

The New Light of Myanmar

THE MOST RELIABLE NEWSPAPER AROUND YOU

Volume XX, Number 236

14th Waning of Tazaungmon 1374 ME

Wednesday, 12 December, 2012

Workshop on technological cooperation in development of road/bridge construction held

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec—A workshop on technological cooperation in development of road/bridge construction between Public Works of the Ministry of Construction and Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MUT) of Japan was held at Thingaha Hotel, here, yesterday morning, with an address by Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin and Director Mr

Yuichi Ishikawa of Overseas Project Division (MUT) of Japan.

Managing Director U Kyaw Lin of Public Works, Chief Engineer (Road) U Khin Maung Kyaw and resource persons of Japan discussed plans on technological cooperation for development of road/bridge construction and replied to queries raised by those present. A ceremony to

sign the MoU on promotion of communication between Public Works and Japan Expressway International Co Ltd was held at the same venue in the evening, with an address by the Union Minister.

Managing Director U Kyaw Lin and President Dr Koji Kuroda of JEX WAY signed the MoU and exchanged notes.

MNA

Utility Jade, Gems and Pearls Sales goes on

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec — The third day of Utility Jade, Gems and Pearls Sales continued at Mani Yadana Jade Hall, here, this morning and the sales was packed with merchants examining jade, gems and pearls and purchasing them through tender and competitive bidding systems.

Patron of the central committee for organizing Myanmar Gems Emporium

Union Minister for Mines Dr Myint Aung and Union Minister at the President Office U Thein Nyunt observed selling and buying of jade, gems and pearls at the sales.

Local and foreign gems merchants went through utility jades sold in Myanmar currency and gems and pearl lots sold in foreign currency, and put proposals into the tender boxes.

For the convenience of gems merchants, Managing Director U Thein Swe and officials supervised the sales.

Today, gems and pearl lots were sold out through open tender and competitive bidding system.

Gems and pearl lots will be sold through open tender and competitive bidding system and utility jades through open tender system tomorrow. — MNA



Managing Director U Kyaw Lin of Public Works and President Dr Koji Kuroda of JEX WAY sign the MoU.—MNA

Isolated Philippine typhoon victims running out of food

DAVAO CITY, 11 Dec—Isolated communities in the Philippines including hill tribes are facing hunger a week after a typhoon struck, and with roads blocked, supplies will have to be dropped by air, authorities said on Tuesday.

Typhoon Bopha killed 714 people and caused crop damage worth 10.3 billion pesos (155 million pounds) when it hit on Tuesday last week. Nearly 900 people are unaccounted for and about 2,000 were injured, the national disaster agency said.

The most intense storm to hit the disaster-prone Philippines this year wiped out communities near the

coast in the southern provinces of Davao Oriental and Compostela Valley.

But villages inland were also hard hit by floods and landslides and many are cut off. The Philippines has asked for help from allies and the private sector to get help in by air.

“Their food is fast dwindling, their roads are blocked by fallen trees and boulders and it will not be long before everyone in these upland villages will go hungry,” Manggob Masinaring, a member of a mountain tribe and a volunteer relief worker, told reporters. Compounding the problem was that the source of water for many villages had been

blocked or polluted by mud and debris.

“The streams, which are their only source of water, are too murky for drinking,” Masinaring said.

International agencies including the Red Cross and

World Food Programme have appealed for nearly \$100 million for food and shelter for 5.4 million people affected by the typhoon. Nearly 400,000 people lost their homes and farms.

Reuters



A man repairs the roof of his house damaged in the coastal town of Banganga that was devastated at the height of last Tuesday's Typhoon Bopha in Davao Oriental in southern Philippines on 11 December, 2012.

REUTERS

VISA introduces mobile payment

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec—From the world's major cities to remote areas without banks, people are increasingly relying on digital currency along with mobile technology to use their money any time, make purchase online, transfer funds and access basic financial services. VISA started introducing first ever mobile payment at Myanmar mobile and electronic payments conference, at Myanmar International Convention Centre, here, today.

Mobile payment (branchless banking) is a solution that removes traditional brick and motor retail outlets and replace them with small, cheap access points that can reach a large area of a once difficult to serve population living in rural areas. “It needs to transform cash-based payment to electronic payment system for secure and efficient payments,” said Union Minister for Finance

and Revenue U Win Shein. Electronic payments can open a country to the wider global economy by attracting greater foreign investments and provide a boost to country's GDP, reduce a nation's gray economy and lead to increased tax revenues.

“Mobile payment can be made on any mobile device from an expensive smart phone to a cheap feature phone,” said Niki Manby, Head of Emerging Products AP/CEMEA of VISA.

“It is very easy to use mobile payment like phone prepaid card we use,” said Rajiv Ramanathan, Head of Payment Systems Partnerships of VISA. VISA is global payment technology company that connects consumers, businesses, banks and governments in more than 200 countries and territories, enabling them to use digital currency instead of cash and checks.

NLM

Morsi's supporters, opponents to demonstrate ahead of Egypt's constitutional referendum

CAIRO, 11 Dec—Both supporters and opponents of Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi will take to the streets in Cairo on Tuesday over the planned referendum on a controversial constitution this Saturday.

The opposition, made up of secular, left-wing,

liberal and other groups, have called for marches to the presidential palace Tuesday afternoon to protest against the hastily arranged referendum, which they say is undermining secular traditions, human and gender rights, and the independence of the judiciary.

Xinhua

Inter-ministry track and field contest concludes

YANGON, 11 Dec — Jointly-organized by the Ministry of Sports and Myanmar Track and Field Federation, the 45th Inter-ministry track and field contest-2013 concluded with the prize-giving ceremony at Thuwunna Stadium on 9 December.

The Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Construction and the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry stood first in respective events. Officials of the



Ministry of Sports and Vice-President of Myanmar Track and Field Federation U San Tun presented Championship shields to winning teams.—Kyemon

Arid zones to see water stress in summer

KYAUKPADAUNG, 11 Dec —The monsoon had withdrawn from the arid zones in the central part of Myanmar since the last week of September and the monsoon season drew to a close in Myanmar during the second week of October. There will be water stress for the people and animal in coming summer as this year's monsoon rains did not make village lakes in arid zones full. "We can use lake water up to the end of the month of Tabauing pervious years. It is okay if the monsoon comes early. This year's monsoon

season came to an end early. As the monsoon rains stopped in the month of Thadingyut, village lakes were no longer filled to the brim with rainwater," U Maung Ko of Indaw village in Kyaukpadaung Township said.

"For the people, tubewell can facilitate water supply but animals will be in difficulty," he added.

As Kyaukpadaung Township had a rainfall of 21.96 inches this year, an influx of rainwater into lakes was low. That is why, possible water stress calls for constant

maintenance for water pumps and necessary measures to be taken in advance for water stress in cooperation with township development affairs committee and local and foreign donors before summer.—Kyemon

Ancient public rest house over 100 years old

MAGWAY, 11 Dec — There is a about 150-year-old rest house in a forest near U Awbasa library in Minbu of Magway Region.

The background history of the rest housed said that Hmankinkyang Sayadaw U Labha of Myaukphyar Ywama village in Minbu moved there to do meditation peacefully in the late Kongbaung era. Some years later, a rest house was built with the contribution of laypersons led by Sayadaw U Labha. It was said that the rest house was very large and it had 114 wooden posts. As time went by some parts of the weather-beaten rest house were destroyed. According to a monk, the rest



house was constructed with the aim of providing shade for farmers from villages, south

to Minbu, on their way to the town. Nowadays, seven monasteries and an ancient ordination hall and a pagoda and a Bo tree surround the public rest house.—Kyemon

Harvest time makes great demands on combine harvester



YEDASHE, 11 Dec — During the monsoon paddy harvest time, combine harvesters are in high demand.

According to a combine harvester manufacturer, 150 sets of combine harvester are sold out from seven workshops in Thabyedan village of Yedashe Township in Bago Region in harvest season.

Delivery of combine harvesters manufactured in Thabyedan village was made to DaikU, Nyaunglebin, Pyu, Kanyutkwin, Nyaungchedauk and Penwagon in Bago Region, Nay Pyi Taw, Yamethin and Pyawbwe in Mandalay Region and

Moebye in Kayah State.

The prices of combine harvesters that have a capacity from 40 to 90 baskets per hour are ranging from K 1.25 million to K 1.9 million.

Kyemon

Upgrading of Koebin-Thagara Yoma crossing road in progress

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec — Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin oversaw maintenance works of Yangon-Pyay-Taungdingyi-Magway road section and upgrading of the 96-mile and three-furlong long Koebin-

Thagara Yoma crossing road at mile post No (257/2) on Yangon-Magway road on 8 December.

In meeting with senior engineer and officials at the briefing hall, the Union minister called for timely completion of road works,

A girl knocked down by a passenger bus in Yekyi Township

YEKYI, 11 Dec — A passenger bus hit a girl who was crossing over the road near Kwinthonehsint village of Yekyi Township, Patheingyi District of Ayeyawady region at about 11 am on 6 December. Ma Ei Mon Soe was

meeting set standard, careful spending the funds and minimizing loss and wastage.

Next, he inspected progress in construction of Kyaukmahsin bridge being built by Bridge Special Group-3 and chose a site for construction of concrete bridge as a replacement for bailey one at mile post Nos (28/1) and (28/2).—MNA

knocked down by the Myanaung-Yangon passenger bus driven by Zaw Min Naing of Myanaung while she was crossing over the road between mile post Nos (45/5) and (45/6) near Kwinthonehsint village. She died on the spot in the road accident.

Athok Police Station of Yekyi Township filed a lawsuit against the driver of the passenger bus for his reckless driving.

Kyemon

Photo shows rare species of colourful guinea pigs which are being kept at Traveller's Inn Restaurant in 115th Mile recreation centre on Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw expressway recently. Hunters caught them in West Yoma forest near Pyu Township in Bago region.

KYEMON



Donate Blood

WORLD

China pledges more contribution to world peace

BEIJING, 11 Dec—Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi on Monday addressed an event for foreign diplomats and representatives of international agencies and said that China will work with other nations toward world

peace and development.

“China will, together with all other countries, share opportunities, tackle challenges, and make new and greater contribution to the lofty cause of peace and development for mankind,”

Yang said at a New Year Reception hosted by the Foreign Ministry.

Briefing the guests on the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, Yang said China will continue to hold high the banner of peace, development, cooperation and mutual benefit; promote equality, mutual trust, inclusiveness, mutual learning and mutually beneficial cooperation in international relations; firmly pursue an independent foreign policy of peace; unwaveringly follow the path of peaceful development and grow friendship and cooperation in all fields with other countries on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence.

According to the for-

eign minister, 2012 has seen fresh and important progress in China’s diplomatic work, as evidenced by the country’s growing international standing and influence.

“We have advanced our ties with other countries and deepened good-neighbourly friendship and cooperation with our neighbors,” Yang said. He told the audience, “We have played the responsible and constructive role of a big country in dealing with international and regional hotspot issues, worked actively to push for peaceful settlement of disputes and issues, and stood for non-intervention in others’ internal affairs and other basic norms governing international relations.”

Xinhua



Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi addresses a New Year Reception hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in Beijing, capital of China, on 10 Dec, 2012. More than 400 guests, including Chinese State Councillor Dai Bingguo, attended the reception.—XINHUA

Ghana’s Mahama reaches out to defeated rivals

ACCRA, 11 Dec—Newly elected Ghanaian President John Dramani Mahama on Monday urged his defeated political opponents to join him “as partners” to improve the West African state, as his chief rival threatened to launch a court battle over the poll results.

Mahama was declared winner of the 7 December election, which was widely seen as a test of whether country—one of the fastest growing economies in Africa—can maintain its reputation as a pillar of democracy in a troubled region.

“I wish to welcome my fellow candidates to join me now as partners in the projects of nation-building and of creating a better Ghana,” Mahama said in

a victory speech to cheering crowds at a field in the capital Accra.

“We have come too far on this journey to weigh ourselves down with pettiness, intolerance and negativity.”

Ghana’s electoral commission said on Sunday Mahama, who replaced former president John Atta Mills after his death in July, had won 50.7 percent of the ballots cast, enough to avoid a run-off against his main rival Nana Akufo-Addo.

The West African Coalition of Domestic Election Observers (CODEO), which deployed more than 4,000 poll watchers, said the vote had been generally free and fair.

But Akufo-Addo said



Ghana Electoral Commission President Kwadwo Afari-Gyan (C) arrives to announce the results of the presidential election at the commission in Accra, on 9 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

on Monday his party would take a decision on Tuesday on whether to challenge the results, which he said were manipulated by electoral workers. “We have serious reservations about the counting and the declaration of results,” Akufo-Addo told Reuters in his office at his residence in Accra.

