Nay Pyi Taw, 7 Dec—A ceremony to apologize to State Sangha Maha Nayaka Sayadaws for the incidents stemmed from the protest in Letpadaungtaung copper mining project by the Union Minister for Religious Affairs on behalf of the Union Government was held at Mahanayaka Hall of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee on Kaba-Aye Hill in Yangon.

It was attended by 29 State Sangha Maha Nayaka Sayadaws led by Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Sayadaw of Bhamo Monastery of Mandalay Abhidhaja Maha Ratthana Guna Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Dr Bhuddanta Kumara Bhivamsa. Union Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Police Maj-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun, heads and officials from Ministry of Religious Affairs and Ministry of Home Affairs. The ceremony was opened by reciting Namo Tassa three times.

Union Minister Thura U Myint Maung supplicated on the incidents which were stemmed from the protest in Letpadaungtaung copper project. Ministers and officials from Sagaing Region Government went to those monasteries and requested not to get involved in the protest as some people who wanted to take political gains on the demonstration against copper project, mobilized monks in monasteries in Monywa on 22-23 November. Sayadaws gave admonition not to get involved in the protest as it was not directly concerned with religious affairs.

It was assumed that some young monks and novices got involved in the complicated copper protest, leaving peaceful Pariyatti classrooms with the sense of Mitta toward them. Situation in copper mine protest camp went against the law and became more complicated. As a last resort, the situation was handled by ways of step-by-step procedures. They were given time to withdraw the camp from 12 pm on 27 November till 3 am in the morning of 29 November. Then, some monks and novices got injured while the camp was cleared. Twenty-seven young monks and four novices and one person, totaling 32 were hospitalized while forty monks and novices received medical treatment as outpatients.

Unprecedented challenges in political process being tackled with cooperation of the people

Nay Pyi Taw, 8 Nov—The following is a translation of the 92nd Anniversary National Day message sent by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein.

Esteemed people,

Today is 92nd Anniversary National Day which gave birth to the national education movement inspired by nationalist fervor.

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar regained her independence from the colonialists with the strength of the united force of national races which was built on the national education movement which regarded promotion of education standards of the entire nation as the national duty.

In post-independence period, the successive governments have upheld Our Three Main National Causes: Non-disintegration of the Union, Non-disintegration of the national unity and Non-disintegration of the sovereignty.

Since the new government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar took office, the government, hand in hand with the people, has been undertaking democratization and reforms, making the history of comprehensive development within the short period of time. Unprecedented challenges in the political process are being successfully tackled with the cooperation of the people.

The government is conducting comprehensive education sector review which is vital for human resource development necessary for modernization and democratization. Besides, it is taking measures for education, health, economic and social development and poverty alleviation of rural people who constitute 70 percent of the entire population and depend solely on the agricultural development.

The government would build the industrialized country by developing human resources with capitals gained from the agro-industry and with the help of rapidly advancing science and technologies and information and communication technology.

Patriotic spirit and Union spirit must be deeply entrenched in the heart of every citizen for uplift of national prestige and integrity. There are a number of examples that victories could be achieved several times through national movement out of nationalistic fervor in Myanmar’s history. Nowadays, financially superior nations are trying to gain conceptual and cultural influences over developing countries. It is the national duty to inculcate the youth with a sense of genuine patriotic spirit to prevent against diminishing of own national characteristics and the threats of influence of superpowers while striving for development of the country.

The president, the parliament constituted with representatives elected by the people, the Union government and administrative organs at different levels are taking care of the affairs of national races people in cooperation with citizens apart from three major pillars—legislation, administration and jurisdiction—with success. Economic sanctions against the country could deal properly with the international community, which has opened up business opportunities enabling the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to stand on the global stage with its head held high with the recognition of global countries.

Therefore, the entire national people are urged in all seriousness to realize the following objectives of 92nd Anniversary National Day with passionate nationalistic fervor and might.

(1) Uplift of national prestige and integrity and dynamism of Union spirit
(2) Promotion of national educational standard
(3) Perpetuation of independence and sovereignty of the State
(4) Building of a modern, developed, new nation

Honouring the 92nd Anniversary National Day
CITIZENS, JOURNALISTS REQUESTED TO SMOOTH THE ‘HARD ROAD’

Chairperson of the commission Pyithu Hluttaw Representative of Kawhmu Township of Yangon Daw Aung San Suu Kyi makes clarifications on Letpadaung copper mine project. — MNA

YANGON, 7 Dec — Investigation Commission held talks with Letpadaung copper mine project in Salingyi Township of Monywa District in Sagaing Region yesterday. The commission met the local villagers during their visit to the copper mine project yesterday. They are now interviewing some villagers about the situation as well. As you all know, the mission of the commission is to investigate, whether the best practices are followed, whether it meets environmental conservation standards. We have invited the villagers to our commission and asked for their participation in our study. We would continue that way. As regards the crackdown of the boycott camp, monks, as you already know, sustained burns. I myself met the injured monks and one of two injured persons as well. I had a discussion with police officers. My understanding is that the villagers were injured at the camp. The tear gas was then used to disperse the villagers and the environment from social, health and environmental aspects. We will also study how the copper mine project is running, whether the latest technologies are employed, whether the best practices are followed, whether it meets environmental conservation standards.

The chairperson in her concluding remarks said: “We would like to request the reporters to be fair in writing news items of this case or others. Carefully assess and carefully study. Study backgrounds and basics. I would like you to review correctly whether it would profit the country for the long run. I repeated again and again our country is on the hard road. All the citizens including journalists are requested to smooth the road we are taking.” — MNA

Myanmar delegation back home

Chairperson for Energy U Than Htay and Union Minister for Mines Dr Myint Aung hold talks with US guests. — MNA

Chairperson of the commission Pyithu Hluttaw Representative of Kawhmu Township of Yangon Daw Aung San Suu Kyi makes clarifications on Letpadaung copper mine project. — MNA

The eight-member team of our commission interviewed villagers in Wthmay village yesterday. Today, this team has arrived at Thangok village. They are observing the environment. We are conducting an investigation with the cooperation of the villagers, we are responsible for the people. We judge everything with the rule of law. We accept the responsibility for the people.
Recent hacking of UN nuclear agency not first attempt—IAEA

WASHINGTON, 7 Dec—A recently announced hacking of the UN nuclear agency’s computer servers was not the first time an attempt had been made to break into the organization’s computer system, the head of the agency said on Thursday.

Yukiya Amano, director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency, said that a few months ago a group broke into the agency’s computer system and stole personal information of scientists working on peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

In response to questions at a Council on Foreign Relations event in Washington, Amano repeated what he said last week after the hacking was revealed: no sensitive information about the IAEA’s nuclear inspections had been stolen.

And the United States accuses Iran of seeking to develop a nuclear weapons capability. Teheran denies such ambitions.

11 confirmed killed in South African military plane crash

CAPE TOWN, 7 Dec—Eleven people were confirmed killed in a South African military plane crash early on Thursday. The victims included six crew members and five passengers, according to the Defence Ministry.

No one survived the crash, the ministry said in a statement. The C-47 Dakota aircraft crashed in a mountainous area in the eastern province of KwaZulu-Natal while on a route to Mthatha in the southern province of the Eastern Cape.

The plane lost contact with its base soon after take off, the South African Air Force said.

The South African National Defence Force (SANDF) dismissed press reports that former president Nelson Mandela’s medical team was not on board the aircraft.

SANDF head of communication Siphiwe Dlamini called reports “incorrect.” An investigation has been launched to determine the cause of the crash.

Amandla, a medical team look to after his health in the rural village of Qunu in the Eastern Cape province, according to the 24-hour television news broadcaster eNCA. Rescue teams have found the plane’s wreckage in the mountainous area of Drakensberg, the South African Air Force said.

Venezuela’s Chavez to skip summit due to health

VENEZUELA

President Hugo Chavez talks to the media after a meeting with Brazil’s foreign minister Antonio Patriota at the Miraflores Palace in Caracas on 1 Nov, 2012.

BRASILIA/CARACAS, 7 Dec—Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez will not attend a regional trade summit in Brazil on Friday, sources said, an absence sure to heighten speculation over the leftist leader’s health.

Before he went to Cuba last week for more cancer treatment, Chavez had spoken enthusiastically about attending the Mercosur bloc’s meeting in Brasilia to celebrate Venezuela’s entry.

He has not been seen in public since 15 November.

“Chavez is not coming. They’ve even cancelled the hotel reservation,” a Venezuelan foreign ministry source said on Thursday. Another Brazilian official said Chavez’s logistics and security advance staff were leaving Brasilia.

In Caracas, a source at the Miraflores presidential palace also said the 58-year-old Chavez was not going to travel. The recently re-elected president went to Cuba nine days ago for “hyperbaric oxygenation” treatment—normally used to treat bone decay caused by radiation therapy.

Chavez has had three cancer surgeries in Cuba since mid-2011. Even though officials were portraying the latest treatment as normal follow-up after radiation, rumours are rampant that it could be more serious.

“Chavez does not show up at the first meeting where Venezuela is a full member of Mercosur, it will create a lot of distrust over his health,” said Marcelo Coutinho, professor of international relations at Rio de Janeiro’s Federal University. Officials have given no detailed information on Chavez’s health.

Later on Thursday, Venezuela’s information minister tweeted links to two statements by the president, one extolling a group of colourful Venezuelan cultural dancers, Los Danzantes de Corpac, and another expressing his regret at the death of Brazilian architec Oscar Niemeyer on Wednesday.

Russia, US talk as Syria events “accelerate on the ground”

RUSSIA

US President Barack Obama speaks at the 2012 Tribal Nations Conference at the Department of Interior in Washington, on 5 December, 2012. —Reuters

WASHINGTON, 6 Dec—The two superpowers divided by Syria’s civil war met head to head on Thursday, with signs emerging that Russia might curb its support for President Bashar al-Assad and Washington saying events were gathering speed on the ground.

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton met Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov in Dublin on the sidelines of a security conference, at a time when rebel advances have brought the 20-month war to the doorstep of the capital Damascus.

“Events on the ground in Syria are accelerating, and we see that in many different ways,” Clinton said before the meeting. “The pressure against the regime in and around Damascus seems to be increasing.”

