

Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham attends foundation-laying ceremony for Buddha University in Taunggyi

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Nov — Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham attended the foundation-laying ceremony of Buddha University in Taunggyi on Sunday morning.

Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and his wife offered the gem casket, the gem foundation stone and offertories to the Sayadaw.

Then, the union minister, the chief minister and the commander and officials presented offertories to the monks.

Afterwards, the vice president and his wife, the chief minister and his wife, the commander and businessmen donated cash for the construction of the university. Well-wishers donated about K 1.4 billion for the university on Sunday.

Then, the vice president and officials conveyed the gem foundation stones and laid them in designated places before spraying scented water on them.

In the afternoon, the vice president and party went to Lashio and inspected Htinshu Myaing new town and the construction of affordable houses for government employees.

Lashio District Man-



Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham presents K600,000 to an outstanding student at the ceremony to honour the students who passed matriculation examination in 2013-14 academic year in Lashio.—MNA

agement Committee Chairman U Myat Moe briefed the vice president and party on the project, completion of the work and water and electricity supply.

Afterwards, the vice president viewed a model of the project.

The vice president and

party also went to Zeya Mingalar Tarpon Monastery and donated offertories to the monks.

In the evening, the vice president and party attended an homage-paying ceremony for the elderly to mark the Shan New Year's Day.

The vice president and

party presented donations to the elderly in Lashio and paid respects to them in accordance with traditions. The elderly made good wishes for the vice president and party.

Then, the vice president presented prizes to two six-distinction win-

ners, and the wife of the vice president presented prizes to two five-distinction winners. The union minister, the chief minister and officials presented prizes to other distinction winners and those who passed the exam.

On behalf of the distinction winners, six-distinction winner Maung Sai Hein Htet Aung expressed thanks to the vice president.—MNA

YTU, Mitsubishi Electric ink agreement on technological cooperation

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 23 Nov — Yangon Technological University and Mitsubishi Electric Corporation, a leading worldwide manufacturer of electronics and electri-

cal equipment, on Sunday signed an agreement for technological cooperation at the university here.

As part of the agree-

ment, the Japanese electronics giant will accept interns from YTU from December 2014 to February 2015. The two sides selected Wut Yee Htay, an electronics PhD student from YTU, among the students to attend the three-month internship programme in Japan.

In his opening speech at the signing ceremony, Mr Minoru Hagiwara, Mitsubishi's chief representative for the Asia-Pacific (See page 3)



Officials seen with notes of MoU after signing it between Yangon Technological University and Mitsubishi Electric.—PHOTO: KHAING THANDA LWIN

Labour ministry launches job seekers website

YANGON, 23 Nov — The Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security has officially launched a website for job seekers with technical assistance from Trust Link Co., Ltd.

The unveiling of www.myanmarjob.gov.mm took place at a ceremony held at the Union of Myanmar Federation Chamber and Commerce on Sunday afternoon.

At the ceremony, Union Minister U Aye Myint said: "The website will become a link between job-seeking people and their potential employers, and they will no longer

need to look for job vacancies at labour offices.

Mobile teams of the ministry are now providing labour registration services at areas where there is no labour office.

U Thurein Tun, managing director of Trust Link Co.,Ltd, said: "We are helping the ministry with our technical assistance. The system has two categories. The first one is the online link, and the second one is mobile phone services in which both job seekers and companies can obtain registration data at the 76 labour offices of the ministry."

MNA

INSIDE

Amyotha Hluttaw speaker leaves for Thailand

PAGE-3

Commander-in-chief meets members of MPC (Interim)

PAGE-3

Overall development plans for Taninthayi Region discussed at meeting

PAGE-3

Singapore-Myanmar Vocational Training Institute to be launched in early 2015

PAGE-2

World Bank's IFC agrees to provide Yoma Bank with \$5 million convertible loan

PAGE-9

Education promotion tasks explained in Bago Region

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Nov — Deputy Minister for Education Dr Zaw Min Aung, together with officials from basic education departments, took part in the discussions of Hluttaw representatives, township development organizations, departmental staff and school trusteeship associations in Pyay, Shwedaung and Tharyawady townships in Bago Division on Saturday.

The deputy minister discussed the education promotion tasks, educational objectives, basic principles and national education system of the national education law at the meetings.

MNA



YANGON, 23 Nov — The ASEAN-ROK Film Leaders Incubator: Fly Project 2014, organized by the Myanmar Motion Picture Promotion Department under the Ministry of Information, the ASEAN Film Commission Network (AFC Net) and the Busan Film Commission concluded at Inya Lake Hotel here on Saturday evening.

Course instructor U Aung Ko Latt and officials presented prizes and completion certificates to 21 trainees from Korea and ASEAN countries.

Director-General U Thein Aung of the department presented a cash award to an official of the National University of Culture and Arts.



The closing ceremony of ASEAN-ROK Film Leaders Incubator: Fly Project 2014 in progress.—MNA

At the ASEAN-ROK Film Leaders Incubator, professional film directors

and musicians of ASEAN countries and Korea provided filmmaking advice

and encouragement to the trainees.

MNA

Sports Ministry, ECF Ministry crowned in Japan Cup Karatedo Contest

YANGON, 23 Nov — The Japan Cup Karatedo Contest wrapped up at Aung San Gymnasium in Yangon on 21 November.

Mai Oleva Yinhwa Thong Loi (Sports Ministry) secured the title in the women's singles Kata event, the Ministry of Defence in the inter-club Kata event, Thazin Aye (Ministry of Defence) in the 50-kilo Kumite event, April Phaw (Ministry of Defence) in the 55-kilo Kumite event, Nway Nway Zaw Win (Sports Ministry) in the 61-kilo Kumite event, Zone Le Cei (Sports Ministry) in 68-kilo Kumite event, Win Thuza Min (Sports Minis-



Minister Counsellor Mr Toshio Yamamoto of the Japanese Embassy presents prize to champion Ministry of Sports team.—GNLM

try) in the 68-kilo Kumite event and the Sports Ministry in the inter-club Kumite event.

Min Hein Khant (Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry) clinched the title in men's singles Kata event, the Ministry of ECF in the inter-club Kata event, San Toe (YCDC) in the 55-kilo Kumite event, Myint Maung Maung Hein (Defence Ministry) in the 60-kilo Kumite event, Aung Kyaw Soe (Sports Ministry) in the 67-kilo Kumite event, Aye Chan Naing (Ministry of ECF) in the 75-kilo Kumite event, Zaw Htet Wai (Defence Ministry) in the 84-kilo event and the Ministry of ECF in the inter-club Kumite event.

In the junior class,

Hein Htet Aung (Thuwunna Karatedo Centre) and Shwe Yi Win (Kayah State) won best player awards with two gold medals each. In the senior class, Min Hein Khant (Ministry of ECF) secured three gold medals and Thazin Aye (Defence Ministry) two gold and two bronze medals, with both winning best player awards.

The Ministry of ECF lifted the championship trophy with four gold, three silver and one bronze in the men's event while the Sports Ministry did so with five gold and one bronze in the women's event. Minister Counsellor Mr Toshio Yamamoto of the Japanese Embassy and officials presented prizes to the winners.—GNLM

Singapore-Myanmar Vocational Training Institute to be launched in early 2015



U Nyunt Win Naing, a professional trainer.

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 23 Nov — As part of efforts to develop human resources in Myanmar, the Singapore-Myanmar Vocational Training Institute will be launched in early 2015, aiming to enhance the employability of young people through skills training, according to the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

The institute will play a vital role in producing skilled manpower. Students will learn practical skills through courses designed

by Singapore's Institute of Technical Education's Education Services, Kyi Kyi May, assistant director of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, told the Global New Light of Myanmar at a press conference.

Currently, Singapore is providing training opportunities for local trainers in the fields of electronics, hospitality and tourism. Up to now, around 150 local participants have taken part in Singapore's training for

trainer programme. It is estimated that about 40 scholars among them will be chosen to attend the master trainer certification course in Singapore, a trainer said.

Than Zaw Oo, a chef and owner of the International Baking & Pastry Training Centre, said that young people should improve their English language skills in order to get the most from the courses, adding that all students should also bring the knowledge they have acquired in their respective sectors.

As for the tourism industry, it needs more of both skilled workers and trainers to provide better services to customers as the sector is flourishing due to an increase in foreign tourist arrivals in the country, said U Nyunt Win Naing, a professional trainer.

The Myanmar Hospitality Professionals Association said that it plans to launch at least four tourism-related courses designed by local scholars in line with ASEAN standards.—GNLM

Amyotha Hluttaw speaker leaves for Thailand

YANGON, 23 Nov — A parliamentary delegation led by Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw (Upper House) U Khin Aung Myint left for Thailand on Sunday afternoon at the invitation of the President of the National Assembly of Thailand Prof. Pornpetch Wichitcholchai.

The Amyotha Hluttaw speaker and party were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Speaker of the Yangon Region Hluttaw U Sein Tin Win, Deputy Speaker U Tin Aung, Chairman of the Amyotha Hluttaw Political, Economic and Legal Affairs Commission U Myint Thein and officials of the Amyotha Hluttaw.

The speaker was accompanied by Chairman of the Amyotha Hluttaw



Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint being seen off by officials at Yangon International Airport before departure for Thailand.—MNA

Rescue and Care Committee Dr Khin Shwe, members of the Hluttaw Affairs Committee U Gam Sai, U

Sai Tha Sein and U Kham Swim Mon, members of the Amyotha Hluttaw Political, Economic and Legal

Affairs Commission U San Lwin and U Ko Ko Maung, and officials of the Amyotha Hluttaw Office.—MNA

Commander-in-chief meets members of MPC (Interim)

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Nov — Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing met members of the Myanmar Press Council (Interim), explaining recent attacks in Kachin State, northern Myanmar.

During the meeting at Bayintnaung Yeiktha in the capital, the senior general said the Tatmadaw will not make a U-turn on the path

of the country's democratization. A member of the MPC (Interim) also urged good relations between the military and the media industry.

The Tatmadaw will post real-time information on its Myawady web portal, and agreed to organize a workshop as soon as possible to promote relations between the military and media industry.—Myawady

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing poses for photo with members of Myanmar Press Council (Interim).—MYAWADY

ASEAN-Russian Youth Orchestra to give concert in Yangon

YANGON, 23 Nov—In honour of the 25th ASEAN Summit, a 34-member Russian youth orchestra and 10 musicians representing the 10 members of ASEAN will jointly give the ASEAN-Russian Youth Orchestra Concert at the National Museum in Yangon on 25 November under the ASEAN-Russia cultural exchange programme.

They will also give a concert at the Myanmar International Convention Centre in Nay Pyi Taw on 27 November.

Both ensembles have already arrived in Yangon on 22 November and have been rehearsing at the National Theatre in Yangon.—MNA



Overall development plans for Taninthayi Region discussed at meeting

YANGON, 23 Nov — Union ministers at the President Office U Soe Thane and U Tin Naing Thein on Sunday met members of township supportive organizations, township development organizations, political parties, and towns' elders in the Taninthayi Region to discuss current reforms and regional development plans at Pale Yadana Hall in Myeik.

They also discussed the promotion of public participation in development tasks for the region, the education reform process and fulfilling the needs of locals.

The Union ministers

urged them to effectively implement the development plans, advising them

to accelerate the human resources development scheme that plays a vital

role in the overall development of the nation.

MNA



Union Ministers U Soe Thane and U Tin Naing Thein cordially converse with departmental officials and local people in Myeik.—MNA

YTU, Mitsubishi Electric ink agreement on . . .

(from page 1)

Region, said: "This is the first time for us to partner with an educational institution in Myanmar, and this internship will produce good results for both parties."

