

## President U Thein Sein welcomes Laotian President at Presidential Palace



last year.

Myanmar and Laos signed an agreement on building Myanmar-Lao friendship bridge across the Mekong River on 22 March last year.

Work on construction of the bridge started on 16 February this year.

The bridge approach roads is 690 meter long. Over 35 per cent of the construction of the bridge has been completed and the bridge is expected to complete in March, 2015.—MNA

*President U Thein Sein and President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Mr Choummaly Sayasone inspect the Guard of Honour.*

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Dec — President U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win welcomed Mr Choummaly Sayasone, President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and wife Mrs Keosaychay Sayasone, at the Presidential Palace here at 4 pm today.

President U Thein Sein and Mr Choummaly Sayasone took the salute of the Guard of Honour and inspected it.

During the meeting at the Presidential Palace, the two presidents discussed matters on promoting the bilateral relations and cooperation, rural area development, poverty reduction and tourism between the two countries and in the region, launching direct air route between the two countries, boosting border trade, cooperating in education sector, forest, agriculture and livestock breeding sectors of the two countries as well as in

preventing drug trafficking and in border security.

Mr Choummaly Sayasone also reaffirmed his support for democratization and national reconciliation efforts of Myanmar.

President U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win hosted a dinner in honour of Mr Choummaly Sayasone and wife Mr Choummaly Sayasone.

It was also attended by Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife Daw Nan Shwe Hmone, Vice-President U Nyan Tun and wife Daw Khin Aye Myint, Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann, Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint, Chief Justice of the Union U Tun Tun Oo, Chairman of Constitutional Tribunal of the Union U Mya Thein, Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye, union ministers, deputy ministers and Myanmar

ambassador to Laos and Laotian ambassador to Myanmar.

## Myanmar opens its Pencak Silat campaign with two wins

Zeyar and Ye Kyaw Thu of Myanmar Pencak Silat won their opening day assignment against Laotian and Vietnamese counterparts in the Tanding (fighting) contest of the 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games' Pencak Silat event today.

Pencak Silat event of the 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games kicked off today at the Building (C) of Zeyarthiri Sporting Complex, here, this morning, attended by Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan, Deputy Minister U Zaw Win, the president of Myanmar Martial Arts Federation, officials and panket silat debutants.

Day 1 matches of Tanding (fighting) competition boosted Myanmar's hopes for gold in homeland as Myanmar won only three bronze medals at the SEA Games 26 in Indonesia. Tanding athlete Zeyar made an opening win for host country. He was gold medalists at the Nay Pyi Taw Invitational Pen-

Laotian President Mr Choummaly Sayasone visited Myanmar in 2007

for the first time and President U Thein Sein also visited Lao in March

By: Ye Myint (NLM)

cak Silat Competition in which Myanmar secured four gold, one silver, three bronze medals.

Ye Kyaw Thu drew a huge cheer from spectators at the final match of Day 1 as he showed great diligence in the match, making the Vietnamese counterpart to fall to a 2-3 loss against him.

"We target half of the gold medals awarded in this SEA Games. Our competitors are ready to storm to gold medals in pencak silat (See page 7)

*Myanmar athlete Ye Kyaw Thu celebrates his win over Vietnamese counterpart, raising both arms aloft at the final match of Day 1 Pencak Silat event of 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games.*

PHOTO:YM (NLM)



## Myanmar Chinlone athletes achieve victory in 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Dec— Myanmar Chinlone athletes have firmed that Chinlone is host Myanmar's goldmine and uplifted prestige of the country securing three gold in the today's events of the

27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games.

Both Myanmar teams won gold medals after beating Thailand in the final events at Wunna Theikdhi Indoor Stadium, here, today.

(See page 8)

LOCAL NEWS

**Ancient Buddha images donated to ancient culture preservation committee**

TOUNGGOO, 9 Dec—About 80 Buddha images were excavated from the removal of ancient Sima Pagoda so as to maintain the ancient Maha Pararekkhama ordination hall in the precinct of Kyanigan Monastery of Ward 18 in Toungoo in Bago Region.

The Sayadaw of the monastery donated 23 Buddha images from 80 to ancient culture preservation committee in Toungoo on 6 December.

The images were accepted by town's elders U Myint Nyo (Amae Ein), U Ye Win (Shwewah Groundnut Oil), Toungoo Ancient Cultural



Preservation Committee Vice-Chairman U Maung Mya (Pyae Wa), Secretary Dr Mar Mar Wai and U Maung Maung Kyaw. The images will be kept at the Ketumati Hotel of Toungoo temporarily.

When the Theingyi Pagoda is renovated, the Buddha images will be enshrined at the pagoda.

MMAL-Kyaw Hla (Toungoo)

**Extempore talks on narcotic drugs**



PYAY, 9 Dec—Pyay District Anti-Narcotics Association organized the Anti-Drug Knowledge Exam and Extempore Talks at high school level at the hall of Basic Education High School No 5 in Pyay on 6 December morning.

The Chairman of the association made a speech. A total of 52 students

participated in the contest. Chairman of Bago Region (West) Association Police Col Myint Soe (Rtd), Commander of Pyay District Police Force Police Lt-Col Nay Win and departmental officials presented prizes to the winners in the extempore talks.

MMAL-Shwe Win

**Phone Pyae Chan Han, first in US Kids Golf World C'ship**

YANGON, 9 Dec—A Myanmar youth golf team led by Chief Coach U Chan Han of Myanmar Golf Federation took part in the US Kids Golf World Championship Malaysia 2013 at Palm Resort Golf Club in Malaysia from 3 to 5 December.

The Championship, organized by Europe, the US and Asia, took place in Asia for the second time. Over 335 youth golfers from 22 countries participated in the Championship. Eleven Myanmar boys and two girls competed in the championship in different

categories. Phone Pyae Chan Han secured the first prize in Boys' aged 13-14 years event, Hlaing Min Htet the second in Boys' aged 15-18 years, Yazar Aung the fifth in Boys' aged 12 years, Kaung Myat Kyaw the second in Boys' aged 9 years and Thin Wai Khaing the third in the girls' aged 11 years.

These winners will have the opportunity to take part in the US Kids Golf World Championship Europe 2014 and the US Kids Golf World Championship USA 2014.—NLM

**Cash assistance provided to athletes of Ministry of Home Affairs**

NAYPYITAW, 9 Dec—A ceremony to present cash assistance to athletes of Ministry of Home Affairs to the SEA Games was held at D 5 meeting hall of Wunna Theikdhi Sports Ground, here, 6 December.

It was attended by Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint, Chief of Myanmar Police Force Police Major-Gen Zaw Win, Police Quartermaster-General Police Brig-Gen Thein Oo, Director-General U Tin Moe of Fire Services Department, Deputy Director-General



of General Administration Department U Tin Myint, Deputy Director-General U Myint Han of Bureau of Special Investigation, Deputy Director-General U Myint Soe of Myanmar Correctional Department, sports team members and officials. Officials presented K 3,030,000 to 101 members of the sports team.

MMAL-Ko Ye

**National Sports**

**Gangaw facilitated with golf training course**



GANGAW, 9 Dec—The opening ceremony of the golf training course was held in Gangaw of Magway Region, recently.

Gangaw District Deputy Commissioner U Hla Min Htut made a speech.

Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Aung Myint, town's elders Dr Kyaw Nyein, U Htay Lwin and U Than Tun spoke words of thanks.

Assistant Director U Khin Zaw of Myittha Dam Multi-purpose Project, Town's Elders U Myo Pe and U Than Win formally opened the golf training course.

MMAL-101

**India to deploy 41 BSFs at India-Myanmar border to combat drug smuggling, illegal migration**

India will assign 41 Border Security Force (BSF) along 1643 kilometres long India-Myanmar border line.

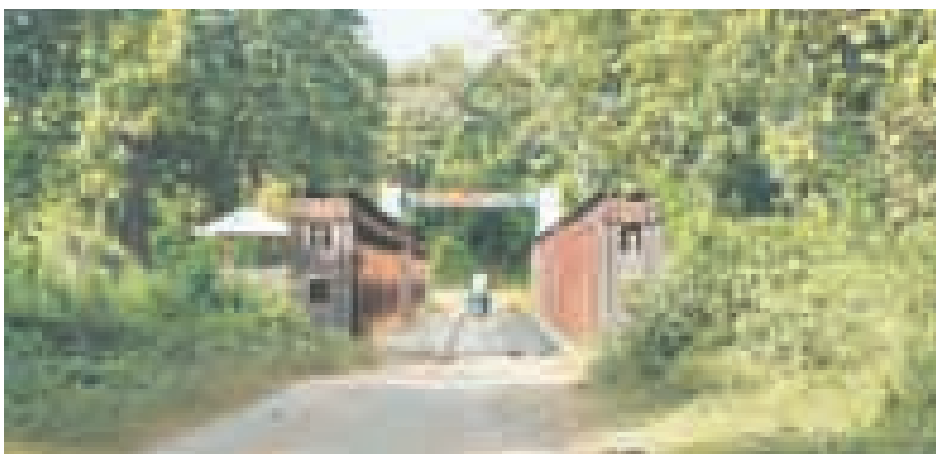
At the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) held on 28 November, substitution of Assamese rifle battalions with Border Security Force

along the border, and it will be implemented this month, said India-based newspapers.

BSF Director-General Subhash Joshi said, "We will deploy 41 battalions along the border. The plan will be submitted to the Internal Affairs Ministry

as soon as possible. After seeking the approval of the Union government, we will implement it."

A total of 15 Assamese rifle battalions are taking responsibility of security measures at the northwest area along the border of Myanmar and India.



A bridge between Bokkan Village and Mulkyan Village near BP 65 of Myanmar-India border.

**Security Affairs**

However, Assamese battalions emphasize fighting against the armed groups that are willing to secede from the State more than the security of border area. That is why drug trafficking and illegal migration, said security officials of India.

Therefore, the BSFs will take out the duties from Assamese rifle battalion. That is why, the new battalion will deploy 41000 servicemen at the border lines, said officials of Border Security Force.

The BSF Director said that he will give advice to set up 12 headquarters under control of Border Security Force Additional Director-General and to buy MI-17 helicopters, according to Indian Express.

CL Thang Ngar



## WORLD

## India's ruling Congress party suffers setback in state elections

NEW DELHI, 9 Dec — India's ruling Congress party has suffered serious setbacks in key elections in Delhi and three other states held over the past month, according to interim results released on Sunday.

The main opposition Bharatiya Janata Party emerged victorious in Delhi as well as the states of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.

Congress suffered its

greatest setback in Delhi, where it has ruled for the past 15 years. Of the 70 constituencies, the party won only eight seats. The Aam Aadmi Party, or Common Man's Party, which was launched only last year, won a surprising 27 seats.

