

## South Korea helps Myanmar with rural development plans

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec—President U Thein Sein addressed a Korea Flagship Projects Launching Forum at the Myanmar International Convention Centre here on Tuesday, describing two South Korea-Myanmar projects as a milestone in the history of cooperation between the governments and peoples of the two countries, with Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Myanmar Mr Lee Baek-soon extending greetings at the forum.

The Korea International Cooperation Agency is helping Myanmar establish the Myanmar Development Institute and the Saemaul Undong, literally meaning New Village/Community Movement.

According to the president, the establishment of the Myanmar Development Institute (MDI) will contribute to boosting the capacity and efficiency of national people, while the New Village/Community Movement is designed to reduce the poverty gap between rural and urban areas.

South Korea has so far helped improve two villages, with 100 more villages under planning stage, the president said.



**President U Thein Sein presents a picture of ripening paddy plantation to former ROK Prime Minister Mr Goh Kun at the Korea Flagship Projects Launching Forum.—MNA**

Every nation needs to develop strategies to ensure higher socioeconomic status for its people, with the president calling for

experts to do thorough research and all nationalities to pool their suggestions.

The president stated that Myanmar has integrat-

ed its national sustainable development strategy into the United Nations Millennium Development Goals and ASEAN Development

Policies, stressing that the 'right mix' has also been designed to reinforce the country's forthcoming national comprehensive

development plan, which he said includes equitable development among states and regions.

The plan is aimed at lifting the people out of poverty and enabling them to secure considerable income through projects of agricultural and industrial development, the president added.

President U Thein Sein pointed out the need to form a strong research body that will help strengthen government policies to ensure good governance and clean government, bringing the Myanmar Development Institute into sharp focus.

Over the past three years, the government has implemented these new policies and initiatives by laying foundations for national development and higher socioeconomic status for people, the president stated.

Regarding the implementation of the two projects, the president expressed his belief that the forum would support the correct prioritization and sequencing of the 20-year national comprehensive development plan, which is currently being formulated (See page 3)

## Norway's King applauds Myanmar's determination to turn a difficult past into a hopeful future

**By Ye Myint**

YANGON, 2 Dec—King Harald V of Norway, in a speech at Convocation

Hall at the University of Yangon on Tuesday, expressed praise for Myanmar's determination to turn a difficult past into a hope-

ful future.

In his speech on democratic development, the King noted the courage Myanmar people are show-

ing in overcoming past differences to build a better future and individuals who are courageous to bring to an end one of the world's longest running civil wars.

The King pledged to support the process of transformation in Myanmar, saying the country's commitment and willingness to strive for democracy, peace, freedom and equality is an "inspiration to all."

He highlighted the development of human resources and education for ensuring a prosperous future, adding the "gift of knowledge" could bring Myanmar people to the "summits of their dreams."

Regarding the long-term development cooperation Myanmar and Norway has established, the King said he was proud to see (See page 2)

## Authorities to take action against health violations

**By Aye Min Soe**

YANGON, 2 Dec—The Yangon City Development Committee has announced actions will be taken against those who produce or sell hazardous food in the city's municipal area.

The announcement stated the authorities have found locally made food and imported food and medicines that are hazardous to health, during their inspection of food and drugs in the Yangon's municipal area.

Those who fail to obey the prohibition will serve a one-year jail sentence or will be fined K10,000 to K500,000 or both under Section 68 of the Yangon City Development Committee Act, the announcement said.

Meanwhile, the committee for settling disputes between consumers and

sellers has announced it will inspect shops if it receives complaints from customers about hazardous food and medicines and will charge the shops if found to be in breach of the law.

The committee was formed on 20 October with officials from Ministry of Commerce, businesspeople, law experts, personnel from the Myanmar Food and Drug Association,

Food packs in Thai or Chinese languages and without expiry dates will be seized and actions will be taken against those who sell them, said an official of the committee.

The committee has also urged consumers to send complaints about the hazardous food to the Commerce and Consumer Department of the Yangon Region office of the Ministry of Commerce.—GNLM



**Accompanying Union Minister U Soe Thane and party, Norway's King Harald V leaves after speaking at Convocation Hall at the University of Yangon on Tuesday. King Harald V and Queen Sonja began a five-day state visit to Myanmar on Monday.—PHOTO: YE MYINT**



## Union FM sends message of felicitations to Lao PDR

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Dec—On the occasion of the 39<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, which falls on 2 December 2014, U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Re-

public of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Dr. Thongloun Sisoulith, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.—MNA

## Myanmar scouts meet in Yangon

YANGON, 2 Dec—A collaboration meeting of Myanmar scouts was held at the Diamond Jubilee Hall of the Yangon University on Tuesday.

The meeting discussed the plans of scouts to take part in the ceremo-

ny of the Independence Day on 4 January, the joint camping of Myanmar and Japanese women scouts in the last week of December in Nay Pyi Taw, and formations of scout teams in universities beginning this academic.

The event was attended by U Soe Thane, Union Minister at President Office, senior officials from Ministry of Education, senior scouts and teachers from the Department of Basic Education.

*Khin Cho Win*



*Union Minister U Soe Thane explains plans of joint camping of Myanmar and Japanese scouts at Diamond Jubilee Hall of the Yangon University.—MNA*

## Myanmar, Norway focus on financial cooperation in oil and gas sector

YANGON, 2 Dec—INT-SOK Oil and Natural Gas Company of Norway held a technical meeting at Chatrium Hotel in Yangon on Tuesday.

Managing Director Mr Sjur E Bratland of INT-SOK extended greetings and Deputy Minister of Petroleum and Energy of Norway Mr Kare Fostervold

explained the meeting to share technological experiences of petroleum and energy.

They discussed oil and gas production of Myanmar and its challenges, exploration of deep sea oil and natural gas, advantages of applying broadband seismic technology, social security and management system in

new oil exploration block in Southeast Asia, liquefied natural gas system of Myanmar, work development and technological application system in deep sea, capacity of Myanmar's oil exploration, technological role in deep sea work development and financial cooperation of Norway in the works.—MNA

## Norway's King applauds...

*(from page 1)*

flourishing relations between the peoples of the two countries.

On Myanmar's ongoing peace process, King Harald said, "It takes time to build lasting and sustainable peace" and stressed the need of the commitment of all the people to the realization of the vision of a sustainable democratic

state.

Emphasizing Norway's long involvement in Myanmar development, the king said Norway's skills and technology will help Myanmar develop its economy, environmental conservation, rural electrification and increased access to sustainable energy.

He also expressed his hope to expand business

ties and economic cooperation between the two countries.

In conclusion, King Harald spotlighted the younger generation, saying the future of Myanmar is in their hands and announced the David Taw Scholarship Fund for students who demonstrate a commitment to the spirit and passion for peace to study history and humanities at the bachelor or master level.

## Norwegian King and Queen visit Telenor Head Office



*His Majesty King Harald V and Her Majesty Queen Sonja meet officials and staff at Telenor Head Office.—MNA*

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec—His Majesty King Harald V and Her Majesty Queen Sonja visited Telenor Head Office on Sethmu-1 Road in Yankin Township on Tuesday.

Telenor Group CEO and President Jon Fredrik

Baksaas and officials explained responsibility and accountability of the group to give services to the people and sales of SIM cards in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay.

The king and queen viewed round the display

of Telenor communication devices and communication services of the staff at the head office.

They visited Shwedagon Pagoda in the evening and donated cash to the fund.

*MNA*

## SWRR Ministry, IOM discuss job opportunities for human trafficked victims



NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec—Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin received Ambassador and Director-General of International Organization for Migration-IOM Mr William Lacy Swing at her ministry in Nay Pyi Taw on

Tuesday.

They discussed reunification of human trafficked victims with their families, creating of job opportunities for them, standard operation procedures-SOP for human trafficked victims, duty and functions of the information center for

trafficked victims in Yangon, the case management and case worker visits, reduction of natural disasters, cooperation in technology in opening of the Disaster Management School in Hinthada, Ayeyawady Region and signing for the MoU.—MNA

King Harald V and Queen Sonja began their five-day state visit to Myanmar on Monday with meetings with President U Thein Sein, Speaker of Pyidaung U Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann and the Chair of Pyithu Hluttaw Committee on Rule of Law, Peace and Tranquility Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in Nay Pyi Taw.

During their stay in Myanmar until Friday, the

Accompanying the king and queen are also 70 representatives from around 40 Norwegian companies with the focus to develop bilateral relations in the areas of development and business cooperation.

Norway was the first European country to relax sanctions on Myanmar in 2012 and cancelled all the \$534 million owed to it in 2013.

*GNLM*

According to a press release, the main purpose of the visit is to highlight Norway's longstanding support of the ongoing reform process in Myanmar.



## NATIONAL

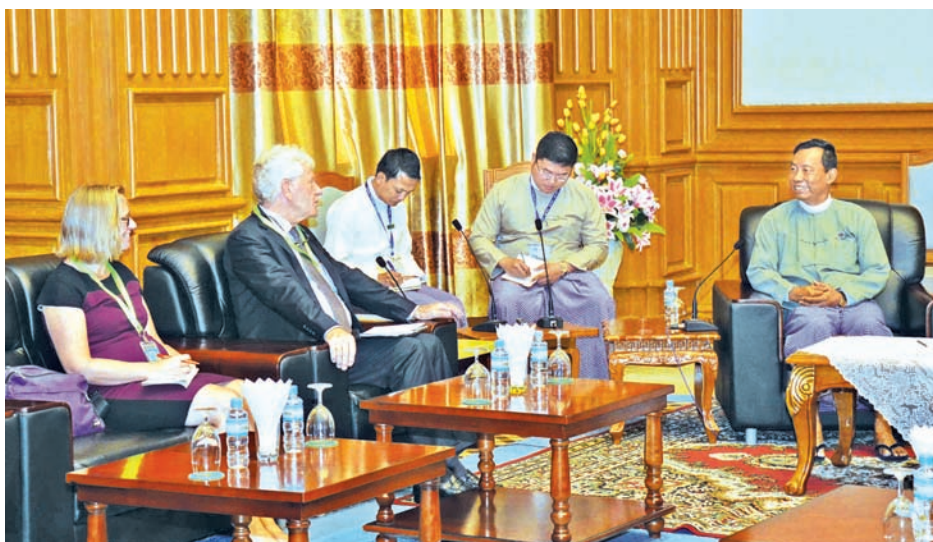
## President U Thein Sein sends messages of felicitations to Lao PDR

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Dec—On the occasion of the 39<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, which falls on 2 December 2014, U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent messages of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Choummaly Sayasone, President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and His Excellency Mr Thongsing Thammavong, Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.—MNA

## Vice Presidents send messages of felicitations to Laotian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Dec—On the occasion of the 39<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, which falls on 2 December 2014, Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun, Vice Presidents of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, have sent messages of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Bounnhang Vorachit, Vice President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.—MNA

## Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw receives Dutch Ambassador



Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann receives Ambassador of the Netherlands Mr Johannes Boer.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec—Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received Ambassador of the Netherlands Mr Jo-

hannes Boer at the Pyithu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Complex in Nay Pyi Taw on 2 December.

