Our Three Main National Causes
* Non-disintegration of the Union
* Non-disintegration of National Solidarity
* Perpetuation of Sovereignty

High qualification of computer science plays a key role in strengthening of economy
Faculty members to turn out students to become well-versed technicians

Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham visits University of Computer Studies (Lashio).

Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham views undergraduates learning at University of Computer Studies (Lashio).—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Dec—Accompanied by Union ministers, the Chief Minister of Shan State, deputy ministers, departmental heads and national race entrepreneurs, Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham arrived at University of Computer Studies (Lashio) yesterday morning.

The Vice-President and party inspected maintenance of the three-storey main building of the university.

The Vice-President viewed learning of students, practical works at language lab and improvement of academic matters at the university.

At the hall, the Vice-President met the acting principal and faculty members.

Acting Principal Dr Khaing Khaing Oo reported on facts about the university, location and area, and briefed history of the university.

Speaking on the occasion, the Vice-President said that University of Computer Studies (Lashio) is on a grander scale like Technological University (Lashio) he has already visited.

Faculty members are to turn out the well-versed students from the grander universities, he said. As the ratio of faculty members to students is 1:5 at the university, it is the best ratio for training the students, he said.

He noted that there are least numbers among graduates produced from the Universities of Computer Studies in respective practical works. He said that as today’s world is in the globalization due to advancement of IT, only then can the

(See page 8)

Significant night temperature (18-12-2011)

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Myanmar Printers and Publishers Association meets

QPR 0 - 2 Man Utd

Scientists discover why lemurs are dying out in their native Madagascar – they’re being eaten as bar snacks

PAGE 7

PAGE 15

PAGE 5
The fourth estate, infallible and reliable

The separation of the three powers namely judicial, legislative, and executive are a model for governance of a state. Those three branches of power are also called the three pillars that play the most crucial role in a nation.

In the present age, print media and electronic media are developing in parallel. Both have their capabilities not only to light up the knowledge of people but also to give public entertainment. This is why the fourth estate has won the trust and reliance of the people.

More and more people have given their time to watch TV programmes and read periodicals so as to quench their thirst for knowledge. And this is a sign of progress. The more knowledge the people have, the more progress the nation will make.

With the permission granted to use the Internet openly and freely, relax the journalism rules and enable journalists to have interviews with authorities, there have been more freedom and transparency in the media sector. But taking advantage of this, some have come to write in self-interest. Journals on their part should look forward the interests of the nation and the people. All in all, for the emergence of a modern, developed democratic nation, the fourth estate has to continue its journey with the finest works to win the public reliance.

Mine explosion of insurgents destroys tension-tower-213 of 230-KV Lawpita-Toungoo power grid

Na Pye Taw, 18 Dec—As the line in-charge of Yado Enterprise are making concerted efforts for repairing the tension tower No. 213 of 230-KV Lawpita-Toungoo National Grid near Mawchaung Village due to mine explosion of the insurgents. Due to collapse of the tower, electricity cannot be supplied to the power grid and so the power system declines about 70 megawatts. At present, the workers led by the superintending engineer of Lines Department of Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise are making concerted efforts for repairing the tension tower.—MNA

Granddaughter of Thai King donates Pitakat treatises to SSMNC Chairman

Granddaughter HRH Princess Bajraikitishabha donates 80 copies of Pitakat treatises to the Chairman of SSMNC Bhamo Sayadaw.—MNA

YANGON, 18 Dec—The opening ceremony of three-storey Yawgi Gonyi hall, merit sharing ceremony and cash donation for Dhamma Gonyi extended building for the Sangha were held at Dhamma Vihara Pahtamagyaw Monastery and Dhamma Yektha in E/A Ward of Thanganyu Township this morning, attended by Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan and Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe. Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan, Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Director-General of Department of Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana U Khang Aung and wellbeing Dawk Khin Thida opened the Yawgi Gonyi three-storey building.

Next, those present received the Five Precepts from the Vice-Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Lew Sayadaw at the ceremony to donate cash for construction of Dhamma Gonyi extended building for the Sangha. The Union Minister, the Chief Minister, region ministers and wellwishers donated alms to members of the Sangha. Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan and wife Dawk Kyi Kyi Win and family donated K 100,000 for construction of the Dhamma Gonyi extended building to Director-General U Khang Aung.

With the auspices of parents U Win Swe-Daw Min Thwe Nu, Thudhamma Majotadhara Academy Khant Sithu, on behalf of the wellwishers, donated K 10 million for the extended building and K 1 million for all-round renovation of Shweponewint Pagoda to the Union Minister. The Union Minister accepted K 10 million for the Dhamma Gonyi extended building by U Zaw Tun Oo-Dawk Khin Thida and family with the patronage of parents, K 5 million each by U Aung Nyein-Dawk Khin Than Soe family, Major Phyu Win (Rtd)-Dawk Aye Aye Soe family and U Mar Din-Daw Kyawt (Tawwin OlMill) and K 1 million by U Win Myint-Dawk Wai Wai Myint family. The Chief Minister also accepted the cash donations from wellwishers. Yangon Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myint Thein also accepted cash donations from wellwishers.

The Secretary of the SSMNC delivered a sermon, and the congregation shared merits gained. Thudhamma Majotadhara Academy Khant Sithu and party sponsored K 50 million for construction of Yawgi Gonyi three-storey building. Academy Khant Sithu donated K 10 million for construction of the Dhamma Gonyi extended building, and the donations by wellwishers at the ceremony amounted to K 44.1 million.

Dhamma Thabin of Dhamma Gonyi extended two-storey building and K 50 million for Sangha Gonyi four-storey building and K 50 million for Panya Gonyi three-storey monastic education school.—MNA

YANGON, 18 Dec—The grand daughter of the His Majesty King of Thailand HRH Princess Bajraikitishabha and party arrived in Yangon by special aircraft at 10.20 am today. They were welcomed at the airport by Deputy Director-General U Maung Maung of Protocol Department and officials.
**Obama calls for unity as Iraq War ends**

WASHINGTON, 18 Dec—US President Barack Obama on Saturday welcomed troops home from the ending war in Iraq, saying it is time for the country to stand as one and face its economic challenges, as the partisan battles in Washington persist.

In his weekly address, Obama marked the end of the Iraq War, saying US troops are now preparing to make their final march across the border and out of Iraq.

"Iraq’s future will be in the hands of its own people. Our war there will be over. All of our troops will be out of Iraq," said Obama.

He continued to praise the troops by saying they don’t "see themselves or each other as Democrats first or Republicans first," but rather "as Americans first," a poke to the bitter partisan fight that has been raging on in Washington for all year.

"For all our challenges, they remind us that there is nothing we can’t do when we stick together," said Obama.

"This cannot be a country where division and discord stand in the way of our progress," Obama said. "This is a moment in carrying out a complex intelligence operation and ensuring that every American has the chance to work for a decent living, own their own home, send their kids to college, and secure a decent retirement." Over the past year, the president and his Democratic allies have fought bitter battles with Republicans on budget, deficit, debt and ways to stimulate the economy. The federal government was almost shutdown and nearly defaulted on its debt, and was faced with credit downgrade during the course of the year.

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**United Russia nominates Naryshkin as lower house speaker**

MOSCOW, 18 Dec—Russia’s ruling United Russia party on Saturday nominated presidential chief of staff Sergei Naryshkin as speaker of the sixth State Duma, or the lower house of parliament. Sergei Naryshkin, who is not a member of the United Russia, accepted the nomination after a meeting of the ruling party’s General Council. The party also nominated Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Zhukov as the first deputy speaker of the Duma and Andrei Vorobyov, head of the party’s Executive Committee, to lead the party’s faction in the lower house.

Besides, the United Russia nominated three candidates for the post of deputy speaker, including Vorobyov, Sergei Neverov, chairman of the United Russia’s General Council, Lyudmila Silvestrova, Moscow First Deputy Mayor, and Oleg Morozov, deputy speaker of the State Duma.

Naryshkin, 57, whose nomination had been widely expected, has headed the Kremlin administration since May, 2008. Boris Gryzlov, speaker of Russia’s fifth State Duma, resigned Wednesday and said he would not seek another term in the lower house. Russia held sixth Duma elections on 4 Dec. The Russian Central Election Commission (CEC) officially announced last Friday that the United Russia gained 238 out of 450 seats and kept an absolute majority in the new State Duma.

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**Four people killed in attacks in Iraq**

BAGHDAD, 18 Dec—Four people were killed and two wounded Saturday in bomb and gunfire attacks in and near the Iraqi capital of Baghdad, the police said.

In Baghdad, gunmen using silenced weapons shot dead Judge Mohammed Shaya when he was driving his car in the western district of Jamia, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

In west of Baghdad, a roadside bomb went off near a minibus carrying passengers in the Abu Ghrabi area, some 20 km west of the capital, killing three people and wounding two others, a local police source anonymously told Xinhua.

Specific attacks are still common in Iraqi cities as the US military is fully withdrawing its troops from the country according to a security pact signed between Baghdad and Washington in 2008.

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**Indian court holds six guilty of terrorist attack upon science institute**

NEW DELHI, 18 Dec—Six people, suspected to be members of terror outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), were Saturday held guilty of the attack at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) in the southern Indian city of Bangalore in 2005 in which a retired professor was killed, reported Indo-Asian News Service.

