

## President U Thein Sein receives President of CPAFFC



NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein received a delegation led by President of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC) Mme Li Xiaolin at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here this morning.

Also present at the call were Union Ministers U Wunna Maung Lwin and U Tin Naing Thein and officials. Over 500 CPAFFC have been set up in 187 countries across the world and will turn 60 in coming May, 2014.—MNA

They had a cordial discussion on culture exchange, formation of China-Myanmar Friendship Association, activities of association and more co-operation in future youth scholarship exchange programme and capacity building courses for more co-operation Myanmar-China comprehensive strategic partnership.

*President U Thein Sein poses for documentary photo with President of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC) Mme Li Xiaolin.—MNA*

## Myanmar secure one silver, one bronze in Judo event

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec—Athletes from Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore and Malaysia participated in today's Judo events at Zeyathiri Indoor Stadium (C), here, this afternoon.

In men's -73 kg event, gold medal went to the Philippines, silver to Indonesia and joint bronze to Myanmar and Thailand while Thailand secured gold, Singapore, silver and Vietnam and Indonesia,

joint bronze in men's -81 kg event.

In women's -57 kg events, Thailand sized gold, the Philippines, silver and Vietnam and Indonesia, joint bronze while the Philippines snatched gold, Vietnam, silver and Malaysia, joint bronze with Thailand in women's -63 kg event and Thailand, gold, Myanmar, silver and Indonesia, bronze in women's -70 kg event.

*Khaing Thanda Lwin (NLM)*



*Thinzar Win of Myanmar and Ho Thi Nhu Van of Vietnam taking part in below 57 kg Judo event.*

PHOTO: KHAING THANDA LWIN (NLM)

## MTFF awards cash to two gold, four silver, seven bronze medalists in track and field event

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec—Awarding ceremony for Myanmar winners of track and field event in the 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games took place at Shwe Nandaw Hotel, here, yesterday.

The Vice-Presidents

of Myanmar Track and Field Federation presented each of K 30 million to gold medalists of 5000-meter women's race and 20 km walking race events, each of K 5 million to silver medal-

ists of Marathon, 1000 and 1500-meter women's race events and each of K 3 million to bronze medalists of 800, 1500 and 5000-meter race event.

The secretary of MTFF awarded each of

K 4 million to four bronze medalists of 400-meter x 4 relay event, each of K 3 million to two bronze medalists of 20 kilo walking race event and bronze medalist of marathon event.

MNA

## Myanmar men's double regu Sepak Takraw team clinches gold medal

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec—Myanmar secured gold medal in men's double regu Sepak Takraw team event after defeating Indonesia. Today, Wunna Theikdi Indoor Stadium (B) was teeming with Myanmar sports lovers shouting the word "Myanmar" without stopping. In the first round, Myanmar had a chance to win its rival but lost to Indonesia (15-21, 21-19 and 24-22). At the beginning of the event, Myanmar could head the event and Indonesia equalized soon after. Myanmar defeated Indonesia in the second round (21-17, 21-15). And Indonesia lost to Myanmar (21-10, 15-21 and 14-21) in the third round.

Similarly, Myanmar won over Vietnam 2-0 in women's double regu preliminary event and Philippines lost to Myanmar 0-2

in men's double regu preliminary event.

The men's and women's double regu preliminary events will go on at the same venue tomorrow. Myanmar men's team will meet Cam-

bodia and Singapore while Myanmar women's team will play against Philippines. Men's Group (A) includes Indonesia, Vietnam, Brunei, Laos and Myanmar, Singapore, Philippine and Cambo-

dia in Group (B). Women's Group (A) includes Myanmar, Philippines and Vietnam and Group (B) Laos, Cambodia, Malaysia and Indonesia.

*Myo Than (NLM)*



*Myanmar and Indonesian players fight for the caneball men's double regu Sepak Takraw.—PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE*

LOCAL NEWS

Stake driven for WAO Office



BAGO, 20 Dec—A ceremony to drive stakes for construction of Bago Region Women's Affairs Organization was held at the site on Bogyoke Street in Ward 4 of Bago on 18 December.

It was attended by Bago Region Hluttaw Speaker U Win Tin, Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Aung Kyaw Oo, Patron of Bago Region Women's Affairs Organization Daw Myint

Myint Soe and Daw Tint Maw, Chairperson of Bago Region WAO Daw May Thu, members of Region, District and Township WAOs, and well-wishers totalling over 50.

The officials drove stakes for the building at the designated places.

The well-wishers donated K 40.7 million to the fund for construction of the buildings.

MMAL-183

HRD

Lists of outstanding students for Yangon, Mandalay universities announced

YANGON, 20 Dec—Fifteen each of students were collected for each science and arts subjects of Yangon and Mandalay universities for 2003 academic years.

The applications for the university must be submitted not later than 9 December.

Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) announced the list of students for each subjects of two universities. The universities will send information letters to the students. They have to attend the first year course at Yangon and Mandalay Universities.

Those who passed

the 2013 or before 2013 matriculation examinations are to submit application to learn education at day time or University of Distance Education are to apply not later than 20 December.

It was reported that 886 outstanding students were admitted to attend the courses at Yangon University and 659 students at Mandalay University.

MMAL-Khin Cho Win

Culture

Kayin New Year Day to be held

NYAUNGDON, 20 Dec—Ayeyawady Region Kayin New Year Day 2753 Era will be held in Patheingyi, said Kayin Literature and Culture Committee.

Kayin national representatives from townships will attend the festival.

The celebration will be held on 1 January 2014. On the eve of the New Year, the don dance will be performed.

In commemoration of the New Year Day, the ceremony to pay respects to the older persons will be held.—MMAL-082



Cash donated to Saya Zawgyi Library



PYAPON, 20 Dec—The cash donation or construction of Saya Zawgyi Library was held at the venue in Pyapon on 17 December.

Pyapon Township Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Soe Naing and wife Daw Tin Tin Latt donated K 1 million, World Yadana Bank (former Livestock Breeding Development Bank) K 2.5 million to chairman of the library committee U Wai Myint and member U Thein Tun (a) U Pauk who returned certificates to them.

The library will be a

80 feet long, 35 feet wide and 15 feet high one-storey building. It may cost K 40 million. So far, the construction of the building has been completed by 50 per cent.

The Saya Zawgyi Library is located in Pyaon storing 20000 copies of books plus magazines, journals and newspapers for public reading. Over 2000 members join the library and about 200 readers visit the library daily.

MMAL-Thuza Nwe (Pyapon)

Financial Affairs

ADB loan to improve reach of Myanmar's electricity network

YANGON, 20 Dec—Some 480,000 households in four regions in Myanmar will have better access to a more reliable supply of electricity to support their daily activities with a \$ 60 million loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) that will rehabilitate sections of the country's power distribution network.

"Access to electricity is crucial to development. Repairing and strengthening existing electricity infrastructure will help reduce system losses, use resources more efficiently and connect more people more quickly," said Jong-Inn Kim, Lead Energy Specialist in the Southeast Asia Department at the ADB.

Technical and non-technical losses from Myanmar's aging distribution system were as high as 18.2% in 2012, meaning almost a fifth of all power generated was lost before reaching customers. ADB's loan will fund rehabilitation works to carry electricity more efficiently, including upgrading of existing 66/11 kilo volt (KV) and 33/11 KV substations, replacing existing 33 KV and 11 KV distribution lines,

replacing existing 11/0.4 KV transformers, and upgrading to digital revenue meters. The loan will also replace tangled knots of existing bare low voltage distribution lines with more efficient aerial-bundled conductor lines. The project will reduce distribution loss by 4 percentage points. Improving distribution in Yangon, Mandalay, Sagaing and Magway regions should reduce system losses and subsequently provide increased opportunities for large industries and small and medium-sized enterprises to expand their services, improve living conditions, and improve services at community facilities like clinics or schools, which should contribute to economic growth and poverty reduction.

The country's average electrification ratio has increased, growing from 16% in 2006 to 28% in 2012. Yangon City has the highest ratio at 72%, followed by Nay Pyi Taw at 65% and Mandalay at 35%. Only about one in five rural households are connected to the electricity grid.

In addition to providing support for transmission updates and preventing

technical losses, ADB is working with the National Energy Management Committee to improve coordination between ministries responsible for the country's energy. ADB is also assisting the government in preparing Myanmar energy sector policy, revising the Electricity Law, setting the national transmission and distribution code, and establishing electric equipment standards. A 20-year, long term energy master plan is also being formulated ADB News Release 2013 Page 2.

Future activities will also focus on promoting off-grid rural energy access and helping the government establish the private-public partnerships needed to raise the financing for power system expansion. ADB, based in Manila, is dedicated to reducing poverty in Asia and the Pacific through inclusive economic growth, environmentally sustainable growth and regional integration. Established in 1966, it is owned by 67 members—48 from the region. In 2012, ADB assistance totaled \$ 21.6 billion, including cofinancing of \$ 8.3 billion.—Zagawah

Coffee model plot harvested

PYIN OOLWIN, 20 Dec—Industrial Crops Development Department organized the harvest of coffee on the model plot of

Ngushweli coffee farm beside Mandalay-Pyin Oolwin road on 18 December morning.

District and township level officials and local

farmers attended the ceremony.

Ngushweli farm has 230 acres of land.—MMAL-Thet Naing (Pyin Oolwin)



Service personnel and families, globetrotters take relaxation at Maha Bandoola Park, downtown Yangon, enjoying scenic beauty and sunset of Yangon on 17 December.—MMAL-TIN WIN LAY (KYIMYINDINE)

## WORLD

## Almost 90 hurt as ceiling collapses at London Theatre

LONDON, 20 Dec — Emergency services said nearly 90 people were injured on Thursday when part of the ceiling collapsed during a performance at a packed London theatre, bringing the city's West End entertainment district to a standstill.

The audience was showered with masonry and debris following the incident at the Apollo Theatre, where about 720 people including many families were watching the hugely popular play "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time".

Emergency services

said 88 people were injured. They described 81 as "walking wounded", many with head injuries, while seven others were taken to hospital with more serious injuries.

Nick Harding from London Fire Brigade said a section of ornate plaster ceiling, measuring about 10 meters (33 feet) by 10 meters, had fallen onto the audience watching the evening show.

"The ceiling took parts of the balconies down with it," he said. "Everyone is out of the building and everyone is safe," he added, confirming there had been no fatalities.

He said it was too early to speculate about the cause but police said there was no suggestion that it was the result of any deliberate act or attack. There was no indication either that heavy storms earlier in the evening were to blame and investigations would continue through the night, Harding said.

Witnesses said they saw the ceiling in the four-storey auditorium suddenly collapse during the performance, creating panic when those inside realized it was not part of the play.

Reuters



People receive medical attention on a bus after part of the ceiling at the Apollo Theatre on Shaftesbury Avenue collapsed in central London on 19 Dec, 2013.

