

## President U Thein Sein congratulates General Secretary of CPC

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to H.E Mr Xi Jinping on his election as General Secretary and Member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China.—MNA

## US President Barack Obama to pay working visit to Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov—At the invitation of President U Thein Sein of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, President Mr Barack Obama of the United States of America will pay a working visit to Myanmar in the near future.

MNA

**Local people in Rakhine State should not pursue their own interests only instead they should extensively pursue the interests of Myanmar and its people, global nations and entire mankind**

**Entire people to work together with the government without racism and regionalism in efforts to ensure mutual understanding over differences between two communities, to respect the rights and avoid conflicts**

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein clarified undertakings of the government over incidents in Rakhine State under the law to members of the Sangha led by members of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha Mingalayama Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Ratthasara of Botahtaung Township and heads of Islam at the hall of the Presidential Palace, here, at 2 pm today.

Also present on the occasion were Union ministers Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Lt-Gen Thein Htay, U Thein Nyunt, U Soe Thein, U Aung Min, U Khin Yi and Thura U Myint Maung, Deputy Minister U Aung Thein and departmental heads.

At first, President U Thein Sein made clarifications on under-takings of the government in response to incidents in Rakhine State under the law. He said: The purpose of meeting is to take

advice from those present, to explain handlings of the Rakhine Incident in line with the law and to avert similar violence in the futures after taking a lesson from that incident.

In 2012, there occurred two cases of violence, killings and arsons. In the incident, the violence killed 167 people and injured 223. A total of 10,100 houses and buildings were razed in the incident. It displaced 111,000 people from 16,980 households. The government is taking care of these victims with the assistance of wellwishers, UN agencies, some foreign countries and organizations.

The root cause of the outbreak of the incident is that two groups committed the killings with anger over a criminal case instead of solving it in the legal bound. It has grown into a massive violence, causing killings, damages and woes. All of these losses are the State's losses.

Some with strong racial

and sectarian views are manipulating the incidents in order that it may grow into a massive violence. In addition, some foreign organizations and countries were releasing the fabrications.

Anyway, the bloodsheds that occurred in Rakhine State have caused a halt to Myanmar's development and lost face on the international stage. There were allegations over Myanmar. And the new government has to settle the problems with some countries including the UN till now.

Bengali people who take faith in Islam have been living in Rakhine State since the time of the British colonial rule. According to the census taken by the British in 1872, there were 58,255 Mahamadem there. Those people were doing farming. They went back to a neighbouring country just when finishing their works. Later, they settled down there without going back to their places. The successive governments laid down plans to prevent this as a national duty as there were people born from original residents and ill-legal migrants.

During June and October incidents, there occurred conflicts in 11 of 17 townships in Rakhine State. It is found that the percentage of people who have suffered the consequences of it is 53.8% (women), 46.2% (men) and 42.9% (children under 12), mostly women and children. It is estimated that it needs 66.5 million USD for



**President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein makes clarifications on undertakings of the government in response to incidents in Rakhine State under the law.—MNA**

## Summary of observations at 9.30 hr M.S.T on 16-11-2012

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov—During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershower have been widespread in Lower Sagaing Region and Chin State, fairly widespread in Mandalay Region, Shan and Rakhine States, scattered in Magway, Yangon, Ayeyawady Regions and Kayah State, isolated in Upper Sagaing, Bago and Taninthayi Regions and

weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavy fall in Magway Region. Night temperatures were 3°C to 4°C above November average temperatures in Shan, Chin, Kayah and Mon States and about November average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States.—NLM

humanitarian aids for those victims for the period from July, 2012 to June, 2013. For June incident, it cost 1 million USD per month for the food rations of 75,000 victims. About 111,000 victims are suffering the consequences of these conflicts. And 3.2 million people who are residing in Rakhine State have no security and safety, and can not do their livelihoods and trading. Rakhine villages and some Bengali villages are

facing shortage of food due to the lack of trading.

The disruptions of some Rakhine national youths with strong racism and some Bengali have caused a halt to distribution of rations by UN's staff and volunteers to the affected regions.

It leads to the more hardship of victims' livelihoods. But, about 108,000 bags of rice were distributed to the victims from July to October.

Reviewing the current

situation of Rakhine State, local people are suffering from evil consequences of ongoing communal strife, another severe blow to the state which is already in trouble with 43.5 per cent of local population under poverty line. In addition, Rakhine State, the second poorest region of the country, has nearly 289,000 victims of flood and Giri Storm in 2010 in Buthidaung Township coupled with about

(See page 8)



## Union Election Commission Chairman receives EU delegation

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov—Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye received a delegation led by Vice-President of European Union and Advisor to the head of Foreign Affairs and Security Mr Robert Cooper at the meeting hall of the UEC Chairman's Office, here, this morning.

Present at the call together with UEC Chairman U Tin Aye were UEC members U Myint Naing, U Aung Myint, Dr Daw Myint Kyi, U Win Kyi, U Nyunt Tin, U Win Ko and officials of the Commission Office.

**UEC Chairman U Tin Aye holds talks with Vice-President of European Union and Advisor to the head of Foreign Affairs and Security Mr Robert Cooper.**  
MNA



At the call, they friendly discussed plans to cooperate

in free and fair elections of Myanmar and enhancement

of sharing knowledge about elections in cooperation with

international organizations.  
MNA

## Seminar on Deposit Insurance held

YANGON, 16 Nov—A seminar on Deposit Insurance of May Bank, jointly organized by the Central Bank of Myanmar and Myanmar Economics Resources International (MERI), took place, at Kandawgyi Palace Hotel, here, yesterday and this morning.

At the talk, scholars from Malaysia Deposit Insurance Cooperation, Deposit Protection Agency Thailand and Toronto Centre

and CEO Mr JP Sabourin of MDIC of Malaysia and Deputy General Manager Mr Chew Chuan Poh gave talks.

MERI Prof Tan Kim Song extended the greetings. And Deputy Director-General of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Thein Zaw and Managing Director of May Bank Mr John Wong spoke works of thanks.

Present at the talks were the officials of the Central

## Investigation Team formed

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov—According to notification No. 79/2012 dated 12 November of the Union Government, a seven-member team chaired by Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw

Bank of Myanmar, which is undertaking Deposit Insurance, the State-owned banks, Myanma Insurance and private banks, which are undertaking deposit insurance, responsible persons from MERI and May Bank.—MNA

Zan Myint has formed as an investigation team.

It is learnt that the team was formed not only to know the correct situation but to make in-dept investigation into the incident that some villagers were fetching the petrol from derailed train, they burnt and got injured near Chatgyi railway station on Mandalay-Myitkyina Road in Kanbalu Township, Sagaing Region and to take legal action.

The notification stated that the report of the team will directly present to the President not later than 23 November.—MNA

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Forum on Green Economy and Green Growth continues for fourth day in Yangon

YANGON, 16 Nov—The opening for fourth day of High-Level Dialogue of 2<sup>nd</sup> Forum on Green Economy and Green Growth took place at Zaburit Shwesin Hall of Myanmar Banks Association here this morning. Patron of GEGG Dr Nay Tun extended greetings at the ceremony.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe said at the ceremony that 2<sup>nd</sup> Forum on Green Economy and Green Growth was

held in Nay Pyi Taw from 13 to 15 November and the holding for fourth day of High-Level Dialogue in Yangon is to undertake green economy and green growth as a new policy. Good results will come out from this forum, he said. The chief minister expressed thanks to GEGG, line ministries and participants for successfully holding the forum.

The region chief minister then made a speech

at signing ceremony of MoU between Yangon City Development Committee, Shwetaung Development Co, K-Water Co and Chengdo Longxiang Investment Industrial Co Ltd (CLIC) for Yangon Region water distribution project at Park Royal Hotel on Alanpya Pagoda Road.

Afterwards the officials from YCDC, Shwetaung Development Co, K-Water Co and CLIC signed the MoUs.—MNA

## Workshop on new insurance system and benefits of the Social Security Law (2012) held

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov—A workshop on new insurance system and benefits of the Social Security Law (2012) took place at Ahlon Dockyard

of Inland Water Transport (IWT) in Ahlon Township, Yangon Region this morning.

U Sein Than Myint from Social Security Board

discussed new insurance system and benefits. Social Security Board has over 30,000 workers and a contribution of K 30 million.—MNA

## The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

**Information Committee  
Press Release (1/2012)  
(16, November 2012)**

1. At the meeting of the Union Government held at 2 pm yesterday, the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar gave instructions on Rakhine State Issue and relief and rehabilitation in the quake-hit areas in Sagaing and Mandalay regions.
2. Regarding the conflicts in Rakhine State, the President said that a criminal case had sparked riots, and due to instigation of some racists and fabricated news of some countries and organizations, the conflict had turned to racial and religious conflicts, spreading to others towns, causing widespread riots, arson attacks and killings. Despite a period of stability currently there, the Union Government must be alert to the possible riots and conflicts that can arise anytime. The Union Government must assist the people in earning their livelihood, gaining easy access, enjoying education and health care, returning the flow of goods and trade to normality. The ministries are to carry out the tasks ministry-wise with goodwill to help the local people free from feelings of grudges, revenge and anxieties that might arise though they have enjoyed the stability to a certain extent, he said. The President also instructed the Union Ministers to go down to the grass-roots levels and to assist in needs of the people.
3. Regarding the earthquake-hit areas, the President said a work committee for relief and rehabilitation led by the Vice-President (1) has been formed comprising officials from the related ministries to return the relief and rehabilitation of the people in the quake-hit areas to normality as soon as possible. He instructed the Union ministers of the ministries concerned to make field trips to the areas and to speed up the implementation of the tasks. As a government in which people put their trust, it must carry out relief and rehabilitation tasks effectively while the people are in trouble. The Union Government has experienced hardships and challenges unexpectedly and ministries are to coordinate each other and to work together to overcome these challenges.

**Information Committee**

## Union Health Minister back from ROK



**Union Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin attends Fifth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.—MNA**

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov—A Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin attended WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control Meeting for South East Asia Region on 11

November and the Fifth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco on 12 November held in Seoul of the Republic of Korea.

The Union minister and

party visited Seoul National University Hospital on 13 November where they discussed cooperation in medicine fields between medicine universities and hospitals of the two countries.—MNA



WORLD

Rockets hit near Tel Aviv as Gaza death toll rises



Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu delivers a statement to the media in Tel Aviv on 14 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

GAZA, 16 Nov—Two rockets fired from the Gaza Strip targeted Tel Aviv on Thursday in the first attack on Israel's commercial capital in 20 years, raising the stakes in a showdown between Israel and the Palestinians that is moving towards all-out war.

Earlier, a Hamas rocket killed three Israelis north of the Gaza Strip, drawing the first blood from Israel as the Palestinian death toll rose to 19, six of them children. Israeli warplanes bombed targets in and around Gaza city for a second day, shaking tall buildings. In a sign of possible escalation, the armed forces spokesman said the military had received the green light to call in up to 30,000 reserve troops. Plumes of smoke and dust furred into a sky laced with the vapor trails

of outgoing rockets over the crowded city, where four young children killed on Wednesday were buried.

Israeli Defence Minister Ehud Barak said Palestinian militants would pay a price for firing the missiles.

In the latest air strikes, three people were killed when a missile hit their car in the northern Gaza Strip. The Israeli military also said it had carried out aerial attacks and had destroyed 70 unmanned missile launch sites. An electricity generator supplying the home of Hamas prime minister Ismail Haniyeh by the Gaza shore was one of the sites hit by Israeli missiles.

The conflict, launched by Israel with the killing of Hamas's military chief, pours oil on the fire of a Middle East already ablaze with two years of revolu-

tion and an out-of-control civil war in Syria.

Israel says its attack is in response to escalating missile strikes from Gaza. Israel's bombing has not yet reached the saturation level seen before it last invaded Gaza in 2008, but Israeli officials have said a ground assault is still possible.

Egypt's new Islamist President Mohamed Mursi, viewed by Hamas as an ally, led a chorus of denunciation of the Israeli strikes by Palestinian allies.

Mursi's prime minister, Hisham Kandil, will visit Gaza on Friday with other Egyptian officials in a show of support for the en-

clave, an Egyptian cabinet official said. Israel promised that the delegation would come to no harm.

Israeli police said three Israelis died when a rocket hit a four-story building in the town of Kiryat Malachi, 25 km (15 miles) north of Gaza, the first Israeli fatalities of the latest conflict to hit the coastal region.

Air raid sirens sent residents running for shelter in Tel Aviv, a Mediterranean city that has not been hit by a rocket since the 1991 Gulf War. Israeli sources said one rocket landed in the sea, while another landed in an uninhabited area of the Tel Aviv suburbs.

Reuters



Palestinians extinguish a fire after Israeli air strikes targeted an electricity generator that fed the house of Hamas's Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh in Gaza City on 15 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

A Pillar of Self-Defence

The reality of the situation between Gaza and Israel is very different than what many believe. The current round of conflict did not begin with an Israeli operation on Wednesday (Nov.14), but rather with an anti-tank missile fired by Hamas last Saturday. That attack was immediately followed by rockets targeting the civilian population of southern Israel. In the days before Israel launched Operation Pillar of Defence, over 120 rockets had been fired. This escalation was not the first in recent memory, but rather the third of the past month.

Indeed, It is possible to say that the conflict began long beforehand, when Hamas and the other terrorist organizations intensified the firing of rockets and mortars after Israel disengaged from Gaza in 2005. When Israel left the Gaza strip, it did so in the hope that removing every army base and civilian community would lead to a better future for the peoples of Gaza and of Israel. Instead Hamas grabbed control over the Gaza Strip

and the attacks intensified.

