

President U Thein Sein attends Japanese king's tea party



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein together with heads of State/Government from ASEAN attends 40th Anniversary ASEAN-Japan commemorative summit and Japan-Mekong Summit in Tokyo of Japan.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec—President U Thein Sein together with heads of State/Government from ASEAN who are in Japan to attend the 40th Anniversary ASEAN-Japan commemorative summit and Japan-Mekong Summit, attended a tea party hosted by Japan's King Akihito and Princess Michiko Shoda, at Imperial Palace this evening.

It was attended by Brunei King Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen and wife, Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and wife, Laotian Prime Minister Mr. Thongsing Thammavong and wife, Malaysian Prime Minister Dato' Sri Haji Mohammad Najib bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak, Philippine President Mr Benigno Aquino, Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong and wife, Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung and wife and officials. Later, President U Thein Sein and ASEAN leaders attended a dinner hosted by Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and wife at PM's residence and held one-minute silence for disaster victims in Japan and ASEAN region. The President proceeded to Myanmar Embassy in Tokyo of Japan. Then, he met staff and Myanmar students there and presented gifts to them. From there, the President went to Imperial Hotel where they stay. Delegation member Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin attended a dinner hosted by Japanese Prime Foreign Minister Mr Fumio Kishida. Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw also attended a MoU signing ceremony in order to promote economic cooperation between the Myanmar government and JBIC at Imperial Hotel. MNA

Vietnam & Indonesia set new records in weightlifting event

YANGON, 13 Dec—Vietnam in the first day of Weightlifting Men's 56 Kilo event and Indonesia in the first day of Weightlifting Men's 62 Kilo event set new records breaking the old SEA Games records in the 27th SEA Games. Vietnamese weightlifter Tuan Thach Kim bagged gold medal putting a new record with 285 Kilo in Men's 56 Kilo Weightlifting event, followed by Indonesian weightlifter Jadi Setiadi from Indonesia, silver medal and Myanmar weightlifter Pyae Phyoo, bronze medal. (See page 8)

Myanmar bag three gold, three silver, nine bronze in wrestling event

YANGON, 13 Dec—Wrestlers from Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Indonesia and the Philippines participated in today's events. In both men's and women's events, Vietnam secured two gold medals, Indonesia took one gold and one bronze, Thailand seized four silver, Myanmar earned one silver and two bronze and the (See page 9)

Teen Karatekas clinch gold for Myanmar in team Kata event

Three teenage girls, Poe Myar, Swe Swe Aung and Thazin Aye, made a history for Myanmar Karatedo by showing their impressive performance in female team kata event of the 27th SEA Games' Karatedo competition today. Not expecting too much from the teen karatekas in pursuit of gold through karatedo, 4-1 win against Vietnam is enough for three-member Myanmar female kata team to pick up first gold for Myanmar in Karatedo competition.

Despite a slow start in earlier events of Day 1

SEA Games Karatedo Tournaments at Wunna Theikdi Indoor Stadium (A), Myanmar's hope for karatedo gold eventually came alive as three teenage girls gave their best in front of a home crowd, bringing home gold in female team kata event. When four of five referees raised their red flags aloft, the whole stadium made a great big cheer for three Myanmar teenage girls.

In other events, Min Hein Khant of Myanmar was satisfied with silver as he fell to a 5-0 loss defeated by Lin Chee Wei of Malaysian who seized gold in Individual

By YM

Kata (M) contest. Malaysian and Laotian karatekas shared third place in the event.

In individual Kata (F) contest, Vietnam snatched gold while her Indonesian rival secured silver. Mai Oliver Yin Wah Thuang of Myanmar won bronze together with Laotian counterpart.

Myanmar stood empty-handed in Individual Kumite 68 kg (F) event in which Vietnam took gold after beating Indonesian counterpart who was satisfied with silver. Po Ei Phyu of Myanmar faced defeat in meeting with Malaysian rival who got bronze together with Laotian karateka. But, Myanmar's Male Kata team bagged one more silver medal from team kata (M) contest.

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Myanmar teen Karatekas celebrating their victory in female team Kata event. Photo: YM (NLM)

LOCAL NEWS

37th Blood Donors Day



Great thanks to

Generosity and respectable characters of yours,
You make the difference between life and death

On behalf of those whose lives have been
safed by yours.

National Blood Center
Department of Health
Ministry of Health

Hotel Industry

Ground breaking for construction of second Shangri-La Hotel in Yangon



Officials pose for documentary photo at ground breaking ceremony for construction of Lakeside Shangri-La.

YANGON, 13 Dec— Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Mayor U Hla Myint and guests recently attended the ground breaking ceremony of Lakeside Shangri-La which is the second of its kind with 350 rooms in Yangon.

The Lakeside Shangri-

La Hotel is located near Kandawgyi Lake of Yangon.

Hong Kong-based Shangri-La Hotels and Resorts Group opened a hotel with 402 rooms in Yangon as of 1996.

Lakeside Shangri-La Hotel will have three restaurants, two beverages pubs, meeting room, healthy clubs and swimming pools.

The visitors will have

easy access to Kandawgyi Natural Park and Yangon Zoological Gardens.

It is expected to commission the hotel into service in 2017.

NLM

Construction

Haka-Matupi road in expansion



HAKA, 13 Dec—In open season, the road linking Haka and Matupi is being expanded with the use of heavy machinery.

Due to climatic conditions, Chin State can

carry out construction in its area five months a year.

In the open season, jeep runs along Haka-Matupi Road. However, they cannot afford to run along the road in the rainy season as it is an

CSC issued to students in Kalaungtaung Village of Ottarathiri Tsp



NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec— The ministry concerned is conducting educative talks on nationwide census-taking process-2014.

An 8-member team of Ottarathiri Township

Immigration and National Registration Department disseminated knowledge on census-taking process and issued citizenship scrutiny cards to 35 students who attained age of 10 in

Kalaungtaung Village of Ottarathiri Township, on 9 December.

There are 1,200 households in Kalaung-taung Village.—Phone Kyaw (Nay Pyi Taw)

Reminder issued to move buildings from area of ASEAN Highway

PYAWBWE, 13 Dec—As Public Works of Pyawbwe Township designates No 1 ASEAN Highway (AH-1) of Yangon-Mandalay Highway as 300 feet wide one, the buildings in the road areas on both sides are to be moved with the reminder on 2 December.

Information has been issued to the owners of the buildings.

If they do not move their buildings from the road area, action will be taken against them under

the Highways Law of the Ministry of Construction. The ASEAN Highway-1 will include in Pyawbwe Township from mile post 308/2 to 328/7 of Kontha Bridge including Pegon, Hsadaung, Kintar,

South Nyaungnwe, North Nyaungnwe, Wetlet, Ywatha, Thayagon, Yindaw Myoma, Phwethin, Wayindok, Htandawgyi and Kontha of Pyawbwe Township.

Tin Hlaing (Meiktila)

DVB-T2 set top box distributed to people free of charge in Ottarathiri Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec— Free distribution of DVB-T2 set top boxes was held at the hall of Ottarathiri Township General Administration Department, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, on 10 December morning.

Under the supervision of Township GAD, 10 boxes were presented to hospitals and clinics, 38 to schools, nine to libraries, totalling 57 through departmental officials.

That is why, the people of Mindat and Matupi Townships rely on education, health and economic matters on Pakokku of Magway Region, said local people.

If they want to travel to Mindat and Matupi, they have to go along the route of Haka-Gangaw-Htilin-Kyaukhtu-Mindat-Matupi Road.

MMAL-District IPRD

57 through departmental officials.

With the use of the boxes, the people can enjoy programmes of Myanmar Radio and Television of the Ministry of Information through digital system free of charge.

The people now enjoy the programmes of eight TV channels namely MRTV, MITV, Hluttaw Channel, Farmers Channel, MRTV-4 Sports-1, MRTV-4 Sports-2, METV-4 Sports-3 and National Races Channel in Ottarathiri Township.

A plan is underway to distribute 5222 set top boxes to E level families, hospitals, clinics, schools, orphanages, homes for the aged, schools for the disabled, libraries, universities and social organizations.

So far, 962 boxes have been provided free of charge to the people for the first time.

Ottara District IPRD

Health Care Services

Nutritious feeds, cash assistance provided to HIV/AIDS patients

BAGO, 13 Dec—At the office of Bago Region Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee, Bago Region Women's Affairs Organization and Region MCWSC held the ceremony to mark the World AIDS Day on 10 December morning in Bago.

It was attended by Bago Region Women's Affairs Organization Daw Myint Myint Soe, Patron Daw May

Thu and members.

At the ceremony, they donated egg, cereal foods and cash assistance K 10000 each to 30 HIV/AIDS patients.

After that, leader of the Bago Region STD/AIDS Control Group Dr Kyaw Naing Win of Bago Region Health Department gave talks on control of HIV/AIDS disease to the patients.

MMAL-Thant Zin

WORLD

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon (1st R) shakes hands with Ake Sellstrom (2nd R), head of an international probe team into the alleged use of chemical weapons attacks in the Syrian conflict, at the UN headquarters in New York, the United States, on 23 Dec, 2013. The joint team of the United Nations-Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) said on Thursday it "concludes that chemical weapons have been used in the ongoing conflict between the parties in the Syrian Arab Republic."

XINHUA



Japan pledges 69 billion yen in loans to typhoon-hit Philippines

TOKYO, 13 Dec — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on Friday pledged a total of about 69 billion yen in loans to the Philippines to rehabilitate typhoon-hit areas and boost the country's maritime security.

In a joint Press conference after his meeting with Philippine President Benigno Aquino, Abe also announced additional grant aid worth 6.5 billion yen.

Of the yen loans, post-disaster standby loans amount to 50 billion yen and the remainder is for providing the country with 10 coast guard patrol ships.

"We reiterated our

commitment to following the rule of law to promote the peaceful settlement of disputes and to ensuring the freedom of flight in international airspace," Aquino said. The Philippines and some members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations are locked in territorial disputes with China in the South China Sea.

When Typhoon Haiyan struck the Philippines last month, Japan sent a disaster relief team, including one of the largest-ever rescue groups of Self-Defense Force troops, to the country.

Japan engaged in the disaster relief activities "be-



Philippine President Benigno Aquino (L) and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe hold a Press conference after their talks at the Prime Minister's office in Tokyo on 13 Dec, 2013. —KYODO NEWS

cause of special relations between Japan and the Philippines as strategic partners and because of Japanese people's wish to reciprocate the warm assistance from the Philippines following the Japanese earthquake (in 2011)," Abe said.

