution, disease and drug abuse.

If they think that they are being arrested, the mission to get the vagrant children off the streets cannot be accomplished. Not only because some have already been denied the love, care and support ever since they were abandoned or orphaned but also because they are accustomed to living in street life. Another point required to accomplish the mission is to provide them with emotional strengths they need to develop and free education and vocational training essential for their adult life while at the protection centers. That's why, number of shelters for homeless juveniles should be doubled or tripled in the country. Although we cannot say one of them will become a great man in future, surely we can say that they will never ever become a destructive element for the society if they have enough protection.

All in all, this mission to rescue the waifs and strays of our surroundings is not only a blessing for street urchins but also a good thing for the image of Yangon while shaping it into a modernized city. But it would be better to launch such kind of campaign nationwide, especially for children who are living with poverty, violence and fear in conflict-stricken areas. Every child is the hope for the nation. Let's create a more supportive and less disadvantaged environment for them so that they will be able to enjoy safe and happy childhoods.

Myanmar is a predominantly agricultural country with the majority of population living in the countryside in small towns and rural communities. Naturally small town kids and village lads are larger in proportion than the urbanites of Yangon, Mandalay, Mawlamyine, Patheingyi etc. Only in the turn of the new millennium there was a visible urban migration attracted by the lure of better work opportunities, better education, higher life-style and more vibrant communication with the world at large. Many small town and rural boys with aspiration for a better future attend the universities in Yangon and Mandalay after passing Matriculation for first graduate studies, thence to post graduate Diplomas, Masters, Ph.Ds and beyond, both within the country and abroad.

With Independence in 1948 many job opportunities opened up due to erstwhile expatriates employed in government departments leaving service and the country including the ICS. Such mass exodus had created a large vacuum in the civil services sector for young fresh graduates to choose from. There was a keen competition for gazette positions selected by the Public Service Commission and were entrusted with missions for law and order, reconstruction rehabilitation and national development, with discipline, integrity and dedication.

After stipulated years of active service, our post World War II generation of '50s took their due superannuation pensions. In retirement most of the country lads went back to the

countryside in the familiar natural environment, to spend their old age in peace and serenity. Some like the author settled in Yangon in the newly established suburban satellite towns like, Okkalapa, Thaketa, Thuwunna, Shwepyitha, Hlaing Thayar, Dagon, Thunanda, Shwe Pauk Kan etc. Now only, withdrawn from the hustle and bustle of hectic life, the retirees have come to be in touch again with nature in all its virtues and attributes, which they had all along enjoyed but had ignored for the lure of big towns and opportunities. Now only, in the third stage of life they are blissfully aware of nature and its environs in renewed

koyins walk in the front alerting the alms donors, as venerable monks from nearby monasteries perform their daily alms rounds in procession, barefooted around the Thuwunna Village. The donors having cooked alms rice and curries since dawn, generously offered alms food into the black bowls and curry in the separate containers brought along by the novice koyins and kappiyas. The monks return to their respective monasteries for their daily lunch till 12 noon, after which the venerable ones abstained from any solid food till 6 am next morning, a 16-hour fasting every day.

Noontime is treach-

in the dark roofs of the corridors and prayer halls around the most sacred Shwedagon Pagoda now flew out into the darkening sky from the western tiered corridors in search of food all night as they are nocturnal creatures. It was a real scene, unforgettable marveling the handiwork of nature. By next dawn tired but well fed they return to their nests, unerringly in same procession. But unknown to them, we could not imagine how many of such creatures had failed to return and had dropped out in the way with no one to mourn their loss.

Where the sun with all its fiery heat reigned the day, it is the moon with cool silvery beams and stars offer solace in the night. On cloudless nights like Thadingyut and Tazaung-mone, especially in full moon, the nocturnal beauty sails majestically across the sky with the millions of stars paying court, deep into the dark night beyond. In fact the moon is nearest to our planet earth, whereas the stars are millions of light years apart. Unseen by naked eyes there are millions of galaxies some containing million millions of stars. What we know as the Milky Way (*Nga-ga-ngwe-tan*) is just one small galaxy 15000 million years old. And the closest galaxy to Planet Earth is the Andromeda only two million light years away. The author can only pray in deep devotion to The Omniscient Self Enlightened Lord Buddha and his sermons about the infinite universe.

We also are aware of the four principal elements: earth, fire, water and air, interacting to keep nature in harmony. We all know the power and fury of Mother Nature when she is really angry. Remember Tsunami, earthquakes, tornados, typhoons, floods and droughts, fires *El nino*, *La Nina* playing havoc with earth, and earthlings in merciless retribution when they disregard nature's beneficence.

Now it is night. The streets lights emit a faint glow and the house lights rhythmically follow suit. Many a time candle lights took turns to give light, and sometimes draw them back

(See page 9)

## BY BA THAN

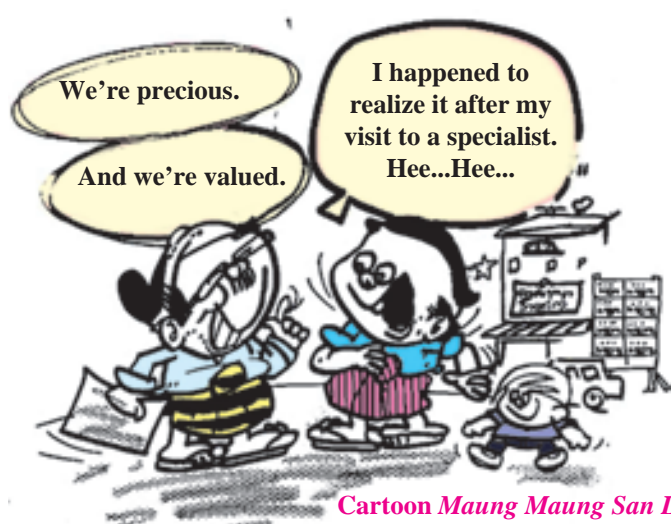
bliss and abandonment. All sights, sounds and scenes familiar in younger days had returned with renewed perspective and vigour. The author's longtime pal and pen friend of 40 years, the late Maung Hsu Shin had reminisced about "his *rendezvous with moonlight*" only when he retired to settle in 'Thunanda' the new suburban town. Inspired by such memories the author now attempts to present his harmony with nature, its sights, sounds and its animate and inanimate creations.

"*Auk-ei-ei-ook*" the first shrill wake-up call of the rooster from the nearby house, REVEILLE' rang loud and clear at 4:30 am. It was still dark but the early rays of dawn have already lit the sky greeting the new day. The chirp and twitter of the birds from nearby trees followed in orchestrated melody as they fly upwards in search of food as early birds catch the early worms. The crows (scavengers), the pigeons, the magpies, the sparrows also scout for food for themselves and their nestlings.

At 5 am, the chime of the triangular brass bells 'kyaisees' chimed from nearby alms offering associations 'Yatkwet Soongyi-laungathins', signaling the end of breakfast charity for over 400 monks during the three months of Buddhist Lent 'Vassa'. From 6 am till 8.30 am, kyaisee chiming

erous in tropical climate especially in hot season. Old retirees take their noontime siesta till evening when the heat subsided heralding twilight and end of day. Fading orange hue lit the sky as Apollo ending the journey of the day rested its tired orb in the west horizon signaling farewell. Many tourists converge in scenic places like top of Mandalay Hill, scenic Bagan where the red sun dipping down the western hills with Ayeyawady River glistening offer idyllic landscape. It was ravishing too as the sun dips into the western horizon in the endless ocean stretch of Ngapali, Maung-magan and Chaungtha beaches. For the author the ideal view was from the middle of Thaketa bridge pedestrian walk nearby when he takes an evening walk to wish the sinking sun *au revoir* absorbing the scene all to himself as the cars sped past by, oblivious to the gift of nature (*where the best things in life are free*), each absorbed in his own self ends.

