

Nobel-Myanmar Literary Festival starts at National Theatre in Yangon



Nobel-Myanmar Literary Festival launched in front of the National Theatre in Yangon.—MNA

YANGON, 17 Jan—The Nobel-Myanmar Literary Festival was started at the National Theatre here on Saturday morning, aiming to arouse public interest in

reading and encouraging local writers to reinforce the Myanmar literature through innovative ideas as well as translated versions of fine international litera-

ture and literary works by Nobel prize-winning writers.

As a saying that goes “Books for All”, books are attributed to broad-mind-

edness and broad horizons that can create peace and harmony in society.

U Aung Min, Union Minister at President’s Of- fice, read out the message

sent by President U Thein Sein.

The message stated that the successful celebra- tion of the literary festival (See page 3)

Ancient kiln sites in Twantay attract ceramic researchers



Celadon wares exhibited at kiln site museum in Twantay.

PHOTO AYE MIN SOE

By Aye Min Soe

TWANTAY, 17 Jan— Ancient kiln-sites in Twantay, about 20 miles south-west of Yangon, have become site muse- ums, attracting local and

foreign ceramic research- ers.

Several kiln sites and glazed ceramics, including celadon green glazed wares exhibited at the site mu- seums, have become well known just for research-

ers at home and abroad as the ceramic wares are very helpful for them to explore an extinct ceramic tradition of Myanmar. Modern kilns in the town have attracted mostly tourists.

(See page 3)

Nine rice companies chosen for rice exports to China

By Ye Myint

YANGON, 17 Jan — Nine rice exporting public companies have been selected to represent Myan-

mar’s rice exports to China, according to the Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF).

Myanmar Agribusi- ness Public Corporation Limited (MAPCO), First

Rice and Paddy Trading Company Limited (FRP), Myanmar Rice Mill Com- pany Limited, Golden Land East Asia Development (See page 3)



The World Bank says there are good market prospects to accommodate higher rice exports from Myanmar over the next 10-15 years, indicating China is becoming a large net importer of Myanmar rice.

PHOTO CREDIT TO WORLD BANK MYANMAR

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Creature comforts, modern luxuries, power, wealth and popularity are endless cravings in human life

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Shinhan Bank celebrates handover ceremony of school facility construction, renovation in Hlegu Township



Responsible persons involved in rural school facility construction and renovation project funded by Shinhan Bank with a US\$ 80,000, are pictured together with students in Hlegu Township, Yangon.—PHOTO PROVIDED

YANGON, 17 Jan — handover ceremony of school facilities which Shinhan Bank of the Republic of Korea held a were newly built and renovated in two villages in Hlegu Township, about 45 km northeast of Yangon,

on Friday.

During the ceremony, the bank also presented sets of computers, school uniforms and school bags to students through officials.

Last year, Shinhan Bank injected USD 80,000 into a plan to build new school facilities and renovate old buildings for two primary schools in Kha Yaung and Sa Khan Gyi villages in the township. The plan was a part of the Hlegu Rural Development Project being implemented by Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA).

“The bank’s cash contribution to the plan came from a fund of retired bank staff who have donated \$10 for many years, said an official of Shinhan Bank.

GNLM

Local aged care agency to increase number of service receivers up to 500



Local aged care providers pay their respects to older persons at a home for the aged in Yangon.—PHOTO: KHAING THANDA LWIN

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 17 Jan — Warmly hands organization, which offers door-to-door care to the aged, plans to expand its services for about 500 elderly poor from three townships this year to reduce the elderly-care gap in the country, according to the agency.

Currently, nearly 70 older persons from 500 households in Hsa ward, North Okkalapa Township, one of Yangon’s suburban townships, are under care of the organization,

U Thein Swe, secretary of the organization, told the Global New Light of Myanmar.

The local nonprofit organization is also scheduled to provide its free aged services to the elderly in Ward-8 in Thakayta Township next month where there are about 150 persons older than 70.

“A lesser number of local volunteers is one of our challenges to perform a community-based voluntary activity,” U Thein

Swe said.

A writer, who actively participates in the country’s social development programmes, said: “Offering care to the aged shows our humanity and the country needs more youths with philanthropic spirits for social work and care for the aged.”

According to a survey, 9 per cent of the country’s population is more than 60 years old, of whom 10 per cent are in need of care.

A local care provider said the number of neglected older persons is rising in

Kanaung Town opens administrator office

MYANAUNG, 17 Jan—A ceremony to unveil a signboard of Kanaung Town Administrator Office was held at Kanaung Hall of its fire station in Myanaung Township, Ayeyawady Region, on 15 January.

Township Administrator U Myint Soe and townselders formally unveiled the signboard.

The government designated Kanaung Town in

Myanaung Township with five wards on 3 September 1973 under the 1907 Urban Act under the notification of the General Administration Department.

As of 15 October 2014, the town administrator office was temporarily opened at the fire station in ward 3 in undertaking development tasks of the town.

Win Bo (Township IPRD)



5th Junior Golf Myanmar Tournament 29-30 Jan

YANGON, 17 Jan — Under the supervision of Myanmar Golf Federation, Junior Golf Myanmar (JGM) will hold the 5th Junior Golf Myanmar Tournament 2015 at Yangon Golf Club in Insein Township, here, on 29 and 30 January.

The tournament will include U-20 men’s and women’s events.

Youth golfers may enlist at MGF by submitting

copies and original date of bird registration and citizenship scrutiny cards, not later than 12 noon on 27 January.

Handsome prizes will be given to the winners.

For further information, may dial 09-254225070 and 01-9669526.

Junior Golf Myanmar plans to hold the monthly golf tournaments to be able to turn out new generation golfers.—GNLM

Development affairs committee auctions licences to entrepreneurs

YINMABIN, 17 Jan — Yinmabin Township Development Affairs Committee in Sagaing Region auctioned licences to local entrepreneurs at the people’s hall in Yinmabin on 15 January.

Chairman of auction supervisory committee Acting Township Management Committee U Chit

Win made a speech.

Chairman of the Township DAC U Maung Maung explained disciplines on auction of licences. Head of Township Internal Revenue Department Daw Kyu Kyu Pyone briefed all attendees on taxation for licensees.

The committee fetched K35.53 million from auc-

tioning 26 licences of 46 to entrepreneurs for the first time this year. The committee will hold the auction of remaining licenecs for the second time on 23 January.

It was also attended by Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Thaug Han and Region Hluttaw representative U Kyaw Myint Thein.—Tun Ko Ko



Nobel-Myanmar Literary Festival...

(from page 1)

proved the earnest desire shared among writers in the effort to promote the Myanmar literature, calling it a step forward for the national literature to stand tall and proud in the international community.

The presidential message continued that lack of literature would lead to a society with heads but no brains, in which peace is not guaranteed. U Aung Min cited the message as stating that literature is a primary source of peace, humanity and intelligence.

Myanmar has set a goal which is a modern, developed and open society, whose essence lies at the heart of such democratic norms as freedom of expression.

The message called for concerted cooperation in creating literary works that can enrich the society,



Nobel-Myanmar Literary Festival displays some genres of books to arouse public interest in reading.

MNA

pointing out the need to enable not only contemporary international literary works to flourish in the country but also literary works that reflect the Myanmar society to penetrate into the international literary world.

According to the mes-

sage, Myanmar's literary world has a new role to play in producing literary works that can pave the way for the success of democratic reform and peace talks.

Thura U Shwe Mann, Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, also sent a message to the literary festival, which was read out by an official of the Pyithu Hluttaw Office.

In his message, the speaker said the festival should shape national soli-

darity, national reconciliation, multiparty democratic system and economic reform, which he described as much-needed causes for the realization of a peaceful, modern and developed nation.

Speaking at the literary festival, U Khin Aung Myint, Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw, said that capacity building through literature is of the essence in democratic reform, describing freedom

of expression and freedom of imagination as critical to literary development.

He also described political, economic and military accords as insufficient to restore peace, and mutual understanding and farsightedness as essential to lasting peace. "Literature is the most effective tool to enable heads and hearts to go hand in hand for peace."

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, a Nobel laureate, said

ROK National Assembly Speaker arrives in Yangon

YANGON, 17 Jan—At the invitation of Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann, a Korean delegation led by Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea Dr Chung Ui-hwa arrived in Yangon on 17 January. He was welcomed at Yangon airport by officials.

MNA

in her televised message that literary culture matters most not only for a particular country but also the whole world, noting that literary festivals serve as a channel that links Myanmar with the rest of the world. She expressed her belief that literature can warm people's hearts and help them grow mature.

The Nobel-Myanmar Literary Festival will continue till 19 January from 9am to 11pm at the National Theatre, where local and foreign writers will read out their papers, hold seminars and discussions.—MNA

KIA opens fire on military camps

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Jan—Armed men of Kachin Independence Army (Kachin) opened fire on military camps in Thewai, Maliyan and Seninku villages of Wai Maw Township in northern

Kachin state Friday.

In response to heavy shelling and gunfire, Tatmadaw units launched counter-attacks which happened at 11: 15 a.m.

Myawaddy

Nine rice companies chosen for...

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Limited, Ayeyar Pathein Rice & Paddy Trading Company Limited and Rakhine Rice and Paddy Development Company Limited were among the nine selected companies.

They are expecting to begin rice exports to China after finalizing a trade agreement between Myanmar and China at the end of February, U Ye Min Aung, MRF's general secretary said at a press briefing in Yangon on Saturday.

Myanmar Rice Federation held its second work coordination meeting to export rice legally to China at its office in the Republic of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (RUMFCCI) Building. The meeting came days after Myanmar's rice delegation's visit to China earlier this month.

According to officials, the delegation had a discussion with China's general administration of quality supervision, inspection and quarantine (AQSIQ) on matters including standards set for rice exports to China.

The selected rice exporting companies will be responsible for the quality of exported rice as they will take care of rice exports to China by rice suppliers in the country, they added.

Myanmar rice is now being exported to China through the informal border channel. Upon completion of the trade agreement, Myanmar will be able to begin legal rice exports to China. The MRF said a networking seminar for rice traders between Myanmar and China will be held on 6 March in Yangon.

GNLM

Ancient kiln sites in Twantay...

(from page 1)

Myanmar archaeologists and ceramic experts have estimated that there may be more than a thousand kiln sites under the earth in Twantay.

Myanmar has a celadon tradition and evidence found during excavation in the United Arab Emirates has shown that Myanmar had exported its celadon wares to the Arab world since the 15th century, said U Myo Thant Tin, a glazed ceramic expert and the chairman of the Myanmar Ceramic Society.

Myanmar Ceramic Society has been doing research on glazed ceramics wares in attempts to know the glazing technique based on botanic raw materials used in ancient times.

The ancient techniques for making glazed ceramics can produce straw-colour, white-colour, green-yellow colour and green-white colour wares, according to experts.

"The traditional way of

making glazed wares is extinct. Today, to make glazed ceramic ware, modern glazed potters are using lead and tin-based techniques," he said. In Twantay, there are about 10 modern kilns producing lead- and tin-based glazed ceramics and attracting tourists today.

So far, the society has found the traditional way of making green celadon and is disseminating the technique to modern glazed potters.

An enormous number of ancient kilns that mostly produced celadon were recently discovered in the Twantay area.

Myanmar has a long tradition for glazed ceramics, but some disappeared during the many centuries of the past and recent findings indicates that the history of the glazed ceramics, including celadon, could begin as early as the 5th century, according to Dr Myo Thant Tin, a Myanmar ceramic expert. The discovery in 1987

of the first cross-draft glazed ceramic kiln in Myanmar at Lagumbyee, an old Pyu town northwest of Yangon, marked a watershed in the discovery of old kiln sites that firmly established this ancient craft, he wrote.

