All the national people to live together in the Union forever

Dr Sai Mauk Kham addresses meeting for Organizing Independence Day

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Dec – A coordination meeting of the Central Committee for Organizing the 64th Anniversary Independence Day for 2012 took place at the Union Government Office here at 3 pm today with an address by Chairman of the central committee Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham.

It was also attended by the central committee members and others. Delivering an opening speech, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham said preparations are to be made to celebrate the 64th Anniversary Independence Day, which falls on 4 January 2012, across the nation by forming necessary sub-committees. As the celebration of the 64th Anniversary Independence Day will be the very first Independence Day celebrations in the time of the new government, it needs not only to be more significant than the previous ones but to be in conformity with the objectives of the 64th Anniversary Independence Day.

The objectives are “All the national people to live together in the Union forever in peace and harmony. All the people to collectively strive for non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty. All the national people to harmoniously make all-out efforts for development of socio-economic life of the people, reducing poverty rate and ensuring the firm and clean executive pillar in building up modern, developed democratic new nation; and All the national people to consciously cooperate in promoting genuine democratic practice and ensuring the rule of law, national reconciliation and eternal peace.”

At today’s events, Eastern Command Beat No. 88 Light Infantry, Ground No. 1, and at Nay Pyi Taw (Navy) Team at Nay Pyi Taw Sports Ground No. 2, Yangon Command Beat No. 88 Light Infantry Division 7-0.

Chairman and members have been chosen for all subcommittees and they will be assigned duties. All the subcommittees are to coordinate with each other in implementing their tasks. They are to report to the central committee if there is any difficulty and to accomplish their tasks. Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham then highlighted the importance of security in celebrating the Independence Day anniversary. The security subcommittee itself needs to draw a security plan based on today’s time and circumstance.

The objectives of the 64th Anniversary Independence Day can be celebrated successfully and to cooperate in successfully celebrating the Independence Day anniversary on a grand scale.

Our Three Main National Causes

- Non-disintegration of the Union
- Non-disintegration of National Solidarity
- Perpetuation of Sovereignty

Afterwards, the secretary of the central committee director-general of the Union Government Office reported on formation of subcommittees and duty assignments. Next, the subcommittees reported on their respective tasks and preparations. This was followed by a general round of discussions.

In giving a concluding remark, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham said all the subcommittees are to shoulder their duties conscientiously and to cooperate in successfully celebrating the Independence Day anniversary on a grand scale.

MNA

Chairman of the central committee Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham delivering address at coordination meeting of the Central Committee for Organizing the 64th Anniversary Independence Day for 2012. MNA

Tatmadaw Football Tournament goes on

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Dec— The 50th Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Shield Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Football Tournament continued its second-round matches today.

At today’s events, Eastern Command Team played a goalless draw with Tatmadaw (Navy) Team at Nay Pyi Taw Sports Ground No. 1, and at Nay Pyi Taw Sports Ground No. 2, Yangon Command Beat No. 88 Light Infantry Division 7-0.

Myanmar, foreigner boxers to meet in Dagon Shweaunglan Award Tourney

YANGON, 9 Dec— The Myanmar Traditional Boxing Challenge Dagon Shweaunglan Award Tournament 2011 will continue for its quarterfinals on 11 December and semifinals on 18 December. The final matches will be held at the National Indoor Stadium-1, Thawtannyo in Thingangyun Township, here, at 2 pm on 8 January 2012. Famous Myanmar traditional boxers and foreigner boxers from Thailand, Armenia and Russia will participate in the open class, first class, second class boxing events of the Dagon Shweaunglan Award Tournament.

Indian hospital fire kills 61

Two dead in Virginia Tech University shooting

British teen becomes youngest to ski to South Pole

Polar bears turning cannibals in lean time...
Myanmar traditional medicine

In the field of Myanmar traditional medicine there is a saying that goes ‘All flora is medicinal.’ So, such medicinal plants are called herbal plants by traditional medicine practitioners.

All plants have their own potency. They have a certain kind of taste – hot, spicy, bitter, sweet, cool, or sour. Depending on such tastes, fruits, leaves, barks and roots of trees and plants are used as traditional medicine.

The Myanmar traditional medicine world sees that the human body is formed with the four elements. Those elements always change and decompose. So, traditional medicine practitioners try to cure diseases coping with the four elements.

In ancient times, humans seemed to have made and used traditional medicine on their own. At that time, there was no modern medicine. With the development of science, modern medicine emerged thanks to the experiment and research of medical researchers. Western medicine and traditional medicine originate from different sources and they have different potencies. Modern Western medicine can cure diseases quickly and effectively. But its long-term use can trigger side effects. Traditional medicine is good in long-term use. It can also cure diseases so it has won the public trust and reliance. Myanmar traditional medicine could not have been administered by injection. But today, Myanmar traditional medicines have been made in the form of syrup, tablet and pill. As traditional medicines have been produced scientifically and met with set standard, their penetration of market has become successful. Some Myanmar traditional medicines are trying to penetrate not only the domestic market but also the global one.

For the development of Myanmar traditional medicine, measures have been taken to form traditional medicine practitioners association, to conduct courses on producing high standard traditional medicines, to hold seminars, workshops and conferences, to implement emergency Myanmar traditional medicine kit project, to establish herbal gardens across the nation and to open traditional medical hospitals and herbal gardens across the nation.

Myanmar traditional medicine kit project, to conferences, to implement emergency on producing high standard traditional medicine there is a saying that goes ‘All flora is medicinal.’ So, such medicinal plants are called herbal plants by traditional medicine practitioners.

Myanmar traditional medicine has improved centres in states and regions.

One of the main objectives of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission is to effectively fulfill its mandate of promoting and protecting human rights and to contribute to democratization process of the country to the best of its capacity.


1. The atrocities committed during the Second World War and resultant large-scale violations of human rights shocked and galvanized the world community into embarking on serious efforts to create a world organization “to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war”. These efforts led to the creation of the United Nations Organization. The provisions set out in Article 55 of the United Nations Charter include “universal respect for, and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all”. The efforts of the international community to realize this purpose of the Charter resulted in the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

2. Myanmar, which became the 58th member of the United Nations in April, 1948, voted for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights when it was adopted at the United Nations General Assembly held in Paris on 10 December 1948; the date which has now become known as International Human Rights Day. The Declaration constitutes a common standard of achievement for all peoples and nations. In other words, the human rights standards set in the Declaration are to be achieved by all nations. Its adoption was the very first step in the common efforts of the international community to set standards and norms in promotion and protection of human rights. Accordingly, it is the source of inspiration and has been the basis for drawing up two important instruments on human rights: namely the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and other existing international instruments. In addition, many nations of the world use the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as basis for human rights provisions in their respective constitutions. The Constitution adopted on 29 May, 2008 overwhelmingly by the people of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar also enshrines these fundamental human rights.

3. Since the adoption of the Declaration, the international community has relentlessly taken steps to establish a global system of human rights protection. In so doing it has always supported and encouraged the establishment of national human rights institutions (NHRIs) for they can serve as national monitoring system concerning violations of human rights and can advise the competent authorities in seeking remedies to them in disseminating human rights information. Those states committed to human rights established national human rights infrastructure, including national human rights institutions, to promote and protect human rights.

4. The Myanmar National Human Rights Commission, which is also national human rights institution, was established on 5 September 2011, by Notification No. 34/2011 of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar with a view to promoting and safeguarding the fundamental rights enshrined in the Constitution. It is the first national level human rights body in Myanmar and the fifth of its kind in ASIAN. It was formed on the basis of Paris Principles, with fifteen experienced retired officials from different professions and various national races as members.

The Commission held its inaugural meeting on 12 September and has been functioning in full swing since then. Regarding protection of human rights, an announcement was made on 4 October for accepting complaints on violations of human rights. The complaints received are being examined with the utmost sensitivity on a daily basis. Concerning promotion of human rights, the Commission is trying to set up contact with the relevant organizations inside and outside the country. It has received a delegation from Raul Wallenberg Institute of Sweden, which has been arranging human rights training, courses for over ten years and offers institutional support to a wide range of human rights institutions in developing countries. The Commission was actively engaged in organizing a Human Rights Seminar for officials of the Myanmar Government on 14-15 November by the Regional Office for Southeast Asia, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Bangkok. The success of the Seminar received encouraging responses from the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights when she said that these officials, many of them from an emerging younger generation, were very positive, interested and energized. At present, the Commission is planning to organize another workshop on awareness of child rights and human rights education in January 2012 in cooperation with UNICEF in Myanmar.

