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Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham extends New Year greetings to Shan national race

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Dec— Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham wished Shan New Year, sharing his wish for a year of a wide range of freedoms and social and economic development meeting international standards that will be born together with peace in his greetings to Shan nationalities at Hsin Shweli theater in Lashio where the Shan New Year Festival that welcomes Shan year 2108 was celebrated today.

Now is the time when peace process is progressing to a certain extent and it is expected to translate the process into a success soon, he added.

Next, the Vice-President observed traditional cultural stage performances, departmental and cultural booths and cordially greeted local people.

This is the 17th time as the festival has been held since 1996. This year's



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham presents cash assistance to eye patients at Lashio hospital.—MNA

Shan New Year Festival was organized by Shan Literature and Culture As-

sociation. Shan New Year falls on 1st waxing of Nadaw according to Myanmar

calendar, it is learnt.

Then, the Vice-President offered provisions and

day meal to 50 members of Sangha in the cave of Yan Taing Aung Hsutaungpyae MyotU Pagoda.

In the afternoon, the Vice-President spoke words of encouragement to patients who were receiving eye surgeries at Lashio hospital.

After hearing a report about extended construction of staff quarter presented by the medical superintendent at the hall of Myanmar Medical Association (Lashio), the

(See page 6)

Technical Cooperation Project regarding 27th SEA Games clarified

YANGON, 3 Dec— A Technical Cooperation Project regarding the 27th SEA

Games between Myanmar and China was held at Sedona Hotel, here, this evening.

It was attended by Union Minister U Aye Myint Kyu, Deputy Minister U Thaug Htike, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Li Liyan, and Chinese officials and media men.

Sagawah

Slight earthquake jolts inside Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Dec— A slight earthquake of magnitude (4.5) Richter Scale with its epicenter inside Myanmar, about 7 miles north-northeast of Thabeikkyin, about 70 miles north of Mandalay seismological observatory was recorded at 16 hrs 32 min 44 sec M.S.T today, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.—MNA

Myanmar Wushu to sweep gold medals in SEA Games

Selected athletes from Myanmar Wushu Federation are undergoing intensive training at Indoor Stadium of the Wunna Theikdhi sports ground here. The Myanmar team is ready to secure the gold medals in the 27th SEA Games, according to coach U Sein Win.

The federation is providing necessary assistance to each sportsperson in coordination with the coaches and doc-

tors. The Wushu event of the SEA Games includes San Shou and Taolu events. Altogether ten countries— Myanmar, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Brunei, Laos, Cambodia, Singapore, Vietnam and Thailand— will participate in the Wushu events of the SEA Games. The events will be held at the Wunna Theikdhi sports complex (B) from 6 to 10.

Myanma Alinn: 2-12-2013

Trs: MT

Byline: Zin, July, Theint, Phyto
Photo: Thura (Toungoo)



LOCAL NEWS

Prizes awarded to winners in essay, poem recitation and extempore talks contest in Tachilek

TACHILEK, 3 Dec—With the sponsorship of Myanmar Libraries Foundation, Shan State (East) Information and Public Relations Department organized extempore talks, poem recitation contest and prize presentation ceremony for development of the school libraries at Aung Myat Hall in Tachilek recently.

At the ceremony, Deputy Commissioner U

Thaung Tin Htwe and State IPRD Deputy Director U Sai Hsam Tit made speeches.

Then, the extempore talks followed. The students from Basic Education High School No (5) took part in the extempore talks and poem recitation contest.

Ma Hnin Ei Wai of Hsan Hsaing BEHS stood first in the extempore talks and Maung Aung Myo Oo

from Hong Leik BEHS in poem recitation contest.

Deputy Commissioner U Thaung Tin Htwe, Deputy Director U Sai Hsam Tit, Assistant Director Daw Myint Myint Khaing and officials awarded prizes to the winners.

Afterwards, Deputy Director U Sai Hsam Tit presented certificates of honour to the wellwishers.

Kyemon-District IPRD

Keeping town pleasant, neat and tidy inspected in Myeik



MYEIK, 3 Dec—Deputy Commissioner of Myeik District General Administration Department U Lwin Ko Oo, Township Administrator U Thein Win and Chairman of Township Development Affairs Committee U Gwan and members supervised the construction of the roads recently.

Next, they viewed

maintenance of the roads such as 1060 feet long Lower Yepone Road, 1000 feet long Upper Yepone Road, 800 feet long Naukle Ward Padauk Shwewah Road and 800 feet long School Road to Basic Education High School No. 1.

They also looked into stockpiling of construction materials for 2700 feet long Adipati Road, 1800 feet long

road to Home for the Aged of Kalwin Village.

They later viewed placing of concrete along 420 feet long Naukle Road on a self-reliant basis.

MMAL-District IPRD

Construction

Meiktila-Thaphan rural road needed to be repaired for regional development



MEIKTILA, 3 Dec—Meiktila-Thaphan Road is four miles and two furlongs long from Irrigation groundnut as main business, the demonstrated agricultural machinery will be suitable for the local people.

The farming equipment includes New Holland power tillers and DongFang

power tillers for local farmers.

The department plans to hire its machinery to local farmers in their works.

MMAL-Ye Thura Aung (NyaungU)

Department Junction to Thaphan Village.

The road had been filled with gravels since 10 years. Due to lack of maintenance, impacts of weathers and drives of vehicles, the road is damaged.

Indeed, Meiktila-Thaphan road contributes to development of the rural areas. "Local people from Thaphan, Nyaungzauk, Omatway, KanU Sanpya, Pankyaing villages rely on the road. They use the road

This year, the road was also damaged by the heavy rains.

"This year, members of the Image Board of Trustees and officials of Alaungdaw Kassapa National Park jointly organized the repairing of the Yinmabin-Zeedaw-Kapaing Road. Three Friends Co takes responsibility for repairing the road from Kapaing to Pwintgyi 5th-Mile Camp. Despite larger damage of the road, the opening ceremony of the road will be held similar to that of previous year," said Patron of the image Sayadaw U Sumana.

The construction company is pouring out its efforts for repairing the road with the use of heavy machinery. That is why the pilgrims from the regions across the nation may have the opportunities to pay homage to the image through the already repaired road.—*MMAL-Soe Soe (Yinmabin)*

in transport of crops and purchase of goods from urban areas. Actually, the damaged part of the road is a half long. That is why the local people wish repairing of the road by authorities," said a local of Pankyaing Village.

People of Thaphan Village send their products to the market via Meiktila.

The local people use the road in taking the goods and materials for the production," said a local people.—*MMAL-435*

Ko Min Ko Chin Road in Bago upgraded

BAGO, 3 Dec—Road construction workers led by Assistant Engineer U Lay Lwin of Bago Development Affairs Committee Office carried out repairing of road along Ko Min Ko Chin Road,

west of Lakepya Lake, the significant place of the town with the fund allotted in 2013-2014 FY. The road is always busy with road users as it is the main one in Bago.

Kyemon-Min Sit Thu

Visitors to pay homage to image of Alaungdaw Kassapa



MONYWA, 3 Dec—Anybody may go to Alaungdaw Kassapa Image along Monywa-Yargyi-Kalewa Road, Tayawkyin-Kyaunggaing-Kapaing Road and Yinmabin-Zeedaw-Kapaing Road.

The road from Kapaing

Village to Alaungdaw Passapa Image is 21 miles distance.

The torrent rains eroded the road to be damaged in the rainy season. Thus, the road is repaired with the use of heavy machinery in every open season.

Agricultural machinery introduced in NyaungU to solve shortage of labourers

NYAUNGU, 3 Dec—Under the instruction of Mandalay Region Chief Minister, the Agricultural Mechanization Department of NyaungU Township organized the demonstration on use of agricultural machinery at the farmlands of Daw Ngwe Yin of Taungba Village in the township.

It was attended by Region Hluttaw representatives, district and township level departmental officials, members of Township Development Supportive Committee, staff of Agriculture Department, agricultural coordination committee members and local people.

Staff of AMD explained the use of machinery and demonstrated their usage.

The demonstration was

aimed at solving the shortage of labourers and undertaking speeded farmlands works. If the climate changes, the farmers will have the skills for winnowing and threshing paddy in time.

As NyaungU people are engaged in cultivation of



WORLD

NATO says Karzai failure to sign pact would end Afghan mission

BRUSSELS, 3 Dec — NATO would have to pull all its troops out of Afghanistan by the end of 2014 if Afghan President Hamid

Karzai does not sign a security pact with the United States, alliance chief Anders Fogh Rasmussen said on Monday.



US troops, part of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), arrive at the site of a suicide attack in Maidan Shar, the capital of Wardak Province, on 8 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

An assembly of Afghan elders, the Loya Jirga, last month endorsed the security pact intended to shape the US military presence in the country beyond 2014. But Karzai said he might not sign it until after elections in April.

The NATO-led force currently has around 80,000 troops in Afghanistan, the majority American. NATO is winding down combat operations, handing responsibility for fighting Taliban insurgents to the Afghans, before most foreign combat forces pull out by the end of 2014.

NATO plans to leave a training mission, expected to number 8,000 to 12,000 soldiers, in Afghanistan

after 2014.

The United States has already warned it could withdraw all its forces by the end of next year, the so-called “zero option”, if Karzai does not sign the pact.

Without the US-Afghan accord, NATO will not be able to finalize its own agreement with the Afghan government setting the terms for troops from other NATO and partner nations to remain in Afghanistan after 2014, Rasmussen told reporters. “In that case, we don’t have a proper legal framework in place and it will not be possible to deploy a ‘train, advise, assist’ mission to Afghanistan after 2014,” Rasmussen said.—Reuters

Iran to reassert authority at OPEC after nuclear deal

VIENNA, 3 Dec — Bijan Zanganeh returns this week to the same Vienna hotel suite he last occupied eight years ago as Iranian oil minister, ready to prepare OPEC for what Teheran hopes will mark its return as the cartel’s second biggest producer.

Emboldened by its nuclear deal with the West, Iranian oil negotiators led again by industry veteran Zanganeh, will seek to reassert Teheran’s authority in the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries at a Wednesday meeting.

Western sanctions imposed in 2012 on Iran for its nuclear programme have cost it dearly, losing it billions of dollars in oil revenues and market share in OPEC — largely to its main regional political rival Saudi Arabia, and neighbour Iraq.

With its exports still shackled by sanctions for at least another six months, Iran poses no immediate threat to the status quo. Oil ministers are widely expected to roll forward until June an agreement to hold their output near 30 million barrels daily for 12 member countries. But oil traders will be watching closely for signs of cooperation, or otherwise, between the big three producers in OPEC, knowing that Riyadh and Baghdad will need to find room for Iran should its interim nuclear deal be verified and sanctions lifted.—Reuters

Japan emperor, empress attend welcoming ceremony in India

NEW DELHI, 3 Dec — Japan’s Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko attended a welcoming ceremony on their official visit to India at President Pranab Mukherjee’s official residence in New Delhi on Monday.

After being greeted by Mukherjee and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, the imperial couple met with Singh at Hyderabad House, where the Indian government holds banquets and meetings with foreign dignitaries.

In their meeting, Singh expressed his gratitude for Japan’s cooperation on Indian infrastructure projects. The emperor said he is pleased to hear about Japan’s contribution to India.

