Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann meets Myanmar sports contingents

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Nov—Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann together with Pyithu Hluttaw Committee Chairmen Thura U Aye Myint and U Maung Maung Thein and the Hluttaw representatives looked round preparations for hosting the SEA Games at Wunna Theikdhi swimming pool, training of divers, preparation tasks at sports ground Nos.1, 2 and 3, and training of athletes of cane-ball and Sepak Takaraw this afternoon.

They then inspected preparations for the SEA Games at billiards and snooker hall, training of the athletes and viewed display of medals at sports museum and arrangements for opening and closing ceremonies of the SEA Games.

 Afterwards, they met Myanmar sports contingents who will take part in (See page 8)

18,000 people evacuated from China’s pipeline blast district

QINGDAO, 23 Nov—A total of 18,000 people have been evacuated from a district in east China’s port city of Qingdao, where an oil spill-triggered blast has killed at least 47 people, local authorities said Saturday.

The local government distributed 2,000 candles to residents in Huangdao District on Friday night after oil leaked from a Sinopec pipeline, flowed into the municipal pipe network, and caused an explosion at 10:30 am on Friday.

Water, gas and electricity were cut off in parts of the district after Friday’s blast. The local government distributed 40,000 servings of free food for breakfast and lunch on Saturday.—Xinhua

Second overpass of Bayintnaung flyover to allow public access on 24 Nov

Bayintnaung Flyover being undertaken by FMI Company under the supervision of Yangon Region government and Yangon City Development Committee in Mayangon Township is consisted of two concreted overpasses.

The second overpass running from east to west will allow public access to 8.10 am on 24 November. The overpass with a two-lane motorway can withstand 60-ton of load and its clearance area is 4.5 meters. As construction of the overpass was completed one month ahead of schedule, smooth flow of goods and passengers will be witnessed soon, Project Engineer Daw Soe Soe Tin said.

The first overpass running from south to north was put into service on 31 October, and as a result, the newly-opened overpass could not only reduce traffic congestions at Bayintnaung junction and but also contribute towards smooth and speedy flow of commodities.

Before construction of the two overpasses, FMI Company conducted ground works for five months and it took about one year to finish the construction of the flyover. The company will hand over the Bayintnaung Flyover to YCDC in December, it is learnt.

Kyemon: 2-11-2013
Trs: YM
**Talks on census taking, reading habit raising given**

**NAY PYI TAW, 23 Nov**—Information and Public Relations Department is trying to raise reading habits of people while Immigration and Population Department is disseminating knowledge on census taking process. The two occasion were jointly organized by the two departments at Thittat Village monastery in Zeyathiri Township on 21 November. A total of 100 locals were briefed by Township Staff Officer Daw Mya San Yi of IPRD and Assistant Immigration Officer U Saw Okka on raising reading habits and census taking process.

**Riders sustain injuries in collision with light truck**

**Meiktila, 23 Nov**—No 2 Police Station in Meiktila said a collision between a motorbike and a light truck occurred at milepost No 340 on Yangon-Mandalay Union Highway in Meiktila at about 11 pm on 20 November, leaving three people on the motorbike injured.

The motorbike driven by San Shwe Myint, 20, together with Ko Ko Htet, 20, and Nyi Nyi Than, 16, crashed into the side of the light truck as the rider lost control while arriving at the top of the street. Due to the accident, all three people on the motorbike sustained life-threatening injuries. They injured were taken to Meiktila hospital where they are being given intensive care.

*Tin Hlaing (Meiktila)*

**Disseminating knowledge on taking census gaining momentum**

**NAY PYI TAW, 23 Nov**—Locals of Nyaungbin Village in Pyinmana Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area got knowledge on census taking process. The villagers gathered at their village Dhammayon where Director U Cho Tun of Immigration Department briefed them on the objectives of taking census, benefits to be enjoyed by the people, those who are to be included in census and those are not, taking census is not relating to possessing of household registration or national scrutiny card, or not relating to citizenship or nationalities and others. Round about 200 villagers were on the occasion and some raised questions on the matter.

*Dekhina District IPRD*
Kerry arrives in Geneva as Iran nuclear deal comes into sight

US Secretary of State John Kerry arrives at Geneva International Airport in Geneva on 23 Nov, 2013.—Reuters

GENEVA, 23 Nov — US Secretary of State John Kerry arrived in Geneva on Saturday to join talks on Iran’s contested nuclear programme, as Tehran and six world powers appeared to be on the verge of a breakthrough in the decade-old dispute.

The Chinese, French, British and German foreign ministers - Wang Yi, Laurent Fabius, William Hague and Guido Westerwelle - were due along with Kerry to take part in intense negotiations on a deal under which Iran would curb its atomic activity in exchange for some relief from economic sanctions.

The announcements came after diplomats in the Swiss city said a major sticking point in the talks, which began on Wednesday, may have been overcome.

A senior European diplomat told Reuters that foreign ministers of the six states would come to Geneva only if there was a deal to sign. “We have made progress, including core issues,” the diplomat said.

France’s Foreign Minister, who spoke out against a draft deal floated at the 7-9 November negotiating round, appeared guarded on arrival in Geneva early on Saturday. “I hope we can reach a deal, but a solid deal. I am here to work on that,” he said.

France has consistently taken a tough line over Iran’s nuclear program, helping Paris forge closer ties with Tehran’s foes in Israel and the Gulf.

However, a French diplomatic source urged caution.

“It’s the home stretch, but previous negotiations have taught us to be prudent.”

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov arrived in Geneva on Friday evening and met Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif and EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton, a Russian spokeswoman said.

In the central Awel-soor neighborhood of Suez, around 500 supporters of Mursi gathered and chanted slogans against the army and police. Clashes broke out with opponents of Mursi and rocks were thrown and shots exchanged, witnesses said.

US marks 50th anniversary of assassination of President Kennedy

DALLAS, (Texas), 23 Nov — A ceremony marking the 50th anniversary of President John F Kennedy’s assassination was held on Friday in the Texas city of Dallas, where he was shot to death in 1963 at age 46 during an official visit.

An official memorial service was held for the first time in Dallas. The event at Dealey Plaza drew several thousands of people from around the world to pay homage to one of the most popular US presidents.

Dallas Mayor Mike Rawling said, “We watched the nightmarish reality that is in our front yard, our president had been taken from us, taken from his family, taken from the world.”

The mayor said, “It seems like we all grew up that day, and suddenly we had to step up to trying to live up to the challenges of the worlds and visions of a beloved, yet now late president.” The city had avoided commemoration of the darkest day in its history, Reuters news agency said.

In previous years, conspiracy theorists gathered in Dealey Plaza to express doubts of the official conclusion of a government panel that Lee Harvey Oswald alone shot the president, it said.

Japan to lift SDF restrictions on weapons use

Japan marks its 50th anniversary of peace since World War II and is expected to open a new era of self-defence with a fresh cabinet, highlighting changes in the country’s security law, including the lifting of restrictions on the use of weapons.

Tokyo, 23 Nov — Japan plans to abolish restrictions on the type of weapons Self-Defence Forces personnel are allowed to carry after the SDF was allowed to use land vehicles to transport people in emergency operations overseas, a government source said on Friday.

Under the new rule, the list of weapons the SDF can carry will be expanded from guns, rifles and machine guns to include items that are “necessary and appropriate.” The source added.

The SDF can, in effect, use recoilless guns to defend against terrorist attacks and the government lifts the current restrictions placed in 1999.

Still, the government plans to make it necessary to obtain approval for bringing in such weapons to countries where the SDF will be dispatched, according to the source.

The government is expected to gain consent from the ruling bloc of the Liberal Democratic Party and the New Komeito party before having the rule approved by the Cabinet as early as next Friday. The Diet passed legislation earlier in the month to revise the SDF law that previously only allowed Japanese people to be transported by sea and air.

Pakistan militiants kidnap 11 teachers in polio vaccination campaign

KABUL, 23 Nov — Militants kidnapped 11 Pakistani teachers involved in a polio vaccination campaign for school children on Saturday, officials said, the latest in a string of attacks on health workers trying to eradicate the deadly disease. The teachers were taken from the private Hira Public School in the Bari area of the Khyber tribal agency, one of the semi-autonomous tribal areas along border with the Afghanist.

The gunmen arrived just after teachers administered the polio vaccines had left, officials said.

Local official Khali Gul said the gunmen took the teachers to an area controlled by militant leader Mangal Bagh and his Taleban-affiliated Lashkar-e-Islam group.

“Mangal Bagh and his men are opposing polio vaccination for children and don’t allow teams to immunize children in their areas,” Gul said.

Another Khyber official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the teachers had been taken to an area where security forces cannot enter due to presence of militants. It was expected they would be released following negotiations with local elders, the official said.

Gunmen frequently attack polio vaccination workers in Pakistan. Militants accuse them of being Western spies or part of a plot to “sterilise Muslims.” One militant leader said he would only allow vaccinations in his area if US drone strikes stopped. A global eradication campaign has reduced polio cases by 99.9 percent in the last three decades, but it remains endemic in Nigeria, Afghanistan and Pakistan.—Reuters

Child killed by gunfire in clashes in Egypt’s Suez city

CAIRO, 23 Nov — A 10-year-old boy was shot dead on Friday near the scene of clashes between supporters and opponents of deposed Islamist president Mohamed Mursi in Egypt’s northern city of Suez, security and medical sources said. In Cairo, a 21-year-old man died after being shot in the chest during clashes between pro- and anti-Mursi protesters, and across the country another 14 people were injured in confrontations, the head of the ambulance authority told the state newspaper al-Ahram.

Mursi’s supporters have staged frequent protests across Egypt, many of them after Friday prayers, since the army deposed him on 3 July in response to mass protests against his rule. They have arrested most of the top leaders of his Muslim Brotherhood, accusing them of fomenting violence or terrorism.

In a statement, the Interior Ministry accused the Brotherhood of Friday on trying to prolong instability in Egypt, and said security forces were doing their best to protect property and maintain security.

