**Thura U Shwe Mann pays respect to former teachers at Pyu Basic Education High School No (1)**

**By Aung Khin**

YANGON, 11 Jan —

Prices of Myanmar beans and pulses are expected to hike in early 2015 due to an increase in value of US currency compared with other currencies, according exporters from this sector.

Myanmar annually produces more than 1.2 million tons of beans and pulses — 500 thousand tons of mung bean, 300 thousand tons of green gram, 200 thousand tons of pigeon peas and other varieties.

A businessperson in Bayintnaung Brokerage said to the Global New Light of Myanmar: “The prices of beans and pulses are expected to increase this year due to the export change rate.”

Productive rate of beans in central Myanmar region declined 30 percent due to drought, with pigeon pea at K24,000, green gram at K33,000 and mung bean at K 3,350 per basket.

Myanmar export 70 percent of mung beans to India, while 50 percent of green gram to China. Demand of pigeon peas to western countries also contributes to a certain extent although purchasing volume of this variety in those countries is gradually increasing.

A recent study by the International Food Policy Research Institute showed that pulses imports of India rose from 0.1 million tons in 2000 to a staggering 4.1 million tons in 2012. In terms of value, pulses import has joined the billion-dollar club, rising US$ 45 million in 2000 to $1.93 billion in 2012.

The bean exporter said the reasons for increasing local prices of beans and peas are because of declining Myanmar currency rate against hard currency, as well as higher demand of foreign markets where crops were devastated amidst natural disasters such as floods and heavy rains.

He said: “The fall of fuel price will not affect on the prices of these crops as transportation charges for export items are not likely to change.”

(See page 3)

**Prices of beans and pulses expected to rise in 2015**

**Novel-Myanmar literary festival to be celebrated on grand scale in mid-January**

**By Khing Thanda Lwin**

YANGON, 11 Jan —

The big Novel-Myanmar Literary Festival will be held from 17 to 19 January at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyauk Street in Yangon on a grand scale, aiming at improving public interest in Myanmar’s literary world, the organizing body said.

Organized by those in literary world, the three-day festival is also aimed at developing reading habits among the people, promoting writers’ innovative ideas and helping support the development of Myanmar’s literary with the Nobel award-winning literature, Saya Phyu Myint, one of Myanmar’s famous writers who also organizes the event, told the Global New Light of Myanmar.

To mark the Novel-Myanmar Literary Festival, Myanmar writers plan to publish more than 70 translated award-winning books, in which over 50 books have been translated into Myanmar so far, he added.

A publisher said about 80 booths will be showcased by around 40 publishing houses at the festival. Book fair, paper-reading sessions, a cartoon show, writer-reader talks, book launchings, and short novel reading sessions are scheduled during the fair.

A drama titled “Maha San Chin Thu”, an educative drama, will be performed by writers, cartoonists, artists and poets in the evenings of the festival.

“In an attempt to promote the declining Myanmar literary world, it needs to establish more libraries nationwide,” writer Phyu Myint said, adding having more activities would also help develop people’s reading habits.

(See page 3)

**Yangon honours senior citizens**

**By Khin Yadana**

YANGON, 11 Jan —

“Health to all beings and peace to the entire nation”, an unclear utterance that quietens the congregation who are soon to pay homage to senior people aged 100 and over.

Grandma Daw Mya Yin, aged 101, was extending her best wishes to the people attending a ceremony at the office of Yangon Region government here on Sunday.

As a gesture of New Year’s good deed, the government honoured older citizens with financial assistance, benefits in kind and certificates of honour signed by the president himself.

(See page 3)
Mingala association awards winners in religious examination

MYANAUNG, 11 Jan—
The 56th Mingala awarding ceremony took place at Pa-rhti Myoshe Monastery in Myanaung, Ayeyawady Region, on Sunday.

Abbots of Myanaung Township Mingala propagation association gave advices to the attendees.

Vice Chairman of the association Assistant Township Education Officer U Hlaing Win made a speech.

Video branch of MMPO opens in Myawady

MYAWADY, 11 Jan —
A ceremony to open the office of Township Video Branch of Myanmar Motion Picture Organization was held on the circular road in Ward 5 of Myawady, Kayin State, on 10 January.

Chairman of Township Video Industry Supervisory Committee Township Administrator U Khin Maung Zaw and officials formally opened the new office.

Myawady District’s deputy commissioner U Lwin Ko Oo unveiled the signboard of the office.

Villages of green emerald project gaining development momentum

NGAZUN, 11 Jan —
Head of Myingyan District Rural Development Department U Kyaw Min Naung and officials visited Kywezein Village included in the emerald green project in Ngazun Township, Mandalay Region, on 8 January.

In accord with the guidance of the government, the Department of Rural Development disbursed K30 million loan each to project villages for alleviating poverty. Thanks to the loans, the local people from the project areas enjoy fruits of agriculture, livestock breeding, trade and production.

Officials inspected progress of agriculture, livestock breeding and productions of local people.

The district department head urged local people to keep accounts of the works and pay back loans on time.—Zaw Moe Naing (Mandalay)

Inter-village road gets wooden bridge in Mohnyin Township

MOHNYIN, 11 Jan —
Real requirements of local people could not be included in the projects of ministries concerned due to small workloads in development tasks.

To be able to fulfill the requirements of grassroots levels, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw allotted K100 million budget to each township.

A wooden bridge across Nantyin Creek has been constructed on an inter-village road linking Nantpok and Kardu villages in Mohnyin Township, Kachin State.

A K5 million from the fund allotted by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw was spent on construction of the bridge for ensuring smooth transport of rural people.

Retired personnel may apply for apartments of Myayinanda Housing

MANDALAY, 11 Jan —
Mandalay City Development Committee plans to sell the low-cost apartments of Myayinanda housing projects built in Chinnayathazi Township to retired workers and staff, above 25 years in-service personnel and families of those who sacrificed their life and organs of body for the country.

All applicants must live in Mandalay District without owned houses. One person from each household may apply for the housing, showing pension books and copy of household registration. Applications are available at Mandalay City Development Committee Office, not later than 30 January. The committee will sell apartments through in cash and bank loan systems. The applicants are to apply for three types of apartments—484 square feet, 527 square feet and 554.5 square feet.—Thihd Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Well-wisher donates 10 sets of tables and chairs to BEHS Branch

NYAUNGLEBIN, 11 Jan —
The government is giving encouragement to improvement of education sector.

Likewise, people cooperate with the government for upgrading infrastructures of education sector.

A ceremony to donate 10 sets of chairs and tables to Basic Education High School Branch was held at the school in Myoma Ward 1 in Nyaunglebin, Bago Region, on Friday.

Well-wisher Chairman of the Township Development Supportive Committee U Thein Naing explained the purpose of donation.

The well-wisher family donated 10 sets of chairs and tables worth about K700,000 to Headmistress Daw Khin Swe Win.

JAT U Thein Lwin spoke words of thanks on the occasion.

Nay Lin (Nyaunglebin)

The opening ceremony of Video Branch of Myanmar Motion Picture Organization in Progress in Ward 5, Myawady.

The well-wisher family donated 10 sets of tables and chairs worth about K700,000 to Headmistress Daw Khin Swe Win.

Well-wisher Chair of the Township Development Supportive Committee U Thein Naing explained the purpose of donation.

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Nay Lin (Nyaunglebin)

GNLM-001
Yangon honours senior . . . .

Yangon Region has 87 older people aged 100 and over, but only a few were able to be present at the ceremony, according to officials. Although all were eager to attend the ceremony in person, just 27 grandpas and grandmas could make it while the remaining others could not come for health reason or old age. All of them received K396,100 each.

“This is the first time in more than 100 years we have been honoured by the government. It is a very noble deed. Old people feel lonely by nature. We all feel pleased and energetic to be honoured in this way,” said Grandma Daw Thila of Tamwe township, aged 104.

Regarding longevity, she advised, “you should entertain a positive attitude and control your mind in everything you do, which is a secret to enjoying a long life.”

Speaking at the ceremony, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe said that paying respects to senior citizens is a beautiful tradition that belongs to Myanmar and that the new generation should be encouraged to uphold the good practice and the philanthropic work.

Grandma Daw Mya Tin of Tamwe township, aged 107, said that she could not believe they would be honoured in such a ceremony. She also extended her best regards to well-wishers, smiling with delight when she was photographed.

The government has set up a fund to honour older people every year. The fund is set up with 25% contributions from the emoluments of ministers and deputy ministers.

Farmers from Dekkkinathiri Township visit paddy and vegetable farms

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Jan — About 200 farmers from Guhmalon Hseu village-tract in Dekkkinathiri Township observed land preparations at a 244.5 acres of land near Tegygon Village of Zabuthiri Township on 10 January.

Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing urged them to choose the best way to transform manual to mechanized farming for ensuring food sufficiency and to be able to double their income. The farmers viewed the use of tractors, combine harvesters and power-tillers at the station near Yangon-Pyimnnma Road.

They also visited Palethwe hybrid paddy seed production farm near Alynlo Village, Pyimnnma Township. The farmers also visited an estimated 300-ton rice warehouse for Palethwe paddy seeds.

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District IPRD, volunteers give mobile library service to readers

THATON, 11 Jan — Thaton District Information and Public Relations Department and New generation youth readers association jointly conducted a mobile library service at Basic Education High School (Branch) in Naungbo Village in Thaton Township, Mon State, on 10 January.

“Our village has many graduates. Likewise, many youths missed chance to pursue education in even matriculation. However, books and publications from the library will help them continue learning. As a result, they will have a wider scope of knowledge in their jobs. So, we create the opportunities for them to read,” U Saw Myat Ko Ko of the readers association.

Staff of Thaton District IPRD allowed borrowing of books for readers every Saturday.

The district IPRD gives mobile library services to the people in urban and rural areas from Monday to Saturday. The union minister viewed undertaking of construction tasks with the use of heavy machinery.

Thanks to TadaU Project, hospital, schools, housings, parks and play grounds will emerge in the project in the future.

Officials of organizing committee drawing a plan for book shops.

Prices of beans . . . .