At this very moment, one million people in southern Israel are under attack. Schools are closed in a 40 miles radius from the border and families are forced into bomb shelters and stairways after every siren. Each rocket targets civilians and no one in southern Israel is safe.

As a matter of principles, the Israeli people pride themselves on their ability to continue with daily life despite the most difficult condition. However, that was no longer possible after the rockets began to rain down on Saturday.

Israel demonstrated great restraint in the face of the ongoing bombardments. Finally, it could not stand by anymore and was forced to activate its right of self-defence. No state would allow its citizens to be constantly threatened by rockets. Governments have a right and a duty, to protect their citizens from terrorists.

Israel's response to the terrorism from Gaza, Operation Pillar of Defence, was launched to protect its citizens from a strategic

threat. The Israeli military took action against Hamas' long and short range rocket forces, reducing Hamas' ability to launch its Fajr rockets that are capable of hitting Tel Aviv and beyond. The Israel Defence Forces (IDF) also carried out a surgical strike against Ahmed Jabari, Hamas military chief, who was responsible for all Hamas terrorist activity emanating from the Gaza Strip in the past decade. Jabri gained international attention for his direct involvement in the abduction of IDF soldier Gilad Shalit in 2006.

Israel did not seek this conflict. It does not want to see the people of Gaza harmed by the operation. Therefore, Israel is doing everything in its power to ensure that its strikes are surgical and to minimize injury to uninvolved civilians. Israel has already made 20,000 phone calls to the residents of Gaza and dropped counted pamphlets that warn them to stay away from terrorists and terrorist facilities for their own safety.

Unfortunately, Hamas has along history of using

its own people as human shields.

It fires its rockets from amongst the population of Gaza, and then aims at the population of Israel. Under international law this is a double war crime.

The international community can play an important role in this crisis.

Firstly, It can make it clear to Hamas that the rockets launched at Israel must cease. Not only would that help save Israeli lives, it would also assist the Palestinians. Their goals can never be reached by violence, which causes suffering on both sides.

Secondly, the international community should make it clear that it will not abide by Hamas using the population of Gaza as human shields.

The only method to stop this war crime is to soundly condemn those terrorists who deliberately place civilians in Harm's way, using schools and homes as launching pads for rockets attacks.

Embassy of Israel/Yangon



A cylinder containing nuclear waste is transported by rail from Barrow-In-Furness to Sellafield in this 17 Sept, 2002 file photo.—REUTERS

British govt files charges against nuclear waste plant owners UK

LONDON, 16 Nov—British regulators filed charges against the owners of the Sellafield nuclear waste site on Thursday on allegations of illegal dumping of radioactive waste, adding to the plant's history of controversy and complaints. The nine charges relate to the dumping of low-level waste in a landfill in 2010, the latest in a string of issues involving Sellafield, which for the last 60 years has handled Britain's spent nuclear fuel.

"The regulators' joint action follows an extensive investigation," Britain's Environment Agency and the Office for Nuclear Safety said in a statement.

The regulators alleged that Sellafield Ltd, which runs the plant, had breached

permits by dumping four bags of nuclear waste material at the nearby Lillyhall landfill without authorisation. The penalties for such a breach are expected to be relatively small, but the prosecution comes at an inopportune time for Sellafield following a highly critical report earlier this month, said Paul Dorfman, a nuclear waste expert at Warwick University.

"It's another suggestion of laissez faire management," he said. Earlier this month, Sellafield's operators promised to make improvements after the National Audit Office said hazardous waste stored in antiquated buildings at the reprocessing plant posed "intolerable risks".—Reuters

Afghanistan, US start tough talks on post-2014 troops

KABUL, 16 Nov—Afghanistan and the United States have started talks that will eventually define how many American troops stay in the country after most NATO combat forces leave at the end of 2014, and the scope of their mission.

The bilateral security negotiations could take months, and are expected to be difficult. The round of talks that began on Thursday will cover the legal basis for US soldiers to work in Afghanistan post-2014.

"This document is intended to provide the legal authority for US armed forces and their civilian component to continue a presence in Afghanistan with the full approval of the government of Afghanistan," said James

B Warlick, deputy special representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan, who will be leading the US delegation. The thorniest issue in future talks will be whether US soldiers in Afghanistan are given immunity from prosecution under Afghan law. President Hamid Karzai has long demanded that US soldiers be answerable to Afghan law, but the United States insists that its soldiers accused of crimes in Afghanistan be tried in America.

Underscoring the likely difficulty of the talks, US military prosecutors are seeking the death penalty for Army Staff Sergeant Robert Bales, accused of killing 16 Afghan villagers in a March massacre.

Reuters



US Marines of 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines Regiment, board a military helicopter to head out for a mission at the landing zone of Combat Outpost Muza Qal-Ah in Helmand province, southwestern Afghanistan on 11 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS



## Facebook takes another shot at settling privacy lawsuit

Tech

SAN FRANCISCO, 16 Nov — A US judge said he would consider whether to preliminarily approve Facebook's second attempt to settle allegations the social networking company violated privacy rights.

Earlier this year, US District Judge Richard Seeborg rejected a proposed class action settlement over Facebook's 'Sponsored Stories' advertising feature. But at a hearing on Thursday

in San Francisco federal court, Seeborg was much less critical of a revised proposal and promised a ruling "very shortly."

Five Facebook Inc members filed a lawsuit seeking class-action status against the social networking site, saying its Sponsored Stories feature violated California law by publicizing users' "likes" of certain advertisers without paying them or giving them a way to opt out.

The case involved over 100 million potential class

members.

As part of a proposed settlement reached earlier this year, Facebook agreed to allow members more control over how their personal information is used. Facebook also agreed to pay \$10 million for legal fees and \$10 million to charity, according to court documents.

However, Seeborg rejected the proposed deal in August, questioning why it did not award any money to members.

In a revised proposal, Facebook and plaintiff lawyers said users now could claim a cash payment of up to \$10 each to be paid from a \$20 million total settlement fund. Any money remaining would then go to charity.

The company also said it would engineer a new tool to enable users to view any content that might have been displayed in Sponsored Stories and then opt out if they desire, the court document says.

In court on Thursday,

Facebook attorney Michael Rhodes said the settlement provided meaningful protections and that Seeborg's job was to ensure a fair settlement—not write national privacy policy.

"Trust me, I'm not proposing to set grand policy with privacy issues writ large," Seeborg said.

Two children's advocacy groups filed court papers opposing the deal, saying that an opt-in procedure with parental consent should be required before Facebook can use a minor's content in ads.

However, plaintiff attorney Robert Arns said the deal balances the public good with Facebook's ability to run a profitable social networking service.

"We believe we cracked the code so that it's fair," he said.

If Seeborg grants his preliminary approval, outside groups would be able to file further objections before a final hearing.

Reuters

## Samsung Electronics unveils 10nm-class embedded memory card

Tech

SEOUL, 16 Nov — Samsung Electronics, the world's No 1 memory chip maker, said Thursday that it unveiled the 64 gigabytes (GB) embedded multimedia card (eMMC) based on 10 nanometer (nm)-class process

and high-resolution contents such as full HD video, web browsing and gaming on their latest mobile devices, Samsung said.

The new memory solution has a random write speed of

2,000 IOPS (input/output per second) and a random read speed of 5,000 IOPS. Sequential read and write speeds are 260 megabytes per second (MB/s) and 50MB/s each, up to 10 times faster than a class 10 external memory card.

The 64Gb high-performance NAND memory using its 10nm-class technology was applied to the new 64 GB eMMC that went into production late last month, according to an e-mailed statement.

Embedded memory is the key memory component in mobile applications for smartphones and tablets. Advanced eMMCs will allow users to access high-density

Xinhua



Facebook logos on a computer screen are seen in this photo illustration taken in Lavigny on 16 May, 2012.

REUTERS

## Apple, Samsung allowed to add products in US patent lawsuit

NEW YORK, 16 Nov — A US judge allowed Samsung Electronics Co Ltd to pursue claims the iPhone 5 infringes its patents on Thursday, while also allowing Apple Inc to add claims that the Samsung Galaxy Note, Galaxy S III and the Jelly Bean operating system violate its patents.

The ruling by US Magistrate Judge Paul Grewal in San Jose, California, was the latest development in a continuing legal war by Apple against manufacturers like Samsung whose products use Google Inc's Android software.

Representatives for both Apple and Samsung declined comment.

The case is one of two patent infringement lawsuits pending in the US District Court in San Jose by Apple against Samsung. An earlier

lawsuit by Apple that related to different patents resulted in a \$1.05 billion jury verdict against Samsung on 24 August.

Apple filed the second lawsuit in February, alleging that various Samsung smartphone and tablet products including the Galaxy Nexus infringed eight of its patents.

Samsung denied infringement and filed a cross-complaint alleging that Apple's iPhone and iPad infringed eight of its patents.

US District Judge Lucy Koh issued a preliminary injunction against pretrial sales of the Nexus in June. But the US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit overturned the sales ban on 11 October.

Following the debut of the iPhone on 21 September,

Samsung sought to add it as an Apple product that infringed its patents. Apple moved likewise to add the Samsung Galaxy Note 10.1, Samsung Galaxy S III and the Jelly Bean operating system in connection with the Galaxy Nexus.

In his ruling Thursday, Grewal said Samsung acted with "reasonable diligence" in asking the court to allow it to add the iPhone 5 to the case. Apple did not oppose adding the iPhone 5. Nevertheless, Grewal warned Apple to "think twice before opposing similar amendments reflecting other newly released products — eg the iPad 4 and iPad mini — that Samsung may propose in the near future."

Reuters

## "Higgs" boson may not open door to exotic realms

Science

GENEVA, 16 Nov — A new elementary particle whose discovery was announced with fanfare to a waiting world in July may be just a little less exciting than scientists had hoped.

Reporting on a conference in Kyoto where the latest data from their Large Hadron Collider (LHC) was presented, scientists at the CERN European research center said on Thursday it seemed very likely that the particle was indeed the long-sought Higgs boson, which

gives mass to matter.

But rather than an exotic beast opening the door to new realms of cosmology as some had hoped, the data increasingly suggests it is a "Standard Model Higgs" fitting into the current scientific concept of the universe, they asserted.

"It is still too early to tell, but the new particle looks like, sings like, and dances more and more like a Higgs boson," said Pauline Gagnon, a physicist on the LHC Atlas experiment, one

of three which analyse the data.

Oliver Buchmueller, of the rival but parallel CMS experiment, told Reuters "the evidence for it being the Higgs gets stronger and stronger as we go along."

But there was still no sign of it being more unusual than originally predicted.

The prime task of the \$10 billion LHC was to find the Higgs, without which the primeval chaos of flying particle debris after the Big Bang, 13.7 billion years ago,

could not have formed into stars, planets and galaxies.

Existence of the particle was postulated in 1964 by British physicist Peter Higgs, who saw it filling a gap in the Standard Model, a blueprint of how the universe works at the fundamental level fully developed from the 1970s.

Scientists sought to track it from the 1980s and finally succeeded in spotting something like it two years after the LHC went into operation in 2010.

Reuters



A passerby photographs an Apple store logo with his Samsung Galaxy phone on the morning iPhone 5 goes on sale to the public in central Sydney on 21 Sept, 2012.

REUTERS

## TomTom opens up maps to developers

Tech



A TomTom navigation device is seen in this photo illustration taken in Amsterdam on 28 Feb, 2012. — REUTERS

SAN FRANCISCO, 16 Nov — Mapping software company TomTom has made its vast mapping data available to apps developers, providing an alternative to companies that now use maps from Google Inc and Apple Inc.

Dutch-based TomTom,

best-known for its car navigation systems, launched its location-based services platform on Thursday as it looks to compete in a crowded marketplace for Web and mobile maps.

The platform is available for free on a trial basis but developers have to pay if they

use the data for commercial purposes. The new service provides developers access to location and navigation data—including traffic management and routing—and can also be used for collecting location-based intelligence, said Peter Davie, director of product management licensing at TomTom.

Mapping has emerged as a critical application in the mobile computing economy, and TomTom has lagged in taking advantage of the smartphone revolution.

TomTom, the largest navigation device maker in Europe and one of the top three digital map makers globally, has been hurt as consumers increasingly opt for free or cheap navigation software available on smartphones and tablet computers.—Reuters



BUSINESS & HEALTH

Wall Street ends flat as wary investors stay defensive

Google increases investment in clean energy **Business**

NEW YORK, 16 Nov — Stocks were little changed on Thursday as the prospect of a drawn-out battle over impending tax and spending changes made investors wary of getting into the water, while retailer Wal-Mart tumbled after disappointing sales.

The S&P 500 is down nearly 2 percent for the week, adding to last week's selloff and eroding more of the market's gains for the year.

What had looked like a stellar 2012 for stocks has turned into merely an average year, and as 2012 draws to a close, investors are becoming more inclined to protect the gains they have.

The worry is the economy could contract again if no deal is reached in Washington to avoid the "fiscal cliff"—large, automatic budget cuts and tax hikes that begin to take effect in the new year.

Combined with the euro

zone debt crisis, the uncertain outlook for corporations makes it hard to know how much a stock is worth, said Alan Lancz, president of Alan B. Lancz & Associates in Toledo, Ohio.

"Valuation is going to be uncertain because you don't know what the growth will be," said Lancz. "That is definitely not a good scenario for someone to step up to the plate and do a lot of buying."

The euro zone relapsed into its second recession since 2009 in the third quarter as the region was hurt by its debt problems.

Wal-Mart (WMT.N) fell 3.6 percent to \$68.72 and was the biggest drag on the Dow as frugal consumers hurt the company's quarterly sales.

Investors will be watching Friday's meeting at the White House between President Barack Obama and Republican and Democratic



Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, on 15 Nov, 2012. — REUTERS

leaders of Congress over deficit reduction for any sign the two sides are moving closer.