Plans are also underway to organize a similar workshop with special focus on national human rights institutions (NHRIs) in February 2012. In late November, under the sponsorship of UNICEF, Yangon, five members of the Commission visited the Philippines to study its national infrastructure for human rights promotion and protection, including the Philippines Commission on Human Rights.

5. Concerning promotion of human rights, the Commission is trying to set up contact with the relevant organizations inside and outside the country. It has received a delegation from Raul Wallenberg Institute of Sweden, which has been arranging human rights training, courses for over ten years and offers institutional support to a wide range of human rights institutions in developing countries. The Commission was actively engaged in organizing a Human Rights Seminar for officials of the Myanmar Government on 14-15 November by the Regional Office for Southeast Asia, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Bangkok. The success of the Seminar received encouraging responses from the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights when she said that these officials, many of them from an emerging younger generation, were very positive, interested and energized. At present, the Commission is planning to organize another workshop on awareness of child rights and human rights education in January 2012 in cooperation with UNICEF in Myanmar. Plans are also underway to organize a similar workshop with special focus on national human rights institutions (NHRIs) in February 2012. In late November, under the sponsorship of UNICEF, Yangon, five members of the Commission visited the Philippines to study its national infrastructure for human rights promotion and protection, including the Philippines Commission on Human Rights.

6. National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) are an integral part of a democratic society. As such, on this important occasion of the anniversary of human rights, the Commission would like to stress its commitment to effectively fulfill its mandate of promoting and protecting human rights and to contribute to the democratization process of the country to the best of its capacity.

Date: 10 December 2011

Yangon

Development of agricultural sector in Myanmar emphasized

NavPyTaw, 9 Dec—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hay received a delegation led by Chairman Mr Hao Jian of State Development Investment Cooperation (SDIC) of the People’s Republic of China at the ministry, here, this afternoon.

They discussed development of agricultural sector. Their discussions emphasized undertaking for development of agricultural sector in Myanmar in line with rules and regulations of the Myanmar Investment Commission and steps of the company for strengthening of long-term investment.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister U Ohn Than, directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises—MNA
Mudslides collapses on bus in Colombia, six dead

BOGOTA, (Colombia), 9 Dec—A hillside loosened by heavy rains collapsed on a bus, killing five adults and a boy, Colombian officials said Thursday.

One of the victims managed to call for help by cellphone and told relatives she was trapped before she died, said Cesar Urrutia, rescue director for the Colombian Red Cross.

The five other victims of the accident Wednesday night included a police officer and the bus driver and his young son, Urrutia said. At least four other people were slightly injured when the mudslide partially buried the bus about 200 miles (320 kilometers) northeast of the capital, Bogota.

Officials said heavy rains have flooded about 3,500 homes south of Bogota, with waters up to 5 feet (1.5 meters) deep in places. Some people refused to leave flooded homes, while others moved to higher ground carrying belongings while wading knee-deep through floodwaters.

Mayor Clara Lopez said the flooding was “10 times worse” than floods seen last year.

Rains in Colombia since 1 Sept have caused at least 140 deaths, including those who died in the bus Wednesday night.

Indian hospital fire kills 61

KOLKATA, (India), 9 Dec—A top Indian official says 61 people have been killed in a fire at a hospital in the eastern Indian City of Kolkata.

The fire erupted in the basement of the hospital early Friday morning.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has told reporters that 61 bodies were recovered from the hospital by early afternoon.

Fire officials rescue a patient from the window of a nursing home after it caught fire in Kolkata, India, on 9 Dec, 2011. The fire swept through a multistory nursing home in eastern India early Friday, trapping many elderly residents in the smoke-filled building, an official said.

British soldier killed by Afghanistan IED blast

LONDON, 9 Dec—A soldier died in a British hospital Thursday after being fatally wounded by an improvised explosive device in southern Afghanistan, the Ministry of Defence announced.

The soldier’s death brought to 391 the number of British troops killed since operations in Afghanistan began in October 2001. Of these, at least 347 were killed in combat.

He is the 43rd to die this year, making 2011 the fourth-worst year for British troop fatalities in Afghanistan.

The soldier, from 35 Engineer Regiment, Royal Engineers, was on a reconnaissance task in the Nahr-e Saraj region of central Helmand Province on Thursday when he was caught in the IED blast. He was evacuated to Camp Bastion, the main British forces base in Afghanistan, and then flown to a specialist military hospital unit in Birmingham, central England.

He died in the facility surrounded by his family.

Britain has around 9,500 troops in Afghanistan, making it the second-largest contributor to the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force after the United States.

They are based in central Helmand, battling Taliban militants and training local security forces.

Alternatives to NATO missile defense solidifying in Russia

Russia will continue and he expressed criticism that NATO is ignoring its concerns that the planned missile system might one day be binding on the United States and its allies, guaranteeing that the anti-missile system would in no way threaten Russia’s own ballistic missiles.

The US has said it’s willing to adopt a nonbinding written agreement, but that a treaty is unworkable.

“Any ally within NATO is going to give any other country outside the alliance a veto over whether NATO protects itself by building a missile defence system against threats we perceive are the most salient,” US Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said.

NATO, Russia say still no agreement on missiles

WASHINGTON, (US), 8 Dec—Russia and NATO remain deadlocked on a long-running dispute over the alliance’s plan for a missile shield for Europe, officials said Thursday, and Russia warned that time was running out for an agreement.

NATO’s Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen said he had no progress toward a deal before NATO’s next top summit, in Chicago in May 2012.

“We listen, and we have listened today,” Fogh Rasmussen told journalists after the meeting with Lavrov at NATO headquarters in Brussels, in a two-day meeting, will review progress in Afghanistan, plans for a missile defence system, and troubles in Kosovo.

Rasmussen spoke in clipped Russian immediately after meeting with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov that came amid political turmoil in Russia and tart criticism of the United States.

Fogh Rasmussen rejected Russian criticism that NATO is ignoring its concerns that the planned missile system might one day be binding on the United States and its allies, guaranteeing that the anti-missile system would in no way threaten Russia’s own ballistic missiles.

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INTERNET

Pakistan police look at burning NATO supply oil tankers and goods trucks at a terminal in Quetta, southwest Pakistan, on 8 Dec, 2011. At least 30 NATO oil tankers caught fire following a rocket attack on an oil tanker terminal here on Thursday, reported local Urdu TV Express.

INTERNET

Fire officials evacuate residents from a flooded neighbourhood in the Rosal District of Bogota, Colombia, on 8 Dec, 2011. Officials say flooding caused by the heavy rains has forced 3,500 families from homes near Bogota.

INTERNET

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They are based in central Helmand, battling Taliban militants and training local security forces.

INTERNET

Blast kills three soldiers in Pakistan

KARACHI, (Pakistan), 9 Dec—A police official says a roadside bomb hit a vehicle carrying paramilitary soldiers in Pakistan’s southwestern city of Karachi, killing three of them.

A soldier aims his weapon during a patrol in Afghanistan’s Helmand Province.

A soldier died in a British hospital Thursday after being fatally wounded by an improvised explosive device in southern Afghanistan, the Ministry of Defence announced.

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**Health**

**Hunger and disease stalk Sudan’s Blue Nile refugees**

Doro, 9 Dec—Shuffling in the dust among scrawny dogs and pot-bellied children, Kumke Lete wishes she could make it back across the border to Sudan’s war-torn Blue Nile state to bring food to Doro refugee camp.

“For those that are able to go, they go. For people like me, I cannot go that distance,” she said of the treacherous four-day round trip to the family farm, to bring enough grain to feed her seven children for two days.

Lete’s family abandoned their home in Jindi a month ago when she said an Antonov plane “roared” over the village, unleashing its bombs on the camp. “We are scared to go back, but...if we stay here we die of hunger,” she said.