After this discovery, many more ancient kiln-sites were founded at Myaungmya (Myohaung), Twantay, Ngaputaw, Mrauk-U, Pathein (Thaletkhar, Ngwepark, Thebyu), Ho-nar (Moung-Kung) and so on, the ceramic expert said.



Only 41% of Kobe quake survivors feel lives have fully recovered

KOBE, 17 Jan — Only 41 percent of people who survived the 1995 Great Hanshin Earthquake that devastated Kobe and surrounding areas feel their lives have fully recovered, according to a *Kyodo News* survey of 207 people living in subsidized housing in Hyogo Prefecture.

Of the remainder, 23 percent felt their lives had not recovered sufficiently and 12 percent had seen little recovery.

The poll was conducted from late December to early January in Kobe and nearby Nishinomiya almost 20 years after the magnitude 7.3 quake hit the region on 17 January, 1995, leaving more than 6,000 people dead.

Of the polled survivors with an average age of 73.7, 54 percent said they were not receiving or were dissatisfied with support from local governments, while only 21 percent said



Japan's Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko walk to the altar to offer flowers during a memorial ceremony in Kobe, western Japan, on 17 Jan, 2015, to mark the 20th anniversary of the Great Hanshin Earthquake, which devastated the port city and its surrounding areas and claimed the lives of 6,434 people. —KYODO NEWS

they were satisfied.

Ninety-two percent of the respondents called for the expansion or continuation of local government support. Among specific support measures, housing

assistance was cited by 67 percent and economic aid by 25 percent.

Local governments have provided subsidized housing to people who lost their homes in the disas-

ter. At the end of last year, 4,197 households were living in such housing, with the 20-year subsidization periods set to expire around September 2015.

Kyodo News

Japan, India converge on strengthening economic ties

NEW DELHI, 17 Jan — Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi agreed on Friday on further strengthening economic ties between the two countries.

Speaking to reporters after a meeting with Modi in New Delhi, Kishida said Japan wants to boost economic cooperation with India so the Indian leader's economic policy, called "Modinomics," and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's "Abenomics" economic policy "can operate together and create a relationship of reciprocity."

Kishida quoted Modi as saying during the meeting that India appreciates Abe's efforts to promote Japanese investment into India.

Abenomics features aggressive monetary easing, fiscal stimulus, plus long-term structural reforms to revitalize the

Japanese economy, while Modinomics aims to promote infrastructure projects in India through foreign investment.

Kishida and Modi also affirmed cooperation in pushing for reforming the UN Security Council, especially as this year marks the 70th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations.

Japan, India, Brazil and Germany — collectively known as the Group of Four — have stepped up lobbying to become permanent members of the Security Council.

Kishida and Modi also agreed to accelerate negotiations for a civil nuclear pact that would allow Japan to export nuclear power plant technology to India. They also exchanged views on a possible introduction of Japan's bullet-train technology to India, according to Kishida.

Kyodo News

India may seek other suppliers if US will not sell drones — senator

WASHINGTON, 17 Jan — India may buy unmanned aerial vehicles, or drones, from other countries if the United States does not ease current export restrictions on such aircraft, a key Democratic senator said on Friday.

Senator Mark Warner of Virginia, who will join President Barack Obama during a trip to India on 26 January, said he was concerned that other countries could rush in to sell India the equipment it desires if the United States drags its feet.

"This is going to be a space ... where other countries are moving very quickly too," he told an event hosted by the non-profit Atlantic Council. "If

the Indians can't find a partner with the United States, they'll find one somewhere else." US aerospace and arms companies have been pressing the US government for years to ease current tight restrictions on foreign sales of unmanned vehicles, arguing that other countries such as Israel are overtaking the United States in drone sales.

India, which is modernizing its military, is a big and growing market for US weapons makers who are seeking foreign sales to help offset declines in US defence spending.

Warner said he hoped that unmanned aircraft would be included as part of a broad US push to expand defence ties with India

but said he was not aware of any specific initiatives to be announced during Obama's visit.

US and Indian officials are trying to work out pilot projects for joint production of drones and other weapons as part of the US-India Defence Trade and Technology Initiative (DTTI), a source familiar with the effort said.

One drone project involves the RQ-11 "Raven" built by AeroVironment Inc, a small US firm, but Northrop Grumman Corp, Textron Systems, a unit of Textron Inc and General Atomics, a privately held firm, are also seeking permission to sell their unmanned systems to India.

Reuters

22 dead after boat capsizes in east China

NANJING, 17 Jan — A total of 22 people were confirmed dead after a tugboat with 25 onboard sank on the Yangtze River in east China's Jiangsu Province on Thursday afternoon, local authorities said on Saturday.

Rescuers found the body of the last missing person in the tug's cockpit at around 2 pm on Saturday, according to the Jiangsu Maritime Safety Administration (JMSD). The boat, the "Wanshenzhou 67", was extracted from the depths on Saturday morning, 40 hours after it sunk in Fubei Channel, near Jingjiang City. On Saturday morning, local authorities published the names of those on board, including eight foreigners — four Singaporeans, an Indonesian, a Malaysian, an Indian and a Japanese national. All 25 on-



The wreckage of capsized tug boat "Wanshenzhou 67" (C) is lifted from the Yangtze River near Jingjiang, east China's Jiangsu Province, early on 17 Jan, 2015.

XINHUA

board were men, according to the JMSD. As of 11 am, 19 bodies have been spotted in nearby waters, with two already retrieved. Rescuers have saved three people, all of them Chinese, including an interpreter. All the eight foreigners were killed, the

JMSD confirmed.

Pictures on Sina Weibo, the Chinese equivalent of Twitter, show family members crying desperately by the river. Many braved the cold on early Saturday morning to wait for news of their loved ones.—Xinhua

Laos vows to improve oversight in state-funded projects

VIENTIANE, 17 Jan — The government of Laos has announced efforts to improve the inspections of state-funded projects to minimize corruption following the exposure of numerous cases of financial mismanagement, state-run media *Vientiane Times* reported on Friday.

Inspection officials will be required to carefully scrutinize state investment projects from the preliminary stages onward following a government decree signed by Lao Prime Minister Thongsing Thammavong that came into force on 6 January.

All projects financed by the state budget including state co-financing, grants and loans are all subject to

thorough inspections under the decree.

The move comes following reports of financial mismanagement affecting state-funded projects across Laos as highlighted at the recent ordinary session of the country's National Assembly.

Among the most obvious cases of mismanagement were so-called "ghost" projects to which funds were repeatedly allocated and spent with little or nothing to show for the investment. Some 25 of such projects were reported in a single province alone, costing the nation's coffers in excess of 324 billion kip (40 million US dollars) in assets including 200 billion kip (24.6 million US dollars) in cash. Many state-funded infrastructure

development projects nationwide were found to be undertaken without a tendering process, with collusion driving costs up to unreasonable levels and leading to further wastage.

Upon request, those responsible will be required to produce any relevant documents including proposals, surveys, designs, feasibility studies, economic and technical studies, social and environmental assessment reports, tender documents and contract agreements.

The decree also encourages greater involvement by media, civil society organizations, and members of the general public in identifying cases of mismanagement.—Xinhua

Obama, Cameron vow to take on 'poisonous ideology' of radical Islam

WASHINGTON, 17 Jan — US President Barack Obama and British Prime Minister David Cameron vowed on Friday to take on "the poisonous ideology" of Islamic extremists and said intelligence agencies must be allowed to track militants online despite privacy concerns.

Obama and Cameron held two days of White House talks amid increasing concern in Europe about the threat posed by extremists after 17 people were killed in Paris attacks and Belgian authorities engaged in a firefight with terror suspects.

"We face a poisonous and fanatical ideology that wants to pervert one of the world's major religions, Islam, and create conflict, terror and death. With our allies, we will confront it wherever it appears," Cameron told a joint White House news conference with Obama after their talks. Obama said he and Cameron accepted that intelligence and military force alone would not solve the problem, and they



US President Barack Obama (L) and British Prime Minister David Cameron (R) depart a joint news conference following their meeting at the White House in Washington on 16 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS

would work together on "strategies to counter violent extremism that radicalizes recruits and mobilizes people, especially young people, to engage in terrorism."

The extremists' ability to communicate online and spread recruitment propaganda on the Internet have presented a challenge to authorities. Obama and Cameron expressed concerns about new encryption products that could prevent governments from tracking extremists poised to attack.

Technology companies became alarmed with surveillance techniques after former US intelligence contractor Edward Snowden leaked classified details about how the government harvests data from companies like Google, Yahoo, Microsoft, AT&T and Verizon.

"We're not asking for back doors" to access electronic communications, Cameron said. "We believe in very clear front doors through legal processes that should help to keep our

country safe."

Obama said debate from civil libertarians and privacy groups has been "useful" in the debate, but said legal safeguards are in place to prevent government from "Big Brother" scenarios. Obama said the US government has been working with technology companies to deal with privacy concerns without preventing investigations.

"Social media and the Internet is the primary way in which these terrorist organizations are communicating," Obama said.

"We're still going to have to find ways to make sure that if an al-Qaeda affiliate is operating in Great Britain or in the United States, that we can try to prevent real tragedy," he said. Obama and Cameron also agreed to conduct cybersecurity war games and establish a joint "cyber cell" to prepare for and share intelligence on malicious hacking, weeks after Sony Entertainment was hacked in an incident the FBI has blamed on North Korea.

Reuters

French post office hostage-taking ends, no victims

PARIS, 17 Jan — An armed man who earlier took several hostages at a post office northwest of Paris on Friday has surrendered with no one hurt, a French police official told Reuters. The man equipped with a military weapon took an unconfirmed number of hostages at the post office in the town of Colombes, just outside the capital.

"I cannot confirm or deny whether it is linked to terrorism," an official at the

city prosecutor's office told Reuters earlier, declining to give further details.

BFM TV, citing an unidentified source, said the hostage drama was not related to last week's attacks in Paris. French police arrested 12 people earlier on Friday suspected of helping militant Islamist gunmen in last week's killings in Paris. There have been numerous false alerts across the city since the attacks.

Reuters



A suspect in a hostage taking situation raises his arms in the air as he is detained by members of special French RAID forces outside the post offices in Colombes outside Paris, on 16 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS

AFP photographer wounded in Charlie Hebdo clashes in Karachi — police

KARACHI, (Pakistan), 17 Jan — A photographer with French news agency AFP was wounded in Pakistan on Friday after being shot during clashes against the satirical weekly *Charlie Hebdo* outside the French consulate in the port city of Karachi, police said.

"AFP photographer Asif Hasan suffered

wounds resulting from gunshots fired by ... protesters, police have not opened fire," Abdul Khaliq Shaikh, a senior police officer in southern Karachi, told Reuters.

A Reuters photographer at the scene said that many protesters appeared to be armed.

Reuters



Asif Hassan (L), a photographer of French news agency Agence France-Presse (AFP), shot during a protest against satirical French weekly Charlie Hebdo, which featured a cartoon of the Prophet Mohammad as the cover of its first edition since an attack by Islamist gunmen, is helped by a fellow photographer in Karachi on 16 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS

Iran's Zarif meets US, French counterparts to narrow nuclear gaps



US Secretary of State John Kerry shakes hands with Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif before a meeting in Geneva on 14 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS

PARIS, 17 Jan — Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Jawad Zarif met his US and French counterparts separately on Friday to try to narrow gaps over Iran's nuclear programme, with just over two months left before a deadline to reach a deal.