It was also attended by member of Pyithu Hluttaw

Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission Daw Aye Aye Mu and officials of the Pyithu Hluttaw Office.

MNA

## Vice-Senior General Soe Win attends closing ceremony of AARM-24

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec—Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win attended the 24<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Armies Rifle Meet held at the Mieu Mon National Training Center in Hanoi, Vietnam on 28 November.

At 2:30 pm on the same day, the vice-senior general and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, together

with army chiefs and their wives from ASEAN countries, visited exhibitions of military products before taking part in the novelty shoot of pistol and carbines.

In the afternoon, ASEAN senior military officers awarded the prizes to the winning teams in the ten days of competitions.

The 25<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Armies Rifle Meet will be held in Thailand.

In the afternoon, Senior Lieutenant General Do Ba Ty, Chief of the General Staff, Deputy Defence Minister, and his wife, served ASEAN senior military officers with dinner at the Mieu Mon Shooting Center.

Vice-Senior General Soe Win and party left Noi Bai Airport of Hanoi for home at 4:30 p.m. local time on 29 November.

Myawady

## Myanmar, the Netherlands to cooperate in water resources management

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec—President U Thein Sein received Bangkok-based Dutch Ambassador Mr Johannes Boer at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, on Tuesday.

They discussed assistance for undertaking agriculture, maintenance of waterways in rivers, fresh water conservation, and maintenance of water resources, production of value-added agricultural produce and cooperation in management of water resources.

Also present at the call were Union Ministers U Tin Naing Thein, U Nyan Tun Aung and Dr Kan Zaw and Deputy Minister U Tin Oo Lwin.—MNA



President U Thein Sein cordially greets Bangkok-based Dutch Ambassador Mr Johannes Boer.—MNA

## South Korea helps...

(from page 1)

based on the framework of economic and social reform.

The South Korea-assisted project, the Saemaul Undong, is an initiative that will vitalize the grass-roots implementation of Myanmar's ongoing rural development and poverty reduction plan, the president said, adding that the project serves as a model that accelerates the Third Wave Reform.

A majority of rural people live in poverty, which is why the government has

paid priority to poverty reduction and rural development tasks, with a focus on increasing productivity in agriculture and livestock, developing small- and medium enterprises, creating more job opportunities to generate more incomes, providing easy access to education, health, drinking water and transportation, all of which the president said require both long- and short-term plans to achieve success.

The president promised his government's further assistance to the

emergence of successful villages, stressing that sustainable development depends on villagers to make decisions regarding their own lives.

He urged institutions, organizations, intellectuals, technicians and the public to join hands with the government in implementing the 2015 development programmes and preparing to lay down foundations for the post-2015 development agenda. He warned that no matter how good the policies are in place, failure to enhance the human capital will put success in dim light.—MNA



Vice-Senior General Soe Win accepts souvenirs of military products exhibition.—MYAWADY



## Dhamma Schools hold annual general meeting in Pyinmana



NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec — The Dhamma Schools' annual general meeting took place at Sasana Beikman in Pyinmana on 30 November.

Member of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Than Htay and Vice Mayor of Nay Pyi Taw U Than Kyaw Htoo supplicated on religious affairs.

Wellwishers donated cash to the fund of the Dhamma Schools.—Ko Pauk (Okkar Myay)

## Villagers start consumption of electricity in ChaungU Township

CHAUNGU, 2 Dec — Inma Village in ChaungU Township, Sagaing Region, got supply of electricity on a self-reliant basis as of 5 pm on 1 December.

Sagaing Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myint Thein and township level officials unveiled the signboard of launching the power line and officials switched on the supply of power. Township electrical engineer U Kyaw Lwin Oo switched on the main breaker.

The region minister and departmental officials shared knowledge about safety of electricity.

A local thanked the officials for their efforts in electrification tasks as the

villagers now use modern electronic equipment.

Electricity Supply Enterprise in ChaungU Township undertakes self-reliant

electrification for 12 villages of its area. At present, Kanzee, Wayar and Inma villages are enjoying supply of electricity, and

the remaining villages are trying hard to supply electricity to the local people as soon as possible.—Yu Yu Win (IPRD)



## Sittway dwellers to get 50-bed traditional medicine hospital

SITTWAY, 2 Dec — The government allowed to upgrade the 16-bed traditional medicine hospital to the 50-bed one in the 2014-15 fiscal year with the aim of providing health care to the locals in Sittway of Rakhine State with the use of Myanmar traditional medicines.

The government allotted K595 million for construction of a 144 feet long, 56 feet wide and 24 feet high building of the traditional medicine hospital.

It will be two-storey building to admit 50 patients at ward.

A ceremony to drive

stake for construction of the building was held in the compound of the 16-bed hospital in Sittway on 1 December.

Rakhine State Minister for Planning and Economic U Mra Aung drove stakes for construction of the hospital. The ceremony was

also attended by departmental officials, tender scrutiny committee and members of the traditional medicine supervisory committee.

Rakhine State IPRD

## Immigration officers give educative talks to locals in Dawei Tsp

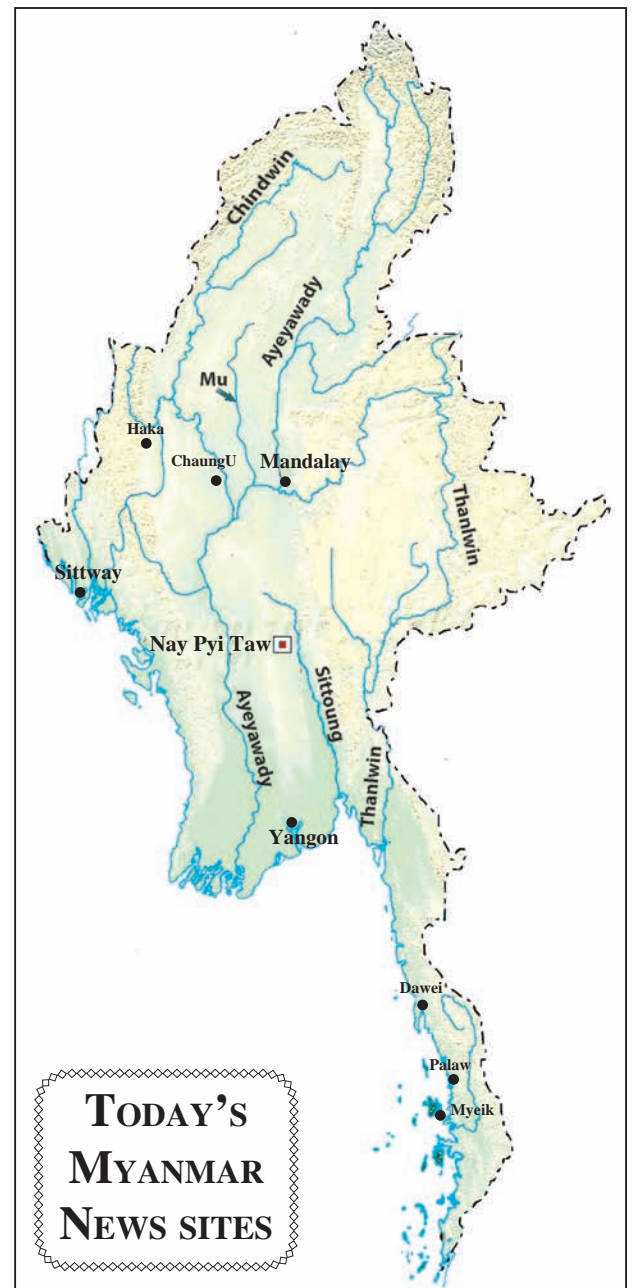
DAWEI, 2 Dec — Staff members of the Ministry of Immigration and Population are undertaking citizenship scrutiny under the 1982 Myanmar Citizenship Law, giving educative talks on citizenship and issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards to the eligible people.

Deputy Director U Yin Htwe of Dawei District Immigration and National Registration Department together with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) gave educative talks to local people in Kyaukhtu, Thabyuchaung, Myomo Letkhet, Kahtaungni, Pyathachaung

and Hsinswechaung villages in Dawei Township from 27 to 29 November.

At the talks, the head of district INRD and the in-charge of Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) replied to queries raised by locals in a transparent manner.

Po Shwe Thun-Dawei



## Students participate in poem recitation, extempore talks contests

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec — No 27 Basic Education Primary School in Shweyabin Ward of Zabuthiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, held a poem recitation and extempore talks contest on Monday.

The contest was attended by Deputy Director Daw Thin Thin Zin of Nay

Pyi Taw Council Area Information and Public Relations Department, Assistant Director U Soe Paing, staff and teachers.

Outstanding students will be selected to take part in the central level contest at BEHS No 14 on 10 December.

Shwe Ye Yint





## LOCAL NEWS

## Dunlop Tennis Club in Myeik marks centennial ceremony

MYEIK, 2 Dec—The inter-district tennis tournament in commemoration

of the Dunlop Tennis Club centennial ceremony was held at the court of the club in Myeik, Taninthayi Region, on 30 November.

Taninthayi Region Minister for Planning and Economic U Thein Lwin and Myeik Township Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Moe Myint formally opened the centennial ceremony of the club.

The region minister

gave a speech, and Chairman of the club U Tin Maung Zaw explained the purpose of the ceremony.

The region minister presented championship trophy to first prize winner Myeik District team.

Later, the players demonstrated skills of tennis to mark the centennial ceremony of the club.

*Khaing Htoo  
(Myeik IPRD)*



## Chin State marks World AIDS Day 2014

HAKA, 2 Dec — A ceremony to mark the World AIDS Day was held at the hall of Chin State General Hospital in Haka, Chin State, on 1 December.

Chief Minister of Chin State U Hong Ngai explained emphasis of the government on health care services for the people.

The chief minister presented assistance to the patients with HIV. Leader of the HIV/AIDS Control Squad Dr Mang Byet Cong accepted the assistance for the patients.

*Chin State IPRD*



## New asphalt road to contribute towards development of village

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec —The inauguration ceremony of the asphalt entrance road to Thahtaygon Village, Pobbathiri Township, on 1 December.

Member of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Than Htay explained development

tasks for Pobbathiri Township.

Director (Engineer) U Aung Moe of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee reported on construction of new asphalt road in the village.

Nay Pyi Taw Coun-

cil member U Than Htay, Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Khin Maung Htay and Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee U Kyaw Myint formally opened the 3,700 feet long new road.

