

President U Thein Sein meets political leaders, ethnic affairs ministers and ethnic representative leaders

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Jan — The meeting of the president, political leaders, ethnic affairs ministers and ethnic representative leaders was held at the Ngu Shwe Wah Hall of the Presidential Palace on Monday morning.

Present at the meeting were President U Thein Sein, Vice Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun, Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann, Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice Senior General Soe Win, Vice Chairman of Union Solidarity and Development Party U Htay Oo, Chairperson of National League for Democracy Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Chairman of National Unity Party U Than Tin, U Khin Maung Swe of FDA, U Sai Aik Paung of NBF, U Khun Tun Oo of UNA, leaders of Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan national race

parties and ethnic affairs ministers from regions and states, totaling 48 participants.

In his opening speech at the meeting, President U Thein Sein said: Today's meeting is being held in accordance with the agreement reached among the participants at the meeting held on 30 October where various demands and proposals from different points of views were made

After considering the demands and proposals, I have arranged the meeting so that today's attendees can participate in discussions to realize them in the interests of the people. I have invited national race leaders as well as ethnic affairs ministers who are representatives of national races in states and regions as I believe that it is necessary to include the viewpoints of the majority of national races. I hope today's discussions will result in some outcomes that can be practically implemented in cooperation. Priorities and details for further discussions in future meetings are to be sought at today's meeting.

The purpose of the meeting are three agenda stated in the invitation let-



President U Thein Sein cordially greets an ethnic affairs minister before the meeting.—MNA

ters and as they are fundamentals for the success of the democratic transition of Myanmar, all are invited to participate in the discussions. It is also known to all that there are challenges to carry out these tasks.

To overcome these challenges, there are many issues to be successfully solved in long term and in short term in cooperation with the government and the national forces.

Despite political dif-

ferences, all of us share the same desire to build Myanmar into a democratic state and it is sure that success will be achieved through cooperation of all. I always believe that success of the (See page 3)

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Police seize wildlife parts in Muse

By Thein Zaw (ShweLiOo) & GNLM

MUSE, Jan 12 — The discovered illegal wildlife border town with China, on Myanmar Police Force parts in a home in Muse, a Saturday.



Parts of wildlife seized during a search in Muse.

PHOTO: THEINZAW (SHWELIOO)

Acting on a tip-off, a combined team comprising police and officials from Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry searched a house owned by a 53-year old man and found wildlife parts, including leopard and tiger skins, horns, claws, canine teeth and bones of some wildlife hidden in the home's garage.

The illegal trade in tigers and other wild cat parts from Myanmar to China has grown in recent years, according to a new report based on two decades of data.

Tiger parts were found in 80 percent of the surveys, the study found, representing at least 200 tigers, while the most commonly traded parts were from (See page 3)

Press release on meeting of President, political leaders, ethnic affairs ministers, ethnic representative leaders

2015 January 12
Nay Pyi Taw

1. President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar invited national forces to hold a meeting in order to cooperate for political, economic and social development of future Myanmar and strengthening of democratic reform.
2. The meeting held today was attended by a total of 48 leaders including the president, political leaders, ethnic affairs ministers and ethnic representative leaders. At the meeting, matters related to (a) continued implementation of democratic transition and reform (b) holding political dialogues for national reconciliation based on the peace process and (c) political issues including the development of political processes for smooth transition after the successful holding of 2015 free and fair general election and maintaining stability during the remaining term were frankly discussed from various points of views in order to find solutions.
3. After holding further negotiations, such meetings will be held at opportune times.

Former outstanding students give lectures at roundtable discussion

MANDALAY, 12 Jan— The Upper Myanmar Outstanding Students (1964-88) Group held talks at Yadanabon Hall of Myanmar Medical Association (Mandalay) in Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay, on 11 January.

Chairman of the group Professor Dr Than Win (Rector of Mandalay University of Medicine), Secretary Dr Hlwan Moe and members Mandalay Region Minister for Forestry and Mining U Than Soe Myint,

retired rector of Sagaing University of Education U Yin Win Maung and Secretary of Mandalay Region Women's Affairs Organization Daw Thandar Phone Win were in attendance.

The chairman and vice chairman Dr Maung Maung Lay (retired professor of Myanmar Language Department) gave talks on morals of youths and achievements in social relations and replied to queries raised by students and attendees.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)



Farmer seizes python in Lewe Township

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Jan — Farmer Ko Zaw of Gyotan Village in Lewe Township on 11 January found two pythons near Yepyar Village where he gathered

grass for his buffaloes. The farmer could seize one of two pythons alive. The remaining one fled into the forest.

The seized python is an

eight-foot long and eight-inch diameter, a female.

The python is now kept in a cage at the monastery of Gyotan Village.

Ko Pauk (Okkar Myay)



Rural youths get opportunities to uplift their capacity

NYAUNGLEBIN, 12 Jan — Department of Rural Development of Nyaunglebin Township, Bago Region, opened the rural youth course 1/2015 at Hngetpyawtaw village in the township on 10 January.

Chairman of Township Development Supportive Committee U Thein Naing made a speech. Head of Township Department of Rural Development U Than Lwin and officials explained purpose of conducting the course and disciplines for the course.

Over 100 youths from 43 villages are attending the course in which officials of Department of Ru-



The opening ceremony of youth capacity enhancement course in progress.

ral Development Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department and Fisheries Department gave lectures.

Staff of the department who had completed

the rural youth capacity enhancement (instructor) and (multiplier) courses share their knowledge and experiences to the trainees.

Nay Lin (Nyaunglebin)

Enthusiast youths join application talks at MCC

MANDALAY, 12 Jan — The APP: Camp Myanmar 2015 applied computer technology exhibition, jointly organized by Myanmar Computer Company-MCC and Microsoft Company, was held at MCCI Training Institute (Mandalay Branch) in Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay, on 11 January.

Mr Seak Chern Ngan of Microsoft Company in Malaysia, Mr John William of Leo Tech in Singapore, Mr Guy Eugene of Myanmar Investment Group and enthusiasts attended the exhibition.

Chairman of MCC Chairman U Tin Win Aung

and speakers gave talks on innovation of mobile applications, mobile payment system, and venture capital availability.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)

MANDALAY, 12 Jan — A ceremony to hand over ownership books and room keys to apartment owners was held at Myayinanda low-cost housings sold by Mandalay City Development Committee at its hall

in Chanmyathazi Township, Mandalay, on 11 January.

Chief Minister of Mandalay Region U Ye Myint viewed systematic sales of apartments and cordially conversed with the people.

The chief minister

viewed construction site of Myayinanda four-storey buildings by Building Construction Project Special Group (6) of Public Works and gave necessary instructions.

Officials handed over

ownership books and room keys to 37 persons.

Mandalay City Development Committee sells 1,344 apartments from the housings to the local people through draw lot system.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)



NATIONAL

President U Thein Sein meets political leaders, . . .

(from page 1)
reform process already achieved is to be attributed to all political forces including the Hluttaws, political parties, Tatmadaw and the entire people. I would like to urge the participants to find out issues to be solved together with common goals during the meetings.

In spite of different viewpoints, opinions and standards for internal peace process, there are progresses and concerted efforts are being made for signing of nationwide ceasefire agreement by all as the NCA is vital to move forward to political dialogues which aims to build the union based on flourishing democracy and federalism. This also means creating favourable conditions for armed political forces to participate in the political process.

Peace-making efforts of our government are sincerely intended to lay a concrete foundation for the next governments in their attempts to sustain lasting peace.

Let me give a brief explanation on constitutional amendment. We always keep in mind that a State Constitution should be amended at an appropriate time. Ethnic people are calling for setting up a federal union and other democratization process-

es. Constitutional amendment will be based on the results of political dialogues and peace process in line with the 2008 State Constitution.

It will be a negligent act when amendment is made without observing legal procedures. Therefore, constitutional amendment must be carried out as per constitution. When we want to adopt a federal system, decentralization, power sharing and division of natural resources, we will have to consider the Principle of Progressive Realization which is being practiced in many countries.

The upcoming 2015 general elections will become a remarkable milestone in the history of Myanmar. All major political parties are expected to compete the elections. Therefore, these political forces are suggested to regard this election as a national duty to ensure free and fair elections which are important for a democratic foundation. And we, all together, need to strive for a prominent political transition after 2015 general elections.

This election will grant people a free and fair election, improvement of socio-economic lives through economic development resulting

from genuine reform and political dialogues which are fundamentals for a lasting peace and federal Union.

We have seen many challenges in land ownership disputes, economic problems and social issues. There also remain some significant problems in education reform. We accept that the draft of the National Education Law is not totally perfect, and needs broader contributions of experts, teachers, students, civil society groups and ethnic groups. Therefore, all the political forces are responsible for a stable political situation during the transitional period.

As a wind-up remark, I want to conclude that the 2015 general elections will be a historical event which will pave a way for the future of the country. It is believed to bring about a democratic transition and peace. Therefore, all the political forces are urged for joining hands to overcome all the challenges.

At the end of President's speech, the representatives of political forces discussed improvement of the reform process, political dialogues for national reconciliation that relies on peace-making process, smooth political transition and stability of politics in the country.

(A press release is reported separately.)

MNA

Press conference held for meeting among President, political leaders, ethnic affairs ministers, ethnic representative leaders

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Jan — A press conference on a meeting among President, political leaders, ethnic affairs ministers, ethnic representative leaders at the Ngu Shwe Wah Hall of the Presidential Palace

on Monday morning was held at the hall of the Ministry of Information, here, on Monday afternoon.

Union Minister for Information U Ye Htut made a clarification on the meeting at the Presidential Pal-

ace and replied to queries raised by local and foreign media. It was attended by 70 local and foreign correspondents.

MNA

Police seize wildlife . . .

(from page 1)
clouded leopards, numbering around 480 animals.

Mongla, a town bordering China, is the trade's hub and shops selling wild

cat parts have more than trebled from six in 2006, to 21 in 2014, Traffic, a U.K.-based nongovernmental organization that tracks the illegal wildlife trade in Asia, said in a statement released in December, 2014.—GNLM