The emperor and empress also offered flowers at Raj Ghat, where Mahatma Gandhi was cremated fol-



Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh (front R) receives Japanese Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko at the Indian presidential residence in New Delhi on 2 Dec, 2013.—KYODO NEWS

lowing his assassination in 1948.

They visited the me-

morial during their first official trip to the country 53 years ago.—Kyodo News

Indonesian president urges WTO members to open market for poor countries

BALI, (Indonesia), 3 Dec — Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono appealed here on Tuesday that members of the World Trade Organization (WTO) should open their market wider to support the development of the poor countries.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the 9th WTO ministerial conference kicked off Tuesday afternoon in the Indonesian resort

island of Bali, Yudhoyono said giving the least developed countries an opportunity to trade gives them an opportunity to develop.

“Despite our progress, 1.2 billion people continue to live in extreme poverty,” the president said.

A rules-based multilateral trading system works for developing countries is needed, he added, pointing out that helping the weak grow

strong will bring benefits too and it will contribute to regional and global stability.

The three-day WTO ministers’ meeting, struggling to revive the long-stalled Doha Round by reaching a possible trade deal, was attended by trade chiefs of the organization’s 159 members and other 10,000 diplomats from more than 160 countries and regions.—Xinhua



An anti-government protester looks for shelter during a clash outside the Government House in Bangkok, Thailand, on 2 Dec, 2013.—XINHUA

Thai anti-gov’t protesters end street unrest, allowed entry into Government House, police bureau

BANGKOK, 3 Dec — Thai anti-government protesters stopped a two-days street unrest in the heart of the capital as police allowed them to enter the compounds of the Government House and the metropolitan police headquarters on Tuesday.

Hundreds of anti-government protesters were allowed passage to get inside the compounds of the Government House and the metropolitan police headquarters after two previous days of struggling to get in and occupy. Both the protesters and the policemen were all smiles, hugging, taking pictures, exchanging pleasant-tries and flowers handed out as though the fighting which got started on Sunday had never occurred.

Centre for the Administration of Peace and Order

spokesman Pol Maj Gen Piya Uthayo confirmed that the protesters had not caused any turbulence or damage to government property as they entered those government premises.

Over the last two days, they had cut barbed wires and dismantled concrete barricades which divided them from the policemen as they intended to enter and occupy those places. Bulldozers and garbage trucks were used to ram the wires and barricades to give way to the angry demonstrators, but the police fired tear gas and managed to keep them at bay.

While the police had fired tear gas, the protesters hurled plastic bombs, giant firecrackers and rocks at those government premises.

Xinhua

Syria death toll hits nearly 126,000: monitoring group

BEIRUT, 3 Dec — The death toll in Syria’s civil war has risen to at least 125,835, more than a third of them civilians, but the real figure is probably much higher, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said on Monday.

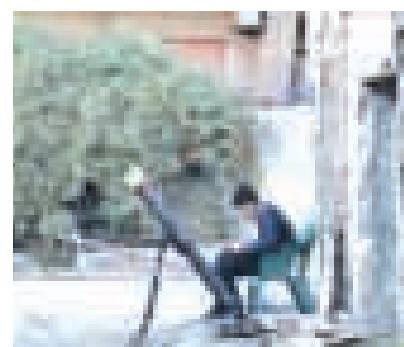
The pro-opposition monitoring group also appealed to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon and “all people in the international community who have a conscience” to increase their efforts to end the 2-1/2 year war. The conflict began as peaceful protests against four decades of rule by President

Bashar al-Assad’s family, but under a fierce security force crackdown, turned into an armed insurgency whose sectarian dimensions have echoed across the Middle East. The Observatory, based in Britain but with a network of activists across Syria, put the number of children killed in the conflict so far at 6,627.

It put the death toll among rebels fighting the Assad government at least 27,746 rebels, including more than 6,000 categorized as foreign fighters or unknown combatants.

Reuters

A Free Syrian Army fighter listens to music as he sits beside a rocket launcher, on a damaged street in the Jobar neighbourhood of Damascus on 30 Nov, 2013. REUTERS



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

How Israel keeps a Blue eye on the world's water



Yoplait in France

Electro-optic systems from Israel are keeping municipal and food production water supplies, as well as pools, from contamination.

By Rivka Borochoy

What do international companies like Yoplait, Coca-Cola, General Electric and the chemical giant BASF have in common? Along with Barcelona and several American cities, they are now relying on the Israeli water-monitoring company Blue I ("blue eye") to keep an eye on their water.

The Israeli company, with millions of dollars in turnover, provides a real-time monitor that can test for chlorine and clarity in factory or municipal water.

Coca-Cola can't have impurities or any added taste in its secret recipe. And Yoplait's world-famous yogurt production must abide by strict taste and security standards that customers expect.

Stela Diamant, the CTO of Blue I, says her company is the "gatekeeper for the food industry."

Security is a growing concern for city officials. While there is currently no test on the market that can sniff out anthrax poisoning in municipal water, if something looks suspicious in the water supply, Blue I's spot boxes can send out alerts to suspend operations until the

problem is solved.

The extreme sensitivity of its turbidity and chlorine monitors, run by electro-optics, can detect the faintest of changes that can affect test parameters, says Diamant.

Putting pool boys out of business

The company recently



The Coca-Cola bottling plant in India uses Blue I.

secured a \$3 million investment, led by Israel's Effi Capital, to expand its latest electro-optic technology: Plazma, an automated "pool boy" for ongoing maintenance of swimming pools in condominiums or other private settings. It assures the correct pH and chlorine balance.

"Plazma reports and controls," says Diamant. "We came up with an analyzer that doesn't need any technical person to operate it, and still maintains the pool in the condo building."

The investment, announced in June, will be



This Prizma pool purification is working in Germany.

used in part to enter the Latin American market. Blue I is already testing 20 of its units at condo pools in Brazil. Previously, the company helped make sure that pools were safe and clean during the Beijing 2008 Olympics.

Blue I was founded in 2003 and is now controlled

"We are really pioneers in this very traditional world," Diamant says.

There are already tens of thousands of Blue I systems operating around the world. Typically they are sold through distributors, including one that provides products for bottling plants.

Blue I currently has its technology installed in 25 Coca-Cola plants, from Israel to India. The giant soft-drink maker likes the system's ability to detect even trace levels of chlorine. Diamant says this is critical because chlorine is added to the plant's water to sterilize it, and then must be entirely removed before being made into soda-pop.

The company's independent bottling sites need to be 100 percent sure that no chlorine gets into the world's favorite drink, and Blue I can give them that guarantee, she says.

Blue I employs 25 people in Israel, based in Rosh Ha'Ayin's Afek Industrial Park. The company was located in Kibbutz Ramat Rachel on the southern border of Jerusalem until it split from its sister company, Mapal Pools, to form its own entity. It offers about a dozen products.

Within Israel, Blue I clients include Israel's national water carrier, Mekorot, as well as Israel's Oil Refineries.

80 skulls found in China's neolithic city

XI'AN, 3 Dec — Archaeologists in northwest China's Shaanxi Province said they had excavated over 80 skulls in the ruins of the largest neolithic Chinese city ever discovered.

The skulls were found in groups and their limb bones could not be retrieved elsewhere at the Shimao Ruins in Shenmu County, Yulin City, said Sun Zhouyong, deputy head of the Shaanxi Provincial Institute of

Archaeology, on Sunday.

Two groups of skulls were firstly found in two pits, with 24 of the grisly finds in each, in front of the east gate of the city ruin while others were later uncovered along the eastern city wall, Sun said.

Archaeologists deduced that these skulls are likely to be related to the construction of the city wall, suggesting that ancient religious activities or foundation

ceremonies were launched before construction of the neolithic city began.

Sun said anthropologists identified most of the skulls as belonging to young women, which suggested the outbreak of mass violence or ethnic conflict in the region since ancient people were prone to use their enemies or captives as sacrifices.

These skulls will serve as important materials for research on the religious

thinking, construction concepts and cultural activities of people living along the Yellow River Basin over 4,000 years ago, according to Sun.

The Shimao Ruins were first found in 1976 in the form of a small town, and archaeological authorities identified the ruins as the largest of their kind from neolithic times in 2012 after measuring the exact size of the ancient stone city.—Reuters

Deutsche Telekom plans new packages after Internet cap blocked

FRANKFURT, 3 Dec — Deutsche Telekom plans to repackage its Internet offering rather than appeal against an October court ruling that blocked it from capping connection speeds when customers exceed data limits on flat-rate contracts.

After announcing its decision not to launch an appeal, the former German monopoly said on Monday that it will introduce new deals with flat rates or fixed data volumes.

The telecoms operator's head of German operations, Niek Jan van Damme, told reporters that the company aims to be more transparent, adding: "We want to win back customer confidence we have lost." Public outrage this year prompted Deutsche Telekom to water down plans to cap data speeds

over fixed broadband lines.

It had said that, from 2016, customers who sign up for flat-rate Internet deals and who exceed their monthly data download limit would see their surfing speed capped at 2 megabits per second (Mbit/s).

The Cologne district court ruled in favor of the consumer lobby group Verbraucherzentrale NRW, which had brought the case to court. Deutsche Telekom's Van Damme declined to indicate how much customers will have to pay for the new packages, but he said that the new flat-rate packages would be more expensive than the contracts with fixed data volumes.

He added that it is unlikely that the new tariffs would be introduced in the next 12 months.

Reuters



The logo of German company Deutsche Telekom is pictured at the CeBit computer fair in this file photo taken in Hanover, on 6 March, 2012. — REUTERS

US online startup makes going solar as easy as booking travel

LOS ANGELES, 3 Dec — In a first on Monday, an online marketplace will allow US homeowners to weigh options for going solar as easily as they can compare prices for airline tickets.

Geostellar, a startup backed by power producer NRG Energy Inc, is seeking to become the Expedia or Orbitz of the solar industry — a one-stop shop where consumers can not only compare the benefits of leasing solar panels versus buying them outright, but ultimately sign up to install a system.

Solar players including NRG, No 1 US installer SolarCity Corp, Boston-based solar loan

provider Admirals Bank, manufacturer and financier Conergy, East Coast installer Roof Diagnostics and Connecticut's Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority will feature their products on the site, www.geostellar.com. Geostellar hopes its platform will allow installers and financiers to lower the cost of acquiring new customers — a major goal in the fiercely competitive rooftop solar industry.

Solar companies are laser focused on slashing costs so that they can deliver on their promise to save customers money on power bills by going solar.

Reuters

BUSINESS & HEALTH

The victims of Syria's war finding care in Israel

By Kevin Connolly

In the maternity unit at the Sieff Hospital in the Israeli city of Tzfat, the safe arrival of every baby feels like a minor miracle.

But on the day we visited, there was one little boy among the row of newborns who will one day have quite a story to tell. That is, if his parents ever decide to tell him.

The child's name has to be withheld: publishing any kind of information which could identify him might put him in danger when he goes back to his home village — which is in Syria.

His mother's name or any personal information

that might identify her can't be published either. She looked tired but happy when we met her, quick to praise the kindness of the Israeli medical staff who had treated her.

She was already in labour when she went to her local clinic in her home village in Syria — but they told her that they could not treat her.

