Kha Yay or Star Flower
- Since kha yay is known as ‘star flower,’ (10) kha yay flowers stand for 10 ASEAN Member States as ‘Stars’ in its own right, and the links among them means that all ASEAN Member States are joining hands in hands together in unity as a community and as emerging stars in the world.
- In the form, Star flower resembles the pinion of a machine. The linkage of the (10) pinions will be driving force for the peace, prosperity and development of the region.
- The mixture of the white and yellow color of the star flower indicates peace and prosperity for the people of the region.
- The nobility of the star flower is its scent. The scent of the star flower recalling far and near even when it wilts. Therefore, like the resilience of the scent of star flower, the resilience of the ASEAN people remains in robust strength not only in times of enjoying achievements but also in times of encountering challenges.

Background Colour
The green background of the logo means that ASEAN will implement the development of the region emphasizing peace, green growth and environmental preservation in the region.

MOFA

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein greets local people in Kyaukse Township.—MNA

Myanmar rowers to secure gold medals in traditional boat race

Myanmar traditional boat rowers are hoping to secure gold medals in upcoming SEA Games, said Secretary of Myanmar Rowing Federation U Pe Win. The rowing covers three categories. They are rowing, canoeing and kayak.

Trs: KHS
Defence Services families donate eggs to Myanmar athletes

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Dec—Families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) today donated 1000 eggs to Myanmar athletes for successfully competing in the 27th SEA Games. The families will donate 1000 eggs daily for the athletes during the SEA Games.

Wellwishers donate cash for construction of Pagoda

MEIKTILA, 1 Dec—A cash donation ceremony for construction of Maha Yanmyoaw Pagoda was held at the Dhammayon of Sasana. The donation was held on the occasion of the construction of Maha Bhaddanta Kovida pagoda, a replica of Shwedagon Pagoda, which will be built with eight encircled zeids.

Kyaw Zeyer Win moves to Perek Club of Malaysia

YANGON, 1 Dec—Kyaw Zeyer Win, Captain of Myanmar U-23 team that will take part in the XXVII SEA Games, will join Perek FC of Malaysian Super League. He will play there from 1 December 2013 to 1 December 2014 under the one-year contract. He will get US$ 5000 per month as salary. His mother club Kanbawza FC allowed him to join Perek Club for contributing to development of Myanmar football sport and for enabling him to get experiences. However, it did not announce transfer fee for Kyaw Zeyer Win.

Asphalt concrete placed on Pyinmana-Taungnyo Road

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Dec—Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee focuses on smooth transportation of local people, construction of new roads, repairing of old roads and upgrading of roads in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area. On 29 November afternoon, Engineering Department (Roads and Bridges) of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee supervised placing of asphalt concrete on Pyinmana-Taungnyo road section in front of Shwekyarbin Guesthouse in Zabathiri Township.

Heroin powder seized in Shwegu Tsp

SHWEGU, 1 Dec—Acting on a tip-off, a team led by SIP Wai Phyo Oo of Shwegu Myoma Police Station together with the witnesses intercepted a motorbike driven by Toe Tet Aung (a) Tet Toe, 28, son of U Chit Kyin, of Poukkon Village, Yavesu Township on 26 November. According to the meeting, plans are underway to install the CCTV cameras at two digital traffic lights near Dwinwinkin ground and the market in downtown Mawlamyine. The Mon State traffic rules enforcement committee is carrying out enforcement of the laws to ensure order in the area.

Odd News

Badly rusted grenade found in Kyaihto

KYAIHTO, 1 Dec—U Soe Naing, 45 of Kawzaung Ward in Kyaihto found a Badly rusted grenade near the railroad in Kawzaung Ward of Kyaihto on 29 November morning. The commander of Township Police Force and officials of Township Police Force inspected the grenade and informed the local battalion about the findings.

National Sports

Kyemon-Than Kyaw Myint

The first Mandalay Region Traffic Rules Enforcement Exhibition 2013 was opened at Chanmyathazi airport in Chanmyathazi Township on 28 November morning.

Captain of Myanmar U-23 team Kyaw Zeyer Win in action of controlling the football.

English, Maths skill contest held in Gangaw

GANGAW, 1 Dec—Organized by Gangaw Township Education Office of No 2 Basic Education Department, the English and Maths skill contest was held at the hall of Basic Education High School in Gangaw on 25 and 26 November. A total of 19 students from 11 education regions took part in the English skill contest and 21 in the Maths skill contest at primary level, and 65 in the English skill contest and 66 in the Maths skill contest at middle school level.

Tourism

Hotels in Yangon ready for SEA Games

YANGON, 1 Dec—“Hotels in Yangon are ready for the XXVII SEA Games,” said Chairman of Myanmar Hoteliers Association (Yangon Zone) U Tin Win. Authorities concerned have already inspected security measures in the hotels. We have already arranged food, accommodation, security and health for the XXVII SEA Games. We have to attend the daily meeting, he added.

Mawlamyine to install CCTV cameras in public areas to monitor traffic flow, to fight crimes

MAWLAMYINE, 1 Dec—“Closed-circuit television cameras will be mounted in public areas to monitor flows of traffic and to fight crimes,” said Mon State police commander Police Col Myo Swe Win in his address at a meeting of Mon State traffic rules enforcement committee in Mawlamyine on 28 November.

At works, Thawdar Win

At works, Thawdar Win

MMAL-Po Thaw Zin: Photo: Soe Nyunt

In Gangaw on 25 and 26 November. —MMAL-Po Thaw Zin: Photo: Soe Nyunt

Shwegu Tsp

in Gangaw 25 and 26 November. —MMAL-Po Thaw Zin: Photo: Soe Nyunt

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Kyezon-694

Shwegu Tsp

in Kyaukgyi Village-tract near the cemetery of Ward-1 in Shwegu Township on 26 November. During the operation, they seized 0.20412 gram of heroine powder worth K 8100 and the suspect is charged under the Sections 15/16 (C) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law by Shwegu Myoma Police Station.

Kyemon-Mann Sub-Printing House
Egypt’s draft constitution enshrines army role in politics

The draft constitution also allows civilians to be tried in military courts—another holdover from the Mubarak era and one that will dismay pro-democracy campaigners. Assuming the draft constitution is approved, next year’s parliamentary election will be run under a different voting system, with two-thirds of the seats allotted to individual candidates and one third to party lists - reversing the proportions in the last polls, which Islamist parties won.

Japan, India to launch working-level talks on exports of US2 rescue plane

The 50-member constituent assembly later began voting to approve the draft, article by article, and once this process is complete it will submit the document to interim President Adli Mansour, who will set a date for the referendum.

The final draft, seen by Reuters, does away with the Islamist-inspired additions that featured in the constitution approved by a referendum during Mursi’s year in office. It empowers the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces to approve the choice for a defense minister who would serve for eight years from when the constitution becomes law.

Army chief General Abdel Fattah al-Sisi ousted the Muslim Brotherhood’s Mursi, Egypt’s first freely elected leader, on 3 July after mass protests against him. Sisi suspended the constitution and an assembly was named to draft a new one by 3 December.

The document it has produced prescribes any political party founded on “a religious basis”, reverting to a prohibition that was in force during Mubarak’s 30-year rule. Even though Islamists dominated five national votes held since Mubarak fell in 2011, the constituent assembly includes only two Islamists — one from the hardline Salafi Nour party and the other a former Brotherhood leader who is now harshly critical of the group he left last year.

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Japan and India have agreed to launch working-level talks soon to pave the way for exports of the Japanese amphibious rescue US2 aircraft, a government source said on Saturday.

The two countries are expected to negotiate details, eyeing plans for Japan to give training to Indian pilots and allowing licensed production of the aircraft to develop India’s air industry, the source added, and Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is expected to push the deal when he visits India in late January. The US2 can land on oceans, even in 3-meter high waves, for rescue operations. Tokyo aims to make a pitch for the aircraft overseas as one of its main defence equipment to be allowed for exports at a time when Japan is reviewing its arms embargo under the so-called “three principles on arms exports.”

Under Japan’s arms export principles, weapons should not be exported to communist bloc countries, countries subject to an arms embargo under UN Security Council resolutions, and countries involved in or likely to be involved in international conflicts. It is still necessary to examine the deal, as the identification device installed in the aircraft to detect explosives could fall into the category of weapons under the three principles. The outlook for Japan to land a deal with India, meanwhile, is uncertain given that Canada and Russia are also trying to sell their own small light airplanes, which are much cheaper than the 12 billion-yen US2.