Iran and six world powers — the United States, Britain, France, Germany, Russia and China — have renewed their quest for an elusive nuclear accord after negotiators failed in November to meet another self-imposed deadline. Zarif and US Secretary of State John

Kerry met for about an hour in Paris to follow up on a lengthy meeting on Wednesday in Geneva in search of an agreement that is seen as crucial to reducing the risk of a wider Middle East war. "We discussed ways to overcome problems and gaps," Zarif told Iran's state TV. A senior US State Department official said the two men would see each other again in the coming weeks, but gave no details on the exchange.

Speaking in Washington, US President Barack Obama told reporters the chances of striking a deal

with Iran were probably less than 50 percent, saying he would seek to ratchet up economic sanctions if discussions broke down.

Kerry's prime reason for travelling to Paris was to honour 17 people killed by Islamist gunmen in the city last week. Zarif was in France to see French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius. "The meeting was an opportunity to reiterate France's determination to reach an agreement that guarantees the peaceful civilian nature of Iran's nuclear programme," foreign ministry spokesman Romain Nadal said after the 45-minute encounter.

The major powers hope to persuade Iran to curb its nuclear programme, which the West thinks is aimed at developing atomic weapons. Iran says the programme is for civilian purposes.

Talks are due to resume at political director level in Geneva on Sunday as the two sides look to reach a framework accord that sets key parameters by

31 March and a final deal by 30 June that completes the detailed technical aspects.

A senior Western diplomat close to the negotiations said that while everybody wanted to find a solution, there had been very little progress since November.

"The Iranians have still not made the necessary gestures to reach a good deal," the diplomat said. "I have the feeling that things have not radically evolved and that we're still relatively far from getting there."

There has been growing pressure on negotiators from hawks in Teheran and Washington. US lawmakers are seeking to impose further sanctions on Iran, although Obama said on Friday he would veto any such attempts for now.

"We should not put ourselves under artificial pressure," said the Western diplomat. "Striking a weak deal with Iran would be a disastrous signal for the world and would encourage other countries in the region to follow this bad example."

Reuters

Haiti president to announce new government after parliament dissolved

PORT-AU-PRINCE, 17 Jan — Haitian President Michel Martelly announced plans on Friday to form a consensus government within the next 48 hours in a bid to rescue the impoverished Caribbean nation from a looming political crisis.

Martelly in a major speech urged anti-government demonstrators to maintain order as he seeks to steer the country toward new elections despite the dissolution of parliament earlier this week.

Speaking before an audience of political leaders and the foreign diplomatic corps, Martelly said he would swear in a new prime minister later on Friday before using his executive authority to appoint a cabinet and a new electoral authority.

“The weakness of our institutions and in particular the failure of the ... legislature, cannot and should not last. It is urgent to correct these deficiencies as soon as possible because the big loser in this crisis remains our Haitian nation,” Martelly said.

Haiti has not held legislative or municipal elections for three years, leaving parliament without a quorum as terms expired and Martelly ruling by executive authority. Under normal circum-

stances, the prime minister and the electoral authority would have to be ratified by parliament.

In a phone call with Martelly on Friday US Vice President Joe Biden commended his efforts to reach a negotiated agreement with the parliament, but Biden expressed disappointment with the failure of parliament to pass an electoral law before it lapsed.

As he announced last month, Martelly said he would install former Port-au-Prince Mayor Evans Paul as prime minister, with the composition of the new government to be announced over the weekend.

For months Martelly battled opposition senators over an electoral law required before any vote can take place. He recognized on Friday that he had failed to hold elections, municipal or legislative since he assumed power in May 2011.

“Today, as president of all Haitians, I take the responsibility for this situation,” he said.

Some of his opponents have taken to the streets to protest poverty, corruption and what they consider his autocratic rule. They accuse Martelly of deliberately bringing about the crisis in order to rid himself of stubborn opposition in parlia-



Haiti's President Michel Martelly addresses the audience during a memorial held for the victims of the 2010 earthquake in Titanyen, on the outskirts of Port-au-Prince on 12 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS

ment.

“Martelly wanted to control everything and now he is controlling everything,” said Arnold Elie, who joined a protest of about 1,500 people in downtown Port-au-Prince on Friday morning.

“We are protesting to tell Martelly: This country is not just for you. We want him to be arrested and judged for his financial crimes,” said Elie.

Martelly invited protesters to join a national dialogue he started in recent weeks with political parties.

“I recognize the right of all those who have chosen the path of peaceful demonstrations to express their demands and frustrations,” he said. Adding a touch of political mystery

to his speech, Martelly said he would encourage a major discussion over Haiti's constitution, including “necessary amendments,” but did not elaborate.

He stressed he had no intention of changing the constitution to seek re-election, which is currently banned. “To avoid any misunderstanding ... I want to emphasize clearly and loudly, that ... in no case will I be a candidate in the next election,” he said.

Haiti is scheduled to hold presidential elections at the end of the year. Municipal and legislative elections are unlikely to be held before this summer due to complicated logistics and the need to find foreign donors to foot the bill.—Reuters

Venezuela's 'protest city' on edge as economic crisis worsens

SAN CRISTOBAL, 17 Jan — Masked youths are once again blocking streets and burning tires in the Venezuelan city of San Cristobal, the epicentre of last year's massive anti-government protests.

The groups are small and the unrest contained, but dissent is rising in this volatile Andean city, a barometer of frustration with nationwide shortages that are putting pressure on the socialist government of Nicolas Maduro.

Students, who also accuse the government of corruption and repression but whom Maduro labels “coupsters,” are threatening to unleash larger demonstrations again.

“It's time,” Deiby Jaimes, 21, said from behind a barricade of burning trash as police gazed down from their hilltop perch. “There's a social, economic and political crisis. Economically we're completely lost and in a delirium.”

But Jaimes and other students said they were restraining themselves to see if other Venezuelans also take to the streets.

Last year's protests split the opposition and failed to attract widespread

support from Venezuela's poor, meaning mainstream anti-government leaders like Henrique Capriles are calling for less radical tactics including peaceful rallies and a good showing at an upcoming parliamentary vote.

“People are scared,” said Jaimes, an accounting student, as dozens around him knocked rocks together menacingly. “But fear is disappearing due to shortages. We're expecting a social explosion.”

High demand and a Christmas lull in distribution have aggravated shortages across the nation of 30 million people. Queues sometimes snake around entire blocks, prompting isolated scuffles for coveted milk or diapers.

Although there has been scattered violence around the OPEC nation, many eyes are once again on the opposition hotbed of San Cristobal, where clusters of demonstrators have been facing off with security forces since the New Year. It was here that the attempted rape of a student last year prompted protests that spread into a wave of national demonstrations.

Reuters



Students block a street as they clash with national guards during a protest against the government in San Cristobal on 14 Jan, 2015. — REUTERS

Former officials call for India-Pakistan anti-terror cooperation

OTTAWA, 17 Jan — Retired senior intelligence officials from India and Pakistan have called for anti-terror cooperation between the two neighbours.

The security and intelligence services in India and Pakistan should learn from each other's experience and lessons in their respective efforts to deal with terrorism, said the former officials, who met on Thursday in the framework of the Ottawa Dialogue, a University of Ottawa programme. The two countries should cooperate to stem cross-border crimes and jointly fight terrorist groups that pose threat to both countries. India and Pakistan should establish and formalize contacts at official level to materialize cooperation, they said.—Xinhua

UN's Ban Ki-moon worried by El Salvador violence as murders soar



United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon speaks during a Press conference at the presidential house in San Salvador on 16 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS

SAN SALVADOR, 17 Jan — United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said on Friday he was concerned by violence in Central America and El Salvador, where there has been a sharp spike in murders and police assassinations over the last year.

Visiting the poor Central American country to celebrate the 23rd anniversary of

peace accords that ended a 12-year civil war that killed around 75,000 people, Ban urged El Salvador to remember that spirit of reconciliation as it grapples with a rising spate of gang warfare.

Central America is home to some of the bloodiest countries in the world, blighted by corrupt institutions, widespread gang culture and chronic unemploy-

ment which last year sparked a wave of child migrants that overwhelmed the southern US border. “We're very worried at the levels of insecurity and violence across Central America and El Salvador,” Ban told reporters in San Salvador. Honduras has the world's highest murder rate of 90.4 murders per 100,000 people, according to the UN. Neighbouring El Salvador is in third place with 41.2 murders per 100,000 people. Nonetheless, the number of murders last year in El Salvador jumped by nearly 60 percent to an average of 12 killings a day as a truce between its most powerful gangs collapsed. The pact between the Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13) and its rival Barrio 18 helped reduce the murder rate in mid-2013 to around five per day - a 10-year low.

But as the truce crumbled, police died in greater

numbers. Last year, 39 cops were executed by suspected gang members, and seven have died so far in 2015, according to official figures.

“These are cowardly acts,” said police chief Mauricio Ramirez, adding that kidnappings were also up.

On Wednesday, around 300 people abandoned the village of San Luis La Herradura, southeast of the capital, after gang members threatened to raze it if they did not pay extortion money. President Salvador Sanchez Ceren, a former Marxist guerrilla leader, has criticized the previous government's efforts to negotiate with the gangs, vowing to go after them while strengthening state institutions. According to one study, around 73,000 people have died in El Salvador since the end of the civil war — almost the same number as those killed during the fighting.—Reuters

WORLD

Eleven more air strikes hit Islamic State in Syria, Iraq

WASHINGTON, 17 Jan — The United States led six more air strikes against Islamic State in Syria and five in Iraq since early Thursday, according to the US-led military coalition.

The strikes in Syria centred around the key border town of Kobani, destroying nine of the militants' fighting positions, the Combined Joint Task Force said in a statement on Friday. In Iraq, the five strikes near Ramadi, al-Qaim, al-Asad and Mosul struck various fighting positions as well a building, boats and a barge used by Islamic State, according to the statement.—*Reuters*

About 200 Tajik citizens fighting in Syria, Iraq: interior minister

DUSHANBE, 17 Jan — Tajikistan's law enforcement authorities instituted criminal proceedings against 53 Tajik nationals last year for participation in foreign armed conflicts. Tajik Interior Minister Ramazon Rahimzoda said here on Friday that 12 of them were fighting in Syria and Iraq.

The minister also said about 200 Tajik nationals are fighting in Syria and Iraq, adding that the government has asked their relatives to help the return of these Tajik militants.

He stressed that all Tajik nationals participating in foreign armed conflicts will be amnestied if they return to Tajikistan. —*Xinhua*

30 militants killed in operations in E Afghanistan

ASADABAD, (Afghanistan), 17 Jan — About 30 militants have been killed after Afghan security forces waged offensives in two provinces, police said on Saturday.

Afghan army and border police, backed by army helicopter gunships, pounded several hideouts of militants in Dangam District in eastern Kunar Province, provincial police chief Abdul Habib Sayyedkhel told *Xinhua*, adding "The raid was launched on Friday. It is still going on there, and 21 militants have been killed so far". The operation will continue before the militants in the area are cleared, he said.

The district has been the scene of fierce fighting after Taleban militants launched frequent attacks in apparent efforts to take control of the district centre in the mountainous province over the past couple of months.

Three injured militants have been detained, and no casualties have been reported on the side of security force, the police chief noted.—*Xinhua*



Lebanese Army soldiers walk inside a cafe where a suicide bomb attack took place in Jabal Mohsen, Tripoli on 11 Jan, 2015.—*REUTERS*

Lebanon absorbs bomb shock as talks ease tensions

BEIRUT, 17 Jan — A double suicide bombing at a cafe in the Lebanese city of Tripoli was meant to ignite a new round of civil strife in a country whose stability has been repeatedly strained by the war in neighbouring Syria.

Instead, the fragile Lebanese state appears to have emerged a little stronger from the Sunni militant attack that killed nine people in an Alawite neighbourhood, helped by new political talks that are containing sectarian tensions.