An economist said both fuel price and exchange rate should be stable not avoid serious fluctuation of inflation rate, saying that a higher inflation will lead to increasing commodity prices.

He added that stable exchange rate will help to keep prices stable, and lower consumer demand in the domestic market.

The global prices of most commodities such as oil, soybean oil and sugar have been on a long-term, downward trend since the recession of 2007-2009.

The annual average global price in November 2014 was 3.9 per cent lower compared to the corresponding month in 2013.

Hotel project to contribute to development of infrastructures in TadaU Tsp

Nay Pyi Taw, 11 Jan — Mandalay City can accommodate tourists with 5,809 rooms of 142 hotels increasing year by year, according to Mandalay City staff.

The union minister for hotels and tourism U Htay Aung highlights development of tourism industry.

The union minister viewed undertakings of construction of roads, water supply, electrification and job opportunities to the local people from project area.

The union minister viewed undertaking of construction tasks with the use of heavy machinery.

Thanks to TadaU Project, hospital, schools, housings, parks and playgrounds will emerge in the project in the future.

Project of Myanmar Tourism Development Public Company Ltd in TadaU Township, Mandalay Region, on 10 January.

The union minister said that project of the company will fulfill development of roads, water supply, electrification and rural areas from Mon-State, and rural areas from Mon-State.

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Township WVO holds annual meeting

INRD issues citizenship cards to locals

New road opened to contribute to uplift of living standard of people

People young and old participate in Mandalay Mayor’s Trophy Mini Marathon 2015
GANDHINAGAR, (India) 11 Jan — Global statesmen and business titans descend- ed on Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s home state on Sunday to pay homage to the man they count on to un- leach big-bang reforms and create one of the few bright spots in a troubled world economy.

Mr. Modi, the long business careered leader when he won India’s strongest election mandate in 30 years last May, and he has caught its attention with eye-catching initiatives like a ‘Make in India’ campaign and his eye-catching initiatives like a ‘Make in India’ campaign complete with lion logo.

Now, the 64-year-old leader has ramped up the Vibrant Gujarat jamboree he founded as the state’s chief minister in 2003, turning it into a pit stop to put his nation of 1.25 billion people, most of them poor, firmly on the investment map.

“India is marching for- ward with a clear vision to become a global power, even as most of the world is struggling with low growth,” the country’s richest man, Mukesh Ambani, told an au- dience of hundreds of chief executives and politicians. US Secretary of State John Kerry led a roll call of leaders, including UN Sec- retary General Ban Ki-moon and World Bank head Jim Yong Kim, converging on Modi’s home town of Gan- dhinagar for the three-day Davos-style bash. President Barack Obama visits India later this month.

Yet, eight months into Modi’s rule, the failure of Asia’s third-biggest econ- omy to emerge from its longest growth slowdown in a generation is raising questions about how much substance there is behind Modi’s promise of “red car- pet, not red tape”. His Make in India drive has drawn comparisons with the manufacturing miracle that transformed China into the world’s second-largest econ- omy, outstripping India’s fourfold since 1980.

Skeptics argue that In- dia’s competitive strengths are not in making and ex- porting things, but in areas like information technology and a business process out- sourcing where it is a world leader.

Vibrant Gujarat, held every two years, has yielded billions of dollars in investment promises but only a fraction of the deals announced has come to fruition. In keeping with tradition, Ambani said his Reliance Industries conglom- erate would invest a huge 1 trillion rupees ($16 billion) in its home state of Gujarat over the next year to 18 months. He gave no details, but Reliance has em- barked on major expansion.

“There is an air of op- timism in the air of India,” said Sam Walsh, CEO of global mining giant Rio Tin- to, who flagged two poten- tial projects: a $2 bln iron ore project in Odisha state and an investment in Madhya Pradesh that could employ 30,000 diamond cutters.

Modi needs investors to put their money where their mouths are to lift stagnant capital investment that has held back India’s growth to 5.3 percent. That is expect- ed to accelerate this year to 6.4 percent, said the World Bank’s Kim, who called India a “bright spot” in an otherwise gloomy global economic landscape.

Japan to ink aviation accords with Cambodia, Laos

Tokyo, 11 Jan — Japan is set to sign bilateral aviation agreements with Cambodia and Laos to allow airlines to operate reg- ular direct flights between Japan and the two coun- tries, Japanese officials said on Sunday.

Japan plans to ink the accords during a visit to Cambodia and Laos by Parliamentary Vice For- eign Minister Kazuyuki Nakane from Tuesday to Friday, the officials said.

Once the agreements take effect after necessary domestic procedures such as Diet approval, Japan would have aviation accords with all 10 mem- bers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

Japan is aiming to strengthen ties with ASE- AN as the regional bloc has vowed to increase con- nectivity for further devel- opment toward the goal of establishing a more inte- grated ASEAN Communi- ty in 2015.

With the aviation ac- cords, Japan hopes to “fur- ther promote personnel and economic exchanges” with Cambodia and Laos, es- pecially when Japanese in- vestment in the two coun- tries has increased sharply in recent years, the officials said.

According to Japanese government data, the num- ber of Japanese visitors to Cambodia rose to 206,932 in 2013 from 146,286 in 2009. The number of Jap- anese companies invest- ing in the country jumped to over 170 in 2014 from 40 in 2009.

The number of Jap- anese visitors to Laos to- talled 48,644 in 2013, up from 28,081 in 2009, while the number of Japanese in- vestors in the country dou- bled to about 120 in 2014 from the 2012 level.

The planned launch of direct flights, following the easing in 2013 of visa requirements for visitors from the two countries, is also likely to increase Lao and Cambodian investors to Japan from about 4,000 each in 2013.

Along with the sign- ing of the accords, Nakane plans to affirm cooperation with Lao and Cambodian officials toward a summit in March to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomat- ic relations between the two countries.

Thai Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-o-cha is also considering visiting Japan in January, according to a senior Thai official.

Indonesian searches believe crashed AirAsia’s fuselage found

Indonesian Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses a campaign rally ahead of state assembly elections, at Ramilia ground in New Delhi 10 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS

The tail of AirAsia QZ8501 passenger plane is seen on the deck of the Indonesian Search and Rescue (BASARNAS) ship Crest Onyx after it was lifted from the sea bed, south of Pangkalban Bun, Central Kalimantan on 10 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS

'Vibrant India': Modi's superlative act to charm investors

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Indonesian Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses a campaign rally ahead of state assembly elections, at Ramilia ground in New Delhi 10 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses a campaign rally ahead of state assembly elections, at Ramilia ground in New Delhi 10 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS

The tail of AirAsia QZ8501 passenger plane is seen on the deck of the Indonesian Search and Rescue (BASARNAS) ship Crest Onyx after it was lifted from the sea bed, south of Pangkalban Bun, Central Kalimantan on 10 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS

PANGKAL BUN, (Indo-nesia) 11 Jan — Indonesian search teams believe a sonar scan has detected the fuse- lage of an AirAsia airliner that crashed two weeks ago with the loss of all 162 peo- ple on board and divers were on Sunday checking the find, a senior official said.

Indonesia AirAsia Flight QZ8501 lost contact with air traffic control dur- ing thundery weather on 28 December, less than halfway through a two-hour flight from the Indonesian city of Surabaya to Singapore. There were no survivors.

Searchers have also been hearing pings, believed to be from the aircraft’s black box flight recorders, near where the tail of the Airbus (Air.PA) A320-200 aircraft tail was raised on Saturday.

Supsriyadi, operations coordinator for the National Search and Rescue Agency, said a sonar scan had re- vealed an object measuring 10 metres by four metres by 2.5 metres on the sea floor.

“They suspect it is the body of the plane. There is a big possibility that the black box is near the body of the plane,” Supriyadi told Reuters in the town of Pang- kalban Bun, the base for the search effort on Borneo.

A team of divers has already been sent to prove this data. The diving opera- tion has started,” he said.

While the cockpit voice and flight data recorders — or black box- es — near its tail but once the wreckage was visible, it quickly became apparent that the flight recorders were still underwater.

While the cause of the crash is not known, the national weather bureau has said seasonal storms were likely to be a factor.

President Joko Widodo, who took office in late Octo- ber, said the crash exposed widespread problems in the management of air transport in Indonesia. —Reuters
**North Korea offers to suspend nuclear tests if US suspends military drills**

**Seoul, 11 Jan —** North Korea said on Saturday it was willing to suspend nuclear tests if the United States agreed to call off annual military drills held jointly with South Korea, but Washington rejected the proposal as a veiled threat.

The offer, which the North’s official KCNA news agency said was conveyed to Washington on Friday through “a relevant channel”, follows an often repeated demand by Pyongyang for an end to the large-scale defensive drills by the allies.

“The message proposed (that) the US contribute to easing tension on the Korean peninsula by temporarily suspending joint military exercises in South Korea as a confidence-building measure,” KCNA said in a report.

“(The message) said that in this case the DPRK is ready to take such a responsible step as temporarily suspending the nuclear test over which the US is concerned,” KCNA said, using the short form for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki said the nuclear tests and military exercises were separate issues.

“The DPRK statement that inappropriately links routine US-ROK exercises to the possibility of a nuclear test by North Korea is an implicit threat,” Psaki told reporters traveling with Secretary of State John Kerry in Europe.

The United States and South Korea have carried out the joint military exercises for roughly 40 years, she added.

Psaki said the United States remained open to dialogue with North Korea and urged Pyongyang to “immediately cease all threats, reduce tensions, and take the necessary steps toward denuclearization needed to resume credible negotiations.”

North Korea has conducted three nuclear tests, the last in February 2013, and is under UN sanctions for defying international attempts to set up strict devices in pursuit of a nuclear arsenal, which Pyongyang calls its “sacred sword.”

It often promises to call off nuclear and missile tests in return for comparable steps by Washington to ease tensions. It reached such a deal in February 2012 with the United States for an arms tests moratorium only to scrap it two months later.

The United States and South Korea have stressed that the annual drills, which in some years involved US aircraft carriers, are purely defensive in nature, aimed at testing the allies’ readiness to confront any North Korean aggression.