Bangkok, 1 Dec — Hundreds of protesters seeking to overthrow Thailand’s government stormed a police compound on Sunday where the prime minister had been during the morning, forcing her to leave hastily for an undisclosed location, a government official said.

Police fired several rounds of teargas in an area of Bangkok near Government House, after a chaotic night of street fighting elsewhere in the capital during which two people were killed and at least 45 wounded.

As the Thai capital braced for what protest leaders are calling “V-Day” for toppling the government, thousands gathered at several points across the city, wearing black, waving flags and blowing whistles. A “red shirt” government supporter was shot and killed early on Sunday, a day after a 21-year-old student was also fatally shot, as protesters intensified a week-long bid to topple Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra and end her family’s more than decade-long influence over Thai politics.

Police called in military back-up to protect government buildings after the clashes erupted between supporters and opponents of Yingluck and her billion-dollar brother, ousted former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, near a sports stadium where about 70,000 government supporters had gathered.

The fighting is the latest in an intractable conflict that broadly pits Thailand’s establishment of royals, wealthy elites and the urban middle class against the poor supporters of Thaksin, who come mostly from provinces north of Bangkok, the country’s lowest-income regions. Protest leaders have told supporters to seize 10 government offices, six television stations, police headquarters and Government House, where Yingluck’s office is.

The headquarters of state broadcaster Thai PBS were taken over by protesters, according to a statement from PBS and police, and at least 3,000 protesters massed in front of the police headquarters, a Reuters reporter said.

Five major shopping malls were shut as a precaution.

Streets near the stadium, the scene of intense street battles overnight, were littered with broken glass and rocks, a Reuters witness said. A red-shirt leader, Jatuporn Prompan, said four red shirts had been killed but Reuters only confirmed one, 43-year-old red-shirt guard Viray Kemnak.

New York train derail, four dead, 63 injured - transit officials

NEW YORK CITY, 1 Dec — At least four people were killed and 63 injured, including 11 critically, when a suburban train derailed in New York on Sunday, with at least five cars from the Metro-North train sliding off the tracks, officials said.

The train derailed on a large curved section of track at 7:20 a.m. in New York about 100 yards (meters) north of Metro North’s Spuyten Duyvil station in the Bronx borough, said Aaron Donovan, a spokesman for Metro North, a subsidiary of New York State’s Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

A spokesman for the city fire department confirmed the number of dead and said 11 people were in critical condition, six were in serious condition with non-life threatening injuries and another 46 sustained minor injuries.

At least one rail car was lying toppled near the Hudson river and police and other rescue workers were searching for survivors along the shoreline and the waterway.

Emergency workers gather at the site of a Metro-North train derailment in the Bronx borough of New York December 1, 2013. Reuters
Beijing launches carbon emissions trading

**Beijing, 1 Dec—Beijing launched carbon emissions trading on Thursday, making it China’s third market for compulsory carbon trading. An initial 490 companies, whose carbon emissions account for 40 percent of the city’s total emissions, have been included in the scheme, according to the Beijing Municipal Commission of Development and Reform.**

Under the trading programme, companies which buy more than their fair share of emissions will be able to buy unused quotas on the market from companies that cause less pollution. The market is linked with the London Environment Exchange. Five deals worth 40,800 tonnes in carbon quotas have been traded thus far at prices ranging from 50 to 51.25 yuan (8.16-8.36 US dollars) per tonne.

On Tuesday, Shanghai launched its compulsory carbon trading market, the country’s second such market, and south China’s Shenzhen City started its market in June. The National Development and Reform Commission, the nation’s top economic planner, has approved pilot carbon emissions trading schemes in Beijing, Tianjin, Chongqing, Hubei and Guangdong. The country has pledged to reduce carbon dioxide emissions 40 to 45 percent per unit of GDP by 2020 compared with 2005 levels.

**Recovering Alcatel-Lucent seen rejoining France’s CAC 40**

**Paris, 1 Dec — Alcatel-Lucent could rejoin France’s blue-chip CAC 40 index next month as the telecom gear maker’s turnaround gains traction and its stock hits two-year highs, analysts and fund managers said. If restored to the CAC 40, Alcatel would benefit from demand from index trackers of about 255 million euros, or 81 million shares, equivalent to two average days of volume, Exane BNP Paribas index analyst Christophe Wakim said.**

Alcatel — a founding member of the CAC 40 when the benchmark was created a quarter century ago — was kicked out of the index a year ago. It is expected to replace chipmaker STMicroelectronics, whose shares have lost 24 percent over the past six months as the company grapples with weakening demand from Asian smartphone and electronics makers. Alcatel, which makes equipment for big telecom groups like AT&T and Orange, had been struck for years in a downsizing spiral as it struggled with stiff competition from low-cost Chinese rivals and weak demand from customers. As a result, its shares plummeted to a record low of 0.67 euros in October 2012.

The logo of the telecom equipment maker Alcatel-Lucent is seen on the company site building in Rennes, western France, on 15 Oct, 2013. But the arrival this year of a new chief executive and an aggressive turnaround plan — which included 10,000 job cuts, 1 billion euros ($1.36 billion) of cost savings and 1 billion euros of asset sales — has sparked recovery hopes for the company, with its shares tripling since early May. “Rejoining the CAC would give back visibility to the group and would give credence to the company’s turnaround strategy,” said Frédéric Röger, management advisor at Meechiens Gestion d’Activite, in Paris. The NYSE-Euronext index committee that manages the CAC 40 gathers every quarter and, although the exact dates are not publicly disclosed, is expected to meet next week.

University of Waikato historian Dr James Beattie said the collection at Canterbury Museum, in Christchurch, was unique, assembled with the official sanction of the government at a time when China was closed to much of the world and the export of antique Chinese art was banned.

The collection was amassed during the 1950s and 1960s through Alley, who lived in China, and Canterbury Museum’s former director Roger Duff. “Duff was convinced that a gallery of Chinese art would do more for New Zealand-China relationships than any other means,” Beattie said in a statement. “And they managed to acquire New Zealand’s largest collection of Chinese artefacts — about 2,000 objects, many of them very old and very rare.”
UNICEF reports progress in preventing mother-to-child HIV transmission

UNITED NATIONS, 1 Dec —Great progress has been made to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV, a lentivirus that causes the lethal disease AIDS with no cures at present, with more than 850,000 infants being saved from the virus infection between 2005 and 2012, said a UN report.

The new 2013 Stock-taking Report on Children and AIDS, released on Friday by the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) ahead of Sunday’s World AIDS Day, showed that some 260,000 children were newly infected with HIV last year, compared to 540,000 in 2005.

“This report reminds us that an AIDS-free generation is one in which all children are born free of HIV and remain so — from birth and throughout their lives — and it means access to treatment for all children living with HIV,” said Michel Sidibé, Executive Director of UNAIDS.

“It also reminds us that women’s health and well-being should be at the center of the AIDS response. I have no doubt that we will achieve these goals.”

Thanks to new, simplified life-long antiretroviral treatment (known as Option B+), there is a greater opportunity to effectively treat women living with HIV and to prevent the transmission of the virus to their babies during pregnancy, delivery, and through breastfeeding. This treatment involves a daily one-pill regimen.

“These days, even if a pregnant woman is living with HIV, it doesn’t mean her baby must have the same fate, and it doesn’t mean she can’t lead a healthy life,” said UNICEF Executive Director Anthony Lake.

According to UN figures, some of the most remarkable successes were in high HIV burden countries in sub-Saharan Africa. New infections among infants declined between 2009 and 2012 by 76 percent in Ghana, 56 percent in Namibia, 55 percent in Zimbabwe, 52 percent in Malawi and Botswana, and 50 percent in Zambia and Ethiopia.

However, the report raises the alarm on adolescents, citing the need for increased global and national efforts to address HIV/AIDS among this vulnerable age group.

Xinhua

Retail, jobs data to rule stocks’ next move

New York, 1 Dec — A week packed with data awaits investors eager for fresh clues on when the Federal Reserve will start to trim its stimulus programme, as traditionally bullish December kicks off with the S&P 500 poised to mark its best year since 1998.

Traders will also sweep through sales data from retailers after the long Thanksgiving holiday weekend, which kick-starts the holiday shopping season.

Vice President Joe Biden’s trip to Asia will increase the focus on a standoff pitting China against Japan, South Korea and the United States over air routes over the East China Sea.

Employment numbers will be the highlight as traders second-guess what the data will mean for the Fed and its announced intention to gradually reduce its $85 billion in monthly asset purchases, which have lit a fire under the stock market this year.

