



## Respect the law

The only escape way from least developed country status is to respect the law. Comprehensive policies have been adopted. A good policy without appropriate planning means nothing. Conservatives and backsliders would be left off. The system is changing. We must improve the economy in parallel with political reforms.

(President U Thein Sein's speech given on 12-5-2012 at the work coordination meeting on more effectively carrying out the national and regional development tasks.)

## Emphasis on control of illegal trade

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Dec— Illegal trade is an obstacle to economic development of the State, and inferior goods are harmful to consumers, said Chairman of the Central Committee for Control of Illegal Trade Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint at the first coordination meeting of the central committee at the Ministry of Commerce, here, this afternoon.

The Ministry of Commerce is implementing the strategic plans for trade promotion and economic development in leaps and bounds, he said.

He stressed the need to constitute work committees

for control of illegal trade at region and state levels, and urged the central body to conduct surprise check

on the illegal trade. He said that the information work committee will be constituted for disseminating

information on trade to the people on a wider scale.

Vice-chairmen of the central committee, secretary, economic ministers of regions and states, and departmental

officials discussed future tasks for control of illegal trade.

MNA



Chairman of Central Committee for Control of Illegal Trade Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint speaking at the first coordination meeting of central committee.

MNA

## Ambitious goal to achieve

The objectives of Myanmar Railways include satisfaction of passengers with on-time schedules, less accidents and safe

railroads.

The state-run passenger transportation under the Ministry of Rail Transportation has 11 rail

divisions, which cover the entire nation and perform duties to improve respective rail transportation facilities. The 3648.11

miles of railroad are under management of MR.

The press has spotlighted and passengers complained about uncomfortable train trips, requiring the transport service organ of the government to respond to the complaints as per its motto, "Myanmar Railways for the people."

The Myanmar Railways is employing all of its available resources to help the dilapidated railway system shape up as expected international aids would take time to really drift into reality.

Less resources and low level of expertise have resulted in discomfort of the train trips. To remedy the flaw, MR is speeding up its efforts to upgrade the railway sections in various zones of priority as it ever did in the past because "Safety First" is

## Article: Thurein (Hpa-an)

MR's all-time top priority.

Railroads under major repair are Yangon-Mandalay railroad section, Mandalay-Myitkyina railroad section, Yangon-Pyay railroad section, and Bago-Mawlamyine-Ye railroad section.

Despite a substantial number of obstacles, restless special groups of MR engineers and staff have gone far enough. Repairing or upgrading the route regularly used by the passenger trains and far from resource centres such as engineer offices where the gravels and sleepers are kept is never so easy. The labour-intensive work is too variable to guess its speed and is expected to consume more times. So, MR is equipping the once manual workers with machinery.

Concrete sleepers have substituted for the wooden ones on most railroads while long welded rail technology replaces the tainted track at joints of the rail tracks.

Discomfort will become a thing of the past soon.

The coaches in operation are more than 50 years old and are not in good shape. Despite regular maintenance at locomotive sheds, their age-old service is subject to criticisms. Myitnge coach shed is running at full capacity, producing 50 new coaches a year.

Significant progress is now tangible thanks to relentless efforts of MR staff. Their goal is not far from reality now.

Kyemon: 25-12-2012

Trs: HKA



MR workers race to finish railroad repair faster than expected.

## Farmland ownership and registration process clarified



TADA, 29 Dec — Tada sub-township General Administration Department of Kyauktan Township made a clarification on farmland ownership and registration process at its office on 24 December.

Head of Tada sub-township Settlement and Land Records Department

elaborated the registration of farmland ownership and process of issuing tenant certificate in accord with Farmland Law and bylaws.

Those present at the meeting were members of township/ward/village farmland management committee.

*Kyemon*

## Tyre blowout car accident on Yangon-Mandalay Highway

TOUNGOO, 29 Dec — An accident happened to a Hilux Surf car driving at speed at a place between mile post Nos (106/2) and (106/3) on Yangon-Mandalay Highway near Yay-Oo-Sin village in Pyu Township of Bago Region at about 10 am on 23 December. The car driven by U Aung Kyaw Win, deputy head of office of Pyu creek hydropower, of Daingtaya village of Pyu together with U Tin Nyi Nyi

Lwin, Assistant Engineer of Pyu creek hydropower plant, had skidded out of control and plunged sustained into the drain while having a puncture on the right front tyre.

The road accident left the driver and his companion sustained minor injuries. Pyu expressway police station filed a lawsuit against the driver for his driving with excess speed.

*Kyemon*

## Fire drill in Yedashe

YEDASHE, 29 Dec — Aimed at mitigating loss of lives and property caused by fire, a fire drill was conducted at a market in Yedashe Township of Bago Region recently.

The Head of Yedashe Township Fire Services Department and firefighters, officials, shopkeepers and ward dwellers took part in the drill.

*Kyemon*



## MFF organizes annual meetings

YANGON, 29 Dec — Myanmar Fisheries Federation organized annual general meetings of its affiliated associations— Myanmar Fish Farmers Association, Myanmar Fishery Products Processors and Exporters Association Myanmar Freshwater Capture Fisheries Association and Myanmar Marine Fisheries Association— at Thiri Annawah

Hall of MFF in Insein Township today.

*Kyemon*

## A collision between a vehicle, a motorbike on Razahtani Road



NAY PYI TAW, 29 Dec — A car was in collision with a motorbike at the junction of Razahtani (Office Complex) Road and Thukhamein (Railways Office) street in Zabuthiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area at about 10.30 am on 26

December. A vehicle driven by Aung Naing along the road collided head-on with a motorbike that made a turn into the street from driving along the road at the junction of Thukhamein street and Razahtani Road. — *Kyemon*

## Three-month pregnant young woman who fell into well dies

YANGON, 29 Dec — A young woman fell into a well and died at No (54) on Karya 8<sup>th</sup> Street in Thingangyungyi village-tract on Mingaladon Township of Yangon Region at about 4 pm on 23 December.

The young woman named Ma Win Win Khine, daughter of Daw Khine, is 18 years old and she is three months pregnant when she lost her life in the tragic accident.

The fatal accident happened when Ma Win Win

Khine drew water from the well. And she slipped and fell into 10-foot deep well.

More than one hour into the incident, she was found dead in the well and pulled out of the well by a diver as there was no one except two children when the tragic accident occurred.

Officials concerned of the ward social organization and Thingangyungyi local police station rushed there and fulfilled the requirements.

*Kyemon*

## Illegal teak, hardwood seized in Nawngkhio Township

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Dec — A team led by the assistant director of Kyaukme district Forest Department seized 12.149 tons of ownerless illegal teak and hardwood

during a two-day search at the block near Chaungmagyi in Nawngkhio Township reserve forest. Actions are being taken to expose the suspects. — *Kyemon*

## National Objectives of 65<sup>th</sup> 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

## Five people hurt after Toyota Hilux Surf overturns on expressway

BAGO, 29 Dec — A car crash occurred at a place between mile post Nos (26/6) and (26/7) on Yangon-Mandalay Expressway near Bawnetgyi village in Bago Township of Bago Region at about 6.30 pm on 26 December.

The car accident was that a Toyota Hilux Surf

driven by U Cho of Hlaing Township in Yangon Region left the road and overturned when the left rear tyre burst, leaving five people on board the car wounded. The injured were taken to Yangon General Hospital. Bawnetgyi expressway police station filed a lawsuit against the driver. — *Kyemon*

## More than 150-year-old 99-door-and-window building in Magway



MAGWAY, 29 Dec — A building in which the governor of Magway used to live in the monarchical days of Konbaung era is situated at a large compound between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> streets in Ale ward of Magway. The building is over 150 years old. Magway governor Thado Mingyi Maha Minhla Thiha Thu constructed the building complete with 99

doors and windows with the help of architects from Yadanabon Royal Palace and carpenters from Salin region. There was a lake in front of the building and two main gates were built in the front and at the back of the building. The building was named for its 99 doors and windows as 99-door-and-window building.

*Kyemon*

## WORLD

## Netanyahu set to win Israel election but rightists gain



Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (C) is seen during the launch of his Likud Beiteinu party campaign ahead of the upcoming on 22 Jan national elections, in Jerusalem on 25 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

JERUSALEM, 29 Dec—Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's Likud party is set to win a parliamentary election on 22 January although the popularity of a far-right party opposed to Palestinian statehood is growing, polls

showed on Friday.

Two out of three surveys showed the right-wing Likud losing voters to political newcomer Naftali Bennett's religious party Bayit Yehudi (Jewish Home) and to a fractured centre-left bloc.

All still predicted a

strong right-wing coalition emerging in the 120-seat parliament, which would assure Netanyahu another term.

The daily *Yedioth Ahronoth* published a poll with Likud winning 33 seats, four less than a month ago. A poll in the *Jerusalem Post* showed Likud fell to 34, down from 39 just two weeks ago. A survey by Maariv said Likud held ground at 37.

Without a majority in parliament, Likud would have to join forces with other parties to form a government. Netanyahu could choose Bennett and ultra-Orthodox religious parties or team up with members of the centre-left bloc.

The left-leaning Labour party remained in second place in all the polls, winning 17 or 18 seats.

Reuters

## 19 killed after drinking toxic cough syrup in E Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 29 Dec—At least seven people died on Friday after drinking toxic cough syrup in Pakistan's eastern City of Gujranwala, mounting the death toll to 19 in similar incidents over the last three days, local media and hospital sources said.

Local TV channel Express reported that over 30 people were shifted to District Hospital of Gujranwala in the country's eastern Province of Punjab, after consuming the poisonous cough syrup on Tuesday.

Out of the affected people, 19 died one after another and ten others were shifted to Mao Hospital in

the eastern City of Lahore for emergency treatment.

Earlier last month, at least 21 people died after consuming the same cough syrup in Lahore. The authorities claimed to carry out a crackdown against the factory owners and distributors.

The emergence of new cases has highlighted the availability of the syrup in the province and failure of the concerned authorities to ban the syrup.

The police said that the deceased were drug addicts and they drank the locally-manufactured cough syrup for getting intoxicated, but fall seriously sick minutes



Pakistani men who fell sick after drinking a toxic cough syrup rest at a hospital in eastern Pakistan's Lahore on 28 Dec, 2012. The death toll on account of use of toxic cough syrup has risen to 22 in Punjab, as four more people died on Friday, local *Dunya News* reported.

XINHUA

after gulping it. Doctors said that the medicine was adulterated which caused a serious damage to their internal body organs.

The syrup costs 40 Rupees (0.42 US dollars) and is available at many medical stores in the city.

Xinhua

## Residents flee Bangui as rebels pause for talks

BANGUI, 29 Dec—Residents of Central African Republic's riverside capital Bangui fled in overloaded cars and boats on Friday or stockpiled food and water as rebel forces paused at the city gates for ceasefire talks.

An insurgency has swept across much of the poverty-stricken but resource-rich former French colony since 10 December, posing the biggest threat yet to President Francois Bozize's nearly 10 years in power and threatening a humanitarian crisis.

The government on Thursday urged Western powers France and the United States to help push back the rebels, though Paris said it would not use soldiers to defend Bozize's government and Washington evacuated its embassy. The Central African Republic is one of a number of nations in the region where

US Special Forces are helping local forces try to track down the Lords Resistance Army, a rebel group responsible for killing thousands of civilians across four African nations.

"Our last chance, our only chance, is dialogue with the rebels," bus driver Jerome Legasaid as he weaved through traffic in the centre of Bangui. Scores of wooden boats piled high with baggage and

people crossed the Oubangui River toward Democratic Republic of Congo on the other side, while the main road south away from rebel lines was choked with overloaded vehicles. Those remaining said they were stockpiling food and water and praying international mediation efforts would convince the insurgents not to enter the city shooting.

Reuters

## Putin invites Japanese PM to visit Russia

MOSCOW, 29 Dec—Russian President Vladimir Putin has invited Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to visit Moscow in the year 2013, the Kremlin Press service said on Friday.

According to a statement posted on the Kremlin website, Putin spoke to Abe by phone and congratulated him on his election as the new head of the Japanese government.

The two leaders highlighted their mutual interest in widening bilateral relations in trade, economy, investment, science, technology sectors and also discussed situation on the Korean Peninsula.

Abe told Putin the two sides should find a "mutually acceptable" solution to the disputed islands that were called the Southern Kurils in Russia and the Northern Territories in Japan. The dispute has prevented the two countries from signing a peace treaty since the end of the second World War.

Abe was elected as Japan's new prime minister Wednesday and he immediately formed a "crisis breakthrough" cabinet which he said will mainly focus on reconstructing quake-hit north area and revitalize Japan's stagnant economy.