Kyodo News

Iran, big powers end Vienna talks, to meet again

VIENNA, 13 Dec—Iran and six world powers have ended expert-level talks in Vienna on Teheran's nuclear programme and expect to meet again soon to resume their work, the European Union said on Friday.

"Reflecting the complexity of the technical issues discussed, it became clear that further work is needed," said Michael Mann, spokesman for European Union foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton.

He said there would be consultations in capitals and talks were expected to continue soon.

Experts from Iran and the six powers talked for four days to try to work out exactly how to implement last month's breakthrough deal for Teheran to curb its nuclear programme in return for limited sanctions easing.

Reuters

US House passes budget for Guam-Okinawa Marines transfer

WASHINGTON, 13 Dec—The US House of Representatives passed a key national defence bill Thursday that included an outlay on the contentious programme of transferring Marines to Guam from Okinawa.

The National Defence Authorization Act for fiscal 2014 is also expected to clear the Senate soon as the chairman of the chamber's Armed Services Committee said on Monday his committee will endorse the act, which outlines a national defence budget in the year

through September 2015.

The bill for the act includes an \$86 million outlay for the transfer of Marines to Guam from the southern Japan prefecture.

The move came after the Senate dropped its earlier call for eliminating the budget from the bill in a concession to the House to ensure its early passage.

Senators who are influential in the plan to transfer Marines from Okinawa to Guam had been critical of the government's budget for the programme, saying there

were too many questions about feasibility.

Under the current relocation plan, about 9,000 of the 19,000 Marines stationed in Okinawa are to be transferred out of Japan and of those about 4,000 would be moved to Guam and the remainder to Hawaii and Australia. Japan and the United States agreed to move the US Marines from Okinawa to reduce the burden on the prefecture, which already hosts the bulk of US military facilities in Japan.

Kyodo News

US House approves bipartisan budget deal

WASHINGTON, 13 Dec — US House of Representatives on Thursday approved a two-year budget plan crafted by bipartisan negotiators, a further step toward removing the threat of a government shutdown early next year.

Lawmakers voted 332-94 in favour of the deal, which was unveiled Tuesday evening by Senate Budget Committee Chairman Patty Murray and her House counterpart Paul Ryan.

The modest accord

sets spending levels above 1 trillion US dollars for the next two fiscal years, eliminating 63 billion dollars in automatic spending cuts, known as the sequester.

Increase in the outlays would be offset by a variety of spending savings and revenue generators, including requiring federal employees to contribute more to their pensions and raising some government fees, which would total 85 billion dollars in a decade. In all, the deal would lower the budget deficit by more



Senate Budget Committee chairman Senator Patty Murray (D-WA) (R) and House Budget Committee chairman Representative Paul Ryan (R-WI) (L) hold a news conference to introduce The Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013 at the US Capitol in Washington, on 10 Dec, 2013.

REUTERS

Air strike kills 15 civilians in Yemen by mistake

SANAA, 13 Dec — Fifteen people on their way to a wedding in Yemen were killed in an air strike after their party was mistaken for an al-Qaeda convoy, local security officials said on Thursday.

The officials did not identify the plane in the strike in central al-Bayda Province, but tribal and local media sources said that it was a drone.

"An air strike missed its target and hit a wedding car convoy, ten people were killed immediately and another five who were injured died after being admitted to the hospital," one security official said.

Five more people were injured, the officials said.

A US official, speaking on condition of anonymity, acknowledged media reports about members of a wedding party getting killed in a counterterrorism strike.

"We have no information that corroborates these reports," the official said, without elaborating.

The United States has stepped up drone strikes as part of a campaign against al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), regarded by Washington as the most active wing of the militant network.

Yemen, AQAP's main stronghold, is among a handful of countries where the United States acknowledges using drones, although it does not comment on the practice.

Human Rights Watch said in a detailed report in August that US missile strikes, including armed attacks, have killed dozens of civilians in Yemen.

Stabilizing the country, which is also struggling with southern separatists and northern rebels, is an international priority due to fears of disorder in a state that flanks top oil producer Saudi Arabia and major shipping lanes.

On Monday, missiles fired from a US drone killed at least three people travelling in a car in eastern Yemen.—Reuters



Riot police clash with pro-EU protestors on Independence Square in Kyiv early on 11 December, 2013. Anti-riot police and interior ministry special forces moved against the protestors at around 2:00 am (midnight GMT).

XINHUA

than 20 billion dollars.

Top Republicans in the House strongly backed the deal after it came out, dismissing criticism from some outside conservative groups.

"If you're for reducing the budget deficit, then you should be voting for this bill," said House Speaker John Boehner during the debate on the House floor. "If you're for cutting the size of government, you should be supporting this budget."

Xinhua

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Scientists find water plumes shooting off Jupiter moon

SAN FRANCISCO, 13 Dec — New observations from the Hubble Space Telescope show jets of water vapour blasting off the southern pole of Europa, an ice-covered moon of Jupiter that is believed to hold an underground ocean, scientists said on Thursday.

If confirmed, the discovery could affect scientists' assessments of whether the moon has the right conditions for life, planetary scientist Kurt Retherford, with the Southwest Research Institute in San Antonio, Texas, told reporters at the American Geophysical Union conference in San Francisco.

"We've only seen this at one location right now, so to try to infer that there's a global effect as a result of this is a little difficult at this time," Retherford said.

Researchers using the Hubble Space Telescope found 125-mile-high (200-km-high) plumes of water vapour shooting off from Europa's south polar region in December 2012.

The jets were not seen

during Hubble observations of the same region in October 1999 and November 2012. The now-defunct *Galileo* spacecraft, which made nine passes by Europa in the late 1990s, likewise did not detect any plumes.

Scientists believe the water vapour may be escaping from cracks in Europa's southern polar ice that open due to gravitational stresses when the moon is farthest from Jupiter.

"When Europa is close to Jupiter, it gets stressed and the poles get squished and the cracks close up. Then, as it moves further away from Jupiter, it becomes un-squished, the pole moves outward and that's when the cracks open," said planetary scientist Francis Nimmo, with the University of California in Santa Cruz.

The plumes also could be the result of frictional heating from rubbing ice blocks or a fortuitously timed comet impact, scientists said.

Similar jets have been detected on Saturn's moon

Enceladus, which because it has 12 times less gravity than Europa, can shoot its plumes much farther into space.

Scientists find it interesting that both Europa and Enceladus, which is being studied by the Saturn-orbiting Cassini spacecraft, are pumping out about the same amount of water vapor, roughly seven tons per second.

"We were really kind of surprised by the number ... and we're grasping what that means," Retherford said.

Additional Hubble observations are planned, as well as a review of archived *Galileo* data taken when Europa was farthest away from Jupiter.

"Now that we know where (the plumes) are, that narrows the window that we have in comparison to the passes that we've made," said NASA's planetary sciences chief, Jim Green.

"I think we'll have some other great results, or another controversy," he said.—Reuters

China official says has 'substantial' price-fixing evidence against Qualcomm



People sit next a Qualcomm stand at the Mobile World Congress at Barcelona, on 27 Feb, 2013.

REUTERS

BEIJING, 13 Dec — China's top economic planning agency has "substantial evidence" against chip-maker Qualcomm Inc in an antitrust probe, state media on Thursday quoted a senior official at the price regulator as saying.

The official English-language *China Daily* attributed the comment to Xu Kunlin, head of the National Development and Reform Commission's (NDRC) anti-price-fixing bureau, in the agency's first public comment on the case.

The report gave no further details.

A China-based public relations official for

Qualcomm said the company had no comment on Xu's remarks. Qualcomm, the world's biggest maker of cellphone chips, said in November that it would cooperate with the NDRC in an antitrust investigation, though it was unaware of any anti-monopoly law violations.

The NDRC has been stepping up its crackdown on anti-monopoly violations over the past several months. It handed down record fines to six milk powder companies, including Mead Johnson Nutrition Co and Danone, in August and has also punished domestic jewelers for antitrust

violations. Xu was also quoted as saying the agency would add at least 170 people to its price-fixing enforcement teams as it redoubles efforts to tame anti-competitive behavior in major industries, including the automotive sector.

Twenty of those employees will join its Beijing office, boosting its size from its current 46 employees, the *China Daily* said.

The expansion "reflects the country's determination to deal with price fixing", the newspaper said.

Xu also called for the merger of his bureau with antitrust divisions at the Ministry of Commerce and the State Administration for Industry and Commerce, two agencies with which it has "overlapping" duties.

Experts have argued that China's antitrust enforcers are woefully understaffed even as they embrace new-found global clout in regulating monopolistic practices and mergers.

Reuters

Cheap Indian phone brand Micromax aims to go global, high-end

NEW DELHI/MUMBAI, 13 Dec — India's Micromax, which has become the country's No 2 smartphone brand just five years after selling its first handset — a \$30 made-in-China model — is looking to go upmarket and overseas.

The unlisted company sold 6.8 million phones in the July-September quarter including 2.2 million smartphones, and is on track to surpass \$1 billion in sales in the fiscal year ending in March.

With heavy advertising and phones based on Google Inc's Android software starting at \$50 — almost half the price of a comparable Samsung model — Micromax has brought



An employee stands at the counter of Micromax mobile phones at a showroom in New Delhi on 6 Dec, 2013.

REUTERS

smartphones to the masses in a price-sensitive market where basic handsets still dominate. Among all types of phones, Micromax ranks

third in India after Nokia and Samsung Electronics.

The company, which started out selling IT software and telecoms gear,

entered the handset market with cheap phones featuring bigger screens, and the capability to use two SIM cards so customers can take advantage of bargains from competing carriers — a feature Nokia was slow to match.

Now Micromax is looking to broaden its market by wooing brand-conscious Indians with more spending power. In October, it rolled out a 19,000-rupee (\$310) "phablet" with a 5-inch screen promoted by "Wolverine" star Hugh Jackman — an unusual choice in a country where Bollywood actors and cricket stars are the preferred brand ambassadors.

Reuters

Court allows HTC to sell One Mini phone in UK



Customers look at HTC smartphones in a mobile phone shop in Taipei on 30 July, 2013.

REUTERS

LONDON, 13 Dec — Taiwan smartphone maker HTC Corp said it would be able to sell its One Mini smartphone in Britain after the Court of Appeal temporarily suspended an earlier ruling banning sales of the phone due to a patent infringement.