The Fed has repeatedly said its stimulus remains data-dependent, leading traders to treat soft data as a bullish market catalyst that guarantees Fed stimulus. “The whole market is trying to channel the Fed,” said Quincy Krosby, market strategist at Prudential Financial in Newark, New Jersey.

She said volatility is to be expected as the reaction to data is more a “let’s interpret how the Fed interprets it” rather than what it means for the economy.

Reuters

Music-based programme may boost seniors’ brain function, mood

New York, 1 Dec — A music-based training programme that challenges both the body and the mind may improve brain function and mood among seniors, suggests a new study from Switzerland. “The take-home message is that 6-months of music-based multitask training (i.e., Jaques-Dalcroze eurhythmics)— a specific training regimen which was previously shown to be effective in improving gait and reducing falls — has beneficial effects on cognition and mood in older adults,” Dr Mélany Hars, of Geneva University Hospitals, told Reuters Health in an email.

Jacques-Dalcroze eurhythmics was developed in the early part of the 20th century by the Swiss composer Émile Jaques-Dalcroze as a way to better understand music through movement.

It is practised worldwide, particularly in the fields of music, theater, dance and therapy, according to Hars. A typical Jacques-Dalcroze session involves participants adapting their movements to the rhythmic changes of improvised piano music.

In Hars’ study, the participants were challenged to perform specific multitasking skills, such as walking to the rhythm of a piano while handling a percussion instrument and responding to changes in the piano’s rhythm.

The study participants were also asked to perform quick reaction exercises, such as starting or stopping to walk or changing their walking speed on command, as well as matching their steps to the long or short music notes that were played.

Reuters

Staying active all day linked to healthy aging

New York, 1 Dec — A generally active life, even without regular exercise sessions, was tied to better heart health and greater longevity in a study of older Swedes. Based on nearly 3,900 men and women over age 60 in Stockholm, the study adds to evidence suggesting that just sitting around may be less harmful, researchers say.

“We have known for 60 years that physical activity is good for the heart,” said lead author Eln Ekblom-Bak, of the Astrand Laboratory of Work Physiology of the Swedish School of Sport and Health Sciences in Stockholm. But until recently the research has mainly focused on exercise and has “forgotten” about the background activity that we do during daily life, she told Reuters Health.

Whether someone exercises vigorously or not, it still usually only takes up a small fraction of the day. That leaves the rest of the time for either sitting still or engaging in non-exercise activities, like home repairs, lawn care and gardening, car maintenance, hunting or fishing.

For older people, who tend to exercise vigorously less than younger people, spending more time doing low-intensity activities like these could help cut down activities, like home repairs, lawn care and gardening, car maintenance, hunting or fishing. For older people, who spend more time doing low-intensity activities like these could help cut down their exercise time, Ekblom-Bak and her colleagues write in the British Journal of Sports Medicine. Between 1997 and 1999, more than 5,000 60-year-olds were invited to participate in the study, which began with a questionnaire about health history, lifestyle and daily activities, as well as medical tests and measurements.

Reuters

Qatar confirms new coronavirus in three camels: WHO

Geneva, 1 Dec — Qatar notified the World Health Organization (WHO) that laboratory investigations have confirmed the presence of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) in three camels, the organization said on Friday. The camels were among a herd of 14 animals in a barn, with two which confirmed human infections reported in October had contact, according to the WHO.

It said these results showed that camels could be infected with MERS-CoV but there was insufficient information to indicate the role camels and other animals may be playing in the possible transmission of the virus, including to and from humans. As a precautionary measure, the 14 camels on the farm have been isolated. All contacts of the two confirmed human cases, as well as the other worker employed in this barn, have been screened and laboratory tests were all negative for MERS-CoV, said the WHO.

The Qatar health authorities are going to test additional samples from other animal species around the barn and will conduct further studies to evaluate the infection risk among individuals in close contact with animals.

Xinhua

A doctor tests a woman on Hepatitis C virus, in the center of Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, on 29 Nov, 2013. HIV Testing Week is held from 22 November to 29 November in Sarajevo. —Xinhua

Two joggers run along the embankment of Aare river during the first snowfall in Bern on 22 Nov, 2013. — Reuters

Supertech Inc on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, on 11 Oct, 2012. — Reuters

Traders work in front of a trading board showing Shutterstock Inc on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, on 11 Oct, 2012. — Reuters

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Two joggers run along the embankment of Aare river during the first snowfall in Bern on 22 Nov, 2013. — Reuters
Syrian PM, visiting ally Iran, says government winning civil war

BEIRUT, 1 Dec — Prime Minister Wael Halki said on Saturday Syrian government forces were winning the war with rebels and would not rest while a single enemy fighter remained at large. Maintaining Syria’s unyielding response to Western calls for President Bashar al-Assad to step aside, Halki said the era of “threats and intimidation” has gone, never to return, while the era of victory and pride is being created now on Syrian soil.

He was speaking during a visit to Iran, which has provided military support and billions of dollars in economic aid to Assad during a 2-1/2-year-old civil war which has killed 100,000 people and shows little sign of being halted by diplomacy.

The United Nations said on Monday that a long-delayed “Geneva 2” peace conference would go ahead on 22 January, the government and the political opposition have both said they will attend, but rebel fighters on the ground have scorned the talks.

Assad, whose forces have consolidated their hold around Damascus and central Syria this year, faces little internal pressure to make concessions to his opponents as long as he maintains military momentum and Iranian support.

“The Syrian government will not allow a single terrorist on Syrian territory,” Halki told Iran’s First Vice-President Eshaq Jahangiri, according to Syria’s state news agency SANA.

Jahangiri replied that Iran stood “in the same trench alongside Syria, supporting it at all levels against the aggressive axis of evil” aligned against Damascus, SAVA said.

Tokyo, 1 Dec — Twenty-five state-run hospitals in Japan called for bids for rehabilitating their old buildings in the April-September period, but 21 of them, or 84 percent, have not been able to find any winning bidders as contractors are reluctant to accept low-cost orders, given labor shortages and rising labor costs, the National Hospital Organization said on Saturday.

In the unsuccessful cases, bidders presented higher offers than expected contract prices, according to the independent administrative agency.

An official of a general contractor who refrained from participating in bidding said, “We determined it would be money-losing work. We need to select which projects we bid for as we face labor shortages and growing labor costs.”

As contractors are believed to be focusing on rehabilitation work in the damaged Tohoku region of northeastern Japan and other disaster-prevention work, unsuccessful bidders have also seen for construction of public schools and expressways.

Concerns are growing that construction of necessary facilities, such as hospitals and schools, may be hampered further as work related to the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games will be accelerated from now.

Kyodo News

State-run hospitals cannot find constructors for rehabilitation work

Aid workers in Afghanistan increasingly under threat

KABUL, 1 Dec — Aid workers in Afghanistan are increasingly under threat, the United Nations said on Saturday, calling it a worrisome trend as most US-led troops are set to leave the country at the end of next year.

“I am extremely concerned with this trend at a time when the country is in the midst of a difficult transition that may lead to increased humanitarian needs,” UN Humanitarian Coordinator in Afghanistan, Mark Bowden, said in a statement.

The departure of Western troops will leave Afghan forces to fight the Taliban-led insurgency on its own, a security concern for foreign workers and their Afghan colleagues working on development and reconstruction projects across the nation. Bowden’s comments followed the execution of nine aid workers in Afghanistan this month.

According to the Aid Worker Security Database, 73 humanitarian workers have been killed, kidnapped or injured in Afghanistan since the start of the year, more than recorded for the whole of 2012. The figure is also the highest since the organization began collecting the data in 1997.

In an attack on 26 November, three aid workers were blown up by a remotely controlled bomb in southern Afghanistan. In the second attack on 27 November, six aid workers with a French aid group in the west were shot by gunmen in an ambush.

A total of 36 aid workers have been killed in Afghanistan so far this year, the United Nations said. It gave no comparative figures but said the trend highlighted the growing risk surrounding the delivery of aid.

Six killed in clashes in Lebanon’s Tripoli

Tripoli, (Lebanon), 1 Dec — Six people were killed in Lebanon’s northern city of Tripoli on Saturday in exchanges of fire between neighbourhoods which support rival sides in Syria’s civil war, security and medical sources said.

The dead — including a teenage schoolboy, a Palestinian and a Syrian — were from the Sunni Muslim Bab al-Tabbaneh District, whose residents overwhelmingly support the Sunni Muslim rebels battling Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

Thirty-seven people, including nine soldiers, were wounded in the shooting between gunmen in Bab al-Tabbaneh and the adjacent Alawite neighbourhood of Jebel Mohsen, which supports the Alawite Syrian leader.

