President U Thein Sein attends opening of 21st ASEAN Summit

Nay Pyi Taw, 18 Nov—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein attended the opening of the 21st ASEAN Summit being held at Nuon Srey Hall of the Peace Palace in Phnom Penh, Cambodia at 9.25 LST today.

Also present on the occasion together with President U Thein Sein were Brunei Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Muizzaddin Waddaulah, Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen and wife, Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Prime Minister of Lao PDR Mr Thongloun Sisoulith, and wife, Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and wife, Philippine President Benigno Aquino, Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and wife, Prime Minister of Thailand Mrs Yingluck Shinawatra, Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung and wife, ministers and deputy ministers from ASEAN nations, high-ranking officials, ASEAN Secretary-General Dr Surin Pitsuwan and guests.

First, Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen and wife cordially greeted the heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries who were present at the opening ceremony.

Next, the ceremony was opened with the singing of an ASEAN Anthem by the Cambodian cultural troupe.

In his opening address, the Cambodian Prime Minister said that only combined efforts plus better understanding of countries in this region could overcome the challenges being encountered by regional and global nations; efforts are to be made to add fruitful results of the 20th ASEAN Summit to 21st ASEAN Summit; during a period of 45 years the ASEAN nations have made progress in three key areas including (i) tariff and non-tariff barriers, (ii) investment liberalization, (iii) connectivity and transportation, (iv) SME development, (v) Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI), (vi) mutual recognition arrangements (MRAs) on professional services and labour mobility, (vii) institutional building and regulatory reforms and (viii) institutional issues for AEC building.

Afterwards, President U Thein Sein and the ASEAN heads of State/Government formally opened ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR).

Water level forecast for third 10 days

Nay Pyi Taw, 18 Nov—The water levels of Ayeyawady River are forecast to fall below the present water levels by 30 cm (about one foot) at Myitkyina, Bhamo and Katha, 45 cm (about 1.5 feet) at Mandalay, Sagaing, Pakokku, NyaungU and Chauk, and 60 cm (about 2 feet) at Mawbi, Magway, Aunglan, Pyay, Sekha, Hinthada and Zalun.

The water levels of Chin Chin River are forecast to fall below the present water levels by 30 cm (about one foot) at Hkamti and Homalin, and 45 cm (about 1.5 feet) at Mawbi, Kakway and Myanya.
President U Thein Sein attends retreat session of ASEAN leaders

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein attended Retreat Session of ASEAN leaders held at Champa Room of Peace Palace in Penom Penh in Cambodia at 3:45 pm today.

Present at the retreat session were Brunei Darussalam Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Muzzaddin Waddaulah, Prime Minister of Cambodia Samdech Hun Sen, President of Indonesia Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Prime Minister of Laos Phomvichanh Thonglounsinh, Prime Minister of Malaysia Dr M. Haji Musa Amin, Prime Minister of the Philippines Mr Benigno Aquino, Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore M. Lee Hsien Loong, Prime Minister of Thailand Mrs Yingluck Shinawatra, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr Nguyen Tan Dung, ASEAN Secretary-General Dr Surin Pitsuwan and high ranking officials from ASEAN countries.

At the session, ASEAN Alternate Chairman Prime Minister of Cambodia made an opening speech. President U Thein Sein and heads of state/government of ASEAN countries exchanged views on South China Sea issues, nuclear weapons-free in Korean Peninsula, endeavor for economic growth of ASEAN, natural disaster risk management and climate change, outbreak of conflicts in Rakhine State and millennium development goals—MNA

Online application for printing, publishing to be available as of 20 Nov

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov—Those wishing to do printing and publishing business can get online application for registration at the Printing and Publishing Enterprise of the Ministry of Information in accordance with the Section 6 of the Printers and Publishers Registration Law (1962).

Printing and Publishing Enterprise had received 79 applications from July to October and has given the green light to the 79 personnel to run the business after scrutinizing their applications for registration under the law.

The PPE of the Ministry of Information has planned to contribute the people to be able to apply for online registration as of 20 November, 2012, as part of efforts for smoothing the process of registration.

Those wishing to apply for the registration can download an application form and facts for printing and publishing registration at www.ministry of information.gov.mm and can send pdf file of the form to epr@minpyar@mnm as of the set date.

The PPE will scrutinize the application forms if they are in conformity with the rules and will reply through online to those who apply for the printing within three days from the date they apply and to those who apply for the publishing within 14 days. Those who get permission from the PPE are to pay the registration fee to the bank account of the PPE at the Mynamar Economic Bank and to get the accreditation for the printing/publishing business in accordance with the rules.

For more information for the online application, please contact the Printing and Publishing Enterprise, Ph: 01-544597; 01-544582; 01-541413; 067-412207; 067-412207.

MNA

Salvage of sunk iron frames, installation of new iron frames discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov—A coordination meeting on salvage of iron frames sunk in Ayeyawady River, offering of iron frames to be replaced in the damaged frames and resuming the installation of iron frames at the bridge on Singu bank was held at the Ministry of Construction, here, this morning.

Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lin and Deputy General Manager M R Wang Li Guang of China CAMC Engineering Co Ltd focused on safety salvage of sunk iron frames from Ayeyawady River and replacement of iron frames in time, use of related equipment in installation of frames at the bridge on Singu bank.

MNA

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.

Work programmes for control of illegal trade along M�awady-Y angon transportation route issued

Directorate of Border Trade under the Ministry of Commerce starts dispatching mobile teams to prevent illegal trade along Myawady-Y angon route, one of the major transportation routes in the country, for consumer protection and illegal trade reduction beginning 20 November 2012.

Press conferences were held respectively at Bayingaung 2 border gate, Yangon on 10 November, 2012, at Zwekabin Hall in Hpa-an on 13 November, at Shwe Myinmone Tun Hotel in Mawlamyine on 14 November, at Trade Zone’s meeting hall in M�awady on 16 November, inviting respective state government personnel, departmental personnel, organizations, one-stop services provider departmental institutions, traders association, businessmen and local media persons to inform detailed work programmes and procedures for consumer protection and illegal trade prevention.

Each mobile team includes representatives from Customs Department, Myanmar Police Force, and respective regional government and border traders association, and media under the leadership of Directorate of Border Trade, Ministry of Commerce.

Pamphlets with information on inspection procedures of mobile team along the transportation route, related documents required to be held at border regions and on container trucks have been distributed to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, respective border traders associations, commodity transporters associations, and bus lines.

Detailed information is available at Directorate-General of Directorate of Border Trade (Ph: 067-408405), Deputy Director-general of Directorate of Border Trade (Ph: 067-430201) and complaints can be made to those numbers in case of dissatisfaction with actions of mobile teams.

MNA

Ministry of Commerce
US President Barack Obama will make stops in Thailand, Myanmar and Cambodia during his three-country swing through Asia.—REUTERS

Obama’s Southeast Asia tour indicates a continuity of his strategic “pivot to Asia.”

However, the policy shift, which features not only closer diplomatic and economic interaction but also stronger military presence in the region, has raised suspicion and contention among Asian countries.

