Abhidhamma Day celebrated at pagodas across the country

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Oct — Pagodas across the country were packed with Buddhist devotees on the Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut today, celebrating lighting festival to mark the end of the Rain Retreat of Buddhist Monks and the Abhidhamma Day.

A ceremony to mark the 4th Abhidhamma Day was held at the Uppatasanti Pagoda here today and members of the religious associations and devotees received the Nine Precepts from the Ovada Cariya Sayadaw of the Pagoda Board of Trustees.

Union Minister at the President Office Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Thein Nyunt presented offerings to the members of the Sangha.

The congregation led by members of the Nay Pyi Taw Council lit 9,000 oil lamps at the pagoda dedicating to the Lord Buddha.

Similarly, ceremonies to mark the Abhidhamma Day were held at the Datusaya Datpaungsu Pagoda in Zubuthiri Township and pagodas in Pyaymana.

Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees conducted a lighting festival to mark the Abhidhamma Day at the pagoda yesterday evening and today.

Buddhist devotees pay homage to the Shwedagon Pagoda from dawn to dusk today, doing meditation and offering flowers, water and light to the pagoda.

Similarly, ceremonies to mark the Abhidhamma Day were held at Sule Pagoda, Botataung Pagoda, Thiri Mingala Kaba Aye Pagoda, Mahawizaya Pagoda, Uppatasanti Pagoda packed with pilgrims on the Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut, Abhidhamma Day. — SNA

Everyone has a same wish to enjoy peace and stability in future in spite of holding different views

Poland stumbles on journey from low-cost to hi-tech

Hurricane Sandy knocks hundreds of thousands of Americans out of power before making landfall

(See page 8)

(See page 9)
**LOCAL NEWS**

**Monywa, 30 Oct—** Bonpyan Monastery of over 150 years old situated in Amyint, 13 miles south-west of Monywa, is under repair with the contribution of local people led by the presiding Sayadaw.

**Swimming pool for XXVII SEA Games meets 65 per cent completion**

**Nay Pyi Taw, 30 Oct—** Construction works of building swimming pool project for XXVII SEA Games to be held in 2013 in Myanmar are being carried out day in, day out. The swimming pool building is 143.4 metres (478 feet) in length, 57.8 metres (1315 feet) in width and 60 feet in height above ground and 15 feet in height in the basement. The building can seat a sports fan of 2474.

**Nippon Foundation’s goodwill towards national races in Myanmar**

**Yangon, 30 Oct—** Regarding rice and medicines worth US$ 3 million in humanitarian aid pledged by Japan-based Nippon Foundation for national races who are in need of help in Myanmar, a press brief was held at Sedona Hotel, here, yesterday. Chairman of the foundation Mr. Yohei Sasakawa explained matters related to medical, education and humanitarian aid programmes, and answered the queries raise by media men.— MNA

**Palek natural lake shallow-water region: safe place for hibernation of migratory birds**

**Mandalay, 30 Oct—** A gesture of raising public awareness of protection of Palek natural lake region in Mandalay Region, a safe place for hibernation of migratory birds, an educative talk on migratory birds hibernation in Palek natural lake region was held in conjunction with a photo show at Oriental House in Mandalay on 26-27 October.

**Unregistered vehicle seized**

**Bago, 30 Oct—** An unregistered Honda Fit saloon was seized at Nanndawyar ward in Bago on 24 October. A lawsuit over the vehicle was filed. A combined force—police officers of the Office of Bago Region Police Commander, Bago District Police Station and No (1) Police Station acted on a tip-off they had received.— Kyemon

**New school for offspring of company staff, gold miners in Moehti**

**Moehti region**

**Yamethin, 30 Oct—** The opening of Basic Education Primary School (Branch) was held at the new school in Moehti Moehti region in Waphyutang village-tract in Yamethin Township of Mandalay Region on 24 October morning.

Chairman of National Development and Prosperity Groups of Company U Soe Tun Shein and district education officer U Myint Thein cut the ribbon to open the new school. With the aim of facilitating the education of offspring of company staff, gold miners and workers in the gold mining region, the new school was put into service. Kyemon

**On the eve of Thadingyut Fullmoon Day, fruit prices went up in the market in Yangon. Photo recently shows fruits stall in Ye-gyaw where oranges cost K 2000 for three, guava cost K 2000 for three, pineapples and papayas cost K 1000 per each and a bunch of flowers cost K 800 or K 1000.**

Kyemon
China's top legislator meets Tongan Parliament speaker

BEIJING, 30 Oct— China’s top legislator Wu Bangguo has pledged to further advance parliamentary exchanges and substantial cooperation with Tonga.

He made the comments during a meeting with Lord Fakafanua, speaker of the Tongan Parliament, in Beijing on Monday.

Wu, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress (NPC), said China-Tonga relations have maintained good momentum of development since the two countries forged diplomatic ties in 1998. China appreciates the adherence of the one-China policy by the Royal Family, the government and the parliament of Tonga, said Wu. China is ready to enhance substantial cooperation in fields such as agriculture, fishery and tourism, said Wu.

He added that China will continue to provide assistance to Tonga within the realm of its capabilities under the framework of South-South cooperation.

The top legislator also spoke highly of the parliamentary exchanges between the two countries.

He said China’s NPC is willing to conduct multi-level exchanges and cooperation with the Tongan Parliament in order to make parliamentary ties as a constructive force for sound and stable development of China-Tonga relations.

Fakafanua said the current visit deepened his understanding of China, the Communist Party of China and the NPC. He said it made him fully recognize that China’s characteristic political system ensured the country’s prosperity and stability.

Wu Bangguo (R), chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress, meets with Lord Fakafanua, speaker of the Tongan Parliament, in Beijing, capital of China, on 29 Oct, 2012. — Xinhua

French president calls for competitiveness to promote growth

PARIS, 30 Oct— French President Francois Hollande on Monday said competitiveness was a prerequisite for economic growth, but should be mobilized by reforms and changes, after a meeting with major international economic organization chiefs in Paris.

The French leader attributed the country’s deteriorating competitiveness to the “lack of political decision,” adding that decisions would be “taken in November in all spheres of competitiveness.”

“Competitiveness requires reforms and changes which are transparent and understandable to all,” Hol- lande told a press conference at the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) headquarters.

The French head of state held talks with World Bank President Jim Yong Kim, International Monetary Fund Managing Director Christine Lagarde, World Trade Organization Director-General Pascal Lamy, International Labor Organization Director-General Guy Ryder and OECD Secretary-General Angel Gurria, focusing on discussion about measures to increase growth, jobs and competitiveness.

The French president identified three challenges that France faces: debt “which could become unbearable in the long term,” a worrying economic situation particularly marked by rising unemployment, and ways to stimulate French competitiveness.

The Socialist politician reiterated his government’s commitment to address each of these challenges. “We also have to restore our public finances and put them on a healthy base. This was the most urgent task we had to face,” Hollande stressed.

The president admitted “because of high unemployment, our productive capacity cannot be entirely efficient.”

However, he affirmed that a five-year plan would be introduced to ease the struggling economy and achieve growth. Hollande said he would propose a “competitiveness pact” to help areas as housing, education, innovation and labour costs.

The pressure has been mounting on the French government in recent days as nearly 100 business leaders called for cutting employer contribution to welfare charges by 30 billion euros (38.7 billions US dollars) in a bid to reduce labour cost which is seen as main obstacle for companies’ falling competitive- ness.

The meeting, the first of its kind for the French leader with heads of five major international organizations as France struggles with a flagging economy and record unemployment.

Lithuania at risk of political stalemate after election

VIENNA, 30 Oct— Lithuania’s president vetoed on Monday by three opposition parties to form a government after a weekend election, saying claims of vote buying and tax fraud came one of them until to rule. Voters turned against Prime Minister Andrius Kubilius’ austerity-minded administration on Sunday, in a warning for other European governments pushing through tough budgets.