Saturday’s fighting followed repeated attacks on Alawites in Tripoli, residents said. Several people were shot and wounded in separate incidents this week, and Alawite men were beaten in an attack on a bus earlier in November.

Lebanon’s caretaker Prime Minister Najib Mikati, a Sunni Muslim from Tripoli, held talks with the interior minister and other security officials in the Mediterranean city to discuss how to end the violence, which erupted despite the deployment of soldiers

Mozambique plane crash kills 34 including one Chinese

WINHOOKE, 1 Dec — All 34 people on board a Mozambican passenger plane died in a crash on Friday afternoon in northeastern Namibia, a government investigator told Namibia Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) here on Saturday evening.

The Mozambique Airlines plane on a separate occasion put the toll at 33 including six crew members and 27 passengers.

On Friday evening and Saturday morning, only to locate the wreckage at around 10 am local time on Saturday in a bushy forest area.

“Unfortunately there were no survivors,” said Nengola.

The aircraft was ripped to pieces when it hit the ground “The remains of those on board were scattered around some meters away from the accident, bodies were mutilated and some

A visitor looks at works of art on display at Art Market Budapest, in Budapest, Hungary, on 30 Nov, 2013. Art Market Budapes, an international contemporary art fair established in 2011, presents a unique artistic composition in perhaps the most exciting exhibition halls in Europe, giving an emphasis presence to a younger generation of galleries and artists.—Xinhua

State-run hospitals cannot find constructors for rehabilitation work

A Free Syrian Army fighter walks with his family through damage and debris along a street Deir al-Zor, eastern Syria on 29 Nov, 2013.—Reuters

A Mozambican plane on the Bwabwata National Park in northeast Namibia. — Xinhua

A picture taken on 30 Nov, 2013 shows the crash site of a Mozambican plane at the Bwabwata National Park in northeast Namibia. — Xinhua

burnt beyond recognition as the plane burst into flames,” an NBC journalist reported from the scene.—Xinhua

A picture taken on 30 Nov, 2013 shows the crash site of a Mozambican plane at the Bwabwata National Park in northeast Namibia. — Xinhua

A Mozambican plane on the Bwabwata National Park in northeast Namibia. — Xinhua

A picture taken on 30 Nov, 2013 shows the crash site of a Mozambican plane at the Bwabwata National Park in northeast Namibia. — Xinhua
Myanmar Kampo team hopes to achieve success in SEA Games

Myanmar Kampo team is preparing to take part in upcoming SEA Games for the first time and hopes to achieve success. Myanmar Kampo team comprises 33 athletes including 19 men and 14 women. Men athletes of Myanmar Kampo team are Zaw Htet Naing, Tin Win Tun, Soe Moe Lwin, Than Toe Aung, Aung Naing Tun, Tun Lin Aung, Myat Zaw, Kyaw Thet Paing, Kyaw Zin Win, Aung Myo Paing, Sai Thitla, Sai Tha Htet Aung, Aung Hsan Chit, Myo Htet Aung, Than Win, Thant Zin, Kyaw Lin Oo, Taeza Win, Soe Wunna and women athletes are Zin Myat Thida, Cherry Faw, Ei Phyu Maung, Htet Htet Wint, Si Si Hlayar, Yin Myint Oo, Aye Aye Aung, Hally Soe Lin Han, Tin Tin Oo, Nang Kham Tun, Nyo Mie Naing, May Thet Zaw, Po Myar and Htet Htet Oo.

Myanmar Kampo team has been making preparations for SEA Games since February and it swept two gold, three silver and four bronze medals at the invitational Kampo competition in Indonesia in June and bagged three gold, one silver and three bronze medals at Pre-SEA Games Kampo Test Match held in Yangon in September. —Byline: Pho Thaw Zin; Photo: Soe Nyunt

Programmes of TV Channel

• Futsal (Men) (From 9 to 20 Dec. 2013)
• Track and Field (From 15 to 19 Dec. 2013)
• Weightlifting (From 12 to 16 Dec. 2013)
• Body-Building (From 13 to 16 Dec. 2013)
• Billiard/Snooker (From 13 to 20 Dec. 2013)
• Programme on games to be broadcast on MRTV SEA GAMES – 1 DIGITAL CHANNEL
• This channel will broadcast games from 7 am to 9 pm daily.
• At 8 am daily, this channel will broadcast yesterday’s sports news and highlight programmes.
• Out of six games, the games in which Myanmar teams will compete and they are likely to win medals will be focused on this channel.
• When the events of Myanmar take place at the same time, the games which are supposed to be popular among Myanmar people would be given priority for broadcast.

Programme on games to be broadcast on MRTV SEA GAMES – DIGITAL CHANNEL

• Songs and campaign activities will be broadcast from 1 Dec. 2013 to 3 Dec. 2013 on a trial basis.
• Opening and Closing ceremonies
• Indoor Games will be focused on this channel.

Footballs donated for cheering teams

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Dec— Aung Kanbo Trading Co Ltd donated 10000 footballs worth K 3 million for Cheering Teams at the XXVII SEA Games on 30 November.

Director U Htay Aung of Sports and Physical Education Department accepted the donations. — MMA

Programmes on games to be broadcast on MRTV SEA GAMES – DIGITAL CHANNEL

• Songs and campaign activities will be broadcast from 1 Dec. 2013 to 3 Dec. 2013 on a trial basis.
• Opening and Closing ceremonies.
• Cycling, yachting, canoeing & kayak, rowing, water polo, swimming, diving, golf, hockey and shooting will be focused on this channel.
• Out of the above games, the games in which Myanmar teams will compete and they are likely to win medals and the games which are supposed to be popular among Myanmar people would be given priority for broadcast.
Sports fans, strength of athletes

Myanmar will be hosting the 27th SEA Games in the very near future. The SEA Games is the greatest sports meet in the region and will be participated by Timor-Leste in addition to ten ASEAN member nations. Some 6,000 sportspersons from 11 countries used to participate in the SEA Games. The main objective of the participating countries of the regional sports meet is to secure medals most.

Achieving success in sports is a source of national pride. Therefore, each and every participant country is trying its best to win more medals in the sports meet. Well aware of the fact that achievement in sports is a source of national pride, the participants are in fierce competition in the upcoming SEA Games, making the sports meet totally different from the previous SEA Games. As the capacity of each athlete from different countries has become high over time, it is sure that records of the 27th SEA Games will be higher than that of the SEA Games held in Indonesia. The reason is that all the participants are trying harder than ever before.

Anyhow, the host country is obliged to try hard to bag more medals. Only if it secures more medals than others will it be worthwhile to host the sports meet, thereby bringing glory to the country and its people. However, not only sportspersons but also sports enthusiasts of the host country are obliged for gaining achievements in the sports meet. It is said that cheers of the fans contributes 50 per cent to winning a game. Such encouragement can be a decisive factor for home team and is to be made by the host country. Myanmar sportspersons are to offer their full support to each sports event apart from football. That is why, not only relentless efforts of the sportspersons but cheers of encouragement from Myanmar sport fans to all 33 sports events are much needed. As the cheers of sport fans are strength of the athletes, all Myanmar sport fans are a must to come and cheer on their sport contingents of the regional sports meet.

A remarkable quality of Myanmar political life, interaction of Myanmar history and literature and strong influence of Theravada Buddhism on Myanmar literature.

Even from the early days, Myanmar literature, translation from other languages has been evidenced. The daughter of King Theingathu translated Pali to Myanmar some religious writings describing the sufferings of life. Her work may still be seen on the stone slabs in temples at Bagan. (From the pamphlet, “Sarpaybeikman,” published in 1938). However, one important thing to note was that Myanmar literature was not the monopoly of any race, class or sex. It was free to all walks of life. And the literary development was attributable to the Buddhist monasteries which provided free education with free lodging and mess. That is why, the buds and sprouts of Myanmar literature has been blossoming since millennia. The vast spectrum of Myanmar literature reflects the cultural and social standards of Myanmar people and also serves to highlight the political, economic and social affairs of Myanmar society.

Myanmar became a British colony but only after three Anglo-Myanmar wars in 1825, 1852 and 1885. As a result, the diminishing influence of national literature was the dire consequences. Alien literature and culture eclipsed our own. However, movements on national literacy were not static. In the colonial period, men of letters kept the flame of literature always burning and rekindled patriotism and national pride to sprout at a time when national morale was at its low ebb. Thus, in 1928, (the then) Burma Educational Extension Association was formed, followed in 1933 by the Burma Book Society. In 1937, the Nagani Book Club was organized, but its books were mostly political. In addition, a translation bureau was established but the war soon forced its disbandment.