Moreover, seemingly emboldened by the United States’ policy, some countries have taken provocative moves on such sensitive issues as territorial disputes, to the detriment of the region’s stability and development. Being a global power with a vital economic stake in Asia, the United States plays an important role in the region. However, to mitigate the continent’s tensions and sustain its development calls for a more constructive role by Washington.

In order to build a more stable and prosperous future, Asia should steer clear of the old path of conflict and confrontation and embark on a new road of mutual respect and win-win cooperation.

Xinhua

China News Service
China pledges support for Iberia, warns on austerity

China’s Prime Minister Li Keqiang said on Monday that China is close friends with Iberia, and will continue to strengthen economic and cultural cooperation to jointly cope with the challenges brought about by the global economic recession.

Chinese ambassador, companies donate cash to Myanmar quake victims

Mandalay, 18 Nov—Chinese ambassador to Myanmar Li Junhua, on behalf of the Chinese government, donated 50,000 US dollars to Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Thein Sein to help with the reconstruction of a school that was destroyed in the earthquake in Mandalay.

“China and Myanmar are close friends,” Li said, “we are always ready to help our friend in need.”

Xinhua

Third Palestinian child killed by Israeli strikes

Gaza, 18 Nov—A Palestinian child was killed by an Israeli airstrike in central Gaza Strip, raising the number of children killed on Sunday to three, medical sources said.

As Israeli attacks on Gaza entered the fifth day, the death toll rose to 49, with another 430 Palestinians wounded.

In the morning, a missile from Israeli land shells in Al-Buraj refugee camp, killing one-year-old Eyad Abu Khousa, while his two five-year-old siblings were injured.

Reuters

Obama’s trip highlights importance of Asia

WASHINGTON, 18 Nov—US President Barack Obama’s trip to Southeast Asia signals a step further in the US strategic shift toward Asia and highlights Asia’s growing importance to the United States.

During the trip, Obama’s first foreign tour after his reelection, the US president will travel to Thailand, Myanmar and Cambodia during his foreign tour since the Vietnam War.

Obama’s particular interest in Asia is tied to the growing strategic importance of the region. As the most dynamic economic area in the world, Asia accounts for about one third of global economic output and its contribution to global growth exceeds 30 percent. During the global financial crisis and the ensuing economic recession, the worst in over half a century, Asia also played a pivotal part in placing the world economy back on track.

New Zealand PM to visit Myanmar

Mandala, 18 Nov—New Zealand Prime Minister John Key plans to visit Myanmar soon, said an official announcement from Nay Pyi Taw on Sunday without specifying the date of the visit.

Key will be the first New Zealand leader to set foot on the Southeast Asian nation in 54 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations between Myanmar and New Zealand in November 1954.

Key is expected to arrive in Myanmar following the East Asia Summit in the Cambodian capital Phnom Penh and meet President U Thein Sein and opposition leader and parliamentarian Aung San Suu Kyi.

“There has been historic political and economic reform in Myanmar over the past year. I look forward to seeing these developments first hand, and exploring how New Zealand can work with Myanmar to support its political and economic reintegration with the rest of the world,” Key said in a recent statement in Wellington on taking part in launching an Asian trade pact in Cambodia.

China News Service

Chinese ambassador to Myanmar Li Junhua (L) shakes hands with Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint during a donating ceremony in Mandalay, Myanmar, on 17 Nov, 2012.—Xinhua

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Reuters
Aeronauts Jing Haipeng (in the aviation simulator), Liu Wang (second left, second row) and Liu Yang (central, second row) try the aviation simulator of the L15 advanced trainer at the Ninth China International Aviation and Aerospace Exhibition in Zhuhai, Guangdong Province, on Wednesday. — Xinhua

Beijing, 18 Nov—China’s national aviation manufacturer has launched a long-term plan spanning until 2030 to develop advanced aviation engines.

Senior executives of Aviation Industry Corp of China claim they have set aside 10 billion yuan ($1.6 billion) for the first phase of the three-part plan, which will fund the research and development of engines until 2015. “Our aviation engine operation consists of four parts, which means when we are manufacturing the current engines, we also actively develop next-generation engines and explore the technologies of more-advanced ones,” said Zhang Jian, deputy general manager of AVIC Engine Holdings.

“The United States has been striving to make sure it leads by at least 20 years in the aviation engine industry. For us, the company has made a comprehensive plan through 2030, including the technological targets we shall have achieved by that year and the amount of money we will possibly invest,” Zhang told China Daily on the sidelines of the Ninth China International Aviation and Aerospace Exhibition, also known as Zhuhai Airshow, which runs from Tuesday to Sunday in Guangdong Province.

“Now most of the engines used by the People’s Liberation Army air force are manufactured in China,” he added, saying that in order to catch up with the latest and most advanced aviation engines, the AVIC has a plan that can be broken down into three phases.

“During the first phase, which will conclude by the end of 2015 if everything goes well, we will strive to ensure our air force’s aircraft be equipped with proper engines and to lift our development capability to that of the developed countries’ level in the 1980s. The second phase will witness us substantially narrowing the technological gap between developed countries and us. And by the end of the last phase, our engines will be as advanced as theirs.”

An engine development combines a high concentration of various advanced technologies; therefore, the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council have the ability to develop aviation engines, said Li Fanyong, executive vice-president of Aviation Industry Corp of China.

“Developing aviation engines requests a nation to possess solid scientific and technological capabilities and a strong industrial manufacturing establishment. Unfortunately, China is comparatively weak in these regards.”

Li said China failed to pay enough attention to the theoretical research of aviation engines in the past and it was not uncommon that only after a new aircraft had begun to be developed that the engine’s development was hastily launched.

“We have also realized that although our investment is tremendous, it is far from sufficient, so we hope private businesses will engage in aviation engines’ development,” he said. — Xinhua

Ebay sued over will-not-recruit agreement with Intuit

WASHINGTON, 18 Nov—The Justice Department and the state of California sued e-commerce company eBay Inc on Friday over what they called an illegal agreement with Intuit Inc not to recruit Intuit’s employees. The agreement eliminated competition for workers, depriving them of access to better job opportunities, the Justice Department and California Attorney General Kamala Harris said in simultaneous news releases.

Meg Whitman, then eBay’s CEO, and Scott Cook, Intuit’s founder, were closely involved in creating and enforcing the agreement. Cook was serving on eBay’s board at the same time he was complaining about eBay’s recruiting of Intuit employees, federal officials said.

eBay said the government is wrong and that it will vigorously defend itself.

“eBay’s hiring practices conform to the standards that the Department of Justice has approved in resolving cases against other companies. The DOJ is taking an overly aggressive interpretation in their enforcement of antitrust law in this area,” said eBay spokesman Lara Wyss.

The justice department said in the suit that when its investigation began in 2010 and settled, called the new lawsuits a matter for eBay.

“We have already resolved any concerns that the DOJ had about our recruiting practices and believe the matter for Intuit is closed,” said Intuit spokeswoman Diane Carlini.