Lete’s family is one of hundreds that walked for days to reach Doro, near the town of Bun, about 40 kilometres (25 miles) from the border in South Sudan’s Upper Nile state, where on average 1,000 people arrive every day.

With their meagre possessions dotted in bushes used for shelter, families say they fled with almost nothing or left essentials such as blankets and mosquito nets along the way because they were so tired.

Tens of thousands have fled Sudan’s Blue Nile state since the conflict erupted there in September between government forces and fighters aligned to the southern rebels turned ruling party of newly independent South Sudan.

The United Nations refugee agency (UNHCR) has registered more than 21,000 refugees in Doro alone and says at least 5,000 more will arrive this week.—Internet

A pregnant woman, who is surviving on maize and cactus fruits, is pictured on 5 December at the Doro refugee camp, about 40 kilometres from the border in South Sudan’s Upper Nile state. On average 1,000 people arrive at the Doro refugee camp from Sudan’s Blue Nile state each day. — Reuters

**Many chemicals unproven to raise breast cancer risk**

WASHINGTON, 9 Dec— Women who want to reduce their risk of breast cancer may have heard they should avoid exposure to industrial chemicals but scientific evidence has so far not proven a direct link, said a US group Wednesday.

The review of existing studies by the Institute of Medicine (IOM), part of the US National Academies of Science, sought to separate the myth from the reality when it comes to what has — and has not — been shown to increase risk.

For instance, doctors know that drinking alcohol, hormone therapy that combines estrogen and progesterin, too much exposure to ionizing radiation from CT scans, and being overweight after menopause are all proven risk factors in breast cancer.

But they are less certain about things like secondhand smoke, breathing in auto exhaust or exposure to chemicals such as benzene, found in crude oil and pesticides, and bisphenol A (BPA) which is used in plastics and sealants.

“Multiple well-design- ed studies consistently have failed to show increased breast cancer risk for two environmental exposures: personal use of hair dyes and non-ionizing radiation (emitted by microwave ovens and other electrical devices),” said the report.—Internet

A doctor examines breast lumps in 2001 in Arvad, Colo. Women who want to reduce their risk of breast cancer may have heard they should avoid exposure to industrial chemicals but scientific evidence has so far not proven a direct link, said a US group Wednesday.—Internet

**Business**

**Toyota cuts full-year profit forecast by 54%**

TOYKO, 9 Dec—Toyota Friday slashed its full-year net profit forecast by more than half as Japan’s biggest automaker grapples with a strong yen, the impact of the March earthquake and record flooding in Thailand.

The company cut its outlook to 180 billion yen ($2.3 billion), well down from its estimate in August of a 395,000 billion yen ($4.8 billion), which had been the automaker’s second-best result ever.

The company also forecast its full-year net profit to fall to 200 billion yen, down from 7.36 trillion yen in August, and hit a two-year low.

For the fiscal year ended March 2011, Toyota said.

The company forecasts a net profit of 200 billion yen, or 288 yen per share, for the fiscal year ended March 2011, it said.

Toyota forecast is well down from the 222 yen per share it earned in the year before.

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Scientists tread carefully through a seemingly endless landscape of ice, sea, and neltwater in the Canadian Basin of the Arctic on 22 July, 2005. —Internet

Four decades of sea ice decline in Canada

OTTAWA, 9 Dec—Researchers in Canada say the average area covered by sea ice during summer has declined for four decades in all but one region in the country’s North. The largest declines occurred in the Northern Labrador Sea where sea ice decreased at a rate of almost 600 square miles or 17 percent per decade, a release from Statistics Canada said Thursday.

Other areas with significant declines per decade were the Hudson Strait, down 16 percent per decade, Davis Strait down 14 percent, Hudson Bay down 11 percent and Baffin Bay down 10 percent, the release said.

Sea ice area also reportedly declined in two of three northern shipping route regions not normally navigable because of ice: the Arctic Bridge route and the southern route of the Northwest Passage.

The Northwest Passage links the Atlantic and Pacific oceans and the Arctic Bridge extends across the top of Hudson Bay into Hudson Strait and links North American markets to European and Asian markets. —Internet

Study shows rats nice, not naughty

WASHINGTON, 9 Dec—New experiments show rats demonstrating compassion and helping other rodents. It is a trait some scientists thought was reserved only for humans and higher primates.

And it is certainly not the sneaky, selfish rat that goes with calling someone a dirt rat. In repeated tests, rats freed another trapped rat in their cage, even when yummy chocolate served as a tempting distraction.

Twenty-three of the 30 rats opened the trap by pushing in a door.

The rats could have gobbled the chocolate before freeing their partners, but often didn’t, choosing to help and share the goodness. "Basically we told them (freeing another rat) is as important as eating chocolate," said study author Peggy Mason of the University of Chicago. "That’s a very striking thing."

In some cases, the rats first took the chocolate chips out of a container, bit into it, and then freed the other rat and shared "almost as if they were serving them chocolate," Mason said. The research is reported in Thursday's journal Science.

Also, females showed more consistent empathy than males, Mason said. All six females freed their trapped partner; 17 of the 24 males did so. This confirms other studies that show females demonstrating more pro-social behaviour than males, she said.

"However, there are increasing numbers of observations of it occurring, particularly on land where polar bears are trapped ashore, completely food-deprived for extended periods of time due to the loss of sea ice as a result of climate change." Without sea ice as a platform from which to hunt seals, bears have gone looking for alternative sources of food, Ross said.

"Predating another bear is a way to get food; it’s probably a relatively easy way for a big adult male," she said. "And it seems that because of the circumstances of the loss of sea ice — that kind of behavior may be becoming more common."
More drivers texting at wheel, despite state bans

WASHINGTON, 9 Dec.—For all the criticism and new legal bans, texting by drivers just keeps increasing, especially among younger motorists. More than half of American drivers between 21 and 24 say they’ve thumbed messages or emailed from the driver’s seat.

And what’s more, many drivers don’t think it’s dangerous when they do it — only when others do. A national survey, the first government study of its kind on distracted driving, and other data released Thursday by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration underscore the difficulty authorities face in discouraging texting and cellphone talking while driving. At any given moment last year on America’s streets and highways, nearly one in every 100 car drivers was texting, emailing, surfing the Web or otherwise using a hand-held electronic device, the safety administration said. And those activities spiked 50 percent over the previous year, even as states rush to ban the practices. Last month, Pennsylvania became the 35th state to forbid texting while driving. In 2010 there were an estimated 3,092 deaths in crashes affected by a wide range of driver distractions, from eating meals to thumbling email, the safety administration said. That number was derived using a new methodology aimed at getting a more precise picture of distracted driving deaths and can’t be compared to tallies from previous years, officials said.

The agency also takes an annual snapshot of drivers’ behavior behind the wheel by staking out intersections to count people using cellphones and other devices, as well as other distracting behavior. While electronic gadgets are in ever greater use by drivers, motorists are deeply conflicted about it, a NHTSA survey of over 6,000 drivers found. —Internet

Prime Indonesian jungle to be cleared for palm oil

Acten, (Indonesia), 9 Dec.—The man known as Indonesia’s “green governor”.chases the roar of illegal chainsaws through plums jungles in his own jets. He goes door-to-door to tell families it’s in their interest to keep trees standing.

That’s why 5,000 villagers living the edge of a rich, biodiverse peat swamp in his tsunami-ravaged Aceh Province feel so betrayed.

Their former hero recently gave a palm oil company a permit to develop land in one of the few places on earth where orangutans, tigers and bears still can be found living side-by-side — violating Indonesia’s new moratorium on concessions in primary forests and peatlands.

“How would he agree to this?” said Bbudh, a 50-year village chief, days after filing a criminal complaint against Aceh Gov Irwandi Yusuf.

“It’s not just about the animals,” he said, men around him nodding. “Us too. Our lives are ruined if this goes through.”

Irwandi — a former rebel whose life story is worthy of a Hollywood film — maintains the palm oil concession is by the book and that he would never do anything to harm his province. But critics say there’s little doubt he broke the law. The charges against him illustrate the challenges facing countries like Indonesia in their efforts to fight climate change by protecting the world’s tropical jungles — which would spit more carbon when burned than planes, automobiles and factories combined. —Internet

Israel strikes three in Gaza, rockets hit Israel

Gaza, 9 Dec.—Violence across the Israeli-Gaza border escalated on Friday with Israeli air strikes killing at least three people and Palestinian militants firing rockets deep into southern Israel.

