

The New Light of Myanmar

THE MOST RELIABLE NEWSPAPER AROUND YOU

Volume XX, Number 245

8th Waxing of Nadaw 1374 ME

Friday, 21 December, 2012

President U Thein Sein arrives in New Delhi to attend 20th ASEAN-India Summit



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein being welcomed by officials at Palam Air Base in New Delhi of India.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein and party left here for India by special flight this morning to attend the 20th ASEAN-India Summit to be held in New Delhi of the Republic of India, and arrived at Palam Air Base in New Delhi of India at 12:30 pm Local Time.

They were welcomed there by the Deputy Minister for Human Resource Development of India, Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Dr Villur Sundararajan Seshadri, the diplomatic head, Charge d' Affaires ai /Minister Counsellor U Ba Hla Aye of Myanmar Embassy, Military Attaché Col Thein Lwin and staff families from embassy and military attaché office.

After that, the President and party proceeded to Taj Mahal Hotel in New Delhi where they stay.

After that, President U Thein Sein together with leaders of ASEAN countries and the Prime Minister of the Republic of India attended the plenary session of the ASEAN-India Summit held in Taj Palace Hotel.

MNA

Union Cooperatives Minister inspects oil mills in Magway Region

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec—“It needs to serve the interests of rural people as well as of the associations as cooperatives society is not only an economic entity but also a socio-economic business, said Union Minister for Cooperatives

U Kyaw Hsan, at oil mill jointly run by Magway Region Cooperative Society and Myaylatthar General Trading Cooperatives Society.

He stressed the need for cooperative societies to put shares into the fund

of cooperatives. He urged the cooperative societies to grow quality strains of crops and purchase gram and sesame in the region.

After that, the Union Minister inspected warehouse and oil mills.

MNA

Weather Forecast for Third Dekad of December 2012

Bay of Bengal Condition

A Low Pressure Area may form over the south Bay of Bengal and it may further intensify into a depression. Weather will be partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman sea and South Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Rainy days

Rainy days are

expected about 3 days in Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin State, about 1 to 2 days in Bago and Yangon Regions, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States and partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States.

Night Temperatures

Night Temperature will be below normal in Upper Sagaing Region,

Kachin, Chin, Shan, Rakhine and Kayah States and about normal in the remaining Regions and States.

Fog Condition

Fog days are expected about 5 to 6 days in Upper Sagaing Region, Kachin, Chin, Shan, Rakhine, Kayin and Kayah States and 3 to 4 days in the remaining Regions and States.—NLM

16 die, 14 missing after torrential rain in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, 20 Dec—Despite torrential rain that killed 16 easing in Sri Lanka yesterday, over 175,000 families still remain homeless as towns around the country struggle against floods, an official said here.

Over a hundred navy personnel have been called to distribute supplies and assist police searches for 14 missing people.

An estimated 146 houses have been destroyed and 805 more were partially damaged, according to Disaster Management Center spokesman Lal Kumara.

Several roads have also been blocked by felled trees and landslides, prompting the police and army to work round the clock to clear

them. Train services are also reported to have been suspended in several parts of the island.

“The 175,886 families displaced by the landslides are housed in 40 camps and they are being provided with cooked food while those returning home are given packages of dry rations,” he said.

The former war-torn eastern province is reported to be particularly hard hit

with over 15,000 acres of paddy under water.

Ironically the flood in key agricultural regions comes after Sri Lanka suffered for over three months earlier in the year due to drought.

The torrential rain is expected to last at least till the end of the week while the monsoon season customarily goes on until the end of January.

Xinhua



Myanaung Township sees new school buildings



NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec — A prize presentation ceremony of Basic Education High School (Takhwa) of Takhwa Tegyikon village-tract in Myanaung Township of Ayeyawady Region was

held at the school on 15 December. Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay, Ayeyawady Region Minister for Planning and Economy U Hla Khaing and party spoke on the occasion,

and presented prizes to outstanding students. The school had produced one four-distinction winner, six three-distinction winners, five two-distinction winners and 31 one-distinction winners for 2011-12

academic year. Then, the Union minister attended the opening ceremony of new school building for Basic Education Post Primary School in Okshitbin village of the township, and viewed round the new school building.

Afterwards, the Union minister oversaw progress of construction of Apin Station Hospital.

On 16 December, the Union minister met with officials concerned at Kanaung Station Hospital and inspected patient wards that are getting ruined.

The Union Minister proceeded to Obo village-tract where he attended an opening of new school building for Htanbin Village Basic Education Primary School and an upgrading ceremony of Ngapiseik village Basic Education High School (Branch).—MNA

Cash and kind handed over to Manaw Ahla Band

YANGON, 20 Dec — A ceremony to hand over cash and kind of wellwishers to Manaw Ahla band took place at a meeting hall of Kyaikkasan Sports Ground in Tamway Township, here, on 18 December.

Responsible persons of the band accepted clothing and blankets donated by wellwisher

L Lun Wah and family, clothing worth K1.5 million by Ma Sandar Garment Factory, medicines worth K1,010,360 by Dr Pandora Aung Gyi of Kumudra Special Clinic, K300,000 and sports shirts worth K160,000 by CMF and K200,000 by Chit San Maung of Iron Cross band.

Kyemon



Heroin, raw opium seized in Lashio

LASHIO, 20 Dec — Members of Lashio anti-narcotic drug taskforce seized 234 grams of heroin which were separately packed in 16 small bags worth K444,600 while conducting a search of a motorbike driven by Sai Hla Kyaw at about 10.30 am on Kharsho-Panhone road in Lashio Township of Shan State (North) on 12 December. Lashio No.

(1) Police Station filed a lawsuit against Sai Hla Kyaw.

Likewise, 1000 grams of raw opium worth K800,000 were seized while searching a motorbike driven by Sai Ba Myint together with Sai Sumana near Asia World Tollgate in Lashio at about 11 am on 15 December. Naungmon Police Station filed a lawsuit against the suspects.—Kyemon

Charity gala of Shwezin Min Orphanage in PyinOoLwin on 17 January

PYINOO LWIN, 20 Dec — A charity gala will be held in order to raise the funds of Shwezin Min orphanage in PyinOoLwin of Mandalay Region on 17 January 2013.

“Shwezin Min orphanage is home to about 800 orphans who came here with the various backgrounds. Life is here difficult for them. The concert aims to raise the funds of the orphanage”, an organizer said.

Middle Wave Band will perform entertainment accompanied by its own artists together with Ko Ne Win, Ko Ye Lwin, J Maung Maung, Khine Htoo, She, May Khalar, Yadana and Khat Khat Yan Aung at the night on that day.

Those who want to make cash donation for the charity gala may contact the in-charge of the Shwezin Min orphanage (Ph: 431 28406) and organizer (Ph: 43127666).—Kyemon

Five found dead in old septic tank, one hospitalized

MEIKTILA, 20 Dec — Five villagers were killed and one was hospitalized in an accident in which five people tried to rescue a man who collapsed unconscious in an old septic tank on 17 December. As U Than Zaw Win (42 years) of Ohn-ton village, 25-miel west of Meiktila, fell unconscious while shifting excrement from the old septic tank to the newly-dug latrine pit, Ye Aung (a) Gawgyi (30 years), U Tin Win (57

years), U Hla Maung (42 years), U Pyay Thein (56 years) and Ko Tin Soe (28 years) went down into the three-foot wide and 12-foot deep tank to rescue U Than Zaw Win. They also collapsed unconscious, and died in the tank, except Ko Tin Soe who was taken to Meiktila Hospital and given special treatment. Police Inspector Khin Maung Soe of Shan Ma Ngae Police Station opened a file against the case.—Kyemon

Myanmar National Sports Committee Chairman's Cup Boxing Competition-2012 kicks off



YANGON, 20 Dec — An opening ceremony of Myanmar National Sports Committee Chairman's Cup Boxing Competition-2012 was held at Theinbyu indoor-stadium on 18 December, attended by Myanmar Boxing Federation President U Yan Win, Vice-Presidents U Thein Aung and U Kyaw Kyaw Soe, General Secretary U Tin Hlaing and executives.

The MBF President spoke on the occasion and formally opened the ceremony. More than 100 boxers from the boxing clubs are taking part in the competition that includes three events— men's boxing contest (open), and men's boxing contest (junior level) and women's boxing contest. First, second and third prizes

A man found dead in the moat in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 20 Dec — A 30-year-old man dressed in black long-sleeved shirt and blue jeans was found dead in the mote on 26 (B) street between 78th and 79th streets in Mandalay at about 3 pm on 17 December. According to the driving licence No. A/5215/11 found in a pocket of his jeans, his name is U Soe Min Thant (CSC No. 9/

Ah Ma Za (Naing) 040430). The investigation carried out by Police Inspector Kyi Lin and party revealed that the man with no physical injuries might be drowned in the moat. The dead body was taken to Mandalay People's Hospital, and investigation into the cause of his death is being undertaken.

Kyemon

Vocational training courses for persons with disabilities

YANGON, 20 Dec — Social Welfare Department will organize three-month vocational training courses

and the best boxer awards will be presented in each event. The final matches of the boxing completion will be held in conjunction with a prize-giving ceremony on 22 December. Boxing fans are invited by MBF to enjoy boxing matches at the indoor-stadium with no entrance fee.—Kyemon

for persons with disabilities on 7 January. The disabled, from 18-45 aged, who want to take vocational training courses may contact the training school at No (65) on Kyaikwaing Pagoda Road in Mayangon Township, here (Ph: 01 9661712, 09 73074856 and 09 49306407). Trainees will be offered monthly stipends and free accommodation and transportation charges for their return home.

Kyemon

Cleaning, maintenance works for Pyinmana station yard

PYINMANA, 20 Dec — A team of Civil Engineering Department of Myanma Railways has carried out of cleaning of Pyinmana station yard and performed maintenance works of railroads at Pyinmana Railway Station in the second week of December.

Repair work of Gate 1,

2 and 3 for the convenience of the passers-by was carried out. More attention was given on cleaning of the yard as up and down Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon-Mandalay express trains made a stop at the Pyinmana Railway Station. Cargo and up and down express trains pass the station 50 times a day.—Kyemon



WORLD

Britain to withdraw 3,800 troops from Afghanistan in 2013

LONDON, 20 Dec—British Prime Minister David Cameron said on Wednesday that the country will pull 3,800 troops out of Afghanistan in 2013.

The prime minister made the announcement at the House of Commons, while Defence Secretary Philip Hammond gave detailed statement about the situation in Afghanistan.

According to the plan, almost half of the current force serving in Helmand Province in Southern Af-

ghanistan are to be withdrawn from next year. Numbers would fall to 5,200 by the end of 2013, Cameron said.

British troops in Afghanistan are being reduced from 9,500 to 9,000 before Christmas.

The number of British military deaths now stands at 438 since the country began its operation in Afghanistan in 2001. Britain has planned to withdraw most of its forces by the end of 2014.—Xinhua

US soldier could face death penalty for Afghan killings



Staff Sgt Robert Bales, (L) 1st platoon sergeant, Blackhorse Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Infantry Regiment, 3rd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, is seen during an exercise at the National Training Centre in Fort Irwin, California, in this 23 Aug, 2011 DVIDS handout photo.—REUTERS

SEATTLE, 20 Dec—A decorated US soldier accused of killing 16 Afghan villagers in two forays from his remote military camp was ordered to face a court martial before a military panel that could impose the death penalty if he is found guilty, the military said on Wednesday. No date has been set for the capital trial of Army Staff Sergeant Robert Bales, which is scheduled to take place at Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Washington State, military officials said in a statement.

US military prosecutors want the death penalty for Bales, a veteran of four combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan who is accused of gunning down the villagers — mostly women and children — over a five-hour period in March in Afghanistan's Kandahar Province.

The shootings, among the deadliest involving civilians that the military has blamed on an individual US soldier since the Vietnam War, have further damaged already strained US-Afghan relations.

On the night of the slayings, Bales drank with two fellow soldiers then left his

base and went to a village where he committed the first killings, prosecutors said. He then returned to the camp and had a brief exchange with another soldier before leaving for a second village and more killing, they said.

The government believes Bales was solely responsible for the deaths, and survivors have testified they saw only one US soldier. But several indirect accounts have suggested more than one soldier may have been involved.

Bales' lawyers have not set out an alternative theory to the prosecution's allegations, but have pointed out inconsistencies in pre-trial testimony and highlighted incidents before the shooting where Bales lost his temper easily.

Those incidents could possibly set up an argument that Bales was suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder. A military jury must come to a unanimous decision in deciding guilt as well as whether to impose the death penalty, and they must find at least one aggravating factor that significantly outweighs any mitigating circumstances.—Reuters



Conservative Park Geun-hye elected first female president of S Korea

SEOUL, 20 Dec—Park Geun-hye of South Korea's ruling Saenuri Party won the tightly contested presidential election held on Wednesday, becoming the first woman to lead the country and extending the conservative rule for another five years.

With 94.5 percent of the votes counted, Park, the 60-year-old daughter of South Korean dictator Park Chung-hee, won 51.7 percent of the vote, becoming the first one to garner more than half of all votes since democratic elections began in 1987.

Her archrival, Moon Jae-in of the main opposition

Democratic United Party, was a close second with 47.9 percent.

Voter turnout was estimated at 75.8 percent, the highest in 15 years, according to the National Election Commission.

"I will become a president who puts people's livelihoods before anything else," Park told cheering crowds in central Seoul as she accepted her victory. "I will keep my promises."

Park, who ran on job creation, welfare expansion and engagement with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), had maintained a slight lead in al-

most all pre-election opinion surveys, though many were within the margin of error.

