

Translate challenges into golden opportunity that can bring about historical event of the State

YANGON, 2 Dec— Patron of Leading Committee for Organizing the XXVII SEA Games Vice-President U Nyan Tun visited gymnasiums and stadiums under repair and athletes undergoing training in preparation for the coming SEA Games here this morning.

The Vice-President was accompanied by Chairman of the leading committee Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan, Yangon region ministers Col Tin Win, U Than Myint and U Hla Myint, department heads and officials. He met coaches, athletes and presidents of sports federations at Theinbyu Gymnasium in Mingala

Taungnyunt Township.

The Vice-President and party then watched training sessions of selected Myanmar cane ball athletes and selected Myanmar weightlifters.

On arrival at Theinbyu Tennis Court, the Vice-President was welcomed by the president of Myanmar Tennis Federation and the head coach and viewed selected Myanmar players undergoing training.

On arrival at Dagon University, the Vice-President heard reports submitted by Union Education Minister Dr Mya Aye and Rector of Dagon University Dr Hla Htay on preparations of the university to host the games

and attended to the needs.

They then proceeded to the shooting range of Myanmar shooting federation of Dagon Myothit (North) and inspected the repairs of the shooting range. Union Minister U Tint Hsan, the president of the Myanmar shooting federation and officials conducted the Vice-President round the shooting range.

The Vice-President and party enjoyed demonstration of Karatedo and Taekwando players at Thuwunna National Indoor Stadium (1).

They then proceeded to Youth Training Camp (Thuwunna) and cordially greeted Myanmar Track and



Vice-President U Nyan Tun inspects preparatory tasks at Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna) in Thingangyun Township.—MNA



Field athletes and coaches.

Vice-President U Nyan Tun then inspected repair and extension of stand at Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna). He then met presidents of sports federations at Ruby Hall in National Indoor Stadium (1) Thuwunna.

Chairman of the Leading Committee for Organizing the XXVII SEA Games Chairman of Myanmar National Sports Committee Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan said about 30 out of 42 sports federations in Myanmar are preparing to take part and secure victory in the SEA Games.

Patron of the Leading

Committee for Organizing XXVII SEA Games Vice-President U Nyan Tun called for rejuvenating the glorious days in Myanmar sports history. He said that sports largely contributes fitness and wellness of individuals and is a major facilitator to life quality of a society, citing the interrelationship between sports activities, public trust and well-being in a nation.

Every nation, therefore, is placing emphasis on high standard of sports and encouraging active participation of the public in sports. Myanmar is also striving for promotion of sports standards as a national

(See page 9)

Taleban attacks Afghan-NATO base in eastern province, 11 killed

JALALABAD, 2 Dec— At least 11 people were killed when Taleban militants armed with suicide vests and weapons stormed an Afghan-NATO base in Jalalabad, the capital city of Afghanistan's eastern province of Nangarhar, Sunday morning.

A total of 11 people including nine attackers and two civilians were killed in Sunday morning's attack in the joint base, local media Tolo News reported.

The attack began at

around 6:00 am local time when two suicide bombers hit their explosive-laden vehicles into separate entrances of the base, sparking a gunfight between the militants and security forces, the report said, citing unknown sources.

No casualty reports on Afghan and NATO forces were immediately available. However, it is said that at least one Afghan soldier was killed and several other foreign and Afghan soldiers were wounded in the incident

in the city, some 120 km east of the Afghan capital Kabul.

NATO helicopters were hovering over the area and fired on the attackers, a witness told Xinhua, adding that the blasts caused a plume of grey smoke above the scene. It was not known whether the attackers breach in the base which is the main base in eastern provinces.

Government troops immediately cordoned off the area shortly after the blasts.

Xinhua

Summary of observations at 9.30 hr MST on 2-12-2012

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec— During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershower have been fairly widespread in Shan State, scattered in Mandalay and Bago Regions, Rakhine and Kayah States, isolated in Magway, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions with isolated heavyfalls in Mandalay Region and Rakhine State and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States. Night temperatures were 45°C above December

average temperatures in Bago and Yangon Regions, Rakhine and Kayah States, 5°C to 6°C above December average temperatures in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway and Ayeyawady Regions, Northern Shan, Chin and Mon States, 8°C

above December average temperatures in Kayah State, 9°C to 10°C above December average temperatures in Shan (Eastern and Southern) and about December average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States.

NLM

Significant night temperatures

(2-12-2012)

Haka		3°C
Putao		8°C
Katha		8°C

Women's vocational training course concludes in Lahe

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec — A closing ceremony of advanced tailoring course No (17/2012) and basic vocational training course No (221/2012), organized by Women's Vocational

Training School of Naga Self-Administered Zone, was held at the training school in Lahe on 30 November.

First, the Chairman of the leading body of Naga Self-Administered Zone spoke on

the occasion, and presented a set of sewing machine each to two outstanding trainees. So far, the school has produced 512 trainees through various training courses.

MNA

Meiktila celebrates floating lotus-shaped oil lamp ceremony

MEIKTILA, 2 Dec — As a gesture of celebrating the Tazaungdine Festival, Meiktila dwellers organized a ceremony to set their lotus-shaped oil cup afloat on the lake near Moegaung Pagoda from 27 to 29 November. On the Fullmoon Day

of Tazaungmon, merry-makers thronged to take part in the ceremony.

"The ceremony is annually held in Tazaungdine Festival since 21 years ago. Even those who have been away from their native town participate

in the ceremony without fail. This is the festival of all of dwellers, urban and rural alike", a vendor said. In the ceremony, participants set their boat-shaped and lotus-shaped paper cups adrift on the lake.

Kyemon



Multipurpose stoves for Kuni model village

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec — As a drive for implementing the rural region development and poverty alleviations scheme initiated by the State, Arid Zone Greening Department of the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry distributed multipurpose-use stoves to the local people and conducted educative talks on environmental conservation at Kuni Village in Mahlaing Township of Meiktila District in Mandalay Region on 27 November.

At a ceremony to launch a campaign to raise public awareness of environmental conservation, the deputy commissioner of the District General Administration Department and township administrator spoke on the occasion. Then Deputy Director of Meiktila District Arid Zone Greening Department U Soe Tint (1) gave talks on knowledge about environmental conservation activities, and

gave away 80 multipurpose-use stoves to locals. The Mahlaing Township Staff officer explained how to designate a village as a model village.

It had been arranged to distribute 640 stoves in the district in 2012-2013 fiscal year, and a total of 480 stoves have been distributed up to date. — Kyemon

Pencak Silat athletes make triumphant return to home

YANGON, 2 Dec — After taking part in 15th World Pencak Silat Championship 2012 held at Ching Rai of Thailand from 19 to 27 November, the victorious Myanmar sports team led by Joint Secretary U Aung Naing Oo of Myanmar Martial Art Federation arrived back here at 8.15 pm on 26 November. They were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by member of Myanmar Olympic Committee Vice-President of Myanmar Women's Sports Federation

Daw L Khun Yi, MWSF Vice-President Daw Yut Hsai Eine, Patron of MMAF Daw Nu Nu Htwe and officials and family members of athletes.

Myanmar martial art team comprising nine men and five women competed in the championship. Ma Thin Myat Aye (Agriculture & Irrigation) won gold medal in 70-75 kilos women's Tanding event. Ye Thiha (Defence) in 80-85 kilo men's Tanding event, Tun Naing Lin (Defence) in 50-55 kilos men's Tanding



Umbrella-hoisting ceremony of Thakyamarazein Pagoda in Kayan

KAYAN, 2 Dec — To mark the successful completion of renovation tasks, a ceremony to hoist a Shwehtidaw (golden umbrella), a Hngetmyatnadaw (pennant-shaped vane) and a Seinbudaw (diamond orb) atop of the pagoda was held at the compound of the pagoda on Fullmoon Day of Tazaungmone, attended by members of the Sangha

and members of the board of trustees of the pagoda.

Firstly, a merits-sharing ceremony took place at the Sasana Beikman of the pagoda. Next, Honourable Patron of the board of trustees of the pagoda Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Maung Maung Thein supplicated on religious matters to the members of the Sangha and explained

the purpose of donation.

Then Shwehtidaw Hngetmyatnadaw and Seinbudaw were hoisted atop of the pagoda. While hoisting ceremony was in progress, Mandalay Thein Zaw and vocalists sang Dhamma songs. After the ceremony, the congregation enjoyed breakfast and refreshment.

Kyemon

Yangon Railway Station sees book corner

YANGON, 2 Dec — The opening of a book corner on the No-1 Platform of Yangon Railway Station was held at 1 pm on 30

November.

Director-General of Information and Public Relations Department U Tint Swe, Chairman of Myanmar Libraries Foundation U Maung Maung, Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Writers Association U Ohn Maung (Myinmu Maung

Naing Moe) and Deputy Superintendent of Yangon Railway Station U Ye Lwin formally opened the book corner. Plans are underway to open a book corner at the passenger lounge of Yangon International Airport by Myanmar Libraries Foundation. — Kyemon

Urn of singer Khin Maung Toe set adrift in the water

SAGAING, 2 Dec — A ceremony to float the urn of well-known singer U Khin Maung Toe in the water was held at Mingun Village of Sagaing Township on the Fullmoon day of Tazaungmon. He died on 15 November while receiving medical treatment in Singapore.

In memory of late U Khin Maung Toe, his wife Daw Wai Wai Khine and family performed meritorious deeds

at Dhamma Nada monastery in Mingun Moemeik region in the morning on that day. In the evening, they floated the urn down the Ayeyawady river upstream of Pahtodawgyi.

Singer U Khin Maung Toe was born in Mawlaik of Sagaing Region in 1950. He became famous for his own tune songs. He died at the age of 63, leaving his wife Daw Wai Wai Khine and three children. — Kyemon

Photo shows new arrival of onions from Yawchaung and Kyawchaung in Yesagyo Township at Myoma Market of Pakokku on 30 November. — KYEMON



event and Ma Thet Wai Oo (Agriculture & Irrigation) in 65-70 kilo women's Tanding event bagged bronze medals respectively. Myanmar team won a gold and three bronze medals, standing sixth among 24 countries from Europe, Asia and Southeast Asia. Myanmar had participated in the world championship for three times and won three silver and two bronze so far. This year's championship brought Myanmar's medal tally to nine — a gold, three silver and five bronze. Four Myanmar referees acted as international ones at the championship. — Kyemon



WORLD

Yemen's main oil pipeline bombed shortly after repairs: official **Yemen**

SANAA, 2 Dec—Yemen's main oil export pipeline was blown up again shortly after engineers had repaired it, the state-run *Saba* news agency reported on Saturday.

The fresh attack, the fourth of its kind in less than a month, hit the same pipeline on Friday in the northeast province of Marib, highlighting the persistent insecurity in Yemen one year after the country's political upheaval.

"The security services in Marib accused Mohammed Hassan Kalfout of bombing

the pipeline at Kilo 39 area on Friday, just half an hour after the engineers finished fixing the line from damages of previous bombings occurred on 11 Nov," *Saba* said, citing an interior ministry statement.

Kalfout is a well-known tribesman from the powerful Wadi Abida tribe in Marib, for which local authorities blamed the previous attacks on the pipeline despite the government reinforcements to secure line and repair work.

Officials said the angry tribesmen launched the at-

tacks in retaliation for a death sentence against two members of their clan, whom the government authorities have accused of joining al-Qaeda local branch and killing several soldiers over the past two years.

The 272-mile (about 438 km) pipeline carries about 110,000 barrels of oil a day from the oilfields of Marib to the Ras Isa export terminal on the Red Sea.

In August, the pipeline resumed full capacity operation after a nine-month closure due

to repeated attacks during the popular protests last year that forced former President Ali Abdullah Saleh to step down. His then deputy, Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi, was elected in February as the new president.

Hadi's transitional government, which depends on oil exports for up to 70 percent of its budget, is struggling to launch a UN-backed reconciliation national dialogue planned for December to reunite the divided army and restructure the constitutional institutions.—*Xinhua*



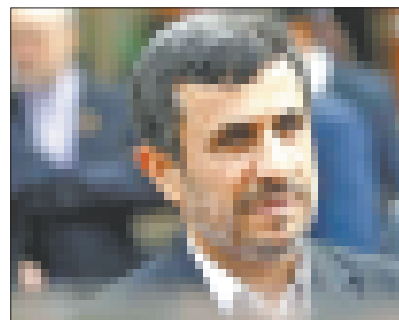
Belgian Prime Minister Elio Di Rupo (2nd L) talks with young volunteers during a rally to mark the 25th World AIDS Day in Brussels, capital of Belgium on 1 Dec, 2012.

XINHUA

Iran's Ahmadinejad gives new job to aide seen as possible heir **Iran**

DUBAI, 2 Dec— Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has moved his chief of staff, seen as a potential successor and a target of criticism from hardline conservatives, to another job, according to the president's official website on Saturday.

Esfandiar Rahim Mashaie has provoked the ire of Ahmadinejad's conservative rivals, who accuse him of trying to undermine Iran's theocratic system. Ahmadinejad has defended his closest aide throughout the attacks. In a statement on Saturday, Ahmadinejad thanked Mashaie for his service, appointing him to a position in the Non-Aligned Movement, the 120-member bloc of countries whose rotating chair is held by Iran.



Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad leaves after a meeting with Vietnam's National Assembly's Chairman Nguyen Sinh Hung in Hanoi on 10 Nov, 2012.

REUTERS

"I consider knowing and working with you to be a divine gift and great honor," Ahmadinejad wrote in the statement addressed to Mashaie.

Ahmadinejad, who has faced criticism from conservative rivals in parliament over his economic performance, is finishing his last year in office and by law cannot run again in presidential elections due in June 2013. Some analysts, and

Ahmadinejad's rivals, believe he has been grooming Mashaie to succeed him. Conservative politicians and allies of Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei have accused Mashaie of leading a "deviant current" bent on undermining the political role of the clergy, the ultimate authorities in Iran. He has been criticized for emphasizing the nationalist strain of Iranian history and culture over religion.—*Reuters*

South Korean sailors freed by Somali pirates after 19 months **S Korea**

SEOUL, 2 Dec— Four South Korean sailors abducted by Somali pirates 19 months ago were released on Saturday, South Korea's Foreign Ministry said.