The latest round of fighting erupted on Thursday when an Israeli air strike targeted a car on a crowded Gaza street, killing two militants who Israel said were planning attacks against its civilians and soldiers.

Palestinian gunmen responded with a barrage of rockets fired deep into southern Israel, some landing near the city of Beersheba, causing no injuries. Early on Friday, Palestinian medical officials said a second Israeli air strike hit a Hamas training camp in Gaza City, sending shrapnel flying into nearby houses, killing one civilian and wounding 13 others, mostly women and children.

The Israeli military confirmed both air strikes had been planning an attack on Israeli civilians and soldiers along Israel’s border with Egypt’s Sinai peninsula. “They were affiliated with a terrorist squad that intended to attack Israeli civilians and soldiers via the western border,” an army statement said.

A Hamas, an Islamist group sworn to Israel’s destruction, has ruled the Gaza Strip since 2007. —Reuters
Scotland lashed by monster storm

GLASGOW, 9 Dec.—Scotland was battered by winds of up to 165 miles (266 kilometres) per hour on Thursday, causing widespread disruption to transport links, closing schools and leaving tens of thousands without power. Thousands of schoolchildren around Glasgow and the west of Scotland were closed, while every major bridge across the country was shut, flights from the main airports were disrupted and train services cut.

More than 55,000 people were left without power after falling trees brought down power lines. The Met Office national weather service issued an amber alert, its highest warning, in Scotland lashed by monster storm

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Saturday, 10 December, 2011 7

Ex-chief of Japan nuclear plant has cancer

TOKYO, 9 Dec.—The former chief of Japan’s crippled nuclear plant, who left the job last week, has cancer of the esophagus, TEPCO said Friday, adding it was unlikely to be linked to radiation exposure.

Masao Yoshida, 56, had been based at the plant since Japan’s 11 March earthquake and tsunami disaster sparked reactor meltdowns, until he was suddenly hospitalised in late November.

The plant operator, Tokyo Electric Power Co (TEPCO), did not at the time specify the reason for his being taken to hospital, amid speculation it could be related to radiation exposure.

But during a visit to the plant on Friday, “Yoshida himself disclosed he had esophagus cancer” as he spoke to workers there, according to TEPCO spokesman Atsahara.

Yoshida was the former head of the nuclear power plant in northern Japan that released radioactive material into the Pacific Ocean, which led to a nuclear crisis that became the worst since the 1986 Chernobyl disaster.

Two dead in Virginia Tech University shooting

BLACKSBURG, 9 Dec.—A gunman ambushed and killed a campus police officer and was later reported to have been found dead on Thursday at Virginia Tech University, the site of one of the worst shooting rampages in US history.

Authorities declared the campus safe and lifted a lockdown after a nearly four-hour manhunt, seeming to lend credence to television news reports that a body found in a Virginia Tech parking lot was that of the shooter.

A police officer at a televised news conference declined to say whether they suspected a murder-suicide and offered no motive for the crime, citing an ongoing investigation.

“You may ask what we know, but we do not,” Manager of Public Relations in Virginia Tech Police Charles Steger told reporters.

Women want to receive baby food in the village of Koleram, southern Niger, in 2010. Meagre rains and diminished harvests have left between five and seven million people in Africa’s Sahel region facing food shortages, the United Nation’s World Food Programme said Thursday. —INTERNET

Back to the full document.
CICS lessons, a must for all service personnel: Union Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Dec—Basic Course No (1) for Officers was opened in Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar) in PyinOoLwin Township in Mandalay Region on 6 December morning.

Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin addressed the opening ceremony held in Ruby Hall of the institute, pointing out that lectures in CICS are a must for government employees. Once learnt in devotion, the lessons will help the service personnel in their careers along remaining part of their lives, the union minister said.

Dentists among others are attending the course.

Committee for smooth entry of tourists meets for e-visa system

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Dec—Coordination meeting of committee for smooth entry of tourists for applying e-visa system was held at the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism this morning, with an address by Chairman of the committee Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Tun Aung.

The Union minister said his ministry is implementing tasks for smooth and easy entry of foreign tourists. He called for cooperation of related ministries for using e-visa system, which will be operated with the technical assistance of Krislite Lighting Specialist Co Ltd.

Deputy Minister U Hlaung submitted report.

Managing Director of Krislite Lighting Specialist Co Ltd explained about work plans and the deputy minister made the supplementary discussion.

Coordination meeting of committee for smooth entry of foreign tourists in progress. MNA
Winners awarded in Peaceful and Pleasant Myanmar Colour Photo Contest

YANGON, 9 Dec.—A ceremony to award winners in the Peaceful and Pleasant Myanmar Colour Photo Contest to mark the 64th Anniversary Independence Day 2012, organized by Information and Public Relations Department, was held at Traders Hotel, here, this afternoon, with an address by Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan.

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan awarded third-prize winner U Zaw Myint Naing.—MNA

KIA’s mine blast damages two towers in MUSE District

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Dec.—A mine blast of KIA insurgents group degenerated 230 KV Shwe Li-Mansan power grid into a power failure at 10:40 am yesterday.

The officials concerned from the power grid office (Mansan) found that the failure condition came from the collapse of one tower and damage to another between Winpat and Aikelaw Villages in Manton Township in Muse District found that the failure condition came from the collapse of one tower and damage to another between Winpat and Aikelaw Villages in Manton Township in Muse District in Shan State (North) due to KIA’s mine. The officials led by Deputy Chief Engineer of Myanma Electric Power Enterprise are urgently carrying out the repairing tasks to resume power supply.—MNA

Power grid destroyed in explosion of mine planted by KIA.—MNA

Union Mines Minister receives Chinese guests

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Dec.—Union Mines Minister U Thein Htaik received Chairman of the Board of Companies of Kunming-based Kunming Baoyizhuang Industry and Trade Co Ltd of the People’s Republic of China at the ministry, here, this morning.

They discussed exploration and production of tin and iron ore and investment matters in Kachin State and Taninthayi Region.—MNA

Emergence of investment market in accord with rules and regulations important

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Dec.—The meeting (7/2011) of Investment Market Development Committee took place at the Ministry of Finance and Revenue here this morning.

Speaking on the occasion, Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun highlighted the importance of emergence of an investment market in accord with the rules and regulations in order to acquire and share investments systematically for national economic development. As soon as the investment market law has been passed, step-by-step measures have to be taken based on international and regional experience and case-study to establish such a market, he said.

Also present at the meeting were Deputy Minister U Win Than, Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw, Deputy Attorney General U Tun Tun Oo, Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyien and departmental heads.

Then, the participants explained measures for investment market development and future works. The Union Minister gave a concluding remark.

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan cordially converses with those present at ceremony to award winners in Peaceful and Pleasant Myanmar Colour Photo Contest.—MNA

investment are being improved to help the nation and its people to enjoy a boost. He concluded his speech, urging members of Myanma Photographic Society to do their bit in the interest of the State and people while the country is experiencing the gradual reforms.

Next, the Union Minister presented the first prize to Huay Lwin-Hnin Wut Yi (Amarapura), the second to Saw Aung Min (AMPS) and the third to U Zaw Myint Naing.

Managing Director U Aung Myo Myint of Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise and Chairman of Myanmar Photographic Society U Lin (Golden Arrow) gave special prizes to respective winners.

Deputy Director-General U Tin Swe of the IPRD presented certificates of honour to Myanmar Golden Rock International Co Ltd.

Chairman of MPS U Hnin Lin (Golden Arrow) reported on selection of winners and Huay Lwin-Hnin Wut Yi (Amarapura), on behalf of the winners, spoke words of thanks.

After cordially greeting those present, the Union Minister viewed round the prize winning works.

Also present on the occasion were departmental heads of the Ministry of Information and Ministry of Culture, chairmen and members of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, Myanmar Motion Picture Organization and MPS and guests.—MNA

Press conference on Zaykabar Myanmar Open 2012 held

YANGON, 9 Dec.—A press conference on Zaykabar Myanmar Open 2012, jointly organized by Myanmar PGA and Asian Tour with title sponsor Zaykabar Co Ltd and presenting sponsor Air Bagan, was held at Karaweik Palace in Mingala Taungnyunt Township yesterday afternoon.