The company was told earlier in December that it would have to stop selling

the One Mini smartphone in Britain after a court said the product infringed some patents owned by Finnish rival Nokia.

HTC will be allowed to continue to sell the product pending a full appeal hearing next year.

"It is unfortunate that the stay means that HTC can continue to benefit from its unauthorized and

uncompensated use of Nokia innovations," Nokia said on Thursday.

HTC said it would immediately resume shipment of its devices to Britain, adding that it would continue to appeal the ruling but in the meantime would try to find alternative technology for the smartphone to limit any disruption on its future business.—Reuters

Instagram unveils private photo-sharing, messaging



Instagram Chief Executive Officer and co-founder Kevin Systrom smiles during the launch of a new service named Instagram Direct in New York on 12 Dec, 2013.—REUTERS

NEW YORK/SAN FRANCISCO, 13 Dec — Photo-sharing service Instagram unveiled a new feature on Thursday that allows users to send images and messages privately, as the Facebook-owned company sought to bolster its appeal among younger consumers who are increasingly using mobile messaging applications.

The new Instagram Direct feature allows users to send a photo or video to a single person or up to 15 people, and to have real-time text conversations.

"Sometimes you want to be able to share, not with everyone, but just with a specific group," said Kevin Systrom, Instagram co-founder and chief executive

during a presentation in New York. "Instagram Direct is a simple way to send photos and videos to your friends."

Instagram claims to have more than 150 million monthly users who have shared 16 billion photos on the service. Until now, the photos could only be shared publicly, allowing them to be seen by anyone using the service.

Facebook Inc, the world's No 1 Internet social network, bought Instagram for \$1 billion in 2012.

The new features come as Facebook and Instagram face increasing competition from a new crop of mobile messaging services, including WhatsApp and Snapchat.—Reuters

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Coke to split North American business into two



Cases of Coca-Cola are shown for sale in Encinitas, California on 10 Oct, 2013.—REUTERS

NEW YORK, 13 Dec — Coca-Cola Co (KO.N) said it would divide its North American business into two units, as part of its plan to return to a franchise model instead of owning bottlers. The company said the division will result in two operating units — Coca-Cola North America and Coca-Cola Refreshments. The world's largest soda company said the Coca-Cola North America division will be led by JAM Douglas. He will continue in his role as global chief

customer officer. Paul Mulligan will lead Coca-Cola Refreshments, the bottling division of the business, the company said. He is currently the head of Commercial for Bottling Investments Group (BIG) and Region Director responsible for Japan and Latin America BIG operations. Coke said in April it would return toward a franchise model in the United States, where independent companies will deliver the drinks to local stores. Reuters

Cancer deaths rise to 8.2 million, breast cancer sharply up

LONDON, 13 Dec — The global death toll from cancer rose to 8.2 million in 2012 with sharp rises in breast cancer as the disease tightened its grip in developing nations struggling to treat an illness driven by Western lifestyles. Cancer deaths were up 8 percent from 7.6 million in a previous survey in 2008 and breast cancer killed 522,000 women last year, up 14 percent in the same period, according to the World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC). "Breast cancer is also a leading cause of cancer death in the less developed countries of the world," said David Forman, head of IARC's Section of Cancer Information, the group that compiles the global cancer data. He said this was "partly because a shift in lifestyles is causing an increase in incidence, and

partly because clinical advances to combat the disease are not reaching women living in these regions." An estimated 14.1 million people developed cancer in 2012, up from 12.7 million in 2008. And 1.7 million women were newly diagnosed with breast cancer last year, up by more than 20 percent from 2008. IARC's report, called GLOBOCAN 2012, gives the most up-to-date estimates for 28 different types of cancer in 184 countries

and offers an overview of the global cancer burden. It found that the most commonly diagnosed cancers worldwide in men and women combined were lung, breast and colorectal cancers. The most common causes of cancer death were lung, liver and stomach cancers. Projecting forward, IARC experts said they expected "a substantive increase" in cancer cases worldwide, with annual new cases predicted to rise

to 19.3 million by 2025 as the global population both grows and ages. Worldwide trends show that in developing countries going through rapid societal and economic change, the shift towards lifestyles more typical of richer industrialized countries leads to a rising burden of cancers linked to reproduction, diet and hormones. The IARC report said cancer incidence — the number of new cases each year — has been increasing in most regions of the world, but noted what it said were "huge inequalities" between rich and poor countries. While rates of new cancer cases are still highest in more developed regions, death rates are relatively much higher in less developed countries because people's tumors are often not detected and diagnosed early enough due to a lack of screening and access to treatment.—Reuters



A boy who is a cancer patient rests inside the children's ward at the Cancer Centre Welfare Home and Research Institute in Kolkata on 16 March, 2012.—REUTERS

Hospital stays vaccines help reduce US flu cases

ATLANTA, 13 Dec — Flu shots reduced the number of US flu cases and hospitalizations last year by an estimated 17 percent, highlighting the need for increasing vaccination rates, the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention said on Thursday. Vaccinations prevented more than six million cases of the flu and 79,000 hospitalizations, according to a CDC model that compared the actual number of flu cases and hospitalizations with the projected number that would have occurred had there been no vaccinations. "This is by far the largest number of hospitalizations and other illnesses we've seen prevented" since 2005, said CDC Director Thomas Frieden.



A nurse prepares to administer an influenza vaccine at Boston Children's Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts on 10 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

Young children and elderly people benefited the most from the flu vaccine, making up more than two-thirds of those who avoided hospital stays, the CDC said. Fewer than half of US residents ages six months and older were vaccinated

for the flu last year. The CDC said an additional 30,000 hospital visits could have been avoided if the vaccination rate had been 70 percent. The agency could not say how many deaths were prevented by vaccinations. Reuters

Boeing to move research jobs out of Washington state

NEW YORK, 13 Dec — Boeing Co (BA.N) said on Thursday it planned to eliminate up to 1,200 jobs in Washington state and move them to other US locations as it reorganizes research and development functions. The move will reduce Boeing's reliance on unionized engineers in the Seattle area, and follows other steps Boeing has made to move jobs outside the state this year. Boeing is also entertaining proposals to place the factory for its newest jetliner, the 777X, outside Washington in part to avoid union conflicts. The \$10 billion factory will generate an estimated \$20 billion in economic benefits over the years to the winning state, according to one forecast. In May Boeing said it

would put design and support centres around the country, reducing those jobs in Washington. In

search-and-technology centres at five locations around the country, which will add 300 to 400 jobs at each location. The centres will employ about 4,000 total. The centres are all in states that have proposed giving Boeing tax breaks or other incentives to attract the factory.—Reuters



A worker stands in front of an engine on the Boeing 777 at their assembly operations in Everett, Washington, on 18 Oct, 2012.—REUTERS

Ford to hire 11,000 in US, Asia amid new model push

DETROIT, 13 Dec — Ford Motor Co (F.N) said on Thursday that it is adding more than 11,000 new jobs in the United States and Asia in 2014 as it rolls out 23 new vehicles, the biggest launch year in the company's 110-year history. The second-largest US automaker will hire

more than 5,000 workers in the United States, including 3,300 salaried positions. Ford will hire 6,000 workers in Asia. The hiring comes as Ford plans to launch 23 new cars and trucks in 2014, 16 of which will be introduced in North America. Among the most critical launches are an all-new Mustang

sports car and a radical overhaul of its most profitable vehicle, the F-150 pickup truck. "We have an unprecedented year of launches," Joe Hinrichs, head of Ford's operations in North and South America, said at a media event in Dearborn, Michigan. "We've always said we're going to keep



Ford Motor Co unveils its all new 2015 Ford Mustang GT at an event in New York on 5 Dec, 2013.—REUTERS

investing in product and with the number of launches we have next year, this reinforces that." The number of global launches planned for next year is more than double that in 2013. Worldwide, Ford is on track to make 6 million cars and trucks, the company said. Reuters



The New Light of Myanmar

XXVII SEA GAMES SPECIAL

27th SEA Games



H.R.H Princess Sirivannavari Nariratana of Thailand riding Htate Kwet (42) owned by U Nyan Lynn at the equestrian event of XXVII SEA games on 13-12-2013.—PHOTO: HTEIN WIN

XXVII SEA GAMES PHOTO GALLERY



School boys walk past free shuttles as they move to an indoor stadium to enjoy Sepak Takraw contests.

PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE



Myanmar's Kay Zin Htut strikes during the match against Thailand's team.

PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE



Vietnam's men's Futsal team net first goal during the match against Laos.

PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE



Fans line up outside Wunna Theikdi Indoor Stadium in Nay Pyi Taw to watch boxing matches of 27th SEA games.

PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE



Indonesia's Konells Kwangu lands a blow to Laos' Bounpone Lasav during the flyweight category of 27th SEA games.

PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE





The New Light of Myanmar

XXVII SEA GAMES SPECIAL



27th SEA Games today

Patrons of MWSF donate cash for athletes of Hockey, Kampo

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec—Patron of Myanmar Women's Sports Federation Daw Tin Latt Min presented K 1.5 million to Hockey athletes who are participating in the SEA Games through President of Myanmar Hockey Federation U Htin Zaw Win at the hall of Theinbyu Hockey Turf Pitch in Yangon at 8:30 am today.

Patron of MWSF Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Daw Le Le Thein also presented cash to the selected Kampo athletes at the head office of Myanmar Kampo Federation in Kyaikkasan Sports Ground in Yangon at 11 am.

Also present on the occasion were Patrons of MWSF Daw Khin Thet Htay and Daw Khin Aye Nwe, Joint-treasurer Dr Daw Aye Aye Khaing Myint and executives.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec—The Men's and Women's Volleyball tournament of the 27th SEA Games kicked off at Zeyarthiri Indoor Stadium (B), here, today.

In the women's volleyball match, Myanmar trounced Malaysia with 25-17, 25-17 and 25-22 results.

Thailand beat Malaysia while Myanmar won over Cambodian men's volleyball match (Preliminary-A).

Aung Kyaw Kyaw (NLM)

Archery, Karatedo, billiard and snooker events kick off



Union Minister U Tint Hsan kicks off billiard and snooker events of the 27th SEA Games at Wunna Theikdi Sports Complex.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec—Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan kicked off Archery, Karatedo and billiard and snooker

events of the 27th SEA Games at Wunna Theikdi Sports Complex, here, this morning and presented gifts to the athletes.