Attendees to the political talks on 12 January

Sr.	Name	Organization
1.	U Thein Sein	President
2	Dr Sai Mauk Kham	Vice President
3.	U Nyan Tun	Vice President
4.	Thura U Shwe Mann	Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw
5.	U Khin Aung Myint	Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw
6.	Senior General Min Aung Hlaing	Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services
7.	U Tin Aye	Chairman of the Union Election Commission
8.	Vice-Senior General Soe Win	Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services
9.	U Htay Oo	Union Solidarity and Development Party
10.	Daw Aung San Suu Kyi	National League for Democracy
11.	U Than Tin	National Unity Party
12.	U Khin Maung Swe	Federal Democracy Alliance (FDA)
13.	U Sai Aik Paung	Nationalities Brotherhood Federation (NBF)
14.	U Khun Tun Oo	United Nationalities Alliance (UNA)
15.	Dr Manam Tu Ja	Kachin State Democracy Party
16.	U Po Rei	All Nationalities Democracy Party
17.	U Saw Tun Aung Myint	Kayin People's Party
18.	U Zo Zam	Chin National Democratic Party
19.	Dr Min Nwe Soe	All Mon Region Democracy Party
20.	U Aye Thar Aung	Rakhine National Party
21.	U Khin Maung Swe	Bamar National Race Minister (Kachin State)
22.	Daw Khin Pyone Yi	Shan National Race Minister (Kachin State)
23.	U Ah Si	Lisu National Race Minister (Kachin State)
24.	U Gwam Rein Dee	Rawam National Race Minister (Kachin State)
25.	U Sein Oo	Bamar National Race Minister (Kayah State)
26.	U Khin Kyu	Bamar National Race Minister (Kayin State)
27.	U Naing Chit Oo	Mon National Race Minister (Kayin State)
28.	U Khun Than Myint	Pa-O National Race Minister (Kayin State)
29.	U San Shwe	Shan National Race Minister (Sagaing Region)
30.	U Nothan Cap	Chin National Race Minister (Sagaing Region)
31.	U Saw Harvey	Kayin National Race Minister (Taninthayi Region)
32.	U Saw Jubilee San Hla	Kayin National Race Minister (Bago Region)
33.	U Salai Hla Tun	Chin National Race Minister (Magway Region)
34.	U Sai Maung Hla	Shan National Race Minister (Mandalay Region)
35.	U Thet Win	Bamar National Race Minister (Mon State)
36.	U Khun Pe Mya	Pa-O National Race Minister (Mon State)
37.	U Saw Aung Kyaw Thein	Kayin National Race Minister (Mon State)
38.	U Ko Ko Naing	Chin National Race Minister (Rakhine State)
39.	U Zaw Aye Maung	Rakhine National Race Minister (Yangon Region)
40.	U Naing Win	Bamar National Race Minister (Shan State)
41.	U Win Myint	Inn National Race Minister (Shan State)
42.	U Peter Thaug Sein	Kaw (Akha) National Race Minister (Shan State)
43.	U Shar Mwe Lashen	Lahu National Race Minister (Shan State)
44.	U Duwa Zoke Dong	Kachin (Jingphaw) National Race Minister (Shan State)
45.	U Law Yin	Kayan (Padaung) National Race Minister (Shan State)
46.	U Hwan Hsan (a) Yaw Wi	Lisu National Race Minister (Shan State)
47.	U Ba Kyu	Rakhine National Race Minister (Ayeyawady Region)
48.	U Mahn Than Shwe	Kayin National Race Minister (Ayeyawady Region)

3rd MDCF organizing leading committee meet

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Jan—The 3rd Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum-3rd MDCF organizing leading committee held a coordination meeting at the Ministry of National Planning and Econom-

ic Development, here, on Monday.

Chairman of the leading committee Union Minister for NPED Dr Kan Zaw explained the programmes for the forum. Union Minister at the President Office

U Soe Thane gave necessary instructions. The meeting formed the working groups for topics for the forum, management and logistic matters. The forum will be held on 7 and 8 February 2015. A plan

is underway to invite donor countries, international organizations, UN and INGOs to the forum, State level leaders, union ministers, deputy ministers, departmental heads, leaders of political parties, experts, entrepreneurs and NGOs.

The 1st forum was held on 19 and 20 January 2013 and the 2nd on 27 and 28 January 2014.—MNA

Myawady District offers certificates to monks, nuns who passed religious examinations

MYAWADY, 12 Jan — Myawady District and Township General Administration Department held the ceremony to honour monks and nuns who passed the 19th Pali Pahtamabyan examination at the hall of Shwemyin-wun Pagoda in Myawady, Kayin State, on 11 January.

Deputy commissioner U Lwin Ko Oo, Township administrator U Khin Maung Zaw and officials offered certificates of title and provisions to the monks and nuns.

Htein Lin Aung (IPRD)



Traffic police gives talks on rules, helmets to local bikers



MYINGYAN, 12 Jan — Traffic police force gave an educative talk on traffic rules to local people at Mani Kinsana Hall in Myingyan, Mandalay Region, on 9 January. At first, Myingyan Township administrator U Tun Thein Aung stressed the need for bikers to abide by traffic rules for prevention of accidents.

Police Major Thein Ko Ko of No 11 Traffic Police Branch disseminated traf-

fic rules and occurrences of traffic accidents in Mandalay Region.

Next, he presented 216 helmets worth K2.4 million for bikers through Township Administrator U Tun Thein Aung.

The talk was attended by township level officials, local authorities, students and members of the township development supportive committee.—*Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)*

Mandalay Region High Court honours outstanding staff

MANDALAY, 12 Jan — Mandalay Region High Court held a ceremony to honour an outstanding staff on 10 January.

Chief Justice of Mandalay Region High Court U Soe Thein made a speech. Mandalay Region Judicial Officer U Kyin Tin presented gifts to Deputy Township Judge U Zaw Zaw Aung of Tatkon Township Court who won the best shooting award in the junior officer course No 59 at Central

Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi).

The ceremony was attended by judges of the region high court and officials.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Chief Justice of Mandalay Region U Soe Thein speaks words of honour to outstanding deputy township judge.



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Yezin University of Agriculture turns out graduates

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Jan — Yezin University of Agriculture in Zeyathiri Township held the 25th

convocation at its hall on 11 January.

Rector Dr Myo Kywe delivered a convocation

speech and conferred degrees on graduate students.

This year, the university turned out 377 grad-

uates. The graduates will serve interests of their native areas for promoting agricultural sector and im-

proving cultivation methods of local farmers.

The agricultural college and research institute was established in the place of present Mandalay University on 22 December 1924. In 1938, the college became a constituent college of Yangon University.

The Faculty of Agriculture was upgraded to a separate university called the Institute of Agriculture in 1964. In 1973, the institute was moved to Yezin from Mandalay. The government upgraded the institute to Yezin Agricultural University in 1998.

Ko Myo (Shwe Paukkan)

Tourists visit Myanaung in Ayeyawady Region

MYANAUNG, 12 Jan — Katha Pandaw vessel running the Yangon-Mandalay route arrived in Myanaung, Ayeyawady Region, on 11 January. Globetrotters from the vessel visited Naychi Market in Myanaung and took documentary photos.

A total of 12 tourists from Australia, five from the United States, three from Germany, four from the United Kingdom and one from Thailand make trips along Ayeyawady River from Mandalay to Yangon.—*Win Bo (Township IPRD)*



REGIONAL

South Korean President says open to summit with North's Kim, no pre-condition

SEOUL, 12 Jan — South Korean President Park Geun-hye said on Monday she was willing to hold a summit meeting with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un without any pre-condition but maintained the country still needed an anti-North security law.

An end to North Korea's nuclear programme should be an important part of discussions for peace on the Korean peninsula but it was not a pre-condition to having a summit meeting, Park told a televised news conference.

"My position is that to ease the pain of division and to accomplish peaceful unification, I am willing to meet with anyone," Park said. "If it is helpful, I am up for

a summit meeting with the North. There is no pre-condition."

There is no sign of any concrete plan for a meeting between the two leaders. North and South Korean presidents have met only two times since the peninsula was divided at the end of World War Two.

The two sides are still technically at war since the 1950-53 Korean War ended only in a truce and not a peace treaty. More than 1.8 million troops are deployed on both sides of their border, one of the most heavily fortified in the world.

Park also told the news conference that an anti-North law, the National Security Law, continued to remain necessary in the

South.

"We need the very minimum of law to ensure security in this country as we remain in a standoff with the North, and the law is enforced according to that," she said.

Shin Eun-mi, a South Korea-born American who came to the South last year as a tourist, was deported to the United States under the law on Saturday for making positive comments about the North.

The first summit in 2000 between then-South Korean President Kim Dae-jung and then-North Korean leader Kim Jong Il led to a period of rapidly expanding ties including the opening of a factory park in the North run by South Korean busi-

nesses and a tourism project.

South Korea's Roh Moo-hyun met Kim seven years later and the two pledged greater cooperation but most of the ambitious projects discussed at the time remain on the drawing board and instead a period of tension followed under Roh's successor, Lee Myung-bak.

A South Korean navy ship was torpedoed in 2010 killing 46 sailors, which Seoul blamed on the North although Pyongyang denied the accusation. The North shelled a South Korean island in the same year, killing four people.

The attacks led to sweeping sanctions by the South that suspended most ties.

Park's comments come

after the North's leader Kim said in a New Year's address: "If the atmosphere and environment is there, there is no reason not to hold a high-level summit."

However, Pyongyang repeatedly sends out contradictory signals.

On Friday, North Korea rejected a call by South Korea's parliament for a resumption of negotiations on various issues including North Korea's human rights, and families still separated by the Korean War.

It has not responded to the South's call for separate meetings by government officials, despite pledging during a surprise visit by senior aides of Kim Jong Un in October to the South Korean city of Incheon to reopen



South Korean President Park Geun-Hye speaks during her New Year news conference at the presidential Blue House in Seoul on 12 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS

talks.

Park repeated the offer on Monday. "North Korea should respond to dialogue without hesitation," she said.—Reuters

Modi pledges to involve youth in India's development



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi

NEW DELHI, 12 Jan — Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi pledged on Monday to involve and integrate the youth in the country's progress and development as he paid tributes to Hindu spiritual

leader Swami Vivekananda on his 151st birth anniversary.

"On his birth anniversary, I bow to Swami Vivekananda. He is a personal inspiration, whose thoughts and ideals have

influenced me deeply. Swami Vivekananda is revered as one of the most prolific thinkers and a guiding light who took India's message to the entire world," Modi tweeted.

He added: "Let us pledge to leave no stone unturned to integrate our youth in India's progress and ensure youth-led development across the Nation."

Swami Vivekananda was an Indian Hindu monk who achieved fame at a very young age. He was born on 12 January, 1863, and died on 4 July, 1902.

Xinhua

Chinese-built 338 MW hydropower dam in Cambodia begins operation

KOH KONG, (Cambodia), 12 Jan — A Chinese-constructed 338-megawatt Russei Chrum Krom River hydroelectric dam, Cambodia's largest hydropower station so far, commenced operation on Monday after it had been constructed for nearly five years. Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen and Chinese Ambassador to Cambodia Bu Jianguo jointly inaugurated the dam in Mondol Sima district of southwestern Koh Kong Province.

The ceremony was also attended by some 1,500 government officials, local authorities and residents. The project was developed

by the giant power company China Huadian Corp for a cost of 495 million US dollars under a contract of a 35-year build-operate-transfer (BOT) with the Cambodian government, Cambodian Minister of Mines and Energy Suy Sem said.

Under terms of the agreement, the plant sells power to the state-owned Electricity of Cambodia at a price of 7.35 US cents per kilowatt hour, he said.

Hun Sen said the dam would increase the capacity and reliability of electricity supply and bring down the price of electricity in the country. "This project is considered as the largest hydro-

electric dam in Cambodia so far," he said at the inauguration ceremony. He expressed sincere and profound thanks to the government of China for encouraging Chinese investors to Cambodia, noting that the investment in energy was vital for socio-economic development and poverty reduction in Cambodia.

China is the largest investor in developing hydroelectric plants in Cambodia. According to the Ministry of Mines and Energy, Chinese firms have invested over 1.6 billion US dollars to build six dams with a total capacity of 928 megawatts in this Southeast Asian nation.

Xinhua

Divers retrieve "black box" data recorder from AirAsia wreck

JAKARTA / PANGKALAN BUN, (Indonesia), 12 Jan — A team of Indonesian navy divers on Monday retrieved one of the two black boxes from an AirAsia airliner that crashed two weeks ago, killing all 162 people on board, a government official said.

Flight QZ8501 lost contact with air traffic control in bad weather on 28 December, less than halfway into a two-hour flight from Indonesia's second-biggest city of Surabaya to Singapore.

"At 7:11, we succeeded in lifting the part of the black box known as the flight data recorder," Fransiskus Bambang Soelistyo, the head of the National Search and Rescue Agency, told reporters at a news conference.

"We are still trying to find the cockpit voice re-

corder."

Officials hope the black box, which was found under the wrecked wing of the plane, will reveal the cause of the crash. The national weather bureau has said seasonal storms were likely a factor.

