



Use of administrative power effectively and efficiently

The onus rests on each individual to cultivate democratic spirit that calls for responsibility and accountability in bringing about the freedom which is harmonious with our own culture and society of the nation at the present time of transition when the promotion of democratic practices is in process. The Union government is effectively and efficiently exercising the administrative power for the constant emergence of remarkable progress and tangible results in the process of translating the democratic practices into success.

President U Thein Sein

(From the address delivered on the first-day second regular session of First Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 22-8-2011)

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham attends award presentation to outstanding students

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Dec—Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham attended the award presentation ceremony to outstanding basic education students at Myanmar International Convention Centre here this morning.

Chairman of National Education Committee Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye delivered a congratulatory speech, pinning high hope on the human resources development for establishing democracy. He said seminars and workshops were held to promote the education standards of the country. A national level conference for adoption of the education and health policies was held in February 2012, he said. The Union Minister

said com-prehensive education sector review was conducted by local and foreign academicians.

He said 11,000 students were granted stipends and salaries for teachers were increased.

Union Ministers Dr Mya Aye, Dr Ko Ko Oo, U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Thein Tun, U Win Shein presented awards to outstanding students.

The Vice-President cordially greeted those present and viewed the education promotion booth.—MNA

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham views prize winning works at award presentation ceremony to outstanding basic education students.

MNA



Summary of observations at 9.30 hr MST on 30-12-2012

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Dec—During the past 24 hours, slight rain has been isolated in Taninthayi Region, weather has been partly cloudy in Upper Sagaing and Yangon Regions,

Kachin, Shan and Rakhine States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States.

Night temperatures were 3°C below December average temperature

in Rakhine State, 3°C above December average temperatures in Mon State and about December average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States.

The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Kawthoung 0.08 inch.

Bay Inference

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

Outlook for subsequent two days

Generally fair in the whole country.—NLM

Road construction sites in Nay Pyi Taw inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Dec—Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin visited road construction sites in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area this morning.

He called for meeting schedules and speeding up the works in open season.

The Union Minister also demanded the upgrading of the roads in the area.—MNA

In this New Year ... May good luck and good fortune always be with you !



COFFEEMIX

2013 Happy New Year!





Shwedagon Pagoda witnesses record high tourist arrivals in 2012

YANGON, 30 Dec— According to the board of trustees of Shwedagon Pagoda, Shwedagon Pagoda sees record high tourist arrivals in 2012 as the number of globetrotters thronging to the Pagoda has increased.

From 1 to 26 December, the number of tourist visits to Shwedagon Pagoda had reached 40967 with an average daily arrival of 1576. These figures show that this month tourist arrivals to the Pagoda are more than that of the whole month of December in

2011 when the number of tourists visited the Pagoda was 30176.

The board received an entrance fee of 204,835 US dollars and FECs and 15845 US dollars and FECs as donation.

Among the visitor arrivals to the Pagoda, Thai visitors stood first with the number of 6506, followed by 2916 French visitors, 2670 Chinese visitors, 1967 Korean visitors and 1741 German visitors. The numbers of Brazilian, Iranian, South African, Finnish and Israeli were low.— *Kyemon*

Sinmakaw model village enjoys electricity supply

KYAUKTAN, 30 Dec — Sinmakaw model village in Tada Sub-township of Kyauktan Township of Yangon South District enjoys electricity supply. 11/0-4 KV, 315 KVA transformer is supplying electricity to forty-three

meter boxes installed in the village. Kadatpana model village is the first ever village that enjoys electricity supply in the sub-township. Kyawswa Company contributed a lot for availability of electricity to the village.— *Kyemon*



Historic Relic Pagoda festival held in Yedashe

YEDASHE, 30 Dec — The 31st Buddha Pujaniya Festival of Historic Relic Pagoda situated between Mingalakan and Kayinchaung streets in ward-1 of Yedashe Township of Bago Region was held on a grand scale from 20 to 29 December. Local people thronged to the festive ground to take part in the funfairs and to enjoy entertainments. During the festive days, warm clothes

and Myanmar traditional *thanatkhar* vendors did a brisk trade.

Kyemon

Thanbyuzayat BEHS No. 1 celebrates golden jubilee



NAY PYI TAW, 30 Dec — Basic Education High School No. 1 in Thanbyuzayat of Mon State celebrated its golden jubilee at the school on 27 December.

Retired headmaster U Kyi Sein, Mon State

Overtaken truck leaves two dead, seven wounded

OTTWIN, 30 Dec — A six-wheeled truck carrying soft drink boxes overturned at a place between mile post Nos (150/1) and (150/2) on Yangon-Mandalay highway on 26 December.

The truck driven by Win Zaw Moe of Kyimyindine Township left the road and plunged down an embankment while trying to avoid a cart driven ahead by Aung Myo Kyaw of Nyaungchayhtauk Township. Of the nine passengers on board the truck, Ko Latt (21 years) of Nyaungdon and Zaw Zaw Min (21 years) were pronounced dead and seven wounded. The injured were taken to the hospital. Nyaungchayhtauk police

National Objectives of 65th Anniversary Independence Day for 2013

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

Small loans disbursed to Kayah State cooperative societies

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Dec — In his address at the ceremony to disburse small loans to local people at the town hall in Loikaw on 24 December, Kayah State Chief Minister U Khin Maung Oo said that the disbursement of small loans to local people in Kayah State was in progress as part of a drive of poverty alleviation scheme and only effective use of loans could reduce the poverty rate in the state.

Next, Deputy Minister for Cooperatives U Than Tun gave an accounts of small loan disbursements and facts to be followed.

Then the chief minister, the deputy minister and officials handed over K 155.55 million for 1957 members of 34 cooperative societies in six townships— Loikaw, Dimawhso, Pruhsso, Shadaw, Bawlake and Pasawng— of the state.

MNA

Mothers, babies receive medical check-ups in Tamway Township

YANGON, 30 Dec— Hailing the 65th Anniversary Independence Day, Tamway Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association organized a Baby Show at its office in the township on 28 December.

Chairperson of the township MCWA Daw Win Thandar Soe and executives, doctors and midwives of the township Health Department supervised the contest and performed medical check-ups.— *Kyemon*

Substitution of concrete sleepers for Thazi-Shwenyaung railroad section



KALAW, 30 Dec — On Thazi-Shwenyaung railroad section, wooden sleepers station filed a lawsuit against truck driver Win Zaw Moe and cart driver Aung Myo Kyaw.

Kyemon

were replaced with concrete ones produced by concrete sleeper factory of Myanma Railways in Shwenyaung.

Moreover, substitution of old rail tracks with new ones, replacement of special concrete sleepers and maintenance of

railroads are being carried out by Division-4 of Civil Engineering Department of Myanma Railways. The Thazi-Shwenyaung railroad section is of vital importance in public transport and flow of commodities of Shan State (South). — *Kyemon*

WORLD

Only political process can save Syria from "hell"

MOSCOW, 30 Dec— Syria faces "hell" if no deal is struck to end 21 months of bloodshed, an international mediator said on Saturday, but his talks in Russia brought no sign of a breakthrough after a week of intense diplomacy. UN-Arab League envoy Lakhdar Brahimi and Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov both said there was still a chance for a negotiated solution to the conflict, which has killed more than 44,000 people and set world powers against one another.

But Lavrov repeated Russia's stance that President Bashar al-Assad's removal cannot be a precondition for a political solution, saying that such demands were "wrong" and that the opposition's refusal to talk

to the government was a "dead end".

Brahimi said: "If the only alternative is really hell or a political process, then all of us must work ceaselessly for a political process. It is difficult, it is very complicated, but there is no other choice."

Lavrov issued a similar exhortation in a joint appearance at an ornate mansion where he meets foreign dignitaries, saying: "The chance for a political settlement remains and it is our obligation to make maximal use of that chance."

But no major new initiatives were announced and Lavrov, whose country has vetoed three United Nations Security Council resolutions meant to put pressure on Assad, gave

no indication it would back down from that stance.

"When the opposition says only Assad's exit will allow it to begin a dialogue about the future of its own country, we think this is wrong, we think this is rather counterproductive," he said. "The costs of this precondition are more and more lives of Syrian citizens."

Russia has tried to distance itself from Assad for months and seems to have stepped up its calls for a peaceful resolution as the rebels have gained ground against government forces in the conflict, which began with peaceful protests in March 2011 but which has descended into a civil war.

However, Lavrov noted that Assad has said publicly



Russia's Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov (L) shakes hands with UN-Arab League peace mediator Lakhdar Brahimi of Algeria, in Moscow on 29 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

and privately that he would not go, adding that Russia "does not have the ability to change this".

Brahimi is trying to build on a plan agreed in Geneva in June by the United States, Russia and other powers that called for a transitional government but left Assad's role unclear.

The United States said the agreement sent a clear signal that Assad should step down, but Russia said it did nothing of the kind.

"The core of that political process ... is and must be the Geneva agreement," said Brahimi, who took over as the UN-Arab League envoy after Kofi Annan quit in frustration at divisions among world powers, chiefly the United States and Russia, and the failure of the Geneva accord to bring a resolution closer.—Reuters

9 Palestinians died of H1N1 virus over 2 weeks

RAMALLAH, 30 Dec— Nine Palestinians have died of H1N1 virus in the West Bank over the last two weeks, Palestinian officials confirmed on Saturday.

Asaad Al-Ramlawi, Director of Primary Health Care in the Ministry of Health, told Xinhua that according to the ministry's laboratories "nine Palestinians died, while 189 were diagnosed to suffer the virus."

"All dead were suffering of chronic illness due to immune deficiency, as the H1N1 virus caused severe pulmonary infections of which they died," said Al-Ramlawi.

He noted that H1N1 virus was "a seasonal virus" that spread in the West Bank's northern areas and continued spreading across central and southern areas.

Xinhua

Berlusconi says Monti plotting with Italy's centre left

ROME/MILAN, 30 Dec— Silvio Berlusconi said on Saturday that outgoing Prime Minister Mario Monti was plotting with the left in his centrist alliance's bid to win Italy's national election in February, but centrist leaders denied any secret accord.

Monti, who replaced Berlusconi as prime minister last year when Italy was scrambling to avert a financial crisis, said on Friday he wanted to unite a broad coalition of factions around a reform agenda aimed at easing the country's economic woes.

Monti ended weeks of speculation when he confirmed his bid for a second term, pitting him against the centre-left Democratic Party (PD) and Berlusconi's centre-right People of Freedom (PDL)



Former Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi gestures as he arrives at Milan train station on 29 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

party in a three-way contest.

Speaking to reporters at Milan Central railway station, Berlusconi said Monti wanted to help the left secure power after the 24-25 February election so he could continue his austerity agenda of tax

hikes and spending cuts.

"This grouping has been formed to favour the left—also the similarities with the left's programme points in this direction," he said, after earlier describing Monti as "the spare wheel" of the PD

in an interview with Vista TV.

The 76-year-old billionaire, who caught the train from Rome with his 27-year-old partner, Francesca Pascale, said he did not believe Italian voters would "fall into the trap", which he said was aimed at stealing votes from the centre right. But Pier Ferdinando Casini, head of Italy's oldest and largest centrist party, the UDC, which is cooperating with Monti, denied the accusations.

"Our initiative was not born with the support of the PD. It has not been started with a predetermined alliance ... until election day what's important is aiming for the majority," Casini said at a news conference on Saturday.

Reuters

Seven injured, 20 missing in reoccurred Colombia landslide

BOGOTA, 30 Dec—At least seven people were injured and some 20 others went missing in a landslide reoccurred on Saturday in southern Colombia, relief agencies said.

The incident occurred when a bulldozer was removing earth that blocked a driveway below the Andes Mountains in the aftermath of a previous landslide, and about 20 cars were waiting in

a queue to pass at the time, said the Risk Management Department.

The injured have all been sent to the University Hospital of Neiva. Due to

the unstable terrain, light and weather conditions, rescuers have decided to wait until Sunday to resume the search for the 20 missing persons.—Xinhua

Four killed, four injured in collision in Japan's Kagawa Prefecture

OSAKA, 30 Dec— Four people were killed and another four injured on early Sunday as two vehicles collided in Kagawa Prefecture on the Japanese island of Shikoku, local Press reported.

The accident occurred at around 3:50 am local time when a van carrying 7 young men collided with a car at a crossing in Utazumachi in

the prefecture. Police said three people in the van and a male driver of the car died in the accident and four others were wounded and sent to a hospital.

The car was going straight and the van was trying to turn right at the crossing when the crash happened, police said, adding that further investigation is under way.—Xinhua



A wreckage of a plane is seen on a highway near Moscow's Vnukovo Airport on 29 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

holiday travel ahead of Russia's New Year's vacation, which runs from Sunday through 9 January, cast a spotlight on the country's poor air-safety record despite President Vladimir Putin's calls to improve controls.

Television footage showed the Tupolev Tu-204 jet with smoke billowing from the tail end and the cockpit broken clean off the front.

Some witnesses told state channel Rossiya-24 they saw a man thrown from the plane as it rammed into the barrier of the highway outside Vnukovo Airport,

just southwest of the capital, and another described pulling other people from the wreckage.