Lakhdar Brahimi, the UN mediator who convened the meeting, said the two sides had not made any breakthroughs, but would seek a “creative” solution to their impasse.

Washington and its allies have long sought the overthrow of Assad, while Russia has shielded him at the UN Security Council. But comments by an ally of President Vladimir Putin on Thursday indicated Moscow may be losing patience with Assad.

Western countries and international officials have
A photo illustration shows the applications Facebook and Instagram on the screen of an iPhone in Zagreb. REUTERS

SAN FRANCISCO, 7 Dec—Facebook Inc’s recently acquired photo-sharing service Instagram removed a key element of its integration with Twitter, signaling a deepening rift between two of the Web’s dominant social media companies.

Instagram Chief Executive Kevin Systrom said Wednesday his company turned off support for Twitter “cards” in order to drive Twitter users to Instagram’s own website. Twitter “cards” are a feature that allows multimedia content like YouTube videos and Instagram photos to be embedded and viewed directly within a Twitter message.

The move marked the latest clash between Facebook and Twitter since April, when Facebook, the world’s no. 1 social network, outbid Twitter to nab fast-growing Instagram in a cash-and-stock deal valued at $1 billion. The acquisition closed in September for roughly $715 million, reflecting Facebook’s recent stock drop.

The companies’ ties have been strained since. In July, Twitter blocked Instagram from using its data to help new Instagram users find friends.

Beginning earlier this week, Twitter’s users began to complain in public messages that Instagram photos did not seem to display properly on Twitter’s website.

Systrom confirmed Wednesday that his company had decided its users should view photos on Instagram’s own website and took steps to change its policies.

“We believe the best experience is for us to link back to where the content lives,” Systrom said in a statement, citing recent improvements to Instagram’s website.

“A handful of months ago, we supported Twitter cards because we had a minimal Web presence,” Systrom said, noting that the company has since released new features that allow users to comment about and “like” photos directly on Instagram’s website.

The move escalates a rivalry in the fast-growing social networking sector, where the biggest players have sought to wall off access to content from rival services and to their ranks of users. “They’re both competing for slices of the same pie, the pie being users’ attention,” said Ray Valdes, an analyst with research firm Gartner.

If Facebook decides to offer advertising on Instagram, it’s important that the users visit Instagram’s own website, said Valdes. “If the eyeballs are elsewhere, you have less to work with in terms of monetization,” he said.

Photos are among the most popular features on both Facebook and Twitter, and Instagram’s meteoric rise in recent years has further propped how picture-sharing has become a key front in the battle for social Internet supremacy.

Instagram, which has 100 million users, allows consumers to tweak the photos they take on their smartphones and share the images with friends, a feature that Twitter has reported also let to its own. Twitter’s executive chairman, Jack Dorsey, was an early investor in Instagram and had hoped to acquire it before Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg made a successful bid.

In April, Zuckerberg announced the acquisition in an April blog post, he highlighted Instagram’s interchange with other social networks.

“We think the fact that Instagram is connected to other services beyond Facebook is an important part of the experience,” Zuckerberg wrote. “We plan on keeping features like the ability to post to other social networks.”

Systrom declined comment Wednesday, but a status message on Twitter’s website confirmed that users are “experiencing issues,” such as “cropped images” when viewing Instagram photos on Twitter.—Reuters

San Francisco, 7 Dec—Asteroids and comets colliding with the moon not only pitted its surface but also severely fractured its crust, researchers with NASA said on Wednesday, in a finding that could help crack a Martian puzzle.

On Mars, similar fracturing would have given water on the surface a way to penetrate deep in the ground, where it may remain today, they said.

Mars might have had an ancient ocean and we’re all wondering where it went. Well, that ocean could well be underground,” planetary scientist Maria Zuber, with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, told reporters at the American Geophysical Union’s conference in San Francisco.

The discovery that the moon’s crust is deeply fractured has implications for the search for extraterrestrial life. The fractures provide a pathway for water to move from inside the planet to the surface, and vice versa.

“With fractures, the moon is the closest and the most accessible example,” Zuber said.

For Mars, the finding that a planet’s crust can be so deeply fractured has implications in the search for extraterrestrial life.

Scientists have been monitoring the distance between the two, which changes slightly as they fly over denser regions of the moon.

The gravitational pull of the additional lunar mass causes first the leading probe and then the other one to speed up, altering the gap between them.

The data, assembled in the first detailed gravity maps of the moon, reveal that asteroids and comets created the surface and fractured the crust, possibly all the way down to the mantle.

“If you look at the surface of the moon and how heavily cratered it is, all terrestrial planets look that way, including the Earth,” said Zuber, the lead GRAIL scientist.

Evidence of the phenomenon on Earth was wiped out by tectonic plate movements, erosion and other processes.

“If we want to study those early periods, we need to go someplace else to do it and the moon is the closest and the most accessible example,” Zuber said.

For Mars, the finding that a planet’s crust can be so deeply fractured has implications in the search for extraterrestrial life.

The fractures provide a pathway for water to move from inside the planet to the surface, and vice versa. Scientists believe Mars was once much warmer and wetter than the cold, dry desert it is today.

Hosts over were microbes on the surface that had to head away to a better environment, they could have remained deep within the crust of Mars,” Zuber said.

The research is published in this week’s journal Science.—Reuters

**US agency backs Apple in essential patent battle**

WASHINGTON, 7 Dec—Google unit Motorola Mobility is not entitled to ask a court to stop the sale of an Apple iPhone and iPads if it says infringe on a patent that is essential to wireless technology, the U.S. Federal Trade Commission said Wednesday.

In June, Judge Richard Posner in Chicago threw out cases that Motorola, now owned by Google, and Apple had filed against each other claiming patent infringement. Both companies appealed.

In rejecting the Google case, Posner barred the company from seeking to stop iPhone sales because the patent in question was a standard essential patent.

This means that Motorola Mobility had pledged to license it on fair and reasonable terms to other companies in exchange for having the technology adopted as a wireless industry standard. Standard essential patents, or SEPs, are treated differently because they are critical to ensuring that devices made by different companies work together.

Google appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. The FTC said in its court filing that Posner had ruled correctly.

The commission, which has previously argued against courts barring products that don’t infringe essential patents, reiterated that position Wednesday.

“Patent hold-up risks harming competition, innovation, and consumers because it allows a patentee to price out goods not based on the competitive value of its technology, but based on the infringer’s costs to switch to a non-infringing alternative when an injunction is issued,” the commission wrote in its brief.

The case is Apple Inc v. NeTT Software Inc v. Motorola Inc and Motorola Mobility Inc, in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit No. 2012-1548, 2012-1549.—Reuters

**Samsung files redacted copy of Apple-HTC deal in US court**

NEW YORK, 7 Dec—Lawyers for Samsung Electronics Co Ltd filed a redacted copy of a 10-year patent licensing agreement struck by Apple Inc with legal settlement that the iPhone maker reached with HTC last year following a judge’s order.

In August, Apple won an Apple iPhone 4S and Samsung Galaxy S 2 are seen in this illustration photo in Berlin on 27 August, 2012.—Reuters

Taipei’s HTC Corp in a US court late on Wednesday following a judge’s order. The Korean electronics company had earlier filed a motion to compel Apple — with whom it is waging a bitter legal battle over mobile patents across several countries — to reveal details of a settlement that was reached with HTC on 10 November, but which have been kept under wraps.

The court last month ordered Apple to disclose to Samsung details of the $1.05 billion verdict against Samsung after a US jury found that certain Samsung gadgets violated Apple’s software and design patents.

Legal experts say the question of which patents are covered by the Apple-HTC settlement, and licensing details, could be instrumental in Samsung’s subsequent quest for a permanent sales ban on its products.

**Gravity maps of moon reveal deeply fractured crust**

An A penumbral eclipse of the moon is seen in the night sky in Manilla on 28 November, 2012.—Reuters

**Investors in Instagram**

When Facebook announced the acquisition in September for roughly $1 billion, the early investor in Instagram laid out the terms of monetization. "We plan on keeping features like the ability to post to other social networks," Systrom wrote. "They’re both competing for slices of the same pie, the pie being users’ attention," said Ray Valdes, an analyst with research firm Gartner. The data, assembled in the first detailed gravity maps of the moon, reveal that asteroids and comets created the surface and fractured the crust, possibly all the way down to the mantle. "If you look at the surface of the moon and how heavily cratered it is, all terrestrial planets look that way, including the Earth," said Zuber, the lead GRAIL scientist. The fractures provide a pathway for water to move from inside the planet to the surface, and vice versa. Scientists believe Mars was once much warmer and wetter than the cold, dry desert it is today. Hosts over were microbes on the surface that had to head away to a better environment, they could have remained deep within the crust of Mars," Zuber said. The research is published in this week’s journal Science.—Reuters

**New Light of Myanmar**

A photo illustration shows the applications Facebook and Instagram on the screen of an iPhone in Zagreb. REUTERS
Treat nutrition and cancer research cautiously

NEW YORK, 7 Dec—Studies suggesting that everything from cinnamon to lobster either raises or lowers a person’s risk of cancer may sometimes be a bunch of baloney, a new report suggests.

Researchers created a list of 50 random food items, then found studies from the last 35 years that claimed risks or benefits for the majority them. But most of the claims were based on weak evidence.

“Our work, however, has suggested a number of studies, just too many studies, suggesting that they had identified associations with specific food ingredients with cancer risk,” said Dr John Ioannidis from the Stanford Prevention Research Centre in California, who worked on the study.

People get scared or they think that they should change their lives and make big decisions, and then things get refuted very quickly,” he told Reuters Health.

That back-and-forth can distort the public from associations that do have solid evidence behind them, such as the increased cancer risk tied to smoking or the beneficial effects of fruits and vegetables, he said.

“There’s very strong evidence, and pretty strong expectation, that some nutrients in some foods would be related to cancer risk—either protecting or increasing the risk—but it’s very hard to believe that almost anything would be associated with cancer,” Ioannidis added.

For their study, he and Dr Jonathan Schoenfeld from Harvard Medical School in Boston selected the first 50 ingredients they found in randomly-chosen cookbook recipes.