"This is a victory of the common man. From today's election results, we can conclude that people of Delhi have rejected tall

political leaders and elected first timers because they represent the common people," said Aam Aadmi Party chief convenor Arvind Kejriwal.

"This is the first victory of our fight against corruption," he said.

Accepting defeat, Rahul Gandhi, Congress vice president and scion of the Nehru-Gandhi clan, said the Congress leadership, taking a lesson from the

election results, will try to revamp the party.

"We will take a lesson from the Aam Aadmi Party and will try to bring the common man into active politics," he said.

Congress ruled in Delhi and Rajasthan prior to the elections, while the BJP took the helm in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.

The outcome of the Delhi state election is



Chief of India's ruling Congress party Sonia Gandhi (R) speaks as her son, lawmaker Rahul Gandhi, watches during a news conference in New Delhi on 8 Dec, 2013.—REUTERS

crucial for Congress and the BJP as it may set the trend for voting at the next general election, due in March or April next year. *Kyodo News*

## Afghanistan, Iran plan cooperation pact amid tensions with US



Afghan President Hamid Karzai speaks during a news conference in Kabul on 8 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

KABUL, 9 Dec — Afghan President Hamid Karzai agreed on a cooperation pact with Iran on Sunday, an Afghan official said, while continuing to resist signing a long-term security agreement with the United States.

Karzai struck the deal with Iranian President Hassan Rouhani in Teheran in

a move that will be greeted with suspicion by his US ally, which is trying to convince him to sign the security accord governing any post-2014 US presence in Afghanistan.

"Afghanistan agreed on a long-term friendship and cooperation pact with Iran," Karzai's spokesman Aimal Faizi said. "The pact

will be for long-term political, security, economic and cultural cooperation, regional peace and security."

He said a formal document would be prepared and signed soon. In August Afghanistan signed a strategic cooperation pact with Iran covering mainly security issues, but Faizi said the proposed new agreement would have much broader scope.

Many Afghans believe such a bargain with Iran, at odds with the United States since the 1979 Islamic revolution, may harm Afghanistan's uneasy relationship with its Western allies. The US bilateral security pact is a decade-long agreement that would provide a legal basis for about 8,000 US troops to stay on after the NATO-led combat mission ends next year.—Reuters

## UN inspectors visit Iranian site linked to nuclear programme

DUBAI, 9 Dec — UN inspectors visited an Iranian plant on Sunday linked to a planned heavy-water reactor that could yield nuclear bomb fuel, taking up an initial offer by Teheran to open its disputed nuclear programme to greater scrutiny.

The increased transparency is the result of a thaw in relations between Iran and

the West that culminated in a deal struck last month under which Teheran is to curb its nuclear programme in return for some easing of sanctions.

It was the first time in more than two years that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) had been allowed to go to the Arak heavy water production plant, which is

designed to supply a research reactor under construction nearby. Iran's heavy water work is a big concern for the West because it could be used in the process of making a nuclear bomb. Teheran says its programme is for peaceful purposes.

Two inspectors arrived in Teheran on Saturday and met experts from Iran's own atomic energy agency before travelling to Arak in the evening, Iran's ISNA news agency reported.

"The inspection is under way and will be finished this afternoon, and they (the inspectors) will return to Teheran," said Behrouz Kamalvandi, spokesman for the Iranian atomic energy agency. "The inspectors will go back to Vienna tonight."—Reuters



A general view of the Arak heavy-water project, 190 km (120 miles) southwest of Teheran on 15 Jan, 2011.

REUTERS

## 51 killed, 191 wounded in violent attacks in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 9 Dec — A total of 51 people were killed and 191 others wounded in violent attacks across Iraq on Sunday, mostly in the capital Baghdad, police said.

Five people were killed and 18 others injured when a car bomb exploded Sunday evening in the Aalam neighbourhood of southwestern Baghdad, a police source told *Xinhua*.

Three people were killed and 16 others wounded when a car bomb went off in a popular market in the Jamela area in eastern Baghdad, the source said, adding that one civilian was killed and five others were injured when another car bomb exploded in the Talbiya

area of eastern Baghdad.

Earlier in the day, a total of 13 bombing attacks predominantly ripped through Shiite districts in Baghdad, killing at least 38 people and wounding some 146 others.

In Iraq's eastern province of Diyala, a civilian was killed and six were wounded in a car bomb explosion near a restaurant in the town of Jadidat al-Shat, some 30 km northwest of the provincial capital city of Baquba, which is about 65 km northeast of Baghdad, a provincial police source said.

Near Baquba, gunmen shot dead Ahmed al-Khafaji, head of the provincial media office for the leading Shiite party of the Islamic Supreme Council

of Iraq (ISCI), headed by Shiite cleric Ammar al-Hakim, the source said.

Also in Diyala, two more people were shot dead by gunmen in two incidents near Baquba during the day, the source added.

No group has so far claimed responsibility for the deadly attacks, but the al-Qaeda front in Iraq, in most cases, were responsible for suicide bombings in the country.

Sunday's attacks came amid escalation of sectarian tension between the Sunni and Shiite communities, which has been at its highest level since the US troops pulled out from the country at the end of 2011.

*Xinhua*

## Thai PM calls snap election, protesters press on

BANGKOK, 9 Dec — Thai Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra dissolved parliament on Monday and called a snap election, but anti-government protest leaders pressed ahead with mass demonstrations in Bangkok seeking to install an unelected body to run the country. Police estimated that about 150,000 protesters were converging on Yingluck's office at Government House, extending a rally that had descended into violence before pausing late last week out of respect for the king's birthday.

Blowing whistles, they said they would oust Yingluck and eradicate the influence of her self-exiled brother, former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra.



Anti-government protesters unveil a large Thai flag as they descend on Government House in Bangkok on 9 Dec, 2013.—REUTERS

Declaring they were unable to work with Yingluck, the main opposition Democrat Party resigned en masse from parliament on Sunday, raising the question of whether it would boycott the election, driving Thailand deeper into crisis. Voting could go ahead without the Democrats but it would not end the deadlock if they staged a boycott, said Pavin Chachavalongpun of Kyoto University's Centre for Southeast Asian Studies.—Reuters

## Samsung Galaxy Win Pro quad-core smartphone listed on official China site

SEOUL, 9 Dec — The South Korean handset maker seems all-set to launch another mid-range quad-core smartphone, the Samsung Galaxy Win Pro.

The successor to Samsung Galaxy Win I8550, which was launched in India as the Galaxy Grand Quattro, is listed on Samsung Mobiles' China portal. So far, there has been no official announcement by the company, and availability and price remain unknown, though most specifications are featured on the listing.

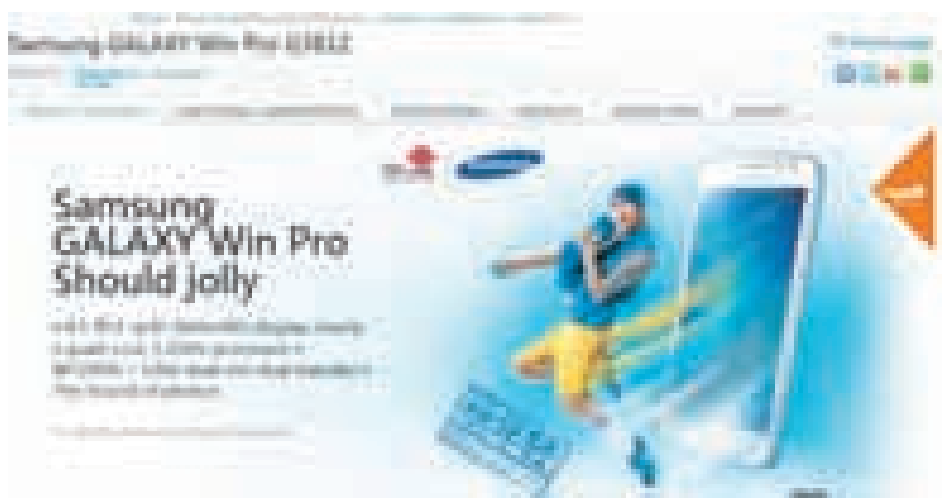
The Samsung Galaxy Win Pro is a dual-SIM (WCDMA+GSM) smartphone that runs on Android 4.2.2 Jelly Bean. It is powered by a 1.2GHz quad-core processor, but the memory and storage capacity are not mentioned by the company.

The Galaxy Win Pro flaunts higher resolution but smaller 4.5-inch qHD (540x960) display, compared to its predecessor, which had a 4.7-inch WVGA (480x800) display.

Apart from a VGA front-facing camera, the smartphone boasts of a 5-megapixel AF rear camera with LED flash with shooting modes like panorama shooting, continuous shooting etc, the camera can also record sound while shooting photos.

The battery power has been slightly improved with a bump up to 2100mAh from 2000mAh on the Galaxy Grand Quattro. Other specifications of the Galaxy Win Pro include full-HD video playback capabilities, apart from Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, 3G, GPS and Micro-USB connectivity.

Recently Samsung had announced the successor to the Samsung Galaxy Grand, the Samsung Galaxy Grand 2 runs Android 4.3 Jelly Bean out-of-the-box. The Galaxy Grand 2 is a dual-SIM device with support for GSM+GSM. It features a 5.2-inch HD TFT display with a resolution of 720x1280 pixels. The Galaxy Grand 2 is powered by a 1.2GHz quad-core processor alongside 1.5GB of RAM. It sports an 8-megapixel



The successor to Samsung Galaxy Win I8550, which was launched in India as the Galaxy Grand Quattro, is listed on Samsung Mobiles' China portal.—PTI

autofocus rear camera accompanied by an LED flash. It also houses a 1.9-megapixel front-facing camera. It comes with 8GB inbuilt storage, which is further expandable up to 64GB via microSD card.

Samsung Galaxy Win Pro key specifications

- 4.5-inch qHD display with a reso-

lution of 540 x 960 pixels

- 1.2GHz quad-core processor
- Dual-SIM (WCDMA+GSM)
- 5-megapixel autofocus rear camera with LED flash
- 0.3-megapixel front-facing camera
- Android 4.2.2 Jelly Bean

PTI

## Mobiles to drive faster global advertising growth



A man uses a smartphone in the financial district in San Francisco, California on 6 Nov, 2013. — REUTERS

LONDON, 9 Dec — Growth in global advertising spending will accelerate to 5.8 percent a year by 2015, driven by demand for marketing via mobile devices and a broad-based economic recovery, a market research group forecast on Monday. ZenithOptime-

dia said spending on advertising was expected to rise by 3.6 percent this year, an upward revision from its September forecast of 3.5 percent. Advertising spending will then increase by 5.3 percent in 2014 and by 5.8 percent in 2015 and 2016, said Zenith, the forecasting

unit of Publicis Groupe, the world's third-biggest advertising company by sales.