The quantum of punishment will be announced on 19 Dec by the fast track court in charge of judging the case in Bangalore, said the report.

Mohammed Riaz-ur-Rehman of Andhra Pradesh, Atfar Pasha, Mehmood Ibrahim Saab Chopdar, Noorulla Khan, Mohammed Irfan (28) and Nazim Uddin alias Munna, all from Karnataka, southern India, were found guilty of the first major terror attack in Bangalore.

In the attack on the evening of 28 Dec, 2005, delegates coming out of an international conference at the famed institute in north Bangalore were fired on, leading to the death of MC Puri, a retired professor of Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, and injuries to four others.

The seven were arrested on 14 Jan, 2006, and charged with sedition, terrorism and religious disharmony.

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**All US troops out of Iraq**

KUWAIT CITY, 18 Dec—All US combat forces in Iraq have crossed into neighbouring Kuwait on Sunday morning, the US military told media. The exit marked the completion of the US military withdrawal from the Middle East country after a nine-year war that toppled former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

US Defence Secretary Leon Panetta on Thursday attended a flag-lowering ceremony at US military base west of the Iraqi capital of Baghdad to mark the end of the war. Accusing Baghdad of harboring weapons of mass destruction, the United States invaded Iraq in 2003. Nearly 4.500 American and more than 100,000 Iraqi lives were lost during the war.

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**Yichang, central China**

A bomb disposal robot secured a suspicious bomb during an emergency drill in Yichang, central China’s Hubei Province, on 17 Dec, 2011. An emergency drill was held here Saturday to test the quick response of security and emergency forces in the Three Gorges Dam.—Xinhua

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**Western, northern and eastern borders of Iran.—**

has been surrounded by Western spying centres near its borders. The US Army’s Intelligence Division (MID) of the US Army at military bases in Afghanistan are tasked with carrying out a complex intelligence operation and gathering intelligence against Iran. In November, an Iranian lawmaker said that Iran has been surrounded by Western spying centres near its borders in neighboring countries. Zohre Eslahan, a member of the National Security and Foreign Policy Commission of the Iranian parliament, said that Israeli Mossad, American CIA and British MI6 have established espionage centres in the western, northern and eastern borders of Iran.—Xinhua
**Health Tip: Participating in winter sports**

Skiers and others who don’t mind braving the cold for that “winter rush” can benefit from a few safety precautions, the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons says. The academy offers these suggestions for how to stay safe:

- Protect yourself with the right gear, including layers of warm, water-resistant and wind-resistant clothing; goggles; gloves; helmets and any other necessary protective equipment.
- Before you start to play, warm up for about 10 minutes, remembering not to overdo it.
- Drink plenty of fluids.
- Check all of your athletic equipment, and follow all rules of the game you are playing. Take lessons, if necessary.
- Take immediate shelter if you have any symptoms of frostbite or hypothermia, including numb patches of white skin, waxy dark skin or swollen, burning and itchy skin.

**Supplies to be used by drug addicts fill baskets as nurse Arvita Cotter prepares for a shift at the Insite safe injection clinic in Vancouver, BC, on 18 April, 2011.**

Montreal official recommends safe injection sites

MONTREAL, 18 DEC—Montreal’s director of public health is recommending the creation of safe injection sites for addicts to shoot up under supervision. In a report released today, Dr Richard Lessard proposes that safe injection centres be set up inside existing health-care and community institutions.

Lessard is also recommending the creation of a mobile team of nurses to be deployed in neighbourhoods with the most needs. He says safe injection services are necessary to address the high death rate of intravenous drug addicts and elevated rates of hepatitis C and HIV. In October, Quebec’s health minister gave the green light to these sites following a Supreme Court of Canada decision to keep the Insite safe injection clinic open in Vancouver.

Quebec City is also looking at the possibility of opening safe injection centres.

Internet

Haydeh Ibarra looks at her 14-week-old daughter, Melinda Star Guido, at the Los Angeles County-USC Medical Center in Los Angeles, on 14 Dec, 2011. At birth, Melinda Star Guido tipped the scales at only 9 1/2 ounces, a tad less than the weight of two iPhone 4S. Most babies her size don’t survive, but doctors are preparing to send her home as soon as the end of the month. Melinda is believed to be the second smallest baby to survive in the United States and the third smallest in the world.

Internet

### Ford plant closes out 86-year run

**Ford plant closes out 86-year run**

ST PAUL, 18 Dec—Workers said mixed emotions swirled around Ford Motor Co’s St Paul, Minn, assembly plant when it closed Friday after 86 years of operation.

The last vehicle, a Ford Ranger, came off the assembly line at about 10:00 am with veteran worker Dallas Thies behind the wheel, the Minneapolis Star Tribune reported.

Thies spent more than 50 years at the plant, the newspaper said.

A cheer went up as he hopped into the compact truck, but emotions ranged from high to low, workers reported.

“If felt like we’d been preparing for a big holiday meal and we were all done and it was time to do the dishes,” said 21-year-old line worker, Thomas Eppeerson.

“A lot of people brought their fathers and grandfathers to see the very end. There was a lot of tears and a lot of smiling when Dallas drove it off the line. He’s been here for a million years,” Eppeerson said.

“People will be celebrating because it’s hard work that eats up your body. But they’ll probably much be mourning, too, because it’s a darn good-paying job with great benefits,” said Michael Bartlett, 39, with more than 12 years at the plant.

For Minnesota, the loss of the plant is part of a longer trend that has seen a quarter of the state’s 400,000 manufacturing jobs vanish since the late 1990s, the newspaper said.

Internet

**Time short for S&P to end 2011 higher**

NEW YORK, 18 Dec—With two weeks left in the trading year, the euro zone debt crisis will remain the primary impediment to pushing the S&P 500 index into positive territory for 2011.

Uncertainty over progress in the region, along with the potential for credit rating downgrades on euro zone countries, have kept investors on edge and market volatility high.

Even with a fairly busy US economic calendar, which includes a batch of data on the housing market, the final reading on gross domestic product and durable goods orders, markets will focus on developments from Europe.

“What everybody is going to look at is the same thing they’ve been looking at — every time a German official opens their mouth we get crushed,” said Paul Mendelson, chief investment strategist at Windham Financial Services in Charlotte, Vermont.

“I am keeping my fingers crossed that Santa Claus is out there. But we’ve got to see something.”

Internet

**Fiji reports 60 cases of typhoid**

SUVA, 18 Dec—There are 60 typhoid cases in Nanoko, Fiji. Senior Health Inspector Paula Lagere said Sunday that the increase means that people are not practicing proper hygiene in Fiji, and that Fijian guests need to be cautious of.

Fiji have very poor sources of clean and safe water and this is what Fijian guests need to be cautious of.

Fiji have a really low level of good hygiene practices.

A 30 day public health emergency is in place for the village, effective from 12 Dec to 12 Jan. Recently, Fiji recorded rates of high typhoid fever in the world, said WHO South Pacific Communicable Disease Surveillance and Response Team leader doctor Jacob Kool Kool said typhoid fever was difficult to diagnose and could be fatal in 10-20 percent of untreated patients.

Recent studies showed that infants are commonly affected and are extremely vulnerable to the disease. Outbreaks occur regularly in areas with poor hygiene and sanitation including urban slums, he said. Kool said the only reliable symptom was prolonged fever and blood and stool culture are still the best available diagnostic tests but have a high rate of false negative results.

### Texas investor to buy Morton’s steakhouses

HOUSTON, 18 Dec—Fertitta of Houston for about $116.6 million.

Fertitta is paying $6.90 per share in cash, a 33.7 percent premium over the company’s Thursday closing price of $5.16, the Chicago Tribune reported Saturday.

“Morton’s is the largest, most iconic high-end restaurant chain in America and I’ve always thought a lot of them. They have excellent food and great service,” said Fertitta, as chief executive officer of Landry’s Inc.

Landry’s Inc.

The steakhouse chain operates 77 restaurants in 64 cities, including Trevi, an Italian restaurant at Caesar’s Palace in Las Vegas.

In October, the restaurant projected full-year 2011 revenues of about $322 million, indicating it had survived the recession.

Fertitta said his plans are to expand the chain.

“When you look at Landry’s or Tilman, the way they purchase brands is — they look for strong brands that can modernize, contemporize — even remodel — and raise their operating margins,” said Darren Tristano, executive vice president of Technomic, a food industry consulting company.

Internet

**Internet**

Zach Pickens, of Brooklyn, N.Y., manager of Riverpark Farm, tends to his crops, in New York, on 15 Nov, 2011. Instead of allowing stalled projects to become eyesores, some developers are coming up with creative ways to use them temporarily until construction can begin. In New York City, where open space is a precious commodity, just about anything goes.
**Scientists discover why lemurs are dying out in their native Madagascar – they’re being eaten as bar snacks**

**London, 18 Dec**—British scientists have found the reason why endangered lemurs are dying out—because they’re being eaten as bar snacks.

The animals are still dwindling despite being a protected species in their homeland of Madagascar.

Researchers at Bangor University launched a study into their plight, and discovered the creatures are being munched by late night drinkers.

Their study found that changing lifestyles on the Indian Ocean island have seen the black and white primates end up on the menu. Researcher Julie Razafmanahaka said: ‘Young men have more cash and leisure time because they’ve moved from farming to panning for gold.