Executive Chairman U Kyi Hla Han of Asian Tour explained participation of international Asian tour golfers in Zaykabar Myanmar Open and Vice-Chairman U Zay Thida of Zaykabar Co Ltd, opportunities of Royal Mingalardon Golf & Country Club as title sponsor in the gold tournament.

Vice-President of Myanmar Golf Federation U Aung Kyi replied to queries raised by those present.

Total cash award for the tournament amounts to US$ 300,000. Of them US$ 75,500 will be shared to the first prize winner, US$ 32,550 to the second and US$ 18,300 to the third. The golfer who stood 65th will win US$ 810.

A total of 130 international golfers, 16 local professionals and four Myanmar selected players will participate in the tournament.

Co-sponsors will be Alpine Purified Drinking Water, 100 Plus, Canon, Sixton and Royal Mingalardon Golf & Country Club.

—MNA
British teen becomes youngest to ski to South Pole

LONDON, 9 Dec—Amelia Hempleman-Adams, a 16-year-old schoolgirl whose father was the first Briton to reach the South Pole solo and unsupported, has become the youngest person to ski to the bottom of the world.

She joined her adventurer dad David Hempleman-Adams on the two-week, 97-mile trek to the South Pole from explorer Ernest Shackleton’s Furthest South Point. Shackleton’s granddaughter Alexandra Shackleton had met with Hempleman-Adams before the trip and had given the young expedition a photograph of her grandfather to take to the Pole.

The nine-strong party completed the journey at 0130 GMT Friday after a final 14-mile push.

“I’m really proud to have actually made it and just really happy,” the younger Hempleman-Adams said by satellite phone from the Pole. “It’s really exciting to be able to achieve something like this. I hadn’t quite sunk in yet in fact we’ve actually made it because it’s been such a tough journey but I’m sure it will in the next few days.

“We arrived here and we just hugged each other and congratulated each other and it was really nice to finally get here.”

The teenage explorer took her homework with her but her father removed some of it from the sledge, saying it would be too heavy.

Appropriately, she did manage to take along her geography work, “but by the time you get into the tent at night it’s too late to even think about doing anything”, she said.

Hempleman-Adams spent time training for the expedition in a frozen food storage facility in southwest England.—Internet

File photo of the crashed helicopter.—Xinhua

Chinese helicopter crashes on Antarctica, crew safe

BEIJING, 9 Dec.—A helicopter serving a Chinese scientific expedition in the Antarctic crashed at 02:07 at Beijing Time Friday, the State Oceanic Administration (SOA) said.

Both of the helicopter’s crew members survived the crash, although one of them was slightly injured, a statement from the administration said.

The helicopter’s pilot lost control of the craft while flying near the polar icebreaker Snow Dragon supplies to China’s Zhongshan research station, the statement said.

The helicopter crashed into an iceberg after an attempt at a forced landing failed, it said.

The helicopter’s crew members were taken to the Snow Dragon for treatment shortly after the accident, the statement said. The helicopter, purchased from Russia in December 2008, began to serve in Chinese Antarctic expeditions in 2009 and was taking part in its third mission when the crash occurred.

The cause of the accident is under investigation and the expedition has been temporarily halted in order to allow researchers to collect evidence, the statement said.—Xinhua

Zimbabwe’s “Hanging Tree” falls, revives legends

HARARE, 9 Dec.—The felling of Zimbabwe’s famed colonial-era “Hanging Tree” is reviving legends and superstitions and has many believing it signals a new era for this troubled southern African nation, whose hardline 87-year-old president is in the winter of his long rule.

Witnesses said the 200-year-old Muaa tree, declared a historic site and national monument, fell Wednesday after it was hit by a workers’ truck and collapsed onto one of its strong branches in the middle of the street. Some of those workers then felled, believing it a sacred omen of “bad things to come.”

Crows gathered at the felled tree Thursday to take pieces of it and a n’anga, known in the West as a witchdoctor, performed rites over the trunk and branches.—Internet

Zimbabwe deploys air defences to border

ISLAMABAD, 9 Dec.—Pakistan’s head of military operations said the country has deployed air defences to the Afghan border after NATO airstrike last month killed 24 Pakistani soldiers.

Maj Gen Asif Ahmad said that the military feared future attacks and the border posts were only armed with light weapons.

The report in Pakistan’s leading English-language newspaper, Dawn, said Nadeem briefed the federal Cabinet and the Senate’s defence committee on the weapons deployment Thursday.

Pakistan and the US have provided different accounts of why NATO aircraft attacked two army posts on the Afghan border before dawn on 26 Nov.

The Pakistan army has claimed the attack was pre-planned and deliberate — an allegation denied by the United States.—Internet

Cathay flight evacuated due to smoke in cabin

SHANGHAI, 9 Dec.—City and airline officials say passengers were evacuated from a Cathay Pacific Airways plane set to fly from Shanghai to Hong Kong, after smoke was seen in the jet’s cabin while it was taxiing for takeoff.

The city government said in a statement that a few passengers were slightly injured during the evacuation Friday at Pudong International Airport, but there were no serious injuries and other flights were not affected.

Cathay Pacific said 351 passengers and 19 crew were on board the Boeing 747-400 plane set to depart at 0740 GMT Friday, but were not able to board the plane.

A Cathay Pacific spokesman said 19 crew were on board the plane but were not able to board the plane.

Xinhua

Pakistan’s masterpiece to be auctioned at China art fair

GUANGZHOU, 9 Dec.—An international fair kicked off Thursday in the city of Guangzhou, capital of south China’s Guangdong Province, where a Picasso masterpiece will be auctioned, organizers said.

“Mother and Child,” one of Spanish painter Pablo Picasso’s lithographs, will be auctioned with his manuscript notes at the 16th Guangzhou International Art Fair, according to a press release from its organizing committee.

The bidding starts at 8,800 million yuan (1.29 million US dollars).

The fair, scheduled from Thursday to Sunday, is expected to attract nearly 300 art institutions from more than 20 countries and regions, such as the United States, France and Russia.

More than 20,000 pieces of artwork will be displayed at the fair, which covers an area of 20,000 square meters. The fair, themed “Embrace the Colour of the World,” is organized by the China Artists Association and Guangzhou municipally government.

Xinhua
Biologists monitor crocodiles at nuclear plant

HANOI, 9 Dec—The Vietnamese government will improve its investment environment and create favourable conditions for foreign companies, including those from the US, to operate in the country while strictly implementing commitments reached by the two sides, the Vietnamese Prime Minister said Thursday.

Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung made the statement at a reception here on Thursday for a US business delegation and guests who participated in the negotiations of the Vietnam-US bilateral trade agreement (BTA) signed ten years ago. Dung welcomed the delegation’s members to Vietnam to attend the workshop on Vietnam-US trade relations post-BTA, themed “Looking back to the past—Looking towards the future” jointly held in capital Hanoi by the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam, the Vietnam-US Trade Council, the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the US Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam.

The government leader affirmed Vietnam’s willingness to partner with the US to continue to effectively uphold the outcomes of the BTA and negotiations of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Agreement, in an effort to elevate the two countries’ relations to a new height, for peace, cooperation, prosperous development and mutual benefits. During the past decade, the BTA has brought significant results for trade and investment of the two countries, while improving mutual understanding and trust, Dung said. On the occasion, US Ambassador to Vietnam David Shear expressed his delight at achievements Vietnam and the US have gained over the past decade, saying the signing has helped raise two-way trade and create a foundation for the development of bilateral relations.

Stocks rise, euro dips before EU summit

LONDON, 9 Dec—European stock markets mostly rose and the euro dipped against the dollar on Thursday as investors awaited a crucial EU summit on how to prevent a collapse of the eurozone.