It was attended by Deputy Minister for Sports U Thaug Htike, President of Myanmar Archery Federation Dr Phyo Ko Ko Tint Hsan, the Vice-President of World Archery

Federation, the President of South-East Asian Archery Federation, President of Myanmar Billiard and Snooker Federation U Tin Maung Win and officials.

Myanmar male player secured one silver medal and Myanmar female player got bronze medal in the morning Karatedo matches.—MNA

Photo shows Thai King's granddaughter H.R.H Princess Sirivannavari Nariratana who took part in Equestrian event of the 27th SEA Games.

PHOTO: KO MYO SHWE PAUKKAN

Volleyball tourney kicks off



The women's volleyball match between Myanmar and Malaysia in progress at Zeyathiri Indoor Stadium (B).—Photo: AKK (NLM)



NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec—The 27th SEA Games Basketball tournament continued at Zeyathiri Indoor Stadium (A), here, today.

In women's basketball match, Malaysia beat Indonesia with 81-48 scores.

In men's basketball match, Singapore won over Cambodia with 99-43 scores while the Philippines triumphed Thailand 100-68 and Malaysia beat Myanmar with 69-42.

Aung Kyaw Kyaw (NLM)

Indonesia plays against Malaysia in women's basketball match at Zeyathiri Indoor Stadium (A).

Photo: AKK (NLM)

27th SEA Games Basketball tournament goes on



Semifinal matches of badminton event continue

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec—The semi-finals of badminton event of the 27th SEA Games took place at Wunna Theikdi Indoor Stadium (C), here, this morning.

Badminton players from Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and Singapore participated in the competitions. Five gold medals will be awarded to the winners in five categories of badminton sports. Indonesia won over Thailand with 21-11, 18-21

and 21-19 points and Thailand beat Malaysia with 21-15 and 21-17 points in mixed doubles event.

Thailand lost to Indonesia with 21-17, 20-22 and 20-22 points and defeated Vietnam with 21-7 and 21-8 points in women's singles contest. Indonesia beat Vietnam with 13-21, 21-12 and 22-20 points and lost to Thailand with 21-17, 11-21 and 12-21 points in men's singles competition.

Indonesia sank Thailand with 21-7 and 21-11 points and Malaysia defeated Singapore with 23-21, 17-21 and 21-17 points in women's doubles event. Indonesia beat Malaysia with 21-16 and 21-15 points in the first match and 21-17 and 21-18 points in the second match in men's doubles competition and advanced to the final that will be held tomorrow.

MNA



PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 14 December, 2013

Myanmar and EITI

Sizeable inbound investments are in prospect in Myanmar thanks to the drastic reforms of the new civilian government apart from the country's immense quantity of natural resources and strategic position. While the longed-for democracy has brought economic opportunities to the nation, there has emerged a tug-of-war between economic development and environmental conservation.

Countries with abundant natural resources seem destined to face resource curse and tend to have less economic growth and worse development outcomes than countries with fewer natural resources. In an attempt to free herself from this curse, Myanmar has decided to implement Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI).

The EITI is a global coalition of governments, companies, and civil society working together to improve openness and accountable management of revenues from natural resources. All countries with extractive industry sectors can implement the EITI Standard.

Myanmar will submit its application for EITI Candidate Status by the end of this month. The EITI Board will review the application and then determines if the country is compliant with EITI Standard. Measures are well underway to form multi-stakeholder group (MSG)—a group of government representatives, extractive companies and civil society organizations (CSOs) whose task is to ensure transparency.

While EITI attracts foreign investment by improving the investment climate of implementing country, it also ensures investors make responsible investments. It helps strengthen accountability and good governance of the government. Again, it is expected to help solve the problem of wealth sharing among regions and states.

CSOs have a crucial role to play in implementing EITI Standard. In many resource-rich countries, governments and extractive companies often work hand in glove in exploiting resources to line their own pockets. CSO are obliged to ensure that revenues from natural resources such as oil, gas, metals and minerals are used for the benefits of all citizens.

It is a welcome move of the incumbent government to have decided to implement EITI. However, much more remains to be done in terms of transparency which has been out of sight in Myanmar for decades.

Vietnam & Indonesia set ...

(from page 1)
Indonesian weightlifter Eko Yoli Irawan set new record with 304 breaking the old record put in the old SEA Games with 302, followed by Vietnam, silver medal and Myanmar, bronze medal in the final match of today Weightlifting Men's 62 Kilo event.

Indonesian weightlifter snatched gold medal, Thai weightlifter, silver medal

and Vietnamese weightlifter, bronze medal in Women's 48 Kilo Weightlifting event.

Host Myanmar, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam took part in the weightlifting events in the 27th SEA Games. Weightlifting events in Theinbyu Gymnasium will continue till 16 December in conjunction with prize awarding ceremony.—MNA

NATIONAL

President U Thein Sein arrives in Tokyo of Japan



President U Thein Sein arrives at Narita International Airport in Tokyo of Japan.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec—President U Thein Sein left Yangon for Japan by Japan airline to attend the 40th Anniversary of ASEAN-Japan Summit and Japan-Mekong Summit yesterday. The President and party arrived in Narita International Airport in Tokyo of Japan at 6.45 am LST today.

The Myanmar delegation led by President U Thein Sein was welcomed at the Airport by Myanmar Ambassador to Japan U Khin Maung Tin, Chairman of Myanmar-Japan Association U Saw Hla Min and

officials. Later, they proceeded to Imperial Hotel where they will stay.

Japan and the ASEAN established informal

dialogue relations in 1973 and dialogue partner relations in 1977. This year is 40th Anniversary. President U Thein Sein attended Ja-

pan-Mekong Summit and Myanmar-Japan Summit in April of 2012.

During his visit, three memoranda of understanding were signed, namely MoU on Japanese government's assistance to Myanmar government for human resources development fellowship program, MoU on cooperation in main project development of Thilawa Special Economic Zone, and MoU on Japan's assistance in preventive measures against natural disaster for rehabilitation of mangrove forest in Ayeyawady delta. His visit could further cement mutual relations and amity between the two countries.

Japanese Prime Minister Mr Shinzo Abe paid a three-day state visit to Myanmar in May this year for the first state visit to Myanmar by a Japanese leader in 36 years.—MNA

Signing ceremony of MoUs between Myanmar and JBIC of Japan in progress. (News on page 1) MNA



Union Sports Minister attends prize awarding of chess event

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec—Chairman of Leading Committee for holding 27th

SEA Games Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan enjoyed men's and wom-

en's Petanque competitions at Wunna Theikdi Stadium and presented K 500,000 to

former selected marathon man Mee Tong Naw yesterday.

He then enjoyed women's 100m freestyle and men's 200m butterfly swimming contests together with the Vietnamese sports minister and the president of National Olympic Committee of Thailand at Wunna Theikdi swimming pool.

Afterwards, he attended the prize awarding of traditional chess rapid competition together with Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye and Union Auditor-General U Thein Htaik at Zabuthiri Hotel. He presented first prize to Win Zaw Tun from Myanmar and the second and third to Thai chess players.



Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan presents gifts to participant sports teams at the ceremony.—MNA

NATIONAL

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker sends message on commemoration of Diamond Jubilee 1300 ME Chauk Oilfield Uprising

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec — Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann sent a message to the ceremony to mark the Diamond Jubilee 1300 ME Chauk Oilfield Uprising which falls on 9th Waxing of Nadaw, 1375 ME.

The message said 1300 ME Oilfield Uprising broke out on 9th Waxing of Nadaw, 1300 ME. December 11 is 75 years to mark the day on which oilfield work-

ers made bold move to defy suppression for their rights they deserve. They walked a 400-mile march from Chauk oilfield to Yangon, overcoming many difficulties and obstacles with nationalistic fervor. Their diligence, courage and high spirit gave the British government a shock and united effort of workers, peasants and students was very proud of. Now, the Diamond Jubilee celebration in honour of

those who defied the suppression can be witnessed.

They could hand down their good legacy to their younger generation and serve the interests of people and country freely and peacefully. Here, I would like to honour those with vibrant nationalistic and political views from Chauk Oil fields and urged younger generations to make continued efforts with a democratic essence.

In a bid to march towards a peaceful, modern and developed nation, it also needs to have transparency, accountability and responsibility and practice multi-party democracy system and market-oriented economic system.

From this occasion onward, I would like to urge all the people to participate in an effort for serving the interests of people, the State and the Union.—MNA

Inter-personal communication handbook introduced



Union Health Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin speaking at the ceremony.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec—Inter-personal communication skill is crucial for effective health knowledge dissemination to rural areas, said Union Health Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin at a ceremony to introduce inter-personal communication handbook for basic health staff and volunteers.

This book is jointly compiled by the Ministry of Health and UNICEF (Myanmar) in order to sharpen inter-personal communication skills of basic health staff and volunteers who

Four objectives of 66th Anniversary Independence Day

- All the national people to live together in the Union forever in weal or woe;
- All the national people to strive together for non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty;
- All the national people to participate in efforts for ceasing armed conflicts and gaining genuine peace ;
- All the national people to work hard in building a developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

play a pivotal role in effectively disseminating health knowledge, he added. The Ministry of Health is planning to conduct this course in cooperation with UNICEF (Myanmar).

Later, Head Mr Suleman Malik from Communication for Development

of UNICEF (Myanmar) extended the greetings and Director Dr Hla Mya Thway Eindra of Health Department (Health Education) explained the handbook's content and the cooperation works by the Health Ministry and UNICEF (Myanmar).—MNA

Myanmar shooter secures silver in 50m pistol men's individual event

YANGON, 13 Dec—Ye Tun Naung of Myanmar secured the silver in 50m pistol men's individual event in the third day match of shooting competition of the 27th SEA Games today.

Malaysian shooter Chew Eddy stood first with 169 points in this contest.

Team shooting com-

petition was held at 9 am today and three shooters each from Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, Singapore and Malaysia took part in this event. Vietnamese team bagged gold, Singapore took the silver and Malaysia earned the bronze in the contest.

MNA

Myanmar snatches one gold, two silver...

(from page 16)

defeated Brunei 5-0. In the class C/Female event (55-60 kg category), Thailand won over Malaysia 5-0 while Indonesia beat the Philippines 5-0. Indonesia triumphed the Philippines 5-0 while Vietnam won over Thailand 5-0 in the class F/Female event (70-75 kg category).