‘So they spend more time in local bars, eating fried meat snacks with their drinks.’

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**Driverless car: Google awarded US patent for technology**

**New York, 18 Dec**—A US patent for self-driving cars has been awarded to Google. The intellectual rights relate to a method to switch a vehicle from a human-controlled mode into the state where it takes charge of the wheel. It explains how the car would know when to take control, where it is located and which direction to drive in.

The search firm suggests the technology could be used to offer tours of tourist locations or to send faulty models to repair shops.

**The application for Transitioning a Mixed-mode Vehicle to Autonomous Mode was applied for in May, but had been hidden from public view until this week.**

**The document uses describing the two sets of sensors. The first identifies a “landing strip” when the vehicle stops. This then triggers the second set which receives data informing the machine where it is positioned and where it should go.**

**The landing strip allows a human driving the vehicle to know acceptable parking places for the vehicle, the patent filing says. Additionally, the landing strip may indicate to the vehicle that it is parked in a region where it may transition into autonomous mode.**

**Google says the landing strip could simply be a mark on the ground, a sign on a wall, or lines or arrows showing where the vehicle should be parked. To detect which landing step it has been parked at, the document says the car could activate a GPS (global positioning system) receiver to find its rough location and then use its sensors to detect foliage or other landmarks to determine its exact position.**

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**NASA to change private spacecraft plans**

**Cape Canaveral, 18 Dec**—NASA says planned changes in the next stage of a program to develop privately operated US spacecraft will give it more flexibility amid funding uncertainties.

NASA said it is getting only half the money it wanted for the program and that lack of funding made it “really tough” to lock in a firm fixed-price contract with enough companies to keep moving forward to develop a commercial vehicle to ferry US astronauts to the International Space Station.

William Gerstenmaier, associate NASA administrator for the human exploration and operations mission directorate, said the agency has decided on a more flexible contracting procedure that will keep more private companies in the running and still allow NASA to sign off when the companies achieve certain milestones.

“It gives us some flexibility from a budget standpoint to make as much progress during this time as we move forward,” he told Florida Today.

NASA is not expecting a new vehicle to be ready until at least 2017, a year later than initially planned, he said. The goal of the new contracting procedure is to advance the development work enough to reach a design certification process and the eventual awarding of a contract, NASA said.

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**Sturgeon to be fished in Caspian in 2012 for scientific survey only**

**Baku, 18 Dec**—One of the world’s most valuable commercial fish, sturgeon, will be fished only for scientific survey and fish breeding next year, Azerbaijani Deputy Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources Raur Hajiyev told local media on Thursday.

According to Hajiyev, the decision was adopted at the 32nd meeting of the Commission on Aquatic Biosources of the Caspian Sea, which is underway in Baku.

Most species of sturgeons are currently considered to be at risk of extinction, making them even more critically endangered than any other group of species.

“Based on those estimates, all countries bordering the Caspian Sea agreed on that issue,” Hajiyev said.

The five countries—Azerbaijan, Russia, Kazakhstan, Turkmeni-stan and Iran—have not been given a quota for commercial sturgeon fishing in 2012, Hajiyev specified.

A working group of the Commission is still considering how long a moratorium on commercial sturgeon fishing would last.

The Caspian region is one of the most important areas for sturgeon, and is home to six species which collectively provide more than 90 percent of the world’s caviar production.

For decades the Caspian sturgeon has been over-fished for its profitable caviar.

A kilogram of Caspian sturgeon caviar can cost more than 1,000 US dollars on European markets.

The litoral countries worry that illegal over-fishing can permanently destroying the caviar industry.

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**Russia successfully launches rocket**

**Moscow, 18 Dec**—A Russian Soyuz rocket was launched from the European Space Agency base in French Guiana Saturday, carrying six military satellites.

This was the second launch for the Soyuz rocket from the Europe’s space base in Kourou, RCA Novosti reported.

The Soyuz-ST-A successfully hauled six satellites to orbit, including France’s Pleiades-1 satellite, which has high-resolution imaging technology, as well as a small Chilean military satellite called SNO.

The remaining four are Elisa micro radar eavesdropping satellites for the French military.

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**It’s a boy. This baby panda was born at the San Diego Zoo on 2 Sept, 2011, and the zoo staff, anxious to leave the newborn alone with its mother, a Chinese-born panda named Bai Yun, did not get to examine the little guy for a month. A baby panda’s sex is not obvious when you can only see it from a distance. Following Chinese tradition, the baby will not get a name until he is 100 days old.**
112 people arrested across Europe in crackdown on child porn

THE HAGUE, 18 Dec—More than 110 people have been arrested across 22 European countries on suspicion of possessing child pornography, the European Police Office (EUROPOL) announced on Friday. More arrests are expected.

Officials said an investigation into a file-sharing program identified 269 suspects who allegedly possessed and shared child pornography. A total of 189 houses have been conducted as of Friday, resulting in 112 arrests across 22 European countries.

EUROPOL said the operation targeted those who shared the most extreme forms of video material, which includes babies and toddlers being sexually abused and raped. “This is the latest major success in over 10 years of EUropol supporting law enforcement agencies in Europe in their fight against child sex abuse online,” said Rob Wainwright, Director of EUropol.

The arrests were made in Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Croatia, Norway, and Switzerland.

Nine jailed for hacking in China

BEIJING, 18 Dec—Nine people have been jailed for hacking and illegally acquiring online games accounts in China, Xinhua reported Saturday.

Zhao and Yan, were jailed three years- and- eight months and two-and-half-years respectively for hacking online games accounts and selling them to new users by the Xiaguan District People’s Court in eastern China’s Jiangsu province.

Seven others who bought hacked accounts from them were given jail terms ranging from one to four years. Zhao and Yan earned thousands of yuan by selling these accounts.

Now, ‘sweet’ shoes keep sweaty feet ‘minty’ cool

WASHINGTON, 18 Dec—A shoe permeated with a commmon sugar substitute in the soles could now give your sweaty feet a ‘minty’ cool feel even during a heavy workout, a new study has revealed. The Louis Garneau Carbon Pro Team shoes, designed for cycling, use the sweetener xylitol, more commonly found in gum and toothpaste.

Xylitol is an alcohol-based sugar, so when it comes into contact with moisture, it evaporates. Normally, this aspect of xylitol gives gum and toothpaste a minty cooling sensation. But when used in shoes, it cools the feet, Discovery News reported.

Putting xylitol in the soles would ordinarily make it more difficult for the xylitol to work because of the lack of air movement. But the company designed the shoes with a lot of extra ventilation to augment the airflow.

Vitamin B can help beat memory loss and Alzheimer’s

LONDON, 18 Dec—A daily dose of Vitamin B can radically combat memory loss in old age and even help protect against Alzheimer’s disease, a new study has found.

More than 250 people took part in the study, at Oxford University, including people with mild cognitive impairment who were aged 70 years or older. They were given vitamin B, found naturally in food such as beans, meat, wholegrains and bananas, or a placebo over a two-year period. Taking the food supplement appeared to help maintain mental processes, such as planning, organising and recalling information.

The researchers found that people taking the pill had lower levels of a brain protein known to lead to a rise in the risk of dementia. They found that it also slowed mental decline in older people who have slight problems with their memory.

The research suggests that dementia could be treated with a food supplement rather than by taking complicated medicines. “The findings from these two reports should be of interest to clinicians,” the Daily Mail quoted Carre Ruxton of the Health Supplements Information Service as telling the Daily Express.—Internet

One in ten Austrian teens say Hitler did ‘good things’

VIENNA, 18 Dec—One in ten young Austrians think Nazi dictator Adolf Hitler did some ‘good things’, a shocking poll has found.

The Youth Culture Research Institute poll found 11.2 percent of respondents said Hitler ‘did many good things for the people’. The statement that ‘for many immigrants, the Austrians are viewed as a lesser people’.

One in four respondents said there are ‘too many Turks’ in Austria, who form the predominant immigrant group in the country.

Austrians were worried about future job prospects because they would have to compete with Turkish immigrants, study author Beate Grossegger said.

According to the poll, 18.2 percent of Austrians said ‘Jews have now, like before, too much influence over the world economy’.

Austrians were worried about future job prospects because they would have to compete with Turkish immigrants, study author Beate Grossegger said.

According to the poll, 18.2 percent of Austrians said ‘Jews have now, like before, too much influence over the world economy’.

The Youth Culture Research Institute Chairperson Bernhard Heinzmaier said well educated people belonging to middle class were xenophobic, which was nurtured by prolonged “neo-liberal brainwashing”.

The Youth And Zeitgeist study was carried out among 400 young people in Vienna. Austria had a tense relationship with Hitler’s regime after it was taken over by Hitler in 1938.—Internet

Bomb blast kills one people in Bangladeshi capital

DHAKA, 18 Dec—One person was killed in a small bomb explosion in Bangladesh’s capital Dhaka Sunday morning, police said.

“The unidentified victim died in hospital after he was rushed there with serious injuries,” Tofazzal Hossain, chief of Dhaka’s Motijheel police station, told Xinhua.

The 26-year-old victim who suffered serious splinter injuries in his chest died later in hospital. The blast in Dhaka’s Motijheel commercial district was the result of a clash between the police and activists of Bangladesh’s main opposition Nationalist Party, police said.

