

## President Barack Obama



### (44<sup>th</sup> and current President of the United States)

- Born on 4 August 1961 in Honolulu, Hawaii.
- In 1983, Obama earned BA in Political Science specializing in International Relations from Columbia University. In 1991, he obtained Doctorate in Law from Harvard Law School, where he also served as President of the *Harvard Law Review*.
- He was a Community Organizer in Chicago from 1985 to 1988.
- He worked as a Civil Rights Attorney in Chicago and also taught Constitutional Law at the University of Chicago Law School from 1992 to 2004.
- In 1996, he was elected as Senator of 13<sup>th</sup> District in Illinois Senate. He served three terms representing the 13<sup>th</sup> District till 2004.
- Following an unsuccessful bid against the Democratic incumbent for a seat in the United States House of Representatives in 2000, Obama ran for United States Senate in November 2004 and won the election.
- He was sworn in as a Senator on 3<sup>rd</sup> January, 2005 becoming the only Senate member of the Congressional Black Caucus.
- He won his party nomination after a close campaign in the 2008 Democratic Party presidential primaries against Hillary Rodham Clinton.
- In the 2008 presidential election, he defeated Republican nominee John McCain, and was inaugurated as President of the United States on 20 January 2009.
- In October 2009, Obama was named the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize laureate.
- As president, Obama signed economic stimulus legislation in the form of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act in February 2009 and the Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act in December 2010.
- Other domestic policy initiatives include the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the Dodd "Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, the Don't Ask, Don't Tell Repeal Act and the Budget Control Act of 2011.
- In foreign policy, he gradually withdrew combat troops from Iraq, signed the New START arms control treaty with Russia, ordered enforcement of the UN-sanctioned no-fly zone over Libya, and ordered the military operation that resulted in the death of Osama bin Laden in Pakistan.
- At the US election held on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2012, he was reelected for the 2<sup>nd</sup> term as US President securing 303 electoral votes over rival Republican Mitt Romney's 206 votes.
- He is married to Michelle Robinson and has two daughters, Malia (born in 1998) and Sasha (born in 2001).

## President U Thein Sein attends opening of 21<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summit



President U Thein Sein and heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries pose for documentary photo at opening of 21<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summit at Nuon Srey Hall of Peace Palace in Phnom Penh in Cambodia.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein attended the opening of the 21<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summit being held at Nuon Srey Hall of the Peace Palace in Phnom Penh, Cambodia at 9.25 LST today.

Also present on the occasion together with President U Thein Sein were Brunei Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Muizzaddin Waddaulah, Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen and wife, Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Prime Minister of Lao PDR Mr Thongsing Thammavong and wife, Malaysian Prime Minister Dato Sri Najib bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak and wife, Philippine President Benigno Aquino, Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong and wife, Prime Minister of Thailand Mrs Yingluck Shinawatra, Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung and wife, ministers and

deputy ministers from ASEAN nations, high-ranking officials, ASEAN Secretary-General Dr Surin Pitsuwan and guests.

First, Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen and wife cordially greeted the heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries who were present at the opening ceremony.

Next, the ceremony was opened with the singing of ASEAN Anthem by the Cambodian cultural troupe.

In his opening address, the Cambodian Prime Minister said that only combined efforts plus better understanding of countries in the region could overcome the challenges being encountered by regional and global nations; efforts are to be made to add fruitful results of the 20<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit to 21<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summit; during a period of 45 years the ASEAN has made progress in three sectors such as political and security community, economic community and social and cultural community.

He continued to say that such progress can be attributed to the combined steps taken in a friendly manner by the ASEAN countries. But it is obvious that there are still challenges and future tasks. To surmount those challenges, each ASEAN nation needs to closely cooperate regionally and internationally.

All the ASEAN member countries are redoubling their efforts to ensure equitable development among member countries. And all ASEAN ministers-concerned must be encouraged to formulate necessary policy measures to be implemented before

2015 in key areas including (i) tariff and non-tariff barriers, (ii) investment liberalization, (iii) connectivity and transportation, (iv) SME development, (v) Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI), (vi) mutual recognition arrangements (MRAs) on professional services and labour mobility, (vii) institutional building and regulatory reforms and (viii) institutional issues for AEC building.

Afterwards, President U Thein Sein and the ASEAN heads of State/Government formally opened ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR).—MNA

### Water level forecast for third 10 days

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov—The water levels of Ayeyawady River are forecast to fall below the present water levels by 30 cm (about one foot) at Myitkyina, Bhamo and Katha, 45 cm (about 1.5 feet) at Mandalay, Sagaing, Pakokku, Nyaung U and Chauk, and 60 cm (about

2 feet) at Minbu, Magway, Aunglan, Pyay, Seiktha, Hinthada and Zalun.

The water levels of Chindwin River are forecast to fall below the present water levels by 30 cm (about one foot) at Hkamti and Homalin, and 45 cm (about 1.5 feet) at Mawlaik, Kalewa and Monywa.—NLM

## President U Thein Sein attends retreat session of ASEAN leaders

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov— President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein attended Retreat Session of ASEAN leaders held at Champa Room of Peace Palace in Penom Penh in Cambodia at 3:45 pm today.

Present at the retreat session were Brunei Darussalam Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Muizzaddin Waddaulah, Prime Minister of Cambodia Samdech Hun Sen, President of Indonesia Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Prime Minister of Lao People's Democratic Republic Mr Thomgsing Thammavong, Prime Minister of Malaysia Dato Seri Mohammed Najib bin Tun Haji Abdullah Razak, President of the Philippines Mr Benigno Aquino, Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore Mr Lee Hsien

Loong, Prime Minister of Thailand Mrs Yingluck Shinawatra, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr Nguyen Tan Dung, ASEAN Secretary-General Dr Surin Pitsuwan and high ranking officials from ASEAN countries.

At the session, ASEAN Alternate Chairman Prime Minister of Cambodia made an opening speech.

President U Thein Sein and heads of state/government of ASEAN countries exchanged views on South China Sea issues, nuclear weapons-free in Korean Peninsula, endeavor for economic growth of ASEAN, natural disaster risk management and climate change, outbreak of conflicts in Rakhine State and millennium development goals.—MNA



President U Thein Sein at 21<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summit Retreat Session at Champei Room of Peace Palace in Penom Penh in Cambodia.—MNA

## Online application for printing, publishing to be available as of 20 Nov

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov— Those wishing to do printing and publishing business can get online application for registration at the Printing and Publishing Enterprise of the Ministry of Information in accordance with the Section 6 of the Printers and Publishers Registration Law (1962).

Printing and Publishing Enterprise had received 79 applications from July to October and has given the green light to the 79

personnel to run the business after scrutinizing their applications for registration under the law.

The PPE of the Ministry of Information has planned to contribute the people to be able to apply for online registration as of 20 November, 2012, as part of efforts for smoothing the process of registration.

Those wishing to apply for the registration can download an application form and facts for printing

and publishing registration at [www.ministryofinformation.gov.mm](http://www.ministryofinformation.gov.mm) and can send pdf file of the form to [epprmyanmar@gmail.com](mailto:epprmyanmar@gmail.com) as of the set date.

The PPE will scrutinize the application forms if they are in conformity with the rules and will reply through online to those who apply for the printing within three days from the date they apply and to those who apply for the publishing within 14 days.

Those who get

permission from the PPE are to pay the registration fee to the bank account of the PPE at the Myanmar Economic Bank and to get the accreditation for the printing/publishing business in accordance with the rules.

For more information for the online application, please contact the Printing and Publishing Enterprise, Ph: 01-544597; 01-544582; 01-541413; 067-412202; 067-412207.

MNA

## Salvage of sunk iron frames, installation of new iron frames discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov— A coordination meeting on salvage of iron frames sunk in Ayeyawady

River, offering of iron frames to be replaced in the damaged frames and resuming the installation of iron frames

at the bridge on Singu bank was held at the Ministry of Construction, here, this morning.

Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin and Deputy General Manager Mr Wang Li Guang of China CAMC Engineering Co Ltd focused on safety salvage of sunk iron frames from Ayeyawady River and replacement of iron frames in time, use of related equipment in installation of frames at the bridge on Singu bank.

MNA



Coordination meeting on salvage of iron frames sunk in Ayeyawady River in progress.—MNA

## Work programmes for control of illegal trade along Myawady-Yangon transportation route issued

Directorate of Border Trade under the Ministry of Commerce starts dispatching mobile teams to prevent illegal trade along Myawady-Yangon route, one of the major transportations routes in the country, for consumer protection and illegal trade reduction beginning 20 November 2012.

Press conferences were held respectively at Bayingnaung Brokerage in Yangon on 10 November, 2012, at Zweekabin Hall in Hpa-an on 13 November, at Shwe Myinmo Tun Hotel in Mawlamyine on 14 November, at Trade Zone's meeting hall in Myawady on 16 November, inviting respective state government personnel, departmental personnel, organizations, one-stop services provider departmental institutions, traders association, businessmen and local media persons to inform detailed work programmes and procedures for consumer protection and illegal trade prevention.

Each mobile team includes representatives

from Customs Department, Myanmar Police Force, and respective regional government and border traders association, and media under the leadership of Directorate of Border Trade, Ministry of Commerce.

Pamphlets with information on inspection procedures of mobile teams along the transportation route, related documents required to be held at border regions and on container trucks have been distributed to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, respective border traders associations, commodity transporters associations, and bus lines.

Detailed information is available at Director-General of Directorate of Border Trade (Ph: 067-408405), Deputy Director-general of Directorate of Border Trade (Ph: 067-430201) and complaints can be made to those numbers in case of dissatisfaction with actions of mobile teams.

Ministry of Commerce

**The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.**

**WORLD**

**Obama's trip highlights importance of Asia**



*US President Barack Obama will make stops in Thailand, Myanmar and Cambodia during his three-country swing through Asia.—REUTERS*

BEIJING, 18 Nov—US President Barack Obama's trip to Southeast Asia signals a step further in the US strategic shift toward Asia and highlights Asia's growing importance to the United States.

During the trip, Obama's first foreign tour after his reelection, the US president will travel to Thailand and Myanmar and also meet with regional leaders at the East Asia Summit in Cambodia. The diplomatic mission bears the symbolic weight attached to Asia by Obama, who, citing his birthplace of Hawaii and his childhood in Indonesia, has styled himself "America's first Pacific president."

No sitting US president has ever visited Myanmar and Cambodia, or has picked countries solely in Southeast Asia for a foreign tour since the Vietnam War.

Obama's particular interest in Asia is tied to the growing strategic importance of the region. As the most dynamic economic area in the world, Asia accounts for about one third of global economic output and its contribution to global growth exceeds 30 percent. During the global financial crisis and the ensuing economic recession, the worst in over half a century, Asia also played a pivotal part in placing the world economy back on track.

Obama's Southeast Asia tour indicates a continuity of his strategic "pivot to Asia."

However, the policy shift, which features not only closer diplomatic and economic interaction but also stronger military presence in the region, has raised suspicion and contention among Asian countries.

Moreover, seemingly emboldened by the United States' policy, some countries have taken provocative moves on such sensitive issues as territorial disputes, to the detriment of the region's stability and development. Being a global power with a vital economic stake in Asia, the United States plays an important role in the region. However, to mitigate the continent's tensions and sustain its development calls for a more constructive role by Washington.

In order to build a more stable and prosperous future, Asia should steer clear of the old path of conflict and confrontation, and embark on a new road of mutual respect and win-win cooperation.

*Xinhua*

**New Zealand PM to visit Myanmar**

YANGON, 18 Nov—New Zealand Prime Minister John Key will pay an official visit to Myanmar soon, said an official announcement from Nay Pyi Taw on Sunday without specifying the date of the visit.

Key will be the first New Zealand leader to set foot on the Southeast Asian nation in 54 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations between Myanmar

and New Zealand in November 1954.

Key is expected to arrive Myanmar following the East Asia Summit in the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh and meet President U Thein Sein and opposition Leader and parliamentarian Aung San Suu Kyi.

"There has been historic political and economic reform in Myanmar over the past year. I look forward to

seeing these developments first hand, and exploring how New Zealand can work with Myanmar to support its political and economic reintegration with the rest of the world," Key said in a recent statement in Wellington on taking part in launching an Asian trade pact in Cambodia before his historic Myanmar visit.

*MNA/Xinhua*

**Chinese ambassador, companies donate cash to Myanmar quake victims**

MANDALAY, 18 Nov—Chinese ambassador to Myanmar Li Junhua, on behalf of the Red Cross Society of China, donated 50,000 US-dollars to Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint on Saturday to help with relief efforts in the wake of strong earthquake in northern Myanmar.

Li also donated 10,000 US dollars on behalf of the Chinese Embassy to assist with the reconstruction of a local school damaged in the earthquake.

"China and Myanmar are close friends," Li said,

"When one was struck by natural disasters or encountered difficulties, the other would always offer his assistance and support."

Peng Huaming, Vice Chairman of Chinese Chamber of Commerce in Mandalay, donated 10,000,000 Kyats (about 12,000 US dollars) at a ceremony attended by officials of Mandalay regional government and Yu Boren, Consul-General of China in Mandalay. Meanwhile, the Upstream Ayeyawady Confluence Basin Hydropower Co, Ltd (ACHC) also do-

nated 25 tons of relief supplies including purified drinking water and food worth 15,000,000 Kyats (about 18,000 US dollars) to the Myanmar Red Cross Societies of Mandalay.