During the war, a group of devoted literature men continued the task of creating Myanmar manuscripts while working in the Bureau of Libraries and Literature of the Directorate of Information. People like Thein Han, Librarian of the University of Rangoon and leading author and literary critic, carried on this work in makeshift offices on the Shwedagon Pagoda Hill.

Very few of the manuscripts developed during the war were published before the end of the war. However, Myanmar’s literary development of the colonial period was achieved as a clarion call for the nation both sword and pen united to struggle for freedom. Due to the might of both pen and sword, Myanmar has become a sovereign independent State since 4 January, 1948. It is remarkable to note that Myanmar is the country that regained her independence first though she was the last country occupied by the imperialists. This is the story.

It was simply because the mass of writers and journalists took an active part in the struggle for freedom and democracy. Peninsula men and women worked on their best to revive Myanmar literature to rekindle patriotism with the might of pen. In reality, the role played by writers and journalists in the independence struggles was by no means small and they are now taking part in building a modern, developed and democratic nation.

A study on various stages of Myanmar literary development shows that Myanmar literature reflects people’s morals and morality of revering gratitude, patriotism and nationalism, conviction for promotion of language and religion parallel with community welfare and moral standards. In addition, it is also found that noble characteristics of the people such as gentleness, sympathy and extending help and unity are mature with the influence of literary works.

A remarkable quality of Myanmar literature is its sustainable ability. The impact of foreign contact does not surge the content of Myanmar literature. In accordance with the circumstances changed, books on various subjects are coming out. Various book societies and public libraries are sprouting as well.

Formerly, we hardly had 20 kinds of periodicals and journals, but now, over 200 kinds of magazines, periodicals weekly or monthly and even private newspapers are published daily, weekly and monthly. Literary freedom embodies the fact that as long as the works are not harmful to our objectives and national unity and perpetuation of independence and sovereignty, all writers can enjoy the freedom of literature. This is my own assumption.

Encouraging what is beneficial to the people and hindering what is harmful to readers is the essence of what we call the freedom of literature. It depends on the literary men today.

In order to have good books published and to encourage the outstanding writers, the national literary awards, the highest awards in literary field, are conferred every year. I would like to write how outstanding writers are honoured on the Literary Day in next installment. However, please don’t take this article as a replaced chapter on the history of Myanmar literature. This is my approach to Myanmar literature from the point of view of an ordinary layman.
Unity a must for implementation...
(from page 1)

Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung and the head of Ayeyawady Region Agriculture Department at the briefing hall, the President said the purpose of his visit is to in-form the local people of the government’s aim, vision and ongoing tasks and to observe the development of agriculture sector and flood preparedness measures in Ayeyawady Region.

He continued that Ayeyawady Region plays a productive role towards boosting agriculture production for promotion of exports in addition to national food security. He acknowledged dredging of drains for flood prevention contributed towards significant mitigation of loss and damage in agriculture output this year.

He added that the on-going tasks for agriculture sector development are meant to generate incomes of rural people and to create more job opportunities. Ayeyawady Region has economic potential not only in agriculture sector but also in industrial and tourism sectors. Human resources development is key to economic success in the region, thereby generating incomes and improving education and health standards of local people. He called on local people to use their full capacity in agriculture sector for ensuring food surplus in addition to food sufficiency.

He pointed out that unity is a must for implementation of national, regional development undertakings. It is required to change mindset and to drop bad behaviors that can affect sense of cooperation and common good, he added.

Next, the President presented Palethwali hybrid paddy strains and crop strains to farmers.

Then, Kyaunggon Township Pyithu Hlutaw representative U Thein Tun spoke words of thanks on behalf of the local people.

Afterwards, the President cordially greeted local farmers and inspected a map showing places chosen for dredging of drains and 100-acre Aung Mingala modern farmland.

The President and party arrived back in Nay Pyi Taw via Yangon.

MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker meets Speaker of House of Councillors of Japan

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Dec—Together with Chairmen of Hlutaw Affairs Committee U Htaw Oo, U Maung Maung Thein, Thura U Aung Ko, U Hla Myint Oo, U Htaw Myint, U Aung Tun and Dr Khin Shwe and the Hlutaw representatives and Myanmar Ambassador to Japan U Khin Maung Tin, Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hlutaw and Pyithu Hlutaw Thura U Shwe Mann held talks with Speaker of House of Councillors of Japan Mr. Yamazaki at the meeting hall of the office of House of Councillors.—MNA

Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hlutaw Thura U Shwe Mann shakes hands with Speaker of House of Councillors of Japan Mr. Yamazaki at the meeting hall of the office of House of Councillors.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Dec—Together with Chairmen of Hlutaw Affairs Committee U Htaw Oo, U Maung Maung Thein, Thura U Aung Ko, U Hla Myint Oo, U Htaw Myint, U Aung Tun and Dr Khin Shwe and the Hlutaw representatives and Myanmar Ambassador to Japan U Khin Maung Tin, Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hlutaw and Pyithu Hlutaw Thura U Shwe Mann held talks with Speaker of House of Councillors of Japan Mr. Yamazaki at the meeting hall of the office of House of Councillors on 29 November afternoon. At the talks, they had a cordial discussion on parliamentary affairs, amity between the two countries and mutual cooperation. After the talks, the speaker of House of Councillors of Japan conducted them round the meeting hall.

On 30 November morning, the Pyidaungsu Hlutaw speaker and party left Tokyo by train for Fukushima where they were explained round damages due to earthquake, tsunami and leak of reactor in Fukushima and undertaking of rehabilitations and losses of regional products due to rumours them by the officials at the meeting hall of Fukushima Prefectural Government Office.

The Pyidaungsu Hlutaw speaker then met with Chairman of Fukushima Prefectural Government Mr. Hiraide. He expressed sympathy for the losses due to quake that hit in March 2011 in Fukushima Prefecture, tsunami and nuclear accident, saying that over 100000 lives have been lost in Myanmar due to cyclonic storm “Nargis” in 2008.

After that, they went to Odagasama Center and greeted the victims who are taking shelter at the temporary housing of the relief camp and enjoyed the entertainment programmes for the victims. The officials of the center explained undertaking of relief and rehabilitation tasks.

They also visited Fukushima Agricultural Technology Center and observed research works.

Over 170 doyen literati honoured at ceremony to mark Sarsodaw Day

YANGON, 1 Dec—Myanmar doyen literati aged 80 and above were honoured today to mark the Myanmar Sarsodaw Day.

At the ceremony to honour doyen literati held at the Yangon City Hall, 171 doyen literati were paid respects and provided with cash and kind.

The ceremony was also attended by Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hlutaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Union Minister U Aung Kyi, departmental officials, the chairman of Myanmar Writers Association and CBC members and writers from regions and states.

On behalf of doyen literati, U Than Oo (Pyay Soe Man) spoke words of thanks and requested to raise medical funds for the aged writers as some need to receive health care.

Over 110 donors contributed cash and kind to the funds of the ceremony to honor the doyen literati and each doyen writer received K 210,000 and Sky Net receiver.—MNA

Union Minister U Aung Kyi presents cash and kind to a doyen literat.

Monday, 2 December, 2013 9

NATIONAL

Dredging of drains for proper flow of water in Ayeyawady Region

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<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>District/Township</th>
<th>Work Unit</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
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Mountaineering bus line to organize charity fair at Kyaikhtiyoe Pagoda on 4 December

Kyaikhtiyoe Pagoda, one of the wonderful and magnificent ones across the world, seen with pilgrims and devotees on their visits to pay homage and offer gold foils to the pagoda.

Kyaikti, 1 Dec—Charity fair of Kyaikhtiyoe Pagoda, organized by Kyaikhtiyoe Bus Line in commemoration of its third anniversary, will be held on 4 December.

The organizing committee invited all the people and media to join the festival. In addition, gifts and fried rice packets will be presented to the pilgrims from the checkpoint.

The bus line formed with 143 buses runs the whole year to transport pilgrims onto the hill to be able to pay homage to Kyaikhtiyoe Pagoda safely.

Bus owners and workers will serve the pilgrims with various kinds of meals and soft drinks.

The charity fair is participation of all the people. The bus line had made similar fairs two times. In the previous year, the bus line held the ceremony on 5 December.

The bus line has no plan to raise bus fair onto the hill, and it sets K 3000 per passenger at the front part and K 2500 at rear.