"It is our hope that we will contribute to the development of human resources in academic education through this internship program, which will lead to the fostering of talented engineers in Myanmar," Mr Hagiwara added.

The development of the electrical and electronics sector is one of the key elements in Myanmar's economic growth, Deputy Minister for Science and

Technology Dr Ba Shwe said.

Under the current government, Yangon Technology University has signed more than 30 technology-related MoUs with firms in developed countries. The majority of them are Japanese bodies, according to an official from YTU.

Mitsubishi Electric is a global leader in the research, manufacturing and marketing of electrical and electronic equipment. It has been selling products and services focused in the power sector for many years in Myanmar and established a new branch this April in Yangon.

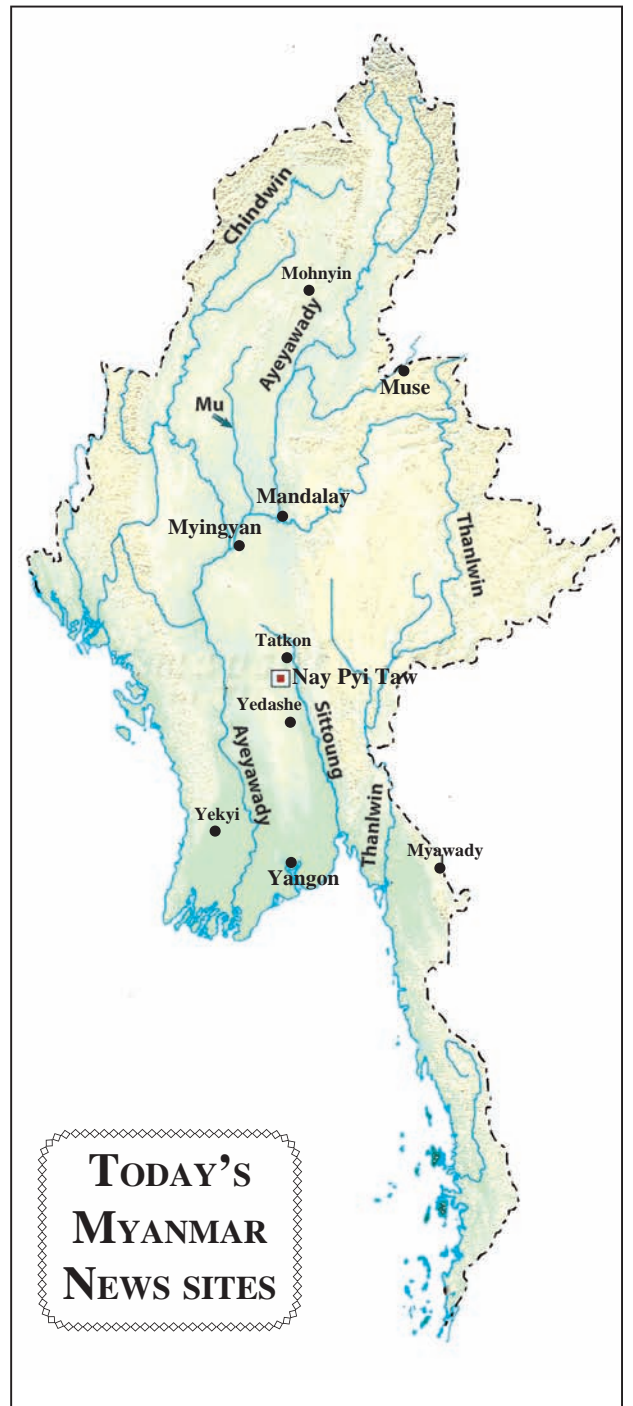
GNLM

Link connections installed in power lines in Myingyan



MYINGYAN, 23 Nov—Township electrical engineer U Tun Lin Aung and electricians of the Electricity Supply Enterprise under the Ministry of Electric Power installed link connections in power lines for electrical safety in Myingyan, Mandalay Region, on 20 November.

They installed the link connections in 400 volt power lines along Bogyoke Street, traffic lights in downtown Myingyan and near the ward administrative office in ward 10 in Myingyan.—Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)



Myanmar journalists visit Dehong Unity daily

MANSI, 23 Nov—Chairman of the Upper Myanmar Journalists Association U Htay Aung and party visited the Dehong Unity daily in Mansi, Dehong Prefecture, in Yunnan Province, China on 17 November.

The newspaper is being run in Myanmar, Kachin, Lisu, Mon, Kayah and Chinese languages.

Chief Editor Mrs Xiong Yan showed the del-

egation members around the newsroom, the computer lab and press sections of the daily and explained the newspaper's production process for circulation.

Myanmar journalists asked about the daily's circulation and arrangements for the publishing process, and the chief editor replied to their queries, said vice chairman of the association Sai Thar Hlaing (Hsipaw).—Hay Myint Maung



Department officials protect locals from wild elephants



TATKON, 23 Nov — A squad comprising Police Captain Zaw Lin and a party of the Forest Police Corps and departmental officials went to Block 41 of Upper Hsinthe forest reserve in Tatkon Township to send wild elephants back to their native areas safely with the assistance of local people.

The wild elephants ar-

rived from the Bago mountain range in Tatkon Township's forests last year, but they did not attack people. As the wild elephants wandered through the forests for many days this year, the local people have had to avoid tending to their farms due to the danger of the wild elephants, according to the local people.

Tin Soe Lwin

China invites members of Upper Myanmar Journalists Association for visit

RUILI, 23 Nov — At the invitation of the China-Myanmar Friendship Association, an eight-member journalist association led by U Htay Aung, chairman of the Upper Myanmar Journalists Association, will

pay an eight-day visit to Beijing and Kunming of the People's Republic of China, said the chairman of the association.

It will be the third visit of the association. The delegation will be comprised

of well-known writers and journalists Kyaw Yin Myint, Hsu Hgnet, Nyi Pu Lay, and Nyi Say Min, the patron of the association and executives.

They were invited to observe the actual situation

of China to be able to present it to the world. The visit will be funded by the Confucius Education Foundation, according to Deputy Consul-General Mrs Jin Yiling of China.

Khin Zar Mon Myint (Law)

Talks held on prevention of recruitment of child soldiers in Mohnyin

MOHNYIN, 23 Nov—Save the Children International and Community Health and Development jointly organized educative talks on the prevention of recruitment of child soldiers in wards and villages in Mohnyin Township, Kachin State, from 12 to 21 November.

A total of 1,041 local people from 16 wards and villages attended the talks, Ming Aik Kaung of Save the Children International said.—GNLM-001



LOCAL NEWS

Environmental conservation supervisory committee holds 1st meeting



MANDALAY, 23 Nov—The environmental conservation supervisory committee held its first meeting

at the Mandalay Region Forest Department on 20 November, featuring an address by Mandalay Region

Environmental Conservation Committee Region Minister for Forestry and Mining U Than Soe Myint.

Members of the committee expressed their opinions on how to conserve environments in Mandalay.

The Parks and Playgrounds Department under the Mandalay City Development Committee constructed playgrounds and parks for keeping the city lush and green and planted over 200,000 shade and flowery plants in seven townships of Mandalay District.

The Forest Department and Arid Zone Greening Department cultivate shade trees and teak plants in the townships in the region.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Nay Pyi Taw Council Area plans to grow over 10,000 acres of summer paddy



NAY PYI TAW, 23 Nov—The Myanmar Agricultural Public Corporation Company Ltd (MAPCO) held a coordination meeting with local farmers in Yepyar Village Basic Education Primary School in Lewe Township on 21 November.

The meeting was focused on the cultivation of summer paddy in 2014-15 through mutual cooperation between the farmers and the company.

The company will provide quality paddy seeds and assistance for applying good agricultural patterns in the fields for the farmers. Moreover, it will deliver one bag of compound fertilizer per acre of Palethwe paddy strain, one bag of Pearl fertilizer and K50,000 as an agricultural loan to each of the farmers.

When the paddy has been harvested, the farm-

ers are to sell the paddy at K4,000 per basket to pay the company back for K131,500 in expenses including inputs and loans provided in advance by the company. The remaining paddy can be sold at the street price. A plan was adopted to grow 13,000 acres of summer paddy in the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area in 2014-15. Of that number, local farmers and MAPCO will cooperate in the cultivation of 10,000 acres of summer paddy.

Pynmana Township plans to grow 950 acres of paddy, Lewe Township, 3,760 acres, Dekkhinathiri Township, 900 acres, Zabuthiri Township, 560 acres, Pobbathiri Township, 160 acres, Ottarathiri Township, 100 acres, Zeyathiri Township, 2,700 acres and Tatkon Township, 870 acres.

Ko Pauk (Okkar Myay)

100 acres of farmlands being reclaimed in Yekyi Township

YEKYI, 23 Nov—A total of 100 acres of farmlands are being reclaimed in Hsihsongon Village, Yekyi Township, Ayeyawady Region, with the cooperation of 24 farmers.

As of 15 November, the farmlands are being reclaimed with the use of heavy machinery. Ayeya Pathein Company is in charge of the reclamation project, which is being funded by the Ayeyawady Region government.

Land preparations, dredging of drains and construction of production roads are being made on one-acre plots by the No 17 Agricultural Mechanization Department and local authorities.

Min Zaw Oo (Yekyi)



Driver's licences issued to motorcyclists in Yedashe Tsp

YEDASHE, 23 Nov—Staff of the Toungoo District Directorate of the Road Administration issued driver's licences to motorcyclists up to 21 November in the precinct of Dattaw Pagoda in Ward

1, Yedashe Township, of Bago Region.

They delivered licences to 1,650 applicants.

The directorate plans to issue licences to people in Swa and Myohla in Yedashe Township.

The government issued an announcement to take action against those who do not have driver's licences and unlicensed motorcycles in the last week of November.

"We have been ordered to take action against undisciplined motorcycle riders and those without driver licences in the last week of November," said an official of the Township Police Force.

Ko Lwin (Swa)

Farmers extend cultivable lands with assistance of irrigation facilities

MANDALAY, 23 Nov—Under the supervision of the Mandalay City Development Committee, the Irrigation Department is striving for development of the agriculture sector in the region with its attempts to irrigate farmlands and construct new drains, canals and power control buildings in the townships.

In Singaing Township, a total of 35,615 acres of farmlands are irrigated by three dams through Paleik, Myaunghson, Minye, Tamok and Thindwe canals.

The department dredged Khamauk, Natthaye, Nwahtein, MaU, Baw, Thi and Kathagon tributary canals to irrigate



the farmlands in 2014-15. Moreover, it dredged Sunye and Minhla Lake.

The Irrigation Department built Shwehlanbo and Hteedawmoe river pumping stations from Dokhtawady River so

as to supply water to the farmlands.

Thanks to the efforts of the department, the local farmers could extend their farmlands.

Maung Pyi Thu (Mandalay)



The Head of Myawady Township Immigration and National Registration Department issues citizenship scrutiny card to a student at Mehtawthale Village Basic Education Middle School in Myawady, Kayin State, with the assistance of NRC group on 22 November.—THUZAR (MYAWADY TOWN)

Bangladesh arrests 9 in crackdown on militant groups

DHAKA, 23 Nov — Bangladesh has arrested four members of an outlawed militant group, including the chief of its women's wing, as well as five suspects in a southern city, police said on Sunday, as authorities stiffen a crackdown on militants.

The arrest follows Indian security officials' exposure of a plot last month targeting Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. Two members of a banned Bangladesh group were killed in an explosion while building bombs in West Bengal, just over the border with Bangladesh. Police said they arrested Fatema, the chief of the women's wing

of Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen, whose husband Sajid was arrested by Indian police in connection with the West Bengal blast. "Fatema and three men were arrested in a raid in Dhaka and we also recovered a huge quantity of bomb-making materials and explosives," police spokesman Monirul Islam told a news conference.