Zenith compiled its Advertising Expenditure Forecasts by aggregating data from leading media owners and advertising agencies in 80 countries. "Mobile technology is creating new opportunities for marketers to connect with consumers," said Steve King, Chief Executive of Zenith. "Combined with the continued rise of young, dynamic markets, this will spur healthy and sustained growth in global adspend over the next three years." Zenith predicts mobile technology will contribute 36 percent of the extra ad spend between 2013 and 2016.—Reuters

## Small steps to Mars are a big leap for Indian companies

NEW DELHI, 9 Dec — Indian companies that built most of the parts for the country's recently launched Mars mission are using their low-cost, high-tech expertise in frugal space engineering to compete for global aerospace, defence and nuclear contracts worth bil-

ions. India's Mangalyaan spacecraft was launched last month and then catapulted from Earth orbit on 1 December, clearing an important hurdle on its 420 million mile journey to Mars and putting it on course to be the first Asian mission to reach the red planet.

The venture has a price tag of just 4.5 billion rupees (\$72 million), roughly one-tenth the cost of Maven, NASA's latest Mars mission. Two-thirds of the parts for the Indian probe and rocket were made by domestic firms like Larsen & Toubro, the country's largest engineering firm, Godrej & Boyce, and state plane-maker Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. While such companies have a long way to go before they can attract big business in the commercial space sector, years of work on home-grown space projects are helping them carve out a niche as suppliers of precision parts for related sectors like defence, aeronautics and nuclear energy.—Reuters



An employee works on the production line inside the heavy electrical manufacturing unit of Larsen & Turbo in Mumbai on 4 Dec, 2013.—REUTERS

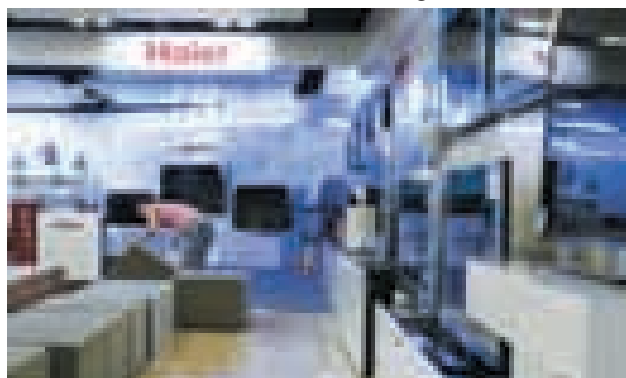
## China's Haier Electronics hit 14 year high on Alibaba logistics deal

HONG KONG, 9 Dec — Chinese appliance maker Haier Electronics Group Co Ltd agreed to team with e-commerce giant Alibaba Group to further develop its logistics business, in a move that sent Haier Electronic's stock to a 14-year high.

The joint venture, announced through a stock exchange filing, includes several parts, for a total deal value of HK\$2.8 billion (\$361.09 million). Haier's shares soared 20 percent to HK\$22.35 in early morning trade, the highest since February 2000, outpacing a 0.7 percent gain in the

benchmark Hang Seng Index. The company's stock is up 95 percent on the year to date.

Haier Electronics is



An employee arranges stools at a section displaying Haier television sets inside a Suning store in Shanghai on 26 Aug, 2013. — REUTERS

muscling in on their distributors and expanding into logistics and e-commerce in a bid to win the fierce battle for margins in the world's

biggest home appliance market. The company's largest shareholder is KKR-backed Qingdao Haier Co Ltd, which owns a 47.9 percent stake. The agreement also comes amid a flurry of deals by fast growing Alibaba, which has bought into several companies recently and is preparing what could be a roughly \$15 billion IPO.

As part of the deal, Alibaba will hold a 9.9 percent stake in the joint venture with Hong Kong-listed Haier Electronics, which manufactures and sells washing machines and water heaters.—Reuters

## China uncovers early Buddhist architecture

TAIYUAN, 9 Dec — Archaeologists in north China's Shanxi Province have discovered a 1,400-year-old temple where a collection of statues of the Buddha were once stored. The shrine, enclosed by walls carved with Buddha niches, is part of the Tongzi Temple complex secluded on a mountain near the city of Taiyuan, capital of Shanxi.

The structure was built in 556 during the Northern Qi Dynasty (550-557), a booming period for Buddhism, according to researchers with the Institute of Archaeology of Chinese Academy of Social

Sciences (IA CASS).

"The structure is the only one of its kind ever found in China and it sheds light on early Buddha carvings," said Li Yuqun, researcher with the IA CASS and lead archaeologist on the excavation.

Though destroyed in war in 1117, the temple has yielded up a batch of well-preserved statues. One of its walls was carved with a Buddha figure over 20 meters in height. It was unrecognizable after so many years but archaeologists unearthed some remnants that suggest its original looks.

Xinhua



## BUSINESS &amp; HEALTH

## Novartis aims to show strength with muscle wasting drug

BASEL, 9 Dec — Fifteen years ago Ian Parkhill was diagnosed with a rare muscle-wasting disease that gradually robbed him of the strength in his thighs. Now, he struggles to walk. The waning muscle in his arms will soon hinder his ability to pull himself out of a chair, he fears, and simple tasks such as holding a pen are increasingly difficult as the dexterity in his fingers declines. “The only sort of grip I have is between the thumb and the palm,” said 81-year-old Parkhill, a former electrical engineer, who lives in Droitwich, England. “If I put a pencil on a flat surface, I can’t pick it up. I’ve got to use both hands.”

Parkhill’s rare condition has, to date, gained little attention from drug-makers — but that is



Shareholders queue to enter the St Jakob Halle for Swiss drug maker Novartis annual general meeting in Basel on 22 Feb, 2013. — REUTERS

starting to change. Big Pharma is focusing a lot more these days on drugs for rare diseases like Parkhill’s — and the sky-high prices they can command — and some are also eyeing the potential of addressing related muscle problems behind a range of more common diseases. Sporadic Inclusion Body

Myositis (sIBM) is the most common muscle-wasting disease in the over 50s, yet its exact cause remains unknown and there are no approved drugs to treat it. Although sIBM affects no more than 71 people per million, Swiss drugmaker Novartis is developing a treatment that stimulates

muscle growth in sufferers.

It is betting that the drug, known as bimagrumab or BYM338 and developed with German biotech company MorphoSys, might help combat muscle loss associated with conditions like cancer and chronic lung disease that affect millions of people. It could even be beneficial for patients recovering from injury or an operation, and the drugmaker is currently conducting a Phase II trial for hip fracture recovery. Novartis is not the only pharmaceutical firm working on muscle-building treatments. But it is heading the field in sIBM with BYM338, which was granted breakthrough therapy status from US health regulators in August and is entering late-stage trials. It expects to file for approval in 2016. — Reuters

## China yuan hits new high against USD on Monday

BEIJING, 9 Dec — The Chinese currency Renminbi, or yuan, strengthened 102 basis points to a record high of 6.113 against the US dollar on Monday, according to the China Foreign Exchange Trading System.

In China’s foreign exchange spot market, the

yuan is allowed to rise or fall by 1 percent from the central parity rate each trading day.

The central parity rate of the yuan against the US dollar is based on a weighted average of prices before the opening of the market each business day.

Xinhua



China yuan hits new high against USD on Monday. XINHUA

## China to probe use of foreign currency in trade finance

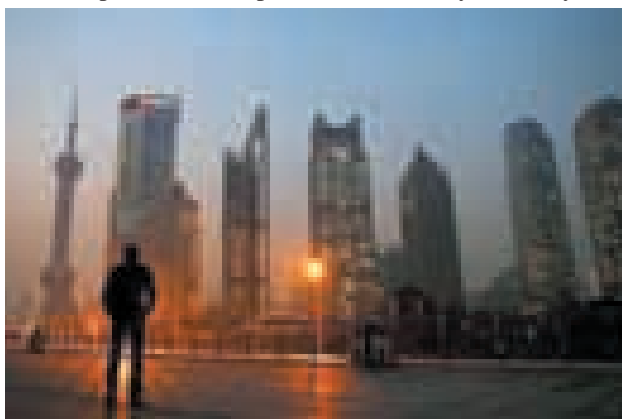
BEIJING, 9 Dec — Chinese regulators will clamp down on banks’ and companies’ use of foreign currency for trade finance by ensuring that trade deals are authentic and by monitoring for unusual cross-border cash flows, state media reported. The report

did not specify the illegal activities targeted by the State Administration of Foreign Exchange (SAFE) in the clampdown. China is in the midst of an effort to quell currency speculation, however.

Banks have not fulfilled a duty to carry out

their own investigations into the use of foreign currency, prompting SAFE to carry out its assessments and punish institutions accordingly, Xinhua reported on Saturday. According to SAFE, the authenticity and compliance of long-term trade financing will be a particular focus of the crackdown, the report said.

Penalties for any illegal activity will be increased, Xinhua said. The foreign exchange reserves of China’s central bank recently reached their highest level since January 2008 as a result of the rising value of the renminbi, Chinese policy reforms and market expectations that the US Federal Reserve will soon start curbing monetary stimulus, Xinhua said. — Xinhua



A man looks at the Pudong financial district of Shanghai on 20 Nov, 2013. — REUTERS

## FDA approves Gilead’s \$1,000-a-day hepatitis C pill

NEW YORK, 9 Dec — US regulators on Friday approved Gilead Sciences Inc’s Sovaldi as a potentially easier cure for chronic infection with the liver-destroying hepatitis C virus. The once-a-day pill is the first approved to treat certain types of hepatitis C infection without the need for interferon, an injected drug that can cause severe flu-like symptoms. Hepatitis C, which is often undiagnosed, affects about 3.2 million Americans, killing more than 15,000 each year,

mostly from illnesses such as cirrhosis and liver cancer. Most patients will be treated with the \$1,000-a-day drug for 12 weeks, resulting in a total list price of \$84,000, according to Gilead spokeswoman Cara Miller.

“Today marks a landmark advance in the treatment of hepatitis C, opening up new opportunities to stop the spread of this virus and the ravages of this disease,” Dr John Ward, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s division of viral hepatitis, said

in a statement. Last year, the CDC recommended that all baby boomers, born from 1945 to 1965, be tested for the virus. Introduction of blood and organ screening in the 1990s has dramatically lowered infection rates for younger generations. Gilead said Sovaldi, also known as sofosbuvir, can be used in combination with ribavirin, an older antiviral pill, for patients with genotypes 2 and 3 infections, which account for about 28 percent of US patients infected with the virus. — Reuters

## Many techniques may slightly reduce sitting time at work

NEW YORK, 9 Dec — Three different strategies to reduce the amount of time people spend sitting at work seemed effective, in a new study. But in jobs without flexible schedules, they only reduced sitting time by about eight minutes per day.