As a political veteran with the moniker "queen of elections," Park acted as the de facto first lady to her father after her mother was assassinated and is credited with reviving the Saenuri Party when it was mired in a series of devastating corruption scandals. She remains widely popular among older voters nostalgic for rapid economic growth under the senior Park's 18-year authoritarian rule, while critics point to ruthless suppression of dissidents during his reign.

Xinhua

Detained Argentine naval ship leaves Ghana

ACCRA, 20 Dec—An Argentine naval vessel detained in Ghana at the request of a hedge fund seeking payment on defaulted government bonds left the West African country on Wednesday, a port official said.

The *ARA Libertad*, a tall sailing ship used for training, was detained on a court order obtained by NML Capital Ltd, which claims it is owed \$300 million resulting Argentina's debt default in 2002.

The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea ruled on Saturday that Ghana should release the ship after Argentina argued that a UN Convention on the law gives warships im-

munity from civil claims when they dock at foreign ports.

The Argentine ship was detained in the port of Tema, Ghana on 2 October.

"The boat has just set sail after supplies (arrived)," Jacob Kwabla Adokor, the director of the Tema port, told Reuters. "Everything went smoothly. The ropes came off 20 minutes ago."

A Reuters witness watched from a distance as the ship glided away from its berth in the late afternoon, its masts and colours visible above the roofs of surrounding buildings.

A plane arrived in Ghana from Buenos Aires, Argentina's capital, earlier



Crew members of the Argentine naval vessel *ARA Libertad* board the ship at Tema harbour in Accra on 19 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

in the day carrying 98 sailors to replace the 326 crew members who evacuated the detained ship in October, leaving behind only a skeleton crew for essential maintenance.

The *Libertad* is due to arrive in the Argentine seaside resort of Mar del Plata on 9 January, at the height

13 killed in building collapse in western India

NEW DELHI, 20 Dec—At least 13 people were killed in a building collapse in the western Indian state of Maharashtra on Tuesday, a senior police official said on Wednesday.

"The incident happened when an under-construction building collapsed in the Wagholi area in the state's second largest city of Pune. All the victims were labourers who were working at the construction site," he said, on condition of anonymity.

A probe has been ordered into the incident, the official added.

The incident happened barely four months after a building collapsed in Pune, killing six people.

Poor building material are often responsible for these kind of mishaps in India.

Xinhua

Rebels seize towns in central Syria

gents close in on the capital from its southern suburbs.

The rebel gains came as the United Nations on Wednesday launched what it said was its "largest short-term humanitarian appeal ever", for \$1.5 billion to help millions of Syrians suffering a "dramatically deteriorating" humanitarian situation.

"The violence in Syria is raging across the country and there are nearly no

more safe areas where people can flee and find safety," Radhouane Nouicer, UN regional humanitarian coordinator for Syria, told a news briefing in Geneva.

The Syrian opposition has scored significant military and diplomatic gains in recent weeks, capturing several army installations across Syria and securing formal recognition from Western and Arab states for its new coalition.—Reuters



Children stand on a house damaged by what activists said were missiles fired by a Syrian Air Force fighter jet of forces loyal to Syria's President Bashar al-Assad at Tel Abyed near Hasaka on 17 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

BEIRUT, 20 Dec—Syrian rebels have captured at least six towns in the central province of Hama, ac-

tivists say, in an operation aimed at putting pressure on President Bashar al-Assad from the north as insur-

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Judge rejects Apple injunction bid vs Samsung

WASHINGTON, 20 Dec—A US judge on Monday denied Apple Inc's request for a permanent injunction against Samsung Electronics' smartphones, depriving the iPhone maker of key leverage in the mobile patent wars.

Apple had been awarded \$1.05 billion in damages in August after a US jury found Samsung had copied critical features of the iPhone and iPad. The Samsung products run on the Android operating system, developed by Google.

Apple and Samsung are going toe-to-toe in a patents dispute that mirrors the struggle for industry supremacy between the two companies, which control more than half of worldwide smartphone sales.

For most of the year, Apple had been successful in its US litigation campaign against Samsung. Apple convinced US District Judge Lucy Koh in San Jose, California to impose two pretrial sales bans against Samsung —

one against the Galaxy Tab 10.1, and the other against the Galaxy Nexus phone.

Apple then sought to keep up the pressure after its sweeping jury win. It asked Koh to impose a permanent sales ban against 26 mostly older Samsung phones, though any injunction could potentially have been extended to Samsung's newer Galaxy products.

Yet the jury exonerated Samsung on the patent used to ban Galaxy Tab 10.1 sales, and Koh rescinded that injunction. Then, in October, a federal appeals court reversed Koh's ban against the Nexus phone.

In her order late on Monday, Koh cited that appellate ruling as binding legal precedent, ruling that Apple had not presented enough evidence that its patented features drove consumer demand for the entire iPhone.

"The phones at issue in this case contain a broad range of features, only a small fraction of which are

covered by Apple's patents," Koh wrote.

"Though Apple does have some interest in retaining certain features as exclusive to Apple," she continued, "it does not follow that entire products must be forever banned from the market because they incorporate, among their myriad



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

REUTERS

features, a few narrow protected functions."

An Apple spokeswoman declined to comment on Koh's ruling, and

a Samsung representative could not immediately be reached.

In a separate order on Monday, Koh rejected a bid by Samsung for a new trial based on an allegation that the jury foreman was improperly biased in favour of Apple.

The case in US District

Court, Northern District of California is Apple Inc vs Samsung Electronics Co Ltd et al, 11-1846.

Reuters

the patents to Vertical Networks Inc in 1998, which assigned them to N-Data.

Based on the licensing agreement, Intel won the case in a Texas court on summary judgment. The appeals court agreed.

N-Data had also sued Dell Inc, which settled in 2009. The case at the US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit is Intel Corp v Negotiated Data Solutions, Inc, No 2011-1448.

Reuters

National had assigned

US could wrap up Google probe this week

WASHINGTON, 20 Dec—US regulators this week could drop their investigation of how Google ranks certain searches, without requiring any major changes in how the online giant does business, according to two people knowledgeable about the investigation.

Google had been accused of giving competitors in lucrative areas like travel a lower ranking in search results, thus making it harder for their customers to find them.

But the Federal Trade Commission is expected to conclude that Google's actions were legal and end its more than two-year probe of the company.

FTC Chairman Jon Leibowitz has said he wanted the case wrapped up by the end of the year. He is widely expected to step down within a month but has not announced his resignation.

Google is expected to agree to some changes in its business practices, however. For example, it is expected to end the practice of "scraping," or using reviews from other websites, for its own products, the sources said.

And it is also expected to allow cus-



Attendees sits in front of a Google logo during Google I/O Conference at Moscone Centre in San Francisco, California on 28 June, 2012.—REUTERS

tomers who use its advertising network to be able to export data on the effectiveness of those ad campaigns, the sources said.

Google and the FTC are also expected to reach an agreement on when the company can request sales bans when filing patent infringement lawsuits.

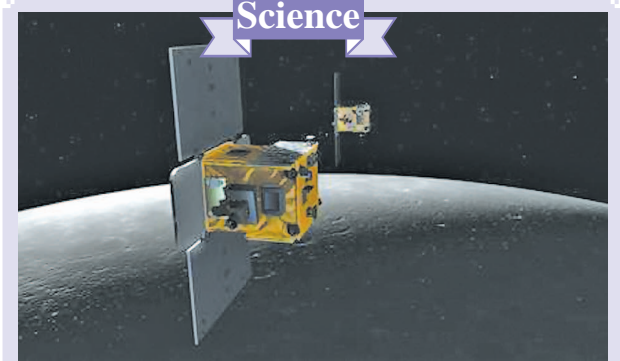
The company is expected to agree to strict conditions when filing these lawsuits if the patent in question has been determined to be essential to a standard, the sources said.

The European Commission, which is also probing Google on the issue of search fairness, is expected to announce a decision next month.

Google's US critics, anticipating disappointment from the FTC, have already said they would take their evidence to the Justice Department to press the antitrust division to take up the case.—Reuters

Tech

Science



An artist's depiction shows the twin spacecraft (Ebb and Flow) that comprise NASA's Gravity Recovery And Interior Laboratory (GRAIL) mission. A pair of NASA moon-mapping probes smashed themselves into a lunar mountain on 17 Dec, 2012, ending a year-long mission that is shedding light on how the solar system formed.—REUTERS

NASA crashes two probes into a mountain on the moon

CAPE CANAVERAL, 20 Dec—A pair of NASA moon-mapping probes smashed themselves into a lunar mountain on Monday, ending a year-long mission that is shedding light on how the solar system formed.

The Gravity Recovery and Interior Laboratory, or GRAIL, spacecraft had been flying around the moon, enabling scientists to make detailed gravity maps. The probes sped up slightly as they encountered stronger gravity from denser regions and slowed down as they flew over less-dense areas.

By precisely measuring the distance between the two probes, scientists discovered that the moon's crust is thinner than expected and that the impacts that battered its surface did even more damage underground.

Out of fuel and edging closer to the lunar surface, the probes were commanded to smash

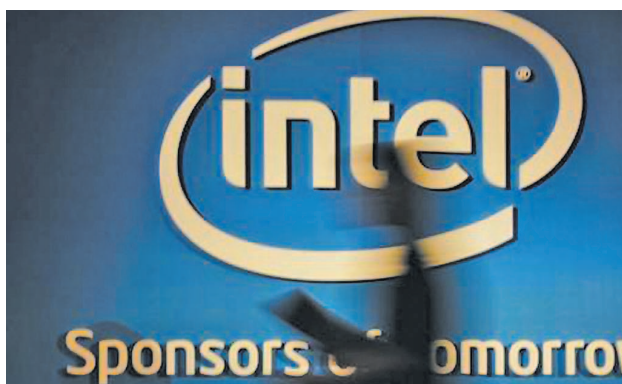
themselves into a mountain near the moon's north pole, avoiding a chance encounter with any Apollo or other relics left on the surface during previous expeditions.

"We do feel the angst about the end of the mission," said Charles Elachi, director of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, which oversaw the mission. "On the other hand, it is a celebration because this mission has accomplished tremendous science."

The US space agency lost radio communications with the first spacecraft at 5:28 pm EST (2228 GMT) and the second about 20 seconds later, a NASA mission commentator said. The probes' final resting place was named after the first US woman in space, Sally Ride, who orchestrated GRAIL's educational outreach program before her death in July.—Reuters

Tech

Intel wins patent appeal against N-Data



A woman walks past an Intel logo at the 2012 Computex in Taipei on 5 June, 2012. Computex, the world's second largest consumer electronics trade fair, runs from 5 to 9 June.—REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 20 Dec—Intel Corp won an appeal in a patent fight with Negotiated Data Solutions LLC (N-Data) over Ethernet patents that make it possible for computers to easily talk to one another.

The US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit ruled on Monday that Intel did not infringe the patents because it had licensed them from National Semiconductor Corp in 1976.

National had assigned

Tech

Garmin names COO Pemble as CEO

WASHINGTON, 20 Dec—Navigation device maker Garmin Ltd named Chief Operating Officer Clifton Pemble as chief executive, succeeding co-founder Min Kao. Pemble, who joined Garmin in 1989 as one of the company's first engineers and has been serving as COO since October 2007, will start in his new role from 1 January.

Kao will assume the role of executive chairman, and continue to serve as the chairman of the board.

Garmin has been fighting sluggish demand for its GPS-enabled handheld navigation devices as smartphones loaded with free mapping apps invade its market, and it is betting on outdoor and fitness products to drive growth.—Reuters

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Keep thimerosal in vaccines: pediatricians

NEW YORK, 20 Dec—A mercury-containing preservative should not be banned as an ingredient in vaccines, US pediatricians said on Monday, in a move that may be controversial.

In its statement, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) endorsed calls from a World Health Organization (WHO) committee that the preservative, thimerosal, not be considered a hazardous source of mercury that could be banned by the United Nations.

Back in 1999, a concern that kids receiving multiple shots containing thimerosal might get too much mercury — and develop autism or other neurodevelopmental problems as a result — led the AAP to call for its removal, despite the lack of hard evidence at the time.

“It was absolutely a matter of precaution because of the absence of more information,” said Dr Louis

Cooper, from Columbia University in New York, who was on the organization’s board of directors at the time.

“Subsequently an awful lot of effort has been put into trying to sort out whether thimerosal causes any harm to kids, and the bottom line is basically, it doesn’t look as if it does,” Cooper, who wrote a commentary published with the AAP’s statement, told *Reuters Health*.

In a 2004 safety review, for example, the independent US Institute of Medicine concluded there was no evidence thimerosal-containing vaccines could cause autism. A study from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention came to the same conclusion in 2010. With the exception of some types of flu shots, the compound is not used in vaccines in the United States, which are distributed in single-dose vials.

And nobody is arguing that should change, according

to Dr Walter Orenstein, a member of the AAP Committee on Infectious Diseases and a researcher at the Emory Vaccine Centre in Atlanta.

But in countries with fewer resources — where many children still die of vaccine-preventable diseases — it’s cheaper and easier to use multi-dose vials of vaccines against diphtheria and tetanus, for example.

Thimerosal prevents the rest of a multi-dose vial from getting contaminated with bacteria or fungi each time a dose is used.

Researchers estimated it could cost anywhere from two to five times as much to manufacture vaccines for developing countries without thimerosal, and both transporting vaccines and keeping them refrigerated would be much harder as well. “If we had to take the thimerosal out of those multi-dose vials, we’re having a hard time completing the

task of getting every kid immunized now, that would add a tremendous burden,” Cooper said — and more children would probably die as a result.