The group also planned to assassinate Bangladesh's main opposition leader, Khaleda Zia, Indian officials said. She and Hasina have dominated the country's politics for more than a decade.

Last week, a team headed by the chief of India's main counter-terrorism

arm, the National Investigations Agency, held talks with Bangladeshi officials in Dhaka and handed over a list of 11 suspects thought to be hiding there. Another five suspected militants, including a Pakistani and a Saudi national, were arrested on Sunday at a hotel in the southern port city of Chittagong, police official Banaj Kumar Majumdar told *Reuters* by telephone, but which group they belong to is not yet known. Under Sheikh Hasina, Bangladesh has been working closely with India to tackle militant groups, including the hand-over of those India suspects of stirring up trouble in its

remote northeast. The Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen was thought to have been lying low since a crackdown by authorities after it detonated nearly 500 bombs almost simultaneously on a single day in 2005 across Bangladesh, including in Dhaka, the capital. Subsequent suicide attacks by its militants on several courthouses killed 25 people and left hundreds injured. A security van taking members of the group to court earlier this year was targeted by gunmen who opened fire and tossed bombs at the vehicle.

Reuters



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi (2nd L) speaks during an election rally in Kishtwar district of Jammu, Indian-controlled Kashmir, on 22 Nov, 2014. Narendra Modi addressed the gathering here on Saturday for the forthcoming assembly election.—XINHUA

Philippines blacklists nine HK journalists for heckling Aquino

MANILA, 23 Nov — The Philippines has barred entry to nine Hong Kong television and radio journalists, saying they heckled President Benigno Aquino during a meeting of the APEC grouping last year and presented a threat to public safety.

The National Intelligence Coordinating Agency recommended the ban last June because the journalists were disrespectful of the president, said Elaine Tan, a

spokeswoman of the Bureau of Immigration.

"A blacklist order (has been issued) against the identified foreign nationals," Tan said in a statement on Saturday.

"One of the grounds, anchored on the interest of public safety, is when a foreign national shows disrespect or makes offensive utterances to symbols of Philippine authority."

The journalists had questioned Aquino aggres-

sively about whether he had met Hong Kong leaders over the deaths of eight visitors from the former British colony in a 2010 bus siege in the Philippine capital, Tan said.

The tourists were killed by a former police officer who commandeered the bus they were travelling in.

Tan said the journalists can contest the ruling, but they had not been informed of the ban. The statement did not identify the journalists or their employers.—*Reuters*

Three killed, 29 injured in mine blast in Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, 23 Nov — Three foreign workers killed in a coal mine explosion in eastern Malaysia have been identified, and the number of the injured has risen to 29, according to local reports on Sunday.

Malaysian English-language newspaper *The Star* quoted Sri Aman Police Chief Deputy Superintendent of Police Mat Jusoh Mohammad as saying that the deceased were identified as an Indonesian, a Democratic People's Republic of Korean (DPRK) worker and a Myanmar national.

He also said the number of the injured has risen to 29, including nine Indonesians, six Myanmar nationals, five Chinese, seven DPRK nationals and two Bangladeshis.

According to the Chinese consulate in Kuching, there were Chinese nationals injured in the incident, but the number has not been determined. The consulate has sent staff to visit the Chinese victims, an official told *Xinhua*.

The explosion occurred in the eastern Sarawak state at 8:45 am local time

(0045 GMT) on Saturday when 119 miners, including DPRK, Myanmar, Indonesian, Chinese and Bangladeshi nationals, were working underground.

Sri Aman Fire and Rescue Department Chief Ranger Moos said the blast happened when a switch for the conveyor belt was turned on, and an extractor fan used for expelling gas out of the tunnel was not working. The sparks from the switch or the defective may have caused the accident.

Xinhua

39 injured in M6.7 quake in Nagano, central Japan

NAGANO, 23 Nov — At least 39 people have been injured following a strong earthquake that struck Nagano Prefecture and surrounding areas in central Japan overnight, police said on Sunday.

Injuries were reported in Nagano City and Hakuba village, where more than 80 people spent the night in an evacuation shelter, following the mag-

nitude-6.7 quake that struck at 10:08 pm Saturday, originating in northern Nagano Prefecture at a depth of around 5 kilometres. The Japan Meteorological Agency on Sunday revised the estimated magnitude from an earlier announced 6.8 and the depth from around 10 km.

Two of the injured, a man and woman in Nagano City, suffered broken bones,

the National Police Agency said. Five other people also suffered serious injuries.

The police on Sunday morning revised the number of people injured after earlier reporting more than 50 had been hurt.

No damage has so far been reported at the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa nuclear power plant in neighbouring Niigata Prefecture, according to the operator, To-

kyo Electric Power Co. The plant, the largest nuclear reactor complex in the country, has remained off line since the 2011 quake.

Five homes collapsed in Hakuba, roughly 280 kilometers northwest of Tokyo, according to the Nagano prefectural government.

The quake, which also shook parts of Niigata Prefecture, caused landslides and roads to cave in, block-

ing several routes in the affected areas.

More than 100 homes in Hakuba were cut off from water supply, prompting the village to provide water tank trucks.

The prefectural government applied the disaster relief law to the villages of Otari and Ogawa, as well as to Hakuba.

Police, firefighters and local officials are still inves-

tigating the extent of damage caused by the quake, which marked lower 6 on the Japanese seismic intensity scale of 7 in northern Nagano and lower 5 in parts of Niigata Prefecture.

An aftershock registered lower 5 in northern Nagano at 10:37 pm on Saturday as tremors continued, the weather agency said.

Kyodo News



Firefighters and rescue workers walk among collapsed houses in the village of Hakuba, Nagano Prefecture, on 23 Nov, a day after a strong earthquake hit the prefecture and surrounding areas in central Japan. The magnitude-6.7 quake at 10:08 pm on 22 Nov injured at least 39 people.—KYODO NEWS



People carry out furniture from a collapsed house in the village of Hakuba, Nagano Prefecture, on 23 Nov, a day after a strong earthquake hit the prefecture and surrounding areas in central Japan. The magnitude-6.7 quake at 10:08 pm on 22 Nov injured at least 39 people.—KYODO NEWS



Aerial photo shows collapsed houses in the village of Hakuba, Nagano Prefecture, on 23 Nov, a day after a strong earthquake hit the prefecture and surrounding areas in central Japan. The magnitude-6.7 quake at 10:08 pm on 22 Nov injured at least 39 people.—KYODO NEWS

Iran nuclear talks may be extended as US sees 'big gaps'



US Secretary of State John Kerry (L), Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Zarif (R) and EU envoy Catherine Ashton pose for photographers before a meeting in Vienna on 22 Nov, 2014. —REUTERS

VIENNA, 23 Nov — World powers and Iran struggled on Saturday to overcome crucial differences that are preventing them from ending a 12-

year standoff over Teheran's atomic ambitions, raising the prospect of another extension to the high-stake talks.

US Secretary of State

John Kerry said "big gaps" remained with two days to go before a self-imposed 24 November deadline for an accord, despite signs of some headway. A Euro-

pean source said the likelihood of a final deal by Monday was "very small".

Diplomats said a framework accord was still possible, but that weeks if not months would then be needed to agree on the all-important details of how it would be implemented.

They made clear that continuing the negotiations, which have dragged on for more than a year, was preferable to letting them collapse and risking renewed tension. However, diplomats warned that an extension could push the talks into a never-ending cycle of rollovers with few prospects of a final deal.

The negotiations in Vienna are intended to resolve a long-running dispute between Iran and the West and remove at least one source of potential con-

flict from the Middle East and its growing turmoil.

"The chances of reaching a deal in the next 48 hours are very small," the European source said. "Our feeling is that they (Iran's negotiators) don't have a lot of flexibility."

There had been "no significant" progress on the main stumbling blocks of Iran's uranium enrichment capacity and the lifting of the sanctions imposed on Iran over its nuclear programme, the source said.

Diplomatic sources said on Friday that Kerry and Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif were discussing new ideas to unblock the negotiations between Teheran and six powers: the United States, Britain, France, Germany, Russia and China.

Kerry, Zarif and Eu-

ropean Union envoy Catherine Ashton met again on Saturday.

Officials had said earlier in the week that deadlock remained on key issues, and that the deadline, already extended by four months along with a partial easing of sanctions, might need to be pushed back again. "We hope we're making careful progress," Kerry said before a meeting with German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier. "But we have big gaps. We still have some serious gaps, which we're working to close."

Iran rejects Western allegations that it has sought to develop an atom bomb capability, something that Iran's enemy Israel regards as an existential threat, and says the programme is purely peaceful.—Reuters

France's Sarkozy wants EU to lose half its powers

PARIS / BORDEAUX, 23 Nov — The European Union must hand back half of its powers, former French president Nicolas Sarkozy said on Saturday, stepping up his criticism of the 28-nation bloc as he seeks to be elected head of France's conservative party next week.

Just a few weeks after he called for the suspension of France's participation in Europe's borderless Schengen region, Sarkozy pressed on with increasingly Eurosceptic proposals rare among the country's mainstream politicians.

"I want us to eliminate

half of Europe's current powers," Sarkozy said, adding that less than a dozen key policies including industrial policy, agriculture and research should remain. "Everything else must be given back to member states." While the French have long been among the strongest backers of Europe, support has waned over the past decade over fear of globalization. The anti-Europe, far-right party National Front won EU parliament elections in the country this year.

Sarkozy also said he wanted the bloc's executive Commission to lose its

power to draft EU laws.

Sarkozy's comments to about 4,000 supporters in the southwest city of Bordeaux chimed with British Prime Minister David Cameron's calls to curb Europe's powers.

Sarkozy came out of a two-year political retirement when he announced in September he would seek to be elected chief of the Union for a Popular Movement (UMP) party on 29 November. While the UMP was created to reunite the centre-right, the party faces policy divisions, notably over Europe's role.

Reuters

Japan, China, S Korea agree on Ebola cooperation

BEIJING, 23 Nov — The health ministers of Japan, China and South Korea said on Sunday they will collaborate closely in preventing Ebola and other deadly diseases from entering their borders.

The trilateral meeting was held in Beijing at a time of tentative signs of a slight improvement in Japan's relations with China and South Korea, which have been severely strained over territorial and wartime issues.

Despite Japan's political difficulties with its two neighbouring countries, the health ministers agreed to boost information-sharing on the current Ebola epidemic and countermeasures for other types of diseases, such as pandemic influenza.

Since March this year when the first case in the world's worst Ebola outbreak was reported, about 5,400 people have died from the virus, mostly in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, according to the World

Health Organization. No Ebola cases have been confirmed in Asia. The trilateral meeting was attended by Japan's health minister Yasuhisa Shiozaki and his Chinese and South Korean counterparts, respectively, Li Bin and Moon Hyong Pyo.

It was organized after Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe held his first talks with Chinese President Xi Jinping, as well as some discussions with South Korean President Park Geun-hye, about two weeks ago in Beijing on the margins of a regional economic summit.

Due to the political tensions, there have not been an annual gathering of the three countries' top leaders since 2012. But following the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit, Abe and Park expressed their willingness to resume the suspended three-way dialogue in the near future.

Kyodo News

Russia foreign ministry for consultations on setting up zone free from WMD in Middle East

MOSCOW, 23 Nov — Russia is adamant it is necessary to resume without delay consultations on setting up a zone in the Middle East, free from mass destruction weapons /WMD/, head of the Foreign Ministry's department on non-proliferation and arms control Mikhail Ulyanov said on Saturday.

"It is incorrect to be interrupting consultations as the conference seems more realistic," the diplomat told an international conference on non-proliferation.