Myint Maung

National Race Affairs

Tailai (Red Shan) in northern Myanmar

MOHNYIN, 1 Dec—When national census is taken in 2014, the various Shan nationalities such as Tailai, Tailay, Taungyi, Shan State, and the Shan people in Myanmar will be put under the name of Red Shan, approved by the Tailai (Red Shan national races) meeting at the monastery in Ywathitgon Village on 27 November, said Amyotha Hluttaw representative U San Pyae.

Shan National Races Affairs Minister of Kachin State Daw Khin Pyone Yi, Amyotha Hluttaw representatives U San Pyae and U Pe Thaung, Tailai (Red Shan) Nationality Progressive Party Chairman U Htay Aung and over 250 representatives from 12 townships attended the meeting and selected the flag of the national race.

Apart from the remote areas, Shan national races in the region do not understand Shan language and literature but speak Bamar language. They accept themselves Shan-Bamar national race. However, Shan-Bamar national race is not included in the national races of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. Likewise, Red Shan is included in the national races of the nation.

In the time of the Revolutionary Council government, leader of Tailai (Red Shan) national race U Tun Yin who was members of Kachin State Leading Body had attempted to establish the Myaylat Shan State. Likewise, Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Kyaw Soe Lay of Mohnyin Township Constituency submitted his discussions on matters related to Tailai (Red Shan) Self-Administered Zone in the National Convention.

“Pa-O, Palaung, Danu and so on who are members of Shan nationalities get self-administered zones. Tailai (Red Shan) who are members of Shan nationalities may get the opportunities for the self-administered zone is they reside in the two congenial townships with over 50 per cent of populations between the two townships in line with the Constitution,” said Chairman of Mohnyin Township Tailai (Red Shan) Nationality Progressive Party U Kyaw Htwe at the meeting.

Religious Affairs

Special health care in Meiktila hails peace process

MEIKTILA, 1 Dec—Myitta Ekyei free clinic will hold the special health care services to the people regardless of race and religion at Pahtamagyaw Monastery in Wunzan Ward of Meiktila from 30 November to 5 December.

With the aegis of Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sajjana of Pahtamagyaw Monastery in Wunzan Ward of Meiktila, the free clinic was opened on 13 January 2012.

A total of 38 doctors and nine specialists are assigned duties at the free clinic to provide health care to the people as of 9 am daily.

Every Friday, the doctors make field trips to the villages of Meiktila Township. They perform minor surgical operations at the clinic.

As of 20 March 2013, the clinic gives free health care to the people regardless of race and religion but number of Islam patients were fewer.

At present, the number of Islam patients are on the increase to receive medical treatment at the clinic.

About 200 people daily from Meiktila, Wundwin, Thedaw, Mahlaing, Thazi and Pyaywwe townships arrive at the clinic to receive medical treatment.

So far, the clinic has provided health care to over 43000 people.

During the medical treatment to hail the peace process, over 80 of about 200 patients were Islam people.

The special health care services was also attended by Meiktila Township Administrator U Myo Hlaing, members of social organizations, town’s elders and departmental officials.

NLM-001

Health Care Activities

Border Trade

Myanmar-India border trade reaches over US$ 29 million in Tamu

TAMU, 1 Dec—The largest border trade area between Myanmar and India is Tamu-Moreh border trade camp, and it raises trade from April to mid-November 2013, earning USD 17 million.

It rose US$ 4.410 million than that of previous year, said Tamu border trade camp.

In eight months of 2013-14 fiscal year, the border trade camp has over US$ 11 million of export and US$ 6 million of import.

Over 102 entrepreneurs have registered as ITC at the camp.

The ITC trade is allowed for trade with 20 items of export and 108 items of import.

Most of the export products are areca nut, ginger, cigarette, onion, dried ginger, Chin pea, soya bean, green gram and small drizzled fish.

Import goods are lotion, motorcycle sarong, chick pea, slippery, wheat seeds, dried grape and personal goods.

Staff of Tamu Border Trade Camp give one stop service on border trade works to the entrepreneurs, said an official.

According to the present accounts, over US$ 29 million of border trade at the camp is exceeding than that of the previous year.

News and Photo-CL Thange

NLM-001

A truck with the load of bags of areca nuts seen at Tamu border trade camp on 29 November.
Princess Aiko turns 12, studies history with father

Tokyo, 1 Dec — Princess Aiko, the only child of Crown Prince Naruhito and Crown Princess Masako, turned 12 years old Sunday.

The princess, a sixth-grader at Gakushuin Primary School in Tokyo, has started learning history at the school and enjoys studying it with her father, who has a detailed knowledge of Japanese medieval history, according to the Imperial Household Agency.

A video released by the agency showed Princess Aiko creating presentation materials with her father for a history class assignment.

The princess acted as a group leader in free time during a school trip to historic sites in Nara Prefecture in June. She also completed a 500-meter swim in Numazu, Shizuoka Prefecture, in July.

While the princess sometimes had a hard time going to school when she was in the second to fourth grade, she has not missed school in the past year, except when absent for health reasons such as influenza, the agency said.

Kyodo News

Philippines adopts immediate rehab plan for typhoon-affected areas

Manila, 1 Dec — The Philippine government has adopted a 40.9 billion peso (about $951 million) immediate rehabilitation plan for areas affected by powerful Typhoon Haiyan, with two-thirds of the funds to be allocated to shelter and public infrastructure reconstruction, a spokesman said on Saturday.

In a radio interview, Herminio Coloma of the Presidential Communications Operations Office said President Benigno Aquino and members of his Cabinet fleshed out and fine-tuned the implementation aspects of the post-Haiyan rehabilitation and reconstruction program during a meeting on Friday.

“President Aquino and the Cabinet have approved this action plan in principle. Actual release of funds will follow usual budget-authorization and fund-release processes,” Coloma said in a separate text message to Kyodo News.

In his radio interview, Coloma said 67 percent of the budget estimate will be spent on shelters and public infrastructure, including roads, bridges, airports, ports and other facilities.

The balance will be devoted to supporting livelihoods and employment as well as restoring social services. Coloma said the priority areas for rehabilitation have been identified as the 4,971 villages across 14 provinces in the central regions of the country with an estimated population of 6.6 million that bore the brunt of Haiyan on 8 November.

“These are the first-priority areas that, as determined by the government, must be subjected to further fine-tuning through on-ground validation of initial rapid assessment findings. The latest government assessment of damage caused by Haiyan showed that some 30.6 billion pesos worth of infrastructure and agriculture products and facilities were destroyed,” Kyodo News reported.

Nine killed, two injured in north China landslide

Taiyuan, 1 Dec — Nine people were killed and two others injured in a landslide at an open-pit coal mine in north China’s Shanxi Province on Wednesday, local authorities confirmed on Sunday.

The last buried person was found alive around midnight of Saturday and is being treated in a local hospital, said the landslide rescue headquarters.

The accident happened at around 8:30 am on Wednesday at the mine which belongs to Shengkai Coal Mining Co, Ltd in Jiaokou County of Liulin City when the company’s four excavators and construction vehicles carrying 11 people were buried, according to the county government.

An investigation into the cause of the accident is under way.

Xinhua

6.7-magnitude quake hits E Indonesia

Jakarta, 1 Dec — A 6.7-magnitude earthquake rocked off the waters in Eastern Indonesia’s Maluku islands on Sunday Morning, Climatological and Geophysical Agency reported, but no casualties or damage have been reported so far.

The quake struck at 8:24 Jakarta Time (0124 GMT) Sunday. The epicenter was 250 km northeast of Kepulauan Barat Daya Regency, Maluku Province, 367 km from Maluku’s capital Ambon with a depth of 40 km under the sea.

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) revised down the magnitude to 6.3 from 6.4 previously with a depth of 10 km.

The Indonesian Meteorological and Geophysical Agency said there was no potential to generate a tsunami. Indonesia sits on the so-called Pacific “Ring of Fire” where several tectonic plates meet, making it vulnerable to frequent earthquakes.

—Kyodo News

Japan, S Korea lawmakers call for joint history textbooks

Tokyo, 1 Dec — Japanese and South Korean lawmakers working to promote bilateral exchanges issued a joint statement in Tokyo on Saturday urging their respective governments and China to produce joint Northeast Asian history textbooks.

The Japan-Korea Parliamentarians’ Union, together with South Korean counterpart the Korea-Japan Parliamentarians’ Union, pushed for the books to cover the history of Japan, South Korea and China at a combined general meeting at the Japanese Diet.

South Korean President Park Geun Hye called earlier in November for the publication of joint textbooks to advance cooperation and dialogue, citing similar textbooks published in Europe between neighboring countries on opposing sides in World War II.