On 14 Nov, the Southeast Asia Oil and Gas Pipeline Co, Ltd (SEAOGP) donated 50,000 US dollars to the Mandalay Regional Government.

At least 16 people were killed and 71 others injured after a 6.8 magnitude earthquake struck Tabaitgyin in Mandalay region on 11 November.—*MNA/Xinhua*

**Latin America pledges support for Iberia, warns on austerity**

CADIZ, (Spain), 18 Nov—Latin America on Saturday pledged investment opportunities for recession-hit Spanish and Portuguese companies but warned its former colonial masters drastic cost cutting would only deepen their misery.

The economic plight of Iberia dominated a two-day summit of leaders from Spain, Portugal and Latin America in the southern Spanish city of Cadiz—a principle port for Spanish galleons loaded with riches in the days of empire.

In a reversal of fortune, Spain and Portugal are now banking on Latin American markets to get them on the road to recovery.

Brazilian President Dil-



*Spain's Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy (R), Panama's President Ricardo Martinelli (L) and Ibero-American Secretary-General Enrique Iglesias leave a news conference during the Ibero-American Summit in Cadiz, southern Spain on 17 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS*

ma Rousseff was the star of the meeting because of hopes consumer demand and public building projects in her country's \$2.5 trillion economy

will create opportunities for Iberian companies, from energy to retail.

"We have also been hit by the crisis because of the

slowdown in international markets but we are widening public and private investment in infrastructure," Rousseff told fellow leaders at the summit, which ends on Saturday.

Latin American countries are all too familiar with the type of fiscal crisis that Portugal and Spain are now going through.

Over past decades they went through boom-and-bust cycles, and devaluations and austerity programmes monitored by the International Monetary Fund.

"Don't commit the same errors we did," said Ecuadorian President Rafael Correa, warning austerity may worsen recession.

*Reuters*



*Chinese ambassador to Myanmar Li Junhua (L) shakes hands with Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint during a donating ceremony in Mandalay, Myanmar, on 17 Nov, 2012.—XINHUA*

**Third Palestinian child killed by Israeli strikes**

GAZA, 18 Nov—A Palestinian child was killed by an Israeli airstrike in central Gaza Strip, raising the number of children killed on Sunday to three, medical sources said.

As Israeli attacks on Gaza entered the fifth day, the death toll rose to 49, with another 430 Palestinians wounded.

In the morning, a missile from Israel landed near a house in Al-Buraj refugee camp, killing one-year-old Eyad Abu Khousa, while his two five-year old siblings were injured.

After midnight, two toddlers were killed in a similar strike in northern Gaza Strip, which wounded 17 people, most of whom were women and kids, according to the health ministry in Gaza.

Started Wednesday when Israel killed the commander of the armed wing of Hamas, violence is the fiercest in years.

Responding to Israeli attacks, Hamas used long-range rockets for the first time, sending them to the outskirts of Jerusalem and the central city of Tel Aviv.

*Xinhua*

**Israel Tel Aviv saved by Iron Dome intercept**

TEL AVIV, 18 Nov—Israel rushed a fifth Iron Dome air defence battery into service in the Tel Aviv area on Saturday, using it within hours to shoot down a rocket fired at the coastal metropolis from the Gaza Strip.

But the successful interception, witnessed by a *Reuters* correspondent, appeared to stretch the capabilities of the unit meant to provide coverage for Israel's biggest conurbation, which includes its main international airport, 15 km (6



*Israeli soldiers take part in a drill simulating a possible ground invasion into the Gaza Strip, at a base south of the West Bank city of Hebron on 17 Nov, 2012.*

**REUTERS**

miles) inland. Iron Dome's radars, linked with other Israeli surveillance systems,

spot rocket launches from Gaza, hundreds of which have happened during

## Aviation industry flies into future



Astronauts Jing Haipeng (in the aviation simulator), Liu Wang (second left, second row) and Liu Yang (central, second row) try the aviation simulator of the Lieying L15 advanced trainer at the Ninth China International Aviation and Aerospace Exhibition in Zhuhai, Guangdong Province, on Wednesday.—XINHUA

BEIJING, 18 Nov—China's national aviation manufacturer has launched a long-term plan spanning until 2030 to develop advanced aviation engines.

Senior executives of Aviation Industry Corp of China claim they have set aside 10 billion yuan (\$1.6 billion) for the first phase of the three-part plan, which will fund the research and development of engines until 2015. "Our aviation engine operation consists of four parts, which means when we are manufacturing the current engines, we also actively develop next-generation engines and ex-

plore the technologies of more-advanced ones," said Zhang Jian, deputy general manager of AVIC Engine Holdings.

"The United States has been striving to make sure it leads by at least 20 years in the aviation engine industry. For us, the company has made a comprehensive plan through 2030, including the technological targets we shall have achieved by that year and the amount of money we will possibly invest," Zhang told *China Daily* on the sidelines of the Ninth China International Aviation and Aerospace Exhibition, also known as

Zhuhai Airshow, which runs from Tuesday to Sunday in Guangdong Province.

"Now most of the engines used by the People's Liberation Army air force are manufactured in China," he said, adding that in order to catch up with the latest and most advanced aviation engines, the AVIC has a plan that can be broken down into three phases.

"During the first phase, which will conclude by the end of 2015 if everything goes well, we will strive to ensure our air force's aircraft be equipped with proper engines and to lift our de-

## Technology

velopment capability to that of the developed countries' level in the 1980s. The second phase will witness us substantially narrowing the technological gap between developed countries and us. And by the end of the last phase, our engines will be as advanced as theirs."

"Aviation engine development combines a high concentration of various advanced technologies; therefore, only the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council have the ability to develop aviation engines," said Li Fangyong, executive vice-president of Aviation Industry Corp of China.

"Developing aviation engines requests a nation to possess solid scientific and technological capabilities and a strong industrial manufacturing establishment. Unfortunately, China is comparatively weak in these regards."

Li said China failed to pay enough attention to the theoretical research of aviation engines in the past and it was not uncommon that only after a new aircraft had begun to be developed that the engine's development was hastily launched. "We have also realized that although our investment is tremendous, it is far from sufficient, so we hope private businesses will engage in aviation engines' development," he said.—Xinhua

## Knowledge of marine species still largely unknown: New Zealand researcher

### Science

WELLINGTON, 18 Nov—The world's most comprehensive assessment of ocean life has revealed that one to two thirds of species are still unknown to science, according to an international study.

The study published in *Current Biology* calculated there were fewer than 1 million marine species, including about 226,000 species that had been described by science and 72,000 more in collections awaiting description.

However, the rate of discovery was increasing, with an unprecedented 20,000 new marine species described in the last decade alone, suggesting that most marine species would be discovered this century, said a statement from the University of Auckland on Friday.

"This is by far the most comprehensive assessment of how many marine species have been described to date, and how many undescribed species experts believe there may be," Associate Professor Mark Costello, who co-lead the research, said in the statement.

The study involved 120 of the world's top experts on the taxonomy, or classification, of marine species, and included mammals, birds, reptiles, insects

and larger plants, whose opinions helped form the estimate of total species.

Many of the species yet to be discovered will come from amongst the smaller crustaceans, molluscs, algae, worms, and sponges, said Costello.

"Knowing how many species there are in our oceans, and describing them, is vital for science and conservation for several reasons," he said.

"Species are the most practical measure for distinguishing habitats and tracking progress in exploring the Earth's biodiversity. They are as fundamental to biology as elements are to chemistry and particles to physics," Costello said.

"Better understanding of what species exist enables more accurate estimates of extinction rates due to habitat loss.

In addition, having a standardized master list of species names is essential for quality assurance in science and the management of natural resources."

The research would contribute to the World Register of Marine Species—an open-access, online database that had received contributions from almost 300 scientists from 32 countries.

Xinhua

## eBay sued over will-not-recruit agreement with Intuit

WASHINGTON, 18 Nov—The Justice Department and the state of California sued e-commerce company eBay Inc on Friday over what they called an illegal agreement with Intuit Inc not to recruit Intuit's employees.

The agreement eliminated competition for workers, depriving them of access to better job opportunities, the Justice Department and California Attorney General Kamala Harris said in simultaneous news releases.

Meg Whitman, then eBay's CEO, and Scott Cook, Intuit's founder, were closely involved in creating and enforcing the agreement. Cook was serving on eBay's board at the same time he was complaining about eBay's recruiting of Intuit employees, federal officials said.

eBay said the government is wrong and that it will vigorously defend it-



A photograph of a computer screen showing the website eBay is shown here in Encinitas, California on 22 April, 2009.—REUTERS

self.

"eBay's hiring practices conform to the standards that the Department of Justice has approved in resolving cases against other companies. The DOJ is taking an overly aggressive interpretation of antitrust law in this area," said eBay spokeswoman Lara Wyss.

Tax and financial software company Intuit, which faced similar antitrust alle-

gations in 2010 and settled, called the new lawsuits a matter for eBay.

"We have already resolved any concerns that the DOJ had about our recruiting practices and believe the matter for Intuit is closed," said Intuit spokeswoman Diane Carlini.

A spokesman for Whitman, who left eBay in early 2008 and now leads Hewlett-Packard Co, declined to comment.—Reuters

## Samsung goes after HTC deal to undercut

### Apple

### Technology

SAN FRANCISCO, 18 Nov—When Apple Inc and HTC Corp last week ended their worldwide legal battles with a 10-year patent licensing agreement, they declined to answer a critical question: whether all of Apple's patents were covered by the deal.

It's an enormously important issue for the broader smartphone patent wars. If all the Apple patents are included—including the "user experience" patents that the company has previously insisted it would not license—it could undermine the iPhone makers efforts to permanently ban the sale of products that copy its technology.

Samsung Electronics Co Ltd, which could face such a sales ban following a crushing jury verdict against it in August, asked a US judge on Friday to force Apple to turn over a copy of the HTC agreement. In

a court filing, Samsung argued it is "almost certain" that the HTC deal covers some of the patents involved in its own litigation with Apple.

Representatives for Apple and Samsung could not immediately be reached for comment. Judges are reluctant to block the sale of products if the dispute can be resolved via a licensing agreement. To secure an in-

junction against Samsung, Apple must show the copying of its technology caused irreparable harm and that money, by itself, is an inadequate remedy.

Ron Laurie, managing director of Inflexion Point Strategy and a veteran IP lawyer, said he found it very unlikely that HTC would agree to a settlement that did not include all the patents.—Reuters



A shop attendant poses with replicas of HTC, Samsung and Apple's smartphones inside a mobile phone shop in Taipei on 6 April, 2012.

REUTERS

**BUSINESS & HEALTH**

**Do people turn to Twitter for CPR info?**

NEW YORK, 18 Nov — Amid snarky comments and links to cat videos, some Twitter users turn to the social network to find and post information on cardiac arrest and CPR, according to a new study.

Over a month, researchers found 15,324 messages—known as tweets—on Twitter that included specific information about resuscitation and cardiac arrest.

“From a science standpoint, we wanted to know if we can reliably find information on a public health topic, or is (Twitter) just a place where people describe what they ate that day,” said the study’s lead author Dr Raina M Merchant.

According to the researchers, they did find

some people using Twitter to send and receive a wide variety of information on CPR and cardiac arrest, including their personal experiences, questions and current events.

Merchant, an assistant professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, said they were excited to find so many people talking about these topics in a meaningful way.

The researchers, who published their findings in the journal *Resuscitation*, write that some researchers and organizations already use Twitter for public health matters. Those efforts include tracking the 2009 H1N1 “swine flu” pandemic and finding the source of the 2011 Haitian cholera outbreak.

When it comes to such outbreaks, “Right now, it’s mostly an educational tool for public health officials or professionals,” said Dr Gunther Eysenbach, editor and publisher of the *Journal of Medical Internet Research* and of the University Health Network in Toronto.

With more than 500 million Twitter accounts, Merchant said that understanding how tweets can be filtered may allow doctors and other healthcare providers to respond to people’s questions in real time, and possibly find new ways to educate the public about health matters, including cardiac arrest and CPR.

For the new study, the researchers created a Twitter search for key terms, such as CPR, AED (automated

external defibrillators), resuscitation and sudden death. Between April and May 2011, their search returned 62,163 tweets, which were whittled down to 15,324 messages that contained specific information about cardiac arrest and resuscitation.

Only 7 percent of the tweets were about specific cardiac arrest events, such as a user saying they just saw a man being resuscitated, or a user asking for prayers for a sick family member.

About 44 percent of the tweets were about performing CPR and using an AED. Those types of tweets included information on rules about keeping AEDs in businesses and questions about how to resuscitate a person.

The rest of the tweets were about education, research and news events, such as links to articles about celebrities going into cardiac arrest.

The vast majority of the Twitter users sent fewer than three tweets about cardiac arrest or CPR throughout the month. —Reuters



A logo of Swiss pharmaceutical company Roche is pictured in front of a company’s building in Rotkreuz, on 12 April, 2012. —REUTERS

**Roche’s Avastin misses key data point in brain cancer study**

**Health**

ZURICH, 18 Nov — Swiss drugmaker Roche’s cancer drug Avastin failed to make a statistically significant difference to survival rates of patients with a common form of brain cancer in a late-stage study, the company said on Saturday.