“If we are going to

challenge the results, the main question is; do we have enough evidence to suggest that, materially, the evidence will have affected the outcome?” “The obvious option is to go and challenge the results in the courts. The other option is to forego it and make your case to the country,” Akufo-Addo said.—Reuters

Provincial police chief killed in Afghan blast



Afghan policemen stand near a vehicle on which the police chief of Nimroz province Mohammad Musa Rasouli was killed in Herat, Afghanistan, on 10 Dec, 2012.

REUTERS

ZARANG, (Afghanistan), 11 Dec—The provincial police chief of Afghanistan’s southwestern province of Nimroz was killed on Monday in a blast in neighbouring Herat

Province, a police spokesman said. “The police chief of Nimroz Province General Mohammad Musa Rasouli died following a bomb attack on his vehicle in Adraskan district of west-

ern Herat province Monday morning,” regional police spokesman Abdul Rauf Ahmadi told Xinhua.

Rasouli was travelling in his official vehicle from Herat to Nimroz provincial capital Zaranj, some 790 km southwest of Kabul, the spokesman said. “The police chief was shifted to a nearby hospital but died of his wounds an hour after the roadside bombing attack,” Ahmadi said, adding that one policeman was also wounded in the attack that took place at around 7 am local time.

Also on Monday morning, Acting Director of Provincial Women’s Affairs Najia Siddiqi was killed in a

drive-by shooting in eastern Laghman Province.

No one has so far claimed responsibility for the attacks, though the bombings bore the hallmark of the Taliban insurgent group. Afghan officials and pro-government figures have been repeatedly targeted by the militants over the past years as the Taliban intensified activities against government interest across the country. The insurgent group, which has been waging an insurgency in more than one decade, has warned civilians to stay away from official gatherings, military convoys and centers regarded as the legitimate targets by militants.—Reuters

Pentagon reports Taliban attacks up during Afghan fighting season

WASHINGTON, 11 Dec—Attacks by Taliban insurgents rose slightly during the main part of the Afghan fighting season this year as some US forces withdrew and the transition to a lead role for Afghan security forces picked up pace, according to a Pentagon report released on Monday.

The report to Congress downplayed the rise in violence, saying the key measure was a dramatic increase in security in the country’s main cities.

While acknowledging the Taliban can still carry out attacks at the same levels as last year, the report said the greatest threats to stability were elsewhere.

“The insurgency’s safe havens in Pakistan, the lim-

ited institutional capacity of the Afghan government and endemic corruption remain the greatest risks to long-term stability and sustainable security in Afghanistan,” said the semi-annual Pentagon progress report on Afghanistan.

US officials, briefing reporters on the document, said training of Afghan military and police forces was on track for them to take the lead security role nationwide by next summer.

The strategy guiding international forces calls for Afghans to take the security lead next year and full security responsibility by the end of 2014, when most foreign combat forces are due to withdraw.

Reuters

New Jersey governor says indicted mayor of state capital should resign

TRENTON, 11 Dec—New Jersey Governor Chris Christie on Monday urged the mayor of the state capital Trenton to resign following his indictment on federal corruption charges.

Trenton Mayor Tony Mack’s indictment last week, which accuses him of taking bribes in connection with a proposed parking garage on city-owned land, affects his ability to do his job, Christie said at a news conference.

“I think that once you’re indicted, you should resign,” Christie said.

“I believe it places such a cloud over your ability to act objectively, freely and aggressively in elective office that it is in the best interest of the people that you serve for you to step down, and I believe the mayor

should step down,” he said.

Mack was charged with extortion, bribery, fraud and other charges. A representative for Mack could not be reached for comment. He has previously said he is innocent of the charges.

Mack, along with his brother Ralphiel Mack and associate Joseph Giorgianni, plotted to accept \$119,000 from a man posing as a developer, prosecutors say. The purported developer was cooperating with authorities.

The deal involved selling city-owned land about two blocks from the federal courthouse to the would-be developer for a fraction of its value and getting money back in exchange, prosecutors said.

Reuters



New Jersey Governor Chris Christie visits fifth grade students at Berkeley Elementary School in Westwood, New Jersey, on 6 Nov, 2012 in this handout photo courtesy of the governor’s office.

REUTERS

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



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

NASA adds \$30 million for space taxi work

Science

CAPE CANAVERAL, (Florida), 11 Dec—The US space agency awarded \$10 million to privately owned Sierra Nevada Corp, \$9.99 million to Boeing and \$9.59 million to privately owned Space Exploration Technologies to help the firms get their vehicles certified to fly to the station.

Since the retirement of the space shuttles last year, NASA has been dependent on Russia to fly astronauts to the \$100 billion orbital outpost, a research laboratory owned and operated by 15 countries that flies about 250 miles above Earth.

The companies have separate agreements with NASA to develop space transportation systems, with the aim of breaking Russia's monopoly by 2017. Boeing was awarded \$460 million for its CST-100 capsule, Space Exploration Technologies received \$440 million to

upgrade its Dragon cargo capsule to carry people and Sierra Nevada was awarded \$212.5 million for work on its winged Dream Chaser.

The earlier awards were to help fund the spaceship designs, while the new awards will help fund the process of certifying that they meet NASA safety requirements to carry humans. "These contracts represent important progress in restoring human spaceflight capabilities to the United States," Phil McAlister, who oversees NASA's commercial spaceflight programmes, said in a statement.

"NASA and its industry partners are committed to the goal of safely and cost-effectively launching astronauts from home within the next five years," he said.

The contracts run from 22 Jan, 2013, through 30 May, 2014.

Reuters

Apple Australia map glitch: Snakes! In the desert!

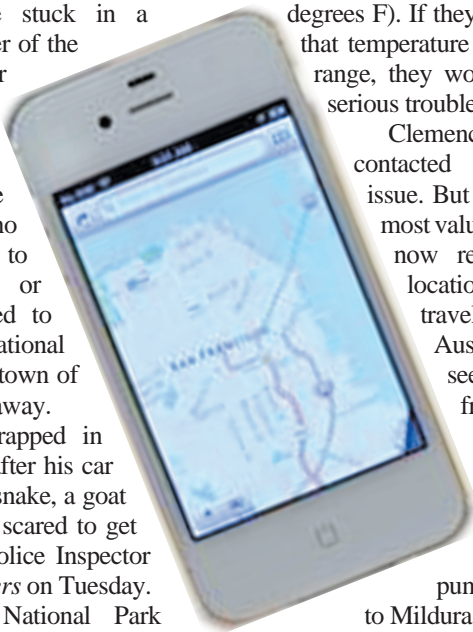
CANBERRA, 11 Dec—Australian police have warned travellers off using Apple's troubled iPhone mapping software after several motorists became stuck in a snake-infested, desert corner of the country while using their phone for directions.

Police in southeast Victoria state said they had been forced to rescue a number of motorists who had become stuck for up to 24 hours "without food or water" after being directed to the arid Murray Sunset National Park, instead of the tourist town of Mildura, 70 km (43 miles) away.

"We had a fellow trapped in there just on Friday night after his car became bogged. He saw a snake, a goat and a fox, and he was too scared to get out of the car," Mildura police Inspector Simon Clemence told Reuters on Tuesday.

The Murray-Sunset National Park is in Victoria's far northwest, a relatively untouched semi-arid region accessible only by four-wheel-drive vehicle.

Clemence said at least six vehicles had become stuck on the desert park's sandy tracks after being directed by the iOS mapping system to turn off a long and infrequently sign-posted stretch of highway



between South Australia state and Victoria. "These people have still been rescuable. But we've just had a 46C day (115 degrees F). If they were out there in that temperature and out of phone range, they would have been in serious trouble," he said.

Clemence said police had contacted Apple over the issue. But while the world's most valuable company had now rectified Mildura's location for people travelling from South Australia, motorists seeking directions from Melbourne city were still being directed off course by iOS.

"If you punch in Melbourne to Mildura, it still puts you in the middle of the park," he said. "So they've got it half right."

Police said people should not blindly rely on technology to get them to their location, although in fairness he said people could easily become misdirected over long stretches of road along the 377-km Mallee Highway.—Reuters

Yahoo and NBC Sports Group to combine sports content

Tech

NEW YORK, 11 Dec—Yahoo! Inc and NBC Sports Group said they will integrate and promote each others sports content on the Internet as well as on television in a move that would help both the companies draw on their respective strengths across both mediums.

The collaboration will increase NBC's digital presence as well as bolster its college and fantasy game coverage, while Yahoo will gain access NBC's video content, live sports coverage and big name television personalities.

The two companies will

maintain separate websites and independent newsrooms, but will collaborate on big sports news stories as well as events coverage both online and on the air, the companies said in a statement late on Sunday.

Yahoo has looked to increase its involvement with television content, it announced a major content sharing deal for financial news with CNBC in June.



The Yahoo logo is seen at the Consumer Electronics Show (CES) in Las Vegas, Nevada on 7 Jan, 2008.

REUTERS

Twitter launches photo colour filters to battle Instagram, Facebook

Tech

SAN FRANCISCO, 11 Dec—Twitter on Monday introduced the ability to add colour filters to user-uploaded photos, a step that sharpened its budding rivalry with Facebook Inc.

Twitter's filters mimic the popular feature that has defined Instagram, the booming photo service acquired by Facebook this year for \$715 million.

Although the new filters represent a modest product announcement affecting a small slice of Twitter's overall user experience, the move carries symbolic weight in the escalating battle between Facebook and Twitter for dominance in the social media sector.

Twitter's new release came days after Instagram unexpectedly said it would no longer allow Twitter to display Instagram photos within Twitter messages. The reason, Instagram CEO Kevin Systrom said, was to drive visitors to Instagram's own website. Although Systrom told Reuters last week he had no specific plans to disclose how he plans to monetize his service, analysts say Instagram would be a rich vein of advertising revenue for Facebook when, not if, the world's No 1 social network decides to tap it.

Twitter said its new features are powered by Aviary, a New York-based

company that develops image-editing software for photo-sharing platforms like Flickr, among others.

Since social networks began supporting photo integration in recent years, the medium has proved massively popular to users, while video-sharing, for instance, has not quite caught on. Bijan Sabet, an early Twitter investor, said the emotive quality of photos were on display on election night in November, when an image of President Obama hugging his wife Michelle sent the moment he claimed victory, broke the record as the most widely circulated tweet of all time. "From ordinary life to these

The sports news providers will also jointly develop made-for-web video programmes that will appear on both Yahoo Sports and NBCSports.com as well as collaborate in how they provide advertising.

The alliance will include, Yahoo Sports, the Rivals Network, NBCSports.com, NBC Sports Regional Networks, Golf Channel.com, Rotoworld.com and Allisports.com. NBCSports.com will continue to provide sports content for NBCNews.com.

NBC Sports is part of NBC Universal Media, a unit of Comcast Corp.

Reuters

special moments with artists, celebrities, or politicians, photos have always been this special thing for Twitter," said Sabet, a partner at Spark Capital, the Boston venture capital firm that also holds a stake in Aviary and brought the two companies together for the partnership talks.

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg similarly argued for the importance of photo-sharing when he shocked Silicon Valley earlier this year by making an offer to Instagram valued at the time at \$1 billion. "Providing the best photo sharing experience is one reason why so many people love Facebook and we knew it would be worth bringing these two companies together," he wrote in a Facebook post justifying the deal.—Reuters

Google's Gmail service suffers disruption

Tech

SAN FRANCISCO, 11 Dec—Several Google Inc Web products, including the popular Gmail service, appeared to go dark for users on several continents on Monday.

Google confirmed that "service disruptions" had affected Gmail and Google Drive, its online storage service. The two products are part of Google's Apps suite, a Microsoft Office rival that caters to both consumers and businesses.

By 10:10 am Pacific Time (1.10 pm EST), Google's Apps Dashboard monitoring service reported that Gmail and Drive service had resumed. The company did not specify how many users were affected, or where, but the outage prompted widespread complaints on social media on both coasts in the US and other major markets, from the United Kingdom to Brazil.



A neon Google logo is seen at the new Google office in Toronto, on 13 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

Some users additionally reported that the outage had affected Google Docs, the company's word-processing and spreadsheet programmes, while Chrome, Google's Internet browser, also crashed unexpectedly.

"We are currently experiencing an issue with some Google services," Google spokeswoman Andrea Freund said in a statement. "For everyone who is affected, we apologize for

any inconvenience you may be experiencing."

Firmly entrenched in the consumer market, Gmail is one of Google's most popular and important product offerings. The search giant, which has been pushing a corporate version of the email service and its Apps suite to businesses to compete with Microsoft, said this month that the package will no longer be free to business customers.—Reuters

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Nearly 1 million Australians suffer eating disorder

CANBERRA, 11 Dec—Almost 1 million are currently suffering from an eating disorder, a latest research report shows on Tuesday.