*Township IPRD*



*Inauguration ceremony of entrance road to Thahtaygon Village in progress in Pobbathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, on 1 December.*

## Township football tournament strengthens friendly relations among people

PALAW, 2 Dec — With the aim of turning out new generation outstanding players and strengthening relations among the national people, the Palaw Township Administrator's Trophy U-23 Football Tournament was held at the sports ground in Palaw, Taninthayi Region, on 30 November.

Taninthayi Region Minister for Electric Power and Industry U Win Swe, Hluttaw representatives, departmental officials and local people enjoyed the final football match in which Pyichar Village thrashed No 1 Ward 3-1.

Palaw Township Pyithu Hluttaw MP U Maung Hla presented best player awards to the respective players. Officials gave first and second prizes to the re-

spective teams.

The region minister awarded championship trophy to Pyichar Village team.

The first prize winning team won K500,000, the

second team K300,000 and the third team K200,000.

Altogether 22 football teams participated in the tournament from 27 October to 30 November.

*Palaw IPRD*



## Village library under construction in Myeik Township

MYEIK, 2 Dec — Myanmar Libraries Foundation funded K1 million for construction of the village library in Thityawa Village in Myeik Township, Taninthayi Region.

Assistant Director Daw Ni Ni Cho of Taninthayi Region Information and Public Relations Department and staff of Myeik District IPRD held a meeting with the village administrator and library committee members in the village on 1 December. They dis-

cussed timely completion of construction tasks, opening of new library building, durability of library, raising number of readers and books, and setting up of the fund for long-term development of the library. In addition to the fund of Myanmar Libraries Foundation, local people donated cash to the fund for construction of the building. The library will be 24 feet long and 16 feet wide one-storey building.

*Khaing Htoo-Myeik  
District IPRD*





## Experts, Asia-Pacific ministers to discuss rural development in Cambodia

SIEM REAP, (Cambodia) 2 Dec — Some 200 agricultural development experts and government ministers from across Asia and the Pacific gathered here on Tuesday to discuss plans to transform rural areas in the region.

The 2-day workshop on transforming rural areas in Asia and the Pacific was jointly organized by the Cambodian government and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

“The experts and government ministers will discuss plans to transform impoverished rural areas and improve the lives of rural people,” said an IFAD’s press statement.

“The regional conference will set out a strategy to transform rural areas into vibrant and economically viable communities, and will conclude with a

concrete plan of action for IFAD and its partners and member states.”

Addressing the opening ceremony on Tuesday, Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen said investment in agriculture, especially in small-scale farmers, is an essential factor not only to ensure food security and nutrition, but also to create jobs for peoples.

“Such investment will provide a lot of benefits to rural peoples and drag millions of peoples out of poverty,” he said.

The prime minister said Cambodia saw agriculture and rural development as one of the top priorities to boost economic growth and poverty reduction.

He said poverty rate in Cambodia declined to 19.8 percent in 2011, down from 29.9 percent in 2008.

John Murry McIntire,

associate vice-president of IFAD, said in rural areas of the region, the agricultural sector is still the best option to generate income, and yet a chronic lack of access to improved technologies and sustainable investment opportunities make it hard for rural people to improve their living standards. “By providing financing, engaging in policy discussions and forming pro-poor partnerships between the private and public sectors, we can assist rural people to create a viable future for themselves and their communities,” McIntire said.

According to the press statement, Asia and the Pacific is home to two thirds of the world’s poor, over 750 million people, and two thirds of the world’s 805 million undernourished and hungry people.

Xinhua



*A diver dressed as a Santa Claus feeds marine animals inside an oceanarium in Manila, the Philippines, on 2 Dec, 2014. The Christmas-themed feeding activity served as a celebration of the coming Christmas.—XINHUA*

## Seoul allows Christmas tree tower to be lit up on border for 2 weeks

SEOUL, 2 Dec — South Korea has approved a request by a Christian association to set up and light up a temporary Christmas tree tower near the tense western border area with North Korea, a Defence Ministry spokesman said on Tuesday.

“The Defence Ministry has permitted the Christian Council of Korea to set up a temporary Christmas tree tower near the Aegibong area and light up the tree,” Kim Min Seok said at a press briefing.

Kim said the approval was issued in consideration of the Christian group’s explanation the event is aimed at promoting peace between the two Koreas,

and also to guarantee religious freedom.

The tower will be lit up from 23 December to 6 January, he said, without mentioning how tall it will be.

In October, South Korea dismantled an 18-metre steel Christmas tree tower at the Aegibong hill in Gimpo, west of Seoul, which could be seen as far away as the North Korean border town of Kaesong.

The colourful lights from the tower had drawn fierce criticism from North Korea, which viewed it as provocative propaganda, demanded its demolition and even threatened to shell it.

The Defence Ministry

said the dismantling was carried out after a safety check showed it may collapse, dismissing speculation the move was taken as a conciliatory gesture to improve strained ties with North Korea.

Since being built in early 1970s, the tower was lit annually during the Christmas season until the two Koreas’ military leaders agreed to stop propaganda activities at the border areas in 2004.

Seoul, however, resumed the practice in 2010 after the sinking of a South Korean warship in March the same year, which South Korea blamed on a North Korean submarine.

Kyodo News

## India, France approaching 15-bln-dollar combat jet deal

NEW DELHI, 2 Dec — India and France have reportedly agreed to bury all differences and finalize a 15-billion-US dollars defense deal under which the latter would sell 125 combat jets to the former.

The decision was taken at a meeting between visiting French Defence Minister Jean-Yves Le

Drian and Indian Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar in the national capital on Monday.

“Both sides agreed to take forward the strategic co-operation between the two countries. They discussed all issues including Rafale. It was decided that whatever differences still existed would be resolved

in a fast-track manner,” a Defence Ministry spokesman was quoted as saying.

The defence deal, involving France’s Dassault Aviation, has been lying in a limbo over various issues ever since India selected the company over others foreign aircraft makers in 2012.

Xinhua

## Three turn themselves in as probe involving Thai princess’s kin widens

BANGKOK, 2 Dec — Two Thai army officers and a civilian have answered a police summons, police said, in a widening corruption probe that has also led to the arrest of high-ranking policemen and relatives of Princess Srirasmi, the wife of Thailand’s Crown Prince.

The investigation comes at a time of heightened sensitivity surrounding the palace. The revered but ailing King Bhumibol Adulyadej, 86, was admitted to Bangkok’s Siriraj hospital in October and underwent an operation to remove his gallbladder.

Last week, some senior police officers and civilians were arrested in the crackdown into alleged police graft including charges ranging from bribery to defaming the monarchy

Among them were three people with the Akrapongpreecha surname, the royal name bestowed on Srirasmi’s family when she married Crown Prince Vajiralongkorn in 2001, police said. Withaya Theskhunthot, a civilian, and Royal Thai Army officers Sergeant Nathakorn Yasri and Sergeant Thiraphong Chochampi, were the latest suspects to surrender to authorities.

“Altogether three people turned themselves in,” Police Major General Chanthep Saesawet, deputy commissioner of the Metropolitan Police Bureau, told Reuters. “The two army officers are being detained by the army and one civilian surrendered to police on Monday night at a television broadcasting station.”



*Thailand’s Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn (L) and Royal Consort Princess Srirasmi watch the royal ploughing ceremony in Bangkok on 9 May, 2008.*

REUTERS

The men turned themselves in three days after Crown Prince Vajiralongkorn asked the government

to strip his wife Srirasmi’s family of the royal name.

Police say Lieutenant General Pongpat Chayapan,

a former head of Thailand’s Central Investigation Bureau, was the group’s ring-leader. Pongpat and several

others were also charged under Thailand’s harsh lese-majeste laws for allegedly citing the monarchy for personal benefit.

The suspects held in the case have not been allowed to comment publicly on the charges.

The group face a slew of charges including money-laundering, oil smuggling and other crimes. Police last week displayed slides showing antique Buddhist statues, gold bars, stacks of cash and cars seized at safehouses allegedly linked to some of the suspects. There is mounting concern over the health of King Bhumibol who is seen by many as the father of the nation — a unifying figure who has intervened in the past in times of political crisis.—Reuters



# Japan election campaign starts with economy, security on agenda

TOKYO, 2 Dec — Official campaigning for Japan's 14 December lower house election began on Tuesday with ruling and opposition parties locking horns over Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's policies, centre on the economy, security and nuclear power.

Abe is seeking a fresh mandate from voters for his economic policies, dubbed "Abenomics," but the opposition camp has insisted they have created a wealth gap and benefited only major companies and big cities.

Abe, who heads the Liberal Democratic Party, and Banri Kaieda, head of the main opposition Democratic Party of Japan, made their first stump speeches in Fukushima Prefecture, apparently aiming to emphasize the importance of the area's recovery from the 2011 nuclear disaster.

"We need to strengthen the Japanese economy to make progress on recovery work," Abe said in the city of Soma, about 50 kilometres north of the crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant.

"There is no doubt the economy is getting better," he added. "Our next mission is to spread the positive effects to non-urban areas and smaller companies."

Kaieda asked people in Iwaki if their daily lives have become better since Abe took office two years ago, saying, "The prime minister says the economy is getting stronger, but his policies are benefiting only a limited number of people."

Abe has said that Abenomics, which consists of aggressive monetary easing, massive fiscal spending and growth-oriented reforms, is the only way to end deflation and revive the economy.

He has gone so far as to promise his resignation if the LDP and its junior coalition partner Komeito fail to secure a combined majority, under which the ruling bloc can control parliamentary debates by holding the chair posts of all standing committees.

The DPJ, which was ousted from power in December 2012, has pledged to raise middle-class incomes through the stabilization of employment.

The opposition camp will try to stop one-party dominance by the LDP, which held nearly 300 of the 480 seats in the House



**Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (C) who is also leader of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), raises his fists with his party members and supporters during his official campaign kick-off for the 14 December lower house election, at the Soma Haragama fishing port in Soma, Fukushima prefecture, on 2 Dec, 2014.**

REUTERS

of Representatives before it was dissolved two weeks ago halfway through its current four-year term.

While opposition parties appear incapable of forming a joint force against the LDP-led coalition, they are stepping up criticism of Abenomics since the Japanese economy has fallen back into recession following the April 1 consumption tax hike.

"We are the only ones

who can carry out reforms," Toru Hashimoto, who co-heads the Japan Innovation Party, said in Osaka. "We call for a 30 percent cut in the number of lawmakers and their expenditures. We will also lower public servants' salaries."