In Ganda double male event, Myanmar clinched gold, Vietnam, silver, and Singapore, bronze while Indonesia secured gold,

Myanmar, silver, and Laos, bronze, in Tunggal single male event.

While Indonesia bagged gold, Myanmar, silver, and Brunei, bronze, in Regu team male event, Malaysia won gold, Laos, silver, and Myanmar, bronze, in Ganda double female event.

Indonesia snatched gold, Thailand, silver, and Myanmar, bronze, in Tunggal single female event.

Aung Kyaw Kyaw (NLM)

Myanmar bag three gold, three silver...

(from page 1)

Philippines was satisfied with one bronze.

Union Minister for Electric Power U Khin Maung Soe, officials of Asian Wrestling Federation and Myanmar Wrestling Federation awarded prizes to the winners.

Altogether 20 Myanmar

YANGON, 13 Dec—Round robin matches of men's and women's hockey event of the 27th SEA Games took place at Theinbyu turf hockey pitch this morning.

Thailand thrashed Cambodia 26-0, Singapore won over Indonesia 2-1 and Malaysia beat Myanmar 6-0 in women's hockey event.

Singapore hammered Vietnam 12-0 and Thailand defeated Myanmar 3-2 in men's hockey event.

Both Myanmar men's and women's hockey teams will play against Singapore men's and women's team on 14 and 15 December.

MNA

mar wrestlers participated in Wrestling event and they stood first with 15 medals—three gold, three silver and nine bronze.

MNA

Hockey tourney commences



Men's hockey event of the 27th SEA Games in progress at Theinbyu turf hockey pitch.—MNA

Women's football tournament continues

MANDALAY, 13 Dec—Defending champion Vietnamese team routed the Philippines 7-0 at Mandalay Thiri Stadium in Mandalay

in the group matches. In the first half, Vietnam scored two goals against the Philippines. At the final whistle of the sec-

ond half, Vietnam added four more goals into the net of the Philippines.

Tin Maung (Mandalay Sub-printing House)



Myanmar P'silat squad leader Ye Thiha poses for photo after winning over Thailand in the class G/Male event (75-70 kg). PHOTO AUNG KYAW KYAW (NLM)

Modern traffic lights installed in downtown Yangon to ease traffic congestions



YANGON, 13 Dec—The traffic light installed with Japanese technological devices is being used in downtown Yangon for reducing traffic congestions.

These traffic light have been installed at the most traffic congestion areas such as 8th-Mile Junction of Mayangon Township.

A traffic policeman said, "The camera equipped

in the traffic light operates its functions installed with softwares depending on number of vehicles at the traffic points. Thus, the congestion at the junction remarkably decline on Pyay Road. In the past, we prioritize the cars from

the turn but now we give priority to the vehicles from the straight way. It is the best. In the past, the traffic lights were installed the lights on the one side. New device have two sides on east and west for the vehicles. That is why the traffic congestion demarkably down there," he recounted his experience.

The traffic light was provided by JICA. After assessing the functions of the traffic light, similar devices will be installed in other parts of Yangon so as to recline the traffic congestions.

Kyemon-Zaw Gyi (Panita): Photo; Thiha Zaw

Agriculture

Maintenance of dam help cultivate paddy

YAMETHIN, 13 Dec—Farms of Pyawbwe Township in Yamethin District cultivate paddy with the use of irrigation facilities from Chaungmagyi, Thaphangyoung, Kyaukse, Yindaw, Netkar, Wunzin, Minthagyi, Yoegy and Khaka dams in the township.

Sway Creek that originates from the western hill of the township contributes to local people and it flows into Samon Creek and Minhla Lake of Thazi Township with its fork of tributaries.

Khaka Diversion Weir

of located on Sway Creek. But, irrigation facility was deteriorated 30 years ago. Thus over 3000 farmlands missed the change to cultivation of paddy on it.

In 2013-14 fiscal year, the Pyawbwe Township Irrigation Department improved the diversion by dredging sand and silt. The department dredged the canals and diversion weir. In addition the department dredged Magyibin (1), Magyibin (2) Dams and Zigon Diversion Weir.

Thanks to improvement of the staff of Irrigation, over

3000 acres of farmlands from Thazi, Htandaw, Thegan, Lunngin, Kyauktaing, Aungtha, Phettaw, Yongon and Zigon villages can be put under paddy as of this monsoon.

Moreover, the local people are delighted at activities of the Irrigation Department that improved the diversion weirs on Sway Creek to the people from Myothit Ward and Shwepyi Yanlon Ward of Pyawbwe Township to be free from flood in the rainy season.

Kyemon-Tin Hlaing (Meiktila)

Field trip made to Central Dry Zone Project

KYAUKSE, 13 Dec—A delegation led by Chief Project officer Mr Takahashi Shingo of JICA and Head of

Mandalay Region Fisheries Department U Myo Aung and Head of Kyaukse District Fisheries Department U Thet Oomade

a field to TadaU Township of Kyaukse District on 11 December morning so as to implement the Small-scale Aquaculture Extension for



Official of JICA meets with local people on their trip of observation in Kyaukse District.



Environmental Conservation

Preparations made at parks, Zoos for XXVII SEA Games



Landscapes seen with mascots of XXVII SEA Games at Yangon Zoo.

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec—Under the leadership of Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry, the Environmental Conservation Committee has held the educative works to the people for growing of trees and forestation works.

Promotion of Livelihood of Rural Communities in Central Dry Zone Project to be jointly conducted by Fisheries Department and JICA.

At Pyukan Village, they met enthusiastic farmers for the project.

The Japanese official and the head of Region Fisheries Department explained implementation of the project in Bago Region, Ayeyawady Region and Kayin State and advantages of the project.

Next, the documentary video were presented to those present.

They replied to queries raised by local people.

In addition, preparations are being made at Nay Pyi Taw Zoological Gardens, Sarari Park, Planetarian and Yangon Zoological Gardens for enabling the SEA Games-bound visitors at home and abroad to enjoy relaxation there.

Nay Pyi Taw Zoological

While in Pyukan Village, the project officials observed breeding of milch cows, pig and other animals, thriving paddy plantations of farmers with the use of irrigation facilities from Pyukan Dam.

They also visited fingerling station of Fisheries Department in Kume of Myittha Township, private small-scale fingerling station in Myison Village, private breeding ponds in Ywakaingyi Village and fish breeding ponds in Singaing Township and Kyaukse Township.

Kyemon-Tun Tun Naing (Kyaukse)

Garden and Safari Park are decorated with SEA Games flags, ASEAN countries's flags, mascots, the words of welcome, banners, flying banners and landscaping with shapes of animals. Moreover, weeding, sanitation and painting works are being carried at the parks.

The staff of the zoos repaired three dodges, erected educative placards for taking care of animals, putting out of signboards in disciplines of the zoological gardens, carried out enrichment plans, installed the benches and natural huts made of logs for lions and tigers.

All the tasks were completed on 27 November.

At Yangon Zoological Gardens, the public rest hall, animal cages, cultivation of flowery plants and sanitation, painting at buildings and mowing the lawns were completed on 30 November.

Kyemon-Forestry

REGIONAL



College students study at a well-equipped study room of North University of China in Taiyuan, capital city of north China's Shanxi province on 12 Dec, 2013. The 100-square-metre study room, run by a student of the university, provides free service for students.

XINHUA

SDF to be pulled out of Philippines before year's end

TOKYO, 13 Dec—Members of Japan's Self-Defence Forces dispatched to the Philippines to aid in typhoon relief will be withdrawn from the country before the end of December, a Defence Ministry official said Friday. The withdrawal order is expected to be officially decided on Friday afternoon. Defence Minister Itsunori Onodera told Philippine Defence Secretary

Voltaire Gazmin of Japan's intention to pull out within the year last Saturday during his visit to the country.

The largest international relief mission in SDF history has seen about 1,000 personnel engaged in providing medical care and distributing supplies on the central island of Leyte after it was hit by Typhoon Haiyan in November.

Kyodo News

Leaders focus on food, energy security, peace at EAS

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 13 Dec — The 8th East Asia Summit (EAS) opened here on Thursday to focus on food and energy security and cooperation in maintaining global peace.

The forum drew together leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) as well as the bloc's eight dialogue partners including China, Japan, South Korea, India, Australia, New Zealand, Russia and the United States.

US President Barack Obama and Russian President Vladimir Putin opted out of the summit and were represented by their respective foreign ministers. The United States and Russia were admitted to the regional forum in 2011.

In his opening address, Brunei's Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah highlighted that the focuses of the summit are food and energy security, climate change, disaster management and pandemic diseases.

He was "encouraged" by the moderate stance taken by Iran on its nuclear weapons program and noted that ASEAN was looking forward to more positive engagement.

"We also congratulate President Obama for attempting to move forward with issues in the Middle East. We are also pleased with the progress that has taken place between ASEAN and China on the South China Sea issue," he noted.

Xinhua

Indonesia proposes binding framework for Indo-Pacific cooperation

TOKYO, 13 Dec — Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono on Friday proposed an "Indo-Pacific treaty of friendship and cooperation," a legally binding framework that will serve to promote friendship and cooperation in the region.

In a speech in Tokyo ahead of a summit between Japan and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations,

Yudhoyono urged regional powers to start talks for the proposed treaty, which is aimed at strengthening the building blocks for cooperation for peace, security and prosperity in the region covering the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

"Indonesia is confident that the present development in our region offers opportunities for building durable and strategic

partnerships," he said.

Touching on disputes in Southeast Asia, including overlapping claims in the South China Sea among China and ASEAN members such as Vietnam and the Philippines, Yudhoyono said, "Indonesia is deeply concerned at the prospect of the disputes erupting into open conflicts."

Kyodo News

Japan agrees to expand currency swap deals with 2 ASEAN nations

TOKYO, 13 Dec—Japan has agreed to boost its respective currency swap deals with Indonesia and the Philippines, while maintaining such an arrangement with Singapore, as part of a strategy to help stabilize financial markets in Asia, the Finance Ministry said on Friday.

As the countries represent three of the larger economies in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, expansion of the currency deals is expected to strengthen their emergency response abilities in the case of a regional financial crisis, the Japanese ministry said.

Japan will raise its \$12.0 billion currency swap facility with Indonesia to \$22.76 billion and double its \$6.0 billion swap line with the Philippines to \$12.0 billion, while maintaining its \$3.0 billion swap deal with Singapore, the ministry said.

