Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham attends foundation-laying ceremony for Buddha University in Taunggyi

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Nov — Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham attended the foundation-laying ceremony of Buddha University in Taunggyi on Sunday morning.

Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and his wife offered the gem casket, the gem foundation stone and offerings to the Sayadaw.

Then, the union minister, the chief minister and the commander and officials presented offerings to the monks.

Afterwards, the vice president and his wife, the chief minister and his wife, the commander and business men donated cash for the construction of the university. Well-wishers donated about K 1.4 billion for the university on Sunday.

Then, the vice president and officials conveyed the gem foundation stones and laid them in designated places before spraying scented water on them.

In the afternoon, the vice president and party went to Lashio and inspected Hitshu Myaing new town and the construction of affordable houses for government employees.

Lashio District Management Committee Chairman U Myat Moe briefed the vice president and party on the project, completion of the work and water and electricity supply.

Afterwards, the vice president viewed a model of the project. The vice president and party also went to Zeya Mingalar Tarpon Monastery and donated offerings to the monks.

In the evening, the vice president and party attended an homage-paying ceremony for the elderly to mark the Shan New Year’s Day. The vice president and party presented donations to the elderly in Lashio and paid respects to them in accordance with traditions. The elderly made good wishes for the vice president and party.

Then, the vice president presented prizes to two six-distinction winners, and the wife of the vice president presented prizes to two five-distinction winners. The union minister, the chief minister and officials presented prizes to other distinction winners and those who passed the exam.

On behalf of the distinction winners, six-distinction winner Maung Sai Hein Htet Aung expressed thanks to the vice president.

— MNA

YTU, Mitsubishi Electric ink agreement on technological cooperation

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 23 Nov — Yangon Technological University and Mitsubishi Electric Corporation, a leading worldwide manufacturer of electronics and electrical equipment, on Sunday signed an agreement for technological cooperation at the university here.

As part of the agreement, the Japanese electronics giant will accept interns from YTU from December 2014 to February 2015. The two sides selected Wut Yee Hay, an electronics PhD student from YTU, among the students to attend the three-month internship programme in Japan.

In his opening speech at the signing ceremony, Mr Minoru Hagiwara, Mitsubishi’s chief representative for the Asia-Pacific region, said: “We are helping the ministry with our technical assistance. The system has two categories. The first one is the online link, and the second one is mobile phone services in which both job seekers and companies can obtain registration data at the 76 labour offices of the ministry.”

— MNA

Labour ministry launches job seekers website

YANGON, 23 Nov — The Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security has officially launched a website for job seekers with technical assistance from Trust Link Co., Ltd.

The unveiling of www.myanmarjob.gov.mm took place at a ceremony held at the Union of Myanmar Federation Chamber and Commerce on Sunday afternoon.

At the ceremony, Union Minister U Aye Myint said: “The website will become a link between job-seeking people and their potential employers, and they will no longer need to look for job vacancies at labour offices.

Mobile teams of the ministry are now providing labour registration services at areas where there is no labour office.

U Thurein Tun, managing director of Trust Link Co., Ltd., said: “We are helping the ministry with our technical assistance. The system has two categories. The first one is the online link, and the second one is mobile phone services, in which both job seekers and companies can obtain registration data at the 76 labour offices of the ministry.”

— MNA
Education promotion tasks explained in Bago Region

NAI PYI TAW, 23 Nov — Deputy Minister for Education Dr Zaw Min Aung, together with officials from basic education departments, took part in the discussions of Hluttaw representatives, township development organizations, departmental staff and school trusteeship associations in Pyay, Shwedaung and Tharawaddy townships in Bago Division on Saturday.

The deputy minister discussed the education promotion tasks, educational objectives, basic principles and national education system of the national education law at the meetings.

Sports Ministry, ECF Ministry crowned in Japan Cup Karatedo Contest

YANGON, 23 Nov — The Japan Cup Karatedo Contest wrapped up at Aung San Gymnasium in Yangon on 21 November.

May Oleva Yin Hwa Thong Loi (Sports Ministry) secured the title in the women’s singles Kata event, the Ministry of Defence in the inter-club Kata event, Min Hein Aye (Ministry of Defence) clinched the title in the 68-kilo Kumite event, the Japanese Embassy and Thazin Aye (Defence Ministry) two gold and one bronze in the 67-kilo Kumite event, Myint Maung Maung Hein (Defence Ministry) in the 60-kilo Kumite event, Aung Ko Latt and officials presented prizes and completion certificates to 21 trainees from Korea and ASEAN countries.

Director-General U Thein Aung of the department presented a cash award to an official of the National University of Culture and Arts.

ASEAN-ROK Film Leaders Incubator concludes

YANGON, 23 Nov — The ASEAN-ROK Film Leaders Incubator: Fly Project 2014, organized by the Myanmar Motion Picture Promotion Department under the Ministry of Information, the ASEAN Film Commission Network (APC Net) and the Busan Film Commission concluded at Inya Lake Hotel here on Saturday evening.

Course instructor U Aung Ko Latt and officials presented prizes and completion certificates to 21 trainees from Korea and ASEAN countries.

Director-General U Thein Aung of the department presented a cash award to an official of the National University of Culture and Arts.

Singapore-Myanmar Vocational Training Institute to be launched in early 2015

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 23 Nov — As part of efforts to develop human resources in Myanmar, the Singapore-Myanmar Vocational Training Institute will be launched in early 2015, aiming to enhance the employability of young people through skills training, according to the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

The institute will play a vital role in producing skilled manpower. Students will learn practical skills through courses designed by Singapore’s Institute of Technical Education’s Education Services, Kyi Kyi May, assistant director of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, told the Global New Light of Myanmar at a press conference.

Currently, Singapore is providing training opportunities for local trainers in the fields of electronics, hospitality and tourism. Up to now, around 150 local participants have taken part in Singapore’s training for trainer programme. It is estimated that about 40 scholars among them will be chosen to attend the master trainer certification course in Singapore, a trainer said.

Than Zaw Oo, a chef and owner of the International Baking & Pastry Training Centre, said that young people should improve their English language skills in order to get the most from the courses, adding that all students should also bring the knowledge they have acquired in their respective sectors.

As for the tourism industry, it needs more of both skilled workers and trainers to provide better services to customers as the sector is flourishing due to an increase in foreign tourist arrivals in the country, said U Nyunt Win Naing, a professional trainer.

The Myanmar Hospitality Professionals Association said that it plans to launch at least four tourism-related courses designed by local scholars in line with ASEAN standards.
Amyotha Hluttaw speaker leaves for Thailand

YANGON, 23 Nov — A parliamentary delegation led by Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw (Upper House) U Khin Aung Myint left for Thailand on Sunday afternoon at the invitation of the President of the National Assembly of Thailand Prof. Pornpetch Wichitcholchai.

The Amyotha Hluttaw speaker and party were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Speaker of the Yangon Region Hluttaw U Sein Tin Win, Deputy Speaker U Tin Aung, Chairman of the Amyotha Hluttaw Political, Economic and Legal Affairs Commission U Myint Thein and officials of the Amyotha Hluttaw.

The speaker was accompanied by Chairman of the Amyotha Hluttaw Rescue and Care Committee Dr Khin Shwe, members of the Hluttaw Affairs Committee U Gam Sai, U Sai Tha Sein and U Khan Swim Mon, members of the Amyotha Hluttaw Political, Economic and Legal Affairs Commission U San Lwin and U Ko Ko Maung, and officials of the Amyotha Hluttaw Office.—MNA

Commander-in-chief meets members of MPC (Interim)

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Nov — Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing met members of the Myanmar Press Council (Interim), explaining recent attacks in Kachin State, northern Myanmar.

During the meeting at Bayinnaung Yeiktha in the capital, the senior general said the Tatmadaw will not make a U-turn on the path of the country’s democratization. A member of the MPC (Interim) also urged good relations between the military and the media industry.

The Tatmadaw will post real-time information on its Myawady web portal, and agreed to organize a workshop as soon as possible to promote relations between the military and media industry.—Myawady

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing poses for photo with members of Myanmar Press Council (Interim).—MYAWADY

ASEAN-Russian Youth Orchestra to give concert in Yangon

YANGON, 23 Nov — In honour of the 25th ASEAN Summit, a 34-member Russian youth orchestra and 10 musicians representing the 10 members of ASEAN will jointly give the ASEAN-Russian Youth Orchestra Concert at the National Museum in Yangon on 25 November under the ASEAN-Russia cultural exchange programme.

They will also give a concert at the Myanmar International Convention Centre in Nay Pyi Taw on 27 November.