“We were surprised by how difficult it was to reduce sedentary time and that no one approach seemed better than the other

approaches,” Leon Straker said. He worked on the study at Curtin University in Perth, Australia. Lots of attention has been paid recently to the dangers of too much sitting, especially for people glued to desk jobs in an office every day.

Research has linked excessive sitting to high blood pressure, obesity and heart disease. Hitting the gym outside work hours doesn’t seem to fully offset those

risks. Employees in office desk jobs should keep in mind their total amount of sitting time, and times spent sitting without a break for 30 minutes or more, Straker said. “Breaking up long periods of sitting with a short active break — like walking to get a drink - is probably the easiest thing to do for most workers, but the challenge is to remember and actually move,” he told Reuters Health. — Reuters

## Supreme Court justice denies stay in airline merger



US Airways jets are lined up at Reagan National Airport as an American Airlines jet takes off on the day US Airways’ stockholders are expected to vote on whether to approve the \$11 billion merger of the two airlines effectively creating the world’s largest carrier, in Washington on 12 July, 2013. — REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 9 Dec — A US Supreme Court justice on Saturday night denied a last-ditch effort by a group of consumers and travel agents to stop the merger of American Airlines and US Airways. The application was denied by Justice Ruth Bader Gins-

burg, the court’s public information office said. The combination of American’s parent, AMR Corp, and US Airways Group would create the world’s largest carrier and follow last month’s resolution of antitrust objections by the US Department of Justice.

In their appeal to the Supreme Court, plaintiffs led by California resident Carolyn Fjord warned that “irreparable injury” could be caused to the domestic airline industry if the deal goes ahead as planned. They fear the merger will drive air travel prices up and service down and make planes more crowded. The merger is expected to be consummated before the opening of US securities markets on Monday.

A federal judge on Friday rejected the previous attempt by the group to stop the merger. If one high court justice denies a stay request, the same application can be made to another justice but such moves are rarely successful. Usually, if a request is made to a second justice it will be referred to the full court. — Reuters



# The New Light of Myanmar

## XXVII SEA GAMES SPECIAL



The Opening Ceremony on 11 December, 2013



Men's Chinlone team of Myanmar celebrates victory after winning the gold medal at Wunna Theikdi Stadium.

PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE



Wai Phyto Aung shows his three gold medals as he is hugged by his mother at Wunna Theikdi Stadium.

PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE



Tassamalee Thongjan of Thailand lands a blow to Nesthey Petegio of the Philippines during Women's Feather (54-57) kg bout at Wunna Theikdi Indoor Stadium.

Nesthey Petegio won on points over Tassamalee Thongjan.

PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

Women's Chinlone players of Myanmar wave hands to fans at Wunna Theikdi Indoor Stadium.

PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE



School children wait outside the stadium for boxing event of Wunna Theikdi Indoor Stadium to watch fisticuffs.

PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE







The New Light of Myanmar

XXVII SEA GAMES SPECIAL



The Opening Ceremony on 11 December, 2013

Myanmar grabs two gold, one silver, one bronze on first day of wrestling event



Myint Zin celebrates his victory after winning gold medal in wrestling event in 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games.

YANGON, 9 Dec — Myanmar earned first two gold, one silver and one bronze in the first day's matches of wrestling event at the 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games.

Debutants from Cam-

bodia, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam participated in the 26 matches of the wrestling event held at National Indoor Stadium in Thingangyun Township,

here, this afternoon.

May Thazin Phu took gold for the host country while silver went to Laos and bronze to Cambodia in the wrestling women's freestyle-67 kg contest.

Companies of host Myanmar welcome foreign athletes

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Dec — Companies of host Myanmar welcomed athletes of participant countries that will take part in the XXVII SEA Games at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.

Officials, media per-

sons and M 150 soft drink companies presented gifts to athletes from Thailand Malaysia who arrived at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport by PG 1721 flight at 1.40 pm and posed for documentary photo togeth-

er with foreign athletes.

M 150 Company launched its programme for the SEA Games in Nay Pyi Taw and Yangon as of 1 December, said Ma Saw Yu of M 150 Co.—*Ko Myo (Shwe Paukkan)*

Peace for Youth boxer club set up

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Dec — As a gesture of honouring XXVII SEA Games, the Peace for Youth boxer club was set up in Uyinsu Ward of Pynmana in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area today.

It was attended by officials of Myanmar Boxing Federation, coaches of the military command headquarters, selected boxers and new generation boxers.

Nay Pyi Taw Boxing Federation Chairman U Soe Tin made a speech.

Former Mandalay Re-



Peace for Youth Peace boxer club in Uyinsu Ward of Pynmana.

gion selected boxers U Zaw Min Aung, U Kyaw Lwin, U Zaw Win Aung, U Ko Lay and coaches of the mil-

itary command headquarters gave lectures on boxing event.

Zaw Myo Naing

Wai Phyo Aung bags three gold in three events



Wai Phyo Aung has bagged three gold in three contests in Wushu, becoming undoubtedly the crowd favourite in Wunna Theikdi Indoor Stadium today.

"I'm nearly shed in tears with happiness," says Wai Phyo Aung after winning his third gold medal in Nan Dao event of Wushu, including today's medal.

By Aye Min Soe

All fans in the stadium was infected with his achievement and took to the floor roaring "Myanmar, Myanmar, we, Myanmar wins."

He was also honoured by Union Minister for Livestock, Fishery and Rural Development U Ohn Myint an OMEGA watch and by Union Sports Minister U Tint Hsan with K 4 million before he left the floor.

Wai Phyo Aung, 23, started Wushu at the age of around 9.

"I will do my best in my last event to win gold," Wai Phyo Aung said in a confident mood.

So far, Myanmar has won five gold, two silver and five bronze in Wushu.

wins and one loss in its three matches for Day 1.

Pencak Silat, regarded as Indonesia's indigenous martial art, was initially introduced at the 1987 SEA Games in Jakarta.

Myanmar brought home only three bronze medals in Pencak Silat at the 2011 Indonesia SEA Games in which host Indonesia captured nine gold, five bronzes and two bronze while Vietnam stood second in the medal table with six gold, seven silvers and five bronzes in Indonesia.

**Results of football matches on 9-12-2013**  
 Indonesia 1-0 Cambodia  
 Myanmar 3-1 Timor-Leste

**Results of Fustal matches on 9-12-2013**  
 Thailand 12-3 Laos  
 Myanmar 4-4 Malaysia

Myanmar opens its Pencak Silat campaign with...

(from page 1)  
 event that will present 15 gold—10 in fighting and five in demonstration, giving our best in each and every category," vouched Myanmar Pencak Silat squad leader Ye Thiha, expressing his view that new pencak silat powerhouse Vietnam will be a main rival for Myanmar's gold rush in 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games' Pencak Silat. Vietnam won 6 gold medals at the

26<sup>th</sup> SEA Games in Indonesia and eight gold, nine silver and three bronze medals at the 15<sup>th</sup> Pencak Silat World Championship in Thailand.

"I believe our athletes are in confidence of reaching medal targets as much as we can at the Games because it is held in our country," said an official of Myanmar Pencak Silat national team.

Myanmar grabbed two



NATIONAL

## Laotian goodwill delegation arrives in Nay Pyi Taw



Laotian President Mr Choummaly SAYASONE and wife being welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin and wife Daw Lin Lin Tin.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Dec— At the invitation of U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, Mr Choummaly SAYASONE, President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and wife Mrs. Keosaychay SAYASONE arrived at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport this morning to pay a state visit to Myanmar.

They were welcomed at the Airport by Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin and wife Daw Lin Lin Tin, Deputy Minister Dr Aung Kyaw Myat and wife.

The Laotian delegation was also welcomed by the Guard of Honour and the students at the entrance to the Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.—MNA

## Fourth International Conference on Science and Engineering at Sedona Hotel

YANGON, 9 Dec— The fourth International Conference on Science and Engineering was held at Sedona Hotel, here, this morning.

On the occasion, Rector Dr Aye Myint of Yangon Technological University delivered an address citing that science and technol-

ogy sector is a main core for economic development and ensuring higher socioeconomic status of the country and that the Ministry of Science and Technology is striving for human resources development, implementing infrastructures and conducting more scientific and tech-

nological researches.

Professors and experts from Universities of various countries shared knowledge on their respective topics.

Local and foreign resource persons read out their papers at the conference that runs up till tomorrow.

MNA

## Myanmar Chinlone athletes...

(from page 1)

After the event, Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan greeted victorious Myanmar Chinlone teams. Deputy Minister U Thaug Htike today presented K 100,000 awarded by Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Association to each of Chinlone athletes.—Aye Aye Myint

## Announcement of gathering points and bus departure times for the guests to attend opening and closing of 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games

1. The opening ceremony of the 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games will be held on 11-12-2013 and the closing ceremony on 22-12-2013 on a grand scale.
2. Special buses from the following gathering points will be arranged to reach the designated places in Wunna Theikdhi Stadium safely and rapidly in time and preventing traffic congestion along the road.

Gathering point	Guest	Gathering point	Departure time	Last departure time
Group (1)	VIP-3(World/Asia/ASEAN/ NOC Chairmen/ Technical Delegates/Medical guests	Thingaha Hotel	14:00	16:30
	Diplomats and International organizations	Thingaha Hotel	-	-
	International organizations and embassy staff	Thingaha Hotel	-	-
	Foreign guests of NOC	Thingaha Hotel	-	-
Group (2)	Hluttaw representatives	Hluttaw	-	-
Group (3)	Artistes	Transit Center-7	-	16:30
Group (4)	Media	Maniyadana Jade Hall	14:00	15:30
Group (5)	NOC/MOC chaimen	MICC	-	-
	Local NGOs	MICC	-	-
	Political parties	MICC	-	-
	members of excursion group from An region	MICC	-	-
	Internal guests of NOC	MICC	-	-
Group (6)	Guests of the ministries	Zabuthiri BEHS No (10)	-	-
	Sponsors and entrepreneurs	Zabuthiri BEHS No (9)	-	-
Group (7)	Tickets for internal	Near Nay Pyi Taw/Thabyegon Maw Kham Nwon	-	-
Group (8)	Tickets for foreign	Near Zabuthiri BEHS No(11)	-	-

### Remark

1. After the ceremony, the fans are requested to come back to the car parking.
2. Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee arranged transportation for those from Group (7) gathering point who bought the local tickets near Nay Pyi Taw/Thabyegon/Maw Kham Nwon with a fare of K 500 and

those from Group (8) gathering point near BEHS (11) with a fare of K 200.

3. So, the guests are informed the transportation programme from above-mentioned gathering points to Wunna Theikdhi Stadium.

Leading Committee for holding 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games

## PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 10 December, 2013

### Thunderstorms

Nowadays, thunderstorms have become more frequent in many parts of the world, posing as another danger for all living things especially man as human death toll from lightning strike is rising continuously.

