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Curriculum Vitaé of H.E. Mr. Truong Tan Sang President of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

His Excellency Mr. Truong Tan Sang was born on 21 January 1949 in Long An Province in the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and has obtained LLB degree.

He began his career by joining the revolution from 1966 to 1975 and later became the Secretary of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union of suburban farms and agricultural economic units of Ho Chi Minh City from 1975 to 1983.

And from 1983 to 1986, he was in charge for voluntary youth affairs, rural economic recovery and forestry of Ho Chi Minh City. From 1986 to 1991, he became member of the Municipal CPV Standing Committee, Secretary of Binh Chanh District Party Committee of the Ho Chi Minh City and later served as the Director of Ho Chi Minh City Department of Agriculture.

From 1991 to 1996, Mr. Truong Tan Sang has served as a member of the Party Central Committee, Deputy Secretary of the Municipal CPV

Committee, Chairman of Ho Chi Minh City's People Committee. From 1996 to 2000, he became member of the Politburo and Secretary of Ho Chi Minh City Party Committee.

Then from 2000 to 2006, he became member of the Politburo, Head of the Party Central Commission on Economic Affairs.

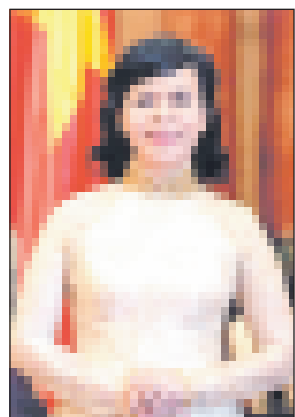


And from 2006 to 2011, he became a member of the Politburo, Standing Member of the Central Party's Secretariat.

In July 2011, the 13th National Assembly elected him as the President of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

H.E. Mr. Truong Tan Sang is married to Madam Mai Thi Hanh and has two children.

Curriculum Vitaé of Madam Mai Thi Hanh Spouse of the President of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam



Madam Mai Thi Hanh was born on 20 June 1958 in Ho Chi Minh City in the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam. She obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree and had served as the Head of Division for the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development of Ho Chi Minh City. As hobbies, she enjoys looking after the family matters.



Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area packed with pilgrims.—MNA

Matho robe-weaving ceremonies, Tazaungdine Festival of Light celebrated on a grand scale at pagodas across the nation

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Nov— Pagodas across the country are crowded with Buddhist devotees on the Fullmoon Day of Tazaungmon today, holding Matho robe-weaving contest and robe-offering ceremony and celebrating Tazaungdine Light Festival and communal Kathina ceremony.

A ceremony to offer Shwekyar robes to Jade Buddha Images in the cave of Uppatasanti Pagoda was held for the fourth time in conjunction with the ceremony to make the successful completion of the 34th Maha Pathana recitation ceremony at the Pagoda this morning. Union Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung, Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council Union Minister at President Office U Thein Nyunt and officials offered Shwekyar robes to the Buddha Images.

The congregation led by the Union ministers received the Nine Precepts delivered by Secretary of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Ovadacariya Sayadaw of

the Board of Trustees of the Pagoda Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of Ngwetaung Tawya Monastery in Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Abhidhaja Maharathaguru Bhaddanta Paññasiri.

After receiving a sermon delivered by Secretary of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Ovadacariya Sayadaw of the Board of Trustees of the Pagoda Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of Maha Visutarama Monastery in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana

Abhidhaja Maharathaguru Bhaddanta Kavisara, the congregation shared the merits gained and offered day meal to the members of Sangha.

In the evening of the Fullmoon Day of Tazaungmon, the ceremony to lit 9000 oil lamps was held in the compound of the Pagoda.

Similar ceremonies were held at Pagodas in Nay Pyi Taw, Pyinmana and Tatkon. Communal celebrations and funfairs

were organized at staff housings in Nay Pyi Taw. Staff and their families of the Ministry of Information conducted a communal celebration at Pynnyatheikdi ward of Nay Pyi Taw Zabuthiri Township.

The prize presentation ceremony of the 28th Matho robe-weaving ceremony organized by Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees was held at the pagoda in Yangon yesterday.

(See page 8)

Monthly Weather Forecast for December

Bay of Bengal Condition

Two Low Pressure Area may form over the South Bay and one may further intensify into a Depression. Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman sea and South Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Rainy days and Rain Condition

Rain are expected below normal in Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, above normal in Bago, Yangon,

Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions, Rakhine and Mon States and about normal in the remaining Regions and States.

Rainy days are expected about 3 to 5 days in Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, about 9 to 11 days in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions, Rakhine and Mon States and about 6 to 8 days in the remaining Regions and States.

Night Temperature

Night Temperature will be below normal in Sagaing Region and Chin State and about normal in the remaining Regions and States.

Foggy days Outlook

Foggy days are expected in the morning about 8 to 10 days in Upper Sagaing, Regions, Kachin, Chin and Shan States and about 5 to 7 days in the remaining Regions and States.

Graffiti Causing public annoyance!

YANGON, 28 Nov — It is unhappy to see that all over the walls of Zoological Gardens (Yangon) on the side of the road are covered with a mass of graffiti that do not mean anything. It is an act of mindless vandalism tarnishing the image of the city.

“The walls have been recently given a fresh coat of

graffiti over the walls after dark. All over the walls along Kaba-Aye Pagoda road are also covered in graffiti. Actions should be taken against those who committed spraying paint on public property. It is an act of mindless vandalism,” a taxi driver expressed his view.

While striving for durability of physical

structure and cleaning and beautifying of Yangon as a commercial city equipped with city characteristics, active involvement of the entire Yangonites in cleaning and maintain the beauty of Yangon is urged. It is required to refrain from committing such kind of vandalism.

Now is the time when the country sees increased arrival of foreigners including globe trotters. Such act of mindless vandalism significantly tarnish the image of the nation and its citizens. Therefore, a responsibility rests with local authorities concerned to raise the awareness of refraining from spraying paint or scribbling on the walls and to expose and take actions against those mindless vandals for drawing or writing something that do not mean anything.

Kyemon



GSM network poor in Yangon

YANGON, 28 Nov — According to mobile phone subscribers, GSM network is in poor connection in some townships of Yangon Region.

“Communications has been interrupted for about one month. All the lines were once busy at night. Now there is no signal during the daytime. Incoming and outgoing calls are out of communication network”, a 50-year-old businessman of Insein Township said.

Regarding the communications failure, an

official replied that some stations had to operate the communications devices with the help of battery when the electricity went out.

He continued that operation of the devices stopped when the battery ran down, leaving mobile phone users without communications and busy lines. He explained that plans were underway to extend more one million mobile lines and it would be completed during the coming month of January.

Kyemon

Wreck of bridges halts transportation on Tamu-Kalay-Kalewa road

TAMU, 28 Nov — Locals whose Tamu-Kalay-Kalewa road section are getting more and more frustrated by the delays caused by the bailey bridges that are in a state of dilapidation as they were built in the time of World War II.

“The Tamu-Kalay-Kalewa road section is the main exit as well as entrance to the northwest region of the country. It is not wrong

to say that the road is an only way to the northern part of Chin State. The road offers social advancement and economic opportunities to the region. Although upgrading of roads is being carried out, the bridges on the upgraded roads cannot guarantee the travelers safety. Only all-weather roads and bridges could meet public aspiration for smooth transportation.

Enquires about the situation at the grass-roots level should be made”, a local spoke openly about the need for action. An official of construction site explained that the bridges will be upgraded as soon as possible and the damaged Kalewa Bridge would be built to be completed within the day.

Kyemon



First Cartoon Show of Ye Yeiktha ward in Seikkan Township

YANGON, 28 Nov — The first cartoon show to mark the Tazaungdine Festival was organized at Ye Yeiktha ward of Seikkan Township, here, yesterday. It will be held up to 29 November.

Twenty-five cartoonists drew amusing pictures and caricatures of children who were in the festive ground.

Kyemon

Sagaing University ready to open soon



Photo shows progress in construction of main building of Sagaing University.

SAGAING, 28 Nov — It is learnt that Sagaing University is ready to open first-year courses for 2012-2013 academic year on 5 December this year as its construction works are nearing completion.

Sagaing University being built by special project group-6 of Public Works under the Ministry of Construction is located on Mandalay-Monywa road, seven-mile far from

Sagaing. With the aim of facilitating the learning of local students who have to go to universities in Monywa and Shwebo in pursuit of tertiary education, the government had arranged to build a university in Sagaing.

Sagaing University includes two-storey school buildings, a library, a post office, bookstalls, canteens, an indoor stadium, a football ground with a running track and the stalls, a tennis court, volleyball

and basketball fields, a recreation centre, a lake and a Dhammayon for religious matters.

So far, construction of school buildings, rector’s residence and two staff quarters have been completed on 15 November. On 5 December, specialized courses in Myanmar, Geography, History, Philosophy, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Zoology and Botany will be kept open for 2012-2013 academic year.

Kyemon

Photo shows a Hilux car with a flock of passengers on its roof running on a road linking between Yangon and Hmawby recently. Although actions are being taken against reckless driving and such kind of risky carrying of passengers, strict observance of rules and regulations is in need for action.

KYEMON



Photo shows fire engines making a detour to avoid regular rush-hour traffic at Bayintnaung junction while leaving for Hlinethaya where a fire broke out at ward-2 of the township at about 9 am on 23 November.

KYEMON



WORLD

Haitian president starts official visit to Cuba

HAVANA, 28 Nov—Haiti's President Michel Joseph Martelly arrived here on Tuesday for a three-day official visit to Cuba for closer ties with the island country. Martelly, who was welcomed at the Havana international Airport Jose Marti by Deputy Foreign Minister Rogelio Sierra, said his journey to Cuba was aimed at strengthening friendship and cooperation with Cuba.

At the airport, the president also expressed his solidarity with and support for Cuban victims

of hurricane Sandy, which also hit his country.

"We share their sorrow and we have thought about them," Martelly said.

According to Haitian diplomatic sources, during his visit, Martelly will sign seven collaboration agreements in areas of health, education, agriculture and technological support.

He will also pay tribute to Cuba's national hero Jose Marti, and meet with local officials on collaboration strategy. Cuba has been cooperating with Haiti in the health sphere since 2001.

However, following the devastating earthquake in January 2010 and the ensuing cholera epidemic, over 1,250 Cuban health staff have been assisting in Haiti.

Both countries maintain close ties in education and currently about 400 Haitians are studying in Cuba.

Cuba and Haiti established diplomatic relations in 1904, but after the triumph of the socialist revolution in 1959 Havana broke off relations with the Duvalier dictatorship, and resumed ties in 1996.

Xinhua



French President Francois Hollande (C) welcomes visiting Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev before their meeting at the Elysee presidential palace in Paris, France, on 27 Nov, 2012.

XINHUA

Obama signs whistleblower protection law

WASHINGTON, 28 Nov—US President Barack Obama on Tuesday signed into law a legislation that better protects federal employees who expose government fraud, waste and abuse.

According to a White House statement, the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2012, signed into law by Obama, amends whistleblower protections for federal employees by expanding protection for disclosures of government wrongdoing, as well as protection coverage and fair processes for the whistleblowers, even if they are not the first person to disclose misconduct, or blow the whistle while carrying out their job duties. The law also makes it easier to punish those who try to retaliate against whistleblowers by expanding the penalties imposed for violating whistleblower protections, and establishes Whistleblower Protection Ombudsmen in certain agencies.

Government Accountability Project, a whistleblower protection and advocacy organization, praised the move, saying the legislation provides "millions of federal workers with the rights they need to report government corruption and wrongdoing safely."—Xinhua

NATO delegation arrives in Turkey for deployment of Patriot missiles

ANKARA, 28 Nov—A NATO delegation arrived in Turkey's eastern Malatya Province on Tuesday to examine the places where Patriot missile system is planned to be deployed, the semi-official *Anatolia* news agency reported.