The world's third-biggest economy also agreed with Indonesia and the Philippines to introduce a new scheme to prevent a crisis, such as a lack of market liquidity, it added.

"Currency stabilization (in the three counties) would contribute to Japan's national interests," Finance Minister Taro Aso said at a

Press conference earlier in the day.

The agreements came as leaders of Japan and the ASEAN member nations will gather for a summit in Tokyo from Friday.

Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has been making efforts to forge closer ties with the fast-growing Southeast Asia region as part of efforts to revive the country's economy and keep in check China, which has become increasingly assertive in the East China and South China seas.

Abe has visited all 10 ASEAN nations since he took office in December last year.—Kyodo News

Left-wing rebels kidnap seven villagers in E India

NEW DELHI, 13 Dec—Seven people, mostly tribals, were kidnapped by armed left-wing rebels from two villages in the eastern Indian state of Orissa on Thursday, said police.

The kidnapping took place at Kalimela area of

Orissa's Malkangiri District. All the kidnapped are believed to be village officials or their relatives.

The rebels also had kidnapped three people on 4 December. One of them escaped the next day, while the other two were released

on 7 December. The rebels, also known as Maoists or Naxalites, are active in Orissa and commit attacks, kidnapping and murders from time to time against government officials, villagers and policemen, mainly in poor rural areas.—Xinhua



Foreign tourists pose with Japanese students on a school excursion in front of the Kaminarimon gate of Sensoji temple in Tokyo's Asakusa area on 11 Dec, 2013. Japan is likely to achieve its goal of drawing 10 million foreign travellers in 2013 as government data showed the same day that the number of foreign visitors to Japan totaled about 9.5 million between January and November.—KYODO NEWS

Singapore overall unemployment rate at 1.8 pct in September

SINGAPORE, 13 Dec—Singapore's seasonally adjusted overall unemployment rate was 1.8 percent in September, lower from 2.1 percent in June, amid the tight labour market, the city-state's Ministry of Manpower said on Friday.

Meanwhile, the unemployment rate also

decreased over the quarter from 2.9 percent to 2.6 percent for residents, and for Singapore citizens, the rate went down from 3.1 percent to 2.8 percent.

There were more job vacancies, rising by 5.9 percent over the quarter, after declining 5.1 percent in June.—Xinhua



ASEAN Secretary General Le Luong Minh is pictured in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 10 Dec, 2013. The leader of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations suggested that China and Japan apply parts of a dispute settlement mechanism, currently used by the 10-member grouping to peacefully settle territorial disputes with China over rival claims to islands in the South China Sea, in dealing with their dispute in the East China Sea.

KYODO NEWS

Warehouse collapse kills at least eight

SHIJIAZHUANG, 13 Dec — At least eight people were killed and another two remain trapped after an agricultural product warehouse under construction collapsed on Thursday in north China's Hebei Province, authorities said on Friday.

Rescuers pulled nine people from the debris, with eight of them confirmed dead, according to a written statement issued by the government of Zunhua City.

The injured person who was rescued was rushed to a hospital for treatment, and the patient's condition is not currently known.

The privately built warehouse collapsed at 3:40 pm on Thursday when 11 villagers were helping to pour concrete in the warehouse at the Yehushan Village of the city's Xingwangzhai Township.

Rescue work is under way, and the cause of the accident is being investigated.—Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV EI SHUN VOY NO (-)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV EI SHUN VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.12.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.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 ECL (S'PORE) PTE LTD

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV BANGKACHAI VOY NO (124)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGKACHAI VOY NO (124) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14.12.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S WONGSAMUT OCEAN
SHIPPING CO LTD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV PAC Aquila VOY NO (900)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PAC Aquila VOY NO (900) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14.12.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ORIENT OVERSEAS
CONTAINER LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV CITY OF MUMBAI VOY NO (-)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CITY OF MUMBAI VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14.12.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.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 SINOR LINE PTE LTD

Phone No: 256924/256914

Montana bride pleads guilty in husband's cliff death

MISSOULA, (Montana), 13 Dec — A Montana bride who was accused of pushing her new husband to his death from a cliff in Glacier National Park pleaded guilty to second-degree murder on Thursday in an 11th-hour deal with prosecutors that

will spare her from a mandatory sentence of life in prison.

Jordan Graham, 22, reached the deal just as closing arguments had been due to begin in her federal murder trial in Missoula over the 7 July death of her husband

of eight days, 25-year-old Cody Johnson.

In exchange for the guilty plea, prosecutors agreed to drop first-degree murder charges that could have carried a mandatory life sentence, should she have been convicted, as well as charges of lying to law enforcement.

Graham is scheduled to be sentenced on 27 March.

Graham, in admitting her guilt, told the judge that on the day her husband died, the couple had driven to the park and walked down to an embankment on the cliff face, where she told Johnson she wasn't happy and "wasn't sure we should be married." He responded by grabbing her hand, she said.

"I told him to let go and I pushed his hand off," Graham said. "I just pushed his hand off and just pushed away." US District Judge Donald Molloy asked her if, after that, she knew Johnson had fallen over the cliff, and Graham responded that she did. Before accepting the plea, the judge warned Graham that by pleading guilty she was "possibly looking at

spending the balance" of her life in prison. She responded that she understood the consequences.

While a second-degree murder conviction may be punishable by life in prison, it can also result in a lesser sentence of about 20 years behind bars, with possible adjustments for accepting responsibility and other factors. US Marshals led Graham away in handcuffs after the hearing, during which her mother cried in court. Graham had been in her parents' custody and under electronic monitoring pending trial.

Federal prosecutors contended that Graham deliberately shoved her husband off a rock ledge while the couple was hiking a steep trail at Glacier and then lied to investigators and tried to cover up the crime.

Graham's attorneys had said the death was an accident that happened during a marital dispute in which Johnson grabbed his wife's arm and jacket and she pulled away even as she pushed him.

Reuters



Jordan Graham (C), accompanied by members of her legal team, walks away from US District Court in Missoula, Montana on 11 Dec, 2013.—REUTERS

Australian commonwealth, states agree to cut green tape for projects

CANBERRA, 13 Dec — The states and territories of Australia on Friday signed deals with the commonwealth to streamline the environmental approving process for major projects, a decision slammed by the Greens and environmental groups.

Prime Minister Tony Abbott signed the agreements with the state premiers and chief ministers in Canberra at the end of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) meeting, Abbott's first, on Friday.

COAG agreed deregulation would remain a key goal, with all states, including Labor administrations, resolving to put in place the Coalition's plan to streamline environment approvals with so-called "one-stop-shops" at state level.

Under agreements in

place, the states will do all environmental assessment work on major projects.

The states of New South Wales and Queensland have gone further, agreeing to sign bilateral agreements to assess and approve projects.

The decision was attacked by the Greens and some environment groups, which claimed it will sacrifice the country's natural environment. "States and territories have all made dodgy deals with Tony Abbott today to slash federal environment protection," said Senator Larissa Waters, Australian Greens environment spokesperson. "These deals pave the way for Tony Abbott to abolish a 30-year-old federal safeguard for our most precious natural places and wildlife," she said.

Xinhua

New Zealand police break up Nigerian-led international drug ring

WELLINGTON, 13 Dec — New Zealand Police said on Friday they had broken up a Nigerian drug-smuggling ring after seizing methamphetamine valued at 2.7 million NZ dollars (2.22 million US dollars).

A 68-year-old New Zealand man carrying two bags containing the 1.5 kg of drugs was stopped at Auckland Airport after he had been duped by an Internet scam, according to the police's Organized and Financial Crime Agency of New Zealand (OFCANZ).

The man flew to Papua New Guinea in early November believing he was going to receive a large amount of cash, and left Port Moresby five days later with the methamphetamine concealed inside two bags he had been given.

Detective Senior Sergeant Lloyd Schmid said the drugs, with a street value of 1.5 million NZ

dollars, were discovered by Customs officers who profited the man on his return.

A five-week joint OFCANZ and Customs investigation identified two further importations of methamphetamine totaling more than 1.2 kg and valued at 1.2 million NZ dollars. "The methamphetamine had been sent to New Zealand through the international mail system from the Philippines and Cameroon," Schmid said in a statement.

On 5 December, detectives raided eight premises in Auckland and the lower North Island town of Woodville, arresting 10 people who were facing charges of importing Class A controlled drugs and possession of Class A controlled drugs for supply.

Schmid said the leaders of the drug ring were Nigerian expatriates based in Auckland and Woodville.—Xinhua

ENTERTAINMENT

Josh Brolin: Freida Pinto is incredible



British actress Rebecca Hall takes part in a panel discussion of HBO's "Parade's End" during the 2013 Winter Press Tour for the Television Critics Association in Pasadena, California, on 4 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

Rebecca Hall to debut on 1920s Broadway play 'Machinal'

NEW YORK, 13 Dec — When actress Rebecca Hall first read "Machinal," the 1920s play in which she will make her Broadway debut early next year, her reaction was so strong she felt her throat tightening.

Hall's response, and the fact that it was being directed by Briton Lyndsey Turner, convinced the British actress she had to play the young murderess in the drama that hasn't been staged on Broadway in 85 years.

"I don't think I've ever had a more physical response to a piece of writing," said Hall, the star of films such as Woody Allen's 2008 romance "Vicky, Cristina, Barcelona" and this year's Disney-Marvel blockbuster superhero sequel "Iron Man 3." "I think it is extraordinarily powerful. I think it was way ahead of its time," she added of the play.

Reuters

LOS ANGELES, 13 Dec — Freida Pinto's rise to global fame is "courageous", says Hollywood actor Josh Brolin, who starred with the Indian beauty in Woody Allen's You Will Meet a Tall Dark Stranger.

"She's incredible. I have a tremendous amount of respect for anyone who comes out of a best picture situation. I think that takes a lot of courage and she worked really hard. But she's doing extremely well. She is very courageous," Brolin said of Freida in a statement.

Freida, who was a model in Mumbai, bagged a key role in Danny Boyle's Slumdog Millionaire, which won multiple Academy Awards. There has been no looking back for Freida since then as she is spotted at key red carpet events and

even bagged plum international projects like Miral and Rise of the Planet of the Apes.

Brolin's latest movie Oldboy, a Hollywood remake of the cult South Korean thriller Oldboy, is set for release in India on Friday. The film follows the story of an advertising agent who is locked in a hotel room for 20 years without knowing his captor's motives. When he is finally released, he finds himself still trapped in a web of conspiracy and violence.