The memory of last year's political impasse over raising the debt ceiling has also made analysts nervous.

"(There is) uncertainty of whether we're going to have a functioning government going forward. That is a weight that

sits on markets right now," said Troy Logan, managing director and senior economist at Warren Financial Service in Exton, Pennsylvania.

Even if the economy avoids an outright recession, there are fears a lengthy political dispute could sap business investment and consumer spending.

Reuters

SAN FRANCISCO, 16 Nov—Google announced on Thursday that it is investing 75 million US dollars in a wind farm in the Midwestern US state of Iowa, making its total investment in clean energy projects to nearly 1 billion dollars.

The Iowa clean energy project, called the Rippey Wind Farm, has a capacity to produce 50 MW of wind power which is enough to power 15,000 homes, according to Google's official blog.

The wind farm is about 209 kilometers northeast of Council Bluffs, Iowa, where sits one of Google's data centers backing up its search engine and other services.

Along with the Iowa wind farm, Google's investment in clean energy now exceeds 990 million

dollars. The Internet search giant said it wants to use more renewable energy for its data centers and plans to have about one third of its data centers being powered by clean energy.

Google, based in Mountain View, California, created in June last year a 280-million-dollar fund with SolarCity, an American home solar energy designing and installing company, and the investment is said to be Google's largest of the kind in clean power to date. The search giant also pumped another 100 million dollars in the world's largest wind farm based in the US state of Oregon in April last year, while unveiling a new plan in September to buy clean energy to directly power one of its data centres.—Xinhua

New study unveils how cancer drug causes heart failure **Health**

US lawmakers pledge action after meningitis outbreak



HOUSTON, 16 Nov—A drug that kills cancer by damaging DNA also attacks heart muscle, which for some patients leads to heart failure, a new study by US scientists shows. Scientists at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Centre and Texas Heart Institute at St Luke's Episcopal Hospital have discovered how the drug, doxorubicin, attacks the heart, opening potential new options to prevent or minimize the drug's life-threatening side effects, according to the online edition of Texas Medical Centre News released on

Thursday.

Doxorubicin, brand names Adriamycin and Rubex, is a 50-year-old chemotherapy drug still widely used against a variety of cancers, including breast, ovarian, lung and bladder cancers as well as leukemia and lymphoma. "However, its use is limited by its cardiotoxicity. We're excited because we've identified the molecular basis for doxorubicin's damage to the heart," said Edward TH, chair of MD Anderson's cardiology department and senior author of the study.

Understanding the steps

the drug takes when attacking the heart can help researchers identify those patients who are sensitive to heart damage by doxorubicin, Yeh was quoted as saying. "Once identified, those patients can be placed on alternative cancer drugs, or on special drugs to protect the heart," Yeh added.

Yeh and his colleagues showed that when a protein known as Top2b was eliminated in the heart muscles of laboratory mice, the mice were protected against and avoided heart damage from the toxic side effects of doxorubicin.

This finding suggests that Top2b triggers the drug's effect on cancer patients, said Yeh. "This is obviously a significant finding," he said, "and one with the potential to help scientists develop a blood test to predict patients' sensitivity to this drug, and to completely eliminate its dreaded side effects."

Reuters

NEW YORK, 16 Nov — Democratic and Republican lawmakers said on Thursday they would alter the regulation of drug compounding pharmacies in hopes of preventing more crises like the rare fungal meningitis outbreak that has now cost 32 lives.

The outbreak of 461 cases in 19 states has been linked to tainted steroid injections from a Massachusetts pharmacy and led to public condemnation of the US Food and Drug Administration and state pharmacy regulators for failing to act against known problems over the course of a decade.

A Thursday hearing before the Senate Health, Education, Welfare and Pensions Committee brought the strongest signs so far of bipartisan willingness to approve legislation that could break down the current separation of powers

between the FDA and individual state regulators charged with overseeing drug compounding.

"Our first order of business (is) to answer these questions: not just whose job was it to prevent this tragedy, but whose job will it be to make sure it doesn't happen again," said Republican Senator Lamar Alexander of Tennessee, the state that has become the outbreak's epicenter with 83 cases and 13 deaths.

Alexander suggested the FDA could be given powers to certify individual states as the primary regulators of large-scale compounders and withdraw certification from those that fall short.

Senator Pat Roberts, a Kansas Republican long associated with efforts to reform the current regulatory framework, said the outbreak's repeated loss of life underscores the need for "appropriate measures" to protect patients.

"In the face of such a tragedy, it is natural to want to take action. And we will," said Senator Tom Harkin, the Iowa Democrat who chairs the Senate committee.

The health disaster behind the debate centers on the Framingham, Massachusetts-based New England Compounding Centre, which officials say produced epidural injections for back and joint pain in unsanitary conditions and shipped more than 17,000 tainted doses to customers in 23 states between May and September.

But health officials say the current outbreak is only the latest public health menace that has been linked to large-scale compounding pharmacies, which are exempt from FDA manufacturing standards for safety and efficacy and regulated largely by states that critics say are often ill-equipped for the job.

Reuters

BP to pay US govt 4.5 bln USD to solve oil spill claims

**Business**

HOUSTON, 16 Nov—British oil giant BP said on Thursday it has agreed to pay 4.5 billion US dollars in fines and other payments to the United States government and plead guilty to misconduct and negligence charges in connection with the 2010 oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

London-based BP confirmed in a statement released on Thursday that it has reached an agreement with

the US Justice Department to resolve all federal criminal charges and all claims by the Securities and Exchange Commission against the company stemming from the 2010 Deepwater Horizon rig explosion, the subsequent oil spill and the response.

The payments include a 4 billion fine to be paid over a period of five years, with much of it to go to government environmental

agencies. Another 525 million dollars, to be paid over three years, will be used to settle securities claims with the US Securities and Exchange Commission, according to the statement.

The BP penalty is setting a record as the largest previous corporate criminal penalty assessed by the US Department of Justice was the 1.2 billion US dollars fine imposed on drug maker Pfizer in 2009,

according to media reports. As part of the settlement, BP also agrees to plead guilty to 11 felony counts of misconduct or neglect charges related to the deaths of 11 people in the Deepwater Horizon accident, one misdemeanor count under the Clean Water Act, one misdemeanor count under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, as well as one felony count of obstruction of Congress, the BP statement said.—Reuters



A Mycology Specialist in the Vanderbilt Clinical Microbiology Lab for patient care examines samples to isolate and identify specimens for growth in Nashville, Tennessee on 19 Oct, 2012.—REUTERS



## Psychological support, cash and kind for locals in quake-hit areas



SHWEBO, 16 Nov — With the aim of giving a helping hand in rehabilitation works for quake victims, officials led by Shwebo Township Pyithu Hluttaw representative Dr Aung Than and Region Hluttaw representative U Tun Ko Ko, a mobile medical team led by Shwebo District Health Department Head Dr Thet Thet Sein, Professor Dr Kyaw Hsan Min and Specialist Dr Maung Maung Kyaw, a group of doctors and nurses led by Chairman of Myanmar Medical Association (Shwebo) Dr Tin Win and Vice-Chairman Dr Aung Than Gyi, Chairperson

of Shwebo District Women's Affairs Organization Daw Shwesi and members and Head of Shwebo Township Fire Service Department U Sann Oo and fire brigade members went to quake-hit villages— Kyaukmyaung, Nwenein, Shwegun, Shwetait, Malar and Makauk—in Shwebo Township.

On their arrival at the playground of Basic Education Primary School in Malar village where relief camp is set up, they provided victims with health care service, psychological support and bags of rice through a leading committee and nine subcommittees.

Wellwishers led by Shweyinmar Sayadaw and other donor groups presented 55 bags of rice, 60 boxes of instant noodle, 55 T-shirts and one bag of detergent powder to victims. Arrangements are being made to donate K 50,000 each to the injured and the deceased, and to reconstruct Malar bridge and religious edifices.

Wellwishers are invited to donate cash and kind to quake victims and to contribute to the funds for renovation of religious edifices, schools and public buildings and humanitarian aids.

*Kyemon*

## Yesagyo quadruplets in good health

YESAGYO, 16 Nov — Ma Khin Myint Kyi, wife of Ko Thein Soe, who is living at Hsinky village in Yesagyo Township of Pakokku District in Magway Region, gave birth to quadruplets whose weight is four pounds each at Chanmyae hospital in Pakokku at noon on 9 April 2012.

The woman who already has a girl called Aye Chan Wai who is in VI Grade at home gave birth to two boys and two girls. All the four children— Kaung Htet Maw, Chan Myae Sein, Chan

Myae Nyein and Kaung Htet Zaw— are in good health and now eight months old. Ko Thein Soe and Ma Khin Myint Kyi who are native of Hsinky village earn a living by trading.

“Daily charge for milk powder is K 14,000. As Maternal and Child Welfare Association of Yesagyo Township bought a nanny goat for them, it helps us relax”, Daw Zee Kwat, mother of Ma Khin Myint Kyi, said.

Hsinky village, 12 miles far from Pakokku, is



## GSM towers reach villages in Thayet Township

THAYET, 16 Nov — In its drive for better living standards of local people in Thayet District of Magway Region, Myanma Posts and Telecommunication allowed 900 subscribers to have access to GSM network during the period from 16 October to 12 November.

Aimed at contributing towards rural region development and poverty alleviation scheme, local people will be able to pay for GSM Sim cards in 16 monthly installments after paying K 4000 for first installment.

Moreover, GSM towers necessary for bridging the gap of access to mobile phone network between rural and urban areas are being set up in villages. So far, two GSM towers have been put up in Settaung village, nine-mile north of Thayet, and in Padaukpin village, eight-mile west of Thayet, and plans are underway to put them into service as soon as possible.

*Kyemon*

## South Okkalapa Township to celebrate Tazaungdaing festival on 27 November

YANGON, 16 Nov — The eleventh Tazaungdaing Festival of Okkalapa Pagoda will be held in conjunction with the fifth Matho Shwekyar robe-weaving ceremony on a grand scale at the pagoda in

South Okkalapa Township on 27 November (14 Waxing of Tazaungmon). Shwekyar robes will be offered to the Pagoda at 5 am the following day. Winners of Shwekyar robe-weaving contest will be

presented handsome prizes. A total of seven groups will participate in the contest. Prize-giving ceremony will be held on 28 November morning.

*Kyemon*

## Sitagu eye hospital opened in Namhkam

NAMHKAM, 16 Nov — The opening of Sitagu Eye Hospital built with the contributions of wellwishers was held at the clinic in the compound of Zeyathukha Monastic Education School in Ward-7 of Namhkam in Muse District, Shan State (North) on 14 November morning.

It is the nineteenth facility of Sitagu eye hospitals across the nation. In accord with the guidance given by Head of Sitagu World Buddhist University Agga Maha Pandita Dr Ashin Nannisaya, Presiding Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vanayasara (Maha Sudhamajotikadhaja) of Zeyathukha Monastic Education School will lead the functions of the hospital.

Local and foreign doctors are providing free medical treatment to eye patients with the help of modern medical

equipment at Sitagu eye hospitals across the nation. A medical team comprising eye specialists from Sitagu Hospital in Sagaing will perform eye surgeries to patients from Lashio, Muse, Hsipaw and Namhkam in Shan State and Lwegyal in Kachin State and Ruili and Mansi in China.

During the opening period, a total of 80 eye

patients have been provided with free medical treatment. It is learnt that anyone, regardless of race and religion, can receive eye care at the hospital.

The Sitagu eye hospital complete with one two-storey building and one patient ward was built with the contribution of K 350 million by wellwishers.

*Kyemon*



## International Financial Reporting Standards Workshop on 23 November

YANGON, 16 Nov — Myanmar Institute of Certified Public Accounts will organize a workshop on International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) at Yuzana Hotel, here, from 23 to 25 November.

Scholars from Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) and Myanmar Institute of Certified Public Accounts (MICPA) will give talks on international financial reporting standards which are necessary for public companies, financial

institutions and organizations that are responsible for informing the public of their reports to be followed.

Those who want to attend the workshop are to register with the registration fee of K 100,000 at MICPA Office at No1/19 on the first floor of Union Auditor-General Office on Thakhin Mya Garden Street not later than 20 November. Those from rural areas are to contact Ph: 214653 before the registration deadline.

*MNA*

## Mobile Developer Day Myanmar on 17 November

YANGON, 16 Nov — With the aim of ensuring ICT development in Myanmar, Myanmar Computer Professionals Association will organize talks on mobile Developer Day Myanmar at MICTD conference hall in Hline Township, on 17 November. Executive Officer Mr. Bikesh Lakhmichand of iTrain Training Centre of Malaysia will give

talks on mobile developing (ios, ios 6, android jelly bean, and window phone HTML5), mobile applications market and current improvements in mobile technology for computer professionals in Myanmar.

IT enthusiasts may attend the talks at MICTD conference hall from 2 to 5 pm on 17 November.

*Kyemon*



LOCAL NEWS

**Myanmar, Okarama held 1-1 draw in tune-up**



YANGON, 16 Nov— Myanmar national team that is making preparations for taking part in the ASEAN Suzuki Cup and Okarama Club of J-League-2 held a 1-1 draw at the tune-up match at Youth Training Centre in Thuwunna at 5.30 pm on 15 November.

Before the final stage of the Suzuki Cup, Myanmar thumbed up with a draw result

with the J-League-2 Club. In September, Myanmar lost to Okarama 0-6 in the tune-up match in Japan but in yesterday's match Myanmar could played counter-attacks to the Japanese club. The opening goal of Myanmar was scored through the counter-attack, in which Kyi Lin kicked the ball into the net from the pass of David Dune. The counter-attacks

of Myanmar were praised by the Japanese coach after the match. However, he noted that Myanmar needs to make preparations not to lose football in the tussling and to save the defensive line.