Xinhua

## Russia's new nuclear submarine to be commissioned soon

SAINT PETERSBURG, 29 Dec—The latest submarine addition to Russia's 'Project 955' upgrading of its nuclear capability, the Yuri Dolgoruky, is due to be commissioned in the northern port of Severodinsk on Sunday, *Itar-Tass* reported on Friday.

The sub, armed with new and improved ballistic

missile capabilities, is one of eight major projects due to be completed by 2020 that will form the core of the Russian Navy's nuclear deterrence strategy over the coming decades.

The total cost of the Yuri Dolgoruky has been estimated at 23 billion rubles (750 million US dollars).—Xinhua

## US soldiers sue Tokyo Electric Power for misrepresenting radiation level

LOS ANGELES, 29 Dec—Eight crew members of the *US S Ronald Reagan* sued the Tokyo Electric Power Co (TEPCO) for misrepresenting radiation levels to lull the US Navy "into a false sense of security" after March 2011 earthquake and tsunami set off the Fukushima nuclear disaster.

Lead plaintiff Lindsay R Cooper claims TEPCO intentionally concealed the dangerous levels of radiation in the environment from US Navy rescue crews working off the coast of Japan, according to local media reports on Friday.

In the complaint sent to the Federal Court in San Diego, home of the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, the plaintiffs said "TEPCO pursued a policy to cause rescuers, including the plaintiffs, to rush into an unsafe area which was too close to the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant that had been damaged." There were 5,500 sailors aboard the *Reagan* at that time, but only six of the eight plaintiffs worked on the flight deck of the aircraft carrier and two worked in air contamination or the "air department." One of the plaintiffs sued also on

behalf of her infant daughter.

Local media Courthouse News Service quoted the complaint that "Defendant TEPCO and the government of Japan, conspired and acted in concert, among other things, to create an illusory impression that the extent of the radiation that had leaked from the site of the FNPP was at levels that would not pose a threat to the plaintiffs, in order to promote its interests and those of the government of Japan, knowing that the information it disseminated was defective, incomplete and untrue, while omitting to disclose the extraordinary

risks posed to the plaintiffs who were carrying out their assigned duties aboard the *US S Ronald Reagan*."

The plaintiffs seek 10 million US dollars in compensatory damages and 30 million dollars in punitive damages for fraud, negligence, strict liability, failure to warn, public and private nuisance, and defective design. They also want TEPCO ordered to establish a fund of 100 million dollars to pay for their medical expenses, as they were facing irreparable harm to their life expectancy and risk of cancer.—Xinhua



An Afghan refugee girl stands beside her mother at a village near Teheran, capital of Iran, on 28 Dec, 2012. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) statistics show that some 2.7 million Afghan refugees are still living outside their homeland due to more than three decades of conflicts and continuing insurgency in Afghanistan, with around 1.7 million in Pakistan and more than one million in Iran, waiting for a favourable environment to return home and reintegrate to their communities.—XINHUA

## Apple loses another copyright lawsuit in China

SHANGHAI, 29 Dec—A Chinese court has fined Apple Inc 1 million yuan (\$160,400) for hosting third-party applications on its App Store that were selling pirated electronic books, *Xinhua* news agency reported on Friday.

Apple is to pay compensation to eight Chinese writers and two companies for violating their copyrights, the Beijing No 2 Intermediate People's Court

ruled on Thursday, *Xinhua* said.

Earlier in the year, a group of Chinese authors filed the suit against Apple, saying an unidentified number of apps on its App Store sold unlicensed copies of their books. The group of eight authors was seeking 10 million yuan in damages.

"We are disappointed at the judgment. Some of our best-selling authors

only got 7,000 yuan. The judgment is a signal of encouraging piracy," Bei Zhicheng, a spokesman for the group, told *Reuters*.

Apple said in a statement that it takes copyright infringement complaints "very seriously".

"We're always updating our service to better assist content owners in protecting their rights," Apple spokeswoman Carolyn Wu said.



A security guard stands next to an Apple retail store during the release of the iPhone 5 in Shanghai on 14 Dec, 2012.

REUTERS

China has the world's largest Internet and mobile market by number of users, but piracy costs software companies billions of dollars each year.

Apple, whose products enjoy great popularity in China, has faced a string of legal headaches this year. In July, Apple paid 60 million yuan to

a Chinese firm, Proview Technology, to settle a long-running lawsuit over the iPad trademark in China.

Reuters

## ZTE to sell off stake in unit worth 1.3 billion yuan



ZTE company logos are seen at an international software and information services exhibition in Nanjing, Jiangsu Province on 6 Sept, 2012.

REUTERS

HONG KONG, 29 Dec—ZTE Corp, China's second largest telecom equipment maker, plans to sell an 81 percent stake in its unit Shenzhen ZNV Technology for 1.3 billion yuan (\$206 million), it said on

Friday.

The stake sale will result in a net gain of 880 million yuan for the loss-making company, it said in a statement on the Hong Kong stock exchange.

ZTE logged its biggest quarterly loss in the third quarter, with analysts saying that it would need to sell off stakes in its units to help it turn profitable for the full year.

Reuters

## After setbacks, Russia boosts space spending

MOSCOW, 29 Dec—The country that oversaw the launch of the world's first artificial satellite hopes to regain some of its former glory with a big boost in space spending announced by Russia on Thursday after a series of failures.

Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev approved a plan to spend 2.1 trillion roubles (\$68.71 billion) on developing Russia's space industry from 2013 to 2020, state-run *RIA* news agency

reported. "The programme will enable our country to effectively participate in forward-looking projects, such as the *International Space Station (ISS)*, the study of the Moon, Mars and other celestial bodies in the solar system," Medvedev was quoted as saying.

Despite the launch by the former Soviet Union of *Sputnik 1* in 1957, triggering the Cold War space race, Russia's space programme has suffered a series of

humiliating setbacks in the past year.

These have mostly involved unmanned missions such as satellite launches, that industry veterans blame on a decade of crimped budgets and a brain drain.

Russia budgeted about 100 billion roubles (\$3.3 billion) for space programmes annually in 2010 and 2011, far less than the yearly average of the amount Medvedev announced, but he said some

of the money would come from outside the state budget.

The failure of a workhorse *Proton* rocket after launch in August caused the multimillion-dollar loss of an Indonesian and a Russian satellite. A similar problem caused the loss of a \$265 million communications satellite last year. Medvedev criticized the state of the industry in August, saying problems were costing Russia prestige and money.—*Reuters*

## Research whaling fleet leaves for Antarctic Sea

TOKYO, 29 Dec—A Japanese research whaling fleet has left for the Antarctic Ocean.

Two whaling vessels and another ship owned by the Fisheries Agency left a port in Shimonoseki City, western Japan, on Friday morning.

The agency's ship is a patrol boat equipped to protect the whaling vessels

from the actions of an anti-whaling group, Sea Shepherd.

The agency says the fleet will join a mother vessel and hunt about 850 minke whales and a maximum of 50 fin whales to study their ecological systems. The fleet is scheduled to return to Japan in March.

NHK



The Yushin Maru No 2 leaves Shimonoseki port in Yamaguchi Prefecture, western Japan, on 28 Dec, 2012, as part of a fleet for research whaling in the Antarctic Sea.

KYODO NEWS

## Number of e-book readers increasing in United States

NEW YORK, 29 Dec—The popularity of electronic books is increasing in the United States, with nearly one-quarter of American bibliophiles reading e-books, according to a survey released on Thursday.

The number of e-readers aged 16 years and older jumped from 16 percent in 2011 to 23 percent this year, while print readers fell from 72 to 67 percent in 2012, in a survey conducted by the Pew Research Centre.

"The move toward e-book reading coincides with an increase in ownership of electronic book reading devices," the organization said. Its report analyzed reading trends among the 75 percent of Americans

who read at least one book in the last year.

"In all, the number of owners of either a tablet computer or e-book reading device ... grew from 18 percent in late 2011 to 33 percent in 2012."

E-book owners increased from 4 percent in May 2010 to 19 percent in November 2012, while people with tablets jumped from 3 percent to 25 percent during the same period, according to the report.

People most likely to read e-books are well-educated, 30- to 49-year-olds who live in households earning \$75,000 or more.

More women, 81 percent, read books, compared to 70 percent of men, and

the number of readers declines as people age. The trend toward e-books impacted libraries, which stocked and loaned more e-books.

"The share of recent library users who have borrowed an e-book from a library has increased from 3 percent last year to 5 percent this year," according to Pew. Even awareness that library stock e-books has grown, from 24 percent late last year to 31 percent now.

The findings were based on a telephone survey of 2,252 people, aged 16 years and older, across the United States and a similar poll the year before. It had a 2.7 percent margin of error.—*Reuters*



Japan's Economy and Industry minister Toshimitsu Motegi.

## CO2 reduction goal to face review

TOKYO, 29 Dec—Tokyo, Japan's economy and industry minister says the country's internationally declared goal of cutting greenhouse gas emissions by 25 percent by 2020 should be reviewed.

The goal was set 3 years ago by the Democratic Party-led government as part of Japan's efforts to curb global warming.

Toshimitsu Motegi said on Friday that in view of the suspension of many nuclear power plants after last year's nuclear accident, it is inevitable Japan will

rely more on thermal power generation, fuelled by liquefied natural gas and coal.

Motegi said the goal of reducing emissions by 25 percent from the 1990 level needs to be reviewed from a realistic point of view.

As to the optimal combination of energy sources, Motegi said the government will make a decision after exploring various options without being bound by any preconditions.

He said the option of ending nuclear power generation in the 2030s is not a given.—*NHK*

## BUSINESS &amp; HEALTH

## Celebrity bad science: Dried placenta pills and oxygen shots

LONDON, 29 Dec—Pop guru Simon Cowell carries pocket-sized inhalable oxygen shots, America's "Mad Men" actress January Jones favours dried placenta pills, and British soap star Patsy Palmer rubs coffee granules into her skin.



Actress January Jones, from the drama series "Mad Men," arrives at the 64th Primetime Emmy Awards in Los Angeles on 23 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

Celebrities rarely shy away from public peddling of dubious ideas about health and science, and 2012 was no exception.

In its annual list of the year's worst abuses against science, the Sense About Science (SAS) campaign also named former US presidential candidate Mitt Romney for spreading misinformation about

windows on planes, and Olympic swimmer Michael Phelps for false justifications for peeing in the pool.

To help set the record straight, SAS, a charity dedicated

aeronautical engineer Jakob Whitfield:

"Unfortunately, Mitt, opening a window at height wouldn't do much good," the scientist said. "In fact, if you could open a window whilst in flight, the air would rush out...because air moves from the high pressure cabin to the lower pressure outside, probably causing further injury and damage."

January Jones's dried placenta pills, which the actress admitted in March she consumed after giving birth, win no favour with Catherine Collins, principal dietician at St George's Hospital in London.

"Nutritionally, there's nothing to be gained from eating your placenta—raw, cooked, or dried," Collins said. "Apart from iron, which can be easily found in other dietary choices or supplements, your placenta will provide toxins and other unsavory substances it had successfully prevented from reaching your baby in utero."

Gary Moss, a pharmaceutical scientist, patiently points out to Palmer that while caffeine may have an effect on cellulite, rubbing coffee granules into the skin is unlikely to work, since the caffeine can't escape the granules to penetrate the skin.

Phelps's claim that it's fine to pee in the pool because "chlorine kills it" is put straight by biochemist Stuart Jones, who reminds him that

"urine is essentially sterile so there isn't actually anything to kill in the first place".

And for Cowell, Kay Mitchell a scientist at the Centre for Altitude Space and Extreme Environment Medicine warns that very high levels of oxygen can in fact be toxic — particularly in the lungs, where oxygen levels are highest.

"Celebrity comments travel far and fast, so it's important that they talk sense," said Sense About Science's Managing Director Tracey Brown. "The implausible and frankly dangerous claims about how to avoid cancer, improve skin or lose weight are becoming ever more ridiculous.

And unfortunately they have a much higher profile than the research and evidence."

To encourage more vigilance among celebrity pseudo-scientists in the future, SAS provided a checklist of "misleading science claims" it suggests should be avoided:

\* "Immune boosting"—you can't and you don't need to

\* "Detox"—your liver does this

\* "Superfood"—there is no such thing, just foods that are high in some nutrients

\* "Oxygenating"—your lungs do this

\* "Cleansing"—you shouldn't be trying to cleanse anything other than your skin or hair.

Reuters

## World shares rise before US budget talks

LONDON, 29 Dec—World shares and the euro edged higher on Friday as US lawmakers prepared to resume negotiations on avoiding a fiscal crisis, while the yen hit a two-year low on the prospect of drastic monetary easing in Japan.