"It would be of crucial importance if the conference was convened in the coming five months, however, in 2014 the conference would be impossible to be held. Far from certain, it will take place before the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties

to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)," he said. "But if it could be convened at the beginning of 2015, then the results of the NPT Review Conference would be better."

Ulyanov said that enormous work had been done within the framework of the preparations for the conference on setting up a zone free from mass destruction weapons in the Middle East.

"A considerable progress has been achieved," the diplomat said. "It became possible since both Israel and the Arab countries manifested their readiness for sensible compromises."

He said it would be reasonable to have Syria and Iran participate in those consultations.—Itar-Tass



PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 24 November, 2014

Journalism is a profession rather than an occupationBy *Kyaw Thura*

A little bit of thought will make it clear that the media has become an inseparable part of our lives in this age of information by playing a more powerful role in modern-day society. There is no doubt that the media has played a significant role in making the world a global village.

At a time when the press is regarded as the fourth estate, it is necessary for journalists to take note that too much intervention by the me-

dia in everything is a matter of concern, for the media has the potential to affect people's perception of reality.

There are some camouflaged media-cum-business people who prefer unconfirmed or hot news, so that their papers sell well. Although their number is small, a victory over the forces of evil is impossible without good people stepping up to the plate. It is therefore important to keep in mind that journalism is not a business of picking up news reports of here and there and irresponsibly printing them.

The news media is always ready and brave enough to point out the government's accountability and responsibility. For instance, when it comes to the government's budget spending, newspapers report and warn parliamentarians to understand that the money they are going to spend is not their own, that it is public's money and that citizens have the right to know how their

money is going to be spent.

By playing their role as the fourth estate, newspapers hold the government in check while serving the public interest and acting as people's eyes and ears. To be true to this status, all journalists should not blind themselves and the people to the truth. We know ourselves at least if we do.

Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions.

If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email wallace.tun@gmail.com with your name and title.

Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

A letter To a Neo-writer of Great Promise*Khin Maung Oo*

Dear my boy,

This letter will find you in the best of health and happiness. To my great delight and rejoice, I came to know you and your colleagues decided to choose the prestigious journalistic career and to devote yourselves into the business of journalism, the Fourth Estate. Because I believe in, inter alia, your abilities and enthusiasm. You know I was a newsman manqué, and only just in my later phase of my life, I fortunately had a chance to set foot in the media world: the newspaper {English Version}. At your request, I wrote this letter, albeit reluctantly, to you, sharing my scanty knowledge. In fact, I do not belong to the group of your betters. Though I am not a full-fledged journalist, I admit that writing in English is my favorite, not a passing fad. I welcome every effort of enthusiastic younger generation who are to replace the aging one. Now I am not saying to you what to do and what not to do for your work, but just for you to be informed about my personal attitude towards journalism. I have no experience of writing news reports but I never failed to read them. In writing them, it was learnt that we need to avoid using euphemism and giving our opinions and unnecessary remarks. And I also noted that in news-writing we should use passive forms as less as possible. Plus, unlike the discursive style of a novel we need to be careful about prolixity in writing news and sports news. I am not interested in sports but in my younger days, sports news written by {U} Hla Baw, a sport correspondent interested me greatly. To put it simply, however, if I was assigned to write such a report my stock reply would be "No". In olden time, the English newspapers, the WPD and the Guardian carried a myriad of colorful writings: news, news features, articles, letters, editorials and perspectives by scholars, well-known writers, columnists and novice writers. I got much knowledge from them. Bar a few, most of them now disappeared from today's newspaper pages. Sometimes I thought as to who will replace our country's dying breed of newsmen and able writers. Oh, No, no, need not to do so any longer! It is time to get rid of my worries. Now is the time when our local newspapers are trying to change their images and to give us news updates. So today's papers are like a mosaic of local and international news, being added by internet sources. Our papers' quality, especially layout and writing style, may lag behind that of foreign newspapers but their eagerness to develop up to the stage of the latter is noticeable. Of late, I noticed that a new breed emerged. I cannot help eulogizing presentation styles and language skills of some writers in the GNLM, like [U] Aung Khin, [U] Myint Win Thein, [U] Kyaw Thura, [U] Aye Min Soe, [U] Ye Myint and [D] Khaing Thanda Lwin, to name but a few. Scholarly papers by our Sayargyi Dr Khin Mg Nyunt, Dr Saw Mra Aung, Sayar U Myint Thein and Sayar U Kyi Mun share much knowledge

with us and teach us that facts, figures and abecedarian sequence are important in writing impressive articles. While working in your job, you can search for journalism knowledge through websites, and you will probably come to accumulate much knowledge more than we did. What I mean is that reading a wide variety of subjects will make you well-read persons. I wholly agree with the ideas and wishes of my seniors. I myself had a similar desire like my teachers. However, it passes belief that we can upgrade our papers to the world-class ones overnight. It's just a matter of time before we reach our goal if our ebullient youths will make concerted effort. I want to liken a newspaper to a rendezvous-cum-forum. A rendezvous is a place where people have arranged to meet. Likewise, a newspaper is a meeting place for readers and writers, scholars and ordinary people, intellectuals and the uneducated, employers and employees, producers and consumers. A forum is a place where people can exchange opinions and ideas on a particular issue. So we, the people, can use a newspaper as a forum. We are here to disclose our opinions, ideas, wishes, attitudes, advice, etc., contributing our literary things in various forms. Theirs may be polar difference. As to their language skills, some are of substance and style, and some can be ranked mediocre. I want you to note that a good writer, ipso facto, cannot be assumed to be able to produce flawless English all the time. There had been some errors seen on the pages due to DTP mistakes or carelessness of the writers, if ever. Our editors also might have overlooked our mistakes as they could not manage to spare time to carefully check the influx of writings into their press. Pardon me if I happened to write in a patronizing style. You and younger generation are responsible to implement the edifice of our hope. Let me now proceed to return to writing about my experiences. The reason is that a few lines of power of a writer, though being short, may fortify our minds and enthusiasm.

As known by all, we differ from each other in feelings, opinions and ideas, in many cases. We have a lot in us to express ourselves. Newspapers are the best arena for sharing knowledge, news and information with the public. Now that newspapers are inviting writers to send articles, comments, editorials and etc., we have had an access to our emotional outlets. I hardly ever intend to hurt any one's feeling and to besmirch the dignity and reputation of others else. Especially, I am greatly concerned that my writings would happen to raise a furor among readers. Although I had repeatedly studied English grammar and a considerable amount of vocabulary, I feel that I still lack grammatical knowledge and very often I am reluctant to use a word in the right way, hence the acquisition of the habit of consulting with a dictionary all the time. It is generally assumed that a reliable dictionary is greatly helpful to us like a good teacher. But many times I found it difficult to be well convinced of the full meanings of some words and to repro-

duce my own sentences by using them. This difficulty may be attributed to my low intelligence. At that time frequent study of sentences and writing styles of other writers helped me improve my learning skill. I used to and imitate their styles, regarding them all to be my great teachers. Some 50 years ago, for example, I found an English sentence in the preface of a book of collected short stories titled, "One thousand hearts" which reads: there seems to be an element of hyperbole in such a claim that ----- . Here element is not the meaning I knew as a boy. I had some difficulty to translate the two words, hyperbole and claim into Myanmar. It took me much time to have a smooth rendering. Being a beginner student, I noticed that it was very difficult for me to understand the sentence very well though I tried to peruse it in consultation with dictionaries within my reach. The one word, "element" conceived in my mind, since my childhood, fascinated me so much so that it drove me to write an article about literary elements in the NLM issue dated on 9 August 2014. Much later on, I tried to find writings of Sayarmagyi Daw Khin Myo Chit, Sayar Tet Toe, Sayar K and many famous writers for further study. Knowing the fact that they had all-consuming love of the language made me more interested in English, and before I recognized it, I began to imitate their writing style. For saying so, I do not mean that I acquired similar language skills like them. I think it is not a disgrace to imitate or copy the style of other's writing, but I never accept plagiarizing the writings of others else. Woe betide anyone who does such a thing! Firstly, if truth comes out he will be disgraced and secondly, from then on he will lose the trust of his readers. Even if he has his own qualification, these all will be gone. This is a ruinous loss without reserve for him. It is a shame doing a pretentious deed to impress ourselves. Far from challenging my fellow-writers and betters, I always expect them to share their excellent ideas and opinions with us. I want to take a noteworthy word, line or something from them. Some 45 years ago, to be exact, 1970-1971 years saw many students voluntarily taking part in the nationwide 3Rs classes. There had been news on the campaign against the illiteracy seen almost every day in those days' papers. One day, a reader wrote his opinion in "Letter to the Editor" column. He said that အသုံးလုံး should be written as the acronym WAR for 3Rs in English—"W" represents for writing, "A" for arithmetic and "R" for reading. In response to his writing, there was a prompt argument made by another reader named Kin Kin Pyone {Nyaungdone}. Wonderfully enough, our respected savants avoided touching the problem to make inexperienced readers like us know clearly, seeming to think that it was of little importance. She claimed that dictionaries defined အသုံးလုံး as 3Rs. The first R represents for [w]riting, "w" is here omitted in pronouncing, the second R for reading, the last and third R for [a]rithmetic; here the initial letter "a" is also omitted in pronouncing. It is not strange for a then high school student not to know the importance of the use of a dictionary.

(See page 9)

NATIONAL

MLFRD holds event to hear from staff and difficulties encountered



Union minister U Ohn Myint presents gifts to a staff.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Nov — The Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development organized an event here on 21 November to directly hear from its staff, with the director general of the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department giving a briefing on projects aimed at improving fishery and food security in rural areas, sources said.

The director general urged the staff to speak

openly of the difficulties encountered in their lines of duty.

Speaking on the occasion, Union minister U Ohn Myint told his staff that his ministry will continue to collaborate with other ministries as well as with ASEAN countries and partner countries.

At the meeting, the union minister pointed out the need to reduce poverty in rural areas, emphasizing the country's endeavours to lift itself out of least developed country status and urging officials and staff to redouble their efforts with resolve.—MNA

Highway bus terminal to open in Muse in late November



Highway bus terminal in Muse.

MUSE, 23 Nov — A bus terminal will help promote trade between Myanmar and China, enabling the government to earn more revenue and create business opportunities for locals.

The terminal, constructed on a 13.69-acre site, is attached to a housing project with 202 apartments in 44 buildings and four banks.

The Muse highway

NLM (018)

World Bank's IFC agrees to provide Yoma Bank with \$5 million convertible loan

By Kyaw The-ein (MNA)

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Nov — International Finance Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank Group, has agreed to provide Yoma Bank Ltd. with a \$5 million convertible loan and help the lender improve its risk management and corporate governance in support of the bank's growth strategy. The package is expected to help Yoma Bank expand lending to small and medium enterprises, a sector of Myanmar's economy in desperate need of financing to grow and create more jobs.

The loan is the first step in IFC's financial support for the bank, which may be further increased to up to \$30 million in the coming years in the form of equity, senior debt and trade guarantee lines under IFC's Global Trade Finance Program, which boosts banks' capacity to provide financing for importers and exporters. The additional support for Yoma Bank will be subject to further due diligence and subsequent approvals from

IFC's management and board.

As Myanmar emerges from years of isolation, the demand for financial services in the country is huge. More than 70 percent of adults do not have formal access to credit, deposit facilities, and other financial services, such as insurance and remittance. Only 5 percent of adults have a bank account in their name.

"It is crucial that small and medium enterprises in Myanmar have access to financial services that allow them to operate and thrive," said Yoma Bank Executive Chairman and CEO U Theim Wai, also known as Serge Pun. "Yoma Bank is proud to grow its business in partnership with IFC to support SMEs in Myanmar, which are critical for the country's economic and social development. It is our aim to be a leading SME bank in the country and to contribute toward developing a vibrant SME sector in the country."