“Children who can now be protected from these life-threatening diseases could become vulnerable,” Orenstein told *Reuters Health*. The new statement is published in the AAP’s journal *Pediatrics*.

Thimerosal contains a type of mercury called ethyl mercury. Toxic effects have been tied to its cousin, methyl mercury, which stays in the body for much longer.

Earlier this year, the WHO said replacing thimerosal with an alternative preservative could affect vaccine safety and might cause some vaccines to become unavailable.

Mercury, however, is still on the list of global health hazards to be banned in a draft treaty from the United Nations Environment Program — which would mean a ban on thimerosal. Reducing mercury exposure “is a wonderful thing,” Orenstein said. However, “We need this exception because thimerosal is so vital for protecting children.”

Reuters

UK inflation unexpectedly stays at highest since May

LONDON, 20 Dec—UK inflation stayed at its highest level since May last month, confounding forecasts it would ease and potentially giving the Bank of England less room to resume quantitative easing to support the struggling economy.

The data released on Tuesday, showing annual consumer price inflation held at 2.7 percent after a surprise jump in October, will reinforce Bank of England concerns that price pressures may prove persistent and restrain consumer spending.

Economists had forecast a dip in inflation to 2.6 percent in November.

High inflation, which peaked at 5.2 percent last year, has weighed on consumer spending, holding back the economy’s recovery from its second recession in four years.

A fall in petrol prices was not enough to outweigh price rises for household bills for electricity and gas, as well as food, the data from the Office for National Statistics showed.

Reuters

Lloyd’s of London insurers eye \$375 million Sandy hit

LONDON, 20 Dec—Three of the Lloyd’s of London LOL.U.L insurance market’s leading players owned up to a combined loss of about \$375 million from superstorm Sandy and warned the final bill could change.



A doorman awaits limousines at the headquarters of Lloyd’s of London, in the City of London on 13 May, 2011.

Reuters

Bermuda-based insurer Catlin (CGL.L), operator of Lloyd’s biggest syndicate, is set to absorb about \$200 million in claims from Sandy, it said on Tuesday. Rivals Hiscox (HSX.L) and Novae (NVA.L) put their exposure at 90 million pounds (\$145.79 million) and between \$25 million and \$30 million respectively.

Sandy, a 1,000-mile

Business

wide storm that killed 132 as it swept through the north-eastern United States on 29 October, is expected to cost insurers up to \$25 billion, making it the second-costliest storm after hurricane Katrina in 2005.

Insurers and analysts have said the size of the affected region, which includes New York and other densely populated and industrialized areas, makes the final damage bill difficult to calculate.

“This estimate is subject to a considerable degree of uncertainty due to the size of the storm system, and the wide variety of damage it caused,” Catlin said. Sandy came at the end of a relatively uneventful year for natural catastrophes, in contrast with 2011, the insurance industry’s second-costliest on record after earthquakes in Japan and New Zealand generated a claims bill of over \$100 billion. The comparative absence of big disaster claims during the first nine months of 2012 means the insurance industry is still expected to turn a profit for the year as a whole.—*Reuters*

Jet Airways, Kingfisher gain on Etihad talks

A Jet Airways aircraft waits for take off on the tarmac at the airport in Mumbai on 13 Sept, 2009.



Reuters

MUMBAI, 19 Dec—Jet Airways Ltd (JET.NS) extends gains for a sixth day, up 1.5 percent, while Kingfisher Airlines Ltd (KING.NS) is up 2.7 percent as Etihad Airways

enters in the final stages of talks to buy a stake in either of them. Buying into Jet is seen as more lucrative for Etihad as the two carriers already have a code-sharing agreement and could target

the market share of state-owned Air India and Dubai-based Emirates Airline.

But a stake in Kingfisher would be cheaper, analysts say.

Reuters

Honda aims to boost production capacity in emerging Asian countries

TOKYO, 20 Dec—Honda Motor Co President Takanobu Ito said on Tuesday the company is eyeing a continued production capacity boost in emerging Asian countries to help achieve its goal of doubling global auto sales to more than 6 million units in five years through fiscal 2016.

“We’ll definitely have to beef up production capacity (to meet demand) in the growing Asian markets,” Ito said in an interview with *Kyodo News*.

While stopping short of elaborating on the production plan for Asia excluding Japan and China, he said such an output increase is necessary as the company no longer relies on aggressive exports from



Logo of Honda

Japan given the strong yen.

The Japanese automaker’s annual production capacity in Asia, excluding China and Japan, currently stands at 575,000 vehicles, accounting for around 12 percent of its global production capacity. It has plants in Thailand, Indonesia, India and Malaysia, among other countries.

In achieving its global sales target, Honda has high hopes for sales of compact models in emerging markets. The company is

aiming to increase its sales in emerging markets to 3 million units in fiscal 2016 ending in March 2017, nearly double from fiscal 2011.

Along with the production increase in Asia, Ito said he wants to increase Honda’s exports from the United States to help counter the yen’s strength and meet demand elsewhere. The automaker plans to boost annual production capacity in North America to 1.92 million units per year in 2014 after its new plant in Mexico becomes operational, compared with the current 1.63 million units. Around 20 percent of the total US-assembled vehicles will be shipped outside the country, according to Honda.

Reuters



A man sits in a cafe in London on 13 Nov, 2012.

Reuters

services price inflation accelerated to 4.2 percent, its highest since December 2011. In its quarterly forecasts released last month, the Bank of England said British inflation was likely to be significantly higher over the next 18 months than expected in August. The central bank’s projections showed that it

would take until the third quarter of 2014 before inflation fell below its 2 percent target, nine months later than predicted in August, despite sluggish economic growth.

Stubbornly high inflation deterred some policymakers from approving another cash boost for the economy in November, and earlier this month the BoE again voted against more government bond purchases.

Minutes of its last policy meeting due to be released on Wednesday will provide an insight into what drove that decision.

Reuters

WORLD

Russia's Putin seeks big arms deals in India



Russian President Vladimir Putin gestures during a government meeting in Moscow on 13 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

Moscow, 20 Dec—Russian President Vladimir Putin hopes to conclude deals on the sale of fighter jets and aircraft engines to India next week which could be worth more than \$7.5 billion (4.6 billion pounds), defence industry sources said on Wednesday.

Putin, who visits India on Monday, has his sights set on selling 42 Sukhoi SU-30MKI fighters and on the long-term supply of 970 warplane engines, one of the sources said.

The source did not put a value on the deals because, he said, the size of the orders had not yet been agreed.

“There is no total figure for the volume of engine contracts. It depends on what they (India) order,” he said.

But another industry insider said the contracts could bring in at least \$7.5 billion for Russia, one of the world's largest arms exporters.

“The deals are expected to be announced during Putin's trip to India,” said

Ruslan Pukhov, director of the Russian defence think-tank CAST. “The price for everything together will be between \$7.5 billion and \$8 billion.”

The Russian Defence Ministry and the Kremlin declined comment.

If concluded, the deals would boost a Russian industry whose export market has shrunk since last year's Arab uprisings.

India, cautiously watching regional rival China's growing military might, has been the top importer of Russian weapons.

The Russian arms industry, nurtured under Putin's first presidency from 2000 to 2008, has sold weapons to post-Soviet states and Cold War allies for decades on the strength of Soviet-era technology.

But the industry has largely stagnated due to a lack of funding since the collapse of the Soviet Union, leaving weapons manufacturers dependent on outdated designs.—Reuters

Italian president indicates 24 February election date

ROME, 20 Dec—Italy's president gave a strong indication on Wednesday that next year's selection would be held in late February, as the country prepares to replace a technocrat government that has ruled for over a year.

President Giorgio Napolitano said he had “taken account” of a recommendation by the interior minister that the election be held on February 24 following two days of

wrangling over a budget law that must be passed before parliament is dissolved.

The 2013 budget had been expected to pass by Friday but was delayed when Silvio Berlusconi's centre-right People of Freedom (PDL) party demanded more time to consider the bill.

PDL secretary Angelino Alfano agreed to the election date, indicating that his party would probably allow the budget to pass by the

weekend and allow the election process to begin.

The delay to the budget bill caused Prime Minister Mario Monti to postpone an end-of-year news conference at which he had been expected to announce whether he intends to stand in the election.

A source close to Monti said he would not make any comment on his future until parliament was dissolved.

Italian news agencies quoted Andrea Riccardi, a government minister considered close to Monti, as saying he believed the premier would announce his decision on Saturday or Sunday.

The election, originally due in April, was brought forward after Berlusconi's party withdrew parliamentary support for Monti, prompting the former European commissioner to announce he would resign as soon as the budget was passed.—Reuters



Italy's President Giorgio Napolitano speaks at a news conference during his visit in Brdo near Kranj on 10 July, 2012.—REUTERS

White House readies gun-control plan as more children laid to rest

NEWTOWN, 20 Dec—President Barack Obama assigned Vice President Joe Biden on Wednesday to find ways to curtail gun violence in America to try to avoid tragedies like the elementary school massacre in Connecticut, where the town buried one of its heroes on Wednesday.

With Newtown still in mourning from last Friday's shooting, when a 20-year-old gunman shot dead 26 people at Sandy Hook Elementary School and then himself, Biden took the assignment to produce recommendations and to report back to Obama in time for the president's State of the Union address in late January. Obama's initiative addressed national outrage over the shootings in Connecticut, which have prompted longtime gun-rights supporters to reconsider their positions and a major private equity firm to put its gun-making business up for sale.

Newtown buried four of its children on Wednesday plus the principal of the school and teacher Victoria Soto, who is credited with saving half of her class of 6- and 7-year-olds by diverting the shooter and hiding the children in a closet.

“Vicki achieved in her 27 years what many of us will never achieve if we live to

be a hundred,” the Reverend Meg Boxwell Williams told the funeral service. “Her last act was absolutely selfless, Christ-like, laying down her life for her children.”

Four children were buried and a visitation was held for the principal of the



Mourners embrace as they wait for the start of the funeral ceremony for Victoria Soto, a victim of the shooting at the Sandy Hook Elementary School, in Stratford, Connecticut, on 19 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

school who was among the 28 dead.

Gunman Adam Lanza,

20, shot his mother at home and then killed 20 children and six adults at the school before shooting himself in the head, officials said.

Soto hid her students in a closet when she heard the shooting start early Friday morning, and when Lanza

entered Soto's classroom she tried to throw him off by telling him the students were

at the other end of the school in an auditorium, the Hartford Courant reported, citing unnamed law-enforcement officials.

Lanza shot six of the children when they tried to run, and police later found the remaining seven students still hiding in the closet, the Courant said. Those children told law enforcement officials what had happened, the Courant reported. The account provided Newtown with a positive story to cling to following the horrible events that left the nation stunned.

Soto's death “mixed with the glad knowledge that her sacrifice saved so many children,” Williams said. Some 30 police motorcycles from surrounding towns led the hearse carrying Soto's body to the service in Stratford, Connecticut.

Reuters

Pirates seize Indian crew in raid off Nigeria

LAGOS, 20 Dec—Five Indian crew members were seized in an attack by pirates on an oil tanker off Nigeria, according to information monitored here on Wednesday.

The vessel operated by SP Brussels was attacked on Monday by armed pirates, who kidnapped the Indian

crew members after boarding the ship 60 km off the coast of Nigeria, the company said in a statement.

The oil-rich Gulf of Guinea has become risky in recently years with attacks frequently reported, especially off Nigeria and Cameroon. The attacks are often linked to ransoms

demanding by pirates in exchange for their captives.

On 15 Oct, pirates kidnapped six Russians and one Estonian after seizing a ship operated by French firm Bourbon SA off the southern coast of Nigeria. The hostages were released two weeks after the captivity.

Xinhua

UN seeks \$1.5 billion to help suffering Syrians

GENEVA, 20 Dec—The United Nations appealed on Wednesday for \$1.5 billion (922 million pounds) to help save the lives of millions of Syrians suffering a “dramatically deteriorating” humanitarian situation.

The twin appeals are for \$519.6 million to help 4 million people within Syria and \$1 billion to meet the needs of up to 1 million Syrian refugees in five other countries until July 2013.

The United Nations said they comprised the “largest short-term humanitarian appeal ever”, but still fell some way short of a comprehensive relief plan.

“The violence in Syria is raging across the country and there are nearly no more safe areas where people can flee and find safety,” Radhouane Nouicer, UN

a news briefing in Geneva.

Noting that Syria's capital Damascus was the scene of “daily shelling and bombing”, he added: “It is a realistic appeal that takes into consideration what we commit ourselves to achieve. It is not a comprehensive response plan, it is limited to what we can do in such a difficult operating environment.”

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon called on countries to respond generously to the appeals presented to donor governments in Geneva as winter takes hold in the region. “I'm considering convening an international donor conference, in close coordination with key partners, early next year,” he told reporters in New York.

Reuters



Syrian refugees fleeing violence in their towns are seen at their temporary home in a school at Tel Abyed near Hasaka on 17 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

LOCAL NEWS

Bago gets free clinic

BAGO, 20 Dec—The Myat Myitta free clinic was opened at the junction of Yazadarit and Bayintnaung Road in Ward 4 of Oktha Myothit in Bago Township on 15 December morning.

The free clinic is kept open twice a week.

The building of clinic was contributed by U Htay Lwin-Daw Khin Thida Myint of Thamala Street in Ward

3 of Oktha Myothit who donated clinic equipment and medicines for two months, two salaries for sanitation worker and guard in addition to 50 sets of cloth with the name of clinic and cost of opening ceremony.