It has not been known immediately whether the victim was the activist of the opposition party.

The official who preferred to be unnamed said five vehicles including a police van were set on fire during the clashes. Dozens of activists of the opposition party were also nabbed after the clashes, he added.

Panicked dipped Dhaka dwellers as sounds of the explosions rocked parts of the capital city on Saturday.—Xinhua

12/19/2011, 8:24 AM
Myanmar Printers and Publishers Association meets

Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan views copiers, printers, scanners and card printers on display.

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Dec—The 20th annual general meeting of Myanmar Printers and Publishers Association was held at the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry on Minye Kyawswa Street in Linnanwadi Township here this morning, with an address by Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan.

It was attended by Yangon Region Minister for Finance and Revenue Daw San San Nwe, departmental heads and personnel of the Ministry of Information, vice-presidents and executive members of the UMFCCI, patron, chairman, executive members and members of the MPPA personnel of partner organizations and guests.

First-chairman of the meeting MPPA Chairman Dr Tin Tun Oo gave an opening address. Speaking on the occasion, Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan said it is learnt that the association could frankly discuss and unanimously adopt the resolution for its development and success of its works. Election of the new executives and future plans of the association are to be implemented with these fine traditions.

In 2005, the Information Ministry and the MPPA established relations. Looking back the tradition of the association, three points can be seen; the first is the MPPA is a profit-making business association as well as the Ministry of Information, the second point is the association has a tradition of coordinating harmoniously with other friend NGOs, and the third point is the unity of the association. The Union Minister said he believed that all the new executives will carry on the works of the association of in accordance with these fine traditions.

The Union Minister added that whenever he had a contact with the MPPA, he had called for its efforts for development of printing and publishing industry, increase in number of members and to focus on quality of the members as the number of members is increasing and to bear national interests in the mind in doing whatever.

In addition, he added that the association could frankly discuss and unanimously adopt the resolution for its development and success of its works. Election of the new executives and future plans of the association are to be implemented with these fine traditions.

The Union Minister continued that it is needed to implement International Standard Book Number (ISBN) plan so as to develop literary field of the country. The ISBN is of primary importance to make country’s publication spread all over the world. As cooperative measures with international ISBN agency of England have been taken, we reach the step to be recognized.

After procedure with ISBN has been completed, the books published in the country will be distributed in the world with no trouble.

The country is taking approach towards a new developed nation wielding democracy and market-oriented economic system in accord with the new constitution. Only when all sectors develop will the country see development. So, it is needed to work hard seeking ways and means in order to keep abreast of other countries.

Restrictions on periodicals have now been relaxed through step-by-step procedure. Finally, journalists will enjoy rights to write in accord with law, embracing freedom and accuracy, and rationality. So, publishers will have to take responsibility and liability in conformity with the law that will emerge in the future.

The association, as it is a social organization, needs to keep balance with the undertakings carried out by the State. The State is upholding three objectives: commitment to reforms aspired by the people, peace and stability and development of the country and development of socio-economic life of the people.

A total of 15 laws have been enacted in amending and prescribing laws. Thanks to such reforms, measures can be taken on a large scale in respective sectors of the country.

In management sector, measures being taken to become executive mechanism beneficial to public interests, transparent executive mechanism, and good governance and clean government. In judicial sector, special attention is being paid to giving more accurate verdict in accord with the law.

In relation to peace-building sector, three main points are being implemented: building peace with national races armed groups, ensuring internal political stability of the State like making cooperation in domestic politics, and ensuring external political stability.

To ensure domestic peace, in other words to politically cooperate in the country, cooperative measures are being taken to seek common ground in the interests of the country and its people, leaving aside different views. As a result, people can build up and understanding with another more and more, and then they can later enter into negotiation for different views.

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High qualification of computer science plays ...

persons and government departments applying computer science secure achievement in their respective sectors with rapid development. The Vice-President said that the government is striving for thorough emergence of a government system. At present, he said that Myanmar still needs to walk a long way for availability of any information at a mouse-clipin’ home’s town. There have been many requirements in work capacities of the graduates turned out from Universities of Computer Studies including faculty members, he said.

Despite being plenty of natural resources, the nation is not to be a worthy country till today due to lack of technology to utilize the natural resources on a commercial scale, he said. In the education sector, he said that the academic years will be added one more year to promote the education standard, and faculty members are to uplift their professional proficiency by themselves. Depending on teaching systems of faculty members, they can enhance quality of students, he said.

He pointed out that some countries with small population and no natural resources could have entered the first world by effectively applying the technology and highly-qualified human resources. Thanks to technological expertise, qualified human resources and industrial products, the smallest countries have become stronger nations, he said.

He said that only when the nation is booming in economy, will nation-building tasks be carried out. Therefore, he stressed that high qualification of computer science plays a key role in strengthening of economy. Thus, he urged the faculty members to turn out their students to become well-versed technicians.

Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Sports U Tin Hsan presented sports gear and Chairman of Shwe Thanwin Co U Kyaw Win, two sets of Sky Net TV receiver to the acting principal.

Next, the Vice-President viewed round learning of students at the university. After that, they arrived at Border Areas and National Races Youth Development School (Lashio) of the Ministry of Border Affairs.

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham met the principals and teachers of the youth training school and women’s vocational training school. Then, Principal U Than Aung reported on facts about the youth training school (Lashio).

Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Zaw Win reported on the purpose of opening the training schools across the country and appointments of those who have completed the courses as civil servants.

Speaking on the occasion, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham said the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has a population of about 60 million made up of various national races, living the country in wee or woe. There are various reasons why the nation has not developed since regaining independence and the issue of national races is the main factor.

Out of the six objectives of opening border areas and national races development training schools, one objective is to enable nationalities to understand the cultures, customs and languages of different national races and to promote friendship and trust among them. In accordance with these noble aims, the youth students of the school are to try to be well-disciplined and do their bit in national development tasks upholding Our Three Main National Causes and Union Spirit. Then, the Vice-President urged the students to try to become the ones capable of leading the nation and their own regions in the future.

Afterwards, a cash donation ceremony was held. Union Minister for Sports and for Hotels and Tourism U Tin Hsan donated sports gear, Chairman of Shwe Than Win Co U Kyaw Win 20 sets of Sky Net TV receiver for orphanages in Lashio, Kanbauwza Bank Ltd, Lothein Co, Shwe Than Win Co, Than Myaung Thanwin Co, Asia World Co and United Amara Bank K 20 million and Max Myanmar Co Ltd K 20 million.

The Vice-President and party looked round the hostels. Next, they visited Yandawtaungang Sutamaypaye Myeik U Kyaw Win, K 20 million and Max Myanmar Co Ltd K 20 million.

Chairperson of Myeik Township Women’s Affairs Organization gave an introductory speech. Deputy Staff Officer Daw Than Thaing Hlaing of Myeik District IPRD explained the independence struggles and emergence of independence day.

Later, officials awarded winners in the quiz.

622 monks, people donate blood for 13th time

YANGON, 18 Dec—The 13th blood donation was held at Chanthayi Prayer Hall on the platform of Shwedagon Pagoda, here, this morning.

Chairperson of the Blood Donation Organizing Committee member of the Pagoda Board of Trustees Dr Tin Than Lwin extended greetings. In charge of National Blood Centre of Yangon General Hospital Dr Thida Aung explained facts about the blood donation.

The Pagoda Board of Trustees donated K 500,000 from its management fund for honouring the blood donors to the in-charge of the centre.

At the ceremony, 622 monks and people donated blood.

Talks on independence day held in Myeik

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Dec—Myeik District Information and Public Relations Department organized an educative talk in commemoration of the 64th Independence Day at Ohnaw Post-Primary School in Myeik on 14 December morning.

Chairperson of Myeik Township Women’s Affairs Organization gave an introductory speech. Deputy Staff Officer Daw Than Thaing Hlaing of Myeik District IPRD explained the independence struggles and emergence of independence day.

Later, officials awarded winners in the quiz.

An excavator of Public Works destroyed by insurgents’ mine.

Nay Pyi Taw Council of Churches observes gathering service, get-together

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Dec—The Nay Pyi Taw Council of Churches observed the gathering service and get-together to mark the X’mas at the precinct of Myanmar Baptist Church in Pyinuma yesterday evening.

It was attended by Union Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung, Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shin, Deputy Attorney-General of the Union U Tun Tun Oo, departmental heads, the chairman of the Council of Churches and members.

Chairman of the council Rev Dr Ut Tin Maung Aye prayed for X’mas. Union Minister Thura U Myint Maung extended greetings.

After completion of reading Bible, preaching, X’mas commemorative service and blessing, those present were served with dinner.

Nay Pyi Taw, 18 Dec—The Special Projects Group Branch (5) of Public Works under the Ministry of Construction is striving in construction of the Myitkyina-Sumparabum-Putao Road for ensuring secure and smooth transport in Kachin State.

On 16 December, the insurgents blasted machines and machinery parked at Nankha Village at mile post No. 870 of the road at night. In the explosion one roller, one excavator and one fork lift were destroyed in the explosion.

Final of 12th Great Wall National Badminton Tournament held

YANGON, 18 Dec—The final of the 12th Great Wall National Badminton Tournament was held at National Badminton Court in Lannadaw Township here this morning along with the ceremony.