The report entitled “Paying the Price: economic and social impact of eating disorders” by Deloitte Access Economics, commissioned by the non-profit Butterfly Foundation for Eating Disorders, looked at the economic and social impact of eating disorders including anorexia, bulimia, obesity and binge-eating.

The report estimates there are 913,986 Australians with an eating disorder, with Deloitte Access Economics

putting the total social and economic cost at 69.7 billion Australian dollars (almost 73 billion U.S. dollars) this year.

“The number of annual deaths, for eating disorders, is higher than the 2011 Australian road death toll,” CEO of the Butterfly Foundation Christine Morgan said in a statement. The Butterfly Foundation is urging state, territory and federal governments to resolve the ongoing issue of mental health funding.

Minister for Mental Health Mark Butler said just over 1.9 million Australian dollars (almost 1.99 million USD) would be provided to the Butterfly Foundation for

its support and information services for people with an eating disorder.

Butler also announced that up to 150,000 Australian dollars (almost 157,287 USD) will be provided to the Butterfly Foundation to identify possible improvements to programmes provided by the Australian state and territory governments and privately-funded services.—Xinhua

Wall Street higher despite “fiscal cliff” concerns

NEW YORK, 11 Dec—US stocks closed higher on Monday with Dow logging four-consecutive gains, though the “fiscal cliff” talk was still on its way.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 14.75 points, or 0.11 percent, to close at 13,169.88. The S&P 500 Index gained 0.48 points, or 0.03 percent to close at 1,418.55. The Nasdaq Composite Index advanced 8.92 points, or 0.3 percent, to settle at 2,986.96.

With no major economic reports, investors still focused on the ongoing talks about the “fiscal cliff” problem. Some analysts pointed out that the issue could be solved by bipartisanship before the end of this year.

US President Barack



One of top 10 junk foods harmful to your health — Canned foods

Business

Obama reiterated his stance of raising taxes for the wealthiest Americans. On Sunday, the president met with Speaker of the House of Representatives John Boehner, but no details about the meeting was disclosed.

However, the “fiscal cliff” effect could still harm the economy given that the US economic recovery was still weak.

“The dire rhetoric surrounding the Fiscal Cliff negotiations is depressing investors’ confidence and is causing business leaders to delay hiring and expansion, thus threatening a potentially harmful draft to this already low-flying recovery,” said Sam Stovall, Chief Equity Strategist of S&P Capital IQ.

Meanwhile, investors looked forward to the upcoming Federal Reserve’s monetary policy meeting on Wednesday. With the previous monetary tool, or so-called “Operation Twist” is going to expire at the end of this year, analysts believed the Fed would announce further monetary stimulus plan to maintain ultra-loose monetary policy.

“Today’s trade is very light. It appears that traders want to wait for the FOMC on Wednesday,” said Stephen Guilfoyle, an economist at Meridian Equity Partners Inc.

On corporate front, Apple continued to fall after investment bank Jefferies cut its price target to 800 dollars from 900 dollars.

Xinhua

India to invest in Iranian wind, solar power plants

Business

TEHRAN, 11 Dec—Iran and India have finalized an agreement under which New Delhi will invest in the construction of wind and solar power plants in the Islamic republic, Press TV reported on Monday.

According to the agreement, India side will transfer “technical know-how” and invest in the “design, construction, installation and launch of power plants” in Iran, Yousef Armodeli, head of the Iranian Renewable Energy Organization, was quoted as saying.

Armodeli said using the potentials of Iran’s private sector in the production of renewable energy is one of the government’s policies, adding that so far several contracts have been inked with the private sector to construct power plants capable of generating 12,000 megawatts of electricity through renewable energy, according to the report.

The Iranian official further said the production capacity of renewable energy in Iran will double by the end of the country’s fifth five-year economic development plan (2010-2015).—Xinhua



Construction vehicles work at a hilly region in Lanzhou, capital of northwest China’s Gansu Province, on 10 Dec, 2012. A project of land development has been under construction here since this October as the city planned to remove some of its barren hills to provide land of 25 square kilometres in half a year for city development.

XINHUA

HIV epidemic stabilizes in South Africa

CAPE TOWN, 11 Dec—The HIV epidemic has shown signs of stabilization over the last six years in South Africa, thanks to unremitting efforts to fight the scourge, reveals a survey released on Monday.

The HIV prevalence has seen a 1.3-percent decline in the age group between 15 to 24 years—from 21.8 percent in 2010 to 20.5 percent in 2011, according to the 2011 National Antenatal Sentinel HIV Prevalence Survey, released by Health Minister Aaron Motsoaledi.

Another decrease was among the 15-19 year olds from 14 percent in 2010 to 12.7 percent in 2011, shows the survey. The HIV prevalence, however, remained the highest among women in age group 30-34 years, increasing from 41.5 percent in 2009 to 42.2 percent in 2011. Among the 35-39 year-olds, the prevalence rate has increased from 35.4 percent in 2009 to 39.4 percent in 2011.

The reason for the higher prevalence rates among older women was that these age groups got infected earlier in their lives, and were now moving into a higher age group, Motsoaledi said.

The KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) Province, which has kept a higher HIV prevalence rate, has recorded a notable 2.1-percent decrease to 37.4 percent in 2011, compared with the estimates of 39.5 percent in 2009 and 2010.

Motsoaledi attributed the decline in KZN to the hard work of the provincial branch of the National AIDS Council, which includes key role players such as district mayors, who report on matters of maternal and child mortality; the success of the HIV Counselling and Testing (HCT) campaign and the circumcision campaign.

Other provinces which reported a decrease in the HIV prevalence were Gauteng (with a 28.7-percent prevalence rate in 2011,

Health compared with 30.4 percent in 2010); Eastern Cape (with a prevalence rate of 29.3 percent in 2011); the Northern Cape (with a 17-percent prevalence rate) and Western Cape (with a 18.2-percent prevalence rate).

However, Mpumalanga, the Free State, the North West and Limpopo Provinces all have recorded an increase in the prevalence rate.

HIV/AIDS is South Africa’s prominent health concern. The country is believed to have more people with HIV/AIDS than any other country in the world.

But the country has increased its scale of HIV treatment by 75 percent, allowing almost two million people to have access to the life-saving treatment, according to the latest report, the United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS).—Xinhua

Purchasers weigh cumquat at a market in Rong’an County of Liuzhou City, south China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on 9 Dec, 2012. Cumquat covering an area of over 80,000 mu (about 5333.3 hectares) in Rong’an County went to market recently.

XINHUA



Spanish GDP to contract by 1.3 or 1.4 percent in 2012: economy minister

MADRID, 11 Dec—The Spanish economy would contract by 1.3 or 1.4 percent in 2012, Spanish Minister of Economy and Competitiveness Luis de Guindos said here on Monday.

In an interview with the Spanish National Radio, de Guindos said the economic contraction would be milder than previous forecasts which predicted that Spain’s GDP would fall by 1.5 percent, but

it would all depend on the last three months of this year.

The minister said Spain would not witness any economic growth until the third or fourth quarter of 2013, although he underlined a number of positive aspects that would lead to the economic recovery such as declining family and business debts as well as an increase in exports.

He also assured Spain was on track to reduce its

fiscal deficit thanks to the recent increases on sales taxes. Asked to comment on the bond-buying programme of the European Central Bank (ECB) and a possible EU bailout for Spain, De Guindos said the government “will take the best decision at the best moment,” although he also said it was very difficult to get funding given the country’s current high borrowing costs.

Xinhua

WORLD



Yin Weimin (R), Minister of Human Resources and Social Security, awards Mr. Philip Charles Brookes the certificate of State Specially Recruited Experts during the opening ceremony of the 11th China International Exchange of Professionals in Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong Province, on 10 Dec, 2012. The two-day event kicked off on Monday.—XINHUA

Polish, Chinese universities to sign agreement to enhance cooperation

WARSAW, 11 Dec—The University of Gdansk in the northern Poland will sign a cooperation agreement with the China University of Science and Law (CUPL) to facilitate student and academic exchanges between the two universities.

US senior diplomat to visit Philippines, Malaysia, New Zealand

WASHINGTON, 11 Dec—A senior US diplomat in charge of Asian affairs will visit the Philippines, Malaysia and New Zealand, the State Department announced in a statement on Monday.

The statement said that the visit by US Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Kurt Campbell extends from this Monday to next Monday.

On Wednesday, Campbell will join US Assistant Secretary of Defence for Asian and Pacific Security Affairs Mark Lippert in Manila, Philippines for the third annual US-Philippines bilateral strategic dialogue,

spokeswoman Beata Czechowska-Derkacz said establishing cooperation with the CUPL was a great honour for the Gdansk University, which has already signed agreements with five other Chinese universities.

Currently, 72 Chinese students are studying at the

University of Gdansk according to the statement. He will also meet with Philippine Foreign Affairs Secretary Albert del Rosario and other senior Philippine officials.

On Thursday, Campbell will travel to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia for meetings with Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak and other senior government officials and representatives from civil society, said the statement.

Campbell will be in New Zealand, the last stop of his tour, from Friday to Sunday, to participate in the US-New Zealand strategic dialogue and meet with senior officials, the statement added.—Xinhua

university.

The university was also planning to inaugurate Chinese studies.—Xinhua

Parents of ex-US Marine jailed in Mexico say he's losing hope

MIAMI, 11 Dec—The mother of a former US Marine jailed in a notoriously violent corner of northern Mexico said on Monday that her son was losing hope after being arrested in August for possessing a shotgun that was a family heirloom.

Jon Hammar, 27, was heading to Costa Rica to go surfing when he crossed into Matamoros, Mexico, from Brownsville, Texas, in a beat-up old Winnebago motor home he and a friend bought especially for the trip.

He had registered the shotgun with US Customs and Border Protection officials on the US side of the border, declaring he planned to take it with him into Mexico.

Despite being told that the shotgun, a Sear & Roebuck model that once belonged to his great-

grandfather, posed no problem Hammar was arrested as soon as he crossed into Mexico. The arrest came when he tried to register the gun with Mexican customs officials, his parents and their Mexican attorney told Reuters.

“The crux of it is the length of the barrel,” said his mother, Olivia Hammar, 46, of Palmetto Bay, Florida. “There’s an old law on the books that says it can’t be under 25 inches,” she said. “It’s a 2-foot barrel and it can’t be under 25 inches ... It’s strictly a technicality.”

The US Embassy in Mexico City said Hammar was charged with possession of a deadly weapon. And the family lawyer, Eddie Varon-Levy, said Hammar faces up to 12 years in prison if he is found guilty.

Making matters worse, Hammar suffers from post-

traumatic stress disorder from the death of a fellow Marine who was killed by a sniper’s bullet when the two served together in Falluja, Iraq. He had just completed treatment for PTSD at a center for veterans in California last year, before getting caught up in his misadventure in Matamoros. His ordeal there, in one of the most violent corners of Mexico, has includ-

ed being shackled to a bed and receiving death threats and extortion demands from drug cartel gangsters who run the prison known as CEDES in Matamoros like their personal fiefdom, Hammar’s parents say.

“He’s getting more and more hopeless,” said Olivia Hammar, who is the publisher of an architecture and interior design magazine.

and fine of up to \$10,000 in Texas.

“In regard to the auto accident that took the life of Dallas Cowboy Jerry Brown, we are saddened by the events of the weekend,” the private club said in a statement. “Our hearts go out to Mr Brown’s family and friends, and the entire Cowboys organization.”

Privae Dallas often caters to celebrities, human resources manager Joe Beamer said in the statement.

Brent was released on \$500,000 bail from the Irving jail on Sunday. Brent had been driving a 2007 Mercedes sedan and Brown was in the passenger seat, police said. Brown was pronounced dead a short while later at a Dallas hospital.

Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission spokeswoman Carolyn Beck said the agency routinely inves-

tigates whenever a death occurs and alcohol may be a contributing factor.

“We will be trying to determine whether alcohol was sold to an intoxicated person,” Beck said.

The investigation could take months, she said.

The penalty for violation of an alcohol permit license could be loss of the license, she said.

A police affidavit stated that an officer could smell alcohol on Mr. Brent’s breath and that “he had lost his mental and physical faculties to operate a motor vehicle on a public roadway due to his intoxication level.”

Mr Brent refused a blood sobriety test but he was required to take a test after Mr Brown died. Brent had a drunken driving arrest in 2009, when he played football for the University of Illinois.—Reuters



Jon Hammar, a former US Marine jailed in northern Mexico is seen in an undated photograph provided by his family. Hammar was heading to Costa Rica on a surfing expedition when he was arrested for “possession of a deadly weapon” because of the length of the barrel of his shotgun, even though he registered the weapon with US officials before entering Mexico. REUTERS

ed being shackled to a bed and receiving death threats and extortion demands from drug cartel gangsters who run the prison known as CEDES in Matamoros like their personal fiefdom, Hammar’s parents say.