A spokesman for Whitman, who left eBay in early 2008 and now leads Hewlett-Packard Co, declined to comment. — Reuters

Samsung goes after HTC deal to undercut Apple

San Francisco, 18 Nov—When Apple Inc and HTC Corp last week ended their worldwide legal battles with a 10-year patent licensing agreement, they declined to answer a critical question: whether all of Apple’s patents were covered by the deal.

It’s an enormously important issue for the broader smartphone patent wars. If all the Apple patents are included—including the “user experience” patents that the company has previously insisted it would not license—we could undermine the iPhone makers efforts to permanently ban the sale of products that copy its technology.

Samsung Electronics Co Ltd, which could face such a ban following a crushing jury verdict against it in August, asked a US judge on Friday to force Apple to turn over a copy of the HTC agreement. In a court filing, Samsung argued it is “almost certain” that the HTC deal covers some of the patents involved in its own litigation with Apple.

Representatives for Apple and Samsung could not immediately be reached for comment. Judges are reluctant to block the sale of products if the dispute can be resolved via a licensing agreement. To secure an injunction against Samsung, Apple must show the copying of its technology caused irreparable harm and that money, by itself, is an inadequate remedy.

Ron Laurie, managing director of Inflexion Point Strategy and a veteran IP lawyer, said he found it very unlikely that HTC would agree to a settlement that did not include all the patents. — Reuters

Knowledge of marine species still largely unknown: New Zealand researcher

Wellington, 18 Nov—The world’s most comprehensive assessment of ocean life has revealed that one to two thirds of species are still unknown to science, according to an international study.

The study published in Current Biology calculated there were fewer than 1 million marine species, including about 226,000 species that had been described by science and 72,000 more in collections awaiting description.

However, the rate of discovery was increasing, with an unprecedented 20,000 new marine species described in the last decade alone, suggesting that most marine species would be discovered this century, said a statement from the University of Auckland on Friday.

“This is by far the most comprehensive assessment of how many marine species have been described to date, and how many undescribed species experts believe there may be,” Associate Professor Mark Costello, who co-led the research, said in the statement.

The study involving 120 of the world’s top experts on the taxonomy, or classification, of marine species, and included mammals, birds, reptiles, insects and larger plants, whose opinions helped form the estimate of total species. Many of the species yet to be discovered will come from amongst the smaller crustaceans, molluscs, algae, worms, and sponges, said Costello.

“Knowing how many species there are in our oceans, and describing them, is vital for science and conservation for several reasons,” he said.

“Species are the most practical measure for distinguishing habitats and tracking progress in exploring the Earth’s biodiversity. They are as fundamental to biology as elements to chemistry and particles to physics,” Costello said.

“Better understanding of what species exist enables more accurate estimates of extinction rates due to habitat loss. In addition, having a standardized master list of species names is essential for quality assurance in science and the management of natural resources.”

The research would contribute to the World Register of Marine Species—an open-access, online database that had received contributions from almost 300 scientists from 32 countries.

—Xinhua

A photograph of a computer screen showing the website eBay is shown here in Encinitas, California on 22 April, 2009. — Reuters

A shop attendant poses with replicas of HTC, Samsung and Apple’s smartphones inside a mobile phone shop in Taipei on 6 April, 2012. — Reuters

This image contains a photograph of a computer screen showing the website eBay is shown here in Encinitas, California on 22 April, 2009. — Reuters

A shop attendant poses with replicas of HTC, Samsung and Apple’s smartphones inside a mobile phone shop in Taipei on 6 April, 2012. — Reuters

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A shop attendant poses with replicas of HTC, Samsung and Apple’s smartphones inside a mobile phone shop in Taipei on 6 April, 2012. — Reuters
**Do people turn to Twitter for CPR info?**

New York, 18 Nov — Amid snarky comments and links to cat videos, some Twitter users turn to the social network to find and post information on cardiac arrest and CPR, according to a new study.

Over a month, researchers found 15,324 messages—known as tweets—on the network containing specific information about resuscitation and cardiac arrest.

"From a science standpoint, we wanted to know if we can reliably find information on a public health topic, or is (Twitter) just a place where people describe what they ate that day," said the study’s lead author Dr Raina M. Mecina of the University of California, San Francisco.

According to the researchers, they did find some people using Twitter to send and receive a wide variety of information on CPR and cardiac arrest, including their personal experiences, questions and current events.

Mecina, an assistant professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine at the University of California in San Francisco, said they were excited to find so many people talking about these topics in a meaningful way. The researchers, who published their findings in the journal Resuscitation, write that some researchers and organizations already use Twitter for public health matters. Those efforts include tracking the 2009 H1N1 "swine flu" pandemic and finding the source of the 2011 Haitian cholera outbreak.

For the new study, the researchers created a Twitter search for key terms, such as CPR, AED (automated external defibrillators), resuscitation and sudden death. Between April and May 2011, their search returned 62,163 tweets, which were whittled down to 15,324 messages that contained specific information about cardiac arrest and resuscitation.

"Only 7 percent of the tweets were about specific cardiac arrest events, such as a user saying they just saw a man being resuscitated, or a user asking for prayers for a sick relative or friend," the study showed.

About 44 percent of the tweets were about performing CPR and using an AED. Those types of tweets included information on rules about keeping AEDs in businesses and questions about how to resuscitate a person.

The rest of the tweets were about education, research and news events, such as links to articles about celebrities going into cardiac arrest.

"The vast majority of the Twitter users sent fewer than three tweets about cardiac arrest or CPR throughout the month," the study said.

**Indonesia’s new car sales hit nearly 330,000 units in 10 months**

Jakarta, 18 Nov — A association of Indonesian Automotive Manufacturers (Gaikindo) said that the number of car sales reached 923,132 units in the first 10 months, or increased 2 percent from the same period last year.

Vehicle’s sales rose to 106,007 units in October or increased 4.5 percent from last month. According the Jakarta Globe, car sales, a key factor of consumer spending, hit record 102,512 units in July and then slowed in August due to fewer working days of Muslim Idul Fitri holiday.

An executive at Gaikindo, Jongkie D. Sugianto, said the association was eyeing a record 1.1 million sales by the end of the year. Sales from Indonesia’s largest automotive company, Astra International, jumped 14 percent to 53,764 cars in October, the sales led by Toyota and Daihatsu models.

Meanwhile Honda Prospect Motor booked a stellar sales of 9,187 units last month or jumped 128 percent from October last year. And sales of Suzuki Indomobil Motor rose 68 percent to 15,655 units.

The Central Statistics Agency (BPS) reported Indonesia’s economy expanded at 6.2 percent growth rate in third quarter from the same period last year. But it slower than 6.4 percent in second quarter.

**5 Korean direct investment overseas drops 15.6 pct in 1st 3Q**

Seoul, 18 Nov — South Korea’s direct investment overseas dropped 15.6 percent in the January—September period due to plunging gains in mining projects.

In the January—September period, direct investment overseas reached 30.68 billion US dollars for the first nine months of this year, down 15.6 percent from the same period of last year, according to the Ministry of Strategy and Finance.