The President, Vice-President and General Secretary of Myanmar Badminton Federation presented prizes to winners in U-16 men/women single and double-events, regular men/women single and double events and Above-44/45 men’s double event, men/women (open) single and double events.

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Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann…

(from page 15)

was trying for her party registration. In Myanmar, the government and the Hluttaw are placing emphasis on peace and stability and unity of the nation. In doing so, human rights commission and national races and peace-making committee have been formed. Those committees are important for national unity and national reconciliation. In addition, labour law and peaceful procession law have been enacted in accord with the democratization process. The Speaker expressed his belief that as the government has built foundations for democracy, success and progress will be achieved.

The forthcoming elections are open to all to stand for. The Hluttaw is formed with those from national races parties and women representatives. The representatives of political parties are working in accord with democratic practices in the interests of the nation and the people without considering self-interest in their own party, regionalism, racism and religiousism. It can therefore be said that the Hluttaw sessions which have already been held have met with success.

The Speaker went on to say that the Myanmar President’s visit to India has achieved remarkable success. During the visit, new sectors have been opened in bilateral cooperation. The Hluttaw will encourage cooperation in the main sectors.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann met Speaker of Upper House and Vice President of India Mohammad Hamid Ansari at the parliament building on 12 December afternoon.

Speaking on the occasion, the Indian Vice President said it is not particularly necessary to say that the relations between the two countries are improving. During the recent visit of Myanmar’s President to India, both leaders met and discussed cordially and amicably. Those from both sides who made discussions are people’s representatives who have been democratically elected. The Vice President continued that today, it was also the first direct meeting between the members of parliaments from the two countries, who have been elected by the peoples as representatives.

India regained her independence on 15 August 1947. Since that time, a firm decision had been made to practise parliamentary democracy. Then, the country took three years to write a constitution, and it was approved in January, 1950. That constitution is still in force. India has many different faiths and national races and too many books to read. But the only thing is the constitution. The significant point of the constitution is that only the representatives who have been elected by the people must rule the people. People’s representatives need to be trustworthy and reliable.

In 1954, and 10 December, India’s first government was formed. The first is to carry out legislative affairs, the second to make sure that the government holds meetings and discussions daily, weekly and monthly and do the third to make sure that the people’s desires are to be informed to the government. Under the constitution, an independent judiciary body has been formed, the Vice President said.

For his part, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker said Myanmar is carrying out democratization process and has formed Hluttaws. At a time when the Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw have emerged by adopting a parliamentary democracy system, the Myanmar delegation’s visit to India is indeed a milestone in history, he concluded.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann called on Speaker of Lok Sabha Meira Kumar at theante-room of Parliament Library Building on 12 December evening.

At the meeting, the Speaker of Lok Sabha said the two countries are culturally and historically close neighbours. Myanmar successfully held election in November and that Hluttaws are honoured as they began their functions in January. The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker is also honoured for his election as the Speaker and he has the responsibility to lay parliamentary democracy foundation, the Indian speaker said. It is a historic event.
Surfer snapped riding monster Irish waves

London, 18 Dec — A surfer has been pictured riding one of the biggest recorded waves ever hit Irish shores. Jayce Robinson was allegedly filmed catching the massive Atlantic swell at Mullaghmore Head, which produced waves of up to 67ft. The daredevil’s footage was released Monday — and his board snapped in half — during his efforts on Tuesday. But Mr Robinson, from St Ives, is no rookie to the surf. He is the former top Asian Association of Surfing Professionals (ASP) European junior — and hits the waves in international surfing competitions as much as possible. The 22-year-old, who has been surfing since he was just seven, told Sky News Online: “It was definitely the biggest barrel I’ve ever surfed.”

“I was a little nervous but I didn’t have time to think about it — it’s almost like a car crash, you don’t know what’s happening.”

He was only out for about 20 seconds then the lip just hit me straight in the back and I went down. It’s like being in a washing machine and I felt my limbs get pulled all over the place. That’s when I felt my knee pop.”

His friend — and fellow British surfer — Lyndon Monk witnessed the glorious ride before tow-in’ him out to the waves behind a jet ski. “It’s always a worst case scenario when your tow partner wipes out,” he told Sky News Online.

“Lucky he managed to come out the other side OK and I got him straight back on the jet ski.”

Experts say child penicillin doses should be reviewed

London, 18 Dec — Penicillin doses for children — which have stayed the same for 50 years — need to be reviewed because youngsters are getting heavier, experts have said.

Dosages are based on age but an average weight is assumed and average weights have risen, the London-based team warn.

In the British Medical Journal, they say a review is needed to ensure children are getting enough medication. But one pharmacist said using weight could mean more room for error.

Oral penicillins, such as amoxicillin, account for nearly 4.5 million of the total six million annual prescriptions for antibiotics given to treat childhood bacterial infections each year in the UK.

The current dosing guidelines are set out in the British National Formulary for Children. Experts from King’s College London and St George’s, University of London, say having doses on a child’s age was first suggested in the 1950s, and the guidelines medics still use were published in the BMJ in 1963.

The estimate that a baby aged up to one weighed 10kg (22lbs), a two-year-old 16kg (35lbs), a five-year-old 18kg (39lbs) and a 10-year-old 30kg (66lbs).

The adrenalin-seeking pair have been in Ireland for about a month chasing the swells. “The waves are just amazing and world-class here at this time of year,” Mr Robinson said. “(The wipeout) is not going to hold me back, that’s for sure. As soon as my knee is better I will be back out there.”

On the same day, the Met Office said the largest Irish wave was measured at a special buoy off the Donegal coast, while a force 10 storm raged across the north coast. Meteorologists at Met Eireann said data from the sea conditions about 60 miles to sea west of the most severe it has ever encountered that distance offshore. “The M4 weather buoy off the Donegal coast recorded a maximum wave height of 20.4 metres which is the highest maximum wave recorded in Irish waters,” Met Eireann reported.

Floral tributes were left at the scene of the killing.

Boy aged 10 admits strangling four-year-old

Stockholm, 18 Dec — A ten-year-old boy in Sweden has been accused of strangling his four-year-old brother with a skipping rope after an argument. Officers said the youngster had confessed to the crime.

The four-year-old disappeared on October 16 from the courtyard outside the flat where he lived.

According to Swedish news reports, he had been in a fight with several other children who had chased him out of a play area.

His body was found a few hours later in a nearby wooded area.

More than 35 officers joined the investigation into the death and at least 65 children, aged between five and 15, were questioned.

“The difficulty with this investigation has been that the evidence was found with children and that was a very difficult situation to handle,” said lead investigator Yvonne Rudinson.

The 10-year-old was reportedly identified as a suspect early in the investigation and later confessed.

69 arrested at illegal Athens casino

Athens, 18 Dec — Greek authorities say they arrested 69 people at an illegal casino in Athens that generated more than 1.5 million in profits in the past nine months.

Ekathimerini reported the country’s financial police and the electronic crimes squad made the arrests Friday at the casino on Syngrou Avenue, south of the Athens city center.

The casino’s owner had not been caught.

These included a police officer who has been suspended since May for irregularities at the casino, where he worked as a security guard. Ekathimerini said the casino’s owner and his associates had installed at least 30 security cameras.

UK car dealerships involved in Hezbollah money laundering scheme

Washington, 18 Dec — Over two dozen US car dealerships were allegedly involved in an international 300 million dollars money laundering scheme for Lebanon-based terrorist organization Hezbollah, federal officials have said.

According to a 62-page complaint filed in Manhattan federal court, federal agents served restraining orders and grilled employees at as many as 30 used car dealerships around the country, as part of a civil action that also named a Lebanese bank and two exchange houses as part of the plot. The scheme involved the purchases of used cars in the US for shipment and sale abroad with funds provided by the banks.

The restraining orders are intended to seize the assets of all the used car dealerships named in the federal complaint. “We’re looking to shut down this trade-based money laundering scheme,” Drug Enforcement Agency agent Derek Malte told ABN News. “And we’re looking to take the profits away from Hezbollah and other terror groups around the world.”

He added the complaint also includes that banks in Lebanon wired 300 million dollars into the US for the purchase and shipment of used cars to West Africa.

Proceeds from those sales were then allegedly funneled back to Lebanon to support Hezbollah, the complaint said.

The evidence was found with the help of the electronic police and the electronic crimes squad, federal officials have said. The investigation into the money laundering scheme was opened in 2008, according to the complaint.

Proceeds from the sales were put in Swiss bank accounts, European bank accounts and accounts in Lebanon and the Middle East.

The evidence was collected by the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network and the Department of the Treasury.

The complaint further said the proceeds from the sales were sent to Hezbollah in Lebanon and then to West Africa.

The complaint was unsealed by US District Judge Victor K. Flores.

A worker shows an “iPhone” gift box made of chocolate in Shanghai World Chocolate Wonderland in Shanghai, east China, on Dec 15, 2011. The Shanghai World Chocolate Wonderland was opened in Shanghai on Dec 16. The park will display chocolate models such as the Terra-cotta Warriors and Horses and Duanhuang Mogan Grottoes. (Xinhua)
Man ‘seriously injured’ in Ipswich flat explosion

IPSWICH, 18 Dec — A man has suffered serious injuries following an explosion in Suffolk.