Investigators have said the recorder would most likely be taken to the capital, Jakarta, for analysis and that it could take up to two weeks to download the data.

However, the information could be accessed in as little as two days if the devices are not badly damaged.

Soelistyo did not provide any details of the condition of the flight data recorder.

Over the weekend, three vessels detected "pings" that were believed to be from the



A section of the tail of AirAsia QZ8501 passenger plane is seen on the deck of the ship Crest Onyx, the day after it was lifted from the seabed, as it arrives at Kumai Port, near Pangkalan Bun, central Kalimantan on 11 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS

black boxes' emergency locator transmitter. But strong winds, powerful currents and high waves hampered search efforts.

Indonesian navy divers

took advantage of calmer weather in the Java Sea on Monday to retrieve the flight recorder and search for the fuselage of the Airbus A320-200.

Forty-eight bodies have been retrieved from the Java Sea and searchers believe more will be found in the plane's fuselage.

Relatives of the victims have urged authorities to make finding the remains of their loved ones the priority.

"All the ships, including the ships from our friends, will be deployed with the main task of searching for bodies that are still or suspected to still be trapped underwater," Soelistyo said, referring the multinational force helping with the search and recovery effort.

Indonesia AirAsia, 49 percent owned by the Malaysia-based AirAsia budget group, has come under pressure from authorities in Jakarta since the crash.

The transport ministry

has suspended the carrier's Surabaya-Singapore licence for flying on a Sunday, for which it did not have permission. However, the ministry has said this had no bearing on the crash of Flight QZ8501.

President Joko Widodo said the crash exposed widespread problems in the management of air travel in Indonesia.

Separately on Sunday, a DHC-6 Twin Otter operated by Indonesia's Trigana Air crashed on landing at Enarotali Airport in Paniai, Papua.

Strong winds caused the aircraft to roll over, domestic news website Detik.com reported, with no injuries to the three crew members on board. The plane was not carrying any passengers.

Reuters

Japan, China resume talks to launch crisis management mechanism at sea

TOKYO, 12 Jan — Japan and China resumed talks on Monday to launch a maritime crisis management mechanism by the end of 2015, as both countries aim to avert unwanted clashes in waters around uninhabited East China Sea islands.

The working-level talks in Tokyo, held for the first time since 2012, came after Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Chinese President Xi Jinping agreed during their summit in November to ease tensions over the sovereignty of the Senkaku Islands, controlled by Japan but claimed by China.

Japanese and Chinese defense authorities have so far reached a basic agreement to set up a hotline, use a common radio frequency for their ships and planes around the Senkakus, and hold annual meetings.

The talks had been stalled since Japan's purchase of some of the islets in September 2012. Japan has been beefing up defence capabilities while calling on China to engage in dialogue and make the crisis management mechanism operational at an early date.—Kyodo News

Sri Lanka's new government promises end to repression

COLOMBO, 12 Jan — Sri Lanka's new government promised a tolerant era of harmony and political freedom after years of mounting repression under a decade-old administration that unraveled in electoral defeat this week.

In a speech on Sunday, President Maithripala Sirisena vowed to end corruption and nepotism that marred the reputation of his predecessor Mahinda Rajapaksa, who stepped down on Friday after his shock election loss. Speaking from the highland jungle city of Kandy, the seat of Sri Lanka's last Sinhalese kingdom, Sirisena asked for continued support of religious minorities who helped him win the election.

"While protecting the country's main religion Buddhism, we also protect the rights and freedom of Hindu, Muslim, and Catholic people in practicing their religion and create consensus among them to build up this country," he told a large crowd.

Sirisena's speech came as the country prepares to receive Pope Francis, who is expected to deliver a message of inter-faith dialogue on a trip starting on Tuesday.

Rajapaksa became a hero to many for ending Sri Lanka's 26 year civil war with a crushing victory over Tamil Tiger rebels in 2009. But critics accused him of crimes at the brutal end of the war and he also oversaw censorship and



Sri Lanka's newly elected president Maithripala Sirisena waves at media as he leaves the election commission in Colombo on 9 Jan, 2015.
REUTERS

persecution of minorities, political rivals and journalists.

He ignored pressure to address rights issues and ensure media freedom even

after a US-backed United Nations resolution in March urged the country to prosecute war criminals.

Sirisena, who was acting defence minister under Rajapaksa in the final stages of the war and only defected to the opposition in November, is unlikely to accept a UN war crimes probe. But he vows to rein in graft and rights abuses.

"I will take all the steps to eliminate corruption, loopholes, and bribes completely from this country," he said, adding that he would make the police force politically neutral.

A power struggle has broken out over control of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party, which both Sirisena and Rajapaksa belong to. Several lawmakers defect-

ed to Sirisena's group on Sunday.

Sirisena has ordered the Telecommunication Regulation Commission (TRC) to lift a ban on all news websites blocked under his predecessor. "They will be given full freedom," a spokesman said.

Rajitha Senaratne, a lawmaker who acted as spokesman for Sirisena during the election campaign, called on exiled dissidents and journalists to come home, and said the media will be free to criticize the new government.

"Media houses will not be torched," Senaratne said. "All the past killings and attacks of journalists will be probed. Also there won't be any phone tapping as in the past."—Reuters

Iran says to explore with US ways to speed up nuclear talks

DUBAI, 12 Jan — Iran and the United States will explore ways to give impetus to nuclear talks when their chief diplomats meet in Geneva on Wednesday, Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif said on Sunday.

Zarif and US Secretary of State John Kerry will confer ahead of a fresh round of negotiations between Iran and six world powers on settling their 12-year stand-off over Tehran's nuclear ambitions.

Lower-level negotiators on both sides will meet at the same venue on Thursday to iron out technical de-

tails ahead of negotiations on 18 January between Iran and the six powers grouped under "P5+1" — the United States, France, Germany, Russia, China and Britain.

Speaking at a Tehran news conference, Zarif said the purpose of the talks with Kerry "is to see if we can speed up and push the negotiations forward".

"We will see how useful it will turn out. We are constantly gauging the benefits," he told reporters, referring to recent dialogue with the United States after decades of hostility dating back to Iran's 1979 Islamic revolution.

Zarif said Iran-US talks "will remain confined to the margins of the nuclear negotiations".

"Talks with the US take on a peculiar hue because we don't have diplomatic relations. With the others in P5+1, things follow their routine course."

Under an interim deal reached by the six powers and Iran in 2013, Tehran halted higher-level uranium enrichment in exchange for a limited easing of the financial and trade sanctions which have damaged its economy, including access to some frozen oil revenues abroad.—Reuters



Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif arrives at the Iranian embassy for lunch with former European Union foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton in Vienna on 18 Nov, 2014.—REUTERS

Schools reopen in Pakistan 28 days after massacre

ISLAMABAD, 12 Jan — Schools and other educational institutions opened across Pakistan on Monday, 28 days after the deadly attack by militants on an army-run school in Peshawar in which 150 people, including 134 students, were killed.

Extraordinary security measures were visible at schools and their environs as parents and students arrived for briefings about security precautions ahead of the beginning of classes on Tuesday.

Defence Ministry spokesman Maj Gen Asim Bajwal said in a posting on Twitter that Army Chief Gen Raheel Sharif personally greeted children at Army Public School & College Peshawar, where mid-December massacre occurred,



A boy holding a candle attends a candle light vigil in Kathmandu, on 17 Dec, 2014, for the students killed at the military-run Army Public School in Peshawar.—REUTERS

and met with their parents. "Everyone in high spirits. This nation unbeatable,"

he tweeted.

Schoolchildren in Pakistan normally have a two-

week winter vacation.

In the wake of the attack, however, schools were

closed several days early, and winter vacation for most kids was extended beyond on 5 January, the date when school normally starts.

Christian missions operating a large number of schools across Pakistan remain closed, having extended winter vacation for another week while awaiting enhanced security measures to be put in place.

On 16 December, a group of seven gunmen and suicide bombers linked to Pakistani Taliban militants stormed the army school in the capital of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province.

In addition to those killed, mostly students in their teens, more than 120 people were injured. The siege ended with all seven attackers dead.

Kyodo News

7 paramilitary personnel killed in southwestern Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 12 Jan — At least seven paramilitary personnel of the Frontier Corps were killed early on Monday morning in an attack by armed gunmen on a security check post in the southwestern Pakistan province of Baluchistan, officials said.

Nearly 40-50 gunmen attacked the check post about 216 kilometres east of Quetta, the provincial capital of the province, the officials said.

The attackers managed to escape and nobody has claimed responsibility. Authorities usually accuse Baluchistan separatists of such attacks.

Kyodo News

WORLD

French, foreign leaders walk arm-in-arm as millions protest Paris attacks

PARIS, 12 Jan — World leaders including Muslim and Jewish statesmen linked arms to lead more than a million French citizens through Paris in an unprec-



French President Francois Hollande is surrounded by head of states including (L to R) Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Mali's President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel, European Council President Donald Tusk and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas as they attend the solidarity march (Marche Republicaine) in the streets of Paris on 11 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS

edented march to pay tribute to victims of Islamist militant attacks.

Commentators said the last time crowds of this size filled the streets of the capital was at the Liberation of Paris from Nazi Germany in 1944.

President Francois Hollande and leaders from Germany, Italy, Turkey, Britain as well as Israel and the Palestinian territories moved off from the central Place de la Republique ahead of a sea of French and other flags.

Seventeen people, including journalists and police, were killed in three days of violence that began on Wednesday with a shooting attack on the political weekly Charlie Hebdo, known for its satirical attacks on Islam and other religions.

Giant letters attached to a statue in the square spelt out the word Pourquoi? (Why?) and small groups

sang the "La Marseillaise" national anthem.

"Paris is today the capital of the world. Our entire country will rise up and show its best side," Hollande said.

At least 3.7 million people took part in silent marches throughout the country, the biggest public demonstration ever registered in France. A total of 1.2 million to 1.6 million marched in Paris and a further 2.5 million in other cities, the Interior Ministry said.

The marches mostly proceeded in a respectful silence, reflecting shock over the worst militant Islamist assault on a European city since 57 people were killed in an attack on London's transport system in 2005.

The attackers, two French-born brothers of Algerian origin, singled out the weekly for its publica-

tion of cartoons depicting and ridiculing the Prophet Mohammad. The bloodshed ended on Friday with a hostage-taking at a Jewish deli in which four hostages and the gunman were killed.

Some 2,200 police and soldiers patrolled Paris streets to protect marchers from would-be attackers, with police snipers on rooftops and plain-clothes detectives mingling with the crowd.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel, British Prime Minister David Cameron and Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi were among 44 foreign leaders marching with Hollande.

Merkel walked to Hollande's left and at his right was President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita of Mali, a country where France intervened to fight Islamist rebels two years ago to the day.

Reuters

Croatian opposition wins presidency, sets sights on government

ZAGREB, 12 Jan — Croatia's conservative opposition won a narrow presidential victory on Sunday, capitalizing on popular discontent over economic decline and setting down a marker for parliamentary elections later in the year.

Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic, a former diplomat, can expect months of tense cohabitation with the Social Democrat-led government before Croats vote again in the general election due in late 2015.

The job is largely ceremonial, but her win may signal a comeback for the opposition HDZ.

With 99.3 percent of votes counted, Grabar-Kitarovic was ahead by the thinnest of margins — 50.40 percent to 49.60 percent for incumbent Ivo Josipovic.

She told her supporters: "There is no room for triumphalism ... Let's work for the prosperity of our country."

In Croatia, the president cannot veto laws but has a say in foreign policy and defence.