The *MT Gemini*, a tanker operated by Singapore-based Glory Ship Management, was hijacked by the pirates on 30 April, 2011, with the four sailors, along with 21 non-Korean crew members, while heading to Malaysia from Kenya.

The pirates freed the vessel seven months later along with the non-Korean sailors, but kept the four Koreans captive, breaching an earlier agreement to release all crew members.

"All four (South Korean) sailors have been freed

on Saturday," a ministry statement said.

It added the sailors, now on a South Korean navy destroyer, would return to Seoul by air once health checks and other procedures were completed.

South Korea's *Yonhap* news agency and other media quoted Seoul officials as saying the sailors appeared to be in good health and that the government backed the Singapore company in ne-

gotiations with the pirates. There was no information on whether a ransom had been paid.

South Korea has deployed a navy destroyer with about 300 troops in the Gulf of Aden since early 2009 to comply with a US-led multinational campaign to quell frequent piracy by the Somalis, a legacy of the country's two-decade civil war.

Reuters

UN Security Council hails continued Iraq-Kuwait cooperation in resolving bilateral outstanding issues

UNITED NATIONS, 2 Dec— The UN Security Council on Saturday welcomed "the continued cooperation of the governments of Iraq and Kuwait" in resolving their bilateral outstanding issues after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in 1990.

The 15-nation council, in a press statement issued here, said, "The members of the Security Council welcomed the continued cooperation of the governments of Iraq and Kuwait, and Iraq's continued commitment to full implementation of its outstanding obligations under the relevant Chapter VII Security Council resolutions."

The Security Council "called on both States to continue to act in a spirit that builds further confidence and cooperation, which should contribute to the strengthening of their good-neighbourly relations and enhancing regional stability," the statement said.

"The members of the Security Council recognized Kuwait's cooperation to support the Iraq-Kuwait Boundary Maintenance Project and called on Iraq to complete the field maintenance work in a timely manner," the statement said.

Kuwait Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled al-Hamad al-Sabah said Kuwait is ready to end the outstanding issues with Iraq in accordance with the international resolutions issued after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, the Iraqi state-run *al-Sabah* newspaper reported on 19 November.

The two countries recently made tangible strides that might contribute to solve the issues, including striking a 500-million-US dollar deal for the standoff with the Iraqi Airways, which prevented the Iraqi planes from flying to destinations in the West.

Xinhua

Syria rebels bombed as opposition open to peacekeepers **Syria**

BEIRUT, 2 Dec— Syrian jets bombed rebel-held areas of Damascus on Saturday, residents said, as the opposition indicated it could accept an international peacekeeping force if President Bashar al-Assad is forced from power.

Warplanes attacked the Damascus suburbs of Kafar Souseh and Darraya, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, an opposition-linked group. The air strikes follow intensified rebel activity in the capital, Assad's seat of power, as well as successful stormings of government military bases in recent weeks.

"Syrian regular forces are trying to control the areas surrounding the capital," the Observatory said. Bombings targeted a continuous arc of rebel presence in the capital's outer districts from the northeast to the southwest.

Activists reported clashes and air strikes in the prov-

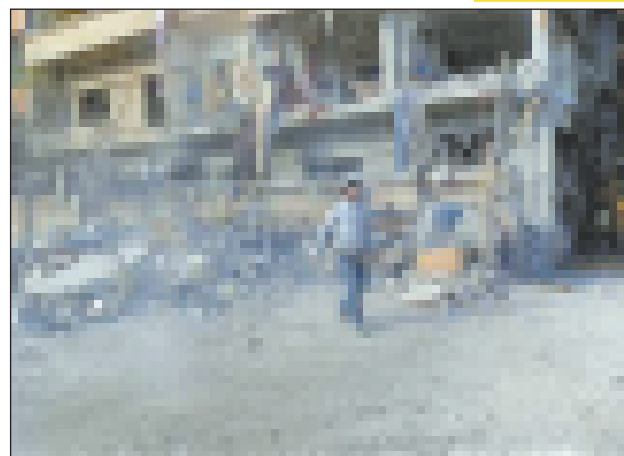
inces of Homs, Deir al-Zor, Idlib and in Aleppo, where they said 14 rebel fighters were killed during an assault on an army base in the town of Khanasser early on Saturday.

It is difficult to verify such reports due to government restrictions on media access to Syria.

Syria's Internet connections began working again on Saturday after a two-day blackout, the worst communications outage in the 20-month-old uprising against Assad in which 40,000 people have been killed and hundreds of thousands forced to flee the country.

Opposition umbrella group the Syrian National Coalition might allow an international peacekeeping force into Syria if Assad and his allies leave power, coalition spokesman Walid al-Bunni said on Saturday.

Some opposition mem-



A man carrying a shovel, walks near buildings damaged after what activists said was a Syrian Air Force fighter jet operated by those loyal to Syria's President Bashar al-Assad, fired missiles in Daria, near Damascus on 29 Nov, 2012.

REUTERS

bers have argued against international troops, saying their arrival could serve as a rallying call for Assad loyalists in an area near the Mediterranean where many of his minority Alawite sect live. Assad, whose family has ruled autocratically for four decades, draws much

of his support from the sect, an offshoot of Shi'ite Islam. Most of the rebels are Sunni Muslims.

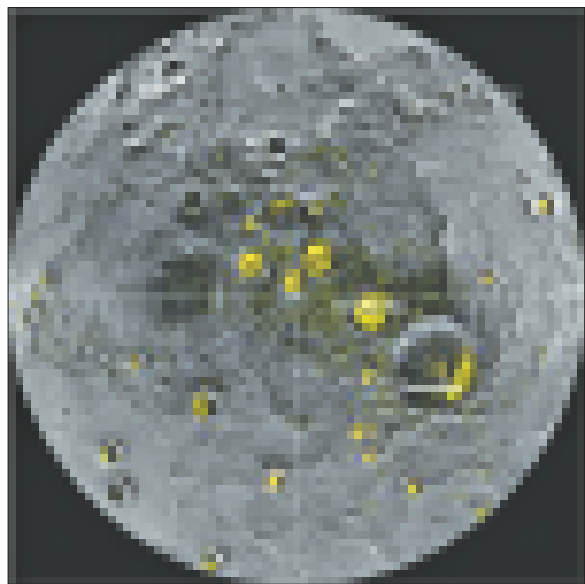
Bunni said the coalition was open to any proposal if Assad and his allies, including top officers in the military and security apparatus, were removed.—*Reuters*

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Science

NASA probe reveals organics, ice on Mercury

CAPE CANAVERAL, 2 Dec—Despite searing daytime temperatures, Mercury, the planet closest to the sun, has ice and frozen organic materials inside



A radar image of Mercury's north polar region acquired by the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico is shown superposed on a mosaic of Mercury MESSENGER images of the same area in this NASA handout photo released on 29 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

permanently shadowed craters in its north pole, NASA scientists said on Thursday.

Earth-based telescopes have been compiling evidence for ice on Mercury for 20 years, but the finding of organics was a surprise, say researchers with NASA's MESSENGER spacecraft, the first probe to orbit Mercury.

Both ice and organic materials, which are similar to tar or coal, were believed to have been delivered millions of years ago by comets and asteroids crashing into the planet.

"It's not something we expected to see, but then of course you realize it kind of makes sense because we see this in other places," such as icy bodies in the outer solar system and in the nuclei of comets, planetary scientist David Paige, with

the University of California, Los Angeles, told Reuters.

Unlike NASA's Mars rover Curiosity, which will be sampling rocks and soils to look for organic materials directly, the MESSENGER probe bounces laser beams, counts particles, measures gamma rays and collects other data remotely from orbit.

The discoveries of ice and organics, painstakingly pieced together for more than a year, are based on computer models, laboratory experiments and deduction, not direct analysis.

"The explanation that seems to fit all the data is that it's organic material," said lead MESSENGER scientist Sean Solomon, with Columbia University in New York.

Reuters

Solar cell cloth Photo News



Photo shows cloth inweaved with fibers of a solar cell battery in Fukui City on 29 Nov, 2012. The product was developed by institutes including the Industrial Technology Centre of Fukui Prefecture.

KYODO NEWS

Twitter in legal spat over data clampdown Tech

SAN FRANCISCO, 2 Dec—Twitter Inc's steadily tightening grip over the 140-character messages on its network has set off a spirited debate in Silicon Valley over whether a social media company should or should not lay claim over its user-generated content.

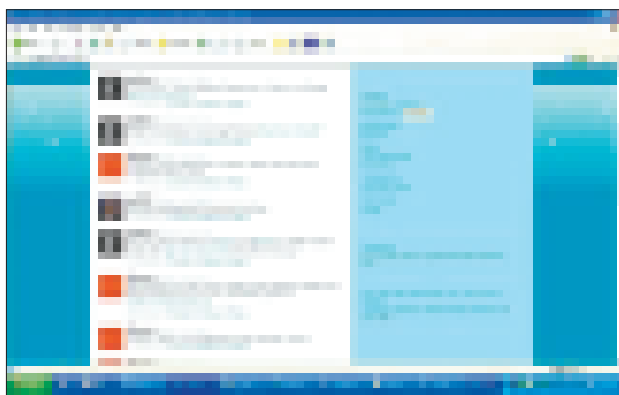
That debate has now landed in court.

A San Francisco judge on Wednesday granted a temporary restraining order compelling Twitter to continue providing access to its "Firehose"—the full daily stream of some 400 million tweets—to PeopleBrowsr Inc, a data analytics firm that sifts through Twitter and resells

that information to clients ranging from technology blogs to the US Department of Defence.

As part of a broader revenue-generating strategy, Twitter in recent months has begun clamping down on how its data stream may be accessed, to the dismay of many third-party developers who have built businesses and products off of Twitter's Firehose.

PeopleBrowsr, which began contracting Firehose access in July 2010, has continued to buy Twitter data on a month-to-month basis until this July, when Twitter invoked a clause in the agreement that allowed



A Twitter page shows an entry from European Council President Herman Van Rompuy in Brussels on 11 March, 2011.—REUTERS

for terminating the contract without cause. The court's decision to extend the two San Francisco-based companies' contract has not

settled the legal spat; a judge will hear PeopleBrowsr's arguments for a preliminary injunction against Twitter on 8 January.—Reuters

Tech Samsung says to fix outsourcing issues, but keep most production inhouse

SEOUL, 2 Dec—Samsung Electronics Co plans to keep the bulk of its manufacturing inhouse but reiterated a pledge to improve working conditions at its suppliers after admitting excessive overtime and fines for employees in China, a senior executive said on Friday.

New York-based China

suppliers in China.

"We're working with them to change these practices and introduce a better work environment," Mok, vice president of human resources, told Reuters in an interview.

"There were indeed some cases of excessive overtime work. When workers have to work weekends, for example,



An employee of Samsung Electronics walks past the company main office in Seoul April 6, 2010.—REUTERS

Labour Watch (CLW) said employees at one of Samsung's suppliers sometimes worked up to 16 hours a day, with only one day's rest a month.

That prompted an investigation in September by Samsung of its suppliers in China.

"There was common use of a system of penalties (at our suppliers in China) for being late or producing faulty products, which is improper practice under global standards but somewhat general practice under local regulations," said Mok Jangkyun, who led the team of over 100 auditors to inspect Samsung's 105

due to a temporary spike in orders, overtime work reached 32 hours a week or 100 hours a month," he said.

"We've recommended they hire more workers, introduce automation and improve production processes to fix this. We are also working on guidelines to gradually reduce overtime work hours."

Samsung produces more than 40 percent of its goods in China including its popular Galaxy S smartphones, home appliances and chips. But most of that is in its own plants, with outsourcing accounting for less than 10 percent of total production.

Reuters

How a desperate HP suspended disbelief for Autonomy deal

Tech

SAN FRANCISCO/NEW YORK/LONDON, 2 Dec—For Leo Apotheker, the former Hewlett-Packard CEO, a July 2011 meeting with Autonomy founder Mike Lynch at a chic seaside resort in France was pivotal to his effort to remake a storied technology giant.

In the nine months since taking the helm at HP, Apotheker had tried furiously to find a way to move the lumbering company away from its low-margin computer hardware business and into the lucrative corporate software and services arena.

Apotheker was looking for a big, transformative acquisition, two people familiar with the situation said, and after overtures

to several companies went nowhere, he set his sights on Autonomy.

After two months of negotiations on what was known at HP as "Project Tesla," Apotheker sat down

with Lynch at a hotel in Deauville on the Normandy coast — and shook hands on what would become a \$11.1 billion deal.

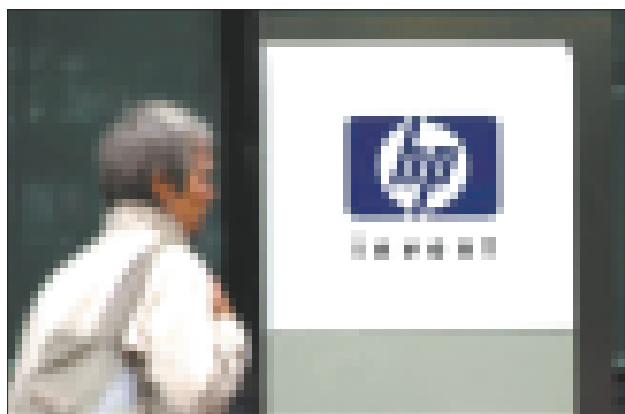
The Autonomy takeover was indeed a

bombshell—but not in the way that Apotheker had hoped.

When it was announced in August 2011, HP's stock plummeted amid withering criticism of the price tag. Within weeks, Apotheker was out of a job. Within months, Lynch and his new masters at HP were at war.

Inside a year, Lynch had been forced out and HP was investigating allegations of major accounting irregularities at Autonomy. That culminated in HP saying last week it was writing off more than three-quarters of the value of Autonomy, and telling US and UK regulators about alleged accounting fraud.

Reuters



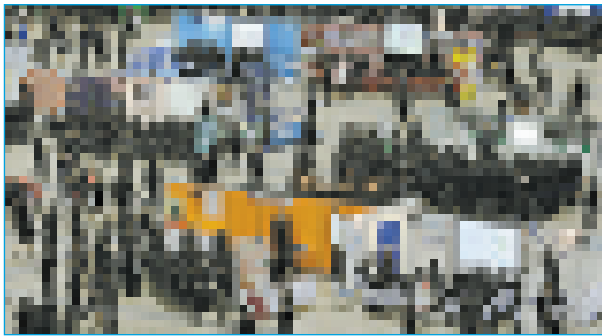
A woman walks past the Hewlett Packard logo at its French headquarters in Issy le Moulineaux, western Paris, in this 16 Sept, 2005 file photograph.

