President U Thein Sein rolls out red carpet to welcome Mongolian President

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov—President U Thein Sein held a welcoming ceremony for President of Mongolia Mr. Tsakhiagiin Elbegdorj on the lawns in front of the Presidential Palace, here, this evening.

At the welcoming ceremony, President U Thein Sein and the visiting Mongolian President took the salute of the Guard of Honour and inspected it.

While scouts from BEHS No (5) welcomed the Mongolian President waving the miniature flags of the two countries, he cordially greeted them.

After the welcoming ceremony, the Mongolian President presented his entourage to the President. Likewise, the President introduced Union Ministers Lt-Gen Wai Lwin, U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Thein Nyunt, U Win Tun, Dr Myint Aung and Dr Kan Zaw and Deputy Minister Dr Aung Myat Oo and Ambassador U Tin Oo.

Next, the President and the Mongolian President held talks at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace.

Their discussions focus on promotion of bilateral relations between the two nations, cooperation in regional and international arenas and tourism and mining sectors, exchanges of high-ranking officials, further strengthening relations between the two peoples and ASEAN-Mongolia relations.

Moreover, they exchanged views on Mongolia’s democratization initiated in 1990 and experiences and lessons from political, economic and administrative reforms.

Also present at the call were Union Ministers Lt-Gen Wai Lwin, U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Hta Tun, U Win Tun, U Khin Yi, Dr Myint Aung, Dr Kan Zaw and U Htay Aung, Deputy Ministers U Ye Htut and Dr Aung Myat Oo, the Myanmar Ambassador to Mongolia and officials.

The Mongolia President was accompanied by ministers, deputy ministers, high-ranking officials and the Mongolian Ambassador to Myanmar.

Next, Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin and the Mongolian Foreign Affairs Minister signed agreements on exemption of visa requirements for diplomatic and special passports holders in the presence of the President and the Mongolian President.

In the evening, President U Thein Sein hosted a dinner to the Mongolian President at a hall of the Presidential Palace.

The two President extended greetings and enjoyed dinner together.

During and after dinner, artistes of the Ministry of Culture performed sing and dance.

Next, the two President presented floral baskets to the artistes.

Also present at the dinner were Vice-Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun, the Union ministers, the deputy ministers and officials.

Myanmar and Mongolia established diplomatic ties in 1956. It is the first visit of the Head of State of Mongolia.
CT X-ray department opened in Myeik District

MYEIK, 18 Nov—CT X-ray department opened in Myeik Township People’s Hospital for the health of local people constructed by the government on 12 November. At the ceremony, Chairman U Hla Than of Supportive Committee of Myeik Township People’s Hospital unveiled the signboard and CT X-ray department. Altogether K 50 million was spent on CT X-ray department, K 361.25 million on CT X-ray machine and K 26,908,150 million on 160 KV transformer and power lines.

Educative talks given in Tamway Tsp

TAMWAY, 18 Nov—Educative talks held at Basic Education Primary School No. 15 in Tamway Township under the arrangement of Yangon East District Information and Public Relations Department on 13 November. Head of Tamway Township IPRD Daw Hla Hla Myint gave talks with a title of “Good Man” and an official shared knowledge about health with pamphlets, showcases and documentary photos to the students. Additionally, Headmaster U Ko Yi explained the educative activities of Tamway Township based on these pamphlets and photos to the students. Later, the students observed the books from the library of Tamway Township IPRD.

Anti-Narcotic Drives

Opium speciosa seized in Myeik District

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov—According to a tip-off, members of Myeik District Police Force together with the witnesses searched the house of Min Zaw (a) Kalar Nge (a) Ibrahim, 29, of Kandown Ward in Myeik Township on 11 November. They found Min Zaw and Maung Zaw (a) Kar Mee, 34 and seized 13.22 kilo opium powder worth K 13.22 million which was sold by Myint Thun (a) Othun, 45, of Mayangyi Village in Taninthaiy Region during the inspection. Myeik Myoma Police Station filed a lawsuit against them.

Illegal two-digit lottery gamblers arrested in Magway

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov—Acting on a tip-off, members of Special Crime Combating Squad of Magway District and Magway Myoma Police Station together with the witnesses searched a house of Bo Htwe (2) Bo Htwe, 41, of Myinthwa Ward in Magway Township on 13 November. During the operation, they found Bo Htwe (2) Bo Htwe, Ma Aye Than, 43, Ma Aye Aye Khaing, 17 and Soe Win Maung, 27 with the evidences of illegal two-digit lottery gambling and K 85,600 black money and seized them. The three suspects are charged under Sections 15 (a)/16 (b) of Gambling Law by Magway Myoma Police Station.

Students from landslide-hit Falam BEHS (Branch) back to their school

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov—Students from Falam BEHS (Branch) who were relocated at BEHS No (1) due to landslides and torrential rains in July returned to their original school on 8 November. “As of 8 November, students who are in Grade VI and VII were able to return to their school and relocated to Bantgyi building in the school compound. But, students in Grade IX, X and XI still remain in BEHS NO (1). We had reported to the authorities to build a new school building in Talan ward,” a teacher of the BEHS (Branch) said. There are two BEHS, one BEHS (Branch) and five primary schools in Falam. The damaged school served as a primary school in 1979 and middle school in 1991 before it was upgraded into a BEHS (Branch) in 2013-2014 academic year. The school holds 269 primary students, 576 middle school students and 133 high school students.—Kyemon-Linn Let Kyelshin

Stimulant tablets seized in Tachilek

1st Myanmar People Forum on 28-30 December

YANGON, 18 Nov—1st Myanmar People Forum arranged by civil societies in Myanmar will be held at the MCC on Mindhamma Road in Yangon from 9 am to 5 pm on 28-30 December, according to the organizer. During the forum, the workshops titled “peace, development, justice/human rights and democratization” will be held. The scholars from Myanmar civil societies will take part in the workshops and any enthusiasts are invited to attend the workshops.

Fire breaks out in Pazundaung

YANGON, 18 Nov—While charity fair was being held, a fire broke out at a room of 7th floor at building No (30) on 53rd Street of Pazundaung Township of Yangon at about 4.10 pm on 16 November. The firefighters rushed to the scene and put out the fire at 4.40 pm. “The fire was believed to have started from wire knock; the owners were away from the apartment for their journey. It was closed for two days,” said a neighbour.

Some people said that the cause was due to fire works that let off near the apartment. The outbreak of the fire is under investigation, said Yangon Region Fire Services Department.

As it is now an open season, public are to exercise a constant vigilance against fire.—Kyemon-Htet Khaung (Sangyoung)
Two Russian bombers fly alongside Japan over Pacific  

TOKYO, 18 Nov — Two Russian Tupolev Tu-95 strategic bombers flew alongside the Japanese archipelago over the Pacific on Sunday, prompting the Air Self-Defense Force to scramble fighter jets, according to the Defence Ministry. The bombers, however, did not violate Japan’s airspace, the ministry’s Joint Staff said. The move came a day after two Russian Tupolev Tu-142 patrol planes flew over the Pacific near the archipelago. Those planes did not violate Japan’s airspace either. The ministry is analyzing Russia’s intention behind the flights. Kyodo News

France assures Israel it will stand firm on Iran deal  

JERUSALEM, 18 Nov — President Francois Hollande, whose relationship has long been fraught, has taken a tough line with Iran, helping Paris forge closer ties with Tehran’s foes in Israel and the Gulf. “France will not give way on nuclear proliferation,” Hollande said at a welcoming ceremony at Tel Aviv airport. “So long as we are not certain that Iran has renounced nuclear arms, we will keep in place all our demands and sanctions.” After Hollande’s three-day state visit, Netanyahu is due to travel to Moscow on Wednesday to see Russian President Vladimir Putin and return to Israel to meet US Secretary of State John Kerry on Friday — by which point US and Russian officials have said a preliminary deal with Iran might have been struck. Netanyahu has condemned a proposal, to be discussed by Iran in talks starting on Wednesday with six powers — France, China, Britain, Germany, Russia and the United States — to ease sanctions if it suspends some nuclear activities.