The Phase III AVAglio study presented at the Society for Neuro-Oncology congress in Washington on Saturday showed Avastin, combined with radiation and chemotherapy, reduced the risk of cancer worsening or death, the Basel-based drugmaker said in a news

release. But the drug did not reach statistical significance in overall survival, a key data point.

Further data are expected next year, Roche said. “The interim results for overall survival (OS), the other co-primary endpoint, did not reach statistical significance,” the company said in the statement.

Earlier data from the study published in August showed Avastin significantly extended progression-free survival of people with an aggressive form of brain cancer.

Reuters

**Malaysia’s Q3 economic growth moderates to 5.2%**

KUALA LUMPUR, 18 Nov — Malaysia’s economic growth in the third quarter moderated to 5.2 percent compared with the previous quarter’s 5.6 percent, bolstered by private consumption and investment as volatile global economy continues to hurt exports, the central bank said on Friday in an economic report. Domestic demand expanded by 11.4 percent supported by continued expansion in private consumption, favourable labor market conditions and sustained income growth, the report showed.

The bank said the bonus payment to civil servants and payouts to the rural plantation settlers boosted consumer spending.

Public spending moderated to 2.3 percent on lower spending in supplies and services. The current account surplus narrowed to 9.5 billion ringgit as imports growth outpaced exports.

Growth in the manufacturing sector slowed 3.3 percent while the mining sector contracted led by a natural gas production decline. The construction and services sectors however recorded a robust growth, pushed by domestic demand. The headline inflation moderated to 1.4 percent in the third quarter, slightly lower if compared with the 1.7 percent consumer price index in the second quarter.

The bank had kept the overnight policy rate at 3 percent since last May to

support domestic economy.

The central bank said it has 138.3 billion US dollars in foreign reserves as of 31 October, about four times the country’s short-term external debt.

The ringgit appreciated by 4 percent against the US dollars, resulted by positive investor sentiments following further monetary easing in the advanced economies and expectations for progress on Eurozone crisis. The ringgit also strengthened against the Japanese yen and euro but weakened against the Chinese renminbi.

The bank expects domestic demand to continue to buffer the potential risks caused by the more challenging inter-national environment. —Xinhua

**Indonesia’s new car sales hit nearly 930,000 units in 10 months**

JAKARTA, 18 Nov — Association of Indonesian Automotive Manufacturers (Gaikindo) said that the number of car sales reached 923,132 units in the first 10 months, or increased 3.2 percent from the same period last year, local media reported on Friday.

Vehicle’s sales rose to 106,807 units in October or increased 4.5 percent from last month. According to the *Jakarta Globe*, car sales, a key element of consumer spending, hit record 102,512

units in July and then slowed in August due to fewer working days of Moslem Idul Fitri holiday.

An executive at Gaikindo, Jongkie D Sugiarto, said the association was eyeing a record 1.1 million sales by the end of the year. Sales from Indonesia’s largest automotive company, Astra International, jumped 14 percent to 53,764 cars in October, the sales lead by Toyota and Daihatsu models.

Meanwhile Honda

Prospect Motor booked a stellar sales of 9,187 units last month or jumped 128 percent from October last year. And sales of Suzuki Indomobil Motor rose 68 percent to 15,655 units.

The Central Statistics Agency (BPS) reported Indonesia’s economy expanded at 6.2 percent growth rate in third quarter from the same period last year. But it slower than 6.4 percent in second quarter.

Xinhua

**S Korean direct investment overseas**

**Business drops 15.6 pct in 1st 3Q**

SEOUL, 18 Nov — South Korea’s direct investment overseas dropped 15.6 percent in the January-September period due to plunging investment into overseas mining projects, data by the finance ministry showed on Friday. Reported direct investment overseas reached 30.68 billion US dollars for the first nine months of this year, down 15.6 percent from the same period of last year, according to the Ministry of Strategy and Finance.

The slowdown was attributable to a drop in investment into overseas natural resource development projects that outweighed an increase in the

manufacturing and finance sectors. Excluding the mining sector, the investment jumped 28.2 percent on-year to 22.21 billion dollars for the first nine months of this year.

By industry, investment into overseas mining development projects tumbled 55.5 percent on-year to 8.46 billion dollars during the January-September period due to a high base effect of the same period last year when energy-related public corporations rushed for energy development projects in the US, Australia and Canada.

Those for the manufacturing sector, however, jumped 36.9 percent to 9.86 billion dollars

over the cited period, and investment into overseas finance and insurance industries surged 60.1 percent to 5.69 billion dollars thanks to an increase in the pension fund’s investment into the US real estate-linked funds.

Xinhua



IMF building in Washington

**IMF estimates Colombian economy to grow 4.5 percent in 2012**

BOGOTA, 18 Nov — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) head of mission to Colombia, Valerie Cerra, said on Saturday that the South American country’s economy will grow by 4.5 percent this year. The

projection is slightly lower than the estimate of 4.8 percent given by the Colombian Ministry of Finance. The IMF mission, which had reviewed the country’s economy for two weeks, also said here that Colombia must press ahead with fiscal reform and a pension system.

“The mission welcomes the initiatives launched by the Colombian authorities in this regard, particularly because this new pension reform will improve coverage and provide benefits to people who need them most,” Cerra said.

The Colombian government is preparing to

reform the pension system to increase its coverage. The country’s pension system currently does not even cover a third of the working population. Cerra also supported the tax reform bill that President Juan Manuel Santos administration presented to the Colombian Congress, which will take effect in January 2013.

Tax and pension reforms are effective tools to reduce labor costs and inequalities, said Cerra, who added that the IMF credit granted to Colombia to help it withstand effects of the international crisis will stay in force until May 2013. —Xinhua

## New Dekkhinathiri Market emerges in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov — The opening of Dekkhinathiri Market was held today. Under the supervision of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee, the new market with an area of 470 square feet was built by TZTM company in Dekkhinathiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

The market comprises 240 shops and each shop is 10 feet long and 12 feet wide. There are four corner rooms and it is suitable for opening of stores, minimarkets and

offices.

The price of an outer shop is K 16 million and an inner shop is K 15 million. Anyone can buy the shops freely and they can pay for the shops by installments.

Dekkhinathiri kitchen goods market built by TZTM was opened on 20 June. Clothing, electrical appliances and electronics, pharmacy, personal and household goods will be available at the new market.

Under the supervision of Nay Pyi Taw Development

Committee, there are five markets— Nay Pyi Taw Myoma market in Zabuthiri Township, Thabyegon market, Shwekyarpin market, 24-hour Ahaya Thukha market and Yuzana market— and they were put into service. The new Dekkhinathiri Market built by TZTM company is the sixth facility.

Thanks to the newly-opened market, it will be convenient for staff and their families in Dekkhinathiri Township.—*Kyemon*



## Head-on collision leaves 2 dead on Mandalay-Monywa road

SAGAING, 18 Nov — A head-on collision occurred near a rest house of Ywama village in Sagaing Township on Mandalay-Monywa motorway at 6 am on 7 November, killing two women and injuring two men.

A white van driven by U Hla Saw from Monywa to Mandalay collided head-on with a saloon driven by U Kyi Win from the

opposite direction at a place between mile post Nos (34/0) and (34/1) on Mandalay-Monywa road. Two sisters, Daw Khin San Win (52 years) and Daw Khin San Mar (35) on board the van, were dead in the crash.

Actions are being taken against both drivers for their reckless driving by No (1) Police Station in Sagaing.

*Kyemon*



## Upgrading of Thanthuma road in progress

YANGON, 18 Nov — It is common for Yangonites to get stuck in traffic congestions caused by narrow motor lanes, lack of enough parking lots and line of vehicles on the motorway. To overcome this challenge, plans are underway to widen the roads and build more parking lots by group-3 of Engineering Department (road and bridge).

Expansion of road and building of car parks are being carried out along

Thanthuma road in South Okkalapa Township by Yangon East District Engineering Department (road and bridge).

“Traffic congestions are frequent on Thanthuma road linking South Okkalapa Township with North Okkalapa, Thingangyun, North Dagon, South Dagon and East Dagon Townships. So expansion of road to reduce traffic congestion is underway”, head of Yangon East District Engineering

## Gangaw district regional development tasks in progress

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov — Chief Minister of Magway Region U Phone Maw Shwe formally opened the 700-foot long Myittha suspension bridge linking Gangaw and western part of Gangaw on 14 November.

Next, the chief minister spoke words of encouragement in meeting with patients who are receiving medical treatment at 100-bed People’s Hospital in Gangaw and inspected progress in extended

construction of operation theater. Then he looked into hostels for students of Gangaw Basic Education High School.

In meeting with district and township level departmental officials at the meeting hall of Gangaw District General Administration Department, the chief minister presented cash donation for issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards for 1401 locals. Next, he met local people at Basic

## MLN Youth Football Tournament continues

YANGON, 18 Nov — The second day quarter-final matches of MNL Youth Football Tournament

continued yesterday. Hanthawaddy United FC and Yadanarbon FC cruised to the seminal-final of the tournament.

At yesterday’s quarter-final matches, Hanthawaddy United FC beat Nay Pyi Taw FC 1-0 and Yadanarbon FC won over Chin United FC 4-0.

Department (road and bridge) U Tun Hla said.

Now a plan to expand the 12000-foot long Thanthuma Road and construction of parking lots are being carried out from Parami road in South Okkalapa Township to Laydaunkan road in

The semi-final matches will be held at Aung San Stadium on 23 and 24 November.

At the semi-final matches, Zeyar Shwemyay FC will play against Yadanarbon FC on 23 November and Mawya-waddy FC against Hanthawaddy United FC on 24 November and the final match will be held at Thuwunna Stadium on 2 December.

*Kyemon*

Thingangyun Township.

So far, 80 per cent of the whole plan to expand the road from 48 feet to 80 feet has been completed. Upon completion, there will be no traffic congestions on the road.

*Kyemon*

## Train leaves the track in Pazundaung Township

YANGON, 18 Nov — A train derailed near Shwe Phone Pwint Pagoda between Ward-7 and Ward-9 in Pazundaung Township, here, at 3.30 pm on 17 November.

Although there was no casualty in the incident, traffic delays occurred for a while as an empty carriage of the train left the track. It is learnt that authorities concerned were trying to put the derailed carriage back on the track.

*Kyemon*



## Knowledge on earthquake given

THABEIKKYIN, 18 Nov — An educative talk on earthquake was given at the sports ground in Thabeikkyin Township on 14 November.

Member of Myanmar Earthquake Committee U Kyaw Tun gave talks on earthquake and U Ko

Ko Gyi, general secretary of Myanmar Engineering Society, on construction of quake-resistance building, and a Japanese scholar on comfort to victims of earthquake and natural hazards.

*Kyemon*

Myittha dam project, the chief minister oversaw progress of construction works and gave necessary instructions.

Then the chief minister met with local people at Kyin village in the township and visited Kyin Station Hospital.—*MNA*

Education High School (branch) in Hsinswe village in Htilin Township and student hostels. On his arrival at the construction site of



Photo shows a saloon stopped at the corner of the middle block of Shwe Taung Dan Street and Kyongyi Street in Lanmadaw Township on 12 November, resulting in road users veering off their way.

**KYEMON**



Photo shows police cadets, who are taking one-month practical for road safety measures, giving a helping hand to pedestrians crossing the road in Bago on 16 November.

**KYEMON**

**LOCAL NEWS**

YANGON, 18 Nov— Myanmar Football Federation adopted the long-term plans for development of Myanmar football standard.

Recently, the federation invited the coach team of football academy of Real Madrid Club with the sponsorship of Digicel Co to provide training to the Myanmar youths.

Thanks to the training of the coach team from the football academy of Real Madrid, the Myanmar coaches and young players have the opportunities to learn the advancement of football techniques.

“Thanks to Digicel, we arrived here to provide

**Coach team of Real Madrid Football Academy arrives**

training to the Myanmar players. Now, we know Myanmar people are crazy in football sports, so we felt our trip much beneficial to them. We will give football technique we know to them. We plan to train the young players with basic football techniques and exchange views with Myanmar coaches as part of trainings. On my view, a footballer must try hard to become professional since six years old,” said Technical Director Pablo of Real Madrid Academy.

The coach team of



the academy will provide training to 36 Myanmar coaches in two days course and Myanmar youths from 19 to 25 November.

The press conference of

the Real Madrid Academy coach team was held at the office of Myanmar Football Federation in Yangon on 16 November.

*Myanma Alinn*

**Festivities on schedule on Loimauk Hill**

KAWLIN, 18 Nov—The 9th Neikban Market will be held on a grand scale in Loimauk Hill, four miles west of Kawlin on full moon day of Tazaungmon.

The 25th communal Kathina ceremony will be held on the hill in

Tazaungmon and the 68th Buddha Pujaniya from 7th to 11th Waning of Tabaung.

Loimauk Hill is a symbol of Kawlin Township. There are many historical events in Kawlin Township.