Traders were also looking ahead to interest rate decisions from the European Central Bank and Bank of England due on Thursday and coinciding with the start of the two-day EU summit in Brussels. “The markets are undecided as to how to follow the summit and change direction daily simply because there isn’t the confidence to hold a position longer than a few hours with such big decisions being made by government heads and ratings agencies at unpredictable intervals,” said Jonathan Bristow, a broker at Valbury Capital. Ahead of the ECB decision, the euro dipped to $1.3398 from $1.3413 late in New York on Wednesday. London’s FTSE 100 index rose 0.27 percent to 5,561.59 points in late morning deals, Frankfurt’s DAX 30 rose 0.60 percent to 6,030.78 points and in Paris the CAC 40 advanced 0.24 percent to 3,183.52 points.

Madrid gained 0.17 percent but Milan lost 0.50 percent. In Asia, stocks slipped on fears that the summit might fail to deliver a knockout blow to the debt crisis. “Despite the low volumes, equities are trading firmly in positive territory ahead of key interest rate decisions,” said Manej Ladwa, senior trader at ETX Capital.

Vietnam committed to furthering economic relations with US

SYDNEY, 9 Dec—Feeding dairy cows the stems, seeds and skins from wine grapes boosts milk production and dramatically cuts the animal’s methane emissions, Australian researchers published Thursday shows.

Scientists found that supplementing the cows’ feed with grape marc — the leftover material from wine-making — reduced cow emissions by 20 percent and increased milk production by five percent. It also led to more healthy fatty acids in their milk, the research by Victoria’s Department of Primary Industries found.

Scientist Peter Moate said researchers were stunned by the results, with the cut to methane emissions thought to represent the largest reduction of its kind ever attained through the use of a feed supplement. “We’ve never had to utilise what is currently a waste product for the wine industry and turn it into a very valuable feed source,” Moate said.

The scientists supplemented the diet of dairy cows with five kilograms of dried grape marc over 37 days to understand how cutting out other animal’s feed conventional fodder.

Moate said the research showed that fatty acids in the grape marc milk were six times higher than with standard autumn feed.

“These particular fatty acids are extremely potent in their ability to benefit heart health and are also known to help fight cancer, diabetes and arthritis,” he said.

Moate added there were also indications that cows fed grape marc produced milk with higher levels of healthy anti-oxidants and further tests were being conducted to verify this.
**Claims Day Notice**

**M.V. TOSCANNA Voy No (613)**

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V. TOSCANNA Voy No (613) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.12.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W-1 where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

**Shipping Agency Department**

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S BAY LINE SHIPPING CO LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

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**Claims Day Notice**

**M.V. KOTA TEGAP Voy No (613)**

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V. KOTA TEGAP Voy No (613) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.12.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W-1 where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

**Shipping Agency Department**

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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**New Light of Myanmar**

** claims Day Notice**

**M.V. HOANG ANH 09 Voy No (14/11)**

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V. HOANG ANH 09 Voy No (14/11) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.12.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W-1 where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

**Shipping Agency Department**

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: G-LINK EXPRESS LOGISTICS S’PORE PTE LTD

Phone No: 256924/256914

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**Drug reverses aging-associated changes in brain cells: study**

**Washington, Dec. 9—**

Drugs that affect the levels of an important brain protein involved in learning and memory reverse cellular changes in the brain seen during aging, according to an animal study published Wednesday in the Journal of Neuroscience. The findings could one day aid in the development of new drugs that enhance cognitive function in older adults.

Aging-related memory loss is associated with the gradual deterioration of the structure and function of synapses (the connections between brain cells) in brain regions critical to learning and memory, such as the hippocampus. Recent studies suggested that histone acetylation, a chemical process that controls whether genes are turned on, affects this protein complex. Specifically, it affects brain cells’ ability to alter the strength and structure of their connections for information storage, a process known as synaptic plasticity, which is a cellular signature of memory.

In the current study, Cui-Wei Xie, of the University of California, Los Angeles, and colleagues found that compared with younger rats, hippocampi from older rats have less brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF) — a protein that promotes synaptic plasticity — and less histone acetylation of the Bdnf gene. By treating the hippocampal tissue from older animals with a drug that increased histone acetylation, they were able to restore BDNF production and synaptic plasticity to levels found in younger animals. — Xinhua

**Australasian scientists produce promising results on Alzheimer’s vaccine development**

**Sydney, Dec. 9—**

Scientists at Sydney University’s Brain and Mind Research Institute (BMRI) have successfully developed a vaccine that slows the progression of Alzheimer’s disease and other types of dementia, the university said on Friday.

The vaccine, which targets a protein known as tau, prevents the ongoing formation of neurofibrillary tangles in the brain of a mouse with Alzheimer’s disease. Researchers at BMRI published their study in the scientific journal PLoS ONE on Friday.

The study found the vaccine tested in mice with Alzheimer’s disease had a preventative effect on slowing the development of further neurofibrillary tangles.

The researchers are now in the process of bringing the vaccine to the clinical stage.

**European passengers pass a train at St Pancras International station in London. An administrative loophole allows passengers on the Eurostar train to enter Britain without any passport checks and London is powerless to stop the practice alone, the BBC has reported.**

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**Loophole lets Eurostar passengers into UK illegally**

**London, Dec. 9—**

An administrative loophole allows passengers on the Eurostar train to enter Britain without any passport checks and London is powerless to stop the practice alone, the BBC reported on Thursday.

British border officials trying to weed out suspected offenders at the Brussels train station have been threatened with arrest by Belgian police, it said.笛音国际内部政府文件和电子邮件。

The so-called “Lille loophole” allows passengers using the Eurostar to miss border checks by buying a train ticket from Brussels to Lille — both part of the Schengen zone that allows people to cross members’ passport control.

But if they buy a ticket from Brussels to Lille — both part of the Schengen zone that allows people to cross members’ borders without passport checks — they do not.

Because no-one checks whether passengers get off at Lille and because UKRA does not perform checks on board, these passengers can actually get into Britain without having their passport checked, an investigation by BBC Radio found.

UK border officials trying to question suspected offenders at the Brussels train station have been threatened by Belgian police, it said.笛音国际内部政府文件和电子邮件。

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**Embarrassing moments in sports world.**

**Hollywood firm to help restore Cuban classic films**

**Havana, Dec. 9—**

Hollywood specialists will come over to help restore several Cuban classic films, as the Cuban Film Institute (ICAIC) and US Academy Film Archive are negotiating on the issue, Pablo Pacheco, vice president of the ICAIC said on Wednesday.

Pacheco said the idea came up in December 2010 when a group of US artists traveled to Havana with a cinema poster exhibition.

The first step of the project is to repair the tapes in Cuba with support of US restorers, and the second step is to send the negatives to Los Angeles for restoration.

**A diamond necklace is displayed at a conference in Beijing, on Dec. 6, 2011.**

Zhibi, an online store of diamond accessories released its new products Tuesday. — Xinhua

**The 2011 Capitol Christmas Tree is seen after it was lit by United States House Speaker John Boehner and 7-year-old Californian boy Johnny Crawford at the West Lawn of the Capitol Hill in Washington DC on 6 Dec. 2011.**

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**Xinhua**
Russian opening world’s first ice theater
Moscow officials announced the world’s first ice theater would open 11 Dec with a performance of “Tosca.”

The officials said Thursday the theater, the centerpiece of the Russian Winter Festival’s Christmas Village in Moscow’s Revolution Square, will stage the popular Russian fairy tale with all settings and characters made from ice. RIA Novosti reported Thursday.

The city said the 11 Dec opening will mark the world’s first ice theater performance.

Oldest living dog dead at 26
The Japanese owner of the canine certified as the world’s oldest living dog by Guinness World Records said the dog has died at the age of 26 years, 9 months.

Yumiko Shinohara of Sakura said Pusuke, a male crossbreed, died Monday after refusing to eat in the morning and appearing to have difficulty breathing. Kyodo News reported Thursday.

Shinohara said Pusuke died only a few minutes after she arrived home from running errands. “I think (Pusuke) waited for me to come home,” she said.

The dog, which had aged to the equivalent of 125 years in human terms, was certified in December 2010 as the world’s oldest living dog.

Cruise says working on storyline for “Top Gun” sequel
LOS ANGELES, 9 Dec.—Could Maverick fly again?
If Tom Cruise gets his way, the cocky flyer will soar once more. Cruise has confirmed he’s juxed up for a follow-up to his 1986 smash hit “Top Gun.” “We’re working on it,” Cruise told MTV News. “I hope we can figure this out to do it again,” he added.