Berlin, 18 Nov — Angela Merkel’s conservatives and Germany’s Social Democrats have forged a political marriage before and know each other’s ways, but as a new “big day” approaches, they are having to work hard to convince skeptical party members and the business world that they should give it another go. Merkel’s Christian Democrats (CDU) and Bavarian allies were the clear winners in September’s election, taking 41.5 per cent of the vote, but their former liberal partners in government lost all their seats, so the center-right still needs to form a coalition with the humiliating centre-left.

After three weeks of negotiations on policy details, coalition talks enter the “hot phase” this week, and the knottiest problems must be resolved in a final session on 26 November for the chancellor to have a new government by Christmas.

Both sides are making big concessions, but the conservatives want their landslide election victory reflected in the deal and the subsequent division of cabinet posts. Two conservatives spoke this weekend of “not letting the tail wag the dog.” The SPD had its second-worst result of the post-war era, appealing to just 25.7 per cent of voters, but doesn’t want to look like Merkel’s doormat.

“Forty percent of voters chose the conservatives’ platform. Support for the SPD’s ideas was much lower. This simple fact has to be reflected in the government’s programme,” Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble told Bild newspaper in a preview of Monday’s edition.

From the sidelines, the industrial sector frets about the coalition undermining Europe’s biggest economy.

Merkel and SPD coalition talks enter final make-or-break phase

Boeing airliner crashes in Russia, 50 killed  

MOSCOW, 18 Nov — A Boeing 737 airliner crashed on Sunday in the Russian city of Kazan, killing all 50 people on board and spotlighting the poor safety record of regional airlines that ply internal routes across the world’s largest nation. The son of the president of the oil-rich province of Tatarstan and the regional head of the FSB intelligence service were among those killed when the plane exploded in a ball of fire on hitting the runway.

Pictures showed charred wreckage scattered over a wide area, apparently taken after firefighters had extinguished the fire. Russian television broadcast a blurred video showing a bright flash of light. It also published a photo of the plane’s gaping fuselage with firefighters in the foreground. The Tatarstan airlines flight from Moscow had been trying to abort its landing in order to make a second approach when it crashed, killing all 44 passengers and six crew on board, emergency officials said. Flight U363 took off from Moscow’s Domodedovo airport at 6:25 pm (1425 GMT) and crashed just over an hour later, emergency officials said. The leased plane was 23 years old. According to local reports, the Boeing lost altitude quickly and its fuel tank exploded on impact.

There were high winds and above-zero temperatures over the airport in central Russia. Flights to and from the airport were halted until midday on Monday.

Kazan, which is 800 km (500 miles) east of Moscow, is the capital of oil-rich region of Tatarstan. The airport was built at the airport ahead of the World Student Games, held in the city earlier this year.

Villagers mob US aid choppers as Philippine relief effort spreads  

MANILA, 18 Nov — Mobbed by hungry villagers, US military helicopters dropped desperately needed aid into remote areas of the typhoon-ravaged central Philippines, as survivors of the disaster flocked to ruined churches on Sunday to pray for their uncertain future.

The Philippines is facing up to an enormous rebuilding task from Typhoon Haiyan, which killed at least 3,974 people and left 1,186 missing, with many isolated communities yet to receive significant aid despite a massive international relief effort. Philippine authorities and international aid agencies face a mounting humanitarian crisis, with the number of people displaced by the catastrophe estimated at 4 million, up from 900,000 late last week. President Benigno Aquino, caught off guard by the scale of the disaster and criticized by some for the sometimes chaotic response, visited affected areas on Sunday. Not for the first time, he sought to deflect blame for the problems onto local authorities whose preparations he said had faltered short. In Guiuan, a hard-hit coastal town in eastern Samar Province, he praised the city mayor for conducting a proper evacuation that had limited deaths to less than 100, saying that was a contrast to other towns. Reuters
Dot London: City launches own domain to boost online presence

LONDON, 17 Nov — London will join a handful of cities launching their own Internet domain names next year to build a greater online presence and promote the British capital, the mayor’s office said on Friday. ICANN, the world body that oversees the web’s naming conventions, gave London the go-ahead this week to use its own unique domain name from 2014, along with New York, Berlin, Vienna and Brussels.

The city’s mayor, Boris Johnson, said adopting the “.london” suffix would enable organizations to associate themselves more closely with London’s global brand. “This is also an excellent opportunity to expand London’s digital presence, which in turn is set to generate funds to invest back into the city,” he said in a statement.

ICANN’s Vice President for Europe, Nigel Hickson, said that, in addition to country-specific domains such as “.uk”, there are currently only 22 generic top-level domains, which will make some familiar “.com”. He said ICANN had received requests for broad domains such as “.music” or “.tree”, as well as companies seeking to use their names as a domain.

Hickson told Reuters he expected the number of domains to skyrocket, with as many as 1,000 new generic domains to be approved in the next year. Hickson noted that it is not cheap to run an entity to register and sell domain names, but hoped the impact of expanding domain names would improve competition on the web.

Bill Gates wants Norway’s $800 billion fund to spend more in Africa. Asia

OSLO, 17 Nov — Philanthropist and Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates called on Norway’s $800 billion oil fund, one of the biggest investors in the world, to spend more in the poorest countries, gaining the prime minister’s support with his proposal. Gates, who runs the $37 billion Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, said Norway should set aside a portion of the fund to invest in infrastructure in sub-Saharan Africa and Asia, and buy equity in small enterprises that alleviate agricultural and medical problems.

“Norway is by many measures one of the richest countries in the world and you can afford to take some of that money and help out people in other places,” Gates said on a visit to Oslo. Norway is working on a complete review of the fund, including its investment strategy. Critics say it has become too big and needs to diversify away from stocks, bonds and real estate, and may even need to be broken up into specialized vehicles. “It is part of our platform that the oil fund should invest more in developing markets,” Prime Minister Erna Solberg, who took power last month, said after meeting Gates. “We will make sure that we create a mandate that allows them to invest in companies and maybe also infrastructure in these developing countries,” she said. “We believe it can give a just as good return as similar investments in developed nations.”

Nokia Goldfinger, Moneypenny to run Windows Phone 8.1 with ‘3D Touch’

NEW YORK, 17 Nov — Microsoft has been rumoured to be working on a revamped Windows Phone 8.1, codenamed ‘Blue’. Since long, now new details of Windows Phone 8.1 have surfaced online that shed some light on some features that will run the forthcoming operating system update as well as some of its new features.

Popular phone tipster, @evleaks has revealed that two Nokia smartphones, codenamed Goldfinger and Moneypenny, will be the first devices to run Windows Phone Blue. @evleaks’ tweet reads, “Nokia Goldfinger and Moneypenny are shaping up to be the first Windows Phone Blue devices.” It’s worth pointing out that both code names are linked to the James Bond movies. In addition, The Verge in a report reveals that out of the two Nokia phones, Goldfinger is the flagship device. Further, the report quotes sources familiar with Nokia’s plans and notes that the Goldfinger will come with Nokia’s ‘3D Touch’ technology, which the company has been working on for long.