In addition to the loan,

IFC will advise Yoma Bank on identifying and installing a core banking system, enhancing its risk management and corporate governance, and developing new products and delivery channels for small and medium enterprises over the next three years. Yoma Bank will also develop policies and procedures to identify and manage environmental and social risks associated with the business activities it finances. IFC's investment and advisory support is expected to help Yoma Bank provide an additional 1,000 loans worth \$370 million to small and medium enterprises in Myanmar by 2019.

"IFC puts a strategic focus on supporting the development of Myanmar's financial and banking sector as banks are critically important in helping entrepreneurs grow their businesses and contribute to the overall economy," said Karin Finckelston, IFC's vice president for Asia Pacific. "IFC supports Yoma Bank and other lenders to develop environmental and social sustainability and standards

and governance structures that will help them integrate into the international banking community and better serve the needs of Myanmar's small and medium enterprises." Founded in 1993, Yoma Bank is one of Myanmar's leading fully licensed commercial banks with 2,300 employees and more than 50 branches covering 25 major cities nationwide. It is recognized as one of the most progressive banks in Myanmar and is leading an effort to bring responsible banking to the country with a strong emphasis on good corporate governance and conservative capital-ratio policies. The lender is well positioned to support Myanmar's continued economic growth. IFC, together with the World Bank, is supporting reforms and investments in Myanmar to strengthen the private sector and create jobs to reduce poverty and boost shared prosperity. IFC aims to improve the country's investment climate, access to finance, and infrastructure, with an initial focus on the power and telecommunications sectors.



Executive Daw Hla Hla Myo seen at Yangon International Airport on 23 November before departure for Cambodia to attend Public-Private Dialogue for the Post-2015 SME Vision Forum to be held on 24 November.—MWEA

A letter To a Neo-writer . . .

(from page 8)

Thanks to the writer's detailed explanation I had a big impression on her, and it planted in me a seed of zealous hobby in the language study. Since then, an idea occurred to me that a dictionary should be all the time with us to be able to consult with it whenever necessary and to look at a more expansive definition of a word. I wrote an article titled, "Myanmar spelling and pronunciation are being corrupted: intentionally or unintentionally?" in the New Light of Myanmar Daily on 9 May 2014. Here I want to disclose that a strong impression on the writer, though being an ordinary reader, influenced me so greatly that I adopted, in her honor, the latter's name "Kin" as against my original name "Khin", neglecting the aspirated consonant, "h". I hope for the forgiveness of our learned people

for such a violation. We always value and welcome all prolific writers, whose prolificacy cannot be rivaled by our sporadic productivity. Would that our respected writers and my seniors contributed their valuable writings, shared us with their hard-earned experiences and gave us their precious advice for the benefit of the future-media-world. If our think tank, educationists, veteran journalists who have been taking a rest behind the curtain and ambitious youths will come onto our longed-for pages, our newspapers will become world-class ones, performing informative and educative duties for the people, simultaneously. If we can have agony column, cartoon, quiz, horoscope and book-shelf columns created in our papers, many youths and interested persons surely will join us to expose what they want to, and I dare say the number of subscribers will increase as expected. I want our advanced readers to take it as a given that there will be some mis-

takes and weakness of youths seen on those pages. Being fed with written descriptions of peculiar ideas by our younger and purer minds, we will have vicarious feelings and consideration. We must accept any letters of criticism and make the practice of self-criticism so that we can mend ourselves and our society.

Last but not least, my present writing on my personal attitude toward journalism may include just a trace of a good idea, but my Cetana is full in it. I firmly believe that in building up a nation capacity and character building of our youths is vital. If there is any delay to achieve our aims, all our plans will cease to be viable. As an old man who is now on the brink of the nearness of death, I want to live to see you, the younger generation, managing to run and manipulate our prestigious media business in a skillful way. Let's surround the younger generation with the avant-garde in the approach to the Fourth Estate of glamour.

Obama approves fresh guidelines for US military in Afghanistan



US President Barack Obama pauses while speaking about immigration reform during a visit to Del Sol High School in Las Vegas, Nevada on 21 Nov, 2014.

REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 23 Nov — President Barack Obama has approved plans giving US military commanders broader authority in helping Afghanistan forces repel Taliban fighters after US and NATO combat operations formally end in December, a senior administration official said.

The decision, made in recent weeks, will allow US forces to carry out limited missions against the

Taliban seen as necessary to protect Americans and support Afghanistan's security forces.

"While we will no longer target belligerents solely because they are members of the Taliban, to the extent that Taliban members directly threaten the United States and coalition forces in Afghanistan or provide direct support to al-Qaeda, we will take appropriate measures to keep

Americans safe," the official said.

A report by *The New York Times* late on Friday said the new authorization also allows American jets, bombers and drones to support Afghan troops on combat missions.

Obama had announced last May after a whirlwind visit to see US troops in Afghanistan that US combat operations in the country would end in December and that troop levels would be reduced to 9,800.

Under Obama's plan, that number would be reduced by roughly half by the end of 2015. By the end of 2016, the US presence would be cut to a normal embassy presence with a security assistance office in Kabul, as was done in Iraq.

The US military presence in Afghanistan hinged on the approval of a bilateral security agreement with the new government there, a step that was delayed by a disputed presidential election.—Reuters

US and Turkey discuss transition away from Assad in Syria

ISTANBUL, 23 Nov — US Vice President Joe Biden said he and Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan he had discussed a transition of power in Syria away from President Bashar al-Assad during a four-hour meeting in Istanbul on Saturday.

Turkey has been a reluctant partner in the US-led coalition against Islamic State (IS) insurgents in Syria and Iraq, pushing for a more comprehensive strategy that includes Assad's removal from power.

"On Syria, we discussed ... not only to deny ISIL a safe haven and roll back and defeat them, but also strengthen the Syrian opposition and ensure a transition



US Vice President Joe Biden (L) meets with Turkey's President Tayyip Erdogan at Beylerbeyi Palace in Istanbul on 22 Nov, 2014.—REUTERS

away from the Assad regime," Biden told a joint news conference with Erdogan.—Reuters

Colombia's Santos says FARC release of hostages will be next week



Mediators of the dialogue between Colombia's government and Colombia's FARC, Rita Sandberg of Norway and Rodolfo Benitez of Cuba attend a declaration in Havana on 19 Nov, 2014.—REUTERS

BOGOTA, 23 Nov — Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos said he hoped next week to secure the release of five captives, including an army general, held by Marxist FARC rebels, a move that will allow stalled peace talks to continue.

In a message from his Twitter account on Saturday, Santos said the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) had provided the coordinates to the pick up zone to free the hostages and he would facilitate the operation in coming days.

He did not name the captives or say whether they would be freed all at once or on different days, but the FARC on Sunday seized army General Ruben Dario Alzate and two people travelling with him in the Pacific coastal area of Choco. A week earlier two soldiers were taken hostage in eastern Arauca depart-

ment.

After a tense few days, the FARC on Wednesday promised to release all five captives in a bid to renew peace talks halted abruptly by Santos following the abductions.

"The coordinates have been received. I am giving instructions to facilitate the liberation for next week," Santos said in the Tweet, probably referring to an order that military activity in the areas is halted to allow the FARC to move securely.

The suspension of negotiations - taking place in Havana - is the most serious setback to the peace efforts after two years of discussions that have resulted in partial accords on three out of five agenda items.

Even while security has improved massively over the last decade or so, talks have been taking place amid continued conflict and attacks on civilian

and military targets continue, as well as offensives against economic infrastructure.

General Alzate, a lawyer and a soldier were taken hostage by a FARC patrol as they left a boat in the poor and crime-ridden region of Choco. Santos immediately suspended talks until the rebels freed them.

Alzate is the highest-ranking military captive ever taken by the FARC.

The rebels' decision to release the captives may counter critics of the peace process who say the FARC is not serious about ending Latin America's longest-running war, which has killed more than 200,000 people since it began in 1964.

The FARC says it has stopped kidnapping for ransom but maintains military personnel are fair targets in the absence of a ceasefire. Alzate was considered a prisoner of war.—Reuters

Demonstrators clash with French police over protester death



TOULOUSE, (France), 23 Nov — Protesters clashed with police in southern France on Saturday over the death of a young activist killed by a police grenade, in the latest of a series of demonstrations which have embarrassed the Socialist government.

A protester clashes with French riot police during a demonstration against police brutality in Nantes, western France on 22 Nov, 2014.

REUTERS

At least 16 people were arrested in Toulouse after garbage containers were set on fire and bus stops smashed on the margins of an otherwise peaceful march where demonstrators held placards reading "End to the licence to kill".

Remi Fraisse, 21, was killed last month by a so-called "offensive grenade" during a standoff between police and opponents of a dam project in wetlands near Toulouse. Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve later ordered these devices banned.

Around 600 to 1,000 protesters marched in Toulouse and 1,200 in the west-

ern city of Nantes, where 14 were arrested.

The death has further soured relations between President Francois Hollande's Socialist government and the Green Party, a one-time government partner which said the government has not reacted properly to Fraisse's death and has accused Cazeneuve of initially hiding the truth.

The protests over the planned dam add to a growing number of environmental protests against infrastructure projects that have included stalled plans to build a new airport in Nantes.

Reuters

US plans to arm Iraq's Sunni tribesmen with AK-47s, RPGs, mortars

WASHINGTON, 23 Nov — The United States plans to buy arms for Sunni tribesmen in Iraq including AK-47s, rocket-propelled grenades and mortar rounds to help bolster the battle against Islamic State militants in Anbar Province, according to a Pentagon document prepared for Congress.

The plan to spend \$24.1 million represents a small fraction of the larger, \$1.6 billion spending request to Congress focusing on training and arming Iraqi and Kurdish forces.

But the document underscored the importance the Pentagon places on the Sunni tribesmen to its overall strategy to diminish Islamic State, and cautioned Congress about the consequences of failing to assist them.

“Not arming tribal fighters will continue to leave anti-ISIL tribes reluctant to actively counter ISIL,” the document said, using another acronym for the group which has seized control of large parts of Syrian and Iraq and is gaining territory in Anbar despite three months of US-led air strikes.

A US official said on Saturday that the document was posted this week.

It said all US support was directed “with, by and through” Iraq’s government, suggesting any weapons would be supplied through Baghdad, in line with existing policy.

It noted Iraqi security forces were not “not particularly welcome in Anbar and other majority Sunni areas,” citing their poor combat performance and



Tribal fighters take part in a military training to prepare for fighting against Islamic State militants, at the Ain al-Assad military base in Anbar province on 15 Nov, 2014. — REUTERS

sectarian divisions.

Iraq’s army has been burdened by a legacy of sectarianism in Anbar, whose dominant Sunni population resented for-

mer Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki’s Shi’ite majority government and were incensed when he ordered troops to clear a protest camp in Ramadi in De-

cember 2013.

The ensuing Sunni tribal revolt prompted the entrance of Islamic State into Falluja and Ramadi, where US troops had

met fierce resistance from Sunni insurgents including al-Qaeda during their occupation of Iraq after the 2003 invasion that overthrew Saddam Hussein.

The United States, which has deployed a small number of military advisors to Anbar Province, hopes the Sunni tribesmen can later form part of a more formal Iraqi National Guard.

The Pentagon document also detailed \$1.24 billion to be spent on Iraqi forces and \$354.8 million on Kurdish troops.

“While the trend on the battlefield has been promising in stemming ISIL gains, Iraq lacks the training expertise and equipment to field the forces needed to liberate territory,” the document said.