*Myanma Alinn*

**Nay Pyi Taw Trade Fair on 12-16 Dec**

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov—The Nay Pyi Taw Trade Fair, Auto Show and Entertainment Programme, to be organized by Paing Aung Business Group,

will be held at the Buddha Pujaniya of Nay Pyi Taw Uppatasanti Pagoda from 12 to 16 December.

Over 300 booths of companies and over 700 shops will be opened at the show that will be the largest in the nation.

The companies will display their goods to be sold at 10-50 per cent discount and give lucky draws to the visitors and buyers.

The booths of the companies will showcase condos, housings and apartments, computer and its accessories, jewellery items, electronic and electrical equipment, textile and cosmetics, fashion lines and attars, foodstuffs, local and foreign-made medicines, agricultural and livestock breeding materials, stationery, kitchen utensils, furniture, construction materials, industrial products, personal goods, saloon cars, heavy machinery, buses, generators, car batteries and tyres, lubricants and fuel, car parts and farming machinery at the fair.

*Myanma Alinn*

**Law Library to be opened on 1 December**

YANGON, 18 Nov—The Law Library will be opened at room No 01 and 03 of Asia Plaza at the corner of Seikkantha and Bogyoke Aung San Streets in Kyauktada Township on 1 December for enabling the enthusiasts to pursue legal affairs. The founder of the library Advocate U Toe

Win said that the library will be opened with the aim of enabling people to have wider knowledge about legal affairs. Any person may read books on law written by Wunna Kyawhtin U Sein Hlaing, retired Justice of the Supreme Court and others in volumes free of charge.

*Myanma Alinn*

**Basic tailoring course for women on 26 Nov**

YANGON, 18 Nov— Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation will open the basic women’s ware tailoring course 5/2012 as of 26 November.

The two-month course will be available from 19 am to 2 pm daily at No 301, Building 169, Aungchantha

Street in Ward 5 of Kamayut Township. The training course limits the trainee numbers at 20. Applications for the training are to be submitted to the federation, not later than 25 November. For further information, dial 09425282061.

*Myanma Alinn*

**Midwifery course commences**

SEIKPYU, 18 Nov—With the assistance of Magway Region Government, the midwifery course No 2/2012 was opened at the hall of Seikpyu Township General Administration Department on 5 November morning.

Trainees are attending the six-month course.

*Myanma Alinn*

**Anti-human trafficking talked**

FALAM, 18 Nov—An educative talk about anti-human trafficking was held at the hall of the Women’s Vocational Training School in Falam on 14 November afternoon.

At first, Deputy Commissioner of the district

U Soe Tint spoke on the occasion. Next, the District Judge, the Commander of Township Police Force, the district OG and the head of Township Traditional Medicine Department gave talks about anti-human trafficking.—*Myanma Alinn*

**Arrival of tourists on increase at Shwedagon Pagoda**

YANGON, 18 Nov—In the open season, arrival of tourist is increasing day by day.

From 1 to 14 November, a total of 22314 foreign guests visited Shwedagon Pagoda. The entrance fee fetched US\$ 105,155 and

FEC 6415 in addition to US\$ 58987 and FEC 58 cash donations.

The largest number of tourists to the pagoda came from Thailand, China, France, Germany and Korea. *Myanma Alinn*

**Stimulant tablets seized in Lashio**

HSIPAW, 18 Nov—A squad led by Police Captain Ye Naing of Lashio Special Anti-Drug Squad of Shan State (North) while discharging anti-drug trafficking duty at Howeik Asia World Toll Gate in Lashio Township at 11.30 am on 11 November searched a motorcycle

driven by Soe Ko Ko Lwin with his wife Ma Yamin Tun on back seat from Muse to Lashio.

The squad members seized 42000 WY brand pink stimulant tablets from the bag, weighing 3.78 kilos worth K 84 million and one mobile phone.

Lashio No 2 Police

YANGON, 18 Nov— Among the international airlines, Myanmar Airways International (MAI) that operate flights to Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, China and India will launch the

**Regional development tasks undertaken**

PONNAGYUN, 18 Nov—A combined team comprising Ponnagyun Township Deputy Administrator U Ye Htut Naing, Head of Township Immigration and National Registration Department U Chit Tun, the Township Law Officer and head of Township Information and Public Relations Department U Hla Baw Thu led by Acting Township Administrator U Min Thu of Ponnagyun Township gave talks on administration, rule of law and raising of reading habit of the people and issued

flight to Cambodia in December. The maiden flight of MAI will be launched on 1 December from Yangon to Phnom Penh. After that, the flight will ply every Wednesday and Saturday.



citizenship scrutiny cards to the local people in accord with the Moe Pwint-4 Plan.

On 5 November, staff

Likewise, the squad seized 32000 WY brand pink stimulant tablets weighing 2.88 kilos worth K 64 million from the bag on the motorcycle driven by Maung Khaing Zar Oo.

The police station of the same venue filed a lawsuit against Maung Khaing Zar Oo under section 15/19 (a)/21 of Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.—*Myanma Alinn*

of the Township INRD presented CSCs to 83 people from Letwe Sartaik Village.

*Myanma Alinn*



**PERSPECTIVES**

Monday, 19 November, 2012

**Family planning**

The huge unmet need for family planning persists, despite international agreements and human rights treaties that promote individuals' rights to make their own decisions about when and how often to have children.

When a woman is able to exercise her reproductive rights, she is more able to benefit from her other rights, such as the right to education. The results are higher incomes, better health for her and her children and greater decision-making power for her, both in the household and the community. When women and men together plan their childbearing, children benefit immediately.

Family planning helps avoid unintended pregnancies, which can have an adverse effect on the ability of a woman to enjoy a range of other rights. An adolescent who becomes pregnant, for example, is often forced to drop out of school, and is thus deprived of her right to education. An unintended pregnancy can endanger a woman's health, undermine her opportunities to earn a living and trap her and her entire family in a cycle of poverty and exclusion.

Much of the research to date has focused on access to family planning by women and female adolescents. But males, too, have an unmet need for family planning.

Here, every adult, adolescent and young person everywhere, regardless of sex, social status, income, ethnicity, religion or place of residence must be empowered to decide freely and responsibly how many children to have and when to have them.

Today, family planning is almost universally recognized as an intrinsic right, affirmed and upheld by many other human rights. Because it is a right, voluntary family planning should be available to all, not just the wealthy or the privileged.

**NATIONAL**  
**President U Thein Sein attends meeting between ASEAN leaders and ASEAN Business Advisory Council**



*President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein attends the meeting between ASEAN leaders and members of ASEAN Business Advisory Council.—MNA*

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov— President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein attended the meeting between ASEAN leaders and ASEAN Business Advisory Council at Champa Room on the third floor of Peace Palace in Phnom Penh of Cambodia at 2 pm local time today.

The meeting was attended by heads of state/government of ASEAN countries and members of ASEAN Business Advisory

Council. ASEAN Alternate Chair Prime Minister of Cambodia Samdech Hun Sen extended greetings and made clarifications on tasks of the council.

Next, Chairman of ASEAN Business Advisory Council explained functions of the council and suggestions on the annual review of ASEAN competitiveness and the situation in which investors' interests in ASEAN and competitiveness

are still firm in accord with the review.

He made a proposal calling for more collaborative efforts between governments and private sectors for improvements in performance of small and medium scale enterprises SMEs of ASEAN countries, monetary sector and technology necessary for making investments. Then heads of state/government of ASEAN countries held comprehensive discussions on the clarifications and

suggestions, highlighting that establishment of ASEAN Business Advisory Clubs and functions of ASEAN Business Advisory Council play a vital role in formulation of economic policies and policy control by governments of ASEAN countries, trade and investments are key drivers of economic growth and development of small and medium scale enterprises is of vital importance in poverty alleviation programme.

MNA

**President U Thein Sein meets Malaysian Prime Minister Dato Seri Mohammed Najib Bin Tun Haji Abdullah Razak**

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov— President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein met with Prime Minister of Malaysia Dato Seri Mohammed Najib Bin Tun Haji Abdullah Razak at

Call Room of Peace Palace in Phnom Penh in Cambodia at 2:40 pm today.

Present at the call together with President U Thein Sein were Union Ministers U Wunna Maung

Lwin, U Tin Naing Thein, Dr Kan Zaw, Deputy Ministers U Zin Yaw, Daw Sanda Khin, and Myanmar Ambassador to Cambodia U Cho Tun Aung. Malaysian Prime Minister was accompanied by ministers and high ranking officials.

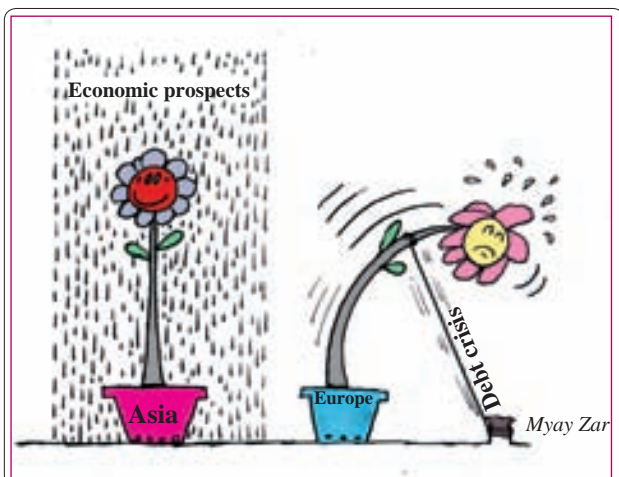
At the call, they cordially discussed matters on mutual interests, assistance for development undertakings, necessary technical assistance in serving ASEAN Chairmanship, promotion of economy and investment of both countries as Myanmar has passed Foreign Investment Law.

MNA



*President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein shakes hands with Prime Minister of Malaysia Dato Seri Mohammed Najib Bin Tun Haji Abdullah Razak at Call Room of Peace Palace in Phnom Penh in Cambodia.*

MNA





## Establishment of ASEAN...

(from page 16)

promote the centrality of ASEAN. The establishment of ASEAN Community is not the ultimate goal of ASEAN but a milestone towards stable, peaceful and prosperous region. We should set further goals for future of ASEAN.

No one knows certainly what will happen in the world in coming two years. What is the most important is to maintain the unity of ASEAN for bravely addressing the future challenges. I am very glad that ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation could be established in line with the resolution of 20<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit.

I hope the institute would provide valuable research results and papers for establishment of ASEAN Political and Security Community. We are ready to share our experiences as we give special attention to restoring internal peace.

I am glad to see a historic peace agreement realized on 7 October, resulting in cessation of decade-long conflict between Philippines government and Moro Islamic Liberation Front. It is a notable example of reconciliation to be taken in the arena of international relations. We are going to make negotiations for Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership at this Summit, resulting in win-win situation between ASEAN and dialogue partners, members of free trade area, and contributing towards a solid foundation for

ASEAN-centered economic and trade integration.

ASEAN Connectivity Master Plan is of importance for realization of ASEAN community, bridging the development gaps between the ASEAN member countries and integration of ASEAN into related regions.

I am glad to see the interest of ASEAN plus three countries and ASEM courtiers on the master plan as well as private sectors. I would like to see the realization of master plan as quick as possible.

I would like to acknowledge the effort of coordination committee for ASEAN Connectivity to gain much publicity for the ASEAN Connectivity Master Plan. I would like to welcome the role of Cambodia which is hosting the meeting on ASEAN Connectivity and express my thanks for efforts of Thailand which lead the process of ASEAN plus three integration.

I would like to call for more efforts to attract investments and to publicize the master plan for effective implementation of ASEAN Connectivity Master Plan which is important for ASEAN community. The master plan can narrow the development gap in ASEAN.

For narrowing the physical connectivity and infrastructural development divide between the ASEAN member countries, it is required to fully utilize ASEAN Infrastructure Fund (AIF). Only when AIF is



21<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summit Plenary Session in progress.—MNA

utilized harmoniously, will infrastructural development gap between the member countries be narrowed.

Moreover, it is necessary to encourage public-private partnership programme as private sector plays a vital role in physical connectivity and infrastructural development.

Dawei deep-sea port project which will be implemented in Myanmar will contribute to the connectivity with regional countries, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam. An agreement between Myanmar and Thailand was signed for implementation of the project.

I would like to call the ASEAN Human Right Declaration which was adopted at this summit as an important milestone in ASEAN. I would like to honour members of ASEAN intergovernmental commission on human rights and those who take part in the discussion on the declaration.

It is required not only to strive for promotion of human rights among ASEAN countries but also to protect the people with no protection and no rights in accord with laws of relevant countries. I believed that the already-approved ASEAN Human Rights Declaration will be a fundamental document for promotion and protection of human rights in ASEAN region. For realization and sustainability of the declaration, we have to continue to implement it after adopting the declaration.

I would like to extend support for and take pride for Cambodia's attempt to hold ASEAN Global Dialogue first during this year. This ASEAN Global Dialogue would help enhance the long existence of ASEAN in the world.

In the time of World economic downturn, discussion on financial crisis would be appropriate and should be continued in the forthcoming Summits.