After six years of recession, unemployment is running at 19 percent in the ex-Yugoslav republic of 4.4 million people, which joined the European

Union last July. High taxes and poor administration hamper business and the economy is not expected to grow in 2015. "I expect a certain shift in foreign policy, with a little more focus on NATO and the EU and a little less on the (Balkan) region," said Andjelko Milardovic of the Institute for Migrations, a Zagreb-based think-tank, adding the result was a pointer to the parliamentary election.

Josipovic, who was seeking a second five-year term with the support of the increasingly unpopular ruling Social Democrats, won the first round of the election on 28 December by a narrow margin.

Grabar-Kitarovic, 46, a former foreign minister and ambassador to Washington, campaigned on the need for a change of course and a more active head of state to help the country overcome its worst economic crisis since independence in 1991. She takes office as Croatia's first woman president on 28 February.

The HDZ ruled Croatia from its first democratic election in 1990 until its founder, President Franjo Tudjman, died in December 1999. Since then it has alternated in power with the Social Democrats but has never regained the presidential post.—Reuters



Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic of the opposition HDZ cuts a cake as she celebrates her victory in Croatia's presidential run-off election on the stage at her campaign headquarters in Zagreb on 11 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS

White House to hold global security summit 18 February: US official

US President Barack Obama speaks about community college education during a visit to Pellissippi State College in Knoxville, Tennessee, on 9 Jan, 2015.
REUTERS



PARIS, 12 Jan— US President Barack Obama will invite allies to a 18 February security summit in Washington to try and prevent violent extremism, US Attorney General Eric Holder said on Sunday after meeting his European counterparts in Paris.

The gathering of justice and interior chiefs came as France mourned 17 victims of Islamist gunmen this week in the worst assault on its homeland security in decades.

"We will bring together all of our allies to discuss ways in which we can counteract this violent extremism that exists around the world," Holder told reporters.

French Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve said after the meeting that European interior minis-

ters had agreed to boost cooperation in an effort to thwart further jihadist attacks.

"We all agree that we need to put in place better control on certain passengers, on the basis of objective criteria and with respect for fundamental liberties and without disrupting cross-border travel," he said.

He said Europe needed urgent progress in establishing a European Passenger Name Record database, which would facilitate the exchange of data about passengers between member states.

"We are convinced of the need for such a tool, to follow those who travel to terrorist operating theaters or who return from there," he said, adding that this database would also be useful

in the fight against other serious crimes.

Cazeneuve said the Internet needs to remain a space for free expression, but that Europe should fight against abusive use of the web to spread hate speech, anti-Semitic messages and the recruiting vulnerable young people for violence.

"We need to work more closely with Internet companies to guarantee the reporting and if possible removal of all content that amounts to an apology of terrorism or calls for violence and hatred," he said.

Cazeneuve said EU interior and justice ministers planned to meet soon to discuss further action. A European source said the meeting could take place next week in Brussels.

Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 13 January, 2015

No excuse can save your reputation

By Myint Win Thein

According to Buddhist philosophy, there are three kinds of actions; mental action, verbal action and physical action, and mental action has a great influence on the other two. That is why it is imperative that everyone is simple and honest in his or her way of thinking.

When your thoughts are clear, simple and honest, so are your deeds and you do neither need to explain your actions nor announce what you are going to do, saving your words, which might annoy or offend others, because you are unwisely justifying your deeds. Unless your thoughts are clear, neither will your deeds be and you will have to explain every action you make, annoying everyone around you again. Therefore, it is important for everyone to think clearly, honestly and simply.

Everyone is entitled to strive for progress in his life, but not at any price, just honestly. You had better think your way clearly and honestly because your explanation or excuses might be too late to save your reputation, which has already been plagued by your deeds. Not everyone around

you is as naive as you or you might have thought. If you think honestly, work humbly and speak inoffensively, you will be a real man or women, the country you live in will be a better country, the place you work will be a more pleasant place and the family you lead will be a better family.

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

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

TO BE PROACTIVE

Kyí Mun

* To be Reactive means to be Responsive while being Proactive means Taking Initiative and to be in charge/command.

-Anonymous

* I don't seek opportunities. I create them.

-Napoleon Bonaparte

* Actions are ours; consequences belong to heaven.

-A Proverb

* The wisdom of life is to endure what we must, and to change what we can.

-A Jewish Proverb

* Proactive means : Controlling a situation by making things happen rather than waiting for things to happen and then reacting to them.

-Oxford Dictionary

Being PROACTIVE encompasses the following meanings:

- P for Purpose
- R for Resourcefulness
- O for Objective
- A for Audacity
- C for Commitment
- T for Taking Responsibility / Charge
- I for Initiative
- V for Vision and Strategy
- E for Effectiveness-cum-Efficiency

* PURPOSE

Purpose means : The intention, aim or function of something; the thing that something is supposed to achieve; the ability to plan something and work successfully to achieve it. Synonym is determination.

To be proactive also means to be purposeful, i.e. acting with a clear aim and with resolute determination.

* RESOURCEFULNESS

Resourcefulness means the ability to find effective ways

of doing things and solving problems. To be proactive, we have got to have both resourcefulness and initiative which is our innate nature to preempt external request or command to do or to carry out something which should be done or carried out. Here, resourcefulness can be construed to mean the ability to tactically deploy resources to good effect.

* OBJECTIVE

Without a definite, clear-cut objective, one cannot be proactive. That means without a good purpose or aim to achieve something, one cannot take charge, assume responsibility and carry out the needful implementation. Among the many modes of management, Management by Objectives is one of the most effective methods. Without a good objective, there can be no good strategy. In simple terms, objective means knowing and planning to achieve what you passionately want.

* AUDACITY

Audacity means : bravery and willing to take risks. Audacity also means shocking behavior. Without audacity, nothing great can be achieved.

Audacity also means : To dare nobly, to will strongly and never to falter in the path of duty. We should have the audacity to : "Think the most, feel the noblest and act the best". So also, we should : "Be resolute, fear no sacrifice and surmount all difficulties to win victory".

* COMMITMENT

Commitment means : a promise to do something, to behave in a particular way; a promise to support somebody or something : the fact of committing yourself. Commitment also means **the willingness to work hard and give your energy and time to a job or an activity.** It also means a thing that you have promised or agreed to do, or that you have to do; Commitment also means agreeing to use money, time or people in order to achieve something. Thus, a proactive mind is a committed mind, a dedicated mind and a passionate mind.

* TAKING RESPONSIBILITY / CHARGE

To be proactive is to take responsibility, to take charge, to be in charge and to be accountable. To be proactive means to be transparent in whatever we do. Being Proactive means being responsive, attentive and caring in achieving our goals.

* INITIATIVE

Initiative means : A new plan for dealing with a particular problem or for achieving a particular purpose. Initiative also mean the ability to decide and act on your own without waiting for somebody to tell you what to do. Initiative also means the power or opportunity to act and gain an advantage before other people do. So, to be proactive means to be audacious enough to show an initiative and resourcefulness.

* VISION & STRATEGY

A proactive mind usually have a progressive vision and a brilliant strategy. So, to be proactive also means to be thoroughly future-oriented and future-driven with a magnificent MISSION and a bold and brilliant plan of action. To be really proactive, we have got to be tremendously progressive in vision and audaciously revolutionary in strategy. The implied meaning of being proactive is to be bold and brave in shaping the future, because **the FUTURE is what we all have to face, to live and move and have our being in.**

* EFFECTIVENESS & EFFICIENCY

To achieve our set goals, we have got to do the RIGHT things; and to have maximum benefits with minimum outlay, we have got to do the things RIGHT. It means we have got to go along the RIGHT WAY with maximum GAIN and with minimum LOSS. So, we have got to be proactive and dynamic in executing the proactive dictum of St. John : "Not to go forward is to turn back, and not to be gaining is to be losing."

* CONCLUSION

To be proactive is not to be reactive; to be active and not to be passive; to be dynamic and not to be static. So, to be proactive, we have got to be paradigmatically offensive in changing the status quo.

Ref : 1.) Oxford Dictionary
2.) The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People.
by Stephen R. Covey

U Kyí Mun residing in Yangon is a consultant of NAING Group Capital Co.,Ltd.

GOLD PRICE, FE RATE (12-1-2015)

Yangon Gold Price

Buying K670,200 per tical: Selling K671,200

Mandalay Gold Price

Buying K670,200 per tical: Selling K671,200

FE RATE

USD Buying K 1033: Selling K----

SGD Buying K 775: Selling K785

Euro Buying K 1,213: Selling K1,233

Thai delegation meets MWAF officials

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Jan—The president and CEC members of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation met a delegation led by wife of Admiral Kraisorn Chansuvanish, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) of Royal Thai Navy at the hall of the federation, here, on Monday.

The president of the federation explained organizational setup of the federation, duty and func-

tions. The wife of the Thai naval chief presented cash donations to the fund of federation, and President Professor Dr Khin Mar Tun returned gifts.

The Thai delegation viewed round Myanmar handicrafts, traditional costumes, documentary photos on social welfare tasks of the federation, disbursement of loans at the exhibition hall of the federation.—MNA



Myanmar Tatmadaw ready to give assistance to Thai armed forces



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing poses for documentary photo with Thai senior military officers.

MYAWADY

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Jan—Myanmar attaches great importance to friendly relations between two armed forces of Myanmar and Thailand, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing said at the meeting with Admiral Kraisor Chansuvan-

ich, Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Navy and Air Chief Marshal Treetod Sonjance, Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Air Force at Zeyathiri Beikman, here, on Monday afternoon.

The senior general said Myanmar's peace and stability also depends on relation-

ship with neighbouring countries, adding that Myanmar Tatmadaw is ready to give assistance to peace, stability and development undertakings of Thai armed forces. He expressed his belief that both countries will cooperate in drug eradication, prevention of trafficking in persons

and terrorism. They also discussed exchange of visits between two armed forces, promotion of cooperation in training, and bilateral cooperation in drugs eradication, prevention of trafficking in persons, combating terrorism and an issue of illegal trawlers.—Myawady

Grenade found on roof of shop in Toungoo

TOUNGGOO, 12 Jan — A grenade was found at a market in Toungoo Monday and it was brought to

safe place by authorities.

Workers found the grenade covered with rust between a rood and a gutter

of a shop in the building-15 of Myoma Market while they were repairing the roof around 8.30 am.

The grenade is three inches in height and about two and half inches in circumference and it was found with detonator.

Police placed sand

bags around the grenade for the safety before a team from a local battalion arrived there.

The team brought the grenade to safe place later.

The building No-15 was not hit by the huge fire which destroyed most of the parts of market on 13 February, 2014.

Toungoo IPRD

Kachin State Day and future prospects

The 10th January is the most significant day for national brethren residing in Kachin State.

The Manaw festival of Kachin is being held on a grand scale in conjunction with Kachin State Day, which was designated a few days after Myanmar's independence in 1948.

Kachin State, which is rich in natural resources, is home to various ethnic groups. They have fine traditions. The Manaw dance is famous among traditional ethnic dances. Although Manaw dances can be defined by their traditions, the Manaw festivals held after post-independence period of the country were aimed at perpetuating national solidarity among the people and celebrating the victory of unity.

To create a deep significance, President U Thein Sein attended the 67th Anniversary Kachin State Day and Manaw Festival on 10 January 2015.

On 10 January 1948, Sao Shwe Thaik, the first

president of Myanmar, attended the Kachin State Day ceremony. Likewise, the attendance of President U Thein Sein at the 67th Kachin State Day was an act of placing a emphasis on ethnic affairs.