REUTERS

## Yanukovich offers Ukraine protesters nothing as Russian aid starts

KIEV, 20 Dec — A \$15 billion Russian aid package for Ukraine began to take shape on Thursday as Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich went public in defense of the deal, but offered no concessions to persuade thousands of protesters to leave the streets.

In his first public appearance since agreeing the deal with Moscow, he argued that securing cheaper gas and credits from Russia had been the only way to avoid default.

Soon after, his government issued a \$3 billion

two-year eurobond whose terms corresponded exactly to those of a bond that Russia had said it would buy as part of a \$15 billion lifeline to help its former Soviet ally out of economic crisis.

But, in a televised news conference lasting more than 1-1/2 hours, he showed no readiness to meet opposition leaders' demands for the resignation of his government or early elections. He said their actions were "revolutionary". His only slightly conciliatory gesture was to say that he would not run for

re-election in 2015 if he felt he might lose. "If my ratings are low and I have no prospects (of winning), then I shall not get in the way of the country developing and moving forward," he told a questioner.

Unrest erupted in Kiev after Yanukovich decided on 21 November to walk away from a trade deal with the European Union. Weekend rallies, sometimes drawing hundreds of thousands people, have been boosted by opposition charges of police violence.

Reuters

## Japan says S Korea should host trilateral summit

TOKYO, 20 Dec — Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida on Friday urged South Korea to "fulfill its responsibility" and host a three-way summit with Japan and China that has yet to be held this year due to Tokyo's soured ties with Beijing and Seoul.

"If South Korea recognizes its importance and intends to fulfill its responsibility as chair (of the

summit this year), it should work hard until the end, as long as there are still days left, and we support such efforts," he told reporters. His remarks come after Japanese and South Korean deputy foreign ministers agreed this week to continue working-level dialogue for realizing the trilateral summit with China amid a prevailing view that it is all but certain to be postponed

until next year.

"We've been saying we are ready for dialogue anytime," Kishida said. "We hope South Korea will steadily work on coordination with China."

The summit, which had been held every year since 2008 among the three countries on a rotating basis, has not been held this year.

Kyodo News



A Press conference is held at a court in Cairo, Egypt on 19 Dec, 2013. An Egyptian court on Thursday ordered to acquit Mubarak's two sons Alaa and Gamal, and former prime minister Ahmed Shafiq, who were charged of misuse of public funds, Middle East News Agency reported.—XINHUA

## Budget for Guam-Okinawa Marines transfer clears US Congress

WASHINGTON, 20 Dec — The US Senate passed a key defence bill Thursday that included outlays for the contentious programme of transferring Marines to Guam from Okinawa and installation of an anti-ballistic missile radar in Japan.

The move paved the way for the National Defence Authorization Act for fiscal 2014 to take effect

with the signing of President Barack Obama. The House of Representatives passed the bill last week.

The act includes an \$86 million outlay for the transfer of Marines to Guam from the southern Japan prefecture. More precisely the budget will be used to refurbish hangars at the Andersen Air Force base in the US territory so

Marines can also use the airfield.

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.

The act also covers a budget of \$15 million that

will be used to install X-band radar at a Japanese Air Self-Defence Force base in Kyoto Prefecture, western Japan.

The planned installation of the radar at the base on the Sea of Japan coast is part of efforts aimed at dealing with threats from North Korea's long-range missile programme.

Kyodo News



Officials examine the blast site in Quetta, southwest Pakistan, on 19 Dec, 2013. At least one person was killed and 21 others including seven children were injured when a bomb blast struck Quetta Thursday evening, reported local media.—XINHUA

## Car blast kills one in Libya

TRIPOLI, 20 Dec — A manager of the General Electric Company of Libya was killed Thursday in a car blast in the eastern town of Tobruk, security sources said.

Adam Mohammed Al-Kharshoefi Al-Mansouri, the head of a power plant, was killed when an explosive device planted underneath his vehicle blew off, a member of the local council in Tobruk, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told Xinhua.

A friend of Al-Mansouri's who was accompanying him when the

explosion occurred survived the blast, the source said, adding identities of the attackers remain unknown.

Also on Thursday, another security source said the severed head of a Libyan Special Forces officer's father, who was kidnapped two months ago, was found in Benghazi, the capital of the eastern region of Cyrenaica.

The source, who also declined to give his identity, said the family of the 65-year-old victim was asked for a ransom of 1 million US dollars after his kidnapping.—Xinhua

## Madagascar presidential runoff kicks off

ANTANANARIVO, 20 Dec — Voters in Madagascar went to the polls on Friday to choose a new president, who is expected to lead them out of a five-year political crisis.

Malagasy people were seen queuing at polling stations in the capital.

National and international observers were assisting the election at the Lycee technique of Alarobia near headquarters of the independent national election commission CEN-IT.

Rakotonandrasana Jerome, an electoral official, said the Lycee technique of Alarobia hosts six polling stations with around 7,000 voters.

It is the first time for Madagascar to hold a runoff presidential election coupled with legislative elections following the first round poll on 25 October.

Xinhua

## SCIENCE &amp; TECHNOLOGY

## China expands research bases in Antarctica

BEIJING, 20 Dec — China is expanding its presence at the South Pole, with construction workers leaving its Zhongshan Station on Wednesday to build the Taishan summer field camp, the country's fourth Antarctic base.

Site inspections for another research station will also be carried out at Antarctica's Victoria Land during a 155-day expedition launched on 7 November.

It is China's 30th mission to the continent since 1984. "As a latecomer to Antarctic scientific research, China is catching up," Qu Tanzhou, director of the State Oceanic Administration's Chinese Arctic and Antarctic Administration, said in an exclusive interview. China has built three Antarctic research stations — Great Wall, Zhongshan and Kunlun.

"Building the Taishan camp and inspecting sites for the station can further guarantee that Chinese sci-



Chinese icebreaker Xuelong, or Snow Dragon, arrives at the Zhongshan Station on 2 Dec on the country's 30th expedition to the Antarctica that began on 7 November.—XINHUA

entists will conduct scientific research over a wider range and in a safer way," Qu said. He said that with climate change being a common global concern, the nation's scientists are striving to find answers in Antarctica.

The Taishan camp will be used from December to March and construction of the main building is expected to be completed next year. Construction will take about 40 days. Located between the Zhongshan and Kunlun

stations, the base will provide logistical support, Qu said.

Wang Yong, director of science programmes for the Chinese Arctic and Antarctic Administration, said the base will also be used to study geology, glaciers, geomagnetism and atmospheric science.

Liu Shunlin, leader of the country's latest Antarctic expedition, said at a news conference in November that the Taishan camp will be

built at Princess Elizabeth Land, 2,621 meters above sea level.

It will provide crucial support for scientific research at the Kunlun Station, 4,087 meters above sea level.

The camp will be about 715 km from the Kunlun Station, China's first and only inland base in Antarctica so far, and about 520 km from the Zhongshan Station.

Qu said, "With the camp built, Antarctic explorers and scientists can relieve altitude sickness and have a place to rest before going to the Kunlun Station." Near Kunlun Station, the ice will help scientists assess climate change over the past 1.5 million years.

A design released by the Chinese Arctic and Antarctic Administration shows the construction area for the camp will cover about 1,000 square meters. It will house up to 20 people, and the main building will be shaped like a Chinese lantern.

Xinhua

## IT problems delay efforts to compare risk at global banks

LONDON, 20 Dec — Regulators will take longer than expected to assess risk at a third of the world's biggest banks because of IT delays, banking supervisors said on Wednesday.

The Basel Committee of supervisors from nearly 30 countries are trying to combine data on comparative risks in the worldwide operations of roughly 30 top banks by 2016.

The aim is to create a snapshot of where potential problems are building up and reduce the kind of uncertainty over bank liabilities that fuelled investor panic during the financial crisis. Basel said many banks are facing difficulties in setting up systems to aggregate data. "Instead, they

resort to extensive manual workarounds. Notably, of the 30 banks that were identified..., 10 reported that they will not be able to fully comply with the principles by the 2016 deadline," Basel said in a statement.

The next step is for national regulators to broaden their analysis to their mid-tier banks. The committee urged its members to focus that effort on banks that are systemically important only within their countries rather than globally.

"The Basel Committee believes that the principles can be applied to a wider range of banks in a way that is proportionate to their size, nature and complexity," the committee said.

Reuters



A sign for Bank Street and high rise offices are pictured in the financial district Canary Wharf in London in this on 21 Oct, 2010 file photo.—REUTERS

## Neanderthals may bury their dead intentionally

WASHINGTON, 20 Dec — Neanderthals, forerunners to modern humans, may bury their dead intentionally in an ancient funerary practice, an international team of archaeologists said on Monday after a 13-year study of remains discovered in southwestern France.

Their findings, published in the US journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, confirmed that burials took place in western Europe prior to the arrival of modern humans.

"This discovery not only confirms the existence of Neanderthal burials in Western Europe, but also reveals a relatively sophisticated cognitive capacity to produce them," William Rendu, the study's lead author and a researcher at the Center for International Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences in New York, said in a statement.

The findings focused on Neanderthal remains first discovered in 1908 at

La Chapelle-aux-Saints in southwestern France.

According to the researchers, the well-preserved bones led its early 20th-century excavators to posit that the site marked a burial ground created by a predecessor to early modern humans. However, their conclusions have sparked controversy in the scientific community ever since, with skeptics maintaining that the discovery had been misinterpreted and that the burial may not have been intentional.

Beginning in 1999, Rendu and his collaborators, including researchers from the University of Bordeaux and Archeosphere, a private research firm, began excavating seven other caves in the area.

In this excavation, which concluded in 2012, the researchers found more Neanderthal remains, including two children and one adult, along with bones of bison and reindeer.

Xinhua

## Facebook to test video ads, opening new revenue source



A man is silhouetted as he uses a mini tablet computer while standing in front of a video screen with the Facebook and Twitter logos, in this picture illustration taken in Sarajevo on 22 Oct, 2013.—REUTERS

SAN FRANCISCO, 20 Dec — Facebook Inc took a first step on Tuesday toward selling video ads that play automatically in newsfeeds, moving cautiously to unlock a source of revenue

that could annoy users.

The world's largest social network, which had long been expected to try and grab a larger slice of the \$66 billion US television advertising market,

will start by working with Summit Entertainment on ads for "Divergent," based on the popular series of science-fiction books.

Facebook will run video ads for Divergent on Thursday in a one-day test. The video spot, which will only be viewable by certain groups in the United States, will begin playing with the sound muted when it appears in a user's newsfeed. Facebook users can turn on the sound by clicking on the ad, similar to the non-paid auto-play videos Facebook introduced in September.

Facebook said video will improve the quality of the ads on its service.

"Marketers will be able to use this new format to tell their stories to a large

number of people on Facebook in a short amount of time — with high-quality sight, sound and motion," Facebook said.