The state's response to the bombing — an operation that re-established control over a prison taken over by its Islamist inmates — points to common ground among Lebanese on opposite sides of the region's wider, sectarian-fuelled conflict.

Lebanon, with its own combustible sectarian mix, has felt the force of that conflict in suicide bombings and bloody confrontations between the army and militant groups.

More trouble is expected: a car bomb rigged with 120 kg (265 lb) of explosives was found on Thursday near the Syrian border.

Sunni militant leaders remain at large, with plenty of opportunity to recruit among disaffected Lebanese Sunnis, in Palestinian refugee camps, and from a pool of well over a million Syrian refugees.

But Lebanese politicians see the outcome of the Tripoli attack as further proof their country will continue to muddle through, shielded by regional understandings that have spared them the kind of all out

conflict raging in Syria and Iraq.

The two players best placed to contain sectarian tensions — the Future Movement of Sunni leader Saad al-Hariri and the Shi'ite group Hezbollah — launched political talks this month seen as part of a broader effort to keep a lid on Lebanon.

The talks, the first such Sunni-Shi'ite dialogue since the start of the Syria crisis, could not have proceeded without the blessing of regional backers in Saudi Arabia and Iran.

The two states whose rivalry has fuelled sectarian bloodshed in the region appear to agree on the need to contain instability in Lebanon, whose 1975-90 civil war was driven by sectarianism.

Reuters

First round of Libya political dialogue "constructive," says UNSMIL

GENEVA, 17 Jan — The United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) on Friday hailed the first round of Libyan political dialogue as "constructive" after participants concluded two days of intensive discussions at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

The new round of political discussions seeks to end Libya's deepening political and security crisis. Attendees include representatives from the country's political, social, economic and civil society.

"The talks were constructive, conducted in a positive atmosphere, and reflected the participants' sincere commitment to reach common ground," UNSMIL said in a statement.

After extensive deliberation, participants agreed on an agenda that includes reaching a political agreement to form a consensual national unity government. Necessary security arrangements will also be worked upon to end the fighting and secure the phased withdrawal of armed groups from all Libyan cities.

Participants called on all parties to cease hostilities to create a conducive environment for the dialogue. Confidence building measures were discussed to safeguard national unity and to alleviate the suffering of the Libyan population.

Xinhua

French centre, churches attacked in Niger in Charlie Hebdo protest

NIAMEY, 17 Jan — Demonstrators in Niger attacked the French cultural centre, set fire to churches and raided Christian shops on Friday, as protests erupted against *Charlie Hebdo's* cartoons in several Muslim West African countries.

Staff of the satirical French weekly, which had angered Muslims by publishing images of the Prophet Mohammad, were shot dead by Islamist gunmen in Paris last week.

Police in Niger's southern city of Zinder, the second largest in Niger, fired tear gas at a crowd of hundreds of people who burned French flags and tires in the streets on Friday.

"The protesters are crying out in local Hausa language: Charlie is Satan — let hell engulf those supporting Charlie," said Aboubacar Mamane, a shopkeeper, by telephone.

Witnesses said the demonstrators ransacked the French cultural centre and the homes of police officers.

Peaceful marches took place after Friday prayers in the capital cities of former French colonies Mali, Senegal and Mauritania.

Demonstrators said they were angered by the latest front cover of *Charlie Hebdo* this week, which despite the Paris killings again featured a cartoon of Mohammad.

"*Charlie Hebdo* in the toilets," said one placard held by a protestor in Nouakchott. The presidents of Niger, Mali and Senegal last week marched alongside more than a million French citizens to show solidarity with the victims of the Paris bloodshed, which began with a shooting attack on *Charlie Hebdo's* Paris office.

But in an indication of the shifting mood, Macky Sall, president of one of Africa's most stable democracies Senegal, said late on Thursday: "Freedom of the press should not, in our view, head in the direction of a totally pointless provocation."—*Reuters*



A woman takes part in a protest against the increase of the fares of public transportation, in Sao Paulo, Brazil on 16 Jan, 2015.—*XINHUA*

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 18 January, 2015

Dangers of chemical pesticide on humans

By Aung Khin

Pesticide is an umbrella term that encompasses herbicides and insecticides. Both of them are pervasive chemicals in the environment, while herbicides are believed to pose a bigger threat because they are highly concentrated in the water supply, due to runoff from agricultural use.

Experts remarked that majority of Myanmar farmers lack knowledge how to use pesticides systematically, while pesticide companies concentrate only on their increasing sale amount of their products. Abundant use of low quality insect killers is now presenting dangers to people in Myanmar ru-

ral areas. The threat is at the peak during winter crop season.

Children are at greater risk of pesticide exposure than most adults. Many children in rural areas are being exposed to pesticides sprayed in the agricultural farms as schools are located near agricultural farms. When pesticides are sprayed on crops, insect killers spread into classrooms through the air.

Chemical pesticides develop leukemia three to nine times more often when pesticides are used around their homes. Brain tumors and other cancers in children have been linked with exposures to insecticides. Acute and chronic injury to nervous system, lung damage, reproductive dysfunction, and possibly dysfunction of hormone and immune systems can be caused by pesticides.

Depending on the dose, pesticides may cause a range of harmful health effects and may hamper ecosystems. The prevalent exposure of rural residents in the country has caused concern over their potential health consequences, alarming as their effects are believed to induce devastating and life-long diseases, and deformities in children and unborn

fetuses. Pesticide residues can enter human digestive system through their diets.

No one has guaranteed the safety of pesticides yet, while many pesticides have not been thoroughly tested for their health effects on children. Scientific studies involving laboratory animals have shown that many pesticides damage the developing brain and nervous system.

While chemical pesticides are unavoidably used in agricultural sector due to high cost of organic pesticide, education programmes for farmers and strict rules and regulations will be needed to reduce the dangers of killer pesticides.

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Significant features of "Singapore Expo" and "John Little Mega Expo Sale" in Singapore: January 2015

By Sayar Mya

(continued from yesterday)

Singex Venues, the management company of Singapore Expo, is the only MICE Company (Meetings, Incentive travel, Conferences and Exhibitions) in the world to have dual certification in Business Continuity Management. It was being awarded by the British and Singapore standards.

Before 1997, the exhibition space at the World Trade Centre was slated for demolition due to city development. Therefore, a replacement venue with more than 34,000 square meters of indoor space was greatly and urgently needed.

The construction of first phase commenced in 1997. It was completed in time. Even though the effects of the 1997 Asian financial crisis had started to bite on the economy during that period, the venue was officially opened on 4 March 1999.

Critics were of the view that the halls will be under-utilized. They even opined that it would be further worsened by its relatively remote location compared to the old World Trade Centre.

The initial years almost proved the views of the critics were right. However, the venue made a quick turnaround within a few years. The opening of the Expo MRT Station in 10 January 2001 was a boost to the

venue. At that time, it was already experiencing increasing usage.

Moreover, the attempts to sell the venue for functions beyond exhibitions and conventions had helped its rapid development. The functions include rock concerts, New Year parties, beauty pageants, musicals, and even as examination halls for educational institutions. These were the alternative methodology in the implementation of the project. It was part of measure and monitor success.

By 2003, demand for ever bigger exhibition space prompted the Singapore Expo to go ahead with its expansion plans. It was especially in response to the needs of IMTA Asia, (Integrated Multi-Tropic Aquaculture --- IMTA), which was held from 17 to 21 October 2005.

With the inaugural show already occupying the full 60,000 square meters of space, high and intense pressure was on the venue to expand. Otherwise the prestigious event may have to move somewhere else since there is no other bigger venue available in Singapore. In response, a new 40,000 square meter expansion comprising a further four halls was constructed adjacent to the existing halls across Expo Drive on the double march and quick time to meet the expected exhibition period, and was completed in June 2005.

The extension includes

a multi-purpose event hall and auditorium for large-scale meetings, seminars, conferences, congresses, concerts and other special events. It is known as The MAX Pavilion.

Singapore Expo Venue has travelled a bumpy long journey to become a successful paramount venue. Singapore Expo Venue will be more active and crowded when it is connected to the Downtown Line scheduled to open in 2017.

John Little Department Store

Next, the writer of this article would like to present the other theme namely John Little Department Store. On that day, "John Little Mega Expo Sale" was in progress at the Singapore Expo Venue.

John Little is a chain of department stores in Singapore. Established in 1845, John Little is the oldest department store in Singapore. The John Little chain is owned by Robinson & Co. Limited.

The chain currently has three stores in Singapore, at Marina Square, Tiong Bahru Plaza, and Jurong Point. The Marina Square store is John Little's largest outlet which opened in June 2007. However, its main store at Specialists' Shopping Centre along Orchard Road closed down on 9 July 2007.

History

John Little was founded by John M. Little in 1845 at Raffles Place, it was known as Commercial Square. Mr.



John Little's Marina Square store

Little then was an employee of F. Martin, who sold his business to Mr. Little and Mr. Cursetjee. He was a well-known Parsee merchant.

On 1 July 1845, Mr. Little and Mr. Cursetjee started their business as auctioneers and commission agents. They offered services in retail as well as auction of properties such as spice plantations and valuable household furniture. Shoppers could buy tickets to plays, musicals and other performances. Little, Cursetjee & Co. became a popular hangout for locals to hold meetings, and functioned like the modern-day equivalent of a central box office.

On 30 June 1853, Mr. Little and Mr. Cursetjee ended their eight-year partnership.

John Little & Co. was then formed, and John's brother, Martin, was made a partner. The business continued in the same direction and

premises. In 1894, John Little & Co. Ltd was registered by Harwood and Stephenson, London, with a capital of £75,000 in 20 shares.

As Singapore grew as a trading port in the late 19th century, John Little expanded in the same period. In addition to retail, John Little also operated a car business, a motor garage, a furniture factory, a café and a beauty salon. From its original one-storey premises in Raffles Place, the store expanded to occupy another floor.

In the early 20th century, John Little also set up branches in Malaya; there were branches in Kuala Lumpur (1914), Penang (1926), and Ipoh (1929). However, the advent of World War II and subsequent Japanese Occupation resulted in the closure of these branches.

After the Japanese occupation of Singapore ended in 1945, it took some time for John Little to re-open for

business due to lack of manpower and merchandise. In June 1946, John Little resumed business, and subsequently registered such good sales that the store declared a 20% dividend for its ordinary shareholders in 1948.

In 1955, John Little was acquired by Robinsons. The store was re-launched as JL on 29 August 1987 with a new logo, new image and merchandise selection. Its main store moved from Raffles Place to several locations before moving into Specialists' Shopping Centre until its closure in July 2007.

John Little Mega Expo Sale @ Singapore Expo was held from 8 to 18 January 2015. During the sale, the discount ranges from 20 percent to 80 percent off on over 250 brands with home free delivery for purchases above S\$ 300.

Thousands of customers have shopped at the John Little Mega Expo Sale up till this author visited the venue on Tuesday 13 January 2015 evening.

The author of this article learned two remarkable aspects in visiting the John Little Mega Expo Sale at the Singapore Expo Venue namely (a) What the executives are trying to achieve as their ultimate goal; and (b) Critically thinking from the start how the methodology of implementation could possibly be changed and evolved on the road to success.