The Brotherhood says it is opposed to violence, and that such allegations are a pretext for its suppression.

Restricts on weapons use

Japan is planning to relax restrictions on weapons use, allowing the Self-Defense Forces to carry personal emergency response and relief operations teams in the typhoon-hit Philippines, reported the Kyodo News agency.

US marks 50th anniversary of assassination of President Kennedy

Dallas, (Texas), 23 Nov — A ceremony marking the 50th anniversary of President John F Kennedy’s assassination was held on Friday in the Texas city of Dallas, where he was shot to death in 1963 at age 46 during an official visit.

An official memorial service was held for the first time in Dallas. The event at Dealey Plaza drew several thousands of people from around the world to pay homage to one of the most popular US presidents.

Dallas Mayor Mike Rawling said, “We watched the nightmarish reality that is in our front yard, our president had been taken from us, taken from his family, taken from the world.”

The mayor said, “It seems like we all grew up that day, and suddenly we had to step up to trying to live up to the challenges of the worlds and visions of a beloved, yet now late president.” The city had avoided commemoration of the darkest day in its history, Reuters news agency said.

In previous years, conspiracy theorists gathered in Dealey Plaza to express doubts of the official conclusion of a government panel that Lee Harvey Oswald alone shot the president, it said.

In the central Awel-soor neighborhood of Suez, around 500 supporters of Mursi gathered and chanted slogans against the army and police. Clashes broke out with opponents of Mursi and rocks were thrown and shots exchanged, witnesses said.

In the central Awel-soor neighborhood of Suez, around 500 supporters of Mursi gathered and chanted slogans against the army and police. Clashes broke out with opponents of Mursi and rocks were thrown and shots exchanged, witnesses said.

Gunmen frequently attack polio vaccination workers in Pakistan. Militants accuse them of being Western spies or part of a plot to “sterilise Muslims.” One militant leader said he would only allow vaccinations in his area if US drone strikes stopped. A global eradication campaign has reduced polio cases by 99.9 percent in the last three decades, but it remains endemic in Nigeria, Afghanistan and Pakistan.—Reuters

In the central Awel-soor neighborhood of Suez, around 500 supporters of Mursi gathered and chanted slogans against the army and police. Clashes broke out with opponents of Mursi and rocks were thrown and shots exchanged, witnesses said.
Icy detector finds first neutrinos from beyond solar system

WASHINGTON, 23 Nov — An international team of researchers said on Thursday using a particle detector buried below the ice at the South Pole they have observed the first solid evidence for high-energy neutrinos that originate from our own solar system.

The team said the observations can be explained by other neutrino fluxes, such as those from astrophysical neutrinos, or by other high-energy events, such as muons produced by the interaction of cosmic rays in the atmosphere. "This is the first indication of very-high-energy neutrinos coming from outside our solar system," Francis Halzen, principal investigator of IceCube and professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, said in a statement.

It is gratifying to finally see what we have been looking for. This is the dawn of a new age of astrophysics," Halzen said. Neutrines are elementary particles that have almost no mass and interact extremely seldom with other particles. They can zip right through your body, the walls of your house, entire planets, even emerging from near the surface of fascinating and frightening black holes.

Scientists believe neutrinos carry information about the workings of the highest-energy and most distant phenomena in the universe. The IceCube project, led by the University of Wisconsin-Madison and involving 250 physicists and engineers from the United States, Germany, Sweden, Belgium, Switzerland, Japan, New Zealand, Australia, Britain and Canada, was designed to accomplish two major scientific goals: measure the flux, or rate, of high-energy neutrinos, and try to identify some of their sources. The particle detector is made up of 5,160 digital optical modules suspended along 86 strings embedded in a cubic kilometre of ice beneath the South Pole.

It detects neutrinos through the tiny flashes of blue light, called Cherenkov light, produced when neutrinos interact in the ice. In the summer of 2012, exciting results came from the South Pole as team members analyzing data from IceCube reported two neutrinos with energies above expectations.

Gold rush in space? Asteroid miners prepare, but eye water first

LONDON, 23 Nov — Mining in space is moving from science fiction to commercial reality but met with no way to harness cosmic riches could make, and break, fortunes on Earth.

But with no way to bring much ore or metal down from the heavens, new ventures that have backing from some serious business figures, as well as interest from NASA, will focus on using space minerals in interplanetary “gas stations” or to build, support and fuel colonies on Mars. There may be gold up there, but the draw for now is water — for investors willing to get the new industry off the ground. Government believes it has a future. NASA has a project that may put astronauts on an asteroid in the 2020s. At the same time, Russia and Japan are planning to send satellites to the moon to mine water. If all this works, a project that would be the first mission to mine in deep space will be making international headlines.

Meteorites sit on a display table at the Deep Space Industries announcement of plans for the world’s first fleet of commercial asteroid-prospecting spacecraft at the Museum of Flying in Santa Monica, California, on 22 Jan., 2013. – Reuters

US jury awards Apple $290 million in retrial against Samsung

SAN JOSE, (California), Nov — An international jury awarded Apple Inc about $290 million in a damages retrial against Samsung Electronics Co Ltd, restoring a large chunk of a historic verdict the iPhone maker won last year.

After a week long trial, the jury deliberated for nearly two days before reaching a decision on Thursday in a San Jose, California federal court. Apple had requested $379.8 million, while Samsung argued that it should have to pay $52.7 million.

Apple and Samsung have been fighting in the courts for over two years. Apple was awarded over $1 billion last year after it convinced a jury that Samsung copied various iPhone features — like using fingers to pinch and zoom on the screen — along with design touches like the phone’s flat, black glass screen. Earlier this year US District Judge Lucy Koh upheld nearly $640 million of that verdict but ordered a retrial on the rest, ruling that the previous jury had made some errors in its calculations. Combined with the retrial verdict of $290.5 million on Thursday, Apple has now been awarded $929.8 million in the case. – Reuters

The photo released on 21 Nov, 2013 by the US National Science Foundation (NSF) shows digital optical modules embedded in ice beneath. An international team of researchers said on Thursday using a particle detector buried below the ice at the South Pole they have observed the first solid evidence for high-energy neutrinos that originate from our own solar system.

The jade mines at Hpakan can be visited by book with the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism although the town is sometimes closed to foreigners. Still on site is the biggest imperial jade boulder in the world, 21 metres (70 feet) long and 10.6 metres (35 feet) in circumference. It can be seen by climbing down a 12 metre (40 feet) shaft with safety ladders.

Shwe Myitzyu Pagoda of Indawgyi Lake

The pretty town of Bhamo is set amid rolling hills where colourfully dressed members of the Lisu, Rawan, Kachin, Shan and Palaung national races come to shop. It is possible to take a double-decker river boat from Bhamo to Mandalay, passing through the scenic second defile on the Ayeyawaddy.

How to get there, and fuel colonies on Mars.

US jury awards Apple $290 million in retrial against Samsung

San Francisco, 14 Aug, 2013, file photo. — Reuters

A man is silhouetted against a video screen with Apple and Samsung logos as he poses with a Samsung Galaxy S4 in this photo illustration taken in the central Bosnian town of Zenica, in this 14 Aug, 2013, file photo. — Reuters

The following is the reproduction of Myanmar Hotels & Tourism Guide 2013. Visit www.tourismguide.com.mm for further information.—Ed
Physical fitness may be tied to slower memory decline

**New York, 23 Nov** — Being in good physical shape may help preserve people’s thinking and memory skills, suggests a new study. Researchers made this discovery by mapping participants’ physical fitness against the number of errors they made on a range of cognitive tests over time.

They found, for instance, that participants who were at one point approximately twice as fit as their peers made about 25 percent fewer errors on a test of memory and concentration.

“This study shows that your cardiovascular fitness at one point in time can predict how well your memory may function in the future,” said Arrington Wendell.

Wendell led the study and is a researcher with the Bethesda, Maryland-based National Institute on Aging. A growing body of research is devoted to finding links between exercise and cognitive decline in old age. But prior studies typically measured fitness by asking people to recall how often they exercised in the past.

“Participants are not always the best historians,” Wendell told Reuters Health. For the new study, 1,400 men and women were asked to walk, jog or run on a treadmill until they were out of breath.

A machine measured the amount of oxygen participants breathed in and carbon dioxide breathed out to calculate each person’s so-called VO2 max.

“VO2 max is the maximal amount of oxygen used by your lungs during one minute of strenuous exercise. Generally, the more oxygen your lungs are able to use, the healthier you are,” Wendell said. She added that researchers working on similar studies in the past may have not chosen VO2 max as a measurement because it is time-intensive and can be expensive. This relatively objective measure of fitness is “a particular strength of the study,” said Stewart Longman in an email to Reuters Health.

Longman is a rehabilitation psychologist at the University of Calgary in Canada and was not involved with the current research. Participants were assessed when they were anywhere from 19 to 94 years old, as part of a study called the Baltimore Longitudinal Study of Aging.—Reuters

**Osaka, 23 Nov** — Japanese electronics manufacturer Sharp Corporation plans to sell this winter its indium-gallium- zinc oxide (IGZO) liquid crystal display panels to China, local media reported on Friday.

The IGZO panels to supply for a Chinese maker will be made at Sharp’s Kameyama No 2 plant located in Mie Prefecture, and the company will start production by the end of this month, said reports of the daily Yomiuri Shimbun.

By far, there has been no official announcement from Sharp. However, a spokesperson for the Japanese company told Xinhua that the reports are based on the Chinese maker’s report, adding that Osaka-based Sharp would strengthen its ties with smartphone makers in China to enhance its production capacity at the factory with its energy-efficient panel technology.

**New York, 23 Nov** — For pregnant women who want to quit smoking, a brisk walk can temporarily stave off tobacco cravings, says a Canadian study. Previous research has shown that exercise can interrupt nicotine cravings for both men and women. Whether the same was true for expecting mothers was unclear because pregnant women have increased metabolism, which can intensify longings for a cigarette, the researchers write in the journal Addictive Behaviors.

