

The New Light of Myanmar

THE MOST RELIABLE NEWSPAPER AROUND YOU

Volume XX, Number 250

13th Waxing of Nadaw 1374 ME

Wednesday, 26 December, 2012



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann receives Chinese guests

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Dec—Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann received a delegation led by President Mr. Zhang Guoqing from China North

Industries Corporation at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building here yesterday morning.

Present at the call together with the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker were Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Pyithu Hluttaw Committee Chairmen U

Maung Maung Thein, Thura U Aung Ko, U Lun Thi, U Win Sein, U Maung Toe and officials from the Hluttaw Office. The Chinese delegation was accompanied by Chinese Ambassador to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr. Li Junhua.

MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann cordially shakes hands with President Mr. Zhang Guoqing from China North Industries Corporation at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall.—MNA

Summary of observations at 9.30 hr MST on 25-12-2012

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Dec—During the past 24 hours, rain have been isolated in Taninthayi Region, weather has been partly cloudy in Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady

temperatures were 3°C to 4°C below December average temperatures in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin State, 4°C above December average temperatures in Mon State and about December average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. —NLM

Weather Bulletin

Bay Inference

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Dec—Weather is generally fair in the North Bay and partly cloudy to cloudy

in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

State of the Sea

Strong easterly winds

with moderate to rough sea are likely at times Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in strong wind may reach 30-35 mph. Seas will be

moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days

Generally fair in the whole country.

NLM

Cooperation with understanding of genuine goodwill needed

As KIA group blasted Mandalay-Myitkyina No. 937 Up Train near Milepost No. 643/22 between Nanma and Myothitkalay railway stations on Mandalay-Myitkyina railroad section at about 1.15 am on 21 December, about 70 feet of rail tracks were destroyed and four cargo compartments derailed and one other slipped. Three Myanmar Railways staff were hurt.

As staff of Myanmar Railways repaired the damaged railroad section urgently, the derailed train was cleared and the section was open to regular train routes since 6.15 am the next day.

KIA insisted that the train they blasted was the military one carrying ammunitions while the Ministry of Rail Transportation claimed it was a mere freight train.

The train with seven cargo compartments, two compartments of chicken feed and one driver's compartment and one brake compartment carried food and consumer goods to be supplied to the

people of Kachin State and chicken feed.

No. 40805 compartment carried merchant U Htay Hlaing's cosmetics, soaps, glycerine, Coffee Mix, Tea Mix and milk powder, canned soft drinks, towels, detergents, candles, condensed milk, instant noodles, wheat powder, papers, chopsticks, tea, bean powder, alternative meat, Thiho seeds, vermicelli, groundnut and pulses and beans, fried bean, dried grapes, sticky rice and onion and garlic and consumers weighing 16096 viss.

No. 40815 compartment was loaded with 18635 viss of chicken feed medicines of merchant U Moe Sithu; No. 40838 compartment with merchant U Zaw Min's rice, CI sheets, plywood, paints, iron levers and chalks weighing 18412 viss; No. 40839 with merchant Daw Rosy's CI sheets and decoration materials, tiles, steel and fibre wares weighing 18019 viss; No. 40840 compartment with merchant U Swe Lin Maung's chicken

feed weighing 18620 viss; No. 40843 with merchant U Maung Ko's chicken feed weighing 18445 viss; No. 40852 compartment with merchant U Win Hlaing's pork sausages, coffee mix, tea mix, edible oil, ceramic wares, CI sheets, footwears, mug bean, kitchen wears and other food weighing

16115 viss.

Nos. 40876, 40880 and 47801 compartments were also loaded with foods, consumer goods, electronics and construction materials weighing 17905 viss, 6984 viss and 11130 viss respectively.

Kachin State is a state suffering from

poor transportation, heavily relying on rail transportation to link the state with major cities of Myanmar such as Mandalay and Yangon. Train is the only option for local people despite expensive flight routes. Motor road is currently serviceable only in open

Aung Theinga

season. As the motor road is being upgraded to an all-weather tarred road, this will become an alternative for local people upon completion.

The production of food and consumer goods of Kachin State does not meet local demand.

(See page 9)



Piling compartments of train exploded at about 1.25 am on 21-12-2012 two miles north of Nanma railway station.

LOCAL NEWS

Cash and kind for local people, students in Mansi Township



MANSI, 25 Dec—A cash and kind donation for more than 300 locals and 49 outstanding students in Mansi Township and nearby seven villages was held in Mansi Township on 17 December.

Chairman of Thiyawmani Gems Company Agga Maha Thiri Thudhammajotikadhaja U Tun Tun and family presented cash assistance for students and clothing

for locals amounting to K 12.8 million. The donor said he provided cash and kind for those in the township and nearby villages on humanitarian grounds. More than 300 local people from 76 households of Chaunghtauk, Kyaw-khaung, Mannyat, Mhanhtet, Honelo, Phagayein and Khapaya villages who are now staying at the temporary camp of the township will

be provided with cash and kind. The donor presented K 500,000 to the six-distinction winner, K 400,000 each to two five-distinction winners, K 300,000 each to two four-distinction winners, K 200,000 each to four three-distinction winners, K 100,000 each to two-distinction winners, K 10000 each to one-distinction winners, K 200,000 each to two high school students, K 200,000 for teachers of post-primary school and monastic education school, K 700,000 for teachers and staff of Namaput village Basic Education Primary School and K 50000 each and clothing for 76 households.—Kyemon

A young woman hangs herself in Toungoo

TOUNGOO, 25 Dec — A young woman who apparently killed herself was found dead in an upstairs room of a house on Gamani street in Mingyinyo ward of Toungoo at about 2 pm on 21 December.

Ma Zin Mar Myo (23 years), daughter of U Tin Win had apparently committed suicide by hanging herself

in an upstairs room of the house of Daw Than Yi, grandmother of suicide committer. The young woman who is believed to have killed herself was taken to Toungoo Hospital for further investigation. Toungoo Police Station has opened a file against the case of her death.

Kyemon

Referee and officiating course of MWF concludes

YANGON, 25 Dec — Organized by Myanmar Wrestling Federation, the closing ceremony of referee

trainees. Next, the deputy minister presented gifts to course instructors.

Then, Course Instructors



and officiating course took place at Horizon Shukhimtha Camp in Thakayta Township on 23 December.

Deputy Minister for Sports U Thaug Htaik spoke on the occasion and presented completion certificates to

Mr. Jaenin and Mr. Paulsak of Thailand presented prizes to outstanding trainees.

A total of 32 wrestlers of Gold Camp and five former wrestlers totaling 37 took the course.

Kyemon

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

Motorcyclist knocked down by a car

KYAUKPADAUNG, 25 Dec — A motorcyclist was knocked down by a car running from the opposite direction on Kawlin-Khantha motorway near Tawmaw Village, nine-mile

north of Kawlin Township, in Sagaing Region on 15 December.

Kyaw Zin Tun (21 years) on the unregistered motorbike of Thit-seint-kon Village of Kawlin Township

was knocked down by the car driving from the opposite direction while he parked by roadside as he saw the beam of headlights from the opposite direction. He was pronounced dead on the spot with serious injuries.

Kyemon

Smart sealions at Zoological Garden (Nay Pyi Taw)

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Dec — Under the animal exchange

programme between the Ministry of Environmental Forest Department of the

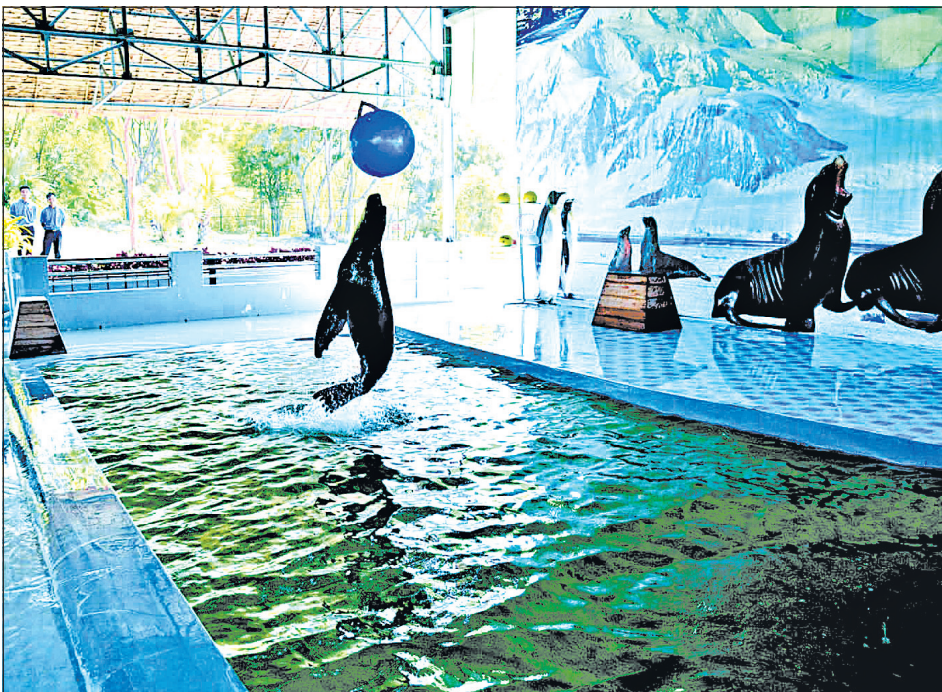
Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry

and Shanghai Wild Animal Park, two couples of sealions arrived in Zoological Garden (Nay Pyi Taw) on 11 October 2012. Each sea lion is being kept at separate holdings with special care.

Chinese instructors and two Myanmar staff gave training lessons to the two male and two female sea lions step by step. As a result, sea lions became skillful in their demonstrations under the supervision of Myanmar instructors.

Sealions show kicked off at Zoological Garden (Nay Pyi Taw) yesterday. Visitors can enjoy their performing abilities four times a day on weekends and two times a day on weekdays.

MNA



Insein Township organizes mass walks

YANGON, 25 Dec — Insein Township of Yangon Region organized December mass walks

on 22 December. Participants led by Head of Insein Township General Administration

Department U Tin Naing Soe started the mass walk from the gathering point, at Insein Garden in front of Insein Township Health Department, and walked along Nantthakon

street and Mindhamma street. The mass walks ended in front of White Elephant Shed, west of Kyauktawgyi Buddha Image and took physical exercises there.—Kyemon

Mon State High Court holds prize-giving ceremony

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Dec — Organized by Mon State High Court, a ceremony to give prizes to outstanding students who are offspring of families of state/district/ township Law Officer Offices was held at the hall of Mon State High Court on 22 December.

Chief Justice of the High Court of Mon State U Khin Maung Gyi and Judges presented prizes to two five-distinction winners, one

four-distinction winner and two one-distinction winners.

Next, the paper-reading session followed. The district/ township Judges attended the session. Representatives of Mawlamyine District Court and Thaton District Court read out the papers on sooner completion of delayed civil and criminal charges and evidence management. Next, the Chief Justice of the State gave suggestions on their papers. — NLM



WORLD

Ambushed NY firemen shot dead; two police killed elsewhere

NEW YORK, 25 Dec—A gunman, who spent 17 years in prison for murder, ambushed and killed two volunteer firefighters and wounded two others on Monday near Rochester, New York, as they responded to a house fire he deliberately set, police said.

William Spengler, 62, shot and killed himself after a gunfight with a police officer in Webster, a Rochester suburb, Webster Police Chief Gerald Pickering said.

“It was a trap set by Mr

Spengler, who laid in wait and shot first responders,” Pickering told a news conference.

Separately, a police officer in Wisconsin and another in Texas were shot and killed on Monday, according to police and media reports.

The attacks on first responders came 10 days after one of the worst mass shootings in US history that left 20 students and six adults dead at an elementary school in Newtown, Connecticut,

and intensified the debate about gun control in the United States.

Spengler was convicted of manslaughter in 1981 for beating his 92-year-old grandmother to death with a hammer, according to New York State Department of Corrections records. After prison he spent eight years on parole.

“We don’t have an easy reason” for the attack on the firefighters, Pickering said, “but just looking at the history ... obviously this was



A house burns after a man set fire and then shot and killed a responding police officer and a firefighter while injuring two other firefighters in Webster, New York, on 24 Dec, 2012. REUTERS

an individual with a lot of problems.”

Spengler opened fire around 5:45 am after two of the firefighters arrived at the house in a fire truck and two

others responded in their own cars, Pickering said.