Her worried husband knew that it was possible to get her treated in Israel — and so the couple began a dangerous race to the frontier in a country at war and a desperate race against time.

She had to be taken to a point inside Syria from

where she could be seen by Israeli soldiers patrolling the fence that marks the old ceasefire line between the two countries that dates back decades.

A military ambulance then took her to hospital — she made it on time.

System of transfer

The humanitarian chain that got the woman from her home village under heavy shellfire to the boundary fence and then to hospital links guides in Syria to Israeli Army paramedics on the frontier, to the doctors and nurses in Tzfat.

For the woman, every step in the process worked perfectly, perhaps because

it has become a well-trodden path.

She was the 177th person to make the journey to the emergency room in what has become one of the most extraordinary subplots of Syria's agonising civil war.

Syria and Israel regard each other as enemies. A state of war has existed between them for decades.

And yet, since the first patients arrived around nine months ago, the informal system of patient transfer has become so well-established that some patients have even arrived with letters of referral written by doctors in Syria for their Israeli



counterparts.

Human dramas

Dr Oscar Embon, the director of the Sieff Hospital, says simply: "Some beautiful relationships have started between the staff at the hospital and the people that we treat. Most of them express their gratitude and their wish for peace between the two countries."

The Israelis say they are treating everyone who needs treatment. That often means women and children but it is possible that among the young men who have been patched up, there may well be fighters loyal to Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, or jihadist rebels who in other circumstances would attack Israeli targets if they could.

Apple buys startup Topsy; gets rich Twitter data



Apple Inc CEO Tim Cook holds up the new iPad Air during an Apple event in San Francisco, California on 22 Oct, 2013. — REUTERS

SAN FRANCISCO, 3 Dec — Apple Inc has acquired social media search and analytics startup Topsy, an unusual purchase for a hardware-focused company that has made few forays into social networking. Apple confirmed the acquisition but would not say why it bought the company, which specializes in analyzing Twitter data and providing insights into current sentiment on a

variety of topics.

The Wall Street Journal, which reported the news earlier, cited people familiar with the deal as saying Apple paid over \$200 million.

"Apple buys smaller technology companies from time to time, and we generally do not discuss our purpose or plans," spokeswoman Kristin Hugué said. Topsy did not respond to requests for comment. The iPad

and iPhone maker often does what it calls "bolt-on" acquisitions, small deals to acquire technology that then gets integrated into existing or future products. Many of its acquisitions in recent years have been angled toward improving hardware. This year, it paid a reported \$350 million for Israeli 3D chip developer PrimeSense Ltd, perceived as an effort to incorporate gesture technology into its devices. And in 2008, it paid a reported \$280 million for a semiconductor designer that eventually yielded the current line of processors that power the iPhone and iPad.

Apple's main effort in social media has revolved around Ping, a music-centered social sharing network that was at one point integrated into its iTunes app. The service, which lets users post music tracks they liked to a news feed, didn't catch on and was shut down.

Reuters

Global factory growth picks up but Europe diverging

LONDON/ BEIJING, 3 Dec — Increasing demand for manufactured goods drove global factory activity higher last month but the spurt in the euro zone masked a widening disparity among some of the bloc's key members. As year-end approaches, the global economy is showing signs of a more solid recovery, with encouraging signs from some economies, particularly Britain, of an acceleration.

But growth in Europe's 17-nation currency union

remains weak and Markit, compiler of the monthly Purchasing Managers' Indexes, said on Monday that there was evidence of a renewed downturn in France and Spain. Markit's Eurozone Manufacturing PMI rose to 51.6 last month from October's 51.3, a two-year high, just pipping an earlier flash reading of 51.5, and the fifth consecutive month showing growth. The output index nudged up to 53.1 from 52.9.

"It is coming from a pretty low level," said Ben

May at Capital Economics. "Signs of weakness in France is clearly a worry and suggests that the divergence between it and Germany remain firmly in place. It would raise more concerns if it were to continue or intensify." France's PMI fell to a five-month low of 48.4 from 49.1, chalking up its 21st month below 50, while Spain's sank back below the 50 break-even mark after spending the last three months in growth territory. By contrast, data from Germany, Europe's biggest economy, showed factories there had their best month since mid-2011. Italian figures showed manufacturing there also picked up speed.

The euro zone escaped from its longest-ever recession earlier this year, supported by better-than-expected growth in Germany, but a Reuters poll last month suggested the bloc's economy will grow only moderately though next year. — Reuters



A worker operates a machine to cut a pipeline at a factory in Qingdao, Shandong Province on 29 Nov, 2013. — REUTERS

'Cyber Monday' sales set to hit record

NEW YORK, 3 Dec — US online sales are expected to hit \$2 billion on "Cyber Monday," for the first time since the data firm comScore has been tracking such information.

A 20 percent increase is expected to come even after many consumers shopped earlier when retailers started offering their "Cyber Monday" deals on Sunday. As of 12 pm EST, online sales were up 21.4 percent on "Cyber

Monday," according to IBM Digital Analytics Benchmark.

The growth is not just a boon for online retailer Amazon.com Inc. Bricks-and-mortar chains that have successfully integrated their e-commerce and in-store businesses also stand to gain from the online growth. Wal-Mart Stores Inc, Target Corp, Toys R Us, Macy's Inc, JC Penney Co Inc and Best Buy Co Inc were among the brick-and-



mortar chains that started their online deals early.

"All of them are behind Amazon, but some are starting to catch up," said Edward Jones analyst Brian Yarbrough. Cyber

Monday" is the busiest day of the year for online sales and follows the Thanksgiving weekend that kicks off the peak holiday shopping season.

Reuters

Shire agrees to supply Adderall XR generic to Sandoz

LONDON, 3 Dec — Pharmaceutical company Shire said on Monday it had agreed to supply an authorized generic version of Adderall XR, its drug to treat hyperactivity, to Sandoz. Adderall, an amphetamine, is available in instant release and extended release formulations. Shire now only produces the extended version, for which it retains patent rights, and sales of the drug have been falling since

a generic version became available in 2009.

However, the drug still generated sales of \$81.4 million for Shire in the third quarter of the year. Under the agreement, Sandoz, the generic arm of Novartis, will exclusively sell the authorized generic version of Adderall XR supplied by Shire from 1 July, 2016 in the United States, Shire said, adding it would receive a royalty on sales. — Reuters

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham extends ...

(from page 1)

Vice-President said that requirements still remain in the country's health sector despite a four-fold increase in health spending. Although there has been adequate supply of medicines that were purchased last year, it is still required to boost spending in infrastructural development. He called for a plan to renovate and build some parts of the staff quarter. He made a vow that the government, in its part, will provide necessary assistance as much as it can.

On his arrival at Thiri Mingala Mansu Shan Mon-

astery, he spoke words of encouragement to eye patients, dental patients and cleft lip-cleft palate patients from Maiyal, Hsenwi and Lashio who were receiving treatment there.

The Vice-President proceeded to Namakhaw highway terminal project site. He heard reports on progress in establishment of ghetto No (1) in Lashio presented by the deputy commissioner and Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin.

Next, the Vice-President and party inspected construction works in a motorcade. —MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker arrives back from Japan

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Dec—

A Myanmar parliamentary delegation led by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann arrived back in Yangon this evening after paying a goodwill visit to Japan at the invitation of Speaker of House of Representatives of Japan Mr. Bunmei IBUKI.

They were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Region Hluttaw Speaker U Sein Tin Win, the representatives from Pyithu Hluttaw and region



Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann being welcomed back at the airport by Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa.—MNA

Defence Services wants to see peaceful and prosperous Union



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla presents cash and kind to the older persons.—MYAWADY

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Dec — “Today’s donation reflects the Tatmadaw’s goodwill to the development of Rakhine State. Tatmadaw is also willingly on the track towards democracy. Only when peace and stability, can the rule of law be ensured. Our goal is to see peaceful and prosperous Union. This goal can be achieved through united efforts”, said Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the cash and kind donation ceremony for the development of Rakhine State at the hall of Rakhine State’s government office in Sittway today.

He called for upgrading of Padan-An-Sittway road and An-Maei-Kyaukyu road and effective use of education infrastructure in the state.

Also present at the

ceremony were Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Thura Thet Swe and wife, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Khin Aung Myint and wife, senior military officers of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office, Rakhine State Prime Minister U Hla Maung Tin and wife, Rakhine State Hluttaw Speaker U Htain Lin, the commander of Northern Command and wife, officials, hluttaw representatives and townselders.

On behalf of families of Defence Services (Army, Navy, Air), the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air) and Lt-Gen Hla Min of Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office presented K 50 million to the Rakhine State chief minister who also received K 862.8 million and 5000 bags of cement of wellwishers.

Next, Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, wife of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services presented K 3 million to responsible persons of Rakhine State Women’s Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Association. Then, the Senior General cordially greeted those present.

In the evening, the Commander-in-Chief and wife and party visited the Home for the Aged in Sittway. On behalf of the families of Defence Services (Army, Navy, Air), the Commander-in-Chief and wife presented K 3 million to a responsible person. They then handed gifts to the aged and older persons who could not attend the donation ceremony. Then they viewed round the Home in which 27 older people are accommodated.

Myawady

Hluttaw and officials.

Daw Khin Lay Thet, wife of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw speaker, Chairmen of Hluttaw Affairs Committee U Htay Oo, U Maung Maung Thein, Thura U Aung Ko, U Hla Myint Oo, U Htay Myint, U Aung Tun and Dr Khin Shwe, the Hluttaw representatives and officials of the Hluttaw Office also arrived back on the same flight.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw speaker and party attended a dinner hosted by Speaker of House of Rep-

resentatives of Japan Mr. Bunmei IBUKI and wife at their residence yesterday evening.

Mrs. Akie ABE, wife of the Japanese Prime Minister, hosted a dinner, attended by Chairman of Asia Business Leader Association Mr. Sawada HIDEO and members, to Myanmar delegation at Hotel New Otani in Tokyo on 1 December evening.

He met with Economy, Trade and Industry Minister of Japan Mr. Toshimitsu Motegi and discussed mat-

ters on amity between the two countries and mutual cooperation.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw speaker and party also held talks with Chairman of KEIDANREN Mr. Yonekura and party, Chairman and CEO of JETRO Mr. Hiroyuki ISHIGE and officials and responsible persons of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry on investment opportunity in Myanmar and trade cooperation between the two countries.

MNA

Union Commerce Minister attends ninth WTO Ministerial Conference

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Dec— Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint attended an informal breakfast meeting of ASEAN Ministers at Malia Hotel in Bali of Indonesia yesterday.

At the meeting, the ASEAN ministers discussed smooth trade flow, matters on least developed countries, finalization of unfinished works in agriculture sector during the Bali conference and ASEAN’s cooperation in World Trade Organization for further cementing multi-national trading system.

The Union minister touched upon continued cooperation in multi-national trading system, cooperation in finalizing the Doha talks and hosting of ASEAN Chair by Myanmar.

Later, the Minister attended the LDC Ministerial Conference at Singaraja hall at Nusa Dua Conference Centre. The meeting fo-

cused on easing regional rules that include in the Doha talks, making advices for special rights in services sector, taxes and quota exemptions and approval of the tasks that will steer full implementation of trade opportunities for the LDCs.