That list included meats and fish, vegetables, dairy products, bread and spices.

The researchers then ran each ingredient through a medical journal database search to see if there were any studies typing how much of it people consumed to their risk for some type of cancer.

For 40 out of the 50 ingredients— including real, celery, cheese and mustard—there were a total of 264 such studies. Of those, 103 suggested the ingredient was tied to an increased risk of cancer, and 88 to a decreased risk.

Studies on some ingredients, such as onions, carrots and tea, almost all showed a decreased cancer risk, and for others, like bacon and sugar, most or all findings showed a higher risk. But for many foods, study results were all over the map.

The average effect shown in each study was about a doubling of cancer risk or a halving of risk, depending on which direction the association went for a particular ingredient in a particular study. However, the data backing those claims was usually unconvincing, Schoenfeld and Ioannidis said.

In larger reviews that included multiple studies, the links between each particular food item and cancer risk were typically smaller or nonexistent, according to Cogsi A Spiegelman, who reviewed the studies and published in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition.

“Tying all these individual studies and look to guidelines that have been published” based on more comprehensive reviews, she added.

“Of course, none of this means nutrition isn’t important for cancer risk and general health. M Cuculough, strategic director of nutritional epidemiology at the American Cancer Society. “These individual results can get taken out of context,” said M Cuculough, who like Fung wasn’t involved in the new analysis.

“I would caution people not to over-interpret individual studies and look to guidelines that have been published based on more comprehensive reviews, she added.

“Sometimes we need to take a step back and look at things from a different perspective,” Fung said.

BSE picks 14 banks for IPO in 2013

MUMBAI, 7 Dec—Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) has selected 14 banks for its initial public offering in the first half of 2013, Ashishkumar Chauhan, managing director and chief executive officer at the exchange, told Reuters on Thursday.

The lead managers for the initial public offering include Bank of America-Merrill Lynch, JPMorgan, Barclays Capital, UBS, Kotak Mahindra Capital and ICICI Securities, Chauhan added.

Fiat to launch Jeep in India in third quarter of 2013

FIAT logo is seen at a car seller in Darmstadt.

The off-road pick-ups and luxury SUVs will be the first vehicles from the Chrysler stable launched in India, where Fiat has failed to crack the highly-competitive low-cost segment, and recently split with local sales partner Tata Motors.

The brand’s head said, as the Italian carmaker tries to reboot its Indian venture with an entry into the country’s fast-growing SUV segment.

Kansai Electric seeks to skip summer bonus payments

OSAKA, 7 Dec—Kansai Electric Power Co. has proposed skipping next summer’s bonus payments and conducting a 5 percent pay-scale cut to the labour union for its management rationalization plan as the utility seeks to raise electricity charges, company officials said on Thursday.

Kansai Electric wants to secure the union’s consent to the proposal so it can start implementing the personnel expense cuts next April, the officials said.

The utility is seeking to reduce its overall annual costs by an average 155.3 billion yen for the three-year period starting next April, from the level in fiscal 2012, they said.
IWT set up joint venture with private sector

Installation of power lines from Shwe Myo to Ngatesu

Mandalay, 7 Dec — Ayeyawady Division of Inland Water Transport is undertaking a joint venture with private sector in public transportation service by hiring state-owned ships to private entrepreneurs. Inmaing Kha Water Transport Company rent seven ships from the State, and has been operating ferry service plying the routes between Katha and Bhamo, Mandalay and Nyang U and Mandalay and Bhamo along the Ayeyawady river starting from 1 November.

FMI eyes to lead auto market in Myanmar

YANGON, 7 Dec — As FMI has planned to expand its auto industry in cooperation with international auto makers.

Untimely rainfall damages monsoon paddy harvest, preparation for winter crops

YANGON, 7 Dec — Due to an untimely rainfall, farmers in Kayan and Thongwa Township of Yangon South District were busy seeking shelter for their recently-harvested monsoon paddy in order not to be damaged and taking care of their ploughed fields for winter crops.

Car crash on Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw Expressway

BAGO, 7 Dec — A car crash occurred between mile post Nos (39/0) and (39/1) on Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw Expressway at about 8.35 pm on 2 December.

Hledan overhead bridge sees more than 60 per cent completion

YANGON, 7 Dec — According to a responsible person of Shwetaung Development Co., Ltd, construction of Hledan overhead bridge has been completed by more than 60 per cent so far.

Jivitadana Sangha Hospital (Yangon) to organize charity sales

YANGON, 7 Dec — The 23rd charity sales of Jivitadana Sangha Hospital (Yangon) will be organized on 15 December (Saturday). The sales will be opened with the entertainment of Alink Khaty Myamar Traditional Music Band at 4.30 pm on that day.

Various kinds of Myanmar traditional snacks, Shan traditional food and cold drinks, traditional and modern medicines and different kinds of items as souvenirs of the charity sales will be available at the sales. The proceeds from the sales will go to the hospital.

Food stalls and souvenir shops will be kept open beginning 2 pm. As a special programme, about 200 monks and nuns who are receiving treatment at the hospital will be served with a special meal worth K 2500 per head.

Games will be presented at the sales. Vocalists Kaytu Win Htut, Maung Mung Aye, Po Tawkkyar, Banyar Han, Ye Taik, Cho Pyone, Htar, Poe Ei San, Shwe Yamin Oo, Seint Naych and Ye int Wa Lwin will perform entertainment to the accompaniment of the band.

A nyone can take part in the charity sales free of charge up to 9.30 pm. — Kyemon

Cultivation of monsoon paddy and winter crops such as beans and pulses, and quality, “a responsible person said.

The project is scheduled to finish in coming April. Although stake-driving ceremony was held on 11 March, construction work started on 20 June as reinstallation of underground cables and expansion of road were carried out first before the main task.

A responsible person of the company said that the fares cost passengers more than that of Inland Water Transport as better service was given. A through one-way fare from Bhamo to Katha was K 1200 once, now it is K 6000. — Kyemon

According to the press release, under the said annual general meeting, of showrooms and service centres in regions and states. Besides, Holland-made tractors and farm equipment distributed by Conveyance Prosperity Co., Ltd are available at the market, and plans are underway to establish a chain of showrooms and service centres in regions and states.

A passenger bus driven by Myo Nyunt Aung from Aung Thu Yangon-Thazi bus line crashed into the back of a passenger bus of Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw Elite bus line that stopped by the roadside due to engine failure while trying to overtake a passenger bus driven by Nay Myo Tun of M andalarmin Yangon-Pyin Oo Lwin bus line.

The crash left three— Daw Li (53 years), Ma Zarchi Win (30 years) and Ko Hsan Lin Tun (32 years) — out of 57 passengers on board the “Aung Thu” bus wounded. Bawnyetgy Police Station filed a lawsuit against driver Myo Nyunt Aung for his reckless driving.

For the last one— Daw Myint Myint Win (50 years) and Ko Hsan Lin Tun (32 years) — out of 57 passengers on board the “Aung Thu” bus wounded. Bawnyetgy Police Station filed a lawsuit against driver Myo Nyunt Aung for his reckless driving.

A special programme, about 200 monks and nuns who are receiving treatment at the hospital will be served with a special meal worth K 2500 per head.

A responsible person of the company said that the fares cost passengers more than that of Inland Water Transport as better service was given. A through one-way fare from Bhamo to Katha was K 1200 once, now it is K 6000. — Kyemon

According to the press release, under the said annual general meeting, of showrooms and service centres in regions and states. Besides, Holland-made tractors and farm equipment distributed by Conveyance Prosperity Co., Ltd are available at the market, and plans are underway to establish a chain of showrooms and service centres in regions and states.

A passenger bus driven by Myo Nyunt Aung from Aung Thu Yangon-Thazi bus line crashed into the back of a passenger bus of Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw Elite bus line that stopped by the roadside due to engine failure while trying to overtake a passenger bus driven by Nay Myo Tun of M andalarmin Yangon-Pyin Oo Lwin bus line.

The crash left three— Daw Li (53 years), Ma Zarchi Win (30 years) and Ko Hsan Lin Tun (32 years) — out of 57 passengers on board the “Aung Thu” bus wounded. Bawnyetgy Police Station filed a lawsuit against driver Myo Nyunt Aung for his reckless driving.

For the last one— Daw Myint Myint Win (50 years) and Ko Hsan Lin Tun (32 years) — out of 57 passengers on board the “Aung Thu” bus wounded. Bawnyetgy Police Station filed a lawsuit against driver Myo Nyunt Aung for his reckless driving.
**Local News**

**Traditional boat race attracts local people**

**Mawlamyine**, 7 Dec—The first Myanmar traditional boat race was held in Tonkhla Creek in Southern Ward of Mawlamyine on 27 November morning, with participation of 12 boat teams.

The traditional five-oar boat race in the Yezaygo Township took place at the same venue at 11 am on 28 November. A total of 90 boats participated in the race, which was organized by the Yezaygo Township Administration.

The race started at 9 am and lasted for about three hours. The participating teams were judged on their speed, coordination, and teamwork. The winners were awarded prizes and certificates.

Win Aung, a local businessman, said, "We organized this traditional boat race to promote tourism in Yezaygo Township and to boost the local economy. We hope that more people will come to watch the race in the future."
Teach them how to fish

A cartoonist as he scrofouly sketches an idea for narrowing the widening gap between the rich and the poor suggests “wealth eradication” instead of “poverty eradication” for balanced growth of the nation. It seems to be humorous on the surface, but whether the poor will be able to make a fortune even if the rich are eradicated is a question for socialism, an apparent form of rich eradication, was practiced to failure on our soil between 1964 and 1988.

If so, what is the question? We have 70 per cent of national population residing in rural areas mainly engaging in farming, in other words, the primary industry. The question is, what is the large part of the rural population lacks minimum level of knowledge needed to keep pace with and take advantage of social changes occurring in other parts of the country, especially in major cities. Perhaps there are not as many good fish in the sea as ever came out of it. But, they do not know how to catch. Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham recently has called for pragmatic approaches, systematic reviews and practical alternatives as the eight-point rural development and poverty alleviation scheme has been in operation for over a year. While agricultural development is at the top of the agenda in the scheme and agrarian economy is still preferred, a lot more needs to be done in popularizing good agricultural patterns even if mechanized farming is eventually introduced on a massive scale.