Lt-Col Aung Min (Rtd) and wellwishers donated K 12 million to the medical trust-fund and local people K 5 million.—*Myanma Alinn*

Workshop on role of child rights held

TAUNGGYI, 20 Dec—Social Welfare Department and UNICEF jointly organized the workshop on the role of the Committee of the Child Rights and protection of child right at the hall of Myanmar Medical

Association in Taunggyi on 10 December.

The workshop was aimed at enabling the departmental personnel and local people to know facts in the UN Convention on Rights of Child

Supply of electricity launched in rural area of Lewe Township

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec—A ceremony to launch the generator for supply of electricity was held in Ywama Village of Dalantchun Village-tract in Lewe Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 11 December morning.

Member of the council U Myint Swe, Lewe Township Administrator U Htay Win

and local people launched the generator to supply electricity to the local people.

The village is constituted with 199 villages. The local people spent over K 1 million and Nay Pyi Taw Council K 7.7 million for supply of electricity.—*Myanma Alinn*

Narcotic drugs seized in Momauk

MOMAUK, 20 Dec—A squad comprising members of Bhamo Anti-Drug Special Squad and Momauk Police Station seized narcotic drugs and stimulant tablets near the concrete bridge entrance to Momauk of Kachin State.

A squad led by IP Aung Ko Naing of Bhamo Anti-Drug Special Squad searched the motorbike driven by Ko Baran Hsai who left Lwejel for Momauk at 3.30 pm on 12 December and seized suspect heroin packet weighing 12.3 grams in plastic bag hidden in air-cleaner and another packet weighing 13.4 grams in a soap box from the oil tank and three packets of WY brand stimulants containing 200 tablets each weighing 6000 grams at motorcycle frame.

Momauk Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against Ko Baran Hsai under Section 15/19(a) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.—*Myanma Alinn*

Cash donated to fund of quake-hit pagoda



MEIKTILA, 20 Dec—The diamond orb of Shwegugyi Pagoda in Shwegugyi Village of Wundwin Township fell down in the earthquake that hit on 11 November, and the umbrella of the pagoda tilted to east side and walls cracked.

In the earthquake, the pagoda lost K 2.2 million for the diamond orb, K 1.5 million for the umbrella and K 500,000 for the archway, totalling amounting to over K 4.2 million.

The diamond orb and umbrella hoisting ceremony and gold foil offering ceremony were held at the prayer hall of the pagoda on

12 December. Deputy Commissioner of Meiktila District U Tin Maung Soe and departmental officials, wellwishers and local people donated cash to the fund of the pagoda through Wundwin Township Administrator U Ko Ko Htwe who returned the certificates.

The donations in total amounted to K 10,746,500. The umbrella hoisting ceremony will be held on 24 December. The diamond orb will be renovated by original wellwisher retired Lt-Col Myo Myint and wife Daw Khin San Tint.

—*Myanma Alinn*

Incinerator donated in Shwedaung

SHWEDAUNG, 20 Dec—A ceremony to share merits gained for donation of one incinerator worth K 8 million was held at Sasana Beikman in Kathedan of Shwedaung on 12 December morning.

The incinerator was donated by contributions of Shwedaung Noodle U Thein Shwe for his 100th birthday of Zaygon of Thayettaw Ward in Shwedaung and U Hla

Myint-Daw Kyi Kyi Nwe of Yangon.

On the occasion, members of the Sangha recited Parittas.

Wellwisher U Hla Myint-Daw Kyi Kyi Nwe and family handed over documents related to the incinerator to Chairman of Township Funeral Service Association U Aye Myint.

—*Myanma Alinn*

Hlaing under the law.

—*Myanma Alinn*

Motorcyclist dead at level crossing



NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec—A traffic accident occurred at level crossing, south of Ywada Station in Pobbathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

At 7 am on 1 December, 507-up Pyinmana-Tatkon rail bus that left Pyinmana Station bumped with a motorcycle driven by Maung Kyaw Swa Win, 32 at the

level crossing without any rail gate.

Police men of Kyitaunggan Police Station rushed the injured to the Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital (1000-bed) but the motorcyclist died at the hospital at 10 am.

Kyitaunggan Police Station opened a file of lawsuit for the case.

—*Myanma Alinn*

Fire breaks out in Mogaung

MOGAUNG, 20 Dec—A candle light broke out fire at No 238 of Shweli Ward in Namti Village of Mogaung Township, Kachin State, at 11.20 pm on 10 December.

Local authorities, members of Auxiliary Fire Brigade and local people participated in fire fighting with the use of two fire engines and they put out the fire at midnight.

In the incident, the fire destroyed one house.

The authorities concerned filed a lawsuit against U Kyaw Moe Kyi, 30, son of U Yan Aye, under the law.

—*Myanma Alinn*



CULTIVATION DEMONSTRATED: Deputy Head of Bago Township Agriculture Department Daw Myint Myint Cho and five staff together with Kyaikpaw Village Administrator U Than Aung demonstrate systematic cultivation of Paletwe hybrid paddy in farmland of U Thet Win on 14 December.

—*MYANMA ALINN*

School upgraded in Kalay Township

KALAY, 20 Dec—A ceremony to open upgraded Basic Education Primary School was held in conjunction with the handing over of Myitta school building at the school in Sangyoung Ward of Thazi Village-tract in Kalay Township, Sagaing Region, on 14 December.

The upgrading of the school is aimed at developing socio-economy of rural regions and enabling school age children to get easy access to primary education.

Deputy Commissioner U Nyi Nyi Htwe of District General Administration Department, the district education officer and member of the school board of trustees formally opened the signboard of the upgraded school.

One member of School Board of Trustees explained the purpose of construction for new school building.

Later, officials accepted documents related to the school building.

—*Myanma Alinn*

Tuk-tuk plunges into drain, leaving six injured

TAUNGDWINGYI, 20 Dec—A vehicle turned over on Taungdwin-Magway Road in Taungdwingyi Township of Magway Region on 12 December noon.

A tuk-tuk driven by Win Hlaing of East Kokkogwa Village from the east to the west along Magway Road and plunged into the drain of roadside near mile post No 282/7.

In the accident, passengers Ma Soe Thet Mon, Ma Ei Thet, Daw Waing Kyi, Daw Sein Hla, Ma Kyu Kyu and Ma Than Htay were injured. Taungdwingyi Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against reckless driver Win

It was also attended by judges of the high court, legal affairs officers and 20 trainees. The course will last four weeks.—*Myanma Alinn*

court, here, on 14 December morning.

On the occasion, Chief Justice of the High Court U Win Swe made a speech.

Action Speaks Louder than Words.

Clerical refresher course commences

YANGON, 20 Dec—The clerical refresher course, organized by Yangon Region High Court, kicked off at the meeting hall of the high

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 21 December, 2012

Smokeless industry

With a series of reforms in every sectors of the country, the country sees an increasing influx of tourists. Tourism is considered a 'smokeless industry', 'tailor made' for third world countries. Myanmar stands a tourist destination for international travelers to experience its abundantly rich, cultural and natural heritage, genuine hospitality and spiritual value. Myanmar is making efforts to develop tourism, a smokeless industry. Myanmar rejoined the UN World Tourism Organization in June this year which promised to support Myanmar in taking full advantage of its tremendous tourist potential. It is becoming an attractive destination for foreign investment as well.

To create more jobs for the local people, the Myanmar government is also keen to encourage both foreign and local investment in the hotel and tourist sector. Myanmar has made consistent efforts for tourism development in a sustainable and responsible way in line with the government's reform strategy and economic liberalization, evidently resulting in the positive trend and dramatically increasing number of international arrival. Today there is growing realization throughout the world that tourism like any other industry has a limit to its growth and it can pollute not only the physical but also the culture environment.

As an industry, tourism generates money, increases employment opportunities and provides foreign exchange for poor countries. In addition it's also a source of income to restore and maintain ancient monuments and national parks. Seen in this context, tourism is portrayed as a positive force. However, as a destroyer of fragile eco-systems, source of pollution, and disrupter of native cultures, tourism is seen as negative force. Anyway, it is Myanmar's responsibility to enable visitors to feel safe and healthy, well take care of and that they return home with pleasant memory which will be passed on to other people who are going to visit Myanmar.

Myanmar Traditional Medicine Practitioners Conference on 27-28 Dec

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec—The 13th Myanmar Traditional Medicine Practitioners Conference will be held at Myanmar International Convention Centre, here, on 27 and 28 December.—NLM



Trust in reform

Min Bahtoo



(Continued from 14 December)

Determining factors for earning trust

Scholars in political economy said that the more economic prosperity is achieved, the greater the trust can be earned. Increased level of poverty rate can, in turn, lead to a decline in trust. Ensuring greater transparency in business entities, job opportunity, education, health and other service sectors contributes to more public trust in governments.

Nowadays, recession in national economy and lack of positive attitudes towards government's capability to tackle economic challenges make a loss of trust. Competitive pressures and economic paradigms accelerate economic inequities and increase the number of marginalized people in the Age of Globalization. This factor reveals that if there is no adequate and timely reform process in developing countries, there will be a decline in political trust in governments. Trust can be undermined economically as well as politically and socially. Continued occurrence of a shower of political gossips, uncontrollable and unruly corruptions and excessive

reporting of media about the issues occasionally are main factors undermining the trust in governments and political leaders.

Corruptions in developing and developed countries serve as an important political image that affects public trust in governments. Moreover, the matters of living standard and social security for the public and corruption are more important for developing countries than developed countries. There are two cautious factors between trust and corruption in accord with political legitimacy of a system and good governance. The first factor is that if enough a political leader or an organization is cracking down on corruption, public trust cannot be gained. It is required to show himself to prove he is not a corrupt one. The second point is that although a certain government is believed to have committed mal-practices to a certain extent, public trust in the government can be existed when mutual trust and social capital are deeply rooted among the public. In building public trust at any time, transparencies like public debate, questioning on government's policies and differences in decision-making process are needed. "Although corruption and burgeoning of autocracy can utterly erode the trust, trust cannot be restored by the democratic governance alone", as the saying

goes. Despite the fact that democratic system is of vital importance in generating and maintaining the trust, its capability is insufficient.

Appearance of corruption must also be dispelled to gain political trust. Despite his honesty, a politician might be appeared to corrupt. So, the politicians need to maintain both their behaviours and the good public image. The impacts of accusation of corruption on the leaders and the public servants differ a little. Since the duties of political representatives, by nature, are not defined as explicit as those of the public servants and judicial staff, the accusation of corruption against them is already more sensitive. Nevertheless, both the politicians and the public servants must avoid every action that could lead to public perception that they are doing wrong.

The second warning is that the social capital is actually important for the interconnection between corruption and political trust. Social activities earn a government much political trust. Social activities and figures such as wage scale, literacy rate, education standard, life expectancy of each gender, health, and sports can determine the political and social trusts. The middle class in developing countries are not convinced by the government's actions and have less trust in the government. They often

see themselves as outcasts because the government tries to reach out more to the poor and the rich enjoy benefits under the umbrella of the government. Age also has unbalance impact on the political trust. In spite of tolerating the authoritarian mechanism, the older generations have less tolerance to the democratic governments.

Another irrefutable factor is emerging in the phenomenon of the political trust in this age of globalization. That the people put more emphasis on moral standards than partisanship, political affiliation and personality cult could be said to be the new civic responsibility. Which things are encouraging the increase of trust from the original level to next level? Otherwise, why do the people emphasize morality than capacity? The only answer to these questions is the impacts of globalization that the governments around the world are experiencing, rather than any individual or any individual organization. The sources of the social and political trusts may differ, but we could draw a conclusion that the answer to the decline of the trust in the governments lies with new demands of the globalization.

(To be continued every Friday)

Trs: YM+HKA

Relief camps in Rakhine State inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec— Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi, together with Special Advisor to UN Secretary General and UN Under-Secretary-General Mr Vijay Nambiar and Secretary of Investigation Commission Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing, arrived at Sittway Airport in Rakhine State on 18 December.

They, accompanied by Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin, proceeded to Myaybon relief camp via Sittway by helicopters. They gave encouragement to the victims and fulfilled their needs.

Upon arrival at Kyeinpiyin Village relief

camp in Pauktaw Township, the Union Minister and party met the local people and coordinated the essential, and left for Sittway.

In the evening, the Union Minister and party met with Rakhine and Muslims representatives and held discussions on exercising patience and the needs for regional development.

Yesterday morning, the Union Minister and officials discussed about the ongoing tasks at a separate meeting with the Muslim representatives at the hall of Sittway Air Force.

Then, they proceeded to Thayay Konbaung Village Township and fulfilled the

needs of the victims.

The Union Minister and party visited relief camps in Thechaung and Ohntawgyi villages of Sittway Township and conformed locals. And they held discussions with

them on reconstruction and resettlement, regional development affairs.

Before their departure at Sittway Airport, they held a separate discussion with Rakhine representatives on the requirement of the working process.

MNA

Coord meeting on BCIM Car Rally held

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec— As he delivered an address at the work coordination meeting at the ministry, here, this morning, Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint stressed the need for successful holding of Kolkata to Kunming BCIM Car Rally to mark the BCIM Forum to be held in Dhaka of Bangladesh on 23 February.

The rally is aimed at strengthening friendship and fostering development of the region.