US President Barack Obama and lawmakers are set to have a last round of talks before a New Year deadline to reach a deal on averting major tax increases and spending cuts which could drag the economy and others around the world into recession.

Obama and Vice President Joe Biden will meet congressional leaders from the Republican and Democrat parties at the White House at 2000 GMT.

The MSCI all world

share index was up 0.15 percent shortly after trading opened in Europe. With London's FTSE 100, Paris's CAC-40 and Frankfurt's DAX all just in positive territory, the regional FTSEurofirst 300 was up just over 0.1 percent and moving towards last week's 19-month high.

Members of Congress were divided on the odds of success at the budget talks, but IG strategist Stan Shamu noted some hope in the markets. "There is growing optimism that a deal can be knocked (together) before the deadline," IG strategist Stan Shamu wrote in a note.

In Asia, Japan's benchmark Nikkei index hit a 21-month high as markets priced in a huge injection of stimulus by the Bank of



Traders work at their desks in front of the DAX board at the Frankfurt stock exchange on 12 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

Japan following the election of a new government. The expectations also pushed the yen to a new two-year low versus the dollar.

The yen has now fallen roughly 10.5 percent versus the dollar in 2012, its biggest annual drop since 2005. At the same time Japan's benchmark Nikkei is up 22 percent for the year.

"The Japanese equity market has turned positive, providing good sentiment for

global investors, with many making money and putting the money into commodity markets such as the oil market," said Tetsu Emori, a commodity fund manager at Astmax in Tokyo.

The euro edged up past \$1.325 as trading remained thin as Christmas holidays continued for many investors. It came as France reported its economy had grown 0.1 percent in the third quarter.—Reuters

### Health



Arabian Oil Co President Kazutoshi Hoyano (R) and Fumio Sekiya, president of its parent AOC Holdings Inc, hold a Press conference in Tokyo on 27 Dec, 2012. Arabian Oil will virtually withdraw from its long-standing oilfield development activities and significantly scale down operations, the parent company said the same day.—KYODO NEWS

## Japan's jobless rate at 4.1% in November

TOKYO, 29 Dec—Japan's unemployment rate improved slightly in November.

The internal affairs ministry said on Friday that the seasonally adjusted rate edged down to 4.1 percent, down 0.1 percentage points from October. About 63 million people had jobs, down 60,000 from the same month a year ago.

The number of unemployed stood at 2.6 million, down 210,000 year-on-year.

The labour ministry said the ratio of job vacancies to job seekers in November was 0.80, unchanged from the previous month.

The statistics show that 80 positions were open for every 100 people ready to

fill them.

The number of new jobs in the manufacturing sector dropped 9.4 percent year-on-year.

By industry, manufacturers of automobiles and other transportation equipment saw a drop of 40.6 percent, makers of agricultural and other production machinery dropped 21.2 percent, and plastic products fell 19.1 percent.

Ministry officials say the jobs-to-job-seekers ratio remains low, due partly to the global economic slowdown. They also say an end to government subsidies for buyers of eco-friendly vehicles reduced the number of new jobs in the auto and other manufacturing industries.—NHK

## Russia sets goals for industrial development until 2020

MOSCOW, 29 Dec — Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev on Friday signed a state programme envisaging development of the country's industrial capabilities until 2020.

According to Medvedev's order, the government should focus on creating competitive, structurally balanced industries capable for self-development and integration into the global economy.

The programme also envisages rendering Russian economy innovative and able to contribute to the country's defence needs, according to the government's website.

The 3,514-billion-ruble (about 113-billion-US dollar) programme defines 17 sectors as priorities for the economy development, such as car industry, agricultural machinery, military-industrial complex, transportation, chemistry,

consumer goods production.

The government also plans to create or modernize 25 million jobs, increase investment to the level of up to 27 percent of the GDP and boost labor productivity by 1.5 times.

Russia aims to climb in the World Bank's Doing Business ranking from the current 120th position to the 20th, the programme said.

On Thursday, President Vladimir Putin called the cabinet's work satisfactory and urged the government to fulfill its election promises.

Xinhua



Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev

## US nuclear submarine to dock in N Philippine port

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT, (Philippines), 29 Dec—A US nuclear-powered attack submarine, *USS Bremerton* (SSN 698), will arrive in the northern Philippine port of Subic Bay for a “routine port call” on Saturday, the United States embassy said on Friday.

The US embassy said the visit will allow the submarine to replenish supplies as well as give the crew an opportunity to rest. The nuclear-powered attack sub carries 12 officers and 98 crew members.

The *USS Bremerton* (698) is named in honour of the city of Bremerton in Washington, home to Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.

It is the second US ship to bear the name. The first *USS Bremerton* (CA 130) was a heavy cruiser of the Baltimore Class commissioned at the close of the second World War.

Xinhua

## Iran navy launches 6-day massive exercises

TEHRAN, 29 Dec—Iranian Navy launched a 6-day massive drill in its southern waters on Friday, local satellite Press TV reported.

The naval drills, dubbed *Velayat 91*, or *Guardianship 91*, are being carried out in the Strait of Hormuz, the Sea of Oman, north of the Indian Ocean, the Gulf of Aden and Bab-el-Mandeb Strait, Iran’s Navy Commander Rear Admiral Habibollah Sayyari said on Friday.

He said *Velayat 91* drill

is aimed to display Iran’s capabilities to defend its water borders and interests, establish durable security in the region, and convey a message of peace and friendship to neighbouring countries.

The maneuver also sends a message to enemies that Iran will seriously defend its vital interests in all areas, in particular in international waters, Sayyari added.

He said the maneuver seeks to boost the navy’s tactical and operational

capabilities, adding that the navy’s 23rd fleet, comprised of Bushehr warship and Jamaran destroyer, will escort Iran’s merchant vessels and oil tankers as part of the navy’s mission to fight piracy.

On Tuesday, Iran’s Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) launched a 4-day naval exercise, code-named *Fajr-91* (Dawn- 91), in the area of South Pars gas field in the Persian Gulf, aiming at evaluating the defence capabilities of the troops stationed in the region

beginning of this year, at least 274 people have been killed in such strikes.

Though most of the killed are believed to be suspected militants, the US drones do sometimes kill innocent people, which has led to strong opposition from the Pakistani side.

Details about the strike are not immediately available.

Friday’s US drone strike is the 39th of its kind in Pakistan in 2012. Since the

beginning of this year, at least 274 people have been killed in such strikes.

Though most of the killed are believed to be suspected militants, the US drones do sometimes kill innocent people, which has led to strong opposition from the Pakistani side.

Xinhua



Pythons wrap the body of a zookeeper during a celebration for the coming Year of the Snake on the Chinese Zodiac at a zoo in Malabon City, the Philippines, on 28 Dec, 2012.

XINHUA



A Mexican Army soldier fills in a registration form of weapons, which are exchanged for groceries and cash by residents as part of “For your family, voluntary disarmament” programme held at Iztapalapa Deputation, in Mexico City, capital of Mexico, on 27 Dec, 2012. —XINHUA

## Four killed in US drone strike in NW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 29 Dec—At least five people were killed and several others injured in a US drone strike launched in Pakistan’s northwest tribal area of North Waziristan on Friday evening, reported local media ARY.

According to the local media reports, US unmanned aircraft fired two missiles at

a house suspected of being a militant hideout in Shawal area of North Waziristan, a militancy-plagued region along the Pak-Afghan border.

Details about the strike are not immediately available.

Friday’s US drone strike is the 39th of its kind in Pakistan in 2012. Since the

beginning of this year, at least 274 people have been killed in such strikes.

Though most of the killed are believed to be suspected militants, the US drones do sometimes kill innocent people, which has led to strong opposition from the Pakistani side.

Xinhua

against potential threats.

Over the past few years, Iran has held several military drills to enhance the defensive capabilities of its armed forces and to test modern military tactics and equipment.

On 24 December, 2011, Iran held the 10-day *Velayat 90* naval drill in its southern waters, including the Persian Gulf, the Strait of Hormuz and the Sea of Oman, aiming at demonstrating the combat readiness and ability of the country’s naval forces to defend its territorial waters.

Iran has test-fired long and short-range missiles during the military drill in the Strait of Hormuz. Iran’s submarines also hit pre-determined targets during the exercises, using domestically-manufactured torpedoes.

Xinhua

## Turkish unit in UNIFIL upgrades security measures in Lebanon

BEIRUT, 29 Dec—The Turkish battalion participating in the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) has taken precautionary measures in the wake of warnings conveyed by families of the kidnapped Lebanese pilgrims in Syria, a security

## Confirmed norovirus cases up 83 pct in Britain

LONDON, 29 Dec—The latest official figures show that the number of laboratory confirmed cases of norovirus winter vomiting bug reached 3,538 in Britain, but the number is reported to exceed one million.

The Health Protection Agency (HPA) said that there were 3,538 laboratory confirmed cases of norovirus in England and Wales this season for July to mid-December, up from 3,046 cases last week.

The figures are 83 percent higher than the number of cases reported at this point last year, when there were 1,934 cases. A rise of the cases is also reported by the Health protection Scotland.

The HPA said that for every reported case an estimated 288 go unreported, indicating that the figure may top 1.01 million this season,

compared with 880,000 cases last week.

According to the agency, during the two weeks up to 23 Dec there were 70 hospital outbreaks reported, compared to 61 in the previous fortnight, bringing the total of outbreaks for the season to 538.

John Harris, an expert in norovirus from the HPA said: “The number of laboratory confirmed cases has risen once again as it appears that we have seen the rise in cases that usually begins in January start a little earlier than we normally expect. “Norovirus is very contagious, and very unpleasant,” said Harris suggesting people to maintain good hand hygiene and stay away from hospitals, schools and care homes, as these closed environments are particularly prone to outbreaks which can cause severe disruption.—Xinhua



Firefighters work at the blast site in Bengbu, east China’s Anhui Province, on 29 Dec, 2012. A department of Anhui Bayi Chemical Industry Co Ltd blasted on late Thursday night and the fire has been extinguished till early Friday morning. No casualty has been reported.—XINHUA

## Homemade fireworks explosion wounds two teens in Ukraine

KIEV, 29 Dec—Two teenagers were injured in southern Ukraine when their homemade fireworks exploded unexpectedly, authorities said on Friday.

The blast occurred at about 9.45 pm local time Thursday (1945 GMT) in Kerch city of Ukraine’s autonomous republic of Crimea, when a 13-year-old boy and another 14-year-old were making fireworks to

entertain their family during the New Year holidays, the Emergencies Ministry said.

The two teenagers sustained burns in the face.

The accident raised concerns among local fire officials about careless use of fireworks.

Police urged people to follow the safety instructions while using fireworks during the upcoming holidays.

Xinhua

source said on Friday.

The Turkish soldiers in the UNIFIL are part of the international peacekeeping forces, the source said, adding that targeting them means targeting the United Nations and UN Security Council Resolution 1701.

In August, the spokes-

man for the families of the kidnapped Sheikh Abbas Zogheib warned the Turkish authorities that “if the issue of the kidnapped was not solved soon, the embassy staff and the Turkish soldiers in the UNIFIL could become our hosts.”

Xinhua

LOCAL NEWS

65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Independence Day 2013



Scene of Mandalay Moat

Repaved road put into service in Katha

KATHA, 29 Dec—A ceremony to mark the 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Independence Day, Monhlatan Road was commissioned into service in Ward 4 of Katha in Katha District of Sagaing Region on 27 December morning. The 1380 feet long road was built with the

assistance of Katha Township Development Affairs Committee. Katha Township Administrator U Zaw Min Htaik, Executive Officer of Township Development Affairs Committee U Tun Tun and townselder U Pauk San formally opened the road.—Myanmar Alinn

Stake driven for township hospital in Ywangan

YWANGAN, 29 Dec—A ceremony to drive stake for construction of Ywangan Township Hospital (25-bed) and other buildings of Dabu Self-Administered Zone in Shan State was held at the compound of the hospital on 25 December morning.

people participated in stake-driving ceremony. Acting Township Administrator U Chan Tun and officials lay the cornerstones for the building.

Township Medical Officer Dr Aye Lwin explained the plans for construction of the buildings. Shwe Phasi Company will take responsibility for construction tasks.

Myanmar Alinn

Two jade stones weighing 800 viss seized



HSIPAW, 29 Dec—A squad led by SIP Win Naing of Hsipaw Township Police Force of Shan State North searched a Pajero with number plate 4C/— driven by Khin Maung Than, 33, son of U Pu, of 58<sup>th</sup> Street between 39<sup>th</sup> and 40<sup>th</sup> streets in Mandalay and passenger Hsan Win Aung, 22, son of U Shein of Yoma Village in Natogyi Township, at Manhe Asia World Toll Gate in Hsipaw at 7.30 am on 23 December.