REUTERS

BUSINESS & HEALTH

University students start job hunting for spring 2014

Photo News



TOKYO, 2 Dec—A job fair participated in by about 240 companies is held for university students in Tokyo's Koto Ward on 1 Dec, 2012, as major Japanese businesses opened their doors the same day for official recruitment events targeted mainly at university students in their third year looking for jobs after their graduation in spring 2014. *Kyodo News*

HPV tied to throat cancers

Health

NEW YORK, 2 Dec—A sexually transmitted infection usually thought of in connection to cervical cancer is also tied to a five times greater risk of cancer of the vocal chords or voice box, a report suggests.

Combining the results of 55 studies from the past two decades, Chinese researchers found 28 percent of people with laryngeal cancers had cancerous tissue that tested positive for human papillomavirus (HPV).

But that rate varied widely by study, from no throat cancer patients with HPV to 79 percent with the infection.

"We're finding that HPV appears to be linked to a number of squamous cell carcinomas of the head, neck and throat," said Dr William Mendenhall, a radiation oncologist from the University of Florida in Gainesville who didn't participate in the analysis.

However, he told *Reuters Health*, "I think the risk of HPV on laryngeal cancer is probably relatively low. Most of the patients we see currently that come in with laryngeal cancer have a strong history of cigarette smoking, also heavy drinking."

Along with tobacco and alcohol, having a poor diet and exposure to certain chemicals can increase a person's risk of laryngeal and other head and neck cancers.

The American Cancer Society estimates 12,360 people will be diagnosed with laryngeal cancer in the United States in 2012 and that there will be 3,650 deaths from the disease.

Along with their larger review, researchers led

by Dr Xiangwei Li, from the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences and Peking University Medical College in Beijing, analyzed 12 studies that compared cancerous and non-cancerous tissues from a total of 638 patients. They found the cancerous throat tissue had 5.4 times the odds of testing positive for HPV infection, compared to non-cancerous tissue.

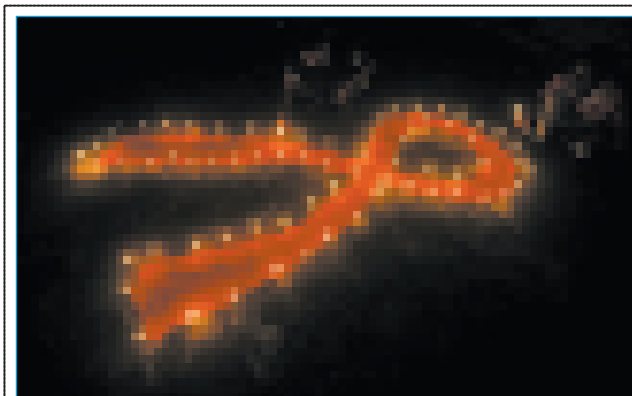
The analysis was published last week in the *Journal of Infectious Diseases*.

Mendenhall said that of all head and neck cancers, HPV seems to play the biggest role not in laryngeal cancer, but in cancer of the tonsils and back of the tongue.

However, he added, "the exposure is probably decades earlier. Someone who develops a base of tongue cancer when they're 50, they probably were exposed to the virus years before, in their teens or 20s."

At least half of sexually-active people get HPV at some point in their lives, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), but the virus is usually cleared by the immune system. Only some of the 40-plus HPV strains have been tied to cancer.

Reuters



Activists from a non-governmental organization (NGO) light candles during an AIDS awareness campaign on the eve of World AIDS Day in Agartala, capital of India's northeastern state of Tripura on 30 Nov, 2012. *REUTERS*

Wall Street ends flat as "fiscal cliff" focus lingers

Business

NEW YORK, 2 Dec—The S&P 500 wrapped up its fifth positive month in the last six on Friday, although it ended the day flat as politicians remain at odds about how to avoid the so-called fiscal cliff.

Trading has been choppy in the last two weeks as investors react to statements from policymakers on the state of discussions on how to avert a series of tax hikes and spending cuts that could pull the economy back into recession.

The S&P 500 was up 0.29 percent in November even as it suffered a slide of more than 6 percent from the month's high to its low.

"Given the 'on again, off again' fiscal cliff (negotiations), it's rather surprising how resilient this market has been," said David Rolfe, chief investment officer at St Louis-based Wedgewood Partners.

"Between now and the end of the year, there's going

to be an information vacuum outside the fiscal cliff, and I believe that resiliency will be tested."

In contrast to the apparent calm in equities, the CBOE Volatility Index .VIX, a gauge of market anxiety, jumped 5.4 percent, its largest daily gain in two weeks.

The VIX also rose for the week, but posted a whopping 14.7 percent decline for November.

On Friday, President Barack Obama accused a "handful of Republicans" in the US House of Representatives of holding up legislation to extend tax cuts for middle-class Americans in order to try to preserve them for the wealthy.

Speaking shortly after the president, House Speaker John Boehner, an Ohio Republican, said: "There is a stalemate; let's not kid ourselves."

Despite the divisive

Investment limit in govt, corporate bonds to be raised

Business



An employee sorts Indian currency notes at a cash counter inside a bank in Agartala on 18 Feb, 2010. *REUTERS*

MUMBAI, 2 Dec—The government will raise the limit on foreign investments in government and corporate bonds by \$5 billion each, said a finance ministry official who declined to be named, in a move intended to attract more funds into the country.

India currently caps the total amount that foreign institutional investors can

buy in domestic debt at \$65 billion, which is distributed through categories of government, corporate and infrastructure bonds, some of which include tenor or lock-in restrictions.

The increase in limits will be effective in the next seven to ten days, the official said on Friday.

Reuters

language, many market participants are betting that a deal will be struck — if only at the eleventh hour.

Corporations continue to react to what is expected to be a harsher tax regime next year. Whole Foods Market (WFM.O) was the latest to announce a special cash dividend — of \$2.00 per share in this case — ahead of expected higher tax rates in 2013.

The Dow Jones

industrial average .DJI rose 3.76 points, or 0.03 percent, to 13,025.58 at the close. The S&P 500 .SPX gained a mere 0.23 of a point, or 0.02 percent, to finish at 1,416.18. But the Nasdaq Composite Index .IXIC dipped 1.79 points, or 0.06 percent, to end at 3,010.24.

For the month of November, the S&P 500 rose 0.29 percent, its smallest monthly variation since March 2011.—*Reuters*



Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, on 27 Nov, 2012. —*REUTERS*

AMR wants keep control over bankruptcy through

11 March Business

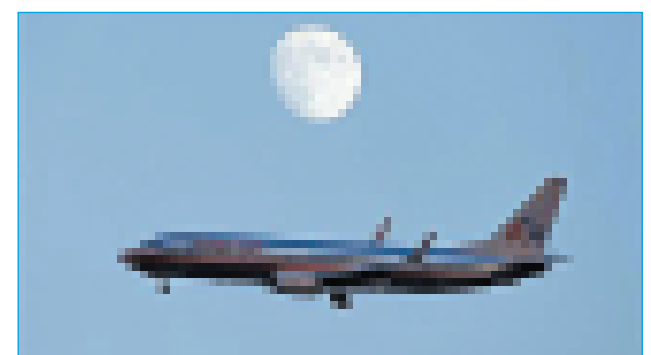
NEW YORK, 2 Dec—American Airlines' bankrupt parent has asked a judge to extend by six weeks, through 11 March, the period in which it has the exclusive right to propose a plan to exit bankruptcy.

The request, made jointly with its creditors' committee, was filed on Friday in US Bankruptcy Court in Manhattan. The current exclusive window is set to end on 28 January. AMR Corp (AAMRQ.PK) filed for bankruptcy a year ago in hopes

that discussions with creditors on how to bring AMR out of bankruptcy are progressing cooperatively, if a bit slower than initially expected.

"American and the (creditors' committee) believe that the proposed extensions will facilitate the expedition of the chapter 11 cases and benefit all parties in interest," the filing said. Sean Collins, a spokesman for American, said in a statement that the company "has made significant progress in its restructuring."

"The work, while



An American Airlines passenger jet glides in under the moon as it lands at LaGuardia airport in New York, on 28 Aug, 2012.—*REUTERS*

of reducing labour costs and returning to profitability.

Its smaller competitor, US Airways Group Inc (LCC.N), is making a push to acquire it out of bankruptcy. AMR said earlier this year it would prefer to exit as a standalone company, but is discussing merger options, including with US Airways.

Friday's filing is a sign

progressing well, takes time," he said. The exclusivity period bars creditors and other parties from proposing their own plans for how AMR should exit bankruptcy. That effectively blocks US Airways from making a hostile bid, as any merger plan unveiled during exclusivity would have to be proposed by AMR itself.

Reuters

Kansas City Chiefs' Belcher in fatal double shooting

US

KANSAS CITY, 2 Dec—Kansas City Chiefs starting linebacker Jovan Belcher shot his girlfriend to death, then drove to the team training facility and killed himself in front of the coach and general manager in a burst of violence on Saturday that stunned the NFL and its fans.

There was no immediate indication from police or others what prompted the 25-year-old Belcher to shoot Kasandra Perkins, 22 with whom he had a 3-month-old child, in the house they shared in Kansas City about 2

miles from the Chiefs' home field at Arrowhead Stadium.

Police spokesman Darin Snapp said Perkins' mother witnessed the killing and called police. Perkins had suffered multiple gunshot wounds and was pronounced dead at a hospital.

The mother told investigators that Perkins and Belcher had quarreled just before the shooting but that Belcher had never before been physically abusive with her daughter, Snapp added.

Belcher then drove his car to the team's training facility near the stadium,

where he encountered head coach Romeo Crennel and general manager Scott Pioli, then shot himself in the head just as police arrived.

"As officers pulled up and were getting ready to get out of their car, they heard a gunshot," Snapp said. "The individual, it appears, took his own life."

Snapp said Belcher had made no threats to Crennel, Pioli or other employees when he arrived. "He was just talking to them and thanking them for everything they had done for him," the police spokesman said.—Reuters



Kansas City media cover the scene of an apparent suicide of Kansas City Chiefs linebacker Jovan Belcher, who earlier shot and killed his girlfriend elsewhere in Kansas City Missouri on 1 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

UAE gov't seeks popular participation

DUBAI, 2 Dec—The Gulf state will continue to gradually broaden the popular participation in political decision-making, said United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed al-Nahyan, according to local news agency WAM.

In his greeting message for the UAE's 41st National Day, the president said the UAE political model was "truly nationalistic," preserving national identity and protecting established principles.

He said the UAE shall continue its efforts to reach a viable political model which reflects the Gulf state's realities and play in harmony with the nature of its own society.

In recent years, the UAE has expanded the powers of the 40 deputies, comprising Federal National Council (FNC). Since 2006, half of the UAE's FNC members are elected, and the remaining 20 council members are appointed by the rulers of the seven emirates which composite the UAE.

During the last election in September 2011, some 30 percent of all Emirati citizens were eligible to vote, representing an increase from 2.3 percent in 2006 when half of the FNC deputies were ever elected in the history of the UAE.

Xinhua

Xinhua



Su Wei (rear), deputy chief of the Chinese delegation to the Doha conference, talks during a media briefing on the progress of the first week's conference at the China Pavilion in Qatar National Convention Center (QNCC) in Doha, Qatar, on 1 Dec, 2012.

XINHUA

DOHA, 2 Dec—The first half of the Doha climate talks ended on Saturday without achieving any major progress on the future of the Kyoto Protocol, which is the world's only legally binding climate treaty. No breakthrough has been made during the first week on the extension of the Kyoto Protocol, a

meaningful completion of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Long-term Cooperative Action (LCA), or the funding issue, said Su Wei, China's chief climate negotiator and director-general of the Department of Climate Change of the National Development and Reform Commission.

"Parties' stands are not very clear at the initial stage of the negotiations," he said, adding that "We hope the ministerial meetings next week can lead to some consensus and solutions that can be accepted by all."

Up to now, developed countries are still reluctant to make further emission cuts pledge as urged by developing countries. The European Union (EU) has pledged to reduce its emissions by at least 20 percent by 2020, but set conditions for a further 30 percent cut.

The United States, despite President Barack Obama's pledge to lead in climate in his second term, is blocking progress towards a longer-term global deal; while Canada, Japan, New Zealand, among others, are still keeping away from the second commitment period

Doha climate talks end first half with no consensus

of the Kyoto Protocol.

Parties also divide on the length of the second period. The EU and the BASIC countries, including China, India, Brazil and South Africa, propose it should be eight years as it could then be linked with the existing 2020 targets; while some small, developing island states prefer a five-year period so as to push developed countries to take faster actions.

"As the second period is to launch on 1 Jan, 2013, we must reach some consensus on the issue as soon as possible," Su said.

It took eight years for some countries to ratify the first commitment period and it is not clear how long it needs to get the green light

for the second period.

Whether the surplus emissions allowances, or "hot air," from the first commitment period should be retired is also a controversy at Doha talks.

The G77 and China opposed trading carried-over hot air in the second commitment period. Europe is deeply split on the issue, while some other countries, including Russia, propose to profit from their surplus carbon dioxide allowances.

At the same time, the financial aid promised by developed countries to help the world's most vulnerable countries cope with climate change has not been fully delivered.

Xinhua

Xinhua

Death toll in Brazzaville plane crash rises to 32

Accident

BRAZZAVILLE, 2 Dec—The death toll in the cargo plane crash that occurred on Friday evening in capital of the Republic of Congo has risen to 32, according to an official from the Congolese Red Cross on Saturday.

The official who does not want to be named told Xinhua that among the deaths, there are six crew members and a number of other people aboard the plane.

Earlier, Rodolphe Adada, minister of the Republic of Congo's Transport and Civil Aviation who arrived at the scene of the accident on Saturday morning, said that the provisional death toll was

22, including seven crew members.

On Friday night, rescuers told Xinhua that 14 others were injured in the accident and were sent to hospitals nearby for treatment.

The aircraft crashed at around 5:30 local time (1630 GMT) on Friday during landing in a thunderstorm in Brazzaville. The spokesman for the Congolese police, Allakoua, said Saturday that due to a thunder-storm, the cargo plane failed to land successfully at the airport in Brazzaville and crashed when the pilot tried to take it back.