The reliable Kyi Lin of Myanmar was substituted in the first half due to injury. So, the second half of Myanmar had lass active.

Fortunately, Myanmar got two chances to score the goals, but Thet Naing and Soe Kyaw Kyaw missed the chances. Defenders of Myanmar could play the whole match without mistakes. But, the Myanmar allowed Japan to score an equalizer at 85<sup>th</sup> minute. The equalizer for the guest was scored through header of Okasatabi. The second tune-up match of the two teams will be held at Youth Training Centre at 5.30 pm on 17 November.

*Myanma Alinn*

**Plans underway to hold International Yoma marathon 27 January**

YANGON, 16 Nov— Yangon City Development Committee and FMI Holding Co will jointly organize the first International Yoma Marathon race on 27 January 2013.

The race will comprise 42-km marathon and 10-km short-range race.

The 420-km marathon will start from the People's Square to Punhlaing Golf Resort and then fold to the People's Square. The 10-

km marathon race will start from the people's square to International Business Centre on Pyay Road. It is expected that over 1000 local and foreign athletes will take part in the Yoma marathon.

Five prizes each will be awarded to the winners in the two races. The first prize in the 42-km marathon will secure US\$ 2500, the second US\$ 1200, the third US\$ 600, the fourth US\$ 400 and the fifth US\$ 300.

The first prize in the 10-km race will win US\$ 800, the second US\$ 400, the third US\$ 250, the fourth US\$ 150 and the fifth US\$ 100.

The fee for competition is fixed at K 5000 per athlete. The entrance fee will be spent on philanthropic works and donated to non-governmental organizations.

Any men and women may take part in the marathons.

*Myanma Alinn*

**Shwemanthu responds news on engine blast**

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov— Shwemanthu Highway Passenger Transport Service made a clarification that a news item issued on 13 November in Myanma Alinn said that engine blast wounded a passenger. In this regard, the housing between engine and gear box crushed down due to fault

of pump governor while the driver started his engine at the gate of Shwemanthu at Dagon-Ayeya Highway Bus Terminal at 8.30 am on 7 November 2012 before departure for Patheingyi. There was no damage in engine. The news on engine blast was totally wrong. On the trip, the faults of machine

may cause at vehicles sometimes.

The engine has any fault and crack issued in the newspaper. Shwemanthu line supervises inspection of engine and machine parts of the vehicle with the assistance of skilled mechanics before their departure.

The news that there were three wounded passengers was totally wrong.

In the incident, Daw Myint Myint Sein, a passenger was contused at her right heel. Shwemanthu provides medical treatment to her at the government hospital.

*Myanma Alinn*

**Grand meditation centre under construction**

YANGON, 16 Nov—A meditation centre is under construction for older persons and pensioners at the entrance to Shwepaukkan Hta Ward in North Okkalapa Township. Those wishing to join the meditation course may enlist there.

The grand facility was born out of a small meditation centre which was established at an apartment in Natchaung Ward of Tamway Township in 1998. Thanks to land plot donation, Sayadaw Bhaddanta U Lokapala

and disciples spent K 250 million on construction of the meditation centre. At the centre, about 20 devotees take meditations daily.

The Yogis at night are to take seven hours meditation, and the day Yogis are to take five sessions of meditations from 7 am to 5 pm. The part-time Yogis are to take two sessions in the morning and three sessions in the afternoon. The Sayadaw supervises meditations of the Yogis daily.

*Myanma Alinn*



**Miss Myanmar International 2013 on 24 Feb**

YANGON, 16 Nov—With the aim of making Myanmar known globally, increasing arrival of tourists and enabling Myanmar women to take part in the international contests, Myanmar Travels Federation will organize the Miss Myanmar International 2013 at the Traders Hotel in Yangon on 24 February

2013. A total of 20 contestants will be selected from the contest.

Talents and Model Agency will train the selected contestants in personality, relations, general knowledge subjects, said a responsible person.

*Myanma Alinn*

**GSM telephone donated to village library**

INDAW, 16 Nov— Sagaing Region government donated one GSM telephone to Moethaukkye Library in Nanaung Village of Kandaw Village-tract in Indaw Township of Katha District on 10 November.

It was attended by communication in-charge U Aung Zaw Myint, the head of Township Information and Public Relations Department, village administrator and local people.

The in-charge of the communication donated GSM telephone and Indaw Dana Thukha social association books



to the library. The village administrator accepted the donations and presented certificates of honour to

them. Nanaung Village is located two miles of Indaw. It is being supplied electricity round the clock.—*Myanma Alinn*

**Plans underway to develop ports in Yangon City**

YANGON, 16 Nov— According to the Conceptual Plan of the Yangon City Port Development, the Ministry of Transport and Yangon City Development Committee will join hands in upgrading Botahtaung Port, Nanthida Jetty, Sule Port, Pansodan Jetty and Dalla Jetty.

In so doing, they will undertake development tasks of the Yangon Port so as to improve the image of Yangon City without harming to ancient and significant buildings of the city.

The plans are underway to upgrade Sule Jetty No. 1, 2, 3, and 4 to the wharves that can accommodate containers and international commodity

carrier vessels, install modern freight-handling machinery and construct modern port buildings under the concerted efforts of the Ministry of Transport and YCDC. Moreover, they will upgrade Nanthida, Pansodan and Dala jetties and construct the modern business buildings.

They have plans to upgrade the 32.173 acres of land from Ywathitchaung to

SinOdan Jetty to international level domestic port and modern business building in phase 1, 2, and 3, expand the 100 feet retaining walls to the river and create the relaxation area and canteens on the expanded area. According to the press briefing held by Ministry of Transport, they will take 18 months for construction of Botahtaung Port and three years for Sule Port Project.—*Myanma Alinn*

**Shops of market to be allotted to vendors**

KYAUKME, 16 Nov—A plan is underway to allot shops for vendors at Mingala Market in Ward 6 of Kyaukme.

On 10 November, a coordination meeting was

held at the hall of Kyaukme Township Development Affairs Committee. Director of Shan State Development Affairs Committee U Zaw Win, Kyaukme District Deputy Commissioner U

**Palethwe hybrid paddy yields 165 baskets per acre**

PATHEINGYI, 16 Nov—A ceremony to harvest model plot of Palethwe hybrid paddy was held in Ywahaunggyi Village of Patheingyi Township on 10 October.

With quality strain of paddy and cultivation technology provided by Agriculture Department of Patheingyi Township, three farmers from Ywahaunggyi Village grew Palethwe paddy strain on test.

After harvesting the paddy, the model plot produced 165 baskets of paddy per acre.

The interested farmers plan to put 30 acres of farmland under summer Palethwe paddy.

*Myanma Alinn*

Soe Naing and officials met with market development committee, town sellers and vendors. About 400 vendors will be allotted to shops in the market on 17 November.

*Myanma Alinn*



PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 17 November, 2012

**Rising power in the workplace**

The changing economic landscape of Myanmar under the reformist government is widely expected to bring in new business opportunities, particularly new jobs with sufficient income for basic needs. While there are certain encouraging signs, some local economists have voiced concerns over incompetent human resources of the resource-rich country.

While legacies like regulatory and institutional weakness and business concentration must be addressed as major barriers against democratization process and economic performance, there needs to consider the role of the youth as a source of idea and innovation.

The popular answer of young people in the street learning business studies to the question of for what purpose he learns would still be to get a well-paid job in a big company. "To run my own business" has been a very unlikely answer, a clear implication of lack of ambition, which indeed is an underlying cause of concern for the future of our country. Lack of ambition has resulted in lack of innovation, essential for entrepreneurship which creates jobs and stimulates the economy.

"The youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow" is what the successive government figures have said on their formal tours of educational institutions. But, still there are certain circumstances serving as restraints on energies and devotion of young workers, for example, the long-standing practice of seniority coupled with nepotism in government offices and traditional family-owned companies has barred capable young employees from managerial and decision-making positions, which in turn kill their passion and creativity in the face of grim future with limited option for seeking pastures new.

Merit system must be practised urgently in the workplace if we are to promote our efficiency, competitiveness and productivity. But, merit system does not necessarily mean sacking all the old employees who usually fail to keep pace with changes and perform below par in comparison with young ones but to recognize the rising power of young employees who learn and adapt faster and give them more initiatives, by implication full utilization of human resources.

It is the youth who will decide the tomorrow and it is therefore urgently required to create an environment in which the youth can combine their creativity with passion and energies shaping own future.

**Authorities hunt for people who are holding arms, parts in Rakhine State**

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov — The authorities have arrested 1081 locals in Rakhine State for breaking the law and basic human rights, detained 940 and have taken action against 143 since May.

Besides, in order to address the conflict peacefully, the authorities

ordered the local people to hand over illegal arms and accessories to nearby police stations and security forces as from 3 November and received 726 percussion lock firearms, 130 swords, 506 spears, 112 bows, 611 arrows, 1408 spikes and 398 catapults and accessories



President U Thein Sein meets members of the Sangha and religious leaders.

MNA

**Local people in Rakhine State...**

(from page 1)  
200,000 persons suffering from malnutrition in the northern part, which are viewed as real challenge to the government. It therefore can be concluded from the overall situation that 600,000 locals (19 per cent) out of the local population of approximately 3.2 million people have unfortunately turned into refugees.

This situation suggests that only the collaborative efforts of government and people, UN agencies and international organizations, and NGOs can guarantee the survival of those 600,000 victims.

Rakhine State has seen nearly seven times of communal strife since 1942 in its northern part and 2012 incidents are of the severest ones with perceived instigations designed for conversion from usual social phenomenon to political process.

The conflicts were attributable to attempts for widening the social gap based on long-existed differences of race, religion, language, culture and custom between the two societies.

It is concluded that pre-emptive measures to further reinforce the differences between the two societies and gain upper hand over each other have led to conflicts. In reality, it needs to learn from the examples of different global countries in modern world in which diverse races, languages, religions and customs are converted .....

from the people. However, some who look aggressive have not yet handed over their arms until the deadline passed, and the authorities have been working to take legal action against those who are found holding those arms. —MNA

and utilized as national rich resources.

The wishes of ordinary local people of Rakhine State can be seen as to have access to secured livelihood and job opportunities, be free from poverty and making living in a peaceful and stable environment and they hoped that the government could help them escape from the conflict-led trouble.

In reviewing the root causes of communal strife, ground situation and socio-economic status apart from historical background and racist sentiment are found as root causes. Socio-economic conditions— isolation of the state due to poor transportation, low education standard coupled with poverty, and fewer business and job opportunities are seen as the root causes of the issue.

In reality, Rakhine State is the back gate of Myanmar with commercial opportunities with Western countries, the Middle East nations, ASEAN fellows as well as India and Bangladesh.

Not only Myanmar, but also China and landlocked states near north-east India are interested in using ports in Rakhine State and we should turned the Rakhine State to the trade center of the region.

Sittway and Kyaukpyu deep seaports in Rakhine State would become the international seaports in 2013. Similarly, plans have been made to upgrade the Thandwe, Kyaukpyu and Sittway airports to international airports. Gas pipelines and oil pipelines have been laid from Kyaukpyu to Kuming of the People's Republic of China and when roads and railroads are completed in parallel with the pipelines, Rakhine would become the corridor not only to link with the mainland but

also to link the east and west nations and would become the trade center.

When it becomes the trade center, foreign investment and local investment would flow into the state, boosting the economy of the state and creating job opportunities.

Making the best use of the economic and job opportunities, efforts should be made to improve the education and socio standard of the people in Rakhine State.

However, what play a key role in achieving the aims are stability, peace and the rule of law, he said, and that would be achieved only when there is no social conflict in the region.

The world has become a village due to the globalization and what happened in one corner of the world can be known by every people in the world within minutes and an hour and it is impossible to hide

any issue.

Myanmar is a member of the United Nations and it has relations with other countries in the world and has responsibility to settle the humanitarian issues in comply with the international standard. If it fails to comply with the human rights standard and humanitarian standard that is being practiced by other countries, the image of the country will be tarnished. The people living in Rakhine State have rights to work in the interests of their state and national race. However, they should not pursue just for their own interests and they, taking a wider view, should pursue in the interests of Myanmar and the entire people, the nations in the world and the entire mankind.

In conclusion, the president stressed the need for cooperation of the entire people to work together (See page 9)

**Top wheeling and dealing award winner is 'alcohol ad'!**





**NATIONAL**

**Local people in Rakhine State...**

*(from page 8)*

with the government without racism and religiousism in attempts to bring the mutual understandings on the differences between the two communities, to respect the rights, not to cause conflicts and to bring about the society compatible with each other.

The president asked those present at the meeting to give advice for improvement of the socio-economy of the Rakhine State and the people.

Next, Bhaddanta Cintitalankara, member of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee and abbot of Mizzimayon monastery of Mawlamyinegyun Township in Ayeyawady Region, said that these cases would disrupt the transition. He quoted the

where the people of the largest variety of religions and races in the world live. Do not destroy India holding views of low caste or low religion.' He called for unity among the people of various religions and races without giving any room for extremist views.

Chairman of Rakhine State Sangha Nayaka Committee Sayadaw Agga Maha Ganthavaçaka Pandita Bhaddanta Soma of Dhammathukha Monastery of Sittway recognized the inspection team formed by the government as a group of practitioners; urging them to give the medicine that can cure the disease and highlighting middle way to be practiced. The Sayadaw acknowledged the President

the people are worried about many matters. The Sayadaw noted that taking of security measures, deployment of security forces and carrying out of effective rule of law.

Retired ambassador U Hla Maung said if a country is to develop its economy, it first needs to make sure stability. The stability of the State is of super importance at a time the Western countries have recognized the reform process of the new government with huge investment potential. He concluded that though political stability is prerequisite for economic prosperity of a country, it still would not be able to avoid conflicts without economic growth.