On Abe's Cabinet approval in July to enable Japan to defend its allies under armed attack even if the country itself is not, Social Democratic Party leader

Tadatomo Yoshida said in Oita Prefecture, "We don't accept the exercise of the right to collective self-defense. We are against altering the (war-renouncing) Article 9 of the Constitution." "We should flatly say no to a consumption tax hike to 10 percent," Japanese Communist Party chief Kazuo Shii said in Tokyo, referring to Abe's recent decision to postpone it by 18 months to April

2017. "We will stop any move to restart nuclear reactors."

The disapproval rating of Abe's Cabinet exceeded its approval rating in a *Kyodo News* poll for the first time since he returned as prime minister in December 2012, the latest survey showed on Saturday.

In the telephone survey conducted on Friday and Saturday, however, 28.0 percent said they will vote for the LDP in the proportional representation section, up 2.7 percentage points from the previous poll conducted 19-20 November. Some 10.3 percent said they will cast their ballots for the DPJ, up 0.9 point.

More than 1,180 people from nine political parties are expected to file their candidacies for 475 seats — 295 of them for single-seat districts and 180 for proportional representation constituencies. The total number of candidates will likely be down sharply from 1,504 in the previous 2012 contest.

On 14 December, voters will also review the five Supreme Court justices nominated after the previous lower house election in 2012.—*Kyodo News*

## Four life rafts without people found after trawler sinks off Chukotka coast



**Winds reach 25-27 metres per second and waves are from five to six metres high in the area of the accident.—ITAR-TASS**

VLADIVOSTOK, 2 Dec — Four inflatable liferafts without people were found on Tuesday in the Bering Sea in the area where a South Korean trawler had sunk.

A Russian fishing ship, which rescued four crewmembers and a Russian specialist from the Korean trawler on Monday, has reported about the four life rafts found in the sea.

The Russian trawler *Karolina 77* also recovered the dead body of a Korean fisherman.

The *Karolina* belongs to the Sakhalin fleet of the

Nikkor company. Its Director General Viktor Kiryushin told TASS that the survivors were three Philipinos and a Malay, crewmembers from the South Korean trawler *Oryong 501*, and a Russian, Alexander Storozhenkov, 27, who was aboard the Korean ship as an observer. All of them were in satisfactory condition. They were rescued by the *Karolina* on Monday.

Other two crewmembers from the *Oryong 501* were rescued by the Magadan-registered trawler *Zaliv Zabyaka*.

The *Oryong* crew numbered 62 people. The fate of 54 of them remained unknown after the trawler sank in the Bering Sea. The search is continuing.

The *Oryong 501* was built in 1964 in a shipyard of the Japanese city of Hakodate, the International Marine Organization said.

Itar-Tass

## Ferguson protesters lawyer up after scores of arrests

FERGUSON, 2 Dec — The young man and woman waiting in the dark outside the St Louis county jail were bundled up in scarves and hats to ward off a light freezing rain, but still they were shivering. Every time someone emerged from the jail they would scurry with the person to a nearby car, which had the engine running and the heat blasting.

The pair were one of several teams working in shifts to help some of the more than 100 people who were arrested during last week's sometimes violent protests in Ferguson, Missouri. Their job was to help the newly released individuals get legal aid for upcoming court appearances.

Each person received a flyer with numbers to call for lawyers and legal advice. They were also offered a ride home.

The volunteers, who will return to the jail again on Monday after the holi-

day weekend, are part of a centralized team of lawyers and law school students pitching in from around the United States.

They are tapping into a sophisticated network of legal experts established over the past decade in the wake of high-profile mass demonstrations, including protests at the Republican National Convention in 2004 and the Occupy Wall Street protests in 2011. The network includes seasoned lawyers who routinely handle cases stemming from protests and civil disobedience, and who say they have learned from each protest.

"Occupy Wall Street is the gift that keeps on giving," said Wylie Stecklow, a New York-based lawyer. Stecklow's firm, Stecklow, Cohen & Thompson (formerly Wylie Law), represented 200 people who were arrested during the Occupy protests in New

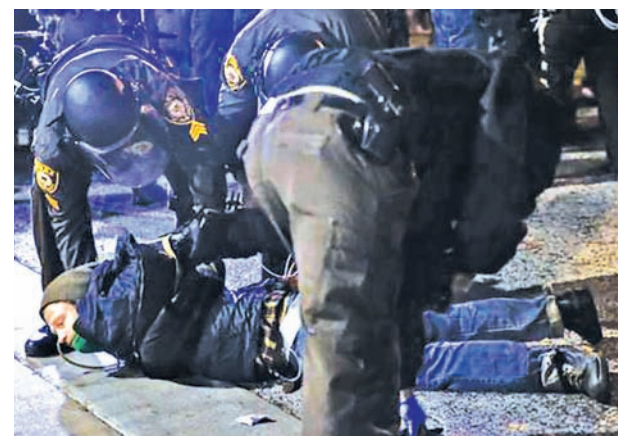
York. He learned valuable lessons from the Occupy and RNC protests. For example, how best to centrally fund bail payouts and how to work together to represent large numbers of people.

Some of the volunteers deployed in Ferguson have acted as legal observers, who are tasked with documenting each arrest that is made at a protest and serv-

ing afterward as a witness to the events leading to charges.

But the job of the legal team working in Ferguson goes far beyond the duties of protest observers. Once people have been arrested and charged, lawyers from the same central network offer their services to each individual with a court case.

Reuters



**A protester is arrested in front of the Ferguson Police Department, in Ferguson, Missouri on 25 Nov, 2014.—REUTERS**



## PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 3 December, 2014

## Negotiation is more humane than confrontation

By Aung Khin

Problems and differences are natural occurrences in all groups. Strategies for dealing with the problems are important to settle the disputes and disagreements. Problems will heat up when one party forces another party to do something without its consent.

In this circumstance, negotiation is the best option to calm down the problems. Most issues

will not present immediate solutions, and sometimes an impasse will be reached depending on the extent of the issues. People feel stuck, frustrated, infuriated and disillusioned in the middle of an impasse. Both sides might either dig their heels in deeper, anchoring themselves in extreme and rigid positions.

Peace and unity should be established through negotiation. No one should “take their marbles and go home” without solving problems or settling disputes. Suspicion and distrust may lead to further doubt among groups. As such, an impasse should be viewed with calm, patience and respect, rather than avoiding or dreading it. Efforts must be focused on the underlying needs, interests and concerns of both sides.

Power or superiority is not the only solution to wipe out hatred or dissatisfaction. Eternal peace can be reached through right understand-

ing in both the mundane and the supra-mundane. Even in meditation practices, lasting peace can be attained only through wisdom and understanding about the natural phenomena. Absurd avoiding or oppressing any conditioned things of consequences cannot lead to a genuine tranquility.

Therefore, negotiation and understanding or wisdom is fundamental to a humane society.

## 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.

## Harmonious Industrial Relations

Kyaw Win (Labour)

The parliament formed after the General Elections of 2010, enacted a landmark legislation regarding the right to form organizations of workers by the workers themselves. This had come after years of pointing out by the ILO since the early sixties, of non-compliance by Myanmar of the ILO Freedom of Association Convention which Myanmar had ratified in 1948.

The legislation referred to is ‘The Labour Organization Law of 2011’. The law is to protect the rights of worker, to promote good relations among the workers or between the employer and the worker and to enable workers to form labour organizations independently and systematically. It replaces the Trade Unions Act of 1926. In the spirit of the Freedom of Association Convention which includes freedom of employers to form associa-

tions as well, the new law has provisions whereby employers may also form organizations of their own.

Another landmark piece of legislation relating to Industrial Relations is the “Settlement of Labour Disputes Law” enacted by the Pyidaungsa Hluttaw in 2012. It replaces the Trade Disputes Act of 1929. The new law features a more effective mechanism for the settlement of labour disputes in that it includes collective bargaining and the drawing up of Collective Agreements between Employers’ and Workers’ representatives relating to the demands of the workers.

With the enactment of the “The Labour Organization Law of 2011”, workers from various factories and establishments both in the private and public sectors, have been forming organizations of their own at enterprise levels. Some of the labour

organizations are trying out their wings for making demands on employers for higher wages and better conditions of work.

At times these demands have led to strikes, which sometimes seem to be on the borderline of legality. Perhaps it’s because some of the labour organizations have yet to learn how to go about getting their demands in a more orderly fashion within the framework of the “Settlement of Labour Disputes Law of 2012”. They have yet to learn the skills of collective bargaining with the Employers and their Organizations, so as to get their demands through negotiation and at the same time strive to maintain good relations with the Employers.

It may be recalled that beginning 2008, under the ASEAN-ILO/Japan Industrial Relations Project, National and Regional Tripartite Seminars on Industrial Relations were organized every year for

several years. The Seminars were attended by Employers’ and Workers’ “representatives” from various enterprises both in the public and private sectors.

A significant development relating to Industrial Relations in the ASEAN context, was the adoption of the “ASEAN Guidelines on Good Industrial Relations Practices” by the ASEAN Labour Ministers.

As of now, Tripartite Industrial Relations Seminars based on the “Settlement of Labour Disputes Law”; other relevant labour laws and the “ASEAN Guidelines on Good Industrial Relations Practices” should continue to be organized for representatives of Employers’ and Workers’ Organizations and the Government Organizations concerned to promote harmonious relations between employers and workers for maintaining industrial peace in Myanmar.

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Seminar held to mark 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Myanmar-Japan relations

YANGON, 2 Dec—Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint and Counsellor Mr Yasada of the Embassy of Japan in Myanmar delivered speeches at the seminar on the role of education institution in promoting HRD and Myanmar-Japan cooperation held to commemorate the sixth anniversary of relations between the two country at the commerce training school in Yangon on Monday.

Also present at the seminar were President of Nishogakusha University

Dr Kazunori Watanabe, Pro-rector of Yangon Institute of Economics Dr Tun Aung, advisors to union ministers Dr Maung Aung and departmental officials.

The Japanese university president, the pro-rector and the advisor held talks on the importance of academic study on economic development, current situation of formal education in Myanmar and the role of vocational training and HRD in emerging Myanmar respectively.—MNA

## GOLD PRICE, FE RATE (2-12-2014)

## Yangon Gold Price

Buying K659,000 per tical: Selling K660,000

## Mandalay Gold Price

Buying K648,300 per tical: Selling K649,300

## FE RATE

USD Buying K 1030: Selling K----

SGD Buying K 788: Selling K800

Euro Buying K1,270: Selling K1,300

## MWAf marks World AIDS Day

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec—Implementation of the HIV/AIDS combating national strategic plan (2011-15) in cooperation of partner organizations leads to emergence of the HIV free society, prevention of discrimination against AIDS patients and declining the dead rate of AIDS patients, Union Minister for Health Dr Than Aung said at the ceremony to mark the World AIDS Day at the hall of Myanmar Women’s

Affairs Federation in Nay Pyi Taw on 1 December afternoon.

The Union Minister viewed round documentary photos on movements of MWAf and its activities in HIV/AIDS displayed at the hall.