That put an alliance of the opposition Social Democratic Party, the Labour Party and the party of an impeached former president in prime position to succeed him. But President Dalia Grybauskaite, a former EU budget commissioner who is popular with the electorate, refused to accept the Labour Party, which faces allegations of buying votes during the two rounds of balloting.

“A party which is suspected of gross violations in the election, which is suspected of false accounting and non-transparent activities cannot participate in the government’s formation,” Grybauskaite told a news conference. The three opposition parties had said they would wait the pain of Kubilius’ harsh budget cuts, which have forced many Lithuanians to emigrate in search of work. The parties would also remain fiscally responsible, an approach that economists view as inevitable given Lithuania’s high borrowing needs. — Reuters

Immigration reform still important in US presidential race

US

PARIS, 30 Oct— Visiting US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton met on Monday with Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika over regional issues, especially the situation in Mali, the official APS news agency reported.

“We had very detailed discussions on the situation in the region (Sahel), especially in northern Mali,” Clinton told reporters after her meeting with Bouteflika.

Their meeting also focused on the issue of terrorism and drug trafficking in the region, added Clinton, who began on Monday morning a working visit to Algiers. Clinton’s visit comes shortly after the first session of Algerian-US strategic dialogue, which was held on 19 October in Washington. Clinton’s last visit to Algiers was on 25 February, as part of her tour in the Maghreb region. — Xinhua

Lithuania’s Social Democratic Party leader Algirdas Butkevicius listens during an interview in Vilnius on 2 Oct, 2012. — Reuters

French President Francois Hollande

According to the Pew Hispanic Institute, those voters rank immigration as one of their five chief concerns behind the economy and jobs. That could tip the balance in states with a large Hispanic population, including battleground states Nevada, Colorado and Florida.

A recent poll by polling body Latino Decisions shows that Obama has about 71 percent of support among Hispanic voters, while Romney has only 20 percent. — Xinhua
Surface tablet buzz starts, Windows 8 hype muted

Seattle, 30 Oct — US shoppers woke up with mild Surface fever on Friday, lining up in moderate numbers to buy Microsoft’s (MSFT.O) groundbreaking tablet computer designed to challenge Apple’s iPad.

But, as the global debut of the Windows 8 operating system was greeted with pockets of enthusiasm, but not the mania reserved for some previous Apple Inc (AAPL.O) launches.

Microsoft is positioning the slick new computing device, which runs a limited version of Windows and Office with a thin, click-on keyboard cover, as a perfect combination of PC and tablet that is good for work as well as entertainment.

“We like the flexibility of having the keyboard and the touch capability,” said Mike Gipe, 50, who works in sales for bank Mellon, and was planning to buy a Surface tablet at Microsoft’s pop-up store in Times Square in New York.

“It’s the combination of having the consumer stuff and the work stuff,” he said, looking forward to using Excel spreadsheets and PowerPoint presentations on the new device.

The Times Square store was the first to sell the Surface — Microsoft’s first ever own-brand computer — and other Windows 8 devices late on Thursday and will be open through the holiday shopping season. On Friday morning it was crowded with a mix of tourists and local office workers, but the cash tills were not jammed. “With the other tablets you’re a consumer. With this you can have input,” said Peter Townsend, on vacation in New York from Australia with his wife, who bought a Surface tablet because he liked the keyboard.

Mark Paulchuk, 28, who works for a New York private equity firm, said he would like a Surface because he does not want to take a laptop on a plane, but was disappointed when the sales representative told him the only Surface would not work with Cisco VPN networking. “I can’t use this to replace my work laptop unless it supports VPN,” he said.

Elsewhere in the United States, there was solid but not overwhelming interest for the Surface.

“It’s a good tablet. I am not a huge anything fan. I like Windows,” said Matt Shanahan, a software developer who drove four hours to the tiny Michigan Avenue pop-up store in Chicago from Grand Rapids, Michigan to buy a Surface.

“[My friend and I are] software developers and this gives us an opportunity to develop new apps,” he said. In a pop-up store at the San Francisco Centre mall about 50 people lined up to buy the new Surface.

On an iPad you have to type half the screen for a keyboard, or buy an accessory, I love that the Surface is so integrated, that you can type and use Word and all my other programs,” said M. Alon von Scheseda, a textbook creator who bought a Surface.

With the Surface you get a steeper learning curve, but I had to get someone to show me how to side-swipe, swipe out to get the menus for in-stance,” he said.

“It may take a week, before it becomes natural. That could be a problem for Microsoft. My old dad, he would get hit by that steepening curve.”

Wall Street and tech industry experts failed to show great enthusiasm for Windows 8, but were prepared to give Microsoft time to succeed. “Microsoft did not come out with Windows 8 thinking it will be an overnight success,” said Daniel Ives, an analyst at FBR Capital Markets. “But there’s hope that this could be the silver bullet for growth for Microsoft as well as giving the PC industry some optimism that there’s better days ahead.”

The next six to 12 months is a “crucial period” for Microsoft to get traction with consumers, added Ives. “It’s an analyst at tech research firm Forrester, said consumers may be best served waiting for tablets running the full Windows 8 Pro and Intel Corp (INTC.O) chips, which are due out early next year.

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Science

Senior technologist Dariusz Cikol prepares to present the process of epitaxy in the Institute of Electronic Materials Technology (IETM) laboratory in Warsaw on 23 Oct, 2012. REUTERS

Warsaw, 30 Oct — Polish scientist Miroslaw Grudzien built the infrared detectors that NASA uses to explore Mars, but his business development loan nearly defeated him.

He’s firm, which made sensors on the US space agency’s Mars rover Curiosity, sought financing from banks and the Polish government had to sign off for a new production facility.

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Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer is seen during an interview prior to the launch event for Microsoft Windows 8 in New York, on 25 Oct 2012.— Reuters

Microsoft CEO says Windows 8 demand outpaces Windows 7

San Francisco, 30 Oct — Microsoft Corp Chief Executive Steve Ballmer said on Monday demand for the company’s new Windows 8 operating system, released its public on Friday, was running at a higher rate than its last release, Windows 7.

“We’re seeing preliminary demand well above where we were with Windows 7, which is gratifying,” Ballmer said at an event launching new Windows phones.

Windows 7 is the best-selling version of Windows so far, selling more than 700 million licenses in three years since release in 2009.

“Over the weekend we saw an incredible response around the globe to Windows 8 and the Microsoft Surface,” said Ballmer, referring to Microsoft’s first own-brand tablet, designed to challenge Apple Inc’s iPad. He did not give out any sales figures.

On Friday, there were moderate lines at Microsoft’s 60 or so stores across the United States for the Surface.

Ballmer was in San Francisco speaking at an event showcasing phones running its new Windows 8 software, which go on sale this weekend.

Microsoft has struggled to make headway in the smartphone market, after being overtaken last year by Apple Inc and Samsung Electronics Co.

But Poland has a long-standing tradition of having the keyboard and the touch capability, invented by Albert Karpinski, a mathematician.

A sign for Nokia Theatre is pictured in Los Angeles, California on 9 Oct, 2012.— Reuters

Nokia unveils new Lumia 822 for Verizon Wireless

Helsinki, 30 Oct — Nokia said that US mobile phone provider Verizon Wireless will begin selling its new Lumia smartphones this autumn, helping it to expand its presence in the United States.