Pickering appeared to wipe tears from his eyes at an earlier news conference when he identified the dead

firefighters as Lieutenant Michael Chiapperini and Tomasz Kaczowka. Chiapperini was also a police lieutenant.

Reuters



A fighter from Syrian rebel group Jabhat al-Nusra takes his position on the front line during a fight with Syria forces loyal to President Bashar al Assad in Aleppo on 24 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

ALEPPO COUNTRYSIDE, 25 Dec—Syrian rebels are surrounding bases and military airports loyal to President Bashar al-Assad across the northern Province of Aleppo, a commander said, but are struggling to counter attacks from jet

fighters which can fly even from besieged airfields.

Colonel Abdel-Jabbar Oqaidi, who heads the rebels’ military council in the province, also told Reuters that his forces are fighting without any help from the Western and Arab

Rebels surround air bases across Aleppo

governments which want Assad removed from power.

Oqaidi, who leads between 25,000-30,000 troops across Aleppo Province, said the rebel strategy had shifted from fighting Assad’s forces in the cities to surrounding his bases in the countryside—aiming to encourage defections and weaken the sites so they can be stormed. This thrust has helped to loosen Assad’s grip in the north and east of the country during a 21-month civil war which activists say has already killed more than 44,000 Syrians.

“We decided on this (strategy) lately,” Oqaidi said in an interview at his command centre in the Aleppo countryside. “The situation for us on the ground

is really good.”

Sitting behind a desk, next to the revolutionary tri-colour Syrian flag, Oqaidi said his forces were now fighting less in heavily-populated urban areas.

“At the beginning ... we were forced to attack the (Assad) forces in the districts to kick them out so that they do not harm civilians,” said Oqaidi, a soft-spoken man who wore two pins—one a flag, the other a crescent of the rebels’ revolutionary flag—on his fatigues.

“After achieving fighting experience, we went back to the countryside to liberate the big military bases. These bases are fortified with tanks, rockets, artillery, mortars, in addition airplanes.

Reuters

Weather swings between extremes in Russia

MOSCOW, 25 Dec—The harsh cold, which occupies most of Russia’s territory in recent days and has claimed 90 lives, is going to persist in several regions, the Emergency Situations Ministry warned on Monday.

According to the ministry’s website, the temperature in Southern Siberia will fall below 40 degrees Celsius on Tuesday morning, while stormy winds can be expected in the Far Eastern and westernmost Kaliningrad regions.

In North Caucasus, local authorities have closed the principal highway and a tunnel in the mountainous regions due to heavy snowfalls and avalanche warning.

Snowfalls and winds caused power disruptions in several areas of Altai region affecting 2,600 people.

The emergency ministry on Monday sent 60 portable ovens to Tuva Republic. In Southern Siberia, local residents were left without heat and water over the weekend as pipes broke due to freezing weather.

In many Russian towns in Amur, Maritime, Moscow, Kaluga and other regions, emergency workers also undertook repair works in the 30-degree frost on Monday as the aging water pipes in those areas were also torn from inside by ice. According to the Russian weather service Rosgidromet, the cold is to stop torturing the European part of the country Tuesday, when the temperatures will leap by as much as 20 degrees, sometimes to above-zero level, within less than two days.—Xinhua

Georgian PM says ready and willing to meet with Putin

TBILISI, 25 Dec—Georgian Prime Minister Bidzina Ivanishvili on Monday said he is ready and willing to meet with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

“Meetings between leaders of countries are not so simple, especially in my case,” the prime minister told the local Press.

“Our situation is especially difficult. I think that this meeting will take place but not immediately, though we must not exclude anything. But such meetings require proper preparation which is not in place right now.” “I don’t know whether he (the Russian president) is going to Davos or not. I’m going to arrive there,” the prime minister added.

He told the local Press that he is optimistic about improving relations with Russia and that his government is pursuing a calm, patient and consistent rhetoric which would yield better results than a tough-worded one.

The Georgian prime minister cited as good signals from the Russian side remarks made by Russian President Vladimir Putin and Russian first deputy foreign minister, Andrey Denisov.

Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Thursday Russia-Georgia relations must be normalized.

“We see positive signals from the new Georgian authorities; we respond the same way,” Putin told reporters during his annual Press Conference here.

Russia’s first deputy foreign minister also said on Friday the issue of entry of Georgian products into the Russian market had been solved and that only purely technical procedures had remained.

Ivanishvili said “I hope that with calm, constructive but principled position we will have better results.” “I think it is possible to have better results with more patience and less emotions.”—Xinhua

Afghan policewoman kills coalition contractor in Kabul

KABUL, 25 Dec—An Afghan woman wearing a police uniform shot dead on Monday a civilian contractor working for Western forces in the police chief’s compound in Kabul, NATO said.

The incident is likely to raise troubling questions about the direction of an unpopular war.

It appeared to be the first time that a woman member of Afghanistan’s security

forces carried out such an attack.

There were conflicting reports about the victim.

A spokesman for the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said a US police adviser was killed by an Afghan policewoman. Then ISAF said in a statement only that it was a “contracted civilian employee” who was killed.



US security personnel escorts a US convoy to Kabul police headquarters in Kabul on 24 Dec, 2012. REUTERS

Mohammad Zahir, head of the police criminal investigation department, described the incident as an “insider attack” in which Afghan forces turn their weapons on Western troops they are supposed to be working with. He initially said the victim was a US soldier.

After more than 10 years of war, militants are capable of striking Western targets in the heart of the capital, and foreign forces worry that Afghan police and military forces they are supposed to work with can suddenly turn on them.

The policewoman approached her victim as he was walking in the heavily guarded police chief’s compound in a bustling area of Kabul. She then drew a pistol and shot him once, a senior police official told Reuters.

“She is now under interrogation. She is crying

and saying ‘what have I done’,” said the official, of the police officer who worked in a section of the Interior Ministry responsible for gender awareness issues.

The insider incidents, also known as green-on-blue attacks, have undermined trust between coalition and Afghan forces who are under mounting pressure to contain the Taleban insurgency before most NATO combat troops withdraw by the end of 2014.

Security responsibilities in a country plagued by conflict for decades will be handed to Afghan security forces.

Many Afghans fear a civil war like one dominated by warlords after the withdrawal of Soviet occupying forces in 1989 could erupt again, or the Taleban will make another push to seize power if they reject a nascent peace process.—Reuters

China to open world's longest high-speed rail line Science

BEIJING/ZHENGZHOU, 25 Dec—China will open the world's longest high-speed rail line in this week when a link between Beijing and the southern metropolis of Guangzhou is inaugurated, officials said on Saturday, underscoring its commitment to a trouble-plagued transport scheme.

The 2,298-km (1,428-mile) line, parts of which are already in operation, will begin full service on Wednesday, halving travel time to less than 10 hours on trains which will run at 300 kph (186 mph).

The new route offers a chance for China's railways ministry, which has been dogged by scandals and

missteps, to redeem itself.

A July 2011 crash of a high-speed train killed 40 people and raised concerns about the safety of the fast-growing network and threatened plans to export high-speed technology.

"We have developed a full range of effective measures to manage safety," Zhou Li, head of the ministry's science and technology department, told reporters on a trial run from Beijing to the central city of Zhengzhou.

"We can control safety management," he added.

Last year's accident near the booming eastern coastal city of Wenzhou occurred when a high-speed train rammed into another



Attendants pose for pictures inside a high-speed train during an organized experience trip from Beijing to Zhengzhou, as part of a new rail line, on 22 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

stranded on the track after being hit by lightning.

Rail investment slowed sharply in the wake of that accident and state media reported earlier this year that the government had cut planned railway investment by 500 billion yuan (\$80.27 billion) to 2.3 trillion yuan

under a five-year plan to 2015. But that may reflect cuts that have already taken place as the Ministry of Railways has raised its planned investment budget three times this year as part of government efforts to bolster a slowing economy.

Reuters

Apps to help achieve New Year's resolutions Tech

new app called 5K Runner suggests it might be better to ease into things slowly and focus on building sustainable habits. The iPhone app helps couch potatoes ramp up their running distance to 5 km over the course of eight weeks.

"You're slowly building this routine into your daily life with a lot of success and after eight weeks you're literally running 5K, which is pretty big if (initially) you're not running at all," said David-Michel Davies, the executive director of The Webby Awards, an annual ceremony honoring Internet companies.

The app guides runners through each run, alternating

periods of running and walking for 35 minutes.

Davies also recommends Nike+ Running and RunKeeper, two popular and free fitness apps, which use GPS to track distance traveled, speed and calories burned. Both apps are available for iOS and Android devices.

Diet is another component of good health and a focus of many apps. Fooducate is an iPhone and Android app that helps shoppers make healthier purchases at the supermarket by allowing them to scan the barcodes of products and get insight into how healthy the product is.—Reuters



Revellers usher in the new year at midnight during New Year's Eve celebrations at Times Square in New York, on 1 Jan, 2012.—REUTERS

NEW YORK, 25 Dec—Whether it is improving health or managing finances better, about 87 percent of Americans will make resolutions for 2013 and there are plenty of apps to help them achieve their goals.

Nearly half of New Year's resolutions are about setting health-related goals, which is the most popular category, according to a recent survey by online broker TD Ameritrade.

Rather than jumping into a rigorous fitness routine, a

Carlyle takes on KKR in race for Reynolds and Reynolds Tech

NEW YORK, 25 Dec—Private equity firms Carlyle Group LP and KKR & Co LP have emerged as the lead contenders to take over Reynolds and Reynolds, a software company hoping to sell itself for \$5 billion, three people familiar with the matter said.

Dayton, Ohio-based Reynolds, which provides business management software for auto dealers in North America and Europe, had hired technology-focused investment bank Qatalyst Partners to run a sale, people familiar with the matter told Reuters in October. The process has progressed and is now in its final stages, though no decision is expected before January, the sources said.

Reynolds may be sold to Carlyle or KKR for between

\$4 billion and \$5 billion, less than the company had hoped, one of the people added.

The people spoke on condition of anonymity because the negotiations are confidential. Spokesmen for Reynolds, Carlyle and KKR declined to comment.

Reynolds sells software tools that allow car dealers to run their operations, including providing car dealer websites, digital advertising and marketing services, as well as data archiving.

Reynolds was founded in 1866 by Lucius Reynolds and his brother-in-law as a company that prints standardized business forms. It started to serve automotive retailers as major clients in the 1920s.—Reuters



Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos demonstrates the Kindle Paperwhite during Amazon's Kindle Fire event in Santa Monica, California on 6 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

SAN FRANCISCO, 25 Dec—When Amazon.com Inc CEO Jeff Bezos got word of a project at Google Inc to scan and digitize product catalogs a decade ago, the seeds of a burgeoning rivalry were planted.

The news was a "wake-up" call to Bezos, an early investor in Google. He saw it as a warning that the Web search engine could encroach upon his online retail empire, according to a

former Amazon executive.

"He realized that scanning catalogs was interesting for Google, but the real win for Google would be to get all the books scanned and digitized" and then sell electronic editions, the former executive said.

Thus began a rivalry that will escalate in 2013 as the two companies' areas of rivalry grow, spanning on-line advertising and retail to mobile gadgets and cloud

Instagram furor triggers first class action lawsuit Tech

SAN FRANCISCO, 25 Dec—Facebook's Instagram photo sharing service has been hit with what appears to be the first civil lawsuit to result from changed service terms that prompted howls of protest last week.

In a proposed class action lawsuit filed in San Francisco federal court on Friday, a California Instagram user leveled breach of contract and other claims against the company.

"We believe this complaint is without merit and we will fight it vigorously," Facebook spokesman Andrew Noyes said in an e-mail.

users to waive their rights to participate in a class action lawsuit except under very limited circumstances.

The current terms of service, in effect through mid-January, contain no such liability shield. The backlash prompted Instagram founder and CEO Kevin Systrom to retreat partially a few days later, deleting language about displaying photos without compensation.

However, Instagram kept language that gave it the ability to place ads in conjunction with user content, and saying "that we may not always identify



Carl Fisher uses a phone to snap a picture of a mural in the Mission District in San Francisco, California on 18 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

Instagram, which allows people to add filters and effects to photos and share them easily on the Internet, was acquired by Facebook earlier this year for \$715 million.

In announcing revised terms of service last week, Instagram spurred suspicions that it would sell user photos without compensation. It also announced a mandatory arbitration clause, forcing

paid services, sponsored content, or commercial communications as such." It also kept the mandatory arbitration clause.