The plane crashed into a residential area in the Mselou

District of Brazzaville, about four kilometers away from the Maya-Maya Airport.

Aimer, a woman resident of Brazzaville whose house is located in the same area where the plane crashed, told Xinhua that everyone was scared. "We were shocked to see the plane coming down on some houses and all the people shouted and ran away."

"My uncle and nephew were killed," she said.

The Illiouchine aircraft, registered with a local company, Aero-Service, was on a flight from Pointe-Noire, a port city about 500 km southwest of Brazzaville, to the capital city.

Xinhua



A couple walk into a hall during a group wedding in Beijing, capital of China, on 1 Dec, 2012. Seven couples who are about 126-centimeter-tall from a Beijing shadow play troupe attended the group wedding on Saturday.

XINHUA

"Al-Qaeda-linked" Yemeni among four Pakistan drone strike dead

Yemen

PESHAWAR, 2 Dec—A missile fired from a drone killed four people, including a Yemeni fighter linked to al-Qaeda, when it hit their car in northern Pakistan on Saturday evening, intelligence and tribal sources said.

The strike at Sheen Warsak village in South Waziristan followed another drone attack in the same area two days earlier.

A Yemeni fighter called Abdul Rehman, allied to al-Qaeda, was among the dead, government and intelligence sources said.

It is difficult for journalists to verify the casualties from drone strikes since the government forbids foreign journalists from travelling to the area without a military escort and the Taliban often seal off the

sites of strikes.

Many Pakistanis say the strikes are a violation of national sovereignty and that civilian casualties encourage families seeking revenge to join the insurgency.

But the US says civilian deaths are minimal and the drones operate in areas outside of Pakistani government control.

Reuters

LOCAL NEWS

Monks at Monywa People's Hospital comforted by deputy ministers

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec— Deputy Minister for Health Dr U Win Myint and Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Dr U Maung Maung Htay today closely supervised the medical care for monks and two men receiving treatment at Monywa People's Hospital for injuries during the Lapadaungtaung copper mine issue.

The two deputy ministers discussed the matters related to the medical treatment at the hospital and provided the medicines for the hospital.

The deputy ministers viewed the monks undergoing treatment at the hospital and asked if there were necessities for the treatment.

The monks expressed their delight for the visit and comforts of the two deputy ministers and their



Deputy Ministers Dr U Win Myint and Dr U Maung Maung Htay comforting a person who is receiving medical treatment at Monywa People's Hospital.

MNA

satisfaction.

The two deputy ministers also comforted the two men.

At the hospital today, the deputy ministers

attended the ceremony to donate K 1.2 million for the patients under the medical treatment at Monywa People's Hospital by U Win Swe and Daw Khin San

Lwin of Mandalay, owner of the Chit Swe Furniture family at the office of the medical superintendent of the hospital.—MNA

Towards a Strong Future for Myanmar Movies workshop continues

YANGON, 2 Dec— The workshop on Towards a Strong Future for Myanmar Movies, jointly organized by the Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise and the Myanmar Motion Picture Organization and sponsored by Forever Group, continued at the Kandawgyi Palace Hotel, here, this morning.

Dr Aung Tun Thet clarified the arrangement

of its day and the scholars of home and foreign field, supervisors and attendees exchanged their views, which brought the workshop to a close.

At night, the Myanmar Motion Picture Organization hosted a dinner to the attendees at Royal Garden restaurant in Bogyoke Aung San Garden.

MNA

Traffic accident occurs on Thanthuma Road

YANGON, 2 Dec—A Collora van driven from Thuwunna park to Thingangyun bus terminal with high speed turned over between Waibula and Chanaye bus stops on Thanthuma Road in Thuwunna of Thingangyun

Township on 25 November. Due to out of tight rod, the van hit nine pieces of traffic island in the centre of the road and then turned over.

In the incident, the driver was injured and rushed to Thingangyun Sanpya Hospital.—Myanma Alinn

Sales of land plots in Thilawa Tatyagon Block clam down

YANGON, 2 Dec—The land plots of 40x60 feet in measurements from Tatyagon new block in Sancheinmi Ward No. 2 and No. 3 in Kyauktan near Thilawa Special Economic Zone in Kyauktan Township are marketable among the investors.

The owners of the land plot have not sold yet because they do not have reasonable prices, according to the real estate entrepreneurs of Kyauktan.

Inner areas of the new block can be sold at over K 10 million and the front rows about K 40 million.

As Mitsubishi and Marubeni companies of Japan plan to invest in

Thilawa Special Economic Zone, most of the plot owners are waiting for getting preferable prices.

A plot owner in Kyauktan Township said, "Now, land plots are rare in Yangon. Although automobiles can be manufactured one after another in minutes, land plots cannot be produced as much as they want. At present, soil test is being conducted in Thilawa Special Economic Zone to establish a Japan Automobile Manufacturing Company. So, most of the land plot owners are not interested in present street prices of plot. The prices offered by real estate services in the newspapers are difference from K 5

million in current prices."

Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development has reclaimed land plots in Sancheinmi Parts 1, 2 and 3, Tatyagon new block and Phalan new block in Kyauktan Township.

Of the, Tatyagon new block is located on both sides of Thanlyin-Kyauktan development road near Thilawa Special Economic Zone.

The block constituted with 1552 plots in 40x60 feet of measurements is earmarked to establish pagoda, monastery, lake, school, cinema, park, market and playground.

Myanma Alinn

Groundnut fetches good price

KYAUKPADAUNG, 2 Dec— Groundnut of three months old are now harvested in Kyaukpadaung Township of Mandalay Region and the farmers get good prices in

harvested. Early-monsoon groundnut was cultivated on 122,058 acres of farmlands across the township, but the droughts caused reduction of production.

(Any) of the nation suffered from lack of monsoon in the late-monsoon period, good production of three-month groundnut strain gets good price.—Myanma Alinn



sales of groundnut.

There are 11538 acres of groundnut in Kyaukpadaung Township. The groundnut yielded 45 baskets per acre. So far, over 7000 acres of groundnut has been

Brokerages of groundnut buy one basket of groundnut per K 6000-K 6500 and one viss of groundnut per K 1900 and one viss of groundnut oil per K 1650 to K 1700.

Although the dry region

Narcotic drugs seized in Momauk

MOMAUK, 2 Dec— Members of Bhamo Anti-Drug Special Squad and Momauk Police Station seized what suspected to be heroin from a passenger near the concrete bridge at the entrance to Momauk of Kachin State.

The Momauk mobile squad led by IP Aung Ko Naing and the squad by SIP Tun Tun Win of Momauk Police Station at 1 pm on 23 November searched Hilux driven by U Kyaw Win from Lwejel to Bhamo near the concrete bridge.

They seized 16 grams of suspected heroin from the soap box hidden in candy packets in the polyethylene bag and 7.6 grams of heroin of Ko Win Naing, totalling 23.6 grams. Momauk Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against Ko Win Naing, 40, of Magyigon Village in Mawlu Village tract in Indaw Township under Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.

Myanma Alinn

Two traffic accidents occur at junction of Ahlon, Strand Roads

YANGON, 2 Dec—Two trucks hit each other at the traffic light at the corner of Strand Road and Ahlon Road on 21 November morning.

At 8.45 am on 27 from 24 to 27 November.

The contest was packed with local people and tourists. Local people joyfully participated in the bull singles, cow singles and cart contests and officials awarded the winners.

Myanma Alinn

November, a container vehicle and a taxi crashed head-on at the same venue.

In the incident, the front part of the taxi reached under the container vehicle but there was no casualty.

Due to traffic accident, container vehicles, buses and other vehicles waited for clearing of traffic jam for minutes.

The local authorities and volunteers cleared the traffic jam dutifully.

A local said, "It is a point to entrance and exist of new Strand Road. So, traffic jams and blocks cause here severally.

Although there are traffic lights and traffic police station, traffic policemen are not assigned here permanently. We wish at least one traffic policeman should be assigned duty here at the traffic police so as to reduce traffic jams and blocks."—Myanma Alinn



TOUNGOO, 2 Dec—The bullock cart racing contest in commemoration of 502nd

anniversary of Ketumati Toungoo Palace was held at Maida Ground in Toungoo

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 3 December, 2012

Reader satisfaction

We can say that mass print media came into being after the invention of the printing press in the Holy Roman Empire by Johannes Gutenberg, a German, around 1440.

From that time on print media gradually developed till becoming the sole dominant information source and distributor on Earth for many years till the introduction a new technology called radio an effective tool for both information distribution and entertainment. But the radio cannot beat the print media which can be kept as records, and in some cases newspapers tell the history of a nation or the world itself.

As a result of constant technological advancement, the performance, functions and power of printing press grew more and more sophisticated, quality of paper, ink and other related materials further improved, thereby leading to the publication of quality periodicals, especially the newspapers.

After the inauguration of world's first working television system in Hastings, England, in 1923. TV became the number one enemy of print media. TV has many advantages as it shows moving images, and can broadcast live, current business and other important news, and breaking news in real time. Even with these advantages, TV cannot knock out the print media because of the latter's ever increasing role as a trustful information provider.

But the late comer, the electronic media, especially the Internet has taken the youth audience away from the print media. As we can follow a person in twitter who is an important source of information, even the journalists are relying more and more on it. Consequently, many renowned newspapers are facing decline in circulation. It is the hardest blow the print media has ever hit by a rival.

Anyhow, print media till has audience, and it will live as long as it serves the public interest or in other words "reader satisfaction" and wins public trust.

These latest technologies have consumed my time at the office, and I'm about to forget even my duties. Hehe... Hehe...



Cartoon
Maung Maung San Lwin
(GAD)

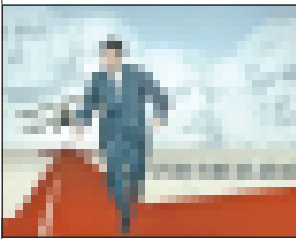
ARTICLE

From Hollywood and Bollywood to Koreans

Tin Maung Than

Now, Korean TV episodes or series are invading almost the whole Asia including Myanmar by storm, and they are gaining strong foothold in our country, especially, among the female population young and old. So what about the Myanmar film industry or Myanmar movies, as we have (I think) no notable Myanmar TV series yet.

I have seen parts of



Myanmar TV episodes (I think on Channel 7) created by local talents but unfortunately they are just the plain imitations of Koreans, or the second or even third class Koreans in Myanmar version. Sadly, some of our young generation wrongfully thinks that by directly imitating or carbon copying the Koreans, they can gain popularity. But in my view, if they even can gain popularity, it will be just for a short while. What matters is the perseverance, dedication, hard work and chance and to learn their ways that lifted them to international stage.

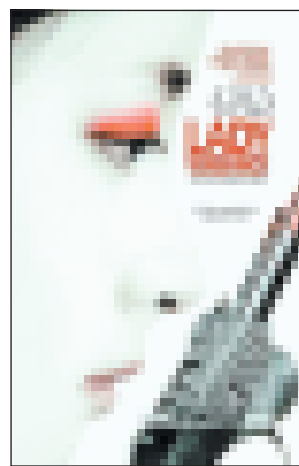
If Korean TV episodes are only in Korean language without any Myanmar subtitles, nobody will watch them as most of the TV sequences from the East Asian country showing in Myanmar are dramas rather than actions, audience can fully appreciate or feel the artistic essence only through excellent translation.

We Myanmar people are very good at copying other movies. When Indian movies were so popular

in Myanmar, we copied them. For example, we have *Aradhana* in our own style (including radio play), but it's just a carbon copy and not our own creation. *Aradhana* an Indian film cast by *Rajesh Khanna (deceased)* and *Sharmila Tagor was admired so much by our people that according to some sources the two film stars were invited to visit Myanmar.* And when Japanese movies were popular in our country we copied them.

Now, it is the turn of the South Koreans. But silver screen Korean movies are not popular in Myanmar, and most of us even don't know which Korean movie is famous or is a runaway success. There is no subtitle industry in Myanmar for foreign movies yet.

Without the help of



competent translators, we will not even know the theme of the story, as all the Korean TV episodes shown on Myawady TV, MRTV, MRTV-4 (fortunately MRTV-3 does not have Korean program), Channel 7, SkyNet or Series 5 are subtitled in Myanmar.

But the wonderful thing here is that we can appreciate or enjoy Hollywood movies or Bollywood movies without knowing any English or Hindu. These Hollywood and Bollywood



movies were showing on big silver screen without any Myanmar subtitles during the times when TV was not available in our country let alone Series-5, MRTV-4 and SkyNet channels showing every foreign story with Myanmar subtitles, and till now.

So, that's the significance of those movies. But, we will find it hard to enjoy Korean dramas or TV episodes without the help of Myanmar subtitles. Anyhow, we Myanmar people are already familiar with Hong Kong action movies in English or even in Cantonese versions especially films focusing on Jackie Chan or Jet Lee acrobatic stunts.

Myanmar was dominated by Hollywood movies and some Indian movies in the past. But our onscreen protagonists and even onscreen villains were never the second-class or third-class citizens of those two mighty global film industries.

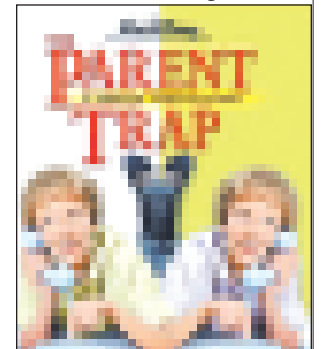
They were in their own style and creation. Even if the Myanmar movie world copied a Hollywood movie our men took only the theme, and not the whole script. They skillfully Myanmarized it.

For example, *Parent Trap*, *East Lane*, *Moment to Moment*, and *North by Northwest* were famous in many parts of the world then. But our artistes and technicians were good enough in adapting *Parent Trap* into *Hna-hmwa-a-the*,

East Lane into *Yadanabon*, *Moment to Moment* into *Tein-hlwa Moh-moh-lwin*, and *North by Northwest* into *Kyauk Baluhmint Pa Pa Win* very well. Amazingly, we could enjoy these adapted movies as real Myanmar stories even though we had already watched the original Hollywood movies. These movies were adapted so professionally and expertly that they left behind some sound bites we still remember today.

Yes our people love to watch movies and TV series, and they have been enjoying Hollywood blockbusters, Bollywood romance, Japanese dramas, Hong Kong actions and Korean series.

