Investment in education contributes to sustainable development of country

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham calls efforts for accelerating educational reforms

Yangon, 12 Nov—“The new government has sought ways and means since it has taken office to introduce "educational reforms", assuming that there is room for improvement in Myanmar’s education. The president has instructed to hold a workshop and to find a solution according to the advices of academicians,” said Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, at the meeting between educational promotion work committee, special task force and advisor group at Diamond Jubilee Hall of Yangon University.—MNA

Present on the occasion were Union Minister at President Office U Tin Naing Thein, Acting Union Minister for Education Dr Myo Myint, Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr Ko Ko Oo, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, deputy minister, region ministers, departmental heads from Education Ministry and responsible persons.

The Vice-President said that the first workshop on education was held at the Education Ministry in May 2011 and subsequently, the academic period of all universities in higher education sector is extended for a year, with the hope that additional one year of learning will help improve the quality of students.

In basic education sector, compulsory primary education, stipend and scholarship programmes were introduced and outstanding student award reintroduced and changes made to private school law. Comprehensive Education Sector Review (CESR) was held on a grand scale in October 2012 to strengthen the reforms.

As the review was participated by academicians from various fields, representatives of people from all walks of life, ethnic nationalities, different faiths, local and foreign NGOs, representatives of political parties, parliament, region/state government, it can be said it can reflect the voice of entire national people.

Education is a job that needs long-term plans. The President has increased most the budget for education in comparison with other sectors. It has allocated 5.24% of total spending of all ministries for education and it is the five largest among that for 30 ministries.

Investment in education contributes to sustainable development of the country. Whether it is big or small in size, a country with high educational standards sees relatively faster development compared to those with lower education standards. A country with high educational standards can create sustainable economy and vice versa.

Myanmar needs to direct its efforts toward this circle. The educational standards are directly related with economic growth.

Twelve ministries have their own universities and colleges that are not under the Education Ministry. The workshop is to focus on to improve the quality of those seats of education.

Myanmar, which is lack of human resources, carried out a strict policy on sending its citizens for overseas training—the thing that can contribute human resources development, in the past. But, the government has relaxed the restrictions and is trying to ease further. (See page 8)

Russian Musical Evenings marks 65th anniversary of Russia-Myanmar diplomatic relations

Nay Pyi Taw, 12 Nov—Russian Musical Evenings was held in commemoration of 65th Anniversary of Establishment of Russia-Myanmar Diplomatic Relations at Myanmar International Convention Center (MICC) here yesterday evening.

Russian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Vasilyy Borisovich Pospelov extended a greeting on the occasion. Later, Russian artists entertained the guests with Russian dances and songs.

Among the spectators were Union Minister U Wiwa Maung Lwin and wife, Union Minister U Zeyar Aung and wife, Chairmen of International Relations Committee from Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Hla Myint Oo and U Nyunt Tin, Deputy Minister Dr Sai Kyaw Oo, Vice-Chairman of Russia-Myanmar Friendship and Cooperation Association Mr Anatoly Mihailovich Burchikov and party.

The similar musical festival will be held at National Theatre in Yangon on the evening of 14 November.—MNA

MICC, Nay Pyi Taw
11th November 2013

Russian Musical Evenings at Myanmar International Convention Center (MICC) in progress.—MNA
Procession of monks-to-be held in Kyaitkto

KYAIKTO, 12 Nov—The Kathina robe offering ceremony was held at Wituhatkani Monastery of Ingabgo Village of Kyaitkto Township, Mon State, on 8 November.

Under the aegis of Sayadaw Bhaddanta Visuata, Chairman of the Ward Sangha Nayakya Committee, four monk-to-be, 24 novice-to-be and three girls to be decorated with earplugs were conveyed in procession with the use of elephants and horses.

The pilgrims and tourists took photo on procession of the monks-to-be and novices-to-be on elephants and horses.

Kyemon-Tha Lin (Hanthamyay)

Donations for social welfare made in Mahlaing

MAHLAING, 12 Nov—One Super Custom Limited car, one mobile phone, one oxygen cylinder and one bed for patient were donated to a social welfare organization of Haawkw Village in Mahlaing Township by Forever Co Ltd family of Watthay Village in Thabekkyin Township on 5 November.

The donors contributed K 5 million to BEHS and K 1.5 million to Kantha Monastery.

Kyemon-Kyaw Kyaw (Mahlaing)

Villages in Twantay Township undertake electrification

TWANTAY, 12 Nov—Self-reliant electrification is being carried out in villages of Twantay Township, Yangon South District.

At present, the village electrification committees of Sanywa Village-tract and Paktaw Village-tract have erected lamp-posts and installed power lines and transformers.

The local people are pleased for enjoying electricity soon.—Kyemon-Myo Hlaing (Twantay)

Accident

One dead in car accident

WUNDWIN, 12 Nov—A car accident occurred on Yangon-Mandalay Highway at mile post No 376/4 near Ywashay Village of Wundwin Township in Meiktila District, leaving one dead at 10.30 am on 8 November.

A white land cruiser heading for Yangon from Mandalay driven by Maung Min Min (a) Aye Min (38 years), Aungmingala ward in Pathetengyi Township hit the pedestrian U Myo Myint Aung, 39, Ywashay Village in Wundwin Township.

In the incident, U Myo Myint Aung got severe injuries at his head, right leg, nose and mouth and died on the spot.

Shwedagon Police Station of Wundwin Township filed a lawsuit against the reckless driver Maung Min Min (a) Aye Min under the law.—Kyemon-579

Bhamo Tsp gets rural bridge

BHAMO, 12 Nov—A 2nd mile Hinchan-Pinsingon bridge in Pinsingon Ward, Bhamo, Kachin State was put into service on 10 November.

At the opening, Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sutasoma and townaselders U Tin Oo, U Pe Than and U Hla Shwe cut the ribbon to open the bridge.

The concrete bridge is a RC type and 24 feet long, 16 feet wide and 9 feet high. The bridge was built at the cost of K 19,369,600, contributed by residents.

Thanks to the bridge, locals are pleased to have an easy access from one place to another.—Kyemon-IPRD

New bridge contributes to smooth transport in Meiktila

MEIKTILA, 12 Nov—A new bridge was put into service in Chaungzon Village, Sekon Village-tract in Meiktila on 10 November. Its construction work started on 20 July, 2013.

The bridge was built at the cost of K 6,436,250—K 4 million contributed by CBO of Save the Children and K 2,436,250 by residents.

It is 100 feet long and 6 feet wide.

The locals have easy access to go from one place to another thanks to the bridge.—Kyemon-Thein Myint Kyaw (Meiktila)

Courses on traffic rules conducted in Yangon

YANGON, 12 Nov—Yangon Region All-bus lines Control Committee conducted the refresher course (22/2013) for drivers and bus-conductors, who have over two-year experience in serving in the bus lines under the supervision of the committee and the refresher course (23/2013) for those with under two-year experience on 25 October.

The committee opened the basic training course (24/2013) yesterday.

The courses teach the trainees traffic rules enforcement, increasing of standards of personal morality and road safety lessons.—Kyemon-Mon Lay

Shweli operation exposes drugs in Shan State (North)

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Nov—An Anti-Narcotic Drive Force also known as Shweli operation led by Police Colonel Myint Oo of Myanmar Police Force in Shan State (North) launched anti-narcotic drive from 2nd to 8th November.

55 drugs related cases including seven poppy cases (13,311 kilos), 25 opium cases (1,545 kilos), two opium oil cases (5,734 kilos), 21 stimulant tablet cases (137,749 tablets in total), lice (0.001 kilo), low-grade opium (0.0785 kilo), stimulant powder (0.003 kilo), five cars, 17 motorbikes, drug proceeds K 1.070 million and 65 drug dealers were exposed by the anti-narcotic drive force in a week.—Kyemon-Police Information

Under close supervision of Assistant Director Township Administrator U Than Naing of Ahlon Township General Administration Department, local people, officials of Township Development Supportive Committee, workers of Township Development Affairs Committee, engineers and staff, health personnel, ward authorities and members of social organizations participated in sanitation tasks and dredging of drains for proper flow of water along Strand Road in Hsinimin Ward of Ahlon Township, Yangon West District on 9 November.—Kyemon-Tin Maung Oo (Ahlon)

Local News
Two arrested for fatal house party shooting in US Texas

HOUTON, 12 Nov — Two men have been arrested in connection with a shooting that killed two people and injured 19 others at a house party in Houston, at a home in the US state of Texas, local authorities said on Monday.