Both ensembles have already arrived in Yangon on 22 November and have been rehearsing at the National Theatre in Yangon.—MNA

Overall development plans for Taninthayi Region discussed at meeting

YANGON, 23 Nov — Union ministers at the President Office U Soe Thane and U Tin Naing Thein on Sunday met members of township supportive organizations, township development organizations, political parties, and towns’ elders in the Taninthayi Region to discuss current reforms and regional development plans at Pale Yadanar Hluttaw Hall in Myeik.

They also discussed the promotion of public participation in development tasks for the region, the education reform process and fulfilling the needs of locals.

The Union ministers urged them to effectively implement the development plans, advising them to accelerate the human resources development scheme that plays a vital role in the overall development of the nation.

Union Ministers U Soe Thane and U Tin Naing Thein cordially converse with departmental officials and local people in Myeik.—MNA

YTU, Mitsubishi Electric ink agreement on . . .

(GNLM)

(YTU, Mitsubishi Electric ink agreement on . . .) (from page 1)

(YTU, Mitsubishi Electric ink agreement on . . .) (from page 1) Region, said: “This is the first time for us to partner with an educational institution in Myanmar, and this internship will produce good results for both parties.”

“It is our hope that we will contribute to the development of human resources in academic education through this internship program, which will lead to the fostering of talented engineers in Myanmar,” Mr Hagiwara added.

The development of the electrical and electronics sector is one of the key elements in Myanmar’s economic growth, Deputy Minister for Science and Technology Dr Ba Shwe said.

Under the current government, Yangon Technology University has signed more than 30 technology-related MoUs with firms in developed countries. The majority of them are Japanese bodies, according to an official from YTU.

Mitsubishi Electric is a global leader in the research, manufacturing and marketing of electrical and electronic equipment. It has been selling products and services focused in the power sector for many years in Myanmar and established a new branch this April in Yangon.

GNLM
Link connections installed in power lines in Myingyan

Myyingyan, 23 Nov—Township electrical engineer U Tun Lin Aung and electricians of the Electricity Supply Enterprise under the Ministry of Electric Power installed link connections in power lines for electrical safety in Myingyan, Mandalay Region, on 20 November.

They installed the link connections in 400 volt power lines along Bogoke Street, traffic lights in downtown Myingyan and near the ward administrative office in ward 10 in Myingyan.—Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)

Myanmar journalists visit Dehong Unity daily

Mansi, 23 Nov—Chairman of the Upper Myanmar Journalists Association U Htay Aung and party visited the Dehong Unity daily in Mansi, Dehong Prefecture, in Yunnan Province, China on 17 November.

The newspaper is being run in Myanmar, Kachin, Lisu, Mon, Kayah and Chinese languages. Chief Editor Mrs Xiong Yan showed the delegation members around the newsroom, the computer lab and press sections of the daily and explained the newspaper’s production process for circulation.

Myanmar journalists asked about the daily’s circulation and arrangements for the publishing process, and the chief editor replied to their queries, said vice chairman of the association Sai Thar Hlaing (Hsipaw).—Hay Myint Maung

Department officials protect locals from wild elephants

Tatkon, 23 Nov—A squad comprising Police Captain Zaw Lin and a party of the Forest Police Corps and departmental officials went to Block 41 of Upper Hsinthe forest reserve in Tatkon Township to send wild elephants back to their native areas safely with the assistance of local people.

The wild elephants arrived from the Bago mountain range in Tatkon Township’s forests last year, but they did not attack people. As the wild elephants wandered through the forests for many days this year, the local people have had to avoid tending to their farms due to the danger of the wild elephants, according to the local people. —Tin Soe Lwin

China invites members of Upper Myanmar Journalists Association for visit

Ruili, 23 Nov—At the invitation of the China-Myanmar Friendship Association, an eight-member journalist association led by U Htay Aung, chairman of the Upper Myanmar Journalists Association, will pay an eight-day visit to Beijing and Kunming of the People’s Republic of China, said the chairman of the association.

It will be the third visit of the association. The delegation will be comprised of well-known writers and journalists Kyaw Yin Myint, Hsu Hgnet, Nyi Pu Lay, and Nyi Say Min, the patron of the association and executives.

They were invited to observe the actual situation of China to be able to present it to the world. The visit will be funded by the Confucius Education Foundation, according to Deputy Consul-General Mrs Jin Yiling of China. —Khin Zar Mon Myint (Law)

 Talks held on prevention of recruitment of child soldiers in Mohnyin

Mohnyin, 23 Nov—Save the Children International and Community Health and Development jointly organized educative talks on the prevention of recruitment of child soldiers in wards and villages in Mohnyin Township, Kachin State, from 12 to 21 November.

A total of 1,041 local people from 16 wards and villages attended the talks, Ming Aik Kaung of Save the Children International said.—GNLM-001
Environmental conservation supervisory committee holds 1st meeting

Mandalay, 23 Nov—The environmental conservation supervisory committee held its first meeting at the Mandalay Region Forest Department on 20 November, featuring an address by Mandalay Region Environmental Conservation Committee Region Minister for Forestry and Mining U Than Soe Myint.

Members of the committee expressed their opinions on how to conserve environments in Mandalay.

The Parks and Playgrounds Department under the Mandalay City Development Committee constructed playgrounds and parks for keeping the city lush and green and planted over 200,000 shade and flowery plants in seven townships of Mandalay District.

The Forest Department and Arid Zone Greening Department cultivate shade trees and teak plants in the townships in the region.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

100 acres of farmlands being reclaimed in Yekyi Township

Yekyi, 23 Nov—A total of 100 acres of farmlands are being reclaimed in Hshisongon Village, Yekyi Township, Ayeyawady Region, with the cooperation of 24 farmers.

As of 15 November, the farmlands are being reclaimed with the use of heavy machinery. Ayeyawady Region government.

Land preparations, dredging of drains and construction of production roads are being made on one-acre plots by the No 17 Agricultural Mechanization Department and local authorities.

Min Zaw Oo (Yekyi)

Driver’s licences issued to motorcyclists in Yedashe Tsp

Yedashe, 23 Nov—Staff of the Toungoo District Directorate of the Road Administration issued driver’s licences to motorcyclists up to 21 November in the precinct of Dattaw Pagoda in Ward 1, Yedashe Township, of Bago Region.

They delivered licences to 1,650 applicants.

The directorate plans to issue licences to people in Swa and Myohla in Yedashe Township.

The government issued an announcement to take action against those who do not have driver’s licences and unlicensed motorcyclists in the last week of November.

“We have been ordered to take action against undisciplined motorcycle riders and those without driver licences in the last week of November,” said an official of the Township Police Force.

Ko Lwin (Swa)

Nay Pyi Taw Council Area plans to grow over 10,000 acres of summer paddy

Nay Pyi Taw, 23 Nov—The Myanmar Agricultural Public Corporation Company Ltd (MAPCO) held a coordination meeting with local farmers in Yepyar Village Basic Education Primary School in Lewe Township on 21 November.

The meeting was focused on the cultivation of summer paddy in 2014-15 through mutual cooperation between the farmers and the company.

The company will provide quality paddy seeds and assistance for applying good agricultural patterns in the fields for the farmers. Moreover, it will deliver one bag of compound fertilizer per acre of Palethwe paddy strain, one bag of Pearl fertilizer and K50,000 as an agricultural loan to each of the farmers.

When the paddy has been harvested, the farmers are to sell the paddy at K4,000 per basket to pay the company back for K131,500 in expenses including inputs and loans provided in advance by the company. The remaining paddy can be sold at the street price. A plan was adopted to grow 13,000 acres of summer paddy in the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area in 2014-15. Of that number, local farmers and MAPCO will cooperate in the cultivation of 10,000 acres of summer paddy.

Pyinmana Township plans to grow 950 acres of paddy, Lewe Township, 3,760 acres, Dekkhinathiri Township, 900 acres, Zabuthiri Township, 560 acres, Pobpathiri Township, 160 acres, Ottarathiri Township, 100 acres, Zeyathiri Township, 2,700 acres and Tatkon Township, 870 acres.

Ko Pauck (Okkar Myaw)

Farmers extend cultivable lands with assistance of irrigation facilities

Mandalay, 23 Nov—Under the supervision of the Mandalay City Development Committee, the Irrigation Department is striving for development of the agriculture sector in the region with its attempts to irrigate farmlands and construct new drains, canals and power control buildings in the townships.

In Singaing Township, a total of 35,615 acres of farmlands are irrigated by three dams through Pyinmana Township, 23 Nov—Nay Pyi Taw Council Area in 2014-15. Moreover, it dredged Sunye and Minhla Lake.

The Irrigation Department built Shwehlanar and Arid Zone Greening Department cultivate shade trees and teak plants in the townships in the region.