The Union Minister said that discussions have achieved success thanks to the cooperation and unity

among the LDCs. He also discussed continued cooperation, importance of Aid for Trade for development of infrastructures human resources and economic in the LDCs, fairness and transparency in the allocation of Aid for Trade, sustainable cooperation for development of multi-national trading system.

MNA



Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint attending ministerial meeting.—MNA



The New Light of Myanmar

XXVII SEA GAMES SPECIAL



6 Days To The Opening Ceremony

Union Sports Minister meets athletes



spirit in the SEA Games, highlighting the importance of the success of the 27th SEA Games than winning medals in it.

At the meeting with the athletes at Thuwunna Stadium here today, the Union minister also urged the responsible personnel to coordinate each other as part of efforts for successfully holding the 27th SEA Games preserving the prestige of the country as the games would help the country promote its economic, political and social sectors.

After the meeting, the Union minister visited booths of the SEA Games Expo (Yangon).

Thant Zin Win

Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan meeting with Myanmar athletes who are going to partake in 27th SEA Games.

YANGON, 3 Dec—Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan called on Myanmar athletes for taking part fairly with sporting

Myanmar eyes six gold medals in Chinlone game



Laotian men's Chinlone (cane-ball) team undergoing training in the ground. Ko Myo (SHWE PAUKKAN)

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Dec—Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, Malaysia and Singapore are ready to compete in the Myanmar traditional Chinlone (caneball) game tomorrow.

The first ever game of the SEA Games has been divided into four events and men's and women's categories. All the countries, except Singapore which has sent

only men's team to Chinlone game, will take part in both categories. Thai and Malaysian teams are expected to become rivals for Myanmar. The game will kick off at 8 am tomorrow, and Myanmar and Thai teams will compete in the event-3 of the Chinlone game.

Two gold medals will be awarded to winners after the event.

The finalists for Myanmar's team were selected in late November after 8-month training. There are one coach and six instructors in a team which comprises six players and two substitute players. According to an instructor, out of eight gold medals for Chinlone events, Myanmar hope to win six.

Ko Myo (Shwe Paukkan)

Laotian women's Chinlone (cane-ball) team under training in the ground. Ko Myo (SHWE PAUKKAN)



Tickets for SEA Games opening and closing ceremonies available in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Dec — Tickets for SEA Games opening and closing ceremonies to be held in Nay Pyi Taw will be sold for K 50000 for grand stand and K 30000 for ordinary stand at Myoma Market, Shop No. Pa-112 in Nay Pyi Taw.

Entry cards for local sports fans and foreign sportsperson and officials are available at designated places in Nay Pyi Taw and

Yangon.

Ministry of Sport has issued altogether 6500 cards to 30 government ministries including Tatmadaw and the Home Affairs Ministry, with a quota of 200 cards per big department and 150 cards per small department.

The Ministry will issue over 10,000 cards to dance and music troupes under the Ministry of Culture and the

children. Coordination will be made with the Ministry of Education on the enjoyment of the SEA Games events by about 4000/5000 students in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area. Authorities concerned have made arrangements for successful holding of the SEA Games, according to Director U Moe Zaw Htut from the Ministry of Sports.

Ko Myo (Shwe Paukkan)



SARSODAW DAY AND LITERARY AWARDS

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 4 December, 2013

Let's march towards our goal in unity

Unity and speed play a leading role in undertaking the activities tied to cooperation. With the two driving factors, goals and objectives can be successfully implemented in a short space of time. But it is uneasy to get off the ground without one of the two driving factors, meaning that unity only could not lead to success and it should inevitably be accompanied by speed.

Myanmar traditional rowing team that is to participate in the upcoming SEA Games has a history of emerging champion with its unity. In this context, it is found that unity and speed are intertwined and cannot be separated from one another. Therefore, we are to be well aware of the fact that whatever we do we are necessary to mainly focus on unity and speed.

However, most of us often fail to follow those key factors that lead to success. In that regard, President U Thein Sein during his tour of Ayeyawady Region, pointed out that unity is a must for successful implementation of national and regional development tasks. And he added that it is required to change mindset and to drop bad behaviors that can undermine a sense of cooperation and common interest.

It's right. Whatever we do we are to strike a balance between self-interest and interest of others. We are to lend a helping hand to others as much as we can so long as we are in community. Everyone should be endowed with a sense of unity that usually belongs to those who are good-natured. A matter of speed has something to do with wisdom, the ability to make sensible decisions and give good advice. If everyone is fully equipped with a sense of unity plus speed, will their wishes be fulfilled sooner or later. In that sense, let's march towards our goal, a modern, developed and democratic nation in unity.

Talks on census-taking procedures given in Kutkai

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Dec—An educative talks on nationwide census-taking-2014 took place at a hall in Kutkai of Shan State (North) on 29 November.

U Win Ko, chairman of Muse district census-taking committee, U Hsan Myint, chairman of Kutkai

Township census-taking committee, and Head of Kutkai Township Immigration and National Registration Department U Min Zaw gave talks on the census-taking procedures to be conducted in Kutkai and Tamoenye Townships to local people.

Aye Than



If one wants to talk literary awards, one cannot skip Sarsodaw Day and the month of Nadaw. Sarsodaw Nay, or Literati Day falls on the 1st Waxing of Nadaw, the ninth month in Myanmar calendar.

During the time of Myanmar kings, the nation had the tradition of honouring outstanding literati, princes and court officials with titles. In the month of Nadaw, the king held a special audience at the palace and honoured those who had literary accomplishments. In this regard, we cannot help thinking a brief history on Sarsodaw Day compiled by Malikha in "Myanmar Sarpay Abhidan (2)".

During the Japanese occupation, while compilation of dictionary and encyclopaedia was being carried out in Kungyan-gon, a programme to celebrate the memorial day of U Ponnya was adopted. The Pinyinna Dagon Association was informed to do so. Then, men of letters, those from Pinyinna Dagon Association and the Writers Association held a meeting on 8 May, 1944 to observe the Sarsodaw Day, or the Literati Day instead of observing a memorial day that represented only a man of letters. The meeting decided that "Bama Sarsodaw Nay", or Myanmar Literati Day should be celebrated on the 1st Waxing of Nadaw of Myanmar Era (M.E.) every year instead of holding U Ponnya Memorial Day.

In accordance with the decision, the first Sarsodaw Day was observed on 15 November, 1944 (1306 M.E.). Myanmar Writers Association staged Wizaya play in Yangon. In commemoration of Sarsodaw Day, literary talks, debates, literary competitions and literary discussions were held in many parts of the nation.

From that year onwards, Sarsodaw Day is celebrated on the 1st Waxing of Nadaw every year. The ceremony of Sarsodaw Day was conducted by Myanmar Writers Association. On the occasion of Sarsodaw Day, aged veteran writers, or literary

men were paid obeisance to and literary talks were staged in honour of men of letters.

The first Sarsodaw Day was observed at Myaing Theatre near Kandawgyi Lake in Yangon. At the ceremony, literary enthusiasts, men and women of letters and even teachers of the education department honoured and praised the virtues of aged literati.

Maung Hlaing

At present, the government holds a grand ceremony to present awards including Lifetime Achievement National Literary Awards, National Literary Awards and Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Awards to the winners on the 1st Waxing of Nadaw every year to mark the Sarsodaw Day.

The lofty aims of holding the ceremony are to praise the literary virtues of professionals who have served the interest of the nation and the people with the might of pen, to enable the entire people to know and value the precious role of the literati and their works, and, for the people to always keep in their mind the value and benefits of Myanmar literature.

Literati are honoured on the Sarsodaw Day as they have preformed the task of developing and handing over literature to new generation well by inheriting and preserving it.

If we talk about the history of National Literary Awards, it dates back to Burma Translation Society. The Burma Translation Society (BTS) was established on 26 August in 1947 with the 14-point aims and objects. Among them one of the objectives was "To institute or encourage research in Myanmar literature and the fine arts with a view to bringing about an improvement in mass education".

Literary Award presentation ceremonies took place to implement the objective.

The literary award presentation ceremonies had been held since 1948 and in 1965, the name of "National Literary Award" was introduced to the reading public. However in 1969, the system of com-

petition of both the works published and the manuscripts were abolished and the selection of the best one out of the works published in a calendar year was introduced.

The number of genres for national literary award has been increased up to sixteen and they are—novel, collective short stories, collective poems, belles-lettres, Myanmar culture and arts, children's literature, youth's literature, translation (general Knowledge), translation (aesthetic), general knowledge (arts), general knowledge (pure science), general knowledge (applied science), drama, political genre, English language book (general knowledge), and English language book (aesthetic).

If we look back on the award presentation ceremonies, the Council of the Burma Translation Society (Sarpay Beikman) chaired by the then Prime Minister U Nu presented the prizes from 1948 to 1962. In the time of the Revolutionary Council, the Minister for Information presented the awards. In the time of the Tatmadaw Government, the Secretary-1 gave away the awards and in the time of democratic government, the Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar presented the literary awards.

Lifetime Achievement National Literary Awards have been presented since 2001 for excellent performance in the field of Myanmar literature during their lifetime. From 2001 to 2011, one awardee for one year was selected but this year (for 2012) altogether three literati were recognized with the Lifetime Achievement National Literary Award. As for 2012, based on a proposed list submitted by the 95-member National Literary Award Scrutinizing Committee, the winners were selected in an open and transparent way in the presence of the literati who are responsible for approving the winners of National Literary Award.

The winners who have been announced since 2001 are Sithu U Hla Kyaing (Paragu) (deceased) for 2001, Sithu U Htin Phat (Maung Htin) (deceased)

for 2002, Sithu U Htay Maung (Htay Maung) for 2003, Sithu U Lay Myaing (Lay Myaing) for 2004, Sithu Daw Yin Yin (Saw Mon Nyin) (deceased) for 2005, Sithu Daw Kyan (Ma Kyan) for 2006, Sithu U Kyi Aye (Hsinbyukyun Aung Thein) for 2007, Sithu Dr. Kyaw Sein (deceased) for 2008, Sithu Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt for 2009, Sithu Dr. Thaw Kaung for 2010, U Win Maung (Min Yu Wai) for 2011, and Daw Khin Swe Oo (Khin Swe Oo), Sayagyi U Aung Thin (Aung Thin) and Sayagyi U Tin Maung (Theikpan Hmu Tin) for 2012.

The Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award came into being when the manuscripts which were not published for various reasons were invited to competition for awards. Today, the genres have been increased to 13 in numbers. Unlike the National Literary Award, First, Second, and Third prizes are set apart for the 13 genres. The 13 genres are novel category, collective short stories, collective poems, belles-lettres, Myanmar culture and arts, children's literature, youth's literature, political genre, drama, general knowledge (arts), general knowledge (pure science and applied science), translation and English language manuscript.

As for this year (for 2012) the Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award Scrutinizing Committee formed with 36 intellectuals and intelligentsia from the fields of literary and printing and publishing examined 165 manuscripts in three stages to select the winners.

In reality, the annual Sarsodaw Day ceremonies and the National Literary Award presentation ceremonies have the aim of upholding the fine traditions in national literary development, rejuvenate and bequeath the nationalist ideals to future generations.

Sarsodaw Day and Literary Award presentation ceremonies are the crowning glory of all the members of the literary profession.