The two suspects, identified as 21-year-old Wil-lie Young and 18-year-old Randy Stewart, were arrest-ed on Monday, the Harris County Sheriff’s Office said in a Press release. Young is charged with deadly conduct, and Stewart aggravat-ed assault.

The shooting happened late Saturday night when gunfire erupted at a house party in Houston suburb of Cypress, authorities said Monday. — Xinhua

Neighbours help clean up the house where a shooting incident happened during a family party in Houston suburb of Cypress, US, on 10 Nov, 2013. Two people were killed and 22 others wounded late Saturday when gunfire erupted at a house party in Houston suburb of Cypress, authorities said Sunday. — Xinhua

Two Cypress Springs High School students, an 18-year-old male and a 16-year-old female, were killed. One was shot at the scene, and the other at a hospital.

Nineteen others were injured. 18 of them had wounds and one with a broken leg. Authorities also put some of the blame on social media, as the birthday party was reportedly advertised on Twitter and Instagram to invite strangers to the home.

Xinhua

Iran to give UN inspectors more access to nuclear sites

TEHRAN, 12 Nov — Iran will grant UN inspec-tors “managed access” to a uranium mine and a heavy-water plant within three months as part of a cooperation pact reached on Monday that aims to allay concern about Tehran’s nuclear programme.

It was signed by UN-nuclear agency chief Yuki- yama Amano in Tehran after Iran and six world powers came close to a preliminary nuclear agreement during broader talks in Geneva at the weekend and decided to meet again on 20 Novem-ber.

The sets of negotiations are separate but both center on fears that Iran may be seeking the capability to build nuclear weapons, a charge it denies. The UN-IAEA deal may encourage hopes for next week’s re-sumption of big power diplo-macy after a decade of international deadlock on the issue.

“The is an important step forward to start with, but much more needs to be done,” Amano said in the Iranian capital.

The International Atomic Energy Agen-cy (IAEA) and Iran “strengthen their coopera-tion and dialogue aimed at ensuring the exclusively peaceful nature of Iran’s nuclear programme,” a joint statement said.

“It was agreed that Iran and the IAEA will coopera-tive further with respect to verification activities to be undertaken by the IAEA to resolve all present and past issues.” That seemed in part to be a reference to a stalled IAEA investigation into suspected atomic bomb re-search by Iran, but it gave no detail on when and how that probe may resume.

Reuters

Nuclear experts told Japan’s sea radiation monitoring activities “credible”

Tokyo, 12 Nov — An International Atomic Ener-gy Agency expert told Japan-nuclear regulators on Monday that marine radia-tion monitoring to study the impact of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant disaster is being conducted in a “credible” manner, ac-cording to an official of Ja-pan’s Nuclear Regulation Authority.

David Osborn, director of the IAEA Environment Laboratories in Monaco, was quoted as saying that communicating with the public about the monitor-ing data is important, while showing readiness to work with Japan to improve the credibility of the activities.

According to the UN nuclear watchdog, Osborn and Hartmut Niehs, head of the IAEA Radiometric Laboratory, came to lay the groundwork for another IAEA mission planned later this month to review the process toward decommission-ing four severely dam-aged reactor units at Tokyo Electric Power Co’s Fuku-shima plant in northeastern Japan. The team’s visit also came at a time when coun-tries neighboring Japan re-main concerned about the impact of radiation leaks from the crippled plant.

Prior to the meeting with NRI Commissioner Kayoko Nakamura and oth-ers official on Monday, the two IAEA experts observed Japan’s monitoring activ-iies off the coast of Fukush-ima Prefecture and visited a building at the Fukushima plant where water samples are analyzed.

Kyodo News

Some 100 Japanese unaccounted for after Philippines typhoon

Tokyo, 12 Nov — The Japanese government said on Tuesday a total of 27 Japanese nationals living in typhoon-damaged ar-eas of the Philippines have been confirmed safe, while roughly 100 remain unac-counted for.

“Out of some 103 Japa-nese living on the islands of Leyte and Samar, 27 have been confirmed safe,” Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshi-hide Suga told a Press con-ference, underscoring that the government is making efforts to contact the others.

The top government spokesman also said Ja-pan will extend $10 mil-lion in grant aid to provide evacuees with emergency shelters and other necessiti-es through international organizations.

Tokyo has already sent a medical team to the worst-hit areas as part of its rapid reaction to the disas-ter that has so far claimed more than 1,700 lives, with fears the death toll will climb much higher. Japan is also preparing to dispatch its Self-Defence Forces personnel to support resto-ration work.

Kyodo News

First Israeli Film Festival will launch on 24-27 November

NAV PYI TAW, 12 Nov —Within the framework of the Cultural cooperation between the state of Is-rael and the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Is-raeli Embassy in Yangon is launching the “First Israeli Film Festival” between the 24th to 27th November, 2013, at Nay Pyi Taw Cin-emas in Yangon.

The themes chosen in-clude friendship, social & family life, love, career and action, will be screened during four days, give not only a glimpse of the Is-rael film industry but also expose the Myanmar audi-ence to the routine life in Israeli, our dilemmas and the diversity in the Israeli society.

The opening film, Avi-vam Love, tells the story of an Israeli woman’s career and trying for her goal. Aviva is a hard working cook in a hotel. Her lifestyle is to be a writer and she is very talented but never had the chance to publish any-thing. One day she is intro-duced to a novelist who im-mediately recognizes her talent and takes her under his wing. But the journey to succes will have a big price for her family.....and also for Aviva herself. Desperado Square Illustrates a roman-tic drama and awarded by the Israeli Film Academy for best director and best supporting actor. In an old neighbourhood, stuck in the past, the first anniversary of Morris Mandobon’s death is approaching, and his young-est son, Nissim has a dream. In the dream his father or-ders him to re-open the old neighbourhood, move-theater thus breaking the vow Morris had made years ago never to screen mov-ies again. Operatin Thun-derbolt—the truth nose story of Air France flight 139 from Tel Aviv to Paris via Athens was hijacked by four terrorists. After lend-ing in Entebbe (Uganda), the Jewish passengers are separated and held hostage in demand to release many terrorists held in Israeli pris-ons. After much debate, the Israeli government sent an elite commando unit, to raid the airfield and release the hostages.

The film is based on real fact and follows the events following the flight’s move-ments again. Operatin Thunder-End tells a drama like a coming-of-age story, but not only of the young girl, it’s a mother’s story, a family’s story deal with the past in a hard and painful — yet lib-erating — way which will eventually lead them onto a new path. The film also won awards at the Reho-vot Women’s international Film Festival 2011 Israeli Film Centre in New York and Haifa International Film Festival 2011. Footnote—a drama involving father and son, rival professors, and their complicated rela-tionships reaches a new peak after one of them is awarded of a prestigious price. The Syrian Bride—tells the drama story of an Israeli young woman, living in the north of Israel, she will marry with a success-ful Syrian actor. Follow-ing the hostilities between Israel and Syria it is special zone between Golan and Syria observed by United Nations Staff and crossing this zone is extremely rare and allowed only under the agreement of both sides and special cir-cumstances. It has taken 6 months long for the wed-ding. (Kindly see attached Film brochure & showing time)

NLM
Mexico to identify possible telecom antitrust targets ‘very soon’

MEXICO CITY, 12 Nov — Mexico’s new telecom- munications watchdog said on Monday it may identify this month which companies dominate the local market, likely paving the way for tougher regulation against telecom company America Movil and broadcaster Televisa.

Conteras, president of the Federal Telecommunica- tions Institute (IFT), said the watchdog would in the near future inform the companies it had determined to be dominant, adding that it could be as soon as this month. “We’ll be noti- fying the players very soon that according to our information ... could be predomi- nant economic agents,” Conteras told reporters in Mexico City. Billionaire Carlos Slim’s telecom- munications company, America Movil, controls 70 percent of the mobile phone market, and about 80 percent of the fixed-line business, while Televisa has more than 60 percent of the TV market. Nurturing competition in the telecom industry is one of the main priorities of President En- rique Pena Nieto, who earlier this year pushed through a reform that gives the regu- lator sweeping powers to shake up the market. The re- form stipulates that players with a market share of more than 50 percent will be declared “predominant.” Those companies can be subject to a range of mea- sures aimed at leveling the playing field in Mexico, where much corporate power is concentrated in very few hands. Lawmak- ers in Congress say they expect both America Movil and Televisa to be declared dominant in Mexico by IFT. Conteras did not say who would be declared dominant, but when asked whether fair conditions in Mexico existed before the IFT took shape in September, he said: “The answer is no!”

The IFT has until 9 March to decide which measures to apply to domi- nant players, during which time the companies in ques- tion can argue their case against tougher regulation. America Movil, which in Mexico provides mobile services with the Telcel brand and fixed lines under the name Telmex, has al- ready said it expects to be declared dominant.