The slowdown was attributable to a drop in investment into overseas natural resource development projects that outweighed an increase in the manufacturing and finance sectors. Excluding the mining sector, the investment jumped 28.2 percent on-year to 22.21 billion dollars for the first nine months of the year.

By industry, investment overseas into development projects tumbled 55.5 percent on-year to 8.46 billion dollars during the January—September period due to a high base effect of the same period last year when energy-related investments surged for energy development projects in the US, Australia and Canada.

Those for the manufacturing sector, however, jumped 36.9 percent to 9.86 billion dollars over the cited period, and investment into overseas finance and insurance industries surged 60.1 percent to 5.69 billion dollars thanks to an increase in the pension fund’s investment into the US real estate linked funds.

**IMF estimates Colombian economy to grow 4.5 percent in 2012**

Bogota, 18 Nov — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) head of mission to Colombia, Valerie Cerra, said on Saturday that the South American country’s economy will grow by 4.5 percent this year.

The projection is slightly lower than the estimate given by the Colombian Ministry of Finance. The IMF mission, which had reviewed the country’s economy for two weeks, also said here that Colombia must press ahead with fiscal reform and a pension system.

"This mission welcomes the initiatives launched by the Colombian authorities in this regard, particularly because this new pension reform will improve coverage and provide benefits to people who need them most," Cerra said.

The Colombian government is preparing to reform the pension system to increase its coverage. The pension system’s coverage currently does not even cover a third of the working population. Cerra also supported the tax reform bill that President Juan Manuel Santos administration presented to the Colombian Congress, which will take effect in June 2013.

Tax and pension reforms are effective tools to reduce labor costs and inequalities, said Cerra, who added that the IMF credit granted to Colombia to help it withstand effects of the international crisis will stay in force until May 2013.
New Dekkhinathiri Market emerges in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov — The opening of Dekkhinathiri Market was held today. Under the supervision of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee, the new market with an area of 470 square feet was built by TZTM company in Dekkhinathiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

The market comprises 240 shops and each shop is 10feet long and 12feet wide. There are four corner rooms and it is suitable for opening of stores, minimarkets and offices.

The price of an outer shop is K 16 million and an inner shop is K 15 million. Anyone can buy the shops freely and they can pay for the shops by installments.

Dekkhinathiri kitchen goods market built by TZTM was opened on 20 June. Clothing, electrical appliances and electronics, pharmacy, personal and household goods will be available at the new market.

Under the supervision of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee, there are five markets— Nay Pyi Taw Myoma market in Zabuthiri Township, Thabyeyon market, Shwe kyar pin market, 24-hour A haya Thukha market and Y uzana market— and they were put into service. The new Dekkhinathiri Market built by TZTM company is the sixth facility.

Thanks to the newly-opened market, it will be convenient for staff and their families in Dekkhinathiri Township. — Kyemon

Head-on collision leaves 2 dead on Mandalay-Monywa road

SAGAING, 18 Nov — A head-on collision occurred near a rest house of Wama village in Sagaing Township on Mandalay-Monywa motorway at 6 am on 7 November, killing two women and injuring two men.

A white van driven by U Hla Saw from Monywa to Mandalay collided head-on with a saloon driven to Mandalay at 6 am on 7 November, killing two.

Two sisters, Daw K khin San Win (52 years) and Daw Khin San M ar (35) on board the van, were dead in the crash.

Actions are being taken against both drivers for their recklessness. — No (1) Police Station in Sagaing. — Kyemon

Upgrading of Thanthuma road in progress

YANGON, 18 Nov — It is common for Yangonites to get stuck in traffic congestions caused by narrow motor lanes, lack of enough parking lots and line of vehicles on the motorway. To overcome this challenge, plans are underway to widen the roads and build more parking lots by group-3 of Engineering Department (road and bridge).

Expansion of road and building of car parks are being carried out along Thanthuma road in South Okkalapa Township by Yangon East District Engineering Department (road and bridge).

Traffic congestions are frequent on Thanthuma road linking South Okkalapa, Thingangyun, North Dagon, South Dagon and East Dagon Townships. So expansion of road to reduce traffic congestion is underway, head of Yangon East District Engineering Department (road and bridge) U Tun Hla said.

The aplan to expand the 12000-foot-long Thanthuma Road and construction of parking lots are being carried out from Parami road in South Okkalapa Township to Layadauntkan road in construction of operation theater. Then he looked into hostels for students of Gangaw B Basic Education High School.

In meeting with district and township level departmental officials at the meeting hall of Gangaw District General Administration Department, the chief minister presented cash donation for issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards for 1401 locals. Next, he met local people at Basic Education High School (branch) in Hsinswe village in Htilin Township and student hostels. On his arrival at the construction site of Gangaw district regional development tasks in progress.

Train leaves the track in Pazundaung Township

YANGON, 18 Nov — A train derailed near Shwe Phone Pwint Pagoda between Ward-7 and Ward-9 in Pazundaung Township, here, at 3:30 pm on 17 November.

Although there was no casualty in the incident, traffic delays occurred for a while as an empty carriage of the train left the track. It is learnt that authorities concerned were trying to put the derailed carriage back on the track.

Knowledge on earthquake given

THABEKKYIN, 18 Nov — An educative talk on earthquake was given at the sportsground in Thabekkyin Township on 14 November.

Member of Myanmar Earthquake Committee U Kyaw Tun gave talks on earthquake and U Ko Gyi, general secretary of Myanmar Engineering Society, on construction of quake-resistance building, and a Japanese scholar on comfort to victims of earthquake and natural hazards. — Kyemon

M yittha dam project, the chief minister oversaw progress of construction works and gave necessary instructions. Then the chief minister met with local people at Kyin village in the township and visited Kyin Station Hospital. — M NA

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NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR
LOCAL NEWS

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M yittha dam project, the chief minister oversaw progress of construction works and gave necessary instructions. Then the chief minister met with local people at Kyin village in the township and visited Kyin Station Hospital. — M NA
**Local News**

**Yangon, 18 Nov—** Myanma Football Federation adopted the long-term plans for development of Myanmar football standard. Recently, the federation invited the coach team of football academy of Real Madr id Club with the sponsorship of Digicel Co to provide training to the Myanmar youths.

Thanks to the training of the coach team from the football academy of Real Madrid, the Myanmar youths have the opportunities to learn the advancement of football techniques.

**Falam, 18 Nov—** An educative talk about anti-human trafficking was held at the hall of the Women’s Vocational Training School in Falam on 14 November after the arrival of tourists.

At first, Deputy Commissioner of the district U Soe Tint spoke on the occasion. Next, the District Judge, the Commander of Township Police Force, the district GG and the head of Township Traditional Medicine Department gave talks about anti-human trafficking.—Myanma Alinn

**Festivities on schedule on Loimauk Hill**

**Kawlin, 18 Nov—** The 6th Neikban Market will be held on a grand scale in Loimauk Hill, four miles west of Kawlin on fullmoon day of Tazaungmon.