NATIONAL

World countries making efforts for emergence...

(from page 16)

Disseminating the knowledge largely contributes to youth development of a developing country. Innovation and utilization becomes an urgent need not only for individual but

(Aung Thin) and Sayagyi U Tin Maung (Theippan Hmu Tin).

Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa presented genres of novel award to Saya Htet Naing (Taloke Myo), col-



Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa presents novel genre in National Literary Award to Saya Htet Naing (Talokemyo).—MNA

also for all work fields. He quoted General Aung San's definition of education in the autobiography of General Aung San. In conclusion, he urged all literati to make strenuous efforts for knowledge dissemination among the people.

Vice-President U Nyan Tun presented prizes to Life-time Achievement Literary Award winners Daw Khin Swe Oo (Khin Swe Oo), Sayagyi U Aung Thin

lective short stories award to Sayama Khin Mya Zin, collective poem award to Saya Ko (Tekkatho), belles-lettre award to Dr Khin Letyar and culture and arts award to Sara Steven Nikio in National Literary Award.

Afterwards, Union Minister for Information U Aung Kyi presented child literature, translation (general knowledge), translation (aesthetic) and general knowledge (art) genres in

National Literary Award.

Next, Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu awarded winners in general knowledge (science), general knowledge (applied science), political literature award and English language book (general knowledge) genres.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe presented genres of novel, collected short stories and collected poems to respective winners in Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award.

After that, Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr Ko Ko Oo awarded collected poems, general knowledge (art), general knowledge (science and applied science) and belles-lettre genres to winners in Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award.

Yangon Region Hlut-



Vice-President

U Nyan Tun

presents

Life-time

Achievement

Literary

Award to

Sayagyi

U Aung Thin

(Aung Thin).

MNA



Union Minister for Information U Aung Kyi presents translation (general knowledge) genre in National Literary Award to Saya Maung Myint Kywe.—MNA

taw Speaker U Sein Tin Win presented belles-lettre, Myanma culture and arts and child literature genres to winners in Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award.

Acting Union Minister for Education Dr Myo Myint awarded winners in child literature, youth literature, drama literature and translation literature genres in Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award.

On behalf of the award winners, Life-time Achievement Literary Award winner Sayamagyi (Daw) Khin Swe Oo spoke words of thanks.

Then, Vice-President U Nyan Tun and party posed for a documentary photo together with the

award winners.

Although only one person was chosen for Life-time Achievement Literary Award in the past, three persons were selected to receive that award this year. It is learnt that cash rewards were presented from K 1 million to 1.5 million for Life-time Achievement Literary Award, from K 500,000 to K 1 million for National Literary Award and from K 200,000 to K 500,000 for first prize winner, from K 150,000 to K 300,000 for second prize winner and from K 100,000 to K 200,000 for third prize winner in Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award. Moreover, the prize winners were also awarded medals.

MNA

Lands to be handed over to ...

(from page 16)

Then, the Committee Chairman coordinated the essentials. The Chairman also touched upon long-term and short-term measures, meeting of international standards, the rule of law, peace and stability and cooperation between the offi-

cials concerned.

It was also attended by Union Minister Dr Myint Aung, deputy ministers, Region ministers, Managing Director Maj-Gen Zar Ni Win from UMEHL and responsible persons and Myanmar Wenbao Co., Ltd.

MNA



Deputy Attorney-General and party back from Panama

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Dec— Deputy Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo and party attended the Seventh Annual Conference and General Meeting of the International Association of Anti-Corruption Authori-

ties (IAACA) and Fifth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) held in Panama from 22 to 29 November.

A total of 1520 delegates from 167 countries attended the meetings. At

the IAACA meeting, the Deputy attorney-general said that Myanmar enacted anti-corruption law after approving as member in United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) in 2012. He clarified matters on undertakings of anti-corruption by forming

the committees by the Union Government and parliament and ongoing work procedures according to anti-corruption law.

During the meeting, he held talks with Mr. Shervan, UNODC Regional Officer for South East Asia and the Indonesian delegation.

The deputy attorney-general and party arrived back in Yangon yesterday evening.—MNA

International Day of Persons with...

(from page 16)

Games to be hosted by Myanmar in January next year.

Investigation Commission for Letpadaung Copper Mining Project holds coordination meeting.—MNA

The Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement is drafting the law on rights of persons with disabilities and the national level project for rights of persons with disabilities (2014-2015), said the Union minister.

The theme of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities for this year is "Break Barriers, Open Doors: for an inclusive society and development for all."

During the ceremony, winners of the sports activities and essay, article competitions to mark the day were honoured.—MNA

No smoking signboards at Golden Monastery in Mandalay



MANDALAY, 3 Dec—The Golden Monastery which is one of the tourist attractions in Mandalay is put up with “No Smoking” signboards.

It is because the tourists smoke the cigarette while taking a rest at the Golden Monastery. If they forget putting out of cigarette, danger of fire will occur.

In the past, the small signboards of No Smoking had been put up. Now, the larger one are put up there.

Kyemon-Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Photo shows Atumashi Golden Monastery with ancient Myanmar handicrafts.

Clock Tower of Zaygyo Market in Mandalay under maintenance



MANDALAY, 3 Dec—A clock tower located at the corner of 84th Street and 26th Street is one of the great symbols of Mandalay of Mandalay Region.

At present, the clock tower is under renovation for its durability.

The clock tower was built in commemoration of the 60th birthday of Her Majesty Queen Victoria of England in 1909.

At about 1970, the clock tower was renovated once.

Kyemon-Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Field day on high yield of long staple cotton held

HSINPAUNGWE, 3 Dec—Industrial Crops Development Department organised the field day of late-monsoon long staple cotton on five acres of farmlands of farmer U Pauk Seik in Ward 3 of Hsinpaungwe Township, Thayet District, Magway Region, on 29 November morning.

It was attended by Township Administrator

U Ko Ko Aung of General Administration Department, Head of Township Industrial Crops Development Department U Soe Tint and departmental officials, members of Township Agricultural Supervisory Committee, responsible persons of Township Development Supportive Committee and cotton growers.

On the occasion,

Township Administrator U Ko Ko Aung explained the endeavours of the Union government in agriculture sector for rural development, poverty alleviation and socio-economic development of farmers.

Head of Township Industrial Crops Development Department U Soe Tint reported on cultivation of Ngwechi-6 long staple cotton for boosting 1000 viss

per acre of cotton, applying of good agricultural patterns.

During 90-day cultivation period, a total of 13590 Ngwechi-6 long staple cotton plants are thriving on each acre, and these plants bear 32 cotton fruits on average.

That is why the plantation can produce 1007 viss of cotton per acre.

Kyemon-Ko Ko Aung

Sanitation

Sanitation carried out in Hlinethaya Tsp



Local people participate in dredging of drains for proper flow of water as part of prevention against DHF.

YANGON, 3 Dec—Some children suffer from dengue hemorrhagic fever on Thamaseikta and Aungtaman streets in Ward 19 of Hlinethaya Township

of Yangon North District.

Officials of Township Health Department, ward administrative body and responsible persons of Maternal and Child Welfare Association performed fumigation and chlorination in the ward.

Yangon Region Hluttaw representative U Nay Lin of Hlinethaya Township Constituency No 2, Ward administrator U Myint Aye and party and officials of Region Development Supportive Committee carried out dredging of drains in the ward for proper flow of water on 1 December.

Kyemon-Min Htet Paing (Hlinethaya)

Anti-Narcotic Drives

Stimulant tablets seized in Kengtung

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Dec—Members of No 28 Anti-Drug Squad (Kengtung) together with witnesses, acting on tip-off, searched Li Hsa (a) Aik Lon, 23 of Kongyan Village of Kathtaik Village-tract of Kengtung Township while he

was walking along the road to Wankyan Village recently.

The members of the squad seized 398 stimulant tablets with WY brand worth K 995,000 from his bag and one Nokia brand mobile phone without SIM card.

Kengtung Myoma Police Station opened a lawsuit against Lihsa (a) Aik Lon under Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

Kyemon-Police Information

HRD

Kyaukse University to admit 50 female boarding students

KYAUKSE, 3 Dec—Kyaukse University (Tawma) admits first year students for 2013-14 academic year as of 2 December. The school opening day was announced for students from the second year to the final one to attend the 2013-14 academic year classes. The classes of first year students will be opened on 5 December.

Arrangements are

being made to admit 50 female students out of all the students who will pursue education for 2013-14 academic year.

“Detailed disciplines will be announced after the board meeting. At present, 50 female students will be accepted for boarding system. A plan is underway to provide food and accommodation for the boarding students. A total of 50 female students

who came from far areas will be admitted at the boarding this year. Every student from far areas may apply for the boarding. However, the hostels are under construction, the university will admit 50 female students only this year. In the coming academic years, the university will admit more students for the boarding,” said Office Superintendent Daw Khin Mya Thway of the Student Affairs Section of Kyaukse University.—*Kyemon-Aung Min (Singaing)*



REGIONAL

New Zealand, S Korea to resume talks on bilateral FTA in February

SYDNEY, 3 Dec — New Zealand and South Korea have agreed to resume their negotiations for a bilateral free trade agreement, with the next round set for February, the two countries' trade ministries announced on Tuesday.

The agreement came at a meeting between New Zealand Trade Minister Tim Groser and his South Korean counterpart Yoon Sang Jick on the sidelines of a World Trade Organization ministerial conference in Bali, Indonesia.

"The resumption of negotiations was discussed by Prime Minister John Key and Korean President Park Geun Hye during the Prime Minister's recent visit to Korea in July. I am pleased

that their shared determination to conclude a free trade agreement has led to this point," Groser said in a statement.

The talks, which began in 2009, were last held in May 2010 and the next round will be the fifth.

South Korea is New Zealand's fifth largest trading partner, with two-way trade amounting to \$3.5 billion in the year ending June 2013, according to New Zealand government figures.

There has been concern in South Korea about the impact of an FTA on its agricultural sector. New Zealand currently provides only about 3 percent of South Korea's total agricultural imports.

Groser said the lack of a formal FTA has put his country at a disadvantage in the South Korean market, with its beef and kiwifruit exporters, for example, facing tariffs of 40 percent and 45 percent, respectively.

Last week, South Korea expressed interest in taking part in the US-led Trans-Pacific Partnership, which includes New Zealand.

It already has FTAs with some of the 12 countries involved in the TPP negotiations, including the United States, while it is working to conclude pending negotiations with others such as Canada and Australia.

Kyodo News

Singapore inks deal to buy 2 new submarines from German firm

SINGAPORE, 3 Dec — Singapore has inked a deal with German corporation ThyssenKrupp to purchase two "Type 218SG" submarines which will be delivered from 2020, Singapore's Ministry of Defence said Monday in a statement posted on its website.

The contract was signed on 29 November and includes a logistics package and the training of local crew in Germany.

According to the statement, the German submarines will have significantly improved capabilities and be equipped with air-independent propulsion which "enables a submarine to operate at low speed without snorkeling" among other tactical benefits.

The Type 218SG submarines, together with two Swedish Archer-class vessels, will replace the four aging Challenger-class submarines built in Sweden in the 1960s and sold to Singapore in the 1990s.