“This was the first time we have been able to replicate the findings with pregnant smokers,” Harry Prapavessis said. Prapavessis, director of the Exercise and Health Psychology Laboratory at Western University in Ontario, Canada, led the research. According to his team’s results, 15 to 20 minutes of walking at a mild to moderate pace is sufficient to ward off cravings. For the study, researchers recruited 25 pregnant women in their second trimester in Canada and England. All of the women smoked more than five cigarettes a day and were not regular exercisers.

Half of the women were assigned to walk on a treadmill and the rest to watch a home gardening video for 20 minutes. Both groups did not smoke for between 15 and 19 hours before entering the lab.

The walkers reported an average 30 percent reduction in the desire to smoke based on a seven-point scale. But the cravings returned. Thirty minutes after exercising, the same group of women reported only a 17 percent craving reduction. The exercising women also reported less irritability, restlessness, tension and other withdrawal symptoms. But because of the study’s small size, those results could have happened by chance. “This translates not as a cure for quitting, but it can be part of a strategy,” said Dr Sharon Phelan, who was not involved in the study.

Phelan is a fellow with the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) and professor at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine in Albuquerque. “The challenge is that there isn’t a one reason why pregnant women have an addiction,” Phelan told Reuters Health. “It think it’s a very positive study,” said Dr Raul Artal of Saint Louis University School of Medicine in Missouri. Artal helped write exercise and pregnancy guidelines for ACOG. He said the new study will need to be repeated according to medicine’s gold standard of testing - a randomized, controlled trial. “But, based on common sense, the message is good,” he said.

Prapavessis said his team’s results can only be applied to women about 25 years old, the average age in the study. But, “I would like to think that we can repeat the findings with older or younger pregnant smokers.” Prapavessis pointed out that because of the social stigma associated with smoking while pregnant, recruiting pregnant women for such studies can be extremely difficult. The next step, he said, would be to repeat the research with women walking in similar environments outside of their homes. “We want to see if this craving effect can be reproduced when women go for a brisk walk for about 15 minutes in their natural setting,” he said.

Phelan said pregnant women also have the option to try nicotine replacement therapy drugs, like skin patches or lozenges, but more evidence is needed to know if these are completely safe during pregnancy, Phelan said.

To help pregnant smokers quit, Phelan stressed the importance of understanding the underlying reasons why a pregnant woman smokes. “It’s like when someone has a fever. You can treat it with an aspin, but you haven’t gotten to the underlying cause.”

“One therapy for everyone isn’t going to fit all,” Phelan noted. Still, regardless of whether a woman has stopped smoking, exercise offers positive benefits, like improved circulation and muscle tone she said. ACOG supports 30 minutes of light exercise like walking three or four times a week during pregnancy, Phelan said, but pregnant women should always talk with their healthcare provider before beginning exercise. To beat cigarette cravings, she said, “This is a valid option to suggest to women and it may be helpful for some, but not to others.” —Reuters

**Guangzhou/Beijing, 23 Nov** — German auto giants Volkswagen AG, BMW and Daimler see China’s future as being electric — encouraged by generous government subsidies — but that bet puts them at odds with some of their Asian rivals. While the Europeans were heralding the all-electric vehicle at the Guangzhou auto show this week, Toyota Motor and Honda Motor were unveiling hydrogen fuel cell cars at shows in Tokyo and Los Angeles.

The two Japanese heavyweights plan to start selling their hydrogen vehicles in 2015, brushing off electric technology as being good enough only to power tiny city cars.

One of the most ambitious in betting on electric cars in China, the world’s largest auto market, is Volkswagen. On the eve of the Guangzhou show, Volkswagen said its brands, including Volkswagen and Audi, plan to launch a total of more than 15 near-all-electric plug-in cars by 2018, many of which will be locally produced. “We forecast high volumes in this area,” Jochem Heizmann, head of Volkswagen Group China, told reporters this week.

BMW and its local partner Brilliance Auto unveiled a jointly developed all-electric battery car in Guangzhou. The two companies plan to start leasing the car next year under a new jointly run China-only brand called Zunoro. Daimler said it was also on track to launch an all-electric car next year under a new China-only brand called Denza, which the German company operates jointly with Chinese battery and car producer BYD Co. The rush into all-electric cars has stirred up a programme to put 5 million new energy vehicles — defined as all-electric battery vehicles and heavily electrified “near-all-electric” plug-in hybrids — on the road by 2020.

China this year expanded the definition of new energy cars to include fuel cell cars. The two concepts have polarized the industry.

— Reuters
**China-US consultation on people-to-people exchange “very successful”**

NEW YORK, 23 Nov — The just-concluded Fourth China-US High-Level Consultation on People-to-People Exchange was “very successful,” with as many as 75 specific outcomes achieved, visiting Chinese Vice Premier Liu Yandong said here on Friday.

The consultation, held in Washington DC on Thursday and co-chaired by US Secretary John Kerry, focused by Liu and US State Secretary Kerry, said here on Friday.

Vice Premier Liu Yandong said on Thursday that the consultation, the fourth of its kind since 2010, was “very successful” and that the two countries have agreed to maintain and further expand educational programs on exchange of students and scholars, launch bilateral and global science and technology forums, and set up a China-US innovation partnership.

China’s Ministry of Culture and the Smithsonian Institution of the United States also signed an agreement to carry out a 2014 Smithsonian Folklife Festival China Theme Programme. Other programmes include sports exchange between the two countries’ youth, teenagers and people with disabilities, the promotion of Chinese Kung Fu and Qigong in the United States, dialogue and exchange between female leaders and university students of both countries, and closer communications and cooperation between young leaders, artists and entrepreneurs from both sides.

The Chinese vice premier, whose birthday happened to be on Friday, told the luncheon guests that she felt “as good as with my family” celebrating this special day with “my American friends here.” She added that she had met nearly 1,000 Americans from all circles of life at 32 events during her packed US visit, including meetings in Chicago, a city in the US state of Illinois, Sunday and is wrapping up in New York on Friday night.

**Death toll jumps over 50 in Latvian supermarket collapse**

RIGA, 23 Nov — Rescue workers pulled bodies from the ruins of a collapsed supermarket in the Latvian capital Riga on Friday as the death toll rose to 51 in the Baltic state’s worst disaster in decades.

Cranes lifted large slabs from the wreckage of the Maxima store, in a Riga suburb of grey, Soviet-era housing, to find those trapped when the roof collapsed late on Thursday. The supermarket was full of shoppers on their way home.

The supermarket was full of shoppers on their way home.

Police said the death toll had reached 51 as of 2000 GMT, including three rescue workers. Thirty-eight more were injured. They said no survivors had been found in the past few hours. “We’re still having moments of silence to listen for voices of people trapped, but unfortunately the only voices out there are of firefighters working,” state police spokesman Toms Sadorovs said.

Around 80 firefighters and 36 trainees from a firefighting college continued relentlessly to search for people still trapped more than 24 hours after the accident.

To help rescue workers, police created a map, based on security camera footage, showing where shoppers were standing at the time of the collapse. State rescue service chief Oskars Abolins told TV the search was slow because the rubble was up to 2.5 meters (8.2 feet) deep. Firefighters were clearing it by hand and with shovels.

Abolins said rescue work was expected to continue all night. Firefighters still had to search around 400 square meters for any people, dead or alive.

Riga Mayor Nils Usakovs tweeted that around five people might be still trapped. Ambulance chief Armands Plorins said cold, damp and the passage of time were all reducing the chance of finding survivors.

“Of course, hope always remains,” he said.

The cause of the collapse remains unknown, although police have opened a criminal investigation focusing on the construction of the building.

Interior Minister Richards Kozlovskis said: “It is clear that there has been a problem with fulfillment of construction requirements.”

Local media said workers had been building a roof garden on the supermarket, a single-storey building located about a 30-minute drive from the city center.

Soil, grass and parts of a new walkway could be seen dangling from the edges of the collapsed rooftop.

**Czech fugitive arrested in Johannesburg**

JOHANNESBURG, 23 Nov — Czech fugitive Radovan Krejcir, who was believed to be behind the bomb blast in Johannesburg earlier this month, has been arrested, police said on Friday.

Krejcir, who has been on the run since the 12 November blast, faces charges of attempted murder and kidnapping, police lieutenant-general Solomon Makgale said.

The Czech businessman was apprehended at his house in Bedfordview, east of Johannesburg, on Friday, said Makgale.

Police have been investigating Krejcir’s possible role in the blast, which killed two of his associates and wounded five others.

The blast took place in Krejcir’s shop in Bedfordview, but the motive for the explosion remains unknown. The blast was believed to be carried out in Mafia style.

Krejcir is fighting extradition to the Czech Republic, where he faces an 11-year prison sentence on tax fraud, conspiracy to murder, counterfeiting, extortion and abduction.

He arrived in South Africa in 2007 with papers indicating he was an asylum seeker from the Soviet Union. Krejcir was the target of an apparatus bid to kill him outside his Bedfordview office. He escaped unharmed.

Several men reportedly associated to Krejcir have been shot and killed over the last two and a half years.

**Nuclear pacts with Turkey, UAE unlikely to clear current Diet**

TOKYO, 23 Nov — Japan’s civil nuclear accords with Turkey and the United Arab Emirates are increasingly unlikely to clear the Diet by the 6 December end of the current session due to a lack of deliberation time, according to people close to parliamentary affairs.

While the accords, which would enable Japan to export nuclear power infrastructure to those countries, are likely to be approved during the ordinary Diet session from early next year or later, the delay of their approval may throw cold water over Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan’s likely visit to Japan in January.

The ruling camp led by the Liberal Democratic Party has put priority on deliberations at a House of Representatives special committee dealing with the country’s controversial security bill, leaving insufficient time for legislative matters at the lower house Foreign Affairs Committee.

While the accords must be submitted to the Diet by the 6 December end of the current Diet session to clear the Diet, the government is eager to expand the Japanese economy with the help of potential nuclear exports, a Japanese Foreign Ministry source said.

