

Biography of His Majesty King Harald

His Majesty King Harald V of Norway was born on 21 February 1937 at his parents' home, the country estate



His Majesty King Harald V and Her Majesty Queen Sonja.

of Skaugum, near Oslo. The only son of Crown Prince Olav (the future King of Olav V) and Crown Princess Martha, he acceded to the Throne when his father passed away on 17 January 1991.

Prince Harald completed his upper secondary education at Oslo Cathedral School, receiving his school-leaving certificate in 1955.

Prince Harald entered the Norwegian Cavalry Officer's Training School and went on to finish his military education at the Military Academy in 1959. Upon completion of his compulsory military service, the Crown Prince went to Oxford for further study. He attended Balliol College from 1960 to 1962, studying social science, history and economics.

King Haakon VII died on 21 September 1957, and Prince Harald became Crown Prince, attending the Council of State for the first time. The Crown Prince worked closely alongside his father, King Olav V, and carried out an increasing number of official tasks, such as travelling with trade delegations to promote Norwegian industry abroad.

Prince Harald married to Miss Sonja Haraldsen and the wedding was held in Oslo Cathedral on 29 August 1968. They had two children: a Princess and a Crown Prince.

King Harald holds the rank of General in the Army and Air Force, and of Admiral in the Navy. He is the nation's highest-ranking officer.

The Royal Family takes great pleasure in sports and outdoor recreational activities. The King is deeply concerned with environmental issues, and served for 20 years as the President of the Norwegian chapter of the World Wildlife Fund (WWF Norge).

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His Majesty King Harald V and Her Majesty Queen Sonja granted an audience to President U Thein Sein on 27 February 2013 at the Royal Palace in Oslo, Norway.

Agents estimate real estate market will grow by 8% in 2015

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 29 Nov— Sommerfeld, Country Manager of House.com.mm, concerning the future of real estate in the emerging market here on Saturday. “Two thirds of real estate agents have estimated that the housing market is likely to see an eight per cent growth in the coming year,” said Mr Jan

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Myanmar secures \$80 million ADB road loan for generating new business opportunities in Ayeyawady delta

By Ye Myint

YANGON, 29 Nov— Myanmar has secured a road investment program from the Asian Develop-

ment Bank (ADB) for the upgrade of a road acting as a key transport facility link in and out of the Ayeyawady Region, the

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Photo shows a road under construction in the Ayeyawady Region which is the country's largest rice production area, bordering the Bago Region to the north, Yangon Region to the east and the Bay of Bengal to the south and west.

PHOTO SUPPLIED/ ADB MYANMAR

President serves congratulation dinner party



President U Thein Sein greets the guests at the state dinner party held at Myanmar International Convention Centre-2, congratulating successful accomplishments of Myanmar during ASEAN chairmanship.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Nov— President U Thein Sein served a dinner party Saturday to congratulate those who took part in the respective supporting groups at the 25th ASEAN Summit and its related meetings, the members of Myanmar U-19 foot-

ball team for their entry to FIFA U-20 World Cup and the responsible persons who accomplished to bring three ancient Pyu cities of Myanmar into the list of World Heritage.

The grand dinner party was held at the Myanmar International Con-

vention Centre (2), with attendance of more than 1,300, including Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) Thura U Shwe Mann, speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw (Upper House) U Khin Aung My-

int, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, as well as the invited guests.

President congratulated those who could help the country gain recent successes.

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Kanaung Station Hospital opened in Myanaung Tsp

MYANAUNG, 29 Nov—Chief Minister of Ayeyawady Region U Thein Aung and Speaker of Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw U Tin Soe attended the ceremony to open the Kanaung Station Hospital in Myanaung Township on Friday.

Ayeyawady Region Minister for Development Affairs U Kyaw Win Naing, Region Minister for Social Affairs Daw Khin Saw Mu and Region Hluttaw Representative U Aung Myo Nyunt formally opened the hospital. The construction company official handed over documents related to the hospital to Medical Superintendent Dr Maung Maung Chit of Myanaung



Township Hospital.

At Basic Education

High School in Kanaung, they met local people and

fulfilled the requirements.

Nay Win Zaw (Myanaung)

Election sub-commission meets in Kyunsu Township



KYUNSU, 29 Nov—Kyunsu Township Election Sub-commission and ward and village sub-commis-

sions held a coordination meeting at the Township General Administration Department in Kyunsu,

Taninthayi Region, on Friday.

Township Administrator U Nyein Htwe stressed

the need to elect the vacancies of the sub-elections at different levels. Head of Township Immigration and National Registration Department U Win Myat Htut explained the citizenship.

Chairman of Township Sub-commission U Aung Win discussed procedures and rules and regulations of the election sub-commissions. Deputy Township Administrator U Tun Tun Lin instructed the local authorities to compile the lists of households and population.

Kyunsu IPRD

MR to resume Pyidawtha-Yechanbyin train in Sittway

SITTWAY, 29 Nov—As peace and stability can be stored in Rakhine State, the train will resume along Py-

idawtha-Yechanbyin railroad section in Sittway as of 1 January 2015, according to U Kyaw Moe, in-charge

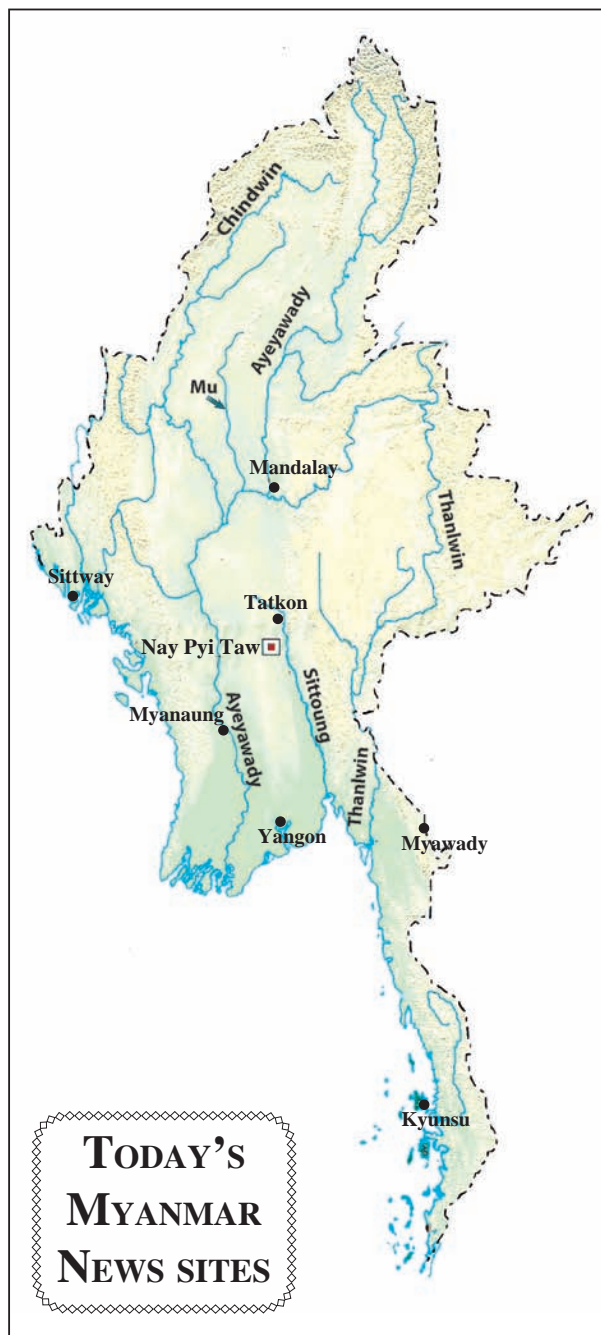
of the division of Myanmar Railways. The train will run along the section four times a day. Workers and

engineers of Myanmar Railways have substituted new slippers in the places of old one.—Rakhine State IPRD

German specialists perform surgical operations on patients in Sittway

SITTWAY, 29 Nov—With the assistance of Rakhine State Government and Health Department, German specialists performed medical checkup on the patients at the Alodawpyae Monastery in Sittway on 23 November.

A total of 74 cleft lip and palate patients, 150 thyroid patients and other 300 patients received medical treatments. The German specialists gave surgical operations to the patients from 24 to 30 November at Sittway General Hospital. The medical treatment was organized by Myanmar Chefs Association and Rakhine National Salvage Association (Yangon).—Rakhine State



Vocational training courses conclude in Myawady



MYAWADY, 29 Nov—The Basic domestic science course No 52 and the advanced tailoring course No 38 concluded at the Vocational Training School for the Women in Myawady, the border town of Kayin State, on Friday.

Deputy Commissioner of District U Lwin Ko Oo made a speech and Principal Daw Khin Thein Oo

reported on conducting the courses. The deputy commissioners awarded the outstanding trainees of both courses and the principal presented certifications to the trainees.

Deputy Head of Township Labour Department Daw Mya Sanda Win presented labour registration cards to the trainees.

Thuzar (Myawady Town)

NATIONAL

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Biography of Her Majesty Queen Sonja

Her Majesty Queen Sonja was born in Oslo on 4 July 1937 as the daughter of Dagny and Karl August Haraldsen. When King Harald ascended to the Throne upon the death of King Olav, Queen Sonja became Norway's first queen in 53 years.

Queen Sonja completed her lower secondary schooling in 1954. She received a diploma in dressmaking and tailoring at the Oslo Vocational School, and went on to receive a diploma from Ecole Professionnelle des Jeunes Filles in Lausanne, Switzerland. Her studies there included social science, accounting and fashion design. She returned to Norway for further studies and received an under graduate degree (French, English and Art History) from the University of Oslo.

Queen Sonja has a strong sense of social engagement. She has been patron of and has played an active role in a variety of large-scale fundraising initiatives.

Queen Sonja has many interests that she combines with her duties as Norway's First Lady. The Queen is particularly interested in art and culture.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives KNU Chairman and party

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Nov—Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing met with Saw Mutu Sae Po, Chairman of the Karen National Union (KNU), and party at Bayintnaung Hall in Nay Pyi Taw on Saturday.

Also present at the meeting were Chief of General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Hla Htay Win and senior military officers of the Commander-in-Chief Office, KNU General Secretary Pado Kwe Htoo Win, CEC members Saw Roger Khin and Pado Mahn Nyein Maung, Quartermaster-General Saw Isaac, Saw Htoo Htoo Lay, political and military adviser to the KNU Chairman, Pado Shwe Moun, Kawkareik district chairman, and officials.

Both sides expressed their satisfaction with the ceasefire activities between Tatmadaw and KNU, stressed the need of realization of Tatmadaw's six-point peace principle rather than strict adherence to it, agreed to the points needed to be amended in accord



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing shakes hand with Saw Mutu Sae Po, Chairman of the KNU in Nay Pyi Taw on Saturday.—MYAWADY

with the law regarding constitutional change and made a resolution to strive for ensuring peace between Tatmadaw and KNU.

After the meeting,

President serves congratulation dinner party...

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President said: "These successes are resulted from cooperation of related persons and groups. Myanmar has become a member of ASEAN since 17 years ago with the country's foreign policy of active role in international affairs by holding the fundamental principles of the country."

President also thanked to the managers and players of U-19 football team for their success, and accomplishment for enabling the three ancient Pyu cities into World

Heritage list.

Myanmar could hold state-level summits beginning January this year, and could establish the ASEAN Institute for Green Economy during the chairmanship of the bloc.

He also said: "Our government has encountered many challenges in democratization efforts. However, these works have been accepted by international community, leading to take part in international events. We have made determined efforts to go ahead, hoping the fruitful results for the country and people with economic development."

President noted that the government emphasized on the end of internal conflicts as peace and stability is fundamental for the prosperity of the country.

U Thein Sein said that 2014 is a remarkable

Myanmar secures \$80 million ADB road loan for generating...

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country's main rice growing region.

The ADB announced the road loan on Thursday with a press release saying that it will provide a loan of \$80 million to Myanmar to upgrade a 54 km section of the road between Pyapon and Maubin in the region and bridges along the route, as well as fund new testing facilities for the Ministry of Construction and its Public Works.

"Upgrading the Maubin-Pyapon road which traverses the southeast of the delta will dramatically improve connectivity, cut travel times, reduce transport costs, and support economic development and livelihood opportunities for many poor communities," said Jamie Leather, principal transport specialist in ADB's Southeast Asia Department in the release.

The specialist added the project is aimed at helping Myanmar establish

year for Myanmar as the country could successfully hold the World Economic Forum and the SEA Games in December 2013 thanks to the cooperation of people from respective sectors.

He also acknowledged those who could polish the role of country through their participations in the successful events.