Singapore bought the Archer-class submarines secondhand from the Swedish Navy in 2005, but the vessels have only been in service for the last two years.

The city-state launched its submarine programme in 1997.

Kyodo News



Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung (C) shakes hands with US Trade Representative Michael Froman in Hanoi, Vietnam, on 2 Dec, 2013.

XINHUA

Indonesia's power project gets first loan from ADB-administered fund

MANILA, 3 Dec — The ASEAN Infrastructure Fund Ltd (AIF) said on Tuesday that it has approved a loan of 25 million US dollars for a project that will connect rural households in Bali, Indonesia to the grid.

The power project in Indonesia is the first recipient of the loan under the AIF which is being administered by the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

The AIF was incorporated in April 2012 in Malaysia and is initially expected to provide loans of up to 300 million US dollars a year for the development of road, rail, power, water, and other critical

infrastructure in Southeast Asia.

Shareholders of the AIF are ADB and member-countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) — Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

In addition to its investment of 150 million US dollars, the Manila-based lender also cofinances with and administers the AIF and provides technical support.

ADB said infrastructure needs in ASEAN countries are projected to be 60 billion US dollars a year until 2020.—Xinhua



A medical worker of China's navy hospital ship Peace Ark treats a patient in Tacloban, the Philippines, on 2 Dec, 2013.

China's navy hospital ship Peace Ark, the first 10,000-ton-class hospital ship in the world, arrived in Tacloban on 24 Nov and has already treated over 1,000 patients injured by the Typhoon Haiyan.—XINHUA

Hong Kong confirms first human case of bird flu

HONG KONG, 3 Dec — Hong Kong confirmed its first case of deadly H7N9 bird flu on Monday in a further sign that the virus is continuing to spread beyond mainland China's borders.

The case coincides with the 10th anniversary

of the outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, which killed nearly 300 people in Hong Kong and had a significant impact on the city's travel and retail industry.

A 36-year-old Indonesian domestic helper with a history of contact with

poultry and travel to Shenzhen in mainland China just north of Hong Kong has been confirmed infected by H7N9 and has been hospitalized in critical condition, Secretary for Food and Health Ko Wing-man told reporters late on Monday.

Reuters

34 countries, regions issue travel alert for Thailand

BANGKOK, 3 Dec — A total of 34 countries and regions have issued warning for travel to Thailand where political tension has run high.

According to the

Tourism Authority of Thailand, China, the United States, France, Australia and Japan were among those countries and regions issuing travel alert.

Anti-government

protests in Bangkok continued on Monday with protestors trying to seize more state offices in their bid to topple the government.

Xinhua

Former Malaysian PM Mahathir quits as adviser to state oil giant Petronas

KUALA LUMPUR, 3 Dec — Former Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said on Monday that he had quit as the adviser to the state-owned oil giant Petronas due to health reasons.

Mahathir said he had relinquished the post

effective on 1 December as advised by doctors to "slow down." The 88-year-old was admitted to hospital for treatment after a chest infection last month. He seems to be in good spirit but a little frail when giving a short speech at an international forum here on

Monday.

Mahathir was appointed as adviser to Petronas and the national car-maker Proton after stepped down as prime minister in 2003 following 22 years in office. He remains active and vocal on various issues in the country.—Xinhua



People visit a photo exhibition named "Colourful Jilin" which shows the scenery and culture of Chinese Jilin province in Paris, France, on 2 Dec, 2013.

XINHUA

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MALTE RAMBOW VOY NO (1352)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MALTE RAMBOW VOY NO (1352) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4-12.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MCC - TRANSPORT S'PORE
PTE LTD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV DYNAMIC OCEAN 27 VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DYNAMIC OCEAN 27 VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4-12.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-4 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S G LINK EXPRESS
PTE LTD

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV GIANG HAI II VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GIANG HAI II VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4-12.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S RK SHIPPING & TRADING
PTE LTD

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV NOBLE BREEZE VOY NO (029)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV NOBLE BREEZE VOY NO (029) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4-12.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S INTERASIA LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV IZUMI VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV IZUMI VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4-12.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-5 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S NYK LINES

Phone No: 256924/256914



Luiz Alberto Figueiredo Machado, Brazilian Minister of External Relations, speaks during a Press conference of G20 Ministerial Communique before the ninth World Trade Organization (WTO) Ministerial Conference in Bali, Indonesia, on 2 Dec, 2013. The ninth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO) is set to open from Tuesday to Thursday, aiming to push forward the long-stalled Doha Round talks by sealing a trade package that covers several key elements of the decade-long talk.—XINHUA



Firemen search for victims in the rubble of a collapsed building in Guarulhos, Brazil, on 2 Dec, 2013. XINHUA

China-Africa Development Fund keen to speed up investment activities in Africa

ADDIS ABABA, 3 Dec—China-Africa Development Fund (CADFund), which has already invested on over 70 projects in Africa, said it is speeding up investment activities on the African continent, including in manufacturing, infrastructure, and agriculture among others.

Speaking at the African High-Growth Markets Summit on Monday in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Wang Yong, CADFund Vice-President, noted that the Fund has already invested on 72 projects in Africa covering about 30 different countries.

Wang told Xinhua that

the major sectors the Fund has already invested in African countries include manufacturing, infrastructure, agriculture, industry parks, and resource development sector.

The two-day summit has been designed for business leaders and investors looking to understand how to tackle both the obstacles of investing in emerging African economies and of reaching consumers, entrepreneurs and policy-makers with a stake in driving growth in Africa, according to the organizers.

Wang said CADFund has invested on three

projects in Ethiopia including in cement, tannery, and glass factories with a total investment of nearly 200 million US dollars. Wang also said the consumer market in Africa is growing. "As we discussed this morning, there is very fast growing for middle class on African continent which means growing our consumer market," said the Vice-President, "So, we would like to speed up more investment in manufacturing structure, which can meet the demand of the local community, and also can reduce the foreign currency spending to import commercial goods."

"On the other hand we would like to pay attention more to those value added projects so that we can export more commodities from the projects we invested in Africa," he added.

Asked about the sectors more appropriate for China-Africa cooperation, Wang said infrastructure, agriculture, and industry parks are more compatible for the cooperation between the two sides as these sectors are more crucial in terms of increasing the capacity of economies of the African continent, which in turn benefit the Fund.—Xinhua

Zimbabwe banking sector denies money outflow before elections

HARARE, 3 Dec — Zimbabwe's banking sector on Monday refuted reports that at least 700 million US dollars was shipped out just before the country held national elections in July.

Media reports have suggested in recent weeks that the current liquidity crisis bedeviling the sector was being exacerbated by the

fact that huge amounts of money were siphoned out of the country by individuals and investors that were wary about the country's future after the elections.

Bankers Association of Zimbabwe president George Guvamatanga told reporters such media reports were false. "There is no 700 million dollars that left the market. We

don't know where the media is getting such information from," he said.

To prove there were no such amounts that left the banking sector, Guvamatanga, who is also the managing director of Barclays Bank of Zimbabwe, gave an account of the banking deposits between May and September 2013.—Xinhua

16 people die as bus plunges into river in eastern Zambia

LUSAKA, 3 Dec — Sixteen people died on the spot while 54 others injured when a bus they were traveling in plunged into a river in eastern Zambia's Luangwa district on Saturday night, the police said on Monday.

The accident happened when the bus' brakes failed as it sped down a meander-

ing road towards the Luangwa River and hit into a hill before plunging into the river, according to a statement released by the Zambia Police Service.

"Sixteen people have died while 54 others sustained injuries after the Scania Marcopolo bus they were in fell into Luangwa River on the Great East

Road," Police Spokesperson Charity Munganga-Chanda said.

She said several police officers were dispatched to the scene of the accident to retrieve the bus from the river using a crane while locals mobilized themselves to retrieve the dead and help the injured.

Xinhua

ENTERTAINMENT

Beyonce ousts Kim Kardashian as 2013's most-searched person on Bing



Singer Beyonce arrives at the Metropolitan Museum of Art Costume Institute Benefit celebrating the opening of the "Schiaparelli and Prada: Impossible Conversations" exhibition in New York, on 7 May, 2012.—REUTERS

LOS ANGELES, 3 Dec — Singer Beyonce was named the most-searched person in 2013 on Bing, the on-line search engine said on Monday, edging out 2012's list-topper reality television star Kim Kardashian, who came in second. Beyonce, 32, topped the list in a year where she made a carefully choreographed return to the musical spotlight after taking time out to give birth to her first child, daughter Blue Ivy, with rapper husband Jay Z.

The singer performed at President Barack Obama's inauguration in

January, at the Super Bowl in February and kicked off a worldwide tour, The Mrs Carter Show World Tour, in April. The notoriously private singer also revealed glimpses of her life with Jay Z and their baby in a February HBO documentary. Kardashian, 33, dropped to second place after a big year where she gave birth to daughter North West, and got engaged to rapper Kanye West, the father of her child. The "Keeping Up with the Kardashians" personality topped the list in 2012 and 2010.

Reuters



Saif and Sonakshi in a still from Bullett Raja.—PTI

Bullett Raja misses bull's eye at box office

MUMBAI, 3 Dec — Film-maker Tigmathu Dhulia's latest offering Bullett Raja may have missed the target at the box office, but it did decent business by earning approximately Rs 12 crores to Rs 13 crores in two days of its release, say trade pundits. The movie, starring Saif Ali Khan and Sonakshi Sinha, was released on Friday. Rajesh Thadani of Multimedia Combines told IANS: "Bullett Raja is doing a decent business at the box office, but nothing great. The film has approximately collected Rs 12 crore to Rs 13 crore on Friday and Saturday."

Based in a small town in Uttar Pradesh, Bullett Raja has been described as a festival of guns, grime, and glory and it has just a week to utilise its potential. "The film will go steady just for a week because next Friday R...Rajkumar

will release. It looks very impressive and considering the fact that it's a Prabhu Deva film, there is a lot of hope from the film. His record has been very strong so far," said Thadani. R...Raajkumar, starring Shahid Kapoor is a crime thriller as well. Another common thread between the two films is Sonakshi, who is playing the female lead in this movie too.