The lawsuit, filed by San Diego-based law firm Finkelstein & Krinsk, says customers who do not agree with Instagram's terms can cancel their profile but then forfeit rights to photos they had previously shared on the service.—Reuters

Amazon, Google on collision course in 2013 Tech

computing.

It could upend the last remaining areas of cooperation between the two companies. For instance, Amazon's decision to use a stripped down version of Google's Android system in its new Kindle Fire tablet, coupled with Google's ambitious plans for its Motorola mobile devices unit, will only add to tensions.

The confrontation marks the latest front in a tech industry war in which many combatants are crowding onto each others' turf. Lurking in the shadows for both Google and Amazon is Facebook with its own search and advertising ambitions.

"Amazon wants to be

the one place where you buy everything. Google wants to be the one place where you find everything, of which buying things is a subset," said Chi-Hua Chien, a partner at venture capital firm Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers. "So when you marry those facts I think you're going to see a natural collision."

Both companies have a lot at stake. Google's market capitalization of \$235 billion is about double Amazon's, largely because Google makes massive net earnings, expected by analysts to be \$13.2 billion this year, based on a huge 32 percent net profit margin, according to Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S.—Reuters

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Maruti Suzuki falls on outlook

Business concerns

AHMEDABAD, 25 Dec— Maruti Suzuki shares fall 1.5 percent on concerns about the domestic passenger car sales outlook.

Angel Broking says Maruti Suzuki expects “muted” volume growth of around 6 percent in fiscal 2013 and 6-7 percent in fiscal 2014, according to a note on Monday, citing the automaker’s management.

The fiscal 2013 growth expectations are in line

with Angel’s forecasts but the 2014 volumes would be below the brokerage’s 10-12 percent growth expectations.

“The management expects the domestic demand environment to remain challenging going ahead due to macroeconomic pressures and higher fuel prices. Further, the exports growth will also remain under pressure due to economic concerns in Europe,” Angel says.—Reuters



The brand name of Maruti Suzuki is pictured on a Swift car at the company’s stock yard in Ahmedabad on 25 April, 2011.—REUTERS



People walk in front of a signboard displayed at the head office of State Bank of India in Mumbai on 9 Nov, 2009.—REUTERS

Russia’s RDIF, SBI to invest

Business \$2 billion in projects

NEW DELHI, 25 Dec— Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF), a sovereign wealth fund, and the State Bank of India will jointly invest up to \$2 billion to promote trade and economic cooperation

projects, the Russian fund said in a statement on Monday.

The agreement was signed as part of Russian President Vladimir Putin’s official visit to India.

Reuters

China starts background

checks on IPO Business

applicants — paper

SHANGHAI, 25 Dec— China has started to run checks on the more than 800 companies that have applied for domestic share sales, the latest move aimed at shortening the IPO waiting list and ease pressure on the stock market, the official *China Securities Journal* said.

The move comes days after China lowered the barriers to overseas listings, and launched a pilot scheme allowing some brokerages to trade over-the-counter in unlisted shares, an effort to broaden Chinese companies’ financing channels.

Stock market watchdog the China Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC) has started to scrutinize IPO applicants, including examining their application materials and financial authenticity, and

will disqualify unsatisfactory applicants, the newspaper reported on Monday.

The CSRC has said it wants Chinese companies to list overseas, sell bonds or trade on over-the-counter equity markets as regulators keep a tight grip on supply, as a result of concerns about the strength of the stock market.

More than 800 Chinese companies are currently seeking approval to list on the Shanghai or Shenzhen exchanges, aiming to raise an estimated 500 billion yuan (\$80 billion) in total, Ernst & Young said earlier this week.

That means Chinese companies may need to wait up to five years to launch a domestic IPO, a queue which was likely to prompt some to turn to Hong Kong, the accountancy firm said.

Reuters

Allergies, extra weight tied to bullying

Health

NEW YORK, 25 Dec— Kids who have food allergies or are overweight may be especially likely to get bullied by their peers, two new studies suggest.

Not surprisingly, researchers also found targets of bullying were more distressed and anxious and had a worse quality of life, in general, than those who weren’t picked on.

Bullying has become a concern among parents, doctors and school administrators since research and news stories emerged linking bullying—including online “cyberbullying”—with depression and even suicide.

“There has been a shift and people are more and more recognizing that bullying has real consequences, it’s not just something to be making jokes about,” said Dr Mark Schuster, chief of general pediatrics at Boston Children’s Hospital and a professor at Harvard Medical School, who wrote a commentary published with the new research.

Studies suggest between one in ten and one in three of all kids and teens are bullied—but those figures may vary by location and demographics, researchers noted.

The new findings come from two studies published on Monday in the journal *Pediatrics*. In one, Dr Eyal Shemesh from the Mount Sinai Medical Centre in New York and his colleagues surveyed 251 kids who were seen at an allergy clinic and their parents. The children

A food allergy, he said, “is a vulnerability that can be very easily exploited, so of course it will be exploited.”

The kids in the study were mostly white and well-off, the researcher said — a group that you’d expect would be targeted less often. So bullying may be more common in

That likelihood increased with weight, so that the heaviest kids had almost a 100 percent chance of being bullied, Rebecca Puhl and her colleagues found. Verbal teasing was the most common form of bullying, but more than half of bullied kids reported getting taunted online or through texts and emails as well. Shemesh’s team found only about half of parents knew when their food-allergic child was being bullied, and kids tended to be better off when their families were aware of the problem.

He said parents should feel comfortable asking kids if they’re being bothered at school or elsewhere - and that even if it only happens once, bullying shouldn’t be ignored. “We want parents to know,” he said. “Start the conversation.”

“Parents whose kids have a food allergy should really be aware that their kids have the kind of characteristic that often leads to being bullied,” Schuster told Reuters Health. “They should be working with the school to handle the food allergy in a way that isn’t going to make it more likely that their kids will be bullied — and they need to be attuned to their kids.”— Reuters



A high school student (L) walks towards a group of female students chatting in front of a school in Tokyo on 9 Nov, 2006.—REUTERS

were all between age eight and 17 with a diagnosed food allergy. Just over 45 percent of them said they’d been bullied or harassed for any reason, and 32 percent reported being bullied because of their allergy in particular. “Our finding is entirely consistently with what you find with children with a disability,” Shemesh told Reuters Health.

poorer and minority children who also have food allergies.

But allergies aren’t the only cause of teasing and harassment by peers.

In another study, researchers from Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut, found that almost two-thirds of 361 teens enrolled in weight-loss camps had been bullied due to their size.

Business How US retailers are building up their online muscle

MARTINSBURG, 25 Dec—The brave new world for US retailers can be found in small cities like Martinsburg, West Virginia.

That’s where department store chain Macy’s Inc recently opened a facility the size of 43 football fields—big enough to stock 1 million pairs of shoes—just to fulfill orders made online.

The \$150 million building, its third one dedicated primarily to supporting macys.com, has already been handling

60,000 orders on a busy day this holiday season. Macy’s expects that figure to triple in two years.

“The customer is increasingly voting that she wants to shop both ways,” said RB Harrison, Macy’s executive vice president in charge of integrating e-commerce and store operations.

From Macy’s to Home Depot Inc and Best Buy Co Inc, retail executives are racing to speed up order delivery and improve inventory management, which if done well, can help

profit margins.

Many chains are also hiring staff, or even buying firms in Silicon Valley, to get the edge in technology.

“Today, tomorrow and going forward, you are comparing the experience in our store to the experience of sitting in your living room, in the comfort of your home, ordering something on your laptop, your smart phone or your iPad,” Home Depot Chief Executive Frank Blake told Reuters.

“Your willingness to put up with rude associates, dirty stores and out of stocks

is just going to go down and down and down. Our bar on performance in our stores is going to go up and up and up,” he said.

To be sure, online sales to date account for just 7 percent of retail sales, according to Forrester Research. But the firm expects online sales growth to rise 45 percent to \$327 billion and account for 9 percent of overall sales by 2016.

Retailers are realizing they must respond to that kind of growth.

Reuters



Associate Joseph Rodeheaver fills clothing orders at the Macy’s-Bloomington’s fulfillment centre in Martinsburg, West Virginia in this 6 Dec, 2012 file photograph. Macy’s Inc recently opened a facility the size of 43 football fields — big enough to stock 1 million pairs of shoes — just to fulfill orders made online.

REUTERS

WORLD

Gaza rocket attacks on Israel unlawful

JERUSALEM, 25 Dec—Palestinian militants violated the laws of war by launching rockets at Israeli cities from the Gaza Strip during last month's fighting, Human Rights Watch (HRW) said on Monday.

The New York-based group also said that militant organizations in the territory, which is ruled by the Islamist movement Hamas, put Palestinian civilians in harm's way by firing the rockets from within densely populated areas.

Hamas spokesman Sami Abu Zuhri dismissed the

charges: "This report is biased because it equates a nuclear-armed country using all means of aggression against civilians and a people subject to the occupation who are defending themselves against Israeli violations of international accords amid the silence of the international community," he said.

Israel launched a 14-21 November air offensive with the declared aim of ending persistent rocket barrages on its territory.

Medical officials in the Gaza Strip said some

170 Palestinians, mostly civilians, were killed in the hostilities. HRW said two of the Palestinian dead were apparently hit by rockets that fell short of their intended targets in Israel.

Six Israelis, including two soldiers, were killed in rocket strikes, the Israeli police and military said.

"Palestinian armed groups made clear in their statements that harming civilians was their aim. There is simply no legal justification for launching rockets at populated areas," HRW said in a report.

It said rocket crews fired from areas "near homes, businesses and a hotel, unnecessarily placing civilians in the vicinity at grave risk from Israeli counter-fire".

As the ruling authority in the Gaza Strip, Hamas should, "stop unlawful attacks and punish those responsible", HRW said. "The laws of war prohibit reprisal attacks against civilians, regardless of unlawful attacks by the other side", it added.

In reports issued earlier

this month, HRW said Israel had targeted journalists and killed 12 members of a single family in a strike on their home, violating the laws of war.

The Israeli military said in response to the HRW allegations that it "acts in accordance with the laws of armed conflict, despite the ongoing deliberate violations and abuse of these laws by the terrorist organisations in the Gaza Strip".

Reuters



Pakistan people move amid heavy fog on a street in Lahore, Pakistan, on 24 Dec, 2012. Dense fog and freezing weather hit Lahore on Monday, disturbing the operation of flights and trains in Pakistan's Punjab Province.—XINHUA



A rocket is seen after its launch from the northern Gaza Strip towards Israel on 15 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

Two policemen killed in Iraq's violence

BAGHDAD, 25 Dec—Two policemen were killed and six people wounded in gunfire and bomb attacks in central Iraq on Monday, the police said.

Gunmen in their car opened fire on a police checkpoint in central Samarra city, some 120 km north of the Iraqi capital Baghdad, killing two policemen, a local police source told Xinhua on

condition of anonymity.

Meanwhile, a sticky bomb attached to a KIA minibus carrying passengers detonated in Baghdad's northeastern district of al-Shaab, wounding four people, an Interior Ministry source anonymously told Xinhua.

In a separate incident, another sticky bomb attached to a civilian car went off in

the same district during the day, wounding two people, the source said.

Violence in Iraq has decreased from its climax in 2006 and 2007, when sectarian conflicts pushed the country to the brink of a civil war, but tensions and sporadic shootings and bombings are still common across the country.

Xinhua

Russia-US talks on anti-missile deployment in stalemate

Moscow, 25 Dec—The talks of missile defence deployment between Russia and the US have stalled, Russian Deputy Defence Minister Anatoly Antonov said on Monday.

"The situation is a stalemate. There is no advance. Our concerns have been ignored," Antonov told reporters during a news briefing.

According to Antonov,

the defence ministers of Russia and the US are going to meet in 2013 with the focus on anti-missiles deployment and Afghanistan.

"In the start of the next year we'll decide when and where our ministers can meet," he added.

The situation in Afghanistan disturbed Moscow very much. "We are very much worried about what will be happening

in that region after 2014 when the international forces leave Afghanistan," the official said. As for the implementation of the new START treaty, Moscow was satisfied with the cooperation with Washington, he added.

According to the official, 64 inspections, including 34 by Russian inspection teams, have been carried out since the treaty came into force.

Xinhua

Two crushed by falling iron plates in Hiroshima, W Japan

OSAKA, 25 Dec—Two people have been seriously injured after they were crushed under

sheets of steel carried by a lorry, following a traffic collision that occurred at a main road in west Japan's

Hiroshima Prefecture Tuesday morning, local Press reported.