The delegation will examine the region and then leave the city on Thursday, according to the report.

In an interview with Turkey's NTV on Tuesday, NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen

said the NATO's decision endorsing the deployment of missiles will be made in the coming days, adding that the approval by the parliaments of member countries is required for the organization to send the missiles.

Rasmussen said the missiles will be installed by NATO allies and will be under the command of the alliance.

On Wednesday, Turkey placed a formal request to NATO for the deployment of Patriot missiles along the border with Syria, which has seen an escalation of tensions between the two neighbours after a stray Syrian shell landed in

Turkey, killing five people.

"If it's approved, the deployment will be undertaken in accordance with NATO's standing air defence plan. It is up to the individual NATO countries that have available Patriots," Rasmussen said.

The United States, Germany and the Netherlands are the only NATO members that have Patriot missiles in their arsenals.

NATO has installed anti-aircraft batteries in Turkey twice during the 1991 and 2003 Iraq wars. The batteries were never used and were removed a few months later.

Xinhua

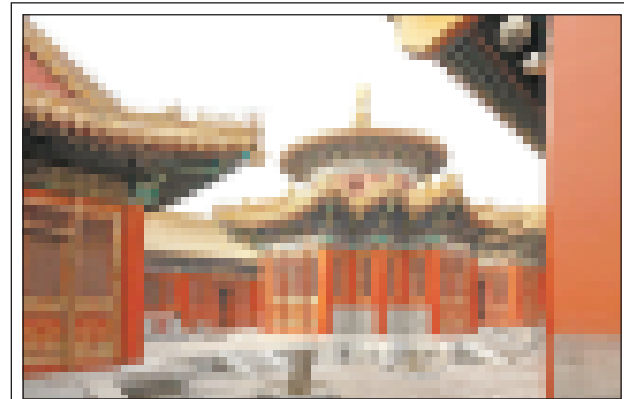


Photo taken on 27 Nov, 2012 shows the restored Xiangyunting (Pavilion of Fragrant Clouds) in the Zhongzheng Dian (Hall of Rectitude) complex at the Forbidden City, Beijing, capital of China, on 27 Nov, 2012. Restoration of the Zhongzheng Dian complex has been completed in a six-year protective project. The complex, a Tibetan Buddhism shrine in the Forbidden City, was burnt down by a fire in 1923. —XINHUA

UN relief agencies working "around the clock" to aid displaced people in DRC

Africa

UNITED NATIONS, 28 Nov—Humanitarian agencies and their partners are working "around the clock" to provide basic services such as water, food and shelter to more than 140,000 people displaced by the recent violence in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), the United Nations said on Tuesday.

On Friday, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the World Food Programme (WFP) were able to restart their activities, which were interrupted last week due to the recent upsurge in fighting between government troops and the M23 rebel group.

"Over the weekend, UNHCR and our partners were able to resume assistance to internally displaced people (IDPs) in 12 sites around Goma, including Mugunga 3 — with handouts of WFP food, as well as soap and water containers," UNHCR spokesperson Adrian Edwards told reporters in Geneva.

"The aid deliveries began on Saturday, and the aim is to reach 110,000

people. This is the first large-scale aid delivery since Goma was captured by the M23 rebel movement on 20 November," he said.

M23 fighters — a rebel group composed of soldiers who mutinied from the DRC national army in April — occupied Goma, the capital of North Kivu, last Tuesday after launching a new wave of attacks.

The advance of the M23 has uprooted more than 140,000 civilians, Edwards said. Many have settled in the city of Goma in spontaneous sites and the Mugunga 3 camp and are living in precarious conditions.

"According to the UN Mission, MONUSCO, the situation in Goma is calm but tense," the deputy UN spokesman, Eduardo del Buey, said here Tuesday at a daily news briefing. "The UN Mission has conducted 84 patrols in the past 24 hours in the city."

"Some fighting has been reported in the area of Minova between the Congolese Armed Forces and the M23," del Buey said.

The M23 is composed

of a breakaway faction of soldiers from the DRC's national army. It recently seized seven towns in North Kivu Province and intensified attacks on schools, hospitals, homes and other civilian targets.

"Many IDPs need shelter and clean water. Sanitary conditions remain a major challenge due to the lack of toilets and water supply points. Some cases of vomiting, diarrhea and respiratory infections have already been recorded," he said. "These respiratory infections are due to the fact that these people have no shelter and are sleeping in the open under the rains."

Reuters

Lava flows to the ocean in Hawaii, creating rare natural show

US

HONOLULU, 28 Nov—A volcano on Hawaii's largest island is spilling lava into the ocean, creating a rare and spectacular fusion of steam and waves that officials said on Tuesday could attract thrill-seeking visitors if it continues.

Lava from a vent in Kilauea Volcano on the Big Island of Hawaii began flowing into the ocean 7 miles away on Saturday. The volcano has been erupting continuously from its Pu'u O'o vent since 1983.

The flow was the first from the volcano to reach the

ocean since December, said Janet Babb, spokeswoman for the US Geological Survey's Hawaiian Volcano Observatory. Even as Hawaii tourism officials awaited an increase in visitors drawn by the explosive natural show, officials warned of potentially deadly risks and urged visitors to stay a safe distance away and respect barriers placed around the lava flow.

"Ocean entries can be quite beautiful but also quite dangerous," Babb said.

When the lava reaches the ocean, it cools, darkens

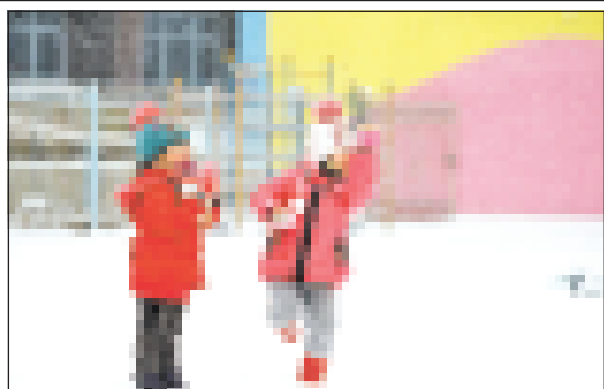
and hardens into a lava delta amid an outpouring of steam. The lava delta is newly created land that is unstable and can collapse without warning.

When it collapses, even visitors standing 100 yards (metres) away can be hurt because large chunks of lava and hot water are hurled their direction by the collapse, Babb said. "The molten lava meeting the ocean creates steam which may look innocuous, but can be quite hazardous," she said. "It's acidic and contains tiny particles of volcanic glass. And waves crashing with the lava can send out scalding water."

It was not clear how long the lava would continue flowing into the ocean.

George Applegate, director of the Big Island Visitors Bureau, said he expected an increase in tourists due to the latest occurrence of the phenomenon. "We always do," Applegate said. "A lot of people want to see a live lava flow."—Reuters

Children play in snow at their kindergarten in Harbin, capital of northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, on 28 Nov, 2012. Cold air front moving eastward will sweep China's northern regions during the next few days, bringing strong winds and big temperature drops, the National Meteorological Centre (NMC) forecast on Wednesday. —XINHUA



Higgs confident CERN particle is one he forecast in 1960s Science

BRUSSELS, 28 Nov — The physicists who theorized the existence of a basic subatomic particle half a century ago are confident recent data is proving they were right all along.

Peter Higgs, whose eponymous “Higgs boson” is the long-sought target of the \$10 billion Large Hadron collider in Switzerland, told reporters on Tuesday he was sure a particle detected last July was one he had predicted

in 1964.

“I think it will turn out to be (the Higgs boson), but it’s just a question of getting out the additional information.”

Data so far from CERN’s LHC particle accelerator seemed unlikely to reveal a more exotic set of particles, Higgs said, and “fit too well” with a single particle that gives mass to matter envisaged by the Standard Model of physics.

“As far as I can see from the results now it’s not yet totally confirmed, but it’s practically sure — I’m ready to bet on it,” Belgian physicist Francois Englert, who also theorized the particle, said before giving a speech to the European Parliament in Brussels.

Although the scientists predicted the presence of the particle years earlier, it took a multinational effort of over 100 countries to build the LHC, which two years into its operation yielded a result. Higgs said that this type of collaborative research helped not only science, but the economy as a whole, and he was worried about proposed cuts to European Union science funding.

“What you do by cutting the science budget is to reduce your supply of young trained scientists who will do other things which are obviously more useful for your economy,” he said. “You may be cutting down on things which will provide a stimulus for your

economy in the not too distant future.”

For Higgs, who at 83 has retired from active research, the sudden attention brought on by the LHC discovery last July has been a little overwhelming.

“It has resulted in piles of piles of letters and emails on my floor at home,” he said, explaining he had needed to enlist help from a team of colleagues just to sort through it.

The bashful professor has no hard feelings that he’s not yet been tapped for the Nobel Prize in physics, saying he “was relieved” and “got a stay of execution”.

Touted by some as a possible winner in 2013, Higgs said that winning the Nobel for his work might leave the prize committee the unenviable task of having to choose between a number of co-discoverers, but he acknowledged he was in the running. “As for what happens next year, I certainly feel vulnerable.”

Reuters



A Long March-3B carrier rocket is launched in Xichang, southwest China’s Sichuan Province, on 27 Nov, 2012.—XINHUA

China launches new communication satellite Science

XICHANG, (Sichuan Province), 28 Nov— China successfully sent a communication satellite into space on Tuesday evening.

Conditions of *Chinasat 12* are normal after it was launched from the Xichang Satellite Launch Centre in southwest China’s Sichuan Province at 6:13 pm. It has reached a preset orbit, according to a monitoring centre based in Xi’an.

The satellite, the 13th

commercial orbiter operated by the China Satellite Communications Co., Ltd, will provide telecommunications services for its customers in Asia, Africa and Europe.

Manufactured by France’s Thales Alenia Space, *Chinasat 12* was launched by the *Long March-3B* carrier rocket. It was the 173rd launch mission for the Long March series of carrier rockets.

Xinhua

Apple has top US smartphone, passes Google: research firm Tech

HELSINKI, 28 Nov — Early success for the iPhone 5 smartphone has helped Apple to overtake Google’s Android software in the United States, research firm Kantar WorldPanel said on Tuesday. Apple’s US share of smartphone sales in the 12 weeks to 31 October more than doubled from a year ago to 48.1 percent, putting it within reach of the record 49.3 percent it managed in early 2012.

Android’s share dropped to 46.7 percent from 63.3 percent, Kantar WorldPanel’s data showed, but it continues to dominate in key European markets. The platform claimed 74 percent market share in Germany and 82 percent in Spain. Android’s combined share of the top five European

markets rose to 64 percent, from 51 percent a year earlier, while Apple’s share edged up by one percentage point to 21 percent.

Research In Motion Ltd saw its share fall in all but one of the surveyed markets, sliding to 1.6 percent from 8.5 percent in the United States, and to 2.7 percent from 8.7 percent in Brazil. In Germany, the BlackBerry maker’s share rose 0.9 percentage points to 2.5 percent.

RIM’s stock fell 5.9 percent to C\$11.20 on the Toronto Stock Exchange. But the shares, which soared last week on rising optimism around RIM’s soon-to-be-launched BlackBerry 10 devices, were still up more than 15 percent from last Monday’s close.— Reuters



An Apple iPhone 5 phone is displayed in the Apple Store on 5th Avenue in New York, on 21 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS



Professor Peter Higgs speaks during a news conference at the launch of The University of Edinburgh’s new Higgs Centre for Theoretical Physics, Scotland on 6 July, 2012.

REUTERS

Microsoft sells 40 million Windows 8 licenses to date Tech

SAN FRANCISCO, 28 Nov—Microsoft announced on Tuesday that 40 million Windows 8 licenses have been sold one month after the new operating system was officially released.