Tension peaked on the Korean peninsula in March 2013 when the North ratcheted up rhetoric during the annual drills, with Pyongyang threatening war and putting its forces in a state of combat readiness.

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**Arson attack on Hamburg newspaper that printed Charlie Hebdo cartoons**

**Berlin, 11 Jan —** A building of German newspaper Hamburger Morgenpost was the target of an arson attack and two suspects were arrested, police said on Sunday.

Like many other German newspapers, Hamburger Morgenpost has printed cartoons of French satire magazine Charlie Hebdo after the deadly attack on Wednesday in Paris.

A police spokeswoman said that an incendiary device was thrown at the newspaper building in the night and documents were burned inside. Two suspects were arrested near the crime scene because they behaved in an unusual manner, she added.

The newspaper said on its web page that there were no people inside the building when the attack happened. Whether the arson attack was connected to the Charlie Hebdo cartoons was still under investigation, the paper added.

Police said state security had taken over the investigations.—Reuters

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**Iran vows to help Venezuela to stem oil price fall**

**Dubai, 11 Jan —** Iran’s Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said on Saturday that the oil prices in such a short time was a political ploy and unrelated to the market. Our oil prices in such a short time is related to the public finances of Iran and Venezuela’s economy.

“Our oil prices in such a short time is related to the public finances of Iran and Venezuela’s economy.”

Khamenei said in talks with Venezuela’s president on Saturday he backed coordinated action between Tehran and Caracas to reverse a rapid fall in global oil prices which he described as a “political ploy hatched by common enemies”.

President Nicholas Maduro is on a tour of several OPEC countries to lobby for higher oil prices, which hit lows last week below $50 per barrel, nearly half of what they were back in June 2014.

The plunge in crude prices has plummeted the public finances of Iran and Venezuela, whose economies rely heavily on oil exports.

“The strange drop in oil prices in such a short time is a political ploy and unrelated to the market. Our oil prices in such a short time is related to the public finances of Iran and Venezuela’s economy. They definitely have a role in this severe fall in prices,” Khamenei said in talks with Venezuela’s president on Saturday.

Khamenei then went on to say that Iran and Venezuela had coordinated against the slide in oil prices, the official IRNA news agency said.

Venezuela’s state oil company, which is currently in talks with the US state of Texas to form a joint venture to construct oil refineries in the US, is supplying coal to TENT Tamin, increasing costs.

Whether the arson attack was connected to the Charlie Hebdo cartoons was still under investigation, the paper added.

Police said state security had taken over the investigations.—Reuters

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**Serbian PM accuses EU of backing anti-government media**

**Belgrade, 11 Jan —** Serbia’s prime minister accused European Union’s officials last week he is a target of an anti-government media campaign against the government after a regional news organization published a critical article about the reconstruction of a key coal mine.

The dispute came after Sarajevo-based Balkan Investigative Network (BIRN) reported earlier in the week that the state-owned power monopoly Elektroprivreda Srbije (EPS) hired an inexperienced local consortium to work on the reconstruction of the Tamnava coal mine, increasing costs.

Fifty one people died in floods in Serbia last May that inflicted damages of more than 1.5 billion euros, including flooding of the Tamnava mine which is supplying coal to TENT power plant complex that accounts for half of country’s energy generation.

At a news conference earlier on Saturday, Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic accused the EU and Michael Davenport, the head of EU mission to Serbia, of financing media organizations, including BIRN, to slander the government.

In a statement, Maja Kocijancic, a European Commission spokeswoman, said she was surprised by Vucic’s claims. “Media criticism is essential to ensure the proper accountability of elected governments,” she said.

Kocijancic also said it was expected that the Serbian authorities would secure an environment that would support freedom of expression and media criticism.

Last June, Vucic also clashed with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), security and rights watchdog, accusing it of lying after it criticized Vucic’s government of trying to stifle online criticism of its handling of the floods.

Later on Saturday, Vucic also accused Kocijancic of trying to silence him.

“I am shocked by the fact that Maja Kocijancic in the name of the EU has tried to shut me up,” he said in a letter to the Commission. “I am refusing to be your puppet,” Vucic said.

Vucic is a former ultranationalist who served as the information minister during the autocrat rule of late strongman Slobodan Milosevic in late 1990s. He later changed policies and embraced Serbia’s path to European Union membership.

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**Defence Minister stresses improved ability to ensure stability in Xinjiang**

**Urumqi, 11 Jan —** Chinese State Councillor and Defence Minister Chang Wanquan called on the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps (XPCC) to contribute more to social stability and border defence during a recent inspection tour in the XPCC.

While lauding the XPCC’s contribution to Xinjiang’s stability and prosperity in the past 60 years, Chang urged the XPCC to reform, develop, and play an exemplary role in promoting coordinated development and ethnic integration.

The XPCC must be “the stabilizer of frontier security,” “a melting pot” of all ethnic groups, and “a demonstration zone” for advanced productive forces and culture, Chang said.

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**Iran’s Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei**

Maduro, “(Khamenei) endorsed an agreement between the presidents of Iran and Venezuela for a coordinated campaign against the slide in oil prices”, the official IRNA news agency said.

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**Xinhua**
WORLD

Suspect hunted over Paris attacks left France last week

PARIS, 11 Jan — A woman hunted by French police as a suspect in the attacks on a satirical paper and Jewish supermarket in Paris left France several days before the killings and is believed to be in Syria, Turkish and French sources said on Saturday.

After killing the gunman behind the worst assault in France for decades, French police launched an intensive search for Hayat Boumeddiene, the 26-year-old partner of one of the attackers, describing her as “armed and dangerous”.

But a source familiar with the situation said that Boumeddiene left France last week and travelled to Syria via Turkey. A senior Turkish official corroborated that account, saying she passed through Istanbul on 2 January.

Security forces remained on high alert before a march on Sunday which will bring together European leaders in a show of solidarity for the 17 victims killed in three days of violence that began with an attack on the Charlie Hebdo weekly on Wednesday and ended with Friday's dual sieges at a print works outside Paris and a kosher supermarket in the city.

French special forces shot dead the two brothers behind the Hebdo killings after they took refuge in the print works. They also killed an associate — Boumeddiene’s partner — who planted explosives at the Paris deli in a siege that claimed the lives of four hostages.

On Saturday, police maintained a heavy presence around the French capital, with patrols at sensitive sites including media offices, and local vigilantes held across France. The Interior Ministry said about 700,000 people attended including 120,000 in Toulouse, 75,000 in Nantes, and 50,000 in Marseille.

“It’s no longer like before,” said Maria Pineto, on a street in central Paris. “You work a whole life through and because of these madmen, you leave your house to go shopping, go to work, and you don’t know if you’ll come home.”

The attack on Charlie Hebdo, a journal that satirized Islam as well as other religions and politicians, raised sensitive questions about freedom of speech, religion and security in a country struggling to integrate five million Muslims.

A source familiar with the situation said that Boumeddiene left France last week and travelled to Syria via Turkey.

“On 2 January, a woman corresponding to her profile and presenting a piece of identity took a flight from Madrid to Istanbul,” a source familiar with the situation told Reuters.

The source said she was accompanied by a man and had a return ticket for 9 January, but never took the flight.

A senior Turkish security official said Paris and Ankara were now cooperating in trying to trace her, but said she arrived in Istanbul without any warning from France.

“After they informed us about her ... we identified her mobile phone signal on 8 January,” the source said. “We think she is in Syria at the moment but we do not have any evidence about that ... She is most probably not in Turkey,” the source said, adding the last signal from her phone was detected on Thursday.

An official police photograph of Boumeddiene shows a young woman with long dark hair hatted back over her ears. French media, however, released photos purporting to be of a fully-veiled Boumeddiene, posing with a crossbow, in what they said was a 2010 training session in the mountainous Cantal region.

French media described her as one of seven children whose mother died when she was young and whose delivery-man father struggled to keep working while looking after the family. As an adult, she lost her job as a cashier when she converted to Islam and started wearing the niqab. Le Monde said Boumeddiene wed Amedy Coulibaly in a religious ceremony not recognized by French civil authorities in 2009. The two were questioned by police in 2010 and Coulibaly fled for his involvement in a botched plot to spring from jail the author of a deadly 1995 attack on the Paris transport system.— Reuters

Putin, Merkel emphasize lack of options for Kiev’s direct political dialogue with Donbass

Russian President Vladimir Putin and German Chancellor Angela Merkel have continued discussing various aspects of Ukraine’s crisis in a phone conversation, the Kremlin press service said on Saturday.

Putin “has accentuated the priority of maintaining a ceasefire and of providing support for the economic restoration of the affected regions in Ukraine’s southeast,” the press service said.

He also underscored a lack of options and urgent necessity for establishing a direct political dialogue between Kiev and representatives of Donbass.

“The leaders of Russia and Germany emphasized in a phone conversation their joint determination to promote peace settlement in Ukraine, in particular with regard to implementation of the Minsk agreements,” the press service said.

“It is in this context [both leaders] agreed to step up joint efforts in the ‘Normandy format’, including current consultations between the foreign ministries,” the phone conversation was initiated by the German side.—Ivan Tass

World leaders joining Paris march to honour attack victims

PARIS, 11 Jan — Dozens of world leaders including Muslim representatives will join hundreds of thousands of French citizens to march amid high security through Paris on Sunday in an unprecedented tribute to victims of this week’s Islamic militant attacks.

Some 2,200 security personnel were being drafted in to protect marchers from would-be attackers with police snipers, rooftops and plain-clothes detectives mingling with the crowd. City sewers were searched ahead of the vigil and underground train stations around the march route are due to be closed down.

The silent march, starting at 3 pm (1400 GMT), reflects shock over the worst militant Islamist assault on a European city, which has also prompted calls for a tighter EU approach to radicalization.

Seventeen people, including journalists and policemen, lost their lives in three days of violence that began with a shooting attack on the satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo on Wednesday and ended with a hostage-taking at a kosher supermarket on Friday. The three gunmen were also killed.

“It will be an unprecedented demonstration that will be written in the history books,” Prime Minister Manuel Valls said.

“It must show the power and dignity of the French people, who will cry out their love of liberty and tolerance.”