"The plane split into three pieces," Yelena Krylova, chief spokeswoman for the airport, said in televised comments.

Police spokesman Gennady Bogachyov said: "The plane went off the

runway, broke through the barrier and caught fire."

The pilot, co-pilot, flight engineer and a flight attendant were killed and the other four crew members aboard—all flight attendants—were in a serious condition in hospital with head injuries, the Emergency Situations Ministry said.

Officials said earlier that there were 12 crew on board.

The mid-range Tu-204 was operated by Russian airline Red Wings and was travelling from the Czech Republic, Krylova said.

Reuters



Photo taken on 29 Dec, 2012 shows the Nanjing Yangtze River Bridge in snow in Nanjing, capital of east China's Jiangsu Province. Nanjing witnessed a snowfall on Saturday, which also marked the 44th anniversary of the bridge's opening to traffic in 1968.—XINHUA

Approaching comet may outshine the moon

Science

WASHINGTON, 30 Dec—A comet blazing toward Earth could outshine the full moon when it passes by at the end of next year—if it survives its close encounter with the sun.

The recently discovered object, known as comet ISON, is due to fly within 1.2 million miles (1.9 million km) from the centre of the sun on 28 November, 2013 said astronomer Donald Yeomans, head of NASA's Near Earth Object Programme at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif.

As the comet approaches, heat from the sun will vaporize ices in its body, creating what could be a spectacular tail that is visible in Earth's night sky without telescopes or even binoculars from about October 2013 through January 2014.

If the comet survives, that is. Comet ISON could break apart as it nears the sun, or it could fail to produce a tail of ice particles visible from Earth.

Celestial visitors like Comet ISON hail from the Oort Cloud, a cluster of fro-

zen rocks and ices that circle the sun about 50,000 times farther away than Earth's orbit. Every so often, one will be gravitationally bumped out from the cloud and begin a long solo orbit around the sun.

On 21 September, two amateur astronomers from Russia spotted what appeared to be a comet in images taken by a 16-inch (0.4-metre) telescope that is part of the worldwide International Scientific Optical Network, or ISON, from which the object draws its name.

"The object was slow and had a unique movement. But we could not be certain that it was a comet because the scale of our images are quite small and the object was very compact," astronomer Artyom Novichonok, one of the discoverers, wrote in a comets email list hosted by Yahoo. Novichonok and co-discoverer Vitali Nevski followed up the next night with a bigger telescope at the Maidanak Observatory in Uzbekistan. Other astronomers did likewise, confirming the object, located



A full moon rises behind the Empire State Building and the skyline of New York, as people watch from a park along the Hudson River in Hoboken, New Jersey, on 28 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

beyond Jupiter's orbit in the constellation Cancer, was indeed a comet. "It's really rare, exciting," Novichonok wrote.

Comet ISON's path is very similar to a comet that passed by Earth in 1680, one which was so bright its tail reportedly could be seen in daylight. The projected orbit of comet ISON is so similar to the 1680 comet that some scientists are wondering if they are fragments from a common parent body.

"Comet ISON...could be the brightest comet seen in many generations - brighter even than the full moon," wrote British astronomer Da-

vid Whitehouse in *The Independent*.

In 2013, Earth has two shots at a comet show. Comet Pan-STARRS is due to pass by the planet in March, eight months before ISON's arrival. NASA's *Mars Curiosity rover* may be able to provide a preview.

Comet ISON is due to pass by the red planet in September and could be a target for the rover from its vantage point inside Gale Crater.

The last comet to dazzle Earth's night-time skies was Comet Hale-Bopp, which visited in 1997. Comet 17P/Holmes made a brief appearance in 2007.—REUTERS

Silicon Valley entrepreneur Krikorian quits Amazon board

Tech

SAN FRANCISCO, 30 Dec—Silicon Valley entrepreneur and investor Blake Krikorian has quit the board of Amazon.com Inc about a year and a half after joining to take up an unspecified role at the buyer of a company he owned.

Krikorian, known for co-founding Sling Media in 2004, informed the rest of the board on Wednesday of his intention to resign, Amazon said in a Friday filing.

Spokesman Ty Rogers added that the serial entrepreneur, whose latest endeavor is home-automation startup id8 Group R2 Studios Inc, has sold a company and quit in order to take up a position at the acquirer. He did not name the company involved or the buyer.

The Wall Street Journal reported last week that Krikorian's year-old startup was in acquisition discussions with Amazon

Blake Krikorian, of id8 Group Holdings, arrives at the Sun Valley Inn in Sun Valley, Idaho on 9 July, 2009.—REUTERS



rivals Apple Inc, Google Inc and Microsoft Corp. It cited sources as saying the trio of tech powerhouses coveted R2 Studios' home-oriented technology as they expanded their own forays into living-room media entertainment.

R2 Studios recently launched a Google Android application to allow users to control home heating and lighting systems from their smartphone. Krikorian's Sling Media—which was sold to EchoStar Communications in 2007—made the "Slingbox" for watching TV on computers.—REUTERS



Chen Mo, an aircraft manufacturing engineering student at Northwestern Polytechnical University, tests his own aircraft, JDT Mini-Max, ahead of the aircraft's maiden flight in Xi'an, capital of northwest China's Shaanxi Province, on 26 Dec, 2012. JDT Mini-Max made its maiden flight on Wednesday in suburban Xi'an. Chen, now a university junior, spent more than a year assembling the aircraft. The making of JDT Mini-Max cost about 100,000 yuan (16,035 US dollars). To fund the project, Chen put in both his odd-job earnings and scholarships, apart from borrowing from others.—XINHUA

Apple to drop patent claims against new Samsung phone

Tech

SAN FRANCISCO, 30 Dec—Apple Inc has agreed to withdraw patent claims against a new Samsung phone with a high-end display after Samsung said it was not offering to sell the product in the crucial US market. Apple disclosed the agreement in a filing on Friday in US District Court in San Jose, California. Representatives for both Apple and Samsung declined to comment.

Last month Apple asked to add the Galaxy S III Mini

and other Samsung products, including several tablet models, to its wide-ranging patent litigation against Samsung.

In response, Samsung said the Galaxy S III Mini was not available for sale in the United States and should not be included in the case.

Apple won a \$1.05 billion verdict against Samsung earlier this year but has failed to secure a permanent sales ban against several, mostly older Samsung models. The patents Apple is asserting against the Galaxy S III Mini

are separate from those that went to trial.

Samsung started selling the Mini in Europe in October to compete with Apple's iPhone 5. In its filing on Friday in US District Court, for the Northern District of California, Apple said its lawyers were able to purchase "multiple units" of the Mini from Amazon.com Inc's US retail site and have them delivered in the United States.

But Samsung represented that it is not "making,

using, selling, offering to sell or importing the Galaxy S III Mini in the United States." Based on that, Apple said it agreed to withdraw its patent claims on the Mini, "so long as the current withdrawal will not prejudice Apple's ability later to accuse the Galaxy S III Mini if the factual circumstances change."

The case in US District Court, Northern District of California is Apple Inc vs. Samsung Electronics Co Ltd et al, 12-630.

Reuters

US clears way for wider in-flight Internet deployment

Tech

WASHINGTON, 30 Dec—The US Federal Communications Commission has cleared the way for wider adoption of in-flight Internet services, aiming to cut by as much as 50 percent the time needed for regulatory approval.

Newly adopted rules should boost competition in this part of the US mobile telecommunications market and promote "the widespread availability of Internet access to aircraft passengers," the FCC said in a statement on Friday.

Since 2001, the commission has cleared companies on an ad hoc basis to market in-flight broadband services via a satellite antenna fixed

to an aircraft's exterior.

Under a newly adopted framework, the licensing procedures will be simpler, the commission said.

Airlines will be able to test systems that meet the commission's standards, establish that they do not interfere with aircraft systems and then get approval of the Federal Aviation Administration, the FCC statement said.

The FAA, a Labour Department arm responsible for operating the nation's air traffic control system, said in response that the FCC's effort to establish standards "will help to streamline the process" for airlines to install Internet hookups on planes.

The goal is to speed the

processing of applications by up to 50 percent, FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski said in a separate statement.

The FCC drive to promote broadband aboard planes does not change a ban on the in-flight use of cell phones, which is tied to concerns about interference with ground stations. Genachowski earlier this month urged the Federal Aviation Administration to allow more electronics on aircraft.

The FAA announced in August that it was forming a government-industry group to study aircraft operators' policies to determine when portable electronic devices may be used safely during flight.—REUTERS



A college student shows a model of the intelligent system of rail traffic during an exhibition on science, technology and innovation projects in Nanjing, capital of east China's Jiangsu Province, on 27 Dec, 2012. A total of 234 projects created by 60 colleges and universities in the province were displayed during the exhibition.—XINHUA

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Obama: 'modestly optimistic' fiscal cliff deal can be reached

WASHINGTON, 30 Dec— President Barack Obama held out hope for a last-minute agreement to avoid the “fiscal cliff” of tax increases and spending cuts after a meeting with congressional leaders, scolding Congress for leaving the problem unresolved until the eleventh hour. “The hour for immediate action is here,” he told reporters at the White House. “I’m modestly optimistic that an agreement can be achieved,” he said.

Obama and lawmakers are working to prevent around \$600 billion in combined federal spending cuts and tax increases, a shock economists say could stop the economic recovery in its tracks and perhaps reverberate beyond US shores.

Business

The president, who won re-election on a platform that included a pledge to raise taxes on top earners, said Senate leaders were working right now to craft a bipartisan measure that could win approval in both houses of Congress.

But if those last-ditch efforts were to fall short, lawmakers should hold a vote on a “bare minimum” measure that would extend existing tax rates for all but the wealthiest Americans and extend unemployment insurance, he said.

Obama took Congress to task for stalling on negotiations in a manner that is reminiscent of the 2011 stalemate that brought the



US President Barack Obama opens his notes before remarks to reporters after meeting with congressional leaders at the White House in Washington on 28 Dec, 2012. —REUTERS

nation close to the brink of defaulting on its debt and that hurt the economic recovery.

“This is déjà vu all over again,” he said.

“America wonders why it is that in this town for some reason you can’t get stuff done in an organized timetable,” he added. “Well, we’re now at the

last minute.”

The president said the latest budget impasse was once again harming economic growth.

“Already you’re seeing businesses and consumers starting to hold back because of the dysfunction that they see in Washington.”

Reuters

Study links milk-producing protein to aggressive breast cancer

HONG KONG, 30 Dec— The discovery that a protein which triggers milk production in women may also be responsible for making breast cancers aggressive could open up new opportunities for treatment of the most common and deadliest form of cancer among women.

Found in all breast cells, the protein ELF5 tries to activate milk production even in breast cancer cells, which does not work and then makes the cancer more aggressive, according to scientists in Australia and Britain.

“The discovery opens up new avenues for therapy and for designing new markers that can predict response to therapy,” said lead author

Professor Chris Ormandy from the Garvan Institute of Medical Research in Sydney.

In 2008, Ormandy’s work linked ELF5 to milk production.

The latest research by Ormandy and his team, published in the journal *PLOS Biology* on Friday, went a step further to find the link between ELF5 and breast cancer.

“Cancer cells can’t respond properly (to ELF5), so they ... acquire some characteristics ... that make the disease more aggressive and more refractory (resistant) to treatment with existing therapies,” Ormandy said by telephone.

Ormandy and his team grew human breast

cancer tissues, genetically manipulated to contain high amounts of ELF5, in petri dishes and saw how the protein proliferated aggressively.

Breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer and the top cause of cancer death among women, accounting for 23 percent of total cancer cases and 14 percent of cancer deaths in women.

To decide on treatment, doctors normally need to find out if the cancer has receptors for the hormones estrogen and progesterone, which, in the case of breast cancer patients, promote growth in their tumours.

Two-thirds of breast cancers are usually positive

for estrogen receptors, which then require anti-hormonal therapies that lower estrogen levels in the patient or block estrogen from supporting the growth of the cancer.

For the remaining one-third of patients, their cancers do not have receptors, which means they won’t benefit from hormonal therapies. Such patients are usually given other treatments, such as chemotherapy.

Ormandy’s team found that cancers with these receptors had low levels of ELF5, while those without receptors had significantly higher levels of the protein.

Reuters

Health

Housing, factory data point to momentum in economy

WASHINGTON, 30 Dec— Contracts for US home resales hit a 2-1/2-year high in November and factory activity in the Midwest expanded this month, suggesting some strength in the economy despite the threat of tighter fiscal policy.

The National Association of Realtors said on

Friday its Pending Home Sales Index, based on contracts signed last month, increased 1.7 percent to 106.4—the highest level since April 2010 when the home-buyer tax credit expired.

November marked the third straight month of gains for signed contracts, which become sales after a month or

two, and followed a 5 percent increase in October.

A separate report showed the Institute for Supply Management-Chicago business barometre rose to 51.6 in December from 50.4 in November. A reading above 50 indicates expansion in the regional economy. It was the second straight month of growth and was driven by a rebound in new orders. The data suggested some of the growth momentum from the third quarter carried into the final three months of 2012, even as businesses and households braced for sharp cuts in government spending and higher taxes in the new year.