On his arrival, the president, wearing Kachin national costume, enjoyed the Manaw festival together with national brethren. As such, the faces of the national brethren at the festival were flowing with happiness.

Although some parts of Kachin State lacked peace and tranquility due to various reasons, the new government in its term has carried out undertaking of electrification, construction of inter-village roads and bridges, supply of water, development of education, health and communication sectors in Kachin State. The result of the peace-making process organized by the government will eventually bring peace to the nation in the future.

Actually, all ethnic



National brethren happily enjoying 67th Kachin State Day and Manaw festival in Kachin State.

groups who are diverse in-religions, languages and locations wish to enjoy eternal peace.

After enjoying the

Manaw festival, the president had Kachin traditional foods together with national brethren at Manaw House and conversed

with them.

If all people in Kachin State cooperate in development tasks based on mutual understanding, trust and

patience, new generations will have the opportunity to enjoy a brighter future in peace and stability.

Union minister presents certificates of honour, cash assistance to senior citizens in Chin State, Mandalay Region

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Jan—Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin presented certificates signed by the president and K200,000 each to U Mein Hton, aged 104 in Kwtseik Ward 5 in Mindat, and Daw Hok Dway, aged 102 of Myothit Ward in Haka, Chin State, on 9 January.

The union minister delivered an address at the ceremony to present certificates of honour and cash assistance to senior citizens and to provide cash assistance to social welfare associations at Basic Education High School No 1 in Mindat.

He presented K68.136 million for social associations in townships of

Chin State.

The union minister also met 102 trainees from the social care and natural disaster risk reduction volunteer course.

On 10 January, the union minister visited BEPS in Bagan and presented teaching aid.

In NyaungU Township, Mandalay Region, she presented certificates signed by the president and K200,000 each to U Nyo, aged 100 of Htipu Village, Daw Kalisa, aged 100 of Sabathin Village and Daw Ap Thay, aged 102 of Kutaw Village.

The cash assistance is given from 25% monthly emolument of the president, vice presidents, union ministers and deputy ministers.

MNA

US-funded Afghan police payroll at risk of waste and abuse

WASHINGTON, 12 Jan — The United States is spending more than \$300 million a year on Afghan police officer salaries despite a significant risk that the funds are being wasted and abused, a US government watchdog said on Monday.

In an audit of Afghan National Police (ANP) salaries, the special inspector general for Afghanistan reconstruction (SIGAR), said police rosters were inflated, staff were overpaid and payments were made to more employees than were authorized.

It said the organizations responsible for verifying police data — the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the multi-national Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan (CSTC-A) — had not properly scrutinized figures provided by Afghanistan's interior ministry (MOI).

"Officials confirmed that over the past year they

accepted, without question, all personnel totals provided by the MOI," SIGAR said.

Worries about lack of accountability have long dogged the trust fund established by the UNDP in 2002 to administer the payment of salaries of more than 145,000 Afghan police officers.

The United States has provided 38 percent of the \$3.6 billion that the international community has contributed to the fund since 2002, according to SIGAR. Overall, the United States has poured more than \$100 billion into reconstruction in Afghanistan.

The country is ranked one of the most corrupt in the world, and donors are worried about lack of progress in fighting graft.

The audit said ANP identification cards were the main method to help protect against fraud and abuse, but found they were not being used properly, and that there were almost



Afghan National police officers stand in formation during a visit by US Brigadier General Christopher Bentley to an Afghan National police installation in the Nangarhar Province of Afghanistan on 16 Dec, 2014.—REUTERS

twice as many cards in circulation as active police personnel.

Despite nine years of development, an electronic human resources system, critical for ensuring the proper personnel were being paid and given the correct amount, had not been

successfully implemented, SIGAR said.

One in five ANP personnel were at risk of not receiving their full salaries because they were paid in cash by an MOI appointed agent, a process the watchdog said "lacks documentation and accountability".

CSTC-A reported that corrupt practices within the agent system of salary payments could siphon off as much as 50 percent of a policeman's earnings, it added.

SIGAR said Washington would have increasingly limited oversight of

ANP data collection processes as US and coalition forces continued to draw down and transfer security responsibility to the Afghan government.

"Unless the MOI develops the capability to ensure and verify the accuracy of ANP personnel and payroll data, there is a significant risk that a large portion of ... US government funding for ANP salaries will be wasted or abused," SIGAR said.

Among its recommendations, the audit called for controls to monitor police attendance and a fully operational electronic payroll system by January 2016.

In a written response to SIGAR, The US Forces-Afghanistan said the CSTC-A was taking action to implement its recommendations and that its "resolve to hold the MOI to a higher level of accountability is clear".

UNDP officials were not immediately available for comment.

Reuters

US, partners continue airstrikes against IS in Syria, Iraq

WASHINGTON, 12 Jan — US and partner countries have conducted 19 airstrikes against Islamic State (IS) forces in Syria and Iraq over the past two days, the US Defence Department said on Sunday.

Ten airstrikes were conducted in Syria, destroying 15 IS fighting positions, an IS tactical unit, an IS shipping container, an IS vehicle and an IS supply cache, the statement said.

Meanwhile, the international military forces conducted nine airstrikes in Iraq, destroying three large IS units, four IS buildings, four IS tactical units, seven IS vehicles and 21 IS boats.

Coalition nations conducting airstrikes in Iraq included Australia, Belgium, Britain, Canada, Denmark, France and the Netherlands. Coalition nations conducting airstrikes in Syria included Bahrain, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates.—Xinhua

Paris gunman appears in video, declares loyalty to Islamic State

DUBAI, 12 Jan — One of three gunmen behind the worst militant attacks in France for decades appeared in a video released online on Sunday, declaring his allegiance to the Islamic State armed group and urging French Muslims to follow his example.

In the seven-minute video apparently intended for release after the actions, Amedy Coulibaly, who staged the attack on a Jewish deli, said the planned assaults on a satirical journal and a Jewish target were justified by French military interventions overseas.

A French anti-terror-

ist police source said there was no doubt it was Coulibaly in the French-language recording.

Seventeen victims were 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 security forces killed Coulibaly, 32, on Friday after he planted explosives at the Paris deli in a siege that claimed the lives of four hostages. They also shot dead two brothers behind the Hebdo killings,

Said and Cherif Kouachi, after they took refuge in the print works.

The Kouachi brothers said they were aligned to al-Qaeda, which competes for influence with Islamic State among militant Islamists.

Coulibaly had also called BFM-TV on Friday to claim allegiance to Islamic State, saying he wanted to defend Palestinians and target Jews.

He said in that call that he had jointly planned the attacks with the Kouachi brothers. Police confirmed they were all members of the same Islamist cell in

northern Paris.

The video showed scenes of man resembling Coulibaly doing physical training and images of an arsenal of weapons and ammunition on the wooden floor of an apartment. He was shown variously in white robes, sitting with a gun at his side, and in combat outfit.

"I pledged allegiance to the Caliph as soon as the caliphate was declared," he says, referring to Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, whose group is an anti-government paramilitary force in both Iraq and Syria that has a grow-



Amedy Coulibaly

ing network of followers elsewhere in the Middle East and Asia.

Coulibaly said he would be working together with the Kouachi brothers: "We've done things a bit together, a bit apart, to try and (achieve) more impact."—Reuters

Iraq may need three years to restructure and rebuild military

CAIRO, 12 Jan — Iraq may need three years to rebuild and restructure its military, Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi said on Sunday, as the country battles Islamic State militants who pose the biggest threat to its security since the fall of Saddam Hussein in 2003.

The ultra-hardline militant group seeking to redraw the map of the Middle East swept through the north last June virtually unopposed by the army, raising alarm bells among Baghdad's Western allies and in Arab capitals.

Corruption is widely blamed for the near collapse of the army, which received billions of dollars in support from the United States during the American occupation but has failed to stabilize Iraq, a major OPEC oil producer.

Abadi acknowledged that creating a more effective army could be challenging while he fights Islamic State, seen as far more dangerous than al-Qaeda, its predecessor in Iraq.

"The most difficult thing is to restructure and build the army while you



Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi

are in a state of war," Abadi told Reuters in an interview during a visit to Cairo.

"Our aim is to create a balance between both, restructuring the army in a way that will not impact the

fighting," added Abadi, a British-educated engineer.

US-led air strikes have helped Iraqi military forces and their Shi'ite militia allies as well as Kurdish fighters seize back territory from Islamic State.

But the militants' effective use of suicide bombers and improvised explosive devices often slow down government forces.

"Restructuring the army could take three years," said Abadi. "This does not mean that the fighting with Islamic State

will last for three years."

US military officials say the conflict could last for years and that defeating the group hinges on Iraq's ability to create a more effective army.

In Cairo, Abadi discussed regional efforts to stamp out militancy and other issues with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, whose country also faces Islamist militant insurgents based in the Sinai Peninsula who have pledged allegiance to Islamic State.

Reuters

Move over Nessie, Scotland gets a new prehistoric marine reptile

LONDON, 12 Jan — Scotland has its very own prehistoric marine reptile — and, no, we're not talking about Nessie, the mythic Loch Ness monster.

Scientists have announced the discovery of the fossil remains of a dolphin-like seagoing reptile on Scotland's Isle of Skye that lived about 170 million years ago and was about 14 feet (4.3 metres) long.

The creature, named *Dearcmhara shawcrossi*, is a member of a group called ichthyosaurs that were among the dominant marine reptiles when dinosaurs ruled the land. Ichthyosaurs, some of which reached monstrous proportions rivaling all but the largest of today's whales, thrived for more than 150 million years until disappearing about 95 million years ago.

Dearcmhara, a moderate-sized ichthyosaur, swam in warm, shallow seas during the Jurassic Period, eating fish and squid. Its remains are incomplete but the shape of a bone in its front flippers suggests it may have been an especially strong or fast swimmer, the researchers said.



The newly identified prehistoric marine reptile Dearcmhara shawcrossi, a member of a group called ichthyosaurs that swam the world's oceans at the same time that dinosaurs ruled the land, is depicted in this handout illustration provided by Todd Marshall.

REUTERS

"It is from Scotland, and is the first uniquely Scottish marine reptile ever discovered and studied," said University of Edinburgh paleontologist Steve Brusatte, one of the researchers in the study published on Monday in the *Scottish Journal of Geology*.

"Many other marine rep-

tile fossils have been found in Scotland, but the vast majority of these have disappeared into private collections or been sold. This new specimen finally breaks the impasse: it was found by a private collector who did a great thing, donated it to a museum and worked with scientists," Bru-

satte added.

Amateur fossil hunter Brian Shawcross found the fossils on a beach in the northern part of the Isle of Skye in 1959 and donated them in the 1990s, researchers said. The genus name *Dearcmhara* (pronounced "jark vara") is Scottish Gaelic for "marine lizard." The species name honours Shawcross.

"It is important to emphasize how grateful we are that Brian donated the bones he found all those years ago," added paleontologist Neil Clark of the University of Glasgow's Hunterian Museum, which received the fossils.

The discovery sheds light on a span of the Jurassic regarded as nearly a black hole in the marine reptile fossil record, Brusatte said. Scotland is one of the few places with fossils from that time.

Other fossils indicate *Dearcmhara* lived alongside members of another branch of marine reptiles called plesiosaurs, known for long necks and paddle-like flippers. The elusive Nessie is commonly portrayed as looking like a plesiosaur.

Reuters

Alibaba, South Korea city in talks for one trillion won joint investment



Alibaba Group Executive Chairman Jack Ma

SEOUL, 12 Jan — China's Alibaba Group Holding Ltd is in talks with the South Korean city of Incheon for a 1 trillion won (about 609 million pound) joint investment on a new business complex, the *Dong-A Ilbo* daily reported on Monday.