Next, President of

MWAf Prof Dr Khin Mar Tun delivered a speech on the occasion.

Later, specialists from the Ministry of Health held a roundtable discussion with members of MWAf on prevention against HIV/AIDS.

MNA

**Union Minister for Health Dr Than Aung delivers an address at ceremony to mark World AIDS Day in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA**





## Union Minister holds talks with UNDP Country director



NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec — Union Minister at the President Office U Hla Tun received Country Direc-

tor Toily Kurbanov of the UNDP and party at the hall of the President Office in Nay Pyi Taw on Tuesday.

They focused on local governance mapping and 2015 Myanmar good governance forum.—MNA

## Myanmar presents instrument of ratification on BWC

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec — U Thant Kyaw, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, who is currently in Geneva, Switzerland, to participate in the Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction (BWC), deposited Myanmar's Instrument of Ratification on the BWC to the representatives of the Depositary States, namely, the Russian Federation, the United

Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America, on 1 December at Paris des Nations, Geneva. Mr Urs Schmid, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the Conference on Disarmament and Chairman of the Meeting of the States Parties to the BWC, was also present on the occasion.

Mr Mikhail Ulyanov, Director, Department for Non-Proliferation and Arms Control of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Head of the Delegation of

Russia to the Meeting of States Parties of the BTWC, Mr Matthew Rowland, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of UK, Mr Robert Wood, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of the US to the Conference on Disarmament and the US Representative for BWC, accepted the Instrument of Ratification.

An announcement to the effect that Myanmar has become a state party to the BWC will be made at the Meeting of States Parties to the BWC on 4 December.

MNA

## UNCTAD's Least Developed Countries Report 2014 released

By Ye Myint

YANGON, 2 Dec — United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Myanmar organized a press briefing on the launch of the Least Developed Countries Report 2014 prepared by United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in Yangon on Monday.

The latest report of the UNCTAD finds 48 countries— nine in Asia, 34 in Africa, one in the Caribbean and four in the Pacific region—as “least developed countries”. According to the report, Myanmar is in the list with Laos and Cambodia, fellow ASEAN countries.

“It is very difficult to say which country—Myanmar or Laos or Cambo-

dia— will be able to exit the LDC list as their economies, population and size of nation are different. It will be important to look at how each economies are able to translate growth and some of the achievements in social sectors into transformation of their economies, thereby producing more jobs and greater labour productivity”, Igor Bosc, UNDP senior programme adviser, told The Global New Light of Myanmar.

The report shows Myanmar's per capita gross national income is \$996. According to the one of three criteria used for identifying countries as LDCs, the per capita GNI of an LDC eligible for graduation must be to a level at least double the graduation threshold of \$1190.

Myanmar is still a low income country with a human assets index of 68.8, an economic vulnerability index of 45.0 and a human development index of 150, it says.

Regarding LDC progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, the report finds Myanmar is in medium progress to meet under-5 mortality rate, one MDG target while on the track to achieve MDG targets of maternal mortality rate, proportion of population using an improved drinking water source and proportion of population using improved sanitation facilities.

Asian LDCs perform better than African LDCs across selected MDG targets, but Laos is the only

## Rakhine youths get opportunity to attend vocational courses

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec — Union Minister for Industry U Maung Myint opened the three-month technical and vocational course for the youth of Rakhine State at No 1 Industrial School in Hsinde, Padaung Township, Bago Region on 1 December.

The union minister inspected teaching aid pro-

vided by GIZ at the training school.

Altogether 76 youths from Rakhine State are attending the welding, plumbing, mechanic and wiring courses.

At Horse and Sheep Ranch (Yanpe) in Taungdwingyi Township, Magway Region, the Union minister heard reports on breeding

of horses and sheep presented by General Manager U Kyaw Soe.

In meeting with staff and officials, the union minister stressed the need to grow corn as raw materials for Corn Products Factory and coordinate with local authorities to extend sawn acreage of corns.

MNA



Union Minister U Maung Myint views teaching aid at Industrial Training School (Hsinde) in Padaung Township.

MNA

## 389 government servants studying abroad

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Dec — The government sent three staff to attend doctoral courses and diplo-

ma courses and 386 to the trainings, totalling 389 to 18 countries, especially to Thailand, Japan and India

in November 2014 for enabling them to apply their expertise in their respective organizations.—MNA

one on track on all criteria, the report says.

The list of LDCs is reviewed every three years by the United Nations Economic and Social Council

(UNESCO) based on recommendations of the Committee for Development Policy (CDP).

Forty-eight countries, including Myanmar, are

designated by the United Nations as “least developed countries”, entitling them to aid, preferential market access and special technical assistance. — GNLM



Igor Bosc, UNDP senior programme adviser, makes a presentation of the launch of the UNCTAD's Least Developed Countries Report 2014 at Sedona Hotel in Yangon on Monday.— GNLM/PHOTO YE MYINT



# Iran to turn uranium into reactor fuel under extended deal



*Iranian workers stand in front of the Bushehr nuclear power plant, about 1,200 km (746 miles) south of Teheran on 26 Oct, 2010.—REUTERS*

VIENNA, 2 Dec — Iran will convert more of its higher-grade enriched uranium into reactor fuel under an extended nuclear deal with world powers, making the material less suitable for building atomic bombs, a diplomatic source and a US think-tank said on Monday.

Iran and the United

States, France, Germany, Britain, China, and Russia failed to meet a 24 November deadline for resolving their dispute over Teheran's nuclear programme. They gave themselves until the end of June for further negotiations. It was the second time this year they had missed a self-imposed

target for a comprehensive agreement under which Iran would curb its nuclear programme in exchange for an end to sanctions hobbling Teheran's economy.

As a result, a preliminary accord reached in late 2013 will remain in force. Under its terms, Iran halted its most sensitive nuclear

activity in return for limited easing of sanctions.

Accordingly, Iran earlier this year eliminated its stockpile of uranium gas enriched to a fissile concentration of 20 percent, a relatively short technical step away from weapons-grade material. A large part of it was processed into oxide.

When the deal was first extended in July, Iran undertook to move further away from potential weapons material by converting 25 kg of the uranium oxide — a quarter of the total — into nuclear fuel during the initial four-month extension.

The diplomatic source said Iran would now continue this work and he suggested around 5 kg would be converted per month.

The US-based Arms Control Association said 35 kg of uranium oxide would be turned into fuel over seven-month period. It said Iran had also made specific commitments limiting its development of advanced centrifuges to refine uranium.—Reuters

## UNSG's message on the International Day of Persons with Disabilities

3 December 2014

This year's International Day of Persons with Disabilities focuses on the theme, "sustainable development: the promise of technology".

Technology has changed the world, bringing knowledge within reach and expanding a range of opportunities. Persons with disabilities can benefit enormously from such advances, yet too many lack access to these essential tools.

As the international community works to develop an ambitious and inspiring post-2015 development agenda that leaves no-one behind, we must harness the power of technology for development for all.

Through adaptive, assistive and inclusive technology, persons with disabilities can make the most of their potential in their communities and in the workplace. Employers can harness technology to create an enabling environment for persons with disabilities to find productive employment and fully use their skills and capacities.

Technology can also help persons with disabilities caught up in natural disasters by making sure that critical information reaches them. Equally important, technology can help us include the particular needs of persons with disabilities in disaster preparedness and response.

Let us spare no effort to ensure that policies, programmes, guidelines and 21st century technologies are accessible to persons with disabilities, and sensitive to their perspectives and experiences. Together, let us work for a better future that is inclusive, equitable and sustainable for all.—UNIC/Yangon

## Modern Europe needs new security system — Russian diplomat

SOFIA, 2 Dec — Modern Europe requires a new security system which could be built up based on the Helsinki Accords of 1975, Deputy Russian Foreign Minister Alexey Meshkov said in an interview with TASS on Tuesday.

The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Ministerial Council in Basel, Switzerland, on 4-5 December could agree on a new deal tentatively called Helsinki +40 based on a key pact that launched a security process in Europe 40 years ago, he said.

"It is important to return to the origins and principles which were laid down in this document and try to boost a new system of European security. It should create convenient conditions for all the member-states and not build additional barriers," the diplomat said.

"Today it is not a secret for anyone that certain countries and regional organizations are subject to rather serious influence with the goal of hindering relations with Russia. We do not accept such an approach," Meshkov said,

calling for adopting a fair and open policy that would encourage the development of economic cooperation.

The Russian diplomat said although some people already understand the essence of the current events, there are others for whom "what is happening today is a propaganda war in which partners should not be listened to."

As the preparations are underway for the Basel summit, to be attended by Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, the effort is hampered as some Western delegations try to include "an unacceptable wording linked to the Ukrainian crisis" even in any absolutely neutral decisions, Meshkov said.

"Europe, in the broadest sense of the word, is waiting for a positive signal at this summit. So do the economic operators and the civil society," he said, adding that if the sides manage to make progress towards implementing the idea this will be an important result.

"We are down-to-earth and we believe that the talks won't be easy," Meshkov stressed. "How-



*It should create convenient conditions for all the OSCE member-states and not build additional barriers, Deputy Russian Foreign Minister Alexey Meshkov says.—ITAR-TASS*

ever, it is necessary to think about in what direction we are moving: towards further confrontation or starting mulling over a new system of European security," he said.

Russia's EU envoy, Vladimir Chizhov, told the *Izvestia* newspaper last week "this idea (signing of

new agreement on security and cooperation in Europe — TASS) may take particular shapes" in Basel. "This is now being discussed as part of the OSCE," he said.

The draft declaration of the Helsinki +40 was signed in December 2013 in Kiev by the foreign ministers of the OSCE

member-states, including Russia. Its aim is to rebuild trust and improve efficiency of the international venue.

Lavrov then said the document laid the basis for the work on drafting a declaration by 2015, marking the 40th anniversary of the OSCE and the Helsinki

Accords.

However, the February coup in Ukraine and the civil war in the country's east has led to a sharp deterioration in relations between Russia, the European Union and the United States, creating the threat of a new cold war.

Itar-Tass



## WORLD

## Islamic State followers say they were behind Riyadh shooting

RIYADH, 2 Dec — A group of supporters of Islamic State has released a video that it says shows its members carrying out a shooting in Saudi Arabia last week of a Danish national who survived the attack, SITE Monitoring reported.

The film could not be independently verified but Saudi Arabia said on 22 November a Dane had been shot in the shoulder as he left his work in Riyadh and was in a stable condition.

Islamic State last month called on supporters in Saudi Arabia, which is participating in strikes against the group in Syria, to attack Shi'ite Muslims, government officials and Westerners.

The Interior Ministry told *Reuters* last month it had identified at least 2,000 Saudis who had gone to fight in Syria and Iraq, but that 600 of them had returned to the kingdom and were in detention and others had died.