Data so far in the fourth quarter ranging from consumer spending, housing, employment and the various manufacturing indicators have been fairly upbeat.

“We don’t see much evidence that the economy was slowing as we headed into the end of the year, but everything could change on 1 January,” said John Ryding, chief economist at RDQ Economics in New York.

There are fears that currently stalled budget talks in Washington will fail to steer clear of a \$600 billion “fiscal cliff” of less government spending and higher taxes, which could tip the economy back into recession.

“There is nothing here to suggest that the economy has enough momentum to withstand the shock if we go over the fiscal-cliff with no quick return,” said Ryding. “The good news right now is it looks like we could have the mid-twos kind of GDP (growth) for the fourth quarter.”—Reuters

Indian markets: best stocks & sectors of 2012

NEW YORK, 30 Dec— Tata Motors Ltd (TAMO.BO) is the best performer among Sensex stocks in 2012, helped by hopes for a turnaround in the performance of luxury unit Jaguar Land Rover.

Infosys Ltd (INFY.BO) earns the worst performer status among blue chips, given the persistent concerns about global demand for software services. GAIL, down over 9 percent and Bharti Airtel, down 7 percent, are among other losers.

Among other gainers, ICICI, L&T and Maruti shares surged more than 60 percent, while HDFC Bank

and Sun Pharma rose more than 50 percent.

Lenders were the top performers among sectors, with the BSE banking index up nearly 57 percent. Real estate and fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) were the next best sectoral performers.

The RBI has held interest rates steady after a 50 basis points rate cut in April, but eased the cash reserve ratio by 175 basis points in 2012, helping banks improve margins.

The RBI is also expected to cut the repo rate more aggressively next year.

Reuters



New cars awaiting despatch at Tata Motor’s plant in Pune, 180 km (112 miles) south of Bombay on 14 Sept, 2004. —REUTERS

Poor reading skills tied to risk of teen pregnancy

NEW YORK, 30 Dec— Seventh grade girls who have trouble reading are more likely to get pregnant in high school than average or above-average readers, according to a new study from Philadelphia.

Researchers found that pattern stuck even after they took into account the girls’ race and poverty in their neighbourhoods — both of which are tied to teen pregnancy rates.

“We certainly know that social disadvantages definitely play a part in teen pregnancy risk, and certainly poor educational achievement is one of those factors,” said Dr Krishna Upadhy, a reproductive health and teen pregnancy researcher from Johns Hopkins Children’s Centre in Baltimore.

Poor academic skills may play into how teens see their future economic opportunities and influence the risks they take — even if those aren’t conscious decisions, explained Upadhy, who wasn’t involved in the new research.

Dr Ian Bennett from the University of Pennsylvania

and his colleagues looked up standardized test reading scores for 12,339 seventh grade girls from 92 different Philadelphia public schools and tracked them over the next six years.

During that period, 1,616 of the teenagers had a baby, including 201 that gave birth two or three times.

Hispanic and African American girls were more likely than white girls to get pregnant. But education appeared to play a role, as well.

Among girls who scored below average on their reading tests, 21 percent went on to have a baby as a teenager. That compared to 12 percent who had average scores and five percent of girls who scored above average on the standardized tests.

Once race and poverty were taken into consideration, girls with below-average reading skills were two and a half times more likely to have a baby than average-scoring girls, according to findings published in the journal *Contraception*.

Reuters



A US flag decorates a for-sale sign at a home in the Capitol Hill neighbourhood of Washington on 21 Aug, 2012. —REUTERS

WORLD

Iran rejects reports of blocking Strait of Hormuz during naval drill

TEHERAN, 30 Dec—The spokesman for Iran's naval exercise in southern country rejected on Saturday the media reports about Iran's plans to block the Strait of Hormuz during the ongoing naval maneuver, Press TV reported.

After Iran's naval maneuver started on Friday, Western reports said that the Islamic republic has warned foreign vessels to hold aloof from the region of exercise, including the Strait of Hormuz, until 3 January. Iran

had warned in the past to close the Strait of Hormuz in case its interests in the Persian Gulf were threatened, but later Iran did not repeat the warnings.

In response to the Western media reports about the Navy's warnings to foreign vessels, Rear Admiral Amir Rastegari said on Saturday that "The Navy has issued no warnings. In accordance with the international norms, announcements should be sent for the information of the ships passing by during

any military drill in order to prevent any potential damages," said the report.

Rastegari added that such announcements are issued to provide the security of the nearby commercial and naval vessels at certain times when the war games are underway. On Saturday, Iran's Army started the second day of a 6-day massive naval exercise in its southern waters. The drill, dubbed *Velayat 91*, or *Guardianship 91*, will be carried out in the Strait of Hormuz, the Sea of Oman, the north of the Indian Ocean, the Gulf of Aden and the Babel-Mandeb Strait.—Xinhua

Yale under fire for new campus in restrictive Singapore



The Theodore Dwight Woolsey statue in front of Dwight Hall on the Old Campus at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut, in this 28 Nov, 2012 file photo.—REUTERS

NEW HAVEN, 30 Dec—For more than 300 years, Yale University has prided itself on training top students to question and analyze, to challenge and critique.

Now, Yale is seeking to export those values by establishing the first foreign campus to bear its name, a liberal arts college in Singapore that is set to open this summer. The ambitious, multimillion-dollar project thrills many in the Yale community who say it will help the university maintain its prestige and build global influence.

But it has also stirred sharp criticism from faculty and human-rights advocates who say it is impossible to build an elite college dedicated to free inquiry in an authoritarian nation with heavy restrictions on public speech

and assembly. "Yale's motto is 'Lux et veritas,' or 'Light and truth,'" said Michael Fischer, a Yale professor of computer science. "We're going into a place with severe curbs on light and truth ... We're redefining the brand in a way that's contrary to Yale's values."

Yale President Richard Levin describes the new venture as a chance to extend Yale's tradition of nurturing independent thinkers to a dynamic young nation at the crossroads of Asia.

In the 19th century, Yale scholars fanned out to launch dozens of American colleges, Levin noted in a 2010 memo presenting the concept to faculty. "Yale could influence the course of 21st century education as profoundly," he wrote.—Reuters

Over 130 dead in Ukraine's cold snap

KIEV, 30 Dec—At least 133 people have died this month due to freezing temperatures although the recent cold spell has ended, local media reported on Saturday. Most of the victims were homeless people who lost their lives on the streets at night when the temperatures dropped below minus 5 degrees Celsius.

The authorities have set up over 3,000 heated tents

for those in need, but not all homeless people took shelter in them, said the report, noting that many preferred to stay on the streets because of alcohol or unreasonable fears. The Ukrainian cabinet is mulling an idea to dispatch special social patrol teams to send the homeless to the tents. The units will include law enforcement and emergency officers as well as doctors and social workers.

Xinhua



Policemen raise their sealed guns at Camp Karingal in Quezon City, the Philippines, on 29 Dec, 2012. The Philippine National Police (PNP) sealed the firearms of all policemen to prevent the indiscriminate firing of guns as several incidents of stray bullet-related injuries have already been reported during the Christmas season.—XINHUA

Secret files lift lid on Thatcher-Reagan Falklands contacts

LONDON, 30 Dec—Former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher wrote an emotional letter to US President Ronald Reagan during the 1982 Falklands War calling him the "only person" who could understand her position, formerly secret documents showed on Friday.

Newly declassified files from 1982 lift the lid on contacts between the two leaders over the crisis and reveal the extent of the pressure Thatcher felt she was under when Argentina invaded the remote South Atlantic archipelago to reclaim what it said was its sovereign territory, triggering a 10-week war.

In one file, the tough, outspoken Thatcher called the build-up to the Argentine invasion the "worst, I think of my life", while letters to Reagan from the time show her reliance on the US president and their close working relationship.

"I am writing to you separately because I think you are the only person who will understand the significance of what I am

trying to say," Thatcher told Reagan in one letter, saying the principles of democracy, liberty and justice were at stake.

Britain held its breath when Thatcher dispatched a naval task force to the British-ruled Falkland islands following the Argentine invasion. Despite losing several warships, the British eventually reclaimed the South Atlantic islands 74 days later. Some 649 Argentines and 255 British troops were killed.

Elsewhere, the files show that Thatcher stressed the special relationship between the two countries as she requested Reagan's help in a letter signed off with "Warm personal regards, Margaret".

"I also believe that the friendship between the United States and Britain matters very much to the future of the free world," she wrote.

The files provide a unique perspective on the first and only female British prime minister's personal feelings as she waged war against Argentina, contemporary

records specialist Simon Demissie told Reuters.

"You really hear how personally strained she was, how surprised she was. Her voice really comes through—her sense of shock that she would have to send forces to the other side of the world," Demissie said.

"We get a sense that she is as decisive as ever and that is something which really appealed to the military officials close to her," Demissie said in reference to minutes from the War Cabinet meetings ahead of the crisis, which were also released on Friday.—Reuters



British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and President Reagan share a laugh during a meeting of the Allied leaders in New York on 24 Oct, 1985.—REUTERS

Five journalists killed in Iraq in 2012

BAGHDAD, 30 Dec—Five journalists were killed in Iraq's violence during 2012, bringing the number of the journalists killed in the country to 373 since the US-led invasion in 2003, an Iraqi journalists' body said on Saturday.

"The ongoing violence against journalists indicates that media work in Iraq is still dangerous," said a report made by the Iraqi Journalists' Syndicate.

The report said that the Iraqi journalists were relatively unsafe and worried due to the failure of security forces to bring crimes to justice.

The report showed that 16 more offenses had been registered against the

journalists during the year, ranging from assassination attempts by gunmen, detaining, beating and preventing by security forces not to cover some incidents and events.

Such killings and other offenses came despite some positive indicators in general, like the relative stability in security in most of Iraqi cities, the atmosphere of democracy as well as the approval of a law to protect the rights of the Iraqi journalists, the report added.

In 2010, Paris-based Reporters Without Borders group said that the US war with Iraq was the most lethal for journalists since World War II.

Xinhua



A newly recruited armed policeman performs martial arts as monks from the Quanzhou Shaolin Temple watch at an armed policemen base in Quanzhou City, southeast China's Fujian Province, on 29 Dec, 2012. A total of 35 monks from the temple were invited to perform martial arts for the new recruits of armed policemen here on Saturday.—XINHUA

LOCAL NEWS

Agricultural bank discusses loan repayment with farmers

KHINU, 30 Dec— Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank in KhinU Township urges the local farmers to pay back agricultural loans in growing monsoon paddy to the bank. The bank has so far disbursed K2710.560 million to 13431 farmers from 56 village-tracts in the township. *Myanmar Alinn*

Inmya Thaya football ground ready to be used



INDAW, 30 Dec— Although Inmya Thaya football ground was covered long grass in the past, the ground is now in good condition as debris and long grass were cleared with the use of lawn mower by local football enthusiasts and departmental officials. They cut the lawns with the use of machinery and labour on 25 and 26 December. Thus, the football ground is ready to be used for footballers. “Now, the football ground has been prepared for good plays. If the football ground area has been improved with filling soil, it will be the best,” said a local. *Myanmar Alinn*

Monghsat District clinches title in Chief Minister’s Cup

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Dec—The Shan State Chief Minister’s Cup Inter-District Men’s Open Football Tournament reached the final match on 24 December. At KBZ FC Ground in Taunggyi, Tachilek and Monghsat district teams played in the final match and ended at goalless draw. In the penalty decision, Monghsat District emerged champion with a 2-1 victory over Tachilek District team. Shan State level officials awarded first prize to Monghsat District, the second to Tachilek. They also presented cash awards and medals to the winners. Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat gave the championship trophy to Monghsat District team. *MNA*

CB Bank to join hands with Japanese BTMU

YANGON, 30 Dec— Banks from foreign countries are interesting in the banking services of Myanmar that are gathering development momentum day by day. Of them, Bank of Tokyo Mitsubishi UFJ (BTMU) of Japan and CB Bank will join hands for development of banking services soon. A ceremony to sign the MoU between CB Bank and BTMU of Japan was held at Sedona Hotel in Yangon on 27 December. “BTMU will cooperate with Myanmar bank in the commercial banking service, foreign exchange and providing assistance of banking services,” said Managing Director U Pe Myint of CB Bank. BTMU of Japan will provide banking service and techniques to the Myanmar bank. CB Bank and BTMU will give good services to the people for banking services in Myanmar and convenience of foreign direct investments. BTMU of Japan is representative for providing loans from ODA of Japan and other monetary assistance to Myanmar. Myanmar with worthy of natural resources is attracting the foreign companies as a new market in Asia. Myanmar banks will help foreign companies ease development of banking system and FDI of foreign countries.—*Myanmar Alinn*



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**Ministry of Education (2012-2013) academic year
Second Inter-Basic Education School Sports Competition**