By twilight birds returned to their nests on the trees chirping noisily, seemingly recollecting their daily forays in the wide world beyond, offering avian melody with the chorus of crickets and frogs. Most magnificently there was another spectacular scene for tourists and nature lovers to enjoy. With the multicolored rays of fading twilight, millions of bats hibernating



Cartoon Maung Maung San Lwin (GAD)



NATIONAL

**President U Thein Sein attends ceremony to share merits gained for ordination...**

(from page 1)

First, the congregation received the Nine Precepts from the Presiding Sayadaw of Mahavisutarama Zaygon Kyaungtaik of Pyinmana and members of the Sangha recited Mitta sutta religious verses.

Next, the President presented the renovated ordination hall and cash donations to the Presiding Sayadaw of Ngwetaung Pariyatti Sarhintaik monastery of Tatkon.

Afterwards, Union ministers and those present on the occasion presented offertories to members of the Sangha, and Union

Minister at the President Office Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Thein Nyunt supplicated religious matters. Later, the President and well-wishers presented the cash donations for renovation of the ordination hall in the compound of Thein Kyaung monastery and ancient pagodas.

Next, the Presiding Sayadaw of Ngwetaung Pariyatti Monastery of Tatkon delivered a sermon and the congregation shared the merits gained. After the ceremony, the President and party paid homage to the renovated ancient pagodas, and the President



**President U Thein Sein makes donation for renovation of ordination hall and ancient pagodas.—MNA**



**The renovated 75-year old ordination hall.—MNA**

formally unveiled the stone inscription of the ordination hall. Altogether 34 ancient pagodas built in the time of King Bodaw in Konbaung Era and religious edifices and the 75 year-old ordination

hall are under renovation by the well-wishers led by the President.

At the ceremony, the cash donations amounted to over K 178.4 million.

MNA

**Loan disbursed to cooperative societies in Mandalay Region**

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Nov— “Only cooperatives system helps the people who are doing agricultural, livestock and general businesses on the small amount of capital contribute to socio-economic development of those people,” said Union Minister for Cooperatives U Kyaw Hsan, at a ceremony to grant micro finance loan for township/ward/village in Mandalay Region held at Cooperatives College

(Mandalay) yesterday. The Union Minister, Mandalay Region Planning and Economic Minister U Aung Zan and officials disbursed loan of K 1129.035 million through chairmen of cooperatives society and cooperatives syndicates.

Ministry of Cooperatives will offer loan to cooperatives societies across the country.

MNA

ARTICLE

**IN HARMONY...**

(from page 8)

to stark darkness of raw nature as the oldies peer grimly for night prayers and meditation before resting their limbs for sleepless nights. Now it is November end of monsoon and beginning of winter. Mist and haze fog dawn and dusk with translucent veil characteristic of autumn and spring. Dew drops rest on grass scintillating with the morning sun eventually to evaporate as fleeting as it is destined to last. Fireflies circle street lights attracted by the glare to enjoy a flicker

of short life before they fall to the foot of the lamp post, in turn offering food for the ants and fodder for new life. On nights clear sky with full moon in full beauty sailing in the magnificently cloudless sky, the author sleep evading, walked out to the porch to be at one with nature in all its beauty, the joy of living in the suburb.

November is the ideal month where nature is at the best, religious festivities abound and people on festive mood. It is also the month where the “Pan Taw

Win Thazin bloom after a year of careful nursing, adorning Lord Buddha in devoted homage. Then it was the preserve of the Royalty adorning the hair of the Queens, princesses and the royalty. Now it is preserved for the teachers of the University and the fresh graduates for Convocation coming in the open season. The choicest stems are also been reserved in the Thazin gardens well in advance for the wedding and reception parties come October every year. In the month of Thingyan after the first spring showers the golden Padauk blooms in all its

golden yellow hue, for only one month of every year, and only one day of the month, greeting the Thingyan and the New Year. By May and June mangoes ripen: traditional *Aung Din* from Mandalay, *Ma Chit Su*, *Mandalay Yin Kwe succulently sweet and juicy to break Mandalay’s heart*; and the latest *Sein ta lone*, (*Diamond Solitaire*), *Mya Kyauk* (*Emerald gem*) to give nature’s bounties to the earthlings. And then *Durians* from Mawlamyine and Thantaung for those who like it, and by December luscious oranges for Xmas, new year and Chinese new year immediately following

suit. And so it goes on and on, year in, year out *sine dei* !

“Cock-A-Doodle-Do” the rooster crows again similar to *TAPS* nearing midnight, reminding oldies and toddlers to sleep. Only now, after a long gap of six over decades from youth in the countryside in the first stage of life, to an octogenarian retiree in the third stage of life in suburban setting of *Thuwunna village* in metropolitan Yangon, but happily distant from the din and bustle of city life, street packed from bumper to bumper of new gleaming cars toiling snail

pace inch to tedious inch, emitting noxious fumes from exhausts, drivers fuming with impatience and anger and boose, and jostling pedestrians ignoring the signals and zebra crossing, the joy of nature and its aesthetic bounties has reawakened its sense of appreciation never sensed before during all these years of hectic struggle for existence without questioning ‘for whom’? Only now far from the madding crowd, (to quote Thomas Hardy) the author has indeed forged harmony with nature and all its blessings.

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## Sweeping Mexico energy reform may stumble in Congress

MEXICO CITY, 10 Nov—Mexico's incoming government will send a wide-reaching energy reform bill to Congress in the first half of 2013, but it is braced for the prospect of accepting a watered-down version that would likely deter investment by oil majors. President-elect Enrique Pena Nieto wants to shake up the sector by opening up state oil monopoly Pemex to more private

investment, hoping it will help boost production. But as a feisty debate in Congress over a labor reform bill has shown, Pena Nieto may struggle in a divided Congress to secure a constitutional reform needed to forge ahead with the deep changes he wants to make.

Changing the constitution, which is necessary to allow foreign companies to take a stake in the country's ample hydrocarbon

reserves and for Pemex to enter into joint ventures, requires a two-thirds majority vote in Congress.

Sen David Penchyna, leader of the energy committee in the Mexican Senate and a member of Pena Nieto's Institutional Revolutionary Party, or PRI, has hedged his bets.

"Right now, over there in that drawer I can take out, without exaggerating, six different proposed models, some with constitutional reforms, some without," Penchyna, a senator from Mexico's eastern Hidalgo state and former national PRI spokesman, said in an interview this week.

"Does a constitutional framework give greater certainty? Yes," he added. "But ... the sector is so attractive and profitable even without constitutional changes." Mexico, the world's No 7 oil producer, nationalized its energy industry in 1938 and it remains a powerful symbol of national self-sufficiency.—Reuters



Mexico's President Felipe Calderon (2nd R) and Mexico's Interior Minister Alejandro Poire (R) sit together with Mexico's President-elect Enrique Pena Nieto (L) during a private meeting at Los Pinos Presidential Palace in Mexico City on 23 Oct, 2012.

REUTERS

## Brazil launches nationwide literacy programme

### Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, 10 Nov — Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff on Thursday inaugurated a nationwide literacy programme, saying education is the key to equal opportunity.

Noting that an average 15 percent of the country's children cannot read or write by the age of eight, Rousseff said literacy and basic math comprehension are essential to the future of Brazil's children. "More than any other initiative, education ... can ensure access to equal opportunities," said the president.

The effort, which requires an investment of 1.33 billion US dollars in

literacy initiatives for pre-school children, is aimed at making Brazilian children able to read and write by the age of eight.

The fund will be used to train 360,000 teachers to teach some 8 million children in more than 100,000 schools in the next two years.