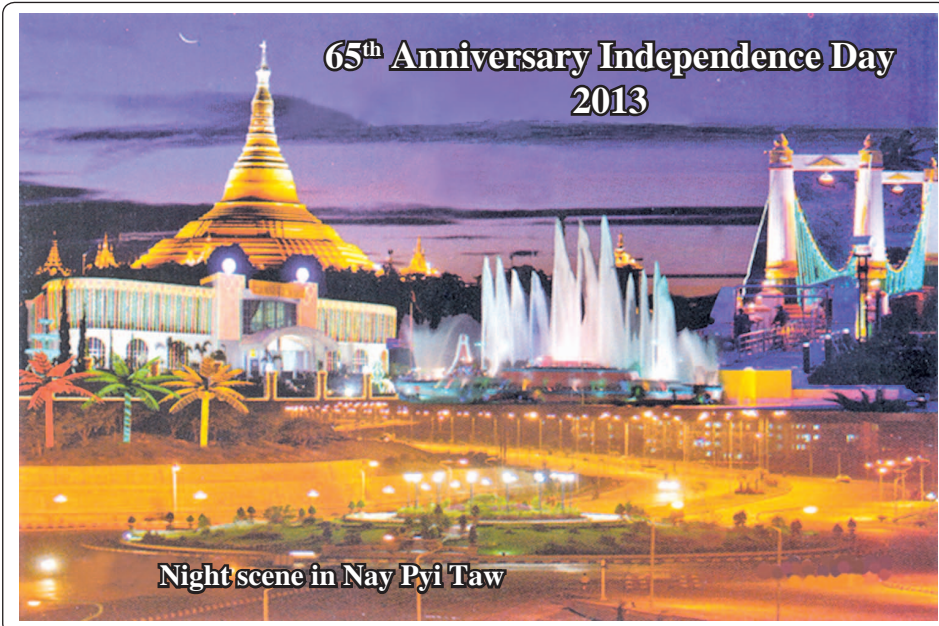
Next, the deputy managing director (Planning) of Public Works explained works to be done, and representatives of ministries concerned took part in the discussion.

MNA

NATIONAL

National Objectives of 65th Anniversary Independence Day for 2013

1. All the national people to live together in the Union through thick and thin
2. All the national people to constantly safeguard non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty
3. All the national people to participate in the tasks for bringing about genuine, eternal peace putting an end to the armed conflicts
4. To make relentless efforts, in building a modern, developed and democratic nation, in order to better serve public interest, to ensure poverty reduction and bring about righteous legislative, administrative and judicial pillars



65th Anniversary Independence Day 2013

Night scene in Nay Pyi Taw

Union A&I Minister meets TIKA expert, Turkish Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec — Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing received Expert Mr. Mikail Tasdemir of Turkish International Cooperation and Development Agency-TIKA and Turkish Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Murat Yavus Ates at his office, here, yesterday morning.

The TIKA Expert and Turkish ambassador offered a quick help for development of agriculture sector in Myanmar and gave an account of a plan to open an office of TIKA to be able to cooperate closely in the areas of health, education and agriculture.

The Union Minister explained farm equipment

and modern infrastructures needed for pre-harvest and post-harvest matters, prospects in investment sector and cooperation programme.

After the meeting, the TIKA expert and the Turkish ambassador viewed round agro products which were on display at the hall.

MNA



Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing views arrival of farming machinery to reclaim farmlands in Dekkhinathiri Township.

MNA

Final Workshop of Myanmar Tourism Master Plan kicks off

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec — In his address at the Final Workshop of the Myanmar Tourism Master Plan held at the ministry yesterday, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung said that a draft for Myanmar tourism master plan with social, environmental, cultural and economic assessments was going to emerge based on outcomes of series of workshops organized by the ministry in cooperation with Norwegian government and Asia Development Bank.

The Union Minister highlighted factors to be

discussed in the workshop for development of tourism sector in Myanmar.

Next, ADB representative Mr. Steven Schipani, Director-General Daw Lei Lei Thein of Planning Department and leader of master plan drawing committee Dr. Paul Rogers spoke on the occasion, and those present held discussions.

Also present at the workshop were Deputy Ministers Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint, Dr. Daw Thein Thet Zin, Dr Daw Thein Htay, Dr Lin Aung, U Myint Thein, U Aye Kyu

and Daw Su Su Hlaing, the directors-general, officials concerned and guests.

MNA

Election of ward/village administrators lectured

SHWEDO, 20 Dec — The training course for election of ward/village administrators was held at Yangyiaung gymnasium of Shwedo on 15 December.

Head of Shwedo Township General Administration

Earthquake Hazard Survey Program initiates

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec — The Earthquake Hazard Survey Program was launched at Amara Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone, here, this morning.

Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin delivered an address on the occasion.

The Head of Agency of the United Nations Human

Settlements Programme presented reports on ongoing tasks for reducing natural disasters and continuing providing with technical knowhow, and handed over the teaching aids for opening educative courses on natural disaster management to the Director-General of the Relief and Resettlement Department.

The resource persons

read out their papers — Earthquake risk in Myanmar & Lessons from recent earthquake events, Status of Seismic Hazard Assessment in Myanmar to Cover National and City Level initiatives and Proposed Framework for Earthquake Risk Assessment in Myanmar. The ceremony came to an end.

MNA

Union Attorney-General receives guests from JICA, Sky Born Group of Companies

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec — Union Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin received a delegation led by Director General Mr IGIGAKI Hidetoshi of Industrial Development and Public Policy Department from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and a delegation led by Mr VINCENT S. WON from Myanmar-based Sky Born Group of Companies formed with US lawyers, at his office today separately.

At the calls, both sides held discussions on successful holding of Legal Aspect on the situation of State-owned enterprise to privatize on seminar, holding of discussions in the future, workshops, assistance programme and technical assistance.

MNA



Union Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin greets Director General Mr IGIGAKI Hidetoshi of Industrial Development and Public Policy Department from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). — MNA

Staff of Culture Ministry offer meals to monks

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec — Staff of the Ministry of Culture assigned in Bagan, members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees and local people offered meals to 100 members of the Sangha from Bagan for the first time at the temporary tent near Bu Pagoda in Bagan on 28 November.

On 13 December, they

offered meals to members of the Sangha for the second time.

The staff of the ministry and local people plan to offer meals to members of the Sangha on Fullmoon Day and 14th or 15th waning of every months in addition to holidays.

Myanma Alinn

Department Daw Khin Yi Myint, Township Law Officer Daw Kathy Hlaing, Head of Township Immigration and National Registration Department U Than Win Oo and Commander of Township Police Force Police Major Kyaw Win gave lectures on their respective sectors. They replied to queries raised by trainees.

Myanma Alinn

17 killed in jailbreak attempt in northern Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 20 Dec—Eleven prisoners and six guards were killed on Tuesday when prison police were trying to stop a jailbreak in northern Mexico, local authorities said.

The clashes broke out at around 5:00 pm (2300 GMT) at a prison in Gomez Palacio city of Durango State, the state's public security ministry said in a statement.

The rebellious prisoners shot at guard towers, setting off alarm bells, the statement said.

The guards fired back at prisoners trying to escape the facility through tunnels and back fence after warning shots had failed to stop them.

Troops were rushed to the prison, and the situation is under control, the statement said, adding an investigation is underway to determine the causes and the responsibilities of the incident.—Xinhua



The flag raising ceremony is held at the Golden Lotus Square in Macao, south China, on 20 Dec, 2012, to celebrate the 13th anniversary of Macao's return to the motherland.—XINHUA

Algeria, France pledge to step up cooperation

ALGIERS, 20 Dec—Algeria and France pledged on Wednesday to step up cooperation between the two countries by signing the Declaration of Algiers on Friendship and seven other cooperation agreements.

The Declaration of Algiers on Friendship, signed by visiting French President Francois Hollande and his Algerian counterpart Abdelaziz Bouteflika, aims to give a "new impetus" to bilateral relations.

The cooperation agreements, signed in

the presence of the two presidents, include, among others, a framework document of partnership over the period 2013-2017, a memorandum of financial cooperation, and an administrative arrangement on cooperation in the field of civil protection and security.

Accompanied by a delegation of 200 people including ministers, parliamentarians and businessmen, the French president began on Wednesday a two-day visit to Algeria.

Xinhua

Abdul'ahat Abdulrixit (2nd R), vice chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), attends a reception in celebration of the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between New Zealand and China in Beijing, capital of China, on 19 Dec, 2012.—XINHUA



India, ASEAN close to striking enhanced free trade agreement: Singaporean minister

SINGAPORE, 20 Dec—Singapore's Trade and Industry Minister Lim Hng Kiang said India and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) have largely resolved their differences and are close to striking an upgraded free trade agreement, a local newspaper reported on Thursday.

The parties involved have achieved "important breakthroughs" in the negotiations on investment and service trade, and the conclusion of the talks is expected to be announced soon by the leaders attending the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit in

New Delhi, local Chinese daily *Lianhe Zaobao* said.

The free trade talks between India and the ASEAN began more than ten years ago, but the free trade agreement in place now covers only the trade of goods.

The enhanced free trade deal would cover investment and services trade, too, the newspaper said. Lim said the enhanced free trade agreement will benefit Singaporean firms greatly.

Singapore and India signed a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement in 2005. Singapore is now India's eighth largest trading partner,

while India is the tenth largest trading partner to Singapore.

Lim highlighted three key areas of potentials for Singaporean firms to explore in the Indian market, such as urban planning, middle class-related consumer products and logistics.

India's ongoing urbanization process could mean great opportunities for Singaporean firms as the country needs infrastructure to meet the demand of the growing population living in cities, he said. The ASEAN group Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.—Xinhua

Pilot killed in Sudanese military plane crash

KHARTOUM, 20 Dec—A Sudanese pilot was killed on Wednesday in a Sudanese military plane crash at El Obaid airport in western Sudan, official *SUNA* news agency reported.

"During the routine work of the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF), a fighting plane crashed and burned at El Obied airport after performing its task on Wednesday afternoon," the agency quoted Sudanese army spokesman Al-

Sawarmy Khalid Saad as saying.

"The plane's pilot was killed in the incident," he added, noting that the plane crashed due to a technical fault.

He said the Commander of the 5th Infantry Division and officials of North Kordofan State had rushed to the incident scene, adding that a committee was formed to investigate the incident.

Xinhua

Obama named TIME magazine's Person of the Year

WASHINGTON, 20 Dec—*TIME* has tapped US President Barack Obama for its Person of the Year for the second time, citing his historic re-election last month as symbolic of the nation's shifting demographics and the rise of younger, more diverse Americans. In announcing its annual selection on Wednesday, the magazine called Obama the "Architect of the New America."

"He's basically the beneficiary and the author of a kind new America—a new demographic, a new cultural America that he is now the symbol of," *TIME* editor Rick Stengel said of Obama, who was also selected for the honour in 2008 when he became the nation's first black president.

Obama beat Republican challenger Mitt Romney last month with clear majorities from Latinos and other minorities as well as among young adults, a result that has forced conservatives to rethink their policy positions and political strategy.

There are many reasons



The *TIME* magazine Person of the Year edition features US President Barack Obama.

REUTERS

Obama won again, "but the biggest by far are the nation's changing demographics and Obama's unique ability to capitalize on them. When his name is on the ballot, the next America—a younger, more diverse America—turns out at the polls," *TIME* contributor Michael Scherer said in an article accompanying the selection. *TIME* also cited Obama's ability to clearly win a second term in the 6 November election despite high unemployment and

other challenges.

The US jobless rate peaked at 10 percent in 2009 amid the recession but has been falling. In November, it dipped to 7.7 percent as more people dropped out of the labour force.

"He won re-election despite a higher unemployment rate than anybody's had to face in basically in 70 years," Stengel said on NBC's "Today" show.

"He's the first Democrat to actually win two consecutive terms with over 50 percent of the vote. That's something we haven't seen since Franklin Delano Roosevelt," he added, citing the president during the Great Depression and World War Two.

Americans are still struggling to recover along with the nation's economy and have expressed frustration with Obama, who won 4 million fewer votes than in 2008, Scherer wrote. But overall, the president has been able to hold steady, he said.

Reuters

Ministry of Information Myanma Radio and Television Invitation for Open Tender

- The Myanma Radio and Television under the Ministry of Information prefers to purchase the following equipment:-

(a) 100 KW MW Radio Transmitter	- 1 Set (USD)
(b) Camera, Video Player and Recorder	- 1 Lot (USD)
(c) Compact Video Recorder (Panasonic, DVC Pro HD AJ-HD 1400)	- 10 Nos. (Kyat)
- The applications forms for the open tender will be available at the Ministry of Information, Office No. (7), Nay Pyi Taw in office hours (9.30-16.30) during office days from 21-12-2012 to 30-12-2012.
- The forms are to be submitted to the members of the tender board at the Ministry of Information, Office No (7), Nay Pyi Taw between 9.30 and 16.30 on 31-12-2012. The overdue tenders will not be accepted.
- For scrutiny of the quality of equipment, bidding companies are to inform the Ministry of Information, Office No (7), Nay Pyi Taw by 9 am on 3-1-2013.
- Further details are available at the following address:-

Procurement Committee
Ministry of Information
Office No. (7), Nay Pyi Taw
Ph: 067 412327 and 067 79474

REGIONAL

Thai police seizes 1.3 million meth pills

BANGKOK, 20 Dec—Thai Highway Police on Wednesday intercepted a shipment of 1.3 million methamphetamine pills hidden in a pickup truck carrying vegetables in southern province of Chumphon, *Thai News Agency* reported.

Chumphon-based Highway Police set up checkpoints to prevent crime and illegal smuggling before Christmas and New Year's Festival and found suspicious pickup truck on Phetkasem Road at

Chumphon's Hat Krai sub-district.

Police searched the vehicle carrying 12 baskets of vegetables and found that each basket had a hidden little bag inside, and bags contained 1.3 million methamphetamine pills.