The paper, without citing direct sources, said the complex would include a major shopping mall as well as a hotel and a logistics centre. Alibaba and Incheon would contribute equal funding for the complex, according to the report. Alibaba could not be immediately reached for comment, while an Incheon city spokeswoman said she was checking on the veracity of the report.—Reuters

Foreign investors add Indian online property portals to shopping cart

NEW DELHI, 12 Jan — Indian businessman Navin Bhartia's Internet habits make him a dream customer for billionaire foreign media moguls like Rupert Murdoch. The 45-year-old from Kolkata likes to buy homes online, sometimes without visiting them. In the last four years, he has bought five properties for 40 million rupees (423,337 pounds) on Proptiger.com, partly owned by Murdoch's News Corp.

Foreign investors like Murdoch have already put more than \$200 million into portals that help people like Bhartia buy homes. Spurring the interest is Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vow to provide a house to every Indian family by 2022 as the country's growing army of Internet users embrace e-commerce.

"Scale and growth of businesses like (online retailer) Flipkart are a proxy that consumers in India are comfortable doing transactions on the Internet," said Mukul Singh, principal at India-China fund SAIF Partners, which has invested \$10 million in Proptiger. News Corp has a \$30 million stake.

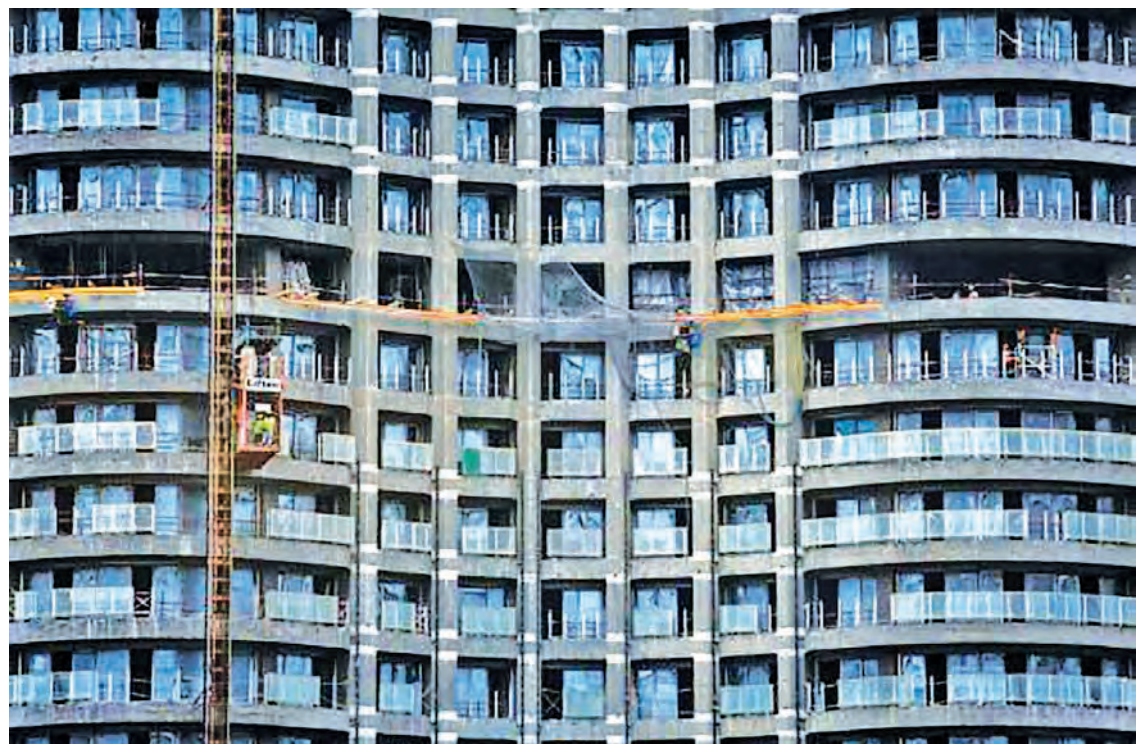
India's Internet legion, already bigger than Indonesia's 250 million population and growing at an annual rate of more than 20 percent, has also lured property portal investment from the likes of Japanese telecoms-to-media firm SoftBank Corp. Last week Google Inc's Google Capital unit invested

an undisclosed sum in a site called Commonfloor.com.

The need for long-term capital for start-ups like Proptiger and Housing.com also makes India more attractive for foreign investors compared with China, where local money dominates, according to one investor, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Indian home buyers by tradition work with local brokers. But in a vast country with a property market already estimated by KPMG to be worth \$121 billion in 2013, the Internet offers people like businessman Bhartia the ability to compare house prices hundreds of kilometres away without leaving home. "A single broker would have his own limited contacts... and he could have personal reasons for pushing a property. Online you get a very good and holistic view," said Bhartia, whose firm manufactures gas cylinders. He bought his last two properties without visiting them at all. Prime Minister Modi has already sought to make an impact on India's still largely unregulated property market by making the listing of real estate investment trusts easier. He has paved the way for more foreign investment in construction, and eased land acquisition rules.

"Real estate in India is very messy. There is a lot of information arbitrage and asymmetry...no credible pricing data and that is why there is a strong case for technol-



Labourers work at a construction site of a high-rise residential building in central Mumbai in this on 25 Aug, 2014 file photo.—REUTERS

ogy-based solutions," said SAIF Partners principal Singhal.

Driven by expectations that years of property market slowdown may come to an end soon, investment in property portals jumped five-fold to \$193 million last year, according to data from Venture Intelligence. The research firm also expects India's housing market to grow to \$158 billion by 2020.

Desperate to boost housing sales that have flagged as India's economy stuttered in recent years,

property developers are tying up with portals to push transactions online with special promotions.

Developer Tata Housing, part of the \$100 billion Tata group, in November sold homes worth more than 500 million rupees through a partnership with Housing. Buyers could see 3D models of the units, make a token payment online and complete the remaining purchase offline.

Such websites, which charge subscription fees or a percentage

of the sales price, still account for a fraction of home sales in India. For investors like News Corp, though, the Internet logic is inescapable.

"India's digital demographics are a key factor in looking at this space," said Raju Narisetti, vice president of strategy at News Corp. "More of the research, decision-making and increasingly the early part of the journey of buying a home is all happening on the Internet."

Reuters

OFFICE SPACE REQUIRED

State Bank of India requires 60 to 80 Square meters(net) space for use as its Representative Office in A Class building around Downtown area with lease period upto 3 years with option to vacate with 3 month prior notice, interested parties may send their offers in English through email at:

sbi.yangon@gmail.com

(a copy to be marked to bankeyanil@gmail.com by 23.01.2015

TENDER NOTICE

Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in Yangon (Myanmar) intends to purchase 1x Car for official use with following specifications:-

Model Year : 2014 / 2015
Type of Vehicle : 4-Door Sedan / 4 x 4
Engine : 2000 cc
Transmission : Automatic Transmission

Sealed bids are invited from all the interested parties within 15 days, for the supply of above mentioned vehicle at the address "Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, A-4 Diplomatic Quarters Pyay Road, Dagon Township, Yangon or send through email at pakembyangon@gmail.com.

Note: This tender as well as terms and conditions are also available on PPRA website www.ppra.org.pk.

**INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER
(Tender No. 2(T)MPE/HSD(1)/2015-2016)**

1. Open Tender is invited for the Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy for the supply of High Speed Diesel (470,000 Bbl±10%).
2. Tender Closing Date : 3 - 2 - 2015 at (12:00) noon.
3. Tender Opening Date : 3 - 2 - 2015 at (13:00) hrs.
4. Delivery Time : March 2015 to April 2015
5. Tender Documents and details information are available at the Department of Finance, Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours commencing 19-1-2015 on payment of the Myanmar Kyat One Hundred Thousand (Kyat 100,000) per set.
6. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender document officially from Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director

Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise

Contact Phone no. 067-411108/411193

**Mickey Mouse congratulates
coming-of-age ceremony attendants**

Mickey Mouse congratulates those who attended a coming-of-age ceremony at Tokyo Disneyland in Urayasu, near Tokyo, Japan, on 12 Jan, 2015.
KYODO NEWS

**MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION
MYANMA RAILWAYS
INVITATION TO OPEN TENDER**

1. Open Tender is invited for supply of the following items in Euro:

Sr No.	Tender No	Description
1.	12(T)52/MR(ML) 2014-2015	In-service Electric Tram Car (3 Cars/Sets)-(2)Nos and Electricification Line and Equipments-(1)Lot

Closing Date & Time -26.2.2015(Thursday)(12:30)Hour.
2. Tender documents are available at our office starting from 12.1.2015 during office hours and for further detail please contact: Deputy General Manager Supply Department, Myanmar Railways, Corner of Theinbyu Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung, Yangon. Phone:95-1-291985, 291994,



Malaysian soldiers unload relief goods at Subang Air Force Airport, Selangor, Malaysia, on 12 Jan, 2015. The relief goods offered by the People's Liberation Army of China arrived here on Monday. The aids were for the flood victims of Malaysia.—XINHUA

**Attorney General Holder concerned
about lone wolf attacks in US**

WASHINGTON, 12 Jan — US Attorney General Eric Holder said on Sunday he is concerned about so-called lone wolf attacks in the United States by Islamist militants inspired by al-Qaeda affiliates.

Holder met with his European counterparts in Paris on Sunday to discuss ways to prevent violent extremism, after Islamist militants killed 17 people in several attacks in the French capital.

Holder said on CBS's "Face the Nation" programme that the "decimation" of core al-Qaeda has reduced or eliminated that group's ability to carry out a 9/11-style attack, but he said affiliates like al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) have stepped in to try to inspire people to carry out smaller attacks.

ry out smaller attacks.

"I think the possibility of such attacks exists in the United States," Holder said.

"It is something that, frankly, keeps me up at night worrying about the lone wolf or a very small group of people who decide to get arms on their own and do what we saw in France this week," he said.

Holder said authorities have not determined if AQAP or a group like Islamic State, which has declared a caliphate and seized large areas of Iraq and Syria, is responsible for the Paris attacks.

The two brothers who carried out the attack in Paris on a satirical weekly newspaper traveled in 2011 to Yemen, where AQAP is based, for weapons training, two senior Yemeni sources said on Sunday.



US Attorney General Eric Holder

The gunman who staged an attack on a Paris deli appeared in a video declaring his allegiance to the Islamic State group.

Holder, who appeared on several US television shows on Sunday morning, said the United States and its allies need to do a better job sharing information about possible threats.

about possible threats.

"One nation cannot by itself hope to forestall the possibility of terrorism even within its own borders," he told ABC's "This Week" programme.

President Barack Obama will hold a global security meeting in Washington in February to discuss domestic and international efforts to counteract violent extremism.

Holder said Americans should feel secure with US officials' efforts to prevent attacks by Islamist militants.