Reuters

Somali Islamists execute 28 non-Muslims on Kenyan bus

NAIROBI, 22 Nov — The Somali Islamist militant group al Shabaab said it had staged an attack in Kenya on Saturday in which gunmen ordered non-Muslims off a bus and shot 28 dead, while sparing Muslim passengers.

Three of the group led out to be killed saved their lives by reciting verses of the Koran for the militants, a local security official said. Al Shabaab said its men had ambushed the Nairobi-bound bus outside the town of Mandera, near Kenya’s border with Somalia and Ethiopia, and killed the non-Muslims in retali-

ation for raids on mosques in the city of Mombasa.

On Monday, police in the port city shot dead one man and arrested almost 400 others when they raided four mosques that they said were being used to recruit militants and stash weapons.

“The Mujahideen successfully carried out an operation near Mandera early this morning, which resulted in 28 crusaders perishing, as revenge for the crimes committed by the Kenyan crusaders against our Muslim brethren in Mombasa,” Sheikh Ali Mohamud Rage, al

Shabaab’s spokesman, said in a statement.

Many Islamist militants use the term “crusaders” to describe Christians or non-Muslims in general.

Police Inspector General David Kimaiyo said 19 men and nine women had been killed. “Preliminary reports indicate that the attackers, who were heavily armed, later fled toward the border into Somali,” he told reporters.

A witness, who asked not to be identified, said the attackers had boarded the bus and tried to identify Muslims and non-Muslims.—Reuters

Islamic State has lured 550 Germans into fighting — spy agency

BERLIN, 23 Nov —The number of Germans fighting alongside Islamic State militants in Syria and Iraq has increased sharply to 550 and around 180 have returned, the head of Germany’s domestic intelligence said in a newspaper interview published on Sunday.

“We are concerned about the high number of departures. Especially in the last six weeks, it has risen further,” Hans-Georg Maassen told Welt am Sonntag.

“By now we are counting 550 people, that is how many have left Germany

to go to Syria and Iraq,” he added. The previous number was 450 people. Around 60 of them have been killed during fighting, with at least nine killing themselves in suicide attacks, Maassen said. “That is a sad success for the Islamist propaganda.”

As with other Western European countries, Germany is struggling to stop the radicalisation of young Muslims, some of whom want to become jihadists in Syria or Iraq. Officials also worry that they might return to plot attacks on home soil.

Since Germany is part

of the alliance fighting Islamic State, the country is “naturally” a target for the militants as well as al-Qaeda members, Maassen said.

Intelligence services estimate that around 180 jihadists have returned to Germany after having fought in Syria and Iraq, Maassen said. In one of the largest sweeps against alleged Islamists in Germany yet, authorities last week arrested nine men suspected of supporting militant groups in Syria and raided numerous properties in several German states.

Reuters

Iraqi forces battle Islamic State in towns north of Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 23 Nov — Iraqi soldiers backed by Shi’ite militia and Kurdish peshmerga forces attacked two towns northeast of Baghdad held by Islamic State fighters on Sunday, trying to clear a main road linking the capital to the border with Iran. Peshmerga and army officers said they advanced into Jalawla, 115 km (70 miles) from Baghdad, and the nearby town of Saadiya, which they have been trying to recapture from Islamic State since the radical Islamists seized them in August. Ten soldiers, peshmerga and militia fighters were killed and 32 were wounded in Sunday’s fighting, a source at Khanaqin Hospital told Reuters. There were no immediate casualty figures for Islamic State fighters.

Iraq’s Shi’ite-led gov-

ernment, backed by US-led air strikes, has been trying to push back the Islamic State since it swept through mainly Sunni Muslim provinces of northern Iraq in June, meeting virtually no resistance. Last week the army broke a months-long siege of the country’s largest refinery north of Baghdad, but Islamic State fighters continue to take territory in the western province of Anbar, which shares borders with Syria, Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

Islamic State militants have been fighting in the last two days to take full control of the Anbar’s provincial capital Ramadi.

Jalawla and Saadiya are located in Diyala province which is mainly under the control of the Baghdad government forces and Kurdish peshmerga. A senior pesh-

merga official said the Islamic State presence in Jalawla threatened the Kurdish-controlled towns of Kalar and Khanaqin to the north as well as nearby dams and oil fields. Recapturing the town would also allow the road to be reopened between Baghdad and Khanaqin, close to the Iranian border, peshmerga Secretary-General Jabbar Yawar said. While the hardline Sunni Islamic State forces have not advanced into Baghdad, they hold a ring of towns around the mainly Shi’ite capital and have claimed responsibility for a series of bombings in Shi’ite districts of the city.

A car bomb in the Shi’ite town of Yousufiya, 30 km (20 miles) southeast of Baghdad, killed five people on Sunday, police and medics said.—Reuters



Members of the Kurdish security forces ride in vehicles during an intensive security deployment in Diyala Province north of Baghdad on 19 Nov, 2014. —REUTERS

Russia 5th generation fighter jet T-50 to have advanced weapons



Moscow, 23 Nov — Advanced weapons will be produced for a Russian fifth generation fighter jet T-50 before the end of state trials, Director-General of

Tactical Missiles corporation Boris Obnosov told Russian News Service radio on Saturday.

Creation of advanced weapons for a promising frontline aircraft system is one of guidelines for the corporation, he said.

"We seek to produce weapons by the end of state trials for the war-plane," Obnosov said.

Air-to-air and air-to-surface missiles are being manufactured for T-50, the corporation chief said. Jamming protected and all-weather weapons will be placed inside the fighter jet's body with a larger fire range.

Itar-Tass

Russia may develop hypersonic weapons before end of this decade

Moscow, 23 Nov — Russia may develop hypersonic weapons before the end of this decade, Director-General of the Tactical Missiles corporation Boris Obnosov told Russian News Service radio on Saturday.

Development of these weapons is given a priority, he said. "To create weapons with a speed exceeding Mach 4 (about 4,900 km/h) is a major task. This implies a huge scope of scientific problems," he noted. The corporation is working on these weapons for Russia to be in parity with many developed countries, Obnosov said. "Weapons which will reach a speed of Mach 6-8 (about 7,350-9,800 km/h) should be produced before the end of this decade," the corporation chief noted.

Itar-Tass



China arrests man for spying on aircraft carrier base

BEIJING, 23 Nov — A Chinese man has been arrested for taking photos of an aircraft carrier base and selling them to a foreigner as more young Chinese Internet users are being recruited by foreign spies to gather intelligence on military affairs, state media said.

The man, surnamed Cao and from the eastern city of Qingdao, is awaiting trial, state broadcaster CCTV said on Saturday.

He had taken photos of an aircraft carrier base in Qingdao for a man who had claimed to be the editor of a military magazine and was paid "a large sum of cash", CCTV said.

"In recent years, the number of young Internet users like Cao who look for jobs and make friends on the Internet, been subverted by foreign espionage and intelligence agencies and accepted instructions from them to collect intelligence on military targets, has been increasing," CCTV said, citing unnamed counterintelligence officials.

CCTV said Cao, a local employee of a large business, had also entered a military airport to take photos and transmitted them to the editor.

In August, state media reported that a Chinese graduate student had been arrested for selling intelligence material to foreigners.

In May, a court handed a 10-year prison term to an individual who leaked secret documents and photographs, including military journals and information about bases in the southern province of Guangdong to a foreign spy.

China's state secrets law is notoriously broad, covering everything from industry data to the exact birth dates of state leaders. Information can also be labeled a state secret retroactively.

In severe cases, the theft of state secrets is punishable with life in prison or the death penalty.

Reuters

Foreign workers in demand amid increase in tourists

TOKYO, 23 Nov — Demand for foreign workers has been strong in Japan over the past few years as the number of foreign tourists is rising and an increasing number of Japanese companies aim to expand their business abroad. Since its establishment in 2004, GLOBALPOWER Inc, a Tokyo-based staffing agency specializing in foreign nationals, especially those with good Japanese skills, has sent its registered staff to more than 1,000 companies across a wide range of industries. The company explained that department stores and shopping malls are particularly interested in its service as they hope to provide language services

for foreign customers and that manufacturers seeking to advance into the global market are also looking for foreign workers. On its job information website, the agency posts tips for gaining employment, including how to write resumes, what to wear for a job interview and comments by foreigners who succeeded in job hunting, in addition to job offers from companies.

President Koichi Takeuchi, who lived in the United States when he was a student, said, "I developed a website that should be easy to use, based on my job-searching experience, which was hard."

In June this year, GLOBALPOWER add-



Photo taken on 3 Oct, 2014 shows Koichi Takeuchi, president of GLOBALPOWER Inc, a Tokyo-based staffing agency specializing in foreign nationals, working at a desk in his office.

KYODO NEWS

ed a new service dubbed "Katakotobaito," which dispatches part-time foreign workers with limited Japanese skills, in order to

respond to demand from companies struggling with a shortage of workers amid an economic recovery. Among jobs at client companies are servers at restaurants and factory workers. GLOBALPOWER said it hopes that its workers will learn to hold conversations in Japanese and accumulate experience at these companies, growing to be competent resources in the future.

"We have collected data regarding some 40,000 foreigners from about 130 countries who are all fluent in Japanese," Takeuchi said. "By increasing the number of our registered staff, we will serve the various needs of Japanese companies."

Kyodo News

German couple found murdered in Caribbean island of Tobago

PORT OF SPAIN, 23 Nov — An elderly German couple was found murdered on a beach near their home in the southern Caribbean island of Tobago on Saturday, according to police. The bodies of 74 year old Conrad Keale and his 71 year old wife Bridgette Keale bore marks of violence, police said. A television report said the bodies appeared to have chop wounds. Police said the couple, regular visitors to the tourist island that is part of Trinidad and Tobago, arrived on 25 October. They had been staying at their home in Bacolet on the south west coast.

They were last seen alive on Friday evening. Police said

a gardener arrived at their home on Saturday morning and when he could not find them, went to a nearby beach, where he discovered the body of Bridgette Keale. The police were called and the second body was found on the same beach. The murders are reminiscent of another double slaying in October 2008 of an elderly Swedish couple, 73-year-old Ake Olsson and his 62-year old companion Anna Sundsvall. Their mutilated bodies were found in a villa which they owned.

Tobago, with a population of about 60,000, is a popular holiday destination for Europeans particularly Germans and British.—*Reuters*

Dodik: Dayton Agreement is destroyed

BANJALUKA, 23 Nov — Republika Srpska (RS) President Milorad Dodik said that the Dayton Agreement is destroyed by the actions of high representatives for Bosnia-Herzegovina (BiH), although still in force as an international agreement.

On the anniversary of the Dayton Accord that ended the four-year civil war in BiH, Dodik told reporters on Friday that, 19 years after the agreement was signed, BiH remains "stuck in misunderstandings" and is unable to reach a consensus on a single issue.

Dodik stressed that RS would have been an "empty shell" today if in 2006 he had not set the political course towards defending the Dayton Agreement and the position of RS in accordance with it, and so put an end to a further transfer of its powers to the BiH level.

Dodik pointed out that RS is not responsible for the failure to implement the judgment of the European Court of Human Rights in the Sejdic-Finci case,



regarding a discriminatory provision of the state's Constitution which prevents members of national minorities to be elected to the House of Peoples of the BiH Parliamentary Assembly and the Presidency of BiH.

According to BiH Constitution, only the representatives of three constituent nations — Bosniaks, Serbs and Croats — can be elected to the highest state bodies.

The Bosniaks in the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina are trying to out-vote the Croats, and the Croats do not allow it.

This is why the judgment in the Sejdic-Finci case is not being implemented, and that is one of the conditions for BiH to move forward on its European path, the Republika Srpska president said.