Promoting reading and writing among children cannot be achieved by the government alone, said Rousseff, adding that families and society as a whole need to get involved also. "The future of the country is at stake," she said. "The poor education of public school children is at the root of inequality."—Xinhua

## India, Britain agree to bolster cyber security cooperation

NEW DELHI, 10 Nov—India and Britain on Thursday decided to bolster their cooperation in the field of cyber security, which is a major area of concern for both countries.

The decision was taken after visiting British Foreign Secretary William Hague met Indian External Affairs Minister Salman Khurshid in the national capital, a joint media state-

ment said.

"Both India and the United Kingdom share the core principles of liberty, transparency, freedom of expression and the rule of law which apply in cyberspace. We have a shared interest in enhancing our bilateral cooperation in this area," it added.

Hague arrived in India on Wednesday on a three-day visit.—Xinhua

## Tax hike for wealthy Americans won't kill growth



A man with a local group of upper income professionals who call themselves "Tax-Us" holds a sign during a rally at City Hall in San Francisco, California on 17 April, 2012.—REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 10 Nov—Allowing income tax rates to rise for wealthy Americans, and maintaining rates for the less affluent, would not hurt US economic growth much in 2013, the Congressional Budget Office said on Thursday, stepping into a dispute between Republicans and Democrats over how to resolve the so-called "fiscal cliff."

The report by the authoritative non-partisan arm of Congress is expected

to fuel President Barack Obama's demand for higher taxes on the rich, part of his proposal to avoid the full impact of the expiring tax cuts and across-the-board spending reductions set to begin in early 2013 unless Congress acts.

Republicans argue that any tax increases would be devastating to the economy, particularly to small businesses, and to US employment rates.

They have held firm to

their position that none of the cuts, which originated during the administration of President George W Bush, should be allowed to expire.

The CBO said the tax hikes for the wealthy would reduce job growth by around 200,000 jobs, much less than the 700,000 in job losses claimed by Republican Speaker of the House John A Boehner.

Obama has also stuck to his position, with the White House reiterating on Thursday that the president sees his election victory on Tuesday as an endorsement by voters of his view on higher taxes for the affluent. "One of the messages that was sent by the American people throughout this campaign is ... (they) clearly chose the president's view of making sure that the wealthiest Americans are asked to do a little bit more in the context of reducing our deficit in a balanced way," senior White House adviser David Plouffe said.—Reuters



Snow falls in Hegang City, northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, on 9 Nov, 2012. A snowfall hit Hegang from Thursday. XINHUA

## Disputes, concerns obstruct uncovering Arafat's death circumstances

RAMALLAH, 10 Nov—As the Palestinians are preparing to mark the eighth-year anniversary of their historic leader Yasser Arafat's death on Sunday, they are still unable to come up with evidence to uncover the circumstances of his death, when there are speculations that he was assassinated.

Arafat died under mysterious circumstances on 11 Nov, 2004 in a military hospital near Paris in France without finding any evidence that he was poisoned and his body wasn't autopsied. However, Arafat's death circumstances went up to the surface following the Qatari al-Jazeera Television report aired in July.

The report revealed that according to tests of a specialized Swedish institution

to Arafat's belongings and garments, high percentages of the radiated poisoned Plutonium were discovered. The Palestinian National Authority (PNA) began to act in accordance to what was recently discovered.

The PNA contacted the Swedish Institution and asked Swedish and French experts to come to Ramallah and take sample from Arafat's bones and test them again. The PNA coordinated with Arafat's widow Suha Arafat, who agreed after she asked a French court permission to test her late husband's remains.

While the Palestinians are eagerly waiting to see a scientific evidence to show whether Arafat died of a poison or not, the measures of doing so is going so slow

amid differences on the legal and technical measures in addition to disputes among Arafat's clan members on the whole issue.

Tawfiq Tirawi, head of the Palestinian fact-finding committee to probe Arafat's death, told Xinhua that there are also differences between the French and Swedish medical teams on opening Arafat's grave and taking the samples of bones from it.

"The PNA is determined to go ahead with finding the truth and know the circumstances behind Arafat's death," Tirawi said, while a Palestinian official who spoke anonymously to Xinhua that the differences between the two teams are related to PNA's right of knowing the truth.

Xinhua

## 662,000 still without power in East due to Sandy

NEW YORK, 10 Nov—More customers in New York and New Jersey were without power on Thursday morning than Wednesday due to a nor'easter that knocked out over 300,000 customers and slowed utilities' efforts to restore power outages from Hurricane Sandy.

But by early Thursday, the utilities restored most of the nor'easter related outages and were back to restoring the Sandy related outages.

More than 662,000 homes and businesses primarily in New York and New Jersey were still without power Thursday morning, 10 days after Sandy smashed in to the East Coast, up from about 626,000 out this time on Wednesday.

Sandy made landfall in New Jersey on the night of 29 October. Power companies said the storm affected about 8.48 million customers in 21 states, according to a US Department of Energy report.

Note: States with fewer than 1,000 outages are not included in the DOE's table.—Reuters

REGIONAL

### 18<sup>th</sup> Asian Games to bring opportunities, challenges to Vietnam, Hanoi citizens

HANOI, 10 NOV— Winning right to host the 18th Asian Games in 2019 has already stirred strong reactions from citizens of Hanoi, capital City of Vietnam. “To host the Games is of great significance for Vietnam to raise its position in international and regional arena,” Nguyen Ha Le, a 29-year-old television producer, told *Xinhua* on Friday.

Le is one of the Hanoi citizens who warmly welcome the decision made on Thursday by the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) to award Vietnam the right to host the event.

In a vote at the 31st General Assembly of the OCA in Macao on Thursday, Hanoi beat Indonesia’s second biggest City Surabaya to win the right to host the regionally biggest sport event.

“As Asian Games is the biggest sport event in

the region, the hosting of the event will bring a lot of opportunities for Vietnam to develop, not only in sports, but also in other areas including infrastructure, tourism and other services,” said Le, who like many other Hanoi sports fans heard the news on television on Thursday. “I feel very happy as Vietnam has made great efforts in running for the Games. From now on, Vietnamese government will pay more attention to construction of sport and transport infrastructure. There will be more stadiums to be built and transportation system upgraded. This will be a chance for Vietnam to modernize its image in the eyes of international community.”

Many Hanoi citizens shared similar view with Le, including Pham Thi Thoa, 33, owner of a sport facility shop

**Vietnam**

in Trinh Hoai Duc Street in Hanoi. “I got the information yesterday. I feel very happy and proud,” Thoa said.

“If Vietnam hosts the event, there will be more international and regional tourists to come to the country,” Pham Ngoc Khoat, a 40 year-old driver said. “This will be a good chance for people working in service sector like me.”

According to the Vietnam Olympic Committee, Hanoi will be the main venue of the 18th Asian Games. Besides, there will be 14 satellite sites for the event, including northern port City of Hai Phong, central Da Nang City and southern Ho Chi Minh City.

Total budget for the event is estimated at about 150 million US dollars as about 80 percent of the required venues have been built and only need to be upgraded to meet international standards.

An official from a sport training centre in Hanoi told reporters that he believed Vietnam will try its best to host the event successfully.

*Xinhua*



*Kenji Utsunomiya, former president of the Japan Federation of Bar Associations, is seen shortly before a Press conference in Tokyo on 9 Nov, 2012. Utsunomiya announced his candidacy in the Tokyo gubernatorial election to be held on 16 December to choose the successor to Shintaro Ishihara who resigned in October. KYODO NEW*

### Indonesian gov’t expects 6.4 pct growth in Q4

JAKARTA, 10 NOV — The Indonesian government expected economy to expand by 6.4 percent in the final quarter, supported by investment, consumption and government spending, a minister said here on Saturday.