Wall Street has been counting on video ads to open up a potentially lucrative market as the company tries to sustain its rapid growth. That market is considered crucial for Facebook's market valuation, and poses a potential long-term threat to traditional TV networks.

The company's shares, which have surged roughly 30 percent since September, gained 1.4 percent to \$54.57 in morning trading on Tuesday, aided by Susquehanna and Oppenheimer price-target upgrades.

Reuters

## BA eases curbs on handheld devices during take-off

LONDON, 20 Dec — British Airways is to become the first airline in Europe to allow their passengers to keep their phones and tablet computers switched on throughout their journey, the company said on Wednesday.

Although travelers will still not be allowed to text or make phone calls, the agreement with Britain's Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) lifts the current restrictions that require devices to be turned off until the aircraft is airborne and again when the aircraft is about to land.

Customers will, how-

ever, still have to put devices into "flight safe" mode, which disables texts, phone calls and network access, the airline said. Wednesday's changes do not include laptops.

Earlier this month the European Aviation Safety Agency said airlines would be able to introduce such changes subject to their own assessments.

"We know that our customers want to use their handheld electronic devices more, so this will be very welcome news for them," said Captain Ian Pringle,

flight training manager at British Airways. "The easing of restrictions will provide an average of 30 minutes additional personal screen time." Business travelers on BA's

flights between London's City Airport and New York can already send texts and access WiFi. The changes will come in on 19 December.—Reuters



British Airways' Airbus A380 arrives at a hanger after landing at Heathrow airport in London on 4 July, 2013.

REUTERS

## BUSINESS &amp; HEALTH

## Dow inches up to record close on quiet trading day

NEW YORK, 20 Dec — US stocks finished mostly flat on Thursday as investors paused after a rally in the previous session, though the Dow closed at its second record high in a row.

The Nasdaq declined slightly on weakness in tech shares, though its loss was

limited by a rally in Oracle Corp (ORCL.N) shares a day after the company's results.

Despite that, trading volume was below average. Many investors have already locked in their gains for the year ahead of the coming holidays. About 5.53 billion shares traded

on all US platforms, according to BATS exchange data.

"There's a lot of transparency in the market, but most of the noise has been made," said Mark Martiak, senior wealth strategist at Premier Wealth/First Allied Securities in New York. "We should expect to continue seeing light volume and not much selling."

Wednesday's rally came after the Federal Reserve announced a plan to trim its monthly bond purchases by \$10 billion to \$75 billion, beginning in January. The statement was accompanied by a dovish indication of rock-bottom interest rates for the foreseeable future, a combination that gave the Dow and the S&P 500 their largest daily gains in two months.

Reuters



A trader listens to an announcement by the US Federal Reserve on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange in New York on 18 Dec, 2013.—REUTERS

## Nike profit rises and advance orders jump

NEW YORK, 20 Dec — Nike Inc's (NKE.N) quarterly profit rose as higher margin products made up a bigger share of its sales, and the sportswear maker said global orders for merchandise for delivery by April increased 13 percent.

Nike shares rose 0.6 percent to \$78.75 in extended trading. Total revenue rose 8 percent to \$6.43 billion in the second quarter ended 30 November, just below the \$6.44 billion Wall Street analysts had forecast on average.

But so-called futures orders, of shoes or clothes for delivery between December and April, rose to \$10.4 billion.

In Western Europe, where Nike is whittling away at German brand Adidas AG's (ADSGn.DE) No. 1 position, sales rose 12 percent, while futures orders were up 26 percent.

In China, where Nike had overstock problems earlier this year and faced aggressive discounting by local rivals, sales grew 5 percent, a new sign of improvement.

Nike commands 14.6 percent of the global sporting goods market, compared with to 11.4 percent by Adidas, according to Euromonitor data.

Nike earned \$537 million, or 59 cents a share, up 40 percent from the year-



Shoes are displayed in the Nike store in Santa Monica, California, in this on 25 Sept, 2013, file photo.

REUTERS

ago quarter. Excluding discontinued operations, profit was up 3 percent. Analysts had expected 58 cents per share according to Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S.

Gross margin rose 1.4 percentage points to 43.9 percent as Nike sold more goods at higher average

## In US healthcare experiment, patients pay more for 'bad' medicine

NEW YORK, 20 Dec — When Tanner Martin, 17, developed excruciating back pain last year, he was sure he needed an X-ray to find out what was wrong. So was his mother, who worried that the pain might indicate a serious injury that could cause permanent disability.

But Konnie Martin was no ordinary parent. As chief executive officer of San Luis Valley Regional Medical Centre in Alamosa, Colorado, she is at the center of an experiment, known as value-based insurance, that could transform American healthcare.

One of the central features of a value-based system is a financial "stick." If patients insist on medical procedures that science shows to be ineffective or unnecessary, they'll have



The federal government forms for applying for health coverage are seen at a rally held by supporters of the Affordable Care Act, widely referred to as "Obamacare", outside the Jackson-Hinds Comprehensive Health Center in Jackson, Mississippi on 4 Oct, 2013.—REUTERS

to pay for all or most of the cost.

In Tanner's case, when he and his mother went to the medical center, they were invited to watch a short video first. The best approach to back pain like Tanner's, it explained, is

stretching, strength-building and physical therapy; X-rays and MRIs, according to rigorous studies, are unlikely to make a difference. If they insisted on the X-ray, they would have to pay \$300 on top of the basic cost.—Reuters

## Europe's half-hearted bid to protect its banks

BRUSSELS, 20 Dec — Europe's efforts to form a united front behind euro zone banks are reaching a climax, but many fear they will fail to restore confidence and prove flimsy should another crisis strike.

After more than a year of talks, ministers from across the European Union agreed early on Thursday a scheme to close failing banks, but the process will be complex and politicized. They also stopped short of an ambitious plan for euro zone countries to help each other in tackling problem lenders.

An agency and fund to wind down bad banks, working in tandem with the European Central Bank

as the new watchdog, is an important step towards banking union, but the loose ends could lead to the complete unraveling of the project.

Although hailed as a "historic" moment by France's Finance Minister Pierre Moscovici, many who emerged from the meeting into the Brussels rain were disappointed by the result.

"It's really a farce," said one senior official involved, who asked not to be named. "We're patting each other on the shoulder and congratulating each other, but really what has been achieved is a far cry from what was needed."

Reuters

## US drug regulator raises safety concerns on antibacterial soaps

WASHINGTON, 20 Dec — Manufacturers of antibacterial hand soaps and body washes will have to demonstrate that their products are safe for long-term daily use and more effective than plain soap and water in preventing illness and the spread of certain infections, according to a proposed rule issued on Monday by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Although consumers generally view antibacterial hand soap and body wash products as effective tools

to help prevent the spread of germs, there is currently no evidence that they are any more effective at preventing illness than washing with plain soap and water, the FDA said.

Further, some data suggest that long-term exposure to certain active ingredients used in antibacterial products, for example, triclosan (liquid soaps) and triclocarban (bar soaps), could pose health risks, such as bacterial resistance or hormonal effects, it said.

Xinhua

## US jobs to increase 10.8 percent by 2022, labour growth to slow

WASHINGTON, 20 Dec — The number of United States jobs is forecast to increase by 10.8 percent in the next decade, with fastest growth in the healthcare sector as it serves an aging population.

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics' employment projections for 2012 to 2022 released on Thursday said the United States will see nearly 16 million jobs added in that decade.

Even with this increase, growth in the civilian labor force is expected to slow to 0.5 percent annually in the next decade. That would be down from the 0.7 percent annual increase be-

tween 2002 and 2012, and potentially hurt economic growth.

Slower growth in the labor force could reduce the increase in gross domestic product to 2.6 percent annually from 2012 to 2022, compared with the at least 3-percent annual growth in the last two decades, BLS said. The slowdown in US labour growth is partly due to declining birth rates and low international immigration rates, both needed to sustain the country's population growth.

A large number of baby boomers are expected to retire from the workforce in the next 10 years, as they



A sign marks the entrance to a job fair in New York on 24 Oct, 2011. REUTERS

will be between 58 and 76 years old in 2022. The US civilian labour force will be older and more ethnically diverse in 2022, BLS predicts.

Jobs in the healthcare and social assistance sector are projected to have the fastest growth, adding about 5 million jobs by 2022, a 13.6 percent increase, fol-

lowed by a 13.3 percent increase for professional and business services, and 12.4 percent increase for state and local government jobs.

The spike in healthcare jobs will coincide with an increase in healthcare needs for aging baby boomers and the expansion of health insurance coverage.

Reuters



# The New Light of Myanmar

## XXVII SEA GAMES SPECIAL



27th SEA Games



*Hlwan Aung and Than Htike participate in Parmachete Form of Vovinam event. The duo won a gold medal in the event.*

PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE



*Vovinam athletes of Myanmar celebrate after winning three gold medals in Dec. 20 events. —PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE*



*Zaw Zaw Aung of Myanmar defends a cane ball striken by Indonesian player in the gold medal match of double regu of Sepak Takaraw. PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE*



*Weng Luen Gary Chow (White) of Singapore fights with Hai Long To (Blue) of Vietnam in Men's 73-81 kg Quarterfinal of Judo. PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE*



*Anh Tuan Tran of Vietnam fights with Soukanh of Lao in Men's 50-55 kg category of Vovinam. —PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE*

### XXVII SEA GAMES PHOTO GALLERY

*Myanmar team participates in the Dragon Tiger Form event of Vovinam. PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE*





# The New Light of Myanmar

## XXVII SEA GAMES SPECIAL

27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games



### Myanmar capture gold in men's double team sepak takraw event



Daw Nan Shwe Hmon, wife of Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and Daw Khin Aye Myint, wife of Vice-President U Nyan Tun enjoy Sepak Takraw match between Myanmar and Indonesia.—MNA/AYE MIN SOE

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec—Daw Nan Shwe Hmon, wife of Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and Daw Khin Aye Myint, wife of Vice-President U Nyan Tun enjoyed the final match of men's double team sepak takraw event between Myanmar and Indonesia at Indoor Stadium (B) of Wunna Theikdi Sports Complex, here, this morning.

Although first Myanmar pair won over Indonesian rivals in 1st set with 21-15 points, they were beaten with 19-21 points in second set. In third set, Myanmar pair lost to Indonesia duo with 22-24 points.

Second Myanmar pair Zaw Latt and Sithu Lin defeated Indonesia counterparts with 21-17 points and 21-15 points. So, both team won one match each other.

Despite third Myanmar

couple Aung Pyae Tun and Wai Lin Aung lost to Indonesia pair with 10-21 points in 1st set, they beat them with 21-15 points and 21-14 points.

Secretary General of Asian Sepaktakraw Feder-

ation Mr. Boonchai Lorphipat and Myanmar sports contingent leader U Kyaw Oo presented joint bronze to Indonesia and Vietnam, silver to Myanmar and gold to Thailand in women's double team sepak takraw event.