However, in Rajasthan, Bullett Raja has got an encouraging response. Sunil Bansal of Yash Raj Jai Pictures Pvt Ltd in Rajasthan said the film collected "around Rs 52 lakh on Friday and around Rs 50 lakh on Saturday". "So the film has garnered over Rs 1 crore in Rajasthan, which is great," he said and added that they are now looking forward to the action thriller Dhoom: 3 starring Aamir Khan.—PTI

Paul Walker's death shocking, tweets Bollywood

MUMBAI, 3 Dec — Hollywood actor Paul Walker's death has come as a shock for everyone and Bollywood celebrities say that he has "gone far too soon." Walker, best known for his role as Brian O'Conner in the The Fast and The Furious, died in a car accident on Saturday in Santa Clarita, California. He was 40. Celebrities took to Twitter to express their sorrow and grief. Here is what they have to say:

Varun Dhawan: Can't believe Paul walker is gone. Life is crazy. Don't know why but this news has really depressed me. RIP Paul Walker

Preity Zinta: So sad to

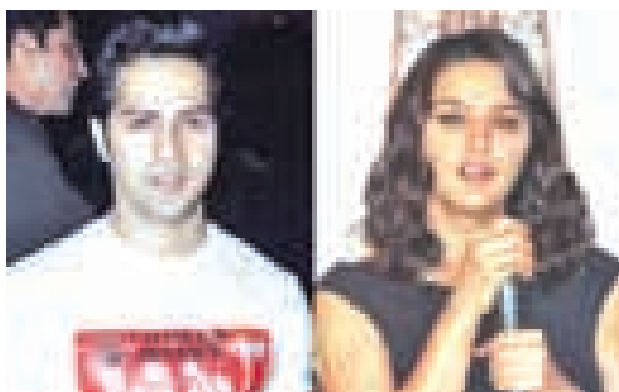
hear that Paul Walker died a fast and furious death in an accident in LA. Life is so short and fragile. May his soul rest in peace

Mika Singh: Very sad to hear about Paul Walker! What a brilliant actor! And an exceptionally good-looking man! Life is so unpredictable, really

Jackky Bhagnani: I am in shock that Paul Walker is no more. I loved him in all the Fast & Furious series. RIP

Sonal Chauhan: RIP Paul Walker. Life is so uncertain. And we take it for granted. Value it, live it

Aftab Shivdasani: RIP Paul Walker. Sad and tragic.



Varun Dhawan and Preity Zinta expressed their grief on Twitter.—PTI

Prayers for his near and dear ones

Dia Mirza: RIP Paul Walker

Bejoy Nambiar: Brian O Connor bites the dust.

Tragic. RIP Paul Walker

Sophie Choudry: This news is just so so tragic! RIP Paul Walker. Gone far too soon.

PTI

Karisma pays tribute to the Kapoor women in family

MUMBAI, 3 Dec — Actress Karisma Kapur, who is choosy about her performances, bent the rules for the NDTV-Vedanta Our Girls Our Pride Telethon, an initiative to empower the girl child. She said it's also a "tribute to all the ladies" from her family.

"It was a fabulous day and I strongly believe in the cause. I generally don't perform. I am quite choosy about it, but today I performed and paid tribute to all the Kapoor ladies, including (late grandmother) Geeta Bali, (aunt) Neetu Singh, and my mom Babita and sister Kareena supporting the cause," Karisma, known for her powerpacked performances in Fiza and Zubeida, told IANS.

"My contribution was



Karisma was among the star performers at the NDTV-Vedanta Our Girls Our Pride Telethon.—PTI

to spread the awareness," added the actress. Her performance was part of a unique programming initiative of NDTV, which in association with Vedanta and campaign ambassador and actress Priyanka Chopra, dedicated on 1 December to honour the country's girls on its network channels with a

LIVE telecast from 10 am onwards on Sunday.

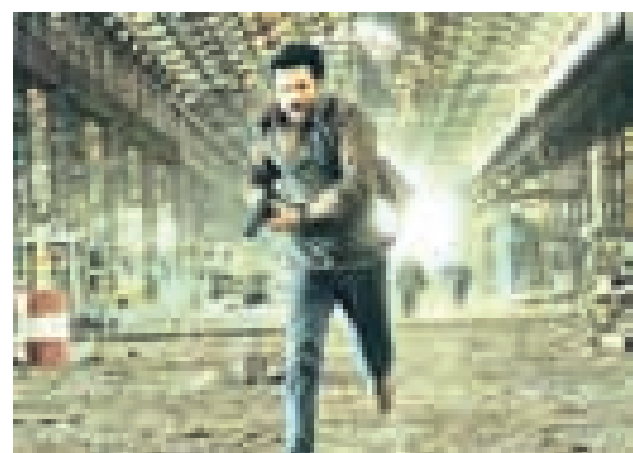
The campaign's aim is to create awareness about issues related to the girl child and fight for her rights. The actress, also a mother, says her life completely changed after the birth of her daughter Samaira.

PTI

Anil Kapoor all set for second season of 24

MUMBAI, 3 Dec — After completing the shoot of the first season of the television series 24, Anil Kapoor is all set to start the second season. The aim is to create a better product, says the actor-producer. "The second season will start very soon. We will work even harder and will try to create an even better product," the 56-year-old said here on Saturday at the success party of the show.

Anil says he hasn't received as much appreciation before, but he believes the best thing about 24 is that the work of all the actors has been applauded. "It has been good, I have never been appreciated this much. People have liked the show. The best thing is that everyone has been appreciated.



Anil Kapoor plays the head of an anti-terrorist unit in 24.—PTI

"Sometimes in films only you (one actor) are appreciated and people say the film ran because of you. But in this show everyone has done really well," he added. 24 is an adaptation of the hit American TV series of the same name. The show is based on a 24-hour format where one season spans over 24 episodes chronicling 24 hours. Anil plays Jai Singh Rathod, the head of an anti-terrorist unit.—PTI

Barca need quick answers after second straight loss

MADRID, 3 Dec — Barcelona's 2-1 loss at Ajax Amsterdam in the Champions League last week was down to a lack of intensity while Sunday's 1-0 reverse at Athletic Bilbao in La Liga exposed their relative physical frailty. Those were two of the explanations coach Gerardo Martino and the players offered after the Spanish champions suffered their first two defeats of the season during a miserable week that saw them surrender their three-point lead over Atletico Madrid at the top of the La Liga.

Argentine Martino, in his first campaign in charge since taking over from Tito Vilanova, will

need to quickly identify and fix whatever it is that is ailing his side or risk missing out on major silverware for the first time since the 2007-08 season. Barca are through to the last 16 of Europe's elite club competition and can secure top spot in Group H if they avoid defeat at home to Celtic on 11 December. They also remain top of the domestic league on goal difference but there is a sense that when the season reaches its climax around April the flaws that were evident over the past week will be even more cruelly exposed.

On current form, a disaster similar to the 7-0 aggregate drubbing they received at the hands of Bay-

ern Munich in the Champions League semi-finals last term would not be a major surprise. Barca do have a number of key players sidelined by injury, including goalkeeper Victor Valdes and World Player of the Year Lionel Messi, who is not due back until the middle of next month. But with players of the caliber of Neymar, who fluffed a number of chances on Sunday, Cesc Fabregas, Andres Iniesta and Alexis Sanchez, Barca should be winning games against sides like fifth-placed Bilbao comfortably, at the very least avoiding defeat.

Midfielder Sergio Busquets conceded that Bilbao had been more effective at



Barcelona's goalkeeper Jose Manuel Pinto (R) saves a shot from Athletic Bilbao's Mikel Rico (L) as Barcelona's Sergio Busquets (2nd L) looks on during their Spanish first division soccer match at San Mames stadium in Bilbao on 1 Dec, 2013.—REUTERS

closing the Barca players down in their own half at the San Mames. "They are generally stronger than us, we are not a team like Athletic for example with all

the players pressuring up the pitch," the Spain international added. "We have a number of players out injured and there is no need for alarm." Martino also

called for calm and said there had been nothing in Barca's performance that was a particular cause for concern.

Reuters

Ronaldo: this is my best ever start to a season



Real Madrid striker Cristiano Ronaldo

is the best start of a season that I have had in my career, but I have always been in very good form in recent years," said Ronaldo on picking up his award.

Ronaldo's side moved to within three points of BBVA Primera Liga leaders, FC Barcelona after the weekend's round of matches and the striker was confident that Real Madrid could go from strength to strength. "I think we are looking very strong and we are getting better bit by bit. I want to help the team remain in condition until the end of the season, which is when you win titles. We are strong, confident and we want to carry on like that," said Ronaldo, who has

MADRID, 3 Dec — Real Madrid striker Cristiano Ronaldo was this Monday awarded by the Alfredo di Stefano handed out by the Spanish sports paper, Diario Marca for the best footballer in the BBVA Primera Liga for 2013 and then said he thought he was in some of the best form of his career.

The fact that Ronaldo was given the award, which is voted for by readers of the pro-Real Madrid newspaper, is no great surprise, but it is a fair reward for his incredible season to date in which he not only led Portugal almost single handedly to the World Cup finals, but has also netted 17 goals in the league and Ronaldo himself knows he is at a good moment of his career. "I am in good form, I think it

no great secret to his team's good performances. "The formula to success is work, to keep your concentration in training and in matches. Work hard all of the time," he said, adding that he had recovered from the muscle problem which has kept him out of the last two matches. "We have to take everything at the right time. We are playing in order to try to win the League and the Champions League," he said, adding that neighbors, Atletico Madrid could also be rivals for the title. "I am not surprised by them, I have seen them looking strong ever since last year. They are well organized, have a good coach and a very good goalkeeper (Courtois), they are candidates," he said.—Xinhua

Giants rally to keep playoff hopes alive

LOS ANGELES, 3 Dec — The New York Giants trailed to two Washington touchdowns but fought back to claim a 24-17 win over the Redskins on Sunday that kept their playoff hopes alive. The Giants, who started the season 0-6, have now won five of their last six and are just two games behind NFC East leaders Dallas and Philadelphia.

"We're almost accustomed to putting ourselves in bad situations and coming out of it," Giants defensive end Justin Tuck told reporters, of the team's knack for late-season rallies. "At 0-6, it would've been easy for us to point fingers. That we didn't talk about the leadership." New York (5-7) fell behind 14-0 to

hosts Washington in the first half but showed the kind of resolve that has kept them firmly in the playoff hunt.

Eli Manning responded with a pair of scoring drives to end the half with Andre Brown breaking away for a 23-yard touchdown before Brandon Myers caught

a 22-yard score to tie the game 14-14 at the half. Manning's lone interception in the third quarter led to a Washington field goal, which put the hosts up by three, before New York closed the game with 10 straight points in the fourth. Brown added a second rushing touchdown while

Manning finished with 235 passing yards.

Washington quarterback Robert Griffin III started red hot by completing his first 12 passes but flamed out. He threw for 207 yards, one score and ran for 88 yards, but the Redskins' (3-9) offense stalled in the second half. Griffin was harassed all game by Tuck who finished with four sacks. Washington's last drive ended when Pierre Garcon caught a pass for a first down but had the ball stripped away by New York safety Will Hill. The Redskins have now lost four straight. "(This season is) so frustrating to the point I can't tell you," Washington wide receiver Santana Moss said.

Reuters



Stewart ends 45-year relationship with IMG

LONDON, 3 Dec — Triple world champion Jackie Stewart has ended one of the longest personal business relationships in Formula One by moving to Just Marketing International

(JMI) after 45 years with IMG.

"I am joining JMI," the Scot, 74, told Reuters before attending the annual Autosport awards on Sunday night. "I've been

with IMG since 1968. Mark (McCormack) signed me up and they've done very well for me over the years but they are not in Formula One and haven't been in Formula One now for a good long time.

"The money that Jackie Stewart can deliver is in Formula One or associated with Formula One," he added. JMI said they will also represent the commercial interests of Austrian triple world champion Niki Lauda, non-executive director of the Mercedes team. American lawyer McCormack, who died in 2003, founded the International Management Group (IMG) in 1960.

Golfer Arnold Palmer was his first client. Stew-

art, who won his championships in 1969, 1971 and 1973, is a familiar figure in the grand prix paddock and has long-standing relationships with a number of top brands. He has also been working with Lotus F1 team owners Genii, but that contract runs out at the end of the year.