I strongly believe

that although this is first dialogue held under the sponsorship of Cambodia, it would help create the good ideas that would facilitate 2015 ASEAN Community, including ASEAN Economic Community. From the humanitarian point of view I welcome the establishment of ASEAN Department that will carry out the mine clearance operations in principle. Myanmar is making all-out efforts to reach local-peace agreements and making cooperation with NGOs for mine clearance operations in the regions where peace have already restored. Myanmar has not signed Ottawa Convention yet. But, Myanmar always opposes the excessive use of land mines. Meanwhile, I believe that for defence purpose, we need to use land mines in order to safeguard the life and property of people and self-defence.

Here, I would to express thank to Dr Surin Pitsuwan who led the ASEAN

Secretariat from 2008 to 2012.

In particular, on behalf of Myanmar government and people, I would like to express the special thanks to the ASEAN Secretary-General for his leadership in relief and rehabilitation tasks by Tripartite Core Group comprised of Myanmar government, ASEAN and UN after the Nargis storm. May his future attempts meet the successes! ASEAN Community welcomes the nomination of Mr Le Luong Minh from our brother Vietnam. Mr Le Luong Minh would face so many challenges as he would have to lead the transition of ASEAN Community.

We also expect that he can manage the ASEAN Secretariat effectively and serve the interests of ASEAN and its people.

After the Summit, the heads of State/Government had a luncheon hosted by the Cambodian Prime Minister.—MNA

### Republic of the Union of Myanmar Information Committee

Press Release 2/2012

5<sup>th</sup> Waxing of Tazaungmon, 1374 ME  
18 November, 2012

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar will deal with the following affairs to be able to protect human rights of the citizens and to emerge a democratic government as part of its efforts in conformity with the international standard.

#### 1. Human Rights affairs

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar will promote cooperation between the International Committee of the Red Cross-ICRC and the Ministry of Home Affairs. As from 2011, the ICRC has been allowed by the Ministry of Home Affairs to carry out tasks for clean toilet system, water and power supply system in prisons, and the ministry will allow the ICRC and to work together for medication and social security affairs of the prisoners.

The Union Government will continue to hold talks over opening the office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in Myanmar.

The Union Government has already removed the personnel included in the "political black list" and has assigned a liaison officer at the President Office to reply questions related to that issue.

#### 2. Prisoners Affairs

The Union Government will hold meetings between Ministry of Home Affairs, other related governmental departments and organizations before December, 2012, to discuss matters related to remaining prisoners, and will reconsider the charges and punishment of the prisoners.

#### 3. Addressing conflicts and national solidarity

The Union Government has committed to the peace making and so far, it has reached ceasefire agreement with 10 main ethnic armed groups and will continue peace negotiations politically. The Union Government will continue to make endeavours to reach a ceasefire agreement in Kachin State and to hold negotiations politically. Besides, the Union Government will implement necessary tasks politically to ensure long-term guarantee for good governance and rights of national races.

Effective measures will be taken to ensure that the conflicts in Rakhine State not to happen again and legal actions be taken against those who get involved in the incidents in accordance with the law as stated in the letter of the President sent to the UN Secretary-General. The Union Government will work together with international community to obtain humanitarian aids for the people in Rakhine State. It will work out the root cause of the conflicts between the two communities and will address politically the issues from helping the displaced people return home to gaining their citizenship.

The Union government will coordinate with other international humanitarian organizations and International Red Cross Society to expand the help in conflict-stricken areas.

#### 4. Nuclear Non-proliferation

As the President has approved to sign additional protocol of International Atomic Energy Agency and to recognize the amendment of 1995 Small Quantities Protocol, the Union government would put forward them to the parliament for further proceeding. Myanmar has joined IAEA since its birth in 1957 and signed Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) in December, 1992, Small Quantities Protocol of NPT and Southeast Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty in 1995, Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty in 1996. The Union government, being an administration of UN member states, is firmly committed to adherence to resolution No. 1874 of the United Nations Security Council.

#### 5. Building of a transparent government

The Union government is to try to join Open Government Partnership (OGP) in 2016. OGP is a multilateral programme for building of a more transparent, accountable and efficient government by promoting public participation in political process, ensuring anti-corruption, and improving technology sector.

#### 6. Anti-human trafficking

The Union government has agreed to participate in "US-Myanmar anti-human trafficking programme" and will continue forced labour eradication programmes in cooperation with ILO and anti-human trafficking work plans in line with "new ward or village-tract administration law." The government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar gladly welcomes technical assistance from the United States of America in those programmes.

Information Committee

## People need to make their very wishes known correctly: Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker

YANGON, 18 Nov—Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann called citizens to make their very wishes known as they are while meeting departmental personnel, social organizations and local people in Thayawady, Bago Region this morning.

People need to make their actual wishes known correctly and openly, otherwise it would only contribute to going wrong, said the Speaker who was there, according to him, to listen to the voices of people and seek ways to fulfill their wishes in line with the motto of bicameral parliament for he thought that reports and proposals of parliamentarians are simply not enough to fulfill the wishes of people.

The Speaker said public wishes hearing programme has produced some results with debate over issues like FDI Law at the parliament to guarantee the interests of people.

Whether a government can be good or bad depends on all the three pillars—legislative, executive and judicial branches and thus national development can

only be achieved through harmonious mutual cooperation and coordination between those branches, said the Speaker.

He called on government personnel to act with goodwill as people watch the actions of township and ward/village administrators to decide whether a government is good or bad.

Next, locals gave an account of regional matters. The Bago Region Chief Minister vowed to attend to the needs, making a request to understand that more regional development tasks should be made in disaster-pronged eastern part of Bago Region for ensuring equitable development.

In his concluding remarks, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann pledged to fulfill the requirements as much as he can after making coordination with authorities concerned. He called on representatives of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw to hold coordination with region Hluttaw representatives in attending to the needs of local people. He urged local people to have an understanding of



*Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann meets departmental personnel, members of social*

*organizations and local people in Thayawady.—MNA*

the situation in which more fulfillments are to be made for important places.

Chairperson of Pyithu Hluttaw Economic and

Trade Development Committee U Maung Maung Thein and Amyotha Hluttaw Women and Children Committee Chairperson

Dr Mya Oo, Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win, Region Hluttaw Speaker U Win Tin, secretaries and members of Pyithu Hluttaw

and Amyotha Hluttaw committees and commission, MPs and personnel were also present on the occasion.

MNA

### Union Minister calls for workforce preparation ahead of FDI influx

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov—Union Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Security U Maung Myint expressed his appreciation to blue-collar workers for their part in industrialization of the nation while visiting Asia Optical Company, an optical component producer in Mingaladon Industrial Zone, here yesterday.

The Union Minister at Kaba Training School called for establishment

of training schools and preparations, pointing that an influx of FDI into Dawei and Kyaukphyu deep-sea ports would require skilled workforce.

He predicted the emergence training school market, calling for competency of local workforce on a par with international ones. He affirmed his commitment to fulfill the requirements of private training schools.—MNA

### Request to flight passengers

The regular flights arrive or departure between 9 am and 10 am and between 3 pm and 4 pm

on 19 November will be suspended temporarily and morning flights during the said time will be put off

until 10 am and the evening flights until 4 pm and there is no cancellation of flights, it is reported.—MNA

### Request to road users in urban Yangon

10<sup>th</sup> Mile Junction, Airport Street and Pyay Road Junction, Pyay Road and Tawwin Street Junction, AD traffic lights, Pyay Road and Inya Road Junction, Hledan Junction, Hanthawady Roundabout,

Myaynigon traffic lights, front of Hluttaw, Pyay Road and Ahlon Road Junction, U Wisara Roundabout and Shwedagon Northern Gate Junction along Pyay Road from Yangon International Airport will be closed

temporarily twenty minutes before and during the movement of VIP motorcade on 19 November. Personnel concerned have been assigned to instruct the road users to drive by detour.

MNA

### Collective Remembrance Arts Show 20-30 Nov

YANGON, 18 Nov—Under the arrangements of Department of Archaeology, National Museum and Library of the Ministry of Culture and Education and Culture Ministry of Republic of Indonesia and Indonesian Embassy, the Collective Remembrance Arts Show will be held at the National Museum, here, from 20 to 30 November.—Myanma Alinn

## WORLD

### Largest environmental consumer event in US opens in LA

LOS ANGELES, 18 Nov—Everything is green but green, that is what the Green Festival, the largest and most trusted environmental consumer event in the United States, demonstrated when it opened at the Los Angeles Convention Centre Saturday. The two-day event hosts eco-innovators, over 100 renowned speakers, community leaders, green business experts, and over 300 green and socially responsible exhibitors, health and wellness influencers, and cultural and bilingual programming.

Green Festival is widely recognized as the largest marketplace of conscious businesses as well as great place to find the latest in sustainable products and fair trade gifts perfect for holiday shopping. A joint venture between Green America and Global Exchange, Green Festival is a non-profit event that celebrates an 11-year milestone hosting over one million attendees in eight cities. Green Festival is the largest sustainability event and is the only event that screens exhibitors for their commitment to social justice

and ecological balance using Green America's Green Business Certification Standards.

A middle aged man, showing his dried fruits grown with organic farming, told *Xinhua* that to grow organic fruits, he has to use organic fertilizer, commit not to use chemical pesticide, and he has to get a license for his farmland to grow organic fruits and vegetables. "You will taste the difference between my fruits grown naturally and those produced in non-organic ways, even those are dried fruits," said

US

the man who has been in the organic farming business for several years. Trikke Electric is test driving its manual and electric powered three-wheeled bikes at the exhibition. The manual powered is equipped with fitness tires that make it easier to propel using the body power. Different from the traditional way, riders just need to twist the throttle and go. The athletic stance over three wheels allows for an extremely stable and ergonomic riding position.

Xinhua



*Balloons fly in the sky during the second day of the IX International Festival of Balloon, in the Metropolitan Park of the city of Leon, Guanajuato state, central Mexico, on 17 Nov, 2012. About 200 participated in the festival from on 16 to 19 November.*

XINHUA

**REGIONAL**

**Nepal**

**23 percent underage girls in Nepal get married**

KATHMANDU, 18 Nov—An annual preliminary report of Nepal's Ministry of Health and Population showed that at least 23 percent girls in the country get married at the age of 15-19 years as against the legal age of 20 for both sexes, said Dr Praveen Mishra, secretary of the ministry, on Saturday.

This represents small progress compared with last year's 25 percent, Dr Mishra said. The annual report regarding child marriage rates of 2012 is expected to be released early next year.

"Early marriage needs to be stopped because it not only affects girl's education but also their health and overall career development

in the future," Dr Mishra said in an interview with *Xinhua*.

"Our biggest challenge is the family's attitude towards educating their daughters," he added.

"We certainly need to strongly lobby against early marriage, but we are hampered by a very poor monitoring system to implement the existing law," said Suman Tuladhar, education specialist at the United Nations Children's Fund, Nepal (UNICEF-Nepal). Still many rural families in Nepal marry off their daughters at the age of 11-13 because their parents think that the older a girl gets the higher the dowry will be.

"Child marriage is the

extreme denial of children's rights. Many girls suffer from abusive marriages as they are married to older boys," said Dibya Dawadi, deputy director general at the Department of Education under the Ministry of Education. After marriage, such girls rarely come back to school and even if they do, their performance are recorded very poor, Dawadi said, adding that early marriage negatively impacts the girls' self confidence.

Child marriage not only defied them from their education, it often made them vulnerable to a cycle of discrimination, domestic violence and abuse, said

Helen Sherpa, social activist and member of the World Education, an international nongovernmental organization (NGO). Tuladhar said the UNICEF's world report on child marriage in 2011 showed that 51 percent of Nepalese get married in their early age. Nepal's 2006 demographic and health survey found that among Nepalese women of the 20-49 age groups, 60 percent were married by the time they reached 18.

Early marriage changes a girl's life options because parents no longer want to invest in "someone else's property," said Kaman Singh Chepang, an activist from the Nepal Chepang Association, an NGO working for the Chepang community in Nepal. Dire poverty and lack of government initiatives to get girls to school were among reasons for early marriage, Chepang said.

*Xinhua*



Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong (R) shakes hands with US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton during their meeting in Singapore, on 17 Nov, 2012. —XINHUA



Presidium and invited VIPs at the Round-table meeting of the 5th World Economic and Environmental Conference in Beijing, on 17 Nov, 2012. The conference lasts from on 17 to 18 Nov, 2012. Its topic is Future Momentum towards Economic Prosperity: Green and Sustainable Development, and the sub-topic is Post Rio+20 Summit: Outlook. —XINHUA

**11 killed in slum fire in Bangladeshi capital**

DHAKA, 18 Nov—Eleven people were killed as fire engulfed a slum in Bangladeshi capital Dhaka in the wee hours of Sunday, fire service said.

Ataur Rahman, duty officer of the fire office in Dhaka, told *Xinhua* by phone that the blaze broke out in a slum in Hazaribagh residential area at around

3 am local time, killing 11 persons, including four children and five women. However, he could not give the exact figure of the injured.

Rahman said that the fire might have been sparked by a cigarette butt in a rickshaw garage and spread to the slum, damaging over 1,000 shanties.

Rahman said the fire had been put out by the firefighters and the bodies of the victims were recovered. He said the death toll was high since people were asleep.