The pill has an estimated street value of 390 million baht or 12.74 million US dollars.

The driver was identified as Ong-art Sengya, 39, an ethnic Hmong resident of northern province of Chiang



Thai Highway Police officers display seized drugs during a press conference at its headquarters in Bangkok, capital of Thailand, on 19 Dec, 2012.—XINHUA

Mai.

Ong-art said he was hired to carry the drug by vegetable vendor to deliver

the drugs to a major drug agent in touristic southern island of Phuket.

Xinhua

JR West to build Japan's biggest railway museum in Kyoto

OSAKA, 20 Dec—West Japan Railway Company (JR West) announced on Wednesday it would build Japan's biggest railway museum in Kyoto to show history of the country's railway as well as the company's advanced rail technologies.

The railway operator will construct a 3-storey museum which has a total floor area of about 20,000 square metres at a park near the JR Kyoto Station, according to the daily *Mainichi Shimbun*.

The company said the museum, which has the country's largest collection of about 50 trains dating back over 100 years, would open in 2016.

Among the exhibits in the museum will be the first and the fastest models of Japanese high-speed train called "Shinkansen", some other railway cars and steam locomotives with epoch-making and unique technologies, which were widely used in former JNR (Japanese National Railways). It will also feature train cab simulators, and a "research" zone where visitors can study mechanism of electric trains.

JR West expects more than 800,000 visitors a year from around the world will come to the new Kyoto museum, the report added.

Xinhua

Singapore minister vows to protect foreign workers from unfair treatment

SINGAPORE, 20 Dec—Singapore's Acting Manpower Minister Tan Chuan-Jin has said that his Ministry can and will do more to protect foreign workers.

Tan said in a blogpost to mark International Migrants Day late on Tuesday that there "have been various criticisms" directed at the government's handling of the migrant worker matters.

"Indeed, as with all issues, I do believe we can do more. Our various systems, including those dealing with employment issues for workers, can be improved and we will continue to work on them," he wrote.

He said that the ministry cannot do it alone to protect the foreign workers and that

the employers should play a key role too.

"Employers who bring in foreign workers must be responsible for them and treat them fairly. They must not simply look at the bottomline without caring for workers' welfare and well-being — this applies for local and migrant workers alike," he wrote.

Tan's comments came weeks after five Chinese bus drivers were charged with inciting an illegal strike and 29 others were deported to China. They were among some 180 Chinese bus drivers taking medical leave at the same time last month in protest against inequitable pay rises and discriminatory practices at local public transport

operator SMRT.

However, the tough actions against the drivers did not seem to deter foreign workers from voicing their concerns in what is widely regarded as improper or even illegal ways. Two other Chinese workers were charged recently with demanding their pay by climbing onto the top of crane.

Most recently, some 30 foreign workers from China as well as other countries reportedly refused to go to work at a construction site on Tuesday to demand their pay the employer owed them.

The incidents were hot topics of the local media and online forums. While most said the drivers should be dealt with according to

the law, many of them also voiced sympathy for the drivers.

Tan wrote local residents should pause to recognize the contributions of migrant workers in Singapore — "whether they are construction workers who help build the infrastructure we enjoy and the homes we live in, whether they are service or professional staff, or foreign domestic workers who help to care for our children and parents while we are at work."

He also compared the foreign workers to the forefathers who had come to Singapore many years ago to seek better opportunities in the city state.

Xinhua



A member of the rescue team from the Philippine army rappels down a building during a mass casualty incident drill in Quezon City, the Philippines, on 19 Dec, 2012. The armed forces of the Philippines and ambulance units participated in the mass casualty incident drill aimed to prepare rescue squads for terrorism act in a school similar to the Connecticut shooting in the US killing 28 people.—XINHUA



Heavy machinery for rent is pictured in Kabul, Afghanistan in this 16 Dec, 2012 file photo. The construction industry in Afghanistan would be badly hit with the impending withdrawal of NATO-led coalition forces from the war-ravaged country and the continued threat from militant groups.—XINHUA

Indonesia's flag carrier airlines improves role to advance tourism

JAKARTA, 20 Dec—Indonesian flag carrier airlines, Garuda Indonesia, has set plans to advance the country's tourism industry by adding destinations to its international services, establishing route cooperation with international airlines and procuring more planes, Garuda Indonesia President Director Emirsyah Satar said here on Wednesday.

Emirsyah said that Garuda Indonesia had recorded 12 percent passenger growth so far this year in its international

flight service with tourists taking a large portion of it.

"In a bid to transport more foreigners intending to spend vacation in Indonesia, we had opened 4 new international routes this year and established cooperation with eight international airlines firms, covering 29 new international routes," he said.

At home, the airlines sees a 16 percent passenger growth at the time being, expecting to carry more passengers to tourism destinations as the year end holiday comes near.

The largest airlines firm in the country is expecting the delivery of 24 brand new planes ordered from foreign producers next year. Those planes include *Boeing 777-300ER*, *Boeing 787-800NG* and *Bombardier*.

The operation of those planes is expected to significantly help the government meet its target to receive 9 million foreign tourists next year as it is optimistic to reach this year's target of 8 million.

Xinhua

Australia to establish customs reform board against corruption

CANBERRA, 20 Dec—Australian government will establish a Customs Reform Board as the first step of a reform against corruption following the arrests of customs officers on malpractice on drug smuggling, Minister for Justice Jason Clare told a Press conference on Thursday.

One Customs officer, 28, one quarantine officer, 31, and two members of the public were arrested this week. Four more people were arrested in August and October. These eight people had been charged over drug smuggling following a clandestine two-year investigation into corruption.

"There will always be the risk that organized criminals will target law enforcement officers. There's always the risk that our law enforcement

officers could end up working for the crooks.

"Minister Clare said at a press conference in Sydney.

The Customs Reform Board was made up of James Wood, former Royal Commissioner of the NSW Royal Commission into the NSW Police Service, former NSW Police commissioner Ken Moroney and former deputy chairman of Ansett David Mortimer.

It will oversee the Customs Services and give recommendations to stamp out corruption from the service and take more reforms.

The government has already announced a number of changes to Customs this year, including covert integrity testing, drug and alcohol testing, new requirements to report misconduct, and expanding the powers of Australian Commission for Law

Enforcement Integrity (ACLEI).

And Minister Clare said he planned to announce "major structural and cultural reforms" next year, including improving its law enforcement capability, integrity culture and business systems.

Few months ago, a Customs officer was arrested, along with two men and one woman. They were charged with corruption and drug-related offences.

"The investigation began... after Customs notified ACLEI of suspected corrupt activity almost two years ago," Australian Federal Police chief commissioner Tony Negus said. According to him, this investigation, which has resulted in eight people being arrested, is still ongoing, and further arrests are anticipated.

Xinhua

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV YING STAR VOY NO (1220)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV YING STAR VOY NO (1220) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.12.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W (4) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

AGENT FOR: M/S A&Z SHIPPING CO. LTD.

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV ER TURKU VOY NO (007)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ER TURKU VOY NO (007) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.12.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

AGENT FOR: M/S HAN JIN SHIPPING LINE

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV EIT PALOMA VOY NO (-)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV EIT PALOMA VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.12.2012 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 byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: K/S-COMBI LIFT**

Phone No: 256924/256914



Photo taken on 17 Dec, 2012 shows the scenery of the rape flowers in Zhentai Town of Yi-Hani-Lahu Autonomous County of Zhenyuan, southwest China's Yunnan Province.—XINHUA

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (063)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (063) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.12.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ORINET OVERSEAS
CONTAINER LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV EASTERN SAPPAHIRE VOY NO (-)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV EASTERN SAPPAHIRE VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.12.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: RK SHIPPING & TRADING
PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256924/256914

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

**Ministry of Border Affairs
Department of Rural Development
National Community Driven Development Project
IDA Grant H814-MM
Assignment Title : National Communications Specialist
Reference No.: C-7**

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

- (1) assist the DRD to develop a project communications strategy and work-plan,
- (2) build up capacity of the DRD team to actively engage with stakeholders in project outreach,
- (3) provide assistance in drafting communication sections of the Project Operation Manual, and
- (4) strengthen the DRD communications team with technical expertise on communication techniques. The contract will cover a period of 12 months starting in January 2013.

The Department of Rural Development now invites eligible person to indicate his/her interest in providing the communications services. Interested person should provide information demonstrating that he/she has required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the services.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) can be obtained at the address below during office hours from 0900 to 1600. Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by fax, or by e-mail) by January 3, 2013.

Attn: U Ko Ko Naing, Director,
Department of Rural Development,
Ministry of Border Affairs,
Office Number 14,
Nay Pyi Taw,
Myanmar
Fax: +95-67-409215

E-mail to all these email addresses: naing.7.koko@gmail.com; kzaw.dda@gmail.com



A woman walks in snow on a street in Qingdao, east China's Shandong Province, on 18 Dec, 2012. The temperature will linger around zero degree centigrade starting on 20 Dec, according to the local meteorological authority.

XINHUA

Libya's GNC signs memorandum with IPU to support democracy

TRIPOLI, 20 Dec—

Libya's General National Congress (GNC) on Tuesday signed a memorandum of understanding with the International Parliamentary Union (IPU), in a bid to strengthen the new parliament and support the country's democratic drive. Jumaa Ataigh, first deputy of Libya's GNC, who signed the document with IPU General Secretary Andres Johnson, said Libya is pleased to sign such a memorandum to consult with the IPU to train the administrative staff to learn about the ways to run the GNC sessions, and to be professional in documentation and archiving.

This cooperation is important and the GNC regards it as a vital support to the work of the first elected parliament of Libya, said Ataigh, who expressed hope to further solidify the new form of democracy in his country.

Xinhua

Ministry of Information Myanma Radio and Television

Invitation for Open Tender

1. The Myanma Radio and Television under the Ministry of Information prefers to purchase the following equipment:-

- | | |
|--|----------|
| (a) 3 Cameras DSNG Van | - 1 Set |
| (b) Fibre Interface Unit | - 1 Lot |
| (For Multi Channel Playout System Head-end) | |
| (c) ProLine StagePro Presidential Style Teleprompter | |
| -Pair of Displays-19" Reversing Monitors | - 2 Sets |
| -Pair of Displays-19" High Brightness Monitors | - 2 Sets |

2. The application forms for the open tender are available at the Ministry of Information, Office No. 7, Nay Pyi Taw in office hours (9.30-16.30) daily from 20-12-2012 to 30-12-2012.

3. The forms are to be submitted to the tender board at the Ministry of Information, Office No. 7, Nay Pyi Taw between 9.30 and 16.30 on 31-12-2012. The overdue tenders will not be accepted.

4. For scrutiny of the quality of equipment, bidding companies are to inform the Ministry of Information, Office No. 7, Nay Pyi Taw, by 9 am on 3-1-2013.

5. Further details are available at the following address:-

**Procurement Committee
Ministry of Information
Office No. 7, Nay Pyi Taw
Ph: 067-412327 and 067-79474**

UN agencies appeal for aid to Haiti

UNITED NATIONS, 20 Dec—A UN spokesman on Tuesday said that UN agencies and humanitarian partners are appealing for 144 million US dollars in humanitarian aid to help over one million people in Haiti

next year.

"The funding will be used to respond to crises, including food insecurity, cholera and displacement," Martin Nesirky told a daily news briefing here, citing information from the UN

Office of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

"About two million Haitians are facing food insecurity, and more than 350,000 people are still living in camps and depend on humanitarian

aid," said Nesirky. Haiti, a small island nation, faces continuing challenges in the wake of a brutal string of natural disasters, including Hurricane Sandy in October and a devastating earthquake in 2010.

Xinhua

ENTERTAINMENT

Brad Pitt, Angelina Jolie enjoy romantic getaway in English cottage

LONDON, 20 Dec—Celebrity couple Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie took a break from taking care of their kids as they enjoyed a romantic date in the English countryside. The duo, who raise six children together, checked into a hotel for some time alone, reported Contactmusic. “They had a romantic dinner at the restaurant. It was just the two of them. They ordered red wine and were dressed up a bit, like they wanted to look good for each other.

“After their meal Brad led Angelina to the Dower House, a private two-story, three bedroom cottage on the



hotel’s grounds. They’ d just rolled out of bed. It was so cute,” a source said.—PTI

Still open for more Bourne films: Matt Damon

LONDON, 20 Dec—Hollywood actor Matt Damon has given fans of the Bourne films hope that he will return to the franchise.

The 42-year-old actor said that he plans to sit down with director pal Paul Greengrass and plot his most famous character’s future, reported Daily Star.

The movie star turned down the chance to star in a fourth film and Jeremy Renner took over the lead in what became blockbuster hit The Bourne Legacy earlier this year, but Damon insists he might not be done with Jason Bourne just yet.

“I love the character, and the three movies we did, so I would love to figure

out a way to do another one. I am going to talk to Paul Greengrass about it,” Damon said.

But he doubts a new film would bring him and Renner together. “I don’t see those characters teaming up with anybody,” he added.

Damon also said that he still hasn’t seen The Bourne Legacy — but he plans to.

“Jeremy Renner is

a terrific actor. I love everything he does. I have not seen the movie yet, but it isn’t in protest or anything. When it came out last summer, I was filming a movie about Liberace right up to the end of August. We then had to rush back to New York, where we live, so we could get the kids settled and into school,” Damon said.

PTI



The movie star turned down the chance to star in a fourth film and Jeremy Renner took over the lead.