(concluded)

ARTICLE

Creature comforts, modern luxuries, power, wealth and popularity are endless cravings in human life

By Tommy Pauk

Life span begins from the date of birth to the date of death. During that space of time, every human being tackles or overcome difficulties, problems and obstacles to survive in their existence. Besides, some people can live in the longer life-span and some can only live in the shorter life-span. We all know that 'Man is mortal', but we need to maintain and sustain our life to some degree." Life is like a roller-coaster", "Life is like a merry-go-round" and "Life is not a bed of roses" are the metaphorical expressions pertaining to human life. These expressions are already embedded in our minds. A human life is so full of ups and downs or fluctuations and difficulties. Unexpectedly, we encounter

sad events and happy events in our life. In this situation, we must be able to resist and endure the life struggle and troubles. The destiny controls and draws us. The destiny of individual is hidden in his or her life. Sometimes, we come across with unforeseen fame and fortune. Basically, humans beings have to struggle for their survival, but nobody can predict or speculate their fate and longevity. Some people face hardship in life, but other people face easy life. Every position in life is unstable and impermanent. We humans must have endurance, strong morale and bravery to overcome hindrances and difficulties in life. To be able to have a comfortable life, we must struggle hard. When a stroke of luck hits someone, his or her life is changed into better position. It happens once in a blue moon. In accordance with our luck, effort and intelligence, our status or social standing can be classified into two kinds of groups_ the haves and the have-nots. The haves are economically advantaged people and the have-nots are economically disadvantaged people. These two different circumstances can be seen in human society on earth. At present, the total population of human beings has reached six billion so far. According to the record of 2014 made by Forbes Magazine global wealth team, we have learned that the number

of billionaires reached 1,645 (one thousand six hundred forty-five) in the world. (Reference; Inside The 2014 Forbes Billionaires List: Facts And Figures). The remaining people are average and below average in social standing in the world. Therefore, we can even count the number of rich people and countries, but the number of poor countries is uncountable in the world. It reveals that the group of the proletariat is greater in number than those of the rich all over the world. The proletariat cannot fully enjoy the secular pleasure or worldly pleasure with modern luxuries and modern housing. They lead the mundane life although they try hard. Nevertheless, the proletariat dream of endless cravings in their life. They wish their dream had come true.

A lifelong period is filled with mystery, misery, happiness and unforeseen circumstances. Apart from these situations, we gear up to tackle the good or bad things when we are alive. Similarly, we have been seeking material wealth and comforts as much as we can. There is nobody who does not want to be a rich person in the modern secular society. We always think of making our fortunes.

Human life may vary from one society to another society. Individual life is also different from one another. The rich, the poor and the destitute are the classification of their characteristics. Every human wants to be a rich person in his or her life. It is human nature that we want a comfortable, rich, easy life with luxuries. The dream of every human is to live in the human paradise. In reality, life is very difficult for us to gain a comfortable position indeed. Even when a person dies, he or she has not satisfied with cravings or creature comforts of his or her life. So, no matter a person is rich or poor, the endless desires for life dominate him or her until he or she dies. The perspective on human life depends on different standings of the people concerned i.e. the rich want to be richer; the poor want to have better life; the destitute want a place of safety or refuge.

Most men and wom-

en are crazy for popularity in politics, music, sports, movies and dress-designing etc. They compete hard to gain success and popularity. However, they try to hold or maintain the popularity as much as they can. Everyone, except religious leaders, is obsessed with popularity. Normally, the laymen regard popularity as prestige in secular life. Exceptionally, low-profile or humble persons are not included in this classification. If someone is admired by general public for his or her outstanding or talented conducts or creation or achievement in arts, he or she wins the popularity. Any way, we really want to be popular in our society or in our community. Naturally, when we are conferred with recognition, honor, laud, sincerity and admiration by the people, we are elated.

Wealth, the state of being rich, is the most desirous reward in life indeed. To be able to live in luxury and comfortable life, a person must be rich. We humans perceive wealth as an essential thing for life and without it life will be meaningless. Our perception is seemingly agreeable, but the way we try to gain must be just, legal and honest. This material wealth supports humans to fulfill other cravings in life. Wealth is essential in life for getting food, shelter, clothing and healthcare. If we are indigents, we will not be able to pursue education. We prefer wealthy life so that we will be free from anxiety and poverty. We are inspired by the elites, who have the most wealth and status in human society. Everyone wants to live in luxury and comfortable life. Some people live in penury and some people make their living by doing odd jobs getting meager income. Their lives are merely for survival, nothing more. Some people are in the state of being fairly well-off. So there many serious discrepancies between the haves and the have-nots. According to different life standings, people are striving hard for better life and higher income all over the world. The poor are seriously concerned about tomorrow's survival as they do not have adequate food or money. Obviously, they do not have savings nor

enough sustenance. That is why they have endless worries for their survival every day. They just live from hand to mouth. In contrast with their circumstances and situations, the rich are worried about their wealth and property which might get destroyed or reduced. So they have endless worries to maintain their wealth and property. Furthermore, the rich never satisfy with the present position of wealth and try to increase their wealth seriously. The rich are so materialistic that they never ever think to upgrade the life of the poor. The social dealing among the rich usually focus on personal gain or benefit. They always look for the chances to make a huge fortune and want to possess a great wealth in life. They consider money as a power in life. They choose useful strategy or technique to increase their property and wealth all the time. This is a kind of unlimited cravings for wealth in human life. Nowadays, people from the poor countries admire the high standard of living of the people from the most modern and the most developed countries. The people from the poor countries want to stay there legally or illegally to make fortunes and enjoy creature comforts and modern luxuries. Due to some kind of ambitions and cravings, many migrant workers are making their living in the most modern and the most developed countries in the world. Besides, a huge number of immigrants are entering the most modern and the most developed countries, hoping to get better jobs legally. Of course, they are intellectuals, engineers and doctors from Third World nations.

Power is defined as the right or some kind of authority to do something for human society. Normally, when we have power, we feel as if we are superior than other ordinary people. We think of highly ourselves and become conceited. Afterwards, we have a passion for power or become power-crazy persons. Naturally, power is very influential and useful in carrying out the social welfare and public services. Unless we have sense of conscience, we might misuse

the power definitely. Subsequently, we can take advantages on them by misusing the power for our own sake selfishly. We become greedier and more selfish than before when we possess some kind of power. The power makes easier to do anything and to create personal gains in life. Later, we are addicted to the power, which is given to us to do for the social welfare or the benefits of our society. We are inclined to use the power wrongfully instead of using it justly. This is also human nature, but we ought to control or tame our mind-sets which mislead immoral or unjust acts in a silly way. Some people use money as their power to influence or organize or persuade others. Power should be properly used for the sake of interests of the society and the nation. Actually, we humans are fascinated by power, but we should think wisely on the usage of power. We must know that possession of power is neither permanent nor everlasting. This is an absolute truth and nobody can deny or argue it.

Creature comforts are wanted by every human being on earth because nobody wants to live with meager sustenance in the shabby shelter. However, we like to have all mod cons known as modern conveniences which are expensive or dear products. In other words, we want to live in the lap of luxury. These creature comforts must be available both in rural life and in urban life. Those less fortunate cannot afford them and they feel miserable of their life standing or standard of living. They are miserably poor and they live in slums with no mod cons. Some people are struggling to make both ends meet. The poor and the destitute alike are dreaming of living in a better and comfortable life. They do not want meaningless and hopeless life. They want to upgrade their life and to become somebody.

Since they are humans, they crave something for their life within their reach. In the modern world, modern luxuries such as motor cars, luxurious houses, household things and other human dresses are alluring us. The pace of modern life style is rather fast. So people are in rat race or in competitive struggle. We cannot escape from that allurements so we try hard for more earnings in order that we can afford to buy these things for us. The creature comforts and modern luxuries are closely related because they both always change in accordance with the modern life style indeed. Modern durables, apparatus, utensils, devices and electronic gadgets are being manufactured greatly. As the pace of modern life is pretty fast, we have to use faster, smoother vehicles for transportation and sophisticated telecommunication devices for communications purposes. In order to cope with the modern life style activities, we must use the electronic telecom-devices for the convenience of our daily-life communications and information among ourselves. For example; cell phone smartphone and i-pad etc., the creature comforts are of amenities for our daily life. Without them our life will be unpleasant and uneasy. Information Technology provides a great deal of benefits to humans, and humans have to compulsorily use the modern devices to enjoy convenience and comfort in their life. Constantly, latest model devices or apparatus and consumer goods are being manufactured for humans. Thus, we humans are overwhelmed by the endless cravings for electronic devices and modern durables. Human beings are seeking pleasure and creature comforts and fortune wearily and hastily in life. Very few of them could find and enjoy these things due to their abilities, luck and zeal. Instead of pursuing excessive cravings and creature comforts, we should moderately strive for fulfilling our necessities of human life. Let's create happy, pleasant and peaceful life on our own !!!!!

Tommy Pauk is the pseudonym of U Thein Swe, who is B.A (English) and (Registered Law) R.L I. degrees holder. He has English Teaching experience at Yangon University English Department and Workers' college in Yangon, and now is working as freelance writer and English Teacher cum Translator/Interpreter for foreign firms.

Stocks rally on US data, euro slides further

NEW YORK, 17 Jan — Wall Street stocks rebounded on Friday on signs the US economy was on track for solid growth with consumer sentiment hitting an 11-year high, while the euro slid further against the dollar a day after Switzerland ditched its currency cap.

Crude prices rallied on the US sentiment report and after the International Energy Agency said lower prices had begun to curb production in some areas, including North America. The IEA said prices might fall further, but “signs are mounting that the tide will turn.”

US gasoline prices fell again in December, leading consumer prices to post their biggest decline in six years, while a gauge of underlying inflation was flat. The data could make the Federal Reserve cautious about raising interest rates.

Global equity markets rebounded, with US

stocks capping five straight sessions of losses. European shares rose on growing expectations of economic stimulus from the European Central Bank.

Wall Street surged at the close. Major US indexes rose more than 1 percent in what Ken Polcari, director of the NYSE floor division of O’Neil Securities in New York, said had the makings of a relief rally.

“The market has been under complete duress for five or six days, the tone has been very ugly. Today it seems most things have calmed down, so buyers have started to step back in,” he said. The University of Michigan said US consumer sentiment rose in January on employment and income gains, with spending power boosted by sliding gasoline prices.

The “outstanding” report countered fears that tumbling oil prices would



curb growth, said Phil Orlando, chief equity strategist at Federated Investors in New York. He said cheaper energy will boost discretionary spending, and added that a disappointing retail sales report this week excluded online sales and gift cards and was skewed by seasonal factors. “The psychology of the market has been horribly negative for the last couple of weeks,” said Orlando. “What turned the market around today was plain and simple: the Michigan num-

ber was outstanding.”

The day after the euro lost Swiss support, the single currency slid to \$1.1461, its weakest since November 2003. It last traded at \$1.1567, down 0.52 percent.

Against the yen, the dollar was up 1.23 percent at 117.59 yen.

On equity markets, MSCI’s all-country world index gained 0.76 percent. The pan-European FTSEurofirst 300 index of leading regional companies closed up 0.99 percent at 1,407.17 points.

Swiss stocks sank again on concerns a stronger franc will hurt Swiss multinationals that depend on exports. The Swiss blue-chip index SMI closed down 6 percent.

Morgan Stanley estimated that 85 percent of Swiss company sales come from abroad. The Dow Jones industrial average closed up 190.86 points, or 1.1 percent, at 17,511.57. The S&P 500 rose 26.75 points, or 1.34 percent, to 2,019.42 and the Nasdaq Composite

added 63.56 points, or 1.39 percent, to 4,634.38.

US Treasuries prices fell after the strong consumer sentiment and tame inflation reports sparked profit-taking on recent gains.

The 10-year US Treasury note fell 15/32 in price, pushing the yield up to 1.8257 percent.

Brent crude futures for March delivery rose \$1.90 to settle at \$50.17 a barrel. US crude settled up \$2.44 at \$48.69 a barrel.—Reuters

Japan Atomic Power considers split to focus on decommissioning

TOKYO, 17 Jan — Japan Atomic Power Company is considering splitting itself into two units, seeking to restructure its business to focus on the decommissioning of nuclear reactors on behalf of regional utilities, the *Nikkei business* daily reported on Saturday.