From 22 to 31 December 2012

Nay Pyi Taw

Tube-well launched in Nyaungshwe

NYAUNGSHWE, 30 Dec— As a gesture of hailing the 65th Anniversary Independence Day, a ceremony to open the two-inch diameter tube-well, the waterwork and water tank was held at the tube-well on 28 December morning. The works were carried out in Nandawun Ward of Nyaungshwe by Nyaungshwe Township Development Affairs Committee for 2012-2013 fiscal year. Executive Officer of Township DAC U Kyaw Zin explained progress of works. Shan State Minister for Inn National Race Affairs U Win Myint, Deputy Superintending Engineer U Soe Than of State DAC and Acting Township Administrator U Soe Tint formally opened the tube-well. The tube-well is sunk, the water work and 3000-gallon-capacity water tank built with K 2,453,000 contribution of the fund to supply potable water to 4572 people from 899 houses of the ward. *Myanmar Alinn*

Sales of mobile phone discussed at MPT

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Dec— According to the extended installation project of mobile phones of the Communications and Information Technology Ministry, a coordination meeting on sales of telephones and implementation of the project was held at the ministry on 27 December afternoon, with an address by Deputy Minister U Win Than. Managing Director of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications U Aung Maw reported on plans to sell mobile phones and implement the project. General Manager U Thein Oo participated in discussions on progress of the project. Responsible persons of 19 companies discussed sales of SIM cards of mobile phones, sales areas, services for loss and damage of SIM cards and sales of cards at fixed prices. The MPT of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology is striving for sales of mobile phones to the user people as quickly as possible. *MNA*



Fund shared to Township DAC

YANGON, 30 Dec— Mingala Taungnyunt Township Internal Revenue Department of Yangon Region shared five per cent from the revenue amounting to K 1,076,670.10 to the fund of Township Development Affairs Committee on 26 December for 2012-2013 fiscal year. Head of Township IRD U Min Lwin Oo explained the purpose of sharing the fund to the DAC’s. Executive Officer U Soe Nyunt of the Township DAC clarified plans for fulfilling the requirements in the township by spending the fund. The five per cent fund of the Township IRD was levied from the tax payers from the township.—*Myanmar Alinn*

5400 stimulant tablets seized in Nawngkhio

Hsipaw, 30 Dec—A squad from Nawngkhio mobile team of Lashio Anti-Drug Special Squad of Shan State (North) searched a van driven by Maung Shwe Htwe from Lashio to Mandalay at the mile post 78/5 at the entrance to Nawngkhio of Shan State at 8 am on 21 December. They seized one packet of 200 pink stimulant tablets from the sweeter of the driver and 26 packets of stimulant tablets containing 200 each, totalling 5400 weighing 486 grams worth K 10 million. Nawngkhio Police Station opened the file of lawsuit against the driver. *Myanmar Alinn*

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 31 December, 2012

The southern hope

Taninthayi Region is rich in natural resources, especially, teak and other globally marketable hardwood species in the mountain ranges running from north to south and serving as its border with neighbouring Thailand.

Its equatorial climate brings a lot of rain and sunshine annually creating a favourable condition for agriculture. So, Taninthayi grows rice and other annual crops, and has large areas of rubber, oil palm and coconut plantations.

But it is the Andaman Sea that makes Taninthayi more beautiful and famous. The sea annually supplies Taninthayi with various species of marine products which have ready markets abroad. In fact, fishery business has been a major income source for the region since many years ago.

As the blue sea is dotted with a large number of islands and islets, it is a tourist haven offering funs and thrills like swimming, angling, diving, snookering, rowing, yachting, boating, island exploration and adventure for visitors from around the world. Setse and Maungmagan have been hosting fun-loving visitors with their blue waters, silver sand and glorious sunsets.

Another bonanza for the coastal region is a special economic zone project at Dawei, which is its capital, but not the regional commercial hub. Thanks to the project, Dawei will have an international deepsea port facing the Andaman, an industrial estate and cross-border road linking the two neighbours.

Taninthayi is a thin stretch of flat land lying in the southernmost part of Myanmar between the mountain ranges bearing its name and the deep blue sea called the Andaman. Like all other places of the Union, Taninthayi is breathtaking.

Amidst development plans including the Dawei SEZ project, aided with natural rewards like the sea, the islands and islets and other resources, bustling major town like Myeik and emerging economy like Kawthoung, Taninthayi will be our southern hope which is seeing brighter prospects as never before.

Safeguarding Independence

Shwe Taing Lwin

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has stood tall with her own sovereigns since time immemorial. Myanmar fell under the yoke of colonialism after three aggressive wars in 1824, 1852 and 1885.

Myanmar lost her independence to the colonialists due to absence of modern army and national unity, lack of perspective, low intellectual capacity and other factors.

Aung San, a student leader of Yangon University, reconciled the entire people and formed a strong army, sacrificing his life.

People lived below the poverty line under the colonial rule. The education system was designed to enslave the nation and prolong the colonial administration. The university students boycotted the education on 10th waning of Tazuangmon, 1282ME (1920AD), leading to formation of national schools and provoking nationalist fervor among the people. Peasants, labours and the entire people defied the colonial rule and started the revolution. University students led by Ko Aung San at great risks formed an army successfully, realizing the need of an armed force to fight back the colonialists.

The nationalist army formed with the nationalist students to save the poor people under the colonial rule braved any dangers side by side with the people.

When the colonialist



Night scene in Yangon

65th Anniversary Independence Day 2013

British returned after the fascists were removed from Myanmar soil, national leaders including General Aung San fought against them through political means. The whole country was united in the fight against the imperialism. Ethnic leaders also participated in the efforts.

It has been 65 years since Myanmar regained her independence on 4 January 1948. Thanks to efforts of national leaders born of the national campaign against the colonial education, an army was formed with all national races guided the country to its independence.

All Myanmar citizens need to pledge to preserve its own culture to ward off the penetration of alien cultures. The independence must be safeguarded with the nationalist fervor.

Respecting the national leaders who sacrificed their lives in the independence struggle, the onus is on today's generation to

perpetuate the independence. All the national brethren need to perpetuate the independence holding

consensus and preserving unity.

Kyemon: 30-12-2012

Trs: HKA

A better country

- * Myanmar is our country
- * As family we all are living Existing like kith and kin
- * Our cause is the Union Brethren also in our heart Blood is thicker than water Ever in times of emergency Unity is our commitment Awareness in our heart Safeguard the country Enemy we all crush Just like shield and sword The force of true brethren
- * For the source of water River Ayeyawady is the servant Coherence is our soul The whole country we brighten Children of the motherland Hands joining together
- * O..brethren of true spirit Live we all in harmony Country we are building together

Myo Myat Myat Myint Maung Trs: TMT

Border Affairs Ministry oversees rural development in self-administered division/zones

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Dec— The Ministry of Border Affairs is undertaking rural development, peace building and human resources development tasks in border areas, Union Minister Lt-Gen Thein Htay said in meeting with authorities of Self-Administered Division/Zones yesterday evening.

He said the roads linking villages and regions must be built while calling on the authorities to oversee regional development.

The departmental personnel and chairmen of leading bodies submitted reports.



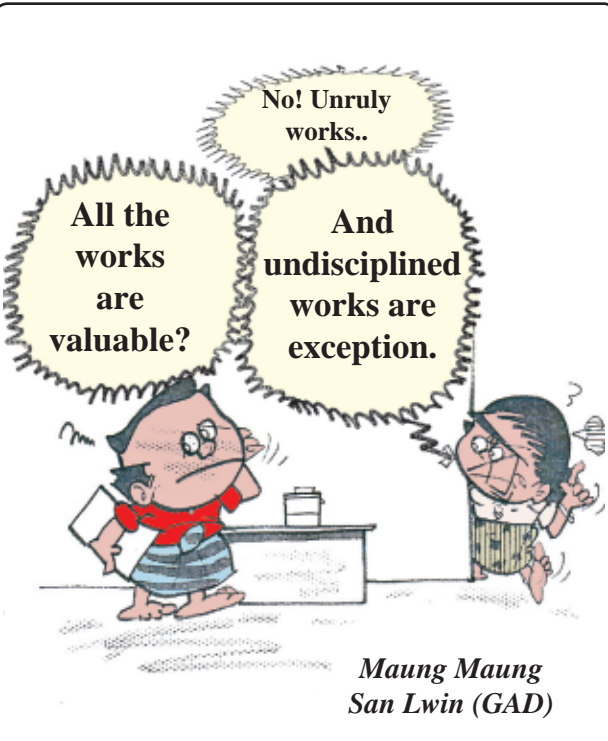
Union Minister Lt-Gen Thein Htay speaking at meeting with authorities of Self-Administered Division/Zones.—MNA

The ministry has planned to construct 438 miles of the road in the

self-administered division/zones, build 180 water supply stations and provide

electricity to 2140 households in rural areas.

MNA



Maung Maung San Lwin (GAD)

NATIONAL

Movies, being able to depict histories, real life stories...

(from page 16)

Everyone would like to take pride of the fact that his country or society owns unique characters. In addition, the art could bridge the divide between different cultures. Because what the people see, hear or feel can deeply touch their heart.

Despite different political systems, values and languages, the common language of art has served as an important tool in establishing cordial diplomatic ties since yore. This concept is still valid

for the nation.

The trend of the world's film industry, objective condition of domestic movie industry and power of those engaged in the motion picture world for the sake of the nation and the public.

In conclusion, he urged people of Myanmar movie world —

- to make reforms in every process of setting-up, preparing, shooting, distribution, production and copyright, taking



Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe presents Best Music Award to Zaw Myo Htut.

MNA

in this service-oriented market economy. Some countries are using movies effectively in shaping the market economy.

Plus, movie possesses the intangible but enormous power which changes the living standards of the society or individuals. By inspiring aesthetic feelings of individuals, it could bring about lasting happiness and contributory innovations to the entire society.

The most important power of the movie is creating the national identity which means the shared history and cultural values of the society within a territory. It strengthens the territorial integrity and encourages the social stability.

These factors are sine qua non for any modernized nation for improvement of administrative capacity of the government, national economic growth and public welfare. Movies, being able to depict histories, real life stories, future scenarios, common characteristics and unique qualities of national races communities of respective regions, can manifest the national identity, crucial

examples from experiences, expertise and knowledge of world's developing motion picture businesses.

- to focus on the success of Myanmar movie industry with positive attitude, firm belief and diligence.
- to use star power in building national identity.

Chairman of Myanmar Motion Picture Organization U Zin Waing submitted a report on development of Myanmar movie industry.

He recalled the reminiscences of the glorious days of the movie industry that was established about 100 years ago and returned to the reality revealing lacking of financial and other resources.

He revealed that the decline of the film industry due to absence of studio, technology, expertise, capital and competitiveness.

He revealed the positive contribution of changing policies of the Information Ministry.

He also expressed



Union Minister for Information U Aung Kyi cordially greets academy award winners.—MNA

the plans to regenerate the movie industry which includes establishment of studios and cinemas, and funding. He also vowed for closer cooperation with the Information Ministry.

The onus was on those of movie world to try their best for the development of the movie world.

He concluded his speech with the call for rejuvenating the declining movie industry of the country.



Academy Nay Aung presents Best Supporting Actor Award to Moss.—MNA

Then the Academy award presentation ceremony followed. Film Technician Academy winner U Tun Hlaing announced that the winner of the Best Cinematography Award and Yangon Region Speaker U Sein Tin Win presented Academy award to Tint Hsan from the movie "Pannkyarwuthmon".

Academy U Ohn Maung (a) U Aung Thwin announced the winner of

the Best Editing Award and Academy Zaw Min (Hanthamyay) presented Academy award to Hein Htet (Lewe) from the movie "Pannkyarwuthmon".

Academy U Khin Maung Gyi announced the winner of the Best Music Award and Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe presented Academy award to Zaw Myo Htut from the movie "Htarwaya Alindanmyar".

Academy U Aye Myint

Academy May Thinzar Oo announced that Chit Snow Oo from the movie "Yinkwenar", won the Best Supporting Actress Award, and Academy Cho Pyone presented Academy award to Chit Snow Oo.

Academy Nyein Min announced the winner of the Best Screenplay Award and Union Minister at President Office U Soe Thein presented Academy award to Myint Hsaung and Soe Kyaw Hsan from the movie "Htarwaya Alindanmyar".

Academy Lwin Moe announced the winner of Best Actor Award and Academy Yan Aung presented Academy award to Naung Naung from the movie "Htarwaya Alindanmyar".

U Myint Soe of Thiha Zaw Film announced that Yi Myint Film Production won the Best Movie Award for the movie "Htarwaya Alindanmyar", and

Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Sports, Culture and Public Relations Development Committee Thura U Aye Myint presented Academy award to U Zaw Myint of Yi Myint Film Production.

Academy May Than Nu announced the winner of the Best Actress Award and Academy Tun Eindra Bo presented Academy award to Melody from the movie "Htarwaya Alindanmyar".

Academy Director U Tin Oo announced the winner of the Best Director Award and Union Minister for Information U Aung Kyi presented Academy Award to Tun Aung Zaw from the movie "Htarwaya Alindanmyar".

After the ceremony, Union Minister U Aung Kyi, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe and party cordially greeted Academy award winners and doyen film artists.

MNA



Academy Zaw Min (Hanthamyay) presents Best Film Editing Award to Hein Htet (Lewe).

MNA

Pakistani Taliban execute 21 captured paramilitary men

PESHAWAR, 30 Dec—Pakistani Taliban militants have executed 21 paramilitary force men who were captured in attacks on their posts late last week, government officials said on Sunday.