“He’s getting more and more hopeless,” said Olivia Hammar, who is the publisher of an architecture and interior design magazine.

Reuters



Newly recruited soldiers of People's Liberation Army (PLA) get on a train at Nanjing Railway Station in Nanjing, capital of east China's Jiangsu Province, on 10 Dec, 2012. A total of 545 new recruits from Nanjing, Nantong, Taizhou and Yancheng, four cities in Jiangsu, set off on Monday to join their army units.—XINHUA

Putin sees anti-corruption fight consistent policy

MOSCOW, 11 Dec—Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Monday the government’s effort to fight corruption should not be a one-off campaign but a consistent policy. To uproot corruption, every offender must be aware that they would never escape punishment, Putin told a meeting with his supporters.

Meanwhile, the fight

must be conducted not only at high levels, but also on the streets and throughout society, he said.

However, there should be no rush to convict, otherwise the country “will slide back to 1937,” Putin warned, referring to the year of massive political purges in the Soviet Union. “It is impossible for courts to make rulings and sentence people without

sufficient evidence,” he said.

Law enforcement agencies must abide by the law themselves when investigating corruption-related crimes, even though these cases were often hard to prove, Putin said. Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev also vowed earlier to fight corruption in all tiers of the society, from authorities to grassroots.—Xinhua

LOCAL NEWS

Mawlamyine BEMS No 2 gets new building

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec—A ceremony to open Bo Yaza new school building was held at No 2 Basic Education Middle School in Mawlamyine on 5 December morning.

On behalf of wellwisher U Zaw Win, U Khin Win explained the purpose of donation and donated K

10 million to equip one transformer 315 KVA at Mawlamyine Township People's Hospital to Mon State Minister for Social Affairs Dr Hla Oo.

Mon State Hluttaw Speaker U Kyin Pe, Minister Dr Hla Oo, U Khin Win and Mon State Education Officer UNyunt Soe formally opened

the new building.

Mon State Chief Minister U Ohn Myint unveiled the plaque of the school and visited there.

The Chief Minister then attended the coordination meeting of fund-raising of Mon State at the Mon State Government Office.

MNA

New school building handed over

PANTANAW, 11 Dec—A ceremony to hand over the upgraded Basic Education High School was held in Pyalin Meinmapyay Village in Pantanaw Township of Ayeyawady Region on 1 December morning.

Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw Speaker U Hsan Hsint, Region Minister for Social Affairs U Tin Soe and Deputy Director U Aung Kyi of Ayeyawady Region Education Department formally opened the archway of the school.

The Region Hluttaw speaker made a speech.

In the afternoon, the Speaker met local people and school boards of trustees at Pyalinchaung Village BEMS (Branch) and Pyalin Yegyaw Post-Primary School.

Myanma Alinn

6th Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Basketball Tournament commences

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec—The basketball tournaments are being held with the aim of ensuring the active participation of State service personnel for their fitness and happiness and of building friendly relations between them in discharging State duties, said Deputy Minister for Sports U Thaug Htaik at the opening ceremony of the 6th Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Basketball Tournament 2012 at Paunglaung Gymnasium, here, on 7 December morning.

SEA Games torch conveyed rehearsed



NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec—A ceremony to put records on carrying the torch of XXVII SEA Games was held from Myanmar International Convention Centre to Wunna Theikdi Sports Complex at 7 am on 8 December.

It was viewed by Chairman of the Opening

and Closing Preparation Subcommittee Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint and officials.

A total of 27 relay teams conveyed the torch. The training was participated by

10th Myanmar-China Joint Drug Control Meeting held

MANDALAY, 11 Dec—The 10th Myanmar-China Joint Drug Control Meeting took place at Mandalay Hill Resort in Mandalay on 5 Dec morning.

The meeting was attended by a 14-member delegation led by Member of Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control of Myanmar Vice-Chief of Myanmar Police Force Police Brig-Gen Zaw Win from Myanmar side and a 10-member delegation led by China National Drug Control Commission Deputy Secretary-General Mr Wai Xiaojun from Chinese side.

Both sides discussed the reviews of tasks for cross-border drug elimination, opening of BLOs, progress of alternative development, construction of police command centre in Mandalay, exchange of information on combating narcotic drugs between the two countries, conducting joint survey of poppy cultivation, training for drug elimination, reviews of excursion and cooperation in alternative development

Myitkyina Airport upgraded

MYITKYINA, 11 Dec—Kachin State Chief Minister U La John Ngan Hsai and State Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Than Aung and officials inspected the site for construction of the passenger lounge and upgrading the taxiway of Myitkyina Airport to be undertaken by Strong

Destiny Company on 4 December morning.

The in-charge of Myanma Airways, Myitkyina engineer-in-charge Daw Thin Tin Zaw of Department of Civil Aviation and Project

Manager U Soe Win of the company reported on progress of tasks.

The Chief Minister gave instructions on timely completion of the tasks.

Myanma Alinn

Rubber trading cool in Ye

YE, 11 Dec—Rubber latex is being collected at rubber plantations of Ye Township in mid-September. The latex collection period is about seven months only.

At present, dried rubber latex is sold at K 1030, R3 latex K 1030-K900, R5 latex

K 820-K930 and one pound of rubber in block mould K 550-K 650. As price of rubber is K 300 lower than that of last year, rubber trading between sellers and buyers is cold, according to the rubber entrepreneurs.

Myanma Alinn

Euphoria Auto Service Centre opened

YANGON, 11 Dec—The All Myanmar Churches Association celebrated the ceremony to mark the X'mas at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township on 6 December evening.

At first, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Region Hluttaw Speaker U Tin Aung, Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myint Thein, Region Minister for Kayin National Races Affairs U Saw Tun Aung Myint, Region Minister for Rakhine National Race Affairs U Zaw Aye Aung, Bago Region Minister for Kayin National Race Affairs U Saw Jubilee San Hla and officials formally opened the celebration.

Arch Bishop Steven

Than Myint Oo of Myanmar Christian Churches gave a bless.

Next, the Chief Minister of the region delivered an address.

After that, Euphoria Auto Service Centre was opened at its building at the corner of Waizayanta and Ngwekyayan Streets in South Okkalapa Township on 7 December morning.

The Region Chief Minister and U Thant Htaik of Euphoria Auto Service Centre cut the ribbon to open the centre and visited there.

The centre gives services to vehicles with the use of machinery made in US and repairs computer control boxes of cars and install softwares to the cars.—MNA

artistes and staff from the Ministry of Culture, Myanmar Police members, athletes from Ministry of Sports, and liaison officers who will join the XXVII SEA Games, totalling 100.—MNA

between the two countries. Myanma Alinn



Traditional boxing challenge in Mandalay on 14-15 December

MANDALAY, 11 Dec—With the sponsorship of Cobra Soft Drink, Saya Datha will organize the Myanmar Traditional Boxing Challenge at the Sibir Thaya Sports Ground at the former of 35th and 71st Streets in Mandalay at 6 pm on 14 and 15 December.

The fixtures of the boxers are: Tun Tun Min (Mudon) vs Saw Gaparay

Hmu (T&T), Letthee Bayin Aung Aung (Myanmar) vs. Saw Tin Pok (a) Shaung Muay Thai Champion (England), Maik Taing Hsan (MCDC) vs Ye Yint (Naga Mahn), Soe Htet Oo (White Thway Thit) vs Lay Hnosh Shin (Thazi), Shwe Phala (Naga Mahn) vs Ye Dagun (MCDC), Nyilay Mike Khe (Madaya) vs Saw Zaw Min (White Thwat Thit), Kyel

Lay (Shwephu) vs Moe Ma Kha (Mandalay), 12-taung Kyar (Shwekyaphyu) vs Shwe Kyar (Madaya), Ye Yint Tun (Mudon) vs The Dapwint (Madaya), Kywe Gyi (Shwekyaphyu) vs Aung Ba Din (Golden Butterfly), Tet Lu (Mudon) vs Zwe Kyaung Thar (Sagaing), and Dein (Madaya) vs Pawaphyu (Hpa-an).

Myanma Alinn



PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 12 December, 2012

Boost Myanmar tourism through information technology

Tourism in Myanmar has been developed since 1996, "Visit Myanmar Year". Myanmar tourism is based on Myanmar's natural and cultural richness. Myanmar is a place of authenticity where visitors can feel something genuine. The unsullied culture and natural resources, people with a sense of genuine hospitality and friendliness, who still take pride in wearing traditional costumes and practising age old customs, adds up to a rich and authentic trip.

Myanmar tourism should take advantage of social networking as a tool to attract new visitors while carefully monitoring bad corporate image. The increasing popularity of social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter as well as using You-tube and blogs as marketing tools allows tourists to share their experiences and suggestions about the country.

There are achievements in some countries that already use social networking sites, for at least 50 per cent of travellers do their research over the Internet prior to embarking on their trip. Many of these travellers who use the Internet use social networking sites. So, if the country uses networking sites it will be easier to reach those travellers and have a beneficial effect on its tourism.

However, the country and tourism operators should be aware of carefully monitoring feedback and responding to negative opinions rather than ignoring and deleting negative views.

In today's economic environment, the tourism industry relies heavily on Information Technology, which is embedded within every stage of the travel lifecycle. This being so, tourism operators in Myanmar are required to have knowledge of how technology can empower their businesses to do better.



Maung Maung San Lwin (GAD)

ARTICLE

Bounden duty of Myanmar people

The people of Myanmar are obsessed with the motto, "The origin, the prestige." It always motivates the duty-bound people of the country to smarten up themselves.

The saying portrays that the people are swollen with pride of being Myanmar, citizens of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

There are more than 200 countries of all sizes around the world. These includes the countries which have long and colourful history. There are also new nations which were born a few years or decades ago. Citizens of each country used to take pride in the history of their country. A saying goes, "Civilization started from five rivers." These five rivers are Nile River of Egypt where the earliest civilization flourished, Euphrates River and Tigris River which bounded Babylon (now Iraq), Indus River of India and Huang He River (Yellow River) of China. The advanced civilization was found in these settlements.

Politics, architecture and performing arts had been created in Tagaung era which is said to be the earliest chronicled period of the history of Myanmar more than 2500 years ago. With the findings of Stone-Age weapons and mural paintings in Pyadalin Cave in Ywangan Township of Taunggyi District and along the Ayeyawady River, the history of Myanmar can be claimed to date back more than 10000 or 20000 years.

Primates which have limbs and teeth including vital ones were unearthed in Pontaung Ponnyaregion. US, French and Japanese researchers visited the region and studied the primates together with Myanmar scholars. They unanimously approved

the age of the primates to be 40 million years after experimenting on samples through advanced carbon method. As the primates found in Northern Africa and Egypt were approved to be 33 million years old, Myanmar is said to be seven million years older than those civilization. We could now claim, "The mankind started up in Myanmar and Myanmar started up in Pontaung Ponnya."

Since Tagaung monarchy of more than 2500 years ago, Myanmar was ruled by its own kings in Srikestra, Vishnu, Hanlin, Mongmaw eras in Pyu civilization, and Bagan, Pinya, Inwa, Sagaing, Myinsaing, Toungoo, Nyaungyan, and Konbaung (Yadanabon) eras. Fine and commercial arts had been created in these times. Myanmar people of these times erected various pagodas and temples in Bagan and breathtaking Shwedagon Pagoda.

Myanmar is rich in agricultural resources with abundant farms and lands. More than 50 or 60 million acres of lands have been put under paddy and crops in multiple cropping patterns. It is also blessed with great water resources: freshwater from creeks and streams and rain water. More than half of the country is covered with valuable teak, hardwood, Mahogany and sandalwood forests. It owns vast natural resources underground and seabed.

Inland and offshore oilfields are commercially producing oil and gas. The nation saw internal armed conflict triggered by political disunity as soon as she regained her independence. Myanmar is endowed with ruby, sapphire, jade and pearls which are the biggest in the world. The motherland could feed her children sufficiently. Due to the lack of dynamism and unity

among them, advancement in modern technology and high competitiveness in education, the nation could not catch the development it should have to gain.

While staying under the yoke of colonialism for more than 100 years, life was then difficult for Myanmar people. That's why, they strived for regaining Myanmar independence, making the supreme sacrifice.

There was an armed force equipped with courage and military strategy in the time of monarchs. Although it was better than invaders in bravery and military performance, the nation had fallen to the colonialists armed with modern weapons because it lacked modern armaments. So this tragedy reminded us to establish a defence forces with the highest military capability so that territorial integrity, people and sovereignty could be protected.

Setting up of the bronze and concrete statues of Maha Bandoola is not just a decoration. It is a motivation for following the steps of Maha Bandoola's courage, military leadership, mental faculty and martial prowess in defending the nation.