PTI

Josh and Freida starred together in You Will Meet a Tall Dark Stranger



'12 Years a Slave,' 'American Hustle' take lead for Golden Globes

BEVERLY HILLS, 13 Dec — Slavery drama "12 Years a Slave" and 1970s con-artist caper "American Hustle" led the Golden Globe Awards nominations announced on Thursday with seven nods each, fortifying their frontrunner

drama category, "12 Years a Slave" will compete against Somali piracy nail-biter "Captain Phillips," space thriller "Gravity," adoption drama "Philomena," and race-car rivalry "Rush."

"American Hustle" was nominated for best

tale "Inside Llewyn Davis," heartland ode "Nebraska" and the story of a crooked banker, "The Wolf of Wall Street."

Best acting nominations favoured acclaimed actors with long careers, like 79-year-old Judi Dench for her role as an Irish mother looking for the son she was forced to give up in "Philomena" and Robert Redford, 77, the sole cast member as a sailor fighting for his life in "All Is Lost."

The Golden Globe nominations voted by members of the Hollywood Foreign Press Association (HFPA) are a leading indicator for the awards season and underscored the strong year for film, with many critically acclaimed movies and performances jostling for prominence.

That highly competitive field is making for an unpredictable run-up to the Oscars.

Reuters



Cast member Chiwetel Ejiofor (R) poses with actress Jacqueline Bisset at a special screening of "12 Years a Slave" at the Directors Guild of America in Los Angeles, California 14 October, 2013.—REUTERS

positions in a crowded field ahead of the Oscars.

In the coveted best

comedy or musical, alongside computer-age love story "Her," folk singer

Adam Sandler named most overpaid actor

LOS ANGELES, 13 Dec — Adam Sandler has topped Forbes magazine's 2013 list of the most overpaid actors. A string of recent failures has landed the comedian at the top of the list, yet he is among the few actors who can still demand a paycheck above \$15 million.

The top 10 list is based on the last three projects of each actor. It has been put together using data gathered by Forbes' Celebrity 100 research and Box Office Mojo to calculate how much, on average, each star's last three films earned at the box office per dollar of pay, said the website of the magazine.

Two of Sandler's offenders are Jack & Jill in which he played both halves of a brother-sister twin set, and That's My Boy, in which the 47-year-old played the father of Andy Samberg, 35.

The former film grossed \$150 million, but it took an estimated \$80 mil-

lion to make.

That's My Boy didn't fare well either. With an estimated budget of \$70 million, the film brought in only \$57 million at the box office worldwide.

To compile the list, Forbes looked at the last three movies each actor starred in over the three years to 1 June. Looking at pay, movie budgets and expenses, a return on investment number for each star was calculated and then an average of those numbers gave an idea of overall return.

Close behind Sandler in second place is Katherine Heigl. For every dollar she was paid, Heigl returned an average of \$3.50. Reese Witherspoon ranks third with an average \$3.90 return for every \$1 she gets paid. Actor Kevin James has made his debut on the list and occupies the fifth place.

PTI

Angelina Jolie, Brad Pitt planning four wedding ceremonies?



Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt

LONDON, 13 Dec — Celebrity couple Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt are reportedly planning to get hitched at four different places.

Jolie, 38, and Pitt, who got engaged in April 2012, are parents to six kids, Maddox, Pax, Zahara, Shiloh, Knox, and Vivienne, reported Daily Star. "They are having the first party at Ayers Rock in Australia to

tie in with Brad's 50th birthday on 18 December. Angelina wants an aboriginal-style ceremony at sunrise," a source said. "After that Wedding No 3 will be on a beach in the Bahamas. And finally a glitzy reception will be held at the couple's south of France home next May to coincide with the Cannes Film Festival," the source added.—PTI



Adam Sandler was last seen in That's My Boy.—PTI

Formula One to award pole position trophy

LONDON, 13 Dec — Formula One will award a pole position trophy next year to the driver who qualifies fastest the most times during the season, the governing International Automobile Federation (FIA) announced on Thursday.

The 2014 sporting regulations, posted on the FIA website, said that in the event of a tie the holder of the most second places would win, with a further

countback until a winner emerges. "If this procedure fails to produce a result, the FIA will nominate the winner according to such criteria as it thinks fit," the regulations stated. Red Bull's quadruple world champion Sebastian Vettel would have won the award in four of the last five seasons.

The FIA also wrote a penalty points system into the regulations, which will see drivers handed a race ban if they accumulate 12

points in a year.

"Penalty points will remain on a driver's Super License for a period of 12 months after which they will be respectively removed on the 12-month anniversary of their imposition," the FIA said.

Driver numbers, to be chosen by the competitors and kept for the duration of their Formula One careers, will have to be clearly visible on helmets and the front of cars.—Reuters



Red Bull Formula One driver Sebastian Vettel of Germany is attended to by his crew during a pit stop during the Brazilian F1 Grand Prix at the Interlagos circuit in Sao Paulo on 24 Nov, 2013.—REUTERS

Liverpool's injured captain Gerrard out for a month



Liverpool's Steven Gerrard wipes his face during their English Premier League soccer match against West Ham United at Anfield in Liverpool, northern England on 7 Dec, 2013.

REUTERS

LONDON, 13 Dec — Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard will be sidelined for at least four weeks with the hamstring injury he

picked up last weekend, manager Brendan Rodgers said on Thursday.

Gerrard suffered the problem during Liverpool's 4-1 win over West Ham United in the Premier League on Saturday and had to be replaced after 56 minutes at Anfield.

"Steven is, as reported, probably going to be (out for) up to about four weeks or so," Rodgers told the Merseyside club's website (www.liverpoolfc.com).

"So he'll go through an extensive treatment programme over the next numbers of weeks and hopefully we can get him back that little bit sooner.

"But certainly at this stage, it was a four to six-week injury and we'll see how we look with that."

Rodgers had better news on Gerrard's fellow England midfielder Jordan Henderson, who suffered an ankle injury from a tackle by West Ham skipper Kevin Nolan. Nolan was sent off for the challenge.

"Jordan trained so he's fine," said Rodgers. "It was just precautionary the last few days. It was a bad challenge that was made on him, but thankfully he's okay."

Second-placed Liverpool, who are five points behind Premier League leaders Arsenal, visit Tottenham Hotspur on Sunday. Spurs are sixth but can join Liverpool on 30 points with a win.

Reuters

Ronaldo beats Messi for World Soccer magazine award

LONDON, 13 Dec — Cristiano Ronaldo has been named World Soccer magazine's player of the year for the second time, ahead of Barcelona's Lionel Messi and Franck Ribery of Bayern Munich, it said on Thursday.

The award, decided by a panel of journalists and pundits from round the world, recognised his stunning form for Real Madrid as well as his role in leading Portugal to the World Cup finals in Brazil next year. He last won it in 2008.

Jupp Heynckes and Bayern Munich, who completed the treble of German League, German Cup and Champions League last



Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo reacts as he attends a news conference to discuss the draw for the 2014 World Cup at the Valdebebas training grounds, outside Madrid, on 8 Dec, 2013.

REUTERS

season, won the manager and team of the year prizes.

Reuters

US coach Klinsmann to stay for four more years

NEW YORK, 13 Dec — United States head coach Juergen Klinsmann, facing a tough World Cup challenge at next year's finals in Brazil, has agreed a four-year contract extension through 2018, the US Soccer Federation said on Thursday.

As part of the deal the former Germany international and World Cup winner becomes technical director for US Soccer.

"I am very fortunate to continue the work we started more than two and a half years ago," Klinsmann said in a statement on the federation's official website (www.ussoccer.com).

"It's exciting to see the progress we have made, and we continue to make improvements on all fronts."

The US have been drawn in a difficult Group

G at the 2014 World Cup along with Klinsmann's native Germany, who he took to the 2006 semi-finals as manager, Portugal and Ghana.

Klinsmann has enjoyed a successful year by guiding the US to a fifth Gold Cup title, winning all of their six matches in the tournament, before securing a World Cup place and he has now been given a broader canvas on which to develop the game.

"The role of technical director is a huge challenge and also a huge opportunity as we look to keep connecting the dots to the youth national teams, coaching education, the Development Academy and the grassroots efforts in this country," he said.

US Soccer president

Sunil Gula added: "One of the reasons hired Juergen our head coach to advance the program and we're initial stages opening on the also off the field areas."

"In the past he has built a foundation from the ground up and we want to build upon that."

The US World Cup coach will be replaced by Peter Dreyer on 16 June again at the Estadio de Natal before finalising his deal in Manaus and Germany four days later. The World Cup will be held in Brazil this month, Kli



Barcelona strike sponsorship deal with Intel

BARCELONA, 13 Dec — Barcelona have agreed a sponsorship deal with Intel under which the chipmaker's logo will be printed on the inside of players' shirts, the Spanish champions announced on Thursday.

The idea behind the unusual positioning of the

"Intel Inside" logo is that it will be revealed when a player lifts his shirt to celebrate scoring a goal, Barca officials told a news conference in the Catalan capital.

Players including Lionel Messi, Neymar and Andres Iniesta would be under no obligation to

display the logo, which will be added to the shirts for the first time in Saturday's La Liga match at home to Villarreal, Manel Arroyo, a club director responsible for media and sponsorship, said.

Arroyo declined to reveal how much the deal — which runs for four and a half years and includes an option for an extension — was worth, saying it was "confidential".

Spanish media and Forbes magazine, without identifying the source of their information, reported Intel would pay Barca \$25 million.

As part of their first foray into soccer sponsorship, Intel will also provide technology to players and coaching staff as well as the recruits at Barca's academy, officials said.

Reuters



Barcelona's Neymar celebrates after scoring a goal against Celtic during their Champions League soccer match at Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona on 11 Dec, 2013.—REUTERS

GENERAL

**Accepted The Call of Almighty Allah
Abdul Quader @ Frederick Yasin @ U Sein Tin
B.Com., R.A., H.G.P., RL
Aged (66) Years
Principal - FISC, Thanlyin School**

Son of Hajee S.M. Yasin and Hajeema Daw Mi Mi Gyi - B.S.C. College 156, Theinbyu Road, Botataung Tsp., Yangon, Son in Law of U Maung Maung Than - Daw Khin Than Nu, Husband of (Daw Khin Than Myint) and beloved Father of Daw Sandar Tin - U Win Oo, U Zar Ni Tin - Daw Swe Zin Thein and Grandfather of Ma Shah Eikkari Naing peacefully accepted the Call of Almighty Allah at 6:55 a.m. on the 11-12-2013.