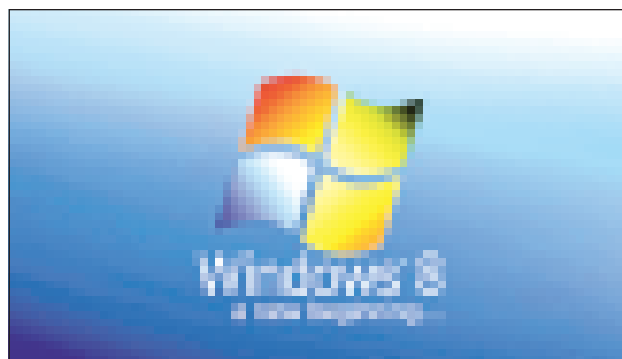
Windows 8 is outpacing Windows 7 in terms of upgrades, said Microsoft in its official Windows blog. Windows 8 was launched on 26 October.

A Microsoft spokes-

person told technology blog site TechCrunch that the number of 40 million licenses includes all sales, including those sold to original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) and other partners.

“It’s fair to assume then that quite a few of these licenses haven’t actually found their way to users yet,” TechCrunch said in a report.

In its blog, Microsoft



Microsoft sells 40 million Windows 8 licenses to date.

XINHUA

also noted that “There were more apps in the Windows Store at launch than any other app store at their launch and since then, the number of apps in the Windows Store has doubled.”

Xinhua

NASA ponders new missions for spare spy telescopes Science

CAPE CANAVERAL, 28 Nov — NASA is looking for new ideas on what to do with two space telescopes left over from a once-secret US spy satellite programme. The US space agency asked the scientific community on Tuesday for its input into possible missions for a pair of

space telescopes donated last year to NASA by the National Reconnaissance Office, which operates the nation’s spy satellites. “NRO offered us their leftover hardware if we want it. They’ve been totally open in allowing us to study whether this hardware would be of advantage to

NASA,” said Paul Hertz, who oversees NASA’s astrophysics programmes.

Topping the list of existing proposals is to use one telescope for a mission to learn more about an anti-gravity force known as “dark energy,” which is believed to be responsible for speeding up the universe’s rate of expansion. The phenomenon was discovered in the 1990s by two teams of researchers who shared the 2011 Nobel Prize in Physics for their work. The National Academy of Sciences has made that mission, known as the Wide-Field Infrared Survey Telescope, its top choice for an astrophysics space mission for the next decade.

NASA estimates the WFIRST mission would cost \$1.5 billion to \$2 billion, but it cannot begin

a major new astrophysics project until spending winds down on the over-budget and delayed James Webb Space Telescope, which is a successor to the Hubble Space Telescope and is scheduled for launch in 2018. The NRO telescopes, which were built to peer down at Earth, each have a primary mirror that is 7.9 feet in diameter, much larger than the 4.3-foot (1.3-metre) observatory originally proposed for the WFIRST mission.

While a larger telescope may allow for more detailed observations, it could be more expensive to outfit with instruments and launch into space. “There’s a whole lot of ways that a larger telescope might benefit you, even if it doesn’t save you money,” Hertz said.—Reuters



Tourists take pictures of a NASA sign at the Kennedy Space Centre visitors complex in Cape Canaveral, Florida on 14 April, 2010.—REUTERS

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Study leaves women with conflicting advice on mammograms

Health

CHICAGO, 28 Nov — Controversial US guidelines for mammography issued in 2009, calling for screening every two years rather than annually for women over 50 years old, can result in breast cancers being missed, according to US researchers studying the hotly debated topic.

This latest study assessing the impact of revised guidelines issued by the US Preventive Services Task Force three years ago comes on the back of a chilling analysis published last week in the *New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM)*.

The *NEJM* study, using three decades of US government data, found that nearly one in three patients — or 1.3 million women — whose cancer was detected through routine mammograms was treated for a tumor that may not have been life-threatening. Routine screening has traditionally been recommended by the task force and the American Cancer Society for all women over the age of 40.

The American Cancer Society has not changed its stance, but the task force issued new guidelines



A technician positions a woman at an imaging machine to receive a mammogram in this undated handout photo obtained by Reuters on 21 Nov, 2012.

REUTERS

in 2009, recommending mammography every two years for women 50 to 74 years old.

Dr Elizabeth Arleo of Weill Medical College of Cornell University and lead researcher examined the impact of the revised task force guidelines on women 40 to 49 years of age and 65 years and older.

Arleo analyzed data on screening mammography at New York Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Centre between 2007 and 2010. Over those four

years, 43,351 mammograms were performed, leading to the detection of 205 breast cancers. Nearly 20 percent of cancers detected with screening mammography were found in women in their 40s.

“In our book, it seems unacceptable to miss 19 percent of breast cancers, half of which were invasive,” she said, noting that “invasive” cancers are more advanced because they reside in the breast tissues and not just the breast ducts.”

Reuters

Canada still examining options on foreign energy bids

Business

OTTAWA, 28 Nov — With deadlines fast approaching, Canada is still weighing two proposed foreign takeovers of domestic energy companies, but a top minister offered no clues on Tuesday as to when or how the government would announce the hotly debated decisions.

The government says it will unveil new policy guidelines on foreign investment at about the same time it announces verdicts on the proposed takeovers: A bid by China’s CNOOC Ltd for Nexen Inc and a bid by Malaysia’s Petronas for Progress Energy Resources Corp.

Although the deadline for delivering a decision on the CNOOC-Nexen deal is 10 December, Industry Minister Christian Paradis said officials had not finished their work yet. Paradis is in nominal charge of the file, although few political analysts doubt that Prime Minister Stephen Harper will make the ultimate decision.

“There are (takeover) reviews ongoing that I cannot comment on, but we are working on the policy framework to make

sure that, in the future, a foreign investment continues to provide net benefit for Canada,” Paradis told reporters.

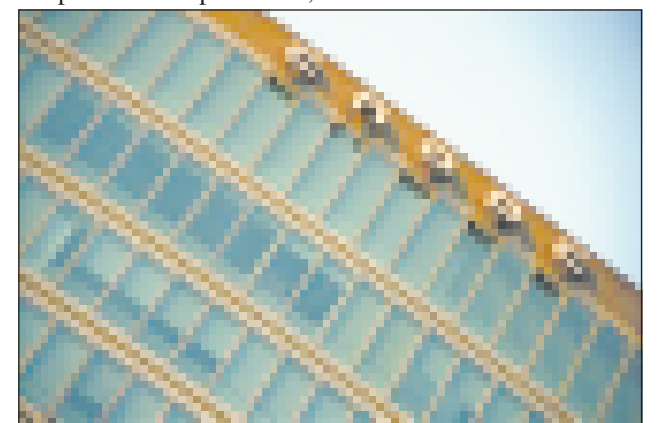
“We’ll go out with the reviews, with the guidelines when we are ready to do so. We will clarify what we need to clarify.” The Conservative government is trying to balance the need for foreign investment to develop natural resources with concern that China and other countries could snap up a big chunk of the energy sector and that state-owned companies might not play by free-market rules.

Andrew MacDougall, Harper’s chief spokesman,

declined to comment on a Business News Network report that Ottawa might want CNOOC to sell Nexen’s 7 percent stake in the large Syncrude oil sands joint venture because China’s Sinopec has a 9 percent stake in it.

Nexen shares closed 2.3 percent lower at \$24.20 in New York, well below CNOOC’s offer price of \$27.50. The CNOOC bid featured in the campaign for a parliamentary seat in the centre of the oil city of Calgary. No decision came before a 26 November election there and in two other cities.

Reuters



A logo of China National Offshore Oil Corp (CNOOC) is seen at the top of its headquarters in Beijing on 14 Nov, 2012. — REUTERS

Toyota sees post-Sandy boost to November auto sales

Business

LOS ANGELES, 28 Nov — Toyota Motor Corp (7203.T) US executive Jim Lentz said consumers purchasing new vehicles to replace those lost during Superstorm Sandy will mean strong November US auto sales. On a seasonally adjusted annualized basis, November US sales will be between 14.8 million and 15.2 million new vehicles, said Lentz, president and chief executive of Toyota Motor Sales, USA.

Lentz, speaking on the sidelines of a JD Power and Associates and National Automobile Dealers Association conference on Tuesday, said Toyota believes 400,000 cars and trucks were destroyed by

Sandy, and that 100,000 of those were new vehicles. Sales will be robust in November throughout the United States, Lentz said, and particularly strong in the New York area where consumers are replacing cars destroyed by Sandy.

John Mendel, executive vice president of American Honda Motor Co, also at the conference, said he expects November sales at an annualized pace of “right around 15 million.” In November 2011, the seasonally adjusted annualized sales rate was 13.5 million new vehicles, and last month was 14.3 million, according to TrueCar.com.

TrueCar on Tuesday forecast US November auto sales up 13 percent from a year ago, with a seasonally adjusted annualized rate of 15.2 million new vehicles. Toyota’s sales will rise 17 percent from last November, TrueCar forecast. Honda Motor Co (7267.T) November US sales will rise the most among major automakers, at 32 percent, TrueCar said.

TrueCar forecast November sales increases from year-ago levels for all major automakers in the US market. Among the other top five automakers in the US market, TrueCar said General Motors Co (GM.N) will show a rise of 9 percent; Ford Motor Co (F.N) 1.5 percent; and Chrysler Group LLC, majority owned by Fiat SpA (FIA.MI), 18 percent.

Reuters

US researchers discover gender-based differences in Alzheimer’s disease

Health

WASHINGTON, 28 Nov — All patients with Alzheimer’s disease (AD) lose brain cells, which leads to a shrinking or atrophy of the brain. But the pattern of gray matter loss is significantly different in men from that in women, according to a study released on Monday.

In the study presented at the annual meeting of the Radiological Society of North America, Maria Spampinato of Medical University of South Carolina and colleagues analyzed data on 109 patients, including 60 men and 49 women (mean age 77), who participated in a major study that followed hundreds of cognitively healthy individuals and individuals with mild cognitive impairment (MCI) and AD over a period of five years.

During the five-year period, each of the 109 patients progressed from amnesic MCI (in which the patient suffers memory loss but maintains cognitive function) to AD. Using MR images of the patients’ brains taken when they were diagnosed with AD and 12 months

before and after the diagnosis, the researchers created brain maps that illustrated gray matter changes. The brain maps revealed that compared to male patients, women had greater atrophy in gray matter 12 months prior to their AD diagnosis and at the time of their diagnosis.

The brain maps also showed that the men and women in the study lost gray matter volume in different areas of the brain as their disease progressed from MCI to AD.

“The female patients in our study initially had more gray matter atrophy than the male patients but over time, the men caught up,” Spampinato said. “In the men, the disease developed more aggressively in a shorter period of time.”

Spampinato said these differences should be taken into consideration when testing new drugs in clinical trials. According to the Alzheimer’s Association, 5.4 million Americans have AD, the sixth-leading cause of death in the United States.

Xinhua

Mental illness hits one in five Australian adults

Health

SYDNEY, 28 Nov — One in five Australian adults experience a mental health difficulty in any given year, according to a report released on Tuesday by the National Mental Health Commission.

Releasing the independent commission’s inaugural annual report card on Tuesday, Chair of the National Mental Health Commission Allan Fels said an estimated 7.29 million Australians aged 16 to 85 have a live experience of mental illness.

Fels has called on the Australian Federal, State and Territory Governments

to reaffirm their commitment in dealing with mental health issues.

“It is important that the Prime Minister gave mental health a seat at the top table, making it a matter for Premiers and Chief Ministers, and putting mental health in her portfolio,” Fels said in a statement on Tuesday.

He said the community, service providers and governments need to commit to achievable goals in a range of areas, providing services and support to make a positive difference to people’s lives.

Xinhua



A visitor is reflected on a Toyota car at the company’s showroom in Tokyo on 18 Oct, 2012. — REUTERS

For Afghan women, gender equality is still wishful thinking

KABUL, 28 Nov—Even after the end of the brutal rule of the Taliban in Afghanistan, Afghan women today are still yearning for gender equality, something that probably would remain wishful thinking for many years to come.