U Than Lwin of Myanmar Muslim National Affairs



**Alodawpyae Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Ganthavaçaka Pandita Bhaddanta Suçitta-bhivamsa.**  
MNA

and regionalism would be hindrances for economic reform. Being a country sandwiched between growing powers India and China, Myanmar would be able to enjoy the portion of development. He made a

request to stay away from racism, regionalism and past experiences. He continued to say that the country would enjoy peace and prosperity if the ways and instructions for peace and stability of the State are made so that the people can know and practice easily.

U Tin Maung Win of Myanmar Muslim National Affairs Federation said we can yet say that the current situation in Rakhine State is good but anyone can't say if the situation would worsen. But, if we see the results, the situation is good. We want to urge to search the arms and take actions against those who are holding arms. We should do it for the rule of law. The government should let the people know through media that the legal actions are taken against those who are holding arms. Rakhine State is weak in education and health sectors and it will take time to improve those sectors.

The conflict that happened in Rakhine is just a small one in compare with the global ones. If we can work to prevail peace and stability in the region, we can go along the right track to the development smoothly. After that, the President said he was pleased to realize the Ovada of the Sayadaws and experiences

and advice of Islam leaders and added that he believed the Ovada and the advice will contribute much to the national development. The national building endeavour of today is the implementation of the people's desires. The common desire of the people is peace and stability and national development. As peace and stability and national development as the aspirations of the people, the government is implementing them in its utmost. Only when there is peace and stability will it be possible to engage in economic development. And only when there is higher socio-economic status of the people will peace and stability prevail.

Efforts are being made for ensuring all inclusiveness in bringing peace to the nation and progress has been made to a certain extent in that regard. Although the achievements were made in the peace-making mission with the armed groups, some efforts did meet with failure. Thus, the problems still exist as the legacy of the new government. It is known to all that strenuous efforts are being made to bring about peace realizing that only when there is achievement in peace-making process will there be peace and stability in the nation. Myanmar already has basic foundations for development. But the job opportunity is slim and poverty rate is high due to economic sanctions over 20 years ago. As foreign investment is a source of job opportunity, there will be much of job opportunity only when there is an influx of foreign investment into the country. If there are still economic sanctions against the nation, there cannot be a great deal of foreign investment. This being so, the county is trying to come to term with all the nations to ensure that sanctions are gradually lifted.

Peace and stability and economic development are interdependent. In its efforts for national development the government will continue to implement the Ovada, experiences and advice of the Sayadaws and the religious leaders. But the tasks cannot be done by the government alone but the entire people. And the Ovada, experiences and advice will be made public all the more.

And the ceremony came to an end at 3.40 pm.

MNA



**Retired ambassador U Hla Maung.**  
MNA

Buddha as saying, 'Efforts of united group bring about wellbeing.' He stressed the importance of unity of all the people living in the country. Tolerance and loving-kindness among the people must be developed, he said.

Agga Maha Ganthavaçaka Pandita Bhaddanta Suçittabhivamsa, abbot of Alodawpyae monastery Dhammacariya University, quoted Mahatma Gandhi as saying, 'India is a country

that the government was striving for peace and stability and development of the nation, day in day out. Unselfish and righteous motives could bring peace and stability.

Secretary of Rakhine State Sangha Nayaka Committee Agga Maha Ganthavaçaka Pandita Bhaddanta Nandasiri of Sittway Nandayama Monastery expressed his opinion that security measure is the main point. Although present situation is calm,



**Vice-Chairman of Kanbawza Bank Ltd U Than Lwin.**  
MNA

Federation (Vice-Chairman of Kanbawza Bank Ltd) said that a spirit of finding solace is the principle of Buddhism. He spotlighted India and Singapore as role models of all-religion friendship, urging that unrests in Rakhine state could be solved taking the lessons from the situation in India and Singapore. Another point he highlighted was Mahatma Gandhi-initiated all-religion friendship. While nation-building endeavors were in good shape, racism

request to stay away from racism, regionalism and past experiences.

U Hla Win, Chairman of Myanmar Muslim National Affairs Federation said the investigation commission has to investigate and collect the causes, ways for settling out the conflict and needs to be done for the economic development of the state. If there is no tolerance and loving-kindness, the issue would not be settled out. It is important to have unity among the societies and to do

**Pyidaungsu Hluttaw focuses...**

*(from page 16)*

ADB will disburse PBL of 575.5 million USD to Myanmar with eight-year suspension period and six-year repayment period. World Bank also will offer DPO loan of 440 million USD, with 10-year suspension period and 30-year repayment period.

After getting bridge loan from JBIC, repayment of loan to ADB and World Bank and repayment of loan to JBIC by ADB and World Bank will be done in a day.

About Japan Yen (about 150,000 USD) is to be paid to JBIC for legal fees and bank service charges, including interest rate for one day, for bridge loan.

After the debt is paid off, designated interest rate is to be paid to ADB and World Bank during the suspension period.

The Minister urged Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to approve taking these loans in accord with the prescriptions described in chapter-3 of

Union Budget Law (2012).

With respect to that message, member of Bill Committee U Stephen submitted the Bill Committee's findings and report. After that, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker said that plans are under way to carry out the approval of Foreign Investment Bill and Additional Budget Allocation Bill of the Union (2012-2013 financial year) at fifth regular session of first Pyidaungsu Hluttaw that start holding as of 22-10-2012, as a first priority, approval of Pyithu Hluttaw

and Amyotha Hluttaw Bills as a second priority and foreign loans and debts matters, International bounds and other Hluttaw Affairs including the discussions, putting records and approval of the messages and reports on changing the use of funds, sent by the President and the Union Government from time to time as a third priority.

Till to date, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Session is held for six days. During that period, Hluttaw had approved Foreign Investment Law and the bills of Pyithu Hluttaw

and Amyotha Hluttaw, two messages from the President and put Union Government's three reports sent by the Union Government on record and undertaken other Hluttaw affairs.

Plans are under way to discuss and approve Additional Union Budget Allocation Bill and messages on the repayment of foreign debts and non-nuclear proliferation pacts at the coming week session. Fifth regular session will come to an end after the above-mentioned tasks have been carried out.—MNA



## Florida governor orders review of election laws after voting snafus

US

TALLAHASSEE, 16 Nov—Florida Governor Rick Scott ordered his top elections official on Wednesday to figure out what caused long lines at polling stations and delays in ballot counting in the battleground state on Election Day.

A week after Florida again made headlines for an election fiasco that forced voters to wait hours to cast ballots after polls closed and caused long delays in counting votes, Scott urged lawmakers to review recent changes to state election laws that critics say contributed to the problems.

"Floridians should not have to wait several days for the results of a major presidential election to be tabulated because of the delays in a few counties when the majority of counties, including major metropolitan areas, have been counted," Scott said in a statement.

Scott, a Republican, has faced intense criticism over the delays and long lines.

Last year, Scott backed a law passed by Florida's Republican-controlled Legislature that reduced the number of early voting days

and put in place restrictions making it harder to register voters.

Democrats and voting rights groups criticized the law, arguing it unfairly targeted Democrats and specifically minorities who disproportionately voted early.

The result of the reduced early voting was long lines that stretched around blocks and lasted for hours in parts of Florida.

Advocacy groups, led by the Florida League of Women Voters, have called for the changes to be rolled back.

The governor said the state's top elections official, Secretary of State Kenneth Detzner, will focus on problems that plagued Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach and St Lucie counties.

Each of the counties experienced delays reporting voting results.

Scott also said the voting law should be addressed in the upcoming legislative session, which begins in March.

"We encourage legislators to have a bipartisan, open and vigorous discussion about what changes need to



Florida Governor Rick Scott (C) speaks during a news conference as Tropical Storm Isaac approaches the state amid final preparations for the Republican National Convention in Tampa, Florida on 26 Aug, 2012. —REUTERS

be made to current Florida election law," Scott said.

The governor's comments come as Democrats began putting forward their own reform proposals and Republican legislative leaders also called for another review of state election laws.

"The effectiveness and fairness of the laws governing our elections have been brought into question by the past election," Rep Darryl Rouson, a Democrat, said in a statement. "Our Legislature should not be a prisoner to its own laws."

Incoming Republican

House Speaker Will Weatherford said the election law passed last year may have contributed to the problems, but that it was too early to tell.

He rejected assertions the changes were intended to blunt turnout in Florida by supporters of US President Barack Obama.

"It's not a good thing when it's Friday, three days after the election, and every state in the country is either red or blue (except) there is one that is yellow because they haven't counted the votes," Weatherford said.

Reuters

## 18 killed, 108 wounded in wave of bombings in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 16 Nov—Up to 18 people were killed and 108 wounded in a new wave of bombings across Iraq on Wednesday, on the eve of Muslim festival marking the Islamic lunar new year.

The deadliest attack occurred in the oil-rich province of Kirkuk in northern Iraq, when four car bombs killed a total of nine people and wounded some 32 others, a provincial police source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

One of the attacks reportedly went off in central the city of Kirkuk, some 250 km north of Baghdad, and the second ripped through the city of Hawija, some 50 km southwest of Kirkuk, the source said.

A third car bomb detonated near the office of a Kurdish party in a village, just south of Kirkuk, while a fourth exploded at a parking lot in northwestern Kirkuk, the source added.

Also in the province,

a roadside bomb struck a convoy of vehicles carrying Omer al-Hamiri, governor of the adjacent province of Diyala, at the southern entrance of Kirkuk City, damaging two of his vehicles without causing human casualty, the source said.

The ethnically mix province of Kirkuk and its capital Kirkuk City are part of the disputed areas between the Kurds and both Arabs and Turkomans.

Another car bomb attacked a crowded marketplace near the city of Hilla, some 100 km south of Baghdad, killing six people and wounding at least 37 others, an Interior Ministry source anonymously told *Xinhua*.

In Baghdad, a car bomb detonated near the convoy of a senior police officer at al-Firdos Square in central the city, wounding two of his bodyguards and five civilians, the ministry source said.—*Xinhua*

## Three died in chlorine leak in central Russia

Russia

MOSCOW, 16 Nov—Three people died and nine were hospitalized in a chlorine leak at a chemical plant in Russia's central Perm Region, local emergency department said on Wednesday.

"Three people died on the spot as a result of a chlorine leak and nine others were hospitalized due to gas contamination," the department was quoted by local media as saying.

In addition, 38 more people were admitted to the hospitals for non-life-

threatening treatment, the authorities added.

The accident happened at a titanium-amalgan alloy plant at 13:55 Moscow time (0955 GMT) in the city of Berezniki in Perm Region.

According to preliminary reports, the chlorine unit depressurized and an emission of chlorine occurred. Till now there is no information about any threat to the population. The leaking pipe had been sealed swiftly and repair works were underway.—*Xinhua*

## Libya swears in first elected government

Libya



Libyan Prime Minister Ali Zeidan takes his oath during the swearing in ceremony in Tripoli, on 14 Nov, 2012. —REUTERS

TRIPOLI, 16 Nov—Libya's first elected government was sworn in under tight security on Wednesday with the task of establishing democracy and reining in rival militias who helped overthrow Muammar Gaddafi last year.

In a national congress hall built by Gaddafi shortly before his fall, cabinet ministers swore an oath to protect the North African state, a major oil producer.

The national assembly approved Prime Minister Ali Zeidan's proposed government on 31 October but the list set off violent protests outside congress.

A former diplomat

who defected in the 1980s to become an outspoken Gaddafi critic, Zeidan will govern the country while the congress, elected in July, passes laws and helps draft a new constitution to be put to a national referendum next year.

Congress elected Zeidan a prime minister last month after his predecessor lost a confidence vote over his choice of ministers.

On Wednesday, eight of the 27 ministers nominated by Zeidan were not present at the swearing in ceremony after some members of congress queried their credentials.

"This government will be strong, firm, strict and

will do things with strength with the support of the national congress and the people of our country so we can achieve the ambitions and goals of the revolution," Zeidan said.

Outgoing Prime Minister Abdurrahim El-Keib handed over a gold-coloured replica of Libya to Zeidan.

Cries of "God is great-

est" filled the room as the ministers prepared to take the oath while a video showing stages of last year's uprising against Gaddafi was played.

The government has inherited a huge challenge in restoring order in a country ruled by Gaddafi for 42 years and riven with clan, sectarian and regional divisions.—*Reuters*

## Five charged over Kenya police killings, hunt intensifies

NAIROBI, 16 Nov—Kenya on Wednesday charged five regional officials with the murder of 32 Kenyan police officers killed by armed cattle raiders in an ambush at the weekend, described as the worst attack on the country's police.

The junior officials, who oversee a cluster of villages in the northwestern region, pleaded not guilty after they were arrested early on Wednesday.

Police and troops, backed by military helicopters, launched an offensive against the raiders suspected to be from the ethnic Turkana community who had stolen cattle from the Samburu tribe.

Clashes over cattle, land and water are common

among Kenya's fringe tribes, but many in the east African country were shocked by extent of the violence and the kind of weapons used.

The raiders used

machine guns and rocket propelled grenades to kill the officers in a military-style ambush in the remote northwestern territory. Some unconfirmed media reports said up to 42 bodies had

been recovered in the rugged Suguta valley.

Osman Warfa, provincial commissioner of the vast Rift Valley province, said the five junior regional officials planned the attack. The five were also charged with livestock theft and were being held in custody to assist with investigations.

"We obtained credible information after investigating that implicated the five," Warfa told *Reuters*.

"They planned the raid, kept the stolen animals and instructed the raiders to kill the officers."

The attack has highlighted how ill-equipped Kenya's police force is, at a time when they are facing new challenges.