Tanjug

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P.O. Box No. 26, Yangon.
Dated: 24 November 2014

Poll Shows Irish PM's party popularity hit by water levy protests

DUBLIN, 23 Nov — The popularity of Irish prime minister Enda Kenny's party has slumped since it announced the first non-austerity budget in seven years last month and mass protests against new water charges began, an opinion poll showed on Saturday. Only 22 percent of voters said they would vote for Kenny's center-right Fine Gael party, down 6 percentage points since the 14 October budget and 14 points since its election in 2011, the RED C-Sunday Business Post opinion poll, said. It was the lowest rating the party has ever had in a Red C poll.

Fine Gael has been rocked by mass protests against new water charges and a series of scandals about poor management at the company set up to administer them. Water services had been paid for from general taxation.

The biggest beneficiaries of the protests have been left-wing Sinn Fein party which is the joint most popular party with 22



Ireland's Prime Minister Enda Kenny talks to the media as he arrives at an informal summit of European Union leaders in Brussels on 27 May, 2014.
REUTERS

percent and Independents/Others on 27 percent.

Sinn Fein's popularity was unchanged compared to the last RED C poll in an apparent sign recent accusations in parliament that members of the party had failed to properly report sex abuse had not had a significant impact.

The three parties that have formed the backbone of all Irish government's since the 1930s, Fianna Fail, Fine Gael and Labour,

now have less than 50 percent of the vote between them, the poll said, highlighting the possibility of a major realignment of Irish politics at elections due in early 2016.

Kenny's coalition government with Labour has overseen a dramatic recovery in the Irish economy from a disastrous real estate crash and banking crisis that forced an international bailout in 2010.

Ireland last year be-

came the first euro zone country to exit an international bailout and the economy is forecast to grow almost 5 percent this year, which would likely make it the best performing in the euro zone.

But many people who took part in two mass protests in recent weeks said they were not feeling the recovery and accused the government of unfairly targeting the poor with cut-backs.—Reuters

Hitler watercolour fetches 130,000 euros at Nuremberg auction

BERLIN, 23 Nov — A 1914 watercolour by Adolf Hitler fetched 130,000 euros (\$161,000) at auction in the German city of Nuremberg on Saturday, the auctioneers said.

The buyer was a private person from the Middle East who attended the

sale in person, said Kathrin Weidler, head of the auction house. She said there had also been inquiries from Asia and America.

The painting, entitled "Standesamt und Altes Rathaus Muenchen" (Civil Registry Office and Old Town Hall of Munich), is one of about 2,000 works that Hitler painted between about 1905 and 1920 as a struggling young artist.

Asked before the auc-

tion whether it was tasteless to auction the Nazi dictator's works, generally considered to be of only limited artistic merit, Weidler said complaints should be addressed to the sellers — two unidentified German sisters in their 70s.

Weidler said the vendors had decided to donate around 10 percent of the proceeds to a charity that helps disabled children.

Hitler's Nazi party

held mass rallies in Nuremberg between 1933 and 1938. In his autobiography "Mein Kampf", he wrote that, as a young man, his hopes of becoming an artist had been dashed by repeated rejection by Vienna's Academy of Fine Arts.

Five other Hitler paintings have fetched between 5,000 and 80,000 euros at auction. Weidler said the original handwritten bill of sale, dated 25 Sept, 1916,

had come with the painting and was a rarity for Hitler's art. That also explained the relatively high selling price, she said. But that has raised doubt among critics about the painting's provenance. They recall how hoaxer Konrad Kujau used supposed certifications of authenticity to trick some historians when he marketed what proved to be bogus "Hitler Diaries" in 1983.

Reuters



A watercolour of the old registry office in Munich by former German dictator Adolf Hitler lies next to a catalog of his paintings and drawings at Weidler auction house in Nuremberg on 18 Nov, 2014.
REUTERS

WEATHER REPORT

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 24th November, 2014: Isolated light rain or thunder-showers are likely in Tanintharyi Region and Kachin State and weather will be partly cloudy in Upper Sagaing, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Kayin and Mon States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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'Planet of the Apes' franchise will have five films: Andy Serkis



Andy Serkis: It might be three films. It could be four. It could be five. Who knows?—PTI

LOS ANGELES, 23 Nov — Hollywood actor Andy Serkis says the new 'Planet of the Apes' franchise may stretch to five movies. Serkis, 50, plays the Ape leader, Caesar, in the rebooted series, reported Ace Showbiz.

"It might be three films. It could be four. It could be five. Who knows? The journey will continue. It might not necessarily be summarized or completely fulfilled in this next one. The point being, eventually we know that we're going to end up back at 'The Planet of the Apes', but whether it's this film or not, I don't know," Serkis said.

"To be honest, it's very, very early in where we choose to drop our anchor in the next film, so it could be five years after the event. It could be the night after the events of where we left 'Dawn', so it's very difficult to know where the story is going right at this moment because it's being written as we speak. I know part of the desire for Matt Reeves to do this next movie about continuing the enjoyment of seeing these apes evolve," he added.

The third movie is planned for 29 July, 2016 release Stateside. Matt Reeves from the second installment 'Dawn of the Planet of the Apes' returns to direct it.—PTI

Penelope Cruz to star in 'Zoolander' sequel

LOS ANGELES, 23 Nov — Actress Penelope Cruz will star alongside Ben Stiller in a planned sequel to hit 2001 comedy 'Zoolander'.

'Friends' star Jennifer Aniston's beau Justin Theroux has penned the script for the follow-up, which will feature Stiller, 48, taking on double duty by directing and reprising his role as ditzy supermodel Derek Zoolander, reported Deadline. Details about the 40-year-old Spanish beauty's role have yet to be revealed. Reports suggest Will Ferrell and Owen Wilson are also in talks to return as their original characters Mugatu and Hansel, respectively.—PTI



Charlize Theron, Sean Penn party with his daughter

LOS ANGELES, 23 Nov — Charlize Theron and Sean Penn enjoyed a date night with his daughter, Dylan Penn, at the launch of Nasty Gal Melrose store in Los Angeles. The couple recently returned from shooting their upcoming film, 'The Last Face,' in South Africa, reported E! online.

"They were so cute. He watched her while she shopped," a source said. The duo, who have been dating for almost one year, were holding hands for most of

the evening. "Sean arrived hand in hand with Charlize, he followed her around the store while she mingled, posed for photos with her friend Nasty Gal founder Sophia Amoruso, and shopped the racks. He was a trooper and showed to everyone in the room how supportive he is of her. They looked so cute and in love," the source added. Other guests at the bash included Christina Milian, Azalea Banks and Zac Efron's new girlfriend Sami Miro.—PTI



The couple recently returned from shooting their upcoming film, 'The Last Face,' in South Africa. PTI

Jennifer Aniston wants Benedict Cumberbatch for 'Horrible Bosses 3'



Jennifer Aniston wants Benedict Cumberbatch for 'Horrible Bosses 3'.—PTI

LONDON, 23 Nov — Actress Jennifer Aniston and her 'Horrible Bosses' co-stars spent a plane journey with Benedict Cumberbatch discussing a potential role for him

in the next movie.

The former 'Friends' star appeared alongside Jason Bateman, Charlie Day and Jason Sudeikis, in the original comedy, and they have all returned for a sequel, Horrible Bosses 2, with Chris Pine and Christoph Waltz joining the cast, reported Contactmusic.

Aniston said they are all keen to make a third film in the franchise, so they made the most of a meeting with Cumberbatch on a plane to London and attempted to persuade him to take on a nasty role in the next movie.

"I just flew on an airplane with him, we all did. We think we recruited him to be in number three as the new boss. He might have said yes and I don't think he knows it "Could you imagine being on an airplane and being bombarded by the three boys and me and all of us going, 'So you're going to be the new boss?' And I was like, 'He is?' Apparently he said, 'Yes, apparently I am.' He was very excited to sort of digress with us," Aniston said.—PTI

Meryl Streep is my role model: Julianne Moore

LONDON, 23 Nov — Actress Julianne Moore has revealed three-time Oscar winner Meryl Streep inspired her to take up acting. The 53-year-old actress said she had always admired Streep's work and the way in which she lives her life, reported Contactmusic.

"I can remember when Meryl Streep was on the cover of Time magazine when I was in high school, and I said to my dad, 'I think I want to do this'. She is just such a great actress. And she's someone who has managed to have a family, a marriage and a career," Moore said.—PTI



Julianne Moore

Daniel Radcliffe passes driving test

LONDON, 23 Nov — 'Harry Potter' star Daniel Radcliffe has passed his driving test.

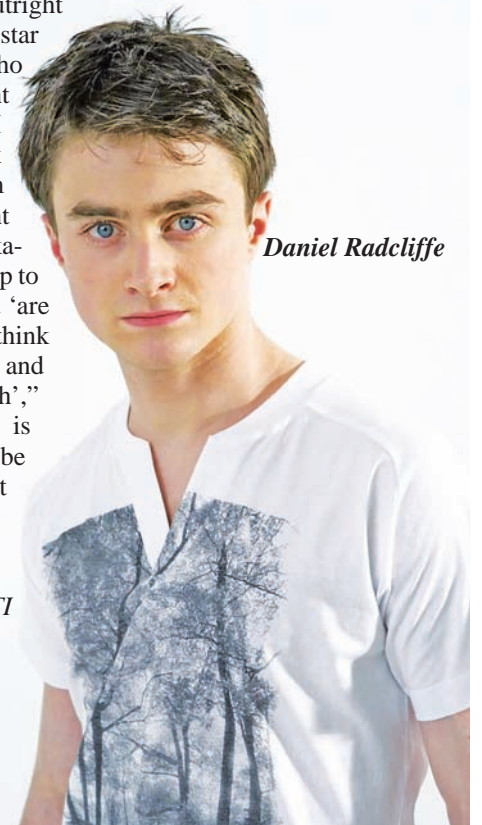
The 24-year-old star was pictured with another driver in celebration as they both passed their tests this afternoon, reported the Daily Express.

Radcliffe took his test in Hornchurch, a suburb of East London, the opposite side of the capital city to where the actor was born — Fulham.

It's thought to be the actor's first and only driving test. With a large scruffy-looking beard and dishevelled hair, it seemed the actor was far from recognizable. Zarra Cushing, another first-time driver who passed her test

today, outright asked the star if he was who she thought he was. "I didn't think it was him — I thought it was a look-alike. I went up to him and said 'are you who I think you are?' and he said 'yeah'," she said. It is thought to be Daniel's first and only driving test.

PTI



Daniel Radcliffe

GENERAL

Messi sets La Liga record of 253 goals

BARCELONA, 23 Nov — Barcelona forward Lionel Messi set a La Liga record of 253 goals when he grabbed a hat-trick in Saturday's 5-1 win at home to Sevilla, the latest milestone for the four-times World Player of the Year.

The previous mark was held by former Athletic Bilbao striker Telmo Zarra since 1955, which marked the end of the Spaniard's 15-year career with the Basque club.

Zarra scored his 251 goals in 277 appearances while Argentina captain Messi, who was 17 when he netted for the first time in Spain's top flight against Albacete in May 2005, needed 289 games.

"When I scored that goal (against Albacete) I couldn't imagine I could break any record, let alone this one previously held by the great Telmo Zarra," Messi wrote on his Facebook page. "I was only able to achieve this because of



Barcelona's Lionel Messi celebrates his goal with teammates during their Spanish first division soccer match against Sevilla at Nou Camp stadium in Barcelona on 22 Nov, 2014. —REUTERS

the support I have had from so many people during my time here and I would like to dedicate this achievement to you all.

"Thanks for always being with me. I would also like to dedicate this to the people who are no longer

with us any more. I will never forget you. Thank you everyone for standing with me."