The authorities seized two jade stones weighing 800 viss from the car.

The police station

opened a file of lawsuit against them under the law.

Myanmar Alinn

Apyauk villages illuminated on self-reliant basis

THAZI, 29 Dec—At present, Apyauk (East) and (West) villages of Apyauk Village-tract in Thazi Township are now enjoying supply of electricity.

The power supply committee was formed with Chairman U Aung Yin and party which strove for supply of electricity as of November 2011. A 160 KVA

transformer was installed for supply of electricity to 110 houses of Apyauk Village.

As of 19 December 2012, the village has been consuming electricity. The whole tasks cost K 35.7 million. The supply of electricity was sponsored by U Nyi Nyi Lwin-Daw Thet Thet Mar from Yangon.

Myanmar Alinn

Taungdwingyi Township to get new ward/village administrators

TAUNGDWINGYI, 29 Dec—As of early December this year, ward/village administrators were elected in Taungdwingyi Township

under the supervision of departmental officials and townselders.

Taungdwingyi Township is constituted with 10 wards

and 72 villages. So, a total of 82 new administrators will be elected not later than 23 December.

Myanmar Alinn

Yangon-Pathein-Chaungtha bus line launched

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Dec—A ceremony to launch Shwe Mingala bus line to run along the Yangon-Pathein-Chuangtha route was held at Shwezedi Road in Ward 4 of Pathein of Ayeyawady Region at 9 am on 24 December.

Transport U Than Tun and owner of bus line U Ko Ko Aye cut the ribbon to launch the bus line.

After that, U Ko Ko Aye donated K 1.5 million to be spent on construction of asphalt road to officials.

Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung unveiled the

signboard of the bus line.

Afterward, the Chief Minister paid homage to the umbrella to be hoisted atop Myat Dipayon Pagoda in Mezaligon Village, at the Withakha Dhammayon of eastern stairway of Shwemuhtaw Pagoda in Pathein.—MNA



Raw opium seized in Waingmaw

MYITKYINA, 29 Dec—A squad led by IP Khin Maung Yi of Myitkyina Anti-Drug Special Squad together with witnesses searched the house of Shan Lwin in Ward 2 in Waingmaw at 7.30 am on 20 December.

They seized 996.13 grams of raw opium hidden in three polyethylene bags hidden in Yan Gang motorcycle of Shan Lwin. The person confessed that he bought 261.28 grams of raw opium worth K 200,000 from Ma Bawm Hsant of 131 in Region 2 of Khatan Ward in Waingmaw.

According to the confession, the squad searched the house of Ma Bawm Hsant at 8.05 am on 20 December and saw Aik Pant (a) Maung Pant and wife Ma Bawm Hsant there.

The authorities seized 4.899 kilos of raw opium

from three packets of noodle packages worth K 6,368,700.

The police station opened files of lawsuit against Shan Lwin, 28, son of U Zaw Naung, Aik Pant (a) Maung Pant, 43, son of U Aik Hsuang and Ma Bawm Hsant, 37, daughter of U Ko Bawm under the Narcotic Drugs and Phychotropic substances Law.

Myanmar Alinn

Ward/village administrators elected in Bago

BAGO, 29 Dec—Ward and village administrators from 31 wards and 68 village-tracts were elected in Bago Township of Bago Region under the supervision of five townselders each as of early December.

The ward administrator from Nandawya Ward, the most populous area of Bago, was elected at Oktha Thiri

Monastery on 25 December.

Former administrator U Moe Myint Nyo (a) U Nyo Gyi among 597 10-household group leaders was re-elected as ward administrator.

The election process of ward/village administrators will go on in Bago Township up to end of December this year.—Myanmar Alinn

Village BEMS gets staff quarter in Pakokku Township



PAKOKKU, 29 Dec—A staff quarter of Basic Education Middle School was opened in Kaing Model Village of Pakokku Township, Magway Region, recently.

Deputy Township

Administrator U Kyaw Soe Htin, Assistant Township Education Officer U Kyi Nyein and Village Administrator U Kyi Khaing Win formally opened the staff quarter built on a self-reliant basis.

The one-storey building,

75 feet long, 21 feet wide and 13 feet high, was constructed for teachers who are assigned duty at the school from other regions.

The facility was built at a cost of K 4.7 million.

Myanmar Alinn

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 30 December, 2012

Housing affordability

Homeownership is a dream which is impossible to come true and hope which seems to be given up frequently for low and middle income families in the commercial city of Yangon. Affordable housing is a basic necessity, like food and water, for extremely low-income households. No one can deny that prices of housing are far beyond the reach of low and very-low income households that make up nearly 30 per cent of the population of Yangon. The need for housing is greater than ever before in Yangon with the parallel trends of increased annual population growth and significant shortage of affordable housing.

While new condominiums, high-rise office buildings and apartments are mushrooming to meet the demands for modernization of the city, genuine affordable housing projects failed to materialize except so-called low-cost housing that are aimed to meet unending artificial demands of those who had already owned a house or more in and out of the city. Some scholars stressed the need of affordable housings for 100,000 households who are living in poverty as a drive of poverty alleviation to reduce 26 per cent poverty rate of the populous Yangon which is home to a population of nearly five million. They said that it is a high time a perfect housing policy should be laid down in accord with the Constitution in which the Union shall strive to improve the living standards of the people is prescribed.

With announcements of low-cost housing construction projects by YCDC and DHSDD, hopes are high for renter households who are struggling monthly or yearly to pay the rents rising at a rate more than 30 per cent of their incomes. Here there arises a question whether low-cost apartments are affordably priced for low income households who will not be able to afford to buy a flat that ranges from more than K 10 million to K 40 million even in installment. Provided that the housing is quite costly and land prices keep rising, hopes and dreams of having access to housing opportunities will not come true. For renter households with an average salary earner, a decent apartment remains extremely difficult to find.

Before attending to the needs of housing affordability of low income households, some alternatives that can help relieve the stress of those whose wages remain insufficient to cover high living costs including rents are to be available. As a top housing policy priority, high-rise rental apartment construction project should be implemented with the active commitments of developers and bankers under the government-led programme. More public funds on it will be the answer to the shortage of affordable building in commercial city of Yangon that is thought to be in the midst of a housing quandary in the not too distinct future. The housing crisis will get worse unless we take an effective action now.

Necessity is the mother of invention

NATIONAL

December mass walk activities organized

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Dec— Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye, Union Ministers U Tint Hsan, Dr Mya Aye, U Aye Myint Kyu, Dr Kan Zaw and Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin, deputy ministers, departmental heads and staff families participated in mass walk activity for the last week of December this morning. The attendance of 8850 took part in the activity.

A similar event was organized in Mandalay Region this morning, participated by more than 14000 people. It was also attended by Region Hluttaw Speaker U Win Maung and departmental heads.—MNA



Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye and Union Ministers actively participate in mass walk activity for the last week of December.

MNA

Union A&I Minister oversees land reclamation of 3000 acre mechanized farm of Ngalaik Irrigated Area in Dekkhinathiri Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Dec— Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing yesterday morning visited 3000

acre mechanized farming system of Ngalaik irrigated area near Kyuntetpe village in Dekkhinathiri Township. The Union

minister inspected 100 acre sunflower and maize plantations, arrival of 28 combine harvesters from Korea, completion of main

canal and drain canals and land reclamation task.

During his inspection tour, the union minister urged civil services, technicians from irrigation, land records and agriculture departments to win trust of farmers in shifting from manual farming to mechanized one for agricultural development of the State.

The union minister also called for nurturing of technicians before summer harvesting time for ensuring good use of the combine harvesters, construction of concrete walls and implementation of roads for all round-season convenience of village dwellers.—MNA



Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing inspects stockpiling of farming machinery to be used in reclamation of 3000 acre mechanized farm in Dekkhinathiri Township.—MNA

Deputy Energy Minister calls for higher productivity

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Dec— Deputy Minister for Energy U Htin Aung inspected Man Oilfield, Htangaing/Dahekbin Oilfield, Htaaukshabin/Kanni Oilfield and Petrochemical Factories Zone (Thanpayakan) of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise in Magway Region on 22 December.

Speaking to general managers and personnel, he called for strict compliance with fire preventive measures, proper management of budget and materials usage, strong safety measures and efforts for higher productivity.

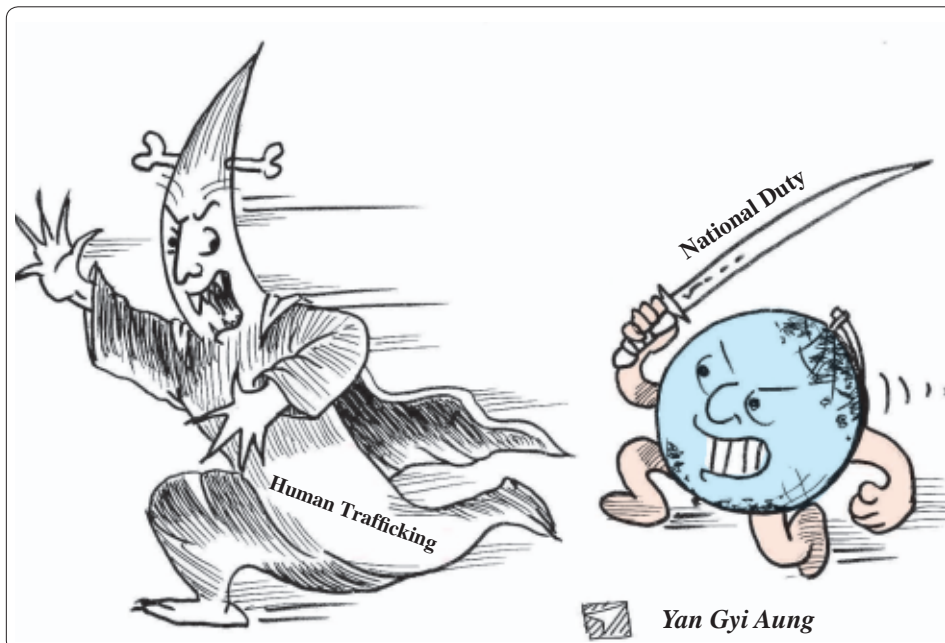
MNA

Inter-township Mr & Ms Contests on 6 Jan

YANGON, 29 Dec— Hailing the 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Independence Day, Yangon Region Inter-township Mr and Miss Contests will be held at

Gymnasium in the compound of Aung San Stadium on 6 January. Those wishing to participate in the contests may contact U Soe Myat

Aung (Ph-09-5192468) and U Kyaw Sein Than (Ph-09-420078033). The contest is meant to turn out new sports generation.—MNA



Yan Gyi Aung



ARTICLE

# What independence tastes

**Lu Nyein Thit**

Independence means having sovereignty, in other words, having and exercising the three powers in line with the wishes of own nation, own government and own citizens. It can also be functioning without influence of a certain nation. It is usual that the taste of independence can be known only when it is lost. However, as our nation had taken the history lesson of unfreedom, we know both of the tastes of freedom and unfreedom. If so, we need to value independence more because only those who know the value value that valuable thing.

We have heard of the question of "Why we learn history?" and the answer "not to be naïve". Only a few students and youths are interested in history subject today.

History is taught only at primary and middle school level and only a few students wishing to make degree in arts study history at high school level and the number of those specializing in history at higher education level is also decreasing. Under such circumstances, not only students but also all youths, the elderly necessarily need to know, keep in touch with and value Myanmar history.

In particular, the history of Myanmar fallen under colonial rule and independence struggles are precious histories.

Our country is home to over 100 national races and they began to live together not a few months ago nor do they come from parts of some countries. They have lived together on the

same soil, drinking the water from same source since yore. Except differences in languages, they share much in common in customs and traditions and the cultures are also related. These are firm evidence of co-existence since time immemorial.

Although it is said that Myanmar never became a colony except being invaded by British intruders, it was not free from the intrusion of neighbouring countries. The neighbours had invaded north, north-east, east and west of the Myanmar. National races from other corners did not stand by the side when the national races in north were under outside attack.

Likewise, national races in other parts gathered and drove out the outside threats when national brethren in east or west were under attack as if it was them who were harmed. Especially, during the reign of King Alunghpaya, the Chinese had invaded the country four times in four years.

Nonetheless, the Myanmar Army comprised of people from all races could successfully repel them. The intruders attacked in mass from the north where they were welcomed by weapons of the soldiers of Myanmar Army made of all races from different regions.

This is not the issue of a particular national race, but for perpetuation of the Union and non-disintegration of the Union constituted with all national races, in other words, for enabling all the

national races within the Union to live together in unity forever.