Japanese and South Korean lawmakers working to promote bilateral exchanges are pictured after holding a joint general meeting in Tokyo on 30 Nov, 2013. The lawmakers issued a joint statement urging their governments and China to produce jointly Northeast Asian history textbooks.—Kyodo News

The lawmakers’ statement also included Japanese politicians’ promise to “work even harder” on efforts to extend suffrage in Japanese regional elections to permanent residents, responding to South Korea’s request for a bill to be drawn up.

The statement left out the possibility of lifting the resumption of bilateral leaders’ talks. Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has called for talks with Park, but none have been held since either leader has been in power.

The lawmakers also agreed to cooperate in dealing with the Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade agreement, currently under negotiation between Japan and 11 other states, and in cleaning up the crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant in northeast Japan. South Korea’s finance minister expressed interest in joining the TPP on Friday.

The groups expressed shared concerns about North Korea’s nuclear programme, calling it “the gravest issue affecting peace and security in Northeast Asia,” while touching upon their cooperation in tackling the issue of Pyongyang’s abduction of Japanese nationals.

Kyodo News

Suspect hackers charged with attacking Singapore presidential palace website

Singapore, 1 Dec — Two suspect hackers were charged on Friday with alleged hacking of the website of the Istana, the presidential palace of Singapore. Businessman Delson Moo, 42, and student Melvin Teo, 17, were accused of modifying the contents of the server hosting the Istana website. Both cases will be back in court on 24 January next year. The alleged offenses were committed a minute apart. Teo is accused of modifying the contents of the server at 12:33 am, while Moo allegedly did the same at 12:34 am Each of them is said to have done so twice on 8 November.

Court documents showed the duo apparently used the search function on the server hosting the website to process scripts. This was said to have caused the search function to generate instructions to display texts and images stored in their scripts.

The website supposedly displayed the image of a woman making a rude gesture, another image of a man pointing his index finger and three phrases on the local broadcaster Channel NewsAsia said.

Under the Computer Misuse and Cybersecurity Act, the highest punishment is a five-year jail term and a fine of 20,000 Singapore dollars (16,000 US dollars).—Xinhua
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Bulgaria mulls measures to attract Chinese tourists

SOFIA, 1 Dec — Bul-
garia mulled measures to attract Chinese tourists, such as relaxing the visa policy and offering combined packages to neighboring Balkan countries, an official said here on Saturday.

“The country is ready to negotiate and sign agreements with neighboring Balkan countries to optimize the visa regime within the pan-European regulation and help create joint tourism packages and products to attract Chinese tourists to Bulgaria,” Branimir Botev, Deputy Minister of Economy told a special seminar attended by state experts and over 40 local companies.

Romania, Serbia and Macedonia could become Bulgaria’s partners in this endeavor, as well as any other neighboring country, which shared its vision and interest on China, Botev said according to a press release published by the Ministry of Economy.

Botev stressed that Chinese tourists were not particularly interested in sea and mountain tourism, but instead were impressed by places offering mineral water, cultural and historical heritage, shopping, entertainment and spa tourism.
New Delhi, 1 Dec — Actress Kareena Kapoor, a celebrated, talented and beautiful Indian film star, has opened the exhibition ‘Kareena Kapoor in Bombay Samurai’ at the National Portrait Gallery (NPG) in New Delhi.

The exhibition looks at the life of actor Vivien Leigh, one of the most famous actresses of the 20th century, and includes rare vintage photographs, magazine covers, vintage film stills and press books.

The exhibition includes rare vintage photographs, magazine covers, vintage film stills and press books.

One of the most successful film stars of all time, Leigh was born in Darjeeling, India, 100 years ago and went on to fame as a double-Oscar winner.

For 20 years in the mid-20th century along with her husband Laurence Olivier, Leigh was part of the most celebrated, talented and glamorous film star couples and one of the most famous people on the planet.

Her most famous performance, as Scarlett O’Hara in ‘Gone With the Wind’, brought her the first of two Academy Awards. The second Oscar was for the 1951 film of Tennessee Williams’ ‘A Streetcar Named Desire’, starring opposite Marlon Brando.

Teresa Pepple, the Head of Photographs Collection at the NPG, said, “We have been acquiring pictures over the years of Leigh and we have quite a good collection of her.”

The exhibition marks the centenary of Leigh’s birth, and follows a successful show about American film star Marilyn Monroe. Pepper said, “She was an extraordinary actress: she was so beautiful and she has an interesting story, as well as marital difficulties and mental illness.”

Leigh’s career and life were compelling, even for a modern audience who now come across her by chance. He said, “She won two Oscars for two extraordinary roles — Scarlett O’Hara in ‘Gone With the Wind’ and Blanche Dubois in ‘A Streetcar Named Desire’, two of the most successful films of all time.”

The exhibition includes rare vintage photographs, magazine covers, vintage film stills and press books.

Many of the photographs in the display are brought together for the first time, and include works by leading photographers such as James Abbe Jr, Bassano, Cecil Beaton, Clarence Sinclair Bull, Howard Coster, Angus McBean, Norman Parkinson, Sasha, Laszlo Willinger and Madame Yevonde.

Monday, 2 December, 2013
Arsenal go seven clear as Ramsey sinks old club

LONDON, 1 Dec — Arsenal midfielder Aaron Ramsey indulged his new scoring habit with two goals in a 3-0 win at his old club Cardiff City as the visitors opened up a seven-point lead at the top of the Premier League on Saturday.

Welshman Ramsey, who spent eight years with the Bluebirds until his move to north London in 2008, notched his 12th and 13th strikes of the season in all competitions and was applauded by the home fans in Arsenal’s 10th league win of the campaign.

Evetton’s Spanish teenager Gerard Deulofeu, on loan from Barcelona, scored one goal and inspired his team mates to a 4-0 victory over Stoke City that took them into the top four.

Fullham manager Martin Jol was facing increased pressure after his relegation-threatened side went down 3-0 to fellow strugglers West Ham United, while Sunderland, second from bottom, drew 0-0 at mid-table Aston Villa.

Tony Pulis’s first game in charge of basement club Crystal Palace ended in a 1-0 defeat at Norwich City.

In the late kickoff, Moussa Sissoko produced a moment of magic to give Newcastle United all three points in a 2-1 home win over West Bromwich Albion.

The French midfielder struck a right-foot shot from 20 meters into the top corner after West Brom’s Chris Brunt had cancelled out Yoan Gouffran’s first-half opener.

Arsenal have 31 points from 13 games, ahead of Liverpool, Chelsea and Everton, all on 24. Newcastle are fifth on 23.

Liverpool, Chelsea and Manchester City play on Sunday, when eighth-placed champions Manchester United visit faltering Tottenham Hotspur.

Arsenal’s Ramsey got his first goal in the 29th minute in Wales after timing his arrival into the penalty area perfectly and glancing a fine header from Mesut Ozil’s cross beyond keeper David Marshall to give Arsene Wenger’s side the lead.

Gut leads new generation of winners

BEAVER CREEK, (Colorado), 1 Dec — Lara Gut and Mikaela Shiffrin have rejuvenated the Alpine skiing World Cup this winter and are set to make life difficult for more established rivals ahead of the Sochi Olympics.

Switzerland’s Gut, 22, has won all three of her races to date this season in Soelden and Beaver Creek while US skier Shiffrin, 19, won the only slalom so far in the Finnish resort of Levi.

A teenage sensation when she took two silver medals at the world championships in Val d’Isere in 2009, Gut is unbeaten in three disciplines—the giant slalom in Soelden, and downhill and super-G in Colorado on Friday and Saturday.

Her perfect start mirrors that of Tina Maze last season, with the Slovenian going on to win the overall World Cup title and break February 2009.

Lara Gut of Switzerland celebrates in the finish area after winning the women’s World Cup Super-G ski race in Beaver Creek, Colorado, on 30 Nov, 2013. —Reuters

Sydney, 1 Dec — Rory McIlroy claimed his first title of the year at the Australian Open by a single shot on Sunday after home favourite Adam Scott bogeyed the final hole to lose a tournament he had dominated since the opening day.

McIlroy, who swallowed up Scott’s four-shot overnight lead in the first eight holes, nervelessly sank a 10-foot birdie putt at the 18th to finish on 18-under-par for the tournament with a final round seven-under 66.

Scott, who was seeking a rare “triple crown” of Australian titles after winning the PGA and Masters, missed a string of chances over the back nine to extend his lead and held just a single-shot advantage heading to the 72nd hole.