Now, we are an open society and not an insolated one any more. Accordingly, Myanmar movie world will work together or form joint ventures or establish closer relations with international counterparts. In consequence, the movie world needs wider working space and greater freedom for producing films with higher artistic value, more creativity, special effects, breathtaking stories, wonderful plots and



amazing twists and turns that may even attract at least the regional audience, if not the international so that they can serve as a nation branding tool apart from preserving and protecting our culture and identity.

Chinese Foreign Affairs Committee delegation arrives

YANGON, 2 Dec— A delegation led by Mr Xu Zhenhuan, delegation leader of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference

Mr Xu Zhenhuan, delegation leader of the Foreign Affairs Committee of CPPCC and party arrive at Yangon International Airport.—

MNA



(CPPCC), arrived here by air today. They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by U Khin Maung (a) U Aung Kyaw Oo, a representative of Amyotha Hluttaw and a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee of Amyotha Hluttaw, officials from the Hluttaw Office and officials from the Chinese embassy in Yangon.

The delegation visited Shwedagon Pagoda this evening.—MNA

NATIONAL

Translate challenges...

(from page 1)
duty, which calls for harmonious and combined efforts of the government, sports federations and public participation.

He underscored the need for proficiency and professional human resources as fundamental requirement for promotion of sports standard.

He said there would be talented youths who would become internationals in the country.

The requirement for the talented youths would be infrastructure, coaches who dedicated themselves to sports and smart managers. So fulfillment of sports equipment and regular organizing of sports competitions were needed.

He stressed the need

for sports management in which the recruitment of smart managers and qualified coaches for shaping the future talented youths, job creation for them and the carrot and stick approach are included.

He said he was very glad to see strenuous efforts being made by various sports federations, urging them to keep a sense of transforming the weak points into strong ones while their efforts were doomed to failure.

He pointed out three successes — successful holding of upcoming XXVII SEA Games as a host, grabbing of awards and national socioeconomic development through the competitions.

Although challenges come first before achieving



Vice-President U Nyan Tun cordially converses with athletes at Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna).

MNA

Follow-Up News

As regards the news “Daw Aung San Suu Kyi who is in Monywa this morning met with Chief Minister of Sagaing Region U Tha Aye at Win Unity Hotel in Monywa and held discussions” which appeared on sixth column of Page 9 of 1 December 2012 issue of this paper, it is learnt that she did not meet Chief Minister U Tha Aye.

Ed

success, the onus was on all of them to do their bit for translating those challenges into a golden opportunity that could bring about the historical event of the State.

He called for establishment of sustainable relationship

characterized by connectivity between government and sports federations and sports organizations and officials concerned, mutual understanding, collaboration, duties and responsibilities of individuals for development of sports

sector, responsibility and accountability to be held for financial and technical matters and mutual respects to be able to attend to the needs of both sides.

He vowed that the government, in its part, would fulfill the requirements

without delay.

Then the Vice-president cordially greeted presidents of sports federations.

MNA

Transparent sales of mobile phone stressed

YANGON, 2 Dec — Union Minister for Communications and Information Technology U Thein Tun called for transparency in sales of mobile phones as part of 3G mobile telephone communication network extension project.

He called for application of international standard equipment and timely completion of the project as he addressed the coordination meeting on 3G and 4G (LTE) mobile telephone communication network extension project.

He stressed the need for balance of supply and demand, demanding to open customer care centers to provide after-sale service.

As part of the project, 1.26 million 3G mobile telephone lines will be extended in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, and other major cities of regions and states. Moreover, 4G (LTE) mobile network will be proportionately included in the network for the sake of better connectivity in SEA Games to be held in Myanmar. —MNA



Union Minister for Communications and Information Technology U Thein Tun stresses need for sales of 3G mobile phones.—MNA

Wheelchair athletes honoured



NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec — To hail International Day of Persons With Disabilities which falls on 3 December 2012, a welcoming ceremony for disabilities sports athletes who took part in Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay-Nay Pyi Taw wheelchair performance trips with the arrangement of Shwemintha Foundation (Myanmar) was held at Thingaha Hotel this morning. Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin gave words of honour to them at

the ceremony.

Then, the Union Minister, Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Social Development Committee U Maung Maung Swe, Deputy Ministers Dr Ba Shwe and Daw Su Su Hlaing presented cash awards to 21 wheelchair users and two cyclists who partook in seven-night eight-day over 240 miles long Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw old Road and five-night six-day over 200 miles long Mandalay-Nay Pyi Taw old Road trips.—MNA

Union Minister for SWRR Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin garlands an athlete.—MNA

Road works in Magway Region gaining momentum

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec — Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin looked into progress of construction of new alignment for Nay Pyi Taw-Taungnyo-Myothit-Kanpya (Magway) road, putting a finishing touch on Sonchaung bridge (Taungdwingyi-Myothit) on Taungdwingyi-Myothit-Natmauk road, progress in upgrading of the 18-foot wide Malun-Migyaungye-Thityakauk road and putting a finishing touch on construction of Migyaungye bridge and approach road yesterday.

At Ayeyawady bridge (Malun) construction site, the Union minister oversaw tarmacking of approach road on the bank of Migyaungye, laying of concrete for decking slab joint between PR1 and PR6 of the main structure, installation of steel trusses between PR7 and PR8 and temporary support work for installation of more steel trusses.

Next, he inspected construction of Sitsano-Yaynanma-Kyaukpon-Kantoke road with heavy machinery and condition of Pathein-Monywa and Padan-Minbu roads.

MNA

Iran did not support PKK militants: lawmaker

Iran

TEHERAN, 2 Dec—An Iranian lawmaker has dismissed allegations that the Islamic republic supported militants of the Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK), Press TV reported on Saturday.

Mansour Haqiqatpour, deputy chairman of Iran's Majlis (parliament) National Security and Foreign Policy Commission, made the remarks in response to recent allegations by Turkish Interior Minister Idris Naim Sahin, who accused Iran of backing the PKK.

"Instead of accusing Iran of having ties with the PKK, Turkey should reconsider its wrong policies of interference in the internal affairs of the neighbouring countries," Haqiqatpour was quoted as saying.

He criticized Sahin's remarks as "psychological projection," adding that "the measures currently taken by the Turkish government in the neighbouring countries, including in Syria and Iraq, are by no means acceptable and they are the result of the

wrong policies adopted by the Turkish government."

Turkish officials have recently pointed out that Syria and Iran supported PKK in the region as a reprisal for Ankara's open criticism of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

The PKK, which took up arms in 1984 in an attempt to create an ethnic homeland in southeastern Turkey, has been listed as a terrorist organization by Turkey, the United States and the European Union.—Xinhua



Tourists heading for Wuzhizhou Island line up at a ferry pier in Sanya, south China's Hainan Province, on 1 Dec, 2012. Sanya has always been a winter tourism preference thanks to its tropical climate.—XINHUA



Job seekers ask about the recruitment information during a large-scale job fair in Chengdu, capital of southwest China's Sichuan Province, on 1 Dec, 2012. The job fair, with the participation of more than 800 employers providing 22,623 posts, was held here on Saturday.—XINHUA

Fiji urges developed countries to provide climate change financial resources

Fiji

SUVA, 2 Dec—Developed countries must provide scaled up, new, predictable and adequate financial resources to avoid a gap in their funding of adaptation and mitigation activities in developing countries, the Fijian government said on Sunday.

Together with members of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), Fiji was demanding that not only should developed countries deliver on their pledges, they must ensure that the additional climate finance is easily accessible with clear targets on its delivery over the next phase, Fiji's Ministry of Information said in a statement.

Developed countries in 2009 pledged at the Copenhagen United Nations climate change summit to provide "new, additional resources" of around 30 billion US dollars for the period 2010-2012, commonly called "fast-start finance". A 19-member delegation from Fiji has positioned itself at the negotiations to call on developed countries to address the "funding gap" between the end of fast-start finance this year and the 100 billion US dollars per year pledge

by 2020. In Doha, Qatar, the European Union stressed the bloc's financial support, saying it had contributed 9.3 million US dollars to the fast-start finance.

Marlene Moses, Nauru's permanent representative to the UN and AOSIS chairwoman, said they remained concerned over the progress of negotiations on finance, said the statement.

"Developed countries have committed to mobilize 100 billion dollars per year by 2020 to fund adaptation and mitigation in developing countries. We need concrete commitments and clarity on finance including a mid-term target to assess the fulfillment of progress towards the achievement of the 100 billion dollar goal," Moses told parties at a stocktaking plenary session in Doha on issues covered so far at the negotiations. "At Doha, developed countries should signal that the Green Climate Fund (GCF) will not be an empty shell by pledging towards its initial capitalization and mandating the Board of the Fund to initiate the Fund's replenishment process at its first meeting in 2013," Moses was quoted as saying.—Xinhua

Wildfire in Rocky Mountain National Park prompts evacuations

US

DENVER, 2 Dec—A wind-driven wildfire in Rocky Mountain National Park northwest of Denver jumped containment lines overnight, triggering the evacuation of hundreds of people on Saturday, fire officials said.

Wind gusts of more than 70 miles per hour blew flames from the so-called Fern Lake Fire close to dwellings and destroyed at least one cabin, said fire spokeswoman Traci Weaver.

The east side of the park was closed, and authorities called 1,100 cell and home phones, warning people to either evacuate or prepare to

leave quickly if winds drive flames their way.

About 200 people went to stay at an evacuation centre in a high school in nearby Estes Park after evacuations were ordered early on Saturday, said Nick Christensen, spokesman for the Larimer County Sheriff's Office.

There are no reports of any injuries, Christensen said.

The forced evacuations represented a dangerous development in firefighters' efforts to quell the stubborn Fern Lake Fire, which has burned for nearly two months.

Efforts to battle the fire

have been hampered by the steep, rugged terrain, gusty winds that have restricted air resources, and a lack of precipitation, Weaver said.

The blaze, which has blackened some 1,550 acres, was ignited in October by an illegal campfire and is burning through stands of beetle-killed trees.

It was about 40 percent contained before the overnight flare-up, officials said.

Winds subsided after daybreak on Saturday, Weaver said, and two heavy air tankers from Southern California were dispatched to the fire. "What we really need is snow," he said.—Reuters

World Energy Council urges more support to developing countries for sustainability boost

DOHA, 2 Dec—The World Energy Council urged here on Saturday that more energy technologies should be transferred to developing countries to help them boost their energy sustainability.

The council said so on the sidelines of the UN climate talks underway in Doha, where representatives from over 190 countries are negotiating for future efforts to combat climate change.

"We call for sustainable provision of energy that meets our current needs without compromising the ability of our future generations to meet their needs," said Joan MacNaughton, an expert with the council.

The council announced top 10 winners in energy sustainability out of the 90 nations that have been assessed. Sweden is ranked first on the list, followed by Switzerland, Canada and Norway.

The 10 least successful countries in energy sustainability are all developing

countries, according to the assessment. MacNaughton said diversified and low carbon energy can achieve better energy sustainability and rich countries are much ahead of the developing world in this field in terms of technology.

Mark Robson, a consultant with Oliver Wyman who participated in the council's energy sustainability programme, said developing countries, including emerging market countries, should be provided

with access to technologies to enhance their energy sustainability.

MacNaughton also pointed out that with the task of upgrading their economies, developing countries are using lots of energy and therefore should adopt a more sustainable energy approach.

She said cross-border and cross-regional cooperation is needed to build a more secure, environmental friendly and fairer energy system across the globe.—Xinhua

Explosions, shooting heard at US base in Afghanistan

JALALABAD, 2 Dec—Two explosions and shooting were heard at a US base in the eastern Afghan city of Jalalabad on Sunday, a Reuters witness said.

The Taliban said they carried out an attack on the compound and inflicted casualties. NATO officials were not immediately available for comment.

Security forces surrounded the area.

"We can confirm there have been multiple explosions in the vicinity of the Jalalabad airfield," the US-led coalition said in a statement.

"Currently, ISAF officials are on the scene gathering facts, and as more information becomes available, we will release it as appropriate."

In February, a suicide car bomber killed nine people at the base at an airport, almost exclusively used by NATO and the US military.

The United States and Afghan government are scrambling to improve security before most NATO combat troops withdraw at the end of 2014.—Reuters



Photographers take photos of swans in snow at the Yellow River wetland in Pinglu County, north China's Shanxi Province, on 1 Dec, 2012. XINHUA

REGIONAL

16 trapped in flooded colliery in NE China

China

HARBIN, 2 Dec—A total of 16 miners were trapped underground after a coal mine in northeast China's Heilongjiang Province was flooded at 11:40 pm on Saturday, local government said on Sunday morning.

When the accident happened at Furuixiang Coal Mine in Qitaihe city, 22 miners were working underground. Six miners managed to escape.

Rescuers said they were laying conduits and installing facilities to pump water out of the pit.

Officials from the city's publicity department said the flooded colliery was a licensed one operated by Furuixiang Coal Co, Ltd.—Xinhua



Rescuers send relief supplies to the underground after a coal mine was flooded at 11:40 pm in Qitaihe city, northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, on 1 Dec, 2012.—XINHUA

Seven people missing in collapsed tunnel in eastern Japan

Japan

TOKYO, 2 Dec—A government agency of the Yamanashi Prefecture said Sunday that at least seven people remained missing in a collapsed tunnel in the prefecture of eastern Japan, Kyodo reported.

The four-km long Sasago Tunnel in the Chou Expressway in Otsuki, about 80 km west of Tokyo, collapsed around 8 a.m. on Sunday and caused blaze of cars trapped in the tunnel.

As of now, two people have been taken to hospital and firefighters have controlled the fire which was

triggered by a crash of two vehicles after the ceiling and wall collapsed in a 100-meter section of the tunnel.

Earlier, a woman, who managed to get off from the tunnel, told firefighters that she escaped from a car in which five others were trapped.

More policemen have arrived at the scene and firefighters are trying to rescue the trapped people.

The section of the highway between Otsuki and Katsunuma has been closed, according to the report.

Reuters



Expressway tunnel in eastern Japan caves in, 7 feared missing.—REUTERS

Philippines

Two leftist rebels killed in Philippine clash

MANILA, 2 Dec—Government troops and suspected members of the leftist New People's Army (NPA) clashed on Saturday morning in northern Philippine Province of Catanduanes, resulting to the death of two rebels, military spokesman said later that day.