Looking back the period between before Myanmar fell under colonial yoke and after it regained independence, such scenes were also obvious. Kachin national race chieftains and Kachin national race troops and Chin national race chieftains and Chin national race troops took part in the independence movement. There are records that even Shan national race damsels participated in the march to independence.

National race leaders and national race troops from all corners of the country actively took part in the movement and they were in unison in their claim for independence. They lived in the Union together and fought back together the every intruder taking it as common enemy. Their main objectives are not to let the country fall under alien rule, and not to loss sovereignty.

It has been 65 years that our country regained her independence. We have yet to answer the question whether we, the entire people, have the chance to fully enjoy the taste of independence. In fact, we have been tackling to put out the fire started by the imperialists for years. We did not completely enjoy the taste or fruits of independence. We have realized that the most important thing in an independent country is peace and security.

The national brethren who shared the same history peacefully have been fighting each other. Fights and wars did not guarantee peaceful education and secure trade and farming. The people

survive, fleeing the violence. Forget about the prosperity. They have been struggling even to ensure sufficiency. It indicates that we would not enjoy the taste of independence fully unless peace or security prevails.

Successive governments adopted many schemes to restore internal peace. Despite some progress, we are still miles away from the genuine eternal peace. We have witnessed encouraging development in peace-building efforts of the current government who was elected in accord with the 2008 constitution. There remain only a few armed groups to reach peace accord.

The government would be able to throw all of its efforts into education, health and socio-economic development works only when the peace prevails. Our country is in democratic transition with the democratic government in office and increasing freedom and transparency in political, economic and social arenas. Economic reforms are being undertaken to develop the country lagged behind for ages.

Convinced by the democratic reforms of the incumbent government, economic sanctions have been lifted. Investments from various parts of the world are flowing into the country. Amidst economic development, we have yet to build the peace.

There is no reason that we cannot reconcile because we are the national brethren since yore. We fought together for independence, braving any dangers. What we need are

# Decorating the motherland

- \* So beautiful is our country  
With lots of gorges and ridges
- \* Pleasant is the motherland  
Having many religious edifices
- \* Also a place where generosity  
And loving kindness bloom
- \* Our country in fact is  
Shining under sun  
With her crops and flowers  
Abundance is everywhere
- \* In our country  
The air is clean  
And the forests are green  
Enchanting is the landscape
- \* Ours is a golden land  
With love and unity  
We all have the duty  
Peace and tranquility  
We'll have to safeguard  
Prosperity and strength  
And also the image  
We'll have to promote

**Myinmu Maung Naing Moe**  
Trs: TMT

just minor adjustments. While in London, General Aung San said the same thing as regards ethnic affairs and demanded the independence within a year. It is sure that the eternal peace would be established soon.

We are independent people and sovereign nation. We once lost it. But we regained due to concerted efforts of all national races and citizens. The younger generation did not come across independence struggles. Though, we need to value the independence, learning lessons from the bitter past. We cannot ignore the independence nor the history of independence. We need to value the independence forever.

I have already said that the taste of the independence could be made complete by the peace. It is time we need to play catch-up in political, economic and social sectors as an independent and peaceful nation. We need to grasp every opportunity in political, economic and social sectors so as to develop our country while the country is undergoing democratic reforms. We would be able to reduce the poverty rate by pursuing economic growth. The independent citizens of the independent country will soon be able to enjoy the taste of independence peacefully.

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Trs: TKK+HKA

## School scouting cultivates sense of duty: Union minister

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Dec—Forming scouts at basic education schools is aimed at nurturing responsible citizens, Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye said at the multiplier course concluding ceremony at No. 5 Basic Education High School in Zabuthiri Township here in this evening.

The trainees displayed their scouting skills. The Union Minister and

Deputy Ministers U Aye Kyu, Dr Ba Shwe and Dr Myo Myint presented outstanding awards.

MNA

**Union Minister for Cooperatives U Kyaw Hsan speaking at Cooperatives Ministry's coordination meeting.**

MNA



## Ministry of Cooperatives holds coordination meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Dec—A ceremony to review on works for 2012-2013 financial year and coordination meeting (2013-2014 financial year) of Ministry of Cooperatives, was held at the Ministry, here, yesterday, with an address by Union Minister for Cooperatives U Kyaw Hsan.

In his speech, the Union minister said that the ministry needed to form a basic cooperatives societies in every village across the country in 2014-2015.

Deputy Minister and Chairman of Central Cooperative Union and Chairman of Cooperative Bank Ltd U Khin Maung Aye discussed the matters relating to the successful implementation of the ministry's tasks. Officials of region/state Cooperative Departments and cooperative syndicates reported on progress of works. Later, the deputy minister and the Union Minister reviewed the presentation of reports.

MNA

## Three killed in truck collision in western Turkey

ANKARA, 29 Dec—Two soldiers and one civilian were killed in truck collision in western Turkey on Thursday morning, private *Dogan* news agency reported.

They were hit by a truck after being stopped to aid the victims of a previous accident.

The truck's driver, identified as Sebahattin Akdogan, lost control of steering wheel due to slippery conditions at the same place of the first accident.

The first accident took place when a minibus drove off the shoulder due to slippery conditions at the main road in the Aegean Province of Kutahya.

Xinhua

## Turkish warplanes raid PKK targets in northern Iraq

ANKARA, 29 Dec—Turkish *F-16* warplanes struck targets belonging to the outlawed Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK) in northern Iraq overnight in a new air force operation, according to Turkey's *Dogan*



Pupils play traditional Kongzhu, also known as diabolo, at the playground of the Zigui experimental primary school in Zigui County, central China's Hubei Province, on 27 Dec, 2012. Kongzhu literally means empty bamboo, and is one of the major Chinese traditional toys along with shuttlecocks and kites. It is a popular activity among people of various ages.—XINHUA

## Blast at Ukraine university kills one, wounds two

KIEV, 29 Dec—Police suspect a grenade was the cause of an explosion that killed one person and injured two others at a university in western Ukraine on Thursday.

The blast ripped through a building at Chernivtsi city's Medical University at noon (1000 GMT), police said.

A 62-year-old man,

who allegedly brought the grenade to the university, was found dead at the scene. One student and a teacher had minor injuries.

According to unconfirmed local media reports, the dead man was a former border guard who had a conflict with a university teacher. Further investigation is underway.

Xinhua

## Vietnam's population reaches 88.78 ml in 2012, more female than male

HANOI, 29 Dec—Vietnam's population reached 88.78 million as of the end of 2012, an increase of 1.06 percent over last year, with more female than male, reported the Vietnam General Statistics Office on Friday.

Of the total, women comprised 44.86 million, up 1.04 percent, and men with 43.92 million, up 1.09 percent year-on-year; urban population was 28.81 million, up 3.3 percent, while rural population was 59.97 million, up 0.02 percent.

Total birth rate reached 2.05 babies per woman in 2012, higher than previous year's 1.99 babies per woman level. Sex ratio of newborns was 112.3 male per 100 female, higher than the level of 111.9 male per 100 female in 2011.

Employed laborers aged 15 and above in 2012 were 51.69 million, up 2.7 percent over 2011, of whom 10.4 percent work for the state-run sector, 86.3 percent for the non-state sector, and 3.3 percent for the

foreign direct investment sector.

Of the working age group, those working in agro-forestry-fishery sector decreased from 48.4 percent in 2011 to 47.5 percent in 2012; in industry and construction down from 21.3 percent to 21.1 percent.

Meanwhile, those working in the service sector increased from 30.3 percent to 31.4 percent. Unemployment rate of laborers in the working age group in 2012 was 4.99 percent.—Xinhua



A citizen views pictures displayed at a station of subway line 2 in Wuhan, capital of central China's Hubei Province, on 28 Dec, 2012. The first stage of subway line 2 of 27.73 kilometres was put into trial operation on Friday. Subway line 2 is the city's first subway line to be put into operation. Its construction started in 2006.

XINHUA

## Putin signs ban on US adoptions of Russian children

MOSCOW, 29 Dec—President Vladimir Putin signed a law on Friday that bans Americans from adopting Russian children and imposes other sanctions in retaliation for a new US human rights law that he says is poisoning relations.

Washington has called the new Russian law misguided, saying it ties the fate of children to "unrelated political considerations", and analysts say it is likely to deepen a chill in US-Russia relations and harm Putin's image abroad.

Six children whose adoption has already been decided in court will go to the United States, while 46 other children whose adoption was still underway must stay in Russia, Putin's spokesman, Dmitry Peskov, told Dozhd television channel.

The new law, which has also ignited outrage among Russian liberals

and child rights' advocates, takes effect on 1 January.

The legislation, whose text was issued by the Kremlin, will also outlaw some non-governmental organizations that receive US funding and impose a visa ban and asset freeze on Americans accused of violating the rights of Russians abroad.

Pro-Kremlin lawmakers initially drafted the bill to mirror the US Magnitsky Act, which bars entry to Russians accused of involvement in the death in custody of anti-corruption lawyer Sergei Magnitsky and other alleged rights

abuses.

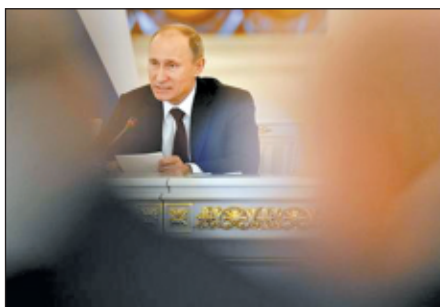
The restrictions on adoptions and non-profit groups were added to the legislation later, going beyond a tit-for-tat move and escalating a dispute with Washington at a time when ties are already strained by issues such as the Syrian crisis.

The adoption ban may further tarnish Putin's international standing at a time when the former KGB officer is under scrutiny over what critics say is a crack-down on dissent since he returned to the Kremlin for a third term in May.

Reuters

Russian President Vladimir Putin speaks during a session of the State Council at the Kremlin in Moscow on 27 Dec, 2012.

REUTERS



## Road accident in Nigeria leaves nine people dead

OSUN, (Nigeria), 29 Dec—Nine people were killed and 11 others injured when a bus collided with a truck in southwestern Nigeria on Thursday, said local sources.

The accident took place on a road in the State of Osun at about 1:30 pm local time. The dead included six women.

A preliminary investigation showed that the accident was caused by speeding. No other information was available.

The poor conditions of roads, speeding, over loading and reckless driving are blamed for frequent traffic accidents in the west African country.

Xinhua



Local fishermen break ice and net fish in the Chagan Lake in Qian Gorlos Mongolian Autonomous County, northeast China's Jilin Province, on 27 Dec, 2012.

XINHUA

## REGIONAL

## Fault survey at Ohi plant may take months

TOKYO, 29 Dec—A senior official from Japan's Nuclear Regulation Authority has suggested surveys at the country's only online nuclear plant may take months before experts determine whether fissures at the facility are parts of an active fault or not.

Kunihiko Shimazaki, a commissioner from the regulatory body, made the announcement on Friday, after a 5 member team he is leading conducted an inspection at the Ohi plant in Fukui Prefecture on the

Sea of Japan.

Shimazaki said the team plans to analyze what they have studied at the trench dug in the northern part of the plant's site, but he added a conclusion won't be easy to obtain.

He said the team needs to inspect another trench which the operator, Kansai Electric, plans to dig at a site closer to the reactor, as early as next February.

In a previous inspection in November, the team could not determine whether the fissures beneath the plant

were parts of an active fault or traces of a landslide. So the team ordered the operator to double the length of the inspection trench to 100 metres. Kansai Electric has been insisting the fissures are traces of a past landslide.

The expert team will continue the on-site inspection on Saturday.

The authority plans to recommend the halt of the 2 reactors that were restarted in July if it determines fissures running beneath the plant's important facilities are an active fault.—NHK



Vehicles enter the Yunhe Zhijiang Tunnel in Hangzhou, capital of east China's Zhejiang Province, on 28 Dec, 2012. The two-kilometre tunnel, which started construction on 19 Dec, 2009, opened to traffic on Friday. It is the first tunnel to cross the Beijing-Hangzhou Grand Canal in Hangzhou.

XINHUA

## S Korea's President-elect to meet with Abe's envoys

SEOUL, 29 Dec — South Korea's President-elect Park Geun-hye will meet with a delegation dispatched by Japanese Prime Minister Abe Shinzo, Park's aides said on Friday.

The meeting between Park and the envoys, scheduled at the request of Japan, will take place on 4 Jan, the aides said. Park, who takes office early next year, inherits a fraught relationship with the country's former colonial occupier as the two remain at odds over a slew of historical issues.

Abe returned to Japan's premiership after his right-wing Liberal Democratic Party won a parliamentary majority in general elections earlier this month.