Unlisted JMI, founded by American former professional driver Zak Brown, was acquired by British sports marketing group Chime Communications PLC in October for \$71 million. They arrange sponsorship, hospitality and rights deals in F1, NASCAR and IndyCar. Four time NASCAR champion Jeff Gordon is also on their books.

Reuters



Former Formula One champion Sir Jackie Stewart walks in the grid with his wife Helen before the Bahrain F1 Grand Prix at the Sakhir circuit in Manama on 22 April, 2012.—REUTERS

GENERAL

Condolence

With deepest sorrow we note the passing of Union Minister for Education H.E. Dr. Mya Aye. It was a privilege and honor to work with His Excellency the past few years. We especially admired his passion to build the nation's educational infrastructure at the primary level.

All of us in the education field have suffered a heavy loss in his death. Our foremost thought at this moment is that the passing of so great a champion of education will be felt throughout the entire nation. Yet the example he set will long continue to influence and inspire us all.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his family, to the government, and to the nation.

GrapeCity Ltd. & MeySen Academy

659 people killed in Iraq's violence in November

BAGHDAD, 3 Dec — A total of 659 Iraqis were killed and 1,373 others were wounded in violent attacks in Iraq in November, according to a statement released by the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) on Sunday.

The statement said that 565 civilians (including 120 civilian police personnel) and 94 members of the Iraqi Security Forces were killed in terrorist and violent acts in November, while 1,186 civilians and 187 Security Forces members were injured.

Baghdad was the worst-affected province with 224 civilians killed and 399 others injured, followed by Nineveh, Salahudin and Diyala, while other provinces of Anbar, Kirkuk, Babil and Wasit reported less casualties, it said.

As the bloodshed con-

tinues in the country, Nickolay Mladenov, special representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Iraq and head of the UNAMI, urged the Iraqi authorities to make necessary efforts to protect the people, it added.

"While indiscriminate bombings and other attacks continue to take a terrible toll on Iraqis every day, I am profoundly disturbed by the recent surge in execution-style killings that have been carried out in a particularly horrendous and unspeakable manner," Mladenov said.

"As a matter of urgency, the Iraqi authorities should take immediate steps to find and hold accountable the perpetrators of these crimes and to implement effective measures to ensure the protection of all citizens," he said.

Xinhua

Six al-Qaeda gunmen, three Yemeni soldiers killed in clashes

ADEN, 3 Dec—At least six al-Qaeda militants and three soldiers were killed in clashes in Yemen's south-eastern province of Hadramout on Monday, a provincial security official told Xinhua.

"The al-Qaeda assailants attacked a military checkpoint in Sayoun city of Hadramout Province, sparking a short shootout that left six terrorists and three army soldiers killed," the provincial security official said on condition of anonymity.

Meanwhile, the Defence Ministry confirmed the incident in a brief text message obtained by Xinhua.

"Armed confrontations erupted between the armed forces and al-Qaeda attackers near a military checkpoint at the western entrance of Sayoun city. Six al-Qaeda militants were killed in the exchange of fire," the defence ministry said.

On Sunday, unidentified gunmen shot dead a senior military commander of the 37th Armoured Division in Hadramout and wounded two of his bodyguards.

Xinhua



Members of Al Fursan, or the Knights, the UAE Aerobic Display Team perform during a military show presented by the UAE military forces to celebrate the 42nd UAE National Day in Abu Dhabi, the UAE, on 2 Dec, 2013.

XINHUA

Majority of Chinese believe traffic order worsened

BEIJING, 3 Dec — Nearly 56 percent of Chinese believe that traffic order got even worse after tightened traffic regulations were adopted at the beginning of 2013, suggest poll results released on Tuesday.

About 26.8 percent of the respondents considered traffic order has been somewhat improved while 14.2 percent see no changes after the strict enforcement of traffic regulations, according to the poll conducted by the *China Youth Daily*, a national newspaper.

A total of 45,358 respondents were interviewed for the poll, among whom

50.2 percent live in second- or third-tier cities and 13.5 in first-tier cities, with the rest from county-level areas or the countryside.

About 94.2 percent said it's common to see violations by pedestrians on the road, including running red lights and crossing roads without the use of crosswalks, showed the poll. Some 17.7 percent of the respondents think lax law enforcement is the leading cause for traffic violations, while 14.8 percent believe it has to do with the public's lack of awareness about following rules.

Xinhua

Alonso gave up a little bit, says Ecclestone

LONDON, 3 Dec — Formula One supremo Bernie Ecclestone has expressed disappointment with Fernando Alonso's performance at Ferrari and suggested the Spaniard was looking for a move earlier in the year. "I've been a little bit disappointed in Fernando because I'm a big supporter of him and of Ferrari," Ecclestone, 83, wrote in a foreword to the official Formula One season review. "I thought he gave up a little bit which is proof that he was looking for another team."

"I don't know whether the team is not competitive because of him or because the people who are running the team aren't getting the job done," added

Ecclestone. Alonso finished the season as overall runner-up to Red Bull's Sebastian Vettel who clinched his fourth title in four years to become the youngest quadruple champion. McLaren made no secret earlier in the season that they would jump at a chance to sign Alonso, who had one turbulent year with them in 2007, should he become available. Ferrari, third overall in the constructors' standings, have described their season as one to forget while praising Alonso for his results in a car that was not even second best. Ferrari president Luca di Montezemolo did, however, reprimand Alonso on the Spaniard's birthday in July for unflattering comments he made about

his car. Ecclestone said he had always predicted Vettel would be 'what he is', with the German winning the last nine races of the year and 13 in total to equal seven-times champion Michael Schumacher's 2004 record. "You probably have to say he's number one of the drivers I've known," added the Briton whose involvement with the sport goes back to the 1950s.

He also singled out Kimi Raikkonen, the 2007 champion who will be Alonso's team mate at Ferrari next season after leaving Lotus. "This year I suppose I have to call Kimi the star driver, with the equipment he has," said Ecclestone of the Finn who left Lotus after complaining he



Ferrari Formula One driver Fernando Alonso of Spain is attended to by his crew during a pit stop during the Brazilian F1 Grand Prix at the Interlagos circuit in Sao Paulo on 24 Nov, 2013.—REUTERS

had not received his wages. "I think he was motivated on hope that he was going to get paid. "He's a good guy to have in a team, good

for us, good for the team. He's super, he's a racer." Pirelli, who caused many of the season's headlines with exploding tyres at Silver-

stone and complaints about how quickly their rubber wore out, also received a glowing report from Ecclestone.—Reuters

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

4-12-13 07:00 am ~ 5-12-13 07:00 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Early Morning Athletics
- * World News
- * A Myanmar Tapestry
- * Local News
- * The Most Prominent Resort And Residence- Ngapali
- * World News
- * Colonial Buildings and a New Yangon
- * Local News
- * A Simple And Peaceful Life
- * World News
- * Distinguished Myanmar Ladies "Tin Moe Lwin"
- * Local News
- * Myanmar's Traditions and Culture Myanmar's Secret Beautifier
- * World News
- * Myanmar Alternative Medicine (Aloe Vera)
- * Local News
- * Short Trip With Steve (Mon State)
- * World News
- * Temple Stalls
- * Local News
- * MONASTERY Yot Son Kyaung (Sa-Le)
- * World News
- * Modifying Natural Thanakha Bark into Ready-Made Skin Care Product
- * Local News
- * Life In Night... Art In Life (Episode-1)
- * Myanmar Street Food
- * Myanmar Traditional Instruments (MYAN-MA OBOE)
- * A Girl Guide

World countries making efforts for emergence of intellectual-based society to know importance of human capital which can help support development of country

YANGON, 3 Dec—A ceremony to present Lifetime Achievement Literary Award, National Literary Award and Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award for 2012 took place at National Theatre on Myomakyaung Street this morning, with an address by Vice-President U Nyan Tun.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa, the Union ministers, Yangon Region chief minister, Yangon Command commander, deputy ministers, members of Pyithu Hluttaw Sports, Culture and Public Relations Committee, the region Hluttaw speaker, diplomats, chairman and executives from Myanmar Writer's Association, members of award scrutinizing committee, doyen literati, social organizations and guests.

In his address, Vice-

President U Nyan Tun said that Nadaw (December) is the month in which Literati Day (Sasodaw Day) is annually held. Since last year Sasodaw Day, Lifetime Achievement National Literary Award, National Literary Award and Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award have been conferred on the literati.

Taking a look at country's history, Myanmar literati have been serving national interests with their pens. It can be said that literature is the tap root that can preserve and develop national culture and various kinds of fine arts of the country. The literature can help the country develop human resources, contributing much to country's development and national interest.

The Selection Committee has increased the number of awards and the amount of prize money



Vice-President U Nyan Tun cordially greets those present at the ceremony.

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year-on-year based on the condition. The conferment of the Lifetime Achievement National Literary Award has started since

2001 in recognition of the literati. This year, three Lifetime Achievement National Literary Awards were conferred. And the

committee has increased to 16 genres of the National Literature Award and 13 genres of Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award.

The National Literary Award Selection Committee is formed with 95 members and Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award Selection Committee, with 36 members. With the rapid development in all fields, all global countries have recognized the 20th Century as the knowledge age.

The world countries have been making the efforts for emergence of intellectual-based society as they have come to know the importance of human capital which can help support the development of the country.

Knowledge dissemination and equal access to the information is a prime task, which can help narrow the gap between the urban and the rural and keep abreast of the globe. In this regard, literati play a crucial role in the knowledge dissemination.

(See page 9)

Lands to be handed over to owners after completion of Letpadaungtaung Project

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Dec—Implementation Committee of the Report of the Investigation Commission for Letpadaungtaung Copper Mining Project held its coordination meeting at Sagaing Region Government Office yesterday evening, attended by Committee Chairman Union Minister at the President Office U Hla Tun.

The Chairman called for deeper transparency of the project and close contact with the local people. It needs to have transparency in issuing the facts and figures pertaining to the environmental conservation and let the people know the latest development of the project. And it also needs to explain the fact that the government and the com-

pany have to spend money on the project before earning the profits from the project. After completion of the project, lands will be systematically handed over to original land owners, he added.

Later, Vice-Chairman Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye explained follow-up measures and implementation of electric

power-pumping project and Union Minister U Win Tun, environmental conservation in the project area.

Afterwards, the deputy ministers and officials from the Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Limited (UMEHL) and Myanmar Wenbao Co., Ltd and those discussed sector-wise works and general matters.

(See page 9)

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Dec—International Day of Persons with Disabilities for 2013 was observed here today.

Speaking on the occasion at the Thingaha Hotel here, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin called on the people to help all disabled people to be able to take part in the 2014 national census while raising the awareness of the importance of the national census.

She also called on the athletes with disabilities to do training hard to be able to achieve success in the upcoming ASEAN Para

(See page 9)

Low pressure still persists

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Dec—According to the observations at (15:30) hrs MST today, the low pressure area over South Bay still per-

sists over Southwest Bay of Bengal, announced the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.

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International Day of Persons with Disabilities for 2013 observed



Union Minister Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin presents an award to a disabled person.

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Six days to XXVII SEA Games

BILLIARD

Myanmar athlete training for achieving success in 27th SEA Games.

PHOTO: TIN SOE (MYANMA ALINN)