Integrated Community Development Project (ICDP) and the Community Development for Remote Townships Project (CDRT) are the latest initiatives of UNDP in Myanmar to increase the capacity of the poor through self-reliance groups (SRGs) and community-based organizations (CBOs) to help improve their social and economic status. The ICDP operates in 22 townships of the southern and northern Shan State, the dry zone, and the Ayeyawady Delta, while the CDRT project operates in 26 townships of the border states of Rakhine, Chin, Kachin, Mon and Kayin, according to UNDP.

The projects cover a number of technical sectors including capacity of the communities, health, education, livelihood and environment. It is a welcome move for rural folks but what should not be neglected is sustainability for I have seen some NGO-funded facilities only when the project staff leave and when the facilities are out of order, local people do not know how to repair.

Generally, we tend to offer help to the poor because of our social conscience. But, may need to see if it really works. Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach a man to fish and he will eat for the rest of his life.

World AIDS Day marked in Bago

Nav Pyi Taw, 7 Dec—Chief Minister for Bago Region U Nyan Win delivered an address at the ceremony to mark World AIDs Day 2012 at the city hall of Bago yesterday morning. The Chief Minister and officials awarded winners in commemorative contests and visited the booths. MNA

Red letter days of modern Myanmar history are marked according to the date in the International calendar. 12 February 1947 being Pyidaungsu Day (Myanmar Union Day), the day the historic Pinlong Agreement was signed to form Myanmar Union; 4 January 1948, Independence Day, the day, early in the morning, the British surrender of sovereign power to the British (government) to the Myanmar Government was made, thereby Myanmar became sovereign, 3 March 1962 Peasants Day to mark the Peasants Rebellion led by Saya San; 27 March 1947 as Armed Forces Day, the date of the beginning of Myanmar resistance against Fascism during the Second World War; 1 May, Workers Day came in tune with the introduction of May Day; 19 July 1947, Martyr’s Day, the day Bogoye Aung San and his colleagues were assassinated.

But Myanmar National Day which we observe annually was marked according to Myanmar Calendar. It was on the 10th waning moon of Tazaukon in Myanmar Sakrati 1282 (5 December 1920) that the Boycott of Yangon University Act took place — the date which we designate and observe our National Day.

If you are on the platform of Swedagon Pagoda and make a circumambulatory round in its spacious precincts, you will come across at the south-west corner [Saturday planet direction] a modern Saygin marble stone, set up on a square plinth. Like Yaza Kumaer Stone Inscription at old Bagan, this modern stone pillar is quadrangle, each side bears inscriptions of letters, totaling four languages viz. Myanmar, English, French and Slavonic, recording the following event. English inscriptions are as follows:

“This is the place where: The first eleven students: Of Yangon College met and: Affirmed on oath to boycott: The Rangoon University Act.”

Maha Saddhamma Jotika dhaja Sithu Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt

“1920 on 3rd December”

“The names of the first Eleven students are as follows:

1. Thakhin Ba Khin 2. Thakhin Po Kun 3. Thakhin Ba U
4. Thakhin Aung Din 5. Thakhin Tun Win 6. Thakhin Pe Then
7. Thakhin Ba Shin 8. Thakhin Ba Shin [Sawsonway]
12. Thakhin Mg E

It was on the 8th waning moon of Tazaukon of Myanmar Era [1920 December 3] that the eleven college students of Yangon College held a meeting at the place where the pillar was set up, and discussed and decided by taking on oath to boycott the Rangoon University Act. The boycott took place two days later i.e. on the 10th waning moon of Tazaukon [1920 December 5].

Upcoming Myanmar generations are not very familiar with the significance of Myanmar National Day, let alone noticing the stone pillar on Swedagon Pagoda platform. Why did they do that? A long time after the entire Myanmar public boycotted the Rangoon University Act?

A after the British annexed Myanmar to the British Indian Empire in 1885, they introduced British Imperial ideal by implementing British educational administration and to make British colonial administrative machinery run smoothly and efficiently, a special British colonial educational policy was adopted. This policy intended to train and produce “Black Englishmen” to be employed in British Colonial Administration. The natives of the colonies, being non-European, were looked upon as “Black People”. But to turn them to become culturally English, anglicization was their main policy of education, so that colonial natives would adore English culture and respect British Empire, which alone could bring and maintain lasting peace, progress and prosperity.”Pax Britannica”.

So the entire British Empire, India being the largest sub-continent, was under the network of anglicization to propagate British Imperial Ideal. It worked quite well for sometimes. Anglo college students set up in Yangon, which were affiliated to Calcutta University. It taught disciplines entirely in English and Indian, Nothing Myanmar. English and Indian History, literature, law, culture, etc., etc. Graduates were appointed for posts in British administration, the highest being ICS [Indian Civil Service].

The 1920 Act tried to set up a residential University modeled upon typical English University. The expense of each student to attend it exceeded the income of the average class Myanmar. Therefore college students and Myanmar public demanded reform of the Act by making the University national. The British colonial government turned a deaf ear to the demand and went ahead.

The Boycotters made the British government to build a wooden monastery with 100 teak columns in Gaya Watson monastic complex. They set up Council of National Education and opened National College where students were taught national subjects, Myanmar geography, history, literature, culture, law, economics and international relations.

Graduates were awarded BA (Nat) degree. “Nat” is a short form of national college. Throughout the country, in all cities and major towns, national high and middle schools were opened, where new teachers of young people were given national education. The Graduates could bring and maintain lasting peace, progress and prosperity. “Pax Britannica”.

So the entire British Empire, India being the largest sub-continent, was under the network of anglicization to propagate British Imperial Ideal. It worked quite well for sometimes. Anglo college students set up in Yangon, which were affiliated to Calcutta University. It taught disciplines entirely in English and Indian, Nothing Myanmar. English and Indian History, literature, law, culture, etc., etc. Graduates were appointed for posts in British administration, the highest being ICS [Indian Civil Service].

The 1920 Act tried to set up a residential University modeled upon typical English University. The expense of each student to attend it exceeded the income of the average class Myanmar. Therefore college students and Myanmar public demanded reform of the Act by making the University national. The British colonial government turned a deaf ear to the demand and went ahead.

The Boycotters made the British government to build a wooden monastery with 100 teak columns in Gaya Watson monastic complex. They set up Council of National Education and opened National College where students were taught national subjects, Myanmar geography, history, literature, culture, law, economics and international relations. The Graduates were awarded BA (Nat) degree. “Nat” is a short form of national college. Throughout the country, in all cities and major towns, national high and middle schools were opened, where new teachers of young people were given national education. The Graduates could bring and maintain lasting peace, progress and prosperity. “Pax Britannica”.

So the entire British Empire, India being the largest sub-continent, was under the network of anglicization to propagate British Imperial Ideal. It worked quite well for sometimes. Anglo college students set up in Yangon, which were affiliated to Calcutta University. It taught disciplines entirely in English and Indian, Nothing Myanmar. English and Indian History, literature, law, culture, etc., etc. Graduates were appointed for posts in British administration, the highest being ICS [Indian Civil Service].

The 1920 Act tried to set up a residential University modeled upon typical English University. The expense of each student to attend it exceeded the income of the average class Myanmar. Therefore college students and Myanmar public demanded reform of the Act by making the University national. The British colonial government turned a deaf ear to the demand and went ahead.

The Boycotters made the British government to build a wooden monastery with 100 teak columns in Gaya Watson monastic complex. They set up Council of National Education and opened National College where students were taught national subjects, Myanmar geography, history, literature, culture, law, economics and international relations. The Graduates were awarded BA (Nat) degree. “Nat” is a short form of national college. Throughout the country, in all cities and major towns, national high and middle schools were opened, where new teachers of young people were given national education. The Graduates could bring and maintain lasting peace, progress and prosperity. “Pax Britannica”.

So the entire British Empire, India being the largest sub-continent, was under the network of anglicization to propagate British Imperial Ideal. It worked quite well for sometimes. Anglo college students set up in Yangon, which were affiliated to Calcutta University. It taught disciplines entirely in English and Indian, Nothing Myanmar. English and Indian History, literature, law, culture, etc., etc. Graduates were appointed for posts in British administration, the highest being ICS [Indian Civil Service].
NAY PYI TAW, 7 Dec—The graduation dinner of the 55th intake of Defence Services Academy was held at the parade ground of Defence Services Academy in Pyin Oo Lwin on Saturday evening, attended by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-President and Commander-in-Chief (Army) and their wives, commanders of Nay Pyi Taw Command, North-East Command, Eastern Command, Central-East Command, North-East Command, Central Command and Southern Command, and the commandant of Defence Services Academy and invited guests and families of graduates.

The Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services cordially greeted the graduates one by one.

The Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and party had dinner together with the graduates and their family members.

The Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and party enjoyed the entertainment of M yawady Band and M yawady A nyent at Thabin Hall—M NA

Graduation dinner of 55th Intake of DSA held

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Dec—Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Thein Hlay held talks with a UN delegation led by Baroness Valerie Amos, United Nations Under-Secretary General and Emergency Relief Coordinator at the office of the Rakhine State government on 5 December evening.

During the meeting, Baroness Valerie Amos said they visited refugee camps in Sittway and other towns in Rakhine State and the refugees were in need of buildings, water, sanitation, health care services for children and access to the areas by international organizations. She also expressed her desire for the improved security in the areas.

Union Minister Lt-Gen Thein Hlay said that refugees were in need of emergency shelters due to the outbreak in October. The houses in Maungtaw could be built only two or three months later and they had to shelter at the monasteries first after the conflict, he added. They were moved to the houses later. Therrefugees in Sittway were different from those in Maungtaw. The refugees in Sittway have stayed in the temporary tents and some have shared the houses of local villagers due to high number of refugees, he added. The temporary tents have been built first for the refugees of the October outbreak and food, water and other needs have been provided to them, and plans have been made to assist them in their needs so they can resume their works for their livelihood later, he said.

For the refugees in Maungtaw, he said. The Union minister also stressed the need for re-establishing the fishery sector as most local people are relying on the fishing for their livelihood.