Xinhua

Donate Blood

## Philippine disaster agency on red alert for New Year celebration

MANILA, 29 Dec — The Philippine National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) said on Friday that it will be on a five-day red alert status beginning 30 December, 2012 up to 3 January, 2013, a move to ensure safe celebration of the New Year.

NDRRMC Executive Director Benito Ramos,

in a memorandum, said that all the NDRRMC member agencies, including the regional offices, will closely monitor incidents and ensure the prompt response to the general public on any eventuality. "Widest dissemination of safety tips and information materials in your area of responsibility regarding firecrackers, fire prevention, road safety,

trauma, injury, death, etc. is highly encouraged," he said.

Meanwhile, the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) also urged the businessmen who will attempt to transport their purchased firecrackers to secure permit form either the PCG K-9 Unit or the police before boarding those hazardous items in the commercial shipping vessels.—Xinhua

## Over 300 000 still affected by floods in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, 29 Dec — Sri Lankan authorities are still struggling to assist over 300,000 people affected by floods and repair vital infrastructure to provide relief efficiently, an official said here on Friday.

According to the Disaster Management Centre (DMC) 342,810 people from 93,435 families have been affected since 18 December when torrential rain caused flash floods and landslides in many parts of the country.

At the height of the crisis 16 out of the 24 districts in the country were affected. "There have been 42 deaths while 21 people have sustained injuries. A total of 24,502 people of 6,989 families had been evacuated to 148 shelters across the country," DMC spokesman Sarath Lal Kumara told Xinhua.

The floods and landslides in almost all districts of the country had damaged 4,172 houses completely and 10,457 houses partially.

Opposition parties have

criticized the government for not assisting affected people. They charge that relief distribution is not taking place efficiently in rural areas with most families having to depend on relatives for help.

However, Disaster Management Minister Mahinda Amaraweera has denied these charges and told local media that every effort is being made. He had insisted that army and navy personnel are also being used to distribute relief, rebuild roads and repair dams in flooded areas.—Xinhua



A straddle-type monorail train runs on the No. 3 line of Chongqing's urban railway system in downtown Chongqing, southwest China, on 28 Dec, 2012. The third and last section of Chongqing's No 3 urban railway line was put into trial operation on Friday. The 55.5-kilometre No 3 line connects the southern and northern parts of Chongqing and shortens the travel time in between to 90 minutes.—XINHUA

## Road accidents kill 33 Thais on 27 Dec

BANGKOK, 29 Dec—A total of 33 people were killed and 322 injured in road accidents nationwide on 27 December, the first day of the so-called "seven dangerous days", Bangkok Post online reported.

Transport Minister Chatchart Suthipan said on Friday that The "Seven Dangerous Days" road safety campaign of the Thailand's

Transport Ministry during the year's New Year holiday runs from 27 December to 2 January, 2013.

The province with the most fatalities on day one was northern Province of Chiang Mai, with 4 deaths, followed by Bangkok (3). Drunk driving was the main cause of accidents, the minister said.

Xinhua

## One killed, two injured in S Philippine grenade attack

MANILA, 29 Dec—One man died while another was arrested on Thursday night after they lobbed a grenade at the house of a town mayor in southern Philippines, police confirmed on Friday.

Supt. Junry Buenacosa, chief of Tacurong city police in Sultan Kudarat Province, said the identity of the slain suspect was not immediately known. The other suspect, Mohammad Hadji Marandin, 39, was arrested by policemen.

Police were able to corner the two suspects who tried to escape after they lobbed a grenade at the house of President Quirino town mayor Emilio Salamanca in Poblacion village.

The explosion injured two people including a security escort of the town official.

Police have launched an investigation into the incident to determine the motive behind the attack.

Xinhua

## Mongolia to revise controversial investment law

ULAN BATOR, 29 Dec—Mongolia's Mining Ministry will revise a controversial investment law to improve the country's investment environment for foreign investors, local media said on Friday.

The strategic investment law, adopted by the parliament in May, stipulates that foreign investment in strategic sectors that exceeds 100 billion Mongolian tugriks (over 70 million US dollars) should get approval of the Mongolian government. Mongolian Mining Minister D Gankhuyag has told local media that the government will revise the law by raising the amount of investment that needs governmental approval.

The minister added the 100-billion-tugrik requirement is too strict for foreign investors and his ministry plans to raise

this amount by three to four times.

It is widely believed that the adoption of the investment law has worsened Mongolia's investment environment by imposing stricter conditions on foreign investment. The law reflected the country's intention to develop its rich mineral resources by itself.

Mongolian President Tsakhia Elbegdorj also expressed his dissatisfaction of the law in an interview with the country's state-run Mongolian National Public Television, saying the law has made Mongolia's investment environment unfavorable for foreign investors.

Mining, banking and finance, media, information and communications are considered strategic sectors in Mongolia by the law on investment.—Xinhua



Photo taken on 28 Dec, 2012 show the deformed minibus which plunged down into a valley in Qibainong Township of Dahua Yao Autonomous County in Hechi City, southwest China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. Ten people were killed and ten others injured in the accident which occurred in the early morning on Friday. The nine-seat bus with 20 people on board was then on its route from the regional capital of Nanning to Dahua.

XINHUA

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE****MV MATTYS VOY NO (1252)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MATTYS VOY NO (1252) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30.12.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING (MALAY-  
SIA) AGENCY SDN BHD**  
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797



*Afghan policemen unload bags of seized hashish during a presentation by Afghan border police in east Afghanistan's Nangarhar Province, on 27 Dec, 2012. Afghan border police captured around 800 kilograms of hashish during an operation in Nangarhar Province.—XINHUA*

## Portuguese gov't sells state-owned airport operator ANA to French Vinci

LISBON, 29 Dec—The Portuguese government decided on Thursday to sell the state-owned airport operator ANA to French civil engineering Vinci.

Portuguese Treasury Secretary Maria Luis Albuquerque said the bid of Vinci amounted to 3.08 billion euros (about 4.07 billion US dollars).

Three other leading bidders are German group Fraport, Corporacion America, an Argentinian group, and Zurich Airport

manager Flughafen Zuerich.

French firm Vinci, which offered the highest bid, is already a shareholder of Lusoponte and has the concession of the two bridges over the Tagus River in Portugal.

It also manages nine airports in France and three in Southeast Asia. The privatisation of ANA involves the airports in Lisbon, Porto, Faro and the airports in the Azores and Madeira as well as

the white elephant civil terminal in Beja which has no scheduled arrivals or departures.

The sale of the airport concession is part of the debt-ridden country's austerity measures to win the 78-billion-euro bailout from the European Union and the International Monetary Fund and the European Central Bank under an agreement reached between them in May 2011.

Xinhua

## Five US banks fined 4.48 mln USD for improper payment to lobbyists

WASHINGTON, 29 Dec—Five leading US banks were fined over 4.48 million US dollars in total for using municipal and state bond funds to pay lobbyists, the US Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) announced on Thursday.

Between January 2006 and December 2010, Citigroup, Goldman

Sachs, JP Morgan, Merrill Lynch and Morgan Stanley made payments to the California Public Securities Association (Cal PSA), a lobby association who helped the banks obtain bond issuing business in California, and requested those voluntary payments be reimbursed as underwriting expenses from the proceeds of

the negotiated municipal and state bond offerings, according to the FINRA findings.

The watchdog noted that the five banks' practice was unfair as Cal PSA's activities did not bear a direct relationship to those bond offerings and were not underwriting expenses.

Xinhua

## Compiled by Public Service Media Governing Body

The book covers

- Code of Ethics
- Code of Conduct for public service journalists
- Code of Practice for dailies

**It will be in circulation as of 1 January, 2013**

The book is available at K 1,000 per copy, at No.212, Bookshop of News and Periodicals Enterprise on Theinbyu Road, Yangon; No.529, Sarpay Beikman Bookshop on Merchant Street, Yangon; and Sarpay Beikman Bookshop in Thabyaygon Market in Nay Pyi Taw.

## Chicago agricultural commodities down on fiscal cliff fears

CHICAGO, 29 Dec—Chicago agricultural commodity futures all traded lower on Thursday, as outside markets turned negative on "fiscal cliff" fears, which weighed on trading most of the day.

The most active corn contract for March delivery fell 1.75 cents, or 0.25 percent, to close at 6.915 dollars per bushel. March wheat lost 2.25 cents, or 0.29 percent, to settle at 7.7225 dollars per bushel. March soybeans fell 4.5 cents, or 0.32 percent, to close at 14.14

dollars per bushel.

According to Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME), March corn traded slightly lower and the December 2013 contract hit a fresh 5-month low. Slow export demand and poor ethanol margins continued to weigh on futures. Outside markets turned negative midday on "fiscal cliff" fears. This sent the US dollar higher, which pressured the broader commodity complex.

For wheat, early losses were triggered by a risk aversion that swept across

the outside markets as many feared no fiscal deal would be reached in Washington. Additional pressure came from technical selling and the absence of any significant export tenders this week.

March soybeans traded lower on weaker outside markets and lack of any fresh demand-side data. Demand remains strong for US soybeans, but with Brazilian harvest just about a month away, some in the market suggest the robust sales pace by the US may slow down.—Xinhua

Xinhua

## 2013 Vienna New Year's Concert set to feature many premiere pieces

VIENNA, 29 Dec—The 73rd traditional Vienna New Year's Concert is set for 1 Jan and will be shown in a record 81 countries and regions, the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra announced on Thursday.

Philharmonica Chairman Clemens Hellsberg said during the preview of the event the number of countries it will be broadcast in has doubled from 10 years

ago and now includes nations such as Cuba and India.

Though traditionally dominated by the works of the Strauss family, the 2013 programme will feature 11 works not played at the event before, including pieces from Richard Wagner and Giuseppe Verdi.

"It's not a constructed thing, the mutual admiration was great," Hellsberg said of the decision to include

the new pieces, adding the Strauss-dominance in the performances would remain.

Conductor for the evening Franz Welser-Moest was also enthusiastic about the broader selection of pieces, which will include the Strauss-waltz "Aus den Bergen" (From the Mountains) and "Hesperus-Bahnen," saying they piqued his curiosity.

Xinhua



*Biologists examine a deceased whale on the beach of Breezy Point in the Queens borough, New York, on 27 Dec, 2012. The 60-foot finback whale died early Thursday after washing ashore and being discovered on Wednesday morning. XINHUA*

## L America embraces brighter future after checkered year

MEXICO CITY, 29 Dec—The Latin American landscape was marked by two trends in 2012: lackluster growth but with signs of recovery; and a continued drift to the left and away from the US politically. Meanwhile, the continent has conducted increasingly extensive cooperation with China, making for growing Chinese presence in the region.

Economies in most of the Latin American countries were not in good shape at the start of this year due to the impact of the European debt crisis and the flagging US economy.

The three largest economies—Brazil, Mexico and Argentina—will grow by 1.2 percent, 3.8 percent and 2.2 percent, respectively, falling short of targets set for 2012, the United Nations' Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) reported on 11 Dec. ECLAC forecast growth of 3.1 percent for the whole region in 2012—lower than the previous year, but still higher than the global average of 2.2 percent.

ENTERTAINMENT

Want to be taken seriously in Bollywood: Sunny Leone



MUMBAI, 29 Dec— After making her debut in Bollywood this year, adult film star-turned-actress Sunny Leone wants to be taken seriously in the industry.

The 31-year-old star of Pooja Bhatt's erotic thriller *Jism 2* said she is ready to learn and work hard as long as she gets the right kind of roles.

"I am not a veteran actress. I am just one film old. But I am ready to learn, I am a good learner. I want people to

*She has already signed her second Bollywood assignment—Ekta Kapoor's horror movie Ragini MMS 2. She will start shooting for the film from 15 January next year.*

take me seriously. I want to be offered good roles in film so that I get the opportunity to prove myself. I am a no drama person and I want to work with people who are like that," Leone said here on Thursday.

She has already signed her second Bollywood assignment—Ekta Kapoor's horror movie *Ragini MMS 2*. She will start shooting for the film from 15 January next year.

The Indo-Canadian star will be giving her first live dance performance this new year's eve at an event organised by Studio 169 in the capital. When asked if she is open to do item numbers in Bollywood, she said, "Well why not? Item numbers are important in Bollywood and they are fun to do."

Leone also said her porn star career has been a topic of discussion in India ever since she landed here but her image will change in people's mind with time.

"I am aware that I have a particular image

here. There is a perception about me. But I don't really worry about it. I am very confident about myself. I don't want to change anyone's mindset. I don't care what they think about me. But I am hopeful that it will change with time," she said.

When asked who she admires the most among Bollywood actresses, she said, "It has to be Vidya Balan. She is a no frills actress. Her acting is so real. She has proved that actresses are not required to be a glam doll to survive in Bollywood. It is inspirational."