Indonesian Coordinating Minister for Economy Hatta Rajasa said that he expected the economy to grow by at least 6.3 percent this year. “Our target is 6.4 percent at the fourth quarter,” he told *Xinhua* at the State Palace.

The government spending regularly peaks at the last quarter. Indonesia’s economy accelerated by 6.17 percent in the third quarter after growing by 6.37 percent and 6.3 percent in the first two quarters respectively, according to the national statistic bureau.

*Xinhua*



*Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung (R) meets with visiting Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad at the Government Palace in Hanoi, Vietnam, on 9 Nov, 2012. Ahmadinejad arrived here on Friday, kicking off a two-day visit to Vietnam. XINHUA*

### Mongolia holds National Consumer Conference

**Mongolia**

ULAN BATOR, 10 NOV — The Mongolian government held a National Consumer Conference under the theme of “People is God” here on Friday, which demanded that relevant ministries, manufacturers and distributors should treat consumers as “God” and improve product quality.

Mongolia’s Prime Minister Altankhuyag addressed the opening session. He said that

Mongolia would change the “reform government” into a “service-oriented government.”

He vowed to create more jobs and wealth for people and provide them with affordable food so as to improve their livelihood.

Leaders of the relevant departments answered questions from representatives. Questions focused on quality of housing, heating of homes in winter and food prices. Some consumer representatives said that manufacturers

should guarantee quality at the beginning, and that distributors should not ignore reasonable demands of customers when business is good.

More than 800 re-

presentatives from all parts of the country attended the conference, many of whom queued to raise questions, which reflected consumers’ awareness about rights protection.—*Xinhua*

*Xinhua*



*Kiyomizu-dera temple in Kyoto is illuminated on the evening of on 9 Nov, 2012. KYODO NEWS*

### Singapore in talks with US on FATCA

SINGAPORE, 10 NOV — The Monetary Agency of Singapore (MAS), the city state’s central bank together with the Finance Ministry, announced on Friday that the government is on talk with the US Department of the Treasury to conclude an intergovernmental agreement on the US Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA).

According to the Press release, a private sector advisory panel will be formed to provide industry inputs to the talks.

The FATCA is known as the US initiative to cracking down on tax evasion by their taxpayers who put assets in offshore accounts, requiring reports from foreign financial institutions that hold accounts for US residents.

Earlier this year, the

co-founder of Facebook, Eduardo Saverin, controversially gave up his US citizenship and decided to live in Singapore. Some critics thought he was aiming at avoiding taxes from the US government.

*Xinhua*



*A Cham villager produces traditional brocades and traditional textile products at Ninh Phuoc District in Ninh Thuan Province of south Vietnam, on 9 Nov, 2012. Cham, a nationality of Vietnam, boasts for its ethnic style weaving products, which are commonly seen in tourism attractions in the country.—XINHUA*

### Public support needed to combat children’s malnutrition

MANILA, 10 NOV— Philippine President Benigno Aquino III on Friday enjoined Filipinos to work with the government to bring down the incidence of malnutrition and meet the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) target of the United Nations.

In his address during the 2012 National Nutrition Awarding ceremony, Aquino said that while the government has achieved a

lot in fighting malnutrition, much needs to be done to meet the MDG target of reducing the proportion of underweight Filipino children to 13.6 percent by 2015.

Based on the report titled “Updating of the Nutritional Status of Filipinos” made by the Food and Nutrition Research Institute, the government was able to bring down the proportion of underweight children to 20.2 percent in 2011, from

26.5 percent in 1992. Aquino said a major strategy of the Philippine government to meet the MDG target by 2015 is to focus on the first 1,000 days of each child—from conception to two years old. He said the government will carry out nutrition counseling for expectant mothers, prepare them for breastfeeding, put up lactation stations and promote the regular use of alternative milk.—*Xinhua*

**Philippine**

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**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
HOLIDAY NOTICE**

As the, wharves warehouses and Chellan offices of Yangon Port will be closed on the 13<sup>th</sup> November 2012 (DEPAVALI DAY) and 28<sup>th</sup> November 2012 (FULL Moon Day of Tazaungmone) Goods Shipped or delivered on payment will be received as Holiday Fees.

**INVITATION TO OPEN TENDER**

**TENDER NO (7)(ES)A.M.D (2012-2013)**

1. Open Tender are invited by Agricultural Mechanization Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, for the supply of the following stores (in Myanmar Kyats.)

Lot: No	Description	Quantity
1.	Cylinder Liner	7 Items
2.	INDO FARM Tractor Spare Parts	28 Items
3.	JD-2300 Tractor Spare Parts	56 Items

2. Tender Closing date: 26-11-2012, (16:00 hrs)

3. Tender documents are available at Equipment &, Stores Branch of Agricultural Mechanization Department (Head Office), AMD Office No.(50), NayPyiTaw, during office hours from (12-11-2012). Only Tenders Purchased from AMD will be accepted.

4. For more details, Contact, 067-431243

**Director General  
Agricultural Mechanization Department**

**Nearly half of Britons want  
EU exit UK**

LONDON, 10 Nov—Nearly half of Britons would vote in a referendum to leave the European Union and less than a third to stay in, according to a poll high-lighting divisions facing Prime Minister David Cameron.

Polling company YouGov said on Thursday 49 percent favoured leaving the EU, 28 percent would vote to stay in the 27-nation bloc, 17 percent were undecided and the rest would not vote.

The British leader is under growing pressure from rebels within his party to take a tougher stance with Brussels when he attends EU budget talks later this month.

He also faces an

increasing challenge from the anti-EU UK Independence Party and hardening attitudes against Brussels at a time of austerity and worries over the euro zone debt crisis.

The YouGov results — based on interviews with 1,637 adults in late October — are in line with other surveys and have been broadly steady this year.

A related poll of 1,000 Germans found 57 percent wanted to stay in the EU and 25 percent to leave.

Cameron held EU talks in London on Wednesday with German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who warned Britain not to turn its back on Europe.—Reuters



The European flag (top L) fly amongst EU member countries' national flags in front of the European Parliament, in Strasbourg on 12 Oct, 2012. —REUTERS

**Canada's plant explosion with potentially  
toxic smoke injures 17 Canada**

OTTAWA, 10 Nov—An explosion and fire at a health-product plant in Sherbrooke, Quebec of Canada, injured 17 people on Thursday, leaving a dark cloud of potentially toxic smoke looming over nearby areas.

Police authorities said that the incident occurred

in Neptune Technologies & Bioresources, a producer of health products derived from marine life like Omega-3, local media reported.

It's unclear what caused the explosion, police said, adding that within minutes, employees were evacuated from the facility and the injured rushed to hospital.

Police set up a security perimeter, closed a highway and kept people away from the area in fear of possibly toxic clouds. Officials from Quebec environment department said the toxicity concern stemmed from the plant's acetone reserves, which were struck by the fire. Xinhua

**Invitation To Tender**

Sr.No	Description	Qty	Issuing Date	Closing Date
1.	W.S Socket Clivis For 120kN Disc Insulator (Cat.No.WS.16)	10000 Set	12.11.2012	12.12.2012

Tender forms and documents are available at the Sale & Distribution Department No(3) Heavy Industries Enterprise, Ministry of Industry, Office No.41, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours. Tender will be accepted only from Bidder who purchased Tender Documents officially. (For further details, contact telephone number, 067,408298)

No(3)Heavy Industries Enterprise

**Six people killed in Iraq's violence**

BAGHDAD, 10 Nov—A total of six people were killed and eight others wounded in separate bomb and gunfire attacks in central and northern Iraq on Thursday, the police said.

One of the attacks occurred in the morning when a roadside bomb ripped through Mahmoudiyah town which are predominant Shiites, some 30 km south of Baghdad, without causing human casualty, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Another car bomb followed and detonated among Iraqi security forces and civilians who gathered at the site of the first blast, killing two people and wounding five others, the source said.