The basic ingredients for a thunderstorm are moisture, an unstable air-mass and a lifting force (heat). Moisture forms clouds and rain. Unstable air that is relatively warm can rise rapidly. Fronts, sea breezes and mountains are capable of lifting air to help form thunderstorms.

All thunder strikes regardless of their sizes are dangerous. Every thunder strike produces lightning, which in many cases kills more people each year than cyclonic storms. Lightning is a bright flash of electricity produced by a thunderstorm. All thunderstorms produce lightning and are very dangerous.

Thunderstorms can generally form and develop in any particular geographic location, perhaps most frequently within areas located at mid-latitude when warm moist air collides with cooler air. Thunderstorms are responsible for the development and formation of many severe weather phenomena. Thunderstorms, and the phenomena that occur along with them, pose great hazards to populations and landscapes.

In our country thunderstorms are not common till now, but thunder strikes or lightning strikes have been increasing all the more. And the human death toll from thunder strikes is also rising, proving as a new threat to reckon with. While thunder won't hurt people—lightning will. So it's important to pay attention when we hear thunder. Every thunder has lightning. Lightning can strike people and buildings and is very dangerous.

Maybe because of climate change and global warming, Myanmar is facing more natural hazards than ever, while storms like Nargis caused record destruction of lives and property. So, we cannot say exactly we will ever be free from giant thunderstorms. Consequently, we need boarder knowledge about thunderstorms and lightning strikes for a safer future.

### MFF to refund

### Myanmar vs Indonesia tickets

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Dec — There was a change to match schedule of Group (A) of the 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games women's football tournament as Indonesia officially informed that its women's football was unable to take part in the tournament due to various reasons.

According to the match schedule which was redrawn by Asia Football Federation for the Group (A) consisting Vietnam, the Philippines, Indonesia and host Myanmar, there will be one match in one day and every game will start at 4 pm. So, the match between Myanmar and the Philippines will be held at 4 pm on 10 December, the match between the Philippines and Vietnam on 13 December and the match

between Vietnam and Myanmar on 15 December.

Myanmar Football Federation will refund the payment received from the ticket holders of the SEA Games women's football match between Myanmar and Indonesia starting from 9 am on 11 December at Myanmar Football Academy in Mandalay. Moreover, the ticket holders will be allowed free admission to Philippines-Vietnam match on 13 December.

The federation released a statement apologizing to football fans for the change of match schedule and called on them to continue their support for Myanmar women's football team that will strive for victory in every match to appease frustrated fans.—MNA



NATIONAL

## Special civil appeal cases heard

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Dec—A special bench comprising Chief Justice of the Union U Tun Tun Oo and all Judges of the Supreme Court passed verdicts on one special criminal appeal case and five special civil appeal cases at the Office No. 1 of the Supreme Court of the Union today.

Moreover, they heard two special criminal appeal cases and four special civil appeal cases.—MNA

## Attorney-General of the Union receives JICA Myanmar Office Senior Vice-President



NAY PYI TAW, 9 Dec—Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shin received Senior Vice-President of JICA Myanmar Office Mr. Hideaki Domichi at his office here today.

At the meeting, they discussed cooperation between JICA and the office

of the Attorney-General of the Union through signing MoU, providing training courses on business contracts and intellectual property law and prosecution matters to law officers of Union Attorney-General.

MNA

## Philippine men and women secure victory in basketball round-robin

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Dec—Basketball event of 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games continued for the second day in Nay Pyi Taw Zeyathiri Indoor Stadium (A) today with one women's event and three men's events.

Seven men's basketball teams from Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines and Singapore and five women's basketball teams from Myanmar,

Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines are participating in the competitions.

At the today's events, the Philippines beat Malaysia with 19-6 points in women's event while Malaysia won over Cambodia with 73-58 points, the Philippines beat Singapore with 88-75 points and Indonesia thrashed Myanmar 83-40 points in men's event.

*Khaing Thanda Lwin (NLM)*



Basketball event of XXVII SEA Games in progress at Nay Pyi Taw Zeyathiri Indoor Stadium.—PHOTO: YM

## Region development tasks discussed in Mongton Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Dec—Union Ministers U Hla Tun, Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win and deputy ministers arrived at Namhsan of Shan State via Lashio this morning.

The Union ministers and party looked into the construction of Border Areas National Races Youth Development Training School in Namhsan and landslide in the back of Namhsan Township People's Hospital where they encouraged hospitalized patients and provided cash assistances to them. Shan State government donated K 1 million for the People's Hospital.

In the afternoon, they attended the meeting with local people at the meeting hall of Leading Body of Palaung Self-Administered Zone. Union Minister U Hla Tun called for all collaboration and united efforts to enjoy the fruits of regional



Union Minister U Hla Tun delivers speech in meeting with local people in Namhsan Township of Shan State.—MNA

development.

Later, Union Minister Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win touched upon policies and tasks for development of border areas and national races and Chairman U Maung Kyaw of Leading

Body of Palaung Self-Administered Zone explained facts about the region.

Afterwards, chairmen from the Mongton Township Management Committee, Township Supporting Committee and Township

Development Affairs Committee gave advice on regional development. Later, Union Minister U Hla Tun and responsible persons presented gifts to local people and cordially greeted them.

MNA

## Life-saver at night...

(from page 16)

and when Indonesia then went on the attack, their opponents were tough on defence, using their arms and body position to obstruct the view of the net, making taking a quality shot difficult.

And when the Indonesians did have a good scoring chance, the doctor provided the cure for Singapore.

With just over four minutes left in the match, Indonesia's Rezza Auditya Putra got behind the Singapore defence for a clear

path to the net but the keeper came out to challenge his opponent and made a superb stop with his left arm.

His team then went on the attack and snuffed out any chance of a comeback by Indonesia on a goal by Kunyang Chiam with 3:30 left on the scoreclock.

"That was a huge save," said Sai Meng Lee. "That was a game-changer."

"I learned today that my team has great shooters. And No. 3 (Zhi Zhi Loh) was great. Indonesia's second forward/centre

got nothing today. He did a great job."

Sin didn't need his brush off his medical skills to know why he was in pain after the match. He was in obvious difficulty when he climbed out of the pool and immediately sprawled out on a bench where he was attended to by medical staff for about 20 minutes after the game.

"He'll be OK," said Sai Meng Lee afterwards.

The victory was Singapore's third straight in the round-robin competition, while Indonesia has two wins and one loss, the same record as Thailand.

Indonesia and Thailand face off in their final game of the round-robin competition, with the winner claiming silver.

Indonesia's Legawa said he hopes that the lessons his players learned against Singapore are applied against Thailand.

"We are a young team and we were not patient. They have to utilize the time better, use the clock better. We showed no patience today."

In the day's second match, Malaysia topped Myanmar 28-11, which despite the loss, was Myanmar's closest game so far.

## Indonesian women to compete in Futsal but not ready to participate in football

Myanmar women's football team is ready to secure the gold medal of the 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games on its soil. The team has many prospects for gaining gold medal in the upcoming

SEA Games. Myanmar women's team could bring the bronze medal to the country for the first time in the 1995 SEA Games in Thailand even though the team had no much time to make preparation.

The team got silver medal (the 1997 Indonesian SEA Games), bronze medal (the 2001 Malaysian SEA Games), silver medal (the 2003 Vietnamese SEA Games), silver (the 2005 Philippines SEA Games) and bronze medals (the 2007 Thailand and 2009 Laos SEA Games) respectively.

Myanmar team is ready to bring the gold medal on its soil after defeating its main rivals—Vietnam (current champion) and Thailand.

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Myanmar team is ready to bring the gold medal on its soil after defeating its main rivals—Vietnam (current champion) and Thailand will meet in big matches in women's football event in Mandalay.

As such, host Myanmar, defending champion Vietnam and Thailand will meet in big matches in women's football event in Mandalay.

By MNA  
(Yangon)



mar, defending champion Vietnam and Thailand will meet in big matches in women's football event in Mandalay.

Trs: MT

## Kyi Soe Tun Library put into service in Shwebo Tsp



SHWEBO, 9 Dec—Chief Minister of Sagaing Region U Tha Aye attended the inauguration ceremony of Kyi Soe Tun Library in the compound of Basic Education Primary School in Padaung Village of Shwebo Township on 7 December. The library was donated by Film Director Academy Kyi Soe Tun-Daw

Nu Nu Thein family. They also donated books to the library.

On 6 December evening, the literary talks was held there. Film Director Academy Kyi Soe Tun explained the purpose of library donation and maintenance, writer Nu Nu Yi (Inwa), film actresses Academy Swe Zin Htaik and Academy Myo Thandar Tun literary and film affairs.

Speaker of Sagaing Region Hluttaw U Thin Hlaing, Region Minister for Development Affairs U Tin Hlaing Myint, Shwebo Township Pyithu Hluttaw representative Dr Aung Than and Film Director Academy Kyi Soe Tun formally opened the library.

*Kyemon-572*

## Myeik Township cycling festival hails XXVII SEA Games

MYEIK, 9 Dec—As a gesture of hailing the XXVII SEA Games, all the people of Myeik Township of Taninthayi Region participated in the township cycling festival on 8 December.

At first, Myeik District Deputy Commissioner U Lwin Ko Oo gave instructions on prevention against traffic accidents in the festival.

The participants from the festival including the Deputy Commissioner of the district, departmental officials, members of social organizations, Myeik District Sports and Physical Education Department, local people, members of the organizing committee, students and others started their cycling festival from Pyithaya Road in Myohtit

Ward 7 and passed along Kanbaungyoe Road, Karani Road, Bogyoke Road, Kanphya Myeni Road, Airport Road, Padaukpin Road, Baho Road, Daweisu fire station road and Strand Road and then finished at Pyithaya Road gathering point.

The Japan bicycle sales centre in Myeik sponsored over 350 bicycles to be used in the festival free of charge. Myeik Future Development Co Ltd, Zinyaw Min Purified Drinking Water, Shwenandaw Confectionary, Aung Myintmo Ice Factory and Blue Mountain presented caps, shirts and foods to the participants of the festival, said Chairman of the organizing committee Ko Po Kyaw Thein.

*Kyemon-Moe Hein (Myeik)*

## Pamphlets on traffic rules distributed in Kalay



KALAY, 9 Dec—Local policemen and members of Traffic Police Crops distributed pamphlets on traffic rules to road users and vehicles at the traffic light junction of Kalay in Sagaing Region from 6 to 8 December. The pamphlets described rules of traffic users and usage of traffic lights. The traffic light was installed at the junction in

### Traffic rules enforcement

the first week of November. The device was imported from Thailand.

The installation of the traffic lights and score boards cost K 7.488 million, said member of Township Development Supportive Committee U Aye Cho.

After the educative period, action will be taken against the traffic rules offenders under the traffic law, said Commander of District Police Force Police Lt-Col Thein Win.