“Is this our right to beg from dawn to dusk to feed my children? Is this the right of women in Afghanistan to suffer at the hands of men?” asked Shah Begam, a 39-year-old woman beggar, just a day after the world marked the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. Panhandling alongside a dirty road in Kabul, Begam wondered aloud whether the Afghan government is capable of doing something for women like her who are forced to beg in order to survive.

She said begging itself is an insult for women in a

country where the constitution guarantees women’s rights. “My husband married another girl for the second time and threw me out of the house,” said Begum, who wears a burka. She added that since the government does not have a social welfare programme for poor or abandoned women like her, they have no choice but to beg in the streets. In the male-dominated and conservative Afghanistan, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women was marked on Sunday.

In her remarks on the occasion, Afghan Minister for Women Affairs Husan Bano Ghazanfar confirmed that 3,500 cases of violence against women were registered in Afghanistan in the first six months of Afghan year which began from 21 March, 2012.

Ghazanfar has called

on the country’s religious scholars to play their role in eliminating violence against Afghan women, which has been on the rise.

Women in Afghanistan are facing a variety of discrimination and violence ranging from child marriage, forced marriage, rape, polygamy and even “baad,” a tribal custom of giving forcibly the hand of a widow or girl to a man from an opposing tribe to settle a dispute and end enmity. Afghanistan, according to women rights activists, is a challenging country for women to live.

Discrimination against women, particularly in the countryside, is still rampant. A girl can be forced to marry a boy chosen by her parents. Cases of public execution of women, flogging of women by Taliban militants and powerful tribal leaders have been reported

in parts of Afghanistan over the past year.

Najiba, 22, was publicly executed by Taliban militants in Ghorband District of Parwan Province a couple of months ago while Sabira was publicly lashed in Jaghori District of Ghazni Province by local mullahs months ago after she eloped with her boyfriend.

Although women’s rights have seen considerable improvement in Afghanistan over the past 11 years, they still need more years and a long way to achieve equity with men as the rate of literacy among women remains much lower than men.

In some tribal villages, tradition still requires that women, especially young girls, stay at home and be barred from attending school which was what the Taliban ordered during their rule.—Xinhua

First Hans Christian Andersen novel sold at Danish auction

COPENHAGEN, 28 Nov — The very first novel by world famous Danish author Hans Christian Andersen was sold at auction house Bruun Rasmussen here on Tuesday.

An unique collection of 60 first editions by Andersen including his very first and rarest book *Ghost at Palnatoke’s Grave* were sold for 620,000 Danish kroner (about 107,500US dollars) at the auction house’s international Christmas auction.

Ghost at Palnatoke’s Grave was first published by Andersen in 1822 under the pseudonym William Christian Walther, which was derived from authors William Shakespeare and Walther Scott whom Andersen admired, as well as one of Andersen’s own first

name Christian.

Back in 1822 Andersen was only 17 years old and had yet to achieve stardom. Not many copies of *Ghost at Palnatoke’s Grave* were sold when it first saw the light of day and most came to be used as wrapping paper in a grocery store.

Today, only very few examples of the first edition exist and a large ensemble of book experts and collectors were present to bid at the auction.

Founded in Copenhagen, in 1948, the family-owned Bruun Rasmussen Auctioneers is one of the few international auction houses in the world to offer both traditional auctions and online auctions.

Xinhua

Venezuela’s Chavez returns to Cuba for treatment

CARACAS, 28 Nov—Venezuela’s President Hugo Chavez is travelling to Cuba for more medical treatment on Tuesday, according to a letter from the president to the National Assembly released on Tuesday.

The president of the National Assembly Diosdado Cabello read the letter from Chavez requesting permission from the congressional body to travel to Cuba for “hyperbaric oxygenation” as part of his post-cancer treatment. “I ask this sovereign assembly to authorize my absence from national territory beginning 27 November and my stay in our sister Republic of Cuba,” the letter from Chavez said.

Chavez, 58, has fought cancer since mid-2011, undergoing surgery three times, as well as chemotherapy and radiotherapy sessions in Cuba. He declared he was free of cancer before launch-

ing a reelection campaign, which he won in October.

“Six months after the last therapy, they have suggested I begin a special treatment, consisting of several sessions of hyperbaric oxygenation which, together with physiotherapy, are helping to consolidate the process of strengthening health I have been experiencing,” said Chavez in his statement.

Chavez did not say when he would be returning from Cuba. “Commander, the people of Venezuela expect you to continue with this alternative therapy to continue recovering. May you have a good trip and the people will be with you tomorrow, noon, night and forever,” Cabello said, following the petition’s approval. Venezuela’s Constitution obligates the president to request a leave of absence from Congress if the trip is for more than five days.—Xinhua



Photo taken on 27 Nov, 2012 shows a bus collision scene in Wan Chai, south China’s Hong Kong. At least 40 people were injured in a traffic accident involving three buses in Hong Kong on Tuesday evening, local authorities said.—XINHUA

White House expected to seek billions in Sandy disaster aid

WASHINGTON, 28 Nov—The White House is expected in the coming days to send Congress a multi-billion dollar request to fund recovery from Superstorm Sandy, which caused an estimated \$71 billion in damages in New York and New Jersey. Congressional aides said there was no clear indication of the request’s size, but some said it would likely be at least \$11 billion.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency’s disaster relief fund had access to about \$7.8 billion as Sandy slammed the US East Coast on 29 October, causing widespread destruction in coastal New York and New Jersey.

Lawmakers and analysts also said Congress will need to shore up the heavily indebted National Flood Insurance Programme in the face of \$12 billion in payouts resulting from Sandy, ranked as the second-worst disaster in US history.

US Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, asked about the additional Sandy

but it’s premature to speculate on specific actions as we work to ensure the governors



A wooden star with the word “Hope”, is left in front of a burnt house in Breezy Point, almost a month after the neighbourhood was left devastated by Hurricane Sandy, in the New York borough of Queens on 27 Nov, 2012.

REUTERS

funding request, said: “Well, we can’t do anything with the disaster aid package until we get something from the White House, and I’m told that will be here as early as tomorrow or the next day.”

A White House official declined to provide any details about the administration’s plans. “We are working closely with our partners in the states and in Congress,

have the necessary support,” the official said.

Lawmakers from both parties have voiced support for providing additional disaster relief in Sandy’s wake, but a massive funding request from President Barack Obama could be disruptive to already tense negotiations over year-end tax hikes and automatic spending cuts.

Reuters

Dozens of bodies beyond recognition in Bangladesh’s factory fire

DHAKA, 28 Nov—Dozens of bodies charred in Saturday’s worst factory fire were buried in mass graves in Bangladesh’s capital Dhaka on Tuesday.

Anjuman-e-Mofidul Islam, a charity, arranges funerals for the bodies which were charred beyond recognition as the devastating fire raged

through their eight-storey factory — Tazreen Fashion Limited — which manufactured clothes for US retail giant Wal-Mart.

Officials said on Tuesday samples were collected from the badly burnt bodies for DNA test on Monday so as to determine their identities later.

Xinhua

Minor explosion near Indian Embassy in Bahrain, no casualties

MANAMA, 28 Nov—A home-made explosive detonated near the Indian Embassy in Adliya late on Tuesday night and Bahrain police were scouring for evidence of more strange objects placed in the popular area.

The Bahrain Interior Ministry confirmed it was “minor explosion,” and there was no damages or any casualties.

Sources told Xinhua that a team of forensic experts dusted the area for fingerprints and questioned residents and eye-witness, who saw someone place the object near the trash can.

Xinhua



A convenience store operates using electricity taken from a vehicle in Noboribetsu, Hokkaido, northern Japan, on 27 Nov, 2012, during a blackout caused by a snowstorm.—KYODO NEWS

LOCAL NEWS

ICIMOD members in cooperation for conservation of 10 major rivers

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Nov—Members of International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) are working in cooperation to conserve ecosystems in Brahmaputra-Thanlyin river region, Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun said in his address to 43rd of the centre in Yangon yesterday afternoon.

The ICIMOD was formed with China, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Bhutan in 1983 to conserve 10 rivers in the region and to improve

socio-economic status of the people in mountain regions.

He related the decline in agricultural produce with the degradation of the ecosystem.

Director-General Dr David Molden of ICIMOD and Mr Thomas Gass of the Support Group extended greetings.

Programme Director of ICIMOD Mr Eklabya Sharma presented plans for Myanmar and Mr Lars-Erik Liljelund spoke words of thanks.

About 42 percent of Myanmar is covered by mountain ranges.

MNA

Electricity to be supplied to locals in Yamethin Township

YAMETHIN, 28 Nov—With the funds of Mandalay Region Government and rural regions, the regional development tasks are being undertaken with added momentum.

In Yamethin Township, hydropower is being generated on a small scale from three waterfalls to supply electricity to the rural people.

YeU waterfall will

generate 150 megawatt to over 1300 houses of five villages, Ngahsongyi waterfall over 1000 houses from three villages.

The local people are delighted that hydropower will be generated for YeU village within four months. After that, hydropower will be produced from Ngahsongyi and Ngatesu waterfalls.

Myanma Alinn

Domestic car dealing market for November

YANGON, 28 Nov—People are more interested in import of cars than buying new imported cars in Yangon car dealing market, according to the car dealers society.

At present, price of slit that hiked for a month is declining. Likewise, the overage vehicles with number plate of Ba alphabet are facing the downturn of price.

“Slit could be sold at K 10.5 million from the early month of November to 14 November. However, the announcement was issued to allow handing over of overage vehicles on 16 November, so the price of slit and cars with number plate of Ba alphabet

plummeted. Now, slit can be sold for around K 9 million and the vehicles with number plate of Ba alphabet for above K 8 million,” said Ko Steven of an auto showroom.

The increased number of automobile salerooms and import of new cards, have resulted in traffic jams on the roads in Yangon.

“A lot of cars are on the roads as well as at the port in Yangon. Car importers cannot get margin of K 5-6 million. At least, they can fetch K 1 million in maximum. In car dealer market, the customers take no interest in importing car themselves but they are interested in searching the best products at the domestic



YANGON, 28 Nov—Star City Housing Project is under implementation in Thanlyin side near Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge with the aim of upgrading living standard of Yangon dwellers.

The project is being implemented in line with the modern city characteristics systematically. From the new city, everybody can enjoy panoramic views of the confluence of Yangon River and Bago River in addition to magnificent scene of Shwedagon Pagoda and Yangon City.

With regard to the project, Marketing Director Ko Soe Thiha explained, “Construction of the housing is aimed at upgrading living standard of the people to international level. The project is being implemented on 420 acres of land since

International level housing project under implementation



early 2011. It is estimated that the project will be completed within six years to eight years. However, some of apartments that will complete in 2013 can accommodate the people. Now, a jetty is under construction for enabling the people from the housing to have easy access to the good

transportation to Yangon. Arrangements are being made for plying ship. The people will be served with water purifying system. Moreover, sewerage will be treated as conservation of environment.”

The project comprises over 9000 housing

apartments, golf course, cinema, market, school, hospital, clinic, swimming pool, football ground, playground and recreation centres. The project is jointly being implemented by Singapore-based Yoma Strategic Holdings Co and FMI Group.—*Myanma Alinn*

Plan to develop former head office of MR



YANGON, 28 Nov—FMI will improve Grand Meeyahta Executive Residences, FMI Centre

and former head office of Myanmar Railways near Bogyoke Aung San Market which are the significant

places in downtown Yangon. “The 10-acre land located in the focal point of Yangon will be shifted into two hotels, one condominium, one serviced apartment, two

offices and largest shopping mall,” said Chairman of FMI U Theim Wai in the annual general meeting of FMI.

The proposal has been submitted to departments concerned. If the permit has been received, the first phase of the project will commence.