In order to be finalized, the civil nuclear accords must be reported in the House of Councillors after being approved in the lower house.

**Multiple quakes hit northeast China**

CHANGCHUN, 23 Nov — Villages were damaged and power supply cut after three earthquakes measuring above 5 magnitude jolted the city of Songyuan in northeast China’s Jilin Province since Friday afternoon. Authorities are still verifying the casualties and economic losses after the latest 5.8-magnitude quake was reported at 1607.”

The China Earthquake Networks Centre monitored epicentre of the quake at 44.6 degrees north latitude and 124.1 degrees east longitude, with a depth of nine kilometres.

The quake was followed by a 5.0-magnitude quake at 03:22 am, with the epicenter determined at 44.6 degrees north latitude and 124.1 degrees east longitude with a depth of about eight kilometres.

Previously, a 5.3-magnitude quke hit Songyuan at 4:18 pm on Friday. The three quakes were reported in the Qian Gorus Mongol Autonomous Country or the border area between Qian Gorus and northeastern Dage County.

The quakes have cracked a number of houses and forced rattled villagers out of their homes, villagers near the epicentre said. Some communities in the city also suffered from a blackout, authorities said.

---Xinhua

---Reuters

---Kyodo News

---Xinhua

---Reuters

---Xinhua

---Xinhua

---Xinhua

---Xinhua

---Xinhua

---Xinhua

---Xinhua

---Xinhua

---Xinhua

---Xinhua

---Xinhua

---Xinhua

---Xinhua

---Xinhua

---Xinhua

---Xinhua
Myanmar boxers raise hopes for gold in SEA Games

**NAY PYI TAW, 23 Nov—** Myanmar boxers have capabilities for secure at least two to three gold medals in the coming SEA Games, said Secretary of Myanmar Boxing Federation U Tin Hlaing.

“As Myanmar is host country, we are making preparations in training for winning two to three gold medals in the SEA Games. Boxing event will comprise eighteen men’s classes and six women’s classes. Both Myanmar men’s and women’s boxing teams hope for gold. At present, both teams are taking joint training in Kazakhstan. They will return home in 4 December,” he continued.

Myanmar boxers are undertaking training in six Myanmar coaches and Kazakhstan and Chinese coaches.

In the SEA Games, muay event is a similar event to the boxing. Myanmar also hope for gold in the muay event.

The boxing event of SEA Games will take place at Sports Complex of Wunna Theikdu from 8 to 15 December. Winners will be awarded with 14 gold medals.

**MMAL-Shwe Yoe**

Myanmar U-23 loses to Japan U-20 in football tune-up

**KALEWA, 23 Nov—** A ceremony to present water pumps to farmers free of charge was held at the hall of Township General Administration Department in Kalewa Township on 14 November.

It was aimed at ensuring rural development and poverty alleviation for development of agriculture sector.

Deputy Township Administrator U Hsan Aung Hwe made a speech. Staff Officer U Kyaw Naing Win of Township Agricultural Mechanization Department explained the use of water pumps and how to operate it.

One water pump is worth K 2 million in total. The water pumps were handed over to Balaetha, Naiingphanan, Yawsu, Maungkha and Kyawzim village-tracts of the township.

**MMAL-Chindwin Thar**

**Water pumps provided to five villages of Kalewa**

**KALEWA, 23 Nov—** A ceremony to present water pumps to farmers free of charge was held at the hall of Township General Administration Department in Kalewa Township on 14 November.

It was aimed at ensuring rural development and poverty alleviation for development of agriculture sector.

Deputy Township Administrator U Hsan Aung Hwe made a speech. Staff Officer U Kyaw Naing Win of Township Agricultural Mechanization Department explained the use of water pumps and how to operate it.

One water pump is worth K 2 million in total. The water pumps were handed over to Balaetha, Naiingphanan, Yawsu, Maungkha and Kyawzim village-tracts of the township.

**MMAL-Chindwin Thar**

**93rd Anniversary National Day**

**10th Waning of Tazaungmon, 1375 ME**

(27-11-2013)

**Objectives of 93rd Anniversary National Day**

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

**MMAL-Chindwin Thar**

**Bridge collapses while 10-wheeled vehicle with load of heavy machinery passing it**

**MAWLU, 23 Nov—** Nandar, bridge near Sinpin Village of Seemaw Village tract in Mawlu region of Indaw Township, Sagaing Region broke up at 11:30 pm on 19 November while a 10-wheeled vehicle with the load of heavy machinery passed it.

The vehicle of Special Construction Group (1) of Public Works driven by U Min Naing carried a heavy machinery.

Due to its passing, the 240 feet long bridge broke up and 40 feet long floor was damaged in the incident.

As the bridge has been damaged on the road, the local people face difficulty in transport.

The people wish to repair the damaged road and bridge as quick as possible.—**MMAL-171**

**MMAL-Police**

**Stimulant tablets seized in Laukkai**

**LAUKKAI, 23 Nov—** No 101 Anti-Drug Squad (Nay Pyi Taw) and No 21 Anti-Drug Squad (Kunlong) together with witnesses searched the motorbike driven by Li Bin Kyun (a) Lauk Laung of Shiwelu Village in Laukkai Township with Lan Chon Pyong, 32, of Chukin of Yunnam Province in the back seat on 17 November.

They seized 600 stimulant tablets worth K 900,000 from the pocket of trousers of Lan Chon Pyong.

Yanlonkeng police station filed a lawsuit against Lan Chon Pyong under the law.—**MMAL-Police Information**
End violence against women, girls

International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women takes place on 25th November each year, raising awareness and triggering actions to end violence against women. Since 1981, the 25th day of November was chosen as the international day to commemorate the brutal assassination of the three sisters in the year 1961, who fought hard to end the dictatorship in the Dominican Republic.

Calling attention to the urgent need for eradication of violence against women and girls without delay, this year’s Orange Day will be observed, extending Orange Day to 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, starting November 25, International Day to End Violence against Women, through December 10, Human Rights Day.

Violence against women and girls is a human rights violation. It is an adverse consequence of discrimination against women and of persisting inequalities between men and women. It has impacts on progress in many areas, including poverty alleviation, fight against HIV/AIDS and rule of law. So, prevention is essential for the continuing global pandemic.

According to studies, between 500,000 to 2 million people are trafficked annually into prostitution, forced labour, slavery or servitude and women and girls account for about 80 per cent of the detected victims. Throughout the globe, based on a 2013 WHO global study, 35 per cent of women worldwide have encountered multiple forms of violence in the home, on the streets, in schools, in the workplace, during conflict and even in time of peace in their lifetime.

The aforementioned violence has thwarted women and girls across the world to live in dignity, has infringed their fundamental human rights and has hampered them from achieving their full potentials. These obstacles to the advancement of women have escalated social and economic costs and have seriously imperiled progress and prosperity of the world. The right of women and girls to live free of violence is incontrovertible and fundamental.

On this 25th November, we would like all governments and partners to make the chorus of voices and strong actions, calling for enactment and enforcement of laws, to end the violence against women and girls. Violence against women and girls should not be place in civilized society and impunity for perpetrators must not be tolerated. The onus is on all of us to help the victims to heal their sufferings. Only then will we have a more just, peaceful and equitable world.

Two men charged in illegal gambling operation

Meiktila, 23 Nov—

Two men were arrested and charged with illegal gambling after a surprise check of the site in Wundwin Township on 21 November, according to Wundwin Township Police Station.

While conducting the surprise check at a house in Thedaw ward of the township, police led by Police Captain Thein Naing Oo arrested San Myint Oo, 34, and Jit Tu, 29, together with playing cards and gambling money, K 87,050.

Wundwin Police Station filed a lawsuit against them. Tin Hlaing (Meiktila)

Union Industry Minister inspects Ion Membrane Caustic Soda & Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) Project in Kama

NAI PYI TAW, 23 Nov — Union Minister for Industry U Maung Myint yesterday arrived at General Administration Department in Kama Township where he heard reports on work progress of Ion Membrane Caustic Soda & Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) Project jointly implemented by Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd and China North Industries Corporation (NORINCO) from China.

The Union minister said that the wish of local people is important in implementing the project. Only when the people accept the project, will it be possible, he said. Although the people accept the project, the ministry needs to consider the market demand. If the project is far away from the market, production cost will rise due to transportation charges. A project needs to contribute not only to regional development and creation of job opportunities but also to national interest, he added. He called for assessing the availability of raw materials, energy sufficiency and availability, social impact and environmental impact before a project is launched.—MNA

OPIION

To err is mediaman

U Han Nyunt (Law)

I gave a lecture about obituary at a refresher course for correspondents. I warned the trainees that special care should be taken by editors or in-charges of newspaper advertising departments while accepting an obituary. I explained to them from a legal point of view that those responsible persons will be used for defamation if the obituary carries a mistake. “What is it important for us to take care of? It is a mere obituary”, one of trainees asked me in the class.

Sein Khin Maung Yi, a prominent writer-cum-journalist.

I read out, in the class, an article titled “To err is mediaman” on page-150 of “I am journalist” written by writer-cum-journalist Sein Khin Maung Yi who respected. I would like the readers to read the article. It is as follows:

“Read this news report”, a young man said, passing our newspaper to me. The story he said is an obituary that reports the recent death of a person along with an account of the person, name, age, office and department he worked for, when he died and information about the upcoming funeral.

I replied, “It is an obituary, What’s up? He said, “It is about me.” “What…”

“Look, here is my citizenship scrutiny card and an identity card of my office”. I found similarity in name and age shown in the obituary and his ID cards.

“What happened”, I asked a clerk of the advertising department. He responded to me that he accepted it without asking any questions.

The young man listens at what we are talking about the obituary, putting a smile on his face. He seems happy to see we are in distress. Then he said, “My friends joked about I was dead, putting the obituary about me in the newspaper.”

“It is not a joke for us. Our newspaper’s reputation could be injured by the obituary that carries wrong information”. I want to punch his friends in office at once. It is unable to be angry at them. So, I did, just shouting at my clerk.