German Chancellor Angela Merkel, British Prime Minister David Cameron and Italy’s Prime Minister Matteo Renzi will be among over 40 foreign leaders marching with President Francois Hollande. Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoğlu and Israel’s Benjamin Netanyahu — who earlier encouraged French Jews to emigrate to Israel — are also expected to take part.

Turkish and French sources said that a woman hunted by French police as a suspect in the attacks had left France several days before the killings and is believed to be in Syria.

French police had launched an intensive search for Hayat Boumediene, the 26-year-old partner of one of the attackers, describing her as “armed and dangerous”.

But a source familiar with the situation said Boumeddiene left France last week and travelled to Syria via Turkey. A senior Turkish official corroborated that account, saying she passed through Istanbul on 2 January.

A senior Turkish security official said Paris and Ankara were now cooperating in trying to trace her but that she had arrived in Istanbul without any warning from France.— Reuters

Two bombs deactivated in Istanbul shopping centres

ISTANBUL, 11 Jan — Homemade explosive devices were found in two shopping malls in Istanbul on Saturday, Hurriyet Daily News reported, citing police, after a suicide bombing in the historical district of Sultanahmet.

A bomb disposal team defused a bomb in a shopping mall in Basaksehir, a western suburb of Istanbul. Police detonated another device in a mall in the historical Sultanahmet district, a police official said.

A senior Turkish official said police launched an intensive search for Hayat Boumeddiene, the 26-year-old partner of one of the attackers, describing her as “armed and dangerous”.

But a source familiar with the situation said Boumeddiene left France last week and travelled to Syria via Turkey. A senior Turkish official corroborated that account, saying she passed through Istanbul on 2 January.

A senior Turkish security official said Paris and Ankara were now cooperating in trying to trace her but that she had arrived in Istanbul without any warning from France.— Reuters

Reuters
Time for big businesses to give back to society
By Myint Win Thein

I t is important for businesses to be careful in providing essential services to the public because poor services at high prices may force people without choice think that they are being squeezed or extorted. The public will have to buy such kind of services as long as they have no other choices but as soon as they have opportunities to choose among service providers, they will turn their backs to such businesses.

In addition, this kind of marketing practices were also the most ancient form of marketing known as production oriented marketing in which a market was monopolized by only a few service providers and demand was always higher than supply. However, marketing concepts are changing all the time.

Nowadays, large international companies in the global market are using innovative marketing strategies like social marketing in which companies are required to give back to the society or at least the community of their consumers.

In the age of democratic transition in Myanmar, it is necessary not only for the government employees and the public but also for businesses to change their mindsets. It is high time businesses stopped thinking of taking only profits from the society and started thinking of contributing back to the society as a whole.

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Rectitude, Aptitude and Positive-attitude are main qualities for the personnel in the leadership
By Tommy Pauk

More and more men of rectitude are required to be in public affairs and services in any country for achieving the benefits of social welfare. Since man is a social animal, we work together for social services in human society, but we need to question ourselves that to what extent we have served for social welfare honestly and kindly. No one can avoid doing social welfare in the world. Whenever we learn a country’s endeavor, we find that the social welfare or social service is being a top priority. Subsequently or sequentially, economic and political tasks come. Therefore, those who lead or make the policies must be persons of exemplary moral rectitude because the prosperity or progress mainly depend on their abilities, manners, conducts and characters. Generally, they should be trained to become morally and legally good personnel for public services. Actually, what matter most is that they must have conscience and genuine goodwill while serving for public services. They must be able to value the human dignity in human society. They should know that malpractice is the immoral mindset and which is detrimental to the person concerned and his or her society. If a person has a tendency to commit malpractice, he will not be able to create benefits and interests of a certain society. So we must do away with that type of person or must not choose him or her for management of any public service. If the people of rectitude are chosen for leading or serving social welfare, they can be recognized as duly elected people. Leadership role is vitally important in any country in the world. So is the man, who leads a society. We can see that most of the prosperous countries are under the excellent leadership. If she or he misuses the power and authority, the chaotic consequences will appear miserably. In this 21st century, most people around the world are given rights to choose their leaders in accordance with their charters or state constitutions respectively. Unfortunately, the people under the despots are losing these rights to choose the genuine leaders or most appropriate leaders. When we observe the actual situations of these countries, we find that they are not prosperous and the people are working like robots. The despots usually rule their countries slyly and wickedly. Even though some countries are ruled by constitutional monarchy or un-constitutional monarchy, these countries are prosperous and people are happy because the respective monarchs treat their people kindly and compassionately. Anyway, the globalization makes the enlightened regimes in the world, but very few despotic rulers still exist in some regions in the world. Gradually, the remaining tyrants or despots realize their oppression, constraints, and strict policies and isolated policies as they realize the power of the progress and prosperity of country, the entire people and all government members must have positive attitude.

Positive-attitude is regarded as constructive sentiment because it is always helpful or supportive to the country or society. It is a kind of optimism that the leaders take the sake of the progress and prosperity of public service. Individuals as they realize the power of leadership must be formed with the positive-attitude towards the criticism, comments, opinions, discussions and demonstrations made by their own citizens in the country. The citizens have a right to express their views and demands on the leadership role. The government concerned has to fulfill the demand and accept the criticism willingly. In this way, people appreciate and cooperate with the government harmoniously.

The personnel in the leadership role of a country must be kind, optimistic, sympathetic and understanding on their fellow citizens. The likes and dislikes on a certain leadership by the general public are the reactions to the conduct and qualities of the leadership. If the people have strong-like or hearty-like on the leadership, the personnel in their hearts have a positive attitude to the leadership role. The government concerned should analyze its performance and correct the mistakes humbly. Unless they do that way, the harmonious and trustworthy relations cannot be built between the people and the government. The governments are responsible for listening to the voice or attitude of the people concerned. Besides, the government or leadership or country must make the aspiration of the citizens precisely so as to avoid unwanted problems. They ought to solve the problems and difficulties that people are facing or encountering. The personnel concerned must have rectitude, aptitude and positive-attitude. If the personnel in the leadership role are lack of these noble characters and mindsets, the public do have strong dislike on the officials in the leadership role apparently. The public normally do not like the slip-shod manner, breach of commitment, desultory manner, misleading acts and selfishness. So the officials in the leadership role must be totally free from such unsuitable manners and reckless acts while serving the public affairs. Otherwise, the personnel in the leadership cannot get trust, due-respect and good reputation. Actually, the positions and authority are conferred on them by majority of the public.

Tommy Pauk is the pseudonym of U Thein Swe, who is B.A (English) and (Regis- tered) in National Degree holder. He has English Teaching experience at Yangon University English Department and Workers’ college in Yangon, and now is working as a freelance writ- er and English Teacher cum Translator/Interpreter for foreign firms.
Hepatitis research to be conducted nationwide in February

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 11 Jan — A survey of people infected with liver disease, especially hepatitis B and C viruses, is reported to be conducted nationwide in February by the Ministry of Health in collaboration with Liver Foundation, a local nonprofit organization.

“The project is believed to help reduce the death toll and the outbreak of the silent killer,” said Dr Daw Khin Pyone Kyi, President of the Foundation.

After the two bodies have plans to distribute anti-hepatitis C virus drugs free of charge to infected people by the middle of the year, she added.

At a recent meeting in the capital city, the ministry is said to have vowed to accelerate its initiative called National Hepatitis Programme in partnership with NGOs and INGOs to bridge the treatment gaps for hepatitis virus.

According to a WHO survey, there are about 400 million people living with hepatitis B virus and some 170 million with hepatitis C virus.

In Myanmar, it is estimated that 8 to 10 percent of the people surveyed are found contracting hepatitis B virus, while two to five percent are suffering from the hepatitis C, with experts saying that these drugs have great potential to kill the virus in a short time.

Vaccines are available for hepatitis B, but there is no vaccine available for hepatitis C. Despite this, effective drugs to fight the virus are available in some countries, with experts saying that these drugs have high potential to kill the virus in a short time.

Union minister visits housing projects in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Tsp

YANGON, 11 Jan — Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin met engineers of Public Works and officials of companies at Ayeyawun Yadana high-rise housing project in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township on 10 January.

Chief Engineer U Khin Maung Thein and officials reported on progress of the high-rise building project.

The union minister stressed the need to cooperate in construction tasks among engineers, electricians and officials of companies.

The Union minister gave instructions to officials to emphasize standard of the works.

The union minister and party viewed installation of precast at the project, construction of a four-storey building at Yudana Housing project in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township, progress of Kanaung low-cost housing project in Ward 89, Yoma low-cost housing project in Ward 168, and preparations for implementation of Aungmyintmo housing project in Ward 106 near Ywathagyi and Maha Bandoola housing project in ward 141 of the township.

Union Minister U Ohn Myint views construction of concrete bridge on Pamti-Pyihtaung inter-village road.

Pamti-Pyihtaung inter-village road under construction in Myitkyina Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Jan — Union Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development U Ohn Myint inspected construction of a five-mile and three-furlong long Pamti-Pyihtaung inter-village road in Myitkyina Township, funded by Department of Rural Development, on 9 January.

The union minister presented gifts to workers of construction site and urged officials to construct roads and bridges meeting the set standards, durability of facilities and timely completion of works.

The union minister views stockpiling of gravel for construction of the road.

He also viewed progress of reinforced concrete bridges across Hsanisiha creek and Aik Creek and constructions, being built by Kaungklin Lwin Co., on Pamti-Pyihtaung inter-village road.

Upon completion, the inter-village road will contribute to improvement of living standard and better transport in addition to education, health and economic growth of over 9,000 local people.

Morals

Morals are rules of human conduct that have been handed down to us by word of mouth from time immemorial. Morals are also called ethics in philosophical terms. They do not spring up overnight like the laws passed by the legislative body of a country. They have evolved in each society over long periods of time, going back far into the past. They are shrouded in the mists of time. So it is very difficult to pick a certain time and say that it was the time when moral rules were introduced into human society.