The report suggests that the rumoured ‘3D Touch’ feature uses device’s sensors to detect interactions that are off-the-glass. The Nokia Goldfinger is said to come hand gesture support which will let users navigate on a phone without touching the display, while other gestures under consideration include flipping and scrolling.

Chicago hacker tied to Anonymous given 10 years in prison

NEW YORK, 17 Nov — A Chicago computer hacker tied to the group known as Anonymous was sentenced on Friday to 10 years in prison for cyber attacks on various government agencies and businesses, including a global intelligence company.

Jeremy Hammond, 28, was handed the maximum term for the December 2011 hacking of Strategic Forecasting Inc, an attack his lawyers contend was driven by concern about the role of private firms in gathering intelligence domestically and abroad. Prosecutors say the hack of Strategic Forecasting, or Stratfor, resulted in the theft of 60,000 credit card numbers and records for 860,000 clients, which had since selectively released documents revealing the firm’s dealings with clients including Goldman Sachs Group Inc and Coca-Cola Co. “As a result of the Stratfor hack, some of the dangers of the unregulated private intelligence industry are now known,” Hammond said in court.

But Chief Judge Loretta Preska of the US District Court in Manhattan imposed the 10-year term followed by three years of supervised release, citing his “total lack of respect for the law.” “There was certainly nothing high-minded or public spirited about his hacking,” Preska said.

The sentence was the maximum allowed under the single charge of conspiracy to engage in computer hacking that Hammond pleaded guilty to in May.
Princeton University can import vaccine to combat meningitis outbreak

People walk around the Princeton University campus in New Jersey, on 16 Nov, 2013.—Reuters

Princeton University can import vaccine to combat meningitis outbreak

NEW YORK, 17 Nov — A meningitis vaccine approved for use in Europe and Australia but not in the United States can be import...
Fast-moving storm kills five as tornadoes rip US Midwest

WASHINGTON, 18 Nov — A fast-moving storm system triggered multiple tornadoes on Sunday that killed at least five people and flattened large parts of a town in Illinois as it tore across the Midwest, authorities said.

The storm also forced the Chicago Bears to halt their game against the Baltimore Ravens and the NFL fans at Soldier Field to seek shelter as menacing clouds rolled in. Chicago’s two major airports also briefly stopped traffic while the metropolitan area was under a tornado watch.

A lead forecaster with the weather service’s Storm Prediction Center in Norman, Oklahoma, said the storm moved dangerously fast, tracking eastward at 60 miles per hour (97 kph) and Thompson said the bulk of the tornado damage from the storm occurred over a period of about five hours.—Reuters

File photo shows the cooling pool for spent nuclear fuel on the fifth floor of the No 4 reactor building of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant in the town of Okuma, Fukushima Prefecture, on 6 Nov, 2013. Plant operator Tokyo Electric Power Co. said on 15 Nov it plans to start removing the spent fuel pool from the fuel pool at the No. 4 reactor building 18 November. Kyodo News

TEPCO to start fuel removal from Fukushima No 4 spent fuel pool

Tokyo, 18 Nov — The operator of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant is set to start later Monday a yearlong mission to remove fuel from a pool at a damaged reactor building, in a move to address one of the major hazards remaining at the accident-stricken plant.

While the process of removing fuel assemblies from the spent fuel pool of the No 4 reactor unit is a milestone toward the decommissioning of Tokyo Electric Power Co’s Fukushima plant, the work will require careful attention so as not to result in another radiation-leaking incident.

The Nos 1 to 4 units suffered damage to the building due to a hydrogen explosion, but avoided a reactor melt-down, unlike the Nos. 1 to 3 reactors, as all of its fuel was stored in the spent fuel pool due to the reactor undergoing periodic maintenance at that time.

However, the condition of the spent fuel pool on the highest floor of the crumbling building was a major source of concern in the early days of the crisis, as the water level was suspected to have dropped low enough to expose the fuel. TEPCO later said the fuel of the No 4 unit was unlikely to have sustained major damage. To ensure radioactive substances will not spread outside during the fuel removal work, TEPCO has created a huge cover, supported by steel frames, to blanket the reactor building.

Kyodo News

New climate of pragmatism prevails in US-Cuba relations

WASHINGTON, 18 Nov — US relations with Cuba have undergone a surprise warming in recent months, raising expectations of possible agreements to bring the two countries closer after more than 50 years of hostility.

US and Cuban officials overcame a series of potentially divisive incidents this summer with mutual displays of pragmatism rarely seen since Cuba’s 1959 socialist revolution that ousted Fulgencio Batista to power. President Barack Obama appeared to recognize this publicly on 8 November when he said at a fundraiser in Miami that it may be the time for the United States to revise its policies toward Cuba.

“We have to be creative and we have to be thoughtful, and we have to continue and to update our policies,” he said. Hostile rhetoric has long characterized relations between the two countries, separated by only 90 miles (140 km) of sea. But US and Cuban officials now are privately expressing appreciation of each other’s handling of the incidents. They include Cuba’s decision not to offer a safe haven to fugitive former US National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden, who is sought by the United States for alleged espionage, and the diplomatically deft US handling of a North Korean ship carrying Cuban weapons in possible violation of UN sanctions.

“I think there is a willingness on both sides to engage more pragmatically, but we are not on the cusp of any great policy changes,” said one US official involved in discussions on Cuba policy. “We are not as optimistic as the Cubans are, but there’s interest in moving things along.”—Reuters

Pakistan’s utility to use Rs 169 billion to buy more power from border

ISLAMABAD, 18 Nov — The ruling party in Pakistan’s northwestern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province on Sunday announced postponement of its plan to block supply route for NATO troops in neighbouring Afghanistan.

Pakistan Tehrik-e-Insaf, or PTI, had announced to cut the NATO supply line from 20 November as a protest against the US drone strike which had killed the Pakistani Taliban chief, Hakimullah Mehsud. Asan Chairman Imran Khan announced the postponement of the protest sit-in against drones and to stop NATO supplies from 20 to 23 November, keeping in view the grave security situation in the country.

“This is not a cancella-
LOCAL NEWS

National Censuses

Process for taking census explained in Amarapura

Amarapura, 18 Nov—A ceremony to discuss population and taking census in 2014 was held at Dhammayon Village of Amarapura Township in Mandalay Region on 8 November morning.

Head of Mandalay Region Immigration and National Registration Department U Thaung Zaw made a speech. National census will be taken from 30 March to 10 April 2014 with the participation of teachers in cooperation with the local people.

The officials explained the process of the census and its usage. The Head of Region INRD replied to queries raised by those present.

Deputy Director U Kyaw Sein Tun made clarification on 41 points of questions for taking census and three forms of census.—MMAL-

Supplies provided to IDPs at Mansi-Nanlinpa relief camp

Bhamo, 18 Nov—KMSS of Bhamo in Kachin State donated 684 bags of rice, 60 containers of oil, seven bags of salt, 240 treated mosquito nets, 1100 cakes of soap, 550 packets of detergent powder, 220 plastic bowls, 220 tooth brushes, 220 tooth pastes, 220 towels, women wares, 10 sets of toiletries and construction materials to Nanlinpa relief camp in Mansi Township on 14 November morning.

The transport of goods was provided vehicle assistance by Bhamo District Deputy Commissioner U Tezar Aung and township administrator.—MMAL-

Traffic accidents in series of three vehicles on second layer of recently-opened Bayintnaung Overpass

Yangon, 18 Nov—With the aim of easing traffic congestions at Bayintnaung Traffic Junction in Ward 1 of Mayangon Township of Yangon Region, the second layer of Bayintnaung Overpass was put into service on 31 October.