Dhaka, a city of over 15.2 million people, has some 5,000 slum areas which are inhabited mainly by day labourers.—*Xinhua*

**Death toll rises to nine in SW China pile-up**

**China**

GUIYANG, 18 Nov—The death toll from pile-ups on Saturday morning in southwest China has risen to nine from the previously

**Afghan police kill 11 Taliban fighters**

**Afghan**

KABUL, 18 Nov—Afghan police have killed 11 Taliban fighters in a series of operations across the country over the past 24 hours, Interior Ministry said in a statement on Saturday.

These operations have been conducted in Nangarhar, Maidan Wardak, Ghazni, Paktika, Paktiya, Helmand and Farah Provinces, killing 11 Taliban militants and capturing 12 others.

There were no casualties on the police personnel.

*Xinhua*

reported six, local traffic police said.

The accident occurred in Anshun, Guizhou Province, on the expressway linking east China's Shanghai and Kunming in the southwest.

A total of 36 vehicles were involved in a series of

pileups on a one-kilometer section of the expressway around 9 am as a result of heavy fog, police said.

Seven cars caught fire in the accidents, which also left 19 people injured, according to police. Traffic has resumed.—*Xinhua*



Photo taken on 17 Nov, 2012 shows a traffic accident site on the Shanghai-Kunming expressway in Anshun City, southwest China's Guizhou Province. The pileup accident occurred at about 9 am Saturday on the expressway in Anshun City, leaving nine people dead and 19 others injured. More than 25 vehicles involved in the accident, and seven of them burst into flames.

XINHUA

**Philippine gov't urges pyramid scam victims not to lynch suspects**

**Philippines**

MANILA, 18 Nov—The Philippine government appealed on Saturday to the victims of the multi-billion peso pyramid scam not to take the law into their own hands when they are dealing with the suspects of the crime.

Deputy presidential spokesperson Abigail Valte made the call following the murder of an insurance agent and an arson case in southern Philippine Province of Zamboanga del Sur, both incidents were linked to the scam perpetrated by Aman Futures.

"Our appeal (to the victims), let us allow the investigation to take place; let us allow (the authorities) to look for the suspects, and let us not do anything that will create more problems," Valte said in an interview with a state-run radio station.

Valte said this was the reason why Interior Ministry called back to camp 21 local

police officers who invested their hard-earned money in Aman.

"This is what we are trying to prevent, that investors themselves will take the law into their own hands," she said.

She added the security has been tightened in the province, including Pagadian City, where most of

Aman victims came. About 15, 000 individuals reportedly invested about 12 billion pesos (about 290 million US dollars) in Aman.

The government is hunting the main suspects, including Aman president Manuel K Amalilio and Fernando "Nonoy" R Luna, head of the Aman operations in Pagadian City.—*Xinhua*



A girl plays next to red panda photo during celebration of Red Panda Day in Zagreb Zoo, on 17 Nov, 2012. Zagreb Zoo invited visitors to suggest names for the newborn baby panda twins. —XINHUA

## South Sudan faces “number of challenges”: UN peacekeeping chief



UNITED NATIONS, 18 Nov — South Sudan is the newest nation in the world and it is facing “a number of challenges” as it struggles to find its footing in the midst of road blocks that need to be removed to achieve peace and security, UN peace-keeping chief Herve Ladsous told *Xinhua* in a recent interview.

Ladsous, the UN under-secretary-general for peace-keeping operations, said, “There are incidents involving various ethnic groups and... there are more general issues of a country establishing itself” that come into play.

South Sudan won independence from Sudan in July last year and later became the youngest member in the United Nations family. Currently, this new nation is receiving thousands of refugees from neighbouring

Sudan’s South Kordofan and Blue Nile state.

According to Ladsous, this is “one basic issue in the Republic of Sudan” affecting the states of “the Blue Nile and South Kordofan” and it is “a very serious humanitarian situation which has developed because there is a state of hostilities there, between the Armed Forces of Sudan and what we call SPLM-North the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement North.”

The Sudanese official news agency *SUNA* reported recently that the rebel groups have hampered the humanitarian workers in delivering assistance to the people in need there, calling for the international community to help.

In response, the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations led by Ladsous, as well as the African Union, Arab League and the United Nations have launched a “tripartite appeal” for the

government of Sudan to grant humanitarian access to those people suffering from the conflict.

“Unfortunately, this is still not implemented and this seems now to be the highest priority,” said Ladsous.

Despite the refugee influx, South Sudan is managing to deal with “more general issues” with the aid of the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS).

UNMISS was set up in July 2011 by the UN Security Council to provide peace and security and to help the new state to consolidate itself and face all the challenges that a new nation has to tackle.

The first few steps include heading off violence in the Jonglei state of South Sudan, which is “a very difficult issue, because you have first an ethnic problem and different tribal groups unknown, who have apparently a tradition of mutual hostility,” he said.

As a result, “they are

attacking each other” and “unsavory characters” are stirring the matters and unknown structured armed groups are try to use those ethnic factors to create unrest, coupled with the fact the nation is trying to rebuild itself after decades of war and has weapons scattered around the nation.

“So our mission in South Sudan is monitoring very very carefully all that happens. At various stages in the past, it created a number of killings and these are really unacceptable,” Ladsous said.

Situations similar to this are “going to change because one of the agreements signed between the two countries, which we hope will start being implemented very soon.

There will be what we call a joint border verification monitoring mechanism” which will help keep the peace at border lines, he said.

*Xinhua*



*Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas delivers a speech during a meeting with the Palestinian leadership in the West Bank city of Ramallah, on 16 Nov, 2012. Abbas on Friday said that the ongoing Israeli aggression aims at obstructing the Palestinian bid to the United Nations for recognition.—XINHUA*

## Obama’s favourability reaches 3-year high



WASHINGTON, 18 Nov— With a bruising election season behind him, US President Barack Obama’s favourability rating has reached a three-year high, as 58 percent of Americans view him favourably, according to new Gallup poll released on

Friday.

The results are based on a 9-12 November *USA Today*/Gallup poll.

Obama’s current 58 percent favourable rating represents his best in over three years, since a 66 percent reading in July 2009.

Obama was more popular after his first election than he is now, with a 68 percent favourable rating just after the November 2008 election. His all-time high of 78 percent was measured shortly before his inauguration as president in January 2009.

The close of the election and momentum shifts in Washington resulting from Obama’s reelection also gave Americans more to hope for in future.

Another Gallup poll released on Friday found 54 percent of Americans believe the country will be better off four years from now, while 41 percent say it will be worse.—*Xinhua*

## “Year of Russian Tourism” ends in China

SHANGHAI, 18 Nov—The “Year of Russian Tourism”, a Sino-Russian event to boost mutual tourism, ended on Friday, with the two parts agreeing on further investment cooperation.

Chinese Vice Premier Wang Qishan and his Russian counterpart Olga

Golodets sent congratulatory messages to the concluding ceremony held in Shanghai.

The National Tourism Administration (NTA) of China and the Russia Federal Tourism Agency, or Rosturizm, signed a memorandum of understanding on

investment and cooperation in tourism fields along with five investment agreements.

The “Year of Russian Tourism” began on March 23, 2012 in China while the “Year of Chinese Tourism” will be launched in Russia next year. Both sides hope the number of citizens paying mutual visits can reach 5 million as soon as possible. Moreover, the two countries are making efforts to boost capital, technology and human resources cooperation, said NTA chief Shao Qiwei.

*Xinhua*



*Russian artists perform on the ice stage during the closing ceremony of the “Year of Russian Tourism” at Shanghai Oriental Sports Centre in east China’s Shanghai Municipality, on 16 Nov, 2012. Under the Year of Russian Tourism programme, China and Russia held over 100 activities covering the sectors of tourism, culture, sports and education. The two nations are expected to witness another tourist rush from each other’s side in 2013’s forthcoming “Year of Chinese Tourism.”—XINHUA*

## Algeria troops kill three militants in Bejaia Province

ALGIERS, 18 Nov—The Algerian troops killed three militants on Friday in the Province of Bejaia, about 250 km east of Algiers, local media reported.

Citing local sources, *TSA* news website said the army troops have set up an ambush following tips about the presence of militants in the village of Aghoulad, in the locality of Adekar in

southern Bejaia. This region is located in a forested area on borders with Tizi Ouzou Province.

It is understood that the killed militants were about to conduct an attack targeting a military barrack in Adekar, the source added.

Late October, a terror group killed an army official and injured another in this same area.—*Xinhua*

## EAC to send 30 observers for Kenya elections next year

NAIROBI, 18 Nov— The East African Community (EAC) will send a team of 30 observers drawn from the member states of Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda and Burundi to monitor Kenya’s general election scheduled for 4 March, 2013.

This decision was arrived at in Nairobi on Friday after a five-day meeting of experts on the EAC Principles for Election Observation and Evaluation drawn from the five member states of the confederation.

“We will deploy a team of 25 short-term and five long-term observers to oversee the electoral process in Kenya during next year’s general elections which we consider very crucial as it is the first voting in Kenya’s

new political dispensation under the country’s new constitution,” said Isabella Waffubwa, the principal political affairs officer at the EAC during a meeting with political parties.

“The long term monitors will be on the ground to observe the whole process from the pre-campaigns to the actual voting and will look out for considerations ranging from aspects of security to the legal framework of the voting process.”

Waffubwa said the EAC considers election observers can play an important and supportive role in the electoral process that would enhance the credibility of the Kenyan elections and enhance public confidence. The regional electoral heads have been

meeting in Nairobi to review the draft EAC Principles for Election Observation and Evaluation in the Partners. If adopted by the EAC Council next week, Kenya will be the first beneficiary of the document. “The challenges are enormous but we are confident that the Kenya elections will be a success story,” the participants said.

They also echoed for peaceful polls in Kenya, saying that Nairobi’s smooth conduct of the general elections would have an impact to the region.

Head of Burundi delegation Ambassador Pierre Clavier called on the political parties to demonstrate tolerance during the electoral process and announcement of results.



“Democracy is suffering because of political parties’ leaders do not appreciate and embrace political competition,” he told the participants, which included registrars of political parties, lawyers, activists, human rights experts, journalists and government policy officers.

Rwanda’s Secretary Charles Munyaneza stressed the deployment of long term observers for elections in order to provide deeper analysis of the process.

EAC Deputy Secretary General Julius Rotich said the Kenya must take all steps to ensure it avoid the pit falls of 2007 that led to the post-election violence which paralyzed operations in the country and trade within the five-member bloc.—*Xinhua*



*Spain’s King Juan Carlos (C), Spain’s Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy (L) and the Ibero-American Secretary General Enrique Iglesias attend the opening ceremony of the 22th Ibero-American Summit in Cadiz, southern Spain, on 16 Nov, 2012. The 2012 Ibero-American Summit kicked off in the Spanish city of Cadiz on Friday to focus on the ongoing economic crisis and the need for Spain and Portugal to boost their investment in Latin America.—XINHUA*

**ENTERTAINMENT**



*He will be on the Sony TV show to promote his movie Talaash, a suspense thriller, releasing on 30 November.*

PTI

**Aamir Khan to feature in CID**

MUMBAI, 18 Nov—Bollywood star Aamir Khan will be seen in two episodes of TV crime thriller CID.

He will be on the Sony TV show to promote his movie Talaash, a suspense thriller, releasing on 30 November.

“So Aamir Khan will be on CID next week. Full on in both the episodes,”

Sneha Rajani, senior executive vice president and business head, Sony, shared on Twitter.

CID is one of the longest running TV shows in India, and its theme is in tune with the film’s basic plot.

Talaash also features Rani Mukerji and Kareena Kapoor.

PTI

**Jab Tak Hai Jaan earns Rs 60.39 crore in four days**

NEW DELHI, 18 Nov—The magic of Yash Chopra’s evergreen romance formula seems to be working again.

Jab Tak Hai Jaan, his last directorial venture before his death, has earned Rs 60.39 crore at the domestic box office in four days of its release.

The Shah Rukh Khan, Anushka Sharma and Katrina Kaif-starrer love story released on 2,500 screens on the auspicious occasion Diwali, on 13 November.

The film earned Rs 15.23 crore (Tuesday) Rs 19.54 crore (Wednesday), Rs 14.45 crore (Thursday) and Rs 11.17 crore (Friday).

Produced by Aditya Chopra under the family banner Yash Raj Films, was Jab Tak Hai Jaan reportedly made at a budget of Rs 50 crore.