Morals are concerned with what is right and what is wrong in regard to human conduct. Every human society has its own code of moral conduct for its members to live by. In fact, they usually are in the form of dos and don’ts we have to observe in our dealings with other people. They are, if I am to say so, the cement that holds together the fabric of societies themselves. If there are no moral rules, chaos will arise, and the society itself will have fallen apart. Morals may be said to be the pillars that lend support to the very existence of human societies.

These morals are instilled into us at an early age. In our childhood we are taught both at home and school not to take what does not belong to us. We must not accept private business as an honest, honorable means of livelihood. These days, much to our surprise, even socialist countries have come to accept and promote private business as a way to develop their economies in order to catch up with the advanced countries of the West. So if we want to live in peace with other people, we have to adapt ourselves to the changing moral values of the society we belong to. Otherwise, we will find ourselves at odds with other people. We will surely become odd-men out in society.

What is more, there are also professional ethics that members of professions have to observe in pursuit of their respective professions. Once we have adopted a profession, it behoves us to abide by the ethics of that profession. Thus editors have their own ethics to observe; so do auditors, doctors, lawyers and so on. A member of a profession, he be an auditor, doctor, or lawyer, he has to abide by the ethics of the profession he belongs to; he will surely lose not only creditability but also respect of his clientele. When his clients lose confidence in him, because of his breach of professional ethics, they will shun him and his profession will suffer undoubtedly.

In conclusion, we must consider it our duty as good citizens to try as best we can to live up to the moral principles of our society. If we happen to be members of a profession, we must comply with the ethics prescribed by that profession, into which circumstances of life have thrown us. If we are public servants, then we have to abide by rules and regulations laid down for all public servants. Only then will we be able to live peacefully and harmoniously with the rest of society and prosper in life.
Child suicide bomber kills at least 16 in Nigeria

Maiduguri / Kaduna, 11 Jan — A bomb strapped to a girl aged around 10 years old exploded in a busy market place in the Nigerian city of Maiduguri on Saturday, killing at least 16 people and injuring more than 20, security sources said.

“The explosive devices were wrapped around her body and the girl looked no more than 10 years old,” a police source said.

Maiduguri, the capital of northern Borno state, lies in the heartland of an insurgency by Islamist militant group Boko Haram, and is often hit by bomb attacks.

A Nigerian security source said the bomb went off at 12:15 pm. The girl was killed and the bodies of at least 16 victims were counted in one hospital by mid-afternoon, civilian joint task force member Zakariya Mohammed told Reuters.

“Right now, there are 27 injured people in Borno Medical Hospital, while more were taken to other hospitals,” he said.

The northeastern states of Borno, Yobe and Adamawa are bearing the brunt of a five-year-old insurgency by Boko Haram, which wants to revive a medieval caliphate in Nigeria, Africa’s most populous country.

A Reuters witness saw a number of burnt buildings, including a police station and a mosque in the Abacha market, along with several shops.

Defence spokesman Major General Chris Olukolade said that five soldiers were wounded defending the city and the number of civilian casualties was still being determined. Damaturu was last attacked in early December when air strikes called in to halt advancing militants.

Olukolade said the military would regroup before mounting an effort to retake the town of Baga in Borno state raided twice by Boko Haram in the last week. The insurgents also took over a nearby base on the edge of Lake Chad.

He said 14 soldiers had been killed in the first attack at last weekend. On Friday, the government said it had launched ground action backed by airstrikes to re-

A police representative Yaya Coulibaly said gunfire erupted around 11:30 am (0300 GMT) and an exchange of fire between the assailants and Ivorian soldiers lasted over an hour.

“Two (soldiers) were killed, that’s confirmed, and possibly one of the attackers as well. But this is only a pro-

The army responded to the attack by launching a ground action backed by artillery strikes to re-

A small group of men was arrested recently near Tabou, another town along the border with Liberia. Ivori-

The last major flare-up in Tripoli was in October, when at least 11 soldiers and 22 militants were killed in fighting between Sunni Islamists and the army.

The targeted cafe was on a street including Jabal Mohsen from the Sunni district of Bab al-Tabbaneh, which has often turned into a frontline for conflict between Sunni and Alawite communities over the years, particularly since Syria’s civil war erupted — pitting the government of President Bashar al-Assad, an Alawite, against an insurgency dominated by Sunni Muslims.

But its communal tensions were eased by a secur-

Lebanese Army soldiers man an area beside a cafe where a bomb attack took place in Jabal Mohsen, Tripoli, on 10 Jan., 2015.—Reuters

Goodluck Jonathan, who is seeking re-election in a national election set for on 14 February.—Reuters

Suicide attack at Lebanese cafe kills at least seven

Tripoli (Lebanon) 11 Jan — A suicide bomb at-

The army said the attack aimed to fuel a con-

The Nusra Front, al-Qaeda’s media arm.

A man walks past shredded tires near the West Bank city of Nablus, on 9 Jan, 2015.

A Palestinian protester throws stones at Israeli soldiers during a protest against the expanding of Jewish settlements in the Kafur Qadoom village near the West Bank city of Nablus, on 9 Jan, 2015.

A small group of men was arrested recently near Tabou, another town along the border with Liberia. Ivorian officials said they were caught with a small arsenal of weapons and were planning a series of attacks before they were denounced by local villagers.—Reuters

A man in Tripoli was shot dead on a street near the local member of parliament said.

The attack on the town of Grabo, near the top cocoa grewer’s western border, was the third deadly raid in the area in less than a year.

Ivy Coast’s government has blamed previous attacks on supporters of ex-presid-

Two (soldiers) were killed, that’s confirmed, and possi-

The army rebuffed the attack and was carrying out clean-up operations in the area later on Saturday, he said. Defence ministry and army officials were not immediately available for comment. Ivory Coast is re-

Ivy Coast is recovering from a decade-long political crisis that ended in 2011 civil war sparked by Gbagbo’s refusal to admit defeat in a presidential run-

Under President Alas-

Paris had been a bastion for Sun-

The last major flare-up in Tripoli was in October, when at least 11 soldiers and 22 militants were killed in fighting between Sunni Islamists and the army.

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But its communal tensions were eased by a secur-

Lebanese Army soldiers man an area beside a cafe where a bomb attack took place in Jabal Mohsen, Tripoli, on 10 Jan., 2015.—Reuters

the government in Syria, responded to the attack by saying terrorist groups must be isolated.

It urged the people of Jabal Mohsen, whose Alawite sect is an offshoot of Shi’ite Islam, not to “be dragged toward reactions that would achieve the crim-

The last major flare-up in Tripoli was in October, when at least 11 soldiers and 22 militants were killed in fighting between Sunni Islamists and the army.

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But its communal tensions were eased by a secur-

Lebanese Army soldiers man an area beside a cafe where a bomb attack took place in Jabal Mohsen, Tripoli, on 10 Jan., 2015.—Reuters
Volvo to sell Chinese-made cars in US this year

BEIJING, 11 Jan — Volvo Car Group plans to export a Chinese-made midsize sedan this year to the United States, and is starting to weigh the possibility of building a vehicle factory in the United States, people familiar with the Chinese-owned automaker’s plans said.

Both moves would be significant for the auto industry and Volvo’s parent, Zhejiang Geely Holding Group Co (GEELY.UL). So far, global automakers have chosen not to ship vehicles made in China to the US market in any significant numbers, and efforts by Chinese automakers to export vehicles to the United States have foundered.

Volvo is also behind rivals BMW (BMWG.DE) and Mercedes (DAIGn.DE) in establishing production in the United States, which isolates the German brands from currency fluctuations.

Volvo might also export a large “strategic flagship” sedan based on a newly developed underpinning technology, said the executives, who work for Zhejiang Geely. That car would be shipped out of China in addition to the Volvo S60L, a long-wheelbase version of the S60 sedan Volvo began producing in the southwestern China city of Chengdu more than a year ago.

The moves are aimed at reviving Volvo’s momentum in the US market where volume last year fell 8 percent from 2013 to 56,371 vehicles. The US market, which has long been Volvo’s largest market, was replaced by China last year. China bought 81,221 Volvos in 2014, up 33 percent.

More broadly, the moves are part of Geely’s turnaround strategy for Volvo which has struggled to go beyond being a brand with an aura but less than a half-million vehicles. Thanks to its focus on China where the brand expanded its distribution network and product portfolio, Volvo sales volume is on the rise. It sold a total of 465,866 vehicles globally last year, up 9 percent from 2013.

“The S60L offers class-leading rear space, something that has been consistently demanded by US customers. It will be made at Volvo’s plant in Chengdu, China, and will be on show for the first time at this year’s North American International Auto Show in Detroit,” said David Ibison, a Gothenburg, Sweden-based Volvo spokesman. “The S60L forms just one part of our US revival plan.”

Biscon said Volvo plans to launch seven new products by 2018 and increase US sales to around 100,000 cars a year in the medium term. He declined to elaborate. Exporting Chinese-produced mainstream passenger cars to the United States and other advanced auto markets has been a longstanding goal of China’s indigenous automakers — an objective that has largely eluded the industry.

“It would be a big breakthrough” not just for Volvo but for China’s industry, said James Chao, Asia-Pacific director of consulting and research firm HIS Automotive.

“Volvo is not an indigenous Chinese brand but it is wholly Chinese-owned. Perhaps this is the model or strategy that finally works for Chinese companies trying to enter the US market and other markets.”

Chao added Volvo’s owner, Geely, could follow Volvo into the US market with its own products, perhaps leveraging Volvo’s manufacturing and parts supply chains.

The S60L from Volvo from Ford Motor Co (F.N) five years ago surprised many in the auto industry, who doubted that a relative newcomer could turn around the nearly 90-year-old Swedish business while protecting its famous brand.

The S60L was developed originally as a China-specific model to cater to wealthy Chinese consumers who prefer cars with bigger, comfortable rear seats because many of these owners have chauffeurs. Volvo expects to sell 1,500 made-in-China S60L cars to the United States this year, compared with the car’s projected volume in China this year of 26,000.

The additional car Volvo plans to export to the United States, those executives said, is a flagship large sedan that might be called the S90 which uses Volvo’s new vehicle underpinning technology called “scalable platform architecture” or SPA. The S90 will be a second vehicle based on that new architecture, foliating redesigned XC90 sport utility vehicle based on the same technology.