FMI Centre which is included in the project is now under renovation. Arrangements are being made for opening the Parkson Department Store which will be first-ever store in Yangon in March 2013.

FMI is a public company engaging in financial service, automobile industry, housing construction, agriculture, industrial production and other services as a great business group of Myanmar.

Myanma Alinn

First dental medical seminar held

YANGON, 28 Nov—Myanmar Dental Medical Association and Dental Department of Vethani Hospital of Bangkok of car dealer market,” said Ko Kyaw Zeyar Tun of Hanthawady Car Dealer Market. So far, over 3500 cars with number plate of Ba alphabet have been handed over against 4200, and plans are under way to hand over the remaining cars to the department.

In the domestic car market, Hunda, Toyota, Hilux Surf and Toyota Benz were marketable in last months. Now, number of sellers is greater than buyers.

Myanma Alinn

Thailand jointly organized the dental medical seminar at the office of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry on Minye Kyawswa Road in Lanmadaw Township on 25 November.

The seminar was aimed at enabling the dentists to study advancement of dental therapies so as to improve Myanmar dental medical standard, said an official.

At the seminar, three dental experts from Thailand gave talks on implant surgery update and cosmetic dentistry.

Myanma Alinn

Corruption-free courts required for public trust

PYIN OOLWIN, 28 Nov—Chief Justice of Mandalay Region High Court U Soe Thein, accompanied by Head of Mandalay Region High Court U Myo Tint, on 11 November met with judges at district level and those of Pyin Oolwin, Mogok, Thabeikkyin, Madaya and Singu townships at the court of Pyin Oolwin District.

Speaking on the occasion, the chief justice stressed the need for the judges to study existing laws, rules and regulations and procedures thoroughly and promptly judge the cases without bribery in quick

process. Moreover, he added that the judges should serve the interest of the State and the citizens doing away with corruptions. They should create good relations with citizens, he urged. Thus, he went on to say that the people rely on and trust the judicial system. In conclusion, he urged the judges to safeguard the judicial pillar with correct judgements.

The Chief Justice of the region inspected the Pyin Oolwin District and Township Courts and custody and then met staff of two courts.

Myanma Alinn

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 29 November, 2012

Why we celebrate

The month of Tazaungmon, the eighth of Myanmar lunar calendar, is said to be the month of festivals as it is the second month into the open season.

Tazaungdine festival is overwhelmingly celebrated every nook and cranny of the country. Many towns saw the procession of 28 floats on each of which the Buddha Image is conveyed. The crowd along the road paid homage to the last 28 Buddhas out of the Buddhas “uncountable as sand”. Some towns see one more float which carry the statue of the would-be Buddha who, the Buddhists believe, is currently of any celestial abode.

Kathina robe, which is said to be the most sacred robe, are offered to monks. Matho Thingan, the robe for the Buddha Image which is weaved overnight, are offered to the Buddha Images of most Pagodas in Myanmar. Tazaungdine is also known to be festival of lights.

Homes are decorated with candle lights which are now widely replaced with colourful electric bulbs. Kyeema-noe-pwe, literally the festival before the crow wakes, is one of the loveliest festivals in the world. It depicts the happy-go-lucky and broadminded nature of Myanmar people. Taunggyi’s hot air balloon festival, which is more than 100 years old, is very famous and attracts many tourists.

The style of celebration has changed a lot in more than 20 years. As time goes by, revelers have forgotten why they are celebrating the festival. The traditional Anyeint, literally the elegant show where a lady dancer and comedians perform, are replaced with stage shows where modern songsters—most in revealing dresses—entertained the drunken crowd in general.

In celebrating each traditional festival, we should keep in mind that there are many things we should preserve. It doesn’t mean that we need to cease our modern ways of living. But it does mean that we need to preserve our traditions. A festival which loses its own characters will not survive for long.

Taunggyi hot air balloon festival is famous among the tourists because it has distinct and unique characters which are well preserved.

Matho robe-weaving ceremonies,...

(from page 1)
The congregation led by members of the board offered robes and meals to Buddha Images this morning.

Likewise, the 17th Buddha Pujaniya of Tooth Relic Pagoda (Yangon) was held in conjunction with Shwekyar robe-offering and rice donation ceremony at the pagoda this morning.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay and party offered robes and provisions to member of the Sangha led by SSMNC Chairman Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maharattaguru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Dr Bhaddanta Kumarabhivamsa who delivered a



Officials offer Matho robes to Maha Muni Buddha Image in Mandalay.

MNA
and Kyaikkhauk Pagodas. In Mandalay, the board of trustees of Maha Muni Buddha Image conducted the 23rd Mathorobe-weaving ceremony in front of the Moegaung Dhammayon

robe, alms, water, flowers, lights to Maha Muni Buddha Image. In the morning, the 18th communal Kathina ceremony of families of the Central Command took place

113 padethabins worth K 19,203,340 to 32 monasteries at the communal Kathina ceremony of Mandalay Region Government. Similar ceremonies were held at U Pwar Hsutaungpyae Pagoda, Mandalay Hill Hsutaungpyae Pagoda, Tooth Relic Pagoda, Maha Lawka Yanhnein Aungdawmu Pagoda and other pagodas in townships where pilgrims offered robes, alms, flowers, water and fruit and lit oil lamps to mark the Tazaungdine festival.

The 101st communal Kathina ceremony was held at Yapyae Sasana Beikman in Pyawbwe of Mandalay this afternoon.

At night on Fullmoon Day of Tazaungmon, offices, houses and buildings were illuminated with colourful lights, candle lights and oil lamps and communal celebrations were organized in each and every street and ward in towns and cities. Some bus lines running in downtown areas ferried passengers free of charge today.

MNA



Shwedagon Pagoda packed with pilgrims on Fullmoon Day of Tazaungmon.—MNA

sermon to the congregation. Similar ceremonies were held at Sule, Botahtaung and KabaAye Pagodas, Abhaya Labha Muni Buddha Image, Shwephonepint, Kyaikwaing, Kyaikkasan

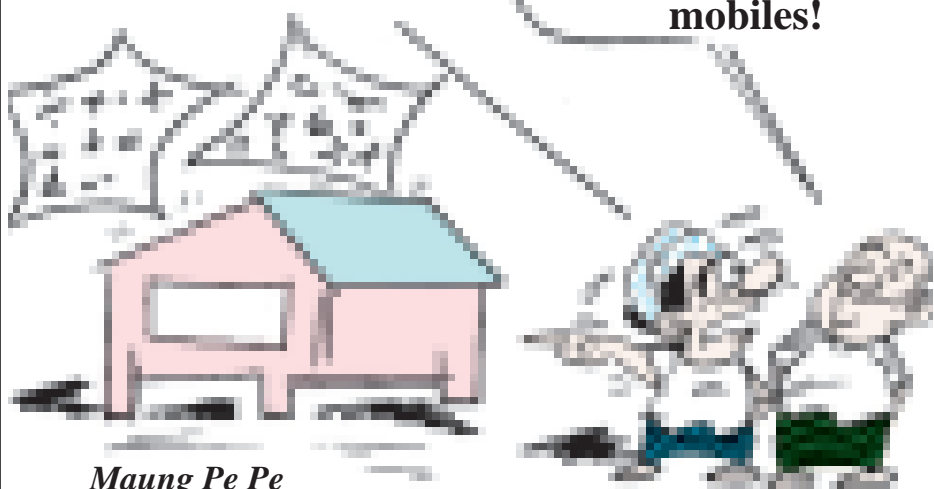
this morning. Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint and wife, region level officials, departmental officials and members of religious associations offered Matho Shwekyar

at Yan Aung Myin Hall in Nanmyo.

In the afternoon, the Region chief minister and wife, officials and members of social organizations and wellwishers presented

Hear the noise? I think they’re quarrelling!

No, they’re just speaking on mobiles!



Maung Pe Pe



People at Neikban Market in housings in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

(The following is an unofficial translation of the Press Release No (10/2012).—Ed)

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Information Team

Press Release No (10/2012)

29 November 2012

1st Waning of Tazaungmon 1374 ME

Press Release on two Hluttaw Laws which were not signed by the President

1. Pyidaungsu Hluttaw abolished **Pyithu Hluttaw Law** promulgated under the State Peace and Development Council Law No (12/2010), and promulgated Pyithu Hluttaw Law 2012 through the enactment of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law No. (23). Likewise, **Amyotha Hluttaw Law** promulgated under the State Peace and Development Council Law No (13/2010) was revoked, and Amyotha Hluttaw Law 2012 was promulgated on 26-11-2011 through the enactment of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law No. (24).

2. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw sent the Pyithu Hluttaw Bill and the Amyotha Hluttaw Bill on 23-3-2012 to sign and enact them. Though, the President returned them with 10 comments in order to make them meet democratic norms as some of the provisions need to comply with the constitution and the check-and-balance system among three branches of power. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved only two comments of the President and sent again to the President to sign and enact them in accord with Section 106 (b) of

the constitution on 23-11-2012. It has been made clear in Statement No. (6/2012) dated 24-11-2012 that the President did not sign the bills as they need to comply with the constitution and the democratic norms.

3. With respect to legislation, Section 105 (a) of the Constitution prescribes the President, upon receiving of a bill passed and sought approval from him by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw according to section 105 of the constitution, shall send back the bill with remarks to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw within 14 days. Section 106 (c) of the constitution states the remarks of the President shall be discussed at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the bill shall be sent again to the President for his approval, and if the President shall not sign the bill within seven days for he doesn't approve and the bill becomes legitimized as if approved by the President.

4. Since the President did not sign the legislations No 23 and 24 passed by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, those legislations became laws according to provisions in Section 106 (c) of the constitution.

Coord meeting on progress in road/bridge construction in Taninthayi Region

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Nov — A coordination meeting on progress in road/bridge construction of Taninthayi Region Public Works was held at the meeting hall of Taninthayi Government Office in Dawei on 26 November.

Chief Minister U Myat Ko delivered an address at the meeting. Region Minister for Transportation Dr Kyaw Hsan explained progress in road/bridge construction in the region and the superintending engineer, senior engineers of Dawei, Myeik and Kawthoung

Districts and officials, work progress.

Next, the Region Chief Minister formally opened the 103rd Tazaungdine Festival and the twenty-eight Buddha Image conveyance ceremony held in the compound of Lawka Marazein Pagoda yesterday evening.—MNA

Success in sports a cause for nation's pride



Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan views training of athletes and coaches at Training Centre (2) in Lewe Township.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Nov— The selected players for track and field are in training under close supervision of coaches through effective training programme in order to fetch the title of win, raising the dignity of Myanmar in respective sport activities

in XXVII SEA Games, said Chairman of Myanmar National Sports Committee Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan in meeting with players and coaches at Training Centre (2) in Lewe Township this morning.

He then looked around

tough training of athletes at the same centre.

The Union minister paid attention to archeries in practising of Compound and Recurve at the archery shooting range in Zabuthiri Township.

MNA

ILDEX Myanmar-2012 on 7-8 December

YANGON, 28 Nov — Jointly-organized by Myanmar Fisheries Federation and ILDEX company of Vietnam, the first ILDEX Myanmar-2012 will be held at MFF building on Bayintnaung Road in Insein Township, here, on 7-8 December.

A total of 41 booths of foreign companies and organizations will participate

at the show. Materials used in livestock and fishery industries, feedstuff and medicines and machines will be on display at the booths.

Besides, international scholars will read out the papers on livestock and fishery and talks will be given.

Plans are underway to organize the ILDEX Myanmar 2012 on a grand

scale. Union Government, Region Governments, departmental heads, CEC members, executives, experts and entrepreneurs of UMFCCI and affiliated associations, MFF, international companies will be invited to take part at the show.

Those interested may observe the show.