Leone, who rose to fame in India after participating in *Bigg Boss 5*, says the reality show was a turning point in her career.

"I love *Bigg Boss*. My career took a 360 degree turn after participating in the show. The love that I got from the Indian fans after the show is mind blowing. I cannot thank the show enough," she said.—PTI

Kate Winslet has been dating billionaire businessman Richard Branson's nephew Ned Rocknroll for just over a year.



Kate Winslet marries Ned Rocknroll in secret ceremony

NEW DELHI, 29 Dec— Oscar-winning actress Kate Winslet has married boyfriend Ned Rocknroll in a secret ceremony in New York.

Winslet, 37, who has been dating billionaire businessman Richard Branson's nephew for just over a year, exchanged vows in a secret ceremony, reported the *Huffington Post*.

"I can confirm that Kate Winslet married Ned Rock'nRoll in NY earlier this month in a private ceremony attended by her two children and a very few friends and family. The couple had been engaged since the summer," her representative confirmed. The service is said to have been so private that even Winslet's parents were not aware that she

was walking down the aisle again.

This is not the first time that Winslet has wed in secret. In 2003 she married Sam Mendes, her second husband, on an island in the Caribbean with just her daughter Mia and three friends. The actress split from the director, who is the father of her son Joe, in March last year and the pair are now divorced.

In 2001 Winslet split from her first husband, and father of her daughter, Jim Threapleton, after three years together. Ned, who changed his name by deed poll from Abel Smith, has also been married before. He met Winslet after separating from his wife, 23-year-old Eliza Cowdray, whom he wed in 2009.—PTI

Johnny Depp names private beach after girlfriend Amber Heard

LOS ANGELES, 29 Dec— Johnny Depp has reportedly named a beach on his private island after Amber Heard.

The *Pirates of the Caribbean* star chose a section of Little Hall's Pond in the Bahamas to be named in honour of his new girlfriend—who he has dated since splitting from Vanessa Paradis after 14 years in June—as a Christmas present.

A source told *The Sun* newspaper: "Johnny knows about romance after having been with a French woman all those years. He is now spending time with Amber in the Bahamas and presented her with her own beach as a Christmas gift."

Johnny, 49, is said to have named the beach Amber's Cove after noticing it looked like her hip when viewed on a map.

The pair are said to have initially got together this summer after meeting on the set of 2011 film *The Rum Diary*.

However, Amber, 26, initially ended their romance after deciding she wanted to be single, but Johnny decided not to give up on the actress and sent her a personally-penned poem and a bouquet of roses every day throughout September to convince her to give him another chance. His plan eventually worked and she flew out to the Bahamas.



Johnny Depp chose a section of Little Hall's Pond in the Bahamas to be named in honour of his new girlfriend.

A source said at the time: "Johnny didn't give up—he missed her so much over the summer. They both love literature and the way he tried to win her back totally worked. Once they flew for

a romantic break, they were back on as a couple. Johnny's the type to fall hard and he's vowed not to let a girl like Amber, who's beautiful and intelligent, slip through his fingers."—PTI

Natalie Portman has been voted Hollywood's most profitable star.



Natalie Portman voted Hollywood's most profitable star

NEW DELHI, 29 Dec— The 31-year-old Black Swan actress—whose dark ballet movie earned \$329 million at the box office worldwide after being made for an estimated \$13 million—has topped a new list of Hollywood's Best Actors For The Buck compiled by *Forbes* magazine, with *Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2* star Kristen Stewart coming in a close

second.

The star's movies rake in \$42.70 for every dollar she is paid. Other hits movies which helped Natalie—who took much of last year off after the birth of her first son in June, 2011—secure her position as the best investment in the movie business included 'No Strings Attached' in which she starred alongside Ashton Kutcher, which made \$150 million after being produced for just \$25

million.

Kristen Stewart—who also topped the magazine's Highest Earning Actress list—came in second place, returning an average of \$40.60 to movie studios for every \$1 she gets paid.

The 22-year-old brunette beauty was paid \$25 million to star in the final two *Twilight Saga* movies, the first of which grossed over \$300 million and the second of which is still in theatres.—PTI

Tom Cruise takes restaurant manager on date

LOS ANGELES, 29 Dec— Hollywood star Tom Cruise has reportedly been spotted with a 26-year-old restaurant manager Cynthia Jorge on a date.

The 50-year-old actor has moved on from ex-wife Katie Holmes and was grinding on the dance floor of swanky Mulberry St club, Le Baron, two days after she slipped her card to him after he dined in the eatery where she works, reported *Ace Showbiz*.

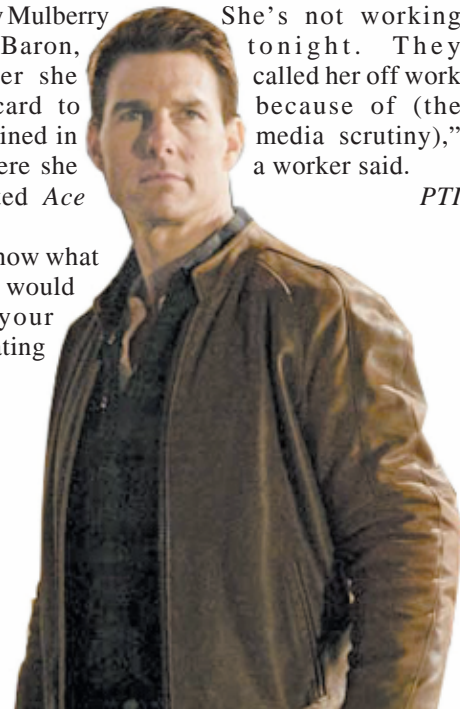
"I don't know what to say. What would you say if your cousin was dating

Tom Cruise? She's nice, outgoing and a people person," a source said.

After the hookup rumour made headlines, Cynthia was asked by her bosses at the lower East Side restaurant Beauty and Essex to stay at home.

"She's a sweetheart. She's not working tonight. They called her off work because of (the media scrutiny)," a worker said.

PTI



Tom Cruise seems to have moved on from ex-wife Katie Holmes.

## Celtic Tiger and emerging China shine in 2012

LOS ANGELES, 29 Dec—Rory McIlroy's dominance on both sides of the Atlantic and the clearest hint yet at the exciting potential in China were the biggest storylines in what may prove to be a truly transformational golfing year in 2012.

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

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

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

Long regarded as heir-apparent to Tiger Woods as the game's greatest player, McIlroy has smoothly taken over that role

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

The 23-year-old McIlroy is almost certain to be a dominant figure in golf for at least another decade but 14-year-old Chinese Guan Tianlang gave a strong indication of the likely impact from his part of the world well beyond that time

the Asia-Pacific Amateur Championship last month, tantalizing proof of

months earlier when Shanshan Feng, 22, clinched the LPGA Championship by two shots in Rochester, New York to become the first person from mainland China to win a women's major.

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

There were several other highlights during 2012 with Bubba Watson producing arguably the shot of the year to win the Masters in a two-way play-



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

ered with virtually every accolade available to him.

He followed in the footsteps of Luke Donald when he became the second

frame.

Guan ensured he would become the youngest player ever to compete at the Masters by winning

the vast golfing potential in the Chinese market.

The world's most populous nation had celebrated another coup just five

off and Ernie Els ending a decade-long drought in the majors to claim his second British Open.

Reuters

## Glory for Spain and Messi but problems never far away

LONDON, 29 Dec—Spain's glorious third successive triumph in a major tournament and individual goalscoring brilliance from Argentine Lionel Messi will be remembered as soccer's golden hallmarks of 2012. But the year was also marred by tragedy and death in

Egypt and the Netherlands and a worrying escalation of racism in Europe.

It was a year too when the soccer world shifted on its axis and finally spun away from its 19th century roots when 21st century goalline technology, officially sanctioned by world governing body FIFA, was used for the first time in December's Club World Cup finals in Japan. That tournament, which ended on Sunday, saw Corinthians of Brazil crowned as the best

club team in the world — an accolade most people

when they somehow lost to Chelsea on aggregate in the semi-finals after Messi, proving he was only human after all, missed a penalty in the second leg.

He had however scored 90

goals with two weeks of the year remaining, beating West Germany's former striker Gerd Mueller's 40-year-old record for goals scored in a calendar year. Chelsea, who finished sixth in the Premier League in May, went on to Munich for the Champions League final.

would agree rightfully belongs to Barcelona. But in one of the great upsets of the year, Barcelona failed to win the Champions League which seemed pre-ordained for them

Written off by virtually all of Europe's media before they played Barcelona, they again confounded the critics by beating Bayern Munich on penalties in their own stadium to become the first London club to lift the European Cup in its 57-year history.—Reuters



## Goalkeeper Cech happy with Chelsea back support

LONDON, 29 Dec—Chelsea have refound their defensive strength under interim manager Rafael Benitez, goalkeeper Petr Cech said on Friday. Chelsea have won their last three Premier League matches and kept

four clean sheets since Benitez took over last month following the sacking of Roberto Di Matteo.

"We look more organized. We were conceding far too many goals and we were too open," Cech told the club

website (www.chelseafc.com). "We've been defending much better as a team and that's been the key, because we weren't defending well. "We are back to being difficult to score against, which is a big help, and of course we

have quality players who can score goals."

Chelsea have conceded eight times in Benitez's 10 matches in charge, compared to 21 in the same number of games at the end of Di Matteo's tenure.—Reuters



## Holtby to leave Schalke at end of season

BERLIN, 29 Dec—Schalke 04 midfielder Lewis Holtby will leave the Bundesliga club at the end of the season after the German international turned down a contract extension, the club said on Friday.

However sports director Horst Heldt said Holtby, who has an English father and who had been linked with a move to the English Premier League, would not leave during the winter transfer window when the club would receive a transfer fee.

His current deal runs

out in June.

"We had wished that Lewis could see a future here beyond this season. But we respect his decision," he said in a club statement.

"We are certain that he will give everything for the club's sporting success up until the last match day of the season."

The 22-year-old, who has won three caps for Germany, joined Schalke in 2009 and has had loan spells at VfL Bochum and Mainz 05 until 2011.

Reuters

## Golden year for Murray, regrets for Nadal

LONDON, 29 Dec—For Andy Murray 2012 marked a golden milestone, for Novak Djokovic the year was an emphatic reminder of his status as the world's best male player, and for Roger Federer and his army of fans it was proof that the old master's magic still sparkles.

Serena Williams used the second half of the year to demonstrate that she continues to be head and shoulders above her rivals in the women's game, whatever the rankings suggest.

Of the sport's marquee names, only Rafa Nadal will reflect on the past year with regret after six months out with a knee injury, and all eyes will be studying the 11-times grand-slam winner's form once the new season swings into action.

Nadal, one of four different winners of the men's grand-slam titles this year, has not played a match since a shock Wimbledon defeat by Lukas Rosol.

He hopes to return at

the Australian Open although he has sensibly lowered expectations of an immediate impact.

In any other era the absence of a player of Nadal's caliber would be an impossible void to fill yet such is

the title.

Three weeks later Murray returned to the All England Club lawns like a man on a mission and he rode a wave of national euphoria to thrash Federer in the Olympic singles final.



US Open tennis champion and Olympic gold medallist Andy Murray returns to his home town of Dunblane to meet fans in Dunblane, Scotland, on 16 Sept, 2012.

REUTERS

the quality at the top of the men's game that the Mallorca's extended lay-off merely took a little gloss off what was otherwise a vintage year.

Murray began it with a new coach in Ivan Lendl but still without a grand-slam title on his CV having lost in his first three major finals without taking a set.

The Scot became Britain's first male Wimbledon singles finalist since Bunny Austin in 1938 but Federer's grasscourt brilliance deprived Murray of

Fuelled with belief, Murray then strode into New York and when a fifth shot at a grand-slam final duly arrived he rose to the occasion to beat Djokovic in a five-set epic.

It was a setback for Djokovic but the Serbian, who began the year by beating Nadal to retain the Australian Open title in the longest-ever men's grand-slam final, finished it off as year-end world number one for the second season running.