Authorities have frequently voiced concern that

the conflict in Syria and Iraq and the emergence of Islamic State could spur domestic attacks. The last campaign by militants in Saudi Arabia killed hundreds between 2003-06.

In early November, Sunni militants, who the government said were linked to Islamic State, killed eight Shi'ites in the Eastern Province. Authorities have since arrested more than 70 people suspected of links to the attack.

On Sunday, media reported that a Canadian had been injured in a stabbing by a Saudi in a shopping mall in Eastern Province, but a motive had not been identified.

In October, a US citizen was shot dead and one injured in a shooting at a petrol station in Riyadh. The authorities said a personal motive appeared likely because both men had worked for the same company.

Saudi authorities have said they are investigating the attack on the Dane.

*Reuters*

## US plays down idea of safe zone along Syria-Turkey border

WASHINGTON, 2 Dec — The United States on Monday played down the idea of creating a buffer zone along the Syria-Turkish border after a media report cited it as a possible concession to Turkey in return for use of bases to launch attacks on Islamic State militants in Syria.

Representatives at the White House, US State Department and the Pentagon all said US officials were considering a range of proposals with Turkey over security near its border with Syria but were not ready to implement a specific plan.

"Right now, we don't believe a buffer zone is the best way to relieve the humanitarian crisis there in northern Syria," Colonel Steve Warren, a Pentagon spokesman, told reporters.

State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki said talks were going on about many proposals put forward by fellow NATO member Turkey, including on how to secure the Syria border, but there were still

differences and no decisions had been made.

Ankara has long sought a no-fly zone or secure area and it has been the subject of frequent high-level talks.

*The Wall Street Journal*, citing unnamed US and Turkish officials, said an agreement could include a safe zone along part of the Syrian border to protect refugees and certain opposition forces that would also "be off-limits" to aircraft from Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's government.

This would be a compromise for Turkey, which has sought a formal "no fly" zone covering a wider swath of northern Syria.

A protected zone along the Turkish-Syrian border would help safeguard opposition fighters being trained in Syria and shield opposition supply lines, the report said.

Asked what might be better than a buffer zone to relieve the humanitarian crisis, Warren said: "Continuing for us to apply



US Vice President Joe Biden (L) speaks next to Turkey's President Tayyip Erdogan during a news conference following their meeting at Beylerbeyi Palace in Istanbul on 22 Nov, 2014.—REUTERS

pressure on (Islamic State militants) is probably the most effective way to relieve that crisis."

Ankara's plans for establishing safe zones, with air defence as a key component, have received a cool reception from many NATO allies.

Military experts say it would necessitate either agreement from the Syrian government or taking out Damascus' advanced air defence systems.

Such a move would risk dragging Western powers further into Syria's three-year-old war, and anger President Bashar al-Assad's allies, Russia and Iran.

Complicating matters, Assad is using the US air strikes as cover for his own air campaign against Syrian rebels, hitting the Islamic State stronghold of Raqqa in retaliation for the group's killing of Syrian soldiers.—*Reuters*

## Lebanese army detains a wife and son of Islamic State leader



A man purported to be the reclusive leader of the militant Islamic State Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi has made what would be his first public appearance at a mosque in the centre of Iraq's second city, Mosul, according to a video recording posted on the Internet on 5 July, 2014, in this still image taken from video.—REUTERS

BEIRUT, 2 Dec — The Lebanese army detained a wife and a son of Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi as they crossed from Syria in recent days, security officials said on Tuesday.

The officials declined to give the name or nationality of the woman whom they described as one of his wives. The Lebanese newspaper *As-Safir* reported the army had detained her in coordination with "foreign intelligence appar-

ratus".

It said she had been travelling with a fake passport accompanied by one of her sons. Islamic State has seized wide areas of Iraq and Syria, Lebanon's neighbour to the east, declaring a "caliphate" over the territory it controls.

Investigators were questioning her at the headquarters of the Lebanese defence ministry, *As-Safir* reported.

The Lebanese security forces have waged a crack-

down on Islamic State sympathisers in Lebanon and the intelligence services have been extra vigilant on the border crossings.

They have arrested over the past few months a number of Islamic militants suspected of staging attacks to expand Islamic State influence in the country neighbouring Syria.

A US-led alliance is seeking to roll back Islamic State's territorial gains in Iraq and Syria. US President Barack Obama has vowed to "degrade and ultimately destroy" Baghdadi's group, which is seeking to reshape the Middle East according to its radical vision of Islam.

Baghdadi, an Iraqi, called for attacks against the rulers of Saudi Arabia in a speech purported to be in his name last month.

He said his self-declared caliphate was expanding in Saudi Arabia and four other Arab countries and called for "volcanoes of jihad" the world over in the speech released on 13 November.

*Reuters*

## Gunmen kill 36 workers in a Kenyan quarry near Somalia border

NAIROBI, 2 Dec — Gunmen killed 36 workers in an attack on a quarry in Kenya's Mandera county, which borders Somalia, said the county governor on Tuesday who drew a parallel with another recent raid by al Shabaab militants.

Some 28 people were killed in the area last month when al Shabaab militants hijacked a Nairobi-bound

bus, causing widespread anger. Kenya has suffered a string of gun and grenade attacks since it sent troops into Somalia to fight al Shabaab in late 2011.

"It is sad that we have another 36 people who were attacked and killed late last night in the same manner it happened on a bus recently. It happened at a quarry about 15 km (10 miles) from Man-

dera town," Mandera county governor Ali Roba told *Reuters* by telephone.

A *Reuters* witness at the scene counted 36 bodies at the Korome quarry. All the victims had been shot in the head, except for four who had been beheaded.

The witness said the workers were attacked while sleeping in their tents at the quarry.—*Reuters*



Israeli police and soldiers are seen on the site of an alleged stabbing attack outside the Jewish settlement of Efrat in Gush Ezion, south of Jerusalem, on 1 Dec, 2014. A Palestinian woman was shot and seriously wounded by Israeli security forces after she stabbed an Israeli civilian with a knife in the West Bank on Monday morning, Israeli media and the military reported.—XINHUA



## Nazi hunter says Adolf Eichmann's top aide presumed dead in Syria

LONDON, 2 Dec — One of the world's most wanted war criminals, the reputed top lieutenant of Nazi mastermind Adolf Eichmann, is presumed to have died at least four years ago in Syria, where he lived under government protection, a leading Nazi hunter said on Monday.

Alois Brunner, an Austrian SS officer found responsible for the World War Two deportation of 125,500 European Jews to Nazi death camps, escaped at the war's end from Germany to Egypt and arrived in Syria in 1954, said Efraim Zuroff, head of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre's Israel office.

Brunner resided in Damascus under an alias and was employed by the late Syrian President Hafez al-Assad, father of Syria's current ruler, as a terrorism



Nazi mastermind Adolf Eichmann

and security expert, Zuroff told Reuters.

Brunner was reported seen alive as late as 2003 at a Damascus hotel, but a German intelligence source informed the Wiesenthal Centre four years ago that Brunner had since died and was buried in Syria, Zuroff said.



The Nazis were responsible for the deaths of six million people during the Holocaust. Here children are pictured behind a barbed wire fence at the infamous concentration camp at Auschwitz in southern Poland.

REUTERS

Although never brought to justice, Brunner was tried and sentenced to death in absentia in France in 1954 for crimes against humanity. He lost several fingers and an eye in two letter-bomb assassination attempts, attributed to Israeli agents.

Zuroff said the Wiesenthal Centre was never able to forensically verify Brunner's death but had hoped to obtain corroborating information before announcing it, an effort stymied by Syria's civil war. Were he alive, Brunner would now be 102, Zuroff said.

The Nazi-hunting centre decided this year to remove Brunner from its roster of fugitive war criminals on its website, [www.operationlastchance.org](http://www.operationlastchance.org), Zuroff said. He said he went public with details about Brunner's presumed demise in

recent days when asked about him during an interview with Britain's Sunday Express newspaper. "He was a notorious, fanatical anti-Semite," Zuroff said, citing a 1985 German magazine interview in which Brunner was asked if he had any regrets, and was quoted as saying he regretted he hadn't murdered more Jews. Zuroff called Brunner the last of the top-tier Nazi operatives responsible for planning and carrying out the genocide of European Jews "in a broad sense, as opposed to people involved in the murder of Jews in one specific place or operation."

He was described as the right-hand man to Eichmann, a leading Holocaust architect who was captured in Argentina in 1960 and later hanged after a highly publicized trial in Israel.

Reuters

## Moscow Metro to be fully equipped with free Wi-Fi on 2 December

Moscow, 2 Dec — All Moscow Metro lines will have free Wi-Fi connection on 2 December, the Metro press service said on Monday. All 12 Moscow Metro lines with the total length of more than 325 kilometres will be equipped with free Wi-Fi and "the number of underground train cars with access points will exceed 5,000." Thus, the project for equipping the Moscow Metro with the Wi-Fi network will be completed one month ahead of schedule.

The press service said this project has no analogues in the world. "In some cities of the world

there is Wi-Fi Internet access at underground railway lines, but no access in the tunnels," the report says. In Moscow this service is provided to passengers only in train cars, and no connection is provided at stations and entrance areas. The data transfer rate exceeds 100 Mb/s per train.

The project for equipping Moscow Metro trains with the wireless network was launched on 1 Sept, 2013. The Kakhovskaya and Circle Lines of the Moscow Metro were the first to be equipped with free wireless Internet connection.—Itar-Tass



## Australia rules out open tender for new submarines, Japan in box seat



The Royal Australian Navy's newest Collins class submarine, HMAS Waller, leaves Sydney Harbour on 4 May. —REUTERS

SYDNEY, 2 Dec — Australia will not hold an open tender to replace its ageing Collins-class submarines, government officials said on Tuesday, a decision that bolsters Japan's position as the likely builder of the new multibillion-dollar fleet.

Reuters reported in September that Australia was leaning towards buying as many as 12 off-the-shelf

stealth submarines from Japan despite domestic pressure to build them at home.

Since then, several European defence contractors have said they would be price competitive with Japan and do the work in Australia in a bid to win a piece of the overall A\$40 billion (\$33.96 billion) submarine programme. But the Australian government did not have

time for an open bidding process, said Treasurer Joe Hockey. "We need to make decisions now and we don't have time to go through a speculation process," Hockey told the Australian Broadcasting Corporation. A spokesman for Defence Minister David Johnston said no manufacturer had yet been chosen. Sources have said Australia is strongly

considering a replacement for the Collins based on the 4,000-tonne Soryu-class ships built by Japan's Mitsubishi Heavy Industries and Kawasaki Heavy Industries.