Deutsche Telekom to offer firms ‘clean pipe’ against hackers

BONN, (Germany), 12 Nov—Deutsche Telekom said it would launch a se- cure Internet service next year for smaller companies that find it hard to pay for defences against sophisti- cated forms of cyber crime. The firm presented the plan at a cyber security confer- ence at its Bonn headquar- ters with RSA — part of US technology firm EMC — is in a test phase for a ‘clean pipe’ project, in which Deutsche Telekom partners with RSA. “The offense is light years ahead of defence and that is likely to remain so.”

Addressing the confer- ence, former Israeli prime minister Ehud Barak sug- gested hackers would more than keep pace with at- tempts to neutralize them. “We ain’t seen nothing yet,” said former Israeli prime minister Ehud Barak. “The offense is light years ahead of defence and that is likely to remain so.”

The ‘clean pipe’, project, in which Deutsche Telekom partners with RSA — part of US technology firm EMC — is in a test phase and scheduled to hit the market early next year.

Incoming comet ISON heading for close encounter with sun

CAPE CANAVERAL, (Florida), 12 Nov— A comet specialists has said for a close encounter with the sun later this month, and if it is not vaporized or torn apart, it should be visible to the naked eye in De- cember. Comet ISON is expected to pass just about 621,000 miles (1 million km) from the sun’s surface on 29 November. Scientitists are not sure how ISON will hold up. As it blasts around the sun, traveling at 234 miles per second (377,000 km per hour) the comet will be heated to about 5,000 degrees Fahr- enheit (2,760 degrees C), hot enough to vaporize not just ice in the comet’s body, but also rock and metal. If the heat does not kill ISON, the sun’s gravity may rip it apart. But recent calculations show ISON is already a frac- tion of its original mass. The comet was discovered in September 2012 by two amateur astronomers using Russia’s International Sci- entific Optical Network, or ISON, for which the comet is named. It was extraordinarily bright at the time, consid- ering its great distance be- yond Jupiter’s orbit, rais- ing the prospect of a truly cosmic spectacle as it approached the sun.
Women’s empowerment: Education as a tool for achieving equality

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Investing in women’s and girls’ education is one of the most effective ways to reduce poverty.

As the 2015 target date for achieving the Millennium Development Goals approaches, a number of processes are under way among UN Member States, the UN system, academia, policymakers and civil society to reflect on the post-2015 development framework.

A growing number of states are reviewing and prioritizing the lessons learned that need to be incorporated into the post-2015 framework. The most recent (2012) Millennium Development Goals Report revealed that while there was notable progress in some gender equality dimensions there remains much to be done in every country, at every level, to achieve equality and women’s empowerment.

Empowerment means moving from enforced powerlessness to a position of power. Education is an essential means of empowering women with the knowledge, skills and self-confidence necessary to fully participate in the development process. Sustainable development is only possible when women and men enjoy equal opportunities to reach their potential.

Women and girls experience multiple and intersecting inequalities. Structural barriers in the economic, social, political and environmental spheres produce and reinforce these inequalities. Obstacles to women’s economic and political empowerment, and violence against women and girls, are barriers to sustainable development and the achievement of human rights, gender equality, justice and peace.

Across much of the world, either by law or custom, women are still denied the right to own land or inherit property, obtain access to credit, attend school, earn income and progress in their profession free from job discrimination.

Women are significantly under-represented in decision-making at all levels.

While the economic benefits of educating girls are similar to those of educating boys, recent findings suggest the social benefits are greater.

Women have the potential to change their own economic status and that of their communities and countries in which they live yet usually women’s economic contributions are unrecognized, their work undervalued and their promise undernourished.

Unequal opportunities between women and men hamper women’s ability to lift themselves from poverty and secure improved options for their lives. Education is the most powerful instrument for changing women’s position in society.

Investing in women’s access and ownership of education is one of the most effective ways to reduce poverty.

In line with the Millennium Development Goals and the objectives established by the international community, MASHAV, Israel’s Agency for International Development Cooperation, at Israel’s Foreign Ministry, consistently promotes the empowerment of women, considering women’s education a critical component of development policy and planning, and central to sustainable development.

Women are significant leverage points in the promotion of gender equality and women’s empowerment.

It will be co-ordinated online assaults or coordinated attacks on the banking system, small amounts of the material can be deposited in computers, as well as a number of consumer products such as mobile phones and computers, as well as a number of industrial and military products. During its production, small amounts of the metal can be deposited in the environment, eventually making their way into water systems and onto agricultural land. —Yinhuo

Cyber attack ‘war game’ to test London banks

The Canary Wharf financial district is seen in east London on 28 Feb, 2013.—Reuters

London, 12 Nov — Thousands of staff across dozens of London’s financial firms will be put through a “war game” scenario on Tuesday to test how well they can handle a major cyber attack. In one of the largest exercises of its kind in the world, the test dubbed “Waking Shark II” will bombard firms with a series of announcements and scenarios, such as a major attack on computer systems hitting stock exchanges and unfolding on social media.

It will be co-ordinated from a single room housing regulators, government officials and staff from banks and other financial firms, people familiar with the matter said. Hundreds more people are expected to be involved from their own offices as the exercise plays out, they said. Simulations are likely to include how banks ensure the availability of cash from ATM machines or deal with a liquidity squeeze in the wholesale market and how well firms communicate and coordinate with authorities and each other.

There will be a particular focus on investment banking operations, one of the sources said. Regulators and companies are growing increasingly concerned about the threat of cyber crime to the banking system, including the impact of coordinated online assaults or hacking attacks on specific banks.—Reuters

High tungsten levels may double stroke risk

Washington, 12 Nov — High levels of tungsten in the body could double the risk of suffering a stroke, a study in the US journal PLoS ONE said on Monday.

Using data from a large US health survey, the study showed that high concentrations of tungsten, as measured in urine samples, is strongly linked with an increase in the occurrence of stroke, roughly equal to a doubling of the odds of experiencing the condition.

Researchers from the University of Exeter said their study represents the most comprehensive analysis to date of the potential health effects of the metal. The research used data from the US based National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, analyzing information for 8614 participants aged between 18 and 74 over a 12-year period.

The research found that higher tungsten levels are strongly associated with an increase in the prevalence of stroke, independent of typical risk factors. Importantly, tungsten could be a significant risk factor for stroke in people under the age of 50, they said.

According to the researchers, while current human exposure to tungsten is very low, recent years have seen a significant increase in the demand and supply of the material, which is commonly used in consumer products such as mobile phones and computers, as well as a number of industrial and military products. During its production, small amounts of the metal can be deposited in the environment, eventually making their way into water systems and onto agricultural land. —Yinhuo

This November, senior women and men from the public and associative sectors—ministers, members of parliament, heads of women’s associations, representatives of international organizations and representatives of the judicial, business and academic sectors—will convene in Haifa to discuss progress achieved and gaps remaining in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals from a gender perspective. We will highlight the lessons learned and best practices in advancing gender equality and women’s empowerment.

Education is important for everyone, but it is a critical area of empowerment for girls and women. This is not only because education is an entry point to opportunity but also because women’s educational achievements have positive ripple effects within the family and across generations. Education is much more than reading and writing. It is an essential investment countries make for their futures, a crucial factor in reducing poverty and achieving sustainable development.

“The lessons learned from Israel’s Agency for International Development Cooperation.” —NLM

Sustainable investment countries make for their futures, a crucial factor in reducing poverty and achieving sustainable development.

The Canary Wharf financial district is seen in east London on 28 Feb, 2013.—Reuters

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“The lessons learned from Israel’s Agency for International Development Cooperation.” —NLM

Sustainable investment countries make for their futures, a crucial factor in reducing poverty and achieving sustainable development.
Asia-Europe Meeting begins in India, economy, security top agenda

NEW DELHI, 12 Nov — Top leaders from over 50 Asian and European countries began the Asia-Europe Meeting on Monday in India’s capital New Delhi, with economic cooperation and security topping the agenda.

Indian Vice President Hamid Ansari said at the opening ceremony of the event that the biannual ASEM has an unparalleled edge in terms of economic influence, strategic expertise and political leadership needed to deal with the current global challenges.

The international community is facing a degree of unprecedented sophistication in nontraditional security threats. These transcend national borders and traditional response patterns and necessitate considerably higher levels of comprehension and cooperation,” he said.

Indian External Affairs Minister Salman Khurshid said ASEM not only brings together the two dynamic continents of Asia and Europe, “but also a collective capacity — to promote growth and development regionally and globally.”