Emergency services were called to a flat in Ellenbrook Road in Ipswich, at 22:00 GMT following reports of an explosion. Suffolk Police said the injured man was found at the property and taken to Ipswich Hospital and a 41-year-old man from Ipswich has been arrested on suspicion of arson.

The area has been cordoned off while officers examine the scene to establish the cause of the explosion.

Self-cleaning cotton nanoparticle coating invented

SHANGHAI, 18 Dec — Efforts to create self-cleaning cotton fabrics are bearing fruit in China. Engineers have created a chemical coating that causes cotton material to clean themselves of stains and remove odours when exposed to sunlight. The researchers say the treatment is cheap, non-toxic and ecologically friendly. Retail experts say the innovation could prove a hit with retailers thanks to a growing demand for “functional cloth.” The research was carried out by engineers at Shanghai Jiao Tong University and Hubei University for Nationalities, and is published in the latest issue of the Applied Materials and Interfaces journal.

The study focuses on titanium dioxide — a chemical known as an “excellent catalyst in the degradation of organic pollutants”. The substance is already used in self-cleaning windows, odour-free socks and stay-clean kitchen and bathroom tiles. Initial efforts to extend its use to cotton fabrics proved limiting because the substance’s self-cleaning properties could only be “excited” under ultraviolet lights, making it impractical for everyday use.

The team’s breakthrough was to create a nanoparticle alcohol-based compound made up of titanium dioxide and nitrogen. The mixture was added to triethylene, an acid neutraliser commonly used in dyes. After being stirred for 12 hours at room temperature, the liquid was heated at 100°C (212°F) for a further six hours. The cotton fabrics were then immersed in the mixture before being squeezed dry, heated and immersed in hot clean water.

China to boost maritime cooperation with ASEAN countries

HAKIO, 18 Dec — China will actively push forward maritime cooperation with the 10 members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in light of the guidelines on conduct in the South China Sea, a Foreign Ministry official has said. Assistant Foreign Minister Liu Zhenmin made the remarks during an international seminar on implementing the Declaration on Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) and maintaining the navigational freedom, security and safety of the waterway.

Enforcing the DOC at a governmental level. Under it, China will hold a series of seminars and carry out a set of cooperative projects, so as to further advance cooperation with ASEAN nations, he said. Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao proposed to establish a three-billion-yuan China-ASEAN maritime cooperation fund at the 14th China-ASEAN summit and the Commemorative Summit to Celebrate the 20th Anniversary of China-ASEAN Relations in November.—Xinhua

RAF helicopter crash co-pilot spared jail

LONDON, 18 Dec — The co-pilot of an RAF helicopter that crashed during a “jolly”, killing the pilot and two others, has avoided jail. Ex-Fly Lt Robert Hamilton was on board the Puma when it crashed at Catterick Garrison, North Yorkshire, in 2007. Hamilton, 29, who was left paraplegic, pleaded guilty at an earlier court martial to neglect in flying likely to cause loss of life or bodily injury. Vice Judge Advocate General Michael Hunter imposed a sentence of 16 months’ imprisonment, suspended for two years. A further charge of wilful neglect was left on file.

The pilot, Flt Lt David Sale, 28, from Stockton-on-Tees, crewman Sgt Philip Burfoot, 27, from Cardiff, and Army recruit Pte Sean Tait, 17, from Glasgow, were washed off the command of Scotland, all died. The helicopter, which was on a training exercise, had three RAF personnel and nine soldiers on board.

The hearing listened to extracts from the two-hour cockpit voice recording, during which the Johnny Cash song Ring of Fire could be heard over the aircraft’s speaker system. The crew could also be heard laughing and joking minutes before the crash. Hours earlier the helicopter almost hit the ground and all those on board agreed not to report it, the court martial heard. Hamilton had also taken the cockpit of his own in helicopters near Salisbury just days before the fatal crash.

General Sir Richard Dannatt, the Puma helicopter crashed in a field at Catterick camp four years ago.—Internet

Footage from the US Air Force shows the fishing boat stranded in heavy sea ice.—Internet

12 killed in road mishap in northern India

NEW DELHI, 18 Dec—At least 12 people were killed and 20 others injured in a road mishap in the northern Indian state of Uarakhand late Saturday night, said police on Sunday.

The mishap happened when the bus in which the victims were traveling plunged into the NHab river due to heavy fog at Gadarpur area in the state’s Udham Singh Nagar district. While 12 bodies have been fished out, locals rescued others and rushed them to a local hospital where the condition of some of the injured are said to be serious.

Deadly road accident takes place frequently in India, with at least 110,000 killed each year on the road, according to official estimates.—Xinhua

Freight train derail in Iowa

CHARLES CITY, 18 Dec—A freight train derailed in northern Iowa Saturday, sending 13 cars of the tracks, a company spokesman said.

There were no injuries reported, the Mason City Globe Gazette reported.

The Canadian Pacific train was carrying soybeans and scrap metal when the cars jumped the tracks about 1 p.m.

“It would be premature to speculate on a cause as we begin an extensive investigation into what happened,” railroad spokesman Ed Greenberg told the newspaper.

Analysts say self-cleaning clothes could prove very popular in countries with humid climates.—Internet

Wellington, 18 Dec — A New Zealand plane is heading to the location of a Russian fishing boat in trouble in icy Antarctic waters to drop equipment and fuel. The Sparta is holed beneath the waterline and stuck in heavy sea ice. The C130 Hercules, from the Royal New Zealand Defence Force, will take seven hours to reach the stricken ship, which is about 2,000 nautical miles (3,700km) south-east of New Zealand.

Some of the crew who had boarded lifeboats are now back on board. The rescue Coordination Centre New Zealand (RCCNZ) said in a statement that the crew had worked overnight to stabilise the Sparta. Chris Wilson, from the RCCNZ, said crew had been pumping water from the hold and moving cargo around the boat. “They’ve made good progress – the vessel is certainly in a safer position than it was yesterday,” she said. “With Sparta now more stable, the vessel is the safest place for them.” After dropping a pump, pipes and fuel to the Sparta the New Zealand plane will have to refuel at the US McMurdo Station before returning to Christchurch. A number of ships are on their way to assist the vessel but all are days away and being hampered by heavy sea ice.

The first distress call from the Sparta was picked up at about 0330 New Zealand time on Friday (Thursday 1400 GMT), when it was confirmed the ship east of the Ross Sea and taking on water. Map.It has a 30cm (1ft) hole in the hull beneath the water line and was listing at an angle of 13 degrees and taking on water, according to the RCCNZ. The crew comprise 15 Russians (including the captain), 16 Indians and a Ukrainian. There are no helicopters in the area and rescue authorities say the best option for another vessel to come to the Sparta’s aid. But all three tasked with assisting are facing difficulties reaching the ship, said RCCNZ.—Internet

Stricken Russian ship crew awaits New Zealand air drop

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Monday, 19 December, 2011 11

US magazine Newsweek released a list of 10 most endangered sites on earth including The Taj Mahal of India, Angkor Wat of Cambodia and so on.—Xinhua

Facade of the National Library of Myanmar restored

The 14th China-ASEAN Summit held in Haikou, Hainan Province, from 14-15 Dec, has proposed to establish a three-billion-yuan China-ASEAN maritime cooperation fund so as to promote various cooperative projects, so as to further advance cooperation with ASEAN nations, said Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao. —Xinhua

The library, which houses nearly 900,000 volumes, was restored during the two-day summit. —Xinhua

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Nanjing turns kitchen waste into treasure

Nanjing, 18 Dec—Nanjing is starting an environmentally friendly program to dispose of kitchen waste in preparation for hosting the 2014 Youth Olympics. By 2014, the city in east China plans to reduce the amount of kitchen waste it puts in sanitary landfills by half, while using the rest to produce biofuel and other "treasure." According to Chen Lei, deputy director of the Nanjing Municipal Planning Bureau, the capital city of Jiangsu province produces about 5,300 tonnes of domestic waste daily. About 30 percent of this refuse is kitchen waste.

Until now, the city's kitchen waste has been put in landfills, where it ferments underground. However, the process releases a huge amount of methane, which is 20 times more harmful than carbon dioxide in terms of ozone depletion. Early this year, the planning bureau, in collaboration with Nanjing University, built a small biochemical processing facility at the Jiaozishan organic garbage disposal station.

The facility serves as a pilot project for kitchen waste processing. Using specialized machines, the kitchen waste is separated and mashed to facilitate fermentation. The resulting biogas is then collected and the residue is used as fertilizer.—Xinhua

US ‘Barefoot Bandit’ Colton Harris-Moore jailed

Washington, 18 Dec—A US man known as the “Barefoot Bandit” has been sentenced to more than seven years in a state prison after pleading guilty to a string of charges. Colton Harris-Moore, 20, made global headlines during a two-year crime spree during which he evaded police in stolen cars, boats and planes. Footprints left at some of the crime scenes earned him his nickname.

He told the court in Washington state that his childhood was one he wouldn’t wish on his “darkest enemies”. He stood with his wrists shackled and made no reaction as the sentence was delivered in the packed courtroom in Coupeville. Judge Vickie Churchill described Harris-Moore’s early life with an alcoholic mother and a series of her convict boyfriends as a “mind-numbing absence of hope”.