Insurgents frequently used a tactic of creating an initial explosion to attract security forces and people and then setting off another to get heavier casualties, he said.

In Iraq's eastern Province of Diyala, a policeman was killed and his brother wounded when a sticky bomb attached to their car detonated in the town of Bani Saad, southwest of the provincial capital city of Baquba, some 65 km northeast of Baghdad, a provincial police source anonymously told Xinhua.

In a separate incident, a civilian was killed and his son wounded when gunmen opened fire on them in the town of al-Hadeed, some 10 km west of Baquba, the source said.

**Iraq**

In northern Iraq, a policeman was killed and a civilian wounded when a sticky bomb attached to their car went off in the city of al-Shirqat, some 290 km north of Baghdad, a local police source said.

Also in the north, gunmen shot dead a lawyer in front of his house in al-Sukker neighbourhood in northern the City of Mosul, some 400 km north of Baghdad, a local police source told Xinhua.

Violence in Iraq has decreased from its climax in 2006 and 2007, when sectarian conflicts pushed the country to the brink of a civil war, but tensions and sporadic shootings and bombings still common across the country.

Xinhua

**Blood on US soldier's clothes matched DNA from  
Afghan rampage scene US**

TACOMA (Washington), 10 Nov—US Army investigators found traces of blood from nine people on the clothes of a US soldier accused of killing 16 Afghan villagers, but only one of the DNA samples matched blood found at the crime scene, a forensic specialist said on Thursday.

Military prosecutors are seeking the death penalty for Army Staff Sergeant Robert Bales, accusing him of gunning down the villagers — mostly women and children — when he ventured out of his remote camp on two revenge-fueled forays over a five-hour period in March.

An Army forensic specialist, testifying in a hearing to decide if there is enough evidence to warrant a court-martial, said blood

from nine unknown people — four females and five males — was found on Bales' blood-soaked camouflage clothing, underwear, socks and shoes. "I tried to take what I thought was a representative item," said Christine Trapolsi, a DNA examiner with the US Army Criminal Investigation laboratory, describing how she cut blood-stained swatches of clothing taken from Bales after he returned to his Camp Belambay base after the killings. Her testimony was the first to physically link Bales to the crime scene with forensic evidence. She said she compared the samples to blood swabs taken from three compounds in the villages of Alkozai and Najiban where as charges of assault and



Staff Sgt Robert Bales, (L) 1st platoon sergeant, Blackhorse Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Infantry Regiment, 3rd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, is seen during an exercise at the National Training Centre in Fort Irwin, California, in this on 23 Aug, 2011 DVIDS handout photo. —REUTERS

wrongfully possessing and using steroids and alcohol while deployed.

The shootings in Afghanistan's Kandahar Province marked the worst

case of civilian slaughter blamed on an individual US soldier since the Vietnam War and damaged already strained US-Afghan relations.—Reuters



A man clears snow from a sidewalk in New York's financial district, on 8 Nov, 2012. REUTERS

ENTERTAINMENT

Britney Spears is like mother to X Factor contestants



Craig, 44, first played the role in 2006 movie *Casino Royale*.— PTI

Daniel Craig wants to quit James Bond role

LOS ANGELES, 10 Nov — Actor Daniel Craig, who has played super spy in three “James Bond” movies, wants to quit the franchise, but film bosses won’t let him. moment I got into it. But they won’t let me go, and I’ve agreed to do a couple of more,” thesun.co.uk quoted Craig as saying. His other two Bond movies are 2008 movie *Quantum Of Solace* and recently released *Skyfall*. PTI

“Twilight” fans camp out days ahead of “Breaking Dawn-Part 2”

LOS ANGELES, 10 Nov — Dozens of excited “Twilight” fans set up tents in Los Angeles on Thursday ahead of next week’s world premiere of the last film in the vampire romance franchise. Some 2,200 people from all over the world have registered to camp on a concrete plaza outside a downtown Los Angeles movie theater, movie studio Summit Entertainment said. once in a lifetime opportunity for some of us. This is the last movie. We’re never going to get to do it again and we wanted to hang out with some of our friends for the last one,” Bri-Anne Glover told Reuters Television as she settled in at the camp on Thursday. “I love ‘Breaking Dawn’ because that’s kind of where I am in my life. I’ve got the husband, I’ve got my children, and we’re getting on with our lives and having a happy life and the same with Edward and Jacob and Bella,” said fan Eryka Bradford. The “Twilight” books by author Stephenie Meyer have been a publishing sensation and the four movies have made more than \$2.5 billion combined at box offices worldwide. The final film sees the bliss of newlyweds Bella (Stewart) and Edward (Pattinson) and their daughter threatened by an ancient vampire coven. “We figured it was a



A Twilight fan displays an autographed magazine featuring Twilight as fans begin camping out at the Nokia Theater for the chance to see stars of “The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2” at the 12 November premiere in Los Angeles, California on 8 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

LONDON, 10 Nov — Britney Spears is like a mother to her US X Factor contestants. The Toxic singer mentors the youngest singers on the Fox reality show and they believe that as she has two kids herself—Sean Preston, seven and six-year-old Jayden James—Britney instinctively looks out for their best interests in the competition.

Speaking at the X Factor finalists party in Los Angeles on Monday, Beatrice Miller, 13, exclusively told BANG Showbiz: “Britney is the best, I had all her music growing up so to be able to ask her advice is amazing. She’s so nurturing. I was having a lot of trouble with my voice this morning and she totally understood. She totally respected the fact that I was unwell and said ‘Just do whatever you feel is necessary’.”

Carly Rose Sonenclar, 13, was also having voice issues this week and agreed that Britney made sure each of her contestants were looked after. She added at the bash held at The Bazaar at the SLS Hotel in Beverly Hills: “She’s

Javier Bardem admitted he was “so embarrassed” to be honoured with the prestigious accolade.— PTI



LOS ANGELES, 10 Nov — Javier Bardem became the latest celebrity to receive a



Britney makes sure each of her contestants were looked after.— PTI

very personable and fun and hands on. She’s very open to questions and suggestions. I’ve been worried about my voice this week and I feel like I can go to Britney with any issues I have.”

Arin Ray, 17, has returned to the X Factor as a solo artist

after auditioning as part of a group last year and is thrilled to have Britney as his mentor.

He said: “To come back this year and have Britney as my mentor is just amazing. The way we bonded was incredible, I hope to some day be as successful as her.

She shows you how to still be relevant in the industry from a young age.” She’s there for me.

She’s so protective of us and just wants the best for all of her contestants.” The X Factor: USA airs on ITV2 Thursday from 8 - 10 pm. PTI

Javier Bardem receives star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame

star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame on Thursday. The *Skyfall* actor—

20-month-old son Leo—was joined by his James Bond director Sam Mendes as well as fellow castmates Naomie Harris and Berenice Marlohe at the ceremony where the modest 43-year-old actor allegedly admitted he was “so embarrassed” to be honoured with the prestigious accolade.

According to *E! News*, Javier’s acceptance speech was full of humour and he even poked fun at his broken nose which he reportedly received in a bar fight several years ago.

The Oscar winning actor said: “Javier Bardem Day.

That’s so cool. And what’s that like? Does everyone have to walk with a broken nose around Hollywood Boulevard?” Javier follows in the footsteps of his beautiful wife of more than two years Penelope, who received her Hollywood star in April 2011, but was not present at her husband’s ceremony.