They have said Canberra wanted a new lithium-ion battery propulsion system, which experts say will give submarines better underwater range and speed compared to other diesel-electric vessels that use air independent propulsion under the sea, a system which requires fuel to operate. Tokyo's next generation of Soryu submarines will be the world's first to be powered by the new technology. Swedish defence firm Saab, France's state-controlled naval contractor DCNS and Germany's ThyssenKrupp Marine Systems have all expressed interest in the Australian project. "I think Japan is the only option for Australia because neither Germany, France nor Sweden has built 4,000-tonne class diesel submarines," a former senior Japanese navy commander told Reuters.—Reuters

## US blames defect, lax safety checks for 787 battery fire last year

NEW YORK, 2 Dec — The US National Transportation Safety Board said on Monday a battery defect and lax safety checks were the cause of an incident in which a fire broke out in January 2013 on a Boeing 787 Dreamliner that had arrived in Boston from Tokyo. In its full report on the incident, the NTSB said the lithium-ion battery manufactured by GS Yuasa Corp. was prone to an "uncontrollable increase in temperature and pressure" due to internal short circuiting, and that the Japanese battery maker failed to carry out sufficient tests to find the defect.

The NTSB also blamed the US Federal Aviation Ad-

ministration and Boeing for not considering the possibility of such a problem occurring and thus failing to catch the defect during the safety certification process. In its safety recommendations, the NTSB instructed Yuasa to review its manufacturing process and ensure employees are trained to identify defects. It also told the FAA and Boeing to improve safety standards. Cabin cleaners found the 787 aircraft operated by Japan Airlines Co was filled with smoke shortly after arriving at Boston's Logan International Airport and unloading nearly 200 passengers and crew members. The source was found to be a fire caused by an auxiliary power unit with the

faulty battery located toward the aft cabin of the aircraft. No one was injured. The incident was one in a string of occurrences that called into question the safety of the 787. Later in the same month, one of the midsize jets operated by All Nippon Airways Co was forced to make an emergency landing at a western Japan airport due to smoke in the cockpit.

Japanese and US aviation authorities told airlines to ground 787s while investigations into the aircraft's safety were made. The Dreamliner was approved to fly a few months later after Boeing made modifications to the battery system.—Kyodo News



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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.

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**THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR**

**MINISTRY OF ENERGY  
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE  
( INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER )  
( 20 /2014 )**

Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United States Dollars and Myanmar Kyats.

<u>Sr.No</u>	<u>Tender No</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Remark</u>
(1)	IFB-100(14-15)	Spares for Nissan PE-6 Diesel Engine (13)Items	US\$
(2)	IFB-101(14-15)	Mechanical Spares for ZJ 70L,ZJ 50D & EMSCO Drilling Rigs ( 14 ) Items	US\$
(3)	IFB-102(14-15)	Annular Blow Out Preventers and Hydrill Blow Out Preventers (5) Items	US\$
(4)	DMP/L-029(14-15)	Spares for Driller Console of ZJ 50D & ZJ 70L Drilling Rigs (1) Lot	Ks

Tender Closing Date & Time - 30-12-2014, 16:30 Hr

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2014 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No(44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise  
Ph .+ 95 67 - 411097 / 411206

**WEATHER  
REPORT**

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2014:** Isolated light rain is likely in Tanintharyi Region, weather will be partly cloudy in Upper Sagaing, Yangon and Ayeyarwady Regions, Kachin, Shan, Chin and Mon 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 isolated light rain in the extreme Southern Myanmar areas.

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## 6.3-magnitude quake hits 102km southwest of Sangay, Philippines

BEIJING, 2 Dec — An earthquake measuring 6.3 on the Richter scale jolted 102km southwest of Sangay, Philippines at 0511GMT on Tuesday, the US Geological Survey said. The epicentre, with a depth of 617.91 km, was initially determined to be at 6.1375 degrees north latitude and 123.1681 degrees east longitude.—Xinhua

## 30 years on and 1984 gas tragedy continues to rile India's Bhopal

BHOPAL, (India) 2 Dec — Three decades since India's worst gas tragedy in Bhopal killed thousands of people and left tens of thousands more suffering from after-effects of chemical poisoning, the victims continue to clamor for adequate financial compensation.

The people still alive, particularly those born around the time of the deadly toxic gas release, still suffer from breathing problems and other physical ailments.

On the night of 2-3 Dec, 1984, a US-owned pesticide plant in Bhopal, capital of Madhya Pradesh State, leaked deadly methyl-isocyanate gas and other chemicals that turned into a dense toxic cloud hovering over the region.

Union Carbide Corp, the owner of the plant, was sued by the government of India and agreed to an out-of-court settlement of \$470 million in 1989.

But compensation and health issues still dog victims of this largest industrial tragedy in history.

And there remains confusion even about the number of deaths caused by the disaster.

The Indian government has confirmed 5,295 deaths related to the gas release, but social workers and nongovernmental organizations put the number of casualties at more than 50,000.

They say many of the bodies of many victims were buried, cremated, or simply tossed into a nearby river, as there was no one left to claim them.

Social workers and NGOS also dispute the official contention there are no health after-effects from the tragedy.

Doctors at the National Institute for Research in Environmental Health in Bhopal say they have been conducting regular surveys and research and repeatedly arrived at the conclusion aftereffects of the tragedy have ended.

Sanjay Yadav, 41, tells a very different story.

Yadav is a resident in a slum just across the road from the now-defunct Un-

ion Carbide plant, which is still guarded round-the-clock by police.

He has two teenage sons who both suffer from physical deformity and mental underdevelopment.

He also has two daughters. The elder one is fit, the younger one mentally damaged.

And Yadav says he and his wife still suffer from fatigue, breathlessness and itching eyes.

"I can say with confidence that I, my wife and our kids are suffering from the aftereffects of the gas

tragedy," Yadav said.

He said Dow Chemical Co, which acquired Union Carbide in 2001, should pay compensation to the second-generation victims as they suffer from physical and mental deformities because of genetic effects.

According to Yadav, two years ago the central government began providing a monthly pension for second-generation physically handicapped children, but payments have been irregular and the amount is too small to make a difference in their daily life.

"Initially the pension was quite regular, but now we don't receive it for months altogether. We demand the government increase it and also make it regularly disbursed among the needy," he said.

Victims with health problems similar to those faced by Yadav and his family abound in Bhopal, all waiting for adequate compensation and suitable medical facilities.

It has been three decades, but the fight still goes on.

Kyodo News



**Another two new-born Koalas, together with forty eight members, debuted at Chimelong Safari Park in Guangzhou, capital of south China's Guangdong province, on 1 Dec, 2014, making it the largest overseas koala family out of Australia.**  
XINHUA



## It's easy to work with Amitabh Bachchan



**Farhan Akhtar on Amitabh Bachchan: It's great to work with somebody like him and I am a huge admirer of his work.—PTI**

HYDERABAD, 2 Dec — Actor-filmmaker Farhan Akhtar says it's quite easy to work with megastar Amitabh Bachchan, who is

a positive personality and makes one feel comfortable on the sets. "I was anxious to know how the days would be with him," says

Akhtar on Bachchan, his co-star in the upcoming film 'Wazir'.

"But it's very easy to work with him. He has a positive personality and keeps the atmosphere easy on the sets. So, the minute you reach the set and start talking to him, you will feel comfortable automatically. It is amazing to work with him," Farhan told PTI here. "I am still shooting with him as the film is not yet complete. It's great to work with somebody like him and I am a huge admirer of his work. To get an opportunity to do a film where we are spending a lot of time,

is very exciting for me," he said.

Bachchan, 72, reportedly plays the role of a paralysed chess grandmaster and Farhan an ATS officer in the film, directed by Bejoy Nambiar and produced by Vidhu Vinod Chopra. As for major mistakes committed by him in his film career and the regrets, the multi-faceted Farhan said when 'Lakshya' — which he directed a decade ago — did not do quite well he felt really low. But, it also taught him the value of moving on and the fact that one has to learn to get oneself out of things, he said.—PTI

## Duncan Campbell wins Turner Prize 2014 with essay film

LONDON, 2 Dec — Irish-born artist Duncan Campbell won Britain's prestigious Turner Prize on Monday for an "essay film" which draws on an array of sources, including African art, the Irish Republican Army, dance and Marxism.

The annual award for contemporary art was presented to Campbell by actor Chiwetel Ejiofor, the star of '12 Years a Slave', in a televised ceremony at Tate Britain, which oversees the often controversial prize.

The Turner winner gets 25,000 pounds with 5,000 pounds for each of the three runners-up — James Richards of Wales, Tris Vonn-Michell of England and Ciara Phillips, a Canadian living in Scotland.

Campbell, who also lives in Scotland, said winning was a "validation" of his work and added that the prize money would make a great difference to his life.

"The economics of what I do are not as great



**Artist Duncan Campbell (R) reacts after winning the Turner Prize presented by actor Chiwetel Ejiofor (L) at the Tate Britain Gallery in London on 1 Dec, 2014.**

REUTERS

as say, a painter, so it does make a difference in terms of me being able to do what I do," he said.

Campbell is known for works tackling power structures and other complex issues, such as the relationship between Britain and Ireland. His winning entry, "It For Others", uses a series of old and new footage, including a 1971 image of Joe

McCann, sometimes called "the Che Guevara of the IRA", to show how images can be turned into commodities of mass culture.

The picture of McCann, who was shot dead by British soldiers less than a year after the photo was taken, became part of pop culture to the point where the image was emblazoned on T-shirts and Christmas

stockings.

"He always takes serious questions... but then what he does is treat them in quite an unusual way and this film is even more unusual than some of his earlier works," said Penelope Curtis, the director of Tate Britain, who chaired this year's jury. "It's a work that really does repay sustained attention." Past winners of the Turner Prize, which celebrates its 30th anniversary this year, include Damien Hirst, Anish Kapoor and last year's laureate Laure Prouvost.

The award, named after the 19th-century English landscape and seascape painter JMW Turner, has often courted controversy for shortlisting unconventional pieces of art and is regularly lampooned in Britain's tabloid press.

The works of Campbell and the three other finalists will be exhibited at Tate Britain until 4 January, 2015.—Reuters

## "Dameyo, Dame Dame" among top winners of 2014 buzzword award



**The Japanese female comic duo "Nippon Erekiteru Rengo" attend the award ceremony in Tokyo's Marunouchi area on 1 Dec, 2014, after "Dameyo, Dame Dame" (No you must not, no no), their signature phrase, has been selected as one of the top two buzzwords or phrases in Japan in 2014.**

KYODO NEWS

TOKYO, 2 Dec — "Dameyo, Dame Dame" (No you must not, no no), the signature phrase of the Japanese female comic duo "Nippon Erekiteru Rengo," has been selected as one of the top two buzzwords or phrases in Japan this year, the award's organizer said on Monday.