Regarding the security in the areas, he said that forces from the Tarmadaw, police force and border areas immigration inspection headquarters had been posted there, and trade had turned to normal in Sittway.

He continued to say that over 70,000 refugees in Sittway were in need of shelters including about 1000 big tents. So far 432 big tents had been built, including 230 tents built by the government and some were built by the international organizations.

The mental condition and livelihood of the refugees have been improved gradually, he said.

Afterwards, Baroness Valerie Amos stressed the importance of the leading role of the government and the need for informing UN agencies to inform the activities of UN agencies to the people.

He also said that he felt proud for the government’s achievements in a short time and expressed her understanding of the challenges of the government.

A few days ago, the Union minister replied that he accepted the importance of the leading role of the government and the word “Rohingya” had caused the Rakhine people the mental suffering.

Those who had been living in Maungtaw for many years would get the right for citizenship, however, they would not get the right for becoming the ethnic group, and Rakhineese people were ethnic inhabitants and they all did not accept the word “Rohingya”, he said.

The Union minister continued to say that the government has instructed the departmental staff to carry out their duties without bias and has allowed the UN and international organizations to visit the refugee camps. He also clarified the assistance provided by the government without discrimination and helping hand from the religious leaders upon the request of the government and current situation in Rakhine State.

The meeting was also attended by Chief Minister of Rakhine State U Hla Maung Tin, Rakhine State Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Hsein Lin, Coordinator of UN agencies in M yanmar M A Shok N gamin, Head of the mission of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs M S Barbara Manzi and officials concerned.
It is time for all to...

(from page 1)

From 1 to 4 December, 99 monks and novices and 11 persons who got minor and severe injuries were sent to the hospital by a social welfare organization in Mandalay. On 4 December, 32 monks were discharged from the hospital. On 4 December, 65 monks and novices and six persons, 33 monks and six persons who recovered from their injuries were moved to Kyainthawaya Sangha Hall. There still were only 32 monks in Mandalay Hospital.

It was found that monks and novices had no guilt as monks and novices were young and had no knowledge of political tricks. Nowadays, the whole world was overwhelmed by greed, pride and ignorance. Some countries were mingled with politics, which was not concerned with religious matters.

It could be seen that political rivals in some countries were using a shortcut, doing evil deeds for their power gains by applying political means in copper mining project. It was the time for all to take care for flourishing of Buddhism.

Diplomatic missions in Myanmar were extremely sorrowful and were extremely sorrowful that they can be back on the right path. Policemen who knew the real development of the country said they didn’t know the real development of the country.

He requested the venerable monks to give guidance to those who lack of related knowledge of organizations which took the responsibility. It also requested the venerable monks to give guidance and take care for flourishing of Buddha Sangha, especially during the conflict and the incident were not injured.

The Government is giving medical treatment to wounded monks and persons with clear conscience and would put heart and soul into flourishing of Sangha being Buddhists.

The Religious Affairs Ministry begged the pardon of wounded monks and novices on behalf of the State government, citing adhering to the rule of law and security are a must to handle those who breach the rule of law in peace and tranquility.

The Union Minister for Industry Thura U Myint Maung accepts cash donation from a wellwisher. — MNA

Chairman of SSMNC Dr. Bhaddanta Kumarabhiivamsa delivers an Ovadakkha. — MNA

Human capabilities are crucial: Union Minister for Industry

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Dec—Union Minister for Industry U Aye Myint yoked together with Koean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Kim Hae Yong, Resident Representative of KOICA Mr Shin Man Shik attended the handover of Foundry Shop in Thagara Industry Training School in Thagara Industry Zone, in Yelatahe Township of Bago Region this morning.

The human capabilities are crucial in building modern and developed country said the Union Minister also expressed his heartfelt gratitude to KOICA for its closer supervision.

Director-General U Than Hlaik of Directorate of Industries and the KOICA resident representative signed the documents and exchanged the notes.

MNA

JAPAN PROVIDES KAWLIN TOWNSHIP HOSPITAL WITH CASH ASSISTANCE

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Dec—Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Mikio Numata and Chairman of Kawlin Township Hospital Development Committee Dr. Tithinath Thilaka and St. John’s Kawlin Hospital (a government hospital) have signed a grant contract showing the attachment of presenting cash assistance, medical equipment and a generator to Kawlin Township Hospital in Sagaing Region today as a Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Society Project Scheme.

The Government of Japan under its GGP Scheme decided to extend assistance of US$ 58,372,000 for the hospital as well as providing medical equipment and the generator. The medicals from the hospital are providing better health care services to those near or far region. This assistance will improve friendly relations between Japan and Myanmar. — MNA
Beijing’s visa-free transit policy to benefit foreign visitors

**China**

Beijing, 7 Dec— Air travellers, including US businessman David Brockman, are set to benefit from the announcement that Beijing will start a 72-hour visa-free stay policy for citizens of 45 countries in 2013. The move will bring much convenience to the likes of Brockman, who frequently flies to China, as getting a visa can currently take up to two weeks.

“As soon as the policy takes effect, I can take advantage of the chance of travelling to other Asian countries and spend three days in China where I can take time to talk with Chinese companies,” he said.

From 1 Jan, 2013, tourists holding third country visas and plane tickets can apply for a transit without visa (TWOV) in the capital city at Beijing Capital International Airport, the Beijing municipal government announced on Wednesday.

The 45 countries were listed in accordance with the numbers of inbound overnight visitors in Beijing from 2009 to 2011. Foreign visitors are not permitted to leave Beijing to other Chinese cities during the 72 hours, and have to depart from Beijing. Visits to a hotel in a designated airport will be registered at police station with their visas within 24 hours of their arrival, according to the government.

The 72 hours will be calculated starting from the moment visitors get their transit stay permits, said Gao Dahu, deputy director of the exit and entry administrative corps of Beijing Municipal Public Security Bureau. Beijing Capital International Airport is the only exit-port applicable for the policy, Gao stressed.

The policy may enhance the status of Beijing Capital International Airport as an international air hub, said Gao Lijia, a general deputy manager with the airport.

The airport has seen about 7.6 million inbound and outbound foreign passengers during the first nine months in 2012 and 2,200,000 of them are transit passengers, Gao said. He predicted that the policy will bring 600,000 to 800,000 transit visitors to China in 2013.

To help with the transit visitors, the airport will improve services in the airport including special visa-free channels, said Li Chunfang, manager with the planning and development department of the airport.

“We will set up a special service center for transit visitors in our terminals, offering drinking water and reading materials,” Li elaborated, “Moreover, services including foreign currency exchange, mobile phone rental service, and left-luggage office will be provided for the convenience of tourists.” — Xinhua

**Vietnam**

Vietnam, UK hold dialogue on anti-corruption in Hanoi

HANOI, 7 Dec— The 11th Vietnam-UK dialogue on prevention and fight against corruption was held in Vietnam’s capital Hanoi on Thursday under the theme “Anti-corruption in Localities: Reality and Solutions”.

Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc stressed that corruption becomes a global challenge regardless of geographic locations, political system or level of development.

Anti-corruption is a long-lasting fight that requires coordination from all nations worldwide, said Phuc, adding that the Vietnamese government and local authorities have pledged to carry out anti-corruption through strong and timely actions.

British Ambassador to Vietnam Antony Stokes made assessments on Vietnam’s anti-corruption work, noting that the country has made three major developments in this field in 2012. They included a revision of the Law on Anti-corruption; reports on anti-corruption with in-depth analysis and research made public; and commitment made by local authorities to anti-corruption.

However, authorities at local levels should have stronger actions against corruption, especially in the public affairs, said the ambassador.

According to the Vietnam National Steering Committee for Prevention and Fight against Corruption, remarkable results were made in the fight against corruption in various localities over the five years from 2007 to 2012.

However, participants to the dialogue shared a view that corruption is taking place under various forms and at various sectors, which is a great concern to the public and becomes a challenge to the government. — Xinhua

Nepal fails again to agree on Nepal PM candidate

KATHMANDU, 7 Dec— Nepal’s political parties have failed again to name a candidate to replace caretaker Prime Minister Baburam Bhattarai before Thursday deadline.

The meeting of four major political parties, the Unified Communist Party of Nepal-Maoists (UCPM-M), the Nepali Congress (NC), the Communist Party of Nepal Unified Marxist Leninist (CPN-UML) and United Democratic Madhesi Front (UDMF) in New Baneshwor on Thursday evening failed to agree on a candidate for prime minister.

Agni Sapkota, spokesperson of UCPM-M, said that the parties are going to request President Ram Baran Yadav to extend the deadline for another time after it was set twice. “We’ll continue the meeting. We’ll request the president to extend the deadline. It’s up to him how many days he extends,” Sapkota told journalists.

The meeting of the four parties on Thursday ended as the opposition parties decided to stand firm on forming the new government as the ruling parties were asked to make the package deal on issues, including new elections date and electoral laws, appointments of the constitutional bodies.

Ramesh Gautam, vice-chairman of CPN-UML, said that they were informed about the decision made by Federal Democratic Republic Alliance, a grouping of ruling parties, that it was to stand firm on the package deal. However, citizens complain that leaders are very much centered on the party politics and not on the national consensus. — Xinhua

Japan may restart more nuclear reactors next year

TOKYO, 7 Dec— Japan’s Nuclear Regulation Authority is planning service checks in nuclear safety standards and considering restarting more halted nuclear reactors next summer, local media reported on Friday.

The nuclear management agency will make some preliminary checks on the suspended reactors next spring as the beginning of the new standards effective. After the Fukushima No 1 nuclear power plant disaster in March 2011, 48 of all 50 commercial nuclear reactors in Japan have shut down due to safety concerns.

A bill was passed earlier, requires all nuclear reactors to meet the new safety standards before restarting by next July. — Reuters

Philippine death toll due to “Bopha” climbs to 418

MANILA, 7 Dec— Death toll in the Philippines due to Typhoon Bopha (local name Pablo) has continued to rise to 418 based on the latest data released on Friday by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC).

NDRRMC Executive Director Benito Ramos said Friday that of the reported deaths, only 73 cadavers were identified, while most of the unidentified victims came from southern Philippine province of Compostela Valley.