Guido Westerwelle, Foreign Minister of the European Union’s biggest economy Germany, said the European Union’s success in today’s globalised world depends on “how well we are interconnected both economically and politically.”

“Breathtaking progress in Asia spells tremendous opportunities for us, and that’s why dialogue and exchange between equal partners in forums such as the meeting in New Delhi are so important,” he said.

In the next two days, the participants will hold talks on strategies for strengthening economic growth and sustainable development, disaster management, as well as cooperation among small and medium-size enterprises, among other fields.

COP19 climate change talks begin in Warsaw

WARSAW, 12 Nov — International talks on climate change opened in Warsaw on Monday, aiming toward development of a new global framework to be adopted by the end of 2015 and take effect in 2020.

The two-week 19th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP19) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change will focus on the composition and schedule of the new treaty, proposed at the Durban talks in 2011.

US, Britain sending warships to help Philippine relief efforts

MANILA, 12 Nov — The United States is sending an aircraft carrier to the Philippines to help speed up relief efforts after a typhoon killed an estimated 10,000 people in one city alone, with fears the toll could rise sharply as rescuers reach more devastated towns.

The USS George Washington aircraft carrier should arrive in 48 to 72 hours, the Pentagon said, confirming a Reuters report. A statement said crew from the George Washington, which carries some 5,000 sailors and more than 80 aircraft, were being recalled from early shore leave in Hong Kong and the ship was expected to be under way in the coming hours. Other US Navy ships would also head to the Philippines, it said.

Philippine officials have been overwhelmed by the scale of Typhoon Haiyan, one of the strongest on record, which tore a path of around $16 billion (1.6 trillion yen) over the next three years from the public and private sectors to assist efforts in developing countries.

Japan will also announce its greenhouse gas emission target revised in the wake of the March 2011 Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster. The new target looks to be a 3.8 percent reduction from the 2005 level, assuming the country’s nuclear power plants remain offline.

A 12-day UN climate conference begins in Warsaw, Poland, on 11 Nov, 2013. Kyodo News

Japan’s new target provides significantly less reduction than that proposed by the previous Democratic Party of Japan government, a 25 percent reduction from the 1990 level. Japan is expected to use its financial presence as a diplomatic lever, presenting itself as a major player in the development and use of green technology.—Kyodo News

West scorns Assad ‘shopping list’ for chemical convos

SYRIA’s President Bashar al-Assad speaks during an interview with German magazine Der Spiegel in Damascus, in this handout photograph distributed by Syria’s national news agency SANA on 7 Oct, 2013.

SYRIA — Western powers will turn down a Syrian request for military transport equipment to ship out chemical weapons material, saying the armed trucks and other gear could be used to fight the revolt, diplomats told Reuters.

President Bashar al-Assad’s administration presented what envoy’s from two Western governments called a “long shopping list” to fit out and protect road convoys from Damascus to the coast through the conflict zone. But, they said, the agency overseeing Syria’s chemical disarmament would reject this on the grounds most items could aid Assad’s army in the civil war.

“There is no way that the regime will be supplied with equipment that could be used by the army to kill more innocent Syrians,” said one diplomat, whose government could block any consensus in the executive of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) at The Hague. “It’s not going to happen.”

Diplomats said Syria asked the OPCW on October 21 for dozens of armored vehicles, generators and field kitchens among gear it said it needed to move 1,300 tons of chemicals to the Mediterranean port of Latakia to fulfill a UN-backed deal to eliminate its capacity to engage in chemical warfare. —Reuters

Storm kills at least 100 in Somalia’s Puntland

GAROWE, 12 Nov — At least 100 people were killed when a tropical cyclone hit Somalia’s semi-autonomous Puntland region at the weekend, the government said on Monday, declaring a state of emergency and appealing for international aid.

The government said hundreds of people were missing after the storm made landfall on Saturday.

“Houses and livestock were swept into the ocean by the floods,” President Abdulrahman Mohamed Farole told reporters in the capital Garowe.

“We urge United Nations and agencies to assist the victims. As Puntland, we have established a committee to investigate the loss and damage. Electricity, communication and fishing boats were all destroyed.” The government said preliminary information showed more than 100,000 livestock were lost and fishing boats swept away, endangering the livelihoods of tens of thousands of people. The storm was forecast to move inland and continue until Wednesday. The storm hit the Eyl, Beyla, Dangorayo and Hafin districts along the eastern coast and across to Alula at the tip of the Horn of Africa. —Reuters

Soldiers help residents as they board a US military C130 aircraft to leave for Manila after the Super typhoon Haiyan battered Tacloban city in central Philippines on 11 Nov, 2013.—Reuters

Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida (C) and his counterparts from four Central European countries — Jan Kolouch of the Czech Republic (far L), Miroslav Lajcak of Slovakia (2nd from L), Janos Martonyi of Hungary (2nd from R) and Radoslaw Sikorski of Poland (far R), pose for photos in New Delhi, India, on 11 Nov, 2013. Japan and the group known as the Visegrad Four, or Visegrad Group, hold talks in the Indian capital on the sidelines of the Asia-Europe Meeting. — Kyodo News

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (C) and his ministers Fumio Kishida (L) and Taro Aso (R) visit the Indian external affairs minister Salman Khurshid in New Delhi, India, on 11 Nov, 2013. Talks between the two countries on the sidelines of the Asia-Europe Meeting are expected to focus on economic cooperation, bilateral issues related to India’s nuclear energy sector, and other fields.

Barack Obama, US President (L) makes a phone call to Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono (C) and Japan’s Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (R) in the White House in Washington, DC, on 10 Nov, 2013.

Syria’s President Bashar al-Assad speaks during an interview with German magazine Der Spiegel in Damascus, in this handout photograph distributed by Syria’s national news agency SANA on 7 Oct, 2013.
New school building handed over in Amarapura Township

AMARAPURA, 12 Nov—A ceremony to hand over the already built school building to Education Department was held in Sibin Village of Amarapura Township in Sagaing Region on 9 November.

Mandalay Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Win Hlaing, Amarapura Township Constituency Pyi thu Hluttaw Representative U Thinn Tun Oo, MPs of region Hluttaw U Aung Thein and U U Moe Naing Kyaw, and Township Education Officer U San Nyin formally opened the new building. Region Minister Dr Win Hlaing made a speech. Wellwisher U Aye Kyi-Daw Aye Aye Mu of Phyuaykakkon Ward handed over documents related to Township Education Officer U San Nyin.

The building, 27x70x12 feet, was one-storey building worth K 27 million.—MMAL-Maung Maung Soe (Myitnge)

Accident

Provisions donated to nuns of Bago Region

BAGO, 12 Nov—Bago Region ministers, wellwishers and shopkeepers of Bago donated nun robes and offerings to 786 nuns from 22 nunneries in Bago.

Daw Myint Myint Soe and party offer nun robes and donations to nuns. —MMAL-Thant Zin

Transport

Buddhist people and monks for Yangon-Bodh Gaya flights

YANGON, 12 Nov—Embraer 190 aircraft of Myanma Air that can give 127 seats to passengers to travel to Bodh Gaya last year. This year, Myanma Air gained experience in plying flights in cooperation with travel tour companies and pilgrimage companies for the chartered flights.

Yangon-Bodh Gaya flights will be pld every Sunday. The flight hour is 2 hours and 20 minutes. At present, Asia Win airlines, MAI and India airlines in addition to Myanma Airways are running flights along Yangon-Bodh Gaya route. —MMAL-Nay Lin (MNA)

Aviation is booming in Myanmar for convenience of flight passengers to visit various countries.

Opening ceremony of school building in progress in Amarapura Township.

Tarpun Station of Nattalin Tsp to get x-ray building

NATTALIN, 12 Nov—The construction of x-ray building has been completed by 99 per cent. It is located in the compound of Tarpun Station Hospital in Nattalin Township of Thayawady District in Bago Region.

The Union government provided 100-KV x-ray machine. The region government contributed K 5 million and the local people K 9.3 million to the fund for construction of x-ray building.

Knowledge about disadvantages of drug abuse, traffic rules disseminated

PUTAO, 12 Nov—Talks on elimination of drug abuse and illicit trafficking and traffic rules was held at Basic Education High School Branch in Malashidee Village of Putao Township in Kachin State on 4 November.

U Soe Myint Thein, Township Administrator, made a speech. Surgical specialist Dr Maung Maung Kyaw of Putao District People’s Hospital explained disadvantages from drug abuse, Commander of District Police Force Police Lt-Col Kyaw Tzea formation of Myanma Police Force, security measures, rule of law and traffic rules, District Law Officer U Hla Myint combating of drug abuse, anti-human trafficking and traffic rules and Township Education Officer U Kan Thaung raising reading habit for development of human resources.