Deputy Minister for Sports U Thaug Htaik and President of Myanmar Sepak Takraw Federation U Chit Khaing awarded gold medal to Myanmar, silver to Indonesia and bronze to Brunei in men's double team sepak takraw contest.

MNA



### Myanmar men's, women's consoled with fourth in volleyball event

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec—Volleyball event of the 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games took place at Zeyathiri Indoor Stadium (B), here, this morning with one women's and two men's events.

Myanmar men's and women's teams competed for third place. Myanmar

women's team was defeated by Indonesia with 3-0. So, Indonesia got third and Myanmar, fourth.

Vietnamese men's team won over Myanmar with 3-0 and came got third and Myanmar, fourth.

At today's event, Laos won over Malaysia in

men's event and came fifth.

Thailand men's and women's teams will play against their rival teams for first places tomorrow. Men's will meet Indonesia and women's with Vietnam.

Khaing Thanda Lwin (NLM)



Myanmar and Vietnamese players in action of volleyball event of 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games taken place at Zeyathiri Indoor Stadium (B).—PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

### Myanmar secure bronze in Women's hockey competition

YANGON, 20 Dec—The final of Women's Hockey Competition took place at Theinbyu Turf Hockey Pitch, here, today.

Myanmar snatched bronze medal after playing against Singapore, the rival

team which has more international experience than Myanmar in hockey.

Malaysia brought gold

medal back home, followed by Thailand with silver in Women's Hockey Competition.—MNA

### One more gold added to Myanmar's sailing medal-table



Set Naing Aung of Myanmar celebrates victory after winning one more gold to Myanmar's sailing medal-table from RS One (Boy) event of the 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games. PHOTO: YE HTUT

NGWEHSAUNG, 20 Dec—Set Naing Aung added one more gold to Myanmar's sailing medal-table from RS One (Boy) event of the 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games to-

day.

"I have less experience but strict adherence to instructions of my coach is key to today's success. I got too excited while compet-

ing in the event," said the winner Set Naing Aung.

Myanmar has so far won two gold in sailing events.

Ye Khaung Nyunt

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 21 December, 2013

Balanced lifestyle

Things never stay the same in this world but what has not changed is the need for the money. This is especially true for white-collar workers who are struggling with modern rat race despite the fact that life is said to be a pleasant blend of work and social intercourse.

It is fair to say that work is the universal identity of people, but people work for different reasons—some for survival, some to realize their dreams, and some for self-actualization though only a few people achieve the last one in their life.

But, most of the time, we are not just struggling with our own wishes and ambitions, we are also bearing the burden of hopes of families and relatives. It is all work and work again to earn money to have our wishes fulfilled, never ending but ever demanding. Unconsciously, we have become the servants of work.

As the time goes by working day in day out, we begin to feel exhausted either mentally or physically or both. Taking a short rest would probably do for physical exhaustion, but mental and emotional exhaustion are difficult to be cured, leaving scars on our immune system.

Keeping a balance between work and relaxation is always easier said than done. When driven by unlimited wants, people find it hard to find a break. But, all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy. Endless working would just produce adverse effect and restrict our capacity.

How can we cope with stress of day-to-day work? While relaxation is a must to ease the stress, professional competence is must to be able to work effectively. Working hard produces good results but working smart generates better outcomes, which would need professional competence and effective time management plus a focus on specialization.

We have to work for self-interests as well as for the benefits of family and friends. But we need to find a balance between work and rest so that we can make the best use of our lifetime.

Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw ...

(from page 16)

Commission on Foreign Affairs, International Co-operation, Information, and Media of the National Assembly, Mr Chheang Vun, Myanmar Ambassador to Cambodia U Cho Tun Aung and officials from the National Assembly and Myanmar Embassy.—MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann being welcomed by Cambodian officials.

MNA



Prize winners in ASEAN Energy Awards 2013 honoured

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec—A ceremony to present certificates of honour to the prize winners and participant organizations in ASEAN Energy Awards 2013, Energy Management in Industry and Buildings Contest, Competition for Energy Efficient Buildings and

ASEAN Renewable Energy Project Competition took place at Thingaha Hotel, here, on 18 December.

It was attended by the Union ministers from Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry, Minis-

try of Energy, Ministry of Mines, Ministry of Industry and Ministry of Science and Technology, the deputy ministers, chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Resources and Environmental Conservation Committee, mem-

bers of ASEAN Energy Award Participant Selection and Scrutiny National Committee, the director-general, managing director and officials from Ministry of Energy.

At the ceremony, Union Minister U Zeyar Aung made a speech. Union Ministers U Zeyar Aung and Dr Myint Aung and Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Resources and Environmental Conservation Committee U Lun Thi presented certificates of honour to prize winning organizations in ASEAN Energy Awards 2013.

On behalf of prize winners, Dr Khin Maung Lwin of FAME Pharmaceuticals spoke words of thanks.

MNA

Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs receives Japanese Director-General

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec—Senior departmental officials led by U Thant Kyaw, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs met the Japanese delegation led by

Mr Mitsura Kitano, Director-General, Disarmament, Non-Proliferation and Science Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, here, today.

They discussed matters relating to disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and possible areas of cooperation between Myanmar and Japan.—MNA

Myanmar's trade indicators during the period from April to November in 2013-2014 FY

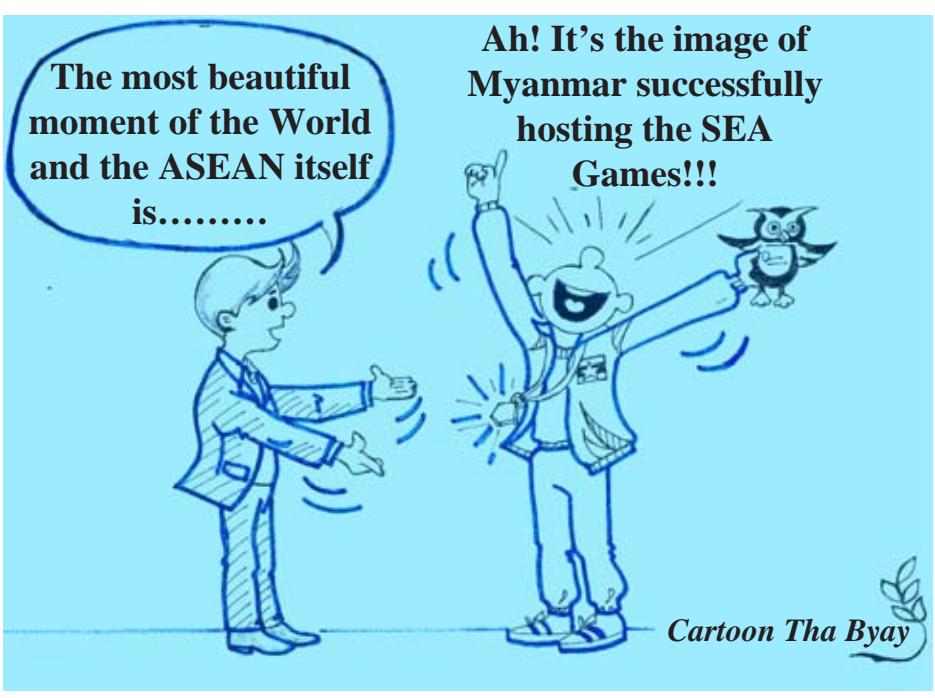
In November, 2013, Myanmar's normal export volume reached US\$ 587.41 million and border export volume, US\$ 240.85 million, totaling US\$ 828.26 million while

normal import volume was US\$ 866.37 million and border import volume, US\$ 159.76 million, totaling US\$ 1026.13 million. So, a total trade deficit of Myanmar in November was US\$ 197.87 million.

According to monthly import-export status re-

port of Central Statistical Organization, Myanmar's total export volume—a normal export volume of US\$ 5129.21 million and a border export volume of US\$ 2012.63 million—reached US\$ 7141.84 million while total import volume—a normal import volume of

US\$ 7195.10 million and a border import volume of US\$ 1201.91 million—was US\$ 8397.01 million. Thence, Myanmar's total trade showed a deficit of US\$ 1255.17 million during the period from April to November in 2013-2014 FY.—NLM



Public Announcement

The following junctions that have access to Wunna Theikdi Sports Complex in Zabuthiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw will temporarily be closed from 12 noon on 22-12-2013 when the closing ceremony of the 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games will be held till the end of the ceremony.

- (1) Junction of Pyinmana Taung Nyo Road and Nyana Aung Myay (at the top of Soe San street)
- (2) Junction of Mya Yee Nandar Road and Mani Sandar Road (at the top of Swa road)
- (3) Junction of Zeyar Aung Myay Road and Mani Sandar Road (at the top of BEHS No (11) street)

- (4) Junction of Mani Sandar Road and Gate-5 (at Gate5)
- (5) Junction of Zeyar Aung Myay Road and Mani Sandar Road (at the top of Athletes' Village)
- (6) Junction of Pyinmana Taung Nyo Road and V4 Road (at the top of Nay Pyi Taw ring road)
- (7) Junction of Zeyar Aung Myay Road and Nan Chun village monastery road)
- (8) Junction of Maha Zeyar Road and Zeya Bala Road (at the top of Kha Yay Housing)

Traffic Police Corps



NATIONAL

Myanmar secure two gold in Kempo, one bronze in hockey



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing enjoys Kempo event of the 27th SEA Games.—MNA

YANGON, 20 Dec—Kempo and hockey events of the 27th SEA Games continued here today.

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and Chairman of the Leading Committee for successfully holding the 27th SEA

Games Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan enjoyed the events.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla presented Than Win gold, Timor-Leste silver and Laos and Cambodia bronze in men's Kempo (fighting) event

(50 kg).

In men's Kempo (fighting) event (60 kg), gold medal went to Kyaw Lin Oo, silver to Laos and joint bronze to Indonesia and Vietnam.

Mr. Kusumo, President of Indonesian Kempo Federation, awarded Indone-

sia, Vietnam and Myanmar who won gold, silver and bronze in women's Kempo (demonstration) event.

Indonesia, Timor-Leste and Laos that secured gold, silver and bronze in the men's Kempo (demonstration) event were pre-

sented by World's Kempo Federation President Mr. Aral.

Mr. Miguel Marques Gomcalves, Minister of Sports of Timor-Leste, awarded Indonesia gold, Laos silver and Timor-Leste and Cambodia bronze that won in the men's Kempo (fighting) event (65 kg),

and he presented gold to Timor-Leste, silver to Indonesia and bronze to Myanmar in the men's Kempo (demonstration) event.

At the today's women's hockey event, Thailand trounced Malaysia 6-1 in the final while Myanmar beat Singapore 1-0 in the third-place match.—MNA



Defence Services ...

(from page 16)

The cadets are responsible to make efforts for providing health care services to family members of the defence forces, and meanwhile, they are responsible to take part in the health care services to the people.