“Nokia Lumia 822 will include an 8 megapixel camera, it said. No details on pricing or exact sale dates were available. AT&T will start selling Nokia’s high-end Lumia 820 and 920 phones in early November.— Reuters

A sign for Nokia Theatre is pictured in Los Angeles, California on 9 Oct, 2012.— Reuters

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A sign for Nokia Theatre is pictured in Los Angeles, California on 9 Oct, 2012.— Reuters

Nokia unveils new Lumia 822 for Verizon Wireless
A package of austerity measures international lenders had cuts after Stournaras said and extending the maturities haircut by reducing the interest Stournaras said on Wednesday Finance Minister Yannis on their official holdings of states could legally not write Schaeuble said sovereign euro zone, “Schaeuble said. The moves hand over substantially more responsibility to Cee, the head of Internet Software and Services who helped create the iTunes music store and App Store. The 23-year Apple veteran already is in charge of across its hardware, software and services business. “These changes show that Tim Cook is stamping his authority on the business,” Ben Wood, analyst with CCS Insight, said. “Perhaps disappointed with the M aps issues, Forstall became the scapegoat.”

Critics of the maps debacle, which led Cook to apologize to customers, had been calling for Forstall’s head. “Does Apple have a Forstall problem?” Fortune editor Philip Elmer Dvore wrote on 29 Sep. The moves hand over substantially more responsibility to Cee, the head of Internet Software and Services who helped create the iTunes music store and App Store. The 23-year Apple veteran already is in charge of across its hardware, software and services business. “These changes show that Tim Cook is stamping his authority on the business,” Ben Wood, analyst with CCS Insight, said. “Perhaps disappointed with the M aps issues, Forstall became the scapegoat.”

Six new cases reported in meningitis爆发 outburst

New York, 30 Oct—Cancer doctors often refer their patients to palliative care very late in the course of disease, according to a new survey from Canada. About a third of oncologists said they refer patients to palliative care, or hospice, when they diagnose a cancer that has spread and therefore usually is incurable. The take-home message is that palliative care specialists and oncologists need to work more in collaboration. The new findings, published in the Journal of Clinical Oncology, are based on a survey of 603 physicians. Most of the doctors did have palliative services available to them, although some were more comprehensive than others. In the US, the picture might be different. A

Germany’s Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble speaks during a press conference at the annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund. —Reuters

Germany’s Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble rules out Greek debt “haircut”

Berlin, 30 Oct—German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble ruled out public investors accepting a debt restructuring, or “haircut”, on their Greek bonds but said in an interview to be aired on Sunday that a debt repurchasing program could be considered. “(A haircut) is a discussion that has little to do with the reality in the member states of the euro zone,” Schaeuble said in an interview with Deutschlandfunk radio. Schaeuble said sovereign states could legally not write off billions of euros of losses on their official holdings of Greek government bonds. With frustration rising over worsening recession and tough austerity reforms, Greek Finance Minister Yannis Stournaras said on Wednesday that new cases in Florida, two in Ohio and one in Indiana, raising the total number of meningitis cases attributed to the tainted steroid to 377 in 18 states. This type of meningitis cannot be spread person-to-person.

There also are seven reported cases of infections after the tainted steroid was injected into a joint such as a knee, hip, shoulder or elbow. The steroid was supplied by New England Compounding Centre of Massachusetts, which now faces multiple investigations. Health authorities have said its facility near Oklahoma City has been called for more than 300,000 doses of injections that has led to 25 deaths in the United States, for Disease Control and Prevention said on Saturday. The CDC reported three new cases in Florida, two in Ohio and one in Indiana, raising the total number of meningitis cases attributed to the tainted steroid to 377 in 18 states. This type of meningitis cannot be spread person-to-person.

The treatment room, which will receive its first patients in early 2014, will use a system designed by Dutch group Philips, which will allow patients to select comforting ambient sound and lighting before starting the therapy. The installation in Shreveport in northern Louisiana is the first such project to be realized with Philips, IBA said on Sunday — Reuters

IBA signs $40 million US cancer facility deal

Brussels, 30 Oct—Belgian cancer treatment equipment maker IBA said it has signed a $40 million deal for the installation of a treatment facility in Louisiana.

Six new cases reported in meningitis

Nashville, 30 Oct—Six new cases of fungal meningitis have been reported in an outbreak tied to contaminated steroid injections that has led to 25 deaths in the United States, two in Ohio and one in Indiana, raising the total number of meningitis cases attributed to the tainted steroid to 377 in 18 states. This type of meningitis cannot be spread person-to-person.

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Australia expects strong relationship with C China

CANBERRA, 30 Oct— Australian Deputy Prime Minister and Treasurer Wayne Swan said on Tuesday that Australia will continue to build and strengthen relationships with China.

China is expected to have a leadership transition at the 18th Congress of the Chinese Communist Party scheduled for 18 November. China's transformations, including economic and social fabric of the country, are also expected to be highlighted at the conference that will be held on 8 November. Swan said at the 2012 China Advanced Leadership Programme conference that despite the transition, China and Australia will “remain intertwined.”

He said the leadership transition comes at a time when enormous shifts are also taking place in the economic and social fabric of the Chinese nation. “As we forge further ahead into the 21st century, China’s transformations, its urbanization, its extraordinary mega-cities, the growing middle class, are not just a sign of progress, they also symbolize China’s return to pre-eminence in the global economy,” he said.

“The immense scale and pace of China’s transformation, along with the rise of other countries in the region, is going to see Asia achieve some incredible milestones in the years ahead,” Swan said. The Australian government released its Australia in the Asia-Pacific White Paper on Sunday, which sets out a leadership transition at the new post in August.

Ottawa’s deficit-reduction plan.

The armed forces’ budget was tightened by 25 billion US dollars for the Department of National Defence and the Canadian armed forces were scheduled to almost double to more than 30 billion dollars between 2027 and 2028. However, an independent analysis recently predicted that the federal government could cut 2.5 billion dollars by 2014 to 2015 as part of Ottawa’s deficit-reduction plan.

The new top military officer, who has been in the air force for 37 years and most recently served as commander of the North American Aerospace Defense Command, was appointed to the Canadian top military post.

Lawson, 54, formally succeeded Gen Walt Natynczyk, who held the post in July 2008, at a change-of-command ceremony at the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa. The new military chief, who has been in the air force for 37 years and most recently served as chief of commander of the North American Aerospace Defense Command, was appointed to the Canadian top military post.

WASHINGTON, 30 Oct — Hurricane Sandy has already knocked hundreds of thousands of residents across the Eastern Coast out of power even hours before it is going to make landfall, the US Department of Energy reported on Monday.

As of 2 pm EDT, the impacted states in a stretching area from North Carolina up to New Hampshire reported a total of 316,500 power company customers without power, including 105,089 in New York and 87,649 in New Jersey.

“This is going to be a big and powerful storm and all across the Eastern Seaboard I think everybody is taking the appropriate preparations,” said Obama earlier on Monday noon during a televised White House statement.

Obama also said a lot of power outages can be expected in the affected areas and urged people to be prepared for the fact that it will take a long time to clear up after the storm due to its nature of slow moving and wide swath.

Speaking on CNN’s State of Union on Sunday, Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell said the state had learned lessons from the last storm which left many local residents without power for days, and already got about 2,000 additional people this time to help with the state’s power supply.

As of 5 pm EDT, the National Hurricane Centre reported that Hurricane Sandy was moving quickly toward southern New Jersey and anticipated it to make landfall early this evening with life-threatening storm surge and hurricane force winds.

3 killed, 5 wounded in landslide in West Java, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 30 Oct— Landslides in Bogor of West Java, Indonesia on Monday killed three people and injured two others. Suyatno Purwo Nugroho, spokesman of disaster management and mitigation agency told Xinhua by phone.

Penguin, Random House to merge into world leading publisher

LONDON, 30 Oct— Education, media and publishing giant Pearson Group on Monday announced a merger plan between its publishing arm Penguin and German publisher Bertelsmann’s Random House to create a world leading publishing organization.