If Volvo announced in late 2013 that it would produce “a large premium sedan” based on SPA at a new plant in the northeastern Chinese city of Daqing. At Daqing, Volvo began producing in September last year the XC Classic, the previous generation of the redesigned XC90.

US centre eyes more clinical cooperation with China

BEIJING, 11 Jan — The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Centre (MDACC), a top-ranking cancer research institute and hospital in the United States, said it is looking forward to more cooperation in clinical trials and treatment with Chinese partners.

Oliver Bogler, MDACC senior vice president for academic affairs, told Xinhua that collaborations with Chinese partners have been productive in several fields, such as cancer screening, liver cancer and lung cancer treatment, and the centre is planning more cooperation in clinical trials and comparative studies with China.

“Cancer is a significant challenge to both China and the US,” Bogler said, noting that every country has a unique spectrum of cancers depending on factors such as population and environment. Bogler said that with many good scientists, people’s contributions and the government’s commitment in fighting cancer, China offers “tremendous opportunities” to develop cancer research.

Bogler was recently in Beijing to receive the International Science and Technology Cooperation Award of the People’s Republic of China. He was among eight winners for this year’s award, which was presented by China’s State Council on Friday to foreign scientists and organizations for their work in science and technology cooperation with China.

According to Ta-Jen Liu, the MDACC’s project director for global academic programs, the MDACC has several sister institutions in China, including the Sun Yat-sen University Cancer Centre, the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences Cancer Institute and Hospital, Tianjin Medical University Cancer Institute and Hospital, Fudan University Shanghai Cancer Centre and the Sir YK Pao Centre for Cancer under the Chinese University of Hong Kong. It has also signed memoranda of understanding to collaborate with other Chinese institutions.

Cooperation with these institutions is currently focused on training, education and patient care. According to Liu, the MDACC is also open-minded on verified traditional Chinese medicines (TCMs).

“The MDACC views TCMS as an alternative means of cancer management. The department of integrative medicine at MDACC uses Qigong and acupuncture to help cancer patients manage quality of life and symptom control, especially for pain,” he said.

However, he said the centre remains prudent about using TCM for direct cancer treatment, as the efficacy of TCM is still difficult to accurately define.

Bogler said he believes immunotherapy, which focuses on therapy to reactivate patients’ immune systems and unleash their ability to attack cancer, will be one of the most promising directions in research in the future.

“It is not new, but many new exciting things have happened in this area in recent years. We hope new developments will happen in this area, and clinical trials have also been active,” he said.

Noting the MDACC slogan of “making cancer history,” Bogler said to all cancer patients: “Be hopeful about the future.”

World’s biggest container ship arrives at Rotterdam sea waters

ROTTERDAM, 11 Jan — A grand ceremony was held at the Port of Rotterdam on Saturday at the port of Rotterdam to welcome the world’s biggest container ship, the CSCL Globe owned by China Shipping Container Group, though the vessel on her maiden voyage was held miles away from the port due to bad weather while stressing that the safety of people and cargo on board has always been the primary consideration of the Port authorities.

“We look forward to further collaboration. I think the port of Rotterdam is laid out in a very efficient way for such very large vessels,” he said, adding that it’s a pity that the vessel cannot enter the port due to the bad weather while stressing that the safety of people and cargo on board has always been the primary consideration of the Port authorities.

“Although we have very large vessels, those guests here, safety is paramount and we can not compromise. We have to wait till the weather turns better and that is part of the maritime industry. We expect the vessel to enter into the port in another 24 to 48 hours,” he explained.—Xinhua
US prosecutors seek longer sentences for Madoff aides

NEW YORK, 1 Jan — US prosecutors plan to ask an appeals court to review the prison sentences given to five former employees of Bernard Madoff, after earlier questioning whether the sentences were too short, according to court filings.

In filings late on Friday in US District Court in Manhattan, prosecutors gave notice that they would be appealing the sentences to the 2nd US Circuit Court of Appeals in New York but did not elaborate further.

One of the five former employees, former portfolio manager JoAnn Crupi, filed a separate notice that she planned to appeal her conviction and her sentence. A prosecutor urged Judge Laura Taylor Swain in court last month to avoid issuing light sentences for the Madoff defendants so as not to set a precedent for unrelated fraud cases.

“Judges will have to explain how small-time crooks in front of them were worse than the defendants in this case,” said Matthew Schwartz, an assistant US attorney.

Prosecutors said the five employees helped Madoff bilk investors of billions of dollars in his massive Ponzi scheme by creating fake documents and backdating trades. A jury in Manhattan convicted them in March 2014, and Swain sentenced them last month.

Scientist at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory dies in small plane crash

LOS ANGELES, 1 Jan — A 47-year-old scientist at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory who worked on robotic systems for exploring Mars and extreme environments on Earth has died in a small plane crash in Los Angeles, officials said on Saturday.

Alberto Behar spent 23 years at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory where he worked on instruments for the rover Curiosity which landed on Mars in 2012 and the Mars Odyssey orbiter that launched in 2001, the Pasadena, California-based institution said in a statement.

The crash involved a single-engine Lancair aircraft that went down in unknown circumstances shortly after take off from Van Nuys Airport in Los Angeles on Friday, Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Ian Gregor said in an email. A limited liability company under Behar’s name was listed as an owner of the plane in an FAA registry.

Behar’s work included developing robotic systems for measuring ice sheets in Antarctica and Greenland with the use of submarines, ice rovers and boats, according to the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. “From his submarines that peaked under Antarctica to his boats that raced Greenland’s rivers, Alberto’s work enabled measurement of things we’d never known. His creativity knew few bounds,” NASA headquarters scientist Thor Tofferson said in a statement. When Behar in 2009 submerged a small camera 600 feet (183 meters) beneath an ice sheet in the Antarctic they captured images of a shrimp creature swimming beneath the ice, which surprised him and fellow researchers.

Behar, aside from working at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, also was a research professor at Arizona State University.

Sri Lanka army defied order to keep Rajapaksa in power — Sirisena aide

COLOMBO, 11 Jan — Sri Lanka’s army defied orders from aides of former president Mahinda Rajapaksa to keep him in power “by force” when it became clear he had lost his bid for a third term, the campaign spokesman of the newly elected leader said on Saturday.

Rajapaksa’s spokesman denied the allegation, while the army spokesman said he was unaware of any such order.

Rajapaksa lost Thursday’s election, ending a decade of rule that critics said had become increasingly authoritarian and marred by nepotism and corruption.

Rajitha Senaratne, a lawmaker who acted as the spokesman for new President Maithripala Sirisena during the campaign, said Rajapaksa’s administration had sought the backing of the military to stay in power.

“The army chief got orders to deploy the troops on the ground across the country. They tried attempts to continue by force. The army chief defied all the orders he got in the last hours,” Senaratne told reporters at a news conference in Colombo, the first by Sirisena’s aides since the vote.

“We spoke to the army chief and told him not to do this. He kept the troops in the barracks and helped a free and fair election,” Senaratne said.

Mohan Samarasinghe, spokesman for the former president, said Rajapaksa denied the allegations and had decided to transfer power after looking at the trend of the results in the early hours of Friday.

“When US State Secretary John Kerry spoke to Rajapaksa over the phone, the former president assured him there will be a smooth power transition as stipulated in the constitution,” Samarasinghe told Reuters. Military spokesman Brigadier Ruwan Wijesinghe said he was unaware of any such order made to the army. He said the military stayed out of the election process at every stage. “Sri Lanka’s military will not do anything to disrupt the democratic traditions and process,” he said.

Speculation had been rife in Colombo just before the election that force could be used to keep Sirisena voters from polling stations or even that the military could intervene if Rajapaksa looked set to lose.

US President Barack Obama congratulated Sirisena on his victory in a statement on Saturday.

“I also commend the outgoing administration of former President Mahinda Rajapaksa for facilitating a swift and orderly transition of power,” Obama said.

Sirisena took 51.3 percent of the vote, while Rajapaksa got 47.6 percent. Rajapaksa, even before the official results were announced, conceded his defeat and left his official residence.—Reuters

Avalanche kills one, traps four in northeastern Turkey

ISTANBUL, 11 Jan — One worker was killed and four remained trapped by an avalanche in Turkey’s northeast on Saturday following a week of vicious snow storms across the region, the disaster management agency (AFAD) said. The five workers were repairing a broken generator in a construction site for a tunnel when the avalanche struck, AFAD spokesman Dogan Eskinat said. AFAD teams had recovered one body and the effort to rescue other people was underway but bad weather delayed efforts.

“There is a 1 kilometre climb to where the four workers remain trapped. I am told weather is terrible and even helicopters could not take off,” Eskinat said.

Hundreds of labourers die on the job every year in Turkey and its lax worker safety record has come under scrutiny since May, when a coal mine disaster killed 301 workers in the western town of Soma, the country’s worst industrial accident in history.

Six months after the tragedy Turkey tightened work safety regulations and introduced tougher penalties for breaches.

Reuter
**INVITATION TO OPEN PREQUALIFICATION OF BIDDING**

The Irrigation Department (ID), Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, announces the PREQUALIFICATION of International Competitive Bidding for “Procurement of Construction Machineries for ID” under the Irrigation Development Project in Western Bago Region based on the Loan Agreement (Loan No.: MY-P7) signed on 5th September, 2014 between the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Ministry.

The procurement works shall consist of equipment supply, site assembling, test-run, training and commissioning for the construction machineries. Please note that Joint Ventures are acceptable.

**Sr.No.** | **Bidding No.** | **Description** | **Qty** | **Remarks**
--- | --- | --- | --- | ---
1. | ITF-ID-01 | Procurement of Construction Machineries for ID | 1 lot |  
A complete set of prequalification documents is available in Myanmar kyat (50,000/-) from 10:00 to 12:00 and 14:00 to 16:00 in the working days from 13th to 19th, January, 2015 at Procurement Director Office of Irrigation Department, Building No. (43), Nay Pyi Taw and closing date will be 27th January, 2015 during office hours. Submission of the Documents later than closing date will not be considered.