It is required to abstain from consumption of alcohol, tobacco and betel nut that can severely harms health by yourself and to educate all Tatamadawmen from the point of health knowledge. It is also necessary to provide health care services to patients with goodwill, urge them to follow the prescriptions and inform them of dos and don'ts.

As national security calls for human security, economic security, food security, adequate health care services, environmental security, personal security, community security and political security have become important. Food security and health security should be prioritized. Although population is agreed with food production, requirements are still remained in food safety for health. It is required to focus on organic farming, desisting from unwanted use of pesticides and chemicals. Giving talks on environmental conservation are to be carried out in order to stay away from climate change and environmental degradation. Health security calls for disease control and

ensuring healthy lifestyle. Besides, health care mobile teams of Defence Services are providing health care to national races in states and regions. Defence Services is cooperating with health experts and wellwishers to perform health care services as national productivity and socio-economic development of the people rest on healthy workforce.

Defence Services Medical Corps need to make constant learning to be proficient in the use of modern equipment in accord with with the advancement in science and technology and medicine to conduct researches on advanced medical treatment.

It is necessary to respect military code of conduct, rules and regulations and laws. Strict adherence 60 points of military code of conduct is imperative. Not only being Defence Services officers but also being medical officers, it is required to adhere to the ethics for medical professionals so that medical treatment of those persons will be effective.

Tatmadaw emerged along with independence struggle and has a fine tradition of fighting against any destructive elements hand in hand with the people.

Tatmadaw has always made nationbuilding endeavors. And Tatmadaw is making united efforts for building up a democratic country as well as for offering health

services to all national races. He called for keeping the fine traditions of Tatmadaw.

Due to decade-long armed conflicts, the country home to diverse national races still is a developing country. Nation-wide peace and national unity is an essential ingredient for marching towards a modern and developed nation.

The government is striving for reaching nation-wide eternal peace. In that regard, Tatmadaw is making full cooperation with the government. Thanks to genuine goodwill of the State and Tatmadaw, peace-making process would meet with success.

Success of peace-making process would contribute to development of political, economic and social sectors. He urged servicemen to join hands in providing mental and physical health services and implementing poverty alleviation and socio-economic development tasks in their posting areas.

In conclusion, he urged servicemen to follow the code of conduct, learn modern therapies, sharpen their skills and conduct researches.

After the ceremony, the Senior General encouraged outstanding cadets and their families at the main lecture hall of DSMA. Afterwards, the Senior General and party looked round Common Research Laboratory and left necessary instructions.

Myawady

DSMA produces 15th intake cadets

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec—Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Thayay Sithu Min Aung Hlaing attended Graduation Dinner of the 15th Intake of Defence Services Medical Academy at the convocation hall of the DSMA in Yangon at 6 pm today.

It was attended by Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, wife of Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior

General Thayay Sithu Min Aung Hlaing, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Thura Thet Swe and wife, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Khin Aung Myint and wife, senior military officers and their wives of Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office, the Commander of Yangon Command and wife, the principal of DSMA and guests and parents and relatives of cadets.

First, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing cordially greeted the cadets calling them for serving the people and the country as dutiful and reliable military officers.

The Senior General had a dinner together with the cadets and their parents and relatives, and enjoyed entertainment of "Myawady" music band and Anyeint troupe.

Myawady

Myanmar win two gold, three silver in Vovinam event

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec—Vovinam events of the 27th SEA Games contin-

ued at Zeyathiri Indoor Stadium (A), here, this morning.

Gold medal went to Khaing Wah Phu of Myanmar in women's Long ho quyen (Dragon Tiger form) event while Lwan Aung and Than Htike secured gold in men's Song luyen Ma tau (Pair machete form) event.

Nay Zar Lin and Nay Oo Khin took bronze in women's Song luyen kiem (Pair Sword form) event while Myo Tun Arnt, Win Htay Aung, Hein Thet Nating and Myo Thu Tun got bronze in Da luyen vu khi nam (one male defense against three male with weapon) and Hay Man Soe, joint bronze in 60 kg female fighting event. Shwe Taung Co., presented K 10 million to gold medalists and K 3 million to bronze medalists.

Khaing Thanda Lwin (NLM)

Gold medalist Khaing Wah Phu of Myanmar celebrates after winning women's Long ho quyen (Dragon Tiger form) event at Zeyathiri Indoor Stadium (A).  
KHAING THANDA LWIN (NLM)



## 66<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Independence Day, 2014



## Four objectives of 66<sup>th</sup> 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

## MOI's information team holds press conference

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec—An information team of the Ministry of Information held a press conference at Mani Yadana Jade Hall, here, this evening.

MRTV Director U Win Kyi, leader of the team, said that it is planned to use devices being used in the SEA Games for long term effectively, not for short term use.

IPRD Director U Tin

Than Win said that national literary award winners will be selected by committees formed with intellectuals and intelligentsia in respective genres. PPE Deputy General Manager U Maung Win made clarifications on future plans for durability of self-reliant village libraries.

Regarding the number of SEA Games closing ceremony tickets that has been

halved in ministries, U Win Kyi replied that it is up to the decision of SEA Games organizing committee whether or not the tickets will be resold to the public. He called on media persons to take out their tickets not later than 12 noon on 22 December so that extra tickets will be allocated to bigger press houses.

Kyaw Thura (Nay Pyi Taw)

## Charity Affairs

### Trishaw workers donate cash to free clinic

NYAUNGLEBIN, 20 Dec—Workers of trishaws from No 14 BOC Gate donated cash to the fund of Free Clinic of Cetana Social Association in Nyaunglebin Township on 19 December.

It was the seventh time of its kind.

Patron of the association Dr Myint Than (Nyaunglebin) made a speech. Member of the patrons Dr Zaw Win Myint explained the purpose of donation.

Next, the workers donated K 100,000 to the fund through Dr Myint Than (Nyaunglebin) who spoke words of thanks.

Since its establishment on 15 December.

Commander of Township Police Force Police Major Tin Aung made a speech on crime reduction and prevention of gambling. In-charge of the Township Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee SIP San Yu gave lectures on traffic rules.

Next, the attendees participated in lucky draw programme and officials presented helmets to 50 winners.

Later, they distributed pamphlets on traffic rules to local people.

After that Myoma Ward 2 Administrator U Aung Soe spoke words of thanks.

The talks was attended by departmental personnel, policemen and local people. They replied to queries of attendees.—Kyemon-Nay Lin (Nyaunglebin)



on 11 October 2008, the clinic has been opening two days Sunday and Saturday a week.

Doctors and traditional medicine practitioners provide healthcare services to the needy patients regardless of race and religion.

So far, the clinic has provided health care to over

32000 patients.

Those wishing to donate cash and medicine may contact Dr Myint Than (Nyaunglebin), 09-5385689, Chairman of the association U Than Aye, 09-5385396 and Secretary U Aung Lin, 09-5084327.

Kyemon-Nay Lin (Nyaunglebin)

## Rural development fund allotted in Pakokku

PAKOKKU, 20 Dec—Pakokku Township Administrator U Aung Niang Oo, Pyithu Hluttaw representatives, the chairmen of Township Development Affairs Committee and Township Development Supportive Committee made field trips to the trassroots level for providing assistance to the rural regions so as to allot rural development funds by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

On 16 December, the Township Administrator and Pyithu Hluttaw U Paik Ko visited Shapaingkaing Village.

The village is located one mile away from Pakokku-Myitche Road and 10 miles from Pakokku.

Although the village is 1.5 miles from Ayeyawady River, the region faces difficulty in transport whenever flood hits there,

said a local.

A road passing Hlechaungpauk, Zalok, Kugyun and Letpangyun villages being used by about 1000 local people and about 250 students is being repaired for an all-season use, said the administrator of Shapinkaing Village. The township level officials cordially discussed with local people for regional development.—Kyemon-Nay Oo Maung (Pakokku)

## Fire

### Fire engulfs four houses in Yezagy Tsp

YEZAGYO, 20 Dec—A fire broke out at the house of Daw Nu Nu in Ngalan Village of Yezagy Township in Magway Region on 17 December evening.

Village officials and local people put out the fire within 15 minutes.

In the incident, the fire engulfed four houses.

There was no casualty in the fire. Township officials provided assistance to fire victims.

Kyemon-Aung (Mann Tekkatho)

## Talks on crime reduction, gambling prevention, traffic rules given in Nyaunglebin



NYAUNGLEBIN, 20 Dec—The educative talks organized by Madauk Police Station under control of Nyaunglebin Township Police Force was held at Myoma Ward 2 in Madauk of Nyaunglebin Township

## Electrification

### Solar lamps donated for rural electrification

HOPONG, 20 Dec—A ceremony to donate solar lamps donated by Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Thane was held at Donmaykhoe Village in Paunglin Village-tract of Hopong Township on 18 December afternoon.

On the occasion, Township Administrator U Maung Maung explained the purpose of donation and Secretary of Township Development Affairs Supportive Committee U Sai Hla Maung systematic usage of solar lamp in Pa-O language.

U Kyaw Zaw of Donmaykhoe Village and

U Khun Htee of Htihseng Village spoke words of thanks.

Officials presented solar lamps to Donmaykhoe Village and Hsihseng Village.

A village elder spoke words of thanks.

At the ceremony, 90 solar lamps were donated to Donmaykhoe Village and 48 to Htihseng Village, totalling 138.

The ceremony was aimed at developing the rural people to be able to use the regions where have not yet been facilitated electricity.—Kyemon-Nang Oo Kham



## 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Games, Myanmar, 2013 Nay Pyi Taw

### Knife, chair and machete — brace yourself for vovinam

Picture a fight in a bar with a guy being attacked by three screaming men who fight him with a machete, a knife and a chair. After 25 seconds, the three attackers lie dead on the floor.

**Kerstin Winter**

That's what vovinam, a Vietnamese martial art, looks like.

It is a fast and furious show requiring some acrobatics action, a bit of martial art film-style acting, and

complete body control.

The athletes at the SEA Games trained years to put on perfect performances, which can last no longer than 26 seconds.

On Friday, the Indonesian men, winning gold, put

on a breathlessly speedy performance that left Vietnam and Myanmar in second and third place.

Cambodia was disappointed with its score, but had done well earlier by winning gold in the one female defender against three male attackers with weapons performance.

Chin Piseth, who was part of the gold-medal winning team, explained the sport.

"Vovinam has many styles, many techniques.

There are 18 categories of which six are combat between two fighters in different weight categories and the remaining 12 are performances in which a variety of weapons can be used by teams," he said, adding that not many people want to train Vovinam because it has a very high injury rate.

"It's very dangerous, and looks a bit like wrestling. It's so easy to sprain your ankles or break your bones during the first training sessions because it is very fast," he said.

Chin Piseth used to train in taekwondo, but his coach said he might have the talent to compete in vovinam and urged him to train so Cambodia could put together a national team for the SEA Games in 2011.