Pearson and Bertelsmann have agreed to establish a joint venture named Penguin Random House headquartered in New York, of which Bertelsmann will own a 53-percent stake and Pearson 47 percent. Both must keep their shares in the venture for at least three years.

Under the plan, the new joint venture will exclude Bertelsmann’s trade publishing business in Germany and Pearson will retain rights to use the Penguin brand in education markets worldwide.

Penguin chairman and chief executive John Makinson will be chairman of Penguin Random House, and Markus Dohle, currently chief executive of Random House, will be its chief executive.

Penguin Random House is estimated to seize 25 percent to 30 percent of the global consumer publishing market. Pearson and Bertelsmann hope to cope with the ebook era through combination of the two leading publishers.

The two sides believe that the combined organization will have a stronger platform and greater resources to invest in new digital publishing models and high-growth emerging markets, and they will also save their money on joint warehousing, distribution and printing.

The merger is expected to complete in the second half of next year, and Pearson chief financial officer Robin Fairbroom said the deal would be approved.

All Sendai Airport flights cancelled as dud shell found near runway

Sendai, 30 Oct— All 92 domestic and international flights scheduled for Tuesday at Sendai A (airport in northeastern Japan have been cancelled after an unexploded shell was found at a construction site near the runway, airport authorities said.

Afer closing the airport two runways, Ground Self-Defence Force personnel will dispose of the dud shell. The US military shell, 110 centimetres in length and 35 cm in diameter with a weight of 250 kilograms, was found on Monday night about 1.2 kilometres west of the airport’s building, according to the authorities and local police.

Canada swears in new top military officer

OTTAWA, 30 Oct— Lt.-Gen Thomas Lawson, a former fighter pilot and air force veteran, was sworn in on Monday as new chief of the defence staff, Canada’s top military post.

Lawson, 54, formally succeeded Gen Walt Natynczyk, who held the post from July 2008, at a change-of-command ceremony at the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa.

The new military chief, who has been in the air force for 37 years and most recently served as commander of the North American Aerospace Defense Command, was appointed to the Canadian top military post.

Thousands of people waving national flags and pictures of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the revered founding father of the modern Turkish Republic in 1923, gather at Istiklal Street and march to Taksim Square, to celebrate the country’s Republic Day in Istanbul, Turkey, on 29 Oct, 2012.

Hurricane Sandy knocks hundreds of thousands of Americans out of power before making landfall

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3 killed, 5 wounded in landslide in West Java, Indonesia

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UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon (L) and South Korean Prime Minister Kim Huang Sik meet in Seoul on 29 Oct, 2012. Ban is formerly a South Korean foreign minister. —Xinhua News
Woman killed in Taungdwingyi Township

Taungdwingyi, 30 Oct—A woman was killed beside the cart way, two furlongs west of Mokoing Village of Sitar Village tract in the area of Hsatthwa Police Station in Taungdwingyi Township.

In-charge of the village U Tin Myint informed the police station of murder case through telephone at 12.45 pm on 22 October.

Police Inspector Tun Tun Aung of the police station reported on the murder case to Commander of Taungdwingyi Township Police Station Police Captain Myint Swe immediately and inspected the case.

In the scene, Ma Htay Htay, 40, daughter of U Sein Maung, shopkeeper at the school, was killed with bruises at right side of neck, chin and left ear.

Hsatthwa Police Station opened a file of lawsuit under Section 322 of Criminal Law to arrest the murderer. Myanma Alinn

Models show beauty and skill

Yangon, 30 Oct—Yangon Region Women’s Sports Team’s Success Committee Patron’s Cup Women’s Model Contest will be held at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township on 17 October.

To be able to successfully hold the contest, the demonstration of contestants was held for scrutinizing the talents and performances at MCC at 10 am on 27 October.

Altogether 60 contestants enlisted at the contest.

The Ministry of Sports and Myanmarr Physical Culture Federation jointly conducted arrangements of the contest. Executives of the federation Daw Yi Yi and Staff Officer Daw Mya Myin M in M of the Ministry of Sports supervised the demonstrations of the contestants.

The participants will be allowed with suits to take part in international miss contest, traditional costume contest and physical culture contest.

Model Physique Aye Aye Soe, Yutyi Soe and Wutyi Phyo who secured awards in the 46th Asian Physical Culture Contest

YC DC to implement Affordable Housing Project

Yangon, 30 Oct—Under the permission of the Yangon Region government, the Yangon City Development Committee will implement the Affordable Housing Project that will comprise 5000 apartments, 12 houses of land on Bo Bawtaw Road in Ward 46 of Dagon Myothit [Wet] Township.

The housing will be facilitated with grading relaxation area, playground, car park, shopping mall and mini bar. The housing will be implemented within three years and then will be sold to the people at reasonable price. Myanma Alinn

C cricket marketable food in Katha

Katha, 30 Oct—C cricket flows into the market during the period at the end of the rainy season and start of cold season in mid-October. The crickets are marketable at the end of November.

Boats small and large carrying crickets arrive at jetty of Katha Township. So, the jetty is bustling with cricket buyers and brokers.

Dead crickets are processed with ice and transported to Mandalay by train. Some merchants chartered the motorboat to transport crickets along Ayeyawady River.

Crickets from Katha are exported to markets in China and China border via Mandalay. Due to one or two days transport delays on the route, the merchants face loss.

Rural people catch crickets with the use of various ways and means to earn more incomes. Myanma Alinn

New escalators installed at western stairway of Shwedagon Pagoda

Yangon, 30 Oct—Shwedagon Pagoda, the symbol of Myanmar, is packed with pilgrims from various regions of the country and tourists daily.

Escalators and lifts have been installed at the platforms for convenience of the pilgrims.

The escalators installed at the western stairway of the pagoda in 1990 are being substituted with new ones. Regarding the new escalators, an official of the Pagoda Board of Trustees said, “Six Mitsubishi brand escalators worth US$ 500,000 have been installed at the western stairways of the pagoda. Now, the escalators are on test. Before December, the facilities will be provided to the pilgrims.”

A pilgrim expressed his opinion, “We all the pilgrims call ‘well done’ three times for installation of new escalators. It is because older persons and disabled persons will have easy access to pay homage to the pagoda through escalators.” Myanma Alinn

Cartoon show launched on Yekyaw Street

Yangon, 30 Oct—In commemoration of the lighting festival in the month of Thadingyut 1374 in the Myanmarr Era, the cartoon show organizing committee of Ward 10 launched the cartoon show on 50th street (upper block) in Pazundaung Township for the second time this evening.

Over 200 works of famous cartoonist 100 in successive eras will be displayed up to 31 October. “The works of the veteran cartoonists are the best. The works are sure to blossom the smiles of the viewers. The cartoons highlight opinions on social, education and environmental conservation. Especially, the cartoons create the best way for youths,” said a visitor.

Myanma Alinn

ASEAN-India car rallies under preparations

Yangon, 30 Oct—The ASEAN-India car rallies will be held along the route from Myawady to Tamu from 24 November to 26 December 2012.

Preparations are being made for welcoming the participants along the route for their smooth and convenient participation.

Students and people in Myawady will wave miniatures of Myanmarr and India to the contestants and placards on Myawady friendship bridge.

Moreover, preparations are being made for taking documentary photos and videos and present information in the newspapers and TV in time. A s f a c i l i t i e s , a m b u l a n c e s a n d management vehicles are deployed along the route to be able to successfully hold the rallies.