He told CNN's "State of the Union" programme that about 150 Americans had gone or attempted to travel to Syria or Iraq to fight with militants there, and about 12 were there now.—Reuters

Maryborough to become Australia's political headquarters as Abbott goes on leave

CANBERRA, 12 Jan — With Prime Minister Tony Abbott set for a short holiday, Australia is to be run out of the small Queensland town of Maryborough over the next week, with National Party leader Warren Truss to take the reins. Truss, who resides in the regional town of Maryborough, which is situated 250 kilometers north of Brisbane and is home to just 21,000 people, will begin his duties as deputy prime minister on Monday. Abbott's week-long break began over the weekend and comes after the Australian leader chose to work through the Christmas and New Years period. During his holiday, Abbott will stay in a caravan park

off the coast of New South Wales, continuing a long-standing tradition between himself and former university friends. It continues the modest trend of Australian prime ministers holidaying at low-key resorts, with John Howard often choosing to reside in the small New South Wales town of Hawks Nest, while Julia Gillard venturing to country Victoria. Abbott will return temporarily to Canberra on Tuesday, where he will attend a cricket match between England and the Prime Minister's XI at Manuka Oval. Abbott's break follows that of Opposition leader Bill Shorten, who on Monday returns from a short absence.—Xinhua

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV KUO HSIUNG VOY NO (1027W)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KUO HSIUNG VOY NO (1027W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.1.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING LINES
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (067N)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (067N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.1.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

AGENT FOR: M/S INTERASIA LINES
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV KOTA RAJIN VOY NO (903)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RAJIN VOY NO (903) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.1.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV ANAN BHUM VOY NO (121N)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ANAN BHUM VOY NO (121N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.1.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

AGENT FOR: M/S MOL SINGAPOER PTE LTD
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV BANGSAOTONG VOY NO (167)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGSAOTONG VOY NO (167) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.1.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(5) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

AGENT FOR: M/S WONGSAMUT OCEAN SHIPPING CO LTD.
Phone No: 2301186

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV KUN JARI VOY NO (-)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KUN JARI VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.1.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.I.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

AGENT FOR: M/S G LINK EXPRESS PTE LTD
Phone No: 2301191/2301178

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.

<u>Sr.No.</u>	<u>Bidding No.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Qty;</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1.	ITP-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

**THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(1/2015)**

Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United States Dollars.

<u>Sr.No</u>	<u>Tender No</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Remark</u>
(1)	IFB-133(14-15)	BOP Control Accumulator Unit (1) Lot	US\$
(2)	IFB-134(14-15)	6" x 8" R HSB Pump without Motor (3) Lots	US\$
(3)	IFB-135(14-15)	6" x 8" R SB Pump without Motor (3) Lots	US\$
(4)	IFB-136(14-15)	Shore Water Pump with Motor (1000 gpm x 200 ft hd) (2) Lots	US\$
(5)	IFB-137(14-15)	Skid Mounted Water Transfer Pump with Motor (400 gpm x 400 ft hd, 100 HP) (1) Lot	US\$
(6)	IFB-138(14-15)	Skid Mounted Water Transfer Pump with Motor (250 gpm x 600 ft hd, 100 HP, 400 V) (1) Lot	US\$
(7)	IFB-139(14-15)	Skid Mounted Water Transfer Pump with Motor (200 gpm x 350 ft hd, 50 HP) (1) Lot	US\$
(8)	IFB-140(14-15)	Solid Control Unit (1) Lot	US\$
(9)	IFB-141(14-15)	Derrick Shaker Unit (Flow Line Mud Cleaner) FLC-504 (2) Sets	US\$
(10)	IFB-142(14-15)	Spares for Rotary Table Drive Group Ex GEFCO Drilling Rigs (4) Items	US\$

Tender Closing Date & Time – 9-2-2015, 16:30 Hr

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 12th January, 2015 at the Finance Department, Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, No(44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph.+95 67-411097/411206

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**WEATHER
REPORT**

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 13th January, 2015: Light rain are likely to be isolated in Taninthayi Region, Kachin and Mon States, weather will be partly cloudy in Upper Sagaing Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Chin and Kayin States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (60%).

'Boyhood' prevails in Golden Globes that may alter Oscar race



Julianne Moore poses with her award for Best Actress in a Motion Picture, Drama for her role in "Still Alice" backstage at the 72nd Golden Globe Awards in Beverly Hills, California on 11 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS

BEVERLY HILLS, 12 Jan — Coming of age tale "Boyhood" won the coveted Golden Globe for best drama on Sunday, while the quirky period caper "The Grand Budapest Hotel" was the surprise winner for best comedy or musical, in a big upset to awards season front-runner "Birdman."

The first major awards for the Hollywood film industry this year were scattered widely among many films, potentially setting up a complex race towards the industry's top honours, the Oscars, on 22 February.

The night took on a more sombre tone from the beginning when stars like George Clooney and Helen Mirren showed their support for free expression and the victims of a deadly attack on a satirical French newspaper last week.

The president of the Hollywood Foreign Press Association, which organizes the Globes, brought the room to a standing ovation by saying: "Together we will stand united against anyone who would repress free speech anywhere from North Korea to Paris."

"Boyhood" took three Globes from five nominations, including the night's top drama film honour, a reward for the unprecedented cinematic venture of making a film over 12 years with the same actors. The man behind the low-budget experiment, Richard Linklater, won best director and Patricia Arquette won best supporting actress.

If "Boyhood" goes on to win the Academy Award for best picture, it will constitute an extraordinary run for a film from the small studio IFC Films.

"When he came to us with this project 14 years ago, we said yes, the man has such humanity. He's so humble. He put so much of his own life into this movie," "Boyhood"

producer Jonathan Sehring said of Linklater. "Birdman," a satire of show business that led all nominees with seven nods, picked up best screenplay and best actor in a comedy or musical for Michael Keaton, embodying a comeback in both the film and real life. But losing best comedy or musical to "The Grand Budapest Hotel" from director Wes Anderson was a big blow to the awards momentum of "Birdman." The colourful tale of a hotel concierge caught up in a murder mystery and art heist won only that award. Up to 10 films can compete for the Oscar best



Michael Keaton poses backstage with his award for Best Actor in a Motion Picture, Musical or Comedy for his role in "Birdman" at the 72nd Golden Globe Awards in Beverly Hills, California on 11 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS



Actress Maggie Gyllenhaal poses backstage with her award for Best Performance by an Actress in a Mini-Series or Motion Picture made for Television for "The Honourable Woman" during the 72nd Golden Globe Awards in Beverly Hills, California on 11 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS

picture. In the last two years, the winner of best drama at the Globes has gone on to win the Academy Award for best picture.

Another top drama contender to suffer disappointment was the Martin Luther King Jr biopic "Selma," which made history with the first nomination for best director for an African American woman. It won one award: best song for "Glory."

"The Imitation Game," a British biopic about a World War Two codebreaking hero, walked away empty-handed despite the popularity of its star, Benedict Cumberbatch, and the heft of its distributor, the awards-savvy Weinstein Co.

The outcome of the 72nd Globes will not influence the Academy Awards slate, since voting for next week's nominees announcement is closed. But it can give crucial momentum to the Oscar race.

The Globes fortified the frontrunner positions of actors who portrayed extreme illness. Julianne Moore won best actress in

a drama as an early-onset Alzheimer's patient in "Still Alice," while Eddie Redmayne took best actor in a drama for his portrayal of physicist Stephen Hawking in "The Theory of Everything." Politics played heavily into acceptance speeches, from support for the Hispanic and transgender communities to calls to protect freedom of expression and solidarity after the deadly attack on French newspaper *Charlie Hebdo*. George Clooney, receiving a lifetime achievement award and sporting a lapel pin declaring "Je suis Charlie," noted the "extraordinary day" in Paris and around the world as millions of people and world leaders marched to pay tribute to victims of Islamist militant attacks.

"They marched in support of the idea that we will not walk in fear," said Clooney. "Je suis Charlie." The hacking of Sony Pictures also played out at the Globes, but in a more humorous way.

Third-time hosts Tiny Fey and Amy Poehler opened with a joke about the cyberattack, which the US government has blamed on North Korea. The country, which denies it is behind the hacking, was angered over the studio's comedy "The Interview," which depicts the assassination of leader King Jong Un. "Tonight we are celebrating all TV shows we know and love and all the movies North Korea was OK with," Fey said. In television awards, the HFPA anointed "Transparent" as best comedy series, the first big award for original programming streamed online from retail giant Amazon Inc.. The show is about a divorced father transitioning to become a woman and how his grown children react.

In the drama category, Showtime's "The Affair" won for its first season, serving an upset to the favourite, the political thriller "House of Cards" from Netflix Inc.

But Kevin Spacey did win best actor in a TV drama series, his first Globe after eight nominations, for his role as the conniving politician Frank Underwood in "House of Cards."—Reuters



Director Richard Linklater poses backstage with his award for Best Director — Motion Picture for "Boyhood" during the 72nd Golden Globe Awards in Beverly Hills, California on 11 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS



Patricia Arquette poses with her award for Best Supporting Actress in a Motion Picture for her role in "Boyhood" backstage at the 72nd Golden Globe Awards in Beverly Hills, California on 11 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS



Honoree actor George Clooney poses with the Cecille B. DeMille award backstage at the 72nd Golden Globe Awards in Beverly Hills, California on 11 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS

Elvis Presley's first record sells for USD 300,000

LOS ANGELES, 12 Jan — Elvis Presley's first record 'My Happiness' which cost the late King of Rock N Roll USD 4 has been bought by an anonymous buyer for USD 300,000.

The one of a kind memorabilia was put on the auction block on what would have been the singer's 80th birthday at

his former home Graceland, reported Ace Showbiz.

The 78 RPM acetate was recorded by the legendary singer at Sun Records in Memphis in 1953 when he was 18 years old. It was reportedly meant as gift for his mother Gladys. He left it at a friend's house when he stopped by to listen to the

track because his family did not have a record player.

It had since been kept in a safe by the friend Ed Leek and was later inherited by his niece Lorisa Hilburn after his death.

The starting bid for the rare item was set at USD 50,000 on 8 January.

At a separate auction, Presley's two

private planes are on sale. One is a refurbished Convair 880 jet named after named after his only daughter Lisa Marie Presley, and the other is a Lockheed JetStar named The Hound Dog II, a less opulent plane purchased by the singer to take him on his trips while the Lisa Marie was being revamped.—PTI

GENERAL

Two dead, four injured in LG Display's gas leak incident

SEOUL, 12 Jan — Two people were dead, with four others injured, in a nitrogen gas leak incident of LG Display, South Korea leading display panel maker, Yonhap News Agency reported on Monday.

The nitrogen gas was leaked at about 12:50 pm in a display panel plant owned LG Display. The factory is located in Paju, some 40 km northwest of capital Seoul.

The gas valve was opened for an unidentified reason while the workers

of LG Display's contract companies were checking facilities, leaving two dead and four others wounded.

Among those wounded, one worker was in a critical condition, raising possibilities for a rise in death toll.

In December last year, the nitrogen gas was leaked at a construction site of a new nuclear reactor being built in Ulsan, the country's south-eastern port city, leaving three people dead.

Xinhua

Wozniacki pulls out of Sydney opener with wrist injury

SYDNEY, 12 Jan — World number eight Caroline Wozniacki pulled out of her first match at the Sydney International with a wrist injury on Monday, a week before the start of the Australian Open.

The 24-year-old Dane, who lost in the final of the Auckland Classic last week, had already had her left wrist strapped when she was forced to retire from her first-round match against Barbora Zahlavova Strycova.

The fourth seed lost the first set 6-4 and had just saved break points to hold her first service game at the start of the second set, leav-



Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark hits a return to Serena Williams of the US during their WTA Finals singles semi-finals tennis match at the Singapore Indoor Stadium on 25 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

ing Zahlavova Strycova to go through to a second round tie against Samantha Stosur.

Former US Open champion Stosur had earlier pro-

gressed at her home event with a rain-disrupted 7-6(3), 5-7, 6-3 victory over another Czech in Lucie Safarova.