The 38-year-old actress was presented with her honour from her *Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides* co-star Johnny Depp. Javier’s star is located in front of the El Capitan Theatre on Hollywood Boulevard.— PTI

VP Joe Biden guest stars as celebrity crush on “Parks and Rec”

LOS ANGELES, 10 Nov — Someone has a big crush on US Vice President Joe Biden — and now she is getting to meet him. Biden will make his TV acting debut with a cameo on NBC’s comedy “Parks and Recreation” as the celebrity crush of actress Amy Poehler’s ditzy local councilwoman Leslie Knope, NBC said on Thursday.

Biden, 69, will play himself in the episode “Leslie vs. April,” airing on 15 November, where Knope, a city councilwoman for the fictional small town of Pawnee, Indiana, has a surprise meeting with the vice

president in Washington DC. Knope has long described her ideal man as having the “brains of George Clooney and the body of Joe Biden.”

“Meeting Vice President Biden was a thrill for me and for Leslie,” Poehler said in a statement. “He was a good sport and a great improviser. The vice president maintained his composure while I harassed him and invaded his personal space. The nation of ‘Parks and Rec’ will be forever grateful,” she added. The scenes with Biden were shot in July in the chambers of the vice president’s ceremonial office, during the TV show’s



US Vice President Joe Biden waves upon his arrival in Wilmington, Delaware on 7 Nov, 2012. Biden will spend the night at his home here before returning to Washington. — REUTERS

recent trip to the nation’s capital to film scenes for this season’s storylines. The biggest challenge of landing

Biden’s cameo was keeping it a secret before Tuesday’s US elections.

Reuters

## Blow for Real Madrid as Higuain out for a month

MADRID, 10 Nov — Real Madrid striker Gonzalo Higuain will be out of action for around a month as the result of the muscle injury he picked up against Borussia Dortmund on Tuesday night.

Higuain was substituted at half time in the game after suffering the injury in the first half and tests carried out on Thursday and published on Friday confirm that he has a torn muscle that will keep him out of action for between three and four weeks. The first game Higuain misses is Sunday's complicated BBVA Primera Liga match away to Levante, one of the few places where his side lost last season, while he will also

miss the Champions League trip to play Manchester City and the home game against Athletic Club Bilbao the preceding Saturday. The



Real Madrid striker Gonzalo Higuain

injury is a setback for the Argentinean who has been in excellent form this season, scoring seven goals in less than 700 minutes action in the league and earning the right to start in the team ahead of Karim Benzema, who looked last season as he had become first choice for Mourinho.

Benzema will also miss out at the weekend with a slight muscle problem that kept him out in midweek.

Xinhua

## Murray beats Tsonga to reach London semis



Britain's Andy Murray celebrates winning a game against France's Jo-Wilfried Tsonga during their men's singles tennis match at the ATP World Tour Finals at the O2 Arena in London on 9 Nov, 2012. — REUTERS

LONDON, 10 Nov — Britain's Andy Murray reached the semi-finals of the ATP World Tour Finals when he completed his Group A matches with a 6-2, 7-6 victory over Jo-Wilfried Tsonga on Friday. Big rival Novak Djokovic clinched top spot in the group earlier against Tomas Berdych and Murray walked on to the O2 Arena court knowing winning one set would be enough to see him finish runner-up to the Serbian world number one.

Frenchman Tsonga, despite losing his opening two round-robin matches, could have reached the semis at Murray's expense with a

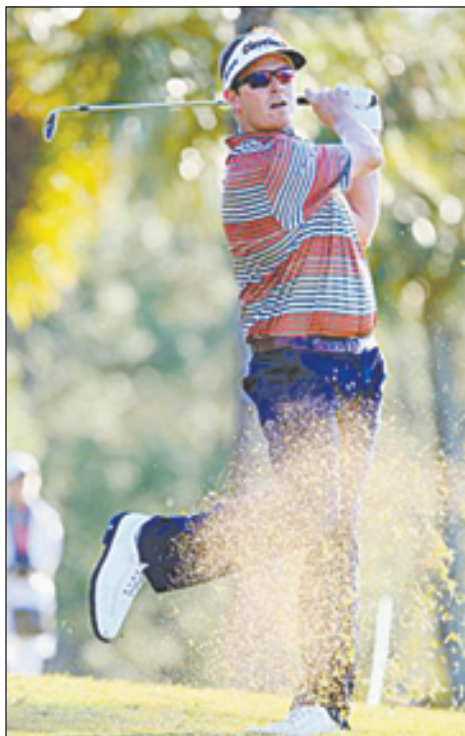
straight sets win but a loose start scuppered any hope. Murray surged into a 4-0 lead as a languid Tsonga gifted the Scot two service breaks with a rash of unforced errors. Tsonga finally got off the mark in the fifth game but it did little to alter the flow of the match as US Open champion Murray wrapped up the opening set in 33 minutes.

Two double faults from Tsonga helped Murray break serve at the start of the second. Murray appeared to lose focus when he allowed Tsonga to break to love and level at 4-4. — Reuters

### Tennis

## Beljan leads PGA event despite heart palpitations

LOS ANGELES, 10 Nov — PGA tour rookie Charlie Beljan was taken to hospital with heart palpitations after shooting a 64 to seize the second-round lead in the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals Classic in Lake Buena Vista in Florida on Friday. Beljan,



PGA tour rookie Charlie Beljan

fighting for a place on the tour for 2013, was also fighting his health with an elevated heart rate and shortness of breath forcing him to lay or sit down between shots as he posted two eagles, six birdies and two bogeys on the way to a three-shot lead at 12-under 132. Seven players were tied on 135. It remains to be seen whether or not the 28-year-old American will return to play the weekend.

"A couple times when he was putting, I thought he might just pass out," his caddie, Rick Adcox, told reporters. "On 16, he put the ball down to putt, marked it and walked away. I thought maybe he was going to get sick there." Beljan complained of breathing difficulties before his round and called for a paramedic halfway through but battled on to claim top spot on the leaderboard. Late last year, Beljan acknowledged having a bout with valley fever, a fungal infection that can cause shortness of breath, rash and joint aches.

"I've got to give Charlie credit for what he did," Adcox said. "I thought he was going to quit out there a few times. He sat down on the bag a few times. He laid down a few times." Beljan, who won the 2002 US Junior Amateur, was number 139 on the money list entering the event, with only the top 125 assured of keeping their full cards for next year. Current projections have Beljan needing to finish somewhere inside the top 10 to reclaim a job for next season. — Reuters

### Golf

## Soccer



The 19-year-old Vitesse midfielder Marco van Ginkel

## Van Ginkel debuts in Dutch squad for Germany

ZEIST, (The Netherlands), 10 Nov — The 19-year-old Vitesse midfielder Marco van Ginkel received his first call-up for the Dutch national team for the friendly against Germany on 14 November in Amsterdam. Van Ginkel was included in a squad of 19 players. Captain Wesley Sneijder was not included, because he has only just recovered from a thigh injury and has not played for Internazionale for six weeks.

Van Gaal left open four extra places in the squad. If Maarten Stekelenburg (AS Roma) and PSV trio Kevin Strootman, Luciano Narsingh and Jermain Lens prove they are fit this weekend, they will be added to the squad.

Xinhua

## Steelers, receiver Sanders fined over fake injury

### NFL

PITTSBURGH, 10 Nov — The Pittsburgh Steelers and wide receiver Emmanuel Sanders have been fined a total of \$50,000 for a faked injury by Sanders in the 21 October game against the Cincinnati Bengals, the National Football League (NFL) said on Friday. Sanders was fined \$15,000 and the Steelers \$35,000, the league said. The league had told clubs in September it intended to crack down on faked injuries used to stop the clock or give a team a chance to get better organized. Sanders grabbed his leg and fell to the ground complaining of a cramp during the fourth quarter of the Steelers' 24-17 win.

NFL Executive Vice

President of Football Operations Ray Anderson said in a letter to Sanders and the Steelers, "neither the video sequence of the pertinent plays nor the observations of the on-field official support Sanders's contention that he was in severe pain."