Myanma Alinn

Awareness of landmines developed in Loikaw

Loikaw, 30 Oct—In accord with the provisions in the Paragraph 38 of the UN Convention on Rights of the Child, an educative course on landmine and workshops were jointly organized by Social Welfare Department and UNICEF of Myanmarr for disseminating knowledge about dangers of landmines to the local people residing in the areas with danger of landmines and armed using areas. The courses are aimed at providing knowledge on danger of landmines to the children as they have natural habits and assessment around their environs. Likewise, the course was conducted for serving the interest of the children in Kayah State, said Kayah State Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Tin Soe at the opening ceremony of the Course.

YCDC to implement Affordable Housing Project

Yangon, 30 Oct—Under the permission of the Yangon Regional government, the Yangon City Development Committee will implement the Affordable Housing Project that will comprise 5000 apartments, 12 houses of land on Bo Bawtaw Road in Ward 46 of Dagon Myothit [Wet] Township.

The housing will be facilitated with grading relaxation area, playground, car park, shopping mall and mini bar. The housing will be implemented within three years and then will be sold to the people at reasonable price.

Myanma Alinn

UNDERWATER EXCAVATION: An underwater excavation takes place at the western stairway of Shwedagon Pagoda.

UNDISCIPLINED ACT: Cattle seen on Pyinmana-Taunggyo concrete road in Zabuthiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 24 October. Motorcyclists face much difficulty in dodging herd of cattle. Myanma Alinn
National industrialization

As the people’s aspiration is an industrial nation, we must make preparatory programs including efficient long-term, short-term national industrialization plans based on domestically available resources.

Here we must aware of economic and political changes taking place in the world as well. Taking into consideration the probable environmental impacts caused by the growing number of industries. So, there must be laws and legal enforcement to deal with the matter.

One of the important factors for economic growth is the formation and promotion of economic and social public institutions. A mother is the advance programs for schools and the media. The aim is to foster national spirit of the people to work hard with national pride.

We are in the process of adopting flexible investment, trade and taxation, and financial and monetary policies as per the global norms. Technology is the main driving force for sustainable economic development of our country. Accordingly, universities will have to set up more research laboratories to upgrade their standard. In fact, proficiency courses are the best for producing efficient labour.

In fact, proficiency courses are the best for producing efficient labour. We must build new airports, motor roads and railroads and upgrade the existing ones to facilitate transport. All these we are trying to achieve for our national industrialization is one of the democratic goals.

Abhidhamma Day celebrated...

(Based on page 1) Kyakwaing Pagoda and Buddha’s Tooth Relic Pagoda, Kyakkasang Pagoda, Shweponwint Pagoda, Lok Chantha Abhaya Labhamuni Buddha Image and Buddha Images and pagodas in Yangon today. Some bus-lines and taxis ferry passengers free of charge today.

At night, buildings and roads in Yangon are illuminated and Nivarna markets are held to mark the Abhidhamma Day traditionally.

Ceremonies to mark the Abhidhamma Day were held at the Maha Mun Buddha Image in Mandalay and Buddha Images and pagodas in Mandalay.— MNA

World Stroke Day observed in Mandalay

Nay Pyi Taw, 30 Oct— “About 15 million of the world’s population suffers from stroke annually. Of them, about six million are dead,” said Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin, at World Stroke Day commemorative ceremony held at Myanmar Medical Association (Mandalay), in Mandalay yesterday.

At the ceremony, the professors gave talks on stroke. After that, the Union Minister and party visited the booths. Then, the Union Minister enjoyed health care at University’s Hospital at University of Technology (Mandalay) in Path hemorrhage Township. World Stroke Day is observed annually on 29 October. This year motto is “Because I care…”

Myanmar delegation shares knowledge on hydropower production, RCC dams

Nay Pyi Taw, 30 Oct— Deputy Minister for Electric Power U Myint Zaw participated in the 5th supervisory meeting on technology in Madrid, Spain, on 22 October.

The Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister U Myint Zaw discussed with AEColenco Co Ltd from Switzerland on 22 October challenges with the hydro-power projects being implemented by theministry. The delegation also attended by the 6th international forum on sharing technology over Roller Compacted Concrete (RCC) dams from 23 October to 25 at Zaragoza. U Zaw Min San, Deputy Director of the Hydropower Implementation Department, read papers on experience made with retarder admixtures at two RCC dams in Myanmar and Assessment of RCC construction methodology between Yeywa and upper Paunglaung RCC Dams in Myanmar. A total of 105 papers on RCC dams were read by experts during the 6th conference. — MNA

Hey, guy! If you actually wait for the bus...
Everyone has a same wish to enjoy peace...

(from page 1)

development on to future generation. They should not pay the attention only to the emotion, but to the development. The world countries have to face similar incidents. Now collective efforts are being made for it by all countries. He said they no needed to disregard national cause. They should carry out national cause by mean of promoting the standards of culture and traditions. They needed to walk out the history for the country’s development he said. Although Rakhine State which is a role model for patriotic spirit is rich in natural resources, people should not live below the poverty line. The conflicts should come to an end by solving them in the legal framework. Authorities concerned are to solve it by legal and peaceful means by finding the root cause of the conflict.

It is time to call for legal requirement step by step. Protection of national races is the cause of the State. All are urged to solve the problem in cooperation with the State and people by holding clear and tolerant view.

Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin said, in his speech, that combined forces were formed for ensuring stability of the region, they are duty bound to keep making efforts for rehabilitation tasks for the victims of both sides after the recent riots, it needs to form State/District/Township/Ward/Village level combined forces with the aim of not allowing further such incidents.

He continued that those cases might create less progress of development of the state, especially the youth generations; and it must flourish stability in the state where mushrooming industry zones is required for job opportunities, as well as lending a hand to the victims.

At the meeting, Lt-Gen Hla Min from the Commander-in-Chief (Army)’s Office said that the meeting intends to really know public wishes. The Government is going to carefully work out the scrutinizing process on citizens, should-be-guess citizens and should-not-be citizens in a peaceful way.

He urged those present to join hands with the government to restore stability and development of the state without following any instigations.

Afterwards, they met with the displaced persons at Donywa Village in Pauktaw Township, who received cash and assistance, and comforted the victims at relief camp near Kyenini Village.

MNA
Malaysia investigates suspects linked to Al-Qaeda

KUALA LUMPUR, 30 Oct — Malaysian government has started investigation into two of its nationals who were arrested in Lebanon for terrorists link, officials said Sunday. It was very unusual for Malaysian to be involved in terrorist group outside the region such Al-Qaeda, said Malaysian Home Minister Hishammuddin Hussein, who told reporters that the government is greatly concerned about the incident and his ministry is probing the background of the two suspects.

We will investigate the suspected involvement of Malaysians with Al-Qaeda and Taliban in depth as it’s a matter of grave concern," he was quoted as saying by the official news agency of Bernama. The Malaysian Ambassador to Lebanon has confirmed the arrest of the two Malaysians, aged 21, and 25 years old respectively, at the Beirut International Airport a few days ago for allegedly linked to the terrorist group.

Lebanese media has reported that the two were in the country for terrorist attack.

Hawaii tsunami warning canceled after lower than expected waves

NEW YORK, 30 Oct— Hawaii state officials on Sunday canceled a tsunami advisory prompted by a powerful earthquake off the Hawaiian coast that sent thousands of people fleeing to higher ground, but did not cause major damage.

The advisory was canceled shortly before 4 am local time (1400 GMT) after the anticipated waves rolled in lower than expected, according to the Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre.

Kevin Richards, earthquake and tsunami manager for Hawaii State Civil Defence, said water, gas and power lines were not damaged by the smaller-than-expected waves. "Everything is normal," Richards said. "We’re in good shape with this one." Tens of thousands of people fled shoreline areas on Saturday night following siren blasts and a tsunami warning from the center that waves as tall as 6 feet could hit in some places.