Since the incident happened, every obituary is to be subject to strict scrutiny before putting it in the obituary column and death certificates are needed for approval.

Sein Khin Maung Yi
Lesson

The young correspondent who questioned about the special care to be taken before accepting an obituary told me that he got a lesson from the article I read out.

Respect I paid

I would like to express my deepest respect and reverence to National Literary Award winning writer-cum-journalist Sein Khin Maung Yi (1925-1992) who served as a chief editor of Kyemon Daily and passed away on 7 March, 1992, making a wish for him peace be with him.

Trx: YM
Motorized boat explodes in shock of engine in Myeik River while starting engine

Deputy Commissioner U Lwin Ko Oo of Myeik District General Administration Department, Commander of Myeik District Police Force Police Lt-Col Shwe Nyar Maung and officials rushed to the scene and inspected the incident.

Four of five persons on board were injured in the incident. The injured persons were Yan Naing Tun, 23, Thet Htwe, 19, Aung Thu, 28 and U Thein Maung. The injured are receiving medical treatment at Myeik General Hospital.

Kyemon-Khaing Htoo (Myeik District IPRD)

Encircled Zedi, southwest corner of Shweohnbin Temple, collapses

Maung, 23 Nov—The encircled zedi of ShweUmin (Shweohnbin) Temple collapsed on 10 November.

Religious objects and sacred relics were found in the collapsed on 11 November.

The religious objects were one 12 inches bronze Buddha image with throne, one seven inches high bronze Buddha image, four bronze bells, one six inches high silver Buddha image, 10 Buddha images, three inches high Buddha image, three pieces of sacred relics and others.

The religious objects and relics are being kept at Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sobhita of Phaunggwe Village monastery.

The ShweUmin pagoda is located northeast to Phaunggwe Village of Yanayoung Township in Magway Region.

Kyemon-Zwe Htet Shin

Illegal sawn teak logs seized in DaikU Township

Bago, 23 Nov—A team led by Assistant Director U John Tun Oo of Bago District Forest Department comprising Staff Officer U Zaw Zaw Naing and party of DaikU Township Forest Department discharged duty of searching illegal timber and logs in their areas on 19 November.

They seized a tractor on Dayemee-Okshtigon Road in Doedan Village of DaikU Township. The persons on its return, the boat started engine but it exploded unexpectedly.

Due to check at the engine, the boat broke down and sank into the water.

Kyemon-403

Peinzalok gets asphalt road

Peinzalok, 23 Nov—A ceremony to commission an asphalt road into service was held in Peinzalok of Nyaunglebin Township on 17 November.

UThanSoe, Township Administrator, made a speech.

Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Soe Myint, Bago Region Hluttaw representative U Saw Lin Aung, Township Administrator UThanSoe, retired Brig-Gen Prof Mya Then Han and Major Kyaw Maung (Rtd) formally opened the asphalt road.

The road was constructed with K 15 million contributed by Bago Region development fund and K 16.647600 million by local people.

The facility, 2800 feet long, 12 feet wide and three feet thick, is stretching in Peinzalok.

Thanks to new road, the local people will have fruitful results of regional development.

Nay Lin (Nyaunglebin)

Livestock Breeding

Basic livestock breeding course opened in Leshi Township

Leshi, 23 Nov—Sagaing Region Government implements the rural development and poverty alleviation.

With the aim of breeding the domestic animals and providing health care to them, the basic livestock breeding course was conducted at the hall of Township General Administration Department in Leshi on 19 November.

On behalf of the Chairman of the Township Management Committee Township Deputy Administrator U Myint Soe made a speech.

Head of District Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department Assistant Director Dr Myint Oo explained the purpose of conducting the training course and matters related to the training course.

It was attended by Region Hluttaw representative U Aung Win, members of Township Management Committee, members of Township Development Supportive Committee, departmental officials and trainees.

Altogether 20 trainees from 10 village-tracts attended the five-day course.

Kyemon-Township IPRD

Tennis umpire training course launched

Yangon, 23 Nov—The tennis umpire course No 1/2013 organized by Technical Committee of Myanmar Tennis Federation was opened at Theinbyu Tennis Court on Theinbyu Street in Mingala Taungnyunt Township on 22 November morning.

Joint Secretary of Myanmar Tennis Federation Secretary of the Technical Committee Dr Than Htay made an opening address.

Former selected tennis player U Maung Maung Lay explained the techniques of tennis sport.

The trainees introduced themselves.

The training course runs up to 24 November.

Kyemon-U Kyaw Tint

Local News
UN envoy urges peaceful legislative elections in Mali

UNITED NATIONS, 23 Nov — The UN envoy in Mali called for peaceful legislative elections which will be held during the upcoming weekend, a spokesperson said on Friday.

“The Secretary-General’s Special Representa- tive in Mali, Bert Koenders, is engaging with political parties to promote a peace- ful vote, encourage adher- ence to the electoral Code of Conduct and promote the participation of wom- en,” the acting UN deputy spokesman Farhan Haq told reporters at a daily briefing here.

The Malian authorities announced the first and sec- ond rounds of the legisla- tive elections respectively on 24 November and 15 December to complete the process of return to constitu- tional order.

“The UN Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) and the UN Development Pro- gram (UNDP) are providing technical and logistical assistance for the first and second rounds of legisla- tive elections as they did for the presidential elec- tions this summer,” Haq said, who added that nearly 3 tons of electoral material was transported by mission aircraft to remote areas in Kayes, Mopti, Gao, Tim- buktu and Kidal.

The mission will support the Malian security au- thorities to secure main vot- ing areas and will provide escorts to the transport of electoral material in Kidal, according to the spokesperson.

Solar specialist sent to China's oil pipeline blast areas

BEIJING, 23 Nov — A team of medical special- ists has been sent to the oil pipeline explosion area in the coastal city of Qingdao in east China’s Shandong Province, according to the National Health and Family Planning Commission.

The team, comprised of six experts on burn treat- ment, critical care medicine, orthopedics and respiration, departed for Qingdao on Friday night.

Li Bin, head of the commission, also urged full efforts to help local rescue work.

On Saturday morning, local authorities increased the death toll from 35 to 47, with another 136 injured people hospitalized.

The blast occurred at 10:30 am on Friday in the municipal pipe network, an initial investigation showed.—Xinhua

Photo taken with a mobile phone shows the site of a deadly explosion in Qingdao, east China's Shandong Province, on 22 Nov, 2013. —Xinhua

QINGDAO, 23 Nov — Sinopec’s board chairman Fu Chengyu made an apol- ogy on Saturday over an oil pipeline explosion in east China that has killed at least 44 people and wounded over 40 others on late Friday night.

According to a state- ment posted the company’s official microblog, Fu said he feels greatly grieved to see the huge losses of life and property, and expressed deep condolences to the victims.

Fu apologized to peo- ple of Qingdao and people of the entire nation as well.

He said Sinopec will conduct rescue work at all costs and cooperate with the authorities to dispatch by the State Coun- cil to find out the cause of the accident.

The blast occurred at 10:3 am on Friday in Huangdao District of Qing- dao, after oil leaked from a Sinopec pipeline flowed into the municipal pipe net- work. Another 136 injured people have been hospital- ized, and rescue work is still going on, according to rescue headquarters.

Sinopec chairman apologizes over deadly explosion

ISLAMABAD, 23 Nov — Pakistan Taleban on Saturday claimed responsibility for the twin blasts in the country’s southern port city of Karachi that killed eight people and injured over 40 others on late Friday night.

Local media quot- ed Shahidullah Shahid, spokesperson of Tehrik-e- Taleban Pakistan, as say- ing that they carried out the blasts in Karachi to take revenge of the killing of 15 people in a US drone strike launched on Thurs- day morning in northwest Hangu District.

The spokesperson said that they would carry out more such attacks across the country if drone strikes are not halted.

UN, EU to help Bulgaria cope with refugee wave

SOFIA, 23 Nov — UN High Commissioner for Refugees Antonio Guterres and European Commis- sioner Kristalina Georgieva said here on said their or- ganizations would send in Bulgaria consultants and money for coping with the refugee wave. The two of- ficials made the remark after meeting with Bulgar- ian Prime Minister Plamen Oresharski, adding that they would provide the as- sistance “next week.”

The UN consulting team in Bulgaria would perform three main tasks, including building the ca- pacity of the Agency for Refugees, refining and sim- plifying the procedure for obtaining refugee status, and supporting the govern- ment in various aspects of refugee society, Guterres said.

Earlier on Friday, Bul- garian Defence Minister Angel Naydenov said that Syrian refugee wave could be called colossal and mi- gration pressure would increase in the next six months, with 60 percent of refugees regarding Bulgaria as a final destination.

Deputy Interior Minis- ter Vasil Marnov said that there are currently 9,820 refug- ees in Bulgaria, with 439 illegally entering the country in July, 1,018 in August, 3,626 in October and 1,292 since the begin- ning of November.

Floods hit Rhodes, two missing

ATHENS, 23 Nov — Two persons were missing at Rhodes on Friday evening, local authorities said as the southeastern Aegean Sea island was hit by heavy rainfall and gale force winds which caused floods. The Fire Brigade has launched a wide investi- gation to trace a 50-year- old man and a 27-year-old woman who were stranded in a car during the storm which lasted for two hours.

A third man travelling in the same vehicle man- aged to save himself by get- ting out in time before the car was drifted away by the water.

Local authorities have responded to a similar call saving another two persons from a car, while they have received approximately 130 telephone calls to evacu- ate motorists and pump out flooded basements of homes and stores.

The heavy downpours uprooted trees leading to disruptions in traffic and short power cuts in particu- lar in the northern part of the island.

As flood waters have already started to recede, Greek meteorologists note that the weather conditions will gradually improve dur- ing the weekend. —Xinhua

UN envoy urges peaceful legislative elections in Mali

New Light of Myanmar
TEPCO, Mitsubishi firms to build coal-fired power plants in Fukushima

TOKYO, 23 Nov — Tokyo Electric Power Co. will build two cutting-edge coal-fired power generation facilities in Fukushima Prefecture, the home of the damaged Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant, in conjunction with three Mitsubishi group firms, sources close to the matter said on Saturday.