Leaders from ASEAN countries and partner countries in East Asia Summit, namely, the United States, Russian Federation, People's Republic of China, India, Japan, Australia, New Zealand and Republic of Korea, pledged their helps for both Myanmar and ASEAN.

U Thein Sein also made a commitment to continue sustaining the theme of ASEAN "Moving Forward in Unity to a Peaceful and Prosperous Community", together with other members of the bloc.

Myanmar also hosted

new business opportunities in rural areas which are expected to emerge as a result of the country's ongoing economic liberalization program.

The bank described the Ayeyawady delta as the key rice producer in the country and said the delta has potential for large scale agribusinesses and seafood industries, but the condition of its road network is poor due to years of neglect and the impact of cyclone Nargis, which made landfall in the region in 2008.

The financial institution continued that the poor road network deters enterprises such as cash crops and high-value seafood products which require decent roads to get goods to market on time and in good condition.

According to the ADB press release, climate-resilient features have been incorporated in the project design, including an increase in the height of parts of the

38th U-19 football tournament of Asia Football Federation, and clinched a victory to the entry of 2015 U-20 World Cup which will be held in New Zealand.

President then mentioned the new members of World Heritage list—three ancient Pyu cities, namely, Halin in Shwedo district of Sagaing region, Beikthano in Magwe region and Sri Ksetra in Bago region.

Civilization of these three ancient cities has well developed in 2,000 years ago.

Myanmar proposed eight cultural heritage sites to the UNESCO in 1996, and these three ancient cities were selected to submit as the priority list of World Heritage in 2010.

As a conclusion, President congratulated again those for these significant accomplishments during the term of ASEAN chairmanship for Myanmar.

MNA

road to improve clearance during seasonal floods and to cope with any climate-related storm surges.

Surfaced shoulders to be built on both sides of the route will allow safe travel for non-motorized traffic and pedestrians and connections to the local waterway network will improve access to the more remote areas of the delta, the release added.

It said reducing travel time along the district-to-district route, which links Pyapon, located about 75 miles south of Yangon, and Maubin, some 40 miles east of Yangon, tripling traffic volumes and supporting new agribusinesses and agricultural processing facilities by 2022 are included in the project's targets.

The project, which is part of ADB's broader engagement with Myanmar in the roads sector and is a pilot initiative to demonstrate best practices for future road network improvements, is expected to be completed by September 2018, said the bank.

GNLM

Agents estimate real estate market...

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He added that office apartments market may enjoy a significant rise as local and foreign investors are show greater interests in Myanmar's real estate sector, one of the top-five sectors of foreign investment.

Managing Director Mr Antony Picon from Colliers International said that Yan-

gon will continue to remain a major commercial centre, predicting that the trend still makes it hard to strike a balance between supply and demand in 2015.

At the meeting, Sommerfeld discussed top three constraints of Myanmar's housing property market, referring to political change, economic outlook and limitation on foreign

investment.

Locals are upset about high rental fees, with an urban dweller complaining of a large sum of money he has to spend on house rental, which he added is on the increase almost every six months.

The government is now working on a policy on land use. Zaw Myint Oo, a real estate consultant, told the Global New

Light of Myanmar that real estate lawyers have welcomed the government's effort and expressed their strong belief in the policy, expecting that it will solve the land-related problems.

According to experts, the property market sees vitality thanks to the government's real estate property tax law, but the real estate prices are predicted not to fall in the future.

"The government should reduce high tax fees a bit in order to lure all tax payers," said the vice president of Myanmar Real Estate Services Association.—GNLM

Impeachment process begins for ousted Thai PM Yingluck

BANGKOK, 29 Nov — Thailand's military-appointed legislature on Friday started impeachment proceedings against ousted former Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra over a loss-making rice subsidy programme, seen as a further step to try to end the political influence of her powerful family.

Yingluck was removed from office in May, after a court found her guilty of abuse of power, days before the army staged a coup after months of sometimes violent street demonstrations in Bangkok aimed at ousting her government.

A day after she was removed, Thailand's National Anti-Corruption Commission found her guilty of mishandling the rice scheme.

Friday's decision sees the ruling junta, formally known as the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO), edging a step closer to rooting out the influence of Yingluck and her brother, former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra.

Thailand has been convulsed by bouts of political turbulence ever since Thaksin was removed in a previous putsch in 2006. The kingdom is bitterly divided between his supporters and detractors.

Ambika Ahuja, a Southeast Asia specialist at Eurasia Group, a New York-based political consultancy, said the military was using the threat of im-

peachment as a "bargaining chip".

"Given the potential backlash from Thaksin's grassroots supporters, the army will proceed cautiously," said Ahuja. "The military is going to want to use the possibility of impeachment as a bargaining chip rather than an immediate end game."

In Thailand, officials can be impeached even af-

ter leaving office. Yingluck faces a five-year ban from office if impeached.

"We have set on Friday 9 Jan, 2015 to be the opening day for a hearing involving the defendant, the National Anti-Corruption Commission, and the accused, Yingluck," said Pornpetch Wichitcholachai, president of the National Legislative Assembly. —Reuters



A member of the National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC) Vicha Mahakhun (R) speaks to National Legislative Assembly members during a meeting to start impeachment proceedings against ousted Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra at the Parliament in Bangkok on 28 Nov, 2014. —REUTERS

Japan military chief urges early 'crisis management' pact with China



Admiral Katsutoshi Kawano, chief of the Japanese Self-Defence Forces' Joint Staff

TOKYO, 29 Nov — Japan's highest-ranking military officer on Friday urged an early start to a "crisis management" mechanism with China amid conflicting claims to a group of tiny East China Sea islands.

Relations between China and Japan, the world's second- and third-largest economies, have also been strained by the legacy of Japan's wartime occupation of its large Asian neighbour.

Patrol ships and fighter jets from both countries have shadowed each other regularly near the uninhabited islands, prompting fears an accidental colli-

sion or other incident could escalate into a larger conflict.

Chinese President Xi Jinping and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe agreed this month to start work on maritime crisis management. Such talks have been halted since Japan nationalized three of the disputed islands in September 2012.

"It would allow communication between people at the scene. That's significant," Admiral Katsutoshi Kawano, chief of the Japanese Self-Defence Forces' Joint Staff, told Reuters.

"The communication mechanism covers both the navies and air forces. Enabling such communication would be a great step forward in avoiding an unexpected situation. We have been pushing for an early implementation all along."

Under the scheme, apart from hot lines between the two countries, direct communication would be possible between Japanese and Chinese vessels and aircraft.

Reuters

Bhopal's toxic legacy lives on, 30 years after industrial disaster

BHOPAL / NEW DELHI, 29 Nov — Beyond the iron gates of the derelict pesticide plant where one of the world's worst industrial disasters occurred, administrative buildings lie in ruins, vegetation overgrown and warehouses bolted.

Massive vessels, interconnected by a multitude of corroded pipes that once carried chemical slurries, have rusted beyond repair. In the dusty control room, a soiled sticker on a wall panel reads "Safety is everyone's business".

On the night of 2 Dec, 1984, the factory owned by the US multinational Union Carbide Corp accidentally leaked cyanide gas into the air, killing thousands of largely poor Indians in Bhopal.

Thirty years later, the toxic legacy of this factory lives on, say human rights groups, as thousands of tonnes of hazardous waste remains buried underground, slowly poisoning the

drinking water of more than 50,000 people and affecting their health.

Activists want this waste removed and disposed of away from the area, and feel Indian authorities, who now own the site, have fumbled on taking action — either by clearing up the waste itself or in pursuing Union Carbide to take responsibility.

"There is a very high prevalence of anemia, delayed menarches in girls and painful skin conditions. But what is most pronounced is the number of children with birth defects," said activist Satinath Sarangi from the Bhopal Medical Appeal which runs a clinic for gas victims.

"Children are born with conditions such as twisted limbs, brain damage, musculoskeletal disorders ... this is what we see in every fourth or fifth household in these communities."

Sarangi admits there has been no long-term epidemiological research which conclusively proves that birth defects are direct-

ly related to the drinking of the contaminated water.

Built in 1969, the Union Carbide plant in Madhya Pradesh was seen as a symbol of a new industrialized India, generating thousands of jobs for the poor and, at the same time, manufacturing cheap pesticides for millions of farmers. Fifteen years later, 40 tonnes of Methyl Isocyanate gas was released and carried by the wind to the surrounding densely populated disaster remains unclear and under debate.

The government recorded 5,295 deaths, but activists claim 25,000 people died in the aftermath and following years.

Another 100,000 people who were exposed to the gas continue to suffer today with sicknesses such as cancer, blindness, respiratory problems, immune and neurological disorders. Some children born to survivors have mental or physical disabilities.

While those directly affected receive free medical health care, activists say authorities have failed

to support those sick from drinking the contaminated water and a second generation of children born with birth defects.

In a rehabilitation centre run by the charity Chingari Trust, located 500 metres from the factory site, disabled children aged between 6 months and 12 years gather for treatment

which ranges from speech and hearing issues to physiotherapy.

"Our life changed emotionally and physically since we got to know about his medical problem when he was just 4 months old," said 26-year-old Sufia, sitting on a mat on the floor, cradling her two-year-old son Mustafa who has cerebral

palsy. "We had to stop the therapy when he was 8-months-old as it was very expensive. My husband is an electrician and doesn't earn much. With the centre it is good as it's free. It's also good to meet other mothers with their children and realize that I am not alone."

Reuters



A child of a victim of the Bhopal gas tragedy, a gas leak from a Union Carbide pesticide plant that killed at least 3500 people, holds a placard during a sit-in protest in New Delhi on 10 Nov, 2014. —REUTERS

NATO unconcerned by Russian warships in English Channel

MOSCOW, 29 Nov — A squadron of Russian warships entered the English Channel on Friday but a NATO official dismissed a Russian media report that they were there to conduct military exercises.

Russian news agency RIA quoted the Northern Fleet as saying its vessels, led by anti-submarine ship *Severomorsk*, had passed through the Strait of Dover and were now in international waters in the Seine Bay to wait for a storm to pass.

“While it is anchored the crew are undertaking a series of exercises on how to tackle infiltrating submarine forces and are training on survival techniques in the case of flood-

ing or fire,” RIA quoted the Northern Fleet as saying in a statement.

The Russian navy could not be reached for comment and the Defence Ministry declined to comment on the report.

France’s navy confirmed the location of the ships and said it was not unusual to have Russian warships in the Channel.

“They are not holding exercises. They’re just waiting in a zone where they can be several times a year,” said the French Navy’s information service.

Lieutenant-Colonel Jay Janzen, NATO’s military spokesman, also said the alliance was aware of the Russian ships’ location.



Russian sailors stand in formation in front of their Russian navy frigate *Smolny* at the STX Les Chantiers de l’Atlantique shipyard site in Saint-Nazaire, western France on 25 Nov, 2014. — REUTERS

“Our information indicates that the ships are transiting and have been delayed by weather conditions. They are not exercising in the Channel, as some Russian headlines would have us believe,” he said.

Russia has flexed its military muscle recently, with the NATO military alliance reporting more incursions by Russian fighters and long-range bombers.

The Russian manoeuvres followed months of tension over Ukraine, where Moscow has annexed the Crimean Peninsula and has supported armed separatists opposed to the Kiev government.

Reuters

St Louis-area mall closes on Black Friday as Ferguson protests spread

FERGUSON, 29 Nov — Demonstrators shut down a shopping mall near Ferguson, Missouri, at the start of the holiday shopping season on Friday as protests over the killing of an unarmed black teen by a white police officer turned on some retailers around the country.

After a quiet Thanksgiving Day, protesters were out in force again to vent their anger at Monday’s decision by a grand jury not to indict Officer Darren Wilson in the 9 August shooting death of 18-year-old Michael Brown in the St Louis suburb.

Activists around the country said they were encouraging a boycott of Black Friday sales to highlight the purchasing power of black Americans, and to draw links between economic and racial inequality. “You have to disrupt business as usual for this to happen and that’s the only thing that’s ever made change,” said Sergio

Uzurin, a protester in front of Macy’s flagship store in New York.

The killing of Brown, which has renewed a debate over race relations in the United States and the treatment of blacks and other minorities by police, has triggered months of sometimes violent protests in Ferguson and sympathy protests else-

where. More than 200 people in New York sought to disrupt shopping on Friday with a protest in front of the Macy’s store in Herald Square and marched into the ground floor as staff and shoppers looked on in apparent surprise.

Demonstrators later marched through the streets of New York, and a police

spokesman said officers arrested seven protesters for disorderly conduct.

Similar protests were staged in other cities, including Chicago, Seattle and Oakland, California, on Black Friday, when many retailers offer deep discounts and shoppers traditionally turn out in droves. At the upmarket Galleria

near St Louis, demonstrators chanted “No Black Friday” before singing carols and then briefly lying on the floor, leading officials to close the mall.