*Kyemon-Lin Let Kyei Sin*



*Local people young and old participate in the whole township cycling festival in Myeik hailing XXVII SEA Games.*

## Town Hall uplifting prestige of Kalay Township

KALAY, 9 Dec—The stakes were driven on 26 January 2010 on 1.308 acres of plot beside Kalay-Kalewa Road in Region 9 of Nyaungbintha Ward in Kalay of Sagaing Region.

The construction depicted the town hall of Kalay spending K 3241.832 million. It was completed in December 2012. The building is 140 feet long, 80 feet wide and 21 feet high. It is of reinforced concrete posts and concrete floor.

The town hall is facilitated with a Bandoola Horsing Statue in its front.

The statue was moved from the junction of Kalay spending K 6 million.

In the past, the mass rally was held at the Nerinzaya Hall of Township General

Administration Department or the gymnasium.

Now, the town hall will

give seats to the people at more rallies.

*Kyemon-Lin Let Kyei Sin*



## Bee-keeping industries moved to sunflower plantations on Kalay-Gangaw Road

KALAY, 9 Dec—Bee-keeping works from various regions of the nation were moved to sunflower plantations on Kalay-Gangaw Road Section as of mid-November.

Beehive boxes were kept in Kalay from February to May. In June, they were moved to Kani Township of Monywa District and then moved to sunflower plantations of Gangaw Township, said bee-keeping entrepreneurs.

At present, honey is sold at K 1700 per viss. The domestic honey is exported

to Japan via Yangon and Mandalay.

Eight to 12 sheets of honeycombs are kept in the beehives. If the entrepreneur wants thick honey, they have to keep about 10 sheets of honeycombs. If they want thin honey, about seven sheets of honeycombs must be kept in the beehives. Each bottle of honey can be sold at K 2000. If there are plenty of flowers, the beekeeping business is cost effectiveness, said a beekeeping entrepreneurs from Thayawady Village.

*Kyemon-Lin Let Kyei Sin*



## REGIONAL

## Singapore hit by rare outbreak of rioting, 27 arrested

SINGAPORE, 9 Dec — A crowd of around 400 people set fire to vehicles and clashed with police in the Indian district of Singapore late on Sunday after a man was hit and killed by a bus, the first major riot in the city-state for more than 40 years.

Police said they had arrested 27 suspects after the riot, which started after a private bus hit and killed a 33-year-old Indian national in the Little India area.

The riot is likely to fuel concerns about discontent among low-paid foreign workers. Last year, Singapore saw its biggest

outbreak of labour unrest in years when around 170 bus drivers from mainland China went on strike illegally.

Several videos posted online showed a crowd of people smashing the windscreen of the bus while the victim remained trapped under the vehicle.

Police said the 27 arrested were of South Asian origin and that they expected to make more arrests in coming days. About 300 officers were sent on to the streets to quell the riot.

A statement by the Civil Defence Force (CDF), which oversees ambulances and fire fighting, said



Riot policemen watch burning vehicles during a riot in Singapore's Little India district, late on 8 Dec, 2013.

REUTERS

rescuers trying to remove the body had "projectiles" thrown at them when they arrived on the scene.

Footage showed police cars being flipped over and several vehicles on fire. The CDF said an ambulance, three police cars and a motorbike were burnt.

The Singapore Police Force said the violence started following the bus accident.

"Shortly after, a riot broke out involving a crowd of about 400 subjects", it said in a statement, adding that around 10 police officers were injured.—Reuters

## Climate change drives up risk of bushfire in Australia

CANBERRA, 9 Dec — Australia has always experienced bushfires but climate change is driving up the risk of fire danger weather, a new Bushfire Report from the Climate Council, an independent organization, warned on Monday.

The Climate Council is an Australian independent non-profit organization formed to provide Australians with clear, easy to understand facts on climate change. It was formed by former members of the Climate Commission

after it was abolished by the coalition government. It is funded by donations from the public.

"People lose their lives in Australia due to fires, and property and infrastructure is also damaged. We must understand the risks of a changing climate to protect ourselves into the future," Chief Councilor, Professor Tim Flannery said in a statement on Monday.

According to Flannery, hot dry conditions are the ingredients for bushfires, and climate change is

making conditions hotter and drier in the southeast and southwest of Australia.

The report finds that the number of record hot days has doubled in the last 50 years, heatwaves have become longer and more frequent, while some parts of the country are becoming drier.

"Extreme fire weather has already increased over the last 30 years, across the southeast of Australia where some of Australia's largest population centres are located," he said.

Xinhua



Photo taken by a mobile phone on 8 Dec, 2013 shows the scene of a highway pile-up in southwest China's Sichuan Province. A sedan's overturn caused traffic jam on the Chengzilu Highway, and a heavy truck suddenly dashed to vehicles queuing in front, causing a 19-car pile-up around 4:00 pm Sunday. The accident has killed eight people and injured 23.—XINHUA

## Abe to meet Press on Monday amid protests over secrecy law

TOKYO, 9 Dec — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe will hold a Press conference on Monday to deliver a message to the public on Japan's controversial secrecy law, which was enacted last week amid strong opposition, a government source said.

Abe will meet with the press at 6 pm at his office.

The law, rammed through the Diet by Abe's

ruling coalition toward the end of a 55-day extraordinary session, creates categories of "special secrets" for sensitive information on diplomacy and national security and toughens penalties for those who leak them. The Diet session ended on Sunday.

Abe will explain at the Press conference the significance of the legislation and

his views on it, the source said.

The coalition led by Abe's Liberal Democratic Party enacted the law on Friday despite disputes with the opposition camp on some of its elements.

Critics say the law could undermine people's constitutional right to know as well as freedom of the Press.—Kyodo News

## Japan logs 1st current account deficit in 9 months

TOKYO, 9 Dec — Japan's current account balance logged a deficit for the first time in nine months in October, as a surge in fuel imports more than offset increases in exports and direct investment income, government data showed on Monday.

The deficit in the balance, one of the widest gauges of international trade, stood at 127.9 billion yen in the reporting month, the Finance Ministry said in a preliminary report. In September, the country recorded a surplus of 587.3 billion yen.

The goods trade balance registered a deficit of 1,091.9 billion yen in October, the largest for the reporting month since 1985, when comparable data became available, as imports grew 28.2 percent from a year earlier to 6,925.1 billion yen, due to rising imports of crude oil and liquefied natural gas.

Exports expanded 17.9 percent to 5,833.2 billion yen, due mainly to

increased exports of automobiles, but the rise was not enough to offset the deficit.

The income account, which reflects how much Japan earns from its foreign investments, rose 9.1 percent to 1,361.5 billion yen for the second straight month of increase, due partly to effects of a weakening yen.

During the same month, the Japanese currency dropped against the US dollar by 23.9 percent on year on an average basis and the euro by 30.2 percent, according to the ministry.

A weaker yen usually boosts the competitiveness of Japanese exporters and increases the value of overseas revenue in yen terms, while pushing up import costs.

Despite reporting the first red ink in nine months in October, some analysts said the move is likely to be temporary, as the country's income account is projected to continue rising to offset trade deficits.

Kyodo News

## China, Thailand hold antiterrorism training

BEIJING, 9 Dec — Chinese and Thai special forces will hold joint antiterrorism training from 8 to 21 December in Thailand, said a statement from China's Defence Ministry on Sunday.

The drill, code-named "Strike-2013", is the fourth time for armies of the two countries to hold such antiterror training since 2007.

"The drill is aimed to deepen pragmatic cooperation and increase mutual trust and friendship between the two militaries," said the statement.

The two armies will also explore new ways of joint implementation of antiterror action through the training, according to the statement.—Xinhua



Photos show a "Man-Han Style Banquet" contains 143 "delicious dishes" made of Shoushan stones on 7 Dec, 2013. The collection amassed by Shoushan stone carving artists Sun Zhaoyong from China's Fuzhou. The "Banquet" won the certificate of Great World Guinness record which was issued by Shanghai Great World Guinness Headquarter.—XINHUA

## S Korea closely monitors DPRK situation after expulsion of Jang Song-thaek

SEOUL, 9 Dec — South Korea's Unification Ministry said on Monday that Seoul was more closely monitoring the situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) after news that DPRK leader Kim Jong Un ousted his uncle-in-law Jang Song-thaek.

Ministry spokesman Kim Eui-do told a routine press briefing that Jang's purge was formally confirmed through the DPRK's official news agency, noting that Seoul was closely monitoring situations in the DPRK's inner circle and external relations, with

several possibilities in mind.

The DPRK's official news agency KCNA reported early on Monday that Jang was removed from all posts and expelled from the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) for his "anti-Party and counterrevolutionary crime."

The KCNA news came after the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee held an enlarged meeting on Sunday.

Jang, who was married to DPRK leader Kim's biological aunt, was vice chairman of the National

Defence Commission and secretary of the WPK administration department.

Last Tuesday, South Korea's spy agency claimed the ouster of Jang, saying that Jang had not been seen after two of his close aides were executed in late November. South Korean Defence Minister Kim Kwan-jin said last Wednesday that some work has been under way within the DPRK to rearrange power structure, saying that Pyongyang was strengthening its military capabilities across the nation under these circumstances.—Xinhua

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE****MV NINOS VOY NO (1008)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV NINOS VOY NO (1008) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.12.2013 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 CHINA SHIPPING  
(MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE****MV UNI ASSURE VOY NO (045)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV UNI ASSURE VOY NO (045) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.12.2013 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 EVER GREEN SHIPPING  
LINE**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE****MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (355)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (355) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.12.2013 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  
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AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER  
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People participate in a march on the last day of World Royal Heritage Festival in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 8 Dec, 2013.—XINHUA

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## Champions League set for some much-needed drama

BERNE, 9 Dec — The Champions League is set for some much-needed drama this week with the conclusion of a group stage which has been all too predictable and produced an embarrassing procession of one-sided matches. Eight places in the round of 16 are still up for grabs, with much of the attention focussed on Group F where Bayern Munich, Manchester United, Real Madrid, Paris St Germain, Borussia Dortmund and Arsenal are battling for two spots.

With Juventus and AC Milan each needing a point to qualify against tricky opponents, Italy could end up with all three of their teams in the last 16, or none at all. Benfica's chances of reaching the final in their own Estadio da Luz are out of their hands and will be

prematurely ended if Olympiakos beat winless Anderlecht, while their compatriots Porto also face an uphill battle. Swiss champions Basel, whose two wins over Chelsea have provided the only real upsets, need a point to progress at the expense of Bundesliga side Schalke 04.

Shakhtar Donetsk, Bayer Leverkusen, Zenit St Petersburg and Ajax Amsterdam are also still in with a chance of going through. Manchester United, Real Madrid, Paris St Germain, Bayern Munich, Manchester City, Chelsea, Atletico Madrid and Barcelona have safely qualified and can use the games to give their lesser-used players a run-out. So far, four games in the group stage have been

won by five-goal margins, six games won by four goals and 13 matches have ended with a difference of three goals. Despite the group stage's predictable nature, this season has at least proved more competitive than last term when 13 of the 16 knockout stage places had been booked before the final round of group matches.