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Ko Pauck (Okkar Myaw)
Bangladesh arrests 9 in crackdown on militant groups

Dhaka, 23 Nov — Bangladesh has arrested four members of an outlawed militant group, including the chief of its women’s wing, as well as five suspects in a single day in 2005 across Bangladesh, including in Dhaka, the capital. Subsequent suicide attacks by its militants on several courthouses killed 25 people and left hundreds injured. A security van taking members of the group to court earlier this year was targeted by gunmen who opened fire and tossed bombs at the vehicle.

Philippines blacklists nine HK journalists for heckling Aquino

MANILA, 23 Nov — The Philippines has barred entry to nine Hong Kong television and radio journalists, saying they heckled President Benigno Aquino during a meeting of the APEC grouping last year and presented a threat to public safety.

Kuala Lumpur, 23 Nov — Three foreign workers killed in a coal mine explosion in eastern Malaysia have been identified, and the number of the injured has risen to 29, according to local reports on Sunday.

Three killed, 29 injured in mine blast in Malaysia

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Nagano, 23 Nov — At least 39 people have been injured following a strong earthquake that struck Nagano Prefecture and surrounding areas in central Japan overnight, police said on Sunday.

39 injured in M6.7 quake in Nagano, central Japan

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Injuries were reported in Nagano City and Hakuba village, where more than 80 people spent the night in an evacuation shelter, following the magnitude-6.7 quake that struck at 10:08 pm Saturday, originating in northern Nagano Prefecture at a depth of around 5 kilometers. The Japan Meteorological Agency on Sunday revised the estimated magnitude from an earlier announced 6.8 and the depth from around 10 km.

Two of the injured, a man and woman in Nagano City, suffered broken bones, the National Police Agency said. Five other people also suffered serious injuries.

The quake, which also shook parts of Nagano Prefecture, caused landslides and roads to cave in, blocking several routes in the affected areas.

More than 100 homes in Hakuba were cut off from water supply, prompting the village to provide water tank trucks.

The prefectural government applied the disaster relief law to the villages of Otari and Ogawa, as well as to Hakuba.

Police, firefighters and local officials are still investigating the extent of damage caused by the quake, which marked lower 6 on the Japanese seismic intensity scale of 7 in northern Nagano and lower 5 in parts of Nagata Prefecture.

An aftershock registered lower 5 in northern Nagano at 10:37 pm on Saturday as tremors continued, the weather agency said.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi (2nd L) speaks during an election rally in Kishkwat district of Jammu, Indian-controlled Kashmir, on 22 Nov, 2014. Narendra Modi addressed the gathering here on Saturday for the forthcoming assembly election.—Xinhua

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The police on Sunday morning revised the number of people injured after earlier reporting more than 50 had been hurt.

No damage has so far been reported at the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa nuclear power plant in neighbouring Niigata Prefecture, according to the operator, Tokyo Electric Power Co. The plant, the largest nuclear reactor complex in the country, has remained off line since the 2011 quake.

Five homes collapsed in Hakuba, roughly 280 kilometers northwest of Tokyo, according to the Nagano prefectural government.

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Iran nuclear talks may be extended as US sees ‘big gaps’

PARIS / BORDEAUX, 23 Nov — The European Union must hand back half of its powers, former French president Nicolas Sarkozy said on Saturday, stepping up his criticism of the 28-nation bloc as he seeks to be elected head of France’s conservative party next week.

Just a few weeks after he called for the suspension of France’s participation in Europe’s borderless Schengen region, Sarkozy pressed on with increasingly Eurosceptic proposals rare among the country’s mainstream politicians.

“I want us to eliminate half of Europe’s current powers,” Sarkozy said, adding that less than a dozen key policies including industrial policy, agriculture and research should remain. “Everything else must be given back to member states.” While the French have long been among the strongest backers of Europe, support has waned over the past decade over fear of globalization. The anti-Europe, far-right party National Front won EU parliament elections in the country this year.

Sarkozy also said he wanted the bloc’s executive Commission to lose its power to draft EU laws.

Sarkozy’s comments to about 4,000 supporters in the southwest city of Bordeaux chimed with British Prime Minister David Cameron’s calls to curb Europe’s powers.

Sarkozy came out of a two-year political retirement when he announced in September he would seek to be elected chief of the Union for a Popular Movement (UMP) party on 29 November. While the UMP was created to reunite the centre-right, the party faces policy divisions, notably over Europe’s role.

Reuters

France’s Sarkozy wants EU to lose half its powers

BEIJING, 23 Nov — The health ministers of Japan, China and South Korea said on Sunday they would collaborate closely in preventing Ebola and other deadly diseases from entering their borders.

The trilateral meeting was held in Beijing at a time of tentative signs of a slight improvement in Japan’s relations with China and South Korea, which have been severely strained over territorial and wartime issues.

Despite Japan’s political difficulties with its two neighbouring countries, the health ministers agreed to boost information-sharing on the current Ebola epidemic and countermeasures for other types of diseases, such as pandemic influenza.

Since March this year when the first case in the world’s worst Ebola outbreak was reported, about 5,400 people have died from the virus, mostly in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, according to the World Health Organization. No Ebola cases have been confirmed in Asia. The trilateral meeting was attended by Japan’s health minister Yasushia Shiozaki and his Chinese and South Korean counterparts, respectively, Li Bin and Moon Hyong Pyo.

It was organized after Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe held his first talks with Chinese President Xi Jinping, as well as some discussions with South Korean President Park Geun-hye, about two weeks ago in Beijing on the margins of a regional economic summit.

Due to the political tensions, there have not been an annual gathering of the three countries’ top leaders since 2012. But following the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit, Abe and Park expressed their willingness to resume the suspended three-way dialogue in the near future.

Kyodo News

Japan, China, S Korea agree on Ebola cooperation

Russia foreign ministry for consultations on setting up zone free from WMD in Middle East

MOSCOW, 23 Nov — Russia is adamant it is necessary to resume without delay consultations on setting up a zone in the Middle East, free from mass destruction weapons (WMD), head of the Foreign Ministry’s department on non-proliferation and arms control Mikhail Ulyanov said on Saturday.

“It is incorrect to be interrupting consultations as the conference seems more realistic,” the diplomat told an international conference on non-proliferation.

“I would be of crucial importance if the conference was convened in the coming five months, however, in 2014 the conference would be impossible to be held. Far from certain, it will take place before the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT),” he said. “But if it could be convened at the beginning of 2015, then the results of the NPT Review Conference would be better.”

Ulyanov said that enormous work had been done within the framework of the preparations for the conference on setting up a zone free from mass destruction weapons in the Middle East.

“A considerable progress has been achieved,” the diplomat said. “It became possible since both Israel and the Arab countries manifested their readiness for sensible compromises.”

He said it would be reasonable to have Syria and Iran participate in those consultations.—Itar-Tass

Russia foreign ministry for consultations on setting up zone free from WMD in Middle East

Iran nuclear talks may be extended as US sees ‘big gaps’
Monday, 24 November, 2014

Journalism is a profession rather than an occupation

By Kyaw Thura

A little bit of thought will make it clear that the media has become an inseparable part of our lives in this age of information by playing a more powerful role in modern-day society. There is no doubt that the media has played a significant role in making the world a global village.

At a time when the press is regarded as the fourth estate, it is necessary for journalists to take note that too much intervention by the media in everything is a matter of concern, for the media has the potential to affect people’s perception of reality.

There are some camouflaged media-cum-business people who prefer unconfirmed or hot news, so that their papers sell well. Although their numbers are small, a victory over the forces of evil is impossible without good people stepping up to the plate. It is therefore important to keep in mind that journalists of pitiable skill will come up with news reports of here and there and irresponsibly printing them.

The news media is always ready and brave enough to point out the government’s accountability and responsibility. For instance, when it comes to the government’s budget spending, newspapers report and warn parliamentarians to understand that the money they are going to spend is not their own, that it is public money and that citizens have the right to know how their money is going to be spent.

By playing their role as the fourth estate, newspapers hold the government in check while serving the public interest and acting as people’s eyes and ears. To be true to this status, all journalists should not blind themselves and the people to the truth. We know ourselves at least if we do.

We appreciate your feedback and contributions.

If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email wallace.tun@gmail.com with your name and title.

Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish “Letter to the Editor” that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

A letter To a Neo-writer of Great Promise

Khin Maung Oo

Dear my boy,

This letter will find you in the best of health and happiness. To my great delight and rejoice, I came to know you and your colleagues decided to choose the prestigious journalistic career and to devote yourselves into the business of journalism, the Fourth Estate. Because I believe in, inter alia, your abilities and enthusiasm. You know I was a newspaper manique, and only just in my later phase of my life, I fortunately had a chance to set foot in the media world: the newspaper [English Version]. At your request, I wrote this letter, albeit reluctantly, to you, sharing my scanty knowledge. In fact, I do not belong to the group of your betters. Though I am not a full-fledged journalist, I admit that writing in English is my favorite, not a passing fad. I welcome every effort of enthusiastic younger generation who are to replace the aging one. Now I am not saying to you what to do and what not to do for your work, but just for you to be informed about my personal attitude towards journalism. I have no experience of writing news reports but I never failed to read them. In writing them, it was learnt that we need to avoid using euphemism and giving our opinions and unnecessary remarks. And I also noted that in news-writing we should use passages as less as possible. Plus, unlike the discursive style of a novel we need to be careful about prolixity in writing news and sports news. I am not interested in sports but in my younger days, sports news written by [U] Hla Baw, a sport correspondent interested me greatly. To put it simply, however, if I was assigned to write such a report my stock reply would be “No.” In olden time, the English newspapers, the WPD and the Guardian carried a myriad of colorful writings: news, news features, articles, letters, editorials and perspectives by scholars, well-known writers, columnists and novice writers. I got much knowledge from these writers. But a few, most of them now disappeared from today’s newspaper pages. Sometimes I thought as to who will replace our country’s dying breed of newspaper and able writers. Oh, No, no, need not to do so any longer! It is time to get rid of my worries. Now is the time when our local newspapers are trying to change their images and to give us news updates. So today’s papers are like a mirror to us. Sometimes I thought as to whether I will receive much knowledge, news and information with the public. Now that newspapers are inviting writers to send articles, comments, any writing to us, I feel fortunate. I think it is a natural emotional outlet. I hardly ever intend to hurt any one’s feelings, opinions and ideas, in many cases. We have a lot in us to express ourselves. Newspapers are the best arena for sharing knowledge, news and information with the public. Now that newspapers are inviting writers to send articles, comments, any writing to us, I think it is a natural emotional outlet. I hardly ever intend to hurt any one’s feelings, opinions and ideas. It is a ruinous loss without reserve for him. It is a shame if we do.

As known by all, we differ from each other in feelings, opinions and ideas, in many cases. We have a lot in us to express ourselves. Newspapers are the best arena for sharing knowledge, news and information with the public. Now that newspapers are inviting writers to send articles, comments, any writing to us, I feel fortunate. I think it is a natural emotional outlet. I hardly ever intend to hurt any one’s feelings, opinions and ideas. Especially, I am greatly concerned that my writings are responsible to implement the edifice of our hope. Our newspapers report and warn parliamentarians to accumulate much knowledge more than we did. What I mean is that reading a wide variety of subjects will make you well-read persons. I wholly agree with the ideas and wishes of my seniors. I myself had a similar desire like my teachers. However, it passes belief that we can upgrade our papers to the world-class ones overnight. It’s just a matter of time before we reach our goal if our愚蠢 youth will make concerted effort. I want to liken it to write an article to a rendezvous-cum-forum. A rendezvous is a place where people have arranged to meet. Likewise, a newspaper is a meeting place for readers and writers, scholars and ordinary people, intellectuals and the uneducated, employers and employees, producers and consumers. A forum is a place where people have arranged to exchange opinions and ideas on a particular issue. So we, the people, can use a newspaper as a forum. We are here to disclose our opinions, ideas, wishes, attitudes, advice, etc., contributing our literary things in various forms. Theirs may be polar difference. As to their language skills, some are of substance and style, and some can be ranked mediocre. I want you to note that a good writer, ipso facto, cannot be associated with the style of his writing, unless he has all the knowledge. There had been some errors seen on the pages due to DTP mistakes or carelessness of the writers, if ever. Our editors also might have overlooked our mistakes as they could not manage to spare time to carefully check the influx of writings into their press. Pardon me if I happened to write in a patronizing style. You and younger generations are responsible to implement the edifice of our hope. Let me now proceed to return to writing about my experiences. The reason is that a few lines of power of a writer, though being short, may fortify our minds and enthusiasm. In response to his writing, there was a prompt argument made by another reader named Kin Kin Pyone [Naungdine]. Wonderful enough, our respected savants avoided touching the problem to make inexperienced readers like us know clearly, seemingly to think that it was of little importance. She claimed that dictionaries should be written as 3Rs. The first R represents for writing, “A” for arithmetic and “R” for reading. In response to his writing, there was a prompt argument made by another reader named Kin Kin Pyone [Naungdine]. Wonderful enough, our respected savants avoided touching the problem to make inexperienced readers like us know clearly, seemingly to think that it was of little importance. She claimed that dictionaries should be written as 3Rs. The first R represents for writing, “A” for arithmetic and “R” for reading. In response to his writing, there was a prompt argument made by another reader named Kin Kin Pyone [Naungdine].
World Bank’s IFC agrees to provide Yoma Bank with $5 million convertible loan

By Kyaw The-in (MNA)

Nay Pyi Taw, 23 Nov — International Finance Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank Group, has agreed to provide Yoma Bank Ltd. with a $5 million convertible loan and help the lender improve its risk management and corporate governance in support of the bank’s growth strategy. The package is expected to help Yoma Bank expand lending to small and medium enterprises, a sector of Myanmar’s economy in desperate need of financing to grow and create more jobs.

The loan is the first step in IFC’s financial support for the bank, which may be further increased up to $30 million in the coming years in the form of equity, senior debt and trade guarantee lines under IFC’s Global Trade Finance Program, which boosts banks’ capacity to provide financing for importers and exporters. The additional support for Yoma Bank will be subject to further due diligence and subsequent approvals from IFC’s management and board.

As Myanmar emerges from years of isolation, the demand for financial services in the country is huge. More than 70 percent of adults do not have formal access to credit, deposit facilities, and other financial services, such as insurance and remittance. Only 5 percent of adults have a bank account in their name.

“It is crucial that small and medium enterprises in Myanmar have access to financial services that allow them to operate and thrive,” said Yoma Bank Executive Chairman and CEO U Thein Wai, also known as Serge Pan. “Yoma Bank is proud to grow its business in partnership with IFC to support SMEs in Myanmar, which are critical for the country’s economic and social development. It is our aim to be a leading SME bank in the country and to contribute toward developing a vibrant SME sector in the country.”

In addition to the loan, IFC will advise Yoma Bank on identifying and installing a core banking system, enhancing its risk management and corporate governance, and developing new products and delivery channels for small and medium enterprises over the next three years. Yoma Bank will also develop policies and procedures to identify and manage environmental and social risks associated with the business activities it finances. IFC’s investment and advisory support is expected to help Yoma Bank provide an additional 1,000 loans worth $370 million to small and medium enterprises in Myanmar by 2019.

“IFC puts a strategic focus on supporting the development of Myanmar’s financial and banking sector as banks are critically important in helping entrepreneurs grow their businesses and contribute to the overall economy,” said Karin Finckehart, IFC’s vice president for Asia Pacific. “IFC supports Yoma Bank and other lenders to develop environmental and social sustainability and standards and governance structures that will help them integrate into the international banking community and better serve the needs of Myanmar’s small and medium enterprises.” Founded in 1993, Yoma Bank is one of Myanmar’s leading fully licensed commercial banks with more than 50 branches covering 25 major cities nationwide. It is recognized as one of the most progressive banks in Myanmar and is leading an effort to bring responsible banking to the country with a strong emphasis on good corporate governance and conservative capital-ration policies. The lender is well positioned to support Myanmar’s continued economic growth. IFC, together with the World Bank, is supporting reforms and investments in Myanmar to strengthen the private sector and create jobs to reduce poverty and boost shared prosperity. IFC aims to improve the country’s investment climate, access to finance, and infrastructure, with an initial focus on the power and telecommunications sectors.

Highway bus terminal to open in late November

Nay Pyi Taw, 23 Nov — A highway bus terminal in Muse, a northern town in Shan State, is expected to open for operation on November 26, sources said.

The facility has been constructed at a cost of nearly K2.275 million, with an official saying that construction started in November 2012 and finished in May this year. The Muse highway bus terminal will help promote trade between Myanmar and China, enabling the government to earn more revenue and create business opportunities for locals. The terminal, constructed on a 13.69-acre site, is attached to a housing project with 202 apartments in 44 buildings and four banks.

Executive Daw Hla Hla Myo seen at Yangon International Airport on 23 November before departure for Cambodia to attend Public-Private Dialogue for the Post-2015 SME Vision Forum to be held on 24 November.—MWEA

Executive Daw Hla Hla Myo seen at Yangon International Airport on 23 November before departure for Cambodia to attend Public-Private Dialogue for the Post-2015 SME Vision Forum to be held on 24 November.—MWEA

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NATIONAL

MLFRD holds event to hear from staff and difficulties encountered

Nay Pyi Taw, 23 Nov — The Ministry of Live-stock, Fisheries and Rural Development organized an event here on 21 November to directly hear from its staff, with the director general of the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department giving a briefing on projects aimed at improving fishery and food security in rural areas, sources said.