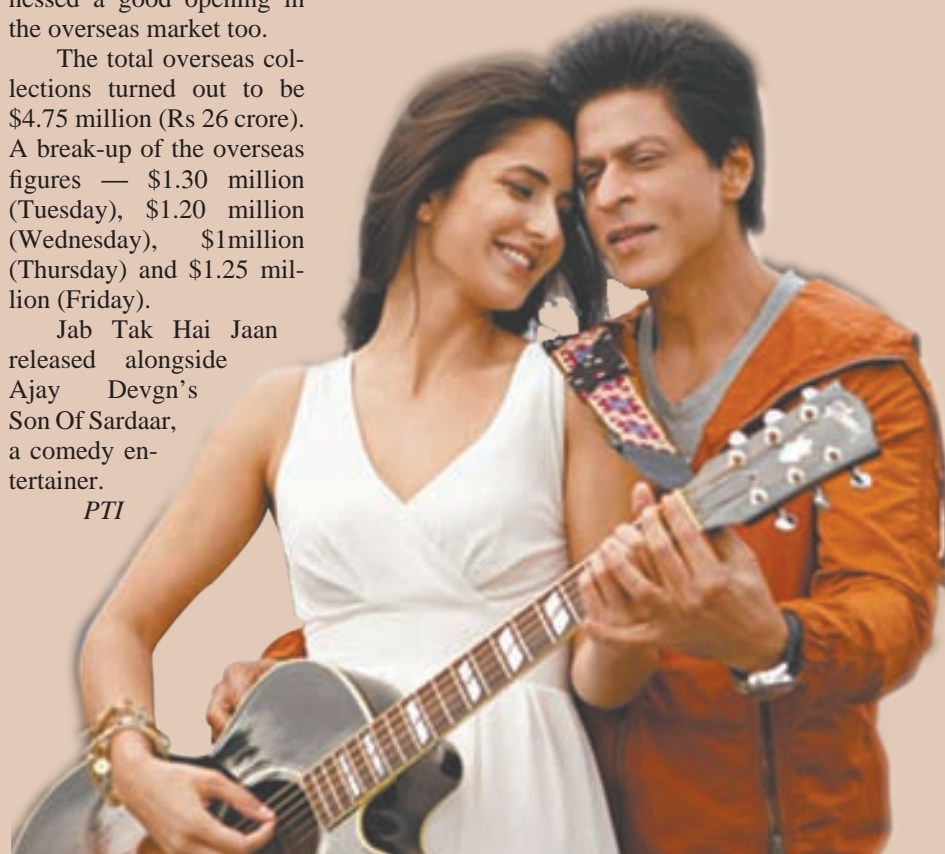
Shot in exotic foreign locales, the movie wit-

nessed a good opening in the overseas market too.

The total overseas collections turned out to be \$4.75 million (Rs 26 crore). A break-up of the overseas figures — \$1.30 million (Tuesday), \$1.20 million (Wednesday), \$1 million (Thursday) and \$1.25 million (Friday).

Jab Tak Hai Jaan released alongside Ajay Devgn’s Son Of Sardaar, a comedy entertainer.

PTI



*The Shah Rukh Khan, Anushka Sharma and Katrina Kaif-starrer love story released on 2,500 screens on the auspicious occasion Diwali on 13 November.—PTI*



*A representative told Hollyscoop.com: “Selena has never been confirmed to be at the show.”—PTI*

**Justin Bieber’s American Music Awards performance to keep Selena Gomez away**

NEW DELHI, 18 Nov—Selena Gomez will not be attending the American Music Awards because her ex-boyfriend Justin Bieber is performing.

Justin is set to perform at the ceremony on Sunday (18 November), and Selena is not going to make an appearance at the prestigious event in Los Angeles because the pain of their recent split is just too fresh.

A representative told Hollyscoop.com: “Selena has never been confirmed to be at the show.”

She is also not nominated for any prizes at the ceremony, unlike Justin who is up for three awards, including the highly coveted Artist of the Year accolade.

Selena and Justin were believed to have held crisis talks last weekend to discuss where their relationship was going after their split was confirmed last week.

A source said: “I saw Selena go into the hotel around 5:40 pm and not even three hours later, Justin went in. I saw him leave around 11 pm.

“It’s not just over for Justin and Selena, whatever happens they have a lot to talk about. They’re both being a bit cagey and stubborn but they’re desperate to see one another. This isn’t new for them; they often have a tumultuous relationship. We all expect them to work it out.”

PTI

**Salman Rushdie was a great wit and flirt: Padma Lakshmi**

LOS ANGELES, 18 Nov—Salman Rushdie and Padma Lakshmi’s marriage may have lasted only three years but the Top Chef host says they had great time together because the Booker prize winning author “was a great wit and flirt”. In an interview to Playboy magazine, where the Chennai born supermodel appears in a series of revealing photographs, the 42-year-old celebrity has praised her ex-husband, who is 23-years her senior.

“Now there is somebody who has great wit and is a great flirt. I don’t regret a day I spent with Salman, but it was tiring. He has a big life, and it only got bigger when we were together. I’m happy to have stood next to him holding his hand, but we

were in very different parts of our lives.”

The marriage of Lakshmi and Mumbai born author had baffled many as Rushdie is not known for his good looks while the supermodel has made a career out of her

looks.

“Comments like that came out of ignorance. If you saw us together you would know exactly why we were together.” The couple’s marriage lasted three years until 2007, with Padma going

on to have a baby daughter Krishna, now two-years-old, by computer mogul Adam Dell.

Rushdie, 65, is not so generous about his fourth ex-wife in his recently published memoir ‘Joseph Anton’. Describing her as ‘Millenarian Illusion’, Rushdie has painted Lakshmi as someone who was ambitious and celebrity-seeking. Rushdie said Padma’s beauty swept him over because she “seemed to contain his Indian past and his American future.” “She was capable of saying things of such majestic narcissism.... her moodiness was unpredictable and extreme.” She was ambitious and was determined to strike out for herself. “In the end she did.”—PTI



*Padma Lakshmi has praised her ex-husband, who is 23-years her senior.—PTI*

**Springsteen, McCartney to perform at concert for Sandy’s victims**



*Bruce Springsteen performs with the E Street Band during a concert in East Rutherford, New Jersey, on 19 Sept, 2012.*

REUTERS

NEW YORK, 18 Nov—Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band, Paul McCartney, Kanye West and Jon

Bon Jovi will perform at a special “12.12.12” Concert for Sandy Relief at Madison Square Garden next month, according to organizers.

The Who, Roger Waters, Billy Joel and Alicia Keys have also signed up for the 12 December event, which its producers said is shaping up to be a showcase of rock royalty.

“The response from the entertainment community to help those most affected by Hurricane Sandy has been nothing short of astounding,” the Madison Square Garden Company, Clear Channel Media and

Entertainment and The Weinstein Company said in a joint statement.

“We expect to announce additional legendary performers in the near future and we are confident that the event will ensure those in need will not be forgotten, and vital aid will be directed to rebuilding our communities along the East Coast.”

More than 130 people were killed when the super-storm pummeled the east coast of the United States late last month. Thousands more were left homeless as the storm tore through areas of New York, New Jersey

and Connecticut, causing an estimated \$50 billion in damage.

Donations raised from the one-night event concert will go to the Robin Hood Relief Fund, which will provide money and materials to groups helping people hardest hit by the storm.

The organizers of the concert also produced the 9/11 benefit “The Concert for New York City” in 2001, which raised more than \$30 million.

A concert and telethon on NBC earlier this month raised almost \$23 million for people affected by the storm.—Reuters

## Arsenal crushes 10-man Spurs, Chelsea and United suffer slumps

LONDON, 18 Nov—Arsenal made full use of Emmanuel Adebayor's sending off to fight back and punish Tottenham Hotspur 5-2 in the North London Derby on Saturday. The scoreline was identical to last season's fixture in February when the Gunners produced

This time, the home side again trailed the rival in the early period though the deficit is one goal. The process and result were familiar. Another convincing victory boosted by a ruthless comeback. With the first win in the Premier League since 27 Octo-

Spurs. Adebayor, the former Gunners' forward, made an in-time follow-up to tap Spurs an early lead amid boos of home fans after Jermain Defoe's shot was blocked by Wojciech Szczesny.

However, The Togolese striker became the turning point of the game just after seven minutes. He was dismissed in a straight red card for a high tackle on Santi Cazorla. The visitors had to continue the battle in 73 minutes with one man less. Before the break, Arsenal ignited the 60,111-attendance Emirates Stadium with three goal relay from Per Mertesacker's header, Lukas Podolski's angled finish and Olivier Giroud's sharp sweep.

Cazorla made it 4-1 from far post with 30 minutes left, leaving the game with few suspense. But Gareth Bale delivered a solo show after he dribbled past three defenders and struck from outside

the area to narrow the gap. Theo Walcott made the last shot inside the area to seal the victory. Elsewhere, two upsets on Saturday made this round campaign more dramatic. The former table leaders Manchester United were stunned by Anthony Pilkington's header and suffered a 1-0 away defeat to Norwich. The Red Devils thus lost the lead and slipped to the second place.

European champions Chelsea were surprised by an determined West Bromwich side in an unexpected 2-1 away defeat. The blues had 19 shots in total but still failed to find the net for an equalizer and remained in the third place. Two giants' fall gave the defending champions the chance. Man City didn't waste it. The Blue Moon thrashed Aston Villa 5-0 with strikers Sergio Aguero and Carlos Tevez both netting twice, claiming the league's top berth for the first time in this season.—Xinhua



Per Mertesacker (L 1st) of Arsenal heads to score during the Barclays Premier League match against Tottenham Hotspur at the Emirates Stadium in London, Britain, on 17 Nov, 2012. Arsenal won 5-2.—XINHUA

a strong comeback from 2-0 down and responded with five goals in a row to dismantle the Spurs.

ber, Arsene Wenger's side moved up to sixth in the table after 12 rounds, leapfrogging the eighth-placed

## Lakers hint at "Showtime" by torching the Suns

NBA

LOS ANGELES, 18 Nov—Kobe Bryant and the Los Angeles Lakers gave their fans a taste of the 'Showtime' basketball promised by their new coach Mike D'Antoni with a rousing 114-102 home win over the Phoenix Suns on Friday. Though D'Antoni was not courtside to take charge of his first game as he recovers from knee replacement surgery earlier this month, his players thrived with the up-tempo approach as they posted their highest score of the season.

Five-time NBA champion Bryant scored a game-high 31 points, center Dwight Howard contributed 18 points and 12 rebounds and Spanish forward Pau

Gasol also recorded a double-double, with 16 points and 10 rebounds.

Metta World Peace poured in five-of-10 three pointers to finish with 22 points and Jordan Hill, off the bench, also reached double figures with 10.

Guard Goran Dragic led the way for the Suns with 22 points and forward Luis Scola weighed in with 18 but the visitors paid the price after being out-rebounded 48-38. "We're just getting started, but it will make a lot of things easier," Bryant told reporters of the strategy already instilled in the team by D'Antoni after his first practice session with them the previous day. "The whole offense has to find their po-



Phoenix Suns' Marcin Gortat (R) of Poland defends against Los Angeles Lakers' Dwight Howard during the first half of their NBA basketball game in Los Angeles on 16 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

sition. He (D'Antoni) knows how to direct his offense and he's been directing it for a long time. The main thing is it's very simple."

The Lakers dominated free throws, making 22-of-28 compared to just seven-of-15 by the Suns. "We made shots tonight," six-time All-Star Howard said. "Metta

was on fire, Kobe hit some tough shots and we got to the free-throw line a lot. When we do that, we win." D'Antoni, appointed as Lakers coach on Monday after his predecessor Mike Brown was fired three days earlier, watched Friday's action approvingly from the team locker room.—Reuters

## Czechs move one win away from Davis Cup title

Tennis

PRAGUE, 18 Nov—Tomas Berdych and Radek Stepanek used a roaring home crowd to come back from a set down on Saturday, putting the Czech Republic 2-1 up over holders Spain and a win away from the Davis Cup title.

The Czech pair looked tired from the opening singles matches that went late on Friday but triumphed 3-6, 7-5, 7-5, 6-3. Spain's top duo of Marcel Granollers and Marc Lopez silenced the 14,000-strong crowd early on, cutting short a Czech ral-



Czech Republic's Tomas Berdych (L) and Radek Stepanek return a ball to Spain's Marc Lopez and Marcel Granollers during their Davis Cup tennis tournament doubles final match in Prague on 17 Nov, 2012.

REUTERS

ly in a crucial seventh game that helped them cruise in the first set.

But the Czechs shook off the slow start by racing ahead in the second set to get the crown going again. A couple of unstoppable overhead smashes gave the Czechs the second set and they took control of the match by winning the third with a Berdych backhand volley and then easing through the fourth set. "They started really on a high... and hit incredible shots," Stepanek said.—Reuters



Santos star Neymar

## Neymar given one-match ban

RIO DE JANEIRO, 18 Nov—Santos star Neymar will miss his team's duel with Corinthians next Saturday (24 Nov) after receiving his third yellow card of Brazil's Serie A championship on Saturday. Neymar was booked for diving in the penalty area late in the second half during Santos' 2-0 home victory over Figueirense at the Vila Belmiro Stadium.

Referee Claudio Lima

deemed the striker exaggerated contact with goalkeeper Volpi in a bid to win a penalty, a decision that drew ironic applause from Santos coach Muricy Ramalho.

The 20-year-old endured a rare off night and appeared tired just three days after playing a full 90 minutes during Brazil's 1-1 draw against Colombia in New Jersey, United States.—Xinhua

## Third new meet record for Sun Yang at Asian Swimming Championships

Swimming

DUBAI, 18 Nov—China's Olympic gold medalist Sun Yang broke the meet record for the third time at the ongoing Asian Swimming Championships as he claimed the men's 1,500m freestyle title here on Saturday.