The men, who were kidnapped on Friday in attacks on three checkpoints near the city of Peshawar, were lined up before being shot one-by-one, officials said.

“They were tied up and blindfolded,” Naveed Anwar, a senior administration

official in the Khyber region, said by telephone. One man was badly wounded but survived, Anwar said, adding that the 21 bodies had been found after local tribesmen notified security services.

“They were lined up and shot in the head,” said Habibullah Arif, another local official. He said the wounded man and another man had managed to escape.

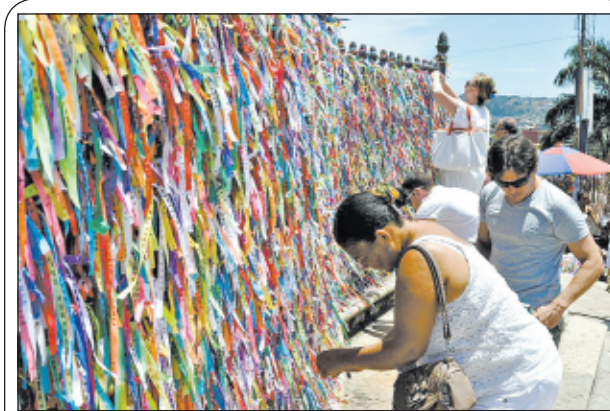
A Taliban spokesman claimed responsibility and pledged to carry out further attacks on Pakistani secu-

rity forces. “We killed all the kidnapped men after a council of senior clerics gave a verdict for their execution. We didn’t make any demand for their release because we don’t spare any prisoners who are caught during fighting,” said Ihsanullah Ihsan.

The men were from a paramilitary force recruited from members of ethnic Pashtun tribes in northwestern Pakistan. The militias support the government in its efforts against Islamist militants battling the state.

The killing of the men followed two high-profile attacks in Peshawar this month. Suicide bombers attacked Peshawar’s Airport on 15 December and a bomb killed a senior Pashtun nationalist politician and eight other people at a rally on 22 December.

The violence underscores the Taliban’s ability to carry out high-profile attacks in major cities even as the amount of territory they control has shrunk over the past three years.—Reuters



Residents put ribbons on a fence during an outdoor ceremony on the eve of New Year celebration, in Bonfim Church, Salvador de Bahia, Brazil, on 28 Dec, 2012. —XINHUA



A girl tastes fish soup at the site of a fish festival in Yuehai park in Yinchuan, capital of northwest China’s Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, on 29 Dec, 2012. The fish festival, one of Ningxia winter tourism activities, attracted many local citizens to enjoy fish catching and tasting. XINHUA

Venezuelan VP arrives in Cuba to visit Chavez

HAVANA, 30 Dec — Venezuelan Vice President Nicolas Maduro arrived here on Saturday to visit President Hugo Chavez, who is recovering after his latest cancer surgery, the official *Granma* daily reported.

Upon arrival, Maduro

headed directly to the hospital where Chavez is staying, the paper added. Before travelling to the island for his fourth surgery, Chavez appointed Maduro, who is also foreign minister, as his political successor in case he could not complete his new presidential

term starting in January.

Chavez has undergone four rounds of surgery since he was first diagnosed with cancer in the pelvic region in June 2011. Latest reports said he is having a “slight” recovery with a progressive trend.—Xinhua

Greece uncovers tourism scam, looks for unaccounted millions

ATHENS, 30 Dec—Three Greeks were arrested on suspicion of trying to defraud the national tourism board, police said on Saturday, and the finance ministry is investigating a suspected 12-million-euro hole in the state agency’s books. Tourism is one of cash-strapped Greece’s few remaining money-spinners and the EOT tourism board is in charge of funding several promotion campaigns and subsidy programmes for the industry.

A police statement said a former EOT adviser colluded with at least two accomplices to cash in a forged cheque of 147,000 euros (\$194,400) made out to a hotel on the

Aegean island of Syros. The three, arrested earlier this week, were put in pre-trial detention after appearing before a prosecutor on Friday.

“They are charged with forming and participating in a criminal organization,” the statement said.

The tourism ministry said it was investigating why an EOT chequebook was handled by the 39-year old adviser, who was not a career EOT official but rather an aide to the board’s outgoing secretary general, who resigned last week.

Separately, the finance ministry appointed on Thursday a team to investigate what the EOT’s new secretary general



A tourist takes photographs at the Acropolis hill overlooking Athens, on 10 July, 2011.—REUTERS

has called “accounting irregularities” of 12 million euros in the EOT’s books.

Cronyism, political meddling and lack of accountability are central

causes for the endemic corruption that has bedeviled Greece, leading to fiscal profligacy, financial crisis and an international bailout in 2010.—Reuters

Morsi says new constitution’s approval means end of Egypt transition period

CAIRO, 30 Dec—Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi said on Saturday that the approval of the newly-written constitution means the end of the country’s transition period.

In his speech during a session of the Shura Council, upper house of the parliament, Morsi said the new constitution ensures a new era to start to build the country toward its “renaissance.”

“The new constitution is the fruits of all efforts exerted, and it guaranteed

equal rights to all Egyptians,” said the president, adding that Egypt is for all Egyptians.

Morsi called for the unity of all social spectra to build a modern state, and reiterated the importance of free media and active civil society.

“I invite you all to cooperate with the government and the social authorities to issue legislation which would facilitate the stage of building.”

“We are moving toward establishing state institutions and applying deep ruling to

struggle against corruption. We have been through difficult economic status after an era of corruption,” he added.

However, the president said the Egyptian economy has witnessed an improvement since the upheaval erupted last year, with both the fluidity index and the bank deposits having increased compared to last year.

“Without the events which echoed unpeaceful ways in the political field, we could have been achieved better improvement,” he

added.

For those who are talking about bankruptcy, the president affirmed that “Egypt will never kneel, as long as its people are productive.”

“Production and increasing services are the top of my priorities, and with your help and the efforts of the government, we could build a nation of strong will,” Morsi said, noting that an economic development council will be established to achieve economic reforms. Xinhua

Four new subway lines set to ease Beijing traffic

BEIJING, 30 Dec—Beijing is scheduled to put four subway lines into operation on Sunday, part of the city’s efforts to expand rail transit to ease severe traffic congestion.

The newly-opened lines include the new No 6 Line, the southern section of the current No 8 Line, the northern section of the current No 9 Line and the southern and western stretches that complete a loop for the current No 10 Line.

The new lines bring the number of subway lines in Beijing to 16, with a total length of 442 kilometres, the Beijing Municipal Commission of Transport said in a statement on Saturday.

The city has turned to public transport, especially rail transit lines, to tackle massive traffic jams on the

city’s vehicle-clogged roads.

The number of subway lines in Beijing will reach 19 by 2015, with a combined length of 561 km. By 2020, the total subway length is expected to increase to 1,000 km. Beijing’s public transportation system, including bus services, carried an average of 20.6 million people per day in 2012. About 44 percent of Beijing residents say they use public transport, the highest percentage of all cities nationwide.

Amid other measures to ease traffic, city authorities started limiting new vehicle registrations to 240,000 each year in 2011, slashing new car registrations by two-thirds from the 2010 level.

Vehicles are also banned from roads one day per week according to plate numbers.

Xinhua



Few passengers are seen on a subway train of the second phase of subway line 10 in Beijing, capital of China, on 30 Dec, 2012. Beijing put four subway lines into operation on Sunday, part of the city’s efforts to expand rail transit to ease severe traffic congestion. The new lines bring the number of subway lines in Beijing to 16, with a total length of 442 kilometres, according to authorities.—XINHUA

REGIONAL

Indonesian foreign tourist arrivals up 5 pct in first 11 months

JAKARTA, 30 Dec—The number of foreign holiday-makers coming into Indonesia from January to November was up by 5 percent to 7.227 million people on yearly basis, an official said here.

Deputy Minister for Tourism and Creative Economy Sapta Nirwandar said that he was optimistic that the target of 8 million foreign tourist arrivals this year is going to be passed.

“(By November), the number of foreign tourist

arrivals was up by 5 percent,” he said Friday evening.

His ministry expected 9 billion US dollars revenue from the sector this year, Nirwandar was quoted by Bisnis online as saying.

“The growth of our tourism sector has exceeded the growth of international tourism,” he said.

Indonesia expects 20 million foreign tourist arrivals in 2014 with revenue of 20 billion US dollars.

Foreign tourist arrivals

rose to 7.65 million people last year, higher than that of 7.0 million people in the previous year, the national statistic bureau has said.

Indonesian Minister for Tourism and Creative Economy Mari Elka Pangestu has said that the government had diversified the market.

Indonesia expects 9.5 million holidaymakers to visit the country by 2014, one million of which from China, the minister told *Xinhua*.—*Xinhua*

Sri Lanka mourns the death of top cricket commentator

COLOMBO, 30 Dec—Sri Lanka on Saturday mourned the death of a leading international cricket commentator, who had been seen as a promoter of Sri Lankan cricket.

Former England cricket captain and veteran commentator Tony Greig died aged 66 after being diagnosed with lung cancer.

Former Sri Lankan captain and leading batsman Sanath Jayasuriya told *Xinhua* that he was

saddened by the news of the death of Greig. Jayasuriya said that Greig was a big supporter of Sri Lanka cricket especially after the Sri Lankans won the 1996 cricket world cup beating Australia in the final.

Greig was also a huge fan of Jayasuriya and his former opening one day cricket partner Romesh Kaluwitharana.

Both Jayasuriya and Kaluwitharana revolutionized the 50 over one day cricket format by scoring runs fast in the first 15 overs.

Greig praised the bat-

ting style of Jayasuriya and Kaluwitharana and eventually became a fan of Sri Lanka and its people.

“They way he promoted me and Kalu was amazing. He was like a Sri Lankan. His death is a big loss to us,” Jayasuriya said.

Former Sri Lankan cricketer Russel Arnold tweeted saying Greig’s death was a shock. Arnold was a co-commentator with Greig. Greig was also a tourism ambassador to Sri Lanka and promoted the island as a place for foreigners to visit.

Xinhua

Six killed, over 50 injured in Pakistan’s Karachi blast

ISLAMABAD, 30 Dec—At least six people were killed and over 50 others were injured when a bomb hit a passenger bus in Pakistan’s southern port city of Karachi on Saturday afternoon, local police said.

Raja Umar Khitab, Superintendent of Criminal Investigation Department said that the blast hit a 47-seat passenger bus when it was passing by a bus stand in Cantonment area of Karachi, the capital city of the country’s southern Sindh Province.

He said that the blast occurred at the rear gate of the bus and the explosive materials were hidden inside the luggage of one of the passengers who were on the way to the country’s

eastern city of Sargodha.

Doctor Seemi Jamali, the Medical Superintendent with Jinnah Hospital Karachi, confirmed that she received six bodies and over 50 injured people including women and kids at the hospital, adding that at least eight of the injured people were in critical condition.

Police said that the targeted bus was completely destroyed in the attack while another bus and several motorbikes parked nearby the blast site were also damaged.

Fire erupted in the area following the blast which caused damage to nearby shops.

Talking to media, a mechanic responsible for examining the busses at the



Rescuers work at the blast site in southern Pakistani port city of Karachi, on 29 Dec, 2012. At least five people were killed and over 45 others were injured in a blast that hit a bus stand in Karachi on Saturday afternoon, local media reported.—*XINHUA*

bus stop said that there were around seven people and some fruit boxes on the bus when it left for Sargodha.

Police and rangers cordoned off the area and investigation into the incident has been kicked off.

No group claimed responsibility for the blast

yet. Interior Minister Rehman Malik took notice of the explosion and directed Inspector General of Sindh police to submit a report to him. Prime Minister Raja Pervez Ashraf condemned the blast and expressed sorrow over the loss of lives and property.—*Xinhua*

Cooking gas canister explosion injures 12 in Cambodia’s capital



Fire fighters try to extinguish a fire after a gas cylinder exploded at a restaurant in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 29 Dec, 2012. Five people, including a child, were seriously injured in the accident.—*XINHUA*

PHNOM PENH, 30 Dec—At least 12 people were injured in a cooking gas canister explosion on Saturday afternoon here, a fire-fighting police chief said.

The accident occurred at 1:50 pm local time at a fast food and cafe shop near the capital’s central market due to the cook changed a cooking gas container carelessly and triggered the explosion leading to a fire, Neth Vantha, chief of the Phnom Penh Firefighting Police Office, said.

“Six were critically in-

jured and six others were slightly injured in the accident,” he told *Xinhua* over telephone, adding that all the victims were sent to Calmette Hospital soon after the event.

“We used 12 fire trucks to fight the fire and it was completely extinguished an hour after the explosion,” he said, adding that properties in the shop were destroyed in the fire.

He said a couple from China’s Taipei, who run the shop, were also injured in the accident.—*Xinhua*

investor in the country.