At 5 pm on 15 November, Nissan diesel taxi driven by Ko Ye Win of Ngwekyayan Street in Ward 53 of Dagon Myothit (South) Township hit a trailer of Hino diesel container driven by Ko Them Win Naing of No 57 in Aungchantha 5th Street in Shwepyitha Township at the slope of the overpass. Due to uncontrollable speed, the two cars bumped against Fuso Hino taxi driven by Ko Htet Aung of Aungmingala 1st Street from Phayagyi Ward of Bago Region.

Three vehicles were damaged in the incident. A person namely Maung Phyo Wai, 21 of Tabawchaung Village of Htantabin Township on board the middle car was injured but not in serious condition. He is now receiving medical treatment at Yangon General Hospital.

Bayintnaung Police Station puts driver Ko Ye Win under investigation at the station.—MMAL-

SEA Games posters put up in public places in downtown Yangon

Yangon, 18 Nov—As a gesture of hailing the XXVII SEA Games to be hosted by Myanmar, SEA Games commemorative posters have been erected at the public sites in downtown Yangon.

The photo taken on 12 November showed a SEA Games poster erected at the corner of Sule Pagoda Road and Bogoke Aung San Street near Traders Hotel where most of the tourists in Yangon take accommodation.

Midwifery course concludes in Ywangan

Ywangan, 18 Nov—Public-based basic health care course No 6/2013 concluded at the hall of Ywangan Township People’s Hospital on 13 November morning.

Ywangan Township Administrator U Phone Htet Naing Myint, Township Medical Officer Dr Khin Moe Hlaing and Singu Township Medical Officer Dr Aye Lwin made speeches.

Officials presented midwife kit to trainees and completion certificates to 42 trainees.—MMAL-

Maintenance of Turkish war cemetery in Thayet of Magway Region

Magway, 18 Nov—Cairo Construction Co Ltd won a contract to maintain the Turkish war cemetery in Thayet of Magway Region.

At present, the cemetery has been damaged with fencing and posts for mounds.

On 7 November, Mr Ahmet of Turkish Embassy in Yangon met Engineer-U Tin Maung Cho reported on food, accommodation, health care and rights of prisoners in line with the law.

The chief justice gave necessary instructions. On 13 November, the Chief Justice and the district justice inspected the custody of Myitkyina Myoma police station and region police station and the custody of Waingmaw Myoma police station and gave necessary instructions to officials.

MMAL-MoeKya (Myitkyina)
Rural development essential to ensure safe and secure food for all

Most recently, the launch of EU-Myanmar Task Force took place at the Myanmar International Convention Centre, Nay Pyi Taw. The Task Force will support Myanmar as it takes over the rotating presidency of ASEAN in 2014 in addition to its full integration in the ASEAN political, economic and social-cultural communities by 2015. It will also support on-going efforts to transform Myanmar into a modern democracy a key part of which is the constitutional review under way, as well as credible, transparent and inclusive elections in 2015.

Given the importance of small and medium-sized enterprises, tourism and the raw materials/mine sector, the Task Force welcomed the signature of letters on intent in these areas with a view to deepening co-operation between the EU and Myanmar. And it noted that the Myanmar government’s intentions to boost investment in key sectors of the economy will bring new job opportunities for Myanmar and new opportunities for investment from European industry.

The Task Force stressed the key role of agriculture in Myanmar. Rural development and food security are essential to ensure safe and secure food for all, but also improve the livelihoods of farmers and provide opportunities for rural communities. This will make an enormous difference to the lives of many rural people who’ve lost their livelihoods in recent floods.

The activities of the Task Force are designed to achieve a number of broad economic and strategic objectives as the economy is still every much driven by investment, and will contribute much to many who face a multitude of challenges in their daily lives including difficult living conditions and poor access to essential services.

We have to be honest that we need to understand the trend of the time, devise strategy and plan carefully in undertaking major diplomatic activities, with particular attention to neighbouring countries. We also need to work harder to remain competitive with other companies like EU because things like narrow nationalism, protectionism and xenophobia are negative values. And we are sure that this would be geared towards a high level of national development.

Union Minister meets foreign guests

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov—Union Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development U Ohn Myint held talks with Ms. Lilianne Ploumen, Minister of Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of the Netherlands and party at MICC, here, this afternoon.

At the call, the Union minister said that the Ministry is striving for rural development and boosting of socioeconomic status of the local people as a focal ministry of the country, urging them to make cooperation in respective sectors for the development of meat and fish sectors and human resources development, trade in animals and their products, electrification and development of education sector and rural banking system.

The visiting Minister said that more supports would be provided to Myanmar as it has gained momentum in political and economic reforms. As the Netherlands based companies have mainly invested in agricultural sector of Myanmar, rice export sector would improve. He asked for potential for Friesland Campina Company that distributes milk and dairy product to make more investments in Myanmar.

For more production of milk and dairy product development, technical training courses would be conducted. For high earnings of Myanmar farmers, technical assistance for mixed cropping and double cropping would be provided along with aid in rural electrification.—MNA

Union Attorney-General attends Bangkok Dialogue on the Rule of Law

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov—Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shun delivered an address as a special guest of Thailand at The Bangkok Dialogue on the Rule of Law “Investing in the Rule of Law, Justice and Security for the Post-2015 Development Agenda” held on 15 November in Bangkok, Thailand.

Also present at the dialogue were Her Royal Highness Princess Bajrakitiyabha Mahidol, Thai Prime Minister Ms. Yingluck Shinawatra, Thai Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr. Surapong Tovichakchaikul, Thai Justice Minister Mr. Chaikasem Natisri, Bhutanese Prime Minister Tsheging Tobgay, Indonesian Foreign Affairs Minister Dr. R.M. Marty M Natalegawa, Executive Director of UNODC Mr. Yury Fedotov, Japanese Vice-Minister for Justice Mr. Katsuyuki Nishikawa and guests.

In the evening, a Myanmar delegation led by the Union Attorney-General exchanged views on legal affairs with the Thai Justice Minister. On 14 November, the Union Attorney-General and party held talks with Thai Attorney-General Mr. Athapol Yasawang and party at the latter’s office.

During their stay in Thailand, the Myanmar delegation also held discussions with the UNODC Executive Director. The Myanmar delegation arrived back in Yangon on 16 November. — MNA

Diamond orb, pennant-shaped vane, Buddha images consecrated

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Nov—The consecration of Yadana Seinbudaw (diamond orb), Hkogytmatnadaw (pennant-shaped vane) and Buddha images to be enshrined at Maha Chinapabha Shwedagon replica pagoda to be built in Laoiban of China was held in the precinct of Uppatasanti Pagoda, here, this morning.

Deputy Ministers for Religious Affairs Dr Maung Maung Htay, U Soe Win and Dr Lan Aung, members of Nay Pyi Taw Council and officials attended the ceremony.
Development of agriculture, livestock breeding, key to rural development

President U Thein Sein addresses National Workshop on Rural Development Strategic Framework

Nay Pyi Taw, 18 Nov — Only when development of agriculture and livestock sectors can be realized, will there be incomes of rural people and poverty rate be reduced as their livelihoods lies with these sectors. Generating per capita income calls for firm policies to be able to attend the needs of each and every citizen, President U Thein Sein said at an opening of national workshop on rural development strategic framework held at Myanmar International Convention Centre-MICC, here, this morning.

In his opening address, the President said the government’s half-term was on, making great strides as much as it can in the tasks of improving political, economic, administrative and private sectors.