National Guard troops were posted outside, and mall security stopped anyone from entering, telling disappointed bargain-hunters the shopping centre was shut for the rest of the day.

Eddie Cox, the 23-year-old assistant manager of a Lids baseball cap store, said he was proud to watch the demonstrators march past his shop.

Cox, who is black, said his store was seeing only about a fifth as many Black Friday sales as last year, due to the boycott call.

“The business side of me kinda hates it, but at the same time, the young, activist, pro-conscious part of me loves every bit of this,” Cox said. “It’s a really cool time to be young, black and American.” Ferguson itself was peaceful after more than 100 arrests

on Monday and Tuesday, when some demonstrators reacted to the grand jury’s decision by looting or burning businesses, and officers in riot gear fired tear gas and smoke bombs to disperse crowds. Late on Friday, about 100 protesters marched up and down the road outside the Ferguson police department. As National Guard troops in camouflage and combat helmets looked on, the crowd chanted: “Soldiers, turn your guns around! Shoot this racist system down!”

Authorities ultimately arrested 15 protesters in Ferguson, after demonstrators failed to move from the streets, St Louis County police said.

Earlier, police had briefly reopened West Florissant Avenue, a main thoroughfare where most of the damaged or destroyed businesses are located. That allowed clean-up efforts to begin and gave residents a glimpse of more burned-out stores. — Reuters



A protester marches though Macy’s store in support of the late Michael Brown in New York on 28 Nov, 2014. — REUTERS

German leader eyes visit to Japan in March

TOKYO, 29 Nov — German Chancellor Angela Merkel is considering visiting Japan in early March in what would be her first trip to the country in seven years, sources familiar with bilateral relations said on Friday.

Merkel and Japan’s prime minister are expected to affirm closer cooperation in their quest to become permanent members on the UN Security Council, especially as next

year marks the 70th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, the sources said.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe dissolved the House of Representatives on 21 November for a snap election on 14 December. Abe will meet Merkel if he maintains power after the election.

The two governments are considering setting Merkel’s Japan trip on 8 and 9 March, according to

the sources.

Merkel last visited Japan in 2008 for a Group of Eight summit in Hokkaido.

During her upcoming trip, Japan and Germany are expected to ensure increased cooperation among the so-called Group of Four nations comprising Japan, Germany, Brazil and India on reform of the UN Security Council.

Tokyo and Berlin are likely to agree to accelerate negotiations for a free

trade agreement between Japan and the European Union.

They are also to discuss issues such as the situation in Ukraine, the Islamic State militancy in Iraq and Syria, and the Ebola virus outbreak in West Africa.

In a meeting in April in Berlin, Abe invited Merkel to Japan, an offer she said would like to realize next year.

Kyodo News

Russian submarine test-launches Bulava intercontinental missile

MOSCOW, 29 Nov — Russia on Friday successfully tested its new submarine-launched Bulava intercontinental missile, designed to carry nuclear warheads, the defence ministry said in a statement.

It said the nuclear submarine *Alexander Nevsky* fired the missile from under water in the Barents Sea and it landed on a military training ground in Russia’s

far eastern peninsula of Kamchatka, as planned.

The 12-metre-long (39.4 feet) weapon is intended to become the cornerstone of Russia’s nuclear forces.

The last test was successfully carried out in September after the development of Bulava, or Mace, had been delayed by numerous failed launches. — Reuters

Austrian authorities arrest 13 suspected jihadists in major operation

VIENNA, 29 Nov — Austrian authorities arrested 13 suspects and conducted numerous house searches as part of a large-scale crackdown on suspected jihadists on Friday.

The operation began in the early hours of Friday morning, with 16 persons targeted for arrest on the basis of suspicion of membership of terrorist organizations involved in the recruitment of young people for the Syrian civil war.

Around 900 police officers from almost all Austrian states were involved in the operation in the cities of Vienna, Graz, and Linz, with Minister of the Interior Johanna Mikl-Leitner referring to it as one of the “largest operations in the history of Austrian state security.”

The operation was initiated through Ministry of the Interior intelligence that indicated numerous persons were involved in radicalization of young Muslims, suspicions that intensified upon further investigation.

During the house searches, terrorist propaganda material was seized, along with other items including data storage devices, cash and brass knuckles.

The chief suspect was a Serbian national who was arrested in Vienna, with Bosnian media reporting he was born in the small Serbian town of Tutin but later moved to Bosnia and Herzegovina to join the Wahhabi movement.

Austrian reports suggested a second individual — a Bosnian national and preacher in the city of Graz — was also a prime suspect. Police have not yet officially revealed the details of those arrested.

Upon conclusion of the operation, Mikl-Leitner spoke of a “remarkable success” and as a “major blow against jihadists.” She told the Oe1 Mittagsjournal radio programme the investigations leading up to the operation had been running for over a year. —Xinhua

UK mainstream political parties face multiple crises

LONDON, 29 Nov — Britain’s political class currently suffers from a loss of trust and a loss of legitimacy, with all mainstream political parties losing popularity and party membership, a British scholar warned on Friday.

Britain’s political crisis of representation also shows itself in the rise of new forms of “anti-system politics,” notably the insurgency of the Scottish National Party (SNP) and the UK Independent Party (UKIP), said Andrew Gamble, professor emeritus of politics at the University of Cambridge.

“We are aware that all three main parties are losing support, and all three main party leaders have negative ratings in terms of their popularity,” he said in a lecture at the University of Cambridge on Friday.

He added that the membership of Britain’s mainstream parties, including the Conservatives, the Labour Party and the Liberal Democrats, is “in steep decline.”

He argued that fewer citizens vote for either Conservatives or the Labour Party, and Britain’s political class is recruited from an increasingly narrow section of society.

“It is now less than 1 percent of the British population, and the party membership that does exist tends to be aged,” added Gamble, who was the first head of the university’s department of politics and international studies.

The political scientist analyzed that new forms of populism and anti-system politics in Britain are on the rise which “threaten the values of a liberal pluralist polity.”

“The insurgency of SNP and UKIP is about unions which define British identity and Britain’s place in the world, namely the United Kingdom and the European Union (EU),” he said.

He explained that these two “unions” have been the subjects of Britain’s two major constitutional changes of the last 40 years, namely the entry into the EU in 1973, and the devolution settlements in 1997.

Xinhua



A knife maker looks at the “Freedom Knife” made by himself during the Brooklyn Knife Show in Pretoria, South Africa, on 28 Nov, 2014. This knife was made to pay tribute to the late South Africa’s President Nelson Mandela with 27 black diamonds on its handle representing the 27 dark years of Mandela’s imprisonment. The Brooklyn Knife Show, which is the biggest hand-made knives exhibition in South Africa, kicked off here on Friday. A total of 32 exhibitors will show about 1,000 unique knives they made in three day. —XINHUA

Putin’s Turkey visit to boost economic ties amid political differences

ANKARA, 29 Nov — Russian President Vladimir Putin’s visit to Turkey on Monday is expected to boost trade and economic ties between the two countries while political differences over crises in Syria and Ukraine remain.

“Turkey and Russia agree to disagree on several political issues but they are committed to enhancing the economic ties,” Mehmet Seyfettin Erol, professor of international relations at Ankara-based Gazi University told Xinhua.

“Business relations with Turkey become much more important for Russia after the West’s sanctions on Moscow over Ukraine crisis,” he added.

Putin’s official visit to Ankara is scheduled within the framework of the High Level Cooperation Coun-

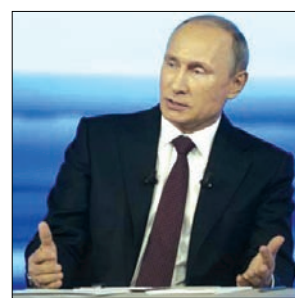
cil, which is an inter-governmental conference between the two governments established in 2010.

The mechanism was designed to fast track the cooperation on various issues by involving senior leaders and cabinet ministers. It also helps cut the bureaucratic red tape.

Putin’s one-day visit to Ankara will cover discussions such as economic and commercial relations, energy projects, developments in the tourism sector as well as regional and international issues.

Ankara and Moscow initially set a target of increasing the volume of bilateral trade to 100 billion US dollars in 2015 but later revised the deadline for 2020.

“This target does not seem to be realistic,” Hasan



Russian President
Vladimir Putin

Kanbolat, Turkish expert on Russia, said. He recalled that the trade volume between the two countries dropped from 37.8 billion dollars in 2008 to 32 billion dollars in 2014.

In the first ten months of this year, the trade volume stood standstill with respect to the same period in 2013, which was 26 billion dollars.

Kanbolat also underlined that the trade heavily favors Russia because of

oil and gas exports to Turkey constituted the bulk of the volume.

Turkey is also looking to take advantage of Western sanctions on Russia by increasing food exports as an alternative supplier. Unfortunately, Ankara has not been able to tap into that potential yet since sanction regime was put in place more than three months ago.

The impediments to boosting the trade are expected to be taken by Turkish and Russian leadership at the summit.

In an interview with Turkey’s state-run Anatolia news agency on the eve of his visit, Putin underlined that the position of Turkish government on sanctions “opens up new opportunities for increasing bilateral trade.” —Xinhua

1.1
million
HIV
infections
in children
prevented

UNITED NATIONS, 29 Nov — An estimated 1.1 million HIV infections among children under 15 have been prevented between 2005 and 2013, according to data released by the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) on Friday ahead of World AIDS Day.

Globally, new HIV infections among children declined by about 40 percent between 2009 and 2013, though the global goal of reducing the figure by 90 percent is still out of reach, according to UNICEF’s Statistical Update on Children, Adolescents and AIDS. The progress has been made through providing more pregnant women living with HIV with services for the prevention of

mother to child transmission (PMTCT), such as lifelong HIV treatment which can reduce the transmission of virus to babies and keep their mothers alive, according to UNICEF.

The sharpest declines took place in eight African countries, including Malawi, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, Botswana and so forth. However, only 67 percent of pregnant women living with HIV in all low- and middle-income countries received the most effective treatment for PMTCT in 2013. And an estimated 190,000 children under 15 died of AIDS-related causes in 2013 due to lack of treatment, according to the statistics. —Xinhua

Syria says US-led strikes have not weakened Islamic State

BEIRUT, 29 Nov — Syria's foreign minister said US-led air strikes had failed to weaken Islamic State in Syria and the jihadist group would not be tackled unless Turkey was forced to tighten border controls.

A US-led alliance started attacking Islamic State targets in Syria in September as part of a wider effort to destroy the al-Qaeda offshoot that has seized large areas of the country and

neighbouring Iraq.

"All the indications say that (Islamic State) today, after two months of coalition air strikes, is not weaker," Foreign Minister Walid al-Moualeem said in an interview with the Beirut-based Al Mayadeen TV broadcast on Friday.

The Syrian government has said it was willing to join the fight against Islamic State, but the United States refuses to deal with Presi-

dent Bashar al-Assad, who it says has lost legitimacy and must leave power.

"If the Security Council and Washington do not force Turkey to control its borders then all of this action will not eliminate (Islamic State)," Moualeem said, referring to foreign jihadists who have crossed into Syria from Turkey.

Turkey, which has a 900 km (560-mile) frontier with Syria, has strongly denied accusations it has supported militant Islamists, inadvertently or otherwise, in its enthusiasm to help Syrian rebels topple Assad.

Thousands of foreign fighters are believed to have joined the Islamist militants in their self-proclaimed caliphate, carved out of eastern Syria and western Iraq.

Moualeem said Turkish calls for the establishment of a no-fly zone in northern Syria would lead to the partition of the country, adding that Turkey had designs on

Syrian territory.

Turkey has repeatedly said a no-fly zone should be put in place to create safe areas in Syria, allowing Syrian refugees in Turkey to be repatriated. Turkey's idea has received a cool reception from its allies. A top NATO general said this week the idea was not being considered.

Moualeem held talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov on the Black Sea as part of a renewed Russian diplomatic push to restart peace talks on Syria.

The effort is unlikely to get far because Russia rejects calls by Assad's Syrian, Western and Arab opponents for his swift departure. "After our discussions with the Russian side we agreed that the dialogue will be with the national opposition that is not linked to the outside," Moualeem said.

Reuters

Liberia's Supreme Court suspends election campaign over Ebola



Health workers work at an Ebola treatment centre in Bamako, Mali, on 13 Nov, 2014.—REUTERS

MONROVIA, 29 Nov — Liberia's Supreme Court suspended campaigning for next month's senate election on Friday while it considers a petition warning that electioneering risks spreading the Ebola outbreak, the information minister said.

A group including some former government officials and political party representatives filed the petition earlier this week for the 16 December vote to be delayed until next year when the outbreak will possibly be over.