The 25th communal Kathina ceremony will be held on the hill in Tazaungmon and the 68th Buddha Pujaṇi from 7th to 11th Waning of Tabaung. Loimauk Hill is a symbol of Kawlin Township. There are many historical events in Kawlin Township.

**Myanma Alinn**

**Nay Pyi Taw Trade Fair on 12-16 Dec**

**Nay Pyi Taw, 18 Nov—** The Nay Pyi Taw Trade Fair, Auto Show and Entertainment Programme, to be organised by Paing Aung Business Group, will be held at the Buddha Pujaṇi of Nay Pyi Taw Upatasanti Pagoda from 12 to 16 December. Matters and industrial products of companies and over 700 shops will be opened at the show that will be the largest in the nation.

The companies will display their goods to be sold at 10-50 per cent discount and give lucky draws to the visitors and buyers.

The hosts of the companies will showcase condos, housings and apartments, computer and its accessories, electronic and electrical equipment, textile and cosmetics, fashion lines and attars, foodstuffs, local and foreign-made medicines, agricultural and livestock breeding materials, stationery, kitchen utensils, furniture, construction materials, industrial products, personal goods, saloon cars, heavy machinery, buses, generators, car batteries and tyres, lubricants and fuel, car parts and farming machinery at the fair.

**Myanma Alinn**

**Regional development tasks undertaken**

Among the international flights to be opened, Flights to Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand, China and India will launch the flights to Cambodia in December. The maiden flight of MAI will be launched on 1 December from Yangon to Phnom Penh. After that, the flight will ply every Wednesday and Saturday.

**Uppatasanti Pagoda from 12-16 Dec**

**Yangon, 18 Nov—**The Law Library will be opened at room No 01 and 03 of Asia Plaza at the corner of Seikkantha and Bogoye Aung San Streets in Kyaiktada Township on 1 December for enabling the enthusiasts to pursue legal affairs. The founder of the library Advocate U Toe Win said that the library will be opened with the aim of enabling people to have wider knowledge about legal affairs. Any person may read books on law written by Wunna Kyaw U Win, Sein Hlaing, retired, Justice of the Supreme Court, and others.

**Myanma Alinn**
**PERSPECTIVES**

**Monday, 19 November, 2012**

**Family planning**

The huge unmet need for family planning persists, despite international agreements and human rights treaties that promote individuals’ rights to make their own decisions about when and how often to have children.

When a woman is able to exercise her reproductive rights, she is more able to benefit from her other rights, such as the right to education. The results are higher incomes, better health for her and her children and greater decision-making power for her, both in the household and the community. When women and men together plan their childbearing, children benefit immediately.

Family planning helps avoid unintended pregnancies, which can have an adverse effect on the ability of a woman to enjoy a range of other rights. An adolescent who becomes pregnant, for example, is often forced to drop out of school, and is thus deprived of her right to education. An unintended pregnancy can endanger a woman’s health, undermine her opportunities to earn a living and trap her and her entire family in a cycle of poverty and exclusion.

Much of the research to date has focused on access to family planning by women and female adolescents. But males, too, have an unmet need for family planning.

Here, every adult, adolescent and young person everywhere, regardless of sex, social status, income, ethnicity, religion or place of residence must be empowered to decide freely and responsibly how many children to have and when to have them.

Today, family planning is almost universally recognized as an intrinsic right, affirmed and upheld by many other human rights. Because it is a right, voluntary family planning should be available to all, not just the wealthy or the privileged.

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**NATIONAL**

President U Thein Sein attends meeting between ASEAN leaders and ASEAN Business Advisory Council

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein attends the meeting between ASEAN leaders and members of ASEAN Business Advisory Council.— MNA

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President U Thein Sein meets Malaysian Prime Minister Dato Seri Mohamad Najib Bin Tun Haji Abdullah Razak


President U Thein Sein extended greetings and appreciation to Prime Minister Dato Seri Mohamad Najib Bin Tun Haji Abdullah Razak. The visit was attended by heads of state/government of ASEAN countries and members of ASEAN Business Advisory Council.

A SEAN Alternate Chair Prime Minister of Cambodia Samdech Hun Sen extended greetings and made clarifications on tasks of the council.

Next, Chairman of ASEAN Business Advisory Council explained functions of the council and suggested on the annual review of ASEAN competitiveness and the situation in which investors’ interests in ASEAN and competitiveness are still firm in accord with the review.

He made a proposal calling for more collaborative efforts between governments and private sectors for improvement in performance of small and medium scale enterprises and for technology necessary for making investments.

Heads of state/government of ASEAN countries held comprehensive discussions on the clarifications and suggestions, highlighting the establishment of ASEAN Business Advisory Council and functions of ASEAN Business Advisory Council play a vital role in formulation of economic policies and control by governments of ASEAN countries, trade and investments are key drivers of economic growth and development of small and medium scale enterprises is of vital importance in poverty alleviation programme.

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Economic prospects in Asia

Asia

Myan Zat

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Investment of both countries

Naw Pyi Taw, 18 Nov—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein attended the meeting between ASEAN leaders and ASEAN Business Advisory Council at Champa Room on the third floor of Peace Palace in Phnom Penh of Cambodia at 2 pm local time today.

The meeting was attended by heads of state/government of ASEAN countries and members of ASEAN Business Advisory Council.

A SEAN Alternate Chair Prime Minister of Cambodia Samdech Hun Sen extended greetings and made clarifications on tasks of the council.

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He made a proposal calling for more collaborative efforts between governments and private sectors for improvement in performance of small and medium scale enterprises and for technology necessary for making investments. Then heads of state/government of ASEAN countries held comprehensive discussions on the clarifications and suggestions, highlighting the establishment of ASEAN Business Advisory Council and functions of ASEAN Business Advisory Council play a vital role in formulation of economic policies and control by governments of ASEAN countries, trade and investments are key drivers of economic growth and development of small and medium scale enterprises is of vital importance in poverty alleviation programme.

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President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein attends meeting between ASEAN leaders and ASEAN Business Advisory Council.— MNA

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President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein meets Malaysian Prime Minister Dato Seri Mohamad Najib Bin Tun Haji Abdullah Razak

Naw Pyi Taw, 18 Nov—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein met with Prime Minister of Malaysia Dato Seri Mohamad Najib Bin Tun Haji Abdullah Razak at Call Room of Peace Palace in Phnom Penh in Cambodia at 2:40 pm today.

Present at the call were Prime Minister Dato Seri Mohamad Najib Bin Tun Haji Abdullah Razak, Malaysian Prime Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Tin Naing Thein, Dr Kan Zaw, Deputy Ministers U Zin Yaw, Daw Sandra Khin, and Myanmar Ambassador to Cambodia U Cho Tun Aung.

Malaysian Prime Minister was accompanied by ministers and high ranking officials.

At the call, they cordially discussed matters on mutual interests, assistance for development undertakings, necessary technical assistance in serving ASEAN Chairmanship, promotion of economy and investment of both countries as Myanmar has passed Foreign Investment Law.