An aerial view of damaged houses caused by flash floods in Compostela Valley province, southern Philippines is seen in this handout photograph provided by the Philippine Army 10th Infantry Division on 6 Dec, 2012. Rescue workers searched on Thursday through thick mud, broken homes and fallen trees for survivors, two days after Typhoon Bopha swept the southern Philippines killing nearly 400 people and leaving at least as many missing.— Reuters

There were 383 people who were still missing, he added. Almost 65,000 families or about 310,000 individuals were still being served inside and outside the evacuation centres. The total damages incurred due to Bopha already reached to over 4 billion pesos (about 97 million US dollars); around 631 million pesos for infrastructure, 3.4 billion pesos for agriculture, and 5.4 million pesos for private properties. —Xinhua

Editorial

As the meeting of the four major political parties, the Unified Communist Party of Nepal-Maoists (UCPM-M), the Nepali Congress (NC), the Communist Party of Nepal Unified Marxist Leninist (CPN-UML) and United Democratic Madhesi Front (UDMF) in New Baneshwor on Thursday evening failed to agree on a candidate for prime minister.

Agni Sapkota, spokesperson of UCPM-M, said that the parties are going to request President Ram Baran Yadav to extend the deadline for another time after it was set twice. “We’ll continue the meeting. We’ll request the president to extend the deadline. It’s up to him how many days he extends,” Sapkota told journalists.

The meeting of the four parties on Thursday ended as the opposition parties decided to stand firm on forming the new government as the ruling parties were asked to make the package deal on issues, including new elections date and electoral laws, appointments of the constitutional bodies.

Ramesh Gautam, vice-chairman of CPN-UML, said that they were informed about the decision made by Federal Democratic Republic Alliance, a grouping of ruling parties, that it was to stand firm on the package deal. However, citizens complain that leaders are very much centered on the party politics and not on the national consensus. — Xinhua
Three dead as cargo ship sinks off Dutch coast

The accident occurred about 40-50 km (25-30 miles) off Rotterdam port in an important North Sea shipping lane. The cause of the collision was neither immediately established, but the British Met Office had predicted gale-force winds and rain in the area.

The Baltic Ace was en route from Zeebrugge in Belgium to Kotka in Finland, while the Corvus J was going from Grangemouth in Scotland to Antwerp, Belgium. Dutch media reported. Operations at Rotterdam Port were not affected by the collision, a port spokesman told Reuters.

The accident occurred around 09:30-09:50, a shipping association said. It is the third collision in the Baltic Sea in the last year and the fourth since the beginning of 2012.

The cause of the accident is unknown and investigations are ongoing. The Baltic Ace’s owner, the Netherlands-based Lloyd, has said it is cooperating with authorities.

The Baltic Ace was carrying 13,000 tonnes of coal, according to Lloyd. The Corvus J was carrying 12,800 tonnes of coal, according to Lloyd.

No casualties have been reported, but the Baltic Ace is said to have sustained extensive damage. The Corvus J is said to have sustained minor damage.

The Baltic Ace is a RoRo ship owned by Lloyd. The Corvus J is a container ship operated by the Netherlands-based Holland-Ship.

The Baltic Sea is one of the world’s busiest shipping lanes, with many large vessels navigating through it. Collisions between ships are relatively common in the area due to the heavy traffic and the presence of many port facilities.

The Dutch government said it is investigating the incident, and that the coastguard will continue to assist.

---

A Boeing 737-600 Scandinavian Airlines (SAS) airplane is seen at terminal five of Arlanda airport, outside Stockholm on 5 Dec, 2012.— Reuters

---

Sweden

Stockholm airport paralysed as snow storm strikes Sweden

STOCKHOLM, 7 Dec—Sweden’s main airport was paralysed on Wednesday due to a snow storm in the country’s capital, just as winners of this year’s Nobel prizes were arriving to receive their awards. Around 30 cm of snow fell overnight in the Stockholm area between Tuesday and Wednesday and the weather office warned another 20 cm was on the way.

“There are a limited number of flights out of Arlanda (the main airport) but no arrivals. There are no departures or arrivals from Bromma (an airport closer to the city centre),” said a spokeswoman for airport operator Skavavia.

Arlanda airport’s website itself was so busy due to worried travellers trying to check the traffic situation that people were put in a queue to view it.

The foundation which oversees the 8 million crown ($1.21 million) Nobel prizes said several laureates were due to arrive in Stockholm on Wednesday. This week sees a series of news conferences and lectures, in the run up to the formal handing over of the prizes and a gala banquet on Monday. ($1 = 6.5968 Swedish crowns) — Reuters

---

Colombia

FARC peace talks resume in Cuba as kidnapping issue heats up

HAVANA, 7 Dec—Peace talks between the Colombian government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, resumed in Havana on Wednesday in hopes of ending the 50-year-old bloody conflict even as fighting and bickering continued.

Negotiators took a break last week from the first round of talks which began in November and which seek an end to the last Marxist- led armed rebellion in South America, considered a vestige of the cold war.

They arrived on Wednesday at the Cuban capital’s convention centre in a city suburb. For the first time, government negotiators entered through a back door, avoiding reporters, while the FARC read a long declaration to the press about the war and the human and economic damage it has wrought.

Comments earlier this week by a FARC negotiator that the group was still holding “prisoners of war” brought harsh words from the government’s lead negotiator, Humberto de la Calle, despite denials by two other rebel negotiators. “The FARC has to respond to the victims, it has to clarify this issue of kidnapping, the way to deal with the issue of kidnapping is not with ambiguities,” he said before departing Colombia for Cuba.

The FARC seized dozens of politicians and members of the armed forces over the years to use as bargaining chips with the government. Such high-profile captives have since been released.

But the families of civilians taken to fund the FARC’s war say scores of people remain in jungle camps and the group continues to kidnap despite a pledge this year to cease taking captives for ransom.

---

New Light of Myanmar

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV OCEAN BLUE VOY NO (277)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV OCEAN BLUE VOY NO (277) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.12.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T. where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

SHIPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANNA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: EASTERN CAR LINER SPRE SPO LTD.

Phone No: 256924/256914

---

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV DELPHINUS VOY NO (328)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DELPHINUS VOY NO (328) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.12.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

SHIPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANNA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: FORTUNE SHIPPING & AGENCY PTE LTD

Phone No: 256924/256914

---

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ZAMBALES VOY NO (109)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ZAMBALES VOY NO (109) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.12.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expensive and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV TUG:Danum-89+BGE Linau-95 VOY NO (+)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV TUG:Danum-89+BGE Linau-95 VOY NO (+) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.12.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T. where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

SHIPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANNA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: FORTUNE SHIPPING & AGENCY PTE LTD

Phone No: 256924/256914

---
Famke Janssen only gets “alien creature” roles

NEW DELHI, 7 Dec—Famke Janssen only gets offered roles as “aliens” and weird creatures. She told the New York Post newspaper: “I am nothing like the characters I play, but I know I look like I would be. Of course, when you’re Meryl Streep or Daniel Day-Lewis, it’s a different story, but most of us aren’t that lucky. It’s not like I turn down those parts and opt for the alien creatures.”

As well as not being offered a variety of roles, Famke recently claimed men are “threatened” by her in Hollywood.

Jennifer Aniston buys 10-foot Christmas tree for weekend bash

LOS ANGELES, 7 Dec—Former Friends star Jennifer Aniston bought a 10-foot Christmas tree for a weekend bash she threw for her and fiancé Justin Theroux’s close friends. The 43-year-old actress selected a 10-foot Noble Fir Premium tree to add some Christmas spirit to the party, reported Us magazine.

“She likes (her trees) really full and fluffy,” a source said.

Stars like Demi Moore, Ellen DeGeneres and Portia DeRossi, Tobey Maguire and Ben Stiller were spotted arriving at Aniston and Theroux’s house.

“A niston was merely celebrating the start of the holiday season by hosting her annual tree trimming party,” the source added. —PTI

Naomi Watts says playing Princess Diana was the “hardest thing” she’s ever done

NEW DELHI, 7 Dec—Naomi Watts takes on the role of the late royal Diana, in new movie Diana and she admits recreating such an iconic and beloved figure was a very daunting task.

She said: “Playing Princess Diana was the hardest thing I’ve done. Because of the pressure of everyone’s beliefs about who she was and the fact that it was just really hard to claim her as my own, since everybody feels they know her.”

Naomi also says she was keen to channel Diana—who died in a Paris car crash in 1997—rather than mimic her, as any attempt to impersonate her speech and physical behaviour would detract from the performance.

Speaking to Manhattan magazine, she said: “I don’t want to get caught up in mimicry—that’s the worst thing. I was trying to embody her and get the essence of her. Those things are really important to me.”

Freyda Pinto part of Dubai International Film Festival international jury

DUBAI, 7 Dec—India-born actress Freida Pinto is part of the international jury at the upcoming Dubai International Film Festival. The Slumber Millionaire star will join world famous names like Michael Apted, Kerry Fox, Bruno Barreto, Chang Dong Lee, Fatemeh Motamed-Arya and Nayla Al Khaja at the festival where 80 films will compete for over USD 575,000 in prize money across three categories - Muhr Arab, Muhr Arab and Muhr AsiaAfrica.

Pinto will be part of the judging panel for the short film competitions in the Muhr Arab, Muhr AsiaAfrica and Muhr Emirati categories, which is headed by film critic Mark Adams.

Emirati filmmaker Nayla Al Khaja is also part of this jury. The Muhr Arab Documentary Jury will be led by British filmmaker Michael Apted. He will be joined by Jordanian documentary Azza El Hassan and Chris Fujiwara, artistic director of the Edinburgh international film festival (IEFF).

The filmmakers competing in the Muhr Arab Feature competition will be assessed by Brazilian director Bruno Barreto, who is also President of the jury. Assisting him will be Egyptian actor Aser Yassin, Tunisian film director Mofida Tlatli, Martin Schwegler, CEO of the Austrian Film Commission and acclaimed author Aedan Madanat.

The Muhr AsiaAfrica Awards jury will be headed by South Korean film director Lee Chang-dong. Istanbul International Film Festival Director Azie Tan, Iranian actress Fatenah Motamed-Arya, New Zealand actress Kerry Fox and Nigerian director and cinematographer Tunde Kelani will join him.