Xinhua

Filipino nurse kidnapped in Yemen released

SANAA, 25 Dec—Yemen's security services on Monday set free a Filipino nurse two hours after she was kidnapped in the Yemeni capital, the official Saba news agency reported.

"The 20-year-old Filipino, who works with one of the Yemeni government hospitals, was released unharmed earlier Monday nearly two hours after she was kidnapped," Saba quoted a spokesman of Interior Ministry as saying.

The nurse was forced into a car by two gunmen late Sunday in Hadda Street in downtown Sanaa.

"The security services traced a blue Suzuki Vitara on a highway in the southeast of Sanaa, captured the kidnappers and set the Filipino nurse free," the spokesman said.

The incident came less than two days after militants snatched two Finns and an Austrian in central Sanaa, just a few metres east of the Presidential Palace.

The Yemeni Interior Ministry has formed a crisis team to search for the three hostages. "Security services are carrying out a large-scale search to locate the whereabouts of the kidnapped foreigners," Saba quoted Interior Minister Abdelqader Qahtan as saying as he met a Finnish diplomat Sunday who was dispatched to liaise with the Yemeni authorities for the release of the abducted Finnish nationals.—Xinhua

Damascus not to use chemical weapons: Russian FM

Moscow, 25 Dec—The Syrian government has ensured Russia that it would not use chemical weapons under any circumstance, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said.

"Every time we hear rumours that the Syrians are doing something with the chemical weapons, we double-check, we triple-check, we go directly to

the government and all the time we get very firm assurances that this is not going to be used under any circumstances," Lavrov said in an interview with Russia Today TV channel which was published on its website on Monday.

According to the information collected by Moscow, the latest reports about "some movements"

of the chemical weapons were actually for the better storage of them, as Damascus gathered the chemical stuff into two sites from various locations.

It would be a "political suicide" for the Syrian government if it uses chemical weapons, Lavrov added.

Meanwhile, Lavrov criticized the strange western logic that if the rebels take hold of the chemical weapons, it would still be the fault of the Syrian government.

"At the same time, those very people encourage rebels not to negotiate with the government but to continue fighting, and giving them arms, money, and moral and political support," Lavrov said.

The encouraged violent approach of rebels was very dangerous, he warned.

Xinhua



A traffic jam is pictured near the Fuxingmen Bridge at the 2nd Ring Road in Beijing, capital of China, on 24 Dec, 2012.—XINHUA

Blast rocks religious school in Afghan's Badakhshan Province, wounds 13

FAIZABAD, 25 Dec—A blast ripped through a Medressah or religious school in Badakhshan Province 315 km northeast of Kabul on Monday, injuring 13 Taleban or seminarians, spokesman Abdul Marouf Rasikh said.

"The blast took place

inside a Medressah (religious school) in Shinoi village of Yawan District today as a result 13 Taleban (seminarians) were injured six of them in critical condition," Rasikh told Xinhua.

He also said "it might be gas cylinder blast", adding investigation has

been initiated to identify the reason for the incident. It is the first time that a blast has rocked Medressah or religious school and injuring Taleban or seminarians in the militancy-plagued Afghanistan where government interests including schools and teachers attacked.—Xinhua

LOCAL NEWS

Literary talks given in Pyay

PYAY, 25 Dec— Organized by Pyay Township Writers Association and Saya Sein Kho Traditional Medicine Industry, the literary talks to mark the Literary Day 1374 ME were held at the sports ground in Basic Education High School No 1 in Pyay on 14 December evening.

Patron of the township association U Maung Maung Zaw (Maung Lwan Nwe-Aunglan) made a speech and Chairperson Dr Yin Wai Lwin (Yin Wai Lwin-Pyay) read the message sent by the chairman of the association (Central).

Next, wellwishers donated cash to the fund for free reading room.

On the occasion, writers Nwan Ja Thaing and Akyidaw gave literary talks. Later, Dr Yin Wai Lwin (Yin Wai Lwin-Pyay) and Saya U Sein Kho presented gifts to the writers.—*Myanma Alinn*

Emergency response team for Chin State

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Dec— Chief Minister of Chin State U Hong Ngai delivered an address at the concluding of Emergency Response Team ERT Training at the hall of Haka People's Hospital on 23 December afternoon.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister said the trainees are to participate in the emergency rescue works in line with the guidances of the Myanmar National Disaster Preparedness Committee and National Rescue Teams.

Chin State Minister



for Social Affairs Dr Ba Maung presented prizes to outstanding trainees.

Chairman of Chin State Red Cross Supervisory

Committee Head of Chin State Health Department Dr Soe Oo and officials gave completion certificates to the trainees.—*MNA*

Yoma Yangon International Marathon on 27 January

YANGON, 25 Dec— Yangon City Development Committee and First Myanmar Investment (FMI) Co. Ltd will jointly organize the Yoma Yangon International Marathon on 27 January 2013.

The marathon will start from the People's Park. It will include 42 km men's and women's race, 10 km men's and women's race and 3 km family race.

In the 42 km event, the first prize winner will secure

US\$ 2500 each for men's and women's, the second US\$ 1200 each and the third US\$ 600 each.

In the 10 km men's and women's events, US\$ 800 each will go to the first prize winners, US\$ 400 each to the second and US\$ 250 each to the third.

The entrance fee will be donated to the philanthropic associations. Those wishing to take part in the race are to contact at No. 327, Grand Meeyahtar Hotel on

Bogyoke Aung San Street in Yangon and browse [website www.yangonmarathon.com](http://www.yangonmarathon.com).

Myanma Alinn

Thai entrepreneurs hold talks with UMFCCI officials

YANGON, 25 Dec—A team led by Chachoengsao Province of Thailand Mr Rergsal Majhavinit chaimontri met with Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Zaw Min Win and party at the federation in Lanmadaw Township on 18 December.

They discussed bilateral regular trade, border trade,

agriculture, fishery, livestock breeding, industry, tourism, uplifting of education and culture, paddy trading, manufacturing of auto parts and cooperation matters.

Myanma Alinn

New Tawwin bus line launched in Padaung

PADAUNG, 25 Dec— Padaung Township of Pyay District is formed with four wards and village-tracts with the location of factories and workshops.

Tawwin bus line is now plying along the route passing No. 3 Defence Industry in Hsinde, No. 5 Defence Industry in Kamyaing, No. 6 Defence Service in Nyaungchadauk, No. 9 Defence Industry in Kyain Village and No. 16 Defence Industry in Mathon, No. 92nd Infantry Regiment, No. 2 Base Ordnance Unit, Battery Unit and Rocket Unit for smooth transportation.

The bus will leave Okshitpin for Nay Pyi Taw at 5.30 pm daily with K 6100 bus fare per passenger.

Likewise, the bus will leave Nay Pyi Taw for Okshitpin at 5.30 pm daily with K 5600 bus fare per passenger.

Along the route, the

buses will stop over in Pyay, Aunglan and Taungdwingyi and finish at Nay Pyi Taw (Bawgathiri bus terminal).

Myanma Alinn

Umbrella to be hoisted on Fullmoon day of Nadaw



SAGAING, 25 Dec— Mashi Khana Pagoda in NanU Myothit of Sagaing will be hoisted atop with umbrella on the Fullmoon day of Nadaw.

The umbrella was damaged in the earthquake.

Wellwishers are invited to attend the umbrella hoisting ceremony.

Myanma Alinn



Skilled workers of Myanmar Railways led by Senior Engineer (Civil) U Than Tun of Division 5 of Toungoo and JE-II U Aung Kyaw Nyunt (Pyinmana) and party repairing the lower structure of 390 feet long overpass across Pyinmana Station Yard of Myanmar Railways on 19 December.—*MYANMA ALINN*

Mandalay NBB to honour blood donors

MANDALAY, 25 Dec— As a gesture of honouring the 36th Blood Donors Day which falls on 14 December, the ceremony to honour the blood donors, organized by the National Blood Bank of Mandalay General Hospital, will be held at the Yadanabon Hall of Myanmar Medical Association (Mandalay) in Mandalay at the corner of 70th and 31st streets in Mandalay at 7 am on 19 January 2013.

The blood donors of 25,

40, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100 and above 100 times from 1-12-2011 to 30-11-2012 at the National Blood Bank are invited to attend the ceremony.

Wellwishers wishing to donate cash and kind to the blood donors are to contact Blood Bank Supervisory Committee of Mandalay General Hospital and the National Blood Bank.

Myanma Alinn

New ward/village administrators elected in Sagaing

SAGAING, 25 Dec— New ward and village administrators will be elected by December.

In Sagaing, under the supervision of existing ward administrators, five townsenders and the clerk elected leaders of 10-house groups in the wards. Then, the lists of leaders of 10-house groups have been announced at the ward administration office.

Local people welcome the election of new ward/village administrators.

Myanma Alinn



TUNE-UP MATCH HELD: Player of Yangon United defends attacks of T-Team of Malaysia in the tune-match between Yangon United and T-Team of Malaysian Super League at YUSC Ground in Yangon on 22 December. (In the match, T-Team beat Yangon United 3-1.)

MYANMA ALINN

Save the life with your blood.

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 26 December, 2012

Long live the Republic of the Union of Myanmar!

Hospitality and generosity are the dominant traits of Myanmar. The streak of gentleness plus smiles in Myanmar character is an outcome of Buddhist influence. Myanmar hospitality can be observed everywhere—at home, at the teashop, on the bus.

At home something is served to all visitors. Traditionally, that something comprises betel, tobacco and pickled tea, plain tea, fruits and traditional Myanmar cakes are also served depending upon the weather and the time of day.

The Myanmar people show profound respects to authority or authorities. In some countries, black-outs caused by power failure are usually accompanied by widespread lootings and protests. In Myanmar where power cut-offs have been frequent, such lootings are almost unheard of as they have never occurred. In some countries, riots tend to break out at the slightest provocation, but not so in Myanmar.

Only two or three major uprisings have taken place in Myanmar since she regained her independence in 1948. This has proved that Myanmar people are gentle and courageous but by no means brutal.

One wide chink in the armour of the Myanmar is looking down upon everything Myanmar and thinking the world of international trends.

That seems to be the most enduring bad legacy of having been under the foreign rule for over a century. Whatever it is, with a series of ongoing reforms and national integration, peace and stability as aspired by the people have now prevailed across the country.

At present, indications are that Myanmar has left the most struggles behind her now and she can look forward to a rosy future.

It is hoped that she will achieve her goal of an affluent society in the near future, for she has been back on the right track flowing changes of system and era. Long live the Republic of the Union of Myanmar!



ARTICLE

Independence Day, simply unforgettable

The basic part of a tree is its roots. When the roots are not firm, the trunk would sway. No matter how magnificent a building is, it would surely collapse without solid footings. Likewise, independence is the lifeblood of a nation. Independence is like water without which people cannot survive.

Similarly, loss of independence is nothing less than death. The river of sovereign nation can flow constantly only if its source originates on the peak of independence.

Independence means sovereignty, the right to control own destiny and full reliance on own power. Independence allows one for self-improvement with the right to have it on one's own. This is the very essence of independence and it is the bounden duty of each and every citizen to safeguard independence.

Our country, Myanmar stood as an independent nation with own monarchs throughout successive dynasties. National brethren have lived on the native soil for better or worse along the course of history. Being content with what the ancestors had left for them, our forefathers have never ever come up with the idea of occupying others' territories. However, imperialists, driven by greed for Myanmar's natural resources, colonized our country, undermining her territorial integrity. Waging three aggressive wars, colonialists occupied our country as well as all the national properties and heritages.

When the independence was lost, Sibanni Sayadaw wrote like this:

No sovereign, no sovereignty, and no own place

Born in this era of hopelessness and disgrace Better die than live the life of a slave.

Myanmar people did not surrender even after the country had lost independence and fallen under colonial rule. They fought back the intruders fiercely with whatever weapons available having the popular perception that "better die on battleground than live the life of underdog."

Different national races



from all walks of life joined the independence struggles and Phonkan Duwah and Bo (Lieutenant) Poe Saw from Kachin State, Kyunbi and Prince Shwe Gyobu from Kayah State, Wuntho Chieftain U Aung Myat from Shan State and Bo Min Yaung and so forth repulsed the colonialists with an unyielding spirit. Patriotic literati like Thakhin Kodaw Hmaing and Akyoketan Saya Pe also wielded power

Ko Tin Maung Oo (Ahlon)

of pen in independence movement. The first student boycott in 1920 aroused the nationalistic fervor and continuous efforts were made since then for liberty. And Saya San led popular peasants' revolution in 1930 to colonialists' alarm.