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MNA
Establishment of ASEAN…

(From page 16) promote the centrality of ASEAN. The establishment of ASEAN Community is not only for geographical location of ASEAN but a milestone towards stable, peaceful and prosperous region. We should set further goals for future of ASEAN.

I know what will happen in the world in coming two years. What is the most important is to maintain the unity of ASEAN for bravely addressing the future challenges. I am very glad that ASEAN secretariat from 2008 to 2012. In particular, on behalf of Myanmar government and people, I would like to express the special thanks to the ASEAN Secretary-General for his leadership in relief and rehabilitation tasks by Tripartite Core Group comprised of Myanmar government, ASEAN and UN after the Nargis storm. May his future attempts to meet the successes! ASEAN Community welcomes the nomination of Mr. Le Luong Minh from our brother Vietnam. Mr. Le Luong Minh will face so many challenges as he would have to lead the transition of ASEAN Community.

We also expect that he can manage the ASEAN Secretariat effectively and serve the interests of ASEAN and its people.

In the coming Summit, the heads of State/Government had a luncheon hosted by the Cambodian Prime Minister. — M NA

21st ASEAN Summit Plenary Session in progress.– NNA

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Information Committee

Press Release 2/2012

5th Waxing of Tazaungmon, 1374 M E

18 November, 2012

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar will deal with the following affairs to be able to protect human rights of the citizens and to ensure democratic government as part of its efforts in conformity with the international standard.

1. Human Rights affairs

The government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar will promote cooperation between the International Committee of the Red Cross-ICRC and the Ministry of Home Affairs. As from 2011, the ICRC has been allowed by the Ministry of Home Affairs to carry out tasks for clean toilet system, water and power supply system in prisons, and the ministry will allow the ICRC to work together for medication and social security of the prisoners.

The Union Government will continue to hold talks over opening the office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in Myanmar.

The government has already removed the personnel included in the “political black list” and has assigned a liaison officer at the President Office to reply to questions related to that issue.

2. Prisoners Affairs

The Union Government will hold meetings between Ministry of Home Affairs, other related government departments and organizations before December, 2012, to discuss matters related to remaining prisoners, and will reconsider the charges and punishment of the prisoners.

3. Addressing conflicts and national solidarity

The Union Government has committed to the peace-making and so far, it has reached ceasefire agreement with 10 main ethnic armed groups and will conclude peace negotiations politically. The Union Government will continue to make endeavours to reach a ceasefire agreement in Kachin State and to hold negotiations politically. Besides, the Union Government will implement necessary tasks politically to ensure long-term guarantee for good governance and rights of national races.

Effective measures will be taken to ensure that the conflicts in Rakhine State not to happen again and legal actions be taken against those who get involved in the incidents according to the law as stated in the letter of the President sent to the UN Secretary-General. The Union Government will work together with international community to obtain humanitarian aids for the people in Rakhine State. It will work out the root cause of the conflicts between the two communities and will address politically the issues from helping the displaced people return home to gain their citizenship.

The Union Government will coordinate with other international humanitarian organizations and International Red Cross Society to expand the help in conflict-stricken areas.

4. Non-proliferation

As the President has signed additional protocol of International Atomic Energy Agency and to recognize the amendment of 1995 Small Quantities Protocol, the Union Government would put forward them to the parliament for further proceeding. Myanmar has joined IAEA since its birth in 1957 and signed Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) in December, 1992, Small Quantities Protocol of NPT and Southeast Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty in 1995, Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty and TREATY in 1996. The Union government, being an administration of UN member states, is firmly committed to adherence to resolution No. 1874 of the United Nations Security Council.

5. Building of a transparent government

The Union Government is to try to join Open Government Partnership (OGP) in 2016. OGP is a multilateral programme for building of a more transparent, accountable and efficient government by putting public participation in political process, ensuring anti-corruption, and improving technology sector.

6. Anti-human trafficking

The Union government has agreed to participate in “US-Myanmar anti-human trafficking programme” and will continue forced labour eradication programmes in cooperation with ILO and anti-human trafficking work plans in line with “new war on village-track administration law.” The government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar gladly welcomes technical assistance from the United States of America in those programmes.

Information Committee
People need to make their very wishes known correctly: Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann meets departmental personnel, members of social organizations and local people in Thayawady.—MNA

Union Minister calls for workforce preparation ahead of FDI influx

NAV PYITTAW, 18 Nov—Union Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Security U Maung Munt expressed his appreciation to blue-collar workers for their part in industrialization of the nation while visiting Asia Optical Company, an optical component producer in Myingaladon Industrial Zone, here yesterday.

The Union Minister at Kaba Training School called for establishment of training schools and preparations, pointing that an influx of FDI into Dawei market, calling for competent and skilled workforce would require skilled workforce.

He predicted the emergence training school market, calling for competency of local workforce on a par with international ones. He urged local people to have an understanding of the situation in which more fulfillments are to be made for important places.

Chairperson of Pyithu Hluttaw Economic and Trade Development Committee U Maung Maung Thein and Amyotha Hluttaw Women and Children Committee Chairperson Dr M A Yo, Bago Region Chief M inister U Nyan Win, Region Hluttaw Speaker U Win Tin, secretaries and members of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw committees and commission, MPs and personnel were also present on the occasion.—MNA

Collective Remembrance Arts Show 20-30 Nov

YANGON, 18 Nov—Under the arrangements of Department of Archaeology, National Museum and Library of the Ministry of Culture and Education and Culture Ministry of Republic of Indonesia and Indonesia an Embassy, the Collective Remembrance Arts Show will be held at the National Museum, here, from 20 to 30 November.—Myanma Alinn

Largest environmental consumer event in US opens in L.A

LOS ANGELES, 18 Nov—Everything is green but green, that is what the Green Festival, the largest and most trusted environmental consumer event in the United States, demonstrated when it opened at the Los Angeles Convention Centre Saturday.

The two-day event hosts eco-innovators, over 100 renowned speakers, community leaders, green business experts, and over 300 green and socially responsible exhibitors, health and wellness influencers, and cultural and bilingual programming.

Green Festival is widely recognized as the largest marketplace of conscious businesses as well as great place to find the latest in sustainable products and fair trade gifts perfect for holiday shopping. A joint venture between Green America and Global Exchange, Green Festival is a non-profit event that celebrates an 11-year milestone hosting over one million attendees in eight cities.

Green Festival is the largest sustainability event and is the only event that screens exhibitors for their commitment to social justice and ecological balance using Green America’s Green Business Certification Standards.

A middle aged man, showing his dried fruits grown with organic farming, told Xinhua that to grow organic fruits, he has to use organic fertilizer, commit not to use chemical pesticide, and he has to get a license for his farm land to grow organic fruits and vegetables. “You will taste the difference between my fruits grown naturally and those produced in non-organic ways, even those are dried fruits,” said the man who has been in the organic farming business for several years.

Trikke Electric is test driving its manual and electric powered three-wheeled bikes at the exhibition. The manual powered is equipped with fitness tires that make it easier to propel using the body power. Different from the traditional way, riders just need to twist the throttle and go. The athletic stance over three wheels allows for an extremely stable and ergonomic riding position.