He continued that the government, during the term went by, has experienced not only success but also challenges in its sweeping reform processes.

Based on the experience, the government will try hard to translate the desires of the people into a success with the support of the people and international community during the remaining term, he added.

As peace and stability and socio-economic development are interrelated, the government initiated political and economic reforms at the same time. Peace-making process is progressing to a certain extent and both sides are striving for ensuring nationwide ceasefire soon and moving towards a political dialogue.

The President highlighted food security, rural development poverty reduction and sustainable economic development for parallel development in economic, social, health and education sectors after restoring peace and stability.

He stressed the need to store rice and paddy for food sufficiency as the world is experiencing adverse effects of climate change and lay down policies for water management as water supply is essential for agriculture sector.

He called for effective utilization of marine resources and formulation of policies for ensuring sustainable meat and fish production. Cooperation with international organizations is necessary in order to avoid depletion of marine resources and degradation of ecosystem, he added.

In accord to meet millennium development goal, it is required to put utmost efforts in the task of reducing poverty rate to 16 per cent from 26 per cent in 2015. Rural development and poverty alleviation scheme is high on the agenda and implementation of the eight points is in progress.

He continued that firm polices are needed to take effective measures for the development of integrated farming system. It is necessary to initiate a microfinance policy so that individual requirements will be fulfilled. Delivery units have been formed for ensuring direct contacts with the public.

In his conclusion, the President stressed the importance of conservation of marine and natural resources, saying that those who are in improper use of natural resources are perpetrators. He expressed his belief that policies, strategies and tactics for conservation of natural resources could be laid down through this workshop.

Next, the President posed for documentary photos together with those present.

Then, the President and party observed documentary photos on progress of rural electrification, rural housing, opening of courses for job opportunities, community-based development projects and construction of roads and bridges and drinking water supplies and development undertakings by NGOs.

Also present at the opening ceremony were Vice-President U Nyan Tun, the Union ministers, the region/state chief ministers, deputy ministers, members of Amyotha Hluttaw committee for rural region development and poverty alleviation, the region/state ministers, Task Force members, experts, UN officials, responsible persons of organizations at home and abroad and guests.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann meets local people in Tiddim, Haka

Nay Pyi Taw, 18 Nov — Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann met with local people at Kamhauk Hall in Tiddim, Chin State yesterday morning.

He would like to offer our apology for inconvenience in buying tickets for opening and closing ceremonies due to above mentioned reasons.

Leading Committee for Organizing XXVII SEA Games

In his address, the President said the onus is not only on the people’s representatives but also on the entire people to realize the tasks serving the interests of the region, the people and the Union.
Pyapon plans to disburse agricultural loans more than last year

PYAPON, 18 Nov—Monsoon paddy have been harvested as of early November in Pyapon Township. Now, local farmers are making preparations for growing cold season crops there. Agriculture Department urged the local farmers to grow cold season paddy.

U Ba Cho, farmer from Taman Village of Pyapon Township said that farmers can win the benefits in cultivation of cold season paddy more than that of monsoon. If they face troubles in cultivation of monsoon paddy in bad weather, they have to rely on cultivation of cold season paddy. The department disbursed K 80000 per acre for cold season paddy last year but it will issue K 100,000 per acre by the end of December for the whole township. Holding money in the hands, the farmers can wait for good price of paddy, he said. A total of 7210 farmers from 33 village of Pyapon Township put 53710 acres of farmlands under cold season paddy plantations this year. As the department will disburse the amount of disbursement will be accounted for 99.16 per cent more than that of last year, according to the Pyapon Agriculture Development Bank branch.

Kyemon-Aung Win (Pyapon)

Talks on menace of narcotic drugs given at Yangon Airport

NAVY TAW, 18 Nov—At the talks on menace of narcotic drugs at Yangon International Airport, Police Major Myint Thu of No 45 Anti-Drug Squad (Yangon Airport) and Police Captain Khin Maung Thein of No 42 Anti-Drug Squad (Yangon West) gave educative talks.

It was attended by General Manager U Win Ko and staff of Department of Civil Aviation, Commander of Aviation Police Force (Yangon) Police Lt-Col Okkar Ko and members of Special Branch, Bureau of Special Investigation, Customs Department, Immigration and National Registration Department and security personnel totalling 100.—Ma Min Latt (Mann Tekkatho)

1980 stimulant tablets seized in Kutkai

NAVY TAW, 18 Nov—No 101 Anti-Drug Squad (Nay Pyi Taw) and No 22 Anti-Drug Squad (Muse) together with witnesses searched the hut of Kyaw Myin Sho, 43 of Namphathka Village of Kutkai Township on 14 November morning.

The squads seized 1980 stimulant tablets from his bag worth K 39.6 million.

Namphathka Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against Kyawt Myin Sho under Sections 15/19(a) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.
Mount Merapi volcano erupts in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 18 Nov — Mount Merapi, the most active volcano in Indonesia, erupted on Monday, shooting a cloud of black ash about 2,000 metre high, officials said.

The authorities had asked travelers or tourists to stay away from the volcano located in Yogyakarta province, part of central Java. Heru Suparwoko, an official at the monitoring post of Mount Merapi, said, “Mount Merapi erupted at 04:53 local time today (Monday). The mount was rumbling and has been spewing the ash ever since,” he told Xinhua by phone from the post.

The 2,911 metre high Mount Merapi’s most violent eruption was in 2010, killing about 350 people and displacing thousands of others. Indonesia, a vast archipelago country with 17,500 islands, is home to 129 active volcanoes and sits on a vulnerable quake-hit zone called “the Pacific Ring of Fire.” —Xinhua

Philippine authorities seek to revive economy in typhoon-hit areas

CEBU, City, (Philippines), 18 Nov — Philippine authorities are preparing to revive the economy in areas wrecked by Typhoon Haiyan, with government-run banks set to resume operations and businesses being encouraged to reopen quickly.

Interior Secretary Mar Roxas said in a televised interview on Sunday that Landbank of the Philippines and the Development Bank of the Philippines would resume operations in the severely damaged Tacloban City in the central Philippines on Monday, with the former committing to bringing in automated teller machines to facilitate the availability of cash.

He said efforts are being made to get banks, grocery stores, chain stores and shopping malls to reopen as soon as possible so that residents can resume normal life. The disruption of power lines is a main factor that has paralyzed business activities in badly hit communities like Tacloban City on the island of Leyte.

Desperate for food and drinking water, some local people have looted stores and shopping malls.

The shortage of supplies has sent fuel prices skyrocketing, thus curtailing public transport.

“It’s already the 17th, and the last payroll of government employees here was not consumed because of the storm,” Roxas said in the interview. Authorities are trying to pay government employees so as to get the local economy moving again, he said.

Other sources of income would be “cash-for-work” programmes offered by social welfare authorities and the emergency employment programme run by the labor department. Roxas said relief operations will continue for typhoon victims despite “affirmative action” efforts to bring a measure of normalcy to local communities.

The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council on Sunday put the confirmed death toll from Haiyan at 3,796 with 1,590 people reported missing. Of the affected 10 million people from 44 provinces, nearly 4 million have been displaced, with around 349,000 staying in 1,530 evacuation centres. Damage to agriculture and public infrastructure is estimated at 10.3 billion pesos (US$235 million). —Kyodo News

Laos to give four Asian elephants to Kyoto zoo

VIENTIANE, 18 Nov — Laotian Prime Minister Thongsing Thammavong said on Sunday that Laos will give four Asian elephants to a Japanese zoo to commemorate the 60th anniversary in 2015 of the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries, Japanese government officials said on Sunday.