Military personnel from the 83rd Infantry Battalion encountered about 15 leftist rebels at about 9:50 am local time in Calatagan village, Virac town, said Col Generoso Bolina of the Southern Luzon Command of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

The firefight lasted for 10 minutes, and the insurgents fled to different directions after the short clash, leaving their two dead members.

"Pursuit operation is ongoing... the encounter was a result of operation due to several reported extortion activities this yuletide season," Bolina said.

The soldiers also found four high-powered firearms from the slain rebels, he added.—Xinhua

Nepal, China commemorate 57-year-long friendship

KATHMANDU, 2 Dec—Nepali Vice President Parmananda Jha attributed the solid foundation of the 57-year-long Nepal-China friendship to deeply rooted relationship between the people of the two countries in a commemorating programme on Saturday.

"Altruistic friendship between the people of Nepal and China has strengthened the national relationship between the two neighbours," Jha said. "The cultural, social and economic relationship between the two nations has become a model for the world."

As part of the "Nepal-China Relationship Year 2012", the programme is organized by World Cultural Net to mark the inaugural ceremony of the Nepal-China Relationship Week.

Various exhibitions, photo galleries and traditional Chinese cultural arts are on display.

In the programme, Chinese Ambassador to Nepal Yang Houlan said that equality, harmony and self-less friendship were the basis for the "historic" Nepal-China relationship. He also remarked that Nepal was an important neighbour for China.

"The relationship between Nepal and China can be traced back to history and the friendship between the two nations has solid foundation. Nepal is an important neighbor for China and both the side should strive to further beef up this relationship."

Zhang Juxiang, Director of Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign

Countries, described the relationship between China and Nepal as "inseparable."

During his welcome speech for the programme, Juxiang said that since the establishment of Nepal-China relationship, both the countries have notably benefited in various sectors of development. "Nepali architect Arniko visited China and shared his skills to build various pagoda-style buildings in China," said Juxiang, adding that his organization will continue to carry out various programmes to further fortify Nepal-China relationship.

During the programme, Vice President Jha launched the Nepali version of a poem collection by Chinese writer Lui Chen.

Xinhua



Foreign residents shop at the 7th Changchun Charity Christmas Fair in Changchun, capital of northeast China's Jilin Province, on 1 Dec, 2012. All donations raised by the fair will be given to Project Hope primary schools and poverty-stricken college students in Changchun. XINHUA

South Korea looks forward to furthering ties with China

SEOUL, 2 Dec—South Korean President Lee Myung-bak said he hoped the country's next administration and the new Chinese leadership would make efforts to further friendly relations between the two nations.

In a recent written interview with Xinhua and several other news agencies, Lee, who ends his five-year tenure early next year, reviewed the development of South Korea-China relations in recent years.

"Over the past five years, China-Korea relations were upgraded to a strategic and cooperative partnership. In line with this, the two countries witnessed much progress in many areas," he said. "Bilateral cooperation transcends the economic front as seen in the close interaction in culture, people-to-people exchanges, education," he said.

Lee said China was South Korea's largest trading partner and investment destination, adding the two countries

achieved their annual trade goal of 200 billion US dollars and were currently engaged in free trade agreement (FTA) negotiations.

"As such, bilateral trade and economic collaboration are being ever strengthened," he said. On the current situation of the global economy, the president noted all three major credit rating agencies upgraded South Korea's standing this year, an outcome which he said showed they highly rated the country's endeavors to surmount economic crises.

"Due to a high level of interconnectivity and interdependency, the global economy is destined to be influenced by the economic slowdown in Europe," he said. "As of now, Korea's economy is progressing at a slow pace. Unlike Japan, such slow-paced growth will be short-lived." He voiced confidence the South Korean economy would recover as soon as the global economy turned around this year.

Xinhua

Suicide bombing, conflicts kill 10 Afghans

Afghanistan

KABUL, 2 Dec—Continued militancy and counter-militancy claimed the lives of 10 people including one suicide bomber and three civilians in a single day on Saturday, officials confirmed.

In the latest violent incident that took place in the shape of suicide bombing in the southern Uruzgan province 370 km south of Afghan capital, three civilians were killed and four others sustained injuries.

"A terrorist equipped

with suicide vest and driving a car blew himself up next to a police van in a bazaar in Deh Rawad district of Uruzgan Province at around 04:00 pm local time, killing three civilians, including two children, on the spot, and injuring four more civilians," provincial police spokesman Farid Ayel told Xinhua.

There were no casualties on police, he contended.

The bomber was also killed in his blast, he added.

Ayel also blamed Taliban militants for organizing

the attack. However, the outfit fighting the government has yet to comment.

Today's bloody suicide bombing took place just hours after killing and arresting of local Taliban commanders in the neighbouring Charchino District, Uruzgan Province.

Security forces raided a Taliban hideout in Uruzgan Province in the wee hours of Saturday killing a key commander Mullah Nasir and arrested another commander Mullah Ghazi,

police spokesman in the province Farid Ayel asserted.

"Afghan forces backed by the NATO-led coalition stormed a Taliban hideout in Charchino District at around 01:00 am local time today killing Taliban key Commander Mullah Nasir on the spot and arrested another commander Mullah Ghazi," Ayel told Xinhua.

During the operations, two more Taliban militants were killed and two others arrested, he added.

Xinhua

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

**The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
National Community Driven Development Project
IDA Grant H814-MM**

**Assignment Title : Union Level Technical Assistance
Reference No.: C-3**

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing from the World Bank towards the cost of the National Community Driven Development Project, and intends to apply part of the proceeds for the hiring of consulting services. The consulting services ("the Services") include:

- (1) project management: the consultant is expected to assist the project implementation agency for overall coordination and implementation of this project;
- (2) assist with the achievement of program objectives and performance quality at the village tract, township and Union level through the development of a monitoring and Management Information System (MIS) and evaluation to track and report upon performance Indicators and project progress;
- (3) provide support on communications on project concept, strategy, procedures and mechanisms targeted at national and local stakeholders;
- (4) provide on-the-job training and capacity development of the Department of Rural Development (DRD), Project Secretariat Team and Township DRD Staff and Township NGO partners;
- (5) develop a comprehensive grievance handling system for the project. The contract will cover a period of 52 months starting in March 2013.

The Department of Rural Development of Ministry of Border Affairs now invites eligible consulting firms or NGOs ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services, Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlisting criteria are:

- (1) past experience with community based development activities in similar conditions as in Myanmar, prior experience in Myanmar is preferred;
- (2) availability of staff with relevant expertise;
- (3) size of past contracts.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers [January 2011] ("Consultant Guidelines"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on Conflict of interest.

Consultants may associate with other NGOs/firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the QCBS or QBS method set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours from 0900 to 1600, Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by fax, or by e-mail) by December 20, 2012.

Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Border Affairs
Attn: U Myint Oo, Deputy Director General,
Chairperson of the Procurement Committee
National Community Driven Development Project
Department of Rural Development,
Ministry of Border Affairs,
Office Number 14,
Nay Pyi Taw,
Myanmar
Fax: +95-67-409029
E-mail to all these email addresses: myint.oo.dda@gmail.com,
kzaw.ddo@gmail.com, naing.7.koko@gmail.com

Textile Industries

Invitation for open tender of

Textile Industries to Purchase Raw Material

1. Raw materials to be purchased for Textile Industries under the Ministry of Industry are as follow: -
 - (a) Foreign Cotton "A" Grade.
 - (b) Polyester Staple Fibre.
 - (c) Acrylic Staple Fibre.
 - (d) 2/64 Mercerized Yarn (Assorted Colour).
 - (e) 300D100%Polyester Textured Yarn.
2. Tender Closing Date - 18.12.2012
3. Forms of open tender and detailed information may be inquired by following address:

Office: - No. 37 Nay Pyi Taw
Tel: - 067-408157, 067-408369
Fax: - 95(067)408185

MYANMAR VISA ON ARRIVAL		
Department of Immigration - Yangon, 2012		
Country	Days	Cost
Malaysia	14 Days	25 Days
India	14 Days	25 Days
Thailand	14 Days	25 Days
China	14 Days	25 Days
Japan	14 Days	25 Days
USA	14 Days	25 Days
UK	14 Days	25 Days
Canada	14 Days	25 Days
Australia	14 Days	25 Days
South Korea	14 Days	25 Days
Philippines	14 Days	25 Days
Indonesia	14 Days	25 Days
Singapore	14 Days	25 Days
Brunei	14 Days	25 Days
Other Countries	14 Days	25 Days

Russia vows to strengthen defence capabilities

Moscow, 2 Dec—Russia will strengthen its defence capabilities to ensure its security, Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Saturday.

Fostering Russia's defence potential in a volatile world "is not a question of status but a vital necessity," as it is the only way to guarantee its national security, Lavrov said at a meeting of the Foreign and Defence Policy Council.

The growing confrontational sentiment around the Euro-Atlantic region would lead to a deadlock which was not of Russia's choice, Lavrov said, adding Moscow is concerned with the accumulating elements of tensions and higher intensity of international conflicts.

Xinhua

Second final loss hurts for Houston



The Los Angeles Galaxy team poses before playing against the Houston Dynamo before the MLS Cup championship soccer game in Carson, California, on 1 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

CARSON, 2 Dec—The Houston Dynamo suffered a second straight MLS Cup final loss to the Los Angeles Galaxy on Saturday - and it hurt.

The Dynamo's 3-1 defeat was not easy to digest after losing to the same opponents, 1-0, last year and after leading at half-time in a

enthraling encounter. "It's all tough. You fight so hard to get into this position. All year long you put all the effort you possibly can, all the hard work, you look back on (that)," said midfielder Brad Davis. "I'm extremely proud of what this group of guys continues to do, this club

continues to do, but without a doubt, it's difficult. It's very, very difficult," he said.

But coach Dominic Kinnear, whose salary budget for his entire squad is less than David Beckham's wage with the Galaxy, was proud of the positive approach his team took in a first half where they had the Galaxy defence in trouble.

"I'm very happy with how the team played and the effort everyone put in," Kinnear told reporters, having led his team to a fourth Cup final in the last seven seasons.

Unfortunately, for the Dynamo, it would have taken much more to overcome a Galaxy side determined to send Beckham off a winner in his final game in the league.

Houston finished in the middle of the Eastern Conference during the regular season before pulling together a strong playoff run.

Reuters

New forms of stigmatization haunt Kenyans living with HIV

NAIROBI, 2 Dec—As the world celebrates World AIDS Day on Saturday, people living with HIV in Kenya are grappling with new forms of stigmatization that are threatening the fight against the disease.

In the past, stigmatization in the East African nation mainly focused on

the person living with HIV. However, this has been largely conquered.

Now, stigmatization is shifting to antiretroviral (ARV) drugs. The drugs are being stigmatized making it difficult for people living with HIV to take them.

ARV drugs help to suppress HIV by control-

ling viral replication within a person's body and allow his immune system to regain power to fight off infections.

Kenya has launched a national campaign to stop new HIV infections among children by 2015 and keeping their mothers alive.

Reuters

Brazil to bulid first UN disaster centre in South America

RIO DE JANEIRO, 2 Dec—Brazil's Rio state will build the first UN Disaster Prevention Centre in South America as part of efforts to improve the state's defence against natural disasters, the state's Civil Defence Secretary Sergio Simoes said on Friday.

"The project shows the joint efforts of UN and local

authorities. The centre will be run by local decision-makers with the help of foreign specialists," Sergio Simoes said at a UN seminar.

The project will not only improve the disaster prevention system but also provide access to advanced knowledge and international cooperation on dealing with natural disasters, he added.

He also said the Rio state will expand the alarm system to 65 towns to alert residents in case of mudslides.

UN coordinator David Stevens, who will be the head of the center, said the project was an opportunity for Brazil to speed up its progress on disaster prevention with UN support.

Xinhua

ENTERTAINMENT

Don't understand the fuss about Oscars:

Mira Nair

PANAJI, 2 Dec—Indian born director Mira Nair says she does not understand the fuss about Indian filmmakers' obsession with winning an Oscar or making movies to win accolades from the West.

The 55-year-old filmmaker, whose first feature film Salaam Bombay (1988) won an Oscar nomination, says that Indian film makers should not make movies with an eye on the Oscars.

"I don't understand why India looks up to the Oscars. The Academy awards were set up for Americans, to give a pat on their back but somehow it has become a greater obsession here.

"The sad part is the kind of disconnect we have in sending the kind of movies. Unless we establish the reach of better movies, things won't change. Audience is my Oscar," Mira said on the sidelines of the 43rd International Film Festival of India here.

The Asian premiere

of her film *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* is being held here today at the festival's closing. It is based on Mohsin Hamid's novel.

"I was interested in making the movie when I first visited Pakistan. The movie tells the other side of the story post 9/11. We have heard the American version but not the other so my aim was to tell the story from a different perspective. It was a



The Asian premiere of her film 'The Reluctant Fundamentalist' is being held here today at the festival's closing.

difficult project and took five years to make," she added.

The film has premiered at various international film festivals but Mira says showing the movie in her home country gives her ultimate satisfaction. "I have been to a lot of festivals — London, Toronto, Venice, Doha — but coming back to India and showing the movie here gives a sense of completeness.—PTI

Stevie Wonder cancels show at Israel Defence Forces fundraiser

LOS ANGELES, 2 Dec—Veteran singer and United Nations Messenger of Peace Stevie Wonder has canceled a planned performance for the Friends of the Israel Defence Forces after several organizations asked him not to perform. The soul singer, 62, was scheduled to sing at

a statement sent to Reuters by his spokeswoman.

Wonder said he would make contributions to organizations that support Israeli and Palestinian children with disabilities.

The singer added that as a Messenger of Peace, a title he's held since 2009, "I am



Stevie Wonder performs during a tribute to Dick Clark at the 40th American Music Awards in Los Angeles, California, on 18 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

a 6 December fundraising gala in Los Angeles hosted by the Friends of the Israel Defence Forces (FIDF), an organization set up to help those serving in the Israel Defence Forces and families of fallen soldiers.

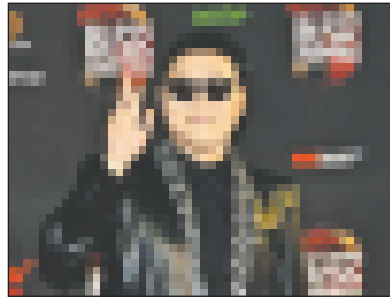
"Given the current and very delicate situation in the Middle East, and with a heart that has always cried out for world unity, I will not be performing at the FIDF Gala," Wonder said in

and have always been against war, any war, anywhere."