Scientists downgraded the warning to an advisory shortly after 1 am Sunday (1100 GMT) and there were no reports of injuries, serious flooding or damage. The highest wave measured 2.5 feet, and that hit Kahului harbor on the island of Maui, said Dr Gerard Fryer, senior geophysicist at the Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre.

All beaches were reopened on Oahu, the most populated island in Hawaii, on Sunday morning, Richards said. Beaches remained closed on the island of Maui, but were set to reopen shortly.

Tsunami warning sirens began blaring across the islands at about 8 pm on Saturday as state officials ordered a coastal evacuation, prompting a mass exodus that clogged roadways as motorists fled low-lying areas.

On Oahu, the sirens prompted an immediate crush of traffic in Honolulu, with many motorists stopping at service stations to top up gasoline. Vindell Hsu, a geophysicist at the tsunami warning centre, said the evacuation affected an estimated 100,000 to 150,000 people who live in Hawaii’s coastal zones.

Beijing beefs up security, logistic support for upcoming CPC congress

BEIJING, 30 Oct—Beijing authorities have geared up support for security and logistics, as the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) is approaching.

The municipal government on Tuesday initiated an emergency response programme, asking relevant departments to ensure water, electricity, gas, heat, transportation and fire control services in the event of an emergency.

The programme requires emergency response teams to restore normal operations within 15 minutes in case of an emergency, such as a technical malfunction.

Vehicles carrying toxic or dangerous chemicals will not be allowed to enter the municipality from 1 to 18 Nov. The valid term for permits to enter Beijing will also be shortened from seven days to three days, according to the city’s traffic management bureau.

The municipal fire department started a campaign in mid-October to check and remove fire risks at venues that will serve the congress and the central government compound, as well as hotels, hospitals, schools, markets, stores, cinemas, clubs and Internet cafes.

Sanitation workers have been asked to strengthen food safety and cleanliness inspections in hotels and restaurants.

"Services for every post and every section should be assured so as to ensure a successful congress," said Guo Jinlong, secretary of the CPC Beijing Municipal Committee.

The CPC’s 18th National Congress will be convened on 8 Nov, with more than 2,000 CPC delegates gathering for the meeting, which occurs every five years. A new CPC leadership will be elected during the meeting, setting a new direction for the country’s development in the near future."
Typhoon-triggered flooding leaves 70 boats missing on China-Vietnam border river

NANNING, 30 Oct—Typhoon Son-Tinh has brought strong wind and downpours to south China’s Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region since Sunday, sinking six boats and claiming another 70 go missing on a China-Vietnam border river, police said on Tuesday.

No casualties have been reported so far, said a spokesman with the public security bureau of the city of Fangchenggang.

The typhoon caused a flood on the Beilun River, with 70 boats reported missing, six sunken and another one stranded in Vietnamese territory, the spokesman said. The region’s flood control and drought relief headquarters said heavy rains are still pounding the city of Dongxing.

The headquarters has asked the local government to take precautionary measures to prevent mudslides or other disasters.

Typhoon Son-Tinh has killed one person and left another five missing, the Ministry of Civil Affairs said on Monday.

It weakened to a strong tropical storm on Monday morning after sweeping across south China’s Hainan Province, Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region and north Vietnam, forcing the relocation of tens of thousands of residents.

Maritime authorities in Guangxi rescued 26 Vietnamese women and children who were trapped on their boats on the Beilun River on Monday morning.

Japan’s ruling DPJ losing grip on power with more

TOKYO, 30 Oct—Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda’s ruling Democratic Party of Japan saw its grip on power weaken again on Monday following two more defections from the lower house of parliament.

The latest to abandon the ruling party are law makers Atsushi Kuma and Tomohiko Mizuno.

Both previously voted against Noda’s key social security and tax reforms, and have remained opposed to the prime minister’s way of handling crucial policies — including his signature plan to double Japan’s sales tax by 2015, sources close to the matter said on Monday.

The sources also said the two will likely join the Genzei Nippon (Tax Cut Japan) party, which will provide the group with the five parliamentary seats necessary by law to be recognized as a national political party.

Noda’s own power base is eroding and with the resignation last week of his justice minister over mob ties, the opposition bloc is insisting Noda dissolve the lower house and call a snap election before key talks between the parties on authorizing the issuance of essential deficit-financing bonds can take place.

“Endless energy continues to be expended on fighting for power by exploiting an issue everyone fears,” Noda said today in his opening remarks on the first day of the extraordinary Diet session. The Japanese premier went on to urge the opposition to cooperate to pass the bill “as soon as possible” and use the phrase “responsibility for tomorrow” more than 20 times in his policy speech, an expression aimed at softening the opposition bloc’s stance on refusing to hold talks, or block key bills in the opposition-controlled upper house.

Fearing that failing to unite beforehand a single candidate will split the opposition vote and hand an easy victory to Park, the two have consistently voiced hopes for merger talks since his primary sweep in September, in fear that failing to unite behind a single candidate will split the opposition vote and hand an easy victory to Park, who is viewed as more likely to be a stronger opposition candidate against Park.

Among the industrialists, banking and financial which is one of the earliest taking the analytics services firms Avendus Capital, India will continue to establish its leadership position in analytics services over other competing countries or regions such as China, the Philippines, Eastern Europe and Latin America.

The demand for this service from India will be driven by a host of factors such as availability of talent pool, maturity of the industry and wide spectrum of services.

Data analytics is the science of using raw data by extensive use of statistical and quantitative analysis for the purpose of drawing business related conclusions and for predicting business outcomes.

Among the industries banking and financial which is one of the earliest adopters of knowledge services is the largest user of the analytics services followed by retail, healthcare and pharmaceutical industries.

According to a report by 2015, the data analytics market in India is expected to reach 1.15 million US dollars and become 21 percent of the overall Indian KPO market opportunities of 5.6 billion US dollars.

EU Council President to visit Cambodia to boost ties, pay respect to late King-Father

PHNOM PENH, 30 Oct—Herman Van Rompuy, President of the European Council, and his wife Geertv Van Rompuy will make a three-day visit to Cambodia to boost ties and pay their last respects to recently deceased former King Norodom Sihanouk, according to a media statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Tuesday.

The statement said that the official visit will start from 24 November when the invitation of Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen.

During the visit, Herman Van Rompuy will hold official talks with Hun Sen and pay a courtesy call on President of the National Assembly Heng Samrin. On 3 November, Van Rompuy and his wife will pay respect to late King-Father Norodom Sihanouk at the Royal Palace.

Besides, they will visit the National Museum, Toul Sleng Genocidal Museum and the world heritage Angkor Wat Temples in Siem Reap Province.
Armed men attack Afghan oil tanker, kill one

PUL-E-KHUMRI, Afghanistan, 30 Oct — Unidentified armed men killed a local oil tanker driver late Monday night killing one person and injuring two others and burning the vehicle in Dushi district of Baghlan Province 160 km north of Kabul, an official said on Tuesday.

Unknown armed men presumably anti-government militants attacked an oil tanker in Dushi district late last night leaving one person dead and injuring two others,” district governor Shamsuddin Sarhai said to Xinhua.

The oil tanker was also caught fire and turned to ashes, he asserted.

Taleban militants fighting the government and often target government interests including oil tankers have yet to comment.

Baghlan has been the scene of Taleban-linked militancy over the past couple of years and during series of operations carried out in Kapisa, Balkh, Zabul and Ghazni provinces have killed 12 Taleban rebels over the past 24 hours, Interior Ministry said in a press release here on Tuesday.

“The police during operations carried out in Kapisa, Balkh, Zabul and Ghazni provinces have killed 12 Taleban militants fighting the government have yet to make comment,” the statement continued.

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs
Yatanarpon Teleport Co Ltd.