Liberia, the nation hardest hit by the worst Ebola epidemic on record, has seen over 3,000 of its citizens killed by the disease. A total of 5,689 people had died through on 23 November, nearly all in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea.

The disease has slowed in recent weeks in Liberia, however, raising hopes that the outbreak there may be

nearing and end.

"The Justice in Chambers Philip Z Banks urged the National Elections Commission to inform all political parties to halt all activities associated with the election," Information Minister Lewis Brown told Reuters.

Brown said Banks would hold a hearing on the petition on 2 December, at which time he would decide whether it warranted examination by the full court or should be dismissed.

A senior elections commission official confirmed that body had also been informed of the court's decision.

The election has already been delayed once. By law, it should have been held in October, but that was at the height of the Ebola outbreak in Liberia and it was pushed back.

Reuters



A view shows debris at a school for the deaf and mute, destroyed in what activists said were overnight US-led air strikes against the Islamic State, in Raqqa on 24 Nov, 2014.—REUTERS

Fifteen Islamic State targets hit by US, allies since Wednesday — US

WASHINGTON, 29 Nov — The US military and its allies hit Islamic State forces with 15 air strikes in Iraq and Syria during a three-day period, the US Central Command said on Friday.

Thirteen attacks were carried out in Iraq since

Wednesday and two more targeted Islamic State in Syria.

The air strikes in Syria hit an Islamic State fighting position and staging area near Kobani and a tactical unit near Aleppo, Central Command said.

In Iraq, bunkers, vehicles, a bulldozer and a fighting position were destroyed near Kirkuk and a large unit and four tactical units also were hit in five air strikes. Near Mosul, two raids destroyed vehicles and a heavy weapon while another tactical

unit was hit near Ramadi.

Islamic State vehicles, tactical units, a fighting position and a building were hit in strikes near the Iraqi cities of Ar Rutbah, Falluja, Al-Qaim and Baiji, Central Command said.

Reuters

Bombs, gunfire kill 81 at crowded mosque in Nigeria's Kano

KANO, 29 Nov — Gunmen set off three bombs and opened fire on worshippers at the main mosque in north Nigeria's biggest city Kano on Friday, killing at least 81 people, witnesses and officials said, in an attack that bore the hallmarks of Islamist Boko Haram militants.

Blasts from the coordinated assault rang out as scores of people packed into the ancient building's courtyard for afternoon prayers. "These people have bombed the mosque. I am face to face with people screaming," said local reporter Chijjani Usman.

The mosque is next to the palace of the emir of Kano, the second highest Islamic authority in Africa's most populous country and a vocal critic of Boko Haram. The emir, former central bank governor Lamido

Sanusi, was not present.

Boko Haram, a Sunni jihadist movement which is fighting to revive a medieval Islamic caliphate in northern Nigeria, regards the traditional Islamic religious authorities in Nigeria with disdain.

It has attacked mosques that do not follow its radical ideology in a bloody near six-year campaign that has also targeted churches, schools, police stations, military bases and government buildings.

"After multiple explosions, they also opened fire. I cannot tell you the casualties because we all ran away," a member of staff at the palace told Reuters on Friday.

After the attacks, angry youths blocked the mosque's gates to police, who had to force their way



A car is seen damaged at a scene of multiple bombings at Kano Central Mosque on 28 Nov, 2014.—REUTERS

in with tear gas.

Reuters visited two mortuaries, one with 20 bodies from the attack, the other with 61, according to medical officer Muhammad Ali. The victims had blast and gunshot wounds, he said.

President Goodluck Jonathan said in statement that he would "not leave any stone unturned until all agents of terror undermining the right of every citizen to life and dignity are tracked down and brought to justice."

The old mosque and palace date back centuries to when Kano was one of several Islamic empires thriving off trade in gold, ivory and spices from caravan routes connecting Africa's interior with its Mediterranean coast — glory days of Saharan Islam that Boko Haram says it wants to recreate.

Islamic leaders sometimes shy away from direct criticism of Boko Haram for fear of reprisals, but Kano's emir Sanusi, angered by atrocities such as the kidnapping of 200 schoolgirls from the village of Chibok in April, has become an increasingly vocal Boko Haram critic.

He was quoted in the local press as calling on Nigerians this month to defend themselves against Boko Haram. During a broadcast recitation of the Koran he

was reported to have said:

"These people, when they attack towns, they kill boys and enslave girls. People must stand resolute ... They should acquire what they can to defend themselves. People must not wait for soldiers to protect them."

The insurgency has forced more than one million people to flee during its campaign focussed on Nigeria's northeast, the Red Cross told reporters on Friday, an increase on a September UN refugee agency estimate of 700,000.

Persistent insecurity is dogging President Jonathan's campaign for re-election to a second term in February 2015. He has asked parliament for approval to extend an 18-month-old state of emergency in the northeast.

Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 30 November, 2014

Conciliation of differences

By Aung Khin

Unity does not always represent for peace. As we are now living in a global village, the borders or the boundaries between the countries or communities have been just a line of sovereignty. There might be culturally or traditionally differences, however, we must all hang together for a united force.

Strength can come out of the unity, while

weakness is the consequence of divides. Sometimes different views and opinions are very fundamental for reaching a certain goal. When differences can be regarded as diversity, we can all work together for a single destination which is one for all through all for one.

Our country is on the path of democratization process. Individual group have different ideologies which have come out from different experiences. We should keep in mind that we are in different boats, but on the same river of transition waves.

When certain unexpected causes appeared to distort our expectation or goal, diversity and differences should merge into a united force. We should not walk straight into the trap set up by the groups which are pushing towards disunity.

In a rough sea, travelling in a large boat is safer than that of small boats. In many dangerous

places, a combination of different units is a major defence mechanism to counter opposite force. When unity is dispersed by some tricks, it is going to the trap of others.

Therefore, unity must be sustained with farsightedness and visionaries to reach the goal and to avoid traps, with cautious ignorance, tolerance and concentration.

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.

The ever shining light of charity in the hearts of Myanmar people

It is indeed a source of pride and delight to learn that although Myanmar is not on the list of top developed or developing countries, it has topped the list of world giving index based on a survey in 135 countries of 3 categories, namely, charitable giving, volunteering, and willingness to help others, conducted by Charities Aid Foundation (CAF), a British based foundation. Myanmar tied for top honours with the richest country in the world, the US. The result of the survey may surprise people from some countries, but it may not cause a great deal of amazement to the people of Myanmar. The reason is, whichever part of the country they live, whatever religion they follow, however poor they may be, it is the innate nature of Myanmar people to share whatever they have with those who are less fortunate than themselves. This accounts for the fact that the people of Myanmar are very reluctant to say no, especially when it involves a matter of somebody requesting assistance.

There are three main kinds of assistance that the people of Myanmar provide others – cash, kind or labour. If one does not have the means to donate cash or in kind, equally valued is volunteering to do something that benefits others, such as, taking part in constructing religious buildings, cleaning pagoda and monastery precincts, repairing roads and footpaths, helping in cooking and serving food at a food

donation ceremony. Traditionally, people with valuable expertise, such as doctors and teachers, have also provided volunteer services, wherever they are needed.

Like other religions, Buddhism encourages the regular practice of good deeds and helping others. As a good Buddhist, one is expected to adhere to Sila, keeping of the Buddhist precepts or the code of conduct, give *Dana*, charity and practise Bawana, meditation, in order to reach a better plane of existence. Not every Buddhist makes the effort, or finds the time to practice meditation, but the average Myanmar Buddhist tries to uphold the five basic precepts, of the ten precepts, which are abstaining from taking the life of any living thing, abstaining from taking things not given by others, abstaining from sexual misconduct, abstaining from untrue speech and avoiding intoxication. Similarly, he/she tries to perform as much charity as possible. The first priority is to donate to religious causes, making donations in kind, cash and labour for construction and maintenance of pagodas, ordination halls, monasteries and other religious edifices, giving alms to monks and nuns, supporting them with the means to learn the scriptures and promote the Sasana, holding sermon delivery ceremonies by monks for the public, etc. In addition to donation of religious buildings, Myanmar people are also fond of donating rest houses for travelers,

ponds, artisan wells and drinking water for public use.

Many Myanmar people, rich or poor, dream of holding an *ahlu pwe*, a donation or alms giving ceremony accompanied by a feast to which one's relatives, friends and neighbours are invited, and they fulfil this dream it as soon as they have the means. People living in villages holding an *ahlu* would invite the whole village, meaning all the members of every household, regardless of status or familiarity, in addition to their relatives and friends living in other villages. The *ahlu* would be held to donate something, or it could be held to mark an occasion, the ceremony to novitiate one's sons, celebration of one's birthday, or marking an anniversary, like the death anniversary of one's parents, spouse, etc. On the other hand, the *ahlu* may be held for no special reason, other than a person having some extra money in hand, due to a bountiful harvest, or the winning of lottery. Similar to the *ahlu* is the *satuditha*, the offering of food to all comers. *Satudithas* are usually held by individual families, groups of relatives, associations, or residents of the same ward, at pagoda festivals, or during the Myanmar New Year festival. The food can be a full meal, cold drinks to quench the thirst of people, or some Myanmar snacks to relieve the hunger of merry makers. Goodwill is also extended to animals. Some people regularly feed birds, fish and stray cats

and dogs. The Myanmar New Year is also an occasion to buy and set free captive birds, fish and also cattle which are taken to sanctuaries especially set up for them. Donation ceremonies for special groups are also held to mark various occasions. I still recall the 1000 children and 1000 stray dogs feeding ceremony held by a family in my neighbourhood annually during my childhood days.

With the establishment of homes for the aged poor, orphanages, schools for the handicap, public libraries, free monastic schools, hospices, charitable associations that offer assistance for funerals, some people prefer to celebrate their weddings and birthdays by making donations to these institutions in place of holding lavish celebrations. It is also delightful to note that that more and more young people are donating part of their earnings to good causes and holding fund raising events to help needy groups, at their own initiative. In times of natural and man-created disasters too, Myanmar people including young people, join together to make donations and provide assistance, as recent events have shown. It is also to be welcomed that the business community have now become more conscious of their corporate social responsibility and are carrying out such activities as donating schools, clinics and hospitals, furniture and equipment, and setting up scholarship funds for needy and outstanding students and mobile libraries, etc, in

addition to donating religious buildings.

There is no doubt that the government and the people of Myanmar are more aware of the need to help less fortunate persons, and they are providing more assistance to those in need of help than ever before. However, there are still many people who require assistance, as in many other parts of the world. The number of abandoned and orphaned children in orphanages continues to grow. There are many street children waiting to be rescued. There are many children from poor families waiting for assistance to attend schools. There are many decrepit schools that remain to be renovated. There are many young people from disadvantaged backgrounds waiting to develop their vocational skills. There are many youths needing counseling regarding the problems they are facing. There are many needy people who require medical assistance. There are many people, like small-scale vendors,

By Myo Myint

who could vastly benefit from a small financial loan. There are many indigent old people who have no family support. There are many areas, especially in the arid zone, waiting to get potable water. There are many parts of the country that lack electricity. There are many historic buildings waiting to be preserved. There are many cyclone prone regions that need more storm shelters.

It is hoped that more attention will be given to the groups and areas mentioned above, as well as to those that traditionally do not receive much attention. As will be noted from the survey conducted by CAF, the spirit of giving in kind, cash and service is already deeply embedded in the hearts and minds of the Myanmar people. The only thing needed is to draw more attention of those who have the means and the expertise to help, by persons and organizations already involved in assisting such groups and areas.

Writer's address: 39 Shin Saw Pu Pagoda Road, Sanchaung, Yangon

GOLD PRICE, FE RATE (29-11-2014)

Yangon Gold Price

Buying K656,100 per tical: Selling K657,100

FE RATE

USD Buying K 1034: Selling K----

SGD Buying K 791: Selling K805

Euro Buying K1,270: Selling K1,300

ARTICLE

Is Secondhand Smoke Dangerous?

Of course it is dangerous ! A month or so ago, I became a victim of the secondhand smoke (SHS). Every morning after our daily workouts, a group of us health enthusiasts, that's what we thought we were, would crowd into a teashop. The shop is very famous for the tea it serves. The shop is small and the space is very confined and above all ventilation is poor. It is so confined that it could accommodate only about thirty sitting on low stools, almost rubbing shoulders with the customers on your left and right. The whole place was shrouded in cigarette smoke as nearly half of the customers were smoking. I must have been exposed to the SHS to a great extent, because I started coughing incessantly, especially at nights. With the little medical knowledge that I have, I thought I was headed for big trouble. However I noticed the symptoms were similar to those when I was smoking, so I stopped going to the tea shop to avoid further exposure to SHS. Within a few days the coughing was gone. During that period I managed to write an article titled "Should Smoking at Public Places be Banned?"