The 21-year-old who set the men's 1,500m freestyle world record of 14 minutes, 31.02 second at the London Olympic Games, clocked 14:44.10 to win the gold on Saturday. Although the winning mark is some 13 seconds short of the world

record, Sun still broke the Championship record set by himself in 2009.

It was the third time Sun won a gold while set a new meet record in the tournament. He managed the feat in both the 200m and 400m freestyle events in the previous two competition days.

Sun won the 400m and 1,500m freestyle gold medals at London Olympics to become the first ever Chinese male swimmer to win an Olympics gold and he also set a new world record in the 1500m event.—Xinhua



China's Olympic gold medalist Sun Yang

## Kuerten beats Djokovic in Rio exhibition

RIO DE JANEIRO, 18 Nov—Brazil's three-time French Open champion Gustavo Kuerten defeated world No 1 Novak Djokovic 7-6 (9), 7-5 in an exhibition match on Saturday. Just five days after winning the ATP World Tour Finals with a straight sets victory over Roger Federer in London, Djokovic fell to the former world No 1 Kuerten 7-6 (9), 7-5 in front of 10,000 fans at the Marac-

anazinho Arena in Rio.

The 36-year-old Kuerten showed his appreciation to the home fans afterwards by drawing a love heart on the clay surface, just as he did after winning his third French Open title in 2001.

Djokovic also won the affection of fans by dancing and impersonating the Brazilian idol with a curly-haired wig.

Xinhua

**GENERAL**

**Focus Myanmar TV Programme**

**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL**

(19-11-12 09:30 am ~ 20-11-12 09:30 am) MST

- \* News
- \* Barcamp Yangon 2013 Press Conference
- \* Music Programme
- \* News
- \* Myanmar Japan Human Resource Forum
- \* Unforgettable Beauty of Pyin Oo Lwin
- \* News
- \* Kayah Traditional Dance
- \* 2<sup>nd</sup> Myanmar GEGG Forum: Moving Forward
- \* News
- \* Preparation for Myanmar Traditional Chinlone Sport to be included (2013) SEA Games

- \* News
- \* Myanmar DVD Impact "One Step Ahead"
- \* News
- \* Workshop on Privatization (Part-I)
- \* News
- \* Workshop on Privatization (Part-II)
- \* News
- \* Ancient Shwe San Taw Pagoda (Taungoo)
- \* Myanmar Movie "A Fragrant Flower From Bagan"

**MYANMAR TV**

(19-11-2012, Monday)

- 7:00 am**
- 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
- 7:30 am**
- 2. Morning News
- 7:45 am**
- 3. Nice & Sweet Song

- 7:55 am** (TV Lectures) -Firt Year (Home Economic)
- 4. Health Programme
- 8:00 am**
- 5. Songs Of National Races
- 8:05 am**
- 6. Cute Little Dancer
- 8:15 am**
- 7. Teleplay (Health)
- 8:30 am**
- 8. Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competitions
- 8:40 am**
- 9. International News
- 8:45 am**
- 10. Musical Programme
- 4:00 pm**
- 11. Martial Song
- 4:20 pm**
- 12. Dance Variety
- 4:40 pm**
- 13. University of Distance Education
- 5:10 pm**
- 14. Performance With Song
- 5:30 pm**
- 15. Music Heritage
- 6:00 pm**
- 16. Evening News
- 6:20 pm**
- 17. Sing & Enjoy
- 7:20 pm**
- 18. Songs Programme
- 7:40 pm**
- 19. Documentary
- 8:00 pm**
- 20. News
- 21. International News
- 22. Weather Report
- 23. Cartoon Series
- 24. TV Drama Series
- 25. India Drama Series



**CASH DONATED:** Film star Academy Khant Sithu donated K 500,000 to the fund of reconstruction of pagodas, stupas and religious edifices in quake-hit areas on 15 November to an official.—MNA

**Heavy fog leaves 20 flights delayed or diverted in Xinjiang**

URUMOI, 18 Nov— Heavy fog in Urumqi, capital of northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region on Sunday morning has left 20 flights delayed at its airport or diverted to other airports. By 2 pm, five inbound flights have been diverted to nearby alternate airports, and 15 outbound flights have been delayed as heavy fog disrupted air traffic of the Urumqi International Airport from 11:45 am, according to the operation control centre of the airport.—Xinhua

**Turkey to ask NATO for missiles on Syria border**

BERLIN, 18 Nov— Turkey will formally ask NATO on Monday to set up missiles on its border with Syria due to growing concern about spillover from the civil war in its neighbour, a German newspaper reported on Saturday.

The Munich-based *Sueddeutsche Zeitung*, which did not cite its sources, also said that up to 170 German troops could be deployed as part of the mission.

Turkey said on Friday it had intensified talks with NATO allies on how to shore up security on its 900-km (560-mile) frontier with Syria after mortar rounds fired from Syria landed inside its territory.

"As we have said before, there have been talks between Turkey and NATO and NATO allies

on various issues regarding the security risks and challenges and possible responses to issues regarding Turkey-NATO territories," a Turkish government official said, when asked about the *Sueddeutsche Zeitung* report.

"Normally we could not reveal the nature of NATO deliberations while they continue," added the official. NATO has said it will do what it takes to protect and defend Turkey. Turkey has said it is talking to its NATO allies about a possible deployment of Patriot surface-to-air missiles.

A NATO spokeswoman said she could not confirm the report. "There hasn't been a request from Turkey. If there is a request from Turkey of course allies will consider it," she said.

NATO ambassadors would have to consider any request from Turkey and they have a regular weekly meeting on Wednesday but they could call a special one at any time.

European Union defence and foreign ministers will be in Brussels on Monday for meetings. A spokesman for Germany's Defence Ministry also said NATO would consider any request from Turkey and confirmed that the United States, the Netherlands and Germany were the countries that had the appropriate Patriot missiles available.

"If NATO were to ask Germany, we would consider that and bear in mind our duties in the alliance," the spokesman said.

Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle had spoken to his Turkish counterpart, a ministry spokeswoman said, but she declined to say what they had discussed.

Reuters

**Car bomb kills seven foreign Shi'ite pilgrims in Iraq**

BAGHDAD, 18 Nov—At least seven Shi'ite Muslim pilgrims from Iran and Pakistan were killed in Iraq on Saturday when a car bomb went off by a restaurant in a city north of the capital, police and hospital sources said.

The attack took place



**Red Bull Formula One driver Sebastian Vettel of Germany removes his helmet after the qualifying session of the US F1 Grand Prix at the Circuit of the Americas in Austin, Texas on 17 Nov, 2012.** REUTERS

AUSTIN, (Texas), 18 Nov—Red Bull's Sebastian Vettel roared to pole position at the US Grand Prix on Saturday with the German perfectly placed to claim a third straight Formula One title in his milestone 100th race.

Ferrari's Fernando Alonso, 10 points behind the championship leader with one round to come after Sunday, set only the ninth quickest time in qualifying at Austin's new

Circuit of the Americas.

"It was a bit closer than I wanted, but fantastic to start on the front and on the clean side," said Vettel, 25, of his sixth pole of the season and 36th of his career, after beating McLaren's Lewis Hamilton to the top slot.

Alonso, the only driver who can deny Vettel the title, gained one position immediately with France's Romain Grosjean handed a five-place penalty for

an unscheduled gearbox change.

That moved the determined Spaniard up to eighth on the starting grid and right behind Brazilian team mate Felipe Massa in sixth.

"I think the car is more or less the same as the last race, we were position seven in Abu Dhabi and here we are position eight," Alonso, who finished second in that race at Yas Marina, told reporters.

"So more or less it is the same and we will try to recover good places on Sunday that normally is our strong point so I still believe that tomorrow we can score more points than Sebastian.

"The race is long, anything can happen and we need to keep confident and optimistic because normally the race pace improves a lot," added the Ferrari driver, who must finish at least fourth if Vettel wins in order to stay mathematically in contention for the finale in Brazil.—Reuters



**Residents, fleeing after a Syrian Air Force fighter jet loyal to Syria's President Bashar al-Assad fired missiles at the town of Ras al-Ain, are seen near Turkish troops at the Turkey side of the border with Syria on 16 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS**

80 km (50 miles) north of Baghdad, killing the pilgrims, who were travelling back to the capital from the Shi'ite holy city of Samarra.

A further 25 people were wounded in the blast, medics said.

Almost one year af-

ter the last US troops left Iraq, al Qaeda's local wing has vowed to revive attacks against the country's Shi'ites in an attempt to reignite the kind of sectarian violence that drove the country to the edge of civil war four years ago.

Reuters

## Establishment of ASEAN Community is not ultimate goal of ASEAN but a milestone towards stable, peaceful and prosperous region



**President U Thein Sein attends 21<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summit plenary session at Champa Room of Peace Palace in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.—MNA**

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov— President U Thein Sein of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar attended 21<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summit plenary session held at Champa Room of Peace Palace in Phnom Penh, Cambodia this morning.

Present also at the session were Head of Brunei Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Muizzaddin Waddaulah, Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen, Indonesian

President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Laotian Prime Minister Mr Thongsing Thammavong, Malaysian Prime Minister Dato Sri Najib bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak, Philippine President Mr Benigno Aquino, Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong, Thai Prime Minister Mrs Yingluck Shinawatra, Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung, ASEAN Secretary-General Dr Surin Pitsuwan, ministers

from ASEAN countries and high-ranking officials.

Alternate Chairman of ASEAN Cambodian PM Samdech Hun Sen extended greetings.

President U Thein Sein, heads of State/Government

of ASEAN countries and the ASEAN Secretary-General frankly discussed matters related to ASEAN Community.

First of all, I would like to express our sincere condolences to Cambodian Prime Minister and people for the demise of former Cambodian King His Majesty Norodom Sihanouk. His Majesty Nordon Sihanouk is an esteemed State leader not only in the hearts of Cambodian people but also of global nations. I feel sorry for demise of His Majesty.

I am grateful to His Excellency Prime Minister and all the Cambodian people for their kind hospitality and special programmes since we arrived this spectacular capital of Cambodia, Phnom Penh for ASEAN Summit.

We are only two years away from emergence of ASEAN Community. We, Myanmar, therefore, would try our best together with fellow member countries for emergence of ASEAN

Community. We are to work out the crucial tasks and to implement them in time.

In so doing, we should fully utilize the given resources for urgent matters by forming work groups in three pillars.

Myanmar could fulfill 39 out of 48 commitments to be implemented from 1 January to 31 October 2012 according to AEC framework and it is 81.3 per cent.

We, like other fellow members of ASEAN, are facing the considerable pressure for fully meeting the commitments to be fulfilled as the time for establishment of AEC is drawing near. Nonetheless, our government would remain committed to successful establishment of AEC while promoting ASEAN awareness among our people.

Strength and unity of ASEAN could be best reflected only when the AEC fully emerges by 2015 and can regional institutions

(See page 9)

## President U Thein Sein attends signing ceremony of Phnom Penh Statement on adoption of ASEAN Human Rights Declaration



**President U Thein Sein attends signing ceremony of Phnom Penh Statement at Nuon Srey Hall of Peace Palace in Phnom Penh of Cambodia.**

MNA

### More amnesty granted

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov — The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar had already granted amnesty for 452 prisoners in accord with Section 204 (a) of the Constitution and Section 401 (1) of Code of Criminal Procedures on 15 November 2012 for turning them into citizens who do their bits in nation building tasks realizing compassion and goodwill of the State. On 16 November, 66 prisoners were also granted amnesty. Number of prisoners who were granted amnesty on 15 and 16 November were 518, it is learnt. — MNA

### Storm News

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov— According to the observations at (06:30) hrs MST today, the depression over West-central Bay of Bengal is almost stationary. It is centered at about (390) miles west of Patheingyi (380 miles Southwest of Kyaukpadaung). It is forecast to move West-Northwest slowly and likely intensify further into a Cyclonic Storm.

Current stage of the

depression is coded as yellow stage which means is not moving towards Myanmar Coast.

Under the influence of Depression, occasional squalls with rough sea will be experienced off and along Rakhine Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) to (50) mph, announced Meteorology and Hydrology Department.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov— President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein attended the ceremony to sign the Phnom Penh Statement on the adoption of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration at Nuon Srey Hall on the third floor of Peace Palace in Phnom Penh of Cambodia at 12.35 pm local time today.

The signing ceremony was attended by heads of

state/government of ASEAN countries, ministers, deputy ministers, high-ranking officials, the ASEAN Secretary-General and guests. President U Thein Sein together with Head of Brunei Darussalam Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Muizzaddin Waddaulah, Prime Minister of Cambodia Samdech Hun Sen, President of the Republic of Indonesia Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Prime Minister

of Lao People's Democratic Republic Mr Thongsing Thammavong, Prime Minister of Malaysia Dato Sri Mohammad Najib bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak, President of the Republic of Philippines Mr Benigno Aquino, Prime Minister of Singapore Mr Lee Hsien Loong, Prime Minister of Thailand Ms Yingluck Shinawatra and Prime Minister of Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr

Nguyen Tan Dung signed the Phnom Penh Statement on the adoption of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration.

Then the Cambodian Prime Minister handed over the statement to the ASEAN Secretary-General. President U Thein Sein posed for documentary photo together with heads of state/government of ASEAN countries.

MNA