MNA

Slight earthquake hits 18 miles northeast of Singu

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Nov—A slight earthquake of magnitude 4.3 Richter Scale with its epicenter inside Myanmar,

(about 18 miles northeast of Singu), about 55 miles north of Mandalay seismological observatory was recorded

at 18 hrs 40 min 34 sec M.S.T today, announced by Meteorology and Hydrology Department.—MNA

There will be no traffic lights...



Hledan overpass construction in progress. Construction is completed by 65 percent.

(from page 16)
December. We will then install steel floor on which the concrete and tar will be paved.
Q: How much load the bridge will withstand? What are other characteristics of the bridge?
A: The bridge could withstand 60 tons of load per vehicle. It has the length of 2507 feet and the width of 98 feet eight inches. It has the clearance of 18 feet.
Q: Are there foreigners among the engineers?
A: The construction is supervised by a Japanese engineer. Singapore's T.Y.Lin company

which employs US technology designs the bridge. Wagna Biro Engineering supplies steel structures. Steel rods are exported from South Korea. Japan's ToKyu Construction ensures safety and quality. Shwetaung Development Company provides labour.
Q: What are profits of the bridge?
A: There will be no traffic lights on Yangon-Pyay Road. We have many things to learn from the Japanese techniques that are employed in the construction of the bridge.
Q: Will there be more



U Sithu Lwin Deputy Head (Road/Bridge)

flyovers in Yangon?
A: Yes, we have. We have plans to build a overpass in Bayintnaung junction to curb traffic jam.

Myanma Alinn: 28-11-2012

Translation: HKA

Majority of Britons want Press watchdog backed by law

LONDON, 28 Nov—More than two-thirds of Britons are in favour of an independent Press regulator established by law, according to an opinion poll published in the *Guardian* newspaper on Wednesday, a day before a judge is expected to issue a report on problems in the industry.

The poll found that 79 percent of Britons surveyed want the government to introduce legislation to create an independent Press

regulator. Only 9 percent oppose tough measures regulating the press.

Senior judge Brian Leveson is expected on Thursday to recommend a new independent body with statutory powers over the press instead of the current system of self-regulation that the industry wants to retain.

Leveson oversaw a year-long public inquiry into the Press that was prompted by a phone-hacking scandal at Rupert Murdoch's News of

the World Sunday, a News Corp (NWSA.O) tabloid the media tycoon then shut down.

The poll, conducted by YouGov on behalf of the Media Standards Trust, found that over 80 percent want national newspapers to be obliged to sign up to the new system by law.

Most of the British newspaper industry is opposed to a regulator underpinned by law, as they argue it would curb freedom of speech.—Reuters



The local embroidery artists teach embroidery crafts to the wives of diplomatic envoys in China at the 5th "China Embroidery Culture and Arts Festival" in Suzhou, east China's Jiangsu Province, on 28 Nov, 2012. The festival, with the participation of diplomatic envoys and their wives in China from 13 countries, opened here on Wednesday.—XINHUA

Aircraft carrier blows siren in tribute to Luo Yang

DALIAN, 28 Nov — China's first aircraft carrier, the *Liaoning*, sounded its siren shortly after 10 am on Tuesday morning in a show of respect for Luo Yang, on-site director-in-chief of China's carrier-borne fighter jet research programme.

The crew lined up on the bow deck and saluted Luo, who experienced a heart attack onboard the carrier on Sunday, the same day that the *J-15*, China's new carrier-borne fighter jet,

made a successful landing on the *Liaoning*. He died later in hospital.

"Luo had worked days and nights with us ever since he boarded the ship on 18 November," said Song Xue, deputy director of staff of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy, in an interview with *Xinhua* on Tuesday.

"Luo passed away suddenly, when we planned to celebrate the successful landing of the *J-15*," said a sobbing Song, who called Luo

a "flag of the experimental team." Wu Shengli, a member of the Central Military Commission of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and commander of the PLA Navy, on Tuesday sent representatives to bid farewell to Luo at AVIC Shenyang Aircraft Corp., where Luo also served as chairman and general manager.—*Xinhua*

Shiga governor's new party to field about 100 candidates

OSAKA, 28 Nov—The governor of Shiga Prefecture said on Wednesday her planned new political party with its policy pledges centring on phasing out nuclear power will aim to field around 100 candidates in the 16 Dec general election.

Shiga Gov Yukiko Kada, who is expected to report the establishment of

her party to the government as early as later Wednesday, told reporters the new party will include in its campaign pledges an end to Japan's reliance on nuclear power within 10 years.

The People's Life First party with over 40 House of Representatives lawmakers and another small party have already decided to join forces with Kada.—*Kyodo News*



Shiga Gov Yukiko Kada is surrounded by reporters in Otsu, Shiga Prefecture, on 28 Nov, 2012. The governor announced the previous day her plan to form a new party, Nippon Mirai no To (Japan Future Party), calling for the gradual phasing out of nuclear power, ahead of the 16 Dec, 2012, general election.—KYODO NEWS



Christiana Figueres (2nd L), Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), speaks during a joint news conference on Fast Start Finance (FSF) on the second day of the 18th United Nations Convention on Climate Change in Doha, on 27 Nov, 2012.—XINHUA

Mexican president-elect pledges cooperation with US over illegal immigration

WASHINGTON, 28 Nov.—Mexican President-elect Enrique Pena Nieto on Tuesday pledged continued cooperation with the United States in tackling illegal immigration from Mexico.

In his meeting with US President Barack Obama at the White House, just four days prior to his inauguration, the president-elect applauded Obama's agenda on immigration

reform.

"We fully support your proposal," Nieto said, adding "We want to contribute. We want to be part of this." As immediate neighbours, Mexico and the US are closely connected demographically, with over 1 million US citizens living in Mexico and Mexico being the largest source of immigrants to the United States.

However, illegal

immigration has been a cause of friction with Mexico, as 62 percent of undocumented immigrants in the US originate from Mexico as of 2009.

For his part, Obama told reporters prior to his meeting with Nieto that he looked forward to continuing work with Mexican officials on "border issues" as well as "regional and global issues," noting that Mexico is not

just a bilateral partner, but a "multilateral, multinational" leader. Obama said he looked forward to establishing a similar "close personal and professional relationship" with Nieto, who will assume the presidency on Saturday.

The president has announced that his deputy Joe Biden will lead a US delegation to Nieto's inauguration.

Xinhua

Bangladeshi man pleads not guilty to New York Federal Reserve bomb plot

NEW YORK, 28 Nov—A Bangladeshi man arrested in a sting operation denied on Tuesday charges that he attempted to blow up the Federal Reserve Bank in New York last month with what authorities say he believed was a 1,000-pound (450-kg) bomb.

During a brief hearing in Brooklyn federal court, Quazi Mohammad Rezwanul Ahsan Nafis, 21, pleaded not guilty to a two-count indictment charging him with attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction and attempting to provide material support to a US-designated foreign terrorist organization, al-Qaeda.

He faces life in prison if convicted.

Nafis appeared in court wearing a tan prison jumpsuit and did not speak during the hearing. His lawyer and a lawyer for the government, James Loonam, said discussions were being held about a possible plea negotiation. His lawyer and a spokesman for the US attorney's office in Brooklyn declined to comment to reporters.

From Bangladesh, the suspect's father has denied his son was involved and said he was the victim of a "racist conspiracy."

Nafis was arrested on 17 October after pulling up

to the Federal Reserve near Wall Street and attempting to detonate what he believed to be a van packed with explosives.

The inert explosives had been provided to Nafis by an undercover agent as part of a sting operation, federal authorities said.

A criminal complaint unsealed last month against Nafis said he traveled to the United States in 2012, and eventually moved to Queens, New York.

The complaint alleged he scouted out targets for a potential attack, considering the New York Stock Exchange and a high-ranking government

official identified as US President Barack Obama. He eventually settled on the Federal Reserve Bank, the complaint said.

Nafis attempted to recruit others to his plan, claiming he was in contact with al-Qaeda operatives, the complaint said.

One of the individuals he brought onboard was an undercover agent working for the FBI, who monitored Nafis' activities and helped arm him with the inoperable explosives, federal authorities said.

Nafis is scheduled to appear next in court on 9 January.

Reuters

REGIONAL

Pakistan offers reward for information on Taliban spokesman

Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 28 Nov — Pakistani Interior Minister Rehman Malik on Tuesday offered a reward of 200 million rupees (2.1 million US dollars) for anyone who provides information about the Taliban spokesman, local media reported. The Tehrik-i-Taleban Pakistan (TTP) spokesperson, Ehsanullah Ehsan, routinely claims responsibility for attacks, according to the reports. In his recent statement the TTP spokesman claimed responsibility for assassination plot of renowned anchorperson Hamid Mir.

Police in Islamabad on Monday found and defused explosives attached to the car of Hamid Mir, who hosts a famous talk show on Geo television. Announcing the highest reward, the interior minister told reporters in Islamabad that he does not consider Ehsan as the spokesperson of TTP and does not pay heed to his statements. The minister vowed that he would soon reveal real facts about Ehsan who is working for external elements to destabilize Pakistan.

Ehsan has even threatened the media, Malik said, adding that the Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) would soon capture him. Earlier, the minister had offered a cash reward of 50 million rupees for anyone with information about who was responsible for planting a bomb under the car of Hamid Mir. Giving a second chance to terrorist organizations, the minister had announced lifting a ban on some proscribed organizations that are no longer involved

in terrorist activities. He had also asked TTP chief Hakimullah Mehsud, his deputy Waliur Rehman, Punjabi Taliban chief Maulana Ismatullah Muawiya and pro-Pakistan Taliban leader Mullah Nazir to surrender for the sake of peaceful future for their children. "I knew where the TTP receives its weapons. I would advise TTP leaders to surrender before our brave security forces catch your people," the interior minister declared.

Xinhua



Photo from a Kyodo News helicopter shows passengers moving from a train to elevated tracks of the JR Keiyo Line in Funabashi, Chiba Prefecture, on 28 Nov, 2012. A malfunction caused the train to stall on the tracks, forcing some 1,500 passengers to walk along the tracks for about 1 kilometre, according to its operator East Japan Railway Co, or JR East. KYODO NEWS

Japan's ruling party to adopt cool-headed, realistic diplomacy

Japan

TOKYO, 28 Nov — The ruling Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) announced its campaign pledge for 16 December House of Representatives elections at its headquarters here on Tuesday, saying the party will adopt a cool-headed and realistic diplomacy. The DPJ's manifesto covers five major issues, including social security, economy, energy, foreign policy and political reforms. Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda, who is also head of the DPJ, admitted that his party failed to meet its major policies in the pledge for 2009 lower house elections, adding the manifesto this time is a realistic one based on three-year lessons as the ruling party. In the pledge, the party said it will adopt cool-headed diplomacy by way of enhancing relations with neighbouring Asian countries, adding it will participate in free trade



Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda (2nd-R) makes a speech to the public during an election campaign event in Tokyo on 27 Nov, 2012. The ruling Democratic Party of Japan led by Noda will announce its campaign pledges ahead of the general election on 16 December. XINHUA

framework in the region especially with China and South Korea. Noda said his party will also deepen alliance with the United States. He said his party will further involve in the negotiations of the US-led Trans-Pacific Partnership. Noda also said the DPJ will make great efforts to resolve the deadlock of abduction issue with

the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). The two countries have decided on Tuesday to launch next round of talks over the issue on 5 and 6 December in Beijing. Noda said his party will also make efforts to achieve the goal of a nuclear-free world.—Xinhua

Top Chinese political advisor arrives in Italy for official visit

China

ROME, 28 Nov — Top Chinese political advisor Jia Qinglin arrived here Tuesday afternoon for an official goodwill visit to Italy. China and Italy have continuously strengthened mutual political trust and scored fruitful achievements in pragmatic cooperation

in various fields since the establishment of their diplomatic ties 42 years ago, said Jia, chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), in a written statement upon arrival. The two countries

have also maintained close communication and coordination in international and regional affairs, with the content of their comprehensive strategic partnership continuously enriched, he said. The development of China-Italy relations is currently facing a new historic opportunity, Jia said. He said he is looking forward to having in-depth talks with Italian leaders, including Prime Minister Mario Monti, on bilateral ties and other issues of common concern. Jia said he would also meet Italians from all walks of life, so as to deepen mutual understanding between the two peoples and push forward the two countries' pragmatic cooperation. Italy is the first leg of Jia's three-nation tour which will also take him to Costa Rica and Argentina.—Xinhua