“This case is a tragedy in many ways, but it’s a triumph of the human spirit in other ways,” she said. “I could have been reading about the history of a mass murderer. I could have been reading about a drug abusive, alcoholic young man. That is the triumph of Colton Harris-Moore: He has survived.”

Harris-Moore’s crime spree began in 2008 after the then teenager absconded from a halfway house in Seattle where he had been placed following previous run-ins with the police.—Internet
Leonardo DiCaprio likes complicated characters

Los Angeles, 18 Dec—Actor Leonardo DiCaprio likes to challenge himself with complicated characters in movies.

The actor admits he chooses his roles based on the characters, rather than the genre of the movie, reports contactmusic.com.

“I’ve never doubted the material I’ve been drawn to. I don’t do a film because I feel it’s time to do a comedy or a science-fiction or another genre,” said the “Titanic” star. “I do it because I’m motivated, it interests me, and I feel as if I could be of service to the character. And I like complicated characters,” he added.

DiCaprio is currently working on “The Great Gatsby,” an adaptation of F. Scott Fitzgerald’s classic novel. —Internet

Michael Douglas to receive Monte Cristo Award

New York, 18 Dec—Veteran actor Michael Douglas is set to be honoured for his career achievements by bosses at his former theatre company in Connecticut.

The “Wall Street” star will receive Monte Cristo Award by the Eugene O’Neill Theatre Centre in recognition of his glittering Hollywood career, reports contactmusic.com.

Douglas has a long association with the theatre company — he acted there for three years in the 1960s and has been a member of the board since 1980.

The actor will accept the prize from his wife Catherine Zeta-Jones during the Monte Cristo gala at the Edison Ballroom here 16 April. —Internet

Rep Sanchez’s late cat adorns card

Rep Loretta Sanchez, D-Calif, said her late, beloved cat is making one last appearance on her annual holiday card in the form of a Christmas tree ornament.

Sanchez, whose cat, Gretzky, starred in all of her wacky holiday cards since 2002 — including images of her riding a motorcycle with the cat and the two of them dressed as hockey players — said the cat’s death last year was originally going to mean he would not appear at all on this year’s card, the Los Angeles Times reported Friday.

However, she said, comments posted to her Facebook page requested more images of the feline, so Gretzky made his final holiday card appearance this year in the form of a Christmas tree ornament bearing his face.

Sanchez said this year’s card is also notable for being the first to feature her husband Jack Einwechter, who she married in July.

Horror convention takes to the seas

Carnival Cruise Lines in Florida is selling tickets for the “Tides of Fortune” cruise, billed as the world’s first horror convention at sea.

Dark Star Fantasy Cruises, which is organizing the event for Carnival, said the cruise, which will take place in April and costs $699 per person, will feature stars from movies including “Machete,” the “Hatchet” series, the “Halloween” series, the “Hellraiser” series and the “Friday the 13th” series, USA Today reported Friday.

The organizers said the cruise will also include movie screenings, a “scream queen” contest and a “Dance of the Dead.”

News Album

‘Miracle wood tree cross’ for sale on eBay

The owner of a California landscaping company is selling a tree cut from a church grounds with an image of a cross in the grain resembling a cross.

Jim Rants, owner of Star Landscape Maintenance, said the wood was cut from a pine on the 1st Congregational Church of Escondido, and one of his workers, Salvador Maya, noticed the image of a cross in the wood, the Los Angeles Times reported Friday.

Rants said a portion of the proceeds from the sale of the “miracle wood tree cross” will go to the church.

Angelina Jolie more proud of ‘Kung Fu Panda’ than her other movies

Syeondy, 18 Dec—Angelina Jolie loves the ‘Kung Fu Panda’ movies more than any other film she has done because her whole family can sit down and watch them together.

The second ‘Kung Fu Panda’ movie’s message of overcoming childhood difficulties has obvious echoes with Jolie who has adopted three children with Brad Pitt.

“It’s the film my kids love,” the Sydney Morning Herald quoted her as saying.

“The nice thing about this story is we are really growing up with Po and finding out about human nature and the belief you can be anyone you want to no matter what you look like or where you come from,” she said.

The actress was eager to share the movie and its message with her children. “They absolutely loved it,” Jolie said.

“They laughed through the whole thing. I wondered if they’d ask me questions about it, but because ‘adoption’ and ‘birth’ and ‘orphange’ are happy words in our home, they are used to discussions about it. “They felt quite proud they were a little more like Po,” she added.

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AC Milan forward Zlatan Ibrahimovic, of Sweden, scores from a penalty kick during a Serie A soccer match between AC Milan and Siena at the San Siro stadium in Milan, Italy, on 17 Dec, 2011. — Internet

AC Milan moves top with 2-0 win over Siena

MILAN, 18 Dec — AC Milan moved provisionally top of the Serie A standings with a 2-0 win over Siena on Saturday, which leaves the Tuscan side in serious danger at the foot of the table. Antonio Nocerino scored an 85th minute goal to give Milan the lead and Zlatan Ibrahimovic doubled the advantage just two minutes later. Milan moved a point clear of Udinese and Juventus, which play on Sunday. Siena remain without a point after the relegation zone after five defeats in six games.

In a dramatic finish in Florence, two late goals from German Denis and Andrea Masiello appeared to have given Atalanta victory over Fiorentina, but Stevan Jovetic leveled to secure a 2-2 draw. Elsewhere, Chievo got back to winning ways as goals from Cyril Thereau and Cristian Zaccardo secured a 2-0 victory over Cagliari. "We knew it could be a difficult game," Milan coach Massimiliano Allegri said. "We started well and then we got a bit tired. We were patient but we also risked conceding. "Today was an important victory even if we didn’t play a very good match."

Cranes get different diagnosis

NEW YORK, 18 Dec — Ben Crane received some good news earlier this week when two different doctors told him there was no tear in the labrum in his left hip. Crane had tweeted on 6 December that he was going to try and play with the injury in 2012 in hopes of making the PGA TOUR Playoffs for the FedExCup. He said he expected to have surgery next week — perhaps with his father-in-law earlier in the week and is due to put his title defense at The McGladrey Classic, played on the 15th of October, in jeopardy. Recent visits to different doctors revealed a different diagnosis, though, and Crane expects to play a full PGA TOUR schedule, as a result.

Here is how he shared the news on Twitter. @bencraneGolf Great news!!! 2nd and 3rd opinion: no tear in Labrum and expect to play full schedule for 2012!!! Praise God!!! @likingplayinggolffriends: Where Cranoe, who made a series of highly entertaining fitness videos in which he performs wearing a red wetsuit and helmet, couldn’t resist a plug. — Internet

Froch outclassed by dazzling Ward

ATLANTIC CITY, 18 Dec — Andre Ward outclassed and put to the floor his American rival, landing at will quick and too slick for his American opponent. "It was too easy," said Ward, who added Froch’s WBC belt to the WBA belt he already owned, was the winner on all three judges’ scorecards.

"I couldn’t really get anything going, he was too slippery," said Froch. "I wanted to put my shots together but he moves low and slips and slides, he’s very clever up close. It was very frustrating for me tonight. Fair play to him," Ward, meanwhile, felt his superior speed was the key to his victory. "I was surprised at how slow Froch was. We were able to beat him to the punch," said Ward, an Olympic champion in 2004. "You don’t get points for leaving the chin open. You can’t fight like that and expect not to get hit."

Four European swimmers set “world record” in 400m freestyle relay

WASHINGTON, 18 Dec — Four European swimmers made the history on Saturday, setting up a “world record” in the women’s 400m short course freestyle relay in a swimming competition in Atlanta, Georgia.

The swimmers of four different countries clocked in three minutes 27.53 seconds, beating the old mark of 3:28.22 set by the Netherlands three years ago. However, their timing does not stand as a world record as they are all from different countries, namely Jeanette Ottesen of Denmark, Francesca Halsall of Britain, Alaksandra Herasimenia of Belarus and Ronomi Kromowidjojo of the Netherlands.

Real Madrid’s Jose Mourinho happy to top La Liga after emphatic win over Sevilla

MADRID, 18 Dec — Real Madrid coach Jose Mourinho voiced his satisfaction at seeing his team extend its lead at the top of La Liga, following a 6-2 victory at Sevilla. The Portuguese trainer previously claimed he wanted the Blancos to move clear at the league summit and, after their demolition of the Andalucian squad of Seville he was delighted to see his players listen to his commands. “I expected a win and become the leader alone,” said Mourinho. “The main thing was to win again and we succeeded against a difficult opponent. If I said the other day we were league leaders, now I can say that we are leaders alone. “We have been very effective and better than the opponent, but the truth is that the result reflects the difference between the two teams. We deserved to win.” Mourinho then proceeded to play down the impact of Cristiano Ronaldo’s hat-trick on Saturday, claiming that his contribution to the Madrid cause was “normal.” “Cristiano’s performance for me is normal. It is normal to play as he has, to score the goals he has scored and help your team,” he continued. “It is also normal in the previous game that he didn’t score [against Barcelona].”