Myanmar Armed Forces known as BIA, BDA born as a result of 1300 ME Revolution drove the imperialists out of Myanmar's territory. Unfortunately, Myanmar fell into the fire of fascism out of the frying pan of colonialists to suffer years of oppression in its administration, economy, education and other areas. National brethren saw no breathing room going through hell everyday under the fascist regime and again had to risk life and limb to escape from hellish days. They fought tooth and nail, showing their great valour in anti-fascist movement under the banner of liberty despite the death of one comrade after another and despite the defeat of one troop after another.

Though the fascists used every trick in the book

to suppress the national brethren, they could not undermine their national prestige and integrity. The nationalistic fervor is such great that Myanmar could reach the goal of independence with the unity and patriotic spirit of entire nation under the leadership of General Aung San.

For the sake of national unity, Panglong Conference was held on 12 February, 1947, showing the unity between hilly and plain regions. Aung San-Atlee Agreement was signed, demanding total independence. Though General Aung San and martyrs fell in the colonialist-instigated assassination plot before independence could be restored, Nu-Atlee Agreement was inked and complete independence could be claimed back on 4 January, 1948 declaring independence as an independent and sovereign nation.

Smiling faces and tears of joy were right and left across the nation on that day with the Union Jack down and national flag ran up. The Union flag was fluttering in the breeze with blue sky in the background, an eye-pleasing scene to every citizen.

Independence Day is a red-letter day for Myanmar people. Every Independence Day reminds them of independence struggles which are engraved in their hearts. Myanmar people well understand the value of independence which cost a lot of lives and blood.

To make the long story short, like an efficient medicine can help patients recover and the shade of trees protects one from scorching sunlight, independence can offer mental and physical wellbeing. Like a curry without salt is tasteless, a nation without independence is meaningless.

The annual celebration of Independence Day aims to remind Myanmar people with strong patriotic spirit to cherish and safeguard the independence which the entire national people had won back in unity at the expense of lots of lives and blood. Independence Day should not be forgotten and would never be forgotten from the memories of Myanmar people.

Kyemon: 25-12-2012

Trs: TKK

Vietnam to make investment in Myanmar's fisheries sector

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Dec— Deputy Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Khin Maung Aye held talks with a ten-member delegation led by Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Ms. Nguyen Thi Xuan Thu and Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Chu Cong

Phung yesterday noon on implementation of MoU signed on cooperation in meat and fisheries sectors between Myanmar and Vietnam, formation of technical task forces for follow-up tasks and investment in meat and fisheries sectors of Myanmar and promotion of trade in fisheries products between the two countries.—MNA

NATIONAL

Myanmar celebrates X'mas at Myanmar Baptist Church of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana

YANGON, 25 Dec— Myanmar Baptist Church of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana hosted Christmas celebration this morning, attended by Rev Dr Tin Maung Aye and guests.

St Michael Catholic Church in the same township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area also celebrated the birth of Jesus Christ.

St Mary Cathedral and Emmanuel Church of Yangon also celebrated Christmas today.

U Hnaw Baptist Church held the celebration on Christmas Eve yesterday.

Christmas holiday is one of the public holidays in Myanmar in which Christian population celebrate the



secular festival, perform rituals and attend service. MNA

Christian people enjoy celebration of X'mas at the Cathedral on Bogyoke Aung San Street in Yangon in progress.—MNA

Thura U Thet Oo Maung presents Credentials to Egyptian President

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Dec—Thura U Thet Oo Maung, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Arab Republic of Egypt, presented his Credentials to His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Morsi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, on 20 December 2012, in Cairo.—MNA

Yangon to host Academy night

YANGON, 25 Dec— “Myanma Film Academy Awards Presentation ceremonies have been held in Nay Pyi Taw from 2006 to 2011. Due to the suggestions of those from the movie world, it will be held in Yangon this year,” said Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe at the meeting for successful holding of Myanma

Film Academy Awards Presentation ceremony for 2011, at Yangon Region Government Office this afternoon. The Region Minister and the Managing Director of Myanma Motion Picture Enterprise, on formation of sub-committees and detailed plans. And those present gave suggestions.

MNA

Cooperation with understanding of genuine goodwill...

(from page 1)

Construction materials are supplied by Yangon, Mandalay and other major cities with cargo trains. Mandalay-Myitkyina railroad is the lifeblood of the people of Kachin State. The price of food and commodity soars if the railroad is closed due to derailment, mine blast or bad weather.

It is not the first time that KIA blasted the trains. From 15 June, 2011, to date, Myanmar's railroads have witnessed 51 mine blasts. Strictly speaking, 49 blasts took place on Mandalay-Myitkyina railroad in Kachin State and two others on Mandalay-Lashio railroad in Shan State. Two innocent people were killed and some others injured in the blast. Many sleepers, 36 rail tracks and 10 bridges were damaged and three trains derailed. The worst thing is that the people heavily suffered from sudden price rise.

Moreover, KIA group destroyed bridges on the motor roads and heavy machinery of road and bridge construction projects. Starting from the mine blast occurred on Nammyitkha bridge on Mandalay-Lashio-Bhamo-Myitkyina road in Waingmaw Township on 14 December 2011 to the recent mine blast on bridge No (1/1) on Kamaing-Maubin six-

mile shortcut in Mohnyin Township on 18 December, the number of KIA group's mine blasts in Kachin State has reached 101. Most of the bridges which were under mine attacks are situated on major roads—Mandalay-Lashio-Bhamo-Myitkyina road, Shwebo-Myitkyina road, Mandalay-Tagaung-Bhamo road and Myitkyina-Sumprabum-Putao road—and main roads for the region—Myitkyina-Sadon-Kanpaiktee road, Mogaung-Kamaing road, Myitkyina-Tanaing-Panhsuaung road, Shinbweyan-Nannyun (Lido) road. The State has lost the budget of K 6574.818 million due to mine attacks, and local people who have to rely on the road encountered traffic delays, thereby bringing flow of commodities to an abrupt halt and contributing towards prices soaring.

According to the latest news, bridge No (4/199) at mile post No (198/7) on Shwebo-Myitkyina road in Mohnyin Township was mined by KIA group at 10.30 am on 23 December, leaving the approach road on the side of Mohnyin and 30 square feet of the bridge floor damaged.

Besides, construction sites on Myitkyina-Sumprabum-Putao road were also under mine attacks, leaving 22 State-owned heavy machinery worth K 663.350 million destroyed.

The bridges not only in Kachin State but also

in northern Shan State were blown up by KIA group. Starting from the mine blast occurred on bridge No (2/37) on Kutkai-Tamoenye-Monsi-Tapar road in Kutkai Township on 16 December 2011, KIA group had destroyed 10 bridges with mines in Shan State (North) up to date. Bridges on Union Highways—Mandalay-Lashio-Muse road and Mandalay-Lashio-Bhamo-Myitkyina road—were among the bridges under mine attacks. Although KIA group is making pious sounding noises that they have only attacked military targets, the incidents show that they are destroying railroads and bridges with mines again and again.

Only locals in Kachin State including Kachin national race are victims who suffered the most. Moreover, public-owned railroads, rail-cum-road bridges, trains and machinery were destroyed. So attacks on railroads and rail-cum-road bridges should be stopped right now.

Loss of lives of a KIA member and a Tatmadawman in the unavoidable confrontations are loss of lives of Myanmar citizens. Losses of lives on both sides have caused the great loss to the country.

The worst of it is that local people in Kachin State are the victims. They were displaced due to instability in the region. They were

forced to take shelter at the relief camps. Life is difficult there for the victims. With the loss of earnings of each family, the country sees loss of their labour for national development. As their offspring lack regular education, future human resources are going to be in vain. The effects of trauma on the victims are untold misery. Myanmar had suffered the impact of more than 60-year-old armed conflict which was born together with the Independence. Efforts have been made for cessation of armed conflicts and flourishing of eternal peace across the nation in the time of the new government. Accordingly, peace agreements have

been reached with 10 out of 11 armed groups. The sound of guns fell silent, local people are enjoying the taste of peace and infrastructures like schools, clinics, roads and bridges built by the government for regional development emerged.

Only Kachin State remains as a place with instability. Although KIA group is holding talks with Union government, peace is still out of reach. Now is the time for joining hands with the government for bringing peace and stability to local people, understanding the genuine goodwill of the government which is making eternal peace.

Trs: HKA+YM



Train derails two miles north of Nanna railway station in 21-12-2012 explosion.

Four foreign oil workers abducted off Nigerian coast

Nigerian coast

YENAGOA, 25 Dec— Nigerian police on Monday confirmed the abduction of four expatriate oil workers off the coast of oil-rich Bayelsa State.

The police made confirmation after receiving information about the abduction of the expatriates on Sunday. Fidelis Odonna, the state police spokesperson, told reporters in Yenagoa,

the state capital, that the identities and nationality of the oil workers had not been ascertained. No group has claimed responsibility for the abduction or demanded ransom in exchange for the hostages, according to the spokesman. "We have received report on the abduction of the four expatriate oil workers off the coast of the state in the

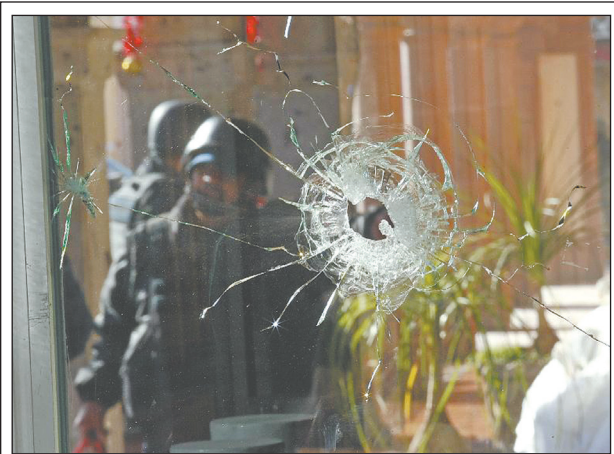
early hours of Sunday, on 23 December," he said.

"As we speak, details of the incident are still sketchy. However, the command has commenced investigation as we have sent out a team to get to the matter," he added.

Odonna assured that details of the kidnapping would be made available to the media when the command received it.—Xinhua



Qiancheng Bridge, a timber arch lounge bridge, is seen in Tangkou Village of Pingnan County, southeast China's Fujian Province, on 21 Dec, 2012. Built in the Southern Song Dynasty (1127-1279 AD) and rebuilt several times since then, the bridge is 62.7 metres long and 4.9 metres wide. It has been listed as one of the state key cultural relics protection units.—XINHUA



Policemen walk beside broken glass after clashes between gunmen and police officers in state of Jalisco, Mexico, on 23 Dec, 2012. Thirteen people were killed in various clashes across Jalisco and Michoacan states, local media reported.—XINHUA

British house prices expected to drop 1 pct in 2013

LONDON, 25 Dec— House price in Britain is forecast to decline by one percent in 2013 as more areas in the country has recorded the trend of house prices falling for the last two years, said the property research body Hometrack on Monday.

It expected house transactions to total 912,000 in 2013 with the average household moving the equivalent of once every 25 years, while the house price in Britain is estimated to fall 0.3 percent in 2012 despite price rise across 20 percent of the country.

According to the monthly national house price survey conducted by Hometrack, house prices fell by 0.1 percent in the last month of this year, the sixth consecutive month in a row prices have decreased.

The seasonal slowdown saw new buyer registrations fall of 4.8 percent in December and the volume of property listings drop of a 3.1 percent decrease.

Also, the sales agreed dropped 0.9 percent in December, said the property research body.

House prices in London are now 10 percent higher

than they were at the peak of the market in 2007, and are expected to make moderate growth over 2013 with prices rising by 2 percent.

Central London price growth are set to slow down, following the introduction a 7 percent stamp duty rate placed on homes worth over 2 million pounds in March.

Hometrack held that prospects for the London market will have an important bearing on overall house price growth in 2013. Affordability constraints and unwillingness by households to take on debt will continue to act as a drag on the housing market in 2013, it added.

The official figures show that house prices continue to remain relatively stable across most areas of Britain, although prices in London are increasing and prices in Northern Ireland are falling.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) said that house prices rose by 0.2 percent on October, leaving it 1.5 percent higher than a year ago.

The average home price in Britain stood at 231,000 pounds in October.