Jia Qinglin (L), chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) National Committee, is greeted by Italian Environment Minister Corrado Clini upon his arrival in Rome, capital of Italy, on 27 Nov, 2012. —XINHUA

Japan's Health Ministry to set firmer restrictions on drugs

TOKYO, 28 Nov — Japan's Ministry of Health on Wednesday decided to reinforce the control of drugs that are chemically similar in composition to banned nar-

cotics but technically legal at present. The government's plan to place stricter limits on chemical substances' selling and producing is aimed at reducing crimes led by legal

drug abuses. The new drug managing system is called "catch-all" system, if it works from next year, the types of limited drug will extend to hundreds

from 90. The pharmaceutical law provides for up to five years in prison or a fine of up to 5 million yen for those who sell banned substances.—Xinhua

China's rise opportunity, rather than threat: Ambassador

China

DUBLIN, 28 Nov — China's rise is an opportunity, rather than a threat to the rest of the world, a senior Chinese diplomat said here on Tuesday. Addressing Ireland's leading think tank the Institute of International and European Affairs (IIEA), Chinese Ambassador to Ireland Luo Linquan said China is the most populous developing country, and to run itself well is the most important

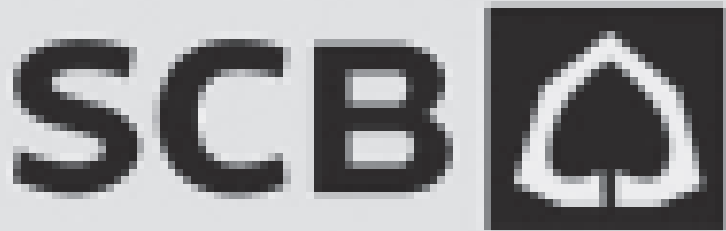
fulfilment of its international responsibility. "China has to feed close to 20 percent of the world's population with 7.9 percent of the world's farmland and 6.5 percent of the world's fresh water. During the last decade alone, over 67 million people from rural areas have shaken off poverty, which is equivalent to the size of the French population," he said. Luo said China has made important contribution

to the stable development of the world economy. "Following the international financial crisis in 2008, China has taken an active part in the G20's efforts to build a global economic governance mechanism, promoted the reform of the international financial system. It has sent large overseas purchasing missions and helped countries in difficulties," he said. The Chinese Ambassador said China plays an

important role in safeguarding world peace and meeting global challenge. "China has played a constructive role in addressing international and regional hotspot problems. For instance, it calls for resolving the Korean nuclear issue, the Iranian nuclear issue and other hotspot issues through peaceful talks, and has helped to establish the Six-Party Talks mechanism on the Korean nuclear issue," he said.—Xinhua



A dance performance is staged during the "Mekong River (called Lancang in China) Basin National Culture and Arts Festival" in Jinghong City, southwest China's Yunnan Province, on 27 Nov, 2012. The festival, with the participation of artists and exhibitors from China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam, opened here on Tuesday. XINHUA



CONGRATULATIONS

**Our heartiest and
warmest congratulations
on the successful grand opening of
Siam Commercial Bank (SCB)
Representative Office
in Myanmar.**

**Chairman and Board of Directors
KBZ Bank Limited.**

Nene willing to stay at PSG **Soccer**

PARIS, 28 Nov — Although losing the starting position, Brazilian winger Nene still wants to stay at French Ligue 1 side Paris Saint-Germain.

"I've always said that I want to stay here. I love Paris. I love the club. I want to stay," the 31-year-old Anderson Luiz de Carvalho, usually known as Nene, was quoted as saying by the *Parisien* newspaper on Tuesday. "It seems difficult to me but I don't know. My head's in Paris," Nene said. Nene joined PSG on 11 July, 2010 from Monaco and has scored 35 goals in 76 appearances for the French first division club. The left winger is most known for his cross-ability as well as being a freekick specialist.

With his current contract to be expire in June next year, Nene is yet to renew his contract with PSG.

"Whatever is going to happen will happen. I'm just doing my job and it's the club that'll decide whether I stay on or not," Nene said.



Xinhua

Former Brazil star Ze Roberto extends Gremio contract

RIO DE JANEIRO, 28 Nov — Former Real Madrid and Bayern Munich midfielder Ze Roberto has agreed to a one-year contract extension with Gremio.

The 38-year-old came to terms with the Porto Alegre outfit on Tuesday after a meeting with the club's new president Fabio Koff.

"This is great news for Gremio. It is what the coach (Vanderlei Luxemburgo) and the club's board of directors wanted," Koff told Uol. Roberto spent a season at Real Madrid in 1997-98 before making

a name for himself in Germany during spells with Bayer Leverkusen and Bayern Munich. He also played 84 matches for Brazil between 1995 and 2006. Koff also revealed an interest in signing Argentina international midfielder Walter Montillo from Gremio's Brazilian rivals Cruzeiro. "He is a very good player and Cruzeiro has said he could be up for sale," Koff said. "He won't be cheap but we are going to take a good look at the possibilities because we are interested in him. Gremio's ambitions are very big for 2013."



Xinhua

Panthers shoot down Eagles, spoil Brown's hot debut

NFL

PHILADELPHIA, 28 Nov — Even an eye-catching NFL debut by running back Bryce Brown failed to halt Philadelphia's disappointing 3-8 records. The Panthers have seen most of their losses come via late-game mishaps, but Cam Newton made sure there was no such outcome.



Philadelphia Eagles running back Bryce Brown (34) is tackled by Carolina Panthers cornerback Josh Norman (24) in the first quarter during their NFL football game in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on 26 Nov, 2012.
REUTERS

ward slide as the Carolina Panthers beat the nose-diving Eagles 30-22 on Monday. Brown, a rookie who had never even started in college, lit up the Panthers for 178 yards rushing and two touchdowns but it was not enough to avoid a seventh successive Eagles defeat. Both NFC teams have

come in Philadelphia.

"We wanted to get the momentum back on our side and finish," the second-year quarterback told reporters. "It means a lot (doing it) on prime-time in front of America. We just have to get our confidence back and finish the season strong." Carolina trailed 22-

21 in the third before one of Philadelphia's three lost fumbles set up a go-ahead field goal by kicker Graham Gano. Newton took over from there, capping a 60-yard drive in the fourth quarter with a two-yard running score for the winning margin. Newton had a rare banner day in a tough season as he finished with 306 yards passing, two scores in the air and another two on the ground.

The Eagles played without concussed starters Michael Vick and LeSean McCoy, which opened the door for Brown, who provided some spectacular plays in another Philadelphia loss. Newton put the Eagles in a hole early with two long TD passes in the first quarter that gave the Panthers a 14-3 lead, triggering boos from the Philadelphia crowd. In the second quarter, Brown exploded onto the scene with a 65-yard scoring run and Philadelphia added two Alex Henery field goals to take a 15-14 edge at halftime.—Reuters

Elated Woods back at venue that sparked his 2012 season

THOUSAND OAKS, (California), 28 Nov — Twelve months after ending a two-year victory drought at the tournament he hosts, Tiger Woods is excited about his prospects for 2013 as he prepares to defend his World Challenge title this week.

His one-shot triumph over fellow American Zach Johnson at last year's World Challenge set the tone for a successful 2012 PGA Tour campaign highlighted by three wins, the only disappointment being his continued barren run in the majors.

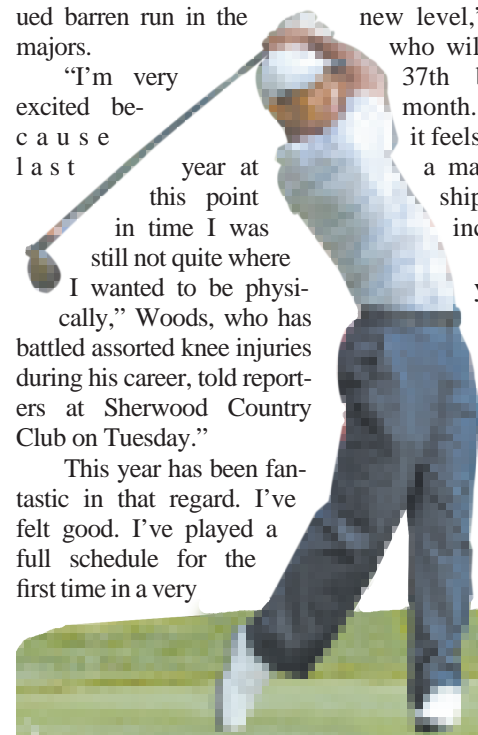
"I'm very excited because last year at this point in time I was still not quite where I wanted to be physically," Woods, who has battled assorted knee injuries during his career, told reporters at Sherwood Country Club on Tuesday.

This year has been fantastic in that regard. I've felt good. I've played a full schedule for the first time in a very

Arnold Palmer Invitational in March, then followed up with victories at the Memorial tournament and AT&T National. However, he has not triumphed in the majors since the 2008 US Open at Torrey Pines and has set his sights on removing that blemish from his otherwise glittering record during his 2013 campaign.

"I've had some really nice years, some really good years in there, but winning a major championship just takes it to a whole new level," said Woods, who will celebrate his 37th birthday next month. "I know how it feels when you win a major championship, and it feels incredible."

It lasts with you, and that's something that I would like to have happen again." "That's something I haven't done since '08 so it's something I'm hoping I can do next year."



Reuters

long time, and I'm just very pleased with what I've done overall with my game."

"At the outset of the year I didn't really putt well. Towards the end of the year I really started putting well. My short game has really come around ... I am becoming more consistent." Woods won his 72nd PGA Tour title at the

"I'm very excited because last year at this point in time I was still not quite where I wanted to be physically," Woods, who has battled assorted knee injuries during his career, told reporters at Sherwood Country Club on Tuesday.

Dortmund, Schalke drop points in German Bundesliga **Soccer**

BERLIN, 28 Nov — Defending champions Dortmund were held to a 1-1 draw with newly promoted Dusseldorf owing to the late leveller by Stefan Reisinger whereas Schalke lost 3-1 at Hamburg in the Bundesliga on Tuesday. League leaders Bayern Munich are able to increase their gap Wednesday, as chasers Dortmund and Schalke dropped points at the title race.

From kickoff, Dortmund took over control as newly promoted Dusseldorf defended deep, with nine men in their half, to give the hosts a tough time. As the match progressed, Dortmund were able to establish their offensive actions, yet unable to overcome Dusseldorf's bulwark. Things changed at the 43rd minute as Jakub Blaszczykowski secured the opener with a volley into

the top right corner following a one two with Kevin Gokreutz inside the penalty area.

With the restart, Dortmund decided to take the foot of the accelerator whereas Dusseldorf little by little approached the hosts goal. Dortmund's neat lead wobbled when Marcel Schmelzer cleared Stefan Reisinger's effort from the goal line in the 58th minute. Unsurprisingly

Dusseldorf punished Dortmund's laxity at the 78th minute when Reisinger utilized Robbie Kruse's cross at the second post to level the score. Dusseldorf had to finish the match with ten men as Iva Paurevic was sent off for his second bookable offense three minutes before final whistle. However, Dortmund were unable to score the decider with 12 minutes left.