Contact: Director, Procurement branch. Telephone: +95 67-410019

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**UK Prime Minister Cameron to visit Washington next week**

WASHINGTON, 11 Jan — British Prime Minister David Cameron will have meetings with President Barack Obama next week during a two-day visit to Washington, the White House said in a statement.

Cameron and Obama will have a working dinner on January 12 during his visit to Washington, the statement said.

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**As many as 59 dead in bus-oil tanker collision in southern Pakistan**

ISLAMABAD, 11 Jan — As many as 59 people were killed in a head-on collision between a passenger bus and an oil tanker early on Sunday morning in a Karachi neighbourhood, rescue workers and administration officials said.

All the passengers and the driver of the bus were killed, they said.

The bus was bound for Shikarpur in south-central Pakistan, about 500 kilometres from Karachi.

“They were burnt alive. The bodies of several children were glued to women who may have been their mothers. It was impossible to separate them,” Dr Seemi Jamali at Jinnah Hospital was reported as saying.

She said identification of these bodies would require DNA tests. The accident took place in Gadap Town in the outskirts of Karachi shortly after the bus left for Shikarpur. Karachi Commissioner Shoaib Siddiqui attributed the accident to fog and reckless driving by the driver of oil tanker.

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**Weather Report**

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 12TH January, 2015:** Rain are likely to be isolated in Taninthayi Region, Kachin, Shan, Kayah, Kayin and Mon States, weather will be partly cloudy in Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Rakhine State and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (60%).

**STATE OF THE SEA:** Strong easterly winds with moderate to rough sea are likely at times Deltac, Gulf of Motttama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in strong wind may reach (30) m.p.h. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Mon-Taninthayi Coasts.

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**Objects found in McDonald’s food at two more Japan outlets**

Reuters

OKAYAMA/OITA, (Japan) 11 Jan — A small rubber fragment and a bit of vinyl were found in food sold at McDonald’s outlets in Okayama and Oita prefectures last year, officials of McDonald’s Holdings Co (Japan) said on Saturday.

On Wednesday, the Japanese unit of the global fast-food chain apologized for a string of food safety incidents involving its products.

The small rubber fragment found in a chicken nugget by a customer at a restaurant in Tsuyama, Okayama Prefecture, on 31 October, was later confirmed to be from the glove of a worker in a Thai factory and the company apologized to the customer on Thursday.

Production workers at the factory are supposed to check every half-hour for whether their disposable gloves are torn. “It was highly likely that a tear had been overlooked,” said a public relations official.

At a McDonald’s outlet in the city of Oita in southwestern Japan, a 4 to 5 centimeter-piece of transparent vinyl was found in a chicken sandwich taken out by a customer on 29 December, the officials said.

The cause of the contamination is not known, they said, adding the outlet has apologized to the customer.

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**Beautician Aguri Yoshiyuki dies at 107**

TOKYO, 11 Jan — Aguri Yoshiyuki, a pioneering Japanese beauty specialist, died of pneumo-nia on Monday, the office of her daughter said on Saturday. She was 107.

She was the mother of the late writers Junsuke and Rie Yoshiyuki and actress Kazuko Yoshiyuki.

Born in Okayama Prefecture, she opened a beauty shop in Tokyo after marrying the late writer Eisuke Yoshiyuki when she was 15 and gave birth to Junno-suke.

Her life was dramatized in NHK drama series “Aguri” in 1997.

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**Residents take part in a protest against the increase in the fares of public transportation in Sao Paulo, Brazil, on 9 Jan, 2015. XINHUA**

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Kyodo News
Bradley Cooper to make directorial debut

LOS ANGELES, 11 Jan — Actor Bradley Cooper is reportedly eyeing to make his directorial debut with ‘Honeymoon With Harry’, starring himself and Robert De Niro.

The film’s story is about a man, whose fiancee dies 2 days before their wedding leaving the lover devastated. He then goes on a trip with her father, who despises him to, scatter the ashes, reported Deadline.

Dan Fogelman has written the movie’s screenplay, based on Bart Baker’s novel ‘Honeymoon With Harry’. De Niro and Cooper have worked together on films like ‘Limitless’ and ‘Silver Linings Playbook’.

First love would have been the one:
Jennifer Aniston

NEW YORK, 11 Jan — Jennifer Aniston revealed that her first love was ‘the one’ but they could not be together and he passed away from a brain tumour.

The 45-year-old actress’ love life has often been at the centre of many media outlets throughout the last decade. “He was my first love — five years we were together. He would have been the one. But I was 25, and I was stupid. He must have sent me Justin to make up for it all,” she told the New York Times without revealing the name of the boyfriend.

Since then, Aniston got fame with hit series ‘Friends’, fame with hit series ‘Friends’, the movie’s screenplay, based on Bart Baker’s novel ‘Honeymoon With Harry’. De Niro and Cooper have worked together on films like ‘Limitless’ and ‘Silver Linings Playbook’.

JK Simmons finds charm in being despicable of ‘Whiplash’

LOS ANGELES, 11 Jan — Mastering the art of jazz drumming wasn’t the only objective on actor JK Simmons’ mind when he signed on to play an abusive music teacher in the independent film “Whiplash.” He also focussed on co-star Miles Teller’s face.

“I mostly just wanted to do the best possible job of re-deening Miles’ cheeks while slapping him,” the actor quipped in a recent interview.

Among his many roles, Simmons, 60, has previously played a neo-Nazi in HBO’s prison drama “Oz,” a psychia-trist in police procedural “Law & Order,” a newspaper editor in the “Spider-Man” film franchise and a blind lawyer in “Growing Up Fisher.”

But it’s a manipulative, abusive, but also at times charming, jazz teacher that may be his shot at an Oscar. “Whiplash,” the feature-length directorial debut from Damien Chazelle, pits young jazz drummer Andrew (Teller) striving to be the best in his craft against Simmons’ Fletcher, an acerbic, calculating, foul-mouthed instructor.

Simmons is up for a best supporting actor Golden Globe on Sunday and a frontrunner for next week’s Oscar nominations. As Andrew is pushed to his very limits of existence by Fletcher, the film explores both the physical and mental anguish of the pursuit of perfection — from Andrew practicing until his fingers are dripping with blood to Fletcher continuously slapping him as he mocks his skills.

“I wanted to portray a character who is single-minded in his objective and his focus, and is unconcerned with what the collateral damage might be,” Simmons said.

“Without even seeing my character, you see him through all these terrified kids’ eyes, and it just makes my job so much easier as an actor when it’s been established that you have a room full of kids that are scared,” Simmons said finding Chazelle and the role of Fletcher was “kismet,” or fate, as he had studied both classical and rock ‘n roll music in college.

For 29-year-old Chazelle, who scored two BAFTA nominations on Friday, the inspiration for “Whiplash” came directly from his own recollections as a young jazz drummer in high school.

“I certainly remember the sheer anxiety and terror of being in rehearsals, my hands bleeding through practise,” he said.

But the first-hand experience came as an advantage to the rookie director, who initially took the film as a short to the Sundance Film Festival in 2013.

After winning the jury award for fiction in the short film category, Chazelle returned to Sundance with the feature length version in 2014 and won both the audience and grand jury prizes. Sony Pictures Classics bought the film for $3 million.

And while a film about the niche world of jazz drumming was not Chazelle’s easiest pitch to make to film buyers, he said he hoped it was the emotional journey that would connect with audiences.

“You can actually end up telling a more universal story the more you really burrow into a specific world,” he said.

Katy Perry to be joined by Lenny Kravitz at Super Bowl halftime

LOS ANGELES, 11 Jan — Pop singer Katy Perry announced on Saturday that Grammy-award winning singer-songwriter Lenny Kravitz will join her on stage for a guest appearance during the halftime entertainment at Sunday’s Super Bowl. “He’s the coolest!” Perry quipped of Kravitz during an excerpt of an interview set to air on NBC on Monday. The announcement was made during Saturday’s playoff game between the Baltimore Ravens and New England Patriots.

Perry did not give any hints at to which songs the pair might perform during the game, the most-watched US sporting and television event. Shortly after the Super Bowl performance, Kravitz will kick off the second-leg of a world tour in support of his latest studio album “Strut.”

Perry, 30, joins the likes of Madonna, Beyonce and Prince to perform at the NFL’s Super Bowl halftime show, which regularly attracts more viewers than the average for the championship game itself. The Super Bowl will be played on 1 February in Glendale, Arizona, and broadcast on Comcast Corp-owned network NBC.

The 2014 Super Bowl averaged a record 112.2 million viewers on network Fox, while the halftime performance by singer Bruno Mars and rock group Red Hot Chili Peppers drew 115.3 million viewers, according to Nielsen.

Madonna accused of using Paris terror attack to promote album

NEW YORK, 11 Jan — Pop diva Madonna has been accused of using the Charlie Hebdo massacre to promote her upcoming album ‘Rebel Heart’.

Two gunmen killed down 12 people, including journalists and two policeman on Wednesday at an attack on satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo, reported New York Post. The 56-year-old star Instagrammed a ‘Je Suis Charlie’ image on Wednesday, sharing words of peace while also hashtagging her own album title, ‘Rebel Heart’.

“These are very scary times we are living in. Ignorance breeds Intolerance and fear. We can only fight darkness with light! We are all Charlie! revolutionlove #rebelhearts,” Madonna wrote.

Singer Katy Perry performs at a concert commemorating the Special Olympics at the White House in Washington on 31 July, 2014.—Reuters

“Whiplash” cast member JK Simmons poses for a portrait in Los Angeles, California on 14 Nov, 2014.—Reuters

PTI
**GENERAL**

**Wily Leicester show belief they can hunt down rivals**

Leicester, England, 11 Jan — Leicester City's stirring Post Horn Gallop had been threatening to turn into a mournful Last Post as their wretched season limped along — but the seeds of hope are starting to sprout afresh at the King Power stadium.

The Foxes' trumpet fanfare a nod to the county's hunting traditions which greets City's arrival before every home game — was blasted out with renewed gusto on Saturday and Nigel Pearson's men responded with a 5-1 success over Aston Villa.