Xinhua
23 percent underage girls in Nepal get married

"Our biggest challenge is the family’s attitude towards educating their daughters," he added. "We certainly need to strongly lobby against early marriage, but we are hampered by a very poor monitoring system to implement the existing law," said Suman Tuladhar, education specialist at the United Nations Children’s Fund, Nepal (UNICEF-Nepal). Still many rural families in Nepal marry off their daughters at the age of 11-13 because their parents think that the older a girl gets, the higher the dowry will be. "Child marriage is the extreme denial of children’s rights. Many girls suffer from abusive marriages as they are married to older boys," said Dibya Dawadi, deputy director general at the Department of Education under the Ministry of Education. After marriage, such girls rarely come back to school and even if they do, their performance is recorded very poor. Dawadi said, adding that early marriage negatively impacts the girls’ self-confidence.

Child marriage not only defied them from their education, it often made them vulnerable to a cycle of discrimination, domestic violence and abuse, said Helen Sherpa, social activist and member of the World Education, an international nongovernmental organization (NGO). Tuladhar said the UNICEF’s world report on child marriage in 2011 showed that 51 percent of Nepalese get married in their early age. Nepal’s 2006 demographic and health survey found that among Nepalese women of the 20-49 age groups, 60 percent were married by the time they reached 18.

Early marriage changes a girl’s life options because parents no longer want to invest in “someone else’s property,” said Kaman Singh, an activist from the Nepal Chepang Association, an NGO working for the Chepang community in Nepal. Dire poverty and lack of government initiatives to get girls to school were among reasons for early marriage, Chepang said.

Dhaka, 18 Nov—Eleven people were killed as fire engulfed a slum in Bangladesh’s capital Dhaka in the wee hours of Sunday, fire service said.

A taur Rahman, duty officer of the fire office in Dhaka, told Xinhua by phone that the blaze broke out in a slum in Hazaribagh residential area at around 3 am local time, killing 11 persons, including four children and five women. However, he could not give the exact figure of the injured. Rahman said that the fire might have been caused by a cigarette butt in a Rickshaw garage and spread to the slum, damaging over 1,000 shanties. 11 killed in slum fire in Bangladeshi capital

Death toll rises to nine in SW China pile-up

A girl plays next to red panda photo during celebration of Red Panda Day at Zagreb Zoo, on 17 Nov, 2012. Zagreb Zoo invited visitors to suggest names for the newborn baby panda twins. — Xinhua

The death toll from pile-ups on a one-kilometer section of the expressway around 9 am as a result of heavy fog, police said.

Seven cars caught fire in the accidents, which also left 19 people injured, according to police. Traffic has resumed. — Xinhua

Singapore’s Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong (R) shakes hands with US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton during their meeting in Singapore, on 17 Nov, 2012. — Xinhua

Philippine govt urges pyramid scam victims not to lynch suspects

Philippines

"Our appeal (to the victims), let us allow the investigation to take place; let us allow (the authorities) to look for the suspects, and let us not do anything that will create more problems," Valtie said in an interview with a state-run radio station. Valtie said this was the reason why Interior Ministry called back to camp 21 local police officers who invested their hard-earned money in Aman.

"This is what we are trying to prevent, that investors themselves will take the law into their own hands," she said. She added the security has been tightened in the province, including Pagadian City, where most of Aman victims came. About 15,000 individuals reportedly invested about 12 billion pesos (about 290 million US dollars) in Aman.

The government is hunting the main suspects, including Aman president Manuel K A Mallilo and Fernando “N nony” R Luna, head of the Aman operations in Pagadian City. — Xinhua

A man was killed and 25 others were injured in a stampede that broke out at a market in Davao City, the southern city in the Philippines, on Saturday.

Eleven people were killed and 19 others were injured in a stampede that broke out at a market in Davao City, the southern city in the Philippines, on Saturday.

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South Sudan faces “number of challenges”: UN peacekeeping chief

United Nations, 18 Nov — South Sudan is the newest nation in the world and it is facing “a number of challenges” as it struggles to find its footing in the midst of road blocks that need to be removed to achieve peace and security. UN peacekeeping chief Herve Ladous said Xinhu in a recent interview.

Ladous, the UN under-secretary-general for peacekeeping operations, said, “There are incidents involving various ethnic groups and...there are more general issues of a country establishing itself” that come into play.

South Sudan won independence from Sudan in July last year and later became the youngest member in the United Nations family. Currently, this new nation is receiving thousands of refugees from neighboring Sudan's South Kordofan and Blue Nile state.

According to Ladous, this is “one basic issue in the Republic of Sudan” affecting the states of “the Blue Nile and South Kordofan” and it is “a very serious humanitarian situation which has developed because there is a state of hostilities between the Armed Forces of Sudan and what we call SPLM-North the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement North.”

The Sudanese official news agency SUNA reported recently that the rebel groups have hampered the humanitar...
A representative told Hollyscoop.com: “Selena has never been confirmed to be at the show.”—PTI

Salman Rushdie was a great wit and flirt: Padma Lakshmi

LOS ANGELES, 18 Nov—Salman Rushdie and Padma Lakshmi’s marriage may have lasted only three years but the Top Chef host says they had great time together because the Booker prize-winning author “was a great wit and flirt”. In an interview to Playboy magazine, where the Chennai born supermodel appears in a series of revealing photographs, the 42-year-old celebrity has praised her ex-husband, who is 23-years her senior.

“Now there is somebody who has great wit and is a great flirt. I don’t regret a day I spent with Salman, but it wasiring. He has a big life, and it only got bigger when we were together. I’m happy to have stood next to him holding his hand, but we were in very different parts of our lives.”

The marriage of Lakshmi and Mumbai born author had baffled many as Rushdie is not known for his good looks while the supermodel has made a career out of her looks.

“Comments like that came out of ignorance. If you saw us together you would know exactly why we were together.” The couple’s marriage lasted three years until 2007, with Padma going on to have a baby daughter Krishna, now two-years-old, by computer mogul Adam Dell.

Rushdie, 65, is not so generous about his fourth ex-wife in his recently published memoir ‘Joseph Anton’. Describing her as ‘Millenarian Illusion’, Rushdie has painted Lakshmi as someone who was ambitious and celebrity-seeking. Rushdie said Padma’s beauty swept him over because “she seemed to contain his Indian past and his American future.”

“She was capable of saying things of such majestic narcissism... her moodiness was unpredictable and extreme.” She was ambitious and was determined to strike out for herself. “In the end she did.”—PTI

Springsteen, McCartney to perform at concert for Sandy's victims

Bruce Springsteen performs with the E Street Band during a concert in East Rutherford, New Jersey, on 19 Sept, 2012. PTI

PTI

Bon Jovi will perform at a special “12.12.12” Concert for Sandy Relief at Madison Square Garden next month, according to organizers.

The Who, Roger Waters, Billy Joel and Alicia Keys have also signed up for the 12 December event, which its producers said is being shaped up to be a showcase of rock royalty.