The Muhr AsiaAfrica Documentary Jury will be led by award-winning Palestinian documentarist Mai Masri at the helm and joined by South Koreandocumentarist Kim Dong-won and German filmmaker Bettina Blummer.

“It is a testament to the success of our programme that we have been able to draw the sheer amount of talent from around the world for our juries this year, and we wish them luck with their difficult task,” said Abdulhamid Juma, DIFF Chairman. —PTI

Barbra Streisand is planning her autobiography

NEW DELHI, 7 Dec—70-year-old entertainer Barbra Streisand—who began her career when she was a teenager — wants to document her life story in print, but first plans to go back to directing movies, if she can find someone to fund her work.

She is quoted by Italian newspaper La Repubblica as saying: “I will write my memoirs after having directed a couple more films, maybe the first one will be from the musical Gypsy which I still own the rights to. But it’s not easy to find the funds for a film.

“A few days ago I watched A Star Is Born and I thought what a good film it was, progressive and technically well made, but I remember getting so many bad reviews. I feel like I’m a showbusiness artist, someone who’s got even more of whatthey’d dream.”

While there are still many things she wants to achieve, Streisand occasionally has moments where she’d rather have a quiet life at home with her husband James Brolin.

She added: “There are moments when I still feel ambitious and dream of going back to directing and singing all over the world. Sometimes other times I just feel like reading in the peace and quiet of my house.” —PTI
Bayer Leverkusen’s Philipp Wollscheid challenges Rosenborg Trondheim’s John Chibuike (C) during the Europa League Group K soccer match in Leverkusen on 6 Dec, 2012.—*Reuters*

Leverkusen beat Rosenborg 1-0 in UEFA Europa League

**Soccer**

Leverkusen’s squad started highly motivated into the match and they nearly got rewarded but Rosenborg’s goalkeeper Lund Hansen parried junior Fernandes effort from close range.

As the match progressed Leverkusen failed to utilize their ball possession against passive visitors, that’s why scoring opportunities were a rare occurrence before the break.

*Second halves inter-

Tour, told reporters, “You can’t get much of a better day. I thought there were a lot of birdies out there and there would probably be some good morning scores.”

Australia’s top player Adam Scott was also among the starters but struggled with three bogeys and two birdies on his front nine and showed why with a birdie blitz in his first 10 holes. He stuttered with bogeys on his 11th and 12th holes but picked up another couple of shots on the run home to stand two shots clear of world number four Justin Rose and four others with a share of second place after carding 68s.

“We had the perfect conditions this morning, teeing off at seven o’clock,” the 41-year-old Senden, who has won once on the US PGA Tour, told reporters. “You can’t get much of a better day. I thought there were a lot of birdies out there and there would probably be some good morning scores.”

Australia’s top player Adam Scott was also among the starters but struggled with three bogeys and two birdies on his front nine and showed why with a birdie blitz in his first 10 holes. He stuttered with bogeys on his 11th and 12th holes but picked up another couple of shots on the run home to stand two shots clear of world number four Justin Rose and four others with a share of second place after carding 68s.

“We had the perfect conditions this morning, teeing off at seven o’clock,” the 41-year-old Senden, who has won once on the US PGA Tour, told reporters. “You can’t get much of a better day. I thought there were a lot of birdies out there and there would probably be some good morning scores.”

Australia’s top player Adam Scott was also among the starters but struggled with three bogeys and two birdies on his front nine and showed why with a birdie blitz in his first 10 holes. He stuttered with bogeys on his 11th and 12th holes but picked up another couple of shots on the run home to stand two shots clear of world number four Justin Rose and four others with a share of second place after carding 68s.

“We had the perfect conditions this morning, teeing off at seven o’clock,” the 41-year-old Senden, who has won once on the US PGA Tour, told reporters. “You can’t get much of a better day. I thought there were a lot of birdies out there and there would probably be some good morning scores.”

Australia’s top player Adam Scott was also among the starters but struggled with three bogeys and two birdies on his front nine and showed why with a birdie blitz in his first 10 holes. He stuttered with bogeys on his 11th and 12th holes but picked up another couple of shots on the run home to stand two shots clear of world number four Justin Rose and four others with a share of second place after carding 68s.

“We had the perfect conditions this morning, teeing off at seven o’clock,” the 41-year-old Senden, who has won once on the US PGA Tour, told reporters. “You can’t get much of a better day. I thought there were a lot of birdies out there and there would probably be some good morning scores.”

Australia’s top player Adam Scott was also among the starters but struggled with three bogeys and two birdies on his front nine and showed why with a birdie blitz in his first 10 holes. He stuttered with bogeys on his 11th and 12th holes but picked up another couple of shots on the run home to stand two shots clear of world number four Justin Rose and four others with a share of second place after carding 68s.

“We had the perfect conditions this morning, teeing off at seven o’clock,” the 41-year-old Senden, who has won once on the US PGA Tour, told reporters. “You can’t get much of a better day. I thought there were a lot of birdies out there and there would probably be some good morning scores.”

Australia’s top player Adam Scott was also among the starters but struggled with three bogeys and two birdies on his front nine and showed why with a birdie blitz in his first 10 holes. He stuttered with bogeys on his 11th and 12th holes but picked up another couple of shots on the run home to stand two shots clear of world number four Justin Rose and four others with a share of second place after carding 68s.

“We had the perfect conditions this morning, teeing off at seven o’clock,” the 41-year-old Senden, who has won once on the US PGA Tour, told reporters. “You can’t get much of a better day. I thought there were a lot of birdies out there and there would probably be some good morning scores.”

Australia’s top player Adam Scott was also among the starters but struggled with three bogeys and two birdies on his front nine and showed why with a birdie blitz in his first 10 holes. He stuttered with bogeys on his 11th and 12th holes but picked up another couple of shots on the run home to stand two shots clear of world number four Justin Rose and four others with a share of second place after carding 68s.

“We had the perfect conditions this morning, teeing off at seven o’clock,” the 41-year-old Senden, who has won once on the US PGA Tour, told reporters. “You can’t get much of a better day. I thought there were a lot of birdies out there and there would probably be some good morning scores.”

Australia’s top player Adam Scott was also among the starters but struggled with three bogeys and two birdies on his front nine and showed why with a birdie blitz in his first 10 holes. He stuttered with bogeys on his 11th and 12th holes but picked up another couple of shots on the run home to stand two shots clear of world number four Justin Rose and four others with a share of second place after carding 68s.

“We had the perfect conditions this morning, teeing off at seven o’clock,” the 41-year-old Senden, who has won once on the US PGA Tour, told reporters. “You can’t get much of a better day. I thought there were a lot of birdies out there and there would probably be some good morning scores.”

Australia’s top player Adam Scott was also among the starters but struggled with three bogeys and two birdies on his front nine and showed why with a birdie blitz in his first 10 holes. He stuttered with bogeys on his 11th and 12th holes but picked up another couple of shots on the run home to stand two shots clear of world number four Justin Rose and four others with a share of second place after carding 68s.

“We had the perfect conditions this morning, teeing off at seven o’clock,” the 41-year-old Senden, who has won once on the US PGA Tour, told reporters. “You can’t get much of a better day. I thought there were a lot of birdies out there and there would probably be some good morning scores.”

Australia’s top player Adam Scott was also among the starters but struggled with three bogeys and two birdies on his front nine and showed why with a birdie blitz in his first 10 holes. He stuttered with bogeys on his 11th and 12th holes but picked up another couple of shots on the run home to stand two shots clear of world number four Justin Rose and four others with a share of second place after carding 68s.

“We had the perfect conditions this morning, teeing off at seven o’clock,” the 41-year-old Senden, who has won once on the US PGA Tour, told reporters. “You can’t get much of a better day. I thought there were a lot of birdies out there and there would probably be some good morning scores.”

Australia’s top player Adam Scott was also among the starters but struggled with three bogeys and two birdies on his front nine and showed why with a birdie blitz in his first 10 holes. He stuttered with bogeys on his 11th and 12th holes but picked up another couple of shots on the run home to stand two shots clear of world number four Justin Rose and four others with a share of second place after carding 68s.
Barcelona's Lionel Messi speaks during a news conference at Nou Camp Stadium in Barcelona, on 6 Dec, 2012.— Reuters

Barcelona, 7 Dec— Lionel Messi says he is feeling fine despite bruising his left knee against Atletico Madrid in Wednesday’s Champions League game against Benfica but is unsure whether he will be fit for Sunday’s La Liga match at Real Betis.

The Argentine World Player of the Year collapsed to the turf after colliding with Benfica goalkeeper Artur late in the Group G clash at the Nou Camp, which ended 0-0, and was taken off on a stretcher in obvious pain. A scan ruled out anything more serious than bruising and Messi worked out in the gym on Thursday.

“When I felt the blow I thought the worst because of the pain, that I might be out for many months,” said the 25-year-old who came on as a substitute for the final half an hour with Barca already through to the last 16 as group winners.

“Afer the tests, and having ruled out a serious injury, I was much more relaxed,” he said. “I am feeling very good.” — Reuters

Chelsea's John Obi Mikel banned and fined over referee incident

London, 7 Dec— Chelsea's John Obi Mikel has been banned for three games and fined 60,000 pounds for using abusive language towards referee Mark Clattenburg after a home defeat by Manchester United in October.

ThefootballA association said in a statement on Thursday, its independent regulatory commission had found midfielder Mikel guilty of charges relating to an incident in the referee’s changing room.

FIFA said pre-match tests conducted by the referee at both ends of the pitch 100 minutes before kickoff were successful. Hawk-eye, widely used in cricket and tennis, will be used in Sunday’s quarter-finals in Tokyo.

FIFA will be given analyses from the competing companies in January and decide which system to use in the final stage next week. The score was only 1-0 but we tried to keep the pressure on the result. "We have to be happy with the way we played," he said. "Don’t forget weare an amateur side - it’s not easy coming up here to play. We are an amateur side - it’s not easy coming up here to play." — Reuters

Barcelona's Lionel Messi speaks during a news conference at Nou Camp Stadium in Barcelona, on 6 Dec, 2012.— Reuters

Chelsea’s Mikel banned and fined over referee incident

London, 7 Dec— Chelsea’s John Obi Mikel has been banned for three games and fined 60,000 pounds for using abusive language towards referee Mark Clattenburg after a home defeat by Manchester United in October.