Reuters

MRTV
Entertainment
Channel

(13-1-2015, Tuesday)

6:00 am

- Travelogue Programme

6:30 am

- Honour Song of Alinka Kyaw Swar Shwe Pyi Aye

6:55 am

- TV Drama Series

7:20 am

- Kya Pwint Myaye Yin Khone Than

7:40 am

- TV Drama Series

8:30 am

- TV Drama Series

9:20 am

- Musical Programme

9:30 am

- Pyi Thu Ni Ti

9:50 am

- ASEAN-China Cultural Show

10:05 am

- Myanmar Video

Messi dismisses Luis Enrique rift, Barca exit rumours



Barcelona's Lionel Messi celebrates a goal against Elche during their Spanish King's Cup soccer match at Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona on 8 Jan, 2015.

REUTERS

BARCELONA, 12 Jan — Barcelona forward Lionel Messi has denied he asked for coach Luis Enrique to be replaced or that he is seeking an exit from his boyhood club and a move to England.

The Argentina and Barca captain was responding for the first time to widespread reports of a falling out with Luis Enrique, who took over from Messi's compatriot Tata Martino at

the end of last season.

Messi's apparent dissatisfaction with the coach's management style and tactics was said to have prompted talks with Chelsea and Manchester City on a possible move to the English Premier League, while Catalan television claimed Messi had demanded Luis Enrique be sacked.

"I haven't asked for anything to stay here because I have never wanted to go anywhere else," Messi told Barca's TV channel after Sunday's 3-1 La Liga win over champions Atletico Madrid.

"I have also heard that my father has spoken to Chelsea and City but it's all lies," added the 27-year-old.

"There have been stories that I had bad relation-

ships with (Pep) Guardiola, (Samuel) Eto'o, (Zlatan) Ibrahimovic and Bojan (Krkic), that I have got rid of people.

"That is in no way true. I never asked for them to get rid of the coach or anyone else. There is no rivalry between Luis Enrique and me."

Messi's status as a hero to Barca fans for his key role in their most successful era makes him a powerful figure at the club but he dismissed claims that he has influence over important decisions.

"I am tired of hearing things about me," Messi said. "They say that I run the club when I am just another player. I don't make those decisions, nor have I asked them to be made."

"It hurts because (the

stories) have come from the Barcelona-based media and not from Madrid.

"There are people who want to damage the club and it's important that now more than ever we are united because there are important things ahead."

Messi had a busy night against Atletico, netting one goal, setting up Neymar and Luis Suarez to score and conceding a penalty for the first time in his professional career.

He also picked up a rare booking for a high-footed challenge on Atletico goalkeeper Miguel Angel Moya.

The win lifted Barca to within a point of leaders Real Madrid, who have a game in hand, with Atletico are three points further back in third.—Reuters

Atletico poised to eliminate Cup holders Real

MADRID, 12 Jan — Atletico Madrid have the perfect chance to lift morale after Sunday's La Liga defeat at Barcelona when they play their King's Cup last 16, second leg at bitter local rivals Real Madrid on Thursday.

Atletico have a 2-0 advantage over the holders from last week's first leg at the Calderon and knocking Real out of the competition would mark the latest triumph for the Spanish capital's second club over their neighbours.

Diego Simeone's men beat Real to win the Spanish Super Cup in August and followed up with a 2-1 success at the Bernabeu in

La Liga in September.

Real then embarked on a Spanish record run of 22 straight victories before losing at Valencia in La Liga and at Atletico in the Cup.

Atletico fullback Juanfran dismissed the suggestion that the defeat at Barca would affect the way he and his team mates performed on Thursday.

The winners of the tie will almost certainly meet Barca in the quarter-finals as the record winners have a 5-0 advantage ahead of their second leg at Elche on Thursday.

"However today's match had turned out, Madrid will want to turn the



Atletico Madrid's coach Diego Simeone attends a training session at the club's sports grounds in Majadahonda, near Madrid, on 25 Nov, 2014.

REUTERS

tie around," Juanfran told reporters.

"We will not allow that and I am convinced that we will get through," added the Spain interna-

tional.

Real, the European and world champions, bounced back from the consecutive defeats with a 3-0 La Liga victory at home to Espanyol on Saturday.

Clubs often use the Cup to give second-string players a chance to shine but coach Carlo Ancelotti is planning to field the strongest possible side.

"We have time to prepare well for the match," Ancelotti said after the Espanyol game.

"The best team will play because we will try to turn the tie around and do all we can to get to the quarter-finals," added the Italian, who led Real to

Champions League and King's Cup triumphs in his first season in charge in 2013-14.

"Everyone is looking forward to this match but we have to remain calm for now. We will prepare and we will be playing at home which will help us."

This season's edition of the Cup is the first time since 1969-70, when teams from lower divisions began competing, that only top-flight sides reached the last 16.

Valencia and Sevilla are on track to meet in the quarter-finals, as are Malaga and Athletic Bilbao and Villarreal and Getafe.

Reuters

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MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(13-1-15 07:00 am~
14-1-15 07:00 am) MST

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- * World News
- * Temple Stalls
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- * Writer "Chit Oo Nyo" (Part - II)
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Champions Japan thrash Palestine in opener

NEWCASTLE, 12 Jan — Four-time champions Japan made the perfect start to their Asian Cup defence with a 4-0 whipping of tournament debutants Palestine on Monday.

Yasuhito Endo marked his fourth Asian Cup with the opener after eight minutes, and further goals from Shinji Okazaki and Keisuke Honda put Japan out of sight at the break.

Maya Yoshida headed the fourth early in the second half and Palestine's misery was compounded when they had defender Ahmed Mahajna sent off 17 minutes from time.

Jordan play Iraq later in the

day's other Group D match in Brisbane.

Japan started with purpose and Endo, playing in a national team record 18th Asian Cup match, broke the deadlock when he took a pass from Takashi Inui and steered a low shot from 25 metres into the bottom left-hand corner.

Palestine, making their Asian Cup debut after winning the AFC Challenge Cup in May, struggled to make any headway and Okazaki doubled Japan's advantage in the 25th minute.

Inui got a touch on Yuto Nagatomo's cut-back and the loose ball fell to Shinji Kagawa. The

Dortmund midfielder let fly but Okazaki claimed the kudos when he turned the shot in with his head from the edge of the 6-yard box.

Honda had earlier sent a free kick sailing harmlessly over the bar in blustery conditions at Newcastle Stadium, but the AC Milan attacker made no mistake from the spot effectively end the game as a contest.

Qatari referee Abdulrahman Hussain had no hesitation in awarding a penalty after Kagawa was fouled by Musab Battat and Honda stepped up to send goalkeeper Ramzi Saleh the wrong way.

Saleh did well to turn an

Endo shot away just after the break but Yoshida, on target in Japan's opening 1-1 draw with Jordan at the 2011 Asian Cup, made it 4-0 in the 49th minute when he powered in Kagawa's cross from the left.

Palestine were reduced to 10 men when Mahajna was given a second yellow card and dismissed in the 73rd minute for a foul on Kagawa, but Abdallatif Al Bahdari nearly grabbed a consolation with a header the flashed wide eight minutes from time.

Japan face Iraq next in Brisbane on Friday before wrapping up the group phase against Jordan.—Kyodo News



Japan's Keisuke Honda scores the team's third goal during the first half of the Asian Cup first match against Palestine on 12 Jan, 2015, in Newcastle, Australia. Japan beat Palestine 4-0.

KYODO NEWS

Federer claims 1,000th career win in Brisbane final



Roger Federer of Switzerland poses with a giant number 1,000 after winning his thousandth career title in the men's singles final at the Brisbane International tennis tournament in Brisbane, on 11 Jan, 2015. —REUTERS

BRISBANE, 12 Jan — Roger Federer beat Milos Raonic in an enthralling final at the Brisbane International on Sunday to register his 1,000th ATP career win and complete the perfect build up to this month's Australian Open.

Federer survived the inevitable serving blitz from the towering Canadian to win the two hour 13 minute slugfest 6-4 6-7(2), 6-4 and join Jimmy Connors (1,253) and Ivan Lendl (1,071) as the only men to reach the magical milestone.

The Swiss master, as fiercely competitive as ever at the age of 33 even if he doesn't move quite as quickly as he once did, also chalked up his 83rd career title and has now won at least one tournament every year since 2001, an unbroken streak spanning 15 seasons. Federer was presented with the tournament trophy by Roy Emerson, a 12-time grand slam winner, and also received a special framed photo marking his 1,000th win from Rod Laver, the only tennis player to win all four majors in the same year on two separate occasions.

"It's a special moment, no doubt about that," Federer said at the post-match presentation.

"I've played a lot of tennis

over the years... so to get to 1,000 wins means a lot to me and I will never forget this match."

Raonic, one of the emerging stars of men's tennis since making the semi-finals at Wimbledon last year was gracious in defeat and also paid tribute to Federer, saying he was in awe of his achievements.

"We all know today is a significant milestone for Roger," he said. "When we came out and they listed all the things you've won, I thought you must have been playing for 2,000 wins."

Raonic was unable to dictate terms against the vastly more experienced Federer once he adapted to his booming serve but pushed his opponent all the way in a high-quality match where the pair hit a combined total of 92 clean winners. Raonic had blasted 34 aces past Kei Nishikori in his semi-final but managed only 12 against Federer, who replied with 20 of his own, including one where Raonic misjudged the bounce and took an embarrassing air swing. Federer, returning the ball deep and mixing up his shots, broke Raonic's serve once in each set as the capacity crowd at the Pat Rafter Arena roared in admiration.

Reuters

Saints sub Tadic sinks United, Arsenal cruise

LONDON, 12 Jan — Substitute Dusan Tadic fired the only goal as Southampton recorded a first league win over Manchester United for 27 years on Sunday, climbing above them into third in the Premier League.

A superbly disciplined display earned Saints a 1-0 win at Old Trafford that ended United's 10-match unbeaten run.

After taming United's attacking options, Southampton struck in the 69th minute when Tadic calmly converted a rebound.

The south coast club moved up to third on 39 points from 21 matches, while United drop to fourth on 37 points.

"If you play against a big side you need spirit and quality but you also need belief in your-

self and your team-mates and we showed that today," Saints manager Ronald Koeman told Sky Sports.

"We have had good organization all season, we have 11 clean sheets in 21 games and that is key to being successful."

Earlier, Alexis Sanchez scored twice and created a third as Arsenal beat Stoke City 3-0 at the Emirates Stadium to move above Tottenham Hotspur into fifth spot with 36 points.

With just a point separating the two sides going into the match, the first half was short of thrills as Southampton restricted United's flow in midfield.

Southampton right back Nathaniel Clyne fired a shot wide in the second minute before An-

gel Di Maria missed the target from distance as both sides failed to spark.

For all their attacking riches, United struggled to break down a well-organized Southampton defence with Wayne Rooney often left frustrated by a lack of opportunities.

The home crowd were already getting restless when the visitors took the lead.

After a silky move Saints striker Graziano Pelle struck a shot against the base of the post and the ball rebounded to Tadic who kept his composure to fire past David De Gea.

Tadic was then shown a yellow card for ripping off his shirt, although his joy was understandable.—Reuters

Manchester United's Wayne Rooney (R) challenges Southampton's Jose Fonte (L) and Florin Gardos during their English Premier League soccer match at Old Trafford in Manchester, northern England on 11 Jan, 2015. REUTERS



Asian Cup Australia 2015

	13:30 MST (13.1.2015)	
Kuwait		Korea Republic
	15:30 MST (13.1.2015)	
Australia		Oman
Asian Cup Australia 2015 Result		
Japan	4 - 0	Palestine
Jordan	0 - 1	Iraq