Xinhua

Iraq, Jordan to extend pipeline for exporting Iraqi crude oil

AMMAN, 25 Dec— Jordan and Iraq on Monday agreed to implement a project to extend a crude oil pipeline from Iraq to Jordan's Aqaba port, the state-run Petra news agency reported.

The pipeline, which will have a total capacity of exporting 1 million barrels of oil per day, will be used to export crude oil from Iraq to the Aqaba port located at the Red Sea, the report said.

Meanwhile, Iraq agreed to increase its exports of heavy fuel to Jordan from 30,000 tons per month to

60,000 tons.

These statements were made by Iraqi officials in the Jordanian capital of Amman, where Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki met with King Abdullah II of Jordan on Monday.

At the meeting, the Jordanian leader underlined the need for developing ties with Iraq at different levels, stressing his country's support to Iraq and efforts to restore its stability and security. Also on Monday, Jordanian Prime Minister Abdullah Ensour and his

Iraqi counterpart signed the minutes of meetings of the Iraqi-Jordanian higher committee.

Ensour underlined the need to increase trade cooperation between the two countries, stressing the importance of the visit.

Maliki, for his part, said Iraq will boost cooperation with Jordan in fields of energy, transport and agriculture, adding that the discussions covered measures to facilitate trade between the two countries.

Xinhua



Vehicles run on the No 4 Nanjing Yangtze River Bridge in Nanjing, capital of east China's Jiangsu Province, on 24 Dec, 2012. The bridge was opened to traffic on Monday. The 28.966-kilometre-long suspension bridge supported by two towers and three spans, has a 1,418-metre-long main span, the longest among the same kind bridges in China and the third longest in the world.—XINHUA

Colombian Leader "cautiously optimistic" about peace talks

BOGOTA, 25 Dec— President Juan Manuel Santos on Monday voiced confidence that Colombia's 50 years of armed conflicts could stop next year, and said he was "cautiously optimistic" about ongoing peace talks.

The negotiation with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) guerrilla group should proceed with caution and even some skepticism, due to the failure of earlier attempts of its kind, he told radio network RCN.

"I arrived at the process

with cautious optimism and I am still cautiously optimistic. We have to be very careful. You need to have a sufficient amount of skepticism as well, given everything that has happened in the past, all the failed attempts," said the president.

The previous round of peace talks started in 1999 and broke down three years later. Santos, however, said the conditions for a successful outcome to the talks were better.

"We are making progress. I wish we could

progress faster, but we are progressing. And I continue to be cautiously optimistic, because I believe that if there really is an opportunity (for peace), this is it," he said.

Santos said he was confident the armed conflict would end in 2013, but highlighted the complexity of the negotiations, saying "nothing is agreed

The new round of peace talks began in October and has been organized with the help of Norway, Cuba, Venezuela and Chile.

Xinhua

Number of visitors to Dutch museums increases significantly in 2012

THE HAGUE, 25 Dec— The re-opening of contemporary art museum the Stedelijk, the Maritime museum and the new film museum Eye in Amsterdam helped boost museum visitors by 1.5 million to 19.5 million this year, the Dutch museum association said on Monday.

The Eye and the Stedelijk together attracted almost 400,000 visitors in 2012.

Amsterdam's Van Gogh museum was the most popular attraction in the list, compiled by the Dutch museum association, attracting 1.175 million visitors before its renovation in September.

Xinhua

Turkey to donate 37,000 tons of flour to Syria

ANKARA, 25 Dec— Turkish Deputy Prime Minister and government spokesman Bulent Arinc on Monday said that the Turkish cabinet had signed a decree to approve a donation of 37,000 tons of flour to Syria.

Arinc said at a press conference following the cabinet meeting that Syria could use the flour that is immediately to be sent by Turkey to make bread.

A bread crisis has hit several cities and towns across Syria, especially the northern city of Aleppo, where the shortage of bread and flour has heaped more misery of local residents.

Xinhua

REGIONAL

Air and rail services badly hit due to dense fog in Indian capital

NEW DELHI, 25 Dec — Air and train services have been badly affected on Monday due to dense fog which has enveloped the Indian capital even as several parts of northern India continued to reel under intense cold wave for the second day in a row, officials said.

“At least 50 domestic

and international flights have been hit. Some 35 flights originating from Indira Gandhi International Airport in the national capital have been delayed and 15 others cancelled because of poor visibility due to fog,” an airport official said.

“Runway visibility has reduced to less than 100 metres in the morning. The

situation is likely to improve later in the day,” the official said. More than 100 flights were hit on Sunday due to fog.

Meanwhile, train services in northern India, including those approaching the national capital, have also been badly affected due to dense fog.

“Over 100 trains are running behind schedule

in northern India. In fact, some trains were reaching the national capital between 12 to 22 hours late,” a senior Indian Railways official said.

Every year air and train services get affected in the Indian capital and parts of the northern region due to dense fog particularly during the winter months of December and January.— *Xinhua*

Factory fire in Thailand costs 1.7 million USD

BANGKOK, 25 Dec — The fire at a Toyota factory near Bangkok caused an estimated 50 million baht (about 1.7 million USD) damage, but will not affect production, the company said on Monday.

Hirunruangrong, senior

president of Toyota Motor Thailand, told *the Bangkok Post* that the explosion and ensuing blaze burnt down a factory warehouse for storing engine oil, a pallet used for oil transportation and 10 forklifts.

The amount of oil lost in

the accident was equivalent to a daily delivery, he said.

Earlier reports put the loss at 100 million baht (about 3.4 million US dollars). Toyota has sent staff out to inform people living nearby of the situation and will hear any

complaints about problems, said Pairoj.

He added that the incident does not affect production at the factory or its transportation of car parts to retailers. The factory remains in operation.

Xinhua

Eleven children killed in latest Chinese bus crash

BEIJING, 25 Dec — At least 11 Chinese kindergarten children died when their minivan plunged into a pond on Monday, the official *Xinhua* news agency reported. Police detained the driver of the van, which was carrying 15 children in a rural part of the southern Province of Jiangxi.

The deaths of 18 nursery school children in a bus crash in November last year caused a wave of public anger and

prompted Premier Wen Jiabao to pledge more money for school bus services.

Despite the pledge, there have been a string of similar accidents. Transport is notoriously dangerous in rural China, where buses and trucks are old and badly maintained. With more schools abandoning villages for towns, children increasingly have to travel long distances to school, or board away from their families.— *Reuters*



An injured kindergarten child receives treatment at the People's Hospital in Guixi, east China's Jiangxi Province, on 24 Dec, 2012. Four kindergarten children who were trapped in a van which overturned and fell into a pond on Monday have been rescued.— *XINHUA*

89 children rescued in Chinese trafficking ring bust

FUZHOU, 25 Dec — Police have rescued 89 children and arrested 355 suspects after busting nine child trafficking rings, the Ministry of Public Security said on Monday.

Police officers from nine provincial-level regions, including Fujian, Yunnan, Sichuan, Anhui and Guangdong, took part in a joint operation beginning on 18 December to break trafficking networks, according to Chen Shiqu, Director of the anti-trafficking office

of the ministry's criminal investigation division.

The children are being cared for at local nursing homes and police are searching for their parents.

“We will collect the children's DNA and use it to find their parents within a national DNA database established for anti-trafficking purposes,” Chen said. Human trafficking is a serious problem in China. Infants, particularly males, are sold to couples who have otherwise been unable to have

a child.

Wang Xizhang, deputy head of the criminal investigation division of the Fujian provincial public security department, said large profits have also led to rampant child trafficking.

Wang said a healthy male infant bought with 30,000 yuan (4,810 US dollars) in poverty-stricken provinces such as Yunnan can be sold for 70,000 to 90,000 yuan in the comparatively well-off Provinces of Fujian and Guangdong.— *Xinhua*

Over 2,000 Fijians expected to spend Christmas in evacuation centres

SUVA, 25 Dec — As Fiji and the world were embracing the festive season, over 2,000 people are expected to spend their Christmas in various evacuation centers still open around the country following the impact brought about by tropical cyclone Evan.

National Disaster Management Office Director Manasa Tagicakibau said on Monday that 55 evacuation centres remained open with more than 2,000 evacuees as

their homes were completely damaged by Evan.

A relief ration would be provided to these evacuees and a medical team would assist them, said Tagicakibau. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama paid tribute over the weekend to all Fijians who have worked long hours and under challenging working conditions to bring relief to all Fijians across the country.

Bainimarama urged

Fijians affected by the recent cyclone to take advantage of the assistance provided by all agencies including government. Pointing out government's Disaster Rehabilitation Housing Assistance policy, Bainimarama called on senior government officials including ministers and permanent secretaries to continue visiting communities and families affected by Evan.— *Xinhua*

Five Afghan policemen die in checkpoint attack in N Province

SHIBERGHAN, (Afghan) 25 Dec — Five Afghan policemen died following an attack by militants in the country's northern Province of Jawzjan overnight, the provincial police chief said on Monday.

“A total of five members of Afghan National Police (ANP) were beheaded by militants after their checkpoint was seized in

Torgholi village in Darzab District late Sunday night,” Abdul Aziz Izat told *Xinhua*.

The initial investigation indicates that a member of Afghan Local Police (ALP) named Dur Mohammad might facilitate the militants in the attack in the province 390 km north of capital city of Kabul, the police chief said.

“Dur Mohammad, who

joined the ALP recently, was a member of Taleban militants but surrendered to the government a couple of months ago,” Izat said, adding “Mohammad was suspected to be involved in the attack since he has been disappeared from the ALP post locating near the attack site and our police forces are searching to capture him,”

Xinhua



Christmas decorations and lights are seen at the Senado Square in south China's Macao, on 24 Dec 2012.— *XINHUA*

9th international elephant race all set to go in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 25 Dec — Final preparations have completed for the much awaited 9th international elephant race that will start on Wednesday in Chitwan, Nepal's tourist hub, organizers said.

“We are trying to make it more interesting and we are modifying for betterment,” Suman Ghimire, General Secretary of Regional Hotel Association and also a member of the organizing team, told *Xinhua*.

Elephant race, elephant football, elephant beauty contest and other cultural shows will be organized in the three-day festival, popularly known as Chitwan Elephant Festival for many tourists.

24 elephants will take

part in the race, 8 elephants in the football match, and 5 elephants in the beauty contest, said Ghimire.

Tourists have already thronged into Chitwan for the festival.

“I think it will be a good event, it's an international event. Elephant are wonderful creatures,” Neville Neil, 60, who came all the way from Australia told *Xinhua*.

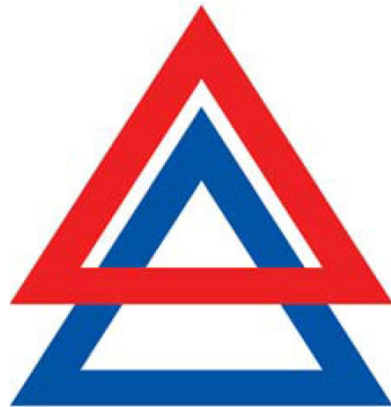
Organizers said they expect more tourists would visit Chitwan during the festival.

Though political stalemate continues in Nepal, cultural and adventurous activities have been a driving force for many tourists to visit Nepal.

Xinhua



Staff members demonstrate fish caught during a trial fishing in the run-up to a winter fishing festival on the frozen surface of Changling Lake, Harbin, capital of northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, on 24 Dec, 2012. Each year, the fishery of Changling Lake turns out 100,000 kilograms of commercial fish. *XINHUA*



KBZ BANK

KBZ BANK LTD. is pleased to inform all that
we have successfully opened

Mu Don Branch

as 90th branch to date-effective 26.12.12

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

KBZ Bank: The Strength of Myanmar

Contact Address:

**Mu Don Branch,
No. (67), Sae Myaung Lannwa,
Mawlamyaing-Tham Phyu Zayat Road,
Myo Ma Ward (1), Mu Don, Mon State.**

Phone: (057) 70313/70328/70556

Fax: (057) 70197

www.kbzbank.com

ADVERTISEMENT & ENTERTAINMENT

Invitation for Open Tender

Myanma Posts and Telecommunications (MPT), would like to purchase by Myanmar Currency (in Kyats) for the following Transmission equipments to be used for Overseas Department.

Sr	Description	Quantity	Unit
1	STM 16 Opteliem		
	HC 2 STM 16 with module	4	Nos.
	IC 8 STM1 with module	8	Nos.
2	Optix OSN 3500 II	4	Nodes.
3	Optix OSN 550	2	Nodes.