TheFootball Association said in a statement on Thursday, its independent regulatory commission had found midfielder Mikel guilty of charges relating to an incident in the referee’s changing room.

FIFA said pre-match tests conducted by the referee at both ends of the pitch 100 minutes before kickoff were successful. Hawk-eye, widely used in cricket and tennis, will be used in Sunday’s quarter-finals in Tokyo.

FIFA will be given analyses from the competing companies in January and decide which system to use in the final stage next week. The score was only 1-0 but we tried to keep the pressure on the result. “We have to be happy with the way we played,” he said. “Don’t forget we’re an amateur side - it’s not easy coming up here to play.” — Reuters

Goalkeeper Tamati Williams of New Zealand’s Auckland City catches the ball as a unit (green case) of a goal-line technology system by the FIA A-selected provider GoalRef, which will be used at the Club World Cup soccer tournament, is seen during their Club World Cup soccer match against Japan’s Sanfrecce Hiroshima in Yokohama, south of Tokyo on 6 Dec, 2012.— Reuters

FIFA said pre-match tests conducted by the referee at both ends of the pitch 100 minutes before kickoff were successful. Hawk-eye, widely used in cricket and tennis, will be used in Sunday’s quarter-finals in Tokyo.

FIFA will be given analyses from the competing companies in January and decide which system to use in the final stage next week. The score was only 1-0 but we tried to keep the pressure on the result. “We have to be happy with the way we played,” he said. “Don’t forget we’re an amateur side - it’s not easy coming up here to play.” — Reuters
Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing takes salute of cadet battalion at graduation parade of 55th Intake of DSA.  

He said:

The leader is a person who must accomplish the given mission. Target mission must be outlined for the success of the unit you lead. Individual goal of one’s life should be planned to get to one’s destination. A better understanding of the goal you want brings upright-thinking to examine dos and don’ts. With this knowledge, you will become a good leader who can reason what is right and wrong, good and bad.

To accomplish the mission, the leader needs to behave consciously and attentively. I would also like to tell you that you can reach your goal successfully by judging your destination goal, the responsibilities, the encountered problems and anticipating the current and forthcoming circumstances.

The country needs tranquility in building to attain peace, and also lawfully implementing to get tranquility. In the process of building tranquility, our Tatmadaw participates enthusiastically in prevalence of law and order, regional stability and development. Wholehearted support and participation of the locals can be seen for our Tatmadaw’s forefront effort in relief and taking care in time of natural disaster and effective health care service for the people of respective regions and states. That shows our Tatmadaw is implementing national politics and I would like to urge you to fulfill the necessities of the people wherever you are.

In this 21st century, politics, military affairs, economics and administration are deeply interrelated rather than standing separately. Economic changes in one region in the world may affect politics as well as military affairs of others. Similarly changes in political ideology and settings of powerful countries affect politics, military affairs, and economics of other countries. Therefore, you as young leaders, have to study military affairs and other related politics, economics, administration, and international affairs. Then you will become good leaders for the country and the Tatmadaw in accord with the motto of the Defence Services Academy “The Triumphant Elite of the future”.

In conclusion, I like to impart you:

- To try your best to be well-rounded and calibrated leaders of the future who preserve the dignity of the Defence Services Academy.

Next, Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presented Excellence in Studies (Science) Award to Cadet Zwe Htet Htet and Excellence in Studies (Computer) Award to Cadet Ye Chit Paing.

The country needs to be modern and developed standing separately. Of the goal you want to get to one’s destination. One’s life should be planned by judging your destination goal and international affairs. Then you will become good leaders for the country and the Tatmadaw in accord with the motto of the Defence Services Academy “The Triumphant Elite of the future”.

In conclusion, I like to impart you:

- To try your best to be well-rounded and calibrated leaders of the future who preserve the dignity of the Defence Services Academy.

Next, Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presented Excellence in Studies (Science) Award to Cadet Zwe Htet Htet and Excellence in Studies (Computer) Award to Cadet Ye Chit Paing.

The country needs to be modern and developed standing separately. Of the goal you want to get to one’s destination. One’s life should be planned by judging your destination goal and international affairs. Then you will become good leaders for the country and the Tatmadaw in accord with the motto of the Defence Services Academy “The Triumphant Elite of the future”.

In conclusion, I like to impart you:

- To try your best to be well-rounded and calibrated leaders of the future who preserve the dignity of the Defence Services Academy.

Next, Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presented Excellence in Studies (Science) Award to Cadet Zwe Htet Htet and Excellence in Studies (Computer) Award to Cadet Ye Chit Paing.

The country needs to be modern and developed standing separately. Of the goal you want to get to one’s destination. One’s life should be planned by judging your destination goal and international affairs. Then you will become good leaders for the country and the Tatmadaw in accord with the motto of the Defence Services Academy “The Triumphant Elite of the future”.

In conclusion, I like to impart you:

- To try your best to be well-rounded and calibrated leaders of the future who preserve the dignity of the Defence Services Academy.

Next, Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presented Excellence in Studies (Science) Award to Cadet Zwe Htet Htet and Excellence in Studies (Computer) Award to Cadet Ye Chit Paing.

The country needs to be modern and developed standing separately. Of the goal you want to get to one’s destination. One’s life should be planned by judging your destination goal and international affairs. Then you will become good leaders for the country and the Tatmadaw in accord with the motto of the Defence Services Academy “The Triumphant Elite of the future”.

In conclusion, I like to impart you:

- To try your best to be well-rounded and calibrated leaders of the future who preserve the dignity of the Defence Services Academy.

Next, Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presented Excellence in Studies (Science) Award to Cadet Zwe Htet Htet and Excellence in Studies (Computer) Award to Cadet Ye Chit Paing.

The country needs to be modern and developed standing separately. Of the goal you want to get to one’s destination. One’s life should be planned by judging your destination goal and international affairs. Then you will become good leaders for the country and the Tatmadaw in accord with the motto of the Defence Services Academy “The Triumphant Elite of the future”.

In conclusion, I like to impart you:

- To try your best to be well-rounded and calibrated leaders of the future who preserve the dignity of the Defence Services Academy.

Next, Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presented Excellence in Studies (Science) Award to Cadet Zwe Htet Htet and Excellence in Studies (Computer) Award to Cadet Ye Chit Paing.

The country needs to be modern and developed standing separately. Of the goal you want to get to one’s destination. One’s life should be planned by judging your destination goal and international affairs. Then you will become good leaders for the country and the Tatmadaw in accord with the motto of the Defence Services Academy “The Triumphant Elite of the future”.

In conclusion, I like to impart you:

- To try your best to be well-rounded and calibrated leaders of the future who preserve the dignity of the Defence Services Academy.

Next, Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presented Excellence in Studies (Science) Award to Cadet Zwe Htet Htet and Excellence in Studies (Computer) Award to Cadet Ye Chit Paing.

The country needs to be modern and developed standing separately. Of the goal you want to get to one’s destination. One’s life should be planned by judging your destination goal and international affairs. Then you will become good leaders for the country and the Tatmadaw in accord with the motto of the Defence Services Academy “The Triumphant Elite of the future”.

In conclusion, I like to impart you:

- To try your best to be well-rounded and calibrated leaders of the future who preserve the dignity of the Defence Services Academy.

Next, Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presented Excellence in Studies (Science) Award to Cadet Zwe Htet Htet and Excellence in Studies (Computer) Award to Cadet Ye Chit Paing.

The country needs to be modern and developed standing separately. Of the goal you want to get to one’s destination. One’s life should be planned by judging your destination goal and international affairs. Then you will become good leaders for the country and the Tatmadaw in accord with the motto of the Defence Services Academy “The Triumphant Elite of the future”.

In conclusion, I like to impart you:

- To try your best to be well-rounded and calibrated leaders of the future who preserve the dignity of the Defence Services Academy.

Next, Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presented Excellence in Studies (Science) Award to Cadet Zwe Htet Htet and Excellence in Studies (Computer) Award to Cadet Ye Chit Paing.

The country needs to be modern and developed standing separately. Of the goal you want to get to one’s destination. One’s life should be planned by judging your destination goal and international affairs. Then you will become good leaders for the country and the Tatmadaw in accord with the motto of the Defence Services Academy “The Triumphant Elite of the future”.

In conclusion, I like to impart you:

- To try your best to be well-rounded and calibrated leaders of the future who preserve the dignity of the Defence Services Academy.

Next, Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presented Excellence in Studies (Science) Award to Cadet Zwe Htet Htet and Excellence in Studies (Computer) Award to Cadet Ye Chit Paing.

The country needs to be modern and developed standing separately. Of the goal you want to get to one’s destination. One’s life should be planned by judging your destination goal and international affairs. Then you will become good leaders for the country and the Tatmadaw in accord with the motto of the Defence Services Academy “The Triumphant Elite of the future”.

In conclusion, I like to impart you:

- To try your best to be well-rounded and calibrated leaders of the future who preserve the dignity of the Defence Services Academy.

Next, Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presented Excellence in Studies (Science) Award to Cadet Zwe Htet Htet and Excellence in Studies (Computer) Award to Cadet Ye Chit Paing.

The country needs to be modern and developed standing separately. Of the goal you want to get to one’s destination. One’s life should be planned by judging your destination goal and international affairs. Then you will become good leaders for the country and the Tatmadaw in accord with the motto of the Defence Services Academy “The Triumphant Elite of the future”.

In conclusion, I like to impart you:

- To try your best to be well-rounded and calibrated leaders of the future who preserve the dignity of the Defence Services Academy.

Next, Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presented Excellence in Studies (Science) Award to Cadet Zwe Htet Htet and Excellence in Studies (Computer) Award to Cadet Ye Chit Paing.

The country needs to be modern and developed standing separately. Of the goal you want to get to one’s destination. One’s life should be planned by judging your destination goal and international affairs. Then you will become good leaders for the country and the Tatmadaw in accord with the motto of the Defence Services Academy “The Triumphant Elite of the future”.

In conclusion, I like to impart you:

- To try your best to be well-rounded and calibrated leaders of the future who preserve the dignity of the Defence Services Academy.