PTI

Elijah Wood fights for Los Angeles Taco stand

NEW DELHI, 20 Dec—The Lord of the Rings actor and the Breaking Bad star joined locals at Henry’s Tacos — located at the corner of Tujunga and Moorpark — on 16 December, 2012 as they battled to save the



Celebrities including Elijah Wood and Aaron Paul are backing the bid to save a taco stand in Los Angeles’ Studio City.—PTI

iconic eatery from closure after it lost its lease.

Elijah Wood told losangeles.cbslocal.com: “I would come here with my family.

We would get take out and take it home, or sit out on the benches, my brother and I and

my dad and my mom and my sister. I used to live here, I used to live in the Valley, until I was 17. So a good amount of my early childhood and my teenage years were definitely spent hanging out at this place.”

Aaron Paul tweeted a link to the petition to prevent the closure and urged his followers on Twitter to join him at the taco stand.

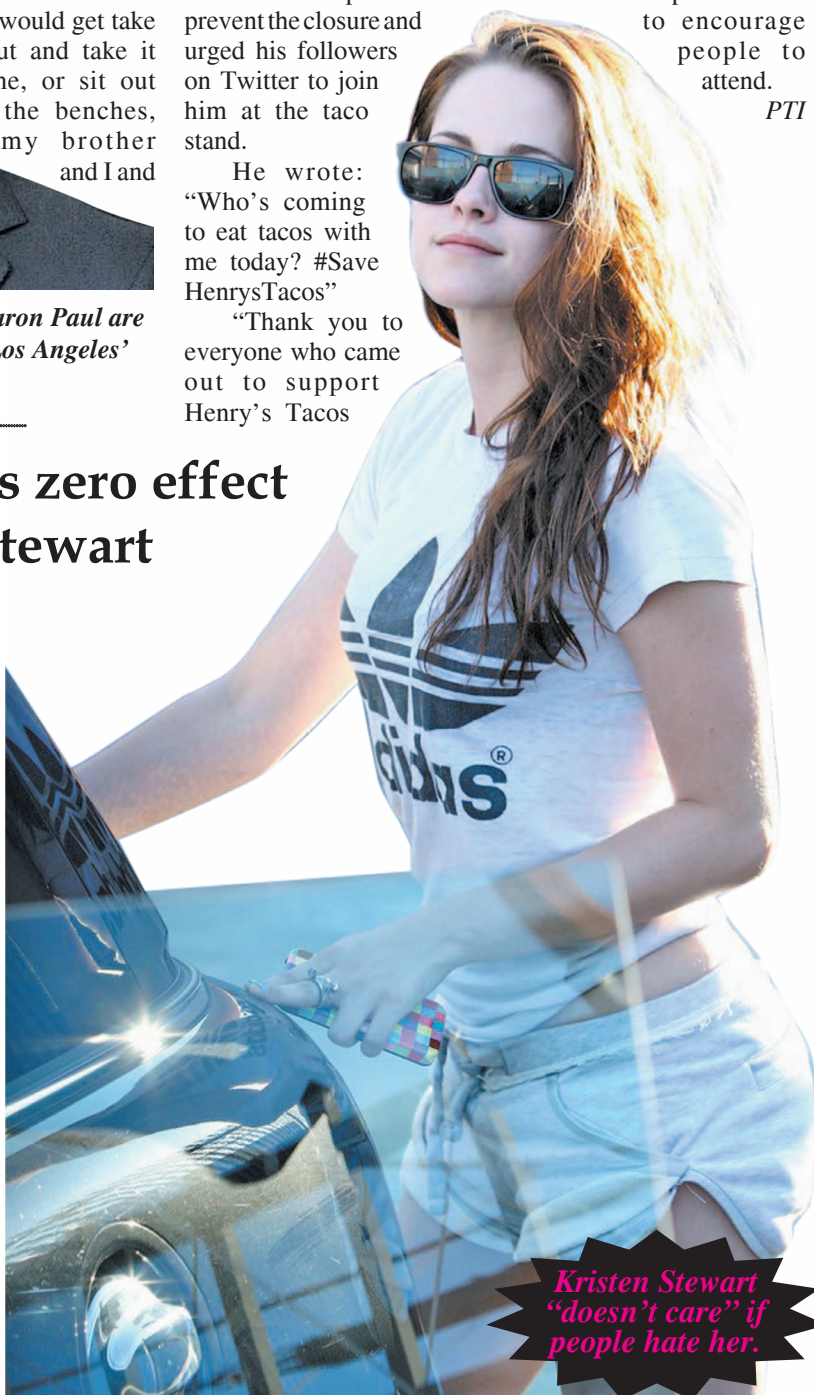
He wrote: “Who’s coming to eat tacos with me today? #Save Henry’sTacos”

“Thank you to everyone who came out to support Henry’s Tacos

today.

Truly amazing. So nice to see the beautiful community come together. #LA (sic),” he further added. While talk show host George Lopez couldn’t make it to the “eat in”, he paid for all tacos bought between 2 pm and 3 pm in order to encourage people to attend.

PTI



Kristen Stewart “doesn’t care” if people hate her.

Public opinion has zero effect on Kristen Stewart

NEW DELHI, 20 Dec—The On the Road actress — who admitted cheating on boyfriend Robert Pattinson with married director Rupert Sanders earlier this year — didn’t intend to make people “angry” with her actions, but insists public opinion has no effect on her.

She said: “It’s not a terrible thing if you’re either loved or hated. But honestly. I don’t care because it doesn’t keep me from doing my s**t. And I apologise to everyone for making them so angry. It was not my intention.”

The 22-year-old actress also admitted the attention she has received because of her high-profile made her “close off” from other people, but she is now making more of an effort to maintain a normal social life.

She added in an interview with The Daily Beast: “It’s a little annoying having to be so compartmentalised. I go from box to box. Like right now, this is so crazy ‘cause we’re out at a restaurant. But I’m going out a lot more now. I was starting to get closed off and self-conscious, and I’m trudging forth into the world more often.”

PTI

Leonardo DiCaprio hated his Django Unchained role

LOS ANGELES, 20 Dec—Actor Leonardo DiCaprio, who has won a Golden Globe nomination for his role in Quentin Tarantino’s Django Unchained, says he did not like his character in the film.

DiCaprio, 38 plays the role of plantation boss Calvin Candie, who forces his male workers to fight for sport and pushes his female servants into prostitution.

“It was this incredibly interesting horrific character. I mean, there was absolutely nothing about this man I could identify with. I hated him and it was one of the most narcissistic, racist characters I’ve ever read in my entire life,” dailystar.co.uk quoted

DiCaprio as saying. The actor initially wanted to soften his character but his co-stars Jamie Foxx and Samuel L Jackson convinced him to go by the script.

“One of the pivotal moments for me was this initial read-through, I wondered if it needed to be this violent and this atrocious to other human beings and it was Sam and Jamie who said, ‘If you sugarcoat this, people are gonna resent the hell out of you. You got to push this guy to the outer extreme’,” DiCaprio said. “That is what ignited me into going the way I did into the character,” he added.

PTI



DiCaprio, 38 plays the role of plantation boss Calvin Candie, who forces his male workers to fight for sport and pushes his female servants into prostitution.

PTI

Celtic Tiger and emerging China shine in 2012

LOS ANGELES, 20 Dec—Rory McIlroy's dominance on both sides of the Atlantic and the clearest hint yet at the exciting potential in China were the biggest storylines in what may prove to be a truly transformational golfing year in 2012.

The coronation of McIlroy as the game's leading player was confirmed in sensational fashion when the exciting Northern Irishman cruised to his second major title by a record eight shots in the PGA Championship at Kiawah Island in August.

Rory McIlroy of Northern Ireland watches his shot from the 18th tee during the final round of the DP World Tour Championship at Jumeirah Golf Estates in Dubai on 25 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

Dubbed 'Boy Wonder' in his homeland for the past decade, McIlroy fully justified his other nickname of 'the Celtic Tiger' as he ended the year being showered

with virtually every accolade available to him.

He followed in the footsteps of Luke Donald when he became the second player to win the money list titles in both Europe and the United States and he strengthened his position as world number one with an extraordinary run of form.

times on the 2012 PGA Tour in a welcome return to winning ways, has had to take a back seat.

The 23-year-old McIlroy is almost certain to be a dominant figure in golf for at least another decade but

14-year-old Chinese Guan Tianlang gave a strong indication of the likely

impact from his part of the world well beyond that time frame.

Guan ensured he would become the youngest player ever to compete

win the money list titles in both Europe and the United States and he strengthened his position as world number one with an extraordinary run of form.



Golf

at the Masters by winning the Asia-Pacific Amateur Championship last month, tantalising proof of the vast golfing potential in the Chinese market.

The world's most populous nation had celebrated another coup just five months earlier when Shanshan Feng, 22, clinched the LPGA Championship by two shots in Rochester, New York to become the first person from mainland China to win a women's major.

Remarkably, Feng was born just five years after the first golf course was opened in China.

There were several other highlights during 2012 with Bubba Watson producing arguably the shot of the year to win the Masters in a two-way playoff and Ernie Els ending a decade-long drought in the majors to claim his second British Open.—Reuters



Argentine boxer Sergio "Maravilla" Martinez speaks with the media after his official weigh-in for their middleweight title fight against Irish boxer Matthew "Mack the Knife" Macklin on 17 March, at Madison Square Garden in New York, on 16 March, 2012.—REUTERS

Martinez predicts victory within eight rounds

BUENOS AIRES, 20 Dec—Argentina's WBC middleweight champion Sergio "Maravilla" Martinez predicted on Wednesday he would defeat Briton Martin Murray within eight rounds in next year's title defence.

Martinez, who was voted Argentina's sport personality of the year on Tuesday night ahead of goal record-breaking football player Lionel Messi, will be making his first defence since beating Mexi-

can Julio Cesar Chavez Jr in Las Vegas in September.

The fight will take place in Buenos Aires on 27 April, possibly at the Velez Sarsfield football stadium although the venue has not yet been fixed.

"(Murray) is a great sportsman, to be respected. He's young and strong. It's great that he should want to give his all and I was the same but the fight won't go past the eighth round," Martinez told reporters.

Reuters

Tottenham's Bale returns to training after hamstring injury

LONDON, 20 Dec—Tottenham Hotspur winger Gareth Bale could return to the side for Saturday's match against Stoke City after three weeks out with a hamstring injury, the Premier League club said on their website.

Bale has returned to training after being out of action since picking up the injury against Fulham on 1 December.

"It's good news," manager Andre Villas-Boas said on the club website (www.tottenhamhotspur.com).

"First, for the player



because he wants to be back in the group and he's made a tremendous recovery. He's worked extremely hard."

Tottenham are fourth in the table, level on 29 points with third-placed Chelsea, who host Aston Villa on Sunday.

Reuters

Tottenham Hotspur's Gareth Bale. REUTERS

Soccer

Chelsea hit back to thump Leeds in League Cup

LONDON, 20 Dec—Chelsea brought a ray of light to a largely miserable December when they reached the Capital One (League) Cup semi-finals after a 5-1 triumph at second tier Leeds United on Wednesday.

The Londoners, dumped out of the Champions League as holders and beaten in the Club World Cup final already this month as dubious fans adjust to interim boss Rafa Benitez, went a goal down before storming back to set up a last-four tie with Swansea City.

Leeds, rivals of Chelsea after a series of fractious games between the sides since an infamous 1970 FA Cup final, went ahead on 37 minutes through Luciano

Becchio after Chelsea defender David Luiz had again charged up field and lost the ball.

Chelsea, who had numerous chances in a rain-hit first half, struck back through Juan Mata just after the break when his shot from the edge of the box following a fine move foxed the goalkeeper.

Branislav Ivanovic headed in Frank Lampard's corner at the near post to

who stunned Arsenal, had already progressed to the last four last week as they chase England's secondary knockout trophy which provides a Europa League berth.

Chelsea are at home to Swansea in the first leg in the week starting 7 January while Bradford host Villa. The second legs take place in the week commencing on 21 January.

"The reaction in the



Leeds United's Luciano Becchio (C) challenges Chelsea's David Luiz during their League Cup quarter-final match in Leeds, northern England on 19 Dec, 2012. REUTERS

make it 2-1 on 64 minutes and forward Victor Moses soon increased the lead when he fired in after a mazy run.

Eden Hazard then latched on to David Luiz's long pass before Fernando Torres completed the scoring for a strong Chelsea lineup, who host Villa in the Premier League on Sunday lying third.

Swansea, Villa and fourth tier Bradford City,

second half was fantastic, especially with travelling back from Japan (World Club Cup) and having jet lag," Benitez told Sky Sports television. "We were looking for character and the reaction was so good, we have to consider it for the future. Every competition is important for us and a top side like us has to win every competition. Swansea like to play football, on the floor."—Reuters

PSG scary opponents but we don't want Real, says Matuidi



Paris Saint-Germain's Blaise Matuidi (C) reacts after he scored against Olympique Lyon during their French Ligue 1 soccer match at Parc des Princes stadium in Paris, on 16 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

PARIS, 20 Dec—Paris St Germain should strike fear into their potential Champions League opponents but Real Madrid are the team they want to avoid in the draw, according to the French club's midfielder Blaise Matuidi.

PSG topped their qualifying group ahead of Porto with five victories from six games, conceding only three goals and scoring 15. "Some clubs may be afraid of us because we have world-class players," Matuidi told a news conference on Wednesday on the eve of the last-16 draw.

Thiago Silva has marshalled his defence superbly during the European campaign and Swedish striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic has scored two and set up five goals.

Matuidi said Real Madrid were the opponents he wanted to avoid.

"There are some less renowned teams like Galatasaray or Celtic, even if they have deserved to be there — Celtic beat Barcelona," the midfielder said.