With only one year experience, he still managed to win the silver medal.

When he started training in 2010, Chin Piseth quickly realized how "special" the sport is because it would excite spectators more than any other sport.

"Vovinam was unknown in Cambodia, so whenever people would watch us train or perform they would scream and be completely ecstatic because they had never seen anything like it," he said.

Chin Piseth said he likes "performing with chair and machete best," but added it is up to the coach to decide the weapon for each athlete, depending on talent.

Each performance is done by four athletes — one defender, and three attackers.



athletes and need to be exercised as fast as possible, the team members have to train together for many months and become a closely knit unit.

Only injury would break up a team.

"It's important to find a good dynamic in the group," he said.

During the performance, some of the fighters put on a display of real acting skills, with a range of facial expressions from pain to surprise.

"It's so different from other martial arts, because you need a lot of style and the judges will give the highest score for the best overall performance, with speed playing a crucial role," Chin Piseth said, stressing that they are "performing, not fighting."



Athletes from Vietnam and Lao fight during the men's 50-55 kg category of Vovinam.—PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

## Birthday gold comes a day early for Lao judoka

**Kerstin Winter**

Phonenaly Sayarath of Laos got herself the best present for her birthday today an athlete could imagine — a gold medal in judo yesterday.

The tiny Judo fighter turns 26 and can already look back on an impressive career and a pile of medals she has won since her first SEA Games in 2007 in Thailand.

"I love judo because it is about respect and making friends. Before and after the fight we bow to each other, whether we lose or not, it is very beautiful. And I like throwing and learning how to control myself and the opponent, and the knockout," she said.

She said judo is about observing and reading the opponent and that can only be achieved after years of experience and watching more senior fighters.

"We can control them even if they are stronger," she said.

She stepped up her training in the last six months in Japan, where she has been living for six years.

Speaking fluently in Japanese with her coach Miwa Shimada, she said, "In Japan I have more opportunities to fight and practice. There are fighters of all levels. And my coach Miwa, who was my *sempai* (superior) in university in Nara punched and threw me so hard when I was a freshman, I almost cried."

But she said yesterday with a huge smile creasing her face.

She said while taekwondo is famous in Laos, judo wasn't.

But when her friend told her to join her in practice, did she took up the sport and has not looked back.

"A strong heart is the most important thing in judo. If you're weak, you cannot win. You have to control your heart and mind," she said.

Teammate Baiyan Manivanh, who just lost in her fight against Thailand and was preparing for her next fight echoed the sentiment.

"It's about mind control, thinking steps ahead, what to do next, staying focused, staying calm," the 18-year-

old, who competes in the 57kg and under category, said. "This sport helps me think and focus. My family loves judo because unlike in taekwondo where you just kick, in judo you need a real strategy, it's exciting."

"And I have a cousin on the national team. We just love judo."

While the Lao girls emphasized the emotional and

psychological aspects of the sport in their description of judo, 100kg plus fighter Han Boon Ho from Singapore focused on the technical basics in his explanation.

"Judo is about a variety of throws. You have to do use your whole body in judo throws, it's very important. Throwing and pinning and submission are the things you do in judo. You have to

pin your opponent down and hold him for 20 seconds, both of his shoulders have to be on the floor. Submission means arm locks, chokes," he said.

He said it is a great sport to fend off bullies and said he was inspired by his sister who did judo.

"You can learn self-defense. I learned it because it looks fun, like getting confidence to do stuff. In the



beginning is boring because you have to learn how to fall so you won't hurt yourself. And that you have to do for months before you can start learning the throws," the 24-year-old who competed for the first time at SEA Games said.

Describing the fascination of the sport, he said it is like "one point did it all. You get thrown and the opponent gets the full point and you lose. It's very exciting. If you get a full point you win a match. So it's not like a point system where you earn points and slowly earn victory. It is a very fast match," he said. "But be too fast and you will make mistakes, so staying in control is vital and that's another thing I find so exciting about judo."



Thailand's Nopachai (white) fights with Laotian Chittakon during the quarter final match of Men's 73-81 kg Judo event.—PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION  
MYANMA RAILWAYS  
INVITATION TO OPEN TENDER

1. Open Tender is invited for supply of the following items in Euro:

Sr No.	Tender No	Description	Quantity
1.	15(T)9/MR(E) 2013-2014	Design & Drawing of Turnout Concrete Sleeper	1-Lot

Closing Date & Time -20.1.2014(Monday)(12:00)Hrs

2. Tender documents are available at our office starting from 20.12.2013 during office hours and for further detail please contact: Deputy General Manager Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Corner of Theinbyu Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung, Yangon. Phone:95-1-291985, 291994



Photo taken on 16 Dec, 2013 shows a Santa Claus-shaped Christmas light in Los Angeles, the United States.—XINHUA

**Firefighters battle blaze at Sydney paper mill**

SYDEY, 20 Dec—About 100 firefighters are battling a serious fire at a paper mill at Matrville in Sydney's east, local media reported on Thursday. Firefighters from the Fire & Rescue New South Wales (FRNSW) were called to the fire on Botany Road at around 11 am (local time).

FRNSW Commissioner Greg Mullins told local media that the blaze had spread from paper stacks into an adjacent three-story building.

"We're going to be here for many hours; it's quite a serious fire," he told Australia's Macquarie Radio. Workers of the paper mill were evacuated from the site and there have been no injuries reported so far, according to the Australian Associated Press (AAP).—Xinhua

**Slovak presidential elections to be held in March 2014**

BRATISLAVA, 20 Dec—Slovak presidential elections will take place on 15 March next year, with the second round taking place on 29 March, authorities said on Thursday.

Local media quoted

**Britain sends plane to evacuate nationals from South Sudan**

LONDON, 20 Dec —A plane was sent to airlift Britons in South Sudan who wish to stay away from the turmoil, said a statement by the Foreign Ministry on Thursday.

"A UK aircraft is en route to Juba to evacuate British nationals who wish to leave from Juba airport on Thursday 19 December," said a spokesperson with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO).

FCO called on those who wish to leave to make contact through email or telephone. "Any British nationals wishing to leave should be reassured that all personal information will be protected in line with the Data Protection Act 1998," said the spokesperson.

By mid-day, about 150 Britons had made contact, including some non-embassy staff, according to sources from FCO.

Some embassy staff and their relatives had been withdrawn, while FCO advised against all travel to within 40km of South Sudan's northern border with Sudan, Jonglei State and Juba.

The past several days saw clashes between soldiers of President Salva Kiir and supporters of Riek Machar, former deputy chairman who was fired in July.

Estimate by the United Nations put the death toll to about 500. Kiir has called a curfew during nights.

Xinhua

parliamentary chairman Pavol Paska as saying that the election would be structured as a two-round vote.

In the first round, if a candidate receives an absolute majority of valid votes then no second round will

be necessary. The list of presidential candidates has reached 15 by Thursday. Incumbent Prime Minister Robert Fico will run for the presidential post as the Smer party's nominee.

Xinhua

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV ASIAN LEADER VOY NO (-)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ASIAN LEADER VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.12.2013 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 NYK LINE, JAPAN

Phone No: 256924/256914

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV BANG KHON THI VOY NO (174)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANG KHON THI VOY NO (174) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.12.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(5) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S PHULSAWAT SHIPPING CO LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

**Two students injured in Houston school bus crash**

HOUSTON, 20 Dec—Two students were taken to the hospital after their school bus crashed in the US city of Houston Thursday, local media reported.

The incident happened Thursday morning on a loop near a freeway in southwest Houston, the website of the *Houston Chronicle* reported.

The Houston Independent School District officials said seven students were aboard the bus headed to MC Williams Middle School when the incident occurred. Two of the students were taken to the hospital. Their conditions were not released.

The other students onboard were placed on another school bus and

continued to the campus. It's not clear how the crash happened. No other details about the incident were available.

Though the United States is reputed for its strict school bus safety code, such accidents are not uncommon.

At least two other accidents involving school buses were reported in Texas in the past week. On 13 December, nine elementary school students were hurt when their school bus was rear-ended by a pickup in north Texas.

On 11 December, nine students were injured after their school bus collided with another school bus in east Texas.

Xinhua



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MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM

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E-mail: mtpip@mptmail.net.mm  
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Yangon. 21 December 2013

A kid looks at Santa's reindeer at the Grouse mountain in Vancouver, Canada, on 18 Dec, 2013.

XINHUA

ENTERTAINMENT

## A Minute With: Carey Mulligan on singing, playing literary heroines

LOS ANGELES, 20 Dec — Actress Carey Mulligan has taken on a wildly diverse range of film roles, from a naive schoolgirl in “An Education” to a struggling single mother in “Drive” to the coquettish Daisy Buchanan in this year’s “The Great Gatsby.”

The 28-year-old London native was thrust into the spotlight with her breakout role as a smart but innocent schoolgirl in the coming-of-age drama “An Education,” earning her a best actress Oscar nomination in 2010.

Since then, she has become one of Hollywood’s most sought-after young actresses, most recently picked by directors Joel and Ethan Coen for their latest film on the 1960s folk scene “Inside Llewyn Davis,” in which Mulligan plays the supporting role of Jean alongside lead star Oscar Isaac.

Mulligan sat down with Reuters to discuss singing with Justin Timberlake, playing literature’s leading ladies and her most challenging role yet.

Q: What drew you to the role of the feisty Jean?

A: The reason the Coen brothers asked me to audition for it is that they had not seen me play a part like that before, and I had not gotten the opportunity to play a part like that. She was just so incensed and furious and behind that, you could see the intimate relationship between (Jean and Llewyn), she was just brilliantly written.



Cast member Carey Mulligan poses during a photocall for the film ‘Inside Llewyn Davis’ at the 66th Cannes Film Festival in Cannes on 19 May, 2013.

REUTERS

Q: You sing alongside Justin Timberlake in the film. How was that experience?

A: It was nerve-racking at first. We had a week of singing rehearsals where we all played music together, and that’s when I first sat down with Justin and T Bone Burnett, he orchestrated the whole thing. But they were so lovely. Justin was so encouraging to a non-singer and he made me feel really great. We just got really into it as our little trio, our tribute to Peter, Paul & Mary, that I forgot about all the nerves by the time we were doing it.

Q: You call yourself a non-singer, but you also showcased your singing talents in 2011’s “Shame.” Is singing something that you want to do more of?

A: No, it’s just sort of bizarre. I sang in the choir at school, that was the extent of my singing and when I was much younger, I was into musical theater, but these jobs just came up. “Shame” came relatively close to “Inside Llewyn Davis,” and they both

happened to have singing things. It’s been a great part of those characters, but not something I would do outside of film.

Q: So no album in the works?

A: No album! I’ll spare everyone my album.

Q: You’ve played some great literary ladies -- Kitty Bennet in 2005’s “Pride & Prejudice,” Daisy Buchanan in this year’s “The Great Gatsby” and Bathsheba Everdene in the upcoming film version of “Far From the Madding Crowd.” Do you feel any pressure in bringing these characters to life?