Buried at Yay Way Burial Grounds after the Asr Salat the same day.

"To Allah we belong and to Him we shall return".

The Bereaved Family



A Pakistani soldier walks on shattered pieces of glasses at the blast site in southern Pakistani port city of Karachi on 12 Dec, 2013. At least one soldier was killed and seven others were injured in a remote-controlled bomb blast in Karachi on Thursday, local media reported. —XINHUA

UN chief hails DRC peace deal

UNITED NATIONS, 13 Dec — UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Thursday welcomed a peace deal signed by the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and the rebels known as the M23, calling it "a positive step towards ending cycles of deadly conflicts" in the war-torn country.

"The secretary-general welcomes the conclusion today of the Kampala Dialogue between the government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and the M23, through the signing of declarations by the parties today in Nairobi, Kenya," said a statement issued by Ban's spokesman.

The secretary-general also welcomed a Final Communique by President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda and President Joyce Banda of Malawi, in their capacities as chairs of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) and Southern African Development Community (SADC), it said.

"This constitutes a positive step towards ending cycles of deadly conflicts that have caused immense suffering to the Congolese people," said the statement.

The accord was signed in the presence of regional leaders in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi.

Last month, the DRC government refused to sign a deal brokered by Uganda. At least 800,000 people fled their homes during the conflict, reports said.

The M23, which stands for the March 23 Movement, took up arms in eastern DRC in April 2012, accusing the government of marginalizing the ethnic Tutsi minority and failing to honor previous peace accords.

In early November, peace talks between the M23 and the DRC government were held in Kampala, Uganda. The M23, composed of a breakaway faction of soldiers from the DRC's national army, earlier this year seized seven towns in North Kivu province and intensified attacks on schools, hospitals, homes and other civilian targets.

On 5 November, The M23 rebels on Tuesday declared an end to the rebellion launched since April 2012 in eastern DRC, saying they would pursue their goals through "purely political means."—Xinhua

Sao Paulo announce China youth programme

RIO DE JANEIRO, 13 Dec — Brazilian club Sao Paulo will launch the youth development programme with Chinese side Shandong Luneng as part of a deal to promote their image in Asia.

The four-year agreement includes an exchange initiative allowing the Chinese Super League club's best youngsters to train in Brazil, Sao Paulo said on their official website. Sao Paulo will in turn explore commercial opportunities in China and gain access to a new player market.

The programme, to be led by former Sao Paulo first-team manager Sergio Baresi, will begin early next year.

Baresi will be based at Shandong Luneng's headquarters in the eastern Chinese city of Jinan alongside Sinclair Dantas de Freitas Garcia (physical trainer), Luis Henrique Orlando (goalkeeping coach) and Bruno Happy (physiotherapist).

The group will take charge of Shandong Luneng's under-20 side and coordinate the club's entire youth programme.

Xinhua

UEFA wants uniform European action against match-fixing

LONDON, 13 Dec — UEFA wants consistent sanctions against match-fixing across Europe and has drafted an 11-point plan to help make that happen, general secretary Gianni Infantino said on Thursday.

"For UEFA, the fight against match-fixing is a top priority but it is important that all over Europe there is as uniform an approach as possible against it," he told reporters after a meeting of UEFA's executive committee in Bilbao, Spain.

It was important for European soccer's governing body to have concrete and effective policies to fight any possible match-fixing which must be met with harsh sanctions, he added.

The draft plan will be

Farrah Fawcett memorabilia fetch almost \$200,000 in auction

DALLAS, 13 Dec — Actress and pin-up girl Farrah Fawcett was the star of an auction of celebrity memorabilia in Dallas on Thursday as a shiny red swimsuit she wore for a magazine shoot and 64 other personal items brought in nearly \$200,000.

Sharing top billing with Fawcett was Gene Kelly and the water-soaked suit he wore in the 1952 movie musical "Singin' in the Rain" as he danced in a deluge. The gray-wool suit went for \$106,250 in the auction, Heritage Auctions said.

The suit belonged to a retired postal worker in California, who bought it at an MGM studio auction for \$10 in 1970. It was bought at auction by Planet Hollywood, operator of restaurants worldwide and a hotel-casino in Las Vegas.

The red vinyl swimsuit, which Fawcett wore for a 1995 photo spread in Esquire magazine, sold for \$4,062.50. Fawcett's 1980 passport sold for \$17,500, and a script from her 1984 TV film "The Burning Bed" sold for \$8,750. A People's Choice Award won by the Texas-born actress went for \$20,625.

"The intense competition for Farrah's items in this auction speaks to how popular she continues to be with collectors," said Margaret Barrett, director of entertainment and music auctions for Heritage. Fawcett died of cancer in 2009 at age 62.

Meanwhile, a portrait of Fawcett painted by Andy Warhol that could be worth millions of dollars is at the center of a civil trial in Los Angeles over its ownership.

Reuters



Actress Farrah Fawcett

was a low number.

"But even one match fixed is one match too many and we have to fight against this in the most efficient way," Infantino added without detailing the 11 points in the draft plan.



UEFA General Secretary Gianni Infantino attends a news conference after the first UEFA Executive Committee reunion of the year at the UEFA headquarters in Nyon on 25 January, 2013. — REUTERS

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

14-12-13 07:00 am ~
15-12-13 07:00 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Great Shwedagon: The Sacred Hair Relics Hailing Pagodas
- * World News
- * Myanmar Harpist
- * Local News
- * A Festival on Buddha's Life Story
- * World News
- * Marketable Goods (Myanmar Arts & Handicrafts)
- * A Memorable Trip
- * World News
- * Trishaw Man
- * Local News
- * A Day Out With Sarah (Episode-3)
- * Ywar Thit's Monhinkhar
- * **27th SEA GAMES COMPETITION**
- * Local News
- * Travelling to Shan Plateau "Main Ma Ye' The-Khin Ma Mountain"
- * World News
- * Ethnic Beauty
- * Journey To Unimaginable Spots (Episode-2)
- * World News
- * Made in Myanmar "Mixxo"
- * Local News
- * Kachin Traditional Wedding Ceremony
- * World News
- * Mularsheedi we Love!
- * Local News
- * Innovative Handiworks Based On The Art Of Line Drawing
- * Flying Without Wings- My Great Limitless Adventure - Mandalay & Sagaing

Vice-President U Nyan Tun attends awarding ceremony of canoeing, kayak event



Vice-President U Nyan Tun celebrates with coaches and victorious athletes at Athletes Village.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec—Patron of the Leading Committee for Organizing the 27th SEA Games Vice-President U Nyan Tun today attended the awarding ceremony of Canoeing and Kayak events before he looked round the Athletes villages' social zone.

At the awarding ceremony, the Vice-President and Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan awarded Myanmar rowers who stood first, Thailand, second, and Singapore, third in Women's K 4 event.

They then posed for documentary photos with the victorious teams.

Next, the Vice-President inspected accommodations of foreign athletes at the social zone in the sports village.

MNA

Registration and measurement of yachts in Ngwehsaung

NGWEHSAUNG, 13 Dec—Experts did registration and measurement of yachts for the yachting event of the SEA Games on 12 and 13 December.

"Measurement is carried out in accord with international standards. The yachts should be same sizes and quality," said an official from the Yachting Organizing Committee.

Being a host country, Myanmar has a chance to compete in any one of the yachting events. Myanmar will compete in yacht event with domestic-made wooden half-rater yacht. Six countries will participate in the yachting events of the SEA Games which will be held as of 15 December.

MNA

Myanmar's four boxers advance to gold medal match

By Aye Min Soe



Maung Nge seen in posture of boxing.

PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

Wai Lin Aung seen in posture of boxing.

PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE



Two men and two women of Myanmar have advanced to final today in the hunt of a precious gold medal of the 27th SEA Games

Maung Nge won Filipino Rey Saludar on points in the flyweight category, and his victory sent him to the gold medal match against Thailand boxer on Thursday.

Maung Nge surprises a home crowd after winning the Filipino with counter punches which has helped him

In the 75-kilo category, Wai Lin Aung defeated

Truong Dinh Ho of Vietnam on points.

Truong Dinh Ho took the fight to Wai Lin Aung in the first round and looked on top in the first round,

But, in the second and third round, Wai Lin Aung landed blows to him whenever he got chances and won the Vietnamese on points.

Myanmar's Nwe Ni Oo will fight with Thailand Nesthy Petecio in the women's featherweight final match.

Kyu Kyu Hlaing also advanced in the seminal of women's category and will fight in the gold medal match on Thursday.

Union Hotels and Tourism Minister attends foodstuffs donation ceremony

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec—Chairman of Accommodation, Food and Tourism Committee Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung delivered an opening address at foodstuffs donation ceremony for the 27th SEA Games athletes by Organization to promote Japanese Restaurants (Abord-JRO) at Athletes Village Social Zone here this morning.

Chairman of Organization to promote Japanese Restaurants Abord-JRO Mr. Kazutaka Kato explained the purpose of donation. Director-General of Directorate of Hotels and Tourism Services U Aung Zaw Win accepted the Foodstuffs handed over by Mr. Kazutaka Kato. The Union minister, Deputy Minister for Sports U Zaw Win and Myanmar Restaurants Entrepreneurs Association gave the certificate of honours to wellwisher.

MNA



Union Minister U Htay Aung presents certificate of honour to Mr. Kazutaka Kato.—MNA

Myanmar snatches one gold, two silver, two bronze in Pencak Silat events

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Dec—Pencak Silat events of the 27th SEA Games continued at Zeyarthiri Indoor Stadium (c), here, today.

At today's fighting events, Vietnam beat Indonesia 5-0 while Singapore won over Malaysia 5-0 in the class F/Male event (70-75 kg). In the class G/Male event (75-70 kg category), Myanmar triumphed Thailand 4-1 while Vietnam

(See page 9)

Medal Tally

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Myanmar	26	25	21	72
Vietnam	22	13	19	54
Indonesia	21	25	18	64
Thailand	21	25	17	63
Malaysia	10	7	22	39
Singapore	8	7	15	30
Cambodia	4	6	11	21
Philippines	3	5	9	17
Laos	2	5	14	21
Brunei	1	0	2	3
Timor-Leste	0	0	0	0