Messi, 27, equalled Zarra's record in the 21st minute with a typically breathtaking effort, curling a left-footed free kick

around the wall and past Sevilla goalkeeper Beto.

He struck again from close range in the 72nd minute and scored a third goal six minutes later with a powerful low drive from the edge of the penalty area.

Reuters

Pogba scores twice as Juventus romp to another win



Juventus' Paul Pogba (L) celebrates after scoring his second goal against Lazio during their Italian Serie A soccer match at Olympic stadium in Rome on 22 Nov, 2014. — REUTERS

ROME, 23 Nov — Paul Pogba scored twice and Carlos Tevez was also on target as Serie A leaders Juventus romped to a 3-0 win at Lazio on Saturday.

Pogba, 21, broke the deadlock with a classy finish in

the 24th minute when he collected Tevez's chipped pass and slotted past Federico Marchetti from the edge of the area.

Tevez finished off a counter-attack to grab his ninth league goal of the season in the 55th minute.

Pogba struck again just after the hour and champions Juve coasted home despite having Simone Padoin sent off with 19 minutes left.

Juventus have 31 points from 12 games while AS Roma stayed three points behind in second place with a 2-1 win at Atalanta.

Atalanta went ahead in the first minute when Maxi Moralez fired home from close range, only their fifth league goal of the season.

Adem Ljajic curled in Roma's equaliser and then combined with Radja Nainggolan who side-footed the visitors in front just before halftime.

Atalanta substitute Richmond Boakye was sent off in stoppage time after he was booked and then given another yellow card for dissent seconds later.

Reuters

Woods working with new swing teacher Como

NEW YORK, 23 Nov — Tiger Woods, who plans to return to competition in less than two weeks after a three-month absence, said on Saturday that he is working with a new coach, Chris Como, on his swing.

Woods, who has been plagued by back issues and underwent back surgery in March, broke ties with swing coach Sean Foley in August.

"Happy to have Chris Como consulting and working with me on my swing. I'm excited to be back competing," Woods said on his Twitter account

(@TigerWoods).

The 14-times major winner is expected to tee it up at the Hero World Challenge, his annual tournament benefitting the Tiger Woods Foundation starting on 4 December at Isleworth near Orlando, Florida.

The Texas-based Como, 36, has also worked with South African former Masters champion Trevor Immelman, Australian Aaron Baddeley and American Jamie Lovemark.

Woods said he was introduced to Como this summer by four-time PGA Tour winner Notah

Begay, his friend and former college teammate at Stanford.

"Subsequently we had several good conversations about the golf swing," Woods said in a statement.

"I've worked with him about a month since I started practicing. Chris will consult and work with me during the year."

After missing the cut at the PGA Championship following a back issue, Woods decided to shut down for several months and announced he was parting with Foley, his coach of

four years.

Woods, 38, played just eight times worldwide in a winless 2014 and after surgery to alleviate a disk issue missed the Masters and the US Open and finished 69th at the British Open.

The longtime former world number one, who held the top spot in May 2014, has slipped to 23 in the world rankings.

Woods won eight events on the PGA Tour with Foley, but none were major championships. His last major victory came at the 2008 US Open.

Reuters

MYANMAR TV

(24-11-2014, Monday)

6:00 am

* Paritta by venerable Mingun Sayadaw

6:40 am

* Nice & Sweet Songs

7:00 am

* News / Weather Report

7:20 am

* People talks

8:00 am

* News / International News

8:35 am

* Documentary (ASEAN)

9:00 am

* News / International News

9:30 am

* Pyi Thu Ni Ti

10:20 am

* Weekly Entertainment News

12:00 noon

* News / International News / Weather Report

12:30 pm

* Myanmar Movies

3:30 pm

* Joint Performance by State Orchestra and Traditional Orchestra

4:30 pm

* University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) — Second Year (Business Management)

5:15 pm

* TV Drama Series

6:20 pm

* Traditional Boxing

7:00 pm

* News

7:25 pm

* TV Drama Series

8:00 pm

* News / International News / Weather Report

8:35 pm

* People Talks

9:00 pm

* Hluttaw Image Socio Economic Scenes
* Talk on Old Film

MITV

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(24-11-14 07:00 am~ 25-11-14 07:00 am) MST

* Local News

* Art Students: Sculpture

* World News

* Sticky Shan Snack

* Local News

* A Visit To San-Taw-Shin Kyike-Hti-Yo Pagoda

* World News

* School for the Blind

* Local News

* Shan - Flat -Rice-Noodle Soup

* World News

* Myanmar Movie

Review; Aung Myine, Kyaw Kyar, Sue Sha, Htet Myat"

* Local News

* Youth Of The Future (Episode-6) (Adino, Drummer)

* World News

* In the Studio "Phone Nay"

* Local News

* The Man and The Elephant

* World News

* Today Myanmar "ASEAN Traditional Food"

* Local News

* The Caves

* World News

* A Nun's Creation in Fruit Carving

* Local News

* A Visit to Kyauk Kyi

* World News

* Made in Myanmar "Mixxo"

* Local News

* The Stories Of The Great Souls (Mar Mar Aye) (Episode-2)

* World News



Tiger Woods of the US grimaces after hitting his tee shot on the seventh hole during the second round of the 2014 PGA Championship at Valhalla Golf Club in Louisville, Kentucky, on 8 Aug, 2014. — REUTERS

Matsuyama earns 1st win of season in Japan

MIYAZAKI, 23 Nov — Hideki Matsuyama, who plays primarily on the US PGA tour, won his first domestic event of the year on Sunday, beating Hiroshi Iwata in a playoff to capture the JGTO's Dunlop Phoenix title.

Matsuyama started the day with a two stroke lead and shot a 1-under-par 70 final round at the par-71 Phoenix Country Club. Iwata began the final day in a tie for seventh, seven strokes back, but scorched the course for a 63 to tie Matsuyama at 15-under 269. Iwata, however, fell apart on the first playoff

hole, and Matsuyama saved par to earn a 40 million yen payoff.

A pair of birdies on Nos. 17 and 18 closed it out for Matsuyama in regulation following back-to-back bogeys on the 15th and 16th holes. He carded five birdies against four bogeys, while Iwata was nearly flawless with eight birdies in a bogey-free round.

American Jordan Spieth started two strokes off the pace but could only close the gap to one, finishing in a tie for third with Australia's Brendan Jones, who shot a 68.

Kyodo News



Hideki Matsuyama holds up the winner's trophy after his victory in the Dunlop Phoenix golf tournament at Phoenix Country Club in Miyazaki, southern Japan, on 23 Nov, 2014. Matsuyama won the tournament after a playoff with Hiroshi Iwata.—KYODO NEWS

Pacquiao scores six knockdowns in title defence

MACAU, 23 Nov — Manny Pacquiao knocked down American challenger Chris Algieri six times to retain his WBO welterweight championship in Macau on Sunday morning.

The first knockdown, in the second round, was a combination of a Pacquiao punch and Algieri slipping on the canvas but in the sixth round Algieri tumbled head over heels after a Pacquiao barrage and went down again in the same round from a right hook.

A fierce left cross in the ninth sent Algieri to his back. He beat the count, but dropped to his knees from a follow-up flurry and seemed on the verge of being stopped as Pacquiao unleashed a fusillade of punches against the ropes.

Somehow the American survived that round and despite being knocked down by another left hand in the tenth, made it to the final bell.

Algieri (20-1, 9 KOs), who suffered his first defeat, had earned the shot against Pacquiao by overcoming a swollen right eye and two knockdowns against Russia's Ruslan Provodnikov in his previous outing but he was nev-



Manny Pacquiao (R) of the Philippines punches Chris Algieri of the US during their World Boxing Organization (WBO) 12-round welterweight title fight at the Venetian Macao hotel in Macau on 23 Nov, 2014.—REUTERS

er remotely in this contest.

Although he circled constantly to his left and attempted to keep Pacquiao (57-5-2, 38 KOs) at a distance with his superior reach, he rarely landed any consequential punches.

"It's not just his hand speed," said Algieri afterward of Pacquiao. "He's a great fighter. He does everything well. I was nev-

er hurt, but he did catch me with a big shot."

Although Pacquiao sometimes struggled to hit Algieri cleanly because of his opponent's backward motion, the punches he did land took their toll.

"I did my best," reflected Pacquiao. "Algieri was fast-moving. I'm not surprised that he kept getting up, because that's

what he did against Ruslan Provodnikov."

The win raised once more the prospect of a long-anticipated clash with undefeated American Floyd Mayweather, a fight that Pacquiao said he welcomed.

"I want that fight," he said. "The fans deserve that fight."

Reuters

Chelsea win to stay top as City, United enjoy victories

LONDON, 23 Nov — Chelsea beat West Bromwich Albion to stay top of the Premier League on Saturday while champions Manchester City kept the leaders in their sights and Manchester United demonstrated they are not out of the title race yet.

Chelsea played some dazzling football to easily beat West Brom 2-0 at Stamford Bridge with goals from Diego Costa and Eden Hazard to stretch their unbeaten start to the season to 18 matches in all competitions.

City came from behind to defeat Swansea City 2-1 at the Etihad Stadium with Yaya Toure scoring the winner, while United, who have struggled since Louis van Gaal took over, won 2-1 at Arsenal to climb to fourth with their first away win under the Dutch coach.

Arsenal, who have not finished outside the top

four since 1996, slipped to eighth on 17 points — their lowest tally after 12 matches for 32 years.

Chelsea lead the table with 32 points from 12 games, followed by Southampton, who have 25 from 11 and play at Aston Villa on Monday.

City have 24 points and United have 19, ahead of Newcastle United on goal difference. Newcastle, who are fifth, continued their rise up the table with a 1-0 win over bottom-placed Queens Park Rangers.

Although there are still 26 matches left, Chelsea reinforced their position as overwhelming title favourites by demolishing West Brom, who were already 2-0 down when they had defender Claudio Yacob red-carded for a two-footed lunge on Costa.

After seeing his team make it six league wins out



Arsenal's Danny Welbeck (C) heads the ball during their English Premier League soccer match against Manchester United at the Emirates Stadium in London on 22 Nov, 2014.—REUTERS

of six at home, manager Jose Mourinho told Sky Sports: "We played spectacular high quality football in the first half."

Across London in the evening kickoff, United did not sparkle like Chelsea but they eked out the result they craved at Arsenal, who lost at home in

the league for the first time since the opening day of last season.

Arsenal had plenty of chances to win but wasted all of them and went behind in the 56th minute when Kieran Gibbs sent a deflected cross flying past his own goalkeeper Wojciech Szczesny who later

went off injured.

Replacement keeper Emiliano Martinez could not stop Rooney completing a great week by making it 2-0 after a United counter-attack in the 85th minute.

Rooney won his 100th cap for England versus Slovenia last Saturday and on Tuesday against Scotland scored his 46th goal to move to third on England's all-time scoring list.

Arsenal came back when Olivier Giroud, on as a substitute after a three-month injury absence with a broken leg, scored with a stunning 22-metre strike but United held on for the win.

Van Gaal told the BBC: "I think it is a fantastic victory at the right moment. We have a lot of injuries but despite that we won a difficult away match."

"At the end, I can

laugh but you can imagine if they score one of four or five chances in the first half then it is a different game."

Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger added: "It was one-way traffic and we lost the game, we have to take it on the chin. I know we'll be criticized for it but you have to respect the energy levels we put in."

West Ham United, who started the day in fourth place, ended it in sixth after losing 2-1 at Everton who made it seven matches without defeat in all competitions. Leon Osman scored the winner on his 400th club appearance. In the day's other matches, Burnley won 2-1 at Stoke City, with Danny Ings scoring twice inside two minutes in the first half, and Leicester City, who have not scored for five league matches, drew 0-0 with Sunderland.

Reuters