Likewise, statues of King Anawrahta, King Bayintnaung and King Alaungpaya are reminiscent of their mental faculty and martial prowess and statesmanship. They should be best remembered as Union architects of the unifications of the country. King Anawrahta unified the country into a whole for the first time, followed by King Bayintnaung and King Alaungpaya.

Statues and pictures of Bogyoke Aung San are meant to evoke a great admiration for his leadership based on simplicity and honesty, personal sacrifice, mental faculty and martial prowess, efforts in the independence struggle, goodwill to poor

people and clear vision of repulsing foreign influence for the sake of the Myanmar people. These statues and pictures remind us of national cause initiated by Bogyoke to be realized and to step into his shoes.

The purpose of setting up of Panglong stone pillar is to remember forever the emergence of the independent Union of Myanmar through Panglong agreement supported by the unity of national races and Panglong spirit amongst the instigation of colonialists who were driving a wedge between hilly and plain regions and national races and Bamar.

Setting up of Independence stone pillars inculcate the one in Maha Bandoola Park in Yangon is not only a gesture of commemorating Myanmar independence struggle but also a caution about the exploitative acts of colonialists, encouraging us to shape our future of our own volition in the interest of our own country. Independence stone pillars inculcate us with nostalgic memories for Myanmar independence struggle and remind us to safeguard the Union and sovereignty (liberty) established with the unity of national races (Pinlon spirit) as long as the world exists and to preserve the independence as a fine legacy of our ancestors.

Rights to safeguard our own land, to proclaim the sovereignty and to shape the future of the nation by citizens themselves are democratic rights Myanmar people are given in accord with the regaining of independence. Ensure unity to the most possible extent.

We have a bounden duty to preserve the independence, bringing about the eternal peace and prosperity of the Union.

Kyemon; 11-12-2012

Trs: HKA+YM

Kachin State Red Cross Society to take rehabilitation measures in Rakhine State

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec—Kachin State Red Cross Society which will undertake rescue and rehabilitation tasks in

Rakhine State received cash assistances from the State Chief Minister U La John Ngan Hsai and the chief of the state Red Cross

Society at the Kachin state government office on 7 December.

The chief minister also participated in the December

mass walk activities on 8 December and viewed progress in upgrading of roads in Myitkyina.

MNA

Don't
Smoke

NATIONAL

Union Ministers, Chinese delegation visit groundnut research farm, quality control laboratory, hybrid seed production research farm

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec — Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing, Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint and a Chinese delegation led by Chairman Mr Zhae Ming and Vice-Chairman Mr Liu Aimin of CETC Co., Ltd of the People's Republic of China

visited the 97-day-old quality groundnut plantations grown on the 10-acre farmland at Chaing Village in Dekkhinathiri Township this morning. The Haiain strain groundnut research farm was jointly operated by Shwe Thanlwin Company and CETC Company of China. Next, they observed

agriculture produce booth and hybrid seeds salesroom and visited quality control laboratory, jointly organized by Shwe Thanlwin Company and CETC Company, and 100-acre Myanmar-China Hybrid Seed Production Research Farm in Kyarku Anauk village in the township.—MNA

Course in Diplomacy (1/2012) concludes

YANGON, 11 Dec — The Graduation Ceremony of Course in Diplomacy (1/2012) conducted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was held at Wunzinminyazar Hall of the Ministry at 9.30 am yesterday, with an opening address delivered by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin.

of Foreign Affairs, responsible officials, retired Myanmar ambassadors, professors and instructors. The Course in Diplomacy is a 12 weeks training course for Junior Officers, the new intake of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The curriculum includes subjects related to diplomatic training and contemporary issues. Altogether 30 Heads of Branch/ Third Secretary participated in the Course. MNA



Union Minister for Foreign Affairs, U Wunna Maung Lwin addresses Graduation Ceremony of Course in Diplomacy (1/2012).—MNA

Course on Training of Trainers for Civil Service No 1/2012 opened



YANGON, 11 Dec — ASEAN Resource Center for Training of Trainers for Civil Service established at the Union Civil Services Board (UCSB) has conducted a course on Training of Trainers for Civil Service No 1/2012 at the UCSB Office here, yesterday morning.

international Management Group (IMG) and funded

by the Government of the Kingdom of Norway.

The course was opened with an address by U Kyaw Thu, Chairman of the UCSB.

A total of 30 trainees from the training centers of various ministries, organizations and the two Central Institutes of Civil Service are attending the four-week course covering five modules focusing on training matters and methodologies.

The Union Civil Services Board organized the course in collaboration with the

Border Affairs Ministry, Vietnamese Ethnic Minorities Committee meet

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec — The bilateral consultation between Myanmar's Ministry of Border Affairs and Vietnam's Ethnic Minorities Committee was held in Royal Kumudra Hotel, here, yesterday morning.

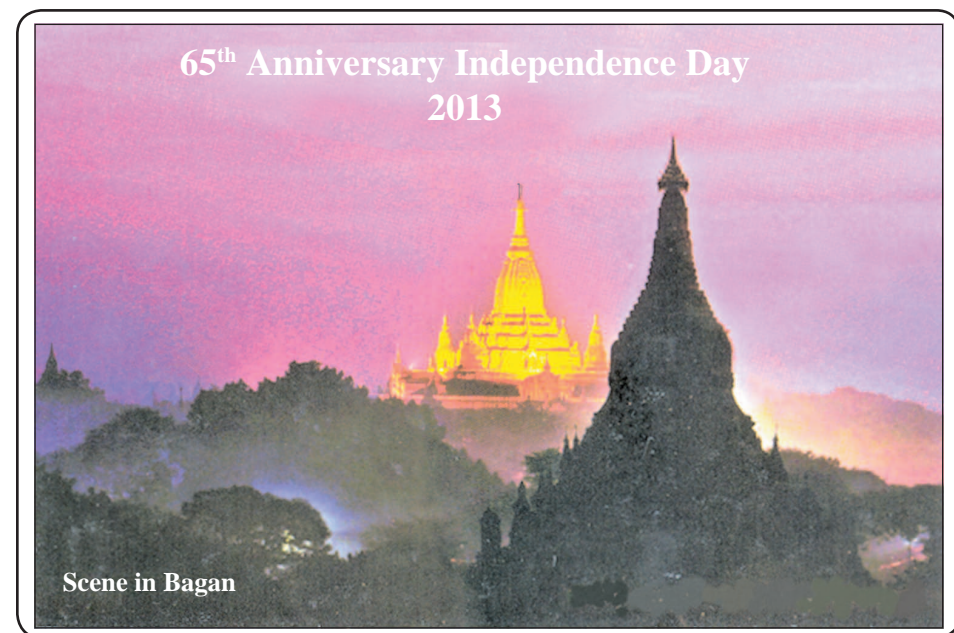
chaired by the President and the working committee formed to gear up development efforts in border areas are taking measures to develop infrastructures and bring about socio-economic improvements in 18 areas.

The Myanmar side was led by Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Zaw Win and the Vietnamese side by Vice-Chairman of the Vietnamese committee Deputy Minister Mr Son Minh Thang.

The government formed Union-level Peace-making Committee and working committee and is negotiating with ethnic armed groups at state and Union levels, he said.

Maj-Gen Zaw Win said Border Affairs and National Races Development Implementation Committee

The Deputy Minister also briefed on infrastructural development, human resource development, rural development



Myanmar Ambassador to Belgium presents his credentials to Belgian King Albert II

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Dec — U Paw Lwin Sein, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Kingdom of Belgium, presented his Credentials to His Majesty King Albert II, King of the Belgians, on 5 December 2012 in Brussels.—MNA

Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister oversees regional development in Labutta, Pyinsalu

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec — Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung inspected locally-produced goods on display at the office of Pyinsalu sub-township in Labutta Township on 7 December.

at the basic education high school of Pyinsalu sub-township, the chief minister presented 120 dozens of exercise books for the high school and primary schools and K 100,000 each for seven primary schools in Kongyi village-tract, and planted a tree in front of the school.

The opening ceremony was also attended by the heads of department under the UCSB, officials from the Europe-based International Management Group (IMG), course instructors and the trainees. MNA

The Chief Minister met with departmental staff, townsenders, ward/village administrators and members, entrepreneurs, members of social organizations and local people. In meeting with teachers

the two countries to ensure the human resource development, he added. He also briefed on ethnic minorities in Vietnam and assistance from the Vietnamese government to them and efforts for reducing poverty and attracting foreign investment.

On his arrival at Mingala Theikdi monastic education school at ward-1 of Pyinsalu sub-township, the chief minister paid respects to the Sayadaw and presented provisions. At 25-bed Pyinsalu People's Hospital, the chief minister presented K 57000 for 19 patients who are receiving treatment and K 200,000 for the hospital.

Afterwards, the two sides discussed organizing study tours and conducting workshops with participation of staff and experts who are currently working for the promotion of socio-economy of ethnic minorities.—MNA

At Yway Nadi Hall in Labutta, the chief minister met with Region Hluttaw representatives in the township, departmental officials, townsenders, members of social organizations and locals. The Chief Minister held talks on the projects being implemented in Ayeyawady Region with UNFPA Resident Representative Mr. Mohamed Abdel-Ahad and party at Pathein Hotel in the evening. MNA

US envoy to Sudan, South Sudan stepping down

WASHINGTON, 11 Dec— Veteran US diplomat Princeton Lyman is stepping down as President Barack Obama's special envoy for Sudan and South Sudan, the White House said on Monday.

Lyman's departure comes after a nearly two-year stint as Obama's troubleshooter for the region, a tenure that saw South Sudan secede last year under a US-backed peace deal that ended decades of civil war. But unresolved disputes between the two

countries, including renewed border hostilities, have impeded normalization of ties.

"Princeton has done a tremendous job in helping to realize the promise of an independent South Sudan, and working toward the international vision of Sudan and South Sudan living side by side in peace," Obama said in statement.

"The people of Sudan and South Sudan, who have suffered so much, have the opportunity to

seize a brighter future because of Princeton's efforts to urge both sides to put the interests of their people first."

The Obama administration did not provide any immediate explanation for the departure of Lyman, 77, who was named to the post in March 2011.

Before that, he led a US team that supported negotiations for Sudan's 2005 peace agreement, and also served previously as deputy assistant secretary of state for African

affairs, US ambassador to Nigeria and South Africa as well as assistant secretary of state for international organization affairs.

Sudan and South Sudan have asked the African Union to help hammer out details of a proposed withdrawal of troops from their disputed border, defense ministers from both countries said on Monday, as stalled talks continued to delay oil exports from landlocked South Sudan through Sudan—Reuters



A Greek girl smiles in front of a stand at a Christmas charity bazaar in central Athens, Greece, on 10 Dec, 2012. The annual Chinese Community Christmas charity bazaar was hosted in Athens on Sunday, reaffirming the friendship, cooperation and mutual respect between China and Greece. The event was organized by Chinese Communities in Greece in collaboration with the Chinese Embassy in Athens and the Municipality of Athens.—XINHUA

Lawyers for accused Colorado shooter to subpoena Fox News reporter

NEW YORK, 11 Dec— An attorney for accused Colorado theater gunman James Holmes said in court on Monday he will subpoena a Fox News reporter to reveal her source for a news story about the massacre, setting up a potential First Amendment showdown.

Public defender Daniel King said he plans to subpoena New York-based correspondent Jana Winter, who days after the July 20 rampage reported Holmes had sent a notebook to a psychiatrist detailing his plans to commit mass murder. Holmes, a 24-year-old former neuroscience graduate student, is charged with multiple counts of murder and attempted murder for the shooting spree in the Denver suburb of Aurora,

Colorado that killed 12 people and wounded 58.

King said the story, which cited an unnamed law enforcement source, violated a gag order imposed by Arapahoe County District Judge William Sylvester. "We have not received a subpoena on Jana Winter's behalf and will evaluate once we do," a Fox News spokesperson told Reuters. The psychiatrist, Lynne Fenton, is on staff at the University of Colorado, where she saw Holmes as a patient before he started the process to withdraw from the university before the massacre.

The move by King came after a court hearing in which more than a dozen law enforcement officers who saw the package containing the notebook in a university mail room



The defence team including public defender Daniel King (C) and Tamara Brady arrive for the second court appearance of James Holmes, in Centennial, Colorado on 30 July, 2012.—REUTERS

denied under oath that they were the source of the leak.