"If there is one side to avoid, it's Real Madrid. It's a great team with great players.—Reuters

GENERAL



Emeritus coordinator Dr Geoffrey Cohn of Myanmar Eye Care Programme of Australia recently donated K 37 million for eye surgery of 1000 eye patients and Ellex Laser Machine worth AUS \$ 33,000 to Jivitadana Sangha Hospital (Yangon) through executive committee of the hospital. —MNA

Barca stand by Vilanova after illness relapse

BARCELONA, 20 Dec—Barcelona will stand by and wait for the return of coach Tito Vilanova after being rocked by Wednesday’s news that he needed surgery followed by chemotherapy and radiotherapy over the following six weeks.

The 44-year-old stepped up from assistant to replace club hero Pep Guardiola at the end of last season, after having had surgery on a tumour in his saliva glands in November last year, and had made a record-breaking

that a replacement would be brought in from outside on an interim basis. “Tito is the coach, and continues to be so,” Zubizarreta said, dismissing rumours they may have tried to contact the out-of-work Guardiola.

“(Assistant) Jordi Roura will take charge against Valladolid. Tito I am sure will be watching us on television and wanting us to win.”

Barca visit Valladolid in La Liga on Saturday before a two-week mid-season break.

Rosell added: “Tito has an incredible mental strength. He was worried for his family. This was his main concern. We have to leave them alone. “Tito is the leader of the group, he won’t be here for a few weeks, but we will continue working just the same.”

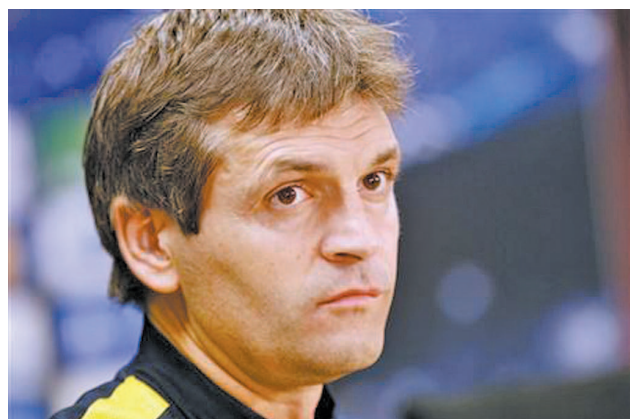
The news of Vilanova’s illness had been filtering out during the day after the club suddenly cancelled some scheduled events.

Messages of support came in from around the football and sporting world.

“Real Madrid wish to express their love and support to Barcelona coach Tito Vilanova, to whom we wish a prompt recovery,” Barca’s arch-rivals said in a statement.

“Real extend this support to the club and his family.”

Former tennis world number one Rafa Nadal said: “All my strength and support for Tito Vilanova! We are all with you to overcome this next hurdle.”—Reuters



Barcelona’s coach Tito Vilanova listens to a question during a news conference at Joan Gamper training camp, near Barcelona, on 4 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

start to his tenure.

“While monitoring his parotid gland a change has been detected in his condition that requires surgery which will be carried out on Thursday,” Barca said in a statement.

“His time in hospital will be about three to four days. During the period after his operation, depending on how he recovers, an attempt will be made to balance his treatment with his working life.” At a later news conference, Barca president Sandro Rosell and sports director Andoni Zubizarreta put an end to speculation

At least 800 typhoid cases recorded in Zimbabwe’s capital

HARARE, 20 Dec—A fresh outbreak of typhoid has hit Harare, Zimbabwe’s capital city, since October this year, with at least 800 cases of typhoid have so far been recorded.

The disease that is being blamed on contaminated boreholes has spread to the dormitory town of Chitungwiza since October, according to reports by New Ziana on Wednesday.

Speaking during a full council meeting, Town

Clerk Dr Tendai Mahachi said the cases in districts like Glenview, Dzivarasekwa and Budiriro were as a result of contaminated boreholes.

Mahachi said that of the 235 boreholes sunk in the city since 2008, 19 were polluted and we did superchlorification but three remained contaminated.

He said efforts were underway to stabilize the situation.

“We have partnered with a company which is

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(21-12-12 09:30 am ~ 22-12-12 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * Computers & Simultaneous Interpretation System Handing Over Ceremony
- * News
- * Great Shwedagon (The Religious Insignias of Pagodas in Myanmar)
- * News
- * Broaden Your Horizon (Part-2)
- * News
- * Appetizing Myanmar Salads “Pickled tea Leaves Salad”
- * News
- * Promoting Tourism Through Sports
- * News
- * A Study Tour Around Nay Pyi Taw Model Farms
- * News
- * Music Programme
- * News
- * 2012 My Voice Counts Human Rights Day
- * Myanmar Movie “Never Lie to Your Heart”

MYANMAR TV

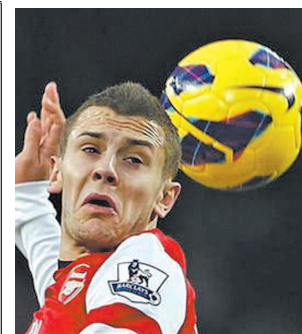
(21-12-2012, Friday)

- 7:00 am 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
- 7:25 am 2. To Be Healthy Exercise
- 7:30 am 3. Morning News
- 7:40 am 4. Dhamma Puja Song
- 7:50 am 5. Nice & Sweet Song
- 8:00 am 6. Health Programme
- 8:15 am 7. The Mirror Images of The Musical Oldies
- 8:25 am 8. Documentary
- 8:35 am 9. International News
- 8:40 am 10. Metta Bhavana By Mingun Sayadaw
- 4:00 pm 11. Martial Song
- 4:10 pm 12. Musical Programme
- 4:20 pm 13. Song of National Races
- 4:25 pm 14. Songs of Yester Years
- 4:35 pm 15. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) Second Year (Myanmar)
- 4:50 pm 16. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
- 4:55 pm 17. Myanmar Leaguage
- 5:10 pm 18. Sweet Songs For You
- 5:20 pm 19. Sports Highlight
- 5:30 pm 20. India Drama Series
- 6:20 pm 21. Amazing World
- 6:35 pm 22. “Maya Calendar”
- 7:00 pm 23. TV Drama Series
- 8:00 pm 24. News
- 25. International News
- 26. Weather Report
- 27. Documentary
- 28. Teleplay

U Khin Mg (Pathein), Age (86)

U Khin Mg who resided at No. 13, Ground Floor, Ma U Bin Street, Sanchaung Township, Yangon, son of (U Boe Shwe, Daw Ngwe Pu) son in law of (U Chit Aye, Daw Ngwe Ngwe) husband of Daw Pu Yin, beloved Father of U Hla Thwin+Daw Khin Mar Oo, U Aung Tint+Daw Hla Hla Thwe (USA Chicago), U Kyi Toe+Daw Khin Aye Thinn, grandfather of Ko Si Thu Thwin+ Ma May May Soe, Ma Aye Nyein Thwin, Mg Aung Phone+ Ma Su Nandar Thwin, Eric Tint, Noel Tint (USA Chaicago), Ma Su Wut Yee Toe and great grand father of three expired on (22-12-2012) (Saturday) (1:00)pm. The cars will be left home at (11:-00) am.

The bereaved family



Arsenal’s Jack Wilshere heads the ball during their English Premier League soccer match against Swansea City at the Emirates stadium in London on 1 Dec, 2012. REUTERS

Wilshere, four others pen long-term Arsenal deals

LONDON, 20 Dec—England’s Jack Wilshere and Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain are among five young internationalstohavepledged their long-term futures to assisting in buying inline chlorinators and we are going to put them on all boreholes to make the water safe,” he said.

The government has reactivated a taskforce to deal with the outbreak of typhoid and cholera amid fears it could reach the 2008 proportions.

Zimbabwe has over the past four years suffered from outbreaks of waterborne diseases with stakeholders admitting it was a result of the lack of safe water and proper waste management.

Xinhua

Arsenal, the Premier League club said on Wednesday.

Midfielders Wilshere, 20, and 19-year-old Oxlade-Chamberlain, plus Welsh midfielder Aaron Ramsey (21) and England defenders Kieran Gibbs (23) and Carl Jenkinson (20) have all committed themselves to Arsenal.

“Jack is certainly the best known, the leader of this group—but the other four players are exceptional footballers, and we’re very happy that we could conclude their new deals at the same time,” manager Arsene Wenger told the club’s website (www.arsenal.com).

“We are delighted that these five young players have all signed new long-term contracts,” added the

Frenchman.

No details on the lengths of the contracts were given though Wenger was keen to impress that the nurturing of home-grown talent was one of the club’s main objectives.

“I’m a strong believer in stability and I believe when you have a core of British players, it’s always easier to keep them together and that’s what we’ll try to achieve going forward.”

Arsenal have not won a trophy since the 2005 FA Cup and a host of big names have left the London club since, including Spain midfielder Cesc Fabregas who moved to Barcelona and talismanic striker Robin van Persie who joined Manchester United.

Reuters

President U Thein Sein leaves for Republic of India



NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec— President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein left for the Republic of India to attend 20th ASEAN-India Summit to be held in New Delhi, by special flight at 10 am today.

President U Thein Sein was seen off by Vice-Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Soe Win, Union Ministers U Thein Nyunt, U Myint Hlaing, U Nyan Tun Aung, U Win Tun, U Tint Hsan, U Kyaw Lwin, U Zeyar Aung, Dr Ko Ko Oo, the Commander of

Nay Pyi Taw Command, the Deputy Minister for Home Affairs and Deputy Head of Mission of Indian Embassy in Myanmar Mr. Silas Thangal at the Nay Pyi Taw Airport.

A delegation led by the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar was accompanied by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay, Union Minister for Industry U Aye Myint, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint, Deputy Minister for Culture U Than Swe and departmental officials.

MNA

President U Thein Sein being seen off by Vice-Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Soe Win and party at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.—MNA

Real Madrid face Man United in Champions League

LONDON, 20 Dec— Nine-times winners Real Madrid will play Manchester United in the last 16 of the Champions League after the draw was made at UEFA's headquarters in Switzerland on Thursday.

The fixture will see Real forward Cristiano Ronaldo return to his former club.

Favourites Barcelona will face seven-times winners AC Milan and last season's

runners-up Bayern Munich take on Arsenal.

Galatasaray meet Schalke 04, Celtic take on Juventus, Porto face Malaga, Valencia clash with Paris St Germain and Shakhtar Dontetsk play Borussia Dortmund.

The first legs will take place between February 12-20 and the return games between March 5-13.

Reuters

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on 20-12-2012

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec—During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Yangon and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin, Rakhine, Kayah and Mon States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Night temperatures were 3°C to 4°C below December average temperatures in Magway Region, Rakhine and Kayah States, 5°C below December average temperatures in Bago

Region about December average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant night temperatures were -1°C in Loilem, 0°C in Pinlaung, 1°C in Namhsam, 2°C in Heho and 5°C in Haka.

Bay Inference

Weather is generally fair in the North Bay and partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

NLM

Slight earthquake hits north of Thabeikkyin

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec— Department of Meteorology and Hydrology announced today that a slight earthquake of magnitude (4.6) Richter Scale with its epicenter inside

Myanmar (about 5 miles north of Thabeikkyin), about 68 miles north of Mandalay seismological observatory was recorded at 12 hrs 24 min 56 sec M.S.T on 20th December, 2012.—MNA

Athletes of MSF under intensive training

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec — Chairman of Leading Committee for Organizing Preparation for the XXVII SEA Games Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan spoke words of encouragement

in meeting with athletes at Silver Coast Beach Hotel in Ngwehsaung Beach in Patheingyi Township of Ayeyawady Region on 18 December. Next, Union Minister inspected progress

in Ngwehsaung Yachting Club.

After giving necessary instructions to responsible persons of Myanmar Sailing Federation at the briefing hall, the Union Minister

handed over K 450 million contributed by the State for construction of Ngwehsaung Yachting Club to MSF Vice-President U Maung Win, and observed athletes who were taking training.

MNA

Plan to equip modern navigation devices for Myanmar aviation

Nowadays, flights from international airlines are extended to Myanmar that opens aviation connectivity with international community in leaps and bounds. Airlines extend their flights to Myanmar as well as number of airplanes fly over Myanmar aviation territory day by day. In this regard, it is necessary to take aviation security measures. That is why a plan is underway to equip Performance Base Navigation (PBN) for control of Myanmar Airways.

Myanma Airways will apply new and modern electronic technologies for its flights meeting the standards and norms of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). Likewise, ICAO is focusing on improvement of international aviation tasks. The Department of Civil Aviation under the Ministry of Transport is

Byline: Maung Maung Myint Swe
Photo: Tin Soe (Myanma Alin)

undertaking the aviation tasks in line with the international standards.

Insodoing, DAC applies communication navigation services (CNS). It is aimed at transforming navigation control system to aviation management system. As such, the Department of Civil Aviation is making arrangements for installation of modern

navigation devices. Thanks to installation of machinery-based navigation systems and modern communication navigation services, the airplanes can control themselves and automatically avoid aviation accidents such as airplane crashes.

About 250-300 schedule aircrafts passed the Myanmar aviation

territory per day in the past. Now, the number of schedule aircraft increases to 500-520 per day across Myanmar sky.

Likewise, about 4-5 non-schedule aircrafts passed Myanmar aviation in the past, but the number of non-schedule aircraft reaches 30 a day. It is because passes of aircrafts depend on openness and transparency of Myanmar. Due to growing number of aircrafts that pass the Myanmar aviation, the nation can earn increased foreign exchange.

Myanma Alinn: 18-12-2012

Trs: TTA