OPEN TENDER FOR CAPACITY EXPANSION OF EXISTING 3G (UMTS) MOBILE TELEPHONE NETWORK

In order to provide quality and reliable services at affordable prices, Myanma Posts and Telecommunications (MPT) and Yatanarpon Teleport Co. Ltd (YTP) are planning to expand 3G Mobile Telephone capacity upon existing network for major cities in the various Regions throughout the country.

Detailed information, including Technical Specifications, Tender Terms and Conditions and Tender Forms will be made available to qualified interested parties on 1st November 2012 at 04 pm and can be obtained from:

Yatanarpon Teleport Co Ltd (Yangon Branch)
Hlaing University Campus Road
Hlaing Township
Yangon, Myanmar
Tel: 01 652 300, 01 652 233 Ext. 1101 during working hours

Tender Closing Date: 9th November 2012

Quotations are therefore invited from all such qualified interested parties for the supply of all necessary equipments and services for 3G Mobile expansion upon existing network and which must reach the under-signed on or before the above Tender Closing Date.

Quality Controlling & Bargaining Committee
Yatanarpon Teleport Co Ltd
**Why Javier Bardem might be the best Bond villain ever**

**The Independent**

Friday, October 26, 2012

**Wednesday, 31 October, 2012**

**ENTERTAINMENT**

**Demi Moore wants to fall in love again**

**Los Angeles, 30 Oct—** Actress Demi Moore has finally come to terms with the end of her marriage to Ashton Kutcher—who she split from in November 2011 after a five-year union—and is reportedly looking forward to finding romance again.

A source said: “She’s not desperate to date again but she is actually open to it which is a really good step. She wants to experience something new. She wants to fall in love again.”

Demi has also realized that Ashton is in love with his new girlfriend Mila Kunis which has been one of the main factors in her wishing to move on.

The insider added to America’s OK! magazine: “Demi seems to have rounded a corner. She’s been forced to get real. As much as it hurts her to see Ashton in love with Mila, it’s also been the push she needed to finally accept it over for good between them.

“She truly believed she’d spend the rest of her life with Ashton so it’s not easy for her to simply move on but she’s determined to do it.”

Javier Bardem plays Raoul Silva, a dandish cyberterrorist in Skyfall.

**London, 30 Oct—** Javier Bardem is being hailed by the British media for his performance in Skyfall, the latest installment in the James Bond series.

Critics saying the character played by the Spanish actor may be one of the best villains to ever take on 007.

Bardem plays Raoul Silva, a dandish cyberterrorist, in the film directed by Sam Mendes, taking on Daniel Craig’s Bond. The 23rd installment in the 007 series has won over critics, with many calling the film the best in the long-running franchise, thanks to the Spanish actor’s performance.

Lines.

**30 mins of ads before Skyfall begins at theatres**

**London, 30 Oct—** James Bond fans in the UK are being forced to sit through as long as 30 minutes of advertisements before the screening of Skyfall at movie halls.

The 23rd Bond film, which released in the UK on 26 October, is being used as a medium to promote a number of brands.

Five of the advertisements feature the secret agent, including ones for Heineken, Omega watches and a Bond aftershave.

And even before Adele’s opening theme, the spy, played by Daniel Craig, appears in an action sequence with the camera lingering on his Omega watch.

The onslaught of brands prompted many fans to complain on Twitter.

“Product placement aplenty and Adele hasn’t even sung yet,” said one.

A mother wrote: “Wow, sickening number of Bond product placements. Am sick of 007 and Skyfall hasn’t even started yet.”

Many grew even unhappier once the film began. They were irked by seeing Bond enjoying Heineken instead of his trademark Martini, and by the frequent use of Sony products.

Heineken had a product placement deal for Daniel Craig’s previous two Bond films, Casino Royale and Quantum of Solace, but this is the first time he is seen drinking the beer.

I has not been confirmed how much the Skyfall deal is worth, but before agreeing to it the producers had reportedly already raised 29 million pounds from product placement deals—approximately a third of the film’s budget.

**Neighbour arrested for trespassing in Tom Cruise’s home**

**Los Angeles, 30 Oct—** A man has been arrested on suspicion of trespassing in Tom Cruise’s Beverly Hills home.

The man is said to be a 41-year-old Jason Sullivan, Cruise’s neighbour.

He was arrested after he tried climbing a fence to get onto the property in an undetermined condition.

A security guard at the star’s Calabasas home spotted him and used a Taser stun gun to stop him, according to US media reports.

He was later examined in hospital for injuries. It is believed that he became confused and tried to get into the wrong house after getting drunk.

Neither Cruise nor his family were thought to have been home when the incident occurred.

Liam Neeson splits from girlfriend

**Los Angeles, 30 Oct—** Actor Liam Neeson has reportedly ended his romance with PR executive Freya St Johnston.

The Taken 2 actor ended his two-year-old relationship in order to focus more on his work and two sons, the Ace Showbiz reported.

“Liam is heading back to America at the start of next month to work on his new film Non-Stop,” a friend said.

“He told Freya that he wants to take a break and concentrate on his family.”

The 60-year-old actor and 38-year-old mother of two were spotted spending time together in Rome just two weeks ago.

Neeson started dating the businesswoman just 18 months after his wife, Natasha Richardson, died of severe head injury in a skiing accident at the Mont Tremblant Resort in Quebec.

From his marriage with Natasha, he has two sons named Michael and Daniel.
**Mcllroy edges Woods to claim China exhibition victory**

**Reuters**, 30 Oct — Rory McIlroy staked an early lead before holding on to win by a stroke in his "Duel at Jinsha Lake" 18-hole exhibition event against Tiger Woods on Monday. "It was pretty exciting day and the match was pretty close all day," Northern Ireland’s McIlroy told reporters just 24 hours after finishing second in the European Tour BMW Masters event in Shanghai.

Woods, who qualified for China for the first time in two years, clawed back after he chipped in from off the green at the par-three 12th but slipped two behind again with a bogey on the next.

The world number two birdied the 14th to reapply the pressure back on McIlroy and after both players picked up shots on the 15th, each parred the final three holes with Woods missing forcing a playoff when he almost chipped in on the last.

"I got off to a good start and had a little bit of advantage for the first few holes but then Tiger birdied a few on the back nine. All I was trying to do was to keep myself ahead and I managed to do that," McIlroy added.

Woods arrived in Shanghai having finished fourth in the CIMB Classic in Malaysia on Sunday and was looking for a repeat win over McIlroy after handing the Briton a seven-shot round-robin defeat in the recent World Golf Final in Turkey.

**Djokovic to finish year as world number one**

**Reuters**, 30 Oct — Novak Djokovic will move above Roger Federer to number one in the world rankings next week and is guaranteed to retain the top spot until the end of the year, the ATP Tour said.

The Serbian, who lost the top spot to Federer in July, will be the first player to top the men's singles rankings at the end of consecutive seasons since the Swiss did it four times from 2004 to 2007.

Djokovic has won five tournaments this year — including the Australian Open and Masters series titles in Miami, Canada and Shanghai — and pocketed more than $8 million in prize money. The 25-year-old, who is scheduled to compete at the Paris Masters this week, will be presented with a trophy to recognise his feat at next week’s season-ending championships in London, the ATP said.

**Ronaldo fears losing World Cup record to Klose**

**The New Light of Myanmar**, 30 Oct — Brazilian legend Ronaldo has admitted he hopes Germany’s Miroslav Klose does not play at the 2014 World Cup in Brazil.

"Klose has scored seven goals in 10 matches for Italian Serie A club Lazio so far this season. He also made a brace at Germany’s 4-4 World Cup qualifying draw against Sweden earlier this month," Ronaldo said: “Hope you’re right.”