Mourinho further took the time to pay tribute to the professionalism of winger Angel Di Maria, who mourned the death of his father-in-law earlier in the week and is expected to return to Argentina. “Di Maria is an example for everyone,” he said. — Internet

Wigan’s late equalizer dents Chelsea down

LONDON, 18 Dec — Chelsea suffered a last-gasp slump in the 16th-round clash on Saturday as Wigan fought back with a vital 1-1 draw in their relegation battle and made the Blues drop down in the English top-flight rivalry. Jordan Gonze’s tap-in goal after 87 minutes cancelled out Daniel Sturridge’s superb strike, denying the Londoners fourth-straight league win.

A valuable point was Wigan as the host side was just one point behind the 17th-placed Wolves and was likely to climb out of the relegated league soon. But for the visitor, it was not enough. The Blues was left still third place in the table but six and four points respectively behind the leading Manchester “big two”. — Internet

Research

Wigan put up stubborn resistance against Chelsea to earn a 1-1 draw. — Internet

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European women golfers struggle to gain footing

Dubai, 18 Dec — Less than a decade ago, European women were among the top golfers in the world with the likes of Anna Sorensten and Laura Davies regularly vying for the top spot and reaping victories at the majors. These days, golf fans would be hard pressed to name one top European. This year’s majors went to an American and three Asians and there is only one European — No. 2-ranked Suzann Pettersen of Norway — in the top 20. And despite Europe’s surprising Solheim Cup victory over the Americans in September, the head of the Ladies European Tour admits it could take some time before the region produces another global superstar.

“You would have to say the Europeans haven’t had as many victories. That is what makes a big difference to get into the top 10 in the world,” said Alexendra Armas, the tour’s executive director who was in the United Arab Emirates this weekend for the Dubai Ladies Masters. “You have to say what a big difference it was for the Europeans when the USGA turned the table on Fiorentina and, if we can maintain that form, it can be bigger than the Davis Cup.”

However, their timing does not stand as a world record as they are all from different countries, namely Jeanette Ottesen of Denmark, Francesca Halsall of Britain, Alaksandra Herasimenia of Belarus and Ronomi Kromowidjojo of the Netherlands.

Real Madrid coach Jose Mourinho

Colantuono was quoted by sport-football-italia.net as saying. “That wasn’t football. It was volleyball,” Manfredini said. “At this point we no longer have to be diplomatic and search for justification. How could the referee not see such a clear incident? “The handball-gate sets up Juveptic and we have conceded another late goal to drop important points.”

“We are happy with the performance and the compliments for our football, but for us three points are decisive. We had prepared so well for this match. “In the first half we also deserved a penalty, as Thomas

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Xinhua

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**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL Programme Schedule (19-12-2011) (Monday)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Overseas Transmission</th>
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<tr>
<td>* Opening</td>
<td>* Opening</td>
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<td>* News</td>
<td>* News</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Traveling in Shan Plateau (Pindaya Natural Cave)</td>
<td>* Traveling in Shan Plateau (Pindaya Natural Cave)</td>
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<td>* News</td>
<td>* News</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Yatanarpon Call Center Opening Ceremony</td>
<td>* The Art of Bronze Casting</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Deep forest with variety of flora and fauna</td>
<td>* Deep forest with variety of flora and fauna</td>
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<td>* News</td>
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<td>* Music Gallery</td>
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* News

* Myanmar Movies Impact “Change”

* News

* Myanmar Traditional Festival

* News

* Culture Stage

* News

* Jade Industry: Myanmar Rewarding Business

* News

* Zinathuka Yan Aung Chan Tha Reclining Buddha

* Myanmar Movies “Pure Love”

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**Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas**

**Monday, 19 December View on today**

7:00 am
1. Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw

7:25 am
2. To Be Healthy

7:30 am
3. Morning News

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**Weather forecast for 19th December, 2011**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
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<th>Minimum Temperature (°C)</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>20/68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>34/93</td>
<td>20/68</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw</td>
<td>32/90</td>
<td>14/57</td>
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<td>Ayeyawady</td>
<td>31/88</td>
<td>18/64</td>
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<td>Northern Shan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southern Shan</td>
<td>25/77</td>
<td>06/43</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>28/82</td>
<td>11/52</td>
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<td>Mandalay</td>
<td>28/82</td>
<td>14/57</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Kachin</td>
<td>28/82</td>
<td>11/52</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neighbouring Areas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Continuation of decrease of night temperatures in Eastern Myanmar areas.</td>
<td>No. 18 Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw 32/90 14/57 Partly cloudy</td>
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**QPR 0 - 2 Man Utd**

London, 18 Dec.—Wayne Rooney set them on the way to a victory that restored them to the top of the table - if only for a few hours - with a header inside the first minute. And after United missed a succession of chances and were denied by QPR keeper Radek Cerny, Michael Carrick settled an entertaining encounter and gave them the winning margin their vast superiority deserved.

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**Results on Sunday, 19 Dec. 2011**

QPR 0 - 2 Man Utd
Aston Villa 0-2 Liverpool
Tottenham 1-0 Sunderland
Man City 1-0 Arsenal

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**Internet**

Manchester United maintained the pressure on Manchester City at the Premier League summit with a comfortable win against Queens Park Rangers at Loftus Road.
Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann visits India

Myanmar delegation led by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann arrives back

Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann calls on Indian President at Presidential Residence in New Delhi.—MNA

MRS PRATIBHA DEVICHI SINGH PATIL AT РАШТРАПАТИ BHUVAN IN NEW DELHI ON 12 DECEMBER EVENING.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker then signed visitors’ book of the mausoleum. The secretary of Mahatma Gandhi Mausoleum Preservation Committee explained preservation of the mausoleum and presented a Mahatma Gandhi biography book to the Speaker.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker paid a courtesy call on Indian President Mrs Pratibha Devi Singh Patil at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi on 12 December evening.

On the occasion, the Indian President said the relations between the parliaments of the two nations meant a lot for the interests of the nation and thus both sides should focus on promotion of ties between the two parliaments; that Myanmar President visited India in last October during which the two sides reached an agreement to foster the ties between the two parliaments as part of comprehensive partnership; that India embraced the concept of Unity in Diversity in practicing democracy; that she was proud of the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker for being elected to the position of speaker; that India and Myanmar also had close relations in religion; that India would share its parliamentary experiences with Myanmar and assist the latter in enhancing capacities of parliamentary personnel; that it needed to systematize the procedures of parliamentary committees in strengthening democracy system; that she heard about national reconciliation process in Myanmar from the Myanmar President; that she wished the process had produced certain results so far; that India attaches great importance to promoting ties with Myanmar; that India had plans to cooperate with Myanmar not only in its nation-building undertakings but in establishing water, air and road communication links; that Indian companies were investing in hydropower industry of Myanmar; and that Myanmar companies could also make investment in India.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker said that it was his fourth visit to India and in previous times, he visited for other responsibilities but now as the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker. Personnel and personalities of Pyithu Hluttaw Committees accompanied him on the visit, which expressed seriousness of Myanmar. The main intention of the visit is to foster the existing unity and observe the parliamentary experiences and practices of India. Myanmar’s democracy is in its infancy and thus needs experiences and practical knowledge in democracy and parliamentary affairs and the visit intends to study parliamentary experiences and practices of India and implementation for national socio-economic development through democracy system to apply suitably in Myanmar for its development.

The Speaker continued that they gained parliamentary experiences during the visit as they had hoped. He requested the Indian President to continue assisting Myanmar in enhancing capacities of MPs and staff of Parliament Office in the future. He held the belief that systematically exercising parliamentary democracy system can lead to national development. The government will keep on going as it has chosen and there can be no turning back whatever. In establishing democracy system, the role of the parliament is instrumental and parliamentary personalities need to be high in quality. Myanmar is trying to ensure all-inclusiveness in the political sector. At the same time, the existing election laws have been reviewed, amended and supplemented. The Speaker continued that he would like to let the President know that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi (See page 9).

YANGON, 18 Dec—Myanmar delegation headed by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann arrived back here this morning having paid a goodwill visit to India at the invitation of Chairman of Rajya Sabha Mohammad Hamid Ansari and Speaker of Lok Sabha Meira Kumar (Smt).

The delegation was welcomed back by wife of the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Daw Khin Lay Thet, Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Mya Nyin, Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swe, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Speaker of Yangon Region Hluttaw U Sein Tin Win, Deputy Speaker U Tin Aung, Director-General of Hluttaw Office U Myint Thein and Charge d’affaires Ms Sripriya Ranganathan of Indian Embassy and personnel at Yangon International Airport.

Together with the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker, 30 delegation members Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee U T Kun Myat, Chairman of International Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo, Chairman of Projects and Financial Development Committee U Soe Tha, Chairman of Economic and Trade Development Committee U Maung Maung Thein, Chairman of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Development Committee U Soe Naing, Chairman of Investment and Industrial Development Committee U Hla Myint, Chairman of Transportation, Communications and Construction Committee U Thein Swe, Secretary of Hluttaw Rights Committee Dr Soe Yin, Secretary of Public Accounts Committee U Maung Toe, Secretary of Public Affairs Management Committee U Tin Maung Oo, Secretary of Farmers, Workers and Youth Affairs Committee U Hla Win, Member of Public Accounts Committee Dr Win Myint, Member of Government’s Guarantees, Pledges and Undertaking Vetting Committee U Win Than, Member of Water Transportation Development Committee U Win Oo and Secretary of the delegation Deputy Director-General of Pyithu Hluttaw Office U Kyaw Soe arrived back on the same flight.

MNA