As expected, Group F has turned out to be by far the toughest. Leaders Arsenal (12 points) travel to Napoli (9) needing a draw, or a defeat by less than three goals, while Borussia Dortmund (9), will go through if they beat pointless Olympique Marseille away, regardless of the other result. Should Napoli and Dortmund both win, they will



Arsenal's Jack Wilshere scores a goal against Olympique Marseille during their Champions League soccer match at the Emirates stadium in London on 26 Nov, 2013. — REUTERS

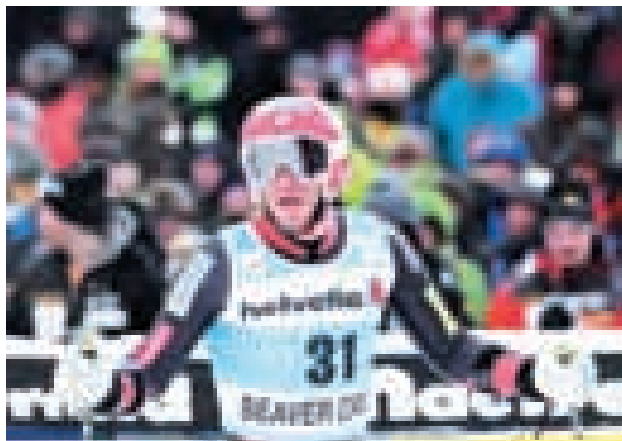
finish level with Arsenal on 12 points and the qualifiers will be decided by the results between the three teams. Group E will also have a dramatic finish when habitual over-achievers Basel (8 points) visit spectacularly inconsistent Schalke (7) needing a point to join

Chelsea in the last 16.

Despite their dismal domestic form, seven-times champions AC Milan (8) should get the point they need at home to Ajax Amsterdam (7) and follow Barcelona through from Group H. "The Dutch have achieved great results and

have good technique and we must take all the necessary precautions," said Milan's unflappable coach Massimiliano Allegri whose future is the source of constant speculation. "We have to score a goal, we cannot think of playing for the 0-0."—Reuters

## Rejuvenated Miller back on World Cup podium



Bode Miller of the US finishes second in the men's World Cup Giant Slalom ski race in Beaver Creek, Colorado on 8 Dec, 2013. — REUTERS

BEAVER CREEK, (Colorado), 9 Dec — Leiner and keener, Bode Miller made it back on a World Cup podium after an 18-months break from skiing on Sunday and called his spectacular recovery "a redemption".

The once maverick poster boy of American skiing, now a married man and father of two, displayed his exceptional natural talent once again to finish second in a men's giant slalom 1.32 seconds behind

compatriot Ted Ligety in Beaver Creek.

While Ligety's victory, his fourth consecutively in the Colorado resort, was almost business as usual, Miller's runner-up placing was a genuine sensation. Forced out of skiing for more than a year by a knee operation, the old man of the circuit at 36 had not been on a World Cup podium for 22 months. His resurrection was all the more spectacular as it took place in a giant slalom, a discipline in which he had not finished in the top three since 2007 in Lenzerheide. Ligety, the man who replaced him at the helm of American skiing, was the first to congratulate his team-mate.

"It's awesome to see

Bode back here. He's a little bit up and down in training but he managed to pull it together today," Ligety said. The crowd discovered quite a different Miller in the finish area. Fitter after losing weight in the summer, the usually indifferent champion raised his fist after crossing the line, a sign that the result meant a lot to him. And it did, especially in front of his wife, beach volleyball player and model Morgan Beck, who now travels with him and his daughter on the World Cup circuit. "It's so funny to be sandwiched behind these two young guys," said Miller, who finished half a second ahead of Austrian overall World Cup holder Marcel Hirscher.

Reuters

## Few surprises in Spanish Copa del Rey

MADRID, 9 Dec — Real Madrid were involved in one of the few minor upsets which took place in the last 32 of the Copa del Rey knockout competition in Spain over the past three days.

The last 32 sees the sides from the BBVA Primera Liga enter the hat for the competition with those playing in Europe drawn to play the lowest ranked sides remaining in the tournament in a tie which is played on a home and away basis with the first leg played in the ground of the smaller club.

Real Madrid faced third tier side Olympic de

Xativa and despite fielding a strong team were only able to draw 0-0, although they are overwhelming favorites to qualify with ease in the return leg.

Real Sociedad also suffered a similar upset, although they too will expect to qualify after a 1-1 draw away to Algeciras. Elsewhere FC Barcelona won 4-1 in Cartagena, while Atletico Madrid cruised home 4-0 past San Andreu to leave their second legs matches virtually meaningless. Betis won 2-1 away to Lleida, while Sevilla won 1-0 away to racing Santander with a goal scored by former Racing player, Jairo.

There were minor surprises in Huelva, where the second division high-flyers defeated Levante 1-0, a result diluted by the fact that less than 1,000 fans turned up to watch the game, while Girona drew at home to Primera Liga, Getafe in another match played in front of largely empty stands.

There was more excitement in Villarreal - Elche, which ended 2-2, while Celta and Athletic Club Bilbao produced an exciting match which Celta won 1-0 thanks to a goal from striker Santi Mina, who was celebrating his 18th birthday.

Xinhua

## Wolfsburg, Berlin reap wins in German Bundesliga

BERLIN, 9 Dec — Wolfsburg cruised to a 3-0 away victory at Freiburg to extend their unbeaten run to seven games whereas Berlin inflicted bottom side Braunschweig the 11th loss of the season to close the 15th round on Sunday. The "Wolves" climbed from sixth to fifth position recording their eighth win. Freiburg wait for their first win on home soil, sitting on 16th place, to remain caught in the drop zone of the Bundesliga.

The host staged the worst possible start as Wolfsburg ensured a quick start making it 2-0 within 11 minutes. Patrick Ochs' cross from the right wing found youngster Maximilian

Arnold, who tapped in his fifth goal of the season, eight minutes into the game. The visitors capitalized on an turnover as Luiz Gustavo teed up for Ivica Olic, who doubled the lead thanks to Freiburg's porous defence three minutes later.

Wolfsburg nearly tripped the lead through Ivica Olic and Slobodan Medojevic but Freiburg were lucky in their misfortune. After the restart Freiburg tried to respond but all their opportunities remained short on accuracy. However, things worsened for the hosts as the "Wolves" clinically added a third goal to their lead through Marcel Schaefer at the stoppage time.—Xinhua

## Arsenal frustrated by Deulofeu's late equaliser

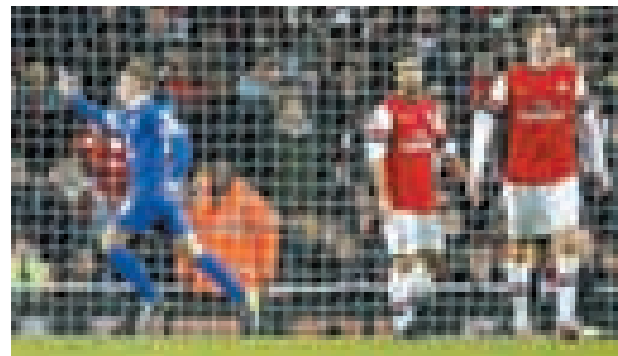
LONDON, 9 Dec — Gerard Deulofeu's late goal earned Everton a deserved 1-1 draw at Premier League leaders Arsenal after Mesut Ozil's strike seemed set to seal three points for the home side in a sizzling clash at The Emirates on Sunday. An absorbing contest burst into life in the closing stages as Ozil swept Arsenal in front from close range in the 80th minute, only for substitute Deulofeu to fire a powerful shot past Wojciech Szczesny four minutes later.

Olivier Giroud almost snatched victory in stoppage-time for the hosts when his 30-metre thunderbolt thumped against the

woodwork, although that would have been harsh on Everton, who won at champions Manchester United on Wednesday.

With a treacherous-looking fixture list looming, Arsenal lead the table with

35 points, five clear of Liverpool who were the only one of the top five to win this weekend. Chelsea also have 30 points with Everton, beaten only once in the league this season, fifth on 28.—Reuters



Everton's Gerard Deulofeu (L) celebrates scoring during their English Premier League soccer match against Arsenal at The Emirates in London, on 8 Dec, 2013.—REUTERS



GENERAL



Journalists who wish to cover the official State Funeral events of former South African president Nelson Mandela queue at the media accreditation center in Johannesburg, South Africa, on 8 Dec, 2013. XINHUA

## Johnson steals Tiger's thunder with Sherwood win

THOUSAND, (California), 9 Dec — Tournament host Tiger Woods was denied a sixth win of the year in sensational fashion when he lost the Northwestern Mutual World Challenge in a playoff with Zach Johnson at Sherwood Country Club on Sunday. Johnson, who had twice finished second to fellow American Woods at this elite limited-field event, sealed victory with a rock-solid par at the 18th, the first extra hole, where Woods lipped out with a five-footer to bogey.

The duo had finished regulation amid high drama and sharp swings of fortune on 13-under 275, Woods parring the last for a two-under 70 and Johnson, who came from four strokes behind with four birdies in the last eight holes, closing with a 68. "It was a bit too much drama at the end there," a beaming Johnson told reporters after earning the winner's cheque for \$1 million.

"I feel very fortunate and somewhat lucky to be sitting here as a champion." Tied for the lead at 13 under, Johnson appeared to have the title firmly in his grasp in regulation when five-times champion Woods, from the left rough at the 18th, dumped his approach

into a greenside bunker.

However Johnson, perfectly positioned in the fairway, stunningly found water with his second, took a penalty drop and then holed out from 58 yards in the fairway for a par four as the galleries erupted in deafening celebration. "It was just a bad swing and I got caught up in the moment," Johnson said of his poor approach from the 18th fairway. "That was the worst shot I hit all day ... probably the worst I hit all week.

"Certainly the next shot was a little too dramatic for me, but I was very lucky to hit that one in." Woods did well to get up and down from the bunker to take the tournament into a playoff, but was unable to repeat the feat from a similar position in the same bunker on the first extra hole.

"I hit another really good bunker shot and didn't have as good a lie the second time around," world number one Woods said of the first extra hole. "It came out great."

The putt (for par), I've been blocking them all day, and then with that little left-to-righter, I didn't block that one.

"Pretty impressive what he did," Woods said of Johnson's form down the

stretch. "Excluding that last shot on 18 in regulation, he really hit it well coming in with three good approach shots."