The two facilities with 500,000 kilowatts output each will be constructed in the city of Iwaki and the town of Hirono, respectively, with the start planned for around 2020, the sources said. The 1 million kilowatts output in total is equivalent to one nuclear reactor.

TEPCO, the operator of the Fukushima Daiichi complex, expects the plan to generate thousands of jobs in the nuclear disaster-hit area in the fields of construction and maintenance of the facilities, according to the sources.

The utility also aims to switch to cheaper coal-fired thermal power from steam-power generation, on which it has been relying since its nuclear power plants were suspended following the Fukushima accident, the sources said.

The three Mitsubishi group firms are Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd, Mitsubishi Corp. and Mitsubishi Electric Corp.

Total investment in the project is expected to be around 300 billion yen, and the investment ratio of TEPCO will be less than 10 percent, according to the sources.

The new facilities will utilize the highly efficient integrated gasification combined cycle, which discharges less atmospheric pollutants and may allow the operators to gain a government subsidy.

The plan will be presented in the utility's reconstruction programme.

New Light of Myanmar

China’s new security commission conducive to world peace

BEIJING, 23 Nov — The plenum of the Communist Party of China (CPC), which concluded last week, wasn’t entirely about economic reform as expected, with the formation of a new national security commission turning out to be an eye-catching part of China’s ambitious reform agenda.

The national security commission and its similar bodies can be found in scores of countries all over the world, including the United States and Russia.

Though different in names and structures, they are all designed to increase coordination and integration among various wings of national security bureaucracy, split between police, military, intelligence and diplomatic services. With the rapid development of globalization and information technology, the boundary between traditional and non-traditional security is greatly dimmed.

The old and traditional way of crisis management is not as effective as expected in a more complicated global community. Under such circumstances, the creation of the national security commission is seen by many as a “requirement of the times,” a strategic imperative as well as a system innovation forced by the severe security situation, as the international community faces an increasingly complicated global political landscape and emerging domestic security concerns.

As Chinese President Xi Jinping has stated, “the variety of predictable and unpredictable risks has been increasing remarkably, and the system has not yet met the needs of safeguarding national security.” “Establishing a national security commission to strengthen the unified leadership of the state security work is an urgent need,” said the president.

Experts say its establishment will greatly boost the government’s efficiency in dealing with security issues in various areas. This new commission “should make terrorist, extremists and separatists nervous,” said Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang. And all those forces which would attempt to threaten or sabotage China’s national security will indeed feel uneasy and upset.

Philippine gov’t vows to intensify hunt for Maguindanao massacre suspects

MANILA, 23 Nov — The Philippine government vowed on Friday to intensify efforts to find and prosecute 88 suspects in the Maguindanao massacre, considered the most gruesome mass murder of 58 innocent civilians, including 34 media workers in southern Philippines.

On the eve of the fourth anniversary of the infamous incident, Presidential Communications Office Secretary Herminio Coloma Jr said the government is bent on apprehending the suspects who remain at large in its bid to erase the stigma of the culture of impunity that led to the massacre.

Coloma said the Philippine National Police (PNP) has been directed to intensify the manhunt for the suspects. He said the Department of Justice is also continuing efforts to strengthen its investigative and prosecutorial powers.

“We join the advocates for institutional reforms including amendments to the Rules of Court that will hasten the delivery of justice. We will work with Congress to prioritize action on the enactment of the proposed whistle blower bill and amendments to strengthen the witness protection law,” he said.

Families of the Maguindanao massacre victims have complained that up to now, not even one suspect has been sentenced by the court. At least 196 people have been accused in the worst pre-election related violence in the Philippines. Among the key suspects are members of the then politically powerful Ampatuan clan in Maguindanao.

Australia completes sending 79 boat people back to Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, 23 Nov — The Australian government has returned all 79 Sri Lankans who arrived illegally by boat last month, the Australian embassy said in a statement here on Friday.

The Australian High Commission in Colombo said that the last six Sri Lankans this week joined the group of 73 who were returned last month after arriving illegally by boat and being screened out of a protection assessment process. The government’s new policy implementation sends a strong message that if you arrive illegally by boat, you will be sent back to Sri Lanka.

“The Australian Government’s policies are tougher than ever before and ensure that people seeking to come to Australia by boat without a visa do not get to stay in Australia,” said Scott Morrison, Australia’s Minister for Immigration and Border Protection.

More than 1100 people who arrived in Australia by boat have been sent home since October 2012, according to the statement. Australia and Sri Lanka have strong cooperation at the operational level to disrupt people smuggling ventures departing Sri Lanka, the statement added.

“The Australian Government does not deal in half measures and has the policies and resolve to fight people smugglers and stop illegal boat arrivals,” the minister said.
Local officials from China, LatAm to meet in Costa Rica

SAN JOSE, 23 Nov — A meeting of local officials from China and Latin America will be held here on 26-27 November, Costa Rica’s Ministry of External Trade announced on Friday.

At the event, part of the 7th China-Latin America and the Caribbean Business Summit, municipal and provincial officials from both sides would discuss the impact of climate change, sustainable development, public-private cooperation to promote competitiveness of their cities. Around 850 representatives from Latin America and another 260 from China will participate in the summit, which is co-sponsored by China Council for the Promotion of International Trade and the Inter-American Development Bank.

Xinhua

Gunmen kill representative of national dialogue in Yemeni capital

SANAA, 23 Nov — Gunmen killed a representative of the Yemeni Shite Houthi rebels at the country’s national dialogue conference in the capital Sanaa on Friday night, the Houthi group said. “Abdalkarim Jadbani, who is also a member of the parliament and a prominent leader of the Houthi movement, was killed on the spot by a gunman on a motorcycle on a street near the Ministry of Defense in downtown Sanaa,” the Houthi group said in a statement obtained by Xinhua. The statement did not provide further details. A police officer said Jadbani was killed near Tahrir Square after he left a nearby mosque after night prayers. “He was shot by more than 20 bullets,” the official at nearby Tahir police station told Xinhua.

It was the second assassination attack against the Houthi rebel leaders in Sanaa in two days. On Wednesday a remotely controlled bomb exploded when Shiite leader Mohammed Al-Emad opened the trunk of his car in downtown Sanaa. Al-Emad, who also runs pro-Houthi rebels newspaper, was slightly injured in the explosion.

Houthi rebels have been participating in a UN-backed national dialogue, which started in March and is tasked to make a new constitution and prepare for holding presidential elections. The government has tightened security situation in Sanaa since sectarian tensions between the Shiite rebels and Sunni Salafists flare last month in the northern Province of Saada, where violence had killed over 100 people from both sides.

The government brokered a ceasefire agreement earlier this month between the armed rival groups and attempted to position the army and local observers to prevent further violence in the Saada’s town of Dammaj. Shiite rebels have been in control of most part of the province since they signed a ceasefire deal with the government in August 2010, which ended a six-year intermittent war.

Xinhua

Body of Dutch woman found in her flat after 10 years

THE HAGUE, 23 Nov — Dutch police discovered in Rotterdam the body of a woman who lay dead in her house for 10 years, Dutch media reported on Friday.

The police officers discovered her body after construction workers rang her doorbell. When nobody answered they warned the police.

When officers arrived, they saw at the door a pile of unopened mail dating back 10 years. According to the police, the 74-year-old woman died a natural death.

SGP, 23 Nov — Singapore tourist authorities have proposed changes to the law to allow low enforcement officers the power to question and detain suspected unlicensed tourist guides, the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Tourism Board said on Friday.

Those who do not cooperate with the officers, can even be hauled to the police station.

It is illegal under Singapore law to work as a tourist guide without a license. Local media said that the unlicensed tourist guides are mostly foreigners accompanying tour groups from overseas and work pass holders who take on freelance guiding jobs without the requisite license to be tour guides.

A technician fixes an electricity transformer in eastern Pakistan’s Lahore on 21 Nov, 2013. The power shortfall in the country persists at 1100 mega watt (MW), said Pakistan’s National Transmission and Dispatch Company (NTDC).—Xinhua

The proposals come after a year-long review by the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Singapore Tourism Board.

The ministry said that proposed legislative changes are part of the government’s ongoing efforts to raise the quality of tourist guides. There are also plans for more training and to raise the professionalism among licensed tourist guides. Tourist guides are “a key touch point for many tourists” and are important in promoting Singapore as a choice destination, said Second Minister for Trade and Industry S Iswaran. —Xinhua

Tripoli residents continue civil disobedience against militia presence

TRIPOLI, 23 Nov — Protesters in Tripoli continue their civil disobedience Friday against the presence of militias in the Libyan capital, Xinhua correspondents witnessed.

Hundreds of protestors marched from Al Quds Mosque in downtown Tripoli to Algeria Square, demanding the eviction of all militias.

On 15 November, some 43 demonstrators were killed and more than 460 injured in their clashes with militiamen at the latter’s base in southern Tripoli. They were calling upon the militias to return to their original city of Sirte in the west.

After the bloodshed the Tripoli council, and some civil societies called for a general strike to push all the militias out in accordance with a parliament decision. Sadiki said, head of the council, has urged local residents not to return to work before the militias have withdrawn, especially not before Sunday when the state of emergency expires as announced by the government.

Meanwhile, Libyan Prime Minister Ali Zaidan has advised the citizens to go back to work on Sunday as several armed groups handed over their headquar ters and equipment to the state forces in the last four days. —Xinhua

Singapore may impose tougher penalties on unlicensed tourist guides

SINGAPORE, 23 Nov — Singapore tourist authorities have proposed changes to the law to allow low enforcement officers the power to question and detain suspected unlicensed tourist guides, the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Tourism Board said on Friday.

Those who do not cooperate with the officers, can even be hauled to the police station.

It is illegal under Singapore law to work as a tourist guide without a license. Local media said that the unlicensed tourist guides are mostly foreigners accompanying tour groups from overseas and work pass holders who take on freelance guiding jobs without the requisite license to be tour guides.