According to a statement from the US Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation, a coalition that aims to change US policy toward Palestine and Israel and support human rights and equality, Wonder's decision came after a "growing outcry" from several organizations and three international signed petitions.

Reuters

Korean pop rides "Gangnam Style" into US music scene



South Korean pop singer Psy poses on the red carpet as he attends the Mnet Asian Music Awards (MAMA) in Hong Kong on 30 Nov, 2012.

REUTERS

LOS ANGELES, 2 Dec— "Gangnam Style," the catchy Korean song by rapper Psy, may have danced its way into the American charts but the Korean pop industry isn't horsing around when it comes to capitalizing on the singer's phenomenal US success.

With "Gangnam Style" topping the current Billboard Digital Songs chart and becoming the most-watched video on YouTube ever

with more than 800 million views, fellow Korean pop, or K-pop, artists are positioning themselves for similar US breakthroughs.

Korea's pop music industry is thriving. Over the past two years, a handful of K-pop acts including girl group 2NE1, boy band Super Junior and nine-piece band Girls Generation have embarked on mini-promotional tours around the United States to build

their audience. "Psy has opened doors and is shining a spotlight on K-pop. People are paying attention to what's being done there," Alina Moffat, general manager at YG Entertainment group, which manages Psy, told a recent entertainment industry conference in Los Angeles.

Psy's vibrant music video, featuring his invisible pony-riding dance, also featured K-pop artists Kim Hyun-a of girl band 4Minute, and Deasung and Seungri of boy band Big Bang, all of whom are attempting to crack the US market.

Reuters

Carrie Underwood to star in new "Sound of Music" broadcast

LOS ANGELES, 2 Dec—Country singer Carrie Underwood will perform "My Favourite Things" and other tunes from the musical "The Sound of Music" when she portrays Maria von Trapp in a live broadcast of the perennial favourite, NBC television said on Friday.

In a production to be aired late next year, the five-time Grammy winner will star as the rebellious would-be nun who married Austrian Naval commander Georg von Trapp and fled the Nazis with him and his children. NBC did not say where the musical would be staged.

Julie Andrews immortalized the character of Maria in the 1965 Oscar-winning film that was based on the Rogers and Hammerstein musical, which premiered on Broadway in 1959. Both were based on the true story of the von Trapp family.

The musical was inspired by the 1956 German film "The Trapp Family" and its 1958 sequel, "The Trapp Family in America."

"Speaking for everyone at NBC, we couldn't be happier to have the gifted Carrie Underwood take up the mantle of the great Maria von Trapp," Robert Greenblatt, chairman of NBC Entertainment, said in a statement. "She was an iconic woman who

will now be played by an iconic artist."

The musical's famous songs include "Do-Re-Mi," "Edelweiss," and "Climb Ev'ry Mountain."

The productions were based on Maria von Trapp's 1949 memoir, "The Story of the Trapp Family Singers," which recounts the family's performing years, their escape from Nazi-occupied Austria and their immigration to the United States. Maria died in 1987.

NBC's broadcast will be produced by Craig Zadan and Neil Meron, who produced the network's musical drama "Smash."

Underwood rose to fame after winning Fox network's musical talent contest "American Idol" in 2005. She made her film debut in 2011's "Soul Surfer." Some 15 million of her albums have been sold and her 2005 debut, "Some Hearts," was voted the top country album of the past decade by Billboard.—Reuters



Carrie Underwood

Actor Johnny Lewis not on drugs at time of death: coroner

LOS ANGELES, 2 Dec—Former "Sons of Anarchy" actor Johnny Lewis, who was found dead in September and linked to a suspected homicide, did not have any drugs or alcohol in his body, coroner's officials said on Friday. A toxicology examination detected no amounts of cocaine, marijuana, hallucinogenic drugs or prescription medications, the Los Angeles County Coroner's office said in a report.

Lewis, 28, was found dead in the driveway of a home he had been renting in



(L-R) Cast members Gretchen Lodge, Johnny Lewis and Alexandra Holden pose at the screening of the film 'Lovely Molly' at the 36th Toronto International Film Festival on 14 Sept, 2011.—REUTERS

Los Angeles and his 81-year-old landlady was found dead inside.

Investigators initially

suspected Lewis was under the influence of drugs or alcohol because he had spent time in rehab and had a criminal drug past. The actor had been released from jail five days prior to his death.

Authorities ruled Lewis' death an accident from partial strangulation and head trauma after the actor fell 15 feet from an elevated terrace onto a paved driveway. "We do not have definitive evidence that (Lewis) intended to kill himself," Los Angeles County medical examiner James K Ribe wrote in the autopsy report.—Reuters

Spain Laliga

Real Madrid win derby, Barca stay 11 clear of Mourinho's men

MADRID, 2 Dec—Goals from Cristiano Ronaldo and Mesut Ozil saw Real Madrid defeat neighbours Atletico 2-0 in the city derby in the Spanish Primera Liga on Saturday night.

It is the 24th consecutive match in which Atletico have failed to defeat their neighbours, a run stretching back to 1999 and Diego Simeone's side partly had themselves to blame for the defeat as they abandoned the footballing principals which have seen them perform so well this season and try and attempt to muscle Real Madrid out of the game.

The tactic resulted in an ugly match with two sides more interested in destroying than in creating good football, but what football was played was played by Real Madrid and as a result they won the game.

Ronaldo scored a free kick after 16 minutes and Ozil finished off a neat passing move midway through the first half.

Ronaldo hit another free kick against the bar and had a shot hit the post as the game went to a conclusion, but despite his obvious frustration, the work had already been done and Atletico will have to wait for another chance to end their dreadful run.

Barcelona striker Leo Messi closed in on Gerd Muller's record of 85 goals in a calendar year when he netted twice in his side's 5-1

home win against Athletic Club Bilbao. Gerard Pique had already put Barca ahead before Messi's chip was sliced into his own net by Athletic defender Fernando Amorebieta, although the referee, perhaps erroneously, ruled that the ball would have gone in anyhow.

Adriano Coreira made it 3-0 to Barca on the stroke of halftime to virtually end the game as a contest. Cesc Fabrigas added a fourth for Barca 10 minutes after the break before Ibai Gomez scored a consolation for the visitors.

However, there was still time for Messi to score his second of the night and seal a 5-1 win that means Barca have now achieved the best ever start to a Primera Liga season in history.

Getafe kicked off the weekend with a 1-0 win at home to Malaga, who had begun the game in fourth place.

Albert Lopo's close range header 10 minutes into the second half was all that separated the teams in a game where Malaga failed to turn their possession into clear cut chances.



SPORT

Roberto Soldado got Valencia off to a flying start at home to Real Sociedad with a close range finish, but the visitors drew level a clever finish from Alberto de la Bella five minutes before the break, just after Jonas Gonsalves had been sent off for using his elbow.

The result was Valencia coach Mauricio Pellegrino was sacked around an hour after the final whistle.—Xinhua

Real Sociedad grew in confidence after the break and went ahead after 56 minutes before Diego Ifran made it 3-1 shortly after the half hour. Soldado's second of the night made it 2-3 with 18 minutes remaining, but Imanol Agirretxe re-established Real Sociedad's advantage and Carlos Vela's 90th minute penalty sealed a stunning 5-2 away win for the Basques.

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Valencia sack coach Pellegrino



MADRID, 2 Dec—Spanish BBVA Primera Liga club Valencia this Saturday sacked coach Mauricio Pellegrino.

Pellegrino was sacked shortly after his side's 5-2 thrashing at home to Real

Sociedad, a result that came on the back of a 4-0 defeat away to Malaga just a week ago.

The former Valencia defender has been in charge for 14 league matches since replacing Unai Emery at the end of last season, leading his side five wins, three draws and six defeats.

Saturday's defeat leaves Valencia in 12th place in the league table with 18 points, a poor return for the side which finished third behind Barcelona and Real Madrid under Emery in the past three seasons.

Pellegrino has qualified Valencia for the last 16 of the Champions League but the chorus of boos against the coach and club President Manuel Llorente following Saturday's defeat clearly influenced Llorente into taking a rapid decision.

The Argentinean is the second coach to be sacked in the Primera Liga this season after last week's dismissal of Mauricio Pochettino by Espanyol. Ironically Pellegrino is sacked just a week after Emery was sacked from his new job with Spartak Moscow.—Xinhua

Basketball

Wang Zhizhi ruins T-mac's first CBA win

BEIJING, 2 Dec—Wang Zhizhi denied Tracy Mcgrady's first CBA win as China's former NBA player made a clutch shot to secure Bayi's 101-99 victory over Qingdao in the third round on Friday.

Mcgrady, the seven-time NBA All-star, whose brilliant performances were not good enough to save Qingdao in the previous two rounds, got only 13 points plus three assists in his team's third straight loss. Qingdao shooter Zhao Yonggang got a hot hand from downtown with 10 out of 15 three-pointers to reap a career-high 36 points. Ilunge Mbenga, two-time NBA champion, had 17 points and 11 rebounds.

Bayi trailed 12 points on 72-84 after three quarters. Zhao made his 10th three-pointer with 3.3 seconds left as Qingdao leveled it 99-all before Wang Zhizhi buried the crucial jump shot.



Five Bayi players scored double digit with Wang leading the team with 27 points and nine rebounds. Stephon Marbury took a game-high 32 points in Beijing's 109-104 away win over Liaoning, the third straight win for the defending champion.

Also on Friday, Shandong Gold beat Shanghai Sharks 89-78; Dongguan Marco Polo beat Jiangsu Dragons 98-92; Tianjin Ronggang beat Jilin Northeast Tiger 89-83; Guangdong Hongyuan beat Zhejiang Guangsha 113-110; Foshan Long Lions beat Xinjiang Guanghui 101-91; Fujian SBS beat Shanxi Zhongyu 109-102.

Xinhua

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Xinhua

Toronto Raptors sign Pietrus, waive McGuire

TORONTO, 2 Nov—The Toronto Raptors announced on Friday they have signed free agent forward Mickael Pietrus.

The nine-year veteran has played a total of 538 NBA games and has averaged 8.4 points, 3.1 rebounds and 21.5 minutes per game.

Pietrus, 6-foot-6, 215

pound, joined the league in 2003 when he was selected 11th overall by the Golden State Warriors. He spent five seasons with the warriors and has spent the past four seasons between Orlando, Phoenix, and Boston.

Prior to joining the NBA, Pietrus began his professional career in his native France with Pau Orthez. He

played four seasons with the club, averaging 9.0 points and 2.6 rebounds in 94 games. Since the Raptors' roster reached the limit of 15 players on the roster, a transaction needed to occur to free up a roster space for Pietrus. To make room for Pietrus, forward Dominic McGuire was waived.

Xinhua

Woods recognizes need to overhaul another Sherwood specialist

Golf

THOUSAND OAKS, 2 Dec—Tiger Woods knows Sherwood better than anyone else at the World Challenge but in Graeme McDowell he trails a player who is equally at home at the venue by five shots going into Sunday's final round.

While tournament host Woods has won the elite invitational event a record five times, Northern Irishman McDowell has finished second and first in his only two previous starts here and he led by two shots after Saturday's third round.

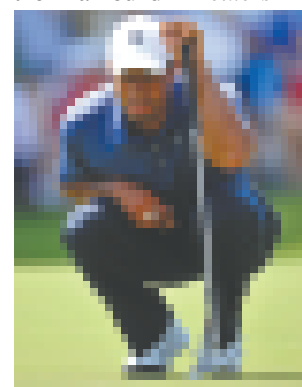
"He likes it here," American world number

three and defending champion Woods told reporters about McDowell. "The golf course suits his game, he keeps the ball in front of him and he's a beautiful putter.

"His ball flight is, I think, perfect for how the conditions are. He hits it flat and loves to draw it, and that's going to take a lot of the spin off it, which is great."

Though Woods sits five shots off the pace heading into the final round of the 18-man event at Sherwood Country Club, recent history is in his favor with only one player winning the title in the last eight years after hold-

ing the 54-hole lead. Woods himself was the sole exception, triumphing by a record seven strokes in 2007 after leading by six heading into the final round.—Reuters



Tiger Woods

'No doubt' Trout hooks Cotto decision

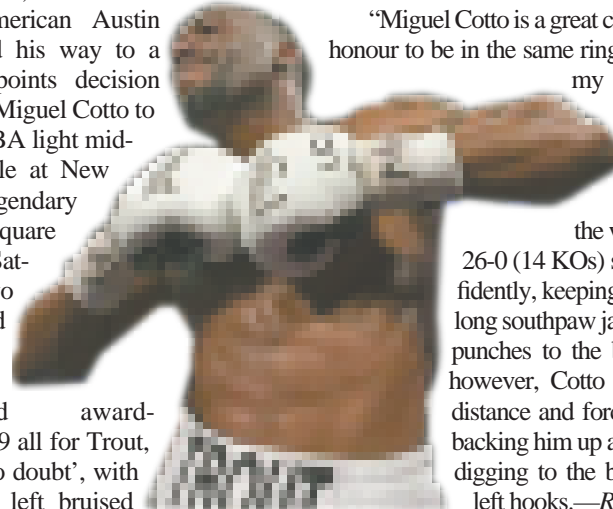
NEW YORK, 2 Dec—Undeclared American Austin Trout jabbed his way to a unanimous points decision victory over Miguel Cotto to retain his WBA light middleweight title at New York's legendary Madison Square Garden on Saturday. Two judges scored the fight 117-111, with the third awarding it 119-109 all for Trout, known as 'no doubt', with Cotto's face left bruised

and swollen after the contest.