National Sports

AFC announces new group fixtures of men’s football event

The SEA Games organizing committee announced the new group fixtures of the men’s football event. The group fixtures have been announced recently, but the Philippines withdrew from the Group (A). Therefore, the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) rearranged the group fixtures.

In the new fixtures, Group (A) comprises defending champion Malaysia, Vietnam, Laos, Singapore and Brunei while Group (B) consists of host Myanmar, Indonesia, Thailand, Cambodia and Timor-Leste.

According to the new arrangements, the group matches will commence on 7 December and finish on 17 December.

Semifinals will be held on 19 December and the third-placed match and final on 21 December.

Group (A) matches will take place at Zeyathiri Stadium in Nay Pyi Taw and those from Group (B) in Youth Training Centre in Yangon.

Semifinals and final matches will be held at Zeyathiri Stadium. —MMAL-Po Thaw Zin

Construction

Finishing works at Zeyathiri Sports Complex in Nay Pyi Taw

ZEYATHIRI, 12 Nov—Swimming pool and indoor stadiaums at Nay Pyi Taw Zeyathiri Sports Complex were built on a grand scale meeting international standards.

Workers are making all-out efforts for timely completion of traffic island at the sports complex day and night, said a contractor of construction tasks.

We have completed construction for the assigned tasks. But we need to finish car parks and traffic islands. We built traffic islands and plant flowery saplings as landscapes there. We have built stadium, indoor staduim and swimmingpool. Moreover, we constructed the pavements outside the stadium and drains. We assign workers in day and night shifts for timely completion of construction tasks. We have to complete construction tasks by 15 November,” said in-charge MMAL-Tin Myint.

Moreover, we constructed landscapes there. We need to finish car parks and traffic islands. We built traffic islands and plant flowery saplings as landscapes there. We need to finish car parks and traffic islands. We built traffic islands and plant flowery saplings as landscapes there. We have built stadium, indoor staduim and swimmingpool.

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**Investment ...**

*(from page 1)*

To compare the number of those dispatched for overseas studies, a total of 1383 people were sent in 2010; 1447 in 2010; 1772 in 2012 and the number will exceed 2000 in 2013. In addition, the scrutiny procedures have been largely simplified. Likewise, the workshop, forums organized by foreign countries are allowed to be held in the country.

In conclusion, the Vice-President urged those present to give advices on promotion of Myanmar’s educational standard.

Departmental officials discussed education policy for early child care development, examination and education qualification, setting up of basic education (KGs+5+4+3), uplift of teacher proficiency, education management, CCA, non-formal education, monastic education, matters related to policies to be submitted to Hluttaw, university and training schools, aim of medical education, education policy, discussions for long-term reforms, relevant ministries, current tasks and TVET for technology and vocational education, mission and vision of Yezin Universities, and present tasks.

Union Minister U Tin Naing Thein, Acting Union Minister Dr Myo Myint and those present gave supplementary reports.

Director-General U Zaw Htay of Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) reviewed the discussions. After coordinating the discussions, the Vice-President greeted those present.

MNA

**Union SWRR Minister receives UNICEF’s regional director, resident representative in Myanmar**

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Nov—Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin received UNICEF Regional Director for East Asia and the Pacific Mr. Daniel Toole and UNICEF’s resident representative to Myanmar Mr. Bertrand Bannvel at the Ministry here, yesterday.

During the meeting, they frankly discussed early child care development policy, child care tasks, rehabilitation of trafficking victims, social care tasks, prevention against recruitment of minors and rehabilitation tasks.

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Nov—With the aim of ensuring development of fisheries sector and rural socio-economic development, the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development has invited people’s suggestions and complaints about the functions of the ministry. The complaints lodged by the people will be addressed by the following delivery units under the ministry.
More power stations are required ...

(from page 16)

Unbalanced ratio of power consumption and access to electricity is a major hindrance to economic development. The main point to attract investors is the power purchasing agreement. Delay to end PPP agreement may reduce investments, leading to a worrisome condition.

It can cause a major obstacle to long-term foreign investments. Some embassies have suggested that the ministry should fulfill growing power demands by next year summer.

Incurring such losses amounted to spending State’s overall budget (2015-2016 FY) only by the ministry of electric power. Price is a major problem for private investors. The ministry has increased power charges on year-by-year basis. And the ministry has already made coordination with respective committee to include private participation in power distribution and selling in the Electricty Bill. It needs to take sustainable economic development, industrial development and higher power consumption into account, in addition to power price increase.

Consumers pay K 660 per unit for electricity bill in Gwa of Rakhine State, K 600 in Yanby, K 500 in Maungtaw, K 460 in Sittway and K 490 in Thandwe. In Taninthayi Region, people of Khamaukkyi pay K 700 per unit, Launglon K 650, Maungmagan K 600 and Thayetchaung K 600. Likewise, people of Phakant in Kachin State K 800 per unit, Phayathonsu in Kayin State K 192, Khawa in Maungkya K 700 and Ye K 550, Tachileik of Shan State K 200, Kalay of Sagaing Region K 550 and Tamu K 600.

Power stations, power lines and sub-power stations are needed for the people of the parts of regions and states beyond the national grid. All regions and states should have equal access to electricity. The ADB-complied book New Energy Architecture Myanmar based on the discussions at the World Economic Forum suggested the gradual removal of government subsidies in the Myanmar electric distribution industry. The power fees were changed to reduce the government subsidiarities. During the discussion with industrial zone committees in Yangon and Mandalay, they were in favour of raising the rate. But they also demanded adequate power supply and two or three month postponement of price hiking plan. The current power price may cause difficulties to foreign investments. More power stations are required to meet public consumption. Joint Bill Coopera- tion Secretary U Saw Hla Hlaing presented gifts and their wives, Southern Command-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presented gifts and then Daw Kyu Kyu Hla provided cash assistances for Station Maternal and Child Welfare Association. Then, the Senior General cordially greeted those present. The Senior General and party then proceeded to the hospital in Battle Field Medical Battalion where they comforted the patients and provided them with food stuff and personal goods.

A total of 500-MW three power stations are to be built at a cost of 2100 million USD to meet power demands of 3000 MW in 2015 and 4000 MW in 2016 to generate 1500 more megawatts. Local and foreign companies are invited to make investments in the projects as the government alone cannot afford to implement it.

Tatmadaw mobile medical teams provide medical treatments to local people

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Nov.—Tatmadaw mobile medical teams providing medical treatments to local people and serving State’s resources and joining hands in development tasks of the country in serving their duties, said Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Commander-in-Chief (Army), and their wives, Southern Command-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presented gifts and then Daw Kyu Kyu Hla provided cash assistances for Station Maternal and Child Welfare Association. Then, the Senior General cordially greeted those present. The Senior General and party then proceeded to the hospital in Battle Field Medical Battalion where they comforted the patients and provided them with food stuff and personal goods.

In the afternoon, the Senior General accompanied by Kayah State Chief Minister U Khin Maung Oo and Eastern Command Commander Maj-Gen Soe Hlit, looked into health care services by Tatmadaw Mobile Medical Team No.2 in Bawlake People’s Hospital and Military Hospital Loikaw of Kayah State.

Since 3 November, the Tatmadaw base and mobile medial teams have been providing medical services to people and giving educative health talks in Kayah, Kayin and Rakhine States. The teams provided medi- cal treatments to 12244 local people in Kayah State; 4762 in Kayin State; and 18,474 Rakhine State.

Min U Khin Maung Thi of Loikaw constituency said that the loan is required for the nation’s future as it will benefit the country in one way or another. U Soe Tha of Twantay constituency said that the interest rate is low and the term is long. So the project is appropriate for the nation as it must be implemented with national budget and foreign loans.

The session came to end at 12.40 pm. The 13th meeting is on 15 November.

Implementation of plans of Communication and Information Technology Ministry and Electric Power Ministry with USD 155.874 million soft loans from EDCF
Arrival of flocks of globetrotters on increase in Mandalay in open season

As of open season in early November, flocks of globetrotters pay visits in groups or individuals to Mandalay, the city of culture of Myanmar and central region of the nation. They prefer to visit ancient cultural areas and observe artefacts in the cultural city.

MANDALAY, 12 Nov—Airlines of Thailand, India and China are extending their flights from their countries to Mandalay International Airport of Myanmar for giving smooth aviation service to flight passengers. It is one of the significant points to increase the arrival of tourists to Myanmar and Mandalay, as well.