After sitting out one play, Sanders returned to the field to help in coverage of a fourth-down punt and sprinted down the field ahead of all the other Pittsburgh players. Anderson said there was no suggestion the Steelers had taught or condoned the faking of injuries. "If I believed that to be the case, the discipline would be substantially more," he said. — Reuters



Pittsburgh Steelers Emmanuel Sanders (88) catches a pass from quarterback Ben Roethlisberger (to) score against Oakland Raiders Jeremy Ware (23) in the second quarter of their NFL football game in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on 21 Nov, 2010. — REUTERS

## Knicks grind down Mavericks to maintain perfect start

NEW YORK, 10 Nov — The New York Knicks remain the only undefeated team in the National Basketball Association (NBA) after an impressive 104-94 win over the inform Dallas Mavericks at Madison Square Garden on Friday.

The Knicks were led by five-time all-star Carmelo Anthony who top scored with 31 points and bench man J R Smith who added 22, nine of them during a third quarter surge in which the home team broke clear.

The Knicks, now 4-0, halted a three-game winning streak for the Mavericks who dropped to 4-2. O J Mayo top scored for the Mavericks with 23 but had eight turnovers in a mixed night. — Reuters



Dallas Mavericks guard OJ Mayo (2nd L) and New York Knicks point guard Jason Kidd (C) fight for a loose ball in front of Knicks centre Tyson Chandler (R) during the first quarter of their NBA basketball game at Madison Square Garden in New York, on 9 Nov, 2012. — REUTERS

## Brown fired from Lakers coach

### NBA

LOS ANGELES, 10 Nov — Mike Brown was fired from the NBA Lakers after a 1-4 season start, Lakers general manager Mitch Kupchak confirmed on Friday. The Lakers lost their first three games before their lone victory — a 108-79 triumph over winless Detroit on Sunday. After a 95-86 setback at Utah on Wednesday, speculation surrounding Brown's job status was rampant.

Brown was just beginning his second year as Lakers coach. The team was 41-25 during the lockout-shortened 2011-12 season and lost to Oklahoma City in the second round of the Western Conference playoffs. The firing came only hours ahead of the Lakers playing host to Golden State, a game in which the squad will be guided by assistant coach Bernie Bickerstaff on an interim basis.

Xinhua

GENERAL

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(11-11-12 09:30 am ~ 12-11-12 09:30 am) MST  
 \* Opening  
 \* News  
 \* Lord Buddha's Sermon: Buddha's Ways of Peace and Happiness (Part-2)  
 \* News  
 \* Conversation with World Bank's Country Manger for Myanmar  
 \* News  
 \* Myanma Traditional Wedding Dressing style  
 \* News  
 \* Lotus Light in Labyrinth  
 \* News  
 \* Wonderful Tazaung Taing Nights in Pyin

Oo Lwin  
 \* Blooming Multicolour Flowers  
 \* News  
 \* Taw Win Centre Monsoon Lucky Draw  
 \* Thadingyut Festival at Shwedagon Pagoda  
 \* News  
 \* Signing Ceremony of Distributorship Agreement  
 \* News  
 \* Myanmar Movie "A Song For Younger Siblings"

MYANMAR TV

(11-11-2012, Sunday)

7:00 am  
 1. Paritta By Min Gun Sayadaw

7:25 am  
 2. To Be Healthy Exercise  
 7:50 am  
 3. Nice & Sweet Song  
 8:00 am  
 4. Health Programme  
 8:15 am  
 5. (38) Phyar Mingalars  
 8:30 am  
 6. Documentary  
 11:10 am  
 7. Musical Programme  
 11:20 am  
 8. Round Up Of The Week's International News  
 12:35 pm  
 9. How It's works  
 2:40 pm  
 10. Solo Favourite  
 4:25 pm  
 11. Song of National Race

4:35 pm  
 12. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) - Second Year (Public Policy)  
 4:55 pm  
 13. Songs For Upholding National Spirit  
 5:25 pm  
 14. Sing & Enjoy  
 6:20 pm  
 15. Cartoon Series  
 6:45 pm  
 16. Tamyethnar Takwetsar  
 7:10 pm  
 17. Sweet Melody  
 8:00 pm  
 18. News  
 19. TV Drama Series  
 20. New Melody

Yesago primary school gets a face-lift



NAY PYI TAW, 10 Nov— Manufacturing donated CI sheets to replace the damaged bamboo roof of No. 2 Basic Education Primary School in Zehaung ward in Yesago of Magway Region, according to a Myanmar Alinn report. NLM

NLM

Word! Learning English

Obama's headache, Brad Pitt's aesthetic pleasure and F1 organizer's "friendly" letter to drivers fill this week's column.

"a real throttle on this country's growth now"

Randall Stephenson  
 AT&T CEO

Fiscal cliff may be the first thing that Obama must have to overcome in his second term as the US President. Calling for the actions to resolve the fiscal cliff, AT&T chief Stephenson recently told analysts that the uncertainty acts as "a real throttle" that adjusts the growth of America. Obama said in his post-election remarks on election that most Americans agree with his approach that will ask more taxes from top earners in US.

"We would labour over a single small detail for ours."

Brad Pitt  
 Hollywood Actor

The partnership between the Hollywood star and furniture maker Frank Pollaro will keep going on. The actor who has keen interests in architecture is creating a limited edition collection of well-designed furniture with the help of Pollaro who said, "The designs are 100 percent Brad's." The Golden Globe winner said he and his craftsman are very focused on very details.

"shines an unwelcome beam of adverse publicity"

International Automobile Federation (FIA)

The Formula One organizer sent a letter to all F1 teams warning drivers against the use of foul language during media events. The letter said the swearing of Abu Dhabi Grand Prix winner Kimi Raikkonen provoked public frustration. According to a Reuters report, world champion Sebastian Vettel and Raikkonen "turned the air blue" as they shared the stage at the end of the race on last Sunday.

Anti-Qaeda militiamen foil terrorist attack in southern Yemen

ADEN, 10 Nov — A group of pro-government militiamen thwarted a planned terrorist attack by al-Qaeda militants in Yemen's southern province of Abyan on Friday, a security official told Xinhua. The anti-Qaeda militiamen managed to foil a planned suicide operation, capturing two suicide bombers in the eastern entrance of Luader town in Abyan Province, the local security official said, requesting anonymity.

"Two al-Qaeda suicide bombers were captured. They may have been planning to attack a key checkpoint manned by pro-government militiamen near Luader," the security source said. "Suicide vests lined with explosives were found in their possession," he added. The pro-government militiamen are still searching for al-Qaeda suspects who were involved in the plot, according to the official.

The Yemen-based al-

Qaeda offshoot has exploited Yemen's year-long security vacuum during protests against the long-time ruler Ali Abdullah Saleh and controlled several southern cities for more than one year before they were driven out by a US-backed army offensive.

On 20 June, Yemen's military officials announced seizing al-Qaeda's last bastion in the country's troubled south following the military offensive. —Xinhua

New York, New Jersey governors warn of long recovery from storms



Customers fill their cars at a gas station in Brooklyn, New York on 9 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

NEW YORK, 10 Nov— Residents of New York and New Jersey were told on Friday to prepare for a long recovery from Superstorm Sandy, as thousands of people grappled with cleaning up their properties, the extended lack of electricity and gasoline shortages nine days after the storm.

New Yorkers faced gasoline rationing for the first time since the energy crisis of the 1970s, as authorities tried to deal with long lines

at gas stations and some commuters continued to struggle to get to and from work.

The White House said

Pentagon releases Benghazi timeline, defends response

WASHINGTON, 10 Nov— Pentagon leaders knew of the 11 September attack on the US Consulate in Benghazi an hour after it began, but were unable to mobilize reinforcements based in Europe in time to prevent the death of the US ambassador, according to a timeline released on Friday.