In fact (SHS) is worse than smoking itself, because you are involuntarily exposed to the dangers of the tobacco smoke. Most people in our country are either not aware of the hazards that the SHS can cause, or do not take it seriously, though they are aware. It must be because, they do not really know the whole truth about SHS, or is it the way of life of our people, who enjoy the company of others, to tolerate the health damaging SHS, just to be in their company. These non-smokers in the company of smokers are exposed to involuntary smoking or passive smoking. You will see people smoking at crowded public places, such as the teashops, restaurants, even in enclosed air-conditioned places, and in parks during morning workouts. The presence of non-smokers among them are regular sights and are taken for granted that there was nothing wrong with that. It's not so! You will find out why, if you will patiently continue reading..

What is secondhand smoke?

Secondhand smoke (SHS), also called environmental tobacco smoke (ETS), is a mixture of the following two types:-

1. Sidestream smoke-- smoke from lighted end of cigarettes, pipes and cigars.
2. Mainstream smoke-- smoke exhaled by a smoker.

The two are not the same. The sidestream smoke has higher concentration of the carcinogens, the cancer causing agents than the mainstream smoke and is therefore more toxic. Furthermore, the former has smaller particles than the latter that can penetrate more easily into the lungs and the body's cells. When non-smokers are exposed to the SHS, they breathe in the nicotine and toxic agents the same way the smokers did. The more you take in these harmful chemicals, the more you are at risk as the smokers themselves.

The SHS is a mixture of gas and particles and contains over 7,000 different chemical compounds, of which

about 250 are known to be harmful and at least 69 can cause cancer. Researchers had linked SHS to lung cancers and it might also be linked to other types of cancers in children and adults. Parents who smoke during pregnancy can cause a rare type of lung cancer in the baby. It all started while the baby is still in the uterus. This risk is twice as high if only one parent smoked, but it is five times as high if both parents smoked, than in the babies of the non-smokers.

Dangers of the SHS

SHS can harm people in many ways. All the diseases that can be caused by direct tobacco smoke to the active smokers can be caused by SHS to the passive smokers. As I had repeatedly mentioned smoking-related diseases in my previous articles, I will spare the readers from unnecessary burden by not repeating them here. Apart from those there are other detrimental effects, such as:-

1. Some studies have linked SHS to mental and emotional changes.
2. A Chinese study has suggested that SHS exposure is linked to increased dementia syndrome.
3. A UK study reports that women exposed to SHS during pregnancy are at greater risk for symptoms of depression.
4. There may be link between SHS and breast cancer, but researchers had not established that fact definitely.
5. The US Surgeon General's reports outlined the dangers of tobacco and SHS as follows:-
 - SHS kills children and adults who do not smoke.
 - SHS causes disease in children and adults who do not smoke.
 - Exposure to SHS while pregnant increases the chance that a woman will have: miscarriage, still-born birth, low-birth weight baby, and other pregnancy and delivery problems
 - Babies and children exposed to SHS are at an increased risk of: sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), upper respiratory and lungs infections, ear infections, severe and frequent asthma attacks
 - Smoking by parents can cause wheezing, coughing, bronchitis, pneumonia and slow lung growth in children.
 - SHS can cause heart diseases, strokes and heart attacks.
 - SHS causes lung cancer in people who never smoke.
 - Chemicals in tobacco smoke damage sperm, which might reduce fertility and harm fetal development.
 - Any exposure to SHS is harmful.
 - On average, children are exposed to SHS more than the non-smoking adults.

(This is the most comprehensive report I could find, but there may be better reports.)

Where is SHS a problem?

The four places where you are most exposed to SHS and should be concerned about are:-

By *Khin Maung Myint*

At work

The work places are major sources of exposure to SHS for adults and has been linked to an increased risk for heart disease and lung cancer among adult nonsmokers. Smoke-free workplace is the only solution to this problem.

In public places

Everyone can be exposed to SHS in public places, such as: restaurants, cafes (teashops in our case), shopping centers, public transportations, schools, and day-care centers. Smoking should be banned in those places.

At home

Any family member can develop health problems at home, where there is smoking in the house due to exposure to SHS. So a home should be a smoke-free zone. It is the most important thing that you can do for your family.

In the car

If someone smokes in the car the poison can build up quickly as the space is too confined. This can harm everyone in the car especially the children. Should not smoke in the car at all.

Thirdhand smoke

This term may sound new to some. Research had found that particles from secondhand tobacco smoke can settle into dusts and onto surfaces and remained there long after the smoke is gone. Researcher called them thirdhand smoke. As they are found to contain carcinogens that can cause lung cancer, the thirdhand smokes impose hazards to the health.

Conclusion

This article will be the last one on the subject of smoking, for the time being, as I am convince, I had managed to get the message through, that smoking is bad for your health. However, if necessary I may write some more about it. At this point I would like to take the opportunity to explain my intention in writing these articles. My sole intention is to make the public aware of the dangers of smoking. Not only to the smokers themselves but also to the society at large and most importantly to their immediate family members. In writing these articles, I made use of some facts and data available on the Internet and in some places I had to mention them ditto to the original, when unavoidable, not to miss the point. However, as I am not a medical professional, I had to read again and again until I understand the subject and rewrote it in the way I understood, so that other laypersons like me can understand. If there should be any discrepancy, it is only me to blame and sincerely hope the readers would be understanding and forgive me.

Looking forward to a smoke-free environment.

The author is Retired Deputy General Manager, Admin: Dept; Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications

Israeli musicians meet with Myanmar children at a musical workshop

YANGON, 29 Nov — Children of Thukha Yeik Myone orphanage participated in a special musical workshop by two Israeli well known musicians, Ohad Hitman and Yoed Nir, who arrived to Myanmar on Thursday as part of the "World Music Festival" programme Yangon, from 28th to 29th of November 2014.

During the musical workshop at the orphan-

ageon 29th November 2014, the children enjoyed the different activities and participated in them cheerfully and happily. The children enjoyed the morning full of singing, dancing, and listening to different music presented to them by the two Israeli musicians.

The Ambassador of Israel, H.E. Mr. Daniel Zonshine and Madam, the staff from the Embassy and

the two musicians, chose to work especially with HIV infected children in Myanmar, in order to treat with the care, love and respect that they really need.

In addition to the musical workshop, the Embassy of Israel donated a "Recreation Trolley" that contains story books, comics, drawing books, children toys in a special and lovely ceremony.

GNLM



China to raise oil product consumption tax



BEIJING, 29 Nov — China will raise the consumption tax on oil products beginning on Saturday.

It is the first adjustment since the previous increase in 2009, the country's top finance and taxation departments jointly announced on Friday.

The consumption tax on gasoline will rise from 1 yuan (0.16 US dollar) to 1.12 yuan per liter while that on diesel from 0.8 yuan to 0.94 yuan per liter, according to the Ministry of Finance (MOF) and

the State Administration of Taxation. The measure will take effect on Saturday.

The tax adjustment will offset the impact from the crude oil price drop in the international market, as analysts estimated fuel costs for drivers are likely to remain flat after the move. The National Development and Reform Commission, China's top economic regulator, announced on Friday after fine-tuning the tax that it will maintain retail fuel

prices at the current level, reversing market expectations for the ninth price cut since July.

The tax raise involves other petroleum products including naphtha, lubricating oil and jet fuel, while small-displacement motorcycle, tire and ethyl alcohol were exempted from the tax to reduce burdens on the low and middle-income group.

China imposed a consumption tax in 1994 on consumer goods with a high energy cost and high

pollution in order to guide production and consumption toward being environmentally-friendly and to promote a sustainable economic growth model.

Over ten countries including Russia, Australia, New Zealand and France have raised their oil product consumption tax since 2012 to ensure green development.

The increased income increase from the tax lift will be used in pollution control and the battle against climate change, as well as encouraging purchase of new energy vehicles to promote energy saving. "Tax adjustment of petroleum products is a global trend and underlines the urgent need to promote the green economy worldwide," said Liu Shangxi, director of the Research Institute for Fiscal Science of the MOF.

Liu said the move will save oil resources and contribute to emission cuts. Auto exhausts are a major cause of air pollution.

Xinhua

Toyota accepts rush of orders for new Lexus sports car

NAGOYA, 29 Nov — Toyota Motor Corp said on Friday it has received about 900 orders for its new Lexus sport coupe the RC F since its launch on 23 October in Japan, about 30 times the monthly

sales target.

Toyota also received orders for about 1,700 of the RC coupe launched at the same, about 21 times more than the monthly sales target.

Kyodo News

Tokyo Electron delays merger with Applied Materials until March

TOKYO, 29 Nov — Tokyo Electron Ltd, a major manufacturer of semiconductor production equipment, said on Friday it will postpone its merger with industry leader Applied Materials Inc of the United States until March, pending reviews by antitrust authorities.

The two companies plan to merge under a holding company set up in the Netherlands and initially

sought to do so in the second half of this year.

But authorities in several countries, including China, Japan and the United States are taking longer to review the proposed merger, a Tokyo Electron official said.

Tokyo Electron said the postponement will have no impact on its earnings forecast for the current business year ending March. — *Kyodo News*

Arizona man hospitalized over Ebola concerns tests negative

WASHINGTON, 29 Nov — A Phoenix man who became ill after returning this week from Sierra Leone, one of the three West African nations hardest hit by an Ebola outbreak, on Friday was taken to a hospital where he tested negative for the virus, officials said.

The 32-year-old man, who was not identified, was transported to the Maricopa Integrated Health System in Phoenix for evaluation after complaining of sickness including dry-heaving and diarrhea, Phoenix Fire Department spokesman Mark Vanacore said.

Lab results were negative for Ebola, but the traveler will continue to be monitored in line with federal Centres for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines, Maricopa County health officials said in a statement.

The man told officials he had traveled to Sierra Leone, but Arizona officials said he had not treated Ebola patients, gone to funeral services or otherwise come into contact with anyone infected with the virus.

His symptoms developed after he returned to the United States on Wednesday. — *Reuters*

Russian central bank ready for currency interventions to stabilize market

MOSCOW, 29 Nov — Russia's central bank said on Friday that it is ready to increase foreign currency interventions, if threats emerge to the stability of domestic foreign exchange market. "The ruble dynamics are considerably affected by changes in oil prices, as well as other parameters determining the terms of Russia's foreign trade," the Central Bank said in a statement.

The bank promised

to hold onto currency interventions once there are threats of destabilization.

"The Bank is closely watching the situation of the foreign currency market and analyzing the influence of the ruble exchange rate on other segments of the financial market," said the statement.

Earlier in the day, the Central Bank raised its official exchange rate for the weekend and Monday to 49.322 rubles per US dol-

lar and 61.4108 rubles per euro, *Interfax* news agency reported.

Oil prices tumbled to their lowest level in more than four years on Thursday and crude continued to drop on Friday, after the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) left output quotas unchanged at 30 million barrels a day.

Russian Finance Minister Anton Siluanov said on Wednesday that unless

the ruble's current exchange rates and oil prices are changed, Russian government will suffer a 500-billion-ruble (10 billion dollars) loss in revenue in the draft budget for 2015. Ruble has lost more than a quarter of its value since the start of 2014 due to weakness in the Russian economy, which was caused by falling oil prices and economic sanctions imposed by the US and its allies. — *Xinhua*

China drafts policy on emergency Ebola diagnosis, approves products

SHANGHAI, 29 Nov — China has drafted a policy on the emergency use of diagnostic products for the Ebola virus disease and clinical trials, the country's drug regulator said on Friday, as the number of people affected globally by the epidemic nears 16,000.

In a brief statement, the China Food and Drug Administration (CFDA) said it had also approved three companies to produce Ebola diagnosis products for emergency reserve use.

"These (products) provide key technolog-

ical safeguards for China to diagnose the Ebola virus and defend against any epidemic situation," it said.

It did not add any further detail about the draft policy or say what the clinical trials relating to Ebola would involve.

No cases of Ebola have been reported in China, but there are millions of Chinese nationals living in Africa, with around 10,000 in the worst affected countries - Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia.

This has prompted concerns that Ebola could



Health inspection and quarantine researchers work in their laboratory at an airport in Qingdao, Shandong Province on 11 Aug, 2014. — *REUTERS*

spread to China, which has previously faced severe outbreaks of infectious diseases such as SARS and bird flu.

The three companies named in the statement regarding diagnosis products are Da An Gene Co Ltd, Shenzhen Pu Rui Kang and Shanghai ZJ Bio-Tech Co Ltd.

Chinese drugmaker Sihuan Pharmaceutical Holdings Group Ltd is separately developing a treatment for Ebola with the country's military, and hopes to get fast-track approval for the drug.