Bidder should submit open tender on between (26-12-2012) to (3-1-2013) in office hours at Chief Engineer Office, Overseas Communications Department, Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, 8 miles, Mayangon Township, Yangon, Myanmar. For any detail information please contact + 95 1 650118 within office hours.

Myanma Posts and Telecommunications

Tender invitation for establishment of joint ventures

1. Pollution Control and Cleaning Department of Yangon City Development Committee is collecting and transporting 1500 tons of waste collected from 33 townships in YCDC area and discarding the following tons of waste at the two final disposal Sites daily:

- (a) 800 tons of waste at Hteinbin final disposal site in Hlaingthaya Township,
- (b) 600 tons of waste at Daweichaung final disposal site in Dagon Myothit (North) Township.

2. It is now planning to take the following measures in order to produce scavenging energy through waste to energy process at the above mentioned dumping grounds:

- (a) Electricity generation by generator fuelled by Methane extracted from the dump,
- (b) Production of 98 percent pure gas (CNG-substitute gas) by transforming Methane extracted from the dump into Compressed Biomethane.
- (c) Electricity generation through Incinerated Process. (Inceneration Plant)

3. Local companies or foreign companies or joint ventures of local and foreign companies which are willing to establish joint ventures to operate the above mentioned schemes are to submit tender proposals to Pollution Control and Cleaning Department of Yangon City Development Committee by 28-2-2013, fully mentioning the following facts:

- (a) The proposed process and period of feasibility study,
- (b) The proposed final dumping ground and the estimated timeframe for completion of the construction,
- (c) The proposed system (e.g. Build-Operate-Transfer system, Build-Own-Operate system or Public-Private-Partnership system), mentioning the term of the joint venture,
- (d) The detailed process (investment rate, share ownership, annual maintenance cost, dividend, project timeframe, breakeven point and others),
- (e) Land requirement,
- (f) The agreement of daily waste requirement (whether it requires tipping fees or not)
- (g) The usage of water,
- (h) Rate of the generated electricity for consumption/sale,
- (i) Plan for selling and sharing Carbon Credit (Certified Emission Reduction),
- (j) Other information and documents attached.

Remarks: (1) Letterheads with companies' logos are required in tender proposals.
 (2) Detailed information and figures regarding the tender are available at Pollution Control and Cleaning Department of Yangon City Development Committee at 38th street market (upper floor), nine-storied office, third floor, No. 8 ward, Kyauktada Township, Yangon (Ph: 01246571, 095087221 and 095187854). Pollution Control and Cleaning Department Yangon City Development Committee

Angelina Jolie, Brad Pitt never spend Christmas in the same place

NEW DELHI, 25 Dec—Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt don't like to spend Christmas in one place.

The Hollywood couple raise six children together, Maddox, 11, Pax, nine, Zahara, seven, Shiloh, six, and four-year-old twins Knox and Vivienne, and when it comes to the festive holidays, they like to travel around the world instead of buying them expensive gifts.

She said: "I love to travel in the holidays, because I feel like I'd rather give the kids the gift of a new country than a box of presents. But I still give them some presents!"

The family are known for their globe-trotting adventures but Angelina says she and Brad have a pact that only one of them will be away from the children at one time so they fit their work schedules around that. She added: "I have a great partner in Brad and before we had all of our children, we agreed that in order to have a big family, we would never work at the same time. When he is shooting a film, I am not filming and I'm home and I'm just focusing on the children and on occasion I take trips and I do my UN work.—PTI



Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt

Invitation for Open Tender

Myanma Posts and Telecommunications (MPT), would like to purchase by US dollars for the following Transmission equipments to be used for Overseas Department.

Sr	Description	Quantity	Unit
1	MPLS Router		
	Cisco 10008	1	set
	Cisco 3945 ISRs	1	set
2	L3 Switch - Cisco Catalyst 3560V2-48TS	2	Nos.
3	STM 64 Card		
	L.64.2E (Alcatel Shanghai Bell)	2	Nos.
	P4 SIN with module (for STM1) (Alcatel Shanghai Bell)	8	Nos.

Bidder should submit open tender on between (26-12-2012) to (3-1-2013) in office hours at Chief Engineer Office, Overseas Communications Department, Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, 8 miles, Mayangon Township, Yangon, Myanmar. For any detail information please contact + 95 1 650118 within office hours.

Myanma Posts and Telecommunications

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV MERKUR BRIDGE VOY NO (025)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MERKUR BRIDGE VOY NO (025) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.12.2012 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 MOL (S'PORE) PTE LTD.
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797**

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV MOROTAI VOY NO (195)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MOROTAI VOY NO (195) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.12.2012 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 CMA CGM
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797**

Jamie Foxx believes movies influence real life violence



Jamie Foxx

LONDON, 25 Dec—The Django Unchained actor — who is one of approximately 50 celebrities that have banded together in a new US ad campaign demanding a plan against gun attacks following the recent Sandy Hook Elementary School massacre in Newtown, Connecticut, in which 20 children and six adults were killed - says Hollywood can't ignore that it is partially responsible for inspiring the people behind such attacks.

The 45-year-old Oscar winner, who has an 18-year-old daughter Corinne, said: "We cannot turn our back and say that violence in films or anything that we do doesn't have a sort of influence. It does."

Jamie's comments come just one day after a new public service announcement, featuring him and dozens of other celebrities such as Beyonce, Selena Gomez, Jennifer Aniston, Michelle Williams, Steve Carell, Reese Witherspoon, Jennifer Garner, Gwyneth Paltrow, Cameron Diaz, Mad Men star Jon Hamm, comedian Will Ferrell and Jason Bateman was released demanding a plan to end gun related atrocities.

PTI

Liverpool eager to extend Gerrard contract

LONDON, 25 Dec—Liverpool manager Brendan Rodgers has expressed his desire to extend Steven Gerrard's contract as soon as possible to ward off potential suitors for the inspirational Reds captain.

The 32-year-old, who has 18 months left on his current deal, capped a dynamic performance with

a clinical goal in Liverpool's 4-0 home win over Fulham at the weekend.

Rodgers, who took over from Kenny Dalglish at the start of the season, asserted that Gerrard remained a pivotal part of his plans at Anfield.

"I don't think there's any question (we want to extend his contract)," Rodgers told

Liverpool's official website (www.liverpoolfc.com).

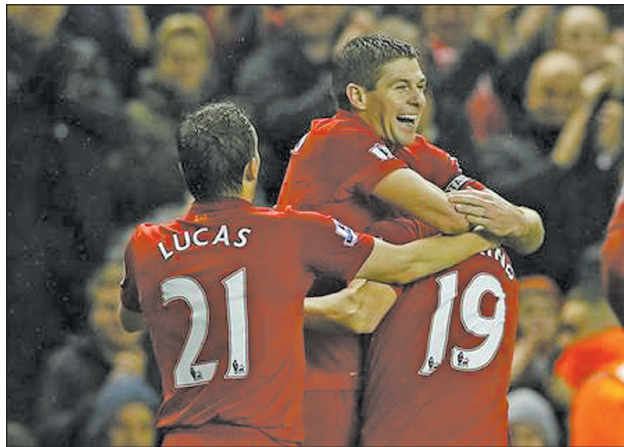
"It's vital. Steven has a real hunger to succeed. He's 32 years of age but he's still got so much left."

Liverpool's talismanic England midfielder had been linked with a move to Chelsea after the team's famous victory over AC Milan in the 2004-05 Champions League final in Istanbul.

Jose Mourinho, then Chelsea manager and now in charge of Real Madrid, remains an admirer, while even Manchester United boss Alex Ferguson speaks highly of Gerrard.

"He applies himself every day, he eats well, rests well, recovers well, works well," said Rodgers, who has begun to get Liverpool playing more consistently in recent weeks. "This is a guy who has led his life focused purely on being a footballer. And that allows you to go on playing well into your 30s."

Reuters



Liverpool's Steven Gerrard (top) celebrates after scoring during their English Premier League soccer match against Fulham at Anfield in Liverpool, northern England on 22 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

Table-topping United face testing nine days

LONDON, 25 Dec—Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson has presided over enough festive fixtures to know rotation is the key as he prepares for a busy period starting with the visit of Newcastle United in the Premier League on Wednesday. A disappointing 1-1 draw at Swansea City on Sunday saw United's lead at the top cut to four points over Manchester City and maximum points at



Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson (R) is pictured during their English Premier League soccer match against Swansea City at the Liberty Stadium in Swansea, South Wales, on 23 Dec, 2012.

REUTERS

home to Newcastle and West Bromwich Albion and away to Wigan Athletic are on Ferguson's holiday menu.

He can take heart from

Minnesota Timberwolves forward Andrei Kirilenko reacts as he tries to get past New York Knicks forward Carmelo Anthony (7) and guard Raymond Felton (2) in the first quarter of their NBA basketball game at Madison Square Garden in New York, on 23 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS



Anthony leads Knicks over Timberwolves

NEW YORK, 25 Dec—Carmelo Anthony took over in the last two minutes to carry the New York Knicks to a 94-91 victory over the Minnesota Timberwolves on Sunday. Anthony, who was ejected during Friday's loss to the Chicago Bulls, finished with 33 points, scoring 19 in the fourth quarter, as the Knicks came from behind to secure the home win.

"We didn't want to look back at this game later in the season and say this was a game we shouldn't have lost," Anthony told reporters.

"We picked it up defensively in the second half and we won the game."

New York trailed for virtually the entire game before Anthony went on an 8-0 run in the final two minutes to put the Knicks up by four. Anthony scored the Knicks' last 12 points to seal the win.

"That was kind of an MVP performance at the end. He stepped up and made the plays," said New York coach Mike Woodson. "When he got that fifth foul called, it's like a light went off and he



New Zealand level series thanks to Guptill century

EAST LONDON, (South Africa), 25 Dec—A brilliant, unbeaten century from opener Martin Guptill led New Zealand to an eight-wicket victory off the final ball against South Africa in the second T20 international on Sunday.

Chasing 169 for victory in 19 overs at Buffalo Park, Guptill helped erase the memory of Friday's embarrassing capitulation to 86 all out in Durban with a stunning batting display

as the tourists reached their target for the loss of just two wickets to level the series 1-1. Requiring 39 from the final four overs and 11 off the last, Guptill was on 97 and needing four for victory when Rory Kleinveldt bowled the final delivery—a low full toss which was eased away through extra cover. Guptill's unbeaten 101 was just the third T20 international century by a New Zealander, the first two belonging to captain

Brendon McCullum who was almost anonymous with 17 from 15 balls during a second-wicket partnership of 73 with Guptill.

The right-handed opener was similarly dominant during an opening stand of 76 with Rob Nicol (25) as he drove the Proteas attack impeccably straight and displayed the skills—and patience—so obviously missing from the New Zealand batsman in Durban.

Reuters



Australia's Michael Clarke (L) talks to the team trainer shortly before retiring due to injury during the fourth day of play in the first test cricket match against Sri Lanka at Bellerive Oval in Hobart on 17 Dec, 2012.

REUTERS

Australia hobble into Boxing Day test

MELBOURNE, 25 Dec—A last-gasp victory over Sri Lanka in Hobart gave Australia a sorely needed boost after disappointment against South Africa, but a mounting injury toll has tempered the hosts' Christmas cheer in the lead-up to the second test in Melbourne.

Captain Michael Clarke, in white-hot form with the bat, remains a doubt to play the Boxing Day test after suffering a hamstring strain at Hobart, while front-line seamer Ben Hilfenhaus has been ruled out with a side strain.

Top young talents Pat Cummins and James Pattinson have already been lost for the series, and have been joined in the casualty ward by fellow quicks

John Hastings and Josh Hazlewood.

Six months out from the Ashes, Australia's hopes of using its home summer to hone a battle-hardened attack lie in tatters.

Australia's selectors have compounded the angst, however, with a controversial rotation policy that has seen injury-free bowlers rested for fear they might break down, drawing howls of criticism from former players and pundits.

The in-form Mitchell Starc is the latest casualty of that policy, and despite taking a five-wicket haul to help Australia seal the Hobart win, will cool his heels in the Melbourne Cricket Ground dressing room when the test starts on Wednesday.