When the tourists arrive in Mandalay International Airport by chartered flight, tour agencies arrange the flocks of globetrotters to tourist destinations such as Mandalay, Sagaing, Inwa, PyinOoLwin, Bag-an-NyaungU and other areas by express bus.

In the second week of November, pilgrims from Thailand, China, Republic of Korea, and visitors from France, Italy, Austral-

Tourists on bridge across moat of Mandalay
Nanmyo taking photos on scenic beauty of Mandalay.

HRD
Essay contest honouring disabled held

MYAWADY, 12 Nov—An essay contest in commemoration of the disabled persons was held at the hall of No 1 Basic Education High School in Myawady Township of Myawady District in Kayin State on 10 November.

The students participated in the contest under the title of Helping hands to disabled for pleasant life at primary level, disabled and all-inclusive education at middle school level and happiest enjoying ASEAN Paralympic Games at high school level.

Tun Tun Oo (Myawady)

Livestock and fishery rural youth course kicks off in Taninthayi Region

DAWEI, 12 Nov—Youths in Dawei District with the good spirit to serve the interest of the community were constituted as livestock and fishery volunteers and training course was provided to them, said Tanin-thayi Region Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Dr Win Aung at the opening ceremony of the training course at the hall of Dawei Township Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department in Naungyan South Ward of Dawei, Taninthayi Region, on 11 November morning.

The Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development arranges opening of training courses across the nation, he said. "Trainee youths are to report wishes of the community to the training course and they are links between the ministry and people of community," he added.

The training course was aimed at ensuring better relations between the departmental personnel and local people and fulfilling the requirements of the rural areas.

Head of Region LBVD Dr Khin Maung made a speech.

Head of Region Fisheries Department U Tun Win Myint explained the purpose of conducting the training course.

The region minister then cordially greeted 50 trainees.

At the training course, Assistant Director Dr Tin Hay of LBVD, Staff Officer Dr Thein Zaw, Head of District Fisheries Department U Soe Myint, Assistant Director U Zaw Moe of Rural Region Development Department gave lectures to the trainees.

The training course lasted two days on 11 and 12 November.

Kyemon-Kyaw Kyaw Latt

Environmental Conservation
150 star tortoise released into sanctuary

Photo shows baby star tortoises, endangered species of Myanmar.

Tourism Industry

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The training course lasted two days on 11 and 12 November.

Kyemon-Kyaw Kyaw Latt
Singapore should measure poverty but not only by monetary means.

SINGAPORE, 12 Nov — A report on measuring poverty produced by a local university said that Singapore should consider officially defining poverty, but not solely in monetary terms.

Most Singaporeans are not aware of the country’s scale of poverty due to lack of information, local broadcaster Channel NewsAsia on Monday quoted the report as saying.

The report Measuring Poverty in Singapore: Frameworks for Consideration, by The Lien Center for Social Innovation and the School of Social Sciences, Singapore Management University, said that a framework on measuring poverty could lead to greater public support to address the needs of the vulnerable.

But it added that there are limitations to defining poverty by monetary means such as through household income.

“The question is whether this person is capable, (or) has the capabilities to lift (himself or herself) out of poverty,” said John A. Donaldson, associate professor of political science at the university.

“What we are calling for is more a qualitative re-search on different groups of people who have unmet needs, and looking more specifically at how those people experience pov-erty,” the service quoted the government as having said that it wants to help people across an entire spectrum, and that it may be a hindrance if it is to have a defined poverty line.

Chan Chun Sing, minister for social and family development, said that it would be “very dangerous” to do that because there will be other groups of people who may also need help but may not get the assistance.

“We need to be more sophisticated in the way we assess the needs and to make sure that we deliver help consistently to the peo-ple,” he said.—Xinhua

KATHMANDU, 12 Nov — Nepal Purwardhar Bi- kash Company Limited (NPBCL), Nepal’s first public limited company in charge of building a nation al toll highway, on Monday formally initiated the con-struction work of its 58-km road project, the company officials said.

Initiated by private sector under “4Ps”, public, private, people partnership model, the Kathmandu-Hetauda road project, the company officials said.

The company said that this highway will connect entire western followed by southern and eastern parts of Nepal through Hetauda and will significantly boost overall economic growth of the corridor, region and the whole country.—Xinhua

S KOREA to offer 5 mln USD in aid for typhoon-hit Philippines

SEOUL, 12 Nov — South Korea’s Foreign Ministry said on Tuesday that it has decided to offer 5 million US dollars in aid to the Philippines where a super typhoon Haiyan ripped through over the weekend.

The Foreign Ministry held an emergency meet- ing with related ministries to decide on Seoul’s disas-ter relief plan for victims having suffered from the Haiyan, one of the strongest storms ever recorded that cut a wide swath of destruction through several central islands across the Philippines on Friday and Saturday.

According to the United Nations’ estimates, the super typhoon claimed as many as 10,000 lives in the Southeast Asian country, affecting nearly 9.8 million people and displacing some 660,000 people.

Seoul also planned to send an emergency relief team consisting of 20 medi cal staffs, 14 rescue work ers and some government officials.

Samsung Group, South Korea’s largest conglomer ate, also planned to provide 1 million dollars in humani tarian aid to the typhoon-stricken nation, the group said in a statement.

Samsung’s financial aid will be delivered through the Red Cross and World Vision, a non-gov-ernmental rescue organiza tion.

Samsung Electronics, the group’s flagship unit, will send 20 volun teer workers of its Filipino subsidiary to the areas slammed by the typhoon to provide free repairs of home appliances and free laundry services.—Xinhua

Two killed, 12 injured in twin grenade blasts in S Philippines

ZAMBOANGA CITY, 12 Nov — At least two per sons were killed and 12 others were injured when two grenades exploded on Monday night in Zamboanga city, southern Philip pine island of Mindanao, police said Tuesday.

Unidentified suspects threw two grenades in a village in Zamboanga city, killing two village council officials, identified as Elvico Gregorio and Cecilia Eblod, both were residents of Ayala village.

The injured were the incumbent village chair man Diosterides Libredo, his wife and 10 others, some of them incumbent council members. City po lice director Dennis Bansgi said on Tuesday that the victims were having their meeting in the house of the village chairman along the highway when the sus -pects riding in tandem on a motorcycle hurled the gre nadaes which exploded simultaneouly around 8 pm local time.

The suspects escaped amidst the cover of the darkness and heavy downpour. Police recovered near the blast site two safety le vels indicating that the sus pects used fragmentation grenades in their attack.

The village is sched uled to hold an election on 25 Nov. Violence is com mon among elections at different levels in the Philip pines.—Xinhua

Construction of Nepal’s mega tunnel highway project begins

KATHMANDU, 12 Nov — Nepal Purwardhar Bi-kash Company Limited (NPBCL), Nepal’s first public limited company in charge of building a nation al toll highway, on Monday formally initiated the con-struction work of its 58-km road project, the company officials said.

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The company said that this highway will connect entire western followed by southern and eastern parts of Nepal through Hetauda and will significantly boost overall economic growth of the corridor, region and the whole country.—Xinhua

Gov’t to launch full investigation into false food labelling

TOKYO, 12 Nov — The government decided on Monday to carry out a con cerned investigation into the food service industry amid a scandal over widespread false labelling. In a meet- ing of senior officials of the Consumer Affairs Agency and other relevant agencies, it was decided that the gov-ernment will compile the re sults of the investigation by the end of November before drawing up guidelines, pos-sibly by year-end, to regulate descriptions of menu items at restaurants and other eating establishments, according to officials. Participants of the meeting agreed to urge res- taurnat, hotel and department store operators to ensure that products are not falsely la beled, the officials said.—Kyodo News

Visitor numbers up, 100 rooms left at New Zealand guest nights down

WELLINGTON, 12 Nov — Record numbers of overseas visitors failed to prevent a fall in guest nights spent in New Zea-land commercial accom-modation in September, figures from the government statistics agency showed on Tuesday.

Guest nights in total were down 2.2 percent in September, following a rise of 1.4 percent in Au-gust, with domestic guest nights down 1.8 percent and international guest nights down 3.2 percent, according to Statistics New Zealand.—Xinhua

A medical team dispatched by the Japanese government leaves Narita airport near Tokyo for the typhoon-ravaged Philippines on 11 Nov, 2013. —KYODO NEWS
THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER

(12/2013)

Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United States Dollars/Myanmar Kyats.

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Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 11th November, 2013 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No(44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph: +95 67-411097/411206

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**Cuba to host int’l meeting on sustainable agriculture**

HAVANA, 12 Nov—Cuba will host the 4th International Meeting on Agroecology and Sustainable Agriculture later this month to showcase its agricultural progress, local media reported on Monday.