Reuters

China's new barley breed sets yield record

XINING, 29 Nov — Chinese agricultural scientists have developed a new highland breed of barley which yielded 5,265 kilograms a hectare, setting a new domestic output record.

The hybrid breed, "Kunlun 14", produced the record harvest during a trial planting in the Tibetan-inhabited Haiyan County of northwest China's Qinghai Province, the provincial academy of agriculture and forestry told *Xinhua* on Friday.

The crop beat the former record holder "Chaiqing 1" with an 11.89 percent larger yield. Top-quality seeds, advanced cultivation methods and fertile farmland are needed to increase the barley output, according to the academy.

As it will be soon introduced to more barley farmers, the achievement is expected to increase ag-

ricultural production on the Qinghai-Tibet plateau, where barely is a staple food, according to the academy.

Kunlun 14 is produced by crossbreeding different varieties of barley. It exhibits a stronger resistance to cold and drought and more nutrients such as lysine, an essential amino acid that assists gastric function.

Highland barley grows 1,000 meters above sea level on the Qinghai-Tibet plateau. In China, people living in Tibet, Qinghai and Gansu rely heavily on the grain. In Tibet alone, more than 70 percent of farmland grows barley.

In 2013, China produced more than 1.17 million tons of highland barely with some 1 million tons grown on Qinghai-Tibet plateau, while total consumption was about 1.05 million tons, according to the Ministry of Agriculture.—*Xinhua*



Online shopping spree could create delivery problems

LONDON, 29 Nov — Britons are being warned to place online holiday-season gift orders much earlier this year to avoid disappointment, as doubts emerge about the ability of delivery companies to handle an expected surge in volume.

UK online sales this holiday season are expected to jump 18 percent, according to the Centre for Retail Research (CRR), as more shoppers use mobile apps to order clothing, books and gadgets.

Delivery firms say they are boosting capacity and coming up with new ways to handle a last-minute rush, but the high cost of temporary labour and vehicles also makes them cautious about over-investing.

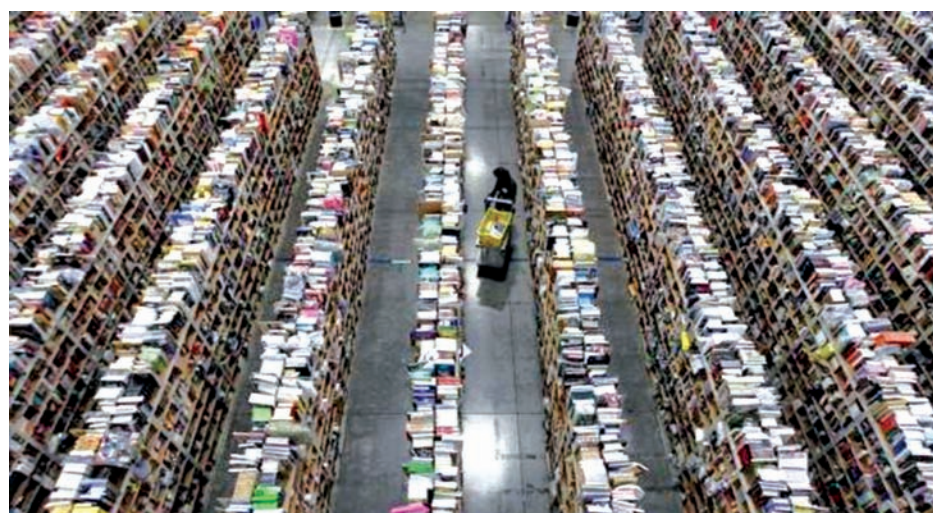
"I think there will be an acute problem this year," said Joshua Bamfield, the CRR's director.

Holiday demand aside, the government estimates the trucking industry is short of 60,000 drivers, in part due to new certification rules.

Justin Zatouff, head of logistics at KPMG, says firms may be forced to turn away business if e-retailers exceed volume forecasts.

Signs of strain are already emerging.

UK Mail Group Plc, whose customers use eBay Inc and Amazon.co.uk, is not accepting deliveries for



A worker gathers items for delivery from the warehouse floor at Amazon's distribution centre in Phoenix, Arizona on 22 Nov, 2013.—REUTERS

25 December and 26 December. Collections made on Christmas Eve will be delivered only by 29 December. Meanwhile, parcel companies are coming up with new ways they hope will help them get over the hump.

United Parcel Service Inc and Yodel, for example, are allowing customers to pick up parcels at places such as petrol stations, newsagents and convenience stores — a method called "click-and-collect" — thereby saving on the cost of delivering to single addresses.

Click-and-collect could make up 25 percent to 40 percent of online non-food sales this Christmas, said Alex Smith-Bingham of

consulting firm Capgemini.

Such sales — popular with shoppers, who need not stay home to accept delivery — will be worth about 3 billion pounds (\$4.7 billion) this year, up from 2.1 billion pounds last year, according to eBay.

UK Mail and DPD, part of France's La Poste [LAPST.UL], have come up with another solution — one-hour slotted delivery.

E-retailers too are coming up with new contingency plans.

Items bought from 65,000 eBay sellers can be collected from Argos stores, while Amazon has signed up for newspaper wholesaler Connect Group Plc's same-day parcel delivery service.

Despite all the planning, driver and distribution staff shortages mean any sudden volume spike could create problems.

"There are signs in the market that emergency/unplanned cover is becoming subject to shortages," said Simon Harper, operations director at TNT UK, a unit of TNT Express NV.

An indication of demand will emerge over the next few days.

Visa Europe expects Britons to spend 518 million pounds online using Visa cards on Friday, making it the biggest day ever for e-commerce in the UK. The credit card company said it expects a further 500 million pounds to be spent on Monday.—*Reuters*

Ultra-strong graphene's weak spot could be key to fuel cells

LONDON, 29 Nov — In a discovery that experts say could revolutionize fuel cell technology, scientists in Britain have found that graphene, the world's thinnest, strongest and most impermeable material, can allow protons to pass through it.

The researchers, led by the Nobel prize winner and discoverer of graphene Andre Geim of Manchester University, said their finding also raised the possibility that, in future, graphene membranes could be used to "sieve" hydrogen gas from the atmosphere to then generate electricity.

"We are very excited about this result because it opens a whole new area of promising applications for graphene in clean energy harvesting and hydro-

gen-based technologies," said Geim's co-researcher on the study, Marcelo Lozada-Hidalgo.

Graphene, the thinnest material on earth at just one atom thick, and 200 times stronger than steel, was first isolated in 2004 by Geim and fellow researchers, who were awarded a Nobel Prize in 2010 for their work.

It is renowned for being impermeable to all gases and liquids, giving it the potential for a range of uses such as corrosion-proof coatings, impermeable packaging and even super-thin condoms.

Knowing that graphene is impermeable to even the smallest of atoms, hydrogen, Geim's team decided to test whether protons, or hydrogen atoms stripped of their electrons, were also re-

pelled.

Their work was published in the journal *Nature*.

Against expectations, they found the protons could pass through the ultra-strong material fairly easily, especially at raised temperatures and if the graphene films were covered with nanoparticles such as platinum, which acted as a catalyst.

Geim and Lozada-Hidalgo, explaining their finding in a telephone briefing for reporters, said this meant graphene could in future be used in proton-conducting membranes, a crucial component of fuel cell technology.

Fuel cells, used in some modern cars, use oxygen and hydrogen as fuel and convert the input chemical energy into electricity.

But a major problem is that the fuels leak across the existing proton membranes, "poisoning" the process and reducing the cells' efficiency — something Geim said could be overcome using graphene.

The team also found that graphene membranes could be used to extract hydrogen from the atmosphere, suggesting the possibility of combining them with fuel cells to make mobile electric generators powered just by the tiny amounts of hydrogen in the air.

"Essentially, you pump your fuel from the atmosphere and get electricity out of it," Geim said. "Our (study) provides proof that this kind of device is possible."

Reuters

Riken researcher Obokata to end tests to reproduce STAP cells

TOKYO, 29 Nov — Embattled scientist Haruko Obokata will end experiments on Sunday as scheduled that she has been conducting to reproduce so-called STAP cells, which she and co-authors described in research papers that were later retracted, officials at the Riken research institute said on Friday.

The government-backed institute plans to make public the test results after compiling data collected in her efforts to prove the existence of STAP cells, purportedly capable of developing into any type of tissue. But the institute has yet to decide when to release the results, as it may take a while to interpret the experimental data, the officials said.

Obokata will organize and analyze the obtained data under the supervision of researchers, including a leader of a Riken team conducting experiments to reproduce STAP cells, the officials said.

In August, the team said in an interim report that it had yet to produce STAP cells as claimed by Obokata in her research papers, which were subsequently withdrawn amid allegations of misconduct.

Obokata has joined the research team to conduct, with a third party present, the experiments set to be terminated at the end of November regardless of progress. The research team, meanwhile, will continue its experiments through March next year.

Kyodo News

Filipino woman sues Japanese nursing care provider for unpaid wages

TOKYO, 29 Nov — A Filipino woman who used to work for a nursing care provider in western Japan filed a lawsuit on Friday with the Osaka District Court demanding unpaid wages from her former employer.

Juju Corp was investigated by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare in July over its requirement that Filipino employees in Japan sign a statement absolving the company of responsibility for death.

Chona Ishihara, 41, says the company imposed an excessive workload and is seeking around 5.8 million yen in compensation. It is rare for a non-Japanese worker in the nursing care sector to sue.

According to the lawsuit, Ishihara was made to sign the statement when she was interviewed by a Philippine-based group affiliated with Juju. She arrived in Japan in March 2012 and worked for about two years until April, during which she sometimes did not receive overtime pay.

The lawsuit said her hourly pay was 800 to 832 yen, lower than that of her Japanese employees, whose hourly pay was 900 yen. She also had to work

more overnight shifts than her Japanese colleagues.

Ishihara said she could not leave her job because she was told she could not quit until she paid back a loan from Juju to cover roughly 600,000 yen for expenses such as training costs. Juju declined to comment as it had not read the content of the lawsuit.

Based in Higashiosaka, Osaka Prefecture, Juju operates 13 facilities in Osaka and Nara prefectures in western Japan. It began to hire Filipino women around 2009.

Kyodo News



Chona Ishihara, a Filipino woman who used to work for a nursing care provider in western Japan, attends a Press conference in Osaka, Japan, on 28 Nov, 2014, after filing a lawsuit to demand unpaid wages from her former employer.

KYODO NEWS

China, Thailand pledge to expand economic, investment cooperation



Chinese State Councilor Wang Yong (4th R) and visiting Thai Deputy Prime Minister Pridiyathorn Devakula (4th L) co-chaired the 3rd China-Thailand Joint Committee on Trade, Investment and Economic Cooperation Meeting in Beijing, capital of China, on 28 Nov, 2014.—XINHUA

BEIJING, 29 Nov — China and Thailand on Friday pledged to further enhance cooperation on economic, trade and investment so as to promote bilateral ties to a higher level.

The agreement was reached during the 3rd China-Thailand Joint Committee on Trade, Investment and Economic Cooperation Meeting held here in Beijing, which was co-chaired by Chinese State Councilor Wang Yong and visiting Thai

Deputy Prime Minister Pridiyathorn Devakula.

Both sides agreed that the 21st century maritime Silk Road initiative raised by China shared extensive common interests with Thai economic development plan and provided broad space for bilateral economic cooperation.

Noting that the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties will come next year, Wang said China and Thailand should continue to expand bilateral trade and provide

a favourable environment for each other's enterprises to invest.

He encouraged both sides to enhance cooperation in areas including trade, investment, railway and infrastructure of flood control.

Pridiyathorn said Thailand is willing to work with China to further tap the potential of cooperation in energy, infrastructure, trade of agricultural products, finance, information and space technology, and culture.—Xinhua

Oil price drop causes tough times for oil-rich Alberta

VANCOUVER, 29 Nov — Premier Jim Prentice of Alberta Province in west Canada warned on Friday that tough times were ahead for the province due to the continuing drop in world oil prices. In a speech to the Calgary Chamber of Commerce, Prentice said the government did plan to end the current fiscal year on March 31 with a surplus — but cuts will be needed to achieve that. “It will not be easy on the Government of Alberta and it will not be easy on Albertans,” Prentice said, adding that tough choices would have to be made.

Oil closed at just under 66 US dollars per barrel on Friday — the latest drop in a months-long decline that has seen the prices decrease by about 35 percent since the summer. Prentice said the spring budget would be based on oil prices staying in the 65-75 dollars range. However, he vowed that core services in health, education and social services would be protected from any cuts. A higher US dollar, lower demand for oil and a major boost in global supply are being blamed for the sinking prices. All of this has led to losses on the Toronto stock market and big concerns for provincial budgets in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Newfoundland and Labrador.—Xinhua

Filipino caregiver calls for medical interpreters

TOKYO, 29 Nov — Paladero Mon Angelo, a 26-year-old Filipino licensed care worker, won a Japanese speech contest this summer stressing the need for interpreters with special knowledge of Japan's healthcare system.