"Shudantekijieiken" (the right to collective self-defence) also topped the list as Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's Cabinet decided in July to enable Japan to exercise the right by reinterpreting the pacifist Constitution.

The organizer did not clarify who was the recipient of the award for that

phrase.

Also in the top 10 list was "Arimomame," the Japanese title of "Let it Go," a song from Disney's 2013 megahit animation movie "Frozen," and "Yokai Watch" (ghost watch), the name of a game and animation popular among children.

Other buzzwords or phrases in the top 10 list were "kikendoraggu" (dangerous drug), which refers to technically legal but potentially harmful drugs, and "Matahara," an abbreviation of "maternity harassment" or unfair treatment of working women due to pregnancy or motherhood.

Kyodo News

## Springsteen, Chris Martin, U2 rock World AIDS Day concert

NEW YORK, 2 Dec — Bruce Springsteen and Coldplay's Chris Martin filled in for U2's injured lead singer Bono on Monday evening and rocked a surprise World AIDS Day concert in New York's Times Square with the Irish rock group.

They joined other U2 members, Adam Clayton, The Edge and Larry Mullen Jr, to perform the group's songs as crowds packed the centre of Manhattan bundled in coats and hats and huddled under umbrellas as rain fell.

Former President Bill Clinton, opening the concert, said he received an

email from Bono, who is recuperating in Ireland from a cycling accident in New York last month, asking Clinton to do the introduction.

"This year for the first time ever, more people were put on life-saving medicine than were diagnosed with AIDS," Clinton told the cheering crowd.

"We can end AIDS but we all have to do our part," he added.

Martin pranced on the plastic covered stage in the heart of Manhattan and kicked off the concert with U2 with the song "Beautiful Day" as the crowd raised smartphones to record the

moment, followed by "With or Without You" from the group's album, The Joshua



**Singers (L-R) The Edge, Larry Mullen, Bruce Springsteen, Carrie Underwood, Kanye West, Chris Martin and Adam Clayton wave to the crowd after their surprise concert in support of World AIDS Day in Times Square in New York, on 1 Dec, 2014. —REUTERS**

Tree. Messages about the AIDS pandemic that began more than 30 years ago were

broadcast to the crowd between sets. United Nations data show that in 2013, 35 million people were living with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) that causes AIDS, 2.1 million people were newly infected with the virus and some 1.5 million people had died of AIDS.

Singer Carrie Underwood sang two songs, followed by rapper Kanye West, performing a set to the delight of the crowd, before U2 returned with Springsteen, who led the group with "Where The Streets Have No Name."

Bono, who has lobbied for a variety of causes in-

cluding debt relief, world poverty and AIDS, earlier on Monday said on the group's website that this year was a World AIDS Day like no other because 13 million people have access to life-saving drugs, up from 300,000 just over 10 years ago. The Irish rocker was hurt while cycling in New York's Central Park. He sustained injuries to his face, shoulder blade and arm, which required hours of surgery. Three metal plates and 18 screws were needed to repair the bone in his upper arm. He will have intensive therapy but is expected to make a full recovery.—Reuters



## Once-lost letter of Beat era, found in California, to be sold at auction

SAN FRANCISCO, 2 Dec — An 18-page letter written by Beat-era icon Neal Cassady that transformed Jack Kerouac's writing style will be auctioned off this month as the highlight of a collection of work that could fetch about \$500,000 (£317,863).

The 16,000-word, stream-of-consciousness missive, which was shown to reporters on Monday for the first time, was missing for decades until it was found among several unopened boxes in a garage in Northern California a few years ago.

It will be sold at auction on 17 December, exactly 64 years after Cassady wrote it. The reserve price, at which serious bidding will begin, is set between \$300,000 and \$500,000, according to auction house Profiles in History.

The Beat Museum in San Francisco plans to bid on the letter and eventually display it publicly and publish it, museum founder Jerry Cimino said. The museum

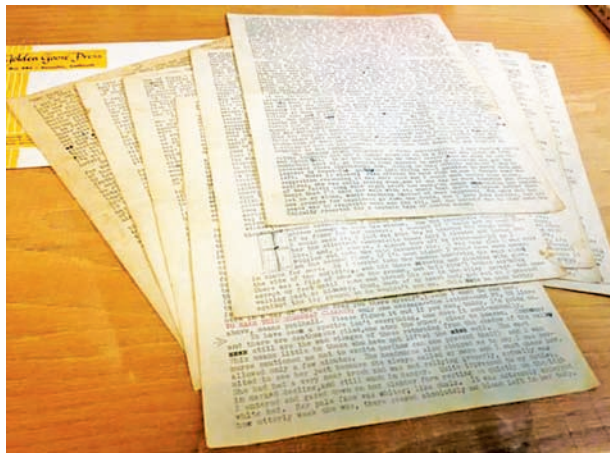
launched an online campaign to raise half a million dollars to buy the letter.

"We literally call it the holy grail of the Beat Generation," Cimino said, noting that its compact, spontaneous style inspired Kerouac to write his novel "On the Road."

A portion of the Cassady letter, beginning with the words "to have seen a spectre isn't everything," was preserved and widely published. But it has long been known that the vast majority of the so-called "Joan Anderson" letter was missing.

The auction house could not display the full text of the letter because of a copyright held by the Cassady family, spokeswoman Sabrina Proper said. A spokesman for the Cassady family estate could not be reached for comment.

Under current US law, work that has not been published remains in copyright for 70 years after the death of the author. Cassady died



*An 18-page letter written by Beat-era icon Neal Cassady, which transformed Jack Kerouac's writing style, is shown in San Francisco, California, on 1 Dec, 2014. —REUTERS*

in 1968.

In the letter, Cassady describes a series of adventures, including climbing out of a window when a woman's mother unexpectedly came home. He also drew a picture of the window in the letter shown to reporters.

Allen Ginsberg, a seminal Beat poet who referenced Cassady's antics in his poem

"Howl," sent the letter to a publishing company, Golden Goose. But the company folded and the letter went unread until Jean Spinosa, 41, came across the Golden Goose archives in her father's garage after his death.

She said she is among a handful of people who have read the letter in full.

Reuters

## Financial Fair Play is a contradiction, says Mourinho

LONDON, 2 Dec — UEFA's Financial Fair Play (FFP) rules are "a contradiction" and only serve to protect big clubs with a long history of success, according to Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho.

Mourinho's club spent heavily in the close season to sign Cesc Fabregas and Diego Costa but, after losing a number of players, had a substantially smaller net spend than rivals such as Manchester United and Barcelona. The regulations were designed to limit reckless spending and make clubs operate within their means



*Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho watches during their English Premier League soccer match against Sunderland at the Stadium of Light in Sunderland, northern England on 29 Nov, 2014. —REUTERS*

but the Portuguese said the rules have failed in their primary objective to create equal conditions for all.

"I think Financial Fair Play is a contradiction because when football decided to go for Financial Fair Play it was exactly to put teams in equal conditions to compete," Mourinho said in an interview with Yahoo.

"But what happened really with Financial Fair Play is a big protection to the historical, old, big clubs which have a financial structure, a commercial structure, everything in place based on

historical success for years and years and years."

Chelsea have been among the Premier League's heaviest spenders since Russian billionaire Roman Abramovich took over as owner in 2003. Mourinho, however, said the regulations were subduing clubs with new investment to help maintain what he perceives is the hierarchy of Europe's biggest teams. "The 'new' clubs, I call them 'new' clubs, those with new investment, they cannot put themselves quickly at the same level," he explained. —Reuters

## Spain to seek to banish 'ultras' after fan death

MADRID, 2 Dec — Spain will seek to banish groups of violent fans known as "ultras" from football following Sunday's death of a Deportivo La Coruna fan in clashes in Madrid, a government official said on Monday.

Francisco Javier Romero Taboada, 43, had to be pulled out of the Manzanares river near Atletico Madrid's Calderon stadium before kickoff in a La Liga match against Deportivo and died after suffering a cardiac arrest, hypothermia and head injuries. Trouble had flared in what appeared to be an organized street battle between ultras tied to Atletico,

Deportivo and Madrid-based clubs Rayo Vallecano and Alcorcon. "It has been proposed to us that we draw up a list of ultras groups to expel them from stadiums and set a timeframe to carry it out," Spain's secretary of state of sport, Miguel Cardenal, told a news conference after a meeting of a government anti-violence commission.

"It is a route some clubs have already taken and the commitment is clear, forceful and I am convinced it will be effective," he added. One measure under consideration would be to close off the areas inside stadiums where ultras gather, Cardenal said.

Efforts would be stepped up to identify groups with violent tendencies and prevent them from gathering near stadiums on matchdays, he added. "We want to eliminate these radical elements from the places where football is played and the surroundings. They have no place either inside or outside stadiums."

Real Madrid and Barcelona are among clubs to have barred ultras from attending games in recent years with some success.

Police named the groups involved in Sunday's fighting, some of whom were supporters of Rayo Vallecano and Alcorcon, as Riazor

Blues (Deportivo), Frente Atletico, Bukaneros (Rayo) and Alkor Hooligans (Alcorcon).

Officers took 24 people into custody on Sunday and among items seized were firecrackers, flares, sticks and metal tubes. FASFE, a group representing Spanish football fans, has suggested the police could have done more to prevent Sunday's violence and urged better coordination.

However, Francisco Martinez, a secretary of state for security, noted that the match had not been considered high-risk and there had been nothing to suggest trouble was likely.

The items seized showed



*Spanish police escort Deportivo Coruna fans upon leaving Vicente Calderon stadium after their Spanish first division soccer match against Atletico Madrid in Madrid, on 30 Nov, 2014. —REUTERS*

"a clear desire for confrontation," Martinez told Monday's news conference.

"Those who arranged

to meet yesterday wanted to generate violence and confront each other in a violent way," he added. — Reuters

### MYANMAR TV

(3-12-2014, Wednesday)

6:00 am

\* Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw

6:30 am

\* Physical Exercise

7:00 am

\* News / Weather Report

7:20 am

\* Pyi Thh Ni Ti

8:00 am

\* News / International News

8:30 am

\* TV Drama Series

9:50 am

\* Songs of Honour International Day of Persons with Disabilities

10:00 am

\* News

11:35 am

\* Myanmar Traditional performing Arts Competitions

12:00 noon

\* News/ International News / Weather Report

2:45 pm

\* Documentary

3:00 pm

\* News

4:45 pm

\* University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) — Second Year (Home Economic)

5:35 pm

\* TV Drama Series

6:20 pm

\* Shwe Yin Khone Than

7:20 pm

\* Documentary

8:00 pm

\* News/ International News / Weather Report

8:35 pm

\* People Talks

9:00 pm

\* News / Weather Report

9:30 pm

\* Fine Arts-Boson of Dramatic Performance

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