The remarks came as Cruise was at the Dubai film festival premiere of “Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol.” In addition to raking in millions of dollars at the box office, the movie was nominated for four Oscars, winning Best Original Song for “Take My Breath Away.

A spokesperson for Paramount, which produced the first “Top Gun,” did not immediately respond to requests for comment. Cruise said he’s “interested in reprising his most iconic role. “If we can find a story that we all want to do, we all want to make a film that is in the same kind of tone as the other one and shoot it in the same way as we shot ‘Top Gun.’”

‘Love’ remains atop US record chart
LOS ANGELES, 9 Dec.—Rihanna’s “We Found Love” featuring Calvin Harris is No 1 on the US record chart for a sixth week, Billboard.com reported Wednesday.

Coming in at No 2 is the Baradian singer Rihanna performs at V Festival in Weston Park, Stafford on 20 Aug, 2011. **Internet**

HANDHAG BILLS FOR $203,150 AT AUCTION
A Dallas auction house said a Hermes Diamond Birkin handbag set a world record by fetching $203,150 at auction.

Heritage Auctions said the Hermes Exceptional Collection Shiny Rouge H Porous Crocodile 30cm Birkin Bag with Solid 18 karat White Gold & Diamond Hardware fetched the record price for a publicly auctioned handbag, including the 19.5 percent buyer’s premium, at the Dec auction.

“This is an extraordinary example of one of the world’s most expensive handbags,” said Matt Rubinger, director of luxury accessories at Heritage Auctions, “and this was certainly an exceptional price, exceeding our highest expectations at every corner.”

“Just a year ago another Birkin, without the jewels and in lesser condition than this one, sold for the equivalent of $77,000 at auction in England,” Rubinger said.

Japanese “light trucks” banned from highway for being too bright
These popular vehicles in Japan have given the brakes on so-called “light trucks,” citing the danger posed to other drivers.

There’s huge competition amongst the “light truck” community in Japan’s car culture. And if you’ve never heard of light trucks before, they’re basically what they sound like—trucks decked out in intricate designs of brightly coloured lights.

Some light-truck enthusiasts spend hundreds of thousands of dollars deck out their vehicles. According to the Daily Mail, the trucks use so much electricity that some are fitted with extra generators under the chassis and can only be powered up for about 20 minutes before overheating.

And while they are not technically street legal, fans of the automotive art gather at “massive” truck meets to show off their rides. And the decorative modifications aren’t just limited to the outside of the vehicles, with many of the interiors filled with blinding light decoratings.

‘Smurfs’ tops US DVD sales chart
The family movie “Smurfs,” which mixes live-action performances with animation, is the top-selling DVD in the United States, Rentrak said Thursday.

Coming in at No 2 for the week ending 4 Dec is “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2,” followed by “Cars 2” at No 3, “Friends with Benefits” at No 4 and “30 Minutes or Less” at No 5.

Roundout the top ten are “Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides” at No 6, “Ice Age: A Mammoth Christmas Special” at No 7, “Tyler Perry’s A Madea Christmas: The Play” at No 8, “The Original Christmas Classics” at No 9 and “The Lion King.”

Super 8” is the No 1 DVD rental for the week ending 3 Dec.

“30 Minutes or Less” is No 2, “Friends with Benefits” at No 3, “Our Idiot Brother” is the one bright spot in a decade of misfires. Both last summer’s “Cowboys & Aliens” and last fall’s “Morning Glory” were commercial disappointments. However, “42” would give the actor a meaty role in a prestige picture, something he hasn’t taken on since 1999’s “Random Hearts.”

Not that the Sidney Pollack drama connected with audiences or critics. The gruff actor hasn’t had a true awards contender since his 1993 action smash “The Fugitive” found itself with seven Oscar nominations.

Jack Nicholson and Robert Redford are among the actors who’ve previously been rumoured to be in contention for the part of the baseball executive, a devout Christian who was nicknamed “the Mahatma.”

US actor Tom Cruise waves as he arrives at the opening ceremony of the 8th Dubai International Film Festival for the premiere of his new movie “Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol” on 7 Dec, 2011. **Internet**

INTERNET

US actor Harrison Ford poses for photographs as he arrives for the British premiere of “Cowboys & Aliens” at the O2 Arena in London on 11 Aug, 2011. **Internet**

Harrison Ford boards Jackie Robinson biopic
LOS ANGELES, 9 Dec.—Harrison Ford is circling the celebrity news Web site.

The actor is getting ready to work on the director Brian Helgeland-directed film, “42,” which is about the story of Jackie Robinson.

Ford has had a rough decade of misfires. Both last summer’s “Cowboys & Aliens” and last fall’s “Morning Glory” were commercial disappointments. However, “42” would give the actor a meaty role in a prestige picture, something he hasn’t taken on since 1999’s “Random Hearts.”

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Gomez and Bieber not engaged
LOS ANGELES, 9 Dec.—Selena Gomez’s publicist says the 19-year-old US singer-actress is not engaged to her 17-year-old recording star Justin Bieber.

UsMagazine.com said the “Wizards of Waverly Place” star sparked rumours when she was photographed wearing a diamond ring on her engagement finger on Wednesday.

However, Gomez’s representative quickly put the buzz to rest.

“She is not engaged,” the publicist told the celebrity news Web site Internet.

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INTERNET

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INTERNET

INTERNET

INTERNET
Mourinho unwilling to say “Benzema” or “Higuain” ahead of Clasico

MADRID, 9 Dec.—Real Madrid coach Jose Mourinho gave a news conference on the side that will line up against FC Barcelona this Saturday, but kept his cards close to his chest on Thursday. Wednesday night saw a side made up of squad players beat Ajax 3-0 in Amsterdam in the Champions League. Of possible first-choice players for the weekend, only Kaka, Gonzalo Higuain and Karim Benzema remained. Benzema, however, was substituted after an hour of the comfortable win while Kaka and Higuain played the full game, implying they could be on the bench against Barcelona.

When asked about his side for the most important game of the season, which could put Madrid six points ahead of their main rivals for the Spanish BBVA Primera Liga title and with a game in hand, Mourinho was happy to say some of the players who would start, but not all of them. Against and Benzema will not play in the side together: Cristiano Ronaldo, Angel Di Maria and Benzema or Higuain,” said the coach, who added that he would have played midfielder Mesut Ozil in the Ajax win, but for “circumstances of the game.”

The Clasico is another game for us and we don’t have long until it starts. It is maybe a different game, but life carries on as normal and it is possible for someone who played 90 minutes against Ajax to play on Saturday, he added.— internett

Clujsters makes successful return, beats Wozniacki

BRUSSELS, 9 Dec.—Australian Open champion Kim Cljisters made a successful return to the court after a four-month layoff by beating top-ranked Caroline Wozniacki 6-2 7-6 (5) in an exhibition Thursday. In front of almost 10,000 fans at the Antwerp Sports Palace, Cljisters proved she has fully recovered from the stomach muscle in injury that forced her off the tour in August. She will be on the bench against Barcelona.

It is a huge honor for me, means a free-flowing game, to personally support their development.”

and to personally support their female players right now. For me, it is being female coaches in our top nation we have in our top coaching at the highest level, to get more women to get involved in force. I want to encourage more

“clinching the title all but lost.— Judy Murray of Britain

Murray’s mother to captain Britain in Fed Cup

LONDON, 9 Dec.—Andy Murray’s mother has been appointed captain of Britain’s Fed Cup team. The Lawn Tennis Association said Thursday that Judy Murray will lead Britain in its February 1-4 Europe-Africa Group I match against Israel in Eilat and mentor other female performance coaches. Murray, who was the Scotland national coach for nine years, trained three-time Grand Slam finalist Andy Murray early in his career. She is a familiar figure in the No. 4-ranked player’s matches—regularly jumping to her feet to shout encouragement from the stands. She also coached son Jamie, a Wimbledon mixed doubles champion in 2007. “It is a huge honor for me to represent my country in this way,” she said. “The role presents a very exciting challenge, given the mix of talent, experience and determination we have in our top female players right now. I’m also really looking forward to working with the LTA to develop a bigger and stronger female coaching workforce. I want to encourage more women to get involved in coaching at the highest level and to personally support their development.”