Angelo said at the contest held in August that foreign residents often have little understanding of Japan's medical services.

“Foreign residents who speak little Japanese need special medical and welfare interpreters who are familiar with Japan's medical system, not to mention health conditions,” he said.

The contest was organized by the Overseas Human Resources and Industry Development Association with participants drawn from among foreign

residents engaged in health and nursing care.

Angelo, who works at a nursing home for elderly people in Hamamatsu, Shizuoka Prefecture, central Japan, came to Japan four years ago under an Economic Partnership Agreement with the Philippines.

He recalled that during a visit he made to a doctor last year, he met a Filipino mother who brought her child to the clinic and was having a hard time understanding the doctor's explanations.

Angelo offered to interpret and found out that the mother was being asked to pay all the day's medical expense, instead of 30 percent, as her health insurance card had expired.

He said that since he had been studying the sys-



Paladero Mon Angelo, a Filipino, who won a Japanese speech contest in August 2014 for foreign residents engaged in health care and nursing care in Japan, is seen in this undated photo. He stressed the necessity of special interpreters who understand Japan's medical system at the contest.—KYODO NEWS

tem in order to become a care worker, he could quickly figure it out, but that it “is probably hard to understand for foreign residents.”

To help foreign patients, he started teaching interpreters of foreign nationality about how the medical system works in Japan while continuing to work at the nursing home.

Angelo said in an interview that he himself was bewildered by cultural differences when he first arrived in Japan.

“When I changed the position of a bed so a patient wouldn't get too much wind from an air conditioner, I was told that the pillow should not be facing north,” he said.

In Japan, sleeping with the pillow facing north is believed to bring bad luck.

He also said he couldn't stand the cold weather in winter, having never experienced it back home in Zamboanga on Mindanao island.

All his efforts paid off this year when he passed the national exam to be a care worker.

But some of his Filipino friends have returned home.

“Many of them missed their homes, but I guess the Japanese government can also provide them a future path after they obtained the license,” he said.

Angelo has married a Filipino woman, also a care worker, and they are expecting a baby next year.

His next goal is to become a care manager who is allowed to make plans about how to take care of patients.—Kyodo News

Floods kills two people in southeast France

PARIS, 29 Nov — A new wave of deadly floods struck the Var department in southeast France and killed two women, according to local reports.

In two separate incidents, the first victim died late on Thursday after rising waters swept her car in la Londe-les-Maures village, and reported missing since Thursday, a second woman was found dead early on Friday morning. Heavy rainfall affecting the country's southeastern region also left two people missing, among whom there is a child, the report added. Meteo, France meteorological service forecast, says 13 departments in southern France are put under orange on predicted rains and floods till Saturday morning.—Xinhua

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MV PANJA BHUM VOY NO (035)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PANJA BHUM VOY NO (035) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30.11.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S WAN HAI LINES PTE LTD**
Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV FRISIA LAHN VOY NO (1462)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FRISIA LAHN VOY NO (1462) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30.11.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MCC TRANSPORT**
Phone No: 2301185

WEATHER REPORT

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 30th November, 2014: Isolated light rain is likely in Tanintharyi Region, weather will be partly cloudy in Upper Sagaing and Yangon Regions and Kachin States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (60%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of increase of night temperatures in the Southern Myanmar areas.

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Greenland's ruling party wins parliamentary election

COPENHAGEN, 29 Nov — Greenlandic ruling Siumut party won Friday's parliamentary election by a narrow margin, official data showed on Saturday.

With all votes counted on early Saturday morning,

the social democratic Siumut party headed by Kim Kielsen won 34.3 percent, compared with 33.2 percent for the left-wing party of Inuit Ataqatigiit, led by Sara Olsvig.

Xinhua

Two British generation firms fined 39 mln pounds

LONDON, 29 Nov — Two generation firms were fined 39 million pounds (about 62 million US dollars) for failing to meet environmental targets, the British energy watchdog Ofgem announced on Friday.

The North Yorkshire-based generator Drax Power was hit with a 28 million pounds penalty and another generation firm, InterGen, was fined 11 million pounds for their failing to meet environmental targets under the government's Community Energy Saving Programme (CESP).

Under CESP, generators as well as energy suppliers had to deliver energy saving measures to households in low-income areas by the end of December 2012.

Drax Power delivered 37.1 percent of its carbon emissions reduction target, according to the Ofgem.

Independent generator InterGen delivered 6.4 percent of its CESP obligation by the deadline. After additional measures it delivered 61.2 percent, remaining 38.8 percent short of its obligation.

Sarah Harrison, senior partner in charge of en-

forcement at Ofgem said that the punishments "reflects the seriousness of the consequences of these failings for consumers."

In May 2013, Ofgem launched investigations into six energy companies, including British Gas, SSE, Scottish Power, and GDF/Suez, who failed to deliver on time their obligations under CESP scheme. The CESP was designed to lower carbon emissions through the delivery of energy saving measures, such as loft and cavity wall insulation free of charge, to households in low income areas. —Xinhua



Photo taken on 28 Nov, 2014 shows a candy booth at Christmas market in downtown Brussels, capital of Belgium. The market was opened to public here on Friday.—XINHUA

International experts focus on more practical aspects to build Silk Road Economic Belt

BISHKEK, 29 Nov — Governmental representatives and experts from more than 10 countries exchanged their practical views on Friday in the International Conference about "Common Development and Prosperity of the States along the Silk Road" held in the capital city of Kyrgyzstan.

The participants discussed cooperation in political and homeland security affairs, appraisal and future perspectives for development of various sectors of the economy, as well as cooperation in cultural and humanitarian areas between the countries located along the Great Silk Road. During the assessment and economic sectors development prospects in the context of Silk Road, more experts focus on practical aspects, such as the report on "current state and investment attractiveness of the agricultural sector of Kyrgyzstan" and the report on "project regional transport corridor".

Meanwhile, participants also held in-depth discussions on issues like terrorism and security of countries along the Silk Road and the geo-strategy in the region.

Former Shanghai Cooperation Organization General Secretary, Imanaliev Murabek mentioned in the discussion, the initiative "Silk

Road Economic Belt" proposed in 2013 by Chinese President Xi Jinping is actively promoting the regional cooperation. This initiative gave more meaning to the ancient Silk Road, and will create a new historical process.

Director of Central Asia Institute from Shaanxi Normal University, China, Li Qi told Xinhua that the delegates, according to the history, the reality and plans about the future, discussed how to build together the Silk Road Economic Belt. They proposed lots of good ideas and recommendations. Li said one of the main features in the seminar is that people now talked more practical aspects than before. And she believes this trend will promote the cooperation along the Silk Road economic belt.

The International Seminar on "common development and prosperity of countries along the Silk Road," is organized by the National Institute for Strategic Studies of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Committee of the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic for International Affairs.

Governmental representatives and experts from more than 10 countries, including China, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, US, Afghanistan, India, as well as representatives from international organizations attended the seminar.—Xinhua

Ireland to repay 9 billion euros of IMF bailout loans by year end

DUBLIN, 29 Nov — Irish Finance Minister Michael Noonan said on Friday his country will repay 9 billion euros (11 billion US dollars) of the bailout loans it owed to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) by the end of the year.

"On Monday Ireland will inform the IMF of its intention to repay the first tranche repayment of approximately 9 billion euros," Noonan said.

"To facilitate an orderly settlement, the repayment will occur on two separate dates in December 2014. This transaction alone will save 750 million euros over the lifetime of the IMF loans and further enhance the sustainability of our national debt," he said.

Ireland recently secured agreement from the European Union (EU) to pay the IMF before it repays aid from the EU bailout funds.

When it was cut off from the markets in 2010, Ireland borrowed from the IMF, the European Financial Stability Facility (EFSF) and the European Financial Stability Mechanism (EFSM) a total 67.5 billion euros.

The December repayment will discharge all scheduled IMF principal repayment obligations that were originally falling due from July 2015 to July 2018. Subsequent repayments, planned for 2015, will target later repayment dates up to January 2021.

The Irish minister said he expected interest savings in excess of 1.5 billion euros to be achieved from early repayment of approximately 18 billion euros to the IMF. The actual interest savings will depend on the timing and market rate paid on bonds issued to refinance the IMF loans once completed, he said.

"By reducing the interest bill on the national debt we reduce the amount of tax revenues & borrowing that go towards financing the debt," Noonan said.—Xinhua

Aaron Sorkin wants to open restaurant

LONDON, 29 Nov — Hollywood screenwriter Aaron Sorkin is planning to open a bizarre new restaurant where chefs only serve up burned food.

The 53-year-old Oscar winner said he likes his meat, fish and poultry overly-well done and he has had so much trouble convincing cooks to prepare his food to his liking, he wants to launch his own special eatery, reported Contactmusic.

"I love well done food, but beyond well done, burnt. Beef, chicken, fish, anything. I was at a restaurant once and I ordered a steak. 'I told the waiter I wanted it well done, and he said, 'Our well done steak is grey round the edges, pink in the middle', and I went, 'No, no, it's gotta be burnt all the way through', and he went and got the manager... because the chef wasn't going to make it that way," Sorkin said.

"So I wanna open a restaurant called Well Done and our motto would be, 'We understand'."—PTI

Golden Globes 2015 promo released

LOS ANGELES, 29 Nov — Tina Fey and Amy Poehler get ready for their hosting gig at the upcoming 72nd annual Golden Globe Awards in a new promo released online. In the video, the former 'Saturday Night Live' stars revealed who they are wearing for the big event but what they say is actually not real designer names, reported Ace Showbiz.

"Either way, we expect to fall," Poehler said. Fey added, "Join us!" before the video shows footage from previous Golden Globe Awards, including a hilar-

ious moment where U2's Bono gave 'Parks and Recreation' star Poehler a massage. This will be their third time hosting the show.

The two comedienues signed a two-year deal to return as the hosts of the 2014 and 2015 telecasts following their successful first Golden Globe hosting stint in 2013. The 2015 Golden Globe Awards will be held in Los Angeles on 11 January. Kelsey Grammer's daughter Greer Grammer was recently named Miss Golden Globe 2015.

PTI



The 2015 Golden Globe Awards will be held in Los Angeles on 11 January.—PTI

Paul Walker's legacy lives though charity: brother



LONDON, 29 Nov — Actor Paul Walker's brother believes the late star's legacy lives on through his charity Reach Out Worldwide (ROWW).

The 'Fast and Furious' star — who died in a car crash last November — established Reach Out Worldwide (ROWW) to provide relief in areas affected by natural disasters and his younger brother Cody Walker thinks the late actor would be 'stoked' to know the organisation is still going strong, reported Daily Mirror.

"ROWW continues to be, to function, to help others even after our primary contributor, my brother. I know he would be so stoked to know that. ROWW changed his life, and he was so proud of it," Cody said. "This year has been very challenging but also extremely rewarding. ROWW would like to thank all of our supporters who have gotten us through this very difficult year. Thanks to you, Paul's legacy lives on through ROWW," he added.—PTI

Gwen Stefani, Pharrell Williams to perform on 'The Voice'



Gwen Stefani and Pharrell Williams will unveil an exclusive live performance of 'Spark The Fire' on the NBC singing competition. PTI

LOS ANGELES, 29 Nov — Singers Gwen Stefani and Pharrell Williams will perform their new single on 'The Voice' next week. 'The Voice' coaches will unveil an exclusive live performance of 'Spark The Fire' on the NBC singing competition on 1 December, reported MTV online.

'Spark The Fire' will appear on Stefani's next studio album, in addition to featuring on the soundtrack of the children's film 'Paddington'. Williams and Stefani notably collaborated in the past on 'Hollaback Girl', which reached the top spot on the US singles chart in 2005.

PTI

Idina Menzel to launch US tour next year



Singer-actress Idina Menzel

LOS ANGELES, 29 Nov — Singer-actress Idina Menzel will launch a US tour next summer. The Tony Award winner will begin her 39-date trek across the US in Richmond, VA on 7 July, 2015, reported Ace Showbiz.

Subsequent shows are scheduled for Atlantic City, Atlanta, Houston, Seattle, Chicago, Boston and Montreal through the summer months. Menzel is currently scheduled to bring the US tour to a close

on 3 October in Los Angeles. The singer is expected to add international dates once she completes the US leg of her tour.

Tickets can be purchased on Menzel's official website. Menzel is coming off a year which saw her song 'Let It Go' from Disney's Frozen reach the top five of the US chart. She has also released the LP Holiday Wishes, which featured a duet with Michael Buble on the classic festive track 'Baby It's Cold Outside'.—PTI

Cate Blanchett is proud of Emma Watson's UN speech

LOS ANGELES, 29 Nov — Actress Cate Blanchett says she is proud of 'Harry Potter' star Emma Watson's speech on gender equality at United Nations.