Thongsing revealed the plan in a summit with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. The elephants will be given to Kyoto City Zoo in the city of Kyoto.

The annual per kilogramme cost of some 43 million yen ($5 million) is displayed at a shop in Kyoto. A 2.4-metre-tall pure gold Christmas tree featuring Disney characters is displayed at a shop of Tanaka Kikinzoku Jewelry KK in Tokyo’s Ginza district on 18 Nov, 2013. The company is selling the item, made of some 43 kilogrammes of pure gold, for 500 million yen ($5 million). Kyodo News

Japan pledges support for four projects, closer ties

VIENTIANE, 18 Nov — Japan has pledged support for four Lao projects, including two infrastructure projects, during its prime minister Shinzo Abe’s visit to Laos, Lao foreign affairs ministry said on Sunday.

Lao Prime Minister Thonglue Thammavong held talks with his visiting Japanese counterpart Shinzo Abe at the Government Office in Lao capital Vientiane, discussing ways to deepen the comprehensive cooperation partnership between Laos and Japan.

Prime Minister Thonglue told a joint press conference after the meeting that the two sides discussed and outlined future cooperation plans to deepen their long-standing friendly relations and broaden comprehensive cooperation.

Thonglue, a significant aid provider to Laos, pledged to extend grants and low-interest loans to four projects, with agreements set to be inked next month during the ASEAN-Japan Summit in Tokyo, reported Lao state-run daily Vientiane Times on its website quoting the Lao Ministry of Foreign Affairs as saying on Sunday.

Japan will provide funding for the poverty reduction support operation project and expansion of the passenger building at Wattay International Airport Phase III. It will also support the clearance of unexploded ordnance, and the design of the Xekong bridge, according to the report.

The exact amount of the grants and loans was not disclosed.

The four projects were put forward for support when Thonglue led a Lao delegation on an official visit to Japan in March, 2012.

Prime Minister Thonglue confirmed his attendance at the ASEAN-Japan Summit and the Meikong-Japan Summit scheduled for 13-16 December in Tokyo, after being invited by Abe.

Photo taken on 17 Nov, 2013, shows a huge ship washed ashore and a girl protecting herself from rain with a basin in Tacloban City on Leyte Island in the Philippines, devastated by powerful Typhoon Haiyan.—Kyodo News

Vietnam starts installing Southeast Asia’s longest undersea cable

HANOI, 18 Nov — Installation work of Southeast Asia’s longest undersea cable system began in Phu Quoc Island in Vietnam’s southwest Kien Giang Province on Sunday.

The 58-km cable project costs a total investment of over 2.3 trillion Vietnamese dong ($110 million or US dollars) from the Electricity of Vietnam (EVN) and World Bank loan, reported Vietnamese news agency VNA.

People travel by boat through flood water in Thu Thien-Hue Province, central Vietnam, on 17 Nov, 2013. At least 31 people in central Vietnam have been killed by floods triggered by torrential rains from Storm Poulad that hit the country on Friday, said the Vietnam’s National Committee for Search and Rescue on Sunday. —Xinhua

S Korean president vows to set foundations for reunification with DPRK

SEOUL, 18 Nov — South Korean President Park Geun-hye vowed on Monday to build up foundations for peaceful reunification with the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) within her five-year presidency.

“[I’ll make all-out efforts to make sure that foundations for peaceful reunification will be set up within my tenure and North Korea (DPRK) can be changed into a responsible member of the international community,” Park said in her first address to lawmakers at the headquarters of the National Assembly since she took office in February.

Park said the peaceful reunification on the Korean Peninsula is a path that the two Koreas must go through it may look murky and far away until now, noting that Seoul will continue to push for the Korean Peninsula trust-building process based on firm principles and patience.

If trust on issues, including the DPRK’s nuclear programme, is built between Seoul and Pyongyang, a wider range of economic cooperation will be made possible among the two Koreas, Park said. —Xinhua

The company is selling the item, made of some 43 kilogrammes of pure gold, for 500 million yen ($5 million). Kyodo News

Photo taken on 17 Nov, 2013, shows a huge ship washed ashore and a girl protecting herself from rain with a basin in Tacloban City on Leyte Island in the Philippines, devastated by powerful Typhoon Haiyan.—Kyodo News

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ADB, Japan help Bangladesh to strengthen roads

Delhi, 18 Nov — The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Bangladeshi government have signed a technical assistance (TA) grant agreement of 1.5 million US dollars for strengthening the Roads and Highways Department (RHD) to support the government’s institutional development initiatives, said the Manila-based lender Sunday.

It said the government of Japan is financing the TA through the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction.

ADB will administer the fund, and provide technical support for project implementation, said the bank in a statement.

"This TA will help improve human resources, auditing, management information systems, planning capacity, e-tendering, and computerization of the RHD," said M Teresa Kho, country director for ADB’s Bangladesh Resident Mission.

"In addition to other reforms as per an action plan, a training center for the RHD engineers will also be developed."
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**Angeline Jolie receives humanitarian award from Academy**

**LAOS, 18 Nov —** The Hollywood film industry recognized Angeline Jolie on Saturday with a humanitarian award for her work with refugees and advocating for human rights through her film career. Actors Angela Lansbury and Steve Martin and costume designer Piero Tosi also received what are called “honorary Oscars” for their contributions.

Upon receiving the Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award from director George Lucas, Jolie remembered her late mother who encouraged her to live a life of use to others, although the actress is determined to never be that way again. Past winners of the humanitarian award include Elizabeth Taylor and Paul Newman.

British-American actress Lansbury, whose career has spanned seven decades, was feted for memorable roles in films like her cocktail maid in “Gaslight” in 1944, directed by George Cukor. While nominated three times for supporting actress Oscars, including for “Gaslight,” she has never won. “Ms. Lansbury, here is your Academy Award at last,” said film historian Robert Osborne as he presented her with the golden Oscar statuette.—Reuters

**New Light of Myanmar**

Tuesday, 19 November, 2013

**Angelina Jolie receives humanitarian award from Academy**

**ATMOSPHERE**

**ANGELINA JOLIE RECEIVES HUMANITARIAN AWARD AT THE 5TH ANNUAL ACADEMY OF MOTION PICTURE ARTS AND SCIENCES GOVERNORS AWARDS AT THE RAF DOLLY BALLROOM IN HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA ON 16 NOV, 2013.—REUTERS**

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**WAHEEDA REHMAN TO RECEIVE FIRST AWARD CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF INDIAN CINEMA**

**NEW DELHI, 18 Nov —** Actress Waheeda Rehman will be the first recipient of the Centenary Award for the Indian Film Personality of the Year, an annual honour being introduced to commemorate 100 years of Indian cinema. Ms Rehman, star of classic films, like Pyasa and Guide, will receive the award at the IFFI festival in Goa on 20 November.

The award, which is accompanied by a Rs 10 lakh cash prize, will be accorded the same importance as the Dadasaheb Phalke Award which honours a film personality for excellence in cinema every year. Information and Broadcasting Minister Manish Tewari tweeted: Congratulations to Waheeda Rehman ji for being conferred the Inaugural Centenary Award for the Indian Film Personality of the Year-2013 Award has been instituted to mark 100 yrs of Indian Cinema It would be an annual feature Consists of cash component of 10 lacs & a citation.