It added that 40.7 percent of Vietnamese investment went to agriculture, especially rubber plantation, 34.2 percent to energy, 10.5 percent to banking and finance, 6 percent to telecoms, 4 percent to aviation and the rest went to mining.—*Xinhua*

Cambodia-Vietnam trade, investment see marked rises in 2012

PHNOM PENH, 30 Dec—Bilateral trade volume between Cambodia and Vietnam jumped to 3.3 billion US dollars in 2012, a 18 percent rise from 2.8 billion US dollars in 2011, according to a report provided by the Association of Vietnam Investment in Cambodia on

Saturday. Main products Vietnam exported to Cambodia included petroleum, construction materials, information technology devices and equipment, agricultural machinery, fertilizers, and consuming goods.

Meanwhile, Cambodia exported agricultural prod-

ucts including rice, corn, cassava, rubber latex and furniture to Vietnam.

The report also said that Vietnamese investment in Cambodia had reached 2.5 billion US dollars in 2012, up 25 percent from 2 billion US dollars in 2011, ranking Vietnam as the 5th largest in-

Peugeot Citroen China JV sales hit 440,000 units

WUHAN, 30 Dec—Dongfeng Peugeot Citroen Automobile Company Ltd in central China’s Hubei Province on Saturday said it sold a record-high 440,000 cars this year as of Friday.

In a Press release, the 50-50 joint venture between Chinese carmaker Dongfeng Motor Corp and French carmaker PSA Peugeot Citroen said it sold 223,800 Citroen autos and 216,200 Peugeot autos this year.

The joint venture’s

sales also jumped 8.2 percent year on year, outperforming the industry average. In the first 11 months of 2012, total vehicle sales in the world’s largest auto market increased 4.03 percent year on year to 17.49 million units, according to the China Association of Automobile Manufacturers (CAAM).

Many Chinese customers have since snubbed Japanese auto brands, opting to buy from European and US brands instead.—*Xinhua*



Rescuers remove an injured person after a ferry collision accident happened in the Outer Harbour of Macao, south China, on 29 Dec, 2012. A passenger ship carrying 175 passengers and 8 crew members, leaving for Hong Kong on Saturday noon, knocked down a buoy about 15 minutes after departure.—*XINHUA*

27 injured in ferry collision in Macao

MACAO, 30 Dec—Twenty seven people were injured in a ferry collision in Macao Outer Harbour Saturday, according to sources from the local police authority.

The passenger ship carrying 175 passengers and 8 crews, leaving for Hong Kong at 12:15 am, knocked down a buoy about 15 minutes after departure.

A passenger said, he heard a big sound when he was taking rest and he was

not hurt with his seat belt on. But many people who didn’t fasten their seat-belts get injured during the collision.

The ship sailed back to the ferry after the collision. The police authority confirmed that 27 passengers were injured, 25 of them had been sent to hospital immediately, and most of them were slight contuse and scratching.

Related government departments have launched the emergency mechanism after the collision.—*Xinhua*

Missing NATO soldier found dead in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 30 Dec—A Georgian soldier with the NATO-led coalition forces, who went missing since 18 Dec, was found dead in southern Afghanistan, the coalition forces confirmed on Sunday.

“The body of the Georgian soldier who was reported missing 18 Dec was found by members of the Afghan police yesterday in southern Afghanistan. The police recovered the body and turned him over to members of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF),” the coalition or ISAF said in a statement.

The brief statement did not provide details into the incident, only saying “The circumstances of the soldier’s capture and death are under investigation.”

A total of 1,561 Georgian soldiers have been stationed in Afghanistan within the framework of 100,000-strong NATO-led ISAF forces. More than 10 Georgian soldiers have been killed in Afghanistan.

Xinhua



Photo taken on 30 Dec, 2012 shows the snow scenery of the West Lake scenic area in Hangzhou, capital of east China’s Zhejiang Province. Hangzhou witnessed the first snowfall this winter on 29 Dec.

XINHUA

US Senate approves \$60.4 billion Superstorm Sandy aid bill

WASHINGTON, 30 Dec—The US Senate on Friday approved a \$60.4 billion aid package to pay for reconstruction costs from Superstorm Sandy, which ravaged mid-Atlantic and northeastern states, after defeating Republican efforts to trim the bill’s cost.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid urged the Republican-controlled House of Representatives to quickly take up the bill, which includes \$12 billion to repair and strengthen

the region’s transportation system against future storms.

“There is no time to waste,” Reid said.

Both chambers have to agreed on a package by 2 January, when the current term of Congress is expected to end, or restart the process of crafting legislation in 2013. The Senate approved the bill 62-32, with most Republicans voting no.

“We beat back all of the crippling amendments,” said Senator Charles Schumer, a Democrat from New York,

which suffered the largest monetary damage in the storm. “The century-old tradition of different parts of the country rallying to help those who are beleaguered because of difficult natural disasters continues,” Schumer said.

The bill’s chances in the next few days could depend on whether President Barack Obama and congressional leaders reach a deal to avert the “fiscal cliff” of tax increases and spending cuts set to begin taking effect in

Three New Jersey police officers shot; gunman reported dead

GLOUCESTER TOWNSHIP, (New Jersey), 30 Dec—A shootout broke out in a suburban New Jersey police station on Friday when a 39-year-old man who had been taken into custody attacked a police officer, stealing her gun and shooting her and two other officers before he was killed.

One of the officers, Sergeant James Garber, underwent surgery for a gunshot wound to his stomach and was in stable condition, while the other two, Officer Ruth Burns and Sergeant Kevin Thyne, were treated at Cooper University Hospital and released, police said.

The assailant, Eddie Jones III, who had been arrested on charges of stalking his former girlfriend, was killed in the shootout, according to Gloucester Police Chief W Harry Earle.

After his arrest early Friday morning outside his ex-girlfriend’s house, police brought Jones to the

police station and removed his handcuffs while they processed him. “He then suddenly attacked the officer, tackling her to the ground, striking her on the head, and removing her department issued firearm from her holster,” Earle said at a news conference. “Two officers immediately proceeded to her aid. Mr Jones opened fire on the two officers.”

Earle said the handgun taken by Jones was a .40 caliber pistol holding 13 rounds. It was unclear how many rounds were fired.

Hours after the shootout, sections of the Gloucester Township municipal complex, which houses the police department, remained cordoned off by yellow police tape. Residents described it as a quiet community.

“It’s really a safe neighborhood,” said Kim Kavanaugh, 47, who lives across the street from the complex with her husband and two grown children.

Reuters

19 killed, 25 injured in convoy attack in SW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 30 Dec—At least 19 people were killed and 25 others injured when a bomb hit a convoy of three buses carrying Shia pilgrims in Pakistan’s southwest District of Mastung on Sunday morning, said an official.

Tufail Baloch, Deputy Commissioner of Mastung, said that the blast left 19 people dead and 25 others wounded.

Earlier local media reports said that the bus convoy was hit by a roadside bomb while on its way back from Iran to Quetta near Mastung, a district lying some 50 kilometers south of Quetta, capital of Balochistan Province.

However, latest reports said that all the pilgrims were from Multan, a city in central Pakistan and they were on the way to Iran via Quetta.

Over 1,000 Afghan army personnel killed in 2012

KABUL, 30 Dec—More than 1,000 personnel of Afghan army had lost their lives in Taliban-led attacks, bombings and military operations in 2012 in the insurgency-hit country, said a spokesman of the country’s Defence Ministry on Sunday.

“Up to 1,050 Afghan National Army (ANA) personnel including officers and soldiers had been martyred in fight against insurgents and security incidents all over the country in 2012,” General Zahir Azimi told a press briefing.

About 85 percent of army casualties were caused

by the Taliban home-made Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), he said.

However, he failed to give the number of army soldiers who sustained injuries over the same period of time.

Azimi also did not provide any statistics on casualties on the side of Taliban and other insurgent groups in 2012, only saying “Afghan security forces in partnership with NATO-led coalition troops have killed, injured or captured thousands of anti-government elements over the past one year.”

The Taliban, who

ruled the country before they were ousted by a US-led invasion in late 2001, renewed armed insurgency, staging ambush and suicide attacks, killing combatants as well as civilians. Azimi also said the ANA had made significant progress and had important achievement besides being successful in providing security for the people in 2012.

Spokesman Azimi also reiterated that the Afghan government forces will take over full security charge from the NATO-led coalition troops by the end of 2013, a year ahead of schedule.—Xinhua



Contractor Chris Siller pushes a wheelbarrow full of sand to fill in a lawn damaged by superstorm Sandy two months after the storm caused extensive damage in the Queens borough region of Belle Harbour, New York, on 28 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

the new year.

House Republican leaders have not yet decided

whether to take up the Senate bill, a Republican aide said.

Reuters

third bus remained safe. All the injured have been shifted to a civil hospital in Mastung where some of the seriously wounded have been referred to hospital in Quetta, said rescue workers.

Many suffered serious burn injuries, said hospital sources.

Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari issued a statement and strongly condemned the attack.—Xinhua

Iran to continue high-grade uranium enrichment

TEHERAN, 30 Dec—A senior Iranian lawmaker said on Saturday that Teheran is determined to continue uranium enrichment to the purity level of 20 percent and considers that as an indispensable right of the Iranian nation, semi-official Fars news agency reported.

Mansour Haqiqatpour, a member of Iranian Majlis (parliament) National Security and Foreign Policy Commission, said Iran would never exchange this right for the world powers’ content.

Irrespective of agreement or disagreement of the

P5+1 (including the United States, Britain, France, Russia and China plus Germany), the Islamic republic will not give up its right to nuclear technology and the production of 20-percent enriched uranium, which is needed for radio-medicine, Haqiqatpour was quoted as saying.

In November, Head of Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) Fereidoon Abbasi said the Islamic republic would “decisively” continue uranium enrichment.

Xinhua



Balloons are released into the air for celebrate the arrival of the New Year in Sao Paulo, Brazil, on 28 Dec, 2012. Members of Sao Paulo’s Commercial Association released 50,000 balloons into the air, to celebrate the New Year.—XINHUA

ENTERTAINMENT

Kate Winslet



LOS ANGELES, 30 Dec— Kate Winslet's new husband has given her a trip to space as a wedding gift.

The 37-year-old actress wed Ned RocknRoll in a private ceremony in New York earlier this week,

Kate Winslet's husband gifts her trip to space

and the newlyweds will celebrate their union with the extraordinary two-hour flight into orbit courtesy of Ned's uncle, Sir Richard Branson, according to *The Sun* newspaper.

Ned, 34, works part-time for Richard's space flights venture, Virgin Galactic, which aims to offer commercial flights above Earth's atmosphere from next year, and suggested the gift to the billionaire tycoon, who offered a trip to his nephew and his new bride for free. Tickets for the space journey cost a whopping \$124,000,

and have been snapped up already by the likes of actor Ashton Kutcher and comedian Russell Brand.

The couple will fly a dizzying 60 miles above the planet, where they will experience weightlessness and see the Earth's curve. Kate has previously expressed her desire of an astronomical trip. Richard revealed in September: "She wants to go into space. I'm not sure she wants to go on a one-way trip to Mars, but she wants to go into space."

Kate — who has daughter Mia, 12, with first husband Jim Threapleton

and son Joe, nine, with second spouse Sam Mendes — met Ned in August 2011 while on holiday in Necker Island which is owned by Richard. The actress saved Richard's 90-year-old mother, guiding her to safety after her home was struck by lightning. Kate and Ned exchanged \$250,000 wedding rings in an intimate ceremony, but will invite all of their family and friends to celebrate with them in Necker Island next year.

A source said: "They're having a belated celebration so everyone's really happy and excited for them." —PTI

Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt



Brad Pitt, Angelina Jolie spending Christmas in the Caribbean

LOS ANGELES, 30 Dec— Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie are spending the Christmas holidays in the Caribbean.

The couple, their six children — Maddox, 11, Pax, nine, Zahara, seven, Shiloh, six, and four-year-old twins Knox and Vivienne — and Brad's mother Jane are staying at the home of fashion designer Donna Karan on the idyllic island of Turks and Caicos in the exclusive Parrot Cay area.

The luxury home comes complete with an infinity pool lined with black volcanic stone and features 360-degree views of the tropical paradise, an open-air film screening room and a private spa. A source told *the New York Post* newspaper: "They are at Donna's house, without Donna, and have been loving the island because it is so secluded. Angelina's taken the kids to Karan's yoga spa. They've been running around the island without

a care in the world and relaxing."