Reuters



Kenyan police officers wait to receive bodies of colleagues killed in an ambush by cattle raiders in a remote northern region, at the Chiromo University Mortuary in Nairobi on 13 Nov, 2012. —REUTERS



REGIONAL

# Japan sets course for 16 December election and seventh PM in six years

Japan



The parliament building is pictured in Tokyo on 15 November, 2012.—REUTERS

TOKYO, 16 Nov—Japan is set to dissolve parliament's lower house on Friday for a 16 December election that is likely to return the long-dominant Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) to power with a conservative former prime minister at the helm. However, few expect the poll, three years after a historic victory swept the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) to power for the first time, will fix a policy stalemate that has plagued the economy as it struggles with an ageing population and security challenges due to China's rapid rise.

Political experts worry former Prime Minister and head of the LDP Shinzo Abe, who polls suggest will be the next premier, will further fray ties with China, already chilled by a territorial row over a group of islands.

"They will probably have the same problems of

a revolving door at the top and a weak government that finds initiating tough reforms difficult and is tempted to enjoy nationalist grandstanding," said Jeffrey Kingston, director of Asian studies at Temple University's Japan campus.

Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda, Japan's sixth prime minister in six years and the third since the DPJ's landslide election win, said on Wednesday he would call the election. He had promised three months ago to call an election in exchange for opposition support for his pet policy to double the sales tax by 2015 to curb massive public debt.

His cabinet approved the dissolution on Friday morning, Japanese media said, ahead of the formal announcement by the speaker of the house later in the day.

Among the policies to be debated are how aggressive the central bank should be

in trying to beat deflation as the economy slips into its fourth recession since 2000, the role of nuclear power after last year's Fukushima nuclear disaster, and whether Japan should take part in the Trans-Pacific Partnership, a US-led trade pact that Noda favors joining.

Some, however, say the biggest question on voters' minds will be who is best qualified to lead.

"The main issue will be whether we should get rid of the 'incompetent' DPJ and bring experienced people (the LDP) back," said one ruling party lawmaker, speaking privately.

"Or whether because the LDP created the mess, we should have a stronger more intelligent leader, like Hashimoto," the lawmaker added, referring to popular Osaka Mayor Toru Hashimoto, who leads the small Japan Restoration Party.—Reuters



A worker fills a car at a gas station in Hangzhou, capital of east China's Zhejiang Province, on 15 Nov, 2012. China will cut the retail prices of gasoline by 310 yuan (49.2 US dollars) and diesel by 300 yuan per tonne starting from Friday, the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), the country's top economic planner, said on Thursday.—XINHUA

## Two insurgents killed in E Afghanistan

KABUL, 16 Nov—The Afghan forces and the NATO-led coalition troops have eliminated two insurgents and detained two in restive eastern Afghan provinces within a 24-hour period, the coalition forces confirmed in a press release issued from Bagram, the main US base in the country, on Friday.

"Afghan and coalition forces killed two insurgents, detained two and cleared two Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) during operations in eastern Afghanistan throughout the past 24 hours," the coalition's Regional Command-East (RC-E) said in the release.

The insurgents were killed in two separate

engagements in Logar Province some 60 km south of Afghan capital Kabul and Nangarhar Province 120 km east of capital. "Afghan National Security Forces and coalition forces found and safely cleared two IEDs in Zarghun Shahr District, Paktika Province 150 km southeast of Kabul."

The Afghan Taliban has launched massive IED attacks against coalition and Afghan national security force in recent years.

Operations in RC-East are still ongoing, the coalition release added. Taliban insurgent group, who has been waging an insurgency of more than a decade, has yet to make comments.—Xinhua

## Oil tanker, food trucks attacked in northern Afghan province

Afghanistan

AYBAK, (Afghanistan), 16 Nov — Unknown armed men attacked an oil tanker and two food-laden trucks in Samangan Province 215 km north of Kabul late Wednesday night, a local official said on Thursday.

"Unidentified armed men, possibly Taliban militants attacked and destroyed an oil tanker and two trucks carrying food stuffs to Kabul late last night," Ghulam Mohammad, head of the police's crime

investigation department in Samangan, told Xinhua.

No one was hurt in the attack, he added.

Meantime, Zabihullah Mujahid who claims to speak for the Taliban outfit in talks with media via telephone from an unknown location claimed of responsibility, stressing that the Taliban fighters attacked and destroyed the convoy supplying goods to NATO-led troops in Kabul. Xinhua



Afghans gather around burned tanker at a high way in Samangan province, 215 km north of Kabul, Afghanistan on 15 Nov, 2012. Unknown armed men attacked an oil tanker and two food-laden trucks in Samangan province, 215 km north of Kabul, late Wednesday night, a local official said on Thursday.—XINHUA

## US, Thailand sign defence alliance pact

BANGKOK, 16 Nov—The United States and Thailand signed on Thursday a "Joint Vision Statement" for Thai-US defence alliance with intent to maintain peace and security in the Asia-Pacific region. US Secretary of Defence Leon Panetta and his Thai counterpart ACM Sukumpol Suwanatat signed the agreement at the headquarters of the Thai Defence Ministry.

Panetta, who is currently on his official tour to Southeast Asian countries, will be followed here on Sunday by US President Barack Obama who will meet with Thai Prime

Minister Yingluck Shinawatra at Government House. Both are scheduled to leave for Myanmar next on Monday and then for Cambodia to attend an ASEAN summit.

The US defence secretary announced in a Press conference that the government has been committed to the developing and strengthening of the Thai-US defence alliance, because, he said, Thailand is a "great ally" of the United States since the last five decades.

Thailand is one of the five countries in the Asia-Pacific categorized as a



Thai Defence Minister Sukumpol Suwanatat (L, front) and US Secretary of Defence Leon Panetta (R, front) attend a welcoming ceremony at the Ministry of Defence in Bangkok, Thailand, on 15 Nov, 2012.—XINHUA

strategic ally of the United States. The other US allies in the region include Japan, South Korea, Australia and the Philippines.

The Thai and US military forces conduct

a joint military exercise, codenamed Cobra Gold, in Thailand annually. It has been participated and observed by military forces of several other ASEAN countries.—Xinhua

## Foreign leaders to pay tribute to Cambodia's late King Father while attending ASEAN Summit

Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, 16 Nov—A number of foreign leaders will pay their last respects to recently deceased King Father Norodom Sihanouk at Phnom Penh's Royal Palace while they visit Cambodia to attend the 21st ASEAN Summit and related Summits later this week, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said on Thursday.

Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda and Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao will pay tribute to the late King on Sunday, while Indian

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard, Malaysian Prime Minister Modh Najib Hj Abd Razak, and Naoyuki Shinohara, Deputy Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, will pay tribute to Sihanouk next Monday.

In addition, Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, the World Bank's Managing Director Sri Mulyani Indrawati, the World Trade Organization's Director General Pascal

Lamy, and the Asian Development Bank's President Haruhiko Kuroda will pay their homage to Sihanouk next Tuesday.

Also, New Zealand Prime Minister John Key will pay his last respect to the late King next Wednesday.

Sihanouk died of illness at the age of 90 in Beijing on 15 Oct and his body was returned to Phnom Penh on 17 Oct. After a week of mourning, his body has been lying in state for at least three months at the Royal Palace for the public to pay their last respects

before it is cremated in the first week of February next year.

Sihanouk ruled the country from 1941 to 1955 and again from 1993 until his voluntary abdication on 7 Oct, 2004 in favour of his son, the current King Norodom Sihamoni.

He was the king who led the country to gain independence from France in 1953. He suffered from various forms of cancer, diabetes and hypertension and had been treated by Chinese doctors in Beijing for years before his death. Xinhua



## ADVERTISEMENT &amp; GENERAL

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE****MV MATTYS VOY NO (1246)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MATTYS VOY NO (1246) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 17.11.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING (MALAY-  
SIA) AGENCY SDN BHD**  
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE****MV DAGAT BLUE VOY NO (82)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DAGAT BLUE VOY NO (82) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.11.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W (2) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: TOKO KAIUN KAISHA LTD.**  
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE****MV PLATINUM JADE VOY NO (PJ/V  
10/12)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PLATINUM JADE VOY NO (PJ/V 10/12) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 17.11.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W (5) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S HUB SHIPPING SDN BHD**  
Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE****MV SEA PALACE VOY NO ( )**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEA PALACE VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.11.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W (1) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S SEA TRANS SHIPPING  
CO. LTD.**  
Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

**US intelligence committees  
open Benghazi attack probe**

WASHINGTON, 16 Nov—US intelligence and State Department officials testified behind closed doors on Capitol Hill on Thursday about the attack on the US diplomatic mission in Benghazi, Libya, that has turned into a contentious issue between Republicans and the administration of President Barack Obama.

Former CIA Director David Petraeus, before his resignation last week over an extramarital affair, had initially been scheduled to testify at Thursday's closed Senate and House of Representatives intelligence committee hearings, but will now be a solo witness before those panels on Friday

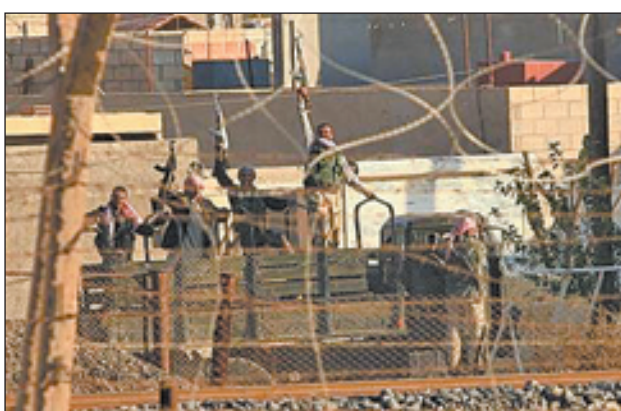
morning.

Republicans have accused the Obama administration of misinformation in the early days following the 11 September, 2012, attack that killed the US ambassador to Libya and three other Americans.

Two top Republican senators on Wednesday threatened to block any nomination of Susan Rice, US ambassador to the United Nations, to a Cabinet post, which must be confirmed by the Senate, for making those initial comments. Obama came to her defence and said if she was the right person for a spot in his Cabinet, he would nominate her.—Reuters



An exterior view of the US consulate, which was attacked and set on fire by gunmen, in Benghazi on 12 Sept, 2012. —REUTERS

**US stops short of recognizing Syrian opposition body**

Free Syrian Army fighters hold up their weapons in the Syrian town of Ras al-Ain, as seen from the Turkish border town of Ceylanpinar, Sanliurfa province on 14 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

BEIRUT, 16 Nov—The United States declined to follow France in fully recognizing a fledgling Syrian opposition coalition on Wednesday, saying the body must prove its worth, after its predecessor was dogged by feuding and accusations of Islamist domination.

Syria decried the new grouping, which it said had closed the door to a negotiated solution with President Bashar al-Assad.

CAIRO/PARIS, 16 Nov—France became the first European power to recognize Syria's new opposition coalition as the sole representative of its people and said on Tuesday it would look into arming rebels against President Bashar al-Assad once they form a government.

Twenty months into their bloody uprising against Assad, fragmented Syrian opposition groups struck a deal in Qatar on Sunday to form a broad coalition and their leader immediately appealed for European backing.

"I announce today that France recognizes the Syrian national coalition as the sole legitimate representative of the Syrian people and as future government of a

"The whole world, and Syria too, says the problem in Syria should be solved in a peaceful framework and through a national dialogue, (but) the first decision taken after forming the coalition in Doha was to reject dialogue and to continue the war," Deputy Foreign Minister Faisal Mekdad said.

"They want to destroy Syria," he told Russia Today in an interview that was also carried on Syria's state news

**France recognizes new Syria opposition**

democratic Syria making it possible to bring an end to Bashar al-Assad's regime," French President Francois Hollande said, breaking ranks with European allies. Six Gulf Arab states took a similar step on Monday.

The question of arming the rebels would be looked at as soon as the rebel coalition formed a transitional government, Hollande told a news conference in Paris.

Arab League and EU foreign ministers meeting in Cairo on Tuesday welcomed the formation of the coalition as an important step forward, although their communiqué showed they had not reached a unanimous decision to recognise it as Syria's sole authority.

The French announcement came just hours after

agency. US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said the formation of the coalition, which supersedes the widely discredited Syrian National Council as the face of the Syrian opposition, was an important step, but did not offer it full recognition or arms. "We have long called for this kind of organization. We want to see that momentum maintained," Clinton told reporters in the Australian city of Perth. "As the Syrian opposition takes these steps and demonstrates its effectiveness in advancing the cause of a unified, democratic, pluralistic Syria, we will be prepared to work with them to deliver assistance to the Syrian people."

The new body brings the Syrian National Council, the hapless former main opposition group seen as under the sway of Islamists and out of touch with rebels on the ground, into a broader bloc with factions inside and outside Syria including rebel fighters, veteran dissidents

Syria's newly installed opposition leader urged European states to back the opposition so it could buy weapons.

Paris, one of Assad's harshest critics, had previously ruled out arming rebel forces, concerned that weapons could get into the

and ethnic and religious minorities.

On Tuesday France hailed the Syrian National Coalition for Opposition and Revolutionary Forces "as the sole legitimate representative of the Syrian people and as future government of a democratic Syria"—the first Western power to go that far.

Six Gulf Arab states had taken that step the day before, but the Arab League and most European countries hung back.

President Francois Hollande's decisive posture on Syria recalled that of his predecessor Nicolas Sarkozy on Libya last year, when France led calls for NATO action to protect civilians that effectively helped Libyan rebels topple Muammar Gaddafi. The European Union bans weapons sales to Syria, but Hollande said the question of arming rebels would be examined once the coalition formed a transitional government.

Reuters

hands of radical Islamists.