Senior defence officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, rejected criticism accusing the Pentagon of failing to move quickly to send reinforcements to relieve the consulate or using armed aerial drones to fire on the attackers.

According to the Pentagon's timeline, the military's Africa Command, based in Europe, ordered an unmanned, unarmed surveillance drone diverted to the city in eastern Libya

President Barack Obama would visit the region next week.

Some 434,000 homes and businesses in the Northeast lacked power as of Friday afternoon, down from 696,000 the previous day, the Energy Department said. But for coastal communities where thousands of homes were smashed, flooded, filled with sand or burned to the ground, full recovery would take a long time.

"This is not going to be a short journey" for many communities, New York Governor Andrew Cuomo said at a news conference.

Bloomberg said New York City would work with federal authorities to provide

electricians, plumbers and carpenters to people in the worst-hit coastal areas.

He said some 40,000 homes in the Rockaways and other neighbourhoods had suffered structural damage or salt water had eroded their electrical circuits and power could not be restored until they were sound.

Bloomberg said the programme, to be paid mostly by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, would be faster than asking individual homeowners to find contractors and would get people back in their homes by the end of the year. "We think we can kick-start this," he said.

Reuters

just 17 minutes after the attack on the consulate began about 9:42 pm local time (3:42 pm EDT), the first military action in response to the incident. It took the drone more than an hour to arrive at the scene.

Defence Secretary Leon

Panetta's office was notified of the attack 50 minutes after it began, and Panetta learned of it shortly thereafter as he and the military's top general headed to a previously scheduled meeting with President Barack Obama at the White House.—Reuters



The US Consulate in Benghazi is seen in flames during a protest by an armed group said to have been protesting a film being produced in the United States on 11 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

## Opening, closing ceremonies of XXVII SEA Games in rehearsal



The rehearsal for opening and closing ceremony of XXVII SEA Games in progress.—NLM

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Nov— Opening and closing ceremonies for the XXVII SEA Games was rehearsed at the Wunna Theikdi Stadium here this morning.

A total of 10,000 staff from ministries participated in the rehearsal.

Myanmar traditional elephant dance and Maha Sitaw dance were performed by students of Ministry of Culture and students from

universities cladding in traditional dress of national races and demonstrated the song “a song for the unity”.

U Aye Myint Kyu, Union Minister for Culture and Chairman of the committee for preparations for opening and closing ceremonies for the XXVII SEA Games and vice-chairmen and members of the sub-committee enjoyed

### Russia hands over frigate to India

Moscow, 10 Nov— Russia handed over a frigate to the Indian Navy, the United Shipbuilding Corporation said on Friday. The frigate was handed over to India at a ceremony at the Yantar Baltic Shipyard.

“Frigate Tarkash is the second in the three Project 11356 ships built by the Yantar Shipyard under a Russian-India contract,” United Shipbuilding Corporation spokesman Alexei Kravchenko told reporters.

The first frigate, the *Tag* was handed over to India in April 2012. It has successfully launched a Russian-India *Brahmos* supersonic cruise missile during tests in October.

Yantar Shipyard,

located in the western Russian enclave of Kaliningrad, currently builds the third frigate of the same project, the *Triand*. The vessel is to be delivered in 2013.

Project 11356 frigates were developed by the Severnoye Design Bureau. The ships carry first-strike missile systems equipped with *Brahmos* supersonic cruise missiles with a range of 290 kilometers.

Russia also has been redesigning an aircraft carrier *Vikramaditya* for India with completion scheduled for mid 2013. The carrier’s reconstruction has been repeatedly hampered by various technical problems.

MNA/Xinhua



the rehearsal.

Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries funded K4 million, National Culture and Fine Arts University (Yangon), K 2 million,

### Magway Region Chief Minister inspects regional development tasks

YANGON, 10 Nov— Magway Region Chief Minister U Phone Maw Shwe inspected bridge construction of bridge and station hospital, market and repaving of road

### Myanmar sports delegation attends 31<sup>st</sup> OCA General Assembly

YANGON, 10 Nov— Myanmar sports delegation led by Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Deputy Minister for Sports U Thaung Htaik held discussions with Deputy Minister for Commerce Mr Li Jinzao, Sport General Bureau Deputy Minister Vice Chairman of Chinese Olympics Committee Mr Yang Shu an, General Manager of China Sports International Co., Ltd Mr Lu Guo Guang, Deputy Director-General of Human Resources Development Center Mr Jin Huasheng and Director-General of Information Center and member of Chinese Olympics Committee Mr Zhao Li and officials at Beijing of China on 5 and 6 November.

On 8 November, Myanmar delegation also attended 31<sup>st</sup> Olympics

Ministry of Culture K 2 million and Nay Pyi Taw Command K 500,000 totalling K 8.5 million for the rehearsal.—NLM

and Ayeyawady Bridge (Malun) construction project in Magway Township of Magway District yesterday. Construction of Ayeyawady Bridge (Malun) that links Magway Township and Minhla Township started on 22 November, 2009 and is set to finish in December, 2012. It has been completed by 87 percent.

MNA

### Radiological medical conference held

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Nov—“Radiologists play an important role in both diagnosis and treatment in medical service delivery. The government therefore is doing its best to furnish equipment and develop professionals for development of radiology and radiography”, said Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin at 11<sup>th</sup> radiological conference of Myanmar Medical Association at Chatrium Hotel Natmouk Road here this morning.

The Union Minister added that advanced equipment for radiography were furnished to not only teaching hospitals but also region/state level hospitals at present and measures are underway to equip hospitals in capital, Yangon and Mandalay with linear accelerator CT-Simulators to offer more effective treatment. The

Union Minister called on medics and professionals to accurately report the operational difficulties to the responsible persons. Only then, can appropriate decision be made in considering for further equipment. He called for best efforts of medics, nurses and professional staff in providing health care service to people while the government and Health Ministry are fulfilling the requirements. He wished pearls of wisdom from the conference for development of radiography.

Medics from US, UK, Italy, Singapore, Thai, Japan, Malaysia, and Australia and radiological medical team of Myanmar Medical Association held discussions on radiography, radiology, and tomography and read 55 papers. The conference started 8 November and concluded today.

MNA

### Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister’s Shield Football Tournament kicks off

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Nov—Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister’s Shield U-19 Football Tournament kicked off at Kothein Pitch in Patheinyesterday evening. Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung spoke on the occasion and opened the tournament.

The chief minister enjoyed the first match between Patheiny Township and Thabaung Township. He then presented K 300,000 to Ingapau Township football team. Twenty six teams are participating in the tournament.

MNA



38<sup>th</sup> ASCOPE Council Meeting and 74<sup>th</sup> ASCOPE National Chairperson Meeting in progress.—MNA

### ASCOPE Council Meeting and 74<sup>th</sup> ASCOPE National Chairperson Meeting held

YANGON, 10 Nov— 38<sup>th</sup> ASCOPE Council Meeting and 74<sup>th</sup> ASCOPE National Chairperson Meeting were held at Sedona Hotel from 5 to 7 November.

At the meetings, Council of Asia General Assembly in Macao Special Administrated Region. They arrived back here on 9 November.—MNA

Member of Myanmar Petroleum Council and National Petroleum Company Chairman Managing Director of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise U Aung Htoo acted as the chairperson and altogether 46 petroleum council members, national petroleum company chairmen and work committee members

from ASEAN member countries participated in the discussions. The meetings were focused on oil and gas security in ASEAN countries, trans-boundary gas transportation measures and ASCOPE DECOMMISSIONING GUIDELINE (ADG) was successfully signed for the sake of sea and its environs.—MNA