About 200 agricultural experts, producers and government representatives from 20 countries and regions are to participate in the event, to be held on 17-24 Nov in the western province of Mayabeque, official Prensa Latina news agency said.

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**Myanmar Port Authority**

As the wharves, warehouses and channal Offices of Yangon Port will be closed on the 17th NOVEMBER (Full-moon day of Tazaung mone) and 27th NOVEMBER (National Day), Loading, unloading and delivery for Goods will be received on Payment as Holiday Fees.

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**Claims Day Notice**

**MV Morotai Voy No (221)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MOROTAI VOY NO (221) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.11.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P 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.

**Shipping Agency Department**

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CMA CGM
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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**Claims Day Notice**

**MV Royal-18 Voy No (-)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ROYAL-18 VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.11.2013 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.

**Shipping Agency Department**

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S RK SHIPPING & TRADING PTE LTD
one No: 256924/256914

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**Claims Day Notice**

**MV Venus Leader Voy No (-)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV VENUS LEADER VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.11.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.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.

**Shipping Agency Department**

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S NYK LINE, JAPAN
one No: 256924/256914

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**Claims Day Notice**

**MV Niamun Nasir Voy No ( )**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV NIAMUN NASIR VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.11.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.(5) 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.

**Shipping Agency Department**

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/B BAY LINE
Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

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Behind every great man there’s a great woman.
Lady Gaga to release new album

BEIJING, 12 November — American singer and superstar Lady Gaga will release her new album “ARTPOP” on Monday in chains of clothing retailer H&M across America, sources quoted by media as saying.

Coincidentally, the release day is just in time for China’s ‘‘Singles’’ Day’’, a celebration for those not paired off, is becoming the country’s most popular annual commercial holiday, or online shopping season.

Sources say that a fairly small quantity of the album will be stocked by the retailer, and will not be replenished. It will be sold for 9.95 dollars at H&M.

Industry sources forecast “ARTPOP” to sell between 300,000 to 350,000 in its first week in the US. In addition, Lady Gaga will be on hand at the grand opening of the new H&M store in New York’s Times Square on Thursday.

Katrina Kaif, Ranbir Kapoor’s midnight date interrupted by paparazzi

MUMBAI, 12 November — One of Ranbir Kapoor and Katrina Kaif’s midnight rendezvous hit a roadblock on Saturday. The star apparently took the driver’s seat to pick up his ladylove from a preview theatre in Santa Cruz.

Kat, along with several other Bollywood folk, was watching a private screening of the recent Hollywood film, Captain Phillips. After the movie was over, RK reached the spot along with friend Ayan Mukerji, but when the duo noticed that there are some photographers present at the venue, they took a hurried U turn and made a quick exit from the theatre. Minutes later Katrina left the place in her own car.

Says a source, “It was well past midnight when Ranbir arrived at the preview theatre. He did not step in. He apparently arrived to pick up Katrina. Probably RK, Kat and Ayan had some late night dinner plans. But when they realised they might get caught on camera, Ranbir decided to drive away.” Adds the source, “He was spotted when the screening was almost complete and when people were stepping out. It was obvious that he had not come to watch the film, but only to pick up Katrina.”

Director Kabir Khan and his wife Mini Mathur, Arjun Kapoor, Vidyu Jamwal and choreographer Bosco Martis were also present at the screening. The special viewing of the action thriller starring Tom Hanks was organised for these select few.

The buzz is that Kabir Khan is planning a project on its lines. Of late, Ranbir has been driving around Kat late at night quite often. Looks like he loves being Kat’s chauffeur with her car taking RK’s vehicle.

Cameron Diaz joins Twitter

LOS ANGELES, 12 November — Actress Cameron Diaz became the latest Hollywood celebrity to join Twitter. The actress announced her arrival on the micro-blogging website by uploading a quirky picture. The 41-year-old star seemed excited to become a part of Twitter, reported E!Online. “I just got a super cool new application called Twelloooo!!!,” Diaz wrote. The actress’ profile reads: “Lover and lover of life; professional laughter, eater, make-believer.” She also opted to use a quirky picture, in which she appears wide-eyed and has her mouth open. Diaz is already following her close friends Leonardo DiCaprio, Drew Barrymore, Christina Aguilera, Gwyneth Paltrow, Lake Bell, Jessica Alba, Reese Witherspoon and Jason Segel.

George Clooney: Sandra Bullock had tough years

LOS ANGELES, 12 November — Hollywood superstar George Clooney is happy with the Oscar buzz that his friend and Gravity co-star Sandra Bullock is garnering for her performance in the film.

The actor believes this year has been great for Bullock, who had some rough time following her 2010 divorce from husband Jesse James, who cheated on her.

Speaking about his old friend, Clooney, who was in a playful mood, said Bullock did not want him to reveal that they are old friends. “Isn’t she great? I’ve known Sandy for — she doesn’t want me to say — over 25 years,” Clooney, 52, told People magazine while attending the AFI Film Festival premiere of ‘‘August: Osage County’’.

Clooney bonded well with Bullock’s three-year-old son, Louis, when they were shooting the space disaster drama. “She’s a really dear friend. So watching how this year has gone for her — and she’s had tough years before — has been great.”

When asked how she balances motherhood and her career, Clooney joked, “I don’t balance motherhood, I got a kid here, a drink here.” But he added: “She does it all. She’s a great mom.”
London, 12 Nov—The message from Novak Djokovic could not have been more emphatic after the Serb retained his title at the ATP World Tour Finals with a crushing victory over Rafa Nadal on Monday.

Nadal deservedly ends the year on top of the rankings after an incredible comeback from injury but Djokovic delivered an omnibus show of force at the O2 Arena, running the man who replaced him as world number one ragged. It was a four-hour, 36-minute masterclass in power and precision from Djokovic and if anything the 6-3 6-4 scoreline flattened Nadal, who spent most of the match dancing to his opponent’s tune.

After a week of sell-out crowds at the spectacular Thames-side arena it was fitting that the world’s top two players should meet for the 39th time in the most prolific rivalry in the modern era and one that is eclipsing the great battles between Nadal and Roger Federer. Both players had won all their round-robin matches before cruising through Sunday’s semi-finals. Nadal was bidding to land the title for the first time to cap a year that saw him roar back to the top of the rankings with 10 titles, including the U.S. Open and French Open, while Djokovic was finishing the season like a run-of-the-mill steameroller since losing to Nadal in the Flushing Meadows final.

Apart from a few jaw-dropping rallies, however, the fireworks were confined to those that lit up the court as Djokovic got his hands on the trophy named in honor of the late ATP executive chairman Brad Drewett, who died this year. “Look, the year-end number one is deservedly in Nadal’s hands because he had two grand slam wins, the best season out of all players, the most titles,” said Djokovic, who in capturing the title for a third time stretched his winning run to 22. “But next to the run that I had in 2011, this is definitely the second best I’ve had,” he told reporters.

“The most positive thing that I can take from this two and a half months is the fact that I managed to re-group after a few big losses after Nadal, especially Roland Garros, U.S Open final and Wimbledon final. I’ve worked harder and played better, become an even more skilful player. This is definitely the best possible way that I can finish the season,” added Djokovic, who next week will lead Serbia against the Czech Republic in the Davis Cup final.

Nadal tried to put a brave face on his defeat. “I think at the beginning he was playing much better than me, the first three games no doubt,” the Spaniard said. “After that I didn’t see the difference.” The statistics offered a clue, however. Djokovic hit 19 winners to Nadal’s nine, committed less errors and served much better than his opponent, who threw in two costly double faults at 3-4 in the opening set.—Reuters

Spain must not be scared, says in-form Ribery

Paris, 12 Nov—Franck Ribery believes he is having the best year of his career and says France should not be scared by the prospect of their two-legged World Cup playoff against Ukraine.

The 30-year-old Ribery, widely regarded as one of the main contenders for the FIFA Player of the Year award, is expected to be France’s main weapon when they visit Ukraine on Friday. The winger was in the French squad which needed a controversial goal to draw 1-1 at home against Ireland thanks to Thierry Henry’s `handball’ goal and a penalty for the 2010 World Cup. But Ribery, who has scored four times and set up four more of the team’s last 13 goals, said France should not worry about the pressure. “Playoffs have nothing to do with other matches and the environment will be difficult too but we’ll have to be relaxed, not to be scared,” Ribery told a news conference at the team’s Clairefontaine training base, near Paris. “We have not to do things by halves. We have to go there to win,” he added. “We have not to tell ourselves that there’s a return leg...we have to tell ourselves that we have the treble last season, said he has reached the peak of his playing career. “I really am at my peak,” he said.