**CONTRIBUTED**

**Donate Blood**
**SPORTS**

**Vettel sets record with US Grand Prix win**

AUSTIN, Texas, 18 Nov — Red Bull’s quadruple world champion Sebastian Vettel of Germany drives during the Austin F1 Grand Prix at the Circuit of the Americas in Austin on 17 Nov, 2013. — Reuters

Jimmie Johnson captures sixth Sprint Cup title

LOS ANGELES, 18 Nov — Johnson — Jimmie Johnson added another title to his dominant NASCAR career by clinching the Sprint Cup Series championship with a ninth-place finish at the season-ending Ford EcoBoost 400 on Sunday. For Johnson, who only needed to finish 23rd or better at Homestead-Miami Speedway to win the Cup, it marked his sixth championship in eight seasons as he finished 19 points ahead of Matt Kenseth in the final standings.

“I’m so happy to win this sixth championship,” Johnson told reporters after winning his first series title since 2010. “I’m so thankful. I’m at a loss for words.” The victory puts Johnson in rare company as he joins Richard Petty and Dale Earnhardt as the only drivers to win at least six NASCAR series championships. Johnson delivered five in a row from 2006-2010. His latest win didn’t come without a little drama as Johnson and Kenseth made contact with one another during a restart late in the race. The incident caused a little damage but couldn’t slow Johnson’s run.

“I had contact from behind. I didn’t know what to think,” Johnson said. “It made the last 50 laps kind of interesting.” Kenseth was the pole-sitter and led most of the way in the season finale but he would have needed Johnson to slip up along the way. Kenseth finished second behind winner Denny Hamlin, who snagged his 23rd career victory. Dale Earnhardt Jr. finished third. The champion, who clinched his fourth straight title in India last month, is now one step away from equaling compatriot Michael Schumacher’s 2004 record of 13 wins in a season after collecting his 12th of the year.

Next weekend’s Bahrain Grand Prix is the last race of the season, “I’m speechless,” Vettel told his team over the radio after his first victory at the Circuit of the Americas after missing out last year. “We have to remember these days. There is no guarantee they will last forever,” he added, his victory coming a day after Red Bull team principal Christian Horner celebrated his 40th birthday.

Four-time US Grand Prix winner Lewis Hamilton, last year’s winner for McLaren, finished fourth for Mercedes with Ferrari’s Fernando Alonso fifth and Nico Hulkenberg sixth in a Ferrari. Finnish rookie Valtteri Bottas took his first points of the season with a fourth and Japanese rookie Williams behind McLaren’s Mexican Sergio Perez. — Reuters

**Serbia left Ferrari in the garage, says Stepanek**

BELGRADE, 18 Nov — Serbia’s decision to leave Novak Djokovic out of the doubles rubber of their Davis Cup final against Czech Republic was “like leaving a Ferrari in the garage”, victorious opponent Radek Stepanek said on Sunday. The Czechs wrapped up a 3-2 win to retain their title thanks to Stepanek’s crushing straight-sets demolition of the inexperienced Dusan Lajovic in the decisive rubber.

The match, however, hinged on the outcome of the doubles with Djokovic winning both his singles ties and Stepanek, along with stand-in captain Vladimir Safarik, said they were surprised the world number two was rested.

“We expected him to play but that was their decision and we just focused on beating whoever was on the other side of the net,” Safarik, deputizing for the ill Janko Tipsarevic, told a news conference.

In Djokovic’s absence, Tomas Berdych and Radek Stepanek romped to a 6-2, 6-4, 7-6(4) win over Renad Zimonjic and Illica Bozoljac to take a 2-1 lead heading into the final day. Serbia were already weakened after losing Janko Tipsarevic to a foot injury and Viktor Troicki who was banned for missing a blood test in April.

“We only had so many fit and eligible players to choose from and although I must take responsibility for the outcome as the decision maker, I have no regrets about the team selection in any of the rubbers,” Serbia captain Bogdan Obradovic said. — Reuters

**2014 World Cup qualified teams**

LONDON, 18 Nov — Following are the teams qualified for the 2014 World Cup so far with a total of 32 places to be filled. Draw for the tournament is on 6 December.

**EUROPE**

(Netherlands, Italy, Belgium, Germany, Switzerland, Spain, England, Russia, Bosnia-Herzegovina (Four places remain to be decided in ongoing play-offs between Portugal and Sweden — 1st leg 1-0; Iceland and Croatia - 0-0; Ukraine and France - 2-0; Greece and Romania - 3-1; 2nd legs on Tuesday)

**ASIA**

(Japan, Australia, Iran, South Korea (Jordan involved in a two-leg play-off with Uruguay. Uruguay won first leg 5-0; 2nd leg on Wednesday)

**SOUTH AMERICA**

(Brazil (hosts), Argentina, Colombia, Chile and Ecuador (Uruguay involved in a two-leg play-off with Jordan. Uruguay won first leg 5-0; 2nd leg on Wednesday. Winners will qualify)

**CONCACAF**

(United States, Costa Rica, Honduras (Mexico involved in a two-leg play-off with New Zealand. Mexico won first leg 5-1; 2nd leg on Wednesday. Winners will qualify)

**AFRICA**

(Nigeria, Cote d’Ivoire, Cameroon (Two remaining play-offs with winners to qualify: 1st leg scores Ghana 6 Egypt 1 (2nd leg on Tuesday) Burkina Faso 3 Algeria 2 (2nd leg on Tuesday)

**OCEANIA**

(New Zealand involved in a two-leg play-off with Mexico. Mexico won first leg 5-1; 2nd leg on Wednesday. Winners will qualify — Xinhua

**Australian Day loses eight relatives in Typhoon Haiyan**

TOYKO, 18 Nov — Top Australian golfer Jason Day says he is “devastated” that several members of his extended family were among the thousands killed by the typhoon that ripped through the Philippines last week.

“I am deeply saddened to confirm that multiple members of my family lost their lives as the victims of Typhoon Haiyan,” Day, whose mother Denning is Filipina, said in a statement on Sunday.

“My family and I are thankful for all who have reached out with their prayers and concern. We feel devastated for all who have been affected by this horrific tragedy. ... I will have no further public comments at this time. Please pray for all who have suffered loss.” Nearly 4,000 people have been confirmed dead and another 1,186 are missing since Typhoon Haiyan, one of the world’s most powerful typhoons, struck the Philippines.

Day, ranked 20th in the world, is scheduled to represent Australia with world number two Adam Scott at this week’s World Cup of Golf at Royal Melbourne. An Australian newspaper reports that Day’s grandfather, an uncle and six cousins were killed in the typhoon.

**International team player Jason Day of Australia hits a shot on the ninth hole during his four ball match with playing partner Graham DeLaet of Canada against Steve Stricker and Jordan Spieth of the US at the 2013 Presidents Cup golf tournament at Muirfield Village Golf Club in Dublin, Ohio on 5 Oct, 2013. — Reuters**
Haye advised to retire after shoulder surgery

**London, 18 Nov —** Former world heavyweight champion David Haye has been advised by doctors to consider retiring after undergoing shoulder surgery, the Briton said on Sunday. Haye underwent five hours of surgery in Germany on Thursday to reconstruct his shoulder, Haye, 33, has been advised by doctors to consider retiring after undergoing shoulder surgery, which he said on Sunday.

"I can only offer my sincerest apologies to all those fans who have followed me over the years and, like me, wanted to finish on a real high. This wasn’t how I wanted to end 2013." If I’m now destined to have won the European Championship, the Unified World Cruiserweight Championship and the WBA Heavyweight Championship of the world — with a record of 28 fights, 26 wins, 24 victories coming via knock out and only two defeats — then so be it. I’m proud of these achievements and consider my boxing career a huge success.

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**Chiellini hails Conte’s psychological expertise**

**Rome, 18 Nov —** Juventus defender Giorgio Chiellini has said the exceptional psychological expertise Antonio Conte has made him a great coach. Conte excels at what is the hardest for a soccer coach, said Chiellini.