Xinhua

GENERAL

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

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

- * News
- * Alma Bowls Donation Ceremony and Charity Feast
- * News
- * Music Programme
- * News
- * Enforce the Green
- * News
- * Tazaungmone, the beautiful month of Myanmar
- * 2012 China ASEAN Economic Community
- * News
- * Culture Stage
- * BarCamp Yangon 2013

- Press Conference 7:40 am
- * News 2. Dhama Puja Song
- * Rakhine National Song along with the royal drum 7:50 am
- * Singapore-UK-Myanmar Education Seminar 8:10 am
- * News 4. Song of National Races
- * Karaweik Palace: A Symbol of Glorious Myanmar Culture 8:15 am
- * Myanmar Movie "Deadhead Yet Cherished" 5. Dance Variety

MYANMAR TV

(29-11-2012, Thursday)

- 7:00 am 1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw -Uppatasanti Paritta
- 8:15 pm 6. Martial Song
- 8:05 pm 7. Cute Little Dancers
- 4:15 pm 8. Musical Programme
- 4:25 pm 9. One Village & One Product
- 4:35 pm 10. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Third Year (Myanmar)

- 4:50 pm 11. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
- 4:55 pm 12. Teleplay (Health)
- 5:15 pm 13. Science and Environment
- 5:25 pm 14. India Drama Series
- 6:20 pm 15. Myanmar Series
- 6:35 pm 16. Approaching Science Discovery World
- 7:00 pm 17. TV Drama Series
- 8:00 pm 18. News
- 19. International News
- 20. TV Drama Series



TRAFFIC RULES TALKED: In-charge of Kyaukme District Traffic Police Force IP Ye Kyi gives talks on dos and don'ts on traffic rules to workers of Myanmar CP Company at its office compound in Khonan Village of Kyaukme Township on 22 November.

MYANMA ALINN

Likely anchoring ban a belly ache for some players

THOUSAND OAKS, (California), 28 Nov — With a widely expected ban on anchoring long putters likely to be announced by the game's ruling bodies on Wednesday, players have expressed sharply contrasting views ahead of this week's World Challenge. While 14-times major winner Tiger Woods and putting supremo Steve Stricker are both in favor of such putters

at this year's US Open, and South African Ernie Els, at the British Open in July. "I'm obviously not happy with the ruling, but I respect the USGA (United States Golf Association)," Bradley told reporters at Sherwood Country Club on Tuesday while preparing for Thursday's opening round.

"They make the rules, and I'll adjust appropriately. I'm going to

putter itself is not expected to be outlawed when the USGA and the Royal and Ancient (R&A) hold a joint teleconference call on Wednesday, a ban on anchoring the club to any part of the body is expected to be announced.

The use of an extended putter seems to be totally at odds with the spirit of the game, but it has played a key role in reviving the careers of several players who have suffered from the yips, or the putting twitches.

Broomhandle or belly putters, pioneered by 2002 European Ryder Cup captain Sam Torrance among others during the late 1980s and early 1990s, are tucked under the chin, against the chest or into the belly. They are swung in a pendulum fashion, and crucially make demands on a different set of small muscles and nerves.

"I just believe that the art of putting is swinging the club and controlling nerves and having it as a fixed point is something that's not in the traditions of the game," said Woods, the World Challenge defending champion and tournament host. "We swing all other 13 clubs. I think the putter should be the same. It should be a swinging motion throughout the entire bag. "One of the things that I was concerned about going forward is the kids who get started in the game and are starting to putt with an anchoring system. Everyone always copies what we do out here."

Reuters



PGA golfer Steve Stricker answers a question about using a long putter during a media conference at the World Challenge golf tournament in Thousand Oaks, California, on 27 Nov, 2012. — REUTERS

being outlawed, 2011 PGA Championship winner Keegan Bradley says he is "not happy" about the likely rule change.

American Bradley became the first player to win a major title using a long putter and has since been followed by compatriot Webb Simpson,

accept the challenge and hopefully do well when they do ban it."Players are very passionate about this decision.

You've got some guys who have been using this style of putter for almost 20 years so it's a little bit of a scary position that they're in." While the long



A dance performance is staged during the "Mekong River (called Lancang in China) Basin National Culture and Arts Festival" in Jinghong City, southwest China's Yunnan Province, on 27 Nov, 2012. The festival, with the participation of artists and exhibitors from China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam, opened here on Tuesday.—XINHUA

Real Madrid into Copa del Rey last 16

MADRID, 28 Nov—Real Madrid qualified for the last 16 of the Spanish Copa del Rey knockout competition Tuesday thanks to a 3-0 win at home to third tier side Alcoyano. Real Madrid's 4-1 win from the first leg always meant it would have taken a disaster for them not to have qualified, but a side filled with substitutes struggled against a side in theory very inferior side and coach Jose Mourinho had to listen to boos and whistles from the crowd during the game, which was decided by a goal from Angel de Maria in the 72nd minute.

The visitors were reduced to ten men when

central defender Javier Selvas was harshly sent off for protesting and Jose Calderon put makeup on the final result for Madrid with goals in the 89th and 92nd minute. Malaga squeezed into the next round despite a 1-0 home defeat to Cacereno. A first half goal from Chapi gave the side from Caceres a magnificent win, but despite the 4-4 aggregate score the lower league side went out on the away goals rule. The night saw several La Liga side's Rayo Vallecano and Real Sociedad fell to lower league opposition. Rayo drew 0-0 against Las Palmas after falling 1-0 in the first leg,

Fire kills five in US home

WASHINGTON, 28 Nov—Five people were killed Tuesday in a house fire in the rural areas of Ohio state, the United States, local media reported.

According to WTVG, which covers the Toledo area, the fire broke out in the morning in Seneca County, about 50 miles from Toledo. A truck driver spotted the flames and called for help. When firefighters arrived on the scene, the house was fully engulfed.

The county's public information officer confirmed that fire crews found five bodies inside a home Tuesday morning. Thirty to forty firefighters were on the scene on Tuesday afternoon.

The report said two adults and three children lived inside the home.

Xinhua

while goals from Antoine Griezman and Imanol Agirretxe were not enough to save Real Sociedad from a 4-2 aggregate defeat against Cordoba after the sides drew 2-2 in the Anoeta Stadium.

Osasuna overcame a 1-0 first leg deficit with a 2-0 home win against Sporting Gijon. Joseba Llorente and Ruben Gonzalez scored the goals that take the side from Pamplona into the next round. Betis also overcame a 1-0 first leg deficit in the only all La Liga tie of the night. Ivan Amaya, Ruben Castro and an own goal saw them take a 3-1 aggregate win against Valladolid.

Xinhua

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann receives Chinese delegation

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Nov—Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann received a delegation led by member of the Standing Committee of China's National People's Congress Chairman of Legal Affairs Committee Mr. Hu Kangsheng at Zabuthiri Hall of Hluttaw Complex, here, this evening.

Also present together with the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker were Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw

U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Judicial and Legal Affairs Committee Thura U Aung Ko, Chairman of Bill Committee U TKhun Myat, Secretary of Judicial and Legal Affairs Committee U Myint Tun and member U Myint Soe, and officials

of Hluttaw Office.

At the call, both sides had a cordial discussion on further strengthening friendly relations between Myanmar and China, and enhancement of cooperation between Myanmar Hluttaws and the China's National People's Congress.—MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann shakes hands with member of Standing Committee of China's National People's Congress Chairman of Legal Affairs Committee Mr. Hu Kangsheng.—MNA



EU approves Spain bank restructuring, opens door to aid

BRUSSELS, 28 Nov—The European Commission gave the go ahead for Spain to overhaul its stricken nationalized banks on Wednesday and opened the door for nearly 40 billion euros in euro zone aid to be disbursed, offering hope for an end to Spain's banking crisis.

Lenders Bankia, NCG Banco, Catalunya Banc and Banco de Valencia will need 37 billion euros (\$48 billion) to be recapitalized and the banks' bondholders will face losses, EU Competition Commissioner Joaquin

Almunia said.

The approval allows the euro zone to disburse the funds from its permanent ESM bailout fund and could mark a turning point in a banking crisis that has dragged Spain into recession after its real estate bubble burst. Spain was given approval to receive up to 100 billion euros from the ESM in June.

Wednesday's announcement sets down one of the most far-reaching restructuring plans of any European banking system ordered by the Commission

since the start of a banking crisis in mid-2007 with the near collapse of German lender IKB.

"The approval of the restructuring plans of BFA/Bankia, NCG, Catalunya Banc and Banco de Valencia is a milestone in the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding between euro area countries and Spain," EU Competition Commissioner Joaquin Almunia said, referring to Spain's euro zone bank bailout.

Reuters

Low pressure area forms over Andaman Sea

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Nov—According to the observations at 6.30 hrs MST today, the low pressure area has formed over Andaman Sea.

Occasional squalls with moderate to rough sea will be experienced Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and

along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 40

mph. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters, the Meteorology and Hydrology Department announced.

MNA

Slight earthquake hits 33 miles northeast of Mandalay

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Nov—A slight earthquake of magnitude 4.1 Richter Scale with its epicenter inside Myanmar about 33 miles northeast of Mandalay

seismological observatory was recorded at 21 hrs 52 min 50 sec MST yesterday, announced by Meteorology and Hydrology Department.—MNA

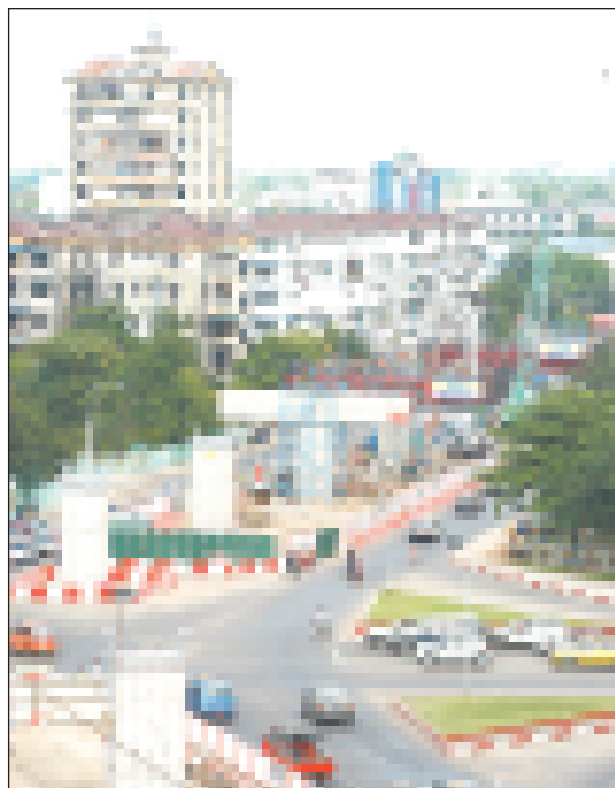
Syria says 34 killed in Damascus bombings

BEIRUT, 28 Nov—At least 34 people were killed in explosions which struck the eastern Damascus district of Jaramana on Wednesday, state television said, quoting a source at the Interior

Ministry.

It said 10 bags containing the remains of unidentified victims had also been collected. Eighty-three people were seriously wounded, it said.—Reuters

There will be no traffic lights on Yangon-Pyay Road



Hledan overpass construction site.

Byline: Maung Maung Myint Swe
Photos: Tin Soe (Myanma Alinn)

Yangon is prone to heavy traffic congestion due to an increase in number of vehicles. Yangon City Development Committee is building overpass in Hledan, one of the most congested spot in Yangon. Here is the excerpt of the interview with YCDC Deputy Head of Branch (Road/Bridge) U Sithu Lwin and Senior Engineer (Construction) U Sein Win.

Q: Let's start with the progress of Hledan overpass construction. How far does it reach now?
A: The construction has been completed by 65 percent. The con-

struction will be completed in April, 2013, as expected. It started since 11 March, 2012. We are trying to complete on schedule.

Q: Which tasks are currently being carried out?

A: We are making preparations to install steel trusses on each pile of the bridge. We have completed it by 45 percent.

Q: When steel structures will be fixed and what is next?

A: The steel structures will be installed in mid (See page 9)