The director general urged the staff to speak openly of the difficulties encountered in their lines of duty.

Speaking on the occasion, Union minister U Ohn Myint told his staff that his ministry will continue to collaborate with other ministries as well as with ASEAN countries and partner countries.

At the meeting, the union minister pointed out the need to reduce poverty in rural areas, emphasizing the country’s endeavours to lift itself out of least developed country status and urging officials and staff to redouble their efforts with resolve.—MNA

A letter To a Neo-writer . . .

(from page 8)

Thanks to the writer’s detailed explanation I had a big impression on her, and it glanced in me a seed of zealous hobby in the language study. Since then, an idea occurred to me that a dictionary should be all the time with us to be able to consult with it whenever necessary and to look at it in a more expansive definition of a word. I wrote an article titled, “Myanmar spelling and pronunciation are being corrupted: intentionally or unintentionally?” in the New Light of Myanmar Daily on 9 May 2014. Here I want to disclose that a strong impression on the writer, though being an ordinary reader, influenced me so greatly that I mended myself and our society.

Last but not least, my present writing on my personal attitude toward journalism may include just a trace of a good idea, but my Cetana is full in it. I firmly believe that in building up a nation capacity and character building of our youths is vital. If there is any delay to achieve our aims, all our plans will cease to be viable. As an old man who is now on the brink of the nearness of death, I want to live to see you, the younger generation, managing to run and manipulate our prestigious media business in a skillful way. Let’s surround the younger generation with the avant-garde in the approach to the Fourth Estate of glamour.
Obama approves fresh guidelines for US military in Afghanistan

WASHINGTON, 23 Nov — President Barack Obama has approved plans giving US military commanders broader authority in helping Afghanistan forces repel Taliban fighters after US and NATO combat operations formally end in December, a senior administration official said.

The decision, made in recent weeks, will allow US forces to carry out limited missions against the Taliban seen as necessary to protect Americans and support Afghanistan’s security forces.

“While we will no longer target belligerents solely because they are members of the Taliban, to the extent that Taliban members directly threaten the United States and coalition forces in Afghanistan or provide direct support to al-Qaeda, we will take appropriate measures to keep Americans safe,” the official said.

A report by The New York Times late on Friday said the new authorization also allows American jets, bombers and drones to support Afghan troops on combat missions.

Obama had announced last May after a whirlwind visit to see US troops in Afghanistan that US combat operations in the country would end in December and that troop levels would be reduced to 9,800.

Under Obama’s plan, that number would be reduced by roughly half by the end of 2015. By the end of 2016, the US presence would be cut to a normal embassy presence with a security assistance office in Kabul, as was done in Iraq.

The US military presence in Afghanistan hinged on the approval of a bilateral security agreement with the new government there, a step that was delayed by a disputed presidential election.—Reuters

US and Turkey discuss transition away from Assad in Syria

ISTANBUL, 23 Nov — US Vice President Joe Biden said he and Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan had discussed a transition of power in Syria away from President Bashar al-Assad during a four-hour meeting in Istanbul on Saturday.

Turkey has been a reluctant partner in the US-led coalition against Islamic State (IS) insurgents in Syria and Iraq, pushing for a more comprehensive strategy that includes Assad’s removal from power.

“On Syria, we discussed ... not only to deny ISIL a safe haven and roll back and defeat them, but also strengthen the Syrian opposition and ensure a transition away from the Assad regime,” Biden told a joint news conference with Erdogan.—Reuters

Colombia’s Santos says FARC release of hostage will be next week

BOGOTA, 23 Nov — Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos said he hoped next week to secure the release of five captives, including an army general, held by Marxist FARC rebels, a move that will allow stalled peace talks to continue.

In a message from his Twitter account on Saturday, Santos said the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) had provided the coordinates to the pick up zone to free the hostages and he would facilitate the operation in coming days.

He did not name the captives or say whether they would be freed all at once or on different days, but the FARC on Sunday seized army General Ruben Dario Alzate and two people travelling with him in the Pacific coastal area of Choco. A week earlier two soldiers were taken hostage in eastern Arauca department.

At a tense few days, the FARC on Wednesday promised to release all five captives in a bid to renew peace talks halted abruptly by Santos following the abductions.

“The coordinates have been received. I am giving instructions to facilitate the liberation for next week,” Santos said in the Tweet, probably referring to an order that military activity in the areas is halted to allow the FARC to move securely.

The suspension of negotiations - taking place in Havana - is the most serious setback to the peace efforts after two years of discussions that have resulted in partial accords on three out of five agenda items.

Even while security has improved massively over the last decade or so, talks have been taking place amid continued conflict and attacks on civilian and military targets continue, as well as offensives against economic infrastructure.

General Alzate, a lawyer and a soldier were taken hostage by a FARC patrol as they left a boat in the poor and crime-ridden region of Choco. Santos immediately suspended talks until the rebels freed them.

Alzate is the highest-ranking military captive ever taken by the FARC.

The rebels’ decision to release the captives may counter critics of the peace process who say the FARC is not serious about ending Latin America’s longest-running war, which has killed more than 200,000 people since it began in 1964.

The FARC says it has stopped kidnapping for ransom but maintains military personnel as soft targets in the absence of a ceasefire. Alzate was considered a prisoner of war.—Reuters

Demonstrators clash with French police over protester death

TOULOUSE, (France), 23 Nov — Protesters clashed with police in southern France on Saturday over the death of a young activist killed by a police grenade, in the latest of a series of demonstrations which have embarrassed the Socialist government.

A protester clashes with French riot police during a demonstration against police brutality in Nantes, western France on 22 Nov, 2014.—Reuters

At least 16 people were arrested in Toulouse after garbage containers were set on fire and bus stops smashed on the margins of an otherwise peaceful march where demonstrators held placards reading “End to the licence to kill”.

Remi Fraisse, 21, was killed last month by a so-called “offensive grenade” during a standoff between police and opponents of a dam project in wetlands near Toulouse. Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve later ordered these devices banned.

Around 600 to 1,000 protesters marched in Toulouse and 1,200 in the western city of Nantes, where 14 were arrested.

The death has further soured relations between President Francois Hollande’s Socialist government and the Green Party, a one-time government partner which said the government has not reacted properly to Fraisse’s death and has accused Cazeneuve of initially hiding the truth.

The protests over the planned dam add to a growing number of environmental protests against infrastructure projects that have included stalled plans to build a new airport in Nantes.

Reuters
US plans to arm Iraq's Sunni tribesmen with AK-47s, RPGs, mortars

WASHINGTON, 23 Nov — The United States plans to buy arms for Sunni tribesmen in Iraq including AK-47s, rocket-propelled grenades and mortar rounds to help bolster the battle against Islamic State militants in Anbar Province, according to a Pentagon document prepared for Congress focusing on training and arming Iraqi and Kurdish forces.

But the document underscored the importance the Pentagon places on the Sunni tribesmen to its overall strategy to diminish Islamic State, and cautioned Congress about the consequences of failing to assist them.

"Not arming tribal fighters will continue to leave anti-ISIL tribes reluctant to actively counter ISIL," the document said, using another acronym for the group which has seized control of large parts of Syria and Iraq and is gaining territory in Anbar despite three months of US-led air strikes.

A US official said on Saturday that the document was posted this week. It said all US support was directed "with, by and through" Iraq's government, suggesting any weapons would be supplied through Baghdad, in line with existing policy.

It noted Iraqi security forces were not "not particularly welcome in Anbar and other majority Sunni areas," citing their poor combat performance and sectarian divisions.

Iraq's army has been burdened by a legacy of sectarianism in Anbar, whose dominant Sunni population resented former Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki's Shi'ite major-ity government and were incensed when he ordered troops to clear a protest camp in Ramadi in December 2013.

The ensuing Sunni tribal revolt prompted the entrance of Islamic State into Falluja and Ramadi, where US troops had met fierce resistance from Sunni insurgents including al-Qaeda during their occupation of Iraq after the 2003 invasion that overthrew Saddam Hussein.

The United States, which has deployed a small number of military advisors to Anbar Province, hopes the Sunni tribesmen can later form part of a more formal Iraqi National Guard.

The Pentagon document also detailed $1.24 billion to be spent on Iraqi forces and $354.8 million on Kurdish troops.

"While the trend on the battlefield has been promising in stemming ISIL gains, Iraq lacks the training expertise and equipment to field the forces needed to liberate territory," the document said.