The plan appears to reflect the government’s intention to reorganize Japan’s nuclear power businesses, which have effectively come to a halt since the 2011 Fukushima disaster, the newspaper said. Calls made seeking a response to the *Nikkei* report were not returned immediately. Unlisted Japan Atomic Power, owned mostly by Japanese power companies, including Fukushima reactor operator Tokyo Electric Power Co, currently generates no electricity. All three of its reactors are offline. It has managed to stay in business by receiving more than 100 billion yen (\$851 million) a year from the five regional utilities with which it has supply contracts.

However, with no prospect of restarting its reactors, the sponsor utilities have asked Japan Atomic Power to draw up a restructuring

plan that creates a new revenue source, the *Nikkei* reported. Japan Atomic Power is the only company in the country that operates both boiling-water and pressurized-water reactors, so it plans to realign human and technical resources according to reactor type.

Leading shareholder Tepco proposed the plan, with second-largest stakeholder Kansai Electric Power seen agreeing with it.

The Industry Ministry is also looking to streamline the operation of Japan’s 48 nuclear reactors, each now owned and run separately by Japan’s regional power companies and Japan Atomic Power. All of the nuclear reactors were gradually taken offline after meltdowns at the Fukushima Daiichi plant after an earthquake and tsunami in 2011. As many as two-thirds may never return to operation because of high costs, local opposition or seismic risks.

Japanese power companies, already battered by headwinds on their nuclear business, are expected to face tougher competition as the government plans to liberalise the power market for homes by 2016.—Reuters

Health crisis worsens in eastern Ukraine, WHO warns



Clothes dry in front of the regional psycho-neurological hospital on the outskirts of Slovyanosersk, in a territory controlled by “Lugansk People’s Republic” (LPR), eastern Ukraine, on 1 Dec, 2014.—REUTERS

GENEVA, 17 Jan — Health care is collapsing after nine months of conflict in eastern Ukraine, where a lack of medicines and vaccines puts people at growing risk from diseases such as polio, measles and tuberculosis, the World

Health Organization said on Friday.

Conditions are especially dire in the cities of Luhansk and Donetsk where people are trapped with little food. The fighting makes it hard to get to hospitals, which are often

cut off from water and electricity.

In all, 5.1 million people are affected by the humanitarian crisis, including 1.4 million deemed highly vulnerable, the United Nations health agency said in a statement. “We have special concerns for children, infants, and the lack of vaccines. Ukraine in the past month had no vaccines in the country, we are warning,” Dr Dorit Nitzan, WHO Representative in Ukraine, told a news briefing in Geneva.

There is a “huge risk of vaccine-preventable diseases” she said. “Measles and polio are first on the list.”

Nitzan said that as of 6 January, the death toll from the conflict between Ukrainian government forces and pro-Russian separatists stood at 4,808, with

10,468 wounded, based on reports from morgues and hospitals. At least 32,500 people are living with HIV/AIDS in Donetsk and Luhansk and are “at high risk for interruption of care and control services”, the WHO said, adding that only 10,000 were in treatment before the crisis began.

Cases of tuberculosis also appear to be increasing, and an estimated 40 percent of new TB patients are now believed to have the multi-drug-resistant form (MDR-TB), Nitzan said.

Ukraine’s health ministry has asked the WHO to take over responsibility for procuring and distributing all essential medicines, the agency said. WHO is organizing mobile emergency units to provide primary health care in the east.

Reuters

Ghana faces setback in HIV response after medical warehouse burnt

ACCRA, 17 Jan — The destruction by fire of Ghana’s central medical warehouse posed a serious setback to the country’s HIV response, a senior official with the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) said here on Friday.

The Central Medical Stores, a property of the ministry of Health, which sits in the port city of Tema, got burnt last on Tuesday.

Girmay Haile, Country Director of UNAIDS in Ghana, said the incident came at a time the country was making significant progress and achievements in the fight against the epidemic.

The fire that lasted for more than two days destroyed a substantial part of the country’s medical supplies, hospital beds and other equipment, with preliminary estimates of losses

worth more than 237 million cedis (some 74 million US dollars).

The West African country also lost some amount of HIV drugs and other consumables used in the response.

Haile said there would be little repercussions in the coming months but added that the UN agency was in consultation with the Ghanaian government to find a short-term solu-

tion to the problem.

“People on treatment need these drugs. They can’t miss treatment so this is going to be a real setback in our national anti-HIV efforts,” he told *Xinhua*.

Cosmos Ohene-Adjei, Director of Technical Services at the Ghana AIDS Commission, said efforts were being finalized to ensure emergency shipment of Anti retroviral drugs to augment supply in Ghana.



The US government has also been contacted to support Ghana with the

provision of a substantial amount of the drugs lost to the inferno.—Xinhua

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Last year was Earth's hottest on record, US scientists say

CAPE CANAVERAL, 17 Jan — Last year was Earth's hottest on record in new evidence that people are disrupting the climate by burning fossil fuels that release greenhouse gases into the air, two US government agencies said on Friday.

The White House said the studies, by the US space agency NASA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), showed climate change was happening now and that action was needed to cut rising world greenhouse gas emissions.

The 10 warmest years since records began in the 19th century have all been since 1997, the data showed. Last year was the warmest, ahead of 2010, undermining claims by

some skeptics that global warming has stopped in recent years.

Record temperatures in 2014 were spread around the globe, including most of Europe stretching into northern Africa, the western United States, far eastern Russia into western Alaska, parts of interior South America, parts of eastern and western coastal Australia and elsewhere, NASA and NOAA said.

"While the ranking of individual years can be affected by chaotic weather patterns, the long-term trends are attributable to drivers of climate change that right now are dominated by human emissions of greenhouse gases," said Gavin Schmidt, director of NASA's Goddard Institute of Space Studies in New

York. "The data shows quite clearly that it's the greenhouse gas trends that are responsible for the majority of the trends," he told reporters. Emissions were still rising "so we may anticipate further record highs in the years to come."

UN studies show there already are more extremes of heat and rainfall and project ever more disruptions to food and water supplies. Sea levels are rising, threatening millions of people living near coasts, as ice melts from Greenland to Antarctica.

Next December, about 200 governments will meet in Paris to try to reach a deal to limit global warming, shifting to renewable energies. China and the United States, the top emitters of greenhouse gases, say they



A villager with his bicycle walks on the banks of the Kuakhai River on a hot summer day, on the outskirts of eastern Indian city of Bhubaneswar on 9 June, 2014. —REUTERS

are cooperating more to achieve a UN accord.

The new data "is another reminder that climate change is not a problem for the future — it's happening here and now and we can't wait to take action," a White House official said in a statement.

Opponents of the proposed Keystone XL pipeline that would transport Canadian crude oil across the United States said the new data made it all the more pressing to prevent the construction of the pipeline. But US Senator James Inhofe, a Republican who

is the Senate's leading climate change skeptic, said the temperature difference between 2014 and 2010 was so insignificant as to prove there was no need for more stringent regulations by the US Environmental Protection Agency.

Reuters

"Innopolis" science and technology fair kicks off in Ecuador



A 3D printer is shown in the science and technology fair named "Innopolis" in Urcuqui, Imbabura Province, Ecuador, on 16 Jan, 2015. — XINHUA

Google in talks to buy mobile-payments company Softcard -TechCrunch

MENLO PARK, (California), 17 Jan — Google Inc is in talks to buy mobile-payments company Softcard, technology news website TechCrunch reported on Friday, citing people familiar with the matter.

The deal could help pair Google with the largest US wireless carriers to battle Apple Inc and its new Apple Pay service, TechCrunch wrote.

The deal may be valued below \$100 million, the report said citing sources.

Softcard is jointly owned by AT&T Inc, Ve-



A Google logo is seen at the garage where the company was founded on Google's 15th anniversary in Menlo Park, California on 26 Sept, 2013. —REUTERS

rizor Communication Inc's Verizon Wireless Inc and T-Mobile US Inc Google was not immediately available for comment outside

regular US business hours.

"We do not comment on merger speculation," said a Softcard representative. —Reuters

NY Post says Twitter feed was hacked after erratic Tweets

NEW YORK, 17 Jan — The New York Post said some of its Twitter accounts were hacked on Friday, in the wake of a series of inaccurate posts on the social network relating to the Federal Reserve, Bank of America and US military engagement with China.

Similarly peculiar messages appeared on a Twitter account controlled by United

Press International. "Some New York Post Twitter accounts were briefly hacked and the matter is being investigated," the Post said in a statement issued through a public relations firm.

A message appeared for a short time on the Post's "@NYPostBiz" account, which focuses on business news, reading: "Our Twitter feed has been hacked." The

message was deleted soon after, and its authorship was unclear. The message on the UPI account included one saying that Pope Francis had announced the start of "World War III." Those messages remained on the "@UPI" Twitter feed early on Friday afternoon.

UPI could not immediately be reached for comment. —Reuters

The Beagle has landed: Britain's missing spacecraft found on Mars

LONDON, 17 Jan — Britain's "Beagle 2" spacecraft, once dubbed "a heroic failure" by the nation's Astronomer Royal, was re-branded "a great success" on Friday for being found on Mars 11 years after going missing.

Beagle 2, part of a European Space Agency's Mars Express mission searching for extraterrestrial life, had been due to land on Mars on Christmas Day 2003, but disappeared on 19 December, 2003. Until now, nothing had been heard from it.

But at a packed news conference at London's Royal Society scientific institution on Friday, space experts said the tiny Mars lander had been found on the surface of the red planet. "Beagle 2 is no longer lost," said David Parker, chief executive of UK Space Agency.

He said recent images from the HiRISE camera on NASA's Mars Recon-

naissance Orbiter showed "good evidence" that the spacecraft landed on Mars on the date it was due — 25 December, 2003 — but had only partially deployed.

"The entry, descent and landing sequence for Beagle 2 worked and the lander did successfully touch down on Mars on Christmas Day 2003," UK Space Agency said in a statement.

Beagle 2 — measuring less than 2 metres across — was named after the ship Charles Darwin sailed when he formulated his theory of evolution. It was built by British scientists led by Colin Pillinger for about 50 million pounds (\$85 million).

The plan was for it to report back from the Mars' surface using instruments designed to help search for signs of life, but nothing was heard after it was dropped off to make its landing. "We were left with a mystery, a mystery that

has continued to this day," Parker said.

Mark Sims from Leicester University, Beagle 2's mission manager, said that while the spacecraft had failed to communicate any data from Mars, it had succeeded in getting to its target, landing, and inspiring scientists.

"Overall, I would say Beagle 2 was a great success," he told the news conference.

Martin Rees, Britain's Astronomer Royal, last year praised Beagle 2 and its eccentric creator Pillinger, who had died at age 70, saying: "This was a failure, but a heroic failure."

Sims said the find was exciting, frustrating and "tinged with sadness" because Pillinger did not live to see it. Asked to suggest what might have gone wrong, Sims said: "It was most probably a bad luck scenario — a hard landing." —Reuters

N Korea's nuclear envoy arrives in Singapore

SINGAPORE/ BEIJING, 17 Jan— North Korea's chief nuclear envoy arrived in Singapore from Beijing on Friday for talks with former senior US diplomats.

Ri Yong Ho, a vice foreign minister of North Korea, said, "Yes," before his departure from Beijing's international airport when asked if he is travelling to the Southeast Asian island country.

Ri is scheduled to meet with former senior US diplomats for North Korean negotiations Stephen Bosworth and Joseph DeTrani, as well as security experts, for two days from Sunday to discuss nuclear and bilateral issues, diplomatic sources said earlier this month.