On the night of the shooting, Holmes bought a ticket to the movie, but left the theater minutes

before the film to put on tactical body armor and a gas mask. He returned to the theater and fired on the audience using several weapons, police have said.—Reuters

Bus crash kills 8, injures 32 in Colombia

BOGOTA, 11 Dec—At least eight people were killed, including two minors, and another 32 were injured Monday when a passenger bus returning from a Christmas outing crashed in the town of Ibague in Co-

lombia's central department of Tolima, local authorities said. Ibague Police Chief Col. Edgar Munoz said most of the passengers were asleep when the bus overturned at an intersection on its return trip to the town of

Girardot from the northwest city of Medellin.

While local media reported the cause of the crash appeared to be speeding, authorities opened an investigation into the exact causes. The injured, includ-

ing five in serious condition, were taken to a local hospital in Ibague. According to Munoz, most of the passengers were employees of a bank and were coming back to Girardot after a visit to Medellin to see the city's Christmas tree lighting ceremony.—Xinhua

Four Al-Qaeda militants caught by security forces in south Yemen

ADEN, (Yemen), 11 Dec— Yemeni security troops arrested four members of the Al-Qaeda terrorist group in the southern Province of Lahj on Monday, a government official told Xinhua.

The security forces managed to capture four Al-Qaeda members and seized several homemade bombs from the terrorist group suspected of planning attacks against military bases in Lahj Prov-

ince, the local government official said on condition of anonymity.

"Two of them arrested worked to recruit new terrorists and taught several members of the al-Qaida group how to make bombs," the source said.

Security authorities are continuing to search for other Al-Qaeda members in the restive southern region, according to the official.

Meanwhile, an army

officer told Xinhua anonymously that experts of the anti-bomb disposal unit defused two mines during a military operation launched in neighboring southern province of Abyan.

Al-Qaeda militants are yet to comment.

In January 2009, Al-Qaeda affiliates in Saudi Arabia and Yemen officially merged and formed Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP).

The group, mainly en-

trenching itself in Yemen's southern provinces of Abyan and Shabwa, is on the terrorist list of the United States, which considers it as an increasing threat to national security.

The AQAP underscores the challenges faced by Yemen's new President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi, who won support from major Yemeni political forces, the United States and Saudi Arabia.

Xinhua

US wishes ailing Venezuelan president well

WASHINGTON, 11 Dec— The United States on Monday wished ailing Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez "a speedy recovery" but ruled out the restoration of diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level for now.

"As with anybody who is suffering what he is suffering, we do," State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland replied when asked whether Washington wished the Venezuelan leader, the loudest critic of the US in the hemisphere, "a speedy recovery." Chavez, 58, returned to Cuba earlier in the day for an emergency surgery, his fourth in the island nation in his battle against cancer in his pelvic region since June 2011. The president is due to take office for another six-year term on 10 Jan following his re-election on 7 Oct. Prior to his departure for Cuba, he had announced that his vice president, Nicolas Maduro, would take control of the country if he is not

able to fulfill his responsibilities.

Venezuela's constitution calls for elections to be convened in 30 days if the president becomes incapacitated.

"Obviously we would want to see any succession follow the terms of the Venezuelan constitution, we're obviously watching events there carefully," Nuland said at a regular news briefing.

She said Washington wants "the best possible communications" with the Venezuelan government on all issues of mutual interest including counter-narcotics, counterterrorism, rule of law and commerce.

"But we don't currently have any plans to re-establish relations at the ambassadorial level with Caracas," she added.

US-Venezuelan relations have been tense in recent years, and the two countries have not exchanged ambassadors in the past two years.

Xinhua



Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez (C) gestures before leaving for Cuba at the Simon Bolivar International Airport in Maiquetia, Venezuela, on 10 Dec, 2012. President Hugo Chavez returned to Cuba early Monday for emergency surgery.

XINHUA

REGIONAL

Japan LDP and partner on track for big election win—surveys

TOKYO, 11 Dec—Hawkish former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and its smaller ally are on track for a resounding victory in Sunday's election, winning more than 300 seats in parliament's 480-member lower house, media surveys showed on Tuesday.

Abe, 58, who resigned abruptly as premier in 2007 after a troubled year in office, has vowed to press the Bank of Japan for radical monetary easing and spend more on public works to beat persistent deflation and a strong yen. He has also pledged to take a bolder stance on security policy.

Prime Minister Yoshi-

hiko Noda's Democratic Party of Japan, which surged to power in 2009 for the first time, may get fewer than 80 seats, the *Sankei* and *Mainichi* newspaper surveys showed.

The conservative Sankei said an LDP-New Komeito party coalition could even win the two-thirds majority needed to over-ride parliament's upper house, where no party has a majority and which can block bills. But the paper cautioned that almost 40 percent of those surveyed had not decided how to vote.

Right-leaning Japan Restoration Party (JRP), led by popular Osaka Mayor Toru Hashimoto and octo-

genarian nationalist Shintaro Ishihara, could win around 50 seats, the polls showed.

A solid LDP-New Komeito majority would make any formal coalition with the JRP less likely, but the party's showing could make it a force to contend with in the future.

The Bank of Japan will likely ease monetary policy next week, sources say, as looming risks such as the potential fallout from the US fiscal cliff and weak Chinese growth cloud the outlook for an economy already seen as in recession.

The most likely option is for the central bank to expand its asset-buying and lending programme,

currently at 91 trillion yen (\$1.1 trillion), by another 5-10 trillion yen, at the meeting on 19-20 December, sources familiar with its thinking have said.

For now, many in the central bank want to hold off on any new initiatives unless the US Federal Reserve, which holds its policy-setting meeting this week, surprises markets with a bigger-than-expected stimulus and triggers a sharp yen rise.—Reuters



Visitors walk around in the exhibition area of the 11th China International Exchange of Professionals in Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong Province, on 10 Dec, 2012. The two-day event kicked off on Monday.

XINHUA

Strong quake hits eastern Indonesia, not potential for tsunami

JAKARTA, 11 Dec—Powerful quake struck off Maluku in eastern parts of Indonesia after midnight on Tuesday, but no potential for tsunami and no initial

reports of damage or casualty, officials said here.

The Indonesian Meteorology and Geophysics Agency reported that the quake was measured at 7.4

magnitude with the depth at 10 km undersea bed, but the USGS said on its website it was at 7.2 magnitude with the depth at 155.2 km under sea bed.

According to the agency, the quake struck at 23:53 pm Jakarta time on Monday or 01:53 am local time on Tuesday (1653 GMT Monday) with epicentre at 180 km northwest of southeast Maluku Barat, an official of the agency said. "We do not issue a tsunami warning," he told *Xinhua* by phone.

The intensity of the quake was felt at 4 to 5 MMI (Modifies Mercalli Intensity) at Saumlaki of Maluku and 2 to 3 MMI at Maluku, the official said.

Spokesman of the National Disaster Management and Mitigation Agency Sutopo Purwo Nugroho told *Xinhua* by phone that there was no initial reports of building damaged or those injured.

"There is no any reports of building collapse or casualty," he told *Xinhua* by phone.

Indonesia sits on a vulnerable quake hit-zone so called "the Pacific Ring of Fire."

Xinhua

Cambodia unveils memorial for slain reporters in 1970-75 war time



A stone-made memorial tablet is erected in a public park in front of Hotel Le Royal in the west of Phnom Penh's Wat Phnom historical site, Cambodia, on 10 Dec, 2012. Cambodia on Monday inaugurated a memorial to 37 foreign and Cambodian correspondents and journalists who died or were missing while covering a savage five-year war from 1970 to 1975, a government official said.

XINHUA

PHNOM PENH, 11 Dec—Cambodia on Monday inaugurated a memorial to 37 foreign and Cambodian correspondents and journalists who died or were missing while covering a savage five-year war from 1970 to 1975, a government

official said. They were reporters, photographers and television cameramen from Japan, France, the United States, Switzerland, Germany, Austria, India, Laos, Australia and Cambodia.

Their names were engraved on the stone-made

memorial tablet, which was erected in a public park in front of Hotel Le Royal in the west of the capital's Wat Phnom historical site.

Speaking at the memorial inauguration, the Government Spokesman and Minister of Information, Khieu Kanharith said, "The memorial is to commemorate all journalists who were killed during the 5-year war."

"We remember their braveness and sacrifice for the cause of freedom and the cause of the press," he said. The memorial displayed with the photos of the dead so that their relatives and friends could visit and pay their homage to them, he added.

At least 37 reporters were killed or are listed as missing from the 1970-75 war time, which pitted the US-backed Lon Nol government against the Khmer Rouge.

Xinhua



Visiting Chinese State Councilor Liu Yandong (R) shakes hands with David Shearer, leader of the opposition Labor Party of New Zealand, during their meeting at Parliament Building in Wellington, New Zealand, on 10 Dec, 2012. Liu is in New Zealand for a three-day official visit.

XINHUA

Largest Chinese dictionary to be revised

BEIJING, 11 Dec—All 25 volumes of a revised edition of the most inclusive Chinese dictionary, the *Hanyu Da Cidian*, will be published by 2020, according to an announcement on Monday.

Over 30 percent of the current first edition will be altered, including revisions to more than 10,000 entries, and the addition of 100,000 to 120,000 entries, it was revealed at ceremony to mark the project.

Containing over 50

million Chinese characters, 375,000 entries and more than 2,200 illustrations, the first edition of the *Hanyu Da Cidian* was published in 1986. The first volume of the second edition will be unveiled in 2015.

The National Publication Funds decided in March this year to channel 27 million yuan (4.32 mln USdollars) in financial aid to the dictionary's publisher, Shanghai Lexicographical Publishing House.

Xinhua

New Zealand, Japan update double tax pact to promote investment

WELLINGTON, 11 Dec—New Zealand and Japan have signed a new double tax agreement that aims to encourage two-way investment, New Zealand Revenue Minister Peter Dunne announced on Tuesday.

The new agreement, which replaced a 1963 treaty, included lower withholding taxes on interest, dividend and royalty payments between the two

countries, making it easier for businesses to invest and bring back profits, Dunne said. "Japan is one of New Zealand's largest trading partners and the existing treaty is our oldest tax information exchange agreement."

Updating the agreement recognizes the volume of trade between our two nations and the significance of our relationship with Japan," he said in a statement.

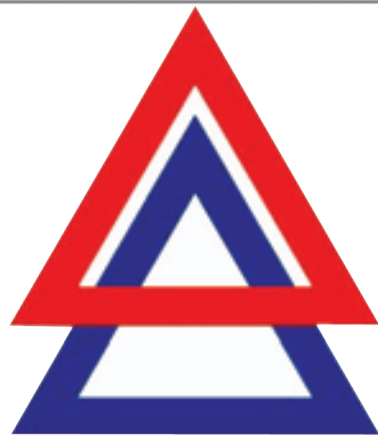
"This agreement will help New Zealand-based businesses compete in Japan and help make New Zealand a more attractive place to invest in, and it will modernize our tax treaty arrangements with Japan bringing them more into line with best international practice."

Double tax agreements helped reduce tax impediments to trade and investment between countries

by preventing cross-border business income being taxed twice, giving greater certainty about how that income would be taxed.

"They are also a valuable tool in combating tax avoidance, which is a high priority for us," Dunne said.

The updated agreement was signed by officials in Tokyo late Monday and would come into force once both countries give legal effect to it.—*Xinhua*



KBZ BANK

KBZ BANK LTD. is pleased to inform all that

we have successfully opened

Sawbwagyigone branch,

Insein Township, Yangon Region,

as 89th branch to date-effective 12.12.12

**All honored persons are kindly requested to come and
enjoy our cordial banking services at our newest branch.**

KBZ Bank: The Strength of Myanmar

Contact Address:

Sawbwagyigone branch,

No. 86/87, Lan Thit Road, Nantha Gone Quarter,

Sawbwagyigone, Insein Township, Yangon Region.

Phone: (01) 647941/42/43/44

Fax: (01) 647933, 647940, 647945/46/47/48

www.kbzbank.com

ADVERTISEMENT & ENTERTAINMENT

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV JASA AMAN VOY NO (4)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV JASA AMAN VOY NO (4) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.12.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the by-laws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: SEALS CO. LTD.**

Phone No: 256924/256914

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SN QUEEN VOY NO ()**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SN QUEEN VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.12.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the by-laws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SEA NET SHIPPING
CO. LTD.**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

Information of Bilateral Roaming Agreements

As Ministry of Communications and Information Technology is undertaking reforms for the telecommunications sector, international mobile roaming is being extensively expended in order to facilitate smooth communication with international countries.

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar will be hosting the SEA Games and World Economic Forum (WEF) on East Asia in 2013 and Myanmar will take over the ASEAN Chairmanship in 2014. In order to make sure that the sports people and visitors especially from ASEAN member states and ASEAN Dialogue Partners for the events can seamlessly use their GSM mobile phones from their respective countries while they are in Myanmar, Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications has been taking necessary measures to enter into bilateral roaming agreements with GSM Mobile operators from other countries including ASEAN Member countries.