"I think the psychological aspect is the most difficult for a coach, but that is where Conte excels. He evaluates everything based on moments, people and needs. At times all it takes is a glance, at others a speech," he said.

"I didn’t expect he’d be able to change us so much and so quickly. I went through the ‘dark years’ of finishing in seventh place, which were much worse than Calciopoli and being demoted to Serie B," he said.

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**Nine PKK militants surrender to Turkish security forces**

**Ankara, 18 Nov —** Nine militants of the outlawed Kurdish Workers’ Party (PKK) surrendered to the Turkish security forces in southeastern Turkey on Sunday, private Dogan news agency reported.

The nine PKK militants from PKK camps in northern Iraq surrendered to the Turkish troops at Habur Border Gate in Silopi town of Sirnak Province on Sunday noon, according to the report, adding that the PKK members were sent to a Gen darmserie station in Silopi.

Speaking at a rally of thousands of Kurds in Turkey’s southeastern Diyarbakir Province on Saturday, Massoud Bar zani, visiting leader of northern Iraq’s Kurdish autonomous government, pledged full support for Turkey’s peace process with the PKK, an outlawed group that only entered ceasefire with Ankara after 30 years of conflicts.

The Turkish authorities started peace negotiations with the PKK in October 2012, which led to a ceasefire in March. In May, the PKK fighters started to return to their strongholds in northern Iraq.

The PKK, listed as a terrorist group by Turkey and some other countries, took up arms in 1984 in an attempt to create an ethnic homeland in southeastern Turkey. Since then, over 40,000 people have been killed in conflicts involving the group.

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**A ballet dancer from Namarina Ballet School does exercises at the gym room for training in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 17 Nov, 2013. — Xinhua**

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**MYANMAR TV**

**(19-23 Dec. 2013, Tuesday)**

- 6:00 am 1. Paritta By Hilly
  Region Missionary Sayaw
- 6:20 am 2. Physical Exercises
- 6:30 am 3. Songs Of Yester Years
- 7:00 am 4. Documentary
- 7:40 am 5. News/Weather Report
- 8:20 am 6. People Talks
- 9:00 am 7. News/International News
- 9:25 am 8. Teleplay (SEA Games)
- 10:00 am 9. News/International News
- 10:15 am 10. News
- 11:00 am 11. Documentary
- 11:30 am 12. SEA Games Go for Gold (Basketball)
- 12:00 pm 13. Tamyetnmar Takweyets
- 12:00 pm 14. News/International News/Weather Report
- 12:10 pm 16. Myanmar Video
- 18. Traditional Boxing
- 2:30 pm 17. Myanmar Performing Arts (Eposide-4)
- 2:45 pm 18. Myanmar Performing Arts (Eposide-9)
- 3:00 pm 19. Musical Programme
- 3:15 pm 20. Business News
- 4:00 pm 21. News
- 4:15 pm 22. India Drama Series
- 4:30 pm 23. News/Weather Report
- 4:45 pm 24. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Fourth Year (Law)
- 5:00 pm 25. News
- 5:20 pm 26. SEA Games Go for Gold (Pencak Silat)

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**English boxer David Haye stands on the sideline before the Minnesota Vikings met the Pittsburgh Steelers in their NFL football game at Wembley Stadium in London, on 29 Sept, 2013.**

**Reuters**

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**A ballet dancer from Namarina Ballet School does exercises at the gym room for training in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 17 Nov, 2013. — Xinhua**
Nay Pyi Taw, 18 Nov—Vice-President U Nyan Tun received a delegation led by Ms. Lilianne Ploumen, Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of the Netherlands, at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, today.

The meeting focused on cooperation in the sectors of water management, trade and export promotion, energy and health.

Also present at the call together with the Vice-President were Deputy Ministers U Tin Oo Lwin, U Khin Zaw and U Han Sein and officials. The visiting Dutch delegation was accompanied by Ambassador of the Netherlands to Myanmar Mr. Joan Bour.—MNA

President of Mongolia Mr. Tsakhiagiin Elbegdorj being welcomed by Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.—MNA

Nay Pyi Taw, 18 Nov—At the invitation of President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein, a delegation led by Mr. Tsakhiagiin Elbegdorj, President of Mongolia arrived in Nay Pyi Taw by air this afternoon.

They were welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Deputy Minister Dr Aung Myat Oo, the Myanmar ambassador to Mongolia, the Mongolian ambassador to Myanmar and officials.

The Mongolian President was presented flower bunch by a girl from Fine Arts Department under the Ministry of Culture, saluted by the Guard of Honour and welcomed by the students along the entrance road to the airport, waving the miniature flags of the two countries.—MNA

Vice-President U Nyan Tun shakes hands with Ms. Lilianne Ploumen, Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of the Netherlands.—MNA

Vice-President U Nyan Tun receives Dutch delegation

Mongolian President and party arrive in Nay Pyi Taw

Myanmar, Netherlands focus on private sector development

Nay Pyi Taw, 18 Nov—Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint held talks with Ms. Lilianne Ploumen, Minister of Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of the Netherlands at his office, here, this evening.

At the talks, the Union minister said that he believes trade will increase as western countries granted GSP to Myanmar after lifting all sanctions. He disclosed that he wishes to take technology and experience from the Netherlands as Myanmar is an agro-based country and exports agricultural products as crude goods.

The Minister of Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of the Netherlands said he wishes to share experience and skills of Netherlands. He pledged to provide assistance for cooperating not only private sectors but also governments between the two countries.

Then, the companies from the Netherlands raised questions for making investment in Myanmar and challenges.

MNA

Reza Nouri Ara crowned Mr Universe

Budapest, 18 Nov—Reza Nouri Ara of Iran took the title of Mr Universe 2013 at the fifth World Bodybuilding and Physique Sports Championships which finished on Sunday in Budaores, just outside of Budapest, while Iran won the overall men’s title and Hungary took first place among the women.

Reza Nouri Ara also claimed the men’s bodybuilding 100kg event while Rajendra Mani of India won the men’s 90kg and Alireza Asadollahi of Iran men’s over 100kg event. Champions of all the nine men’s bodybuilding categories competed for the title of Mr Universe 2013.

Iran’s Alireza Peyz Ahmad won the men’s athletic physique above 180cm category while Ukraine’s Anna Krukovska won the women’s model physique 170cm and her compatriot Olena Kulanych took the women’s models physique above 170cm event. The next world championships will be held in India in 2014.—Xinhua

Mongolian President and party arrive in Nay Pyi Taw

Myanmar rowers hope for sweeping gold

Nay Pyi Taw, 18 Nov—Myanmar rowers are undergoing intensive training daily for achieving victory in the coming SEA Games, and they all are expected to secure gold medals in the traditional boat race, said Secretary of Myanmar Rowing Federation U Pe Win.

“We hope for sweeping gold medals in the traditional boat race. In the games, 17 gold medals will be awarded to the winners in this event. We all may be gold medalists,” he said.

Traditional boat race will be classified into 17 events including 500m, 1000m and 2000m events, men’s 10-oar event, women’s 10-oar event, men’s and women’s 10-oar event, men’s five-oar event and women’s five-oar event. In addition to traditional boat race, the game will comprise canoeing and kayak events. Nine gold medals will be presented to the winners in the canoeing and kayak event and 15 for western style rowing.

As Myanmar rowers had snatched gold medals in the Indonesian SEA Games, they are working on all cylinders so as to achieve victory in the presence of the host sports fans. MMAL-Maung Shwe Toe

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