The engaged couple have also allegedly been joined on the trip by a team of nannies to help them care for the kids as they try and enjoy some down time. Architectural Digest editor-at-large Jeffrey Slonim posted on his blog on Christmas Day (25.12.12): "At lunch on a small island three away from Parrot Cay. A woman said she'd heard from a local that [Pitt and Jolie] were in town with two nannies per child. Count 'em, 12 nannies! (sic)"

Brad and Angelina and their brood are not the only stars relaxing on the island. Rolling Stones guitarist Keith Richards — who completed the band's 50th anniversary shows just a few weeks ago — is enjoying a winter vacation with his family, while *Star Trek Into Darkness* director JJ Abrams is enjoying a break with his loved ones. —PTI

Actress Katie Holmes' Broadway show to close

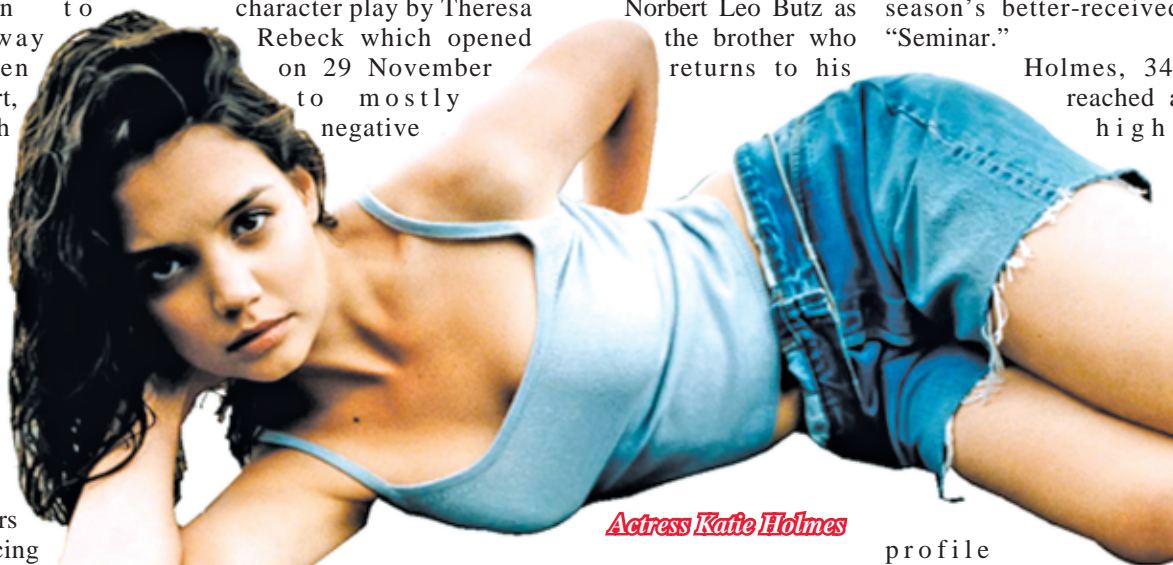
NEW YORK, 30 Dec— Actress Katie Holmes' return to Broadway has been cut short, with

down woman living with her parents in the five-character play by Theresa Rebeck which opened on 29 November to mostly negative

Broadway veterans, who included Tony-winning actor Norbert Leo Butz as the brother who returns to his

on an undeveloped, sketchy play by the author of last season's better-received "Seminar."

Holmes, 34, reached a high-



Actress Katie Holmes

producers announcing that the play "Dead Accounts" in which she co-stars will close on 6 January, nearly two months early.

Holmes, the ex-wife of actor Tom Cruise, played Lorna, a wan, beaten-

reviews. No reason was given for the play's early closing, but media reports said it was earning only a fraction of its box office potential.

Many reviewers said Holmes acquitted herself alongside a roster of

Midwestern family and unleashes havoc in the comedy.

The New York Daily News said "she throws herself gamely into her second Broadway show ... (but) Holmes' efforts add up to zilch."

Most critics laid blame

profile divorce settlement with Cruise last summer. She lives in New York with her young daughter, Suri. Holmes will co-star in an upcoming film which will be a modernization of Chekhov's "The Seagull" along with Allison Janney and William Hurt. —Reuters

Taylor Swift's "Red" tops Billboard chart after holiday season

LOS ANGELES, 30 Dec— Country pop darling Taylor Swift retained the top spot of the Billboard 200 album chart on Thursday after strong sales during the holiday season that saw her album "Red" mark its sixth week at No 1 since its release two months ago.

"Red" sold 275,000 copies last week ahead of the holidays, according to figures from Nielsen SoundScan.

Swift, 23, was able to hold off rapper TI's new album "Trouble Man: Heavy is the Head" from the top spot. The rapper came in at No 2 after selling 178,000 copies.

TI's latest record was the only new release by an individual artist to debut in the top 10 this week. The entries comprised holiday favorites such as Michael Buble's "Christmas" at

No 5 and some of this year's chart-toppers, including One Direction's "Take Me Home" at No 4 and "Babel" by Mumford & Sons at No 8.

Two compilation albums rounded out the top 10, with "12-12-12 The Concert for Sandy" at No 9 and the latest Now Music installment, "Now 44" at No 10.

The star-studded "12-12-12" compilation was released to raise funds for victims of superstorm Sandy following a live concert at New York's Madison Square Gardens on 12 December.

The album features live recordings of songs by Bruce Springsteen, Roger Waters, The Rolling Stones and Alicia Keys.

Reuters



Singer Taylor Swift

R&B singer Brandy engaged to music executive

LOS ANGELES, 30 Dec— R&B singer and actress Brandy Norwood is engaged to music executive Ryan Press, a spokeswoman for the singer said on Thursday.

This will be the first marriage for the singer, who goes by the moniker Brandy. Press is an executive with music publisher Warner/Chappell Music. A date for the wedding has not been announced publicly.

Norwood, 33, has a 10-year-old daughter with her former boyfriend, music producer Robert Smith.

Norwood has starred in numerous television and films since the 1990s and is best known as the lead character in the popular television series "Moesha"

from 1996-2001 on the now-defunct channel UPN.

She also scored a hit song in 1998 with "The Boy is Mine," a collaboration with the singer Monica, which garnered the pair a Grammy award. Brandy released her sixth studio album "Two Eleven" in October this year.

Reuters

Recording artist Brandy Norwood poses on the red carpet as she arrives at the 2012 Billboard Music Awards in Las Vegas, Nevada on 20 May, 2012. REUTERS



Shades of Henry as Walcott fires Arsenal hat-trick

LONDON, 30 Dec—Theo Walcott evoked memories of the great Thierry Henry when his dazzling hat-trick inspired Arsenal to a 7-3 win over Newcastle United on Saturday in one of the best Premier League games of the season.

The England winger has been pleading for the central striker's role for some time and, playing in his

new position, Walcott proved he has what it takes to fill the boots of the London club's all-time top scorer Henry. "He can play through the middle. I am convinced of that," manager Arsene Wenger told reporters after Arsenal climbed to

fifth in the table, 16 points behind leaders Manchester United.

"He can only get stronger there. He has done very well and it just typifies what I think he can do." Walcott was on target in the 20th and 73rd min-

utes before adding his third goal in stoppage time.

Olivier Giroud (2), Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain and Lukas Podolski also struck for Arsenal while two-goal Demba Ba and Sylvain Marveaux replied for Newcastle. Former France striker Henry, who

hit 228 goals in all competitions in two spells with the club between 1999-

2012, applauded from the stands as Walcott produced his outstanding display in attack. The 23-year-old burst free down the left and cut in to deliver a clinical finish beyond Newcastle goalkeeper Tim Krul for the opening goal.

Three times Arsenal led and Newcastle hit back to equalise on each occasion before the visitors were finally buried under a late avalanche of goals in an end-to-end encounter.

Reuters



Britain's cyclist Bradley Wiggins attends the presentation of the itinerary of the 2013 Tour de France cycling race in Paris on 24 Oct, 2012.—REUTERS

Cycling champion Wiggins knighted in UK New Year Honours

LONDON, 30 Dec— Bradley Wiggins, the first Briton to win the Tour de France cycling race, has been knighted in a special United Kingdom New Years Honours list which acknowledges the success of the home team at the 2012 London Olympics.

Just over a week after winning the Tour, Wiggins won a gold medal in the Olympic time trial, one of 65 medals collected by the British team who finished third in the medals table behind the United States and China.

Ben Ainslie, the most decorated yachtsman in Olympic history with gold medals in four consecutive Games, is also knighted as are David Brailsford, the performance director of British cycling and David Tanner, the performance director of British rowing. All four can now be addressed

as "Sir".

Cyclist Sarah Storey, who won four gold medals at the Paralympics, has been made a Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire.

London Olympic gold medallists Jessica Ennis (athletics), Mo Farah (athletics), Katherine Grainger (rowing), Victoria Pendleton (cycling) and David Weir (wheelchair athlete) were named Commanders of the Order of the British Empire (CBE).

Sebastian Coe, the chairman of the London organising committee, is awarded a Companion of Honour (CH) on the main honours' list. There were also awards for Olympic men's tennis champion and US Open winner Andy Murray and Olympic women's boxing gold medalist Nicola Adams among others.—Reuters

Del Piero needs more protection from referees, says coach

MELBOURNE, 30 Dec— Italy great Alessandro Del Piero needs more protection on the field after enduring another bruising match for Sydney FC in Australia's uncompromising A-League, according to his coach Frank Farina.

The 38-year-old World Cup winner will miss the New Year's Eve clash with Adelaide United on Monday after being targeted by defenders during Sydney's shock 1-0 win over the league-leading Central Coast Mariners on Thursday.

"He got fouled eight or 10 times during the match and with the short turnaround he hasn't been able to train and he's not fit to play," Farina told reporters on Sunday.

"It's a blow for us and

a shame for the people of Adelaide but I think there needs to be better protection for him on the field.

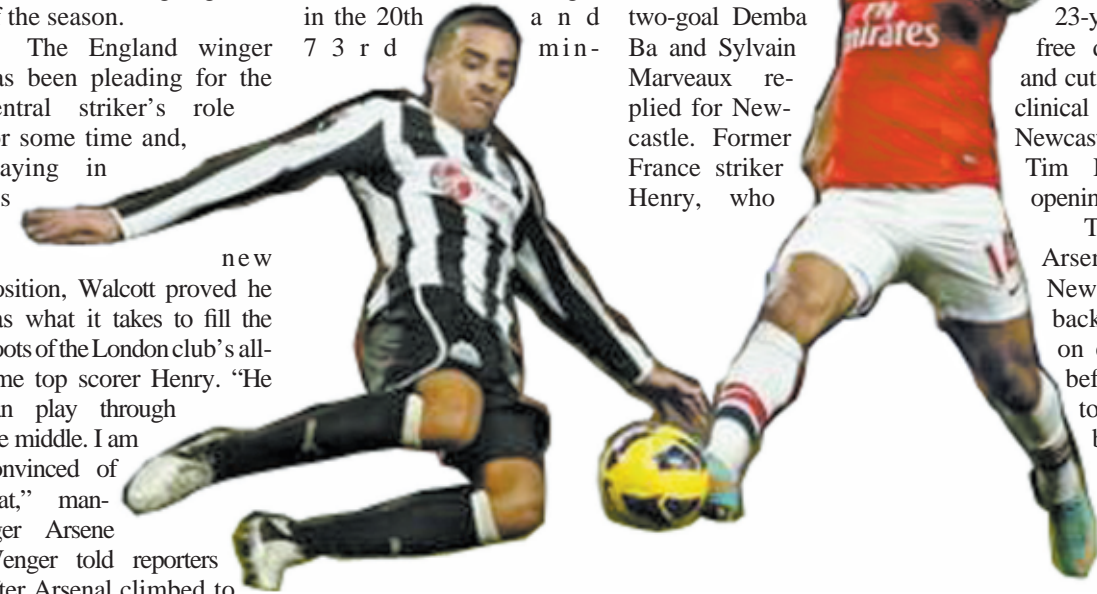
"We play a physical game and Alessandro is a big boy who can handle himself but he is getting kicked repeatedly and if that continues he will miss games through injury."

Reuters



Former Juventus soccer player Alessandro Del Piero of Italy participates in his first training session with new club Sydney FC at Sydney Football Stadium on 18 Sept, 2012.

REUTERS



Arsenal's Theo Walcott (R) challenges Newcastle United's James Perch during their English Premier League soccer match at The Emirates stadium in London on 29 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

Inter's Sneijder could be perfect fit for Premier League

LONDON, 30 Dec—Inter Milan coach Andrea Stramaccioni is still holding out hope that Wesley Sneijder will play for the club again but a move to the Premier

League looks the most obvious choice for the talented Dutch playmaker.

Sneijder, inspirational as Inter won the Champions League, Serie A and

Italian Cup in 2010 under Jose Mourinho, has been dropped by the club for refusing to renegotiate his lucrative contract with purse strings being tightened at the San Siro.

A sale in the January transfer window therefore looks likely with reports saying the 28-year-old could be allowed to leave for as little as eight million pounds (\$12.9 million).

Tottenham Hotspur have been heavily linked with Sneijder in the media while Manchester United were previous admirers of a player who operates best behind the strikers and is notoriously difficult for Serie A defenders to pick up.

Players with a knack

of finding that killer pass have thrived in the newly-cosmopolitan English top flight with Spaniards David Silva, Juan Mata and Santi Cazorla all excelling for Manchester City, Chelsea and Arsenal.

Sneijder is in that class, proving his worth again when helping the Netherlands to the 2010 World Cup final, even if he has gone off the boil a little in the last two seasons having possibly stayed at a faltering Inter too long.

The contract wrangle might suggest he has outstayed his welcome but Stramaccioni is still leaving the door open for a return to the fourth-placed Serie A side.—Reuters



Inter Milan's Wesley Sneijder reacts during the Serie A soccer match against Siena at San Siro stadium in Milan on 23 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

Nadal to miss Australian Open due to illness

MADRID, 30 Dec— French Open champion Rafa Nadal has been forced to withdraw from next month's Australian Open because of a stomach virus that has disrupted his recovery from a long-term knee injury, the world number four said on Friday.