Speaking to Reuters as Arab and European ministers met to discuss Syria at the Arab League in Cairo, Mouaz Alkhatib, the Damascus preacher elected unopposed on Sunday to lead the new group, had asked for diplomatic backing.—Reuters



Smoke rises after a Syrian Air Force fighter jet loyal to Syria's President Bashar al-Assad fired missiles at Marat al-Numan, near the northern province of Idlib, on 14 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS



ENTERTAINMENT



Academy Award-winning actor Nicolas Cage

**Nicolas Cage to star in China-US co-production**

BEIJING, 16 Nov — Academy Award-winning actor Nicolas Cage will star in a China-US co-production to be filmed in southwest China's Yunnan Province, the Chinese producer of the film announced on Thursday. The action film "The Last War" tells the story of soldiers travelling through east Asia in the 12th century and their relationships with a Chinese prince and princess,

officials from the Yunnan Film Group said.

The film will be directed by Nick Powell, who is known for his fight choreography in the "Bourne" action film franchise, according to the company.

Powell said the film will be a challenge for him because it includes backgrounds from multiple cultures, as well as features multiple topics.

Hollywood actor Hayden Christensen, who previously starred in the "Star Wars" prequels as Anakin Skywalker, will also join the cast, the film company said, adding that it will be the first film starring both Christensen and Cage.

The company did not provide the name of the film's US producer, nor did it say when the film would make its debut. — Xinhua

**Newly single Justin Bieber to sit with Taylor Swift at American Music Awards**

NEW DELHI, 16 Nov — Justin Bieber will be sitting with Taylor Swift at the American Music Awards on Sunday (18 November).

The Beauty And A Beat hitmaker was due to be seated beside Selena Gomez at the awards ceremony in Los Angeles but after the couple announced their split last week, a number of changes have been made.

Taylor — who is one of Selena's best friends — will now sit near Justin with the 18-year-old singer's friend and mentor Usher and American Idol winner Carrie Underwood on the other side of him, according to E! News.

Meanwhile, Selena's friends reportedly hope her romance with Justin is over for good as she has "shed many tears" over him in the past year.



Taylor — who is one of Selena's best friends — will now sit near Justin with the 18-year-old singer's friend and mentor Usher and American Idol winner Carrie Underwood on the other side of him. — PTI

A friend of Selena's said: "It's been so difficult to watch this unfold over the past year or so. Selena has shed so many tears over Justin. She's tried to split up with him so many times but they have always ended up

back together. It's out in the open now and that is one of the toughest parts, so that means there's more chance it will be permanent this time. But we expect Justin to try to win her back — and he tends to get what he wants." — PTI

**Katie Holmes still "trapped" by Tom Cruise?**

LOS ANGELES, 16 Nov — Actress Katie Holmes still feels trapped by Tom Cruise — despite their divorce.

Cruise remains in almost constant contact to keep tabs on their beloved daughter Suri, so Katie can't ever feel completely free.

"Because of Suri, Katie is tied to Tom for life whether she likes it or not," showbizspy.com quoted a source as saying.

"If I were in her shoes, I would be looking over

my shoulder every step to see Tom's reaction. I know how she must feel. It would be torture almost 24 hours a day. I don't see how Katie would ever be able to relax,"

"However she looks at it - she's trapped," added the source. Adding to her anxiety is the fact that the couple would have celebrated their sixth wedding anniversary on 18 November.

"She's got to be torn up emotionally because it dredges up both good and bad



The couple would have celebrated their sixth wedding anniversary on 18 November. — PTI

memories of their marriage," said the source.

"And there will be a battle over Suri's affection for the holidays. Katie must be fretting over where Suri should spend Thanksgiving

**Psy, Drake, Gotye join American Music Awards birthday bash**

LOS ANGELES, 16 Nov — The American Music Awards rings in its 40th year on Sunday, with top nominees like Rihanna and Nicki Minaj battling for the top trophies and Stevie Wonder leading a tribute to the show's late founder, Dick Clark. Variety is the key to this year's three-hour ceremony from Los Angeles, with performers including Canadian pop star Justin Bieber, 1990s ska-punk band No Doubt, alt-rockers Linkin Park, country-pop darling Taylor Swift, Korean Internet sensation Psy and British-Irish boyband The Wanted.

"The AMAs reflects pop culture, which is all forms of music, all genres, pop, rock, country, hip hop, alternative ... all these things that normally don't together. It's our job to make it flow," producer Larry Klein told Reuters.

R&B star Rihanna, 24,

**Keira Knightley once found a ghost in her hotel room**

NEW DELHI, 16 Nov — Keira Knightley once found a ghost in her hotel room.

Keira Knightley has never believed in the supernatural, but thinks that can be the only explanation for the encounter she had with a mystery man who "disappeared" in front of her eyes.

She told TV talk show host Jay Leno: "I was staying in a hotel in this city [Los Angeles]. The room had a bedroom and a sitting room. I walked into the sitting room. I'd just got out of the shower. There was a guy sitting on the sofa. He had a burgundy shirt on and he had short black hair and I thought 'Oh some guy has come into my room.' I said to him 'I'm really sorry, you're in my room,' and he disappeared. Then my mum



South Korean singer PSY poses with his Best Video award backstage during the MTV European Music Awards 2012 show at the Festhalle in Frankfurt on 11 Nov, 2012. — REUTERS

and Minaj, 29, tied for the most nominations this year, with four apiece, and will battle each other in the hotly contested female pop-rock category. Rihanna will also face stiff competition for the top award of the night, the artist of the year accolade, where she will compete with Bieber, Katy Perry, Maroon 5 and Drake.

The new artist category is expected to be a tight race between rapper J Cole, indie-

pop band fun, Australian singer Gotye, British boyband One Direction and Canadian popstar Carly Rae Jepsen, who will also be performing on Sunday. The ceremony will be shown live on ABC Television.

Unlike the Grammy Awards, which are decided on by music producers, songwriters and others working in the industry, the American Music Awards are determined by fans. — Reuters



The Anna Karenina actress accepts her story doesn't sound very convincing but is adamant the spooky encounter happened. — PTI

came in and was like 'Who are you talking to?' and I'm standing there. 'I don't think I'd been drinking, it was early in the morning so I can't figure out what it was other than a ghost. He was so real, then all of a sudden he

wasn't there." However, the Anna Karenina actress accepts her story doesn't sound very convincing but is adamant the spooky encounter happened.

She added: "I sound crazy!" — PTI

**Amitabh Bachchan is the biggest crowd puller at Kolkata film fest**

KOLKATA, 16 Nov — Megastar Amitabh Bachchan, who had mesmerised Kolkatans with his Bengali at the inauguration of the Kolkata International Film Festival (KIFF) last week, continues to be its biggest crowd puller.

A select bouquet of seven of his most memorable films are being screened at the eight-day festival which ends on Saturday.

Officials said all the shows are going houseful with tickets being sold out days in advance. 26-year-old techie Goutam Basak, who stood in a queue at the state-run

auditorium Nandan to buy tickets of the Yash Chopra directed 1975 classic film Deewar said it is probably the only time he will get to watch his favourite film on the big screen.

"The new releases can be seen in theatres but not the old ones. This was a golden opportunity for me to watch it on the big screen rather than on DVD," he said.

Right from the 1969 film Saat Hindustani, one of Bachchan's earliest films, to more recent hits like Black and Chini Kum, are being shown.

PTI



## Giants' Buster Posey wins NL MVP award

**Baseball**

NEW YORK, 16 Nov — Buster Posey of the World Series champion San Francisco Giants won the National League's Most Valuable Player award on Thursday for the 2012 Major League Baseball season.

The hard-hitting Posey posted the highest batting average in the major leagues at .336 and pounded 24 home runs while driving in 103 to win MLB's most cherished individual award, which is based only on performance during the regular season.

Besides his batting prowess, the 25-year-old catcher was widely credited with helping to guide the Giants' outstanding pitching staff as San Francisco went on to win their second Fall Classic crown in three years by sweeping the Detroit Tigers.

Posey garnered 27 of the 32 first-place votes in ballots cast by members of the Baseball Writers' Association of America in becoming the first catcher in 40 years to win the award

since Johnny Bench of the Cincinnati Reds won in 1972.

It was a brilliant comeback season for Posey, who missed most of the 2010 campaign after suffering a broken leg and torn ligaments in his ankle in a crushing collision as he tried to make a tag at home plate.

"It probably took a couple of months," Posey told MLB TV about when he felt confident about his comeback. "For me the toughest thing was running the bases, it aggravated my ankle a little bit and bothered me behind the plate. But I give tons and tons of credit to our training staff.

"This is an award that will be shared by everyone in our organization." In his 2010 rookie season, Posey played a key role in helping the Giants win their first World Series in more than half a century and was named Rookie of the Year.

Following his injury-shortened 2011 season, Posey returned this year as though nothing had



San Francisco Giants relief pitcher Sergio Romo (R) jumps into the arms of catcher Buster Posey (L) after defeating the Detroit Tigers to win the MLB World Series baseball championship in Detroit, Michigan, on 28 Oct, 2012. — REUTERS

happened. He was behind home plate in June when Matt Cain became the first Giant to pitch a perfect game and he was even more lethal with the bat.

Posey became the first catcher to win the NL batting title since Ernie Lombardi in 1942 and was a runaway winner of this season's NL Comeback Player of the Year award. Milwaukee Brewers left fielder Ryan Braun (.319,

41 HR, 122 RBI, 105 R), the 2011 MVP, was runner-up in the voting after receiving three first-place votes and 285 points.

The other two first place votes went to St. Louis Cardinals catcher Yadier Molina (.315, 22 HR, 76 RBI), who finished fourth behind Pittsburgh Pirates centre fielder Andrew McCutchen (.327, 31 HR, 96 RBI). — Reuters

## New York Yankees play to hit Broadway stage

the out-sized personalities of Yankees lore, their championship runs and private moments. A premiere date has not been set.

"It is a thrill that two iconic American institutions, the Yankees and the Broadway theater, are joining together," Lon Trost, New York Yankees COO, said in a statement.

"Just as generations of fans have been captivated in their seats at Yankee Stadium, theatergoers will be able to experience the same drama and joy," Trost added.

The play will be the third in a sports-themed series by producers Fran Krimser and

Tony Ponturo, who each have produced Tony award-winning musicals.

The duo produced the Broadway plays "Lombardi" (2010) about the iconic hard-nosed football coach Vince Lombardi and "Magic/Bird" (2012), which dramatized the on-court rivalry between basketball stars Magic Johnson and Larry Bird.

The Yankees have been a successful subject on Broadway before. The musical "Damn Yankees," a sporting twist on the Faust legend, premiered on Broadway in 1955, and won seven Tony awards.

Reuters

## Detroit's Cabrera wins AL MVP award

NEW YORK, 16 Nov — Miguel Cabrera of the Detroit Tigers, the first player to win the Triple Crown in 45 years, added the American League's Most Valuable Player award on Thursday for the 2012 Major League Baseball season.

Cabrera became the first player since Carl Yastrzemski of the Boston Red Sox in 1967 to lead the league in the three top traditional offensive categories with a .330 batting average, 44 home runs, and 139 runs batted in.

He also became the first Venezuelan to win the coveted MVP award, getting the nod over Rookie of the Year winner Mike Trout of the Los Angeles Angels, whose brilliant all-around play had made him a serious challenger to Cabrera.

"I'm very excited. I don't have any words to explain how excited I feel," Cabrera told MLB TV. "I

never expected I'm going to win because Mike Trout he got an unbelievable season.

"I think winning the division, winning games, helped me to win the Triple Crown because baseball is about winning more than personal numbers. I think this MVP is about all my team."

Cabrera followed his teammate, ace pitcher Justin Verlander, as American League MVP winners.

Combining the brute power of a slugger and the finesse of a leadoff hitter, Cabrera registered his historic season despite making a shift in position, moving from first base to third in order to make room for free agent Prince Fielder.

The 29-year-old Cabrera came on strong at the end of the season to help the Tigers overcome a sluggish start to overtake the Chicago White Sox and win the AL Central title on their way to a trip to the World Series. — Reuters



Detroit Tigers' Miguel Cabrera (L) and Austin Jackson celebrate Cabrera's two run home run against the San Francisco Giants in the third inning during Game 4 of the MLB World Series baseball championship in Detroit, Michigan, on 28 Oct, 2012. — REUTERS

## Tearful Pele released from hospital

RIO DE JANEIRO, 16 Nov — Football legend Pele has been released from hospital after undergoing successful hip replacement surgery.

The 72-year-old wept as he spoke to reporters upon leaving the Albert Einstein Hospital in Sao Paulo in a wheelchair on Thursday.

"I never imagined that the Brazilian people would be so concerned about me," Pele said. "I want to thank everybody who sent me messages of support."

Pele underwent the surgery last Saturday (10 November) after originally visiting his doctor for a routine medical check to renew his health insurance.

Dr Roberto Dantas Queiroz, who was responsible for the procedure, said the former Santos and New York Cosmos star would remain in a wheelchair during his initial recovery stage.

According to Queiroz, the joint's damage had largely been caused by years of wear and tear suffered during the Brazilian's playing career.



Pele Football legend Pele

Pele featured in three World Cup-winning teams for Brazil and scored 1281 goals in a career spanning more than two decades.

Xinhua



New York Yankees' Alex Rodriguez reacts after returning to the dugout after his first at-bat in the sixth inning during Game 4 of the MLB ALCS baseball playoff series against the Detroit Tigers in Detroit, Michigan, on 18 Oct, 2012. — Reuters

Los Angeles, 16 Nov — The New York Yankees story will move from the baseball diamond to the Broadway stage, the sports franchise

and theater producer Krimser Ponturo Group said on Thursday.