A: Huge pressure. I love doing adaptations of novels because you’ve got such a lot of material to work from that’s so interesting and it’s so fun to bring that to life ... The characters that are written in these great pieces of literature are amazing and really rare. Bathsheba’s the same as that, she was such a crazy character and the things that she experiences throughout her story are amazing.

Q: What did you take

away from the experience of playing Daisy Buchanan in Baz Luhrmann’s “The Great Gatsby”?

A: Being my first experience in a big film, I imagined it would be different to how it was, but actually I came away having really had great acting moments. I had such a good time acting with Leo (DiCaprio) and Tobey (Maguire), and was so absorbed by working with them.

Q: How have you gone about selecting roles after your best actress Oscar nomination in 2010?

A: It gave me an opportunity to stop for a second and figure out what I wanted to do. I realized that working incessantly, which I had been doing for a long time, wasn’t really good for me and wasn’t good for the work I was doing, so I just started trying to get jobs that were really once-in-a-lifetime parts that you just couldn’t bear the idea of anyone else doing and that’s how it ended up being.

Q: What has been your biggest challenge so far?

A: My biggest challenge acting-wise has probably been “Far From the Madding Crowd,” which I just finished, only that I hadn’t played a lead role in a while. I’ve been doing these really great supporting roles like in “Inside Llewyn Davis,” so I had forgotten how much work it is, and it ended up being really physically demanding. She’s a crazy character.—Reuters

## Beyonce album sets iTunes sales record, tops Billboard chart

LOS ANGELES, 20 Dec — R&B star Beyonce’s latest self-titled album surpassed 1 million copies sold worldwide in six days on Wednesday and set a record for iTunes, Apple Inc and Columbia Records said.

“Beyonce,” the fifth solo studio album from the singer, unexpectedly released in the early hours of 13 December without any prior fanfare, contains 14 new songs and 17 videos, and swiftly topped the iTunes album charts across the world.

The album also debuted at the top of the weekly Billboard 200 album chart on Wednesday, with 617,000 copies sold in the United States by the week ending 15 December,

according to figures from Nielsen SoundScan.

The deluxe digital album, exclusively available on iTunes, can only be purchased as a complete set of songs and videos, and retails for \$15.99 at the US store. A physical version will be made available for sale in time for the festive holiday period this month.

The surprise release of the album caps a year in which Beyonce, 32, made a carefully choreographed return to music after taking time out to give birth to her first child, daughter Blue Ivy with rapper husband Jay Z.

Both Blue Ivy and Jay Z feature as collaborators on the new album, and appear in accompanying music videos. Releasing an album without any prior fanfare or publicity is rare, especially for one of the top players in the current music industry. But Beyonce’s success does not necessarily mean other artists will be able to copy her stealth release strategy.

Reuters



Singer Beyonce attends HBO’s New York premiere of her documentary ‘Beyonce — Life is But a Dream’ in New York on 12 Feb, 2013.

REUTERS

## Selena Gomez cancels Australia tour to ‘spend time on myself’

LOS ANGELES, 20 Dec — Pop singer Selena Gomez on Thursday cancelled her upcoming Australian concert tour, saying she needs to take the time to put herself before work.

The 21-year-old former Disney star was to perform five concerts in Australia, beginning on 1 February, 2014, in Perth and concluding on February 8 in Melbourne.

“My fans are so important to me and I would never want to disappoint them,” the “Come & Get It” singer said in a



statement. “But it has become clear to me and those close to me that after many years of putting my work first, I need to spend some time on myself in order to

Singer Selena Gomez performs during the 2013 Z100 Jingle Ball in New York on 13 Dec, 2013.

REUTERS

be the best person I can be.” Texas-born Gomez, who has also branched into serious film roles, is set to tour Asia in January.

Reuters

## Actor Paul Rudd to star as ‘Ant-Man,’ Marvel action hero

LOS ANGELES, 20 Dec — Disney-owned Marvel Studios said on Thursday it has cast “Anchorman 2” and “This is 40” actor Paul Rudd to play the lead role in “Ant-Man,” the next hero in its stable of comic book characters to go to the big screen. Marvel said the choice of Rudd, 44, reflected the studio’s desire “to cast actors that bring several dimensions to its onscreen heroes.”

Rudd is a staple in the comic films from director Judd Apatow, such as “The 40-Year-Old Virgin,” and is currently in theaters in news anchor send-up “Anchorman 2: The Legend of Ron Burgundy.”

The studio said in a statement that the plot is being kept under wraps. But in Marvel Comics, Ant-Man is a scientist who invents a substance that allows him to shrink his size and communicate with insects. The film, to be directed by Edgar Wright, is scheduled for release in mid-2015. Walt Disney Co. bought Marvel in 2009 for \$4.3 billion. The studio is behind some of the most successful films of recent years, including the “Iron Man,” “Avengers” and “Thor” franchises.—Reuters



Actor Paul Rudd poses at the UK Premiere of the film Anchorman 2 in Leicester Square, London, on 11 Dec, 2013.

REUTERS

SPORTS

## Iniesta agrees three-year contract extension

MADRID, 20 Dec — Barcelona's Spain playmaker Andres Iniesta has agreed a three-year contract extension with the La Liga champions until 2018 when he turns 34, club president Sandro Rosell said on Thursday.

The contract includes an option for further extensions on an annual basis depending on how often Iniesta plays, Rosell told a news conference.

"We are very, very happy," Rosell said. "I think this is a great Christmas gift for all Barcelona fans."

A product of Barca's academy, Iniesta joined

the club in September 1996 at the age of 12, made his first-team debut in a Champions League game in October 2002 and has gone on to help the Catalans win 21 trophies.

One of the greatest moments of his club career came in the Champions League semi-finals in 2009 when he scored a dramatic late goal at Chelsea that sent Barca through to the final.

He is a hero to Spaniards after netting the extra-time winner against Netherlands in South Africa in 2010 that secured the Iberian nation's first World Cup.—Reuters



Barcelona's Carles Puyol, Sergio Busquets, Alex Song and Andres Iniesta (L-R) attend a training session the day before their Champions League group H soccer match against Ajax Amsterdam, in Amsterdam, on 25 Nov, 2013.—REUTERS

## Rogers must get maximum ban if guilty

MELBOURNE — Cycling will seek punishment for riders if the guilty of doping in the country day.

Rogers, provisionally suspended by the International Cycling Union (UCI) last year after the ban agent clenbuterol.

The world time trial champion and Olympic medallist any wrong and blamed contamination for the failed test.

"While we respect Michael Rogers' right to defend himself, we will support the ma-



MADRID, 20 Dec — Everton forward Gerard Deulofeu's hamstring injury could sideline the Spanish under-21 international for up to two months.

The player is on loan from Barcelona for the season and the Spanish club said on their website (www.fcbarcelona.com) on Thursday that tests conducted in the Catalan capital had shown he would be out for "approximately six to eight weeks".

Deulofeu is to recuperate in Spain under the supervision of Barca medical staff and their Everton counterparts.

The forward was

injured over a move with Liverpool.

his suspension for a month.

that he will be out for

## Mercedes F1 sign top engineers from Red Bull

BERLIN, 20 Dec — Mercedes have hired two top engineers from Formula One champions Red Bull in a move they hope will strengthen their title challenge next year and weaken their dominant rivals.

The British-based team said in a statement that Mark Ellis would be joining as performance director next June while Giles Wood was appointed chief engineer, in charge of simulation and development, and arriving at the same time.

Ellis is currently Red

Bull's head of vehicle dynamics and Wood chief engineer for simulation.

"These two newly-created roles will further strengthen the team's technical organization, particularly in the fields of simulation and vehicle dynamics," Mercedes added.

The two men are the first major signings by the team since the departure of principal Ross Brawn was announced, with executive directors Paddy Lowe and Toto Wolff sharing the leadership tasks.

Red Bull, with Sebastian Vettel, have been champions for the past four years and were dominant in the second half of the 2013 season with their 26-year-



Red Bull Formula One driver Sebastian Vettel of Germany (R) drives ahead of Mercedes Formula One driver Nico Rosberg of Germany and Red Bull Formula One driver Mark Webber of Australia (L) during the Abu Dhabi F1 Grand Prix at the Yas Marina circuit on Yas Island, on 3 Nov, 2013 File Photo.—REUTERS

old German driver winning the last nine races in a row. However they have suffered some important staff losses, with McLaren trumpeting the signing of

aerodynamicist Peter Prodromou for 2015, when the Woking-based team will have Honda as engine partners.

Reuters

## Olympic 1,500m champion Cakir cleared by Turkish chiefs

Turkey's Asli Cakir Alptekin reacts after she won gold in the women's 1500m final during the London 2012 Olympic Games at the Olympic Stadium on 10 Aug, 2012. REUTERS



ISTANBUL, 20 Dec — Olympic 1,500 metres champion Asli Cakir Alptekin has been cleared of doping violations, the Turkish athletics federation said in a statement on Thursday. Cakir was provisionally suspended by the federation in May after abnormalities were detected in her biological passport, resulting in her missing the world

championships in Moscow in August. She had already served a two-year suspension in 2004 after a positive dope test at the world junior championships. A second offence could have resulted in a lifetime ban.

The governing International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF), however, said it had not yet received the full judgement on Cakir in English.

"We will review the decision upon receipt and decide whether or not it

should be appealed to CAS (the Court of Arbitration for Sport) as per IAAF rules," spokesman Chris Turner said in an email to Reuters.

Biological passport work by creating individual blood profiles for each athlete, rather than testing for specific performance-enhancing drugs.

If a blood reading deviates markedly from previous measures an athlete can face a doping charge.

More than 30 athletes, including double European 100 metres hurdles champion Nevin Yanit, have been suspended by the Turkish federation for doping this year. The scandal is likely to have affected Istanbul's unsuccessful bid to host the 2020 Olympics, a vote won by Tokyo in September.

Reuters

Reuters

GENERAL



A child refreshes himself in a public fountain in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on 19 Dec, 2013. The temperature reached 32 degrees Celsius, and the orange alert issued by the National Weather Service continued in Buenos Aires and the surrounding areas, due to the heat wave. —XINHUA

**Philippine mayor, three others shot dead at Manila Airport, four wounded**

MANILA, 20 Dec — The mayor of a southern Philippine municipality and three others including an 18-month-old baby were shot dead on Friday morning at Manila's main airport, police and airport officials said.

were killed and four others wounded in the daring attack at the pickup point of one of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport's four terminals.

Witnesses told local radio the victims were shot with what appeared to be a .45 caliber handgun by an assailant riding pillion on a motorcycle.