Bubba Watson, the 2012 Masters champion, closed with a 70 to share third place at nine under with fellow American Matt Kuchar, who piled up eight birdies, a bogey and a double in a 67. Defending champion Graeme McDowell of Northern Ireland, who also triumphed here in 2010, signed off with a 69 to finish alone in sixth at five under.—Reuters

## Four suspected pirates arrested in Nigeria

LAGOS, 9 Dec — The Nigerian Navy on Sunday said four pirates suspected to be behind the breach of maritime security in the West African nation's waterways have been arrested in southern Rivers State.

The suspects were arrested by troops of the Nigerian Navy ship Burutu

on routine patrol, spokesperson for the Navy in the oil-rich city of Port Harcourt, Lt-Cdr Abdulsalam Sani, said in a statement.

Sani said the Navy patrol also impounded three cutlasses, four knives and pumping machines from the suspects, adding that three hammers, cell

phones, eye glasses and an undisclosed amount of money were also recovered.

The suspects were arrested while operating in two wooden boats at about 1:20 pm local time at anchorage off Bonny Fairway buoy.

Xinhua

## China bans wild animals from official dinner tables

BEIJING, 9 Dec — China's central authorities on Sunday published a regulation that explicitly ruled out dishes containing shark fins, bird nests and wild animal products in official reception dinners.

The document, jointly issued by the general offices of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and the State Council, detailed regulations of the use of public funding on receptions by local authorities to receive visiting Party or governmental officials.

Shark fins, bird nests and products of rare wild animals are popular materials in luxury dinners in China.

Officials on business tours should arrange their own meals according to rel-

evant expenditure standards and the local hosts are allowed to provide only one reception dinner if needed, the regulation said.

The regulation said cigarettes and up-market liquors are not allowed to be served at official dinners and such receptions should not be held in private clubs or upscale places.

It is also prohibited to organize conference and activities at tourist attractions or commercial entertainment venues and government funds should not be used to cover officials' personal recreational visits, according to the documents.

Moreover, officials below provincial level should not live in suite rooms on their business trips, it said.

Xinhua

## MYANMAR TV

(10-12-2013, Tuesday)

6:00 am	News/ Weather Report
1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw	12:30 pm
6:15 am	13. Documentary
2. Mytta Pawana By Mingun Sayadaw Phayagyi	1:00 pm
6:35 am	14. SEA Games Songs (Basketball)
3. Physical Exercises	1:25 pm
6:45 am	15. Documentary (SEA Games)
4. SEA Games Songs	2:00 pm
7:00 am	16. Sport News/ ROWING
5. News/Weather Report	3:00 pm
7:30 am	17. Futsal (Myanmar & Vietnam) (Women)
6. Talks Show	3:30 pm
8:00 am	18. Talks Show
7. News/International News	4:00 pm
8:30 am	19. 27th SEA Games Football (Live) (Myanmar & Philippines) (Women)
8. Business News	6:00 pm
9. Speaktakraw (Myanmar & Brunei) (Preliminary) (Women)	20. News/ Weather Report
9:45 am	6:20 pm
10. Speaktakraw (Myanmar & Singapore) (Preliminary) (Men)	21. Talks Show
11:00 am	6:45 pm
11. Sport News	22. 27th SEA Games Football (Live) (Vietnam & Singapore) (Men)
12:00 pm	9:20 pm
12. News/ International	23. Sing A Song
	24. Talks Show

## MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

10-12-13 07:00 am ~ 11-12-13 07:00 am) MST

- \* Local News
- \* Pada Ceti, The Buddha's foot-Prints
- \* World News
- \* A Tourist Destination Of Shan State
- \* Local News
- \* Short Trip With Steve (Taungyi Trip)
- \* World News
- \* All About Orchids
- \* Local News
- \* A Night Of Dancing With Phoe Chit
- \* World News
- \* Brilliant Woman "Dr. Mya Thidar Sway Tin"
- \* Local News
- \* An Ardent Aficionado Of Traditional Design
- \* World News
- \* Independent Filmmaker
- \* 27th SEA GAMES COMPETITION
- \* Local News
- \* Pan Tamawt Stone Carving
- \* In The Studio: May Phyu Phyu
- \* Local News
- \* Taste Of Myanmar (Fried Flat Noodle)
- \* World News
- \* Product Of Myanmar-Mya Setkyar Pure Silk Fabric From Inle Lake
- \* Local News
- \* Me N MY Travel (PyinOoLwin)
- \* World News
- \* Mother of Pearl Arts and Handicrafts
- \* Local News
- \* How to Extract Timber Using Elephants
- \* World News
- \* Charming & Fragrant Sabai



People line up for free frozen turkeys at a local store Honest Ed's during the 26th pre-Christmas turkey giveaway event in Toronto, Canada, on 8 Dec, 2013. Hundreds People around the city lined up to get 1,500 free frozen turkeys and fruit cakes in this annual event on Sunday.—XINHUA

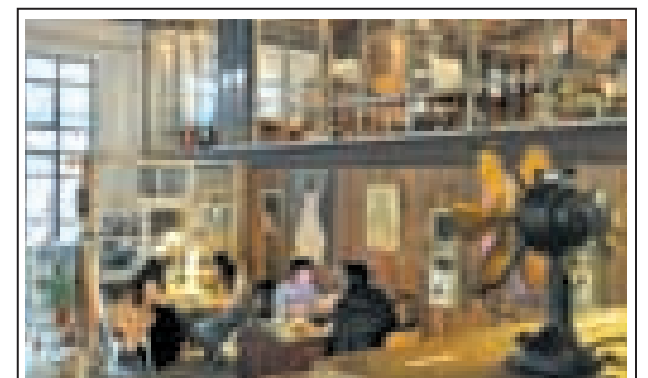


Photo shows a café shop at Gulou district of Fuzhou in Fujian province. The location of the café is a former workshop which produced parts of film projection equipment and after 1985 it's no longer in use.—XINHUA

## Storm in northeastern Brazil kills eight

RIO DE JANEIRO, 9 Dec —At least eight people died and eight others were missing in a storm in Brazil's northeastern state of Bahia, local civil defence office said on Sunday. The dead were one boy, six women and one person that has yet

to be identified, according to local media.

The storm, that struck Bahia's Lajedinho municipality on Saturday, destroyed at least 70 houses and caused relocation of more than 100 people.

Xinhua

# Myanmar maintain its good image in international arena concerning Rakhine conflict

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Dec—Work Coordination Meeting 8/2013 of Central Committee for Implementation of Peace and Stability and Development of Rakhine State took place at the meeting hall of the President's Office, here, this afternoon, with an address by Central Committee Chairman Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham.

At the meeting, the Vice-President said that the meeting's purpose is to discuss latest situations of Rakhine State and ongoing work processes of the committee for peace and development of Rakhine State. It needs to report work progress on the message relating to the meeting between the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker and Rakhine families, he said. He continued that OIC held discussions with civil societies during the visit to Myanmar and bided to provide humanitarian assistance. He affirmed to form Rakhine State Conflict Research Center with the researchers and disclosed to discuss the situations of the two communities.

Then, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin explained

conditions of international relations regarding Rakhine State.

Chairmen of Security, Stability and Rule of Law Committee, Committee for Cooperation with UN Agencies and International Organizations, Immigration and Scrutiny Work Committee for Migrant or Immigrant, Socioeconomic Development Work Committee and Regional Temporary Resettlement and Rehabilitation Work Committee Union Minister U Maung Myint, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin and the deputy ministers reported on committee-wise work progress.

Central Committee Secretary Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Ohn clarified matters on holding a discussion to seek ways for peaceful coexistence in the state by Rakhine State Conflict Investigation Commission.

Afterwards, Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Wai Lwin explained measures to be carried out for formation of border police force in Rakhine State.

Next, Secretary of Rakhine State Conflict Investigation Commission Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing gave sug-



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham delivers an address at Work Coordination Meeting 8/2013 of Central Committee for Implementation of Peace and Stability and Development of Rakhine State.—MNA

gestions on the discussion between the two communities and the deputy ministers reported on provision of health care services in Rakhine State by the Health Ministry in cooperation with international organizations and news broadcasting.

In his concluding speech, the Vice-President said that thanks to the efforts made by the central committee and work committees, Myanmar could maintain its good image in the inter-

national arena concerning Rakhine conflict. He underlined that it needs to emphasize security measures, urging the officials to explain the Rakhine national races in carrying out health care services for the refugees. He highlighted to release the news on Rakhine State in real time and pledged to provide necessary assistance, saying international community recognized Myanmar's endeavours on Rakhine conflict.—MNA

## MRTV for people's satisfaction

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Dec—Myanma Radio and Television has transmitted Farmers Channel, Hluttaw Channel and National Races Channel through DVBT system since 15 October. Moreover, it has broadcast live three MRTV SEA Games Channels for the people to enjoy upcoming 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games sports events.

A total of 24 channels including sport channels through Cable TV have been transmitted for satisfaction of people who live in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area since this morning. With different ranges of frequency people may enjoy the channels as much as they like by tuning.

For further information, please dial 067-422286.—MNA

## Life-saver at night, team-saver during the day



Goalkeeper Nigel Sin Chao Tay is a medical doctor in Singapore who works the night shift and then doubles as the goalkeeper for the men's water polo team during the day, often going from the operating room to the practice pool.

He turned in a brilliant performance in an 8-5 triumph over Indonesia to all

but clinch the gold medal for the regional powerhouse team that is two-time defending SEA Games champion.

Singapore would have to lose to Myanmar in its final game of the competition, and the chances of that happening are nil. Myanmar is making a return to water polo after a 44-year

SEA Games absence and the difference between the two programs is much more than a couple of lengths of the pool.

"They are the gold medalists," said Indonesia coach Calvin Legawa. "They are the best team, Singapore deserves to win."

Singapore coach Sai Meng Lee didn't bat an

By Alan Adams

eye when asked about the importance of his doctor/goalkeeper.

"He was our best player today," he said. "I don't know where we would be without him."

The Singapore-Indonesia match was fast-paced from the opening whistle and the players kept up a hectic pace.

Indonesia stayed within striking range for most of the game and for a while it looked like an upset was a possibility.

The closest they got to beating the two-time defending champs came with just over six minutes left in the final period after Ridjkie Mulia scored his fourth goal of the game for Indonesia to narrow the gap to 6-5. He skipped the ball off the water and the goalie never had chance.

Zhi Zhi Loh put Singapore ahead 7-5 shortly after (See page 9)

## Medal Tally

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Myanmar	13	3	6	22
Vietnam	6	3	5	14
Indonesia	4	4	6	14
Thailand	3	6	1	10
Malaysia	3	5	11	19
Philippines	2	4	1	7
Laos	1	2	8	11
Cambodia	0	4	5	9
Singapore	0	1	2	3
Brunei	0	0	0	0
Timor-Leste	0	0	0	0



Customers packed with SEA Games souvenirs shop.—By AMS