The project, which has yet to be titled, will focus on

**Swimming**

MELBOURNE, 16 Nov — Triple Olympic champion Leisel Jones has retired from the pool at the age of 27, after swimming a record fourth Games for Australia at London.

Jones, who won selection at the age of 14 for the 2000 Sydney Games, signed off at London with a silver in the 4x100 meter medley, her ninth Olympic medal matching the Australian record haul of Ian Thorpe.

"It's a very hard decision to come to and I took my time after London to make sure it was the right decision," the specialist breaststroker

told reporters in Brisbane on Friday.

"And I have come to the conclusion that I ticked every single box that I ever wanted to in my career and there is nothing more that I

Australian swimmer Leisel Jones looks on during a news conference at the Media Press Centre in London 2012 Olympic Park in Stratford, east London on 23 July, 2012. — REUTERS



could ever achieve."

Born in Katherine, a remote rural town in northern Australia, Jones was discovered by former coach Ken Wood at a Brisbane pool where her mother worked as

a cleaner.

Jones burst onto the world scene as a 15-year-old at the Sydney Games, winning silver in the 100m breaststroke and 4x100 medley to become her country's youngest Olympic medalist.

Her achievements and telegenic looks brought crushing pressure along with instant celebrity, however, and she was savaged by Australian media after her failure to win individual gold at the 2004 Athens Games and accused of being graceless in defeat.

Reuters



GENERAL

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(17-11-12 09:30 am ~ 18-11-12 09:30 am) MST

- \* News
- \* Taekwondo Championship At Korea Week
- \* News
- \* Mon Traditional Dance
- \* News
- \* Youth's Vista on Sport
- \* News
- \* A Day Out with Sarah (Episode-7)
- \* News
- \* Music Programme
- \* News
- \* Conveying Ceremony of 28 Buddha Images

- \* News
- \* Taste of Myanmar (Fried Flat Noodle)
- \* News
- \* Read to Enrich Your Mind With Knowledge
- \* Myanmar Movie "Forgive and Forget"

MYANMAR TV

(17-11-2012, Saturday)

- 7:00 am
- 1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
- 7:25 am
- 2. To Be Healthy Exercise
- 7:40 am
- 3. Nice & Sweet Song
- 7:50 am
- 4. Health Programme
- 8:10 am
- 5. Poem Garden
- 8:25 am
- 6. Musical Programme
- 8:25 am
- 7. Teleplay (Traffic)
- 8:45 am
- 8. Road to 27<sup>th</sup> SEA GAMES (Wushu)
- 11:10 am
- 9. Musical Programme
- 11:25 am
- 10. Game For Children
- 1:50 pm
- 11. Song of National Races
- 1:55 pm
- 12. Teleplay
- 2:35 pm
- 13. International Science News

- 4:05 pm
- 14. Musical Programme
- 4:25 pm
- 15. Cultural Dances
- 4:35 pm
- 16. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Third Year (Myanmar)
- 5:20 pm
- 17. Beautiful "ASEAN"
- 6:40 pm
- 18. Celebrity and Dinner
- 8:00 pm
- 19. News
- 20. An Outward Looking ASEAN
- 21. TV Drama Series

Moe Pwint (4) makes locals happy



THANATPIN, 16 Nov— Under the Moe Pwint (4) programme, issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards was carried out by Head of Thanatpin Township Immigration and National Registration Department U Khin Maung Swe and staff at the villages in the township recently. As it was very convenient for local people without spending money on transport and other charges, locals expressed their gratitude to the staff for their efforts. —Kyemon

US Postal Service has record loss, may face cash shortfall



United States Postal Service trucks are seen in Manhasset, New York on 1 August, 2012.—REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 16 Nov— The US Postal Service reported a record annual loss on Thursday and warned that, without congressional action, it could face a cash shortfall next fall. The mail service said it lost \$15.9 billion in the fiscal year that ended on 30 September. That is more than triple its \$5.1 billion loss last year.

on the sale of stamps and other products rather than taxpayer dollars, has been grappling for years with high costs and tumbling mail volumes as consumers communicate more online. In September, the Postal Service hit its \$15 billion borrowing limit for the first time in its history. That leaves it with few options if it suffers an unexpected

shock, such as a slowdown if lawmakers are unable to prevent the year-end tax increases and spending cuts known as the "fiscal cliff." "When you've got a \$65 billion revenue business and you are looking at the potential of this fiscal cliff, of course that may have an impact on advertising and whatnot, which could hurt us," Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe said on Thursday.

"That's why we're saying let's get this thing done now ... and get us off of our own personal, postal fiscal cliff." Much of the Postal Service's loss in 2012 came from two defaults on a total of more than \$11 billion in payments that Congress had directed USPS to pay into a fund for future retiree health benefits.—Reuters

Belarus rejects Russia's claim for 1.5 b USD in oil duties

MINSK, 16 Nov— Belarusian Prime Minister Mikhail Myasnikovich on Thursday rejected Russia's claims for the return of 1.5 billion US dollars in oil duties that Belarus allegedly failed to repay to Russia.

If the legal framework does not completely regulate something, it does not mean that you have to reproach us and calculate some lost profits," Myasnikovich stressed.

"Concerning Moscow's claims for 1.5 billion US dollars, I want to say that Belarus hasn't violated anything," Myasnikovich said on Thursday in Minsk.

The Belarusian premier also said that Belarus will export about 5 million tones of oil for the fourth quarter of 2012. "The agreement has just been signed," Myasnikovich added.

According to the official, it is incompetent to reproach Belarus for some underpayment or some other things.

Belarus receives duty-free oil and oil products from Russia in 2012. It pays 100 percent export duties on the oil products made from Russian raw materials to the Russian budget, if the products are

exported outside the Customs Union. Solvents, thinners and lubricants are not included in the list of the oil products.

According to the Russian part, Belarus increased the procurement of Russian oil products and exported petrol to European markets disguising it as solvents. Russia's Energy Ministry estimates the losses caused by solvents smuggling by Belarus at 1.5-2.5 billion US dollars.

Russia already offered Minsk to compensate for the losses from the "solvent business," but the claim cost was estimated at 1.5 billion US dollars.

Xinhua

Ukraine bids to be world's "breadbasket"

KIEV, 16 Nov— Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich said here on Thursday that his country, once one of Europe's leading exporters of food, has the potential to become a breadbasket for the rest of the world during the global food crisis.

"The world population reached over 7 billion

people and by 2042 it is expected to hit the 9-billion mark.

This is a historic opportunity for Ukraine, and we must use it to take our rightful place in the global food market," Yanukovich said during his meeting with farmers here.

The authorities set a target to boost the country's

agricultural output by 30 percent in the next decade, the president said.

To achieve this, the government is undertaking reforms in agriculture, encouraging investment and promoting domestic agricultural commodities, especially grain, to new markets," Yanukovich said.—Xinhua

London black cab maker resolves steering defect UK

LONDON, 16 Nov— PricewaterhouseCoopers, administrators to Manganese Bronze Holdings Plc, said on Thursday it had found a solution to the steering box defect affecting its new TX4 model. The maker of London's black taxi, which has been reporting losses since

2008, recalled about 400 TX4 London taxis last month after it found a defect in a steering box that was introduced in February.

PwC said it had secured supply chain availability and logistics from a UK supplier to begin replacing the faulty steering boxes, which it aims

to have completed by mid-December. "Having secured replacement parts for the entire recalled fleet, the programme to fit these new components has been devised so that all recalled fleet cars will be fitted with new replacement parts by mid-December," said Matthew Hammond, joint administrator and PwC partner.

The steering box is a design from a supplier in China, which was introduced in the company's Coventry factory in late February. "We are working to get taxis back on the road as quickly as possible but clearly, with the large number of vehicles affected in London and also in the regions, this work will take several weeks to complete," said Hammond.—Reuters



A TX4 London black cab is parked outside Victoria Station in London on 22 Oct, 2012.—REUTERS

Second UK man charged over kidnapping in Syria

LONDON, 16 Nov— British police charged a second man on Thursday with terrorism offences over the kidnapping of two photographers in Syria in July. Jubayer Chowdhury, 24, is accused of unlawfully imprisoning Dutch photographer Jeroen

Oerlemans and British colleague John Cantlie who were taken hostage on July 17 while working near the Syrian border with Turkey. They were released on 26 July.

Chowdhury, who was arrested on Monday at London's Heathrow airport

after arriving on a plane from Bahrain, is due to appear at London's Westminster Magistrates' court on Friday.

Last month, Shajul Islam was charged by British police with being involved in the kidnapping incident.

Reuters



## Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham receives Chairman of Task Force Mr S Ramadorai and party from India

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov— Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham received a delegation led by Chairman of Task Force Mr. S Ramadorai, who was in the rank of cabinet minister of Indian Government, for construction of Myanmar Institute of Information Technology (MIIT) at Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace at 2 pm today.

Present at the call together with Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk

Kham were Union Minister Dr Ko Ko Oo, Deputy Ministers U Thant Kyaw, U Ba Shwe, U Hset Aung and officials. Mr. S Ramadorai was accompanied by the Indian ambassador to Myanmar.

At the call, both sides cordially discussed matters on designation land for construction of Myanmar Institute of Information Technology (MIIT) in Mandalay, appointment of trainers and staff and construction of staff quarters.—MNA



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham receives Chairman of Task Force Mr S Ramadorai of India and party.—MNA

## Union Industry Minister asks additional expenditure for two steel production projects

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov—Debate at today's Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session mainly focused on additional budget allocation of the Union government in 2012-2013 fiscal year for No.1 Steel Industry (Myingyan) and No. 2 Steel Industry (Pimpet).

Union Minister for Industry U Aye Myint discussed the two projects in detail. He said the projects are designed to produce 400,000 tons of steel and steel works and have full resource for raw materials. It is planned to meet the projected capacity given that the two industries have full access to electricity and

natural gas.

The ministry has thoroughly examined the quality of iron ores from Pimpet Deposit to determine whether it is required to import iron ores as the local iron ores are of inferior quality. And the results showed that it does not require importing iron ores from abroad as local raw materials can be used for over ten decades. The minister showed his strong confidence in prospect of the project as he said his ministry would somehow best utilize the local raw materials despite their low quality. Professors from Moscow Institute have promised to offer technical

help for the project, added the Union minister.

The Union minister assured that his ministry would be able to repay the loans it taken from CDB Bank for the project within the set period. He revealed the implementation of the project so as to fulfill the domestic demand rather than exportation, adding that only the surplus would be exported. He again showed his confidence to sell out the surplus, which he said are in high demand in international market.

He in conclusion called the Hluttaw for allotting expenditure in current fiscal year for the project, warning

against the undesired consequences of failure to continue the project as the project is a business deal signed with international

contractors.

Union Minister for Electric Power U Khin Maung Soe discussed availability of electricity for the projects; Union

Minister for Energy U Than Htay availability of natural gas and Union Minister for Rail Transportation U Zeyar Aung transportation of raw materials to the sites.—NLM

With four-page supplement on Bill on Central Bank of Myanmar attached.

## Pyidaungsu Hluttaw focuses on debt settlement

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov— Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Win Shein clarified the country's debit account at today Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's session, in response to the President's message about settling the remaining loans taken from ADB, World Bank and ten member states of Paris Club.

He divided the country's foreign loans into debt before 1988 and debt account after 1988 and the former was borrowed from member states of Paris Club—Denmark, Germany, Canada, Finland, France, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Austria, England and Japan, ADB and World Bank, and the latter from Japan (BPDC+NEXI), Korea, OPEC, Thailand, Malaysia, Serbia, China and India.

Most of the loans borrowed before 1988 have not been repaid yet though they have well past the due date. The amount of those loans has increased due to interests and overdue fees added to the original amount.

In measures to settle the loans, steps are being taken

to settle the Japan ODA loans with the approval of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, said the Union minister who sought approval from the Hluttaw to settle the loans borrowed from ADB and IDA (World Bank). After settling the loans of Japan ODA, ADB and IDA (World Bank) out of the debt before 1988, the remaining loans from member creditors of Paris Club would be settled, said the Union minister.

Myanmar has borrowed money from ADB since 1973-1974 financial year. The 22-1-2013 is set for repayment date. The capital is USD 426.817 million and interest, 96.290 million USD, totalling 523.107 million USD. Due to currency exchange rate on the repayment date, both

sides have agreed to pay off 575.5 million USD.

Myanmar has got the loans from IDA (World Bank) since 1973-1974 financial year. The repayment date is 18-1-2013. The capital is 330.027 million USD and interest, 90.054 million USD, totalling 420.081 million USD. Due to currency exchange rate on the repayment date, both sides have agreed to repay 440 million USD.

Myanmar will have to get bridge loan from Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) so as to pay off the debts of ADB and World Bank. To repay that bridge loan, Myanmar will have to take Policy Based Loan (PBL) from ADB and Development Policy Operation (DPO) from World Bank. (See page 9)

## Hernandez likely to start for Manchester United at Norwich



LONDON, 16 Nov— Manchester United's Mexican super-sub Javier Hernandez is set for a rare start when the Premier League leaders face Norwich

City on Saturday, manager Alex Ferguson said on Friday. Hernandez has been in a rich vein of form with seven goals in his last five appearances in all

competitions, including two as a halftime substitute in the 3-2 victory at Aston Villa last weekend.

While the 24-year-old has been a regular starter in the Champions League this season, six of his seven Premier League appearances have been as a substitute.

However, with Wayne Rooney a doubt for Saturday's trip to Carrow Road with an ankle injury, Hernandez is likely to partner Robin van Persie who should be fit despite missing the Netherlands' friendly with Germany in midweek.

Reuters

## Noteworthy amount of rainfall (16-11-2012)

Htilin	3.51 inches
Cocogyun	1.38 inches
Mindat	1.14 inches
Mogok	1.14 inches