Reuters

GENERAL



BOOKS DONATED:
U Min Min Latt (Min Min Latt-Mann Tekkatho) donated 50 copies of books and 200 copies of journals to Nay Pyi Taw Council Area Information and Public Relations Department through Staff Officer U Hsan Lwin Oo on 20 December.
MYANMA ALINN

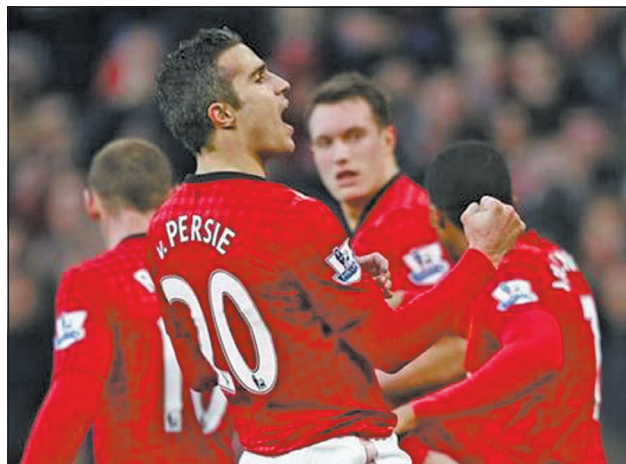
Van Persie has made same impact as Cantona, says Ferguson

MANCHESTER, 25 Dec—Robin van Persie’s impact at Manchester United has been similar to the stunning transformation brought about by the signing of Eric Cantona, according to manager Alex Ferguson.

Dutch striker Van Persie has scored 15 goals since signing from Arsenal, drawing comparisons with Frenchman Cantona whose arrival at Old Trafford was the catalyst for United to win the league title for the first time in 26 years.

“I reckon here at Manchester United we got our Christmas present early—right at the start of the season in fact when Robin van Persie arrived at Old Trafford,” Ferguson has written in the programme for Wednesday’s home game against Newcastle United.

“I am reluctant to subscribe to the cult of an individual because I firmly believe the essence



Manchester United’s Robin van Persie celebrates his goal against Sunderland during their English Premier League soccer match at Old Trafford in Manchester, northern England, on 15 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

of a successful football team depends on teamwork, and neither are we a one-man team, but sometimes there really is a situation where you are lucky enough to find the last piece of the jigsaw.”

Cantona was signed from Leeds United for 1.2 million pounds (\$1.94 million) in 1992 with Ferguson’s

team languishing in eighth place in the table. But he galvanised the side with his flair and a regular supply of goals, his arrogance and charisma inspiring a team who went on to win the 1993 title by 10 points, the first of Ferguson’s 12 Premier League crowns.

Reuters

Inter defender Chivu snubs calls for Romania return

BUCHAREST, 25 Dec—Inter Milan defender Cristian Chivu has refused to come out of international retirement to help Romania in next year’s 2014 World Cup qualifiers.

“I was clear and concise two years ago and I do not know why every time I have to repeat the same thing,” Chivu, capped 75 times by the Balkan country, told local media on Monday.

The versatile 32-year-old defender, who joined Inter from AS Roma for a reported fee of 16 million euros (\$21.08 million) in 2007, quit the national team

in May last year, saying that age and injuries were behind his decision.

This month, however, Romania coach Victor Piturca said he was planning to meet Chivu in Milan before Christmas or at the beginning of 2013, to try to persuade him to end his international exile.

“I miss the national team but I will not return,” Chivu added. “The team can do without me, I liked how they played in Turkey (when Romania beat Turkey 1-0 in a world qualifier in October).”

Reuters

Bikes for bonuses as China’s wealthy reminisce

HONG KONG, 25 Dec—Rich Chinese are buying bicycles that cost more than the average citizen makes in three years, motivated by nostalgia for the days when two wheels were the primary means of transport.

China is now the world’s biggest auto market, but high-end bike sales are expected to grow by 10 percent a year as they become a status symbol for wealthy executives. Yu Yiqun, the creative director at an advertising company in the Chinese capital, cycles to work on his favorite bike - a 100,000 yuan (\$16,000) hand-made Alex Moulton.

“It might be the only one in Beijing. It’s like the

Rolls-Royce of bicycles. Very classical, purely hand-made,” said the 40-year-old Yu, who has about 35 high-end bikes.

“I remember my father used to ride me to the city in the winter - about 40 km and minus 30 degrees centigrade. Back then, it was a means of transport that fulfilled your dream of travelling afar, which was relatively cheap but required brawn.”

Yu symbolizes a new bike culture in China, where wealthy, health-conscious executives are upgrading their lifestyle, in some cases abandoning flashy cars and taking to the road on high-end bicycles that can cost more than a car.—Reuters



A man walks with his bicycle in front of a screen showing propaganda displays near the Great Hall of the People at Beijing’s Tiananmen Square in this on 7 Nov, 2012 file photo. Rich Chinese are buying bicycles that cost more than the average citizen makes in three years, motivated by nostalgia for the days when two wheels were the primary means of transport. China is now the world’s biggest auto market, but high-end bike sales are expected to grow by 10 percent a year as they become a status symbol for wealthy executives. Picture taken on 7 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

- MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL**
(26-12-12 09:30 am ~ 27-12-12 09:30 am) MST
- * News
 - * Myanmar Tourism Master Plan (Final Workshop) (Part-1)
 - * News
 - * Myanmar Tourism Master Plan (Final Workshop) (Part-2)
 - * News
 - * Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes “Crispy Fillet”
 - * News
 - * The Stories of the Great Souls U Pyae Son
 - * News
 - * The Opening Ceremony of NACHA SPA
 - * News
 - * Beyond Pressure Festival of Contemporary Art
 - * News
 - * A Visit to Today’s A Laung Taw Kathapha
 - * News
 - * Marvelous Solo Cane Ball Playing
 - * News
 - * Myanmar Movies “Heartbroken Lady”

- MYANMAR TV**
(26-12-2012, Wednesday)
- | | | | |
|----------------|---|----------------|--|
| 7:00 am | 1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw | 4:20 pm | 15. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions |
| 7:15 am | 2. Dhama Puja Song | 4:35 pm | 16. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -First Year (Myanmar) |
| 7:25 am | 3. To Be Healthy Exercise | 5:00 pm | 17. Classical Song |
| 7:30 am | 4. Morning News | 5:10 pm | 18. Road to 27th SEA GAMES (Myanmar Archery Federation) |
| 7:40 am | 5. Nice & Sweet Song | 5:20 pm | 19. International Science News |
| 7:50 am | 6. Health Programme | 6:00 pm | 20. Evening News |
| 8:00 am | 8. Cultural Dances | 6:15 pm | 21. Weather Report |
| 8:10 am | 9. Documentary | 7:00 pm | 22. Documentary |
| 8:20 am | 10. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions | 8:00 pm | 23. News |
| 8:30 am | 11. Teleplay (Health) | 8:00 pm | 24. International News |
| 4:00 pm | 12. Martial Song | 4:05 pm | 25. Weather Report |
| 4:05 pm | 13. Musical Programme | 4:15 pm | 26. TV Drama Series |
| 4:15 pm | 14. Dance of National Races | | 27. Myanmar Video Feature |

British paper to sue Armstrong



Lance Armstrong walks back to his car after running at Mount Royal park with fans in Montreal on 29 Aug, 2012.
REUTERS

LONDON, 25 Dec—The Sunday Times is suing disgraced cyclist Lance Armstrong for around one million pounds over his libel action against the British newspaper in 2004.

Armstrong, who was stripped of his seven Tour de France titles from 1999-2005 in October, received 300,000 pounds from the Sunday Times as payment towards his legal fees after

the paper raised questions about the American’s success following his recovery from testicular cancer.

“It is clear that the proceedings were baseless and fraudulent. Your representations that you had never taken performance enhancing drugs were deliberately false,” read the letter to Armstrong’s lawyers in the Sunday Times.

The paper is demanding the return of the 300,000 pounds payment plus interest, as well as costs accrued in defending the case, which was settled in 2006.

Reuters

Two died, nine injured in Heho plane accident

Local people view wreckage of Air Bagan Airline's XY-AGC F-100 aircraft that made crash landing at Heho Airport in Shan State. MNA



NAY PYI TAW, 25 Dec— An accident happened to Air Bagan's Fokker-F 100 Flight No. XY-AGC carrying six crew members, 48 foreign passengers and 17 local passengers, totaling 71, that left Mandalay International Airport for Heho at about 8.28 am this morning while making landing at Heho airport from south to north, at about 8.51 am today.

The plane hit Kalaw-Aungthabye 66 KVA power grid that link from east to west about one mile from Heho airport runway and trees on Taunggyi-Meiktila roadside and then hit the ground as mist covered the runway.

The crews had opened emergency doors when the plane touched the ground. And passengers could be taken out of the damaged

flight. About two minutes after it crashed landed, the plane caught fire. The accident killed passenger Ma Nwe Lin Shein daughter of U Tun Shein of Yaksawk and U Pya of Konemoe village was killed, and the motor cycle was damaged while the plane made crash landing.

Two from US, one France, one China (Taipei), two pilots, two tour guides and one motor cycle rider, totaling nine were sent to Sao San Tun Hospital in Taunggyi for treatment.

The Union Minister for Transport, the Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism, the Shan State Chief Minister and officials concerned inspected the accident and comforted nine injured passengers at Sao San Tun Hospital in Taunggyi. US citizen Mr

Lokos Allan and wife who got injured were sent to Bangkok via Heho by the flight of Air Bagan.

MNA

Myanmar establishes diplomatic relations with Iceland

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Dec—The Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Republic of Iceland, guided by the willingness to promote the friendly relations and mutually beneficial cooperation on the basis of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the norms of International Law, agreed to establish diplomatic relations at Ambassadorial level with effect from 19 December 2012.

The Joint Communique on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries was signed by the Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the United Nations and the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Iceland to the United Nations in New York on 19 December 2012.

Myanmar has been making efforts to expand diplomatic relations with countries all over the world, and the Republic of Iceland has become the 110th country with which Myanmar has established diplomatic relations.—MNA

Labour issues for Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Dec— At the invitation of the minister of labour of Thailand, a Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security U Maung Myint held discussions with Minister of Labour of Thailand Mr. Phadernchai Sasomsub and party at

Millinium Hilton Hotel on 22 December in Bangkok on Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand.

The Union minister made discussion with his counterpart on implementation of temporary passport issuance, renewal of temporary passport and three months more extension

of currently five passport issuing camps in Thailand.

After coordinating measures for Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand with Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand Mr. Chalern Yoobanrung yesterday, the Union minister arrived back here in the evening.

MNA

Investigation Commission formed to probe into plane crash in Heho

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Dec — A four-member investigation commission has been formed today, chaired by Deputy Director-General U Win Swe Tun of Department of

Civil Aviation to make an investigation into the crash of Air Bagan Airline's XY-AGC F-100 aircraft that occurred when it was landing at Heho Airport in Shan State this morning

on its Yangon-Mandalay-Heho-Yangon flight, in accord with the Union of Myanmar Aviation Rule 75 (1937), according to Ministry of Transport.

MNA

DMH, JICA to make concerted efforts for installation of radars

Japan International Cooperation Agency based in Japan and the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology of Myanmar will join hands in installation of meteorological and hydrological observation radar systems in early 2013.

"Installation of radars is aimed at making surveillance to possible danger of storms. Radars will help classify grade of storms and precisely forecast its intensification as quickly as possible," said an official of JICA.

JICA and the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology have signed the agreement for installation of radar systems. The radars will be installed in Yangon, Mandalay and at Minbyin Hill, 13 miles south of former hydrology radar building in Kyaukpyu.

Moreover, the radars will be installed in the compound of the

Department of Meteorology and Hydrology on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road in Yangon and in the compound of the aviation weather forecast office of Chanmyathazi Airport in Mandalay.

"Radars will be installed in 2013. It will be the second time for Myanmar. The first time installation of radar was carried out in Kyaukpyu with the assistance of the World Meteorology Department and Japanese Government. Now, JICA will provide assistance for installation of this radar," an official of the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology explained.

In Myanmar, fall of storms was lesser in this year. However, many parts of Lower Myanmar were hit by floods whereas Upper Myanmar was badly affected by droughts the whole year.

That is why agriculture including cultivation of

paddy and livestock breeding tasks suffered loss and waste.

Up to now, the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology could issue information on weather

By Thun Wathan

forecasts to the people in time.

Myanma Alinn: 25-12-2012

Trs: TTA

Significant night temperatures (25-12-2012)

Pinlaung	0°C
Haka	1°C
Hkamti	1°C
Putao	2°C
Loilem	3°C

A scale model of radar to be installed in Kyaukpyu.