Brazil beat Italy 5-1 in Sao Paulo International Tournament

RIO DE JANEIRO, 9 Dec.—In the opening match of the 2011 Sao Paulo International Tournament, the Brazilian women’s soccer team beat Italy 5-1 on Thursday. This is the third edition of the annual four-team women’s soccer tournament. Starting the game off strong, Italy scored first in the 17th minute when Tona knocked in a corner kick. Brazil dominated the first half. At the 27th minute, Brazil was leading 2-0 and would go on to win 5-1 in the 90th minute.

West Brom appoint Burton as first-team coach

LONDON, 9 Dec.—West Brom have confirmed the appointment of Terry Burton as their new first-team coach. The 59-year-old, who was assistant boss at Cardiff between 2004 and 2011, joins on an interim basis until the end of the Barclays Premier League season. Burton’s arrival means that Keith Downing steps up to fill the role of assistant head coach, a position that was vacated by Michael Appleton, who left to become Portman manager in November.

Burton has a wealth of experience in the game, coaching at Arsenal and Wimbledon before becoming Dons manager in 2000. He has since been assistant at both Watford and Cardiff, leaving the Bluebirds in the summer after the arrival of new manager Malky Mackay. Burton was doing some scouting for his old club Arsenal this season, before taking up the challenge of joining Roy Hodgson’s coaching staff at the Hawthorns.

Rooney UEFA ban reduced to two matches

LONDON, 9 Dec.—Tiger Woods is the best golfer Luke Donald has ever played against and Rory McIlroy is the most talented. The top-ranked Englishman had compared the two players on Wednesday before the start of the Dubai World Championship. But he backed off his assessment a day later and said on Twitter that he had meant no “disrespect” to Woods. “A few people aren’t understanding what I mean. The word ‘talent’ and Rory, I meant a free-flowing swing who makes everything look so easy,” Donald tweeted. “TW (Woods) has always been the best at getting the ball in the hole when it mattered the most. That’s not just talent (that’s) something else, too.” Donald tweeted again a short time later that Woods “is still the greatest player I played with.” On Wednesday, when asked if McIlroy was the best player he ever played with, including Woods, Donald said the 22-year-old Northern Irishman topped the list. “If I had it to do over, yeah. Just in pure talent,” Donald said. “I think Tiger’s work ethic has always been tremendous and his body is a testament to that.” Donald thinks his mindset is what has separated him from the field when he was really at the top of his game. But in terms of talent, I think Rory has more talent.”

Barclays Premier League Standing

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Impact sports

Terry Burton (left) worked alongside Dave Jones as assistant manager at Cardiff City

Real Madrid coach Jose Mourinho

It is another football’s governing body after he was sent off for kick- ing Miorgad Dnundor during Englands 2-2 draw with Montenegro in October. However, the ban for the third match has been suspended for four years and could be activated if Rooney receives a red card for England in that period.

England manager Fabio Capello, along with lawyers from the Football Association, travelled alongside Rooney to UEFA’s headquarters in Nyon to contest the three-match ban, which would have ruled Rooney out of all three group matches in Poland and Ukraine next summer. The three-man UEFA disciplinary panel accepted the case put forward by England’s legal team during a 90-minute hearing on Thursday morning.
Karisma Kapoor says nothing can prepare a woman for motherhood

New Delhi, 9 Dec—Actress Karisma Kapoor says being a mom is the best feeling in this world but at the same time she feels that no books or tips can prepare a woman for motherhood. “I think it is a challenge everyday because you want to be a good mother, you want to be a good parent, and it’s a new experience everyday. Absolutely, it is the best thing in this world — being a mum is just the best thing ever,” said the 37-year-old.

Karisma, a mother of two, however, opines that nothing can prepare a woman for motherhood. “Just like any mum, I had read a lot of books, then of course you ask your own mum and you get a lot of tips. But frankly, my opinion is that nothing can prepare you for motherhood,” she said.

“You know, when you hold your baby in your arms, it is a totally different feeling. So, nothing can really prepare you for that,” added the actress who quit her 12-year-old career after her marriage to Delhi-based businessman Sanjay Kapoor in 2003.

She has a daughter, Samaira who was born in 2005, and son Kiaan, born in 2010. The actress was speaking at a press conference to announce her tie-up with an online baby products brand “BabyOye.com”.

Karisma, the first Kapoor girl to step into showbiz, is making her comeback on the big screen with Vikram Bhatt’s “Dangerous Ishq”. She has had an illustrious career and starred in 58 films. Some of her notable performances include “Raja Babu”, “Anand Apna Apna”, “Hero No. 13”, “Bhoomi No. 13”, “Fiza”, “Zabardast”, “Raja Hindustani”, and “Dil To Pagal Hai”, for which she won the national award for the best supporting actress. – Internet

Karisma Kapoor, Internet

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

Weather forecast for 10th December, 2011

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Karisma Kapoor, Internet
Modern warfare today is not only a conventional war but multi-dimensional. Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services attends Passing Out Parade of DSA 54th Intake

Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Mya Aung Myat Aung Hsyan, Excellence in Study Award (Science) winner Cadet Aung Hlaing Hein and Excellence in Study Award (Computer) winner Cadet Kyaw Kyaw Tun.

The Commander-in-Chief said in his address that in accordance with the aim of the Defence Services Academy to produce well-rounded and calibrated officers, nurturing the cadets as the Junior Leaders is to serve the national duties at the unit or corps basically. He pointed out that what the Defence Services Academy had provided them with Military Training and Academic Studies is only an elementary step. With their knowledge and experiences the graduating officers will have to improve themselves in the unit or corps, he said.

The C-in-C said that, as they are going to be military leaders, they are the persons who are responsible for the organization under their control and to accomplish the aim and objective. Keeping in touch with the subordinates, the leader must be capable of administrating, coordinating, supervising, counselling, giving orders and instructions, practising the administration, leading enthusiastically, and setting good examples, he said. He urged the cadets to keep in mind that ranks can be assigned but not the genuine leader and it is only and appointed leader. He defined that a genuine leader is the one who is recognized by his subordinates upon his activities with good-will, his manner and contained temperament. He reminded the cadets that genuine leadership cannot be attained through perfunctory performance but through industrious endeavour despite the hardship.

To be brilliant leaders, the cadets need to have the confidence, reliance and respect of the troop under their supervision. To have these aspects, they must trust their troop members, he recommended. They must (See page 8)

Nav Pyi Taw, 9 Dec—Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services General Min Aung Hlaing taking salute of cadet companies.—MNA

11th ASEAN TELMIN concludes, approves ASEAN-ITU MoU

Nav Pyi Taw, 9 Dec—The 11th ASEAN Telecommunications and Information Ministers’ Meeting wrapped up today, approving ASEAN-ITU MoU.

The meeting was held in Myanmar International Convention Centre today. In ASEANTELMINand dialogue partners meeting, ASEAN ministers of telecommunications and information and representatives from China, Japan, Korea, India and ITU discussed about development of ICT infrastructures, increase of regional ICT usage, cooperation in network security, human resources development and services, ICT capacity, swift information exchange, structuring high-speed network, establishment of ASEAN Smart Network, and cooperation in e-Government and e-Network.

Union Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Thein Tun announced the chairmanship of this year’s meeting, handed over by the Malaysian minister. Manila of the Philippines will host the 12th session next year.

Report of the meeting was discussed and a statement was released. Press conference after the meeting was attended by TELMIN leaders, and officials from ITU and ASEAN Secretariat.—MNA

More automobile showrooms to pop up

Nav Pyi Taw, 9 Dec—Supervisory committee for vehicle importation met for fourth time this year at the Ministry of Commerce here this morning.

Committee Chairman Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint addressed the meeting, promising that the opening of more automobile showrooms will be allowed if the applications of companies are found to be in accordance with the set rules and regulations.

Opening of nine sale centres has been allowed to date.—MNA

Union Minister U Thein Tun answers queries raised by reporters at press conference after 11th ASEAN TELMIN.—MNA

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Fullmoon Day of Nadaw 1373 ME Saturday, 10 December, 2011