Somali Islamists execute 28 non-Muslims on Kenyan bus

NAIROBI, 22 Nov — The Somali Islamist militant group al Shabaab said it had staged an attack in Kenya on Saturday in which gunmen ordered non-Muslims off a bus and shot 28 dead, while sparing Muslim passengers.

Three of the group led out to be killed saved their lives by reciting verses of the Koran for the militants, a local security official said. Al Shabaab said its men had ambushed the Nairobi-bound bus outside the town of Mandera, near Kenya's border with Somalia and Ethiopia, and killed the non-Muslims in retaliation for raids on mosques in the city of Mombasa.

On Monday, police in the port city shot dead one man and arrested almost 400 others when they raided four mosques that they said were being used to recruit militants and stash weapons.

"The Mujahideen sucessfully carried out an operation near Manda early this morning, which resulted in 28 crusaders perishning, as revenge for the crimes committed by the Kenyan crusaders against our Muslim brethren in Mombasa," Sheikh Ali Mohamud Rage, al Shabaab's spokesman, said in a statement.

Many Islamist militants use the term "crusaders" to describe Christians or non-Muslims in general. Police Inspector General David Kimaiyo said 19 men and nine women had been killed. "Preliminary reports indicate that the attackers, who were heavily armed, later fled toward the border into Somalia," he told reporters.

A witness, who asked not to be identified, said the attackers had boarded the bus and tried to identify Muslims and non-Muslims.

Islamic State has lured 550 Germans into fighting — spy agency

BERLIN, 23 Nov — The number of Germans fighting alongside Islamic State militants in Syria and Iraq has increased sharply to 550 and around 180 have returned, the head of Germany's domestic intelligence said in a newspaper interview published on Sunday.

"We are concerned about the number of departures. Especially in the last six weeks, it has risen further," Hans-Georg Maassen told Welt am Sonntag.

"By now we are counting 550 people, that is how many have left Germany to go to Syria and Iraq," he added. The previous number was 450 people. Around 60 of them have been killed during fighting, with at least nine killing themselves in suicide attacks, Maassen said.

"That is a sad success for the Islamist propaganda.

"As with other Western European countries, Germany is struggling to stop the radicalisation of young Muslims, some of whom want to become jihadists in Syria or Iraq. Officials also worry that they might return to plot attacks on home soil.

Since Germany is part of the alliance fighting Islamic State, the country is "naturally" a target for the militants as well as al-Qaeda members, Maassen said.

Intelligence services estimate that around 180 jihadis have returned to Germany after having fought in Syria and Iraq, Maassen said.

In one of the largest sweeps against alleged Islamists in Germany yet, authorities last week arrested nine men suspected of supporting militant groups in Syria and raided numerous properties in several German states.

Iraqi forces battle Islamic State in towns north of Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 23 Nov — Iraqi soldiers backed by Shi'ite militia and Kurdish peshmerga forces attacked two towns northeast of Bagh- dad held by Islamic State fighters on Sunday, trying to clear a main road linking the capital to the border with Iran. Peshmerga and army officers said they advanced into Jalawla, 115 km (70 miles) from Baghdad, and the nearby town of Saadiya, which they have been trying to recapture from Islamic State since the radical Islamists seized them in August. Ten soldiers, peshmerga and militia fighters were killed and 32 were wounded in Sunday's fighting, a source at Khanbaqin Hospital told Reuters. There were no imme- diate casualty figures for Islamic State fighters.

Iraq's Shi'ite-led gov- ernment, backed by US-led air strikes, has been trying to push back the Islamic State since it swept through mainly Sunni Muslim provinces of northern Iraq in June, meeting virtually no resistance. Last week the army broke a months-long siege of the country's largest refinery north of Baghdad, but Islam- ic State fighters continue to take territory in the western province of Anbar, which shares borders with Syria, Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

Islamic State militants have been fighting in the last two days to take full control of the Anbar's provincial capital Ramadi.

Jalawla and Saadiya are located in Diyala province which is mainly under the control of the Baghdad government forces and Kurdish peshmerga. A senior peshmerga official said the Islamic State presence in Jalawla threatened the Kurdish-controlled towns of Kalar and Khaanmuq to the north as well as nearby dams and oil fields. Recapturing the town would also allow the road to be reopened between Baghdad and Khanaqin close to the Iranian border, peshmerga Secretary-General Jab bar Yawar said. While the Kurdish-led Anbar, which Islamic State forces have not advanced into Baghdad, they hold a ring of towns around the mainly Shi'ite capital and are close to the city for a series of bombings in Shi'ite districts of the city.

A car bomb in the Shi'ite town of Youssufiya, 30 km (20 miles) southeast of Baghdad, killed five people on Sunday, police and medics said. — Reuters

Members of the Kurdish security forces ride in vehicles during an intensive security deployment in Diyala Province north of Baghdad on 19 Nov, 2014. — Reuters
Russia may develop hypersonic weapons before end of this decade

MOSCOW, 23 Nov — Russia may develop hypersonic weapons before the end of this decade. Director-General of the Tactical Missiles corporation Boris Obnosov told Russian News Service radio on Saturday.

Development of these weapons is a given priority, he said. “To create weapons with a speed exceeding Mach 6 (about 7,350-9,800 km/h) should be produced before the end of this decade,” the corporation chief noted.

“Creation of advanced weapons for a promising frontline aircraft system is one of guidelines for the corporation, he said. “We seek to produce weapons by the end of state trials for the warplane,” Obnosov said.

Air-to-air and air-to-surface missiles are being manufactured for T-50, the corporation chief said. Jamming protected and all-weather weapons will be placed inside the fighter jet’s body with a larger fire range.

China arrests man for spying on aircraft carrier base

BEIJING, 23 Nov — A Chinese man has been arrested for taking photos of an aircraft carrier base and selling them to a foreigner as more young Chinese Internet users are being recruited by foreign spies to gather intelligence on military affairs, state media said.

The man, surnamed Cao and from the eastern city of Qingdao, is awaiting trial, state broadcaster CCTV said on Saturday.

He had taken photos of an aircraft carrier base in Qingdao for a man who had claimed to be the editor of a military magazine and was paid “a large sum of cash”, CCTV said.

“In recent years, the number of young Internet users like Cao who look for jobs and make friends on the Internet, have been targeted by foreign espionage and intelligence agencies and accepted instructions from them to collect intelligence on military targets, has been increasing,” CCTV said, citing unnamed counterintelligence officials.

CCTV said Cao, a local employee of a large business, had also entered a military airport to take photos and transmitted them to the editor.

In August, state media reported that a Chinese graduate student had been arrested for selling intelligence material to foreigners.

In May, a court handed a 10-year prison term to an individual who leaked secret documents and photographs, including military journals and information about bases in the southern province of Guangdong to a foreign spy.

China’s state secrets law is notoriously broad, covering everything from industry data to the exact birth dates of state leaders. Information can also be labeled as state secret retroactively.

In severe cases, the theft of state secrets is punishable with life in prison or the death penalty.

Russia 5th generation fighter jet T-50 to have advanced weapons

MOSCOW, 23 Nov — Advanced weapons will be produced for a Russian fifth generation fighter jet T-50 before the end of state trials, Director-General of Tactical Missiles corporation Boris Obnosov told Russian News Service radio on Saturday.

Creation of advanced weapons for a promising frontline aircraft system is one of guidelines for the corporation, he said. “We seek to produce weapons by the end of state trials for the warplane,” Obnosov said.

Air-to-air and air-to-surface missiles are being manufactured for T-50, the corporation chief said. Jamming protected and all-weather weapons will be placed inside the fighter jet’s body with a larger fire range.

Russia arrests man for spying

MOGADISHU, 23 Nov — A Somali man has been arrested for taking photos of an airport and selling them to a foreigner who works for a intelligence organization, police said.

The man, surnamed Ali and from the southern city of Kismayo, has been arrested for taking photos of an airport and selling them to a foreigner who works for an intelligence organization, police said.

Air-to-air and air-to-surface missiles are being manufactured for T-50, the corporation chief said. Jamming protected and all-weather weapons will be placed inside the fighter jet’s body with a larger fire range.

Dodik: Dayton Agreement is destroyed

BANJALUKA, 23 Nov — Republika Srpska (RS) President Milorad Dodik said that the Dayton Agreement is destroyed by the actions of high representatives for Bosnia-Herzegovina (BiH), although still in force in an international agreement.

On the anniversary of the Dayton Accord that ended the four-year civil war in BiH, Dodik told reporters on Friday that, 19 years after the agreement was signed, BiH remains “stuck in misunderstanding” and is unable to reach a consensus on a single issue.

Dodik stressed that RS would have been an “empty shell” today if in 2006 he had not set the political course towards defending the Dayton Agreement and the position of RS in accordance with it, and so put an end to a further transfer of its powers to the BiH level.