Watson, 24, the newly appointed UN Women Goodwill Ambassador delivered an emotional speech about feminism at the United Nations headquarters in September to help launch the HeForShe gender equality cam-



paign, reported E! Online.

Watson in her speech stated that feminism is about fighting for women's rights and should not be misconstrued as man-hating. Blanchett, 45, said Watson's speech was brilliant and passion-

ate. "I was so proud of Emma Watson's speech at the UN It was brilliant, such an incredible use of her airspace, and really passionate. It was fantastic," she said.

PTI

Cate Blanchett: I was so proud of Emma Watson's speech at the UN It was brilliant. PTI

Plane carrying MH17 victims arrives in Netherlands

THE HAGUE, 29 Nov — A Dutch military plane carrying the remains of victims onboard the Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 arrived at the Eindhoven Air Base in the south of the Netherlands on Friday.

After a ceremonial tribute attended by Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte and relatives of the victims, six coffins onboard the plane were transferred to the Corporal Oudheusden Barracks

in Hilversum for identification. “We stand together, we mourn with everyone and the Netherlands shows in a very special way that we sympathize with anyone who is affected by this terrible disaster,” Rutte stated before he left for the ceremony.

MH17, an international passenger flight from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur, crashed on 17 July this year, killing 298 people, includ-

ing 196 Dutch citizens.

According to the previous count of the Dutch Ministry of Security and Justice, a total of 289 victims have been identified.

The remains brought to Eindhoven were found by members of the Dutch repatriation and recovery mission, who completed the recovery of the wreckage of MH17 on 23 November.

Upon the return of Friday’s jet, no more flight

is planned for now as the recovery mission has been completed and winter snow is coming to eastern Ukraine, according to a Dutch source.

The plane with six coffins departed around noon from the airport of the eastern Ukrainian city of Kharkiv.

Eight planes were sent to carry the victims of MH17 in the week after the crash. —Xinhua

Bayern turnover tops half a billion euros



Bayern Munich’s fans cheer during their German Cup (DFB Pokal) final soccer match against Borussia Dortmund in Berlin on 17 May, 2014. — REUTERS

BERLIN, 29 Nov — Bundesliga champions Bayern Munich achieved record turnover figures for 2013/14 on Friday, matching their success on the pitch by breaking through the 500 million euros (398.05 million pounds) barrier for the first time.

The richest club in Germany and one of the wealthiest in the world posted a turnover of 528.7 million

euros including Allianz Arena Limited, their best result in 114 years, club bosses told the annual general meeting in Munich.

Allianz Arena Limited is the Bayern-owned operator of the club’s home ground.

Turnover was up almost 100 million euros in 2013/14, from 432.8 million, while profit stood at just over 16 million eu-

ros after tax, up from 14 million.

Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation rose slightly to 98.7 million euros, up from 95.6 million in 2012/13 when Bayern won their first Champions League-Bundesliga-German Cup treble.

“Bayern Munich can present to its members results that have never existed in the history of this club,”

said deputy CEO Jan-Christian Dreesen.

“There is no doubt Bayern are both on a sporting level and financially at a stage they have never been before.”

The club have enjoyed great success in recent years, reaching the Champions League final three times since 2010 and winning their fifth European crown in 2013.

Bayern have benefited from a booming domestic championship that has also seen record revenues from international broadcast rights sales as well as the world’s highest attendance per game at more than 42,000 spectators.

Club membership has also more than doubled in 10 years, from 104,000 in 2004 to more than 251,000 in 2013/14.

It has not all been good news for Bayern this year though, with former club president Uli Hoeness being handed a three and a half year jail sentence for tax evasion.

Reuters

MYANMAR TV

(30-11-2014, Sunday)

6:00 am

* Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw

6:15 am

* Physical Exercise

7:00 am

* News / Weather Report

7:20 am

* MRTV’s Youth Programme

8:00 am

* News / International News

8:30 am

* Documentary

9:30 am

* Documentary (ASEAN)

10:20 am

* Science and Technology Programme

12:00 noon

* News/ International News / Weather Report

12:30 pm

* Round up of The Week’s International News

12:45 pm

* Myanmar Movie

3:30 pm

* Mono Classical Song

4:45 pm

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

5:15 pm

* Sing & Enjoy

6:20 pm

* Pyi Thu Ni Ti

7:20 pm

* Weekly Entertainment News

8:00 pm

* News/ International News/ Weather Report

8:35 pm

* Documentary (Women in Myanmar Society)

9:00 pm

* News Monthly Weather Report

MITV

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(30-11-14 07:00 am~ 1-12-14 07:00 am) MST

- * Local News
- * The Writer: Chit Oo Nyo (Part-1)
- * World News
- * “Today Myanmar” Myanmar Timber Exports
- * Local News
- * Continuation In Rural Tradition
- * World News
- * A Girl Guide
- * Local News
- * Dawei -Tavoy, Travel To The Southern Part of Myanmar
- * World News
- * Tea Leaves
- * Local News
- * Odd Job..Crocodile Keeper
- * World News
- * In the Studio: Ja Som (The Myth)
- * Local News
- * Charitable Associations
- * World News
- * Short Cuts: Tazaungmone
- * Local News
- * A Famous Festival & Its Fantastic Fair
- * World News
- * A Traditional Doctor
- * Local News
- * “This Land is Our Land”
- * World News
- * Myanmar Masterclass: Art Teacher
- * Local News
- * MraukU, Treasure Trove of Rakhine Culture
- * World News
- * In The Studio “Swel Lan Phyu”

IAEA recommends France raises funds, workforce for nuclear safety

PARIS, 29 Nov — French nuclear watchdog ASN got a clean bill of health from an International Atomic Energy Agency-led peer review on Friday, although the report highlighted the need for more staff and money in the future.

France, the world’s most nuclear-reliant country, gets three quarters of its electricity from 58 reactors operated by state-owned utility EDF.

As the reactors age, approaching 40-years old in the next decade, ASN will need more frequent safety checks requiring more staff and funds, both hard to obtain given government budget constraints.

“While they are currently able to meet their regulatory mandate based on the current resources that they have, they need to address future needs,” Mark Satorius, executive director for operations of the US nuclear watchdog, the NRC, told reporters.

The head of ASN, Pierre-Frank Chevet, has regularly warned officials of the need to increase the authority’s budget and workforce, but has so far obtained only a fraction of its estimates.

ASN employs 1,000 staff and Chevet said it needed to increase that to 1,200 as soon as possible to face the increased workload of the incoming 40-year review of French reactors.

“We were given an extra 30 positions over the next three years by the government. We say ‘thanks’, we understand the budget constraints, but that’s not enough,” Chevet told reporters. Chevet also called for a new tax on nuclear operators that would be ringfenced for nuclear safety. —Reuters



View of the cooling towers at the Golfech nuclear plant on the edge of the Garonne river between Agen and Toulouse, southwestern France. — REUTERS



**I don't
care
about
FIFA
awards,
says
Mourinho**

LONDON, 29 Nov — Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho raised a few eyebrows on Friday when he said he had no interest in awards like FIFA's FIFPro World XI list for 2014.

The outspoken Portuguese made his comments despite the fact two of his players, Belgium winger Eden Hazard and Spain midfielder Cesc Fabregas, are on the shortlist to make the World XI team.

"When I see these trophies I think they are not good for football. I don't care about them," Mourinho told a news conference on the eve of Premier League leaders Chelsea's visit to 14th-placed Sunderland.

"Sometimes it looks like we're looking for stars... looking for people more important than other people and this is not the culture we want in this club."

Mourinho believes Hazard and Fab-

regas share his views on these type of awards.

"The mentality here is not to be worried with that and when I see Fabregas and Hazard, I think clearly they don't think about it," said the Chelsea boss.

"Clearly they think about the team, playing well and trying to win matches."

Mourinho was also asked about media reports linking Chelsea with a move for four-time World Player of the Year Lionel Messi.

He rubbished the rumours surrounding the Barcelona forward and said it was typical of the way "non-truths" could be circulated these days.

Chelsea, looking to stretch their unbeaten start to the season to 20 matches in all competitions, go into Saturday's game holding a six-point lead over second-placed Southampton.—Reuters

Vela hat-trick earns Moyes his first win with Sociedad

MADRID, 29 Nov — David Moyes notched his maiden victory as coach of Real Sociedad as Carlos Vela scored a classy hat-trick in a morale-boosting 3-0 win at home to Elche in La Liga on Friday.

Moyes took over this month with the Basque side down in 15th place and Friday's triumph, following last weekend's 0-0 draw at Deportivo La Coruna in the Scot's first game in charge, lifted them to 12th with 13 points from as many matches.

Vela opened the scoring at the Anoeta in San Sebastian with a third-minute header and made it 2-0

when he ran on to a Xabi Prieto pass and struck a clinical low shot into the corner in the 31st.

The Mexico striker completed his treble eight minutes into the second half with a smart finish that went in off a post.

Elche, second from bottom on 10 points, looked out of their depth and are likely to be fighting for their top-flight status this season.

Leaders Real Madrid can pull five points clear of second-placed Barcelona, who play at Valencia on Sunday, with a win at Malaga on Saturday.

Reuters



David Moyes

Southampton's Koeman relishing Aguero versus Forster showdown

SOUTHAMPTON, 29 Nov — When champions Manchester City visit Southampton for Sunday's clash they will be looking to the Premier League's leading goalscorer to breach the meanest defence in the country.

Argentine Sergio Aguero has 17 goals in 18 appearances in all competitions. It is a spectacular record which would have most teams nervous at the prospect.

Southampton's strengths match up perfectly, though. The Saints are in second spot — one place above their visitors — and have conceded six goals in their first dozen league matches.

Goalkeeper Fraser Forster has recorded a league-leading seven clean sheets.

With such a potent striker gunning for such a solid defence, something has to give.

But far from wincing at the prospect of Aguero terrorising his team, Southampton manager Ronald Koeman is positively relishing the prospect.

"We have a strong defence and it's a nice



Manchester City's Sergio Aguero celebrates after he scored the winning goal against Bayern Munich during their Champions League Group E soccer match in Manchester on 25 Nov, 2014.—REUTERS

challenge," Koeman told reporters at Southampton's new 40 million pounds Staplewood training centre on the edge of the New Forest.

"You can't give them no attention for one second, you need that attention during 90-95 minutes

and that's a great challenge for our defenders."

City are no one-man side, however, and Koeman is aware danger lurks in every position.

"They have great, world-class players. Aguero is making the difference in the last few weeks.

That's a quality for the big teams because they have players who will decide and win games by themselves, that's the most dangerous point of City.

"If they would like to repeat the title they have to win, that's the pressure on big clubs," he added.

From being the surprise package of the season, Southampton are adapting to life shouldering a little pressure of their own. "If we want to do better than last season, this period is important," Koeman said. "We know if we like to do something special this season we need to win these type of games.

"Every person has his own opinion about the team. I think we have a strong team, play with good organization.

"On Sunday we play one of the teams who can win the title... but it is not easy to beat Southampton, and we will show that on Sunday."

Saints are likely to be without Northern Ireland skipper Steven Davis, who Koeman rated doubtful with a hamstring injury.

Reuters

Victory sends Marseille marching four points clear

PARIS, 29 Nov — Olympique de Marseille stretched their Ligue 1 lead to four points after man of the match Florian Thauvin and Rod Fanni clinched a 2-0 home win over Nantes on Friday.

Marcelo Bielsa's team now have 34 points from 15 games while champions Paris St Germain are on 30 ahead of their home fixture with Nice on Saturday. Nantes are fifth, 10 points off the pace.

Marseille struggled at times but were clinical in front of goal, scoring twice before the interval against the team with the meanest defence in the league having let in only nine goals before Friday's match.

Nantes threatened on the break but Thauvin latched on to Dimitri Payet's cross from the right to open the scoring in the 24th minute.

The Canaries had a golden opportunity nine minutes

from halftime with Georges-Kevin Nkoudou's close-range effort being saved by Steve Mandanda.

Three minutes later defender Fanni, with his back to goal, headed in Thauvin's perfect cross to make it 2-0.

Mandanda came to the rescue again 20 minutes from time when he parried Jordan Veretout's fierce long-range drive.

Marseille winger Romain Alessandrini was replaced in added time by Baptiste Aloé after picking up a suspected ankle injury.—Reuters

Olympique Marseille's Florian Thauvin (R) challenges FC Nantes' Issa Cissokho during their French Ligue 1 soccer match at the Velodrome stadium in Marseille, on 28 Nov, 2014.—REUTERS