“The response from the entertainment community to help those most affected by Hurricane Sandy has been nothing short of astounding,” the Madison Square Garden Company, Clear Channel Media and Entertainment and The Weinstein Company said in a joint statement.

“We expect to announce additional legendary performers in the near future and we are confident that the event will ensure those in need will not be forgotten, and vital aid will be directed to rebuilding our communities along the East Coast.”

More than 130 people were killed when the superstorm pounded the eastern coast of the United States late last month. Thousands more were left homeless as the storm tore through areas of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut, causing an estimated $50 billion in damages.

Donations raised from the one-night event concert will go to the Robin Hood Relief Fund, which will provide money and materials to groups helping people hardest hit by the storm.

The organizers of the concert also produced the W11 benefit: “The Concert for New York City” in 2001, which raised more than $30 million.

A concert and telephone on NBC earlier this month raised almost $23 million for people affected by the storm.—Reuters
Arsenal crushes 10-man Spurs, Chelsea and United suffer slumps

LONDON, 17 Nov—Arsenal made full use of Emmanuel Adebayor’s sending off to fight back and punish Tottenham Hotspur 5-2 in the North London Derby on Saturday. The scoreline was identical to last season’s fixture in February when the Gunners produced a strong comeback from 2-0 down and responded with a victory to continue an unbeaten run of four against Spurs. Adebayor, the former Gunners’ forward, made an in-time follow-up to tap Spurs an early lead amid boos of home fans after Jermain Defoe’s shot was blocked by Wojciech Szczesny. However, the Toogolese striker became the turning point of the game just after seven minutes. He was dismissed in a straight red card for a high tackle on Santi Cazorla. The visitors had to continue the battle in 73 minutes with one man less. Before the break, Arsenal sealed the 60-11-at-tendance Emirates Stadium with three goal relay from Per Mertesacker’s header, Lukas Podolski’s angled finish and Olivier Giroud’s sharp sweep. Cazorla scored 4-1 from far post with 30 minutes left, leaving the game with few suspensions. Gareth Bale delivered a solo show after he dribbled past three defenders and struck from outside the area to narrow the gap. Theo Walcott made the last shot inside the area to seal the victory. Elsewhere, two upsets on Saturday made this round campaign more dramatic. The former table leaders Manchester United were stunned by Anthony Pilkington’s header and suffered a 1-0 away defeat to Norwich. The Red Devils thus lost the lead and slipped to the second place.

European champions Chelsea were surprised by an determined West Bromwich side in an unexpected 2-1 away defeat. The blues had 19 shots in total but still failed to find the net for an equalizer and remained in the third place. Two giants’ fall gave the defending champions the chance. Man claiming the league’s top berth for the first time in this season.—Xinhua

NBA

LAKERS HINT AT “SHOWTIME” BY TORCHING THE SUNS

LOS ANGELES, 18 Nov—Kobe Bryant and the Los Angeles Lakers gave their fans a taste of the ‘Showtime’ basketball promised by their new coach Mike D’Antoni with a rout 114-102 home win over the Phoenix Suns on Friday. Though D’Antoni was not courtside to take charge of his first game as he recovers from knee replacement surgery earlier this month, his players thrived with the up-tempo approach as they posted their highest score of the season.

Five-time NBA champ Bryant scored a game high 31 points, center Dwight Howard contributed a double-double, with 16 points and 10 rebounds and Spanish forward Pau Gasol also recorded a double-double, with 16 points and 10 rebounds. Metta World Peace poured in five-of-10 three pointers to finish with 22 points and Jordan Hill, off the bench, also reached double figures with 10.

Guard Goran Dragic led the way for the Suns with 22 points and forward Luis Scola weighed in with 18 but the visitors paid the price after being out-rebounded 48-38. “We’re just getting used to it, we got a lot of things easier,” Bryant told reporters of the strategy already instilled in the team by D’Antoni after his first practice session with them the previous day. “The whole offense has to find their po-

Third new meet record for Sun Yang at Asian Swimming Championships

DUBAI, 18 Nov—China’s Olympic gold medalist Sun Yang broke the meet record for the third time at the ongoing Asian Swimming Championships and claimed the men’s 1,500m freestyle title here on Saturday.

The 21-year-old who set the men’s 1,500m freestyle world record of 14 minutes, 31.02 second at the London Olympic Games, clocked 14:44.10 to win the gold on Saturday. Although the winning mark is some 13 seconds short of the world record, Sun still broke the Championship record set by himself in 2009. It was the third time Sun won a gold while set a new meet record. He managed the feat in both the 200m and 400m freestyle events in the previous two competition days.

Sun won the 400m and 1,500m freestyle gold medals at London Olympics to become the first ever Chinese male swimmer to win Olympics gold and he also set a new world record in the 1500m event.—Xinhua

Czechs move one win away from Davis Cup title

PRAGUE, 18 Nov—Tomas Berdych and Radek Stepanek used a roaring home crowd to come back from a set down on Saturday, putting the Czech Republic 2-1 up over holders Spain and a win away from the Davis Cup title.

The Czech pair looked tired from the opening singles matches that went late on Friday but triumphed 3-6, 7-5, 7-5, 6-3. Spain’s top duo of Marcel Granollers and Marc Lopez silenced the 14,000-strong crowd early on, cutting short a Czech ra-

Sun Yang set new world record...
Turkey to ask NATO for missiles on Syria border

BERLIN, 18 Nov—Turkey will formally ask NATO on Monday to set up missiles on its border with Syria due to growing concern about spillover from the civil war in its neighbour, a German newspaper reported on Saturday.

The Munich-based Süddeutsche Zeitung, which did not cite its sources, also said that up to 170 German troops could be deployed as part of the mission.

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Establishment of ASEAN Community is not ultimate goal of ASEAN but a milestone towards stable, peaceful and prosperous region

President U Thein Sein attends 21st ASEAN Summit plenary session at Champa Room of Peace Palace in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. — MNA

More amnesty granted

NAV P'TW, 18 Nov — The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar had already granted amnesty for 452 prisoners in accord with Section 204 (a) of the Constitution and Section 401 (1) of Code of Criminal Procedures on 15 November 2012 for turning them into citizens who do their bits in nation building tasks realizing compassion and goodwill of the State. On 16 November, 66 prisoners were also granted amnesty. Number of prisoners who were granted amnesty on 15 and 16 November were 518, it is learnt. — MNA

Storm News

NAV P'TW, 18 Nov — According to the observations at 06:30 hrs MST today, the depression over West-central Bay of Bengal is almost stationary. It is centered at about 390 miles west of Pathein (380 miles Southwest of Kyaukpyu). It is forecast to move west-Northwest slowly and likely intensify further into a Cylcnic Storm. Current stage of the depression is coded as yellow stage which means is not moving towards Myanmar Coast.

Under the influence of Depression, occasional squalls with rough sea will be experienced off and along Rakhine Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) to (50) mph, announced M eteoro lo gy and Hydrology Department. — MNA