The trip by Ri comes as Pyongyang is seeking to once again engage in talks with Washington, despite tensions between them most recently height-

ened by a Hollywood film depicting a fictional assassination plot against North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

Last Saturday, North Korea said it made a proposal to the United States that it stands ready to impose a moratorium on its nuclear tests if the United States cancels joint military exercises this year with South Korea.

The United States rejected the proposal, calling it an "implicit threat."

Ri is North Korea's chief negotiator for the long-stalled six-party nuclear talks, involving the two Koreas, China, Japan, Russia and the United States.

The talks aimed at having North Korea give up its nuclear ambitions have been suspended since the last session in December 2008.

Kyodo News

Indian woman allegedly raped by Uber driver plans to sue in US



An Uber taxi driver shows an application software in his mobile phone used to track the taxi's location, during a protest against the ban on online taxi services, in New Delhi on 12 Dec, 2014. —REUTERS

NEW DELHI, 17 Jan — A woman who was allegedly raped by an Uber taxi driver in India's capital has hired a prominent lawyer to

sue the online-hailing taxi service in US courts. The financial executive, who cannot be named under an Indian law that grants rape

victims anonymity, has hired Douglas Wigdor, a New York-based employment lawyer." We have been in talks over the last few weeks, which led to me being retained," Wigdor said in an email, declining to comment on the basis or timing of any case.

Among recent work, Wigdor represented the hotel maid who accused former International Monetary Fund chief Dominique Strauss-Kahn of sexual assault.

The Delhi government blacklisted Uber from operating in the capital last month after the alleged attack on the passenger as she returned home from seeing friends. The case triggered protests and reignited a debate about the safety of women in Asia's

third-largest economy, especially in New Delhi, which has been dubbed India's rape capital.

Public outrage was further fuelled when it was revealed the man was out on bail for sexual assault and Uber acknowledged that it did not carry out background checks on drivers in India.

An Uber spokesman declined to comment on the case. He said the company was in talks with the Delhi government to restart operations in the city. The US company, which was valued at \$40 billion last month, has also been dogged by controversy surrounding its aggressive approach to local governments, traditional taxi services and concerns about safety.—Reuters

Pakistan forces kill 2,000 militants in operation "Zarb-e-Azb" in North Waziristan

ISLAMABAD, 17 Jan — Pakistani security forces have killed about 2,000 terrorists since a major offensive launched in North Waziristan tribal region in June, the military said on Friday.

The army spokesman, Major General Asim Saleem Bajwa, said that a total of 200 soldiers have also been killed and 800 injured in the operation codenamed "Zarb-e-Azb."

Bajwa was speaking at a think-tank of Royal United Services Institute in London, Radio Pakistan

reported. He is accompanying the Army Chief, General Raheel Sharif, on a three-day official visit to Britain. The operation was launched after the rare peace talks with the Taliban collapsed and they increased attacks on sensitive installations and security forces.

The spokesman said that effective military operations in North Waziristan and Bajaur tribal region are underway to purge the areas of terrorists.

General Bajwa said the army chief has clearly

directed to carry out the operation against terrorists without any discrimination.

He said the United Nations has acknowledged the achievements of Pakistan Army against terrorists in the operation "Zarb-e-Azb."

Meanwhile, the army chief has said the operation in North Waziristan is making good progress and that there are no favorites and all terrorists of any kind being hit.

General Raheel Sharif said the recently launched anti-terrorism "National

Action Plan" is comprehensive to address extremism and terrorism being implemented, exclusively in collaboration with the government.

The parliament approved the plan after last month's Taliban attack on an army-run school in Peshawar that killed 140 children and 10 staff members.

"The world needs to understand our environment. Our cooperation with the United Kingdom in security and social sectors is growing," General Raheel said. —Xinhua



A staff member displays Chinese tea culture at China's stand during the 80th International Green Week in Berlin, Germany, on 16 Jan, 2015. The 80th International Green Week, a leading global agriculture fair, opened to visitors in Berlin on Friday, attracting thousands of traders to look for business opportunities.—XINHUA

Singapore printer refuses to print Charlie Hebdo's latest cover in The Economist magazine

SINGAPORE, 17 Jan — Readers of *The Economist* magazine in Singapore would find a blank page in the latest edition of the magazine.

The page was meant to publish a picture of French magazine *Charlie Hebdo*'s latest cover, but the magazine's local printer refused to do so, local media reported on Friday.

The 22th page of the magazine was left with nothing but two words "Page Missing", Lianhe Zaobao reported. *The Economist* explained that it was because their lo-

cal printer in Singapore refused to print the latest cover of *Charlie Hebdo*, which depicts Prophet Muhammad shedding a single tear and holding up a sign reading "Je Suis Charlie" (I am Charlie).

Times Printers, who prints the magazine, said in a media statement on Friday that *The Economist* told them that it had decided to publish the cover in their Britain, Asia, United States and Europe editions, and asked the printer to let them know if it had any concerns, the *Strait Times* reported.—Xinhua



Chefs serve free soup samples to the public during the Chef Soup Experiment event at Granville Island in Vancouver, Canada, on 16 Jan, 2015. The 13th Dine Out Vancouver Festival kicked off on Friday with a Chef Soup Experiment event. Each of the 50 top chefs brought one ingredient and put them together to make one soup that served to the public for free.—XINHUA

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV TAUNG GYI STAR VOY NO (1002)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV TAUNG GYI STAR VOY NO (1002) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.1.2015 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.

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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 MCC TRANSPORT
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**Yangon Sailing Club**
Annual General Meeting

All members of Yangon Sailing Club are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting to be held as follows:

Date : 25th January 2015
Place : Yangon Sailing Club
Time : 9:30 a.m.

Hon. Secretary
Yangon Sailing Club

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Chinese musicians take part in the performance of the "Band of Butterfly Girls" during the Gala Concert organized by the Confucius Institute of the University of Santo Tomas to celebrate the Chinese New Year, in Vina del Mar city, Chile, on 16 Jan, 2015.—XINHUA

WEATHER REPORT

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 18th January, 2015: Rain are likely to be scattered in Mandalay and Magway Regions, Shan, Chin and Rakhine States, isolated in Sagaing, Bago and Yangon Regions, Kachin, Kayah and Kayin States and weather will be partly cloudy in remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Pilot error caused crash that killed Brazilian presidential candidate

RIO DE JANEIRO, 17 Jan — A succession of human errors caused the plane crash that killed Brazilian presidential candidate Eduardo Campos and six others last year, *O Estado de Sao Paulo* daily reported on Friday.

An air force investigation concluded that pilot Marcos Martins lacked training for flying that particular aircraft, a *Cessna 560 XL*, and made several mistakes that led to the August 2014 crash, according to the daily.

The official conclusions are yet to be released.

The accident took place on a rainy day with low visibility. The poor weather and state of the runway were also contributing factors, the paper quoted investigators as saying, though they placed most of the blame on the pilot.

There was no evidence of mechanical failure and no other evidence was available as the flight recorder had not been turned on, said the paper.

Campos' brother Antonio Campos questioned the daily's story, noting that such investigations, as a rule, offer possible causes, not conclusions. He said the investigation was not expected to be completed until next month, and called the daily's decision to publish the report premature.

The paper said Martins apparently disregarded recommended landing guidelines for the local airport in Santos, Sao Paulo state, which has a short runway considered challenging even by experienced pilots, and failed to land on his first try.

During a second attempt, he suffered from a "spatial disorientation," the paper quoted investigators as saying. That explained why he descended at a 70-degree angle at full speed. The pilot thought he was pulling up, instead of heading down, said the paper.

Martins had posted that he was very tired on social media several days ahead of the accident and he had a poor relationship with his co-pilot, who had asked not to be partnered with him, the paper said.

The pilot and co-pilot, and four of Campos' campaign assistants also died in the crash.

Campos' death disrupted Brazil's presidential campaign, forcing the opposition to find a new candidate, only two months before election day.

Xinhua

Floods displace 22, 000 people in central Mozambique

MAPUTO, 17 Jan — Mozambique's National Institute for Disasters Management opened 14 temporary accommodation centers that are currently taking 22, 000 people displaced from floods in central Zambezia Province.

The authorities are so far distributing food kits in isolated areas and also securing reaction in case

there is a breakout of water borne diseases given that significant health unities were forced to close down due to the heavy rains.

"We have at least 5 health unities in the province, and the health authorities are also creating other alternatives to mitigate health needs of the people," said Rita Almeida, spokesperson of the management

institute.

The institute says it is currently providing support in clean water, hygiene methods to avoid the breakout of diseases every aspects important to guarantee that the displaced people have the basic to continue to survive.

The victims of the floods are also benefiting from support coming from

South Africa.

South Africa and its troops brought helicopters and are distributing non-food items among them tents, tarpaulins.

According to Almeida, South African troops are also assessing the affected areas to be better informed about the needs of the affected people.

Xinhua

Seven hurt after plane overshoots in C Philippines

MANILA, 17 Jan — At least seven people were hurt when a plane carrying senior Cabinet officials overshoot a runway in central Philippine city of Tacloban, which Pope Francis visited on Saturday.

Presidential Spokesperson Edwin Lacierda said that those hurt, in-

cluding the plane's crew members, were brought to Remedios T Romualdez Medical Centre for further medical examination due to minor injuries.

Among those on board the aircraft were Executive Secretary Paquito Ochoa Jr, Presidential Communications Operations Of-

fice Secretary Herminio Coloma Jr, Undersecretary Emmanuel Bautista, Undersecretary Felizardo Serapio, Jr, seven staff members, two pilots, 1 flight engineer and a steward.

Lacierda said that those government officials were in Tacloban to ensure

that the activities of Pope Francis in Tacloban and Palo would go as planned.

The Pope, who was supposed to stay in Leyte until 5:00 pm local time, cut short his trip by staying there for only four hours due to Tropical Storm Amang (Mekkhala).

Xinhua

Eddie Murphy won't do 'Beverly Hills Cop 4' without good script



Actor Eddie Murphy, who is expected to reprise his role as Axel Foley in the fourth 'Beverly Hills Cop' film, says he won't do the movie without an incredible script.—PTI

LOS ANGELES, 17 Jan — Actor Eddie Murphy, who is expected to reprise his role as Axel Foley in the fourth 'Beverly Hills Cop' film, says he won't do the movie without an incredible script.

The 53-year-old actor said that script is still in the works, reported *Rolling Stone* magazine.

"They're still trying to get that script right," Murphy said, referring to

scriptwriters Josh Appelbaum and Andre Nemec who also penned 'Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol'.

"I'm not doing a 'Beverly Hills Cop' unless they have a really incredible script. I've read a couple things that look like they can make some paper. But I'm not doing a movie just to make some paper. The film has got to be right," he added.—PTI



Director Andrey Zvyagintsev listens to a question of a journalist in Moscow on 24 Dec, 2014.—REUTERS

Oscar-nominated 'Leviathan' ruffles feathers in Russia

MOSCOW, 17 Jan — Russian director Andrei Zvyagintsev's Oscar-nominated film "Leviathan" has won acclaim around the world but is dividing opinion back at home, where some see it as a critique of President Vladimir Putin and Russia itself.

The film, a no-holds-barred look at how a corrupt local mayor crushes all who oppose him to arrive at his goals at all cost, has even prompted a Russian Orthodox activist to call for it not be screened in Russia.

A portrait of Putin that is often seen looking down on the mayor creates what many see as a link with the Kremlin and the Russian leader's governing style.

Putin critics say the story mirrors life in Russia in the 15 years since the former KGB spy first rose to power, with corrupt state officials enriching themselves and enjoying impunity.