George, Markieff Morris named Players of the Week

Washington, 12 Nov—The Indiana Pacers scorer Paul George and the Phoenix Suns forward Markieff Morris were named NBA Players of the Week according to an official release on Monday.

George helped the Pacers to win a 7-0 record, which was the best start in franchise history. He averaged 24.8 points, 7.5 rebounds and 3.8 assists last week.

Morris finished last week with 22.8 points and 8.0 rebounds per game. His 69.8% shooting percentage topped the league. The third-year forward helped the Suns to a 3-1 record last week.
New Yorkers stage parade to observe 94th Veterans Day

Veterans attend the Veterans Day Parade in Houston, the United States, on 11 Nov, 2013.—Xinhua

New York, 12 Nov—New Yorkers celebrated the 94th Veterans Day on Monday with a grand parade through Fifth Avenue in Manhattan.

Shortly after 11 am EST, about 27,000 people, representing veterans, active duty military personnel, and band members from more than 200 organizations, began marching in procession on Fifth Avenue, from 26th street to 52nd street, according to the United War Veterans Council, the organizer of the parade.

The parade this year, while honouring all veterans, threw a special salute to women in uniform. Retired Gen Ann Dunwoody, the first female four-star general who served the country for 37 years, was the grand marshal of the 2013 Veterans Day Parade in New York City.

The United States has more than 2 million female veterans, with many of them and their families still in need of help. Genevieve Chase, the founder and Executive Director of American Women Veterans, told Xinhua. Outgoing New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Mayor-elect Bill de Blasio also walked in the parade to show their respect to the veterans.

Veterans Day is a federal holiday that honors people who have served in armed service. It was first proclaimed by then US President Woodrow Wilson as a national holiday that honors people who have served in uniform. Retired Gen Ann Dunwoody, the first female four-star general who served the country for 37 years, was the grand marshal of the 2013 Veterans Day Parade in New York City.

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General

Wind turbine generator installed in China's high-altitude region

TAYYUN, 12 Nov—The first China-made wind turbine generator has been installed in a wind farm in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region to capture high altitude wind energy, company officials said on Tuesday.

The producer, Shanshi-based Tayyun Heavy Machinery Group Co, Ltd, said that the 5,000-kilowatt wind turbine was installed and put into use last week at a wind farm located more than 2,100 meters above sea level.

Cao Keshun, spokesman for the company, said that the generator, which weighs 805 tonnes, can be used both on land and sea for wind power generation. Its annual output is enough to supply electricity for 10,000 households per year.

The Chinese government strongly supports development of the wind power industry. The country's wind power installed capacity is expected to top 75 million kilowatts with electricity output reaching 140 billion kilowatt-hours by the end of 2013, said Wang Jun, head of the New Energy Bureau of the National Energy Administration, last month.

Jordan dreaming of one more upset against Uruguay

Jordan is possible in football.”

Injuries and suspensions have toughened the already daunting task for underdogs Jordan ahead of their World Cup playoff against Uruguay but they are daring to dream of another shock and a first appearance in the finals. The two meet in the first leg of the intercontinental playoff at the Amman International Stadium on Wednesday (1500GMT) with the South Americans expected to sweep aside the Jordanians, who have exceeded all expectations in making it this far.

Jordan bounced back from a 6-0 mailing by Japan and a 4-0 hammering by Australia in Asian qualifying to shock the Blue Samurais and the Socceroos at home and sneak into a playoff with Uzbekistan, which they edged 9-8 on penalties in September to set up the Uruguay tie. Plucky and organised on their home turf, Jordan have enjoyed great success from set pieces with the pace and trickery of Ahmad Ibrahim, who scored a brilliant solo effort in the 2-1 win over Japan. Abdullah Deeb Salim and Odai Al-Yaseen are also a threat going forward.

But Uruguay, twice world champions and fourth last time in South Africa, are a far greater proposition than anyone Jordan have faced along the long road through qualifying, which has taken them to Nepal, Singapore, China, Iraq and many others. The South Americans boast formidable firepower in Edinson Cavani, of Paris St Germain, and Luis Suarez of Liverpool with much-travelled Diego Forlan now of Internacional, Brazil, a handy substitute.

Jordan’s attempts to thwart them are hindered by the suspension of goalkeeper Amer Shafi, the hero against Uzbekistan, while captain and experienced midfielder Amer Deeb will also be absent having been surprisingly left out of the squad. Attacking midfielder Hasan Abdul Fattah is another deemed surplus to requirements by Jordan coach Hossan Hassam, who has injury concerns over defenders Mohammad Al-Dneeri and Anas Bari.

Yaseen ahead of easily the biggest match in their history. Few give the Jordanians much hope of winning over the two-legged qualifier. They have never been so far in World Cup qualifying and have only twice made it to the last eight of the Asian Cup.

But the squad have belief. “Our main weapon will be our motivation against prestigious opponents who have won the World Cup and are among the best teams in the world,” Salim told FIFA.com. “All the players selected by the coach for these two matches will give their all. We have to believe because everything is possible in football.”

Jordanian players celebrate after a goal against Uzbekistan during their 2014 World Cup qualifying soccer match at King Abdullah stadium in Amman on 6 Sept, 2013.

Reuters
More power stations are required to meet public consumption

Three power stations are to be built at a cost of 2100 million USD to meet power demands of 3000 MW in 2015 and 4000 MW in 2016 to generate additional 1500 megawatts. Local and foreign companies are invited to make investments in the projects as the government alone cannot afford to implement it.

The problem the ministry has to face is power charges rates. The electricity bill is charged based on production costs and breakeven. The ministry has calculated the charges in cooperation with the experts from the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank. And it has to face difficulties in selling power to the private companies. The ministry agreed to pay production cost of 3.4 cents per unit, excluding gas price and private companies asked for increasing this amount after three years with a breakeven period of 10-15 years. The ministry will have to spend a large sum of funds when the ministry alone incurs such losses. Power distribution would fail to meet summer power demands in 2014, 2015 and 2016.

(See page 9)

Over 300 tourists visit Shwezigon Pagoda in Bagan-NyaungU

Myanmar U-23 team to play tune-up matches in November

Myanmar U-23 men’s football team will make final preparations for the SEA Games to achieve victory in the event.

Myanmar team arrived back from the tune-up trips with football teams from Republic of Korea and Japan in Myanmar on 10 November evening.

In November, Myanmar U-23 team planned to play one international tune-up match and three local tune-up matches. On 20 November, Myanmar U-23 team will meet with Olympic team of Japan at Youth Training Centre in Yangon. The Japanese Olympic team is making preparations for the 2016 Olympic Games, and it is formed with U-20 players.

Myanmar U-23 team will play three local tune-up matches on 23, 27 and 30 November. In the matches, Myanmar U-23 team will play against Myanmar U-19 team. After four tune-up matches, 20 finalists will be selected for the U-23 team.

At present, Myanmar U-23 team is taking training with 26 tentatively selected players.—Kyemon-Sai Nyi Lay; Photo: Shine Htet Zaw

The globetrotters visit Shwezigon pagoda in Bagan-NyaungU region.

The Hague, 12 Nov—Cambodia had sovereignty over disputed land around Preah Vihear temple on the border with Thailand, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) ruled here Monday.

“Cambodia has sovereignty over the whole territory of the promontory of Preah Vihear and that in consequence requires Thailand to withdraw from that territory the Thai military or police forces, or other guards or keepers, that are stationed there,” the court said.

The ongoing conflict between the two nations over the area has led to periodic outbreaks of violence. The court ruled in 1962 that the temple belonged to Cambodia and Thailand must return any antiquities it had removed from the temple, but it did not rule on the area around it.

Cambodia sought a clarification of the ruling in 2011, after fighting in the area started. Following a February 2011 request from Cambodia to Thai military forces to be ordered out of the area, ICJ judges ordered both countries immediately to withdraw their military forces, and further imposed restrictions on their police forces.

Both sides agreed to withdraw troops from the disputed area in December 2011.

In 2008, the ancient Hindu temple, built during the Khmer Empire, was listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.—Xinhua

Unbalanced ratio of power consumption and access to electricity is a major hindrance to economic development. The main point to attract investors is the power purchasing agreement. Delay to end PPP agreement may reduce investments, leading to a worrisome condition.

ICJ gives Cambodia sovereignty over disputed land around temple

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At present, Myanmar U-23 team is taking training with 26 tentatively selected players.—Kyemon-Sai Nyi Lay; Photo: Shine Htet Zaw

Myanmar U-23 men’s football team seen in intensive training.