**49ers crush slumping Cardinals**

**San Francisco**, 30 Oct — The San Francisco 49ers flexed their muscles with a dominant 24-3 road win over the slumping Arizona Cardinals on Monday night to stretch their lead at the top of the NFC West to two games. In a matchup of two stout defences, it was the 49ers (6-2) who lived up to their reputation by holding Arizona (4-4) to just seven yards rushing and handing them a fourth straight defeat.

San Francisco quarterback Alex Smith rebounded from his four interceptions in the previous two games to toss three scores without a turnover. He also completed 18 of his 19 pass attempts to keep the visiting team from scoring.

**AC Milan eyes Robinho-Dede swap**

**AC Milan is reportedly preparing a move to offload Brazilian winger Robinho in exchange for highly rated Vasco da Gama defender Dede. The Rossoneri are understood to be willing to accommodate Robinho’s desire to return to Brazil having decided the 28-year-old former Real Madrid and Manchester City man is surplus to their needs, O Globo reported on Monday. The report says Milan considers Dede as “the heir apparent to Thiago Silva”, who left the club last summer to join Paris Saint-Germain. The Brazilian defender is said to have played a 15-million-euro price tag on the 24-year-old, who could leave during the upcoming January transfer window. Dede has played six matches for Brazil’s national team since making his international debut last year. He is considered by coach Mano Menezes as one of the prime candidates alongside Chelsea’s David Luiz — to partner Thiago Silva in the heart of Brazil’s defence at the 2014 World Cup.**

**Reuters**
Greek man threatening suicide arrested near PM's office

ATHENS, 30 Oct--A Greek man was arrested on Tuesday near the prime minister's office in central Athens, after threatening to commit suicide, local media reported.

The 58-year-old man told the police officers, who approached him and cordoned off the area, that he was strapped with explosives and he would blow himself up, according to the Greek national news agency AMNA.

After his arrest, as an expert was negotiating his return, witnesses, he was shouting to the quality of the relationship between France and Israel,” the ministry added.

According to police sources, he was diagnosed with psychological problems and told investigators that he was trying to convince his Bulgarian girlfriend who broke up with him to return.

Before his detention, according to eye witnesses, he was shouting that he has no economic problems, unlike Greece,” Xinhua

Iraq to hold local elections in April 2013

BAGHDAD, 30 Oct--The Iraqi cabinet on Tuesday set April 20 next year as the date for the country’s provincial elections, except for the Kurdish region in northern Iraq, a government spokesman said.

“The Council of Ministers decided in its regular session today to set 20 April, 2013, as the date for the elections of the councils of provinces which are not organized into regions,” Ali al-Dabbagh said in a statement.

The decision was based on a proposal presented by the country’s Independent High Electoral Commission (IHEC), which is responsible for organizing polls in the country.

The statement said that the provincial elections will be held in provinces which are not organized into regions, which means that the elections will be held in 15 of the country’s 18 provinces, as the other three provinces are part of the autonomous region of Kurdistan. —Xinhua

Isreali PM Netanyahu to visit Paris on Wednesday

PARIS, 30 Oct—Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will visit Paris from 31 Oct to 1 Nov for bilateral talks, the French foreign ministry announced here on Monday.

During his two-day visit, Netanyahu will meet with French President Francois Hollande and discuss issues that “notably focus on the prospects for strengthening bilateral relations, the need to relaunch the Israeli-Palestinian peace process and political developments in the region,” the foreign ministry said in a routine Press briefing.

“This visit bears witness to the quality of the relationship between France and Israel,” the ministry added.

Netanyahu will also meet with French Prime Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault and Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius after the visit—Xinhua

Saloon in high demand at automobile show

YANGON, 30 Oct—Saloons are marketable at the automobile show at Myoma Ground near Tamadaw Convention Hall on U Wisara Road, here, from 27 to 30 October, said an official of a car company.

Depending on models, cars are on sales at prices of ranging from K 7.7 million to K 11 million through installment.

The buyers are to pay 50 per cent of price and take the car. The remaining amount of money which does not need to pay interest rate will be paid three-month installment.

Some car companies reduce 20 per cent of price of car at the show, according to the market.

Automobile shows are held with the aim of enabling the people to buy the cars at fair prices—Myanmar Alinn

National Peace Policy Minister Seiji Maehara (C) meets the press in Tokyo on 29 Oct, 2012. The home of Maehara’s secretary, registered as the main office of his support group in Tokyo, booked over 10 million yen in costs between 2006 and 2010 in political funds reports, though it is not clear whether substantive work was performed there, people familiar with the matter said the same day.—Kyodo News

R/489 Printed and published by the New Light of Myanmar press in Nay Pyi Taw, the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information.
Depression over Bay of Bengal intensifies into cyclone

**Nay Pyi Taw**, 30 Oct—According to observations at 2:30 pm today, a depression formed in southwest of Bay of Bengal intensified into a cyclone called Nilam. The centre of the depression is about 250 miles of Chennai, India.

**Yangon**, 30 Oct—A Korea Week activities featuring the largest Myanmar-South Korea cultural festival will be launched here in November, aimed at providing opportunity to build business relationship with South Korea, said the organizer Tuesday.

The Korea Week, which will run from November 8 to 14, comprise Korean Expo-2012 displaying Korean best products from 55 Korean companies, the 7th Korea Film Festival, K-Pop Cover Dance and Face of Myanmar Contest, K-Drama OST M-yannar-Korea joint Concert, the 6th Korean Ambassador’s Cup Taekwondo Championship and the 10th Korean Speech Contest, the organizer said without disclosing further details.

South Korean film festival has been held in Myanmar since 2006 aimed at strengthening the mutual friendship and boosting cultural exchange between S. Korea and Myanmar.

In October 2011, a technol-ogy, culture and business education center was jointly established in Myanmar by the Korean government, tasked to conduct Korean language courses, testing of the language, compilation and distribution of a Myanmar-Korean language dictionary. In 2006, a technology, culture and business education center was jointly established in Myanmar by the Korean university and the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

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**Singapore Airlines to launch daily flight between Yangon and Singapore**

Union Minister U Nyan Tun Aung, Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Singaporean Ambassador Mr. Robert Chua and Vice-President Mr. Mak Swee Wah cut the ribbon to launch the flight.

SAI between Yangon and Singapore. Union Minister U Nyan Tun Aung, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Singaporean Ambassador Mr. Robert Chua and Vice-President Mr. Mak Swee Wah cut the ribbon to launch the flight. SAI will fly Yangon-Singapore 18 flights a week using 8 Boeing 777 aircraft. Silk Air is currently operating 16 flights a week using A-320 aircraft.

Five more airlines namely- Korean Airlines, Qatar Airways, EVA Air, All Nippon Airlines and ANA had launched their flights to Yangon from Singapore.

Asian Airways are preparing to operate their flights to Yangon. SAI celebrated its 5th Anniversary on 25 October. 

Meanwhile, the South Korean government is offering scholarships for Myanmar’s pre-university students to study Korean language in Korean universities with the Chonnam National University of Korea tasked to conduct Korean language courses, testing of the language, compilation and distribution of a Myanmar-Korean language dictionary.

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**Monster storm Sandy leaves New York, eastern US crippled**

**New York**, 30 Oct—Millions of people in the eastern US awoke to flooded homes, fallen trees and widespread power outages caused by the giant storm Sandy, which swamped New York City’s subway system and submerged streets in Manhattan’s financial district.

A possible levee breach in northern New Jersey on Tuesday, flooded three towns with 4 to 5 feet of water in the wake of Hurricane Sandy, prompting the evacuation of hundreds from their homes.

A huge fire erupted in Breezy Point in Queens, destroying over 50 homes. The NY SE plans to test a new contingency plan to resume stalled equity trading today. Euronext declared an “alert” at its New Jersey Oyster Creek nuclear power plant due to a record storm surge.

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**Press release**

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