Local daily Straits Times said they “frequently give wrong information to tourists and take away business from those who have valid licenses.”

Under the proposed changes to the law, offenders may also face harsher penalties, with plans to double the maximum fine to 10,000 Singapore dollars (8,000 US dollars).

The proposals come after a year-long review by the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Singapore Tourism Board.

The ministry said that proposed legislative changes are part of the government’s ongoing efforts to raise the quality of tourist guides. There are also plans for more training and to raise the professionalism among licensed tourist guides. Tourist guides are “a key touch point for many tourists” and are important in promoting Singapore as a choice destination, said Second Minister for Trade and Industry S Iswaran.
Marc Anthony, Draco Rosa grab Latin Grammys in year of comebacks

LOS ANGELES, 23 Nov — Top-selling salsa artist Marc Anthony and pop singer and actor Draco Rosa, and the Colombian singer Carlos Vives on Thursday won awards at the Latin Grammy Awards in Las Vegas, Nevada on 21 Nov, 2013.— Reuters

The singer-and-actress thanked people for “for all the difficult moments.”

Vives picked up three Grammys in total and had led Latin Grammy nominations with five nods, including a collaboration with fellow Menudo member Ricky Martin.

Anthony’s recent album “3.0” was his first since 2010 and follows his high-profile divorce from actress and singer Jennifer Lopez last year.

Rosa, a pop singer and composer who started out with 1980s boy band Menudo, won the coveted album of the year for “Vida,” an album he recorded after receiving a cancer diagnosis in 2011 and undergoing treatment. The album includes a collaboration with fellow Menudo member Ricky Martin.

Grateful for receiving a Latin Grammy for the 45-year-old, who has also won two Grammys.

“This means more to me than ever because I am in a very special time of my life and the words ‘live my life’ say it all,” Anthony told the crowd in Las Vegas where the Latin Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences held the 14th edition of the Latin Grammys.

Anthony’s recent album “3.0” was his first since 2010 and follows his high-profile divorce from actress and singer Jennifer Lopez last year.

Rosa, a pop singer and composer who started out with 1980s boy band Menudo, won the coveted album of the year for “Vida,” an album he recorded after receiving a cancer diagnosis in 2011 and undergoing treatment. The album includes a collaboration with fellow Menudo member Ricky Martin.

Grateful for receiving a Latin Grammy for the 45-year-old, who has also won two Grammys.

“This means more to me than ever because I am in a very special time of my life and the words ‘live my life’ say it all,” Anthony told the crowd in Las Vegas where the Latin Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences held the 14th edition of the Latin Grammys.

Anthony’s recent album “3.0” was his first since 2010 and follows his high-profile divorce from actress and singer Jennifer Lopez last year.

Rosa, a pop singer and composer who started out with 1980s boy band Menudo, won the coveted album of the year for “Vida,” an album he recorded after receiving a cancer diagnosis in 2011 and undergoing treatment. The album includes a collaboration with fellow Menudo member Ricky Martin.

Grateful for receiving a Latin Grammy for the 45-year-old, who has also won two Grammys.

“This means more to me than ever because I am in a very special time of my life and the words ‘live my life’ say it all,” Anthony told the crowd in Las Vegas where the Latin Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences held the 14th edition of the Latin Grammys.

Anthony’s recent album “3.0” was his first since 2010 and follows his high-profile divorce from actress and singer Jennifer Lopez last year.

Rosa, a pop singer and composer who started out with 1980s boy band Menudo, won the coveted album of the year for “Vida,” an album he recorded after receiving a cancer diagnosis in 2011 and undergoing treatment. The album includes a collaboration with fellow Menudo member Ricky Martin.

Grateful for receiving a Latin Grammy for the 45-year-old, who has also won two Grammys.

“This means more to me than ever because I am in a very special time of my life and the words ‘live my life’ say it all,” Anthony told the crowd in Las Vegas where the Latin Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences held the 14th edition of the Latin Grammys.

Anthony’s recent album “3.0” was his first since 2010 and follows his high-profile divorce from actress and singer Jennifer Lopez last year.

Rosa, a pop singer and composer who started out with 1980s boy band Menudo, won the coveted album of the year for “Vida,” an album he recorded after receiving a cancer diagnosis in 2011 and undergoing treatment. The album includes a collaboration with fellow Menudo member Ricky Martin.
Carrick signs new deal to underline value to Manchester United

LONDON, 23 Nov — Michael Carrick’s role at Manchester United is often understated but the England international midfielder further underlined his importance to the Premier League champions by signing a new contract on Friday. When Carrick, 32, hangs up his boots it is unlikely to be bracketed alongside the very best talents that have graced United’s midfield ranks over the years.

Yet his record at the Old Trafford club, where he has won five league titles and a Champions League since joining in 2006, mean he ranks among their most successful midfield servants and he has now committed to United through to 2015.

His game, based on the steady retention of possession and tactical discipline, does not set pulses racing, while he lacks many of the qualities traditionally extolled in the English game. He tends not to make gut-busting box-to-box bursts or ripple the net with speculative long-range efforts and his value to the club is often only apparent when his name is missing from the team sheet.

“During my short time at the club it hasn’t been hard to notice that Michael is a great reader of the game and has excellent passing ability,” United manager Moyes said on the club website (www.manutd.com) on Friday. “He is an exceptional man and a true professional and it’s great that he has committed himself to the club.”

After paying 18 million pounds ($29.14 million) to sign him from Tottenham Hotspur in 2006, former boss Alex Ferguson kept faith with the player in the face of frequent calls from fans to strengthen the heart of the midfield.

His trust was richly repaid, as Carrick has anchored United to league titles in five of his seven seasons at the club, a Champions League trophy in 2008 while they reached another two Champions League finals in 2009 and 2011.

After a jittersy start to this season, fifth-placed United, who are five points behind leaders Arsenal, have the chance to extend their unbeaten run to 10 games when they visit Car-diff City on Sunday and confidence is high. “We came off a couple of good results and sometimes you want the games to come thick and fast,” Moyes told reporters.—Reuters

Murakami struggles in women’s SP at Cup of Russia

Russia’s Julia Lipnitskaya performs during the women’s short programme of the Cup of Russia figure skating competition in Moscow on 22 Nov, 2013.—KYODO NEWS

Moscow, 23 Nov — Kanako Murakami got off to a nightmare start and languished in last place after the women’s short programme Friday at the Cup of Russia, the sixth and final event of the Grand Prix series. Murakami, the biggest name of the three Japanese competing in the women’s event, had 49.24 points. Haruka Imai was eighth with 49.55 and 15-year-old Satoko Miyahara was sixth with 56.57.

“I don’t even know myself if it was a case losing my focus or losing my intensity,” said Murakami. Russia’s Julia Lipnitskaya was top with 72.24 and was followed in second by Italy’s Carolina Kostner, who scored 72.01.

Tatsuki Machida, who won the GP season-opening Skate America, is entered in the men’s program. Fourth place or better will secure Machida a place at the Grand Prix Final to be held in Fukuoka in December.—KYODO NEWS

Rostov extend poor run for Russian champions Zenit

Moscow, 23 Nov — Rostov made it five games in all competitions without a win for Zenit St Petersburg on Friday when the Russian champions slumped to a 2-0 home defeat.

It was hardly the performance Italian coach Luciano Spalletti wanted as his Zenit side suffered their first home league defeat of the season ahead of the midweek Champions League tie with Atletico Madrid.

Home striker Alexander Kerzhakov, just back from a thigh injury, almost scored after 10 minutes when he hit the post from eight metres following Der Kerzhakov, just back from a thigh injury, almost scored after 10 minutes when he hit the post from eight metres following an Italian rookie

Johannesburg, 23 Nov — Seven birdies and an eagle saw home favourite Charl Schwartzel storm through the field on Friday to share the lead with Italian Marco Crespi after the end of the second round of the South African Open.

Schwartzel, who is South Africa’s top ranked golfer but never won the tournament, also bogeyed three holes at the Glen- dower Golf Course on the outskirts of Johannesburg as he posted a seven under 65 to share a 12-under total of 132 with the 35-year-old Italian.

Crespi came through the qualifying School last week for the first time in 11 attempts and is playing his maiden tournament since winning his European Tour card. He hit six birdies in his round of 67.

“My putting and chipping was pretty amazing,” he told reporters after going into the clubhouse as the early leader.

“I was expecting a good tournament because I was playing well. Obviously not this big but I’m confident about the week. I’ll just try to remain calm and play my game,” said Crespi.

Dane Morten Orum Madsen, a rookie last year, lies third on 11 under, one ahead of Christian Bason of South Africa.

Schwartzel shares SA Open lead with Italian rookie

South Africa’s top ranked golfer Charl Schwartzel shares the lead with Italian Marco Crespi after the end of the second round of the South African Open at Billykloof Golf Club on 22 Nov, 2013.—REUTERS

Schwartzel shares SA Open lead with Italian rookie

WASHINGTON, 23 Nov — World No 1 female tennis player Serena Williams was named WTA Player of the Year on Friday.

The 32-year-old won 78 out of her 82 matches, getting 11 titles including the US Open and the French Open in the 2013 season.

She became the oldest world No 1 in WTA his-tory.

It was the fifth time for Williams to be named the WTA Player Of The Year. She had received the honour in 2002, 2008, 2009 and 2012.—Reuters

Brazil’s Ney-mar (back) fights for the ball with England’s Michael Carrick during their international friendly football match at the Maracana Stadium in Rio de Janeiro, on 2 June, 2013. —REUTERS

Serena Williams named WTA Player of Year

Zenit St Petersburg’s coach Luciano Spalletti instructs his players during a Champions League Group G soccer match against Atletico Madrid at Vicente Calderon stadium in Madrid on 18 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

Andrei Arshavin and Konstantin Zyryanov, but Zenit still looked bereft of ideas while their forwards strug-gled against Rostov’s well-organised defence.

Zenit have 36 points from 17 matches, three ahead of Lokomotiv Moscow and Spartak Moscow. Rostov are eighth on 23 points.