Dodik pointed out that RS is not responsible for the failure to implement the judgment of the European Court of Human Rights in the Sejdic-Finci case, regarding a discriminatory provision of the state’s Constitution which prevents members of national minorities to be elected to the House of Peoples of the BiH Parliamentary Assembly and the Presidency of BiH.

According to BiH Constitution, only the representatives of three constituent nations — Bosniaks, Serbs and Croats — can be elected to the highest state bodies.

The Bosniaks in the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina are trying to oust the Croats, and the Croats do not allow it.

This is why the judgment in the Sejdic-Finci case is not being implemented, and that is one of the conditions for BiH to move forward on its European path, the Republika Srpska president said.

Foreign workers in demand amid increase in tourists

TOKYO, 23 Nov — Demand for foreign workers has been strong in Japan over the past few years as the number of foreign tourists is rising and an increasing number of Japanese companies aim to expand their business abroad.

Since its establishment in 2004, GLOBALPOWER Inc., a Tokyo-based staffing agency specializing in foreign nationals, especially those with good Japanese skills, has sent its registered staff to more than 1,000 companies across a wide range of industries.

The company explained that department stores and shopping malls are particularly interested in its service as they hope to provide language services for foreign customers and that manufacturers seeking to advance into the global market are also looking for foreign workers.

On its job information website, the agency posts tips for gaining employment, including how to write resumes, what to wear for a job interview and comments by foreigners who succeeded in job hunting, in addition to job offers from companies.

President Koichi Takeuchi, who lived in the United States when he was a student, said, “I developed a website that should be easy to use, based on my job-searching experience, which was hard.”

In June this year, GLOBALPOWER added a new service dubbed “Kakatokobaito,” which dispatches part-time foreign workers with limited Japanese skills, in order to respond to demand from companies struggling with a shortage of workers amid an economic recovery.

Among jobs at client companies, workers are servers at restaurants and factory workers.

GLOBALPOWER said it hopes that its workers will learn to hold conversations in Japanese and accumulate experience at these companies, growing to be competent resources in the future.

“We have collected data regarding some 40,000 foreigners from about 130 countries who are all fluent in Japanese,” Takeuchi said.

“By increasing the number of our registered staff, we will serve the various needs of Japanese companies.”

German couple found murdered in Caribbean island of Tobago

PORT OF SPAIN, 23 Nov — An elderly German couple was found murdered on a beach near their home in the southern Caribbean island of Tobago on Saturday, according to police.

The bodies of 74-year-old Conrad Keale and his 71-year-old wife Bridgette Keale bore marks of violence, police said. A television report said the bodies appeared to have chop wounds. Police said the couple, regular visitors to the tourism island that is part of Trinidad and Tobago, arrived on 25 October. They had been staying at their home in Bacolet on the south west coast.

They were last seen alive on Friday evening. Police said a gardener arrived at their home on Saturday morning and when he could not find them, went to a nearby beach, where police discovered the body of Bridgette Keale. The police were called and the second body was found on the same beach.

The murders are reminiscent of another double slaying in October 2008 of an elderly Swedish couple, 73-year-old Ake Olson and his 62-year-old companion Anna Sundval. Their mutilated bodies were found in a villa which they owned.

Tobago, with a population of about 60,000, is a popular holiday destination for Europeans particularly Germans and British.—Reuters
Poll Shows Irish PM’s party popularity hit by water levy protests

Dublin, 23 Nov — The popularity of Irish prime minister Enda Kenny’s party has slumped since it announced the first non-austerity budget in seven years last month and mass protests against new water charges began, an opinion poll showed on Saturday. Only 22 percent of voters said they would vote for Kenny’s center-right Fine Gael party, down 6 percentage points since the 14 October budget and 14 points since its election in 2011, the RED C-Sunday Business Post opinion poll said. It was the lowest rating the party has ever had in a Red C poll.

Fine Gael has been rocked by mass protests against new water charges and a series of scandals about poor management at the company set up to administer them. Water services had been paid for general taxation. The three parties that have formed the backbone of all Irish government’s since the 1930s, Fianna Fail, Fine Gael and Labour, now have less than 50 percent of the vote between them, the poll said, highlighting the possibility of a major realignment of Irish politics at elections due in early 2016.

Kenny’s coalition government with Labour has overseen a dramatic recovery in the Irish economy from a disastrous real estate crash and banking crisis that forced an international bailout in 2010. Ireland last year became the first euro zone country to exit an international bailout and the economy is forecast to grow almost 5 percent this year, which would likely make it the best performing in the euro zone.

But many people who took part in two mass protests in recent weeks said they were not feeling the recovery and accused the government of unfairly targeting the poor with cutbacks.—Reuters

Hitler watercolour fetches 130,000 euros at Nuremberg auction

Berlin, 23 Nov — A 1914 watercolour by Adolf Hitler fetched 130,000 euros ($161,000) at auction in the German city of Nuremberg on Saturday, the auctioneers said. The painting, entitled “Standesamt und Altes Rathaus Muenchen” (Civil Registry Office and Old Town Hall of Munich), is one of about 2,000 works that Hitler painted between about 1905 and 1920 as a struggling young artist. Asked before the auction whether it was tasteless to auction the Nazi dictator’s works, generally considered to be of only limited artistic merit, Weidler said complaints should be addressed to the sellers — two unidentified German sisters in their 70s. Weidler said the vendor had decided to donate around 10 percent of the proceeds to a charity that helps disabled children. Hitler’s Nazi party held mass rallies in Nuremberg between 1933 and 1938. In his autobiography “Mein Kampf”, he wrote that, as a young man, his hopes of becoming an artist had been dashed by repeat rejections from Vienna’s Academy of Fine Arts.

Five other Hitler paintings have fetched between 5,000 and 80,000 euros at auction. Weidler said the original handwritten bill of sale, dated 25 Sept, 1916, had come with the painting and was a rarity for Hitler’s art. That also explained the relatively high selling price, she said. But that has raised doubt among critics about the painting’s provenance. They recall how hoaxer Konrad Kujau used supposed certifications of authenticity to trick some historians when he marketed what proved to be bogus “Hitler Diaries” in 1983.—Reuters

WEATHER REPORT

Bay Inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Amlanma Sea and South Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of the 24th November, 2014: Isolated light rain or thundershowers are likely in Tanintharyi Region and Kachin State area. Weather will be partly cloudy in Upper Sagaing, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Kayin and Mon States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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A watercolour of the old registry office in Munich by former German dictator Adolf Hitler lies next to a catalog of his paintings and drawings at Weidler auction house in Nuremberg on 18 Nov, 2014. Reuters
‘Planet of the Apes’ franchise will have five films: Andy Serkis

Los Angeles, 23 Nov — Hollywood actor Andy Serkis says the new ‘Planet of the Apes’ franchise may stretch to five movies. Serkis, 50, plays the ape leader, Caesar, in the rebooted series, reported Ace Showbiz.

“It might be three films. It could be four. It could be five. Who knows?”—PTI

Jennifer Aniston wants Benedict Cumberbatch for ‘Horrible Bosses 3’

London, 23 Nov — Actress Jennifer Aniston and her ‘Horrible Bosses’ co-stars spent a plane journey with Benedict Cumberbatch discussing a potential role for him in the next movie.

The former ‘Friends’ star appeared alongside Jason Bateman, Charlie Day and Jason Sudeikis, in the original comedy, and they have all returned for a sequel. ‘Horrible Bosses 2’, with Chris Pine and Christoph Waltz joining the cast, reported Contactmusic.

Aniston said they are all keen to make a third film in the franchise, so they made the most of a meeting with Cumberbatch on a plane to London and attempted to persuade him to take on a nasty role in the next movie.

‘I just flew on an airplane with him, we all did. We thought we recruited him to be in number three as the new boss. He might have said yes and I don’t think he knows it — “Could you imagine being on an airplane and being bombarded by the three boys and me and all of us going, “So you’re going to be the new boss?” And I was like, “He is?” Apparently he said, “Yes, apparently I am.” He was very excited to sort of digress with us,” Aniston said.—PTI

Penelope Cruz to star in ‘Zoolander’ sequel

Los Angeles, 23 Nov — Actress Penelope Cruz will star alongside Ben Stiller in a planned sequel to hit 2001 comedy ‘Zoolander’.