In this connection, we would like to inform foreign GSM Mobile Operators who would like to enter into roaming arrangement with Myanma Posts and Telecommunications to present respective Permanent Reference Document to the following address for roaming agreement -

Chief Engineer (Mobile Department)
Myanma Posts and Telecommunications
Email: htaywin@mptngw.net.mm



A closed fire hydrant is seen in front of a Detroit fire station in this publicity photo from the documentary film "Burn", released to Reuters on 10 Dec, 2012.

REUTERS



A visitor views the Mary Hogarth room of the Charles Dickens Museum in central London on 10 Dec, 2012.

REUTERS

London home of Charles Dickens open after renovation

LONDON, 11 Dec—The former London home of Charles Dickens reopened on Monday, after an eight-month, 3.1 million-pound refurbishment celebrating the author's bicentenary.

Dickens lived at 48 Doughty Street in central London with his family between 1837 and 1839. There, in his mid-20s, he wrote "Oliver Twist" and "Nicholas Nickleby", novels that made him a rising literary star.

The four-storey brick row house was restored to its early Victorian splendour and more atmospheric, museum director Florian Schweizer told Reuters.

"We wanted to recreate it like a home, so visitors could feel like they're actually visiting Charles Dickens and that he might step back in at any time," Schweizer said.

Inaugurated in 1925, the museum is the author's only surviving London house. Its redesign, largely funded through the Heritage Lottery Fund, comes in the year marking the 200th anniversary of Dickens's birth in Portsmouth, Hampshire, and opens the house's kitchen and attic to the public for the first time.

Visitors are guided through the dimly lit home not by museum signage

on the walls but painted silhouettes of a young Dickens, with long hair and no beard, challenging the mainstream image of "the older Dickens", said Schweizer.

They can tour the writer's dining room, wine cellar ("Dickens loved his booze"), bedroom and study. There, surrounded by ceiling-high bookshelves, stands the author's original desk, where he finished "The Pickwick Papers" and dreamed up the characters of Oliver Twist and Nicholas Nickleby.

"He could have just been a one-novel sensation, but it was here that he built on that first reputation made with The Pickwick Papers, and by the time he moved out it was pretty clear he was there to stay," Schweizer said, noting the house had an "inspirational" dimension, especially for young visitors.

"It's the beginning of a career - that makes it special."

Dickens lived in the house with his wife Catherine, the eldest three of their 10 children and his sister-in-law Mary.

Mary died in the house at age 17, a heartbreaking episode which left Dickens incapable of writing for weeks and inspired many of the angelic heroines and heroes in his novels.

Reuters

Detroit fire-fighters, holes in boots, honoured in "BURN"

DETROIT, 11 Dec—It was the death of Walter Harris, a 17-year veteran Detroit fire-fighter, in an abandoned building four years ago that inspired Tom Putnam and Brenna Sanchez to film their documentary "BURN."

"(Harris) was killed in the collapse of an abandoned building while fighting a fire. We heard that story and asked ourselves a pretty obvious question outside the fire service: Why is someone risking his life fighting a fire in an abandoned building? ... It seemed like there was a very compelling story here," Putnam told Reuters.

For an entire year, producers Putnam and Sanchez, 39, a Detroit native now living in Los Angeles, followed the fire-fighters of Engine Company 50 (E50) on Detroit's downtrodden east side, chronicling their triumphs and tragedies, as well as their private moments.

Now their film "BURN," which won the audience award at the 2012 Tribeca Film Festival, is helping to raise much-needed money for Detroit fire-fighters, even as the filmmakers seek funds to get their documentary released nationwide.

On their first two nights with E50, Putnam and

Sanchez went to 21 fires.

"The sheer volume and scope of the work that these guys were dealing with was shocking," said Putnam. "We didn't know what they were getting into."

Added Sanchez: "Being from Detroit, you become immune. It wasn't until I left that I realized not everyone is burning their city down."

Since 1950, racial tensions and vanishing industry have cut Detroit's population in half from 1.8 million to 714,000. As a result, there are more than 80,000 abandoned homes all over the city. The filmmakers found that the city has an

average of 30 fires daily, and one of the highest arson rates in the world. Los Angeles, with a population of around 4 million, has an average of 11 fires a day.

As if things weren't tough enough, Detroit is seeking to avoid bankruptcy and firehouses all over the city have been hit by budget cuts. E50 is no exception. The fire-fighters told Putnam and Sanchez they haven't been given a raise in 10 years, they have holes in their boots and they don't have the proper tools needed to fight fires. Yet that doesn't stop them from going out and risking their lives daily.—Reuters

"X Factor" castoff Cheryl Cole files \$2.3 million lawsuit against producers

LOS ANGELES, 11 Dec— Cheryl Cole, who was originally hired as a judge for the American version of "The X Factor" but was replaced by Pussycat Doll Nicole Scherzinger before the show premiered, is now suing the producers of the show for \$2.3 million dollars, according to court papers obtained by

TheWrap.

In the complaint against Blue Orbit Productions, filed in Los Angeles Superior Court, Girls Aloud singer Cole claims that she entered a pay-or-play agreement with Blue Orbit Productions in April 22, 2011, that guaranteed her \$1.8 million for the first season of the show, and \$2 million for the second.

The suit also says that Cole was also due to receive other expenses for housing, wardrobe, styling and general living expenses.

Cole claims that she received the \$1.8 million for the first season, but the producers didn't pony up for the wardrobe/styling allowance, housing allowance (which, according to the suit, was \$15,000 per

month) or living allowance.

She also didn't receive her guaranteed \$2 million for the second season, the suit claims.

Now Cole wants damages "in excess of \$2.3 million," plus interest at the legal rate, and court costs.

TheWrap was unable to reach Blue Orbit Productions for comment.

Reuters



Musician Cheryl Cole waves as she arrives for the European premiere of 'What to expect when you are Expecting', in London on 22 May, 2012.—REUTERS



Fulham's Hugo Rodallega (R) is challenged by Newcastle United's Hatem Ben Arfa during their English Premier League soccer match at Craven Cottage in London on 10 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

Rodallega heads Fulham to win over

Newcastle

LONDON, 11 Dec— Fulham striker Hugo Rodallega headed the decisive goal to seal a 2-1 win over Newcastle United in an absorbing Premier League match between struggling teams at Craven Cottage on Monday.

Fulham's first victory in eight games kept them 13th in the standings after 16 games, three points and one place ahead of Newcastle.

Steve Sidwell put

Fulham ahead with a deflected shot after 19 minutes, their first goal in over five hours of Premier League action.

"That was vital for us," Fulham manager Martin Jol told Sky Sports. "I was so happy that we could score the first goal because that's been our problem in the last couple of weeks.

"I felt that we showed some character but I felt we should have finished it off early."

Soccer

Newcastle, who beat Wigan Athletic last time out to end a run of four league defeats in a row, equalised through a brilliant dipping 20-metre strike by midfielder Hatem Ben Arfa which flew into the net off the bar early in the second half.

Rodallega rose to head home Damien Duff's free kick after 63 minutes although Newcastle almost levelled again when Fabricio Coloccini's powerful shot struck the crossbar.—Reuters



Rory McIlroy of Northern Ireland jokes with girlfriend Danish tennis player Caroline Wozniacki (not pictured) as he poses with the trophy after the fourth and final round of the DP World Tour Championship at Jumeirah Golf Estates in Dubai on 25 Nov, 2012. REUTERS

McIlroy scoops European Writers Award

LONDON, 11 Dec—World number one Rory McIlroy won the 2012 European Golf Writers Trophy on Monday after a spectacular season during which he landed his second major title and topped the money-list on both sides of the Atlantic.

The 23-year-old Northern Irishman, who added the US PGA Championship to the US Open crown he bagged in 2011, finished ahead of Europe's triumphant Ryder Cup team in the voting.

"Wherever we play the golf writers are there helping to promote our sport and give a voice to golf and therefore I am delighted to win their award," he said in a statement.

"I hope to give them plenty more good things to write about in 2013," added McIlroy who claimed a total of five tournament victories this year.

Reuters

Benfica pile misery on Sporting with comeback win

LISBON, 11 Dec— Benfica scored three second-half goals to earn a thrilling 3-1 comeback win over struggling Sporting on Monday to stay top of the Portuguese Premier League while their Lisbon rivals endure their worst league start in nearly 80 years.

Benfica's Paraguay striker Oscar Cardozo netted twice in the last 10 minutes having pressed defender Marcos Rojo into scoring an own goal after an hour to cancel out Sporting's first-

half opener from Ricky van Wolfswinkel.

Cardozo converted a penalty after Sporting's Dutch centre back Khalid Boulahrouz was sent off after handling a goal-bound shot from Eduardo Salvio and then sealed the points with a neat header in the 86th minute.

The battle for the title already looks like a two-

horse race with Benfica and Porto locked on 29 points after 11 matches, the champions having earned a hard-fought 1-0 home win over Moreirense on Saturday.

Sporting, knocked out of the Portuguese Cup and Europa League, the defeat left them in ninth place, are now 18 points behind the leaders.

Reuters

Benfica's Andre Gomes (L), Maxi Pereira (R) and Oscar Cardozo block Sporting Lisbon's Danijel Pranjić during the Portuguese Premier League soccer match at Alvalade stadium in Lisbon on 10 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS



Lazio fail to keep pace after draw at Bologna

ROME, 11 Dec—Fourth-placed Lazio missed the chance to keep pace with leaders Juventus when they were held to a 0-0 draw at struggling Bologna in Serie A on Monday and are now eight points off top spot.

Bologna were not pretty but they were certainly effective, stifling a Lazio side who looked to create chances throughout the first half as they sought to leave with a victory. The home side, by shutting down Brazilian playmaker Hernanes and midfielder Antonio Candreva, cut off Lazio's supply lines, leaving Libor Kozak increasingly frustrated up front.

The Rome club started with talismanic striker Miroslav Klose on the bench, with the Germany international still working his way back to match fitness after a recent ankle injury.

The visitors had their chances, with Candreva testing goalkeeper Federico Agliardi in the 13th minute and Giuseppe Biava misdirecting a Michael Ciani cross just before the break.

Reuters

Milan are learning to make do, Barbara Berlusconi says



AC Milan's Giampaolo Pazzini (L) celebrates after his teammate Antonio Nocerino scores past Torino's goalkeeper Jean Francois Gillet during their Serie A soccer match at Olympic stadium in Turin, on 9 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

PARIS, 11 Dec—AC Milan are learning to live within their means and will

concentrate on using home-grown talent rather than buying in expensive, big-

name players, club director Barbara Berlusconi said on Monday.

"The club has to be able to rely on its own resources," Berlusconi, daughter of club president Silvio Berlusconi, told French newspaper L'Equipe.

Milan, once bankrolled by former Italian prime minister Berlusconi, upset fans with an austerity drive that led to them selling frontman Zlatan Ibrahimovic and centre back Thiago Silva to Paris St Germain for 62 million euros (49.86 million pounds) in the off-season.

Barbara Berlusconi said

cutting costs was the only way forward for the Serie A club.

"I understand (the fans) but we have to explain to them that we have followed the only possible path," she said.

"We have grown up thanks to an excellent business model—a passionate sponsor pouring money into the club—which does not fit today's situation," she said.

"Soccer has kept on developing but it has lived on credit. We have seen recently at national level what excessive debt can lead to."—Reuters

Juventus win on Conte's return

MILAN, 11 Dec— Juventus coach Antonio Conte enjoyed a winning return to the touchline on Sunday as the Serie A leaders celebrated the end of his four-month ban with a 1-0 victory at Palermo.

Stephan Lichtsteiner scored early in the second half of a game in which both teams struggled on a difficult pitch that cut up badly following a hailstorm at halftime.

AC Milan continued their revival with a third league victory in a row,

coming from behind to win 4-2 at Torino with Robinho, Antonio Nocerino, Giampaolo Pazzini and Stephan El Shaarawy scoring the goals.

Pescara beat Genoa 2-0 in a clash of two teams stuck in the relegation zone and two goals from Gonzalo Bergessio gave Catania their first away win of the season, 3-1 at Siena. Second-placed Napoli play at third-placed Inter in the evening game (07:45 pm) Juve's win, their 12th in 16 league games, took them on to 38 points

and ensured they will finish the weekend top of the table.

Conte was initially banned for 10 months in August for failing to report a match-fixing attempt when he was coach at Siena in Serie B, but his suspension was later reduced to four months on appeal. Palermo playmaker Fabrizio Miccoli had a first-half goal disallowed for offside before Switzerland fullback Lichtsteiner settled the match following a clever backheel by Mirko Vucinic five minutes after the re-start.

Reuters



Juventus coach Antonio Conte arrives before the Serie A soccer match against Palermo at the Renzo Barbera stadium in Palermo on 9 Dec, 2012.