"Miguel Cotto is a great champion. It's just an honour to be in the same ring with him. To have

my hand raised with a kingpin like Cotto is a dream come true," Trout said from the ring after the win. The taller Trout

26-0 (14 KOs) started the bout confidently, keeping Cotto at bay with a long southpaw jab and fluid left hand punches to the body. By the third, however, Cotto began to close the distance and forced Trout to retreat, backing him up against the ropes and digging to the body and head with left hooks.—Reuters



GENERAL

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

- (3-12-12 09:30 am ~ 4-12-12 09:30 am) MST**
- * News
 - * Disable.....but Able
 - * News
 - * Evergreen Classical Music (Part-13)
 - * News
 - * Exclusive Highlight of 21st ASEAN Summit (Phnom Penh, Cambodia) Related Summit and Closing Ceremony
 - * News
 - * Second Annual Art Show
 - * News
 - * Book Launching

- Ceremony by Author Ock Soo Park **7:30 am**
- * News **7:40 am**
- * Culture Stage **7:50 am**
- * Digicel Launches Youth Initiative Programmewith Real Madrid Coaches **8:00 am**
- * News **8:10 am**
- * ArKharNew YearFestival **8:15 am**
- * Changing Trend of Weaving Industry **8:25 am**
- * News **8:40 am**
- * South Okkalapa Pagoda **8:45 am**
- * Myanmar Movie "Venus Flytrap" **9:00 am**

MYANMAR TV

(3-12-2012, Monday)

- 7:00 am**
- 1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
- Uppatasanti Paritta **7:30 am**
- 2. Morning News **7:40 am**
- 3. Dhama Puja Song **7:50 am**
- 4. Nice & Sweet Song **8:00 am**
- 5. Health Programme **8:10 am**
- 6. Song Of National Races **8:15 am**
- 7. Cute Little Dancer **8:25 am**
- 8. Teleplay (Health) **8:40 am**
- 9. International News **8:45 am**
- 10. Musical Programme **9:00 am**
- 11. Martial Song **9:10 am**
- 12. Dance Variety **9:20 am**

- 4:40 pm**
- 13. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Third Year (Maths) **4:55 pm**
- 14. Songs For Upholding National Spirit **5:00 pm**
- 15. Musical Programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe) **5:10 pm**
- 16. Myanmar Language **5:25 pm**
- 17. World Disable Day **6:20 pm**
- 18. Sing & Enjoy **8:00 pm**
- 19. News
- 20. Cartoon Series
- 21. TV Drama Series
- 22. India Drama Series



Photo shows local people thronging to the bank of Sittoung River in Madauk to take part in the 40th Tazaungdine Festival on 29 November (1st Waning of Tazaungmon).

KYEMON

Three dead in Wyoming college attack

LOS ANGELES, 2 Dec — Police said three people were dead in an attack in Casper College in Wyoming on Friday morning.

Casper Police Chief Chris Walsh told local media that two people were dead at the school's World Physical Science Centre and one dead at another location in Casper, although he would not identify the dead or the other location.

He said no suspects are at large and nobody else was injured. He also said that no firearms were used in the attack. But he didn't identify the weapon or weapons involved.

Local media quoted an anonymous law enforcement official as saying that one of the dead appeared to be a male faculty member, and the other appeared to be of "student age." At least one of them had been stabbed with a "bow and arrow type" weapon.

The third body was found off campus and no cause of death was reported. The attacker was believed to be among those killed.

Police responded to the World Physical Science Centre attack at about 9:00 am (1600 GMT).— *Xinhua*



People gather at an explosion site in Yemen's capital of Sanaa, on 30 Nov, 2012.—XINHUA

Global diamond scheme completes Zimbabwe's rehabilitation

WASHINGTON, 2 Dec— The global Kimberley Process (KP) initiative set up to stem the flow of so-called conflict diamonds on Friday confirmed that Zimbabwe had fully met its standards for exporting the gems, following a meeting that exposed deep continued divisions in the group.

Non-governmental organizations, which have frequently criticized the KP process, said its inability to agree on expanding the definition of what constitutes a "conflict" diamond highlighted a broader unwillingness to take a firm line on the global diamond trade.

"For us this really means that the Kimberley Process

is no longer the first word on conflict diamonds," said Alan Martin of Partnership Africa Canada, one of the non-governmental groups that take part in the process.

"We're going to be looking to other forums such as the OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) to begin a more honest debate on this issue."

Zimbabwe, which was allowed to export diamonds under the KP mandate last year, had nevertheless been placed under a special year-long monitoring programme amid repeated charges of human rights abuses and smuggling at its diamond fields.

Reuters

Pentagon, Lockheed agree deal for 32 more F-35 fighters

WASHINGTON, 2 Dec— Lockheed Martin Corp and the US Defence Department have reached an agreement in principle on a fifth batch of 32 additional F-35 fighter planes, the Pentagon said on Friday, bringing nearly a year of negotiations to a close.

The deal is valued at around \$3.8 billion, although the two sides are still finalizing details, according to a source familiar with the agreement.

The agreement will also pave the way for talks about preliminary funding for a sixth batch of aircraft that Lockheed, the Pentagon's largest supplier, has been

building at its own cost for some time.

Lockheed shares closed 0.3 percent higher at \$93.30, outperforming the Arca Defence Index, which was down 0.53 percent.

Pentagon spokesman George Little said details on the cost per aircraft would be released once the final contract is signed.

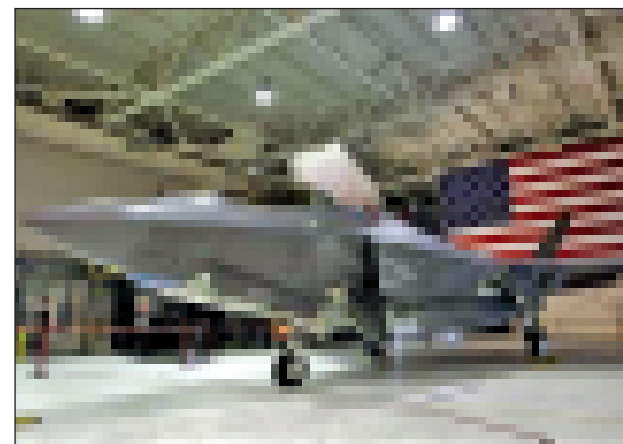
People familiar with the process said both sides expected to sign a final deal before the end of the year, which will safeguard those funds from cuts if Congress is unable to avert \$52 billion in automatic budget cuts to the Pentagon's

fiscal 2013 budget that take effect on 2 January. The contract includes the actual aircraft, but will also pay for manufacturing support equipment, instrumentation for flight testing and other mission equipment needed for the new stealth warplanes.

The Pentagon is negotiating a separate contract with Pratt & Whitney, a unit of United Technologies Corp, which builds the engine for the single-seat, single-engine F-35.

The agreement with Lockheed removes a cloud hanging over the \$396 billion F-35 programme, the Pentagon's costliest procurement programme. Both sides have been trying to reach an agreement on this batch of aircraft since last December.

In September, Major General Christopher Bogdan, who will be the top overseer of the programme starting 6 December, said he was surprised the negotiations were taking so long and described relations between the two sides as "the worst" he had ever seen in decades of working on big acquisition programmes.— *Reuters*



A F-35 Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter is seen at the Naval Air Station (NAS) Patuxent River, Maryland on 20 Jan, 2012.—REUTERS

Six injured in explosion at arms depot in Yemeni capital

SANAA, 2 Dec— A weapon depot of an arms dealer in the Yemeni capital of Sanaa exploded on Friday evening, injuring at least six people, a police official said.

At least six were injured by the explosion and have been taken to hospital, the

official told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

The explosion took place in a crowded neighbourhood in southwestern the capital. Firefighters have rushed to the scene as huge fire broke out in the area where several houses were damaged. The

owner of the arms depot is a well-known businessman from the northern Province of Saada, and his bodyguards prevented security personnel from entering the area for investigation, according to policemen on the scene.

Xinhua

Honduran police seize 2 tons of cocaine

TEGUCIGALPA, 2 Dec — Honduran police on Thursday seized at least 2 tons of cocaine in the country's north, spokesman of the Public Prosecutor's Office said.

Melvin Duarte told a Press conference that about 344 drug packages were

found in an underground vault in the northern province of Yoro with a sophisticated system to keep the drug's quality and purity.

There are several tunnels linking the vault, believed to be the cocaine storeroom.

Suspecting that more packages may be found,

police remain at the site to continue their search.

The vault was unoccupied, so the police didn't arrest anybody.

The raid was part of a police operation "Julian Aristides Gonzales," which began last weekend.

Xinhua

Shwechaung bridge (2) in Pakokku under construction

Byline&Photo: Nay Oo Maung (Pakokku)

The construction of Pakokku's Shwechaung bridge (2) which will link Pale, Kalay and Tamu of Magway Region, Chin State and Sagaing Region with all other parts of Myanmar started on 11 November.

Despite the presence of Shwechaung bridge (1) that connects Pakokku with major routes, Shwechaung bridge (2) is constructed to link the town with a detour in an attempt to curb traffic congestion in downtown areas. The new bridge lies in

Northern Aungmyetharward by Pakokku-Kyunchaung-Seikphyu railroad.

Special Project Group (3) of Public Works is undertaking the construction of Shwechaung bridge (2). The bridge has the length of 540 ft with 90-ft interval each between seven piles. The width of the pedestrian's walkways is three ft and six inches. The width of the motorway is 28 ft and the bridge can withstand 75 tons of load.

The bridge is of RC

type. It has the height of 10 ft above the ground and 27 metres underground, according to an official. Thanks to Hsinbyushin bridge, Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku), Shwechaung bridge (1) and Shwechaung bridge (2), the commodity flow has become swift like never before and it would contribute to socio-economic development of the people.

Myanma Alinn: 2-12-2012

Trs: HKA



Pakokku Shwechaung bridge (2) under construction.

First week of December mass walks held

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec—The first week of December mass walk of Mandalay Region for 2012 took place yesterday morning at the junction of 73rd and 26th, with the participation of Mandalay Region Hluttaw Speaker U Win Maung and region level organization members and their wives, departments concerned, sports subcommittees, teachers and

students from education college and basic education schools, members of social organization, staff and locals.

Similarly, the first week of December mass walk of Ayeyawady Region for 2012 was held at Patheingyi yesterday morning partaking of over 49000 people including those from region level organizations, teachers and students from university,

college and basic education schools.

Likewise, the first week of December mass walk of Kachin State for 2012 took place at People's sport ground in Myitkyina yesterday morning with the involvement of Deputy Speaker of State Hluttaw U Sai Myint Kyaw, state ministers, staff, people and students.

MNA

Upper Yeywa to generate 1409 million

kWh per year

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec — Union Minister for Electric Power U Khin Maung Soe assisted in the Upper Yeywa Hydro Power Plant project on the Myitnge River in Kyaukse, Shan State (North), on 1 December.

On his tour of inspection, the Union minister called for completion of the project ahead of the schedule and

efficient use of materials and work site safety.

The plant which would be equipped with four 70-MW generators, on completion, would generate 1409 million kWh per year.

The project is being implemented by the Construction Group-4 of the Hydropower Implementation Department of the Ministry

of Electric Power.

During the tour, the Union Minister and Deputy Minister U Myint Zaw inspected the main dam, the power plant, the site chosen for digging tunnel, construction of the bridge across the river and earth work for maintenance of diversion tunnel.—MNA



Philippines issues red alert signal against incoming strong typhoon

MANILA, 2 Dec—The Philippines issued on Sunday a red alert signal for areas to be concerned as typhoon Bopha (local name Pablo) is approaching the country, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council said on Sunday.

"We are now on Red Alert so that we'll be 100 percent prepared at the local and national level," said NDRRMC executive director and concurrent Office of Civil administrator Benito Ramos.

Ramos assured that the Visayas and Mindanao are well-prepared for the weather disturbance.

Weather department forecast Bopha is likely to turn into a super typhoon even stronger than the deadly typhoon "Washi" (local name Sendong) that hit the country last year.

As of 10 a.m. Sunday, Bopha was about 1,110 km east southeast of Surigao del Sur in southern Philippines and it is expected to enter the country by 8 p.m. Sunday, according to the Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration.

Ramos said the Bopha is the strongest weather disturbance to hit the country this year.—Xinhua

News in Brief

Regional development tasks undertaken

Chief Minister of Kayin State U Zaw Min inspected water supply system at Technical High School and urban area of Hpa-an

December mass walk launched

Union Ministers U Tint Hsan, U Aye Myint, Dr Mya Aye and Dr Pe Thet Khin and deputy ministers participated in the mass walk sport in

Outstanding students selection examination held

Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyu inspected examinations for choosing the overall outstanding students at

on 17 November. On 19 November, he attended the farming equipment operating training at Kayin State Agriculture Department.

December together with 8500 people that started from Myoma Market to Gems Museum. In front of the museum, they took physical exercises.

eighth, ninth and tenth standards at Patheingyi BEHS No. 6 and Kyaunggon BEHS No. 1 on 1 December.

Swansea continue upward curve under Laudrup

LONDON, 2 Dec—Swansea City manager Michael Laudrup praised his team for continuing to bamboozle the Premier League's top sides after a 2-0 win at Arsenal piled more pressure on opposite number Arsene Wenger.

"Seven points against Liverpool, Arsenal and West Brom in six days is fantastic," said Laudrup, who has taken his stylish

side to the lofty heights of seventh in the table. "Three great performances, each one better than the other one," added the 48-year-old Dane, whose side is playing with the kind of intricacy and panache Arsenal were once known for. "We knew after the two last results that we could play without pressure and that there was some pressure on Arsenal."

Arsenal were booed off the pitch after two late goals by Spanish striker Michu took his tally for the season

to 11 since his bargain \$3.2 million summer move from Rayo Vallecano.

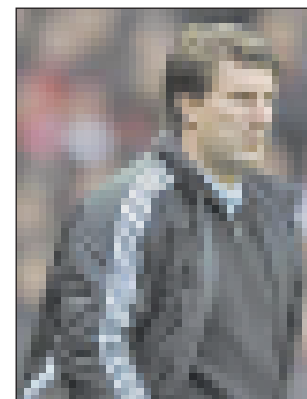
As Arsenal slipped to 10th in the Premiership and Wenger called for his players to stick together, Swansea's players were applauded off after ambushing the Londoners.

"The team is playing with a lot of confidence," said Laudrup, who took over from Brendan Rodgers at the start of the season.

Rodgers, now manager of Liverpool - also currently trailing in Swansea's wake, took Swansea up to the Premier League and they comfortably avoided relegation by finishing 11th last season.

The first Welsh team to win promotion to England's top flight, Swansea have continued their upward curve under the stewardship of Laudrup.

Reuters



Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (2-12-2012)

Gwa	3.15 inches
Cocogyun	1.85 inches
Nay Pyi Taw (Pinyinmana)	1.58 inches