‘Friends’ star Jennifer Aniston’s beau Justin Theroux has penned the script for the follow-up, which will feature Stiller, 48, taking on double duty by directing and reprising his role as ditzy supermodel Derek Zoolander, reported Deadline. Details about the 40-year-old Spanish beauty’s role have yet to be revealed. Reports suggest Will Ferrell and Owen Wilson are also in talks to return as their original characters Mugatu and Hansel, respectively.—PTI

Meryl Streep is my role model: Julianne Moore

London, 23 Nov — Actress Julianne Moore has revealed three-time Oscar winner Meryl Streep inspired her to take up acting. The 53-year-old actress said she had always admired Streep’s work and the way in which she lives her life, reported Contactmusic.

“I can remember when Meryl Streep was on the cover of Time magazine when I was in high school, and I said to my dad, ‘I think I want to do this’. She is just such a great actress. And she’s someone who has managed to have a family, a marriage and a career,” Moore said.—PTI

Daniel Radcliffe passes driving test

London, 23 Nov — ‘Harry Potter’ star Daniel Radcliffe has passed his driving test.

The 24-year-old star was pictured with another driver in celebration as they both passed their tests this afternoon, reported the Daily Express.

Radcliffe took his test in Hornchurch, a suburb of East London, the opposite side of the capital city to where the actor was born – Fulham.

It’s thought to be the actor’s first and only driving test. With a large scruffy-looking beard and dishevelled hair, it seemed the actor was far from recognizable. Zarra Cushing, another first-time driver who passed her test today, outright asked the star if he was who she thought he was. “I didn’t think it was him — I thought it was a look-alike. I went up to him and said ‘are you who I think you are?’ and he said ‘yeah’,” she said. It is thought to be Daniel’s first and only driving test.—PTI
Messi sets La Liga record of 253 goals

Barcelona, 23 Nov — Barcelona forward Lionel Messi set a La Liga record of 253 goals when he
scored in the 24th minute when he collected Tevez’s chipped pass and slotted past Federico Marchetti from the edge of the area. Tevez finished off a counter-attack to grab his ninth league goal of the season in the 55th minute. Messi, 27, equalled Zarra’s record in the 21st minute with a typically breathtaking effort, curling a left-footed free kick around the wall and past Sevilla goalkeeper Beto. He struck again from close range in the 72nd minute and scored a third goal six minutes later with a powerful low drive from the edge of the penalty area. "Happy to have Chris Como working with new swing teacher Como

New York, 23 Nov —Tiger Woods, who plans to return to competition in less than two weeks after a three-month absence, said on Saturday that he is working with a new coach. Chris Como, on his swing.

Woods, who has been plagued by back issues and underwent back surgery in March, broke ties with swing coach Sean Foley in August.

"Happy to have Chris Como consulting and working with me on my swing. I’m excited to be back competing," Woods said on his Twitter account.

Woods working with new swing teacher Como

Barcelona’s Lionel Messi celebrates his goal with teammates during their Spanish first division soccer match against Sevilla at Nou Camp stadium in Barcelona on 22 Nov, 2014. —Reuters

Pogba scores twice as Juventus romp to another win

Rome, 23 Nov — Paul Pogba scored twice and Carlos Tevez was also on target as Serie A leaders Juventus romped to a 3-0 win at Lazio on Saturday.

Pogba, 21, broke the deadlock with a classy finish in the 24th minute when he collected Tevez’s chipped pass and slotted past Federico Marchetti from the edge of the area. Tevez finished off a counter-attack to grab his ninth league goal of the season in the 55th minute. Messi, 27, equalled Zarra’s record in the 21st minute with a typically breathtaking effort, curling a left-footed free kick around the wall and past Sevilla goalkeeper Beto. He struck again from close range in the 72nd minute and scored a third goal six minutes later with a powerful low drive from the edge of the penalty area. "Happy to have Chris Como working with new swing teacher Como

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Matsuyama earns 1st win of season in Japan

MIYAZAKI, 23 Nov — Hideki Matsuyama, who plays primarily on the US PGA tour, won his first domestic event of the year on Sunday, beating Hiroshi Iwata in a tie for seventh, seven strokes behind the winner.

Iwata began the final day with a two-stroke lead in the JGTO’s Dunlop Phoenix tournament on Sunday, beating Hiroshi Matsuyama.

Matsuyama started the day for a 63 to tie for third, eight strokes behind the winner, while Iwata was nearly flawless with eight birdies on the course for a 63 to tie Matsuyama at 15-under 269.

Iwata, however, fell apart on the final round, finishing in a tie for third with Matsuyama.

The 2014 winner, while United, who started the day in a tie for seventh, seven strokes behind the winner, could only match the leader on the 15th and 16th holes. He carded five birdies against four bogeys, while Iwata was nearly flawless with eight birdies in a bogey-free round.

American Jordan Speith started two strokes off the pace but could only close the gap to one, finishing in a tie for third with Australia’s Brendon Jones, who shot a 68.

Kyodo News

Pacquiao scores six knockdowns in title defence

MACAU, 23 Nov — Manny Pacquiao knocked down American challenger Chris Algieri six times for 32 years.

Algieri (20-1, 9 KOs), who suffered his first defeat, had earned the shot against Pacquiao by over- coming a swollen right eye and two knockdowns against Russia’s Ruslan Provodnikov in his previous outing but he was never remotely in the contest.

Although he circled constantly to his left and attempted to keep Pacquiao (57-5-2, 38 KOs) at a distance with his superior reach, he rarely landed any consequential punches.

“It’s not just his hand speed,” said Algieri afterward of Pacquiao. “He’s a great fighter. He does everything well. I was never hurt, but he did catch me with a big shot.”

Although Pacquiao sometimes struggled to hit Algieri cleanly because of his opponent’s backward motion, the punches he did land took their toll.

“I did my best,” reflected Pacquiao. “Algieri was fast-moving. I’m not surprised that he kept going up, because that’s what he did against Ruslan Provodnikov.

The win raised once more the prospect of a long-anticipated clash with undefeated American Floyd Mayweather, a fight that Pacquiao said he welcomed.

“I want that fight,” he said. “The fans deserve that fight.”

Reuters

Chelsea win to stay top as City, United enjoy victories

LONDON, 23 Nov — Chelsea beat West Bromwich Albion to stay top of the Premier League on Saturday while champions Manchester City kept the leaders in their sights and Manchester United demonstrated they are not out of the title race yet.

Chelsea played some dazzling football to easily beat West Brom 2-0 at Stamford Bridge with goals from Diego Costa and Eden Hazard to stretch their unbeaten start to the season to 18 matches in all competitions.

City came from behind to defeat Swansea City 2-1 at the Etihad Stadium with Yaya Toure scoring the winner, while United, who have struggled since Louis van Gaal took over, won 2-1 at Arsenal to climb to fourth with their first away win under the Dutch coach.

Arsenal, who have not finished outside the top four since 1996, slipped to eighth on 17 points—their lowest tally after 12 match- es for 32 years.

Manny Pacquiao (R) of the Philippines punches Chris Algieri of the US during their World Boxing Organization (WBO) 12-round welterweight title fight at the Venetian Macao hotel in Macau on 23 Nov, 2014.—Reuters

Arsenal’s Danny Welbeck (C) heads the ball during their English Premier League soccer match against Manchester United at the Emirates Stadium in London on 22 Nov, 2014.—Reuters

After seeing his team go two-nil down on Tuesday against Scot- tish side Rangers.

Jose Mourinho told Sky Sports: “We played spec- tacular high quality football in the first half.”

Across London in the evening kick-off, United did not sparkle like Chelsea but they eked out the result they craved atArs- senal, who lost at home in the league for the first time since the opening day of last season.

Arsenal had plenty of chances to win but wast- ed all of them and went behind in the 56th minute when Kieran Gibbs sent a deflected cross flying past his own goalkeeper Wojciech Szczesny who later went off injured.

Replacement keeper Emiliano Martinez could not stop Rooney complet- ing a great week by mak- ing it 2-0 after a United counter-attack in the 85th minute.

Rooney won his 100th cap for England versus Slovenia last Saturday and on Tuesday against Scot- land scored his 46th goal to move to third on England’s all-time scoring list.

Arsenal came back when Olivier Giroud, on as a substitute after a three-month injury absence with a broken leg, scored with a stunning 22-strike minute but United held on for the win.

Van Gaal told the BBC: “I think it is a fantas- tic victory at the right moment. We have a lot of injuries but despite that we won a difficult away match.

“At the end, I can laugh but you can imagine if they score one of four or five chances in the first half then it is a different game.”

Arsenal manager Ar- sen Wenger added: “It was one-way traffic and we lost the game, we have to take it on the chin. I know we’ll be criticized for it but you have to respect the en- ergy levels we put in.”

West Ham United, who started the day in fourth place, ended it in sixth after losing 2-1 at Everton where they were 1-1 at half time.

Ings scoring twice inside two minutes in the first half, and Leicester City, who have not scored for five league matches, drew 0-0 with Sunderland.

Reuters