REUTERS

GENERAL

Heavy storm rattles Turkey's Aegean region, killing one

ANKARA, 11 Dec—At least one person was killed and another missing as heavy rain and wind hit the provinces of Aegean region in Turkey, local newspaper *Today's Zaman* reported on Monday.

In the Cesme town of Aegean Izmir Province, a fishing boat capsized early on Monday, killing one businessman, who was one of three on the boat when the storm capsized it, according to the report.

The Antalya Governor's Office said in a statement on Sunday that heavy rain and

Turkey

storms were expected across Antalya on Monday and schools in the central region and 17 additional districts would be closed.

In Koycegiz town of Mugla Province, a group of 14 students were stranded on Sandiras Mountain at 1,300 meters of altitude when a snowstorm hit the mountain area on Sunday.

The students sent a distress signal and rescue teams were deployed to the area, said the report.

Xinhua

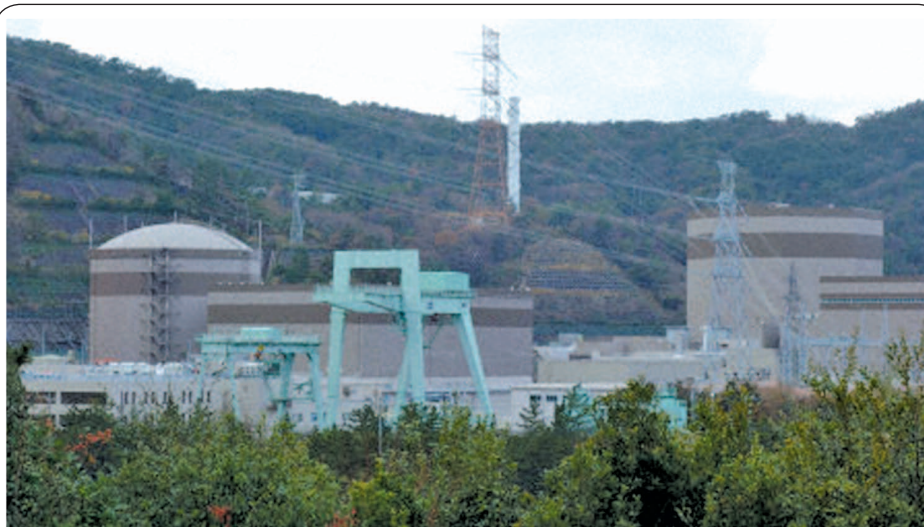


Photo shows the No 1 (L) and No 2 reactor buildings at Japan Atomic Power Co's Tsuruga plant in Fukui Prefecture on 10 Dec, 2012. A team of experts under Japan's nuclear regulatory authority agreed the same day that a fault running underneath a nuclear reactor at the plant is likely to be active, an assessment that makes the plant's resumption difficult.—KYODO NEWS

UNESCO calls for actions to ensure girls' right to education

PARIS, 11 Dec—The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) called for actions to ensure girls' right to education at an event on Monday.

The event, "Stand up for Malala: girls' education is a right," coincided with the United Nations Human Rights Day.

It was co-organized by UNESCO and Pakistan government in honour of Malala Yousafzai, a brave young girl who survived an assassination attempt two months ago for her determined efforts to defend girls' education in Pakistan, after the Taliban outlawed schools for girls in Swat Valley.

"Girls' education is a basic right. It's also a lever for development that profits the whole of society, girls and boys, men and women," said UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova.

According to Bokova,

too many girls in too many countries are held back simply because they are girls. "They are forced to work, they are married off, they are taken away from school. Today, there are 32 million girls out of primary school, and a similar amount out of secondary school," she said.

For his part, Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari said, "Malala represents the forces of peace ... We need the whole world's support to help all Malalas go to school."

"Malala's story also teaches us that we are right to make education, and especially girls' education, a priority in development aid," said French Prime Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault.

During the meeting, participants adopted a Statement of Commitment to Girls' Rights to Education, promising "to actively strive to make every effort to end all forms of violence against girls and to eliminate the

obstacles that prevent them from attending school." "We pledge to defend girls' education as a basic human right and precondition for sustainable development and lasting peace," the statement said, linking this new drive to the Education First initiative launched by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon earlier this year.—Xinhua



Local people actively participate in mass walk activities for December from monument to Defence Industry junction in Tatkon Township on 8 December morning.—MYANMA ALINN

Myanmar cruise into final stage of AFF U-19 Women's Championship

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec—Myanmar women's team was qualified in the play-off of the second stage in the AFF U-19 Women's Championship held in Ho Chi Min City of Viet Nam on 9 December with a 1-0 victory over its opponent Thai team.

Myanmar was allowed to enter the final stage with its opening goal scored into

the Thai team in the first half.

In the final stage, Myanmar will meet with powerful Asian teams namely Japan, South Korea, North Korea, China and Australia.

Myanmar qualified to sail into the final stage of the championship is only one team from ASEAN region.—Myanma Alinn

Man shot dead in broad daylight in Midtown Manhattan

NEW YORK, 11 Dec—A man was shot dead in Midtown Manhattan, New York City, Monday afternoon, and the spot scene has been cordoned off by the police with detectives interviewing the witnesses and making investigation into the case.

The shooting took place just before 2 pm in front of Saint Thomas Choir School near Columbus Circle between Broadway and 7th Avenue in Midtown Manhattan, where is filled with midday tourists, shoppers and office workers.

According to the witness, as the victim was walking down the street, a gunman walked up behind him, pulled

out a silver pistol, and fired a single shot into the back of his head. The gunman then

got into a waiting grey car and drove off.

Xinhua



Police officers cordon off the site of a shooting near Columbus Circle in New York, the United States, on 10 Dec, 2012. New York City police are looking for a suspect after a person was shot in the head in Manhattan, local media reported.—XINHUA

Russia sets price limit for hotels during Sochi Olympics

MOSCOW, 11 Dec—The Russian government has set up a cap for the hotel prices during the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics, Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev said on Monday.

"I have signed a government decree on the maximum price for hotels accommodations in the City of Sochi during the Olympic Games," Medvedev told his deputies during a meeting.

According to the Russian government's website, this will be a temporary measure.

"This is exactly the case when the state takes

responsibility for the prices in spite of market expectations," Medvedev said, adding the entrepreneurs must be shut off an opportunity to bypass these restrictions.

"Our people are canny, one may even say quirky. We've got to check that the tourist agencies, hotels not to invent some hidden payments to compensate the losses," he stressed.

"Competition is good but you should monitor prices," Medvedev said.

According to Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Kozak, the hotel prices in

Sochi during major sports events hit 157,000 rubles per night (over 5,000 US dollars). He vowed the price of a five-star suite would not exceed an equivalent of 435 dollars per night during the Olympics.

Kozak promised the three-start hotel room in the Black Sea resort of Sochi would cost about 130 dollars.

Russian government plans to double the number of hotel rooms in Sochi by October 2013, which should also facilitate the price fall by the time the Games start in February 2014.—Xinhua

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(12-12-12 09:30 am ~ 13-12-12 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * New Star with the Best Smile Photo Contest
- * News
- * Music Programme
- * YFS Annual Screening 2012
- * News
- * Taste of Myanmar "Mandalay Noodle"
- * News
- * Danish Business Delegation to Myanmar 2012
- * News
- * Women's Education and Career Development Seminar
- * Potent Noni, Organic Medicine
- * News
- * Youth's Vista on Sport
- * News
- * Myanmar tourism Master Plan (Meeting 30-11-12)
- * News
- * Myanma Jewels In Style
- * Myanmar Movie "Touching Bonde"



Scuba diving Santa Claus greets children as he swims amongst the halibut, herring, sturgeon and sea stars in the Strait of Georgia tank at the Vancouver Aquarium, as part of Christmas entertainment offered by the Aquarium to its visitors, in Vancouver, Canada, on 9 Dec, 2012.—XINHUA

Union S&T Minister participates in 7th Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec — Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr Ko Ko Oo attended in the seventh Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology at Brunei Darussalam on 2 December.

Also present at the meeting were ministers from ASEAN countries, high-ranking officials and the under-secretary-general of ASEAN Secretariat.

The meeting approved reconstitution of ASEAN science and technology committee for ASEAN innovation, digital camera, connectivity between new media and society, green technology, food security, energy security, water management, healthy and prosperous biodiversity and innovations in science and technology, setting up of ASEAN Innovation

Funds and making analysis of implementation of subcommittees of the committee.—MNA

Reinsurance Protection & IT System workshop held

YANGON, 11 Dec — In his address at the workshop on Reinsurance Protection & IT system, jointly organized by Myanmar Insurance of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue and Sampo Japan Insurance of Japan, at Traders Hotel, here this morning, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Dr Maung Maung Thein emphasized the role of insurance sector in rapid changing weather patterns, saying that only insurance could protect the economy. He envisioned the outcomes of the workshop would bring about knowledge on insurance sector not only for emerging insurance companies in Myanmar but also for the public.

Next, Managing Director U Aye Min Thein of Myanmar Insurance and Executive Office Mr.

Keishi Nakamura of China & Asia Pacific Regional Headquarters of Sampo Japan Insurance Inc spoke on the occasion.

Executive Officer Mr. Masato Fujikura and Chief Executive Officer Mr. Yoshinori Hashimura gave talks on Reinsurance Protection, General Manager Mr. Yoshihisa Miyazaki of the Third Development Headquarters of NKSJ System Inc and System Manager Mr. Koji Iwai, on IT System Section-1, and Senior Deputy Manager Mr. Toshiyuki Haga of Global Planning Department of Sampo Japan Insurance Inc, on IT System Section-2.

The Chief Representative of Yangon Representative Office of Sampo Insurance Inc Mr. Keiji Okada spoke words of thanks.—MNA

Tonsi Bridge crossing Namee Creek in Katha nearing completion



Tonsi Bridge, crossing the Namee Creek in Indaw Township of Sagaing Region.

MYANMA ALINN

Myanmar, Brazil eye multifaceted cooperation

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec—Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung met Brazilian Ambassador to Myanmar

Mr Jose Carlos da Fonseca Junior at the President Office here this morning. The meeting focused on mutual cooperation in civil

aviation, hydropower, oil and gas exploration, education, health, rural development, poverty alleviation and plantation.—MNA



Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr Ko Ko Oo attends the seventh Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology at Brunei Darussalam.—MNA

Business Meeting and Matching on 17 Dec

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec—The 25-entrepreneur delegation from Board of Trade of Thailand and Thai Chamber of Commerce, led by Chairman of Board of Trade of Thailand Mr. Phongsak Assakul, will launch Business Meeting and Matching in conjunction with the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry at the first floor of the office tower (UMFCCI)

at 9 am on 17 December.

Those wishing to attend may register at UMFCCI Web site: www.umfcci.net (Ph-214344 to 49) (Ex-117 or 150).—MNA

Mobile healthcare reaches out to 6665 in Rakhine State

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec—Six mobile medical teams of Tatmadaw provided healthcare services to local people

Japanese contributor opens renovated school

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Dec—Mr Takao Yamamoto of Iizuka of Japan opened a primary school in Meiktila Township where he funded the major face-lift on 9 December. The chairman

of the board of trustees of the basic education primary school in Inbinwa village presented a certificate of honour to the donor.

The school now is complete with new building, furnishings, artesian well and the brick tank. The donor also contributed cash and kind to eight other primary schools, a blind school and an orphanage in Meiktila Township.—MNA

in Rakhine State on 4-9 December.

The teams provided medical treatment to local people in Yanbye, Manaung, Maungtaw, MraukU and Sittway Townships. The healthcare of the teams within six-day

period covered 6665 local people of whom 39 were transferred to Sittway military hospital.—MNA

KATHA, 11 Dec—Tonsi Bridge, which is No. 4/32 bridge on Katha-Indaw-Mansi road section, crossing Namee Creek in Indaw Township of Sagaing Region, being built by Bridge Construction Special Group No 14 of Public Works under the Ministry of Construction, will complete soon. Thanks to the bridge, vehicles and local people will enjoy fruits of smooth transport in the near future.

“Tonsi Bridge is 250 feet in length. The bridge is constituted with two 60 feet long spans and two 65 feet long spans. The facility will have 24 feet wide for two-way motor road. The motorway will be flanked

by 3.6 feet wide pedestrian on either side. The lower structure of bridge is built with reinforced concrete pile foundation and RC structure. The upper structure is of RC floor.

The facility can withstand 36-ton loads. Upon completion, the bridge will contribute to smooth transport of local people,” said in-charge of the bridge construction project U Thet Tin.

Namee Creek Bridge will help Indaw Township of Katha District of Sagaing Region and Bhamo Township of Kachin State develop economic, education and social sectors of the region.

Myanma Alinn