England striker Daniel Sturridge walks off the field during a team training session at Arsenal’s training facility in London Colney, north of London, on 18 Nov, 2013 file photo. —Reuters

Mcllroy overhauls Scott on last to end title wait

After firing his approach over the back of the green, the world number two overcooked his chip and sent the ball racing back past the hole before coming up short with a 40-foot par putt to give McIlroy a chance he grasped with both hands.

“It’s hard not to feel some sort of guilt in the way that I won,” said former two-time major champion McIlroy, who had been facing a first winless season since 2008.

Northern Ireland’s Rory McIlroy leans on his putter on the eighth hole during the second round of the Australian Open golf tournament at Royal Sydney Golf Club on 29 Nov, 2013. —Reuters

Liverpool wait to know extent of Sturridge injury

LONDON, 1 Dec — Liverpool face an anxious wait to learn the extent of Daniel Sturridge’s ankle injury after the in-form striker was hurt during training and appears certain to miss the Merseyside club’s trip to Hull City on Sunday.

The 24-year-old England international has scored nine league goals this season and has been instrumental in helping the club make a bright start to the campaign in which they sit second in the standings after 12 matches.

China’s Ding Junhui competes during the first round against Antony Parsons of England in 2013 UK Snooker Championship at York Barbican Centre in York, Britain on 30 Nov, 2013. —Xinhua

England striker Daniel Sturridge will be assessed by the club's medical staff (Saturday) after the striker rolled his ankle in training,” the club said in a statement on their website.

“A moment of magic to give McIlroy a chance he

Liverpool are scheduled to play seven matches this month in what could be a crucial period in their bid for a top-four finish that would secure a return to the Champions League for the first time since 2009.

Reuters
New railway links China’s regional economic powerhouses

NANCHANG, 1 Dec — Local railway authorities in Nanchang, capital of east China’s Jiangxi Province, announced on Saturday that a new railway link will run through some of the country’s most prosperous cities.

The Xiamen-Shenzhen link, measuring 502.4 km in length and set with 18 stops during the whole course, will more rapidly connect east China’s Fujian Province with the southern powerhouse of Guangdong Province. The link begins operation on Sunday, local authorities said.

The railway link is part of an ambitious long-and-medium-term plan for railway network construction that will see eight high-speed passenger rail lines crisscrossing the country by 2015, covering cities with populations over 500,000.

Local authorities said that the link will greatly shorten the travel time and make travels more convenient among the Yangtze River Delta Region and the Pearl River Delta Region, the nation’s most economically developed regions.

The Nanchang railway authority is responsible for railway transportation of Jiangxi and Fujian provinces. Xinhu

Turkey says energy deals with Iraqi Kurds not finalized

ANKARA, 1 Dec — The Turkish Foreign Ministry said Saturday that Ankara’s energy deals with Iraq’s Kurdish Regional Government (KRG), “which are in line with the Iraqi constitution,” have not been finalized yet.

“Our will and preference is to take this issue within trilateral framework and accomplish it in a way that will serve our peoples’ common interest and prosperity,” said a statement issued by the ministry.

In the statement, Turkey expressed its hope that the prospect cooperation would enhance common understanding between the KRG and the Iraqi central government, stressing its willingness to help solve their disputes “through mutual talks” and with respect for “Iraq’s territory and solidarity.

The statement came after media reports said Iraq closed its northern airspace to Turkish private planes.

Earlier, Iraqi authorities did not allow in a plane belonging to Turkey’s General Energy Company, which has been conducting oil exploration in northern Iraq for many years, a Turkish official told Xinhu.

Media reports alleged that Iraqi officials insisted Turkish planes first land in Baghdad before flying again to Erbil. The KRG and Ankara signed six energy contracts during a visit by Iraq’s Kurdish leader Nechervan Barzani to Turkey, said Hurriyet Daily News.

However, Baghdad opposes the signing of any energy deal between Iraqi Kurds and Turkey without its approval.

Turkish Energy Minister Taner Yildiz plans to visit Erbil on Monday to attend a conference on oil and natural gas. — Xinhu

Bale scores his first hat-trick for Real Madrid

MADRID, 1 Dec — Gareth Bale struck his first Real Madrid hat-trick and set another goal in a thumping 4-0 La Liga victory over Real Valladolid on Saturday. With the injured Cristiano Ronaldo still absent, the Welshman knocked home two rebounds and slid in the third for a perfect treble at the Bernabeu having also set up their second goal with a cross for Karim Benzema to head home.

It was only the second hat-trick ever in La Liga by a British player, with Gary Lineker scoring three for Barcelona in 1987.

“His period of adaptation is now over. He now is confident and doing well,” Real coach Carlo Ancelotti told reporters. “We are on a good run and playing with personality and consistency. I don’t know whether it was our best game because recently we have been playing very well.”

Real are third and three points behind leaders Barcelona, who visit Athletic Bilbao on Sunday, and second-placed Atletico Madrid. Atletico have 40 points from 15 games after a 2-0 victory over Elche with Diego Costa returning from injury to continue his fine scoring run. Koke netted from the close range after 63 minutes against a battling Elche and Costa struck 11 minutes later.

“We need to continue on the same lines and be realistic,” coach Diego Simeone told a news conference. “It is a good moment for the fans but we still need to go match by match,” he added, with Atletico having only dropped five points so far.

“It is an important win against a tough rival where we started well but later Elche caused two or three moments of danger. We spoke at halftime about using the wings more and it helped.”—Reuters

Real Madrid’s Gareth Bale celebrates his goal against Real Valladolid during their Spanish First Division soccer match at Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid on 30 Nov, 2013.—Reuters
Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham felicitates Laotian counterpart

NAI PYI TAW, 2 Dec—On the occasion of the 38th Anniversary of the Founding of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, which falls on 2 December 2013, Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Bounnhang Vorachit, Vice-President of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic.—MNA

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham opens Shwe Kyar Pin Jewellery Market

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Dec—Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham unveiled the signboard of Shwe Kyar Pin finished gems and jewellery market, here, this morning. It was attended by Union Ministers U Thein Nyunt and Dr Myint Aung, deputy ministers, Nay Pyi Taw Council members, departmental heads, Chairman of Myanmar Gems and Jewellery Entrepreneurs Association U Teza, Vice-Chairman U Yone Mu and members, jewellery entrepreneurs and guests.

Union Ministers U Thein Nyunt and Dr Myint Aung, the Chairman of MGJEA, the Vice-Chairman and jewellery entrepreneur U Tar Wai cut the ribbon to open the market.

The voluntary groups are ready for SEA Games

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Dec—It is learnt that the voluntary groups made contributions to successful holding of SEA Games and their efforts are completed in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay and Ngwehsaung.

The voluntary groups include the officers from the Ministry of Sports, officials of Sports and Physical Education Institutes (Yangon and Mandalay), technicians, athletes and students. The voluntary camps are being kept open at BEHS Nos. 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 in Nay Pyi Taw with 400 in strength at each camp. Those volunteers from Nay Pyi Taw are in voluntary works at three sports grounds and the remaining volunteer groups are in charitable services in Yangon, Mandalay and Ngwehsaung.

The responsible persons of the Ministry of Sports and various departments are taking responsibility to link the volunteers with all organizations in cooperation with athletes and officials who are assigned duty at the sports grounds. The voluntary groups are ready for SEA Games, said a staff officer from a voluntary camp.

Ko Myo (Shwe Paukkan)

Myanmar celebrates World AIDS Day-2013

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Dec—Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin addressed the commemoration of World AIDS Day-2013 at the meeting hall of the ministry, here, this morning.

The Union Minister said that in 1981, the first case of AIDS was reported among gays in the United States. Since its discovery, AIDS has been seen around the world during more than three decades. According to the World AIDS Day 2013 UNAIDS reports, approximately 34 million people are living with HIV globally. The total number of new HIV infections remains high—2.5 million in 2011. A total of 1.7 million people died of AIDS-related illnesses worldwide in 2011.

He added that since 2005, Myanmar has given Antiretroviral Therapy to the patients with HIV/AIDS. Afterwards, Acting Resident Representative of WHO Dr. Jigme Singay read out the message of the US Secretary-General, and

UNAIDS Executive Officer Mrs. Savina Ammassari, the message of the Executive Director of UNAIDS.

The Union Minister, Deputy Ministers Dr Thein Thein Htay and Dr Than Aung and the Acting Resident Representative of WHO awarded winners in contests in commemoration of World AIDS Day-2013. After the ceremony, the Union minister and those present viewed round the World AIDS Day-2013 commemorative booth.

UNAIDS