They said the two

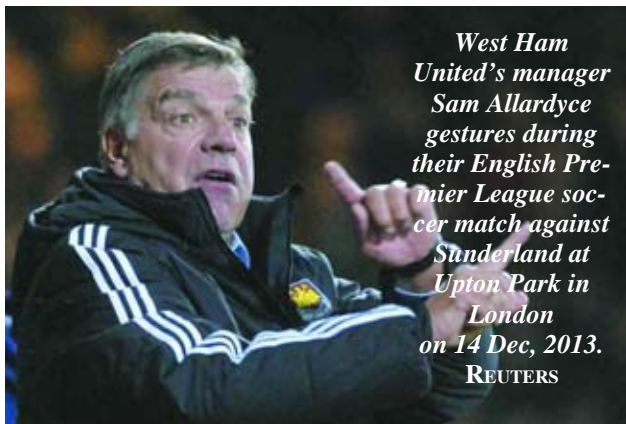
suspects, one of whom was wearing a police uniform, then escaped on the motorcycle.

The incident occurred at a time when many Filipinos are traveling ahead of the Christmas vacation.

Labangan is located in the western part of Mindanao Island, in the Province of Zamboanga de Sur.

Kyodo News

**Allardyce aims to kick on after Spurs upset**



West Ham United's manager Sam Allardyce gestures during their English Premier League soccer match against Sunderland at Upton Park in London on 14 Dec, 2013. REUTERS

LONDON, 20 Dec — Under-pressure West Ham United manager Sam Allardyce hopes Wednesday's League Cup victory over Tottenham Hotspur can be the catalyst to get their season up and running, he said on Thursday.

West Ham grabbed their first win in four games when they came from behind to beat managerless Tottenham 2-1 with Modibo Maiga heading the winner late on.

Allardyce's side travel to Manchester United on Saturday having not won at Old Trafford since Carlos Tevez's goal helped them avoid relegation to the Championship (second division) in the 2006/2007 season.

"For me, the challenge is to get the players to kick on from this," Allardyce told the club's website (www.whufc.com) after beating

Spurs away for the second time this season.

"When we beat them last time, I thought we'd go on a run of results and pick up more points than we have done.

"I don't know where we'll go from here but it's just a fantastic result and the lads are absolutely delighted."

West Ham are 17th in the Premier League and one point above the relegation zone, but they can take inspiration from Everton and Newcastle United who both recently won at Old Trafford for the first time in 21 and 41 years respectively.

After facing champions United, West Ham play league leaders Arsenal at home on 26 December, before managerless West Bromwich Albion visit Upton Park two days later.

Reuters

**Turkish police arrest eight in graft investigation**

ISTANBUL, 20 Dec — Turkish police arrested eight people in connection with allegations of official corruption and bribery, a newspaper said on Friday, in an investigation Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan has called a "dirty operation" aimed at undermining his rule.

Among those remanded in custody was the brother of the mayor of Istanbul's historic Fatih district, Hurriyet

**MYANMAR TV**  
(21-12-2013, Saturday)

<b>6:00 am</b>	1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw	<b>1:45 pm</b>	13. SEA Games Songs
<b>6:15 am</b>	2. Physical Exercises	<b>2:00 pm</b>	14. Sport News
<b>6:20 am</b>	3. Documentary	<b>2:30 pm</b>	15. Hockey
<b>6:50 am</b>	4. SEA Games Songs	<b>3:30 pm</b>	16. Talks Show
<b>7:00 am</b>	5. News/Weather Report	<b>4:00 pm</b>	17. 27th SEA Games Football (Live) (Malaysia & Singapore) (Third Prize) (Men)
<b>7:30 am</b>	6. Talks Show	<b>6:00 pm</b>	18. News/Weather Report
<b>8:00 am</b>	7. News/ International News	<b>6:30 pm</b>	19. SEA Games Songs
<b>8:30 am</b>	8. Business News	<b>7:00 pm</b>	20. Talks Show
<b>8:45 am</b>	9. Hyper Sports	<b>7:30 pm</b>	22. 27th SEA Games Football (Live) (Thailand & Indonesia) (Final) (Men)
<b>9:00 am</b>	10. Rowing	<b>9:20 pm</b>	23. News/ International News/ Weather Report
<b>12:00 pm</b>	11. News/ International News/Weather Report	<b>10:00 pm</b>	24. Talks Show
<b>12:30 pm</b>	12. Round Up of The Week's TV Local News		

**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL**  
21-12-13 07:00 am ~ 22-12-13 07:00 am) MST

- \* Local News
- \* Great Shwedagon-The Ten Traditional Arts & Crafts
- \* World News
- \* Licuala Palm Leaf
- \* Local News
- \* A Famous Festival & Its Fantastic Fair
- \* World News
- \* A Traditional Doctor
- \* Local News
- \* Walking Along Orchard Road
- \* World News
- \* Shop Shop Shop - Bogyoke Market
- \* Local News
- \* A Day Out With Sarah (Episode-6)
- \* World News
- \* Creations of a Designer
- \* **27th SEA GAMES COMPETITION**
- \* Local News
- \* "Travelling in Shan Mountain Ranges" Shan Traditional Food
- \* World News
- \* Graffiti: Character Art
- \* Local News
- \* Journey To Unimaginable Spots (Episode-3)
- \* World News
- \* Myanmar Movie Review "So Cool-2"
- \* Local News
- \* Mon Traditional Wedding
- \* World News
- \* Myanmar Masterclass: Cubism
- \* Local News
- \* My Golden Dancers and Artist U Lun Gywe
- \* World News
- \* Exquisite Myanmar Silk

**Blatter disappointed with European indifference to Club Cup**

MARRAKECH, (MOROCCO), 20 Dec — FIFA president Sepp Blatter is disappointed with European indifference towards the Club World Cup, he said on Thursday.

The competition, featuring the club champions of each continent, arouses great interest in South America, Asia and Africa, but is barely noticed in Europe amid the torrent of pre-Christmas domestic football.

"I could understand that when we played this competition in the past years in Japan or the United Arab Emirates, that there was less interest," Blatter told reporters. "But now it is on Europe's doorstep and there is not so much interest, I agree that we are disappointed."



FIFA President Sepp Blatter

Blatter said he hoped the tournament, being staged in Morocco this year for the first time, would eventually be included in the international calendar to avoid clashing with European league football.

The operation, unprecedented in scope, began this week with the detention of scores of people seen as close to the government, has struck at the heart of Turkey's ruling elite and roiled financial markets. Dozens of police chiefs have been removed from their posts, accused of abuse of office for keeping the investigation quiet from higher level officials in security institutions.—Reuters

"I think there should be a little bit more attention to other competitions, but with the big leagues in Europe, you have the question of the calendar.

"They have to play every day, even if they don't play in the league, there is the FA Cup and the League Cup, every day or every other day there is football."

"The Club World Cup is not yet protected by the international calendar as the World Cup is," he said.

Blatter said he was delighted by this year's tournament, which ends on Saturday with Raja Casablanca, who qualified as champions of host nation Morocco, fac-

ing European champions Bayern Munich in the final in Marrakech.

Raja reached the final with a shock 3-1 win over South American champions Atletico Mineiro on Wednesday, stunning the roughly 10,000 fans who had made the long journey from Brazil.

"The quality of the matches we have seen, with some very good football in a remarkable ambience, this is best publicity, and the best way of getting more attention of the five big leagues," said Blatter.

"It's a question of solidarity," he added. "They should also be interested in the other leagues and have a look at what is going on elsewhere."—Reuters

## Defence Services Commander-in-Chief attends graduation of Intake-15 of DSMA

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec — Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Thayay Sithu Min Aung Hlaing delivered an address at the graduation of the Intake-15 of the Defence Services Medical Academy today.

First, the Senior General took the salute of the graduation parades and inspected the parades.

Afterwards, the graduation parades salutes marched past the Senior General.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing awarded Cadet Hein Htet San (Cadet No 4563) who won the best cadet award, Cadet Thet Naing Win (Cadet No 4516) who won the best award for excellent performance in training and Cadet Aung Kyaw Thu (Cadet No 4587) who won the best award for excellent performance in literature.

In his address, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing stressed the important role of health care services in a country as a country needs healthy and strong intel-

lectuals for the development of a country, calling for working effectively for the country through health care services.

He has urged the mem-

bers of the Defence Forces to take part in the educative and consultation on health care services as a long-term plan while carrying out the treatment and preventive measures.



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspects cadets of 15<sup>th</sup> Intake of Defence Services Medical Academy.—MYAWADY

bers of the Defence Forces to take part in the educative and consultation on health care services as a long-term plan while carrying out the treatment and preventive measures.

but also for the defense services.

As part of efforts for abundant of food, agriculture and livestock breeding farms should be carried out at battalions and regiments,

## Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw arrives in Cambodia

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec — At the invitation of President of the National Assembly of Cambodia Samdech Akka Moha Pon-

hea Chakrei Heng Samrin, Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann and party arrived in Phnom

Penh of Cambodia yesterday. The Myanmar delegation was welcomed at the Airport by Chairman of the (See page 8)

## Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visits international standard TRI Star Tyre and Quality Myanmar Products Exhibition

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Dec — Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visited international standard TRI Star Tyre and Quality Myanmar Products Exhibition at Tatmadaw Convention Hall, here, this afternoon.

First, the Senior General and party looked round quality industrial products being displayed in front of the hall and viewed practical application of Mobile Money Service in the hall.

Afterwards, the Senior General and party looked round the booths and called for manufacturing international standard quality products and distributing across the country effectively at a reasonable price. He then signed the visitor's book in the profile hall of Tyre Factory (Ywama).

A total of 127 booths from TRI Star Tyre, Myanma Economic Corporation, Union of Myanma Economic Holdings Co Ltd, products manufactured

by Directorate of Ordnance Services, Directorate of Supply and Transport, banking service, insurance service, MEC Tel Mobile Money industries are being displayed at the exhibition.

During the exhibition, entertainment programmes of the artistes, vocalists, models and comedians are being presented to the visitors daily. Moreover, lucky draw programme and special discounts are offering to the customers.

Myawady

he said.

The Senior General also urged the cadets to disseminate knowledge on health to the people in areas where they would be

posted to.

Members of the medical services of the defence forces including the cadets have the responsibility to carry out health care ser-

vices to all members of the defence forces for the good health and strength of the members of the defence forces, he added.

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Two athletes from Laos compete in Pair machete form of Vovinam.

PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

Players of Myanmar Sepak Takraw team celebrate victory after securing champion in Sepak Takraw event together with officials of Myanmar Sepak Takraw Federation at Wunna Theikdi Indoor Stadium (B) on 20 December. JULY MOE



Medal Tally				
Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Thailand	94	89	72	255
Myanmar	70	55	70	195
Vietnam	66	73	74	213
Indonesia	61	69	97	227
Malaysia	38	38	68	144
Singapore	31	27	40	98
Philippines	26	30	33	89
Laos	10	11	38	59
Cambodia	6	8	25	39
Timor-Leste	2	2	4	8
Brunei	1	1	5	7