"My knee is much better and the rehabilitation process has gone well as predicted by the doctors, but this virus didn't allow me to practise this past week," the Spaniard, who has also pulled out of the Qatar Open in Doha, said in a statement.

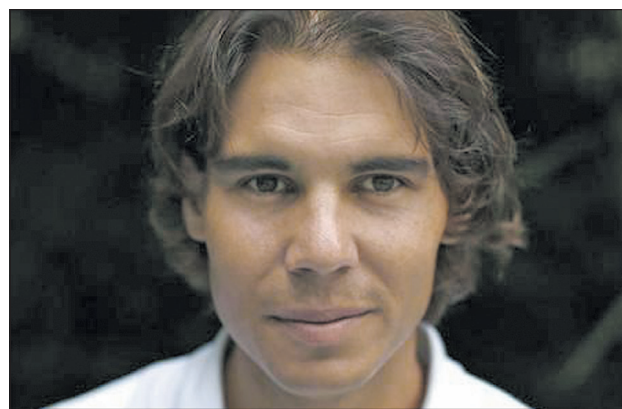
"Therefore I am sorry to announce that I will not

play in Doha and the Australian Open, as we had initially scheduled."

Nadal was due to make his competitive comeback after the knee injury sidelined him for six months at this week's Mubadala World Tennis Championship, an exhibition tournament in Abu Dhabi that is not part of the ATP Tour.

The 26-year-old won the event in 2010 and 2011 but withdrew on 25 December citing the stomach virus. He has not played since June when he suffered a shock defeat in the second round of Wimbledon to Czech Lukas Rosol.

He was subsequently



Spanish tennis player Rafa Nadal poses after an interview with Reuters in Madrid, on 18 Sept, 2012.

REUTERS

diagnosed with a partial tear of the patella tendon and inflammation in his left knee and was unable to defend his Olympic title at the London Games.

The 11-times grand slam singles champion also missed the US Open and

the season-ending World Tour championships before returning to the practice court on 20 November. At last year's Australian Open, Nadal was runner-up to Novak Djokovic after an epic five-set final that lasted almost six hours.—Reuters

GENERAL

Yangon Mayor oversees development tasks

YANGON, 30 Dec—Maha Bandoola Streets Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Yangon Region Minister for Development Affairs Mayor of Yangon U Hla Myint inspected sanitation on 11th Street between Anawrahta and

and highway bus terminal and passenger lounge. He also inspected tasks of waterworks and repaving of Khayaybin Road in Mingaladon Township and Thunanda Creek Bridge in North Okkalapa Township.—MNA

India's oldest club hit with two-year ban

NEW DELHI, 30 Dec—India's oldest football club, Mohun Bagan, have been kicked out of the league and banned for a further two years after refusing to take the field for the second half of their crowd trouble-hit derby against East Bengal earlier this month.

Mohun Bagan were trailing their arch-rivals 1-0 on 9 December in the eastern Indian city of Kolkata when one of their players was hit by a stone hurled from the stands.

The match resumed after a near 15-minute

interruption but Mohun Bagan, founded in 1889, did not return to the field.

The All India Football Federation (AIFF) appointed a retired judge to look into the case and his finding got the approval of an I-League Core Committee on Saturday.

An AIFF statement said Mohun Bagan had been thrown out of the ongoing I-League competition, their matches had been declared null and void, and they would be disqualified from the next two editions of the league.

The club would also have to "return to the I-League any financial stipends that had been paid to it by I-League throughout the competition 2012-2013 or forfeit the right to the same," the AIFF said in a statement.

A revised fixture and points table would soon be issued, the AIFF added.

The I-League committee will decide on any possible additional sanction or fine in a 9 January meeting where the club would be asked to present its case.

Reuters

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(31-12-12 09:30 am ~ 1-1-13 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * Let's take part in Good Deed
- * Delicious Sein Talone Mangoes
- * Myanmar Movies Impact "Heart Hit (2)"
- * News
- * Who can match their Unique Music and Fashion
- * Everything you want to know about star tortoise, but dare not ask?
- * A Trip to the City of Rakkhita, Rakhine
- * News
- * Myanmar International Textile & Garment Industry Exhibition
- * 502nd Founding Anniversary of Kaytumadi Taungoo City
- * 10th Anniversary of Myanmar Physically Handicapped Association (MPHA)
- * Myanmar Movies "The Concealed Love"

MYANMAR TV

(31-12-2012, Monday)

- 7:00 am (Home Economics)
- 1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw -Uppatasanti Paritta
- 7:30 am
- 2. Morning News
- 7:40 am
- 3. Dhamma Puja Song
- 7:50 am
- 4. Nice & Sweet Song
- 8:00 am
- 5. Health Programme
- 8:05 am
- 6. Song Of National Races
- 8:10 am
- 7. Cute Little Dancers
- 8:20 am
- 8. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions
- 8:40 am
- 9. International News
- 4:10 pm
- 10. Dance Variety
- 4:20 pm
- 11. Musical Programme
- 4:45 pm
- 12. University Of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Third Year
- 5:00 pm
- 13. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
- 5:05 pm
- 14. Musical Programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)
- 5:15 pm
- 15. Teleplay (Industry)
- 5:35 pm
- 16. Myanmar Language
- 5:45 pm
- 17. 65th Anniversary Independence Day Programme
- 6:20 pm
- 18. Sing & Enjoy
- 7:00 pm
- 19. TV Drama Series
- 8:00 pm
- 20. News
- 21. International News
- 22. Monthly Weather Report
- 23. 2011 Myanmar Motion Picture Outstanding Awards (Academy Awards) (Delay)

Another Bale booking takes shine off Spurs win



Tottenham Hotspur's Gareth Bale reacts after being booked for diving during their English Premier League match against Sunderland in Sunderland, northern England on 29 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

LONDON, 30 Dec—Tottenham Hotspur winger Gareth Bale is regarded as one of the most exciting players in the world but rightly or wrongly he now has a darker reputation as one of the game's biggest divers after another booking

on Saturday.

In-form Spurs won 2-1 at Sunderland to move third in the Premier League after hammering Aston Villa 4-0 away on Wednesday when the speedy yet skilful Bale netted a majestic hat-trick.

The talk after Saturday's

deserved victory though was all about diving after he received a third booking in a month for going to ground too easily.

It was his fifth domestic yellow card of the season, prompting a ban against Reading on New Year's Day.

"It's the same thing every time. I've been booked for no reason again," Bale protested to Sky Sports.

According to statisticians Opta, Bale has been given five cautions for simulation in the Premier League since the start of 2011-12, while no other player has more than two in that period.

He was booked in Tottenham's 3-0 win at Fulham on December 1 when he tumbled after slight contact by Steve Sidwell having also seen yellow for a dive at home to Liverpool

the previous week.

Saturday's booking followed Bale falling in the area after a touch from Craig Gardner, who had his arm across the Welshman and may have clipped his knee.

Bale immediately turned to the referee as he lay on the floor but Martin Atkinson had no qualms about reaching for his pocket to the winger's dismay.

He feels he is being victimised by officials who do not take into account the speed he runs and denies he is being too theatrical when falling.

"There's nothing I can do. The referees just have to look a bit closer I think," he said. "If I am getting contact, it's a free kick or a penalty. If people are kicking me I'm not going to stop going over because it is a foul."—Reuters

Dzeko inspires City as United seal win

LONDON, 30 Dec—Edin Dzeko shone to give 10-man Manchester City a battling 4-3 victory at Norwich City but leaders Manchester United also won as own goals and more controversial refereeing marked the last Saturday of 2012.

in the second half and kept pumping the ball into our box.

"We're in a good position. We're halfway there."

City striker Dzeko scored twice in the first four minutes and another of his



Manchester City's Edin Dzeko celebrates after scoring his first goal against Norwich City during their English Premier League soccer match at Carrow Road in Norwich on 29 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

Manchester United maintained their seven-point advantage over City at the top after Gareth McAuley turned the ball into his own net and substitute Robin van Persie netted in a 2-0 win over sordid Old Trafford.

"(Van Persie) changed the game for us," United boss Alex Ferguson told the BBC. "When I brought him and Paul Scholes on they settled the game down for us. West Brom dominated

strikes was credited as an own goal by goalkeeper Mark Bunn at Norwich where Samir Nasri's 44th-minute red card had threatened the champions' dominance.

Ten-man Stoke City were facing a first home loss since February but a superb late Cameron Jerome strike secured a 3-3 draw with struggling Southampton and Reading pulled themselves away from last spot with a 1-0 home win over West Ham United.—Reuters

Vilanova will be back in 15 to 20 days, say Barca

MADRID, 30 Dec—Barcelona president Sandro Rosell says coach Tito Vilanova, who suffered a recurrence of cancer in his saliva glands earlier this month, will be back at work midway through January.

Vilanova underwent surgery on 20 December, a day after the club announced that the 44-year-old's condition had returned. He first had treatment in 2011.

"He'll be back within 15 or 20 days, but he must spend

some days at the hospital and rest," Rosell told reporters in Dubai on Friday.

"He will mix work with his treatment. The most important thing is his health. Right now football comes second," added Rosell.

Barcelona have made a record-breaking start to their first season under Vilanova, who replaced friend Pep Guardiola at the helm at the end of the last term, by dropping only two points in 17 matches to lead La Liga by

nine points. Assistant Jordi Roura is taking charge in his absence. Barca's next league match is at home to city rivals Espanyol on 6 January.

Reuters

Barcelona's coach Tito Vilanova gestures to his players during their Spanish first division soccer match against Real Sociedad at Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona on 19 August, 2012. REUTERS



Movies, being able to depict histories, real life stories, future scenarios, common characteristics and unique qualities of national races communities of respective regions, can manifest national identity, crucial for the nation



Union Minister U Aung Kyi addresses Myanmar Motion Picture Outstanding Awards (Academy Awards) Presentation ceremony 2011.—MNA

YANGON, 30 Dec — The ceremony to present Myanmar Motion Picture Outstanding Awards (Academy Awards) for 2011 was held this evening.

More movie fans, film artistes and technicians attended the Academy award-giving ceremony held in Yangon this year.

Of 15 movies shown in 2011, Academy awards went to movies with outstanding artistic skills.

Union Minister for Information U Aung Kyi and wife Daw Thet Thet Swe, Union Minister at President Office U Soe Thein, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay, Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Sports, Culture and Public Relations Development Committee Thura U Aye

Myint, Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives, Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker U Sein Tin Win, Deputy Minister for Information U Paik Htwe, Yangon Region ministers, Indonesian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Sebastianus Sumarsono and ambassadors and charges d' affaires ai of embassies in Yangon and their wives, departmental heads, members of the Committee for Development of Myanmar Motion Pictures and responsible persons of Movie and Video Censorship Committees, Myanmar Motion Picture Organization, Myanmar Music Organization, Myanmar Drama Artistes and Artisans Organization, Myanmar Writers Association, invited guests, film artistes and technicians and movie fans

attended the ceremony held at National Indoor-Stadium (1), Thuwunna, here.

Union Minister U Aung Kyi delivered an address at the ceremony.

At this ceremony film artistes and technicians for their outstanding performances in the Myanmar movies screened in the year 2011 will be honoured. These award winners were selected by Myanmar Motion Picture Outstanding Award Scrutiny

movie fans live, once again the ceremony is organized in the commercial capital beginning this year in accord with the wish of the movie world. By the way, there is a good news that starting from the ceremony to present awards for the films screened in 2013, the Myanmar Motion Picture Association will be the main organizer of the Myanmar Motion Picture Outstanding Award Presentation ceremonies in the coming years. Since

communication system and fiberglass-used infrared ray data relay system apart from the capacity of conventional networks to send electronic images easily have created a large audience who are enjoying still pictures and sound-aided moving pictures at home.

With this current speed of communication technology advancement, it is sure that within coming few decades there will be

If film artistes and technicians create scripts and words for pictures having high imagination, giving deep emotion and showing distinctive action with synchronized sound and music, they will become the country's valuable human resources shaping a brighter future for their own industry.

If all stakeholders can solve the two most basis problems of production, which are copyright and distribution, through



Union Minister U Aung Kyi presents Best film Director Award to Tun Aung Zaw.—MNA

Board through different stages. As we all know, the Board is formed by eminent artistes, academicians and technicians of movie, literary and music world.

As Yangon is the place where a large number of

1952, the State has presented 338 awards at 55 ceremonies.

Within the past few decades, the whole global artistic structure witnessed great changes in connection with the fast development of new technologies. Satellite



Union Minister U Soe Thein presents Best Screenplay Award to Myint Hsaung and Soe Kyaw Hsan.—MNA

networks sending pictures and sound movies round the clock to every home in every place of the world. So, the potential for the movie market is extremely high.

coordination, the success of Myanmar movie world will be within reach.

Art is the cultural treasury of a nation or a society.

(See page 9)



Academy Yan Aung presents Best Actor Award to Naung Naung. MNA



Academy Cho Pyone presents Best Supporting Actress Award to Chit Snow Oo. MNA



Academy Tun Eindra Bo presents Best Actress Award to Melody. MNA