Reuters

GENERAL



Photo shows traffic police members in cooperation with traffic rules enforcement supervision committee members carrying out surprise checks on Bayintnaung Road in Myawaddy on 28 December. KYEMON

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

- (30-12-12 09:30 am ~ 31-12-12 09:30 am) MST
- \* News
  - \* How to practice Vipassana Meditation (Part-III)
  - \* Bagan, Our Pride and Glory of the Past
  - \* News
  - \* Award for Production of Sultan Fish
  - \* News
  - \* Process of Planet correlated with Horoscope for 12 Sign Ascendants
  - \* News
  - \* Let's enjoy Delicious Refreshment
  - \* News
  - \* MI People's Celebrities "Wine Su Khine Thein"
  - \* The New Generation of the 4th Pillar
  - \* News
  - \* Snow Wonderland
  - \* News

- \* Computer&Simultaneous Interpretation System Handing Over Ceremony 8:10 am
- \* News 7. (38) Phyar Mingalars 8:25 am
- \* An Ever-Blooming Garden 8. Documentary 8:40 am
- \* 6th Yankin Township Essence of Snow Art Exhibition 9. International News 8:45 am
- \* Myanmar Movies "Sallal" 10. Musical Programme 11:00 am
- 11. Martial Song 11:05 am
- 12. Myanmar Movies 2:15 pm
- 13. Musical Programme 2:30 pm
- 14. 2011 Myanma Motion Picture Outstanding Awards (Academy Awards) (Live) 8:00 pm
- 15. News 16. International News 17. Weather Report 18. Teleplay 19. Myanmar Movies 20. New Meldoy

MYANMAR TV

- (30-12-2012, Sunday)
- 7:00 am
  - 1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw -Uppatasanti Paritta
  - 7:25 am
  - 2. To Be Healthy Exercise
  - 7:30 am
  - 3. Morning News
  - 7:40 am
  - 4. Dhamma Puja Song
  - 7:50 am
  - 5. Nice & Sweet Song
  - 8:00 am
  - 6. Health Programme

NLM

Word!

Learning English

Christmas has come and gone. Words go on flowing in the holiday season, with some even touching and moving and some "purely technical".

"Dear Santa,....could you please bring my people love pills from your magical land?"

Kinda

Syrian girl

The young girl from Damascus of Syria in year-long civil war wrote on her Facebook page that all she wants is her "old Syria to come back". She also demanded the Father Christmas not to bring gifts this Christmas but "clothes and blankets for the homeless children" instead. The widely shared message advised Santa "lose some weight" if he came to Syria because many are "starving" there.

"We double-check, we triple-check."

Sergei Lavrov

Russian Foreign Minister

The ally of the government of the conflict-torn Syria guaranteed the world that the Syrian government would not use chemical weapons, saying the Russians checked again and again once speculations arose and got "very firm assurances" that the Syrians would not use chemical weapons. But Lavrov warned the Syrian government against the use of such weapons, saying it would mean the "political suicide".

"You can invent all the stories you like."

Jose Mourinho

Real Madrid coach

Asked about the absence of Spanish goalkeeper Iker Casillas out of the squad in 3-2 defeat to Malaga, the media friendly—or also unfriendly perhaps—'Special One' responded to the press conference that the decision was merely "technical". Real Madrid is 16 points away from table toppers Barcelona.

NLM

Olympics sparkle at height of magical British summer

LONDON, 29 Dec—London defied Britain's wettest summer for 100 years, potential transport and security chaos and a depressed economy to stage a marvelous 2012 Olympics during a magical year for British sport.

Over the past century Britons have become resigned to watching the rest of the world beat them at games they had either invented or codified at the

height of the island nation's imperial splendor.

This year, to their fans' surprise and delight, British teams and athletes surpassed themselves across a range of sports, including third place in the Olympic medals' table behind the world's two great economic powers the United States and China.

Englishman Bradley Wiggins, who looks like a throwback to the English beat groups of the swinging

sixties with his mop of hair and straggling sideburns, became the first Briton to win the Tour de France prior to taking a fourth Olympic gold medal.

After finishing runner-up in four grand slam finals during a vintage era for men's tennis, Scotland's Andy Murray finally made the breakthrough as the first British male in 76 years to win one of the big four titles with victory over Novak Djokovic in the US Open.

And Northern Irishman Rory McIlroy, winner of four PGA titles including the PGA championship by a record eight strokes, was awarded the annual Jack Nicklaus award for player-of-the-year. At the age of 23 he was the youngest recipient since Tiger Woods in 1997.

At the heart of the year's sporting action, London staged the summer Olympics for the third time to unanimous acclaim throughout the world.

Reuters



Athletes stand together on the Queen Victoria Memorial during a parade of British Olympic and Paralympic athletes in front of Buckingham Palace in central London on 10 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

Ferguson accuses Pardew of hypocrisy over referee rant



Manchester United's manager Alex Ferguson celebrates on the final whistle during their English Premier League match against Newcastle United at Old Trafford in Manchester, northern England on 26 Dec, 2012. REUTERS

MANCHESTER, 29 Dec—Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson played down his outburst at referee Mike Dean during Wednesday's 4-3 win over Newcastle United and accused opposite number Alan Pardew of hypocrisy.

The United boss was fuming after Dean awarded Newcastle's second goal, over-ruling his assistant who had flagged for offside. When Dean came out for the second half of the match, Ferguson followed the referee on the pitch, venting his fury.

"Alan Pardew came

out and criticised me yet he is the worst at haranguing referees," said Ferguson of the Newcastle manager who was given a two-match ban and fined in September for pushing a linesman during a Premier League match.

"He shoves a linesman and makes a joke of it and yet he's got the cheek to criticise me. It's unbelievable and he forgets the help I gave him.

"The unfortunate caveat is I'm at the biggest club in the world not Newcastle, a wee club in the North East. I was demonstrative but not out of order. The press had

a field day, it's as simple as that," Ferguson told a news conference.

Pardew was unhappy Ferguson escaped punishment from the FA for his behaviour but the Scot thought Dean had dealt with the situation well.

"I think Mike Dean handled it well. He's an experienced referee and mature. There was no ranting and raving. I was demonstrative but I'm always demonstrative because I'm an emotional guy," said Ferguson.

"I shouted him over and he came towards me. I wasn't on the pitch for more than three or four yards and I think it's been overplayed."

Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger, who was sent off by Dean for kicking a water bottle in frustration during a match against United at Old Trafford in 2009, said Ferguson's behaviour had not set a good example.

"The message it sends out when you look at the pictures, is just not to behave like that," Wenger told a news conference.

"Should you behave like that? No I did not always behave like I should and you can call that a bad example. When you go overboard you have to be punished," he added.— Reuters



## 18<sup>th</sup> graduation of State Pariyatti Sasana Universities (Yangon/Mandalay) held

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Dec— The 18<sup>th</sup> graduation of State Pariyatti Sasana Universities (Yangon, Mandalay) of Department of Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana under the Ministry of Religious Affairs, was held at State

Pariyatti Sasana University (Mandalay) yesterday.

It was attended by Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee

Sayadaw of Bhamo Monastery of Mandalay Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Gura Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika

Dr Bhaddanta Kumara-bhivamsa, Sayadaws, Union Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung and wife Daw Aye Aye Tun, Advisor to the President Office U Arnt Maung, officials from departments under the ministry, Consul generals of India and China in Mandalay, donors and guests.

Degrees were conferred on 45 monks from State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon) and 65 monks from that of Mandalay. After the ceremony, the Union Minister and wife and those present donated offertories to the Sayadaws.

MNA

*Union Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung supplicates on religious affairs at convocation ceremony of State Pariyatti Sasana Universities.*

MNA



## Tender scrutiny ceremony for implementation of rural area development tasks for 2012-2013 fiscal year held

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Dec— “The Ministry of Border Affairs will jointly cooperate with national race entrepreneurs in a transparent manner for its fifth five-year plan for construction of rural area development road/bridges,

water supply, rural housing project and rural power supply, the ministry wishes to coordinate with people, people’s representatives in carrying out socioeconomic reforms in transition period, and open tender system would be practised for rural

area road/bridges tasks,” said Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Zaw Win at the Tender Scrutiny Ceremony for implementation of rural area development tasks for 2012-2013 fiscal year of Rural Area Development

Department held at the ministry yesterday morning.

The aforesaid tasks are to be carried out with experts and skilled labourers by 31-3-2013 meeting set standard.

Director-General U Soe Ko Ko clarified the tasks to be implemented in 2012-2013 fiscal year.

The officials read out the prescribed tender disciplines for successfully undertaking the tasks and announcing and scrutinizing of region and state-wise tender list followed.

The tender scrutinizing regions and states are Kayin, Chin States, Magway Region, Rakhine, Kachin, Kayah States, Sagaing, Mandalay Regions, Shan State, Bago Region, Mon State and Yangon Region. Altogether 32 companies submitted their tenders for road/bridge construction of rural area development.

MNA

## Basic Life Support Training for Ambulance Crews opened

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Dec— Basic Life Support Training for Ambulance Crews organized by Health Department under the Health Ministry kicked off at Nay Pyi Taw People’s Hospital (1000-bed) yesterday morning.

The course inclusive of both theories and practices aims to provide emergency health care of international level at the XXVII SEA Games to be held in December, 2013.

Director-General of Health Department Dr Min Than Nyunt speaking on the occasion urged the trainees to try their best to offer excellent emergency health care service to the athletes and fans of the SEA Games.

The director-general then visited practical rooms at the hospital. The four-day course is being taken by 20 nurses from people’s hospitals and 20 members of Myanmar Red Cross Society.—MNA

## Department of Meteorology and Hydrology Monthly Weather Forecast for January, 2013

Issued on 29-12-2012

### Bay of Bengal Condition

Weather will be partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman sea and South Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

### Rainy Days Forecast

Rainy days are expected about (5 to 7) days in Upper Sagaing, Taninthayi

Regions, Kachin and Shan States, about (2 to 4) days in Bago and Yangon Regions, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States.

### Night Temperature

Night Temperature will be below normal in Sagaing Region, Kachin, Shan, Chin

and Kayah States and about normal in the remaining Regions and States.

### Fog Condition

Fog days are expected about (16 to 18) days in Upper Sagaing Region, Kachin, Chin and Shan States and (13 to 15) days in the remaining Regions and States.

NLM

## Academy awarding ceremony live on TV

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Dec— Myanma Motion Picture Enterprise under the Ministry of Information will hold awarding ceremony for the outstanding Myanmar motion picture at the National Indoor Stadium-1 in Thuwunna of Yangon at 3 pm on 30 December.

The awarding ceremony will be broadcast live through TV Myanmar, Myanmar International Channel, Nay Pyi Taw Myanma Radio, MRTV-4 and SkyNet TV channel, MWD Channel and MWD Variety Channel as of 2.30 pm.

MNA

## Myanmar’s first-ever 500 KV power grid

“Myanmar’s first-ever 500 KV power grid installation is going to start in the early 2013,” said an official from the Ministry of Electric Power. The purpose of installing a 263-mile 500 KV power grid is to avoid power losses. Thanks to it, there would be power losses to a lesser extent, he added.

The project will be implemented by three phases. At the first phase,

146-mile Thabyaywa (Meiktila)-Tounggo section will be implemented with the contribution of about USD 116.32 million by Serbia soon.

A 117-mile Tounggo-Kamarnat power grid will be built during 2013, at a cost of USD 87.75 million funded by Economic Development of Cooperation of the Republic of Korea, at the second phase. At the third phase, construction of

three power plants between Thabyaywa and Kamarnat will be implemented at a cost of USD 87 million funded by Japan’s Overseas Development Assistance (ODA). When the country sees more sound power grids, it could reduce the power losses, which lead to more power consumption of people and factories.

Myanmar Alinn:

26-12-2012

Translation: MT

Byline: *Maung Maung Myint Swe*

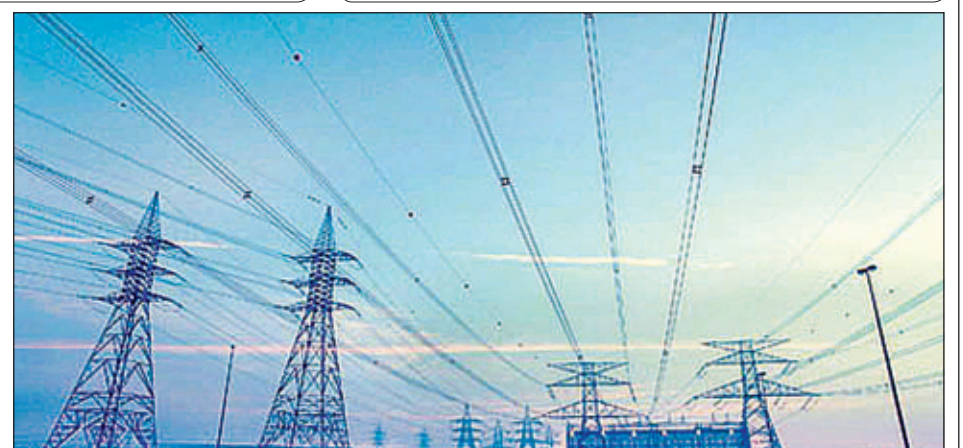


Photo shows installation of 500 KV power grid.