So the heralding of the New Year has brought renewed optimism to a team who were seemingly heading straight back to England's second tier, a league they had shown they were far too good for last season. A second win in three and seven points from nine has underlined the Premier League basement side’s belief. Since halting a 13-match winless run with victory at Hull City in late December, City have shown a much-needed steelier side.

They battled back from two goals down to draw at Liverpool on New Year's Day, then followed up with an FA Cup victory over Premier League rivals Newcastle United last weekend.

While taking three points against an inept Villa side, secured with a sweet strike from defender Paul Konchesky in first-half stoppage time, was not enough to move City off the bottom, they at least signalled they remain up for a dogfight.

Even the late straight red card for Matty James for an awful tackle on Jores Okore — prompting a meelle that led to Villa's Claudio Ranieri being dismissed for retaliation — could not take the gloss of Pearson's day. “We’ve never doubted our own ability,” Pearson told reporters.

“It’s nice to be talking after four decent results. But it’s a case of looking forward and not dwelling on what’s happened already.

“We have to make sure we give ourselves a chance of being successful this year, whatever successful turns out to be,” Pearson, who has lost Algerian Riyad Mahrez to the African Nations Cup, has brought in Croatian hotshot Andrej Kramaric from HNK Rijeka, subject to him being granted a work permit, and veteran goalkeeper Mark Schwarzer.

**Ball hog’ Bale angers Ronaldo again**

Madrid, 11 Jan — Gareth Bale angered Real Madrid team mate Cristiano Ronaldo for the second La Liga game in a row on Saturday when he opted to shoot instead of passing to the second-placed club’s footballer of the season.

Ronaldo, who has put the browsing in the penalty area to the Wales forward's left during a swift break, reacted furiously after Bale’s weak effort went wide.

It was a similar situation last weekend when Bale chose to go for goal instead of squaring the ball to Karim Benzema in the 2-1 defeat at Valencia.

Bale’s actions on Saturday prompted whistling from fans at the Bernabeu and will do nothing to dispel the impression that he can be selfish, something that has earned him the label “ball hog” in the Spanish media.

Coach Carlo Ancelotti played down the incident and noted the Welshman had earlier scored a superb free kick that put Real 2-0 ahead. “Later on the fans wanted him to pass to Cristiano but forwards are determined to score when they are through on the goalkeepers,” Ancelotti told a news conference.

“Generosity is very important and if someone is being selfish then we will address it,” added the Italian. “The supporters are very demanding when it comes to the important players and Bale is one of those. We shouldn’t blow this out of proportion. It’s one moment in a football game. Relations between them (Bale and Ronaldo) and everyone are very good. We are all pursuing the same goal which is to lift Real Madrid as high as possible.”

The victory over Espanyol put them four points clear of Barcelona to 14-2 in the Spanish first division soccer match at the King Power Stadium in Leicester, central England, 10 Jan, 2015.—Reuters

**50 leagues disrupted by winter World Cup warns official**

London, 11 Jan — At least 50 football leagues around the world would be adversely affected if the 2022 World Cup in Qatar was held in November and December, the official who originally warned against holding the World Cup there has told Reuters.

The leagues would be slightly less disrupted if it was held in January and February but other complications make that difficult, says Harold Mayne-Nicholls, head of FIFA's technical investigation into the 2018 and 2022 World Cups which ranked Qatar the highest risk for 2022.

Mayne-Nicholls, a former president of the Chilean FA, says another possible window to stage the tournament exists in May and June 2022 but warns there are problems whatever date is finally chosen by FIFA.

He informed FIFA of the dangers of holding the World Cup in Qatar because of the intense summer heat in the Gulf which can be as high as 50C in June and July, the traditional staging dates. He has since done further analysis on the dilemma facing FIFA, whose secretary-general Jerome Valcke said in November that a winter World Cup in either January and February 2022 or November and December was FIFA's preferred option.

“Given that FIFA’s Medical Commission has already determined it is unsafe to play in the traditional window of June and July, there are three alternatives,” he says now.

“Hosting the tournament in November and December but, since Christmas is generally celebrated across much of the globe, it is logical that World Cup must be concluded no later than Thursday, 22 December. “As the tournament lasts 31 days, this means it should start on Tuesday, 22 November.

“And taking into consideration a minimum of 15 days for the preparation of the participating teams, it means that leagues across the world must stop their activity on 6 November so players can be released to prepare and then play with their national teams.

“This presents a dilemma. At the last two World Cup finals, players from 52 different leagues participated in South Africa and 51 different leagues in Brazil. Of these, only Canada does not play any matches in November.

“Obviously, to opt for these dates will have an adverse affect and disrupt at least 50 leagues.”

Mayne-Nicholls says the second option of playing in January and February would affect countries like England, Spain, Italy and some countries in the south-hemisphere.—Reuters

**MRTV Entertainment Channel**

(12-1-2015, Monday) 6:00 am • Travelogue Programme 6:30 am • Honour Song of Alinea Kyaw Swar Shwe Pyi Aye 6:50 am • TV Drama Series 7:20 am • Fashion Show 7:40 am • TV Drama Series 8:25 am • TV Drama Series 9:10 am • Musical Programme 9:25 am • Pyi Thu Ni Ti 9:40 am • ASEAN-China Cultural Show 9:55 am • Myanmar Video

**MTV MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL**

(12-1-15 07:00 am • 13-1-07:00 am) MST • Local News • Myanmar Arts & Handicrafts • World News • Myanmar Traditional Art Bronze Casting • Local News • Writer “Chit Oo Nyo” (Part - I) • World News • Myanmar Puppet • Local News • Chef Life “Olive r E Soe Thet” • World News • A Traditional Doctor • Local News • Youth Film-Maker: Khin Su Kyi • World News • Myanmar Masterclass: Impressism • Local News • Today Myanmar “Innovative Solution for Farmers in Dry Zone” • World News • Crocodile Keeper • Local News • Myanmar’s Secret Beautifier • World News • Snake Dancer • Local News • Enchanting Rakhine Land • World News • Contemporary Art • Local News • Marvelous Solo Cane • Ball Playing • World News • In The Studio: Shin Min Eain

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* Image 1: Leicester City's Matty James (C) tussles with Aston Villa's Claudio Ranieri (2nd R) during their English Premier League soccer match at the King Power Stadium in Leicester, central England, 10 Jan, 2015.—Reuters

* Image 2: Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo (L) reacts next to his teammate Gareth Bale during their Spanish first division soccer match against Espanyol at Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid on 10 Jan, 2015. — Reuters
Chelsea pull clear as Man City held by Everton

LONDON, 11 Jan — Chelsea beat Newcastle United 2-0 for a 10th straight Premier League home win at their Stamford Bridge stronghold on Saturday to reassert themselves as Premier League leaders while Manchester City drew 1-1 at Everton. Jose Mourinho’s team had relinquished control in the title race in recent weeks with City scoring back to close an eight-point deficit and draw level but goals from Oscar and Diego Costa edged them two points clear at the top. City, who had collected 25 points from the last 27 on offer, took the lead late on at Goodison Park through Fernandinho but even Nanshi’s header secured a point for the hosts to close an eight-point deficit and draw level but goals from Oscar and Diego Costa edged them two points clear at the top. City, who had collected 25 points from the last 27 on offer, took the lead late on at Goodison Park through Fernandinho but even Nanshi’s header secured a point for the hosts.

Real back to winning ways against Espanyol

MADRID, 11 Jan — La Liga leaders Real Madrid returned to winning ways after two defeats, making light of playing most of the second half with 10 men to triumph 3-0 at home to mid-table Espanyol on Saturday.

Beat 2-1 at Valencia in La Liga last weekend and 2-0 at Atlético Madrid in a King’s Cup last 16 match on New Year’s Day, Real took the lead at the Bernabeu when Cristiano Ronaldo set up James Rodríguez to score in the 12th minute. Real Madrid’s James Rodriguez celebrates his goal during their Spanish first division soccer match against Espanyol at Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid on 10 Jan, 2015. — Reuters

Real Madrid’s James Rodríguez celebrates his goal during their Spanish first division soccer match against Espanyol at Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid on 10 Jan, 2015. — Reuters

Crystal Palace manager Alan Pardew gestures during their English Premier League soccer match against Tottenhotspur at Selhurst Park in London on 10 Jan, 2015. — Reuters

Palace Glad All Over as Pardew celebrates winning return

LONDON, 11 Jan — New Crystal Palace manager Alan Pardew celebrated an emotional return to Selhurst Park on Saturday as they beat Tottenhotspur 2-1 before he helped orchestrate the fans booming out their “Glory All Over” anthem. Former Palace player Pardew may be just as glad his troubled reign at Newcastle United is all over as he was greeted “home” by a home crowd who had plenty to celebrate at the end of his first Premier League game as the club’s manager. After Tottenhotspur striker Harry Kane struck his 18th goal of the season to give the visitors the lead in the 49th minute, Palace came storming back to win with a Dwyane Gayle penalty after 69 minutes and an 80th minute Jason Puncheon strike. The result lifted Palace to 15th as they moved out of the relegation zone and prevented Spurs jumping into the top four, but the focus was on Pardew just as much as on his players.

In his first game in charge last week Palace beat non-League Dover Athletic 4-0 away in the FA Cup but this was an altogether different challenge against in-form Spurs who had beaten leaders Chelsea 5-3 in their last league match on New Year’s Day. Tottenhotspur looked set to extend their unbeaten run in all matches to eight games but at the end it was Pardew and not his opposite number Mauricio Pochettino who was punching the air in delight as Palace won for the first time in nine league matches. Pardew told reporters the first text message he received after the game was from his former boss, Newcastle United owner Mike Ashley, who congratulated him on “a great result.” — Reuters

Chelsea’s Diego Costa (C) celebrates his goal with teammates Oscar (L) and Cesc Fabregas during their English Premier League soccer match against Newcastle United at Stamford Bridge in London on 10 Jan, 2015. — Reuters

Chelsea’s Diego Costa (C) celebrates his goal with teammates Oscar (L) and Cesc Fabregas during their English Premier League soccer match against Newcastle United at Stamford Bridge in London on 10 Jan, 2015. — Reuters