Spartak visit fourth-placed CSKA Moscow on Saturday and Lokomotiv take on Dynamo Moscow, who are fifth, in another derby on Sunday.

Zenit are second in Champions League Group G with five points from four matches, seven behind Atletico.

Por are third with four points and Austria Vienna are rock bottom on one.—Reuters

Reuter
**GENERAL**

**MYANMAR TV**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Programme</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00 am</td>
<td>1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:20 am</td>
<td>2. Physical Exercise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>3. Documentary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:45 am</td>
<td>4. Musical Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:55 am</td>
<td>5. Pyu Thu Ni Ti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 am</td>
<td>6. News/Weather Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:20 am</td>
<td>7. Teleplay (SEA Games)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>8. News/International News</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>9. Amazing World</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>10. News/International News</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>11. News</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 pm</td>
<td>12. (38) Phyr Minglar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 pm</td>
<td>13. Cidadagale Dawnmahin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:25 pm</td>
<td>15. Round Up Of The Week’s International News</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:55 pm</td>
<td>16. Myanmar Movies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:35 pm</td>
<td>17. Solo Favourites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 pm</td>
<td>18. News</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:20 pm</td>
<td>19. Teleplay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:20 pm</td>
<td>21. Musical Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30 pm</td>
<td>22. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:45 pm</td>
<td>23. Performance With Song</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>24. News</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:20 pm</td>
<td>25. Sing &amp; Enjoy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>26. News/Weather Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>27. Cartoon Series</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:25 pm</td>
<td>29. Documentary (SEA Games)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>30. News/International News/Weather Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:35 pm</td>
<td>33. Pyi Thu Ni Ti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:45 pm</td>
<td>34. Her Songs of Stars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 pm</td>
<td>35. News</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:35 pm</td>
<td>36. Tamyetmar Takweitar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 pm</td>
<td>37. New Melody</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Programme</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21:55 pm</td>
<td>1. <em>Local News</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22:15 pm</td>
<td>2. <em>Unique &amp; Motivating Chap Char Kut Festival</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22:35 pm</td>
<td>3. <em>World News</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22:55 pm</td>
<td>5. <em>Local News</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23:05 pm</td>
<td>6. <em>A Day in the life of a nun (HEYNZI 1005)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23:25 pm</td>
<td>7. <em>World News</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23:45 pm</td>
<td>8. <em>Strolling Along A Memory Link</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Obama, Moroccan king reaffirm cooperation to combat terrorism**

**WASHINGTON, 23 Nov —** US President Barack Obama met King Mohammed VI of Morocco at the White House Friday, and both sides vowed to deepen cooperation on nonproliferation and counterterrorism.

To address their deep concern for the continuing threat posed by terrorism, the United States and Morocco intend to continue cooperation to bolster democratic, criminal justice institutions and to counter the threat of terrorism.

The two leaders also discussed the Western Sahara issue. Since 2004, Washington has seen Rabat as a major non-NATO ally and a close counterterrorism partner in North Africa. US Secretary of State John Kerry had planned to visit the kingdom early this month for a strategic dialogue, but put off the travel as he decided to go to Geneva instead for nuclear talks with Iran. —Xinhua

---

**China gives 16.03 bln yuan to preschools**

**BEIJING, 23 Nov —** The Ministry of Finance on Friday said the central government has allocated 16.03 billion yuan (2.61 billion US dollars) to boost preschool education.

The fund will be mainly used to support kindergartens, preschools and to counter the threat of violent extremism in the region, according to a statement issued after the talks.

The two leaders are committed to continuing cooperation in the Global Counterterrorism Forum, it said. In their meeting, Obama encouraged the king to join the United States in founding the International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law in Malta, in a bid to train a new generation of criminal justice officials across North, West and East Africa to address counterterrorism and related security challenges.

---

**FIFA could rethink midday World Cup starts, Blatter says**

**Rome, 23 Nov —** FIFA could reconsider its controversial decision to schedule some of next year’s World Cup matches at midday in tropical venues, the body’s president Sepp Blatter suggested on Friday in an apparent U-turn.

Blatter said FIFA had received a number of appeals to rethink its decision which has angered, among others, the world players’ union FIFPro.

“For that is a good question, I will take up the question again, we will have a meeting of not only the organizing committee but the FIFA executive committee and (in December) in Salvador (Brazil),” he told reporters.

“We have received different pleas, letters and demands concerning the time schedule which has been established but which has not yet been sanctioned,” he said. “We will speak on that.”

Last year, Blatter shrugged off criticism of the scheduling which would mean matches being played in the hottest part of the day. “The history of football has shown that great players can play in all conditions,” he said then. “In Mexico in 1970 and 1986, we played at high noon, at 2,400 meters and the quality of the game did not suffer. You know that in difficult conditions you can cool down, and have drinks. You will remember 25 years ago, the referees said it was forbidden to drink water during the matches and now all that has been changed.”

Although the 12 June-13 July World Cup will take place in southern Brazil’s winter, tropical conditions will prevail in the north of the country where two matches each of Natal, Salvador and Recife have been scheduled for 1300 local time, plus one in Fortaleza.

There will also be two kickoffs in Manaus, in the heart of the Amazon rain forest. —Reuters

---

**Pellegrini coy on Hart’s return to City lineup**

**London, 23 Nov —** One good display for England has not guaranteed keeper Joe Hart a return to the Manchester City side with manager Manuel Pellegrini refusing to say he would be recalled for Sunday’s home match against Tottenham Hotspur.

Some costly mistakes led to 26-year-old Hart being replaced by Romanian Costel Pantilimon for the Premier League club’s last four games.

Panteïlimon made several fine saves during England’s 1-0 defeat by Germany on Tuesday, but Pantilimon has impressed since getting his chance, leaving Pellegrini with a dilemma.

“We don’t know,” Pellegrini told reporters on Friday when asked about Hart. “We will decide tomorrow the starting XI, but I think it was very useful for Joe, the game for England.” —Reuter
Cash and kind donated for paying respects to doyen literati

Yangon, 23 Nov — A cash donation ceremony for holding a respect-paying ceremony in commemoration of Literati Day took place at the meeting hall of Printing and Publishing Enterprise, here, this morning.

Chairman of Myanmar Writers Association U Tin Hlaing (Ledwin) said he was happy to see more cash donations for doyen literati.

At the ceremony, the MWA Chairman and members received cash and kind worth K 46,595,000 of 62 wellwishers, including K 5,310,000 by the President’s Office, K 8,550,000 by Union Solidarity and Development Party, K 1 million by the Ministry of Information and K 300,000 each by Yangon City Development Committee and Mandalay City Development Committee, and presented certificates of honour to them.

Next, U Ohn Maung (Myint Maung Naing Moe), chairman of fund-raising subcommittee, spoke words of thanks.

Also present at the ceremony were Deputy Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Union Minister for Information U Aung Kyi, Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Fundamental Rights of Citizens, Democracy and Human Rights U Hla Hla Kyaw, Yangon Region Minister for Electricity and Industry U Nyan Tun Oo, chairman and members of Myanmar Libraries Federation, Myanmar Press Council (Temporary) and guests.— MNA

Air strikes kill at least 40 in northern Syria:

Aleppo, 23 Nov—Air strikes around the northern Syrian city of Aleppo killed at least 40 people on Saturday, most of them civilians, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said. The pro-opposition monitoring group said there were at least six strikes on the outskirts of Aleppo and nearby towns. Dozens of people were wounded, it said.

"Some of the strikes in the neighborhood of Tareeq al-Bab appeared to be targeting rebel headquarters but instead the rockets fell in a busy street and caused heavy civilian casualties," Rami Abdelrahman, head of the Observatory, said by telephone.

A general view shows a damaged street in Aleppo’s Karm al-Jabal district November 21, 2013.—Reuters

Storm News over South Andaman Sea

According to the observations at (18:30) hrs MST today, the low pressure area over South Andaman Sea intensified into a depression and centered at about (140) miles Southwest of Coco-gyun, Myanmar and about (280) miles Southeast of Port Blair (Andaman Island), India. It is forecast to move Northwestwards.

Under the influence of the depression, rain or thundershowers will be scattered to fairly widespread in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions, Mon and Kayin States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Taninthayi Region and Mon State.

Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced Deltaic, Gulf of Mot-tama, off and along Mon State. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) m.p.h.

The present stage of the depression is coded yellow stage and it is not moving towards Myanmar coasts.

Trawlers, vessels and ships are advised to advert possible danger by cyclone, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.—MNA

Committee for scrutinizing remaining political prisoners meets

Yangon, 23 Nov— “Committee for scrutinizing remaining political prisoners is trying hard for the remaining political prisoners to be released before the end of December this year. A list containing 82 remaining political prisoners and more than 200 who were charged under Section 18 will be submitted to the government. Focus is being placed not only on political prisoners but also on those charged under Section 18 and imprisoned for many years,” said Ko Ye Aung of former political prisoners group at a meeting of the committee at Myanmar Peace Centre on Shweli Street in Kamayut Township, here, today.

"Some have been charged with 28 counts under Section 18. Ways and means are being sought to drop the charges against them. It cannot be said that there are no more prisoners without releasing them. It is a message we gave for the government and media. There are about 265 charged under Section 18. There may be others we don’t know yet. Everyone may contact us if their family members have been imprisoned in connection with politics at various prisons. We will proceed with documents presented with detailed facts. The committee will decide first whether the prisoners can be regarded as political prisoners, and the list in accord with decisions of the committee will be presented to the President. At present, no prisoner is imprisoned in accord with Section 18 as they were released from prison. Those who were sent to prison in accord with Section 18 will be included in the coming list,” said Ko Bo Kyi of Assistance Association for Political Prisoners.

The committee had held its 10th meeting regarding the remaining political prisoners so far. —MNA

Photo shows SEA Games bill board erected in front of Nay Pyi Taw Railway Station to hail 27th SEA Games to be hosted by Myanmar.—(Ko Myo-Shwe Paukan)