Russia's Culture Ministry co-financed the film but now says it blackens

Russia's image just to win international acclaim.

"Films focussed not only on criticism of current authorities but openly spitting on them ..., filled with a sense of despair and hopelessness over our existence, should not be financed with taxpayers' money," Culture Minister Vladimir Medinsky said in a newspaper interview this week when asked whether the ministry would support similar films in the future.

Though "Leviathan" premiered in mid-2014, cinemas in Russia will start screening it only in February, with foul language muted to comply with Russian profanity laws.

The film, largely shot in the village of Teriberka on the Barents Sea in Russia's far north, has already won a dozen awards abroad, including a Golden Globe.

On Thursday, it captured an Academy Award nomination in the Foreign Language Film category along with four others.

Reuters

Late singer's corneas donated

CHENGDU, 17 Jan — Late Chinese pop singer Yao Beina, who lost her battle with breast cancer on Friday afternoon, has had her corneas donated.

One of her corneas will be delivered to an ophthalmic hospital in Chengdu, southwest China's Sichuan Province, on Saturday night, and will be donated to a 23-year-old man from Sichuan's Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture.

Her other cornea will be delivered to the southern metropolis of Shenzhen, in accordance with Yao's last will. Yao died in a Shenzhen hospital at the age of 33.

A professional singer, Yao shot to fame with the theme tune of "The Legend of Zhen Huan", a popular TV drama that depicts life in the imperial court. Her

career skyrocketed after she attended the Voice of China in 2013.

While prompting a massive wave of condolences online, her death spurred discussions about the extent of news coverage, as rumours swirled around that several journalists posed as medical staff to take pictures of Yao's body in the hospital mortuary.

Her death has brought breast cancer to the fore again, following American actress Angelina Jolie undergoing a mastectomy.

According to an article on Guokr.com, a science website, child birth at a late age, sleep deprivation and irregular medical checks are among the many factors that contribute to breast cancer.

Xinhua

Michael Keaton may star in film on McDonald

LOS ANGELES, 17 Jan — Golden Globe-winner Michael Keaton is in talks to star as the lead in 'The Founder', the story of the rise of the McDonald's fast food empire.

John Lee Hancock is on board to direct the drama, said *The Hollywood Reporter*.

Written by Robert Siegel ('Big Fan'), 'The Founder' is a drama that tells the true story of how Ray Kroc, a salesman from Illinois, met Mac and Dick McDonald, who were running a burger operation in 1950s Southern California. Kroc was impressed by the brothers' speedy system of making the food and saw franchise potential. He manoeuvred himself into a position to be able to pull the company from the brothers and create a billion-dollar empire. The tone of the script has been described as being similar to 'The Social Network' and 'There Will Be Blood'.—PTI

Golden Globe-winner Michael Keaton is in talks to star as the lead in 'The Founder', the story of the rise of the McDonald's fast food empire.
REUTERS



Jonathan Hickman's 'Avengers' run ends in April

LONDON, 17 Jan — Marvel Comics has announced the end of Jonathan Hickman's 'Avengers' run in April.

Avengers #44 and New Avengers #33 will end the writer's work on the franchise ahead of the 'Secret Wars' event, reported *Digital Spy*.

The 'Time Runs Out' storyline — which jumped eight months into the future — will conclude with a final incursion with a parallel 'Earth'.

Mike Deodato will illustrate Avenger #44, with Kev Walker on New Avengers #33.

Dustin Weaver has illustrated interlocking covers for the two issues.

Hickman has said that he will take a break from Marvel after 'Secret Wars'.

He is also working on 'East of West', 'The Manhattan Projects' and the forthcoming 'The Dying and the Dead' at Image Comics. 'Secret Wars' will launch in May.—PTI

Marvel Comics has announced the end of Jonathan Hickman's 'Avengers' run in April.—PTI



GENERAL

West African leaders mull new force to fight Boko Haram insurgents

ACCRA, 17 Jan — West African leaders will seek authority next week from the African Union to create a multi-national force to fight Nigeria's Boko Haram Islamist insurgents, Ghanaian President John Mahama told Reuters on Friday.

Any such force would represent the most robust international response yet to the militants who have killed thousands over the last year in their campaign for an Islamic caliphate and have also launched cross border

attacks into Niger and Cameroon. Boko Haram is seen as the most serious security threat to Nigeria, Africa's most populous country and its biggest energy producer, but Mahama said the group and militants in Somalia, Kenya, Mali and elsewhere posed a wider risk.

"Terrorism is like a cancer and if we don't deal with it it will keep going. It threatens everybody in the sub region. When it comes to terrorism nobody is too far or too near," he said.

It will take months before an African Union force could be set up and key issues such as who would command it, the location of its headquarters and its financing remain undecided, he said. Once set up, however, the African Union could ultimately seek a United Nations Security Council mandate to take over the force as happened in Sudan's Darfur region, he said. Mahama was speaking as current chair of West African regional bloc ECOWAS, which has been accused of not doing enough to combat Boko Haram.

"Nigeria is taking military action and Cameroon is fighting Boko Haram, but I think we are increasingly getting to the point where probably a regional or a multinational force is coming into consideration," he said earlier. In a further blow, Boko Haram militants seized the military base and town of Baga, in Nigeria on the shores of Lake Chad, on 3 January. Baga was the headquarters of a planned force to fight the insurgents with troops from Nigeria, Chad, Niger and Cameroon, although that



A newspaper with its frontpage headline on an abduction of women from a village in northeast Nigeria, is displayed at a vendor's stand along a road in Ikoyi district in Lagos on 10 June, 2014.—REUTERS

initiative stalled. The insurgency stirred international outrage when militants seized more than 200 school girls in Chibok, northeastern Nigeria, the epicentre of the violence, last April. France must do more to help countries fight Boko Haram, President Francois Hollande told an annual conference of French and foreign ambassadors in Paris. "Today, Cameroon, Niger, Chad and Benin are threatened and this situation means the international community must take appropriate action and can't let this be," he said.

France said last month it would help coordinate a

regional task force against Boko Haram given signs of mistrust among West African neighbours.

Cameroon President Paul Biya this month appealed for military help against Boko Haram. On Friday, US Ambassador Michael Stephen Hoza said Washington would help train Cameroon's soldiers and offered equipment for the fight.

Russian Ambassador Nikolay Ratsiborinski said Moscow would supply equipment, training and arms to Cameroon and provide humanitarian assistance.

Reuters

Muhammad Ali released from the hospital for urinary infection

WASHINGTON, 17 Jan — Boxing great Muhammad Ali was released from a hospital on Friday after treatment for a severe urinary tract infection, Ali family spokesman Bob Gunnell said.

Ali, who has Parkinson's disease, was released from the undisclosed hospital in time to celebrate his 73rd birthday on Saturday, Gunnell said. He had been admitted to the hospital earlier this week as follow-up to a problem that surfaced last month.

"He's home and resting and glad to be out of the hospital," Gunnell said, adding that the Ali family "greatly appreciates the outpouring of support and continued well wishes."

The former three-time heavyweight world champion has been hospitalized twice in the past month.

Ali was first admitted



US boxing great Muhammad Ali poses during the Crystal Award ceremony at the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos, Switzerland on 20 Jan, 2006.

REUTERS

on 20 December with what was believed to be a mild case of pneumonia. Doctors, however, later determined he was actually suffering from a urinary tract infection, Gunnell said.

Ali, who is nicknamed "The Greatest" and the "Louisville Lip," retired from boxing in 1981 with a 56-5 record.

Reuters

Kubota to enter farming "assist suit" market in 2016



A woman wearing a prototype "assist suit" developed by Japanese agriculture equipment maker Kubota Corp easily lifts a 20-kilogram container filled with apples during a presentation in Kyoto on 16 Jan, 2015. The suit can reduce the burden on a wearer when loading or unloading articles, by making use of motors.

KYODO NEWS

Sharapova backs super-coaches in women's tennis

MELBOURNE, 17 Jan — Maria Sharapova has backed the super-coach trend that will see two of her rivals tapping into the knowledge of grand slam champions at the Australian Open.

Sixth seeded Pole Agnieszka Radwanska has taken on 18-times grand slam title winner Martina Navratilova, while up-and-coming American Madison Keys has former world number one and three-time major winner Lindsay Davenport as a mentor.

The appointments follow the development of a number of high-profile partnerships in the men's game, with Roger Federer, Novak Djokovic and Andy Murray all taking on multiple former grand slam winners. Sharapova has swapped a few coaches in recent years but has been working with Dutchman Sven Groeneveld since late 2013, a career coach who has mentored a number of top players but had no notable success as a player.

"Well, I think from experience-wise, there's no better person that can help you in certain situations as a coach, as a motivator, as someone that just has been there, done that," Sharapova told reporters at Melbourne Park on Saturday.

"I think it's great to see. I think it's always nice when you've been through a career and you have the opportunity or you have the desire to share it with other players, to share your knowledge and experience."

"I think it's great."

In contrast to last year's tournament, the re-energised Russian enters the year's first grand slam in peak condition and great form after winning the warmup Brisbane International with a hard-fought victory over



Russia's Maria Sharapova hits a shot during a practice session on Rod Laver Arena at Melbourne Park on 15 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS

former world number one Ana Ivanovic in the final.

With a career grand slam of major titles and a sweet-making business, the 27-year-old was asked whether she might rather stay home and drink wine rather than grind hard on the tour. She dismissed the idea.

"I'm starting from scratch. I'm hungry. I'm determined to do better," said 2008 champion Sharapova, who was dumped from the last 16 by eventual finalist Dominika Cibulkova last year after missing the back end of the previous season due to injury.

"I lost in the fourth round here. That's not a result I want. I want to do much better. I'm here to try to win the title."

"I don't know if I'd be drinking wine. Maybe a sangria actually."

"But when you're holding the trophy, God, you can have as many sangrias as you want and you're in it. So that sounds a lot better."—Reuters

MRTV
Entertainment
Channel

(18-1-2015, Sunday)

6:00 am

- Travelogue Programme

6:25 am

- Honour Song of Alinka Wutyi

6:45 am

- Game for Children

7:10 am

- Musical Programme

7:20 am

- Myanmar Video

8:45 am

- Sing & Enjoy

9:30 am

- Myanmar Movie

12:00 am

- Close Down

MITV

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(18-1-15 07:00 am~
19-1-15 07:00 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Today Myanmar "Myanma Quality Gold"
- * World News
- * Now in Yangon "Model Management & Photo Studio"
- * Local News
- * Snow Flakes...Scenic Confluence...To Kachin State
- * World News
- * Art Students: Their Dream
- * Local News
- * A stir about of Rainbows
- * World News
- * Cosplayer
- * Local News
- * Aesthetic Chinlone
- * World News
- * Myanmar Masterclass: Aung Thiha
- * Local News
- * The Ten Traditional Arts & Crafts
- * World News
- * Will you feed the pigeons
- * Local News
- * The Long-Lasting Royal Tradition
- * World News
- * TECH School
- * Local News
- * ID Show "Gas and Oil"
- * World News
- * Myanmar Movie Review
- * Local News
- * Myanmar Entrepreneur: Soe Nyi Nyi
- * World News
- * In the Studio: Ki Ma

South Korea upset Australia 1-0 at Asian Cup

BRISBANE, 17 Jan — South Korea upset Australia 1-0 at the Asian Cup on Saturday to top the Group A standings and secure a potentially easier path to the final while leaving the host nation facing a treacherous route.

Striker Lee Jeong-hyeop scored a perfectly-executed goal in the first half to give his team a surprise lead then the Koreans held on against a wave of Australian attacks to clinch the victory.

The win meant South Korea finished at the top of the Group A standings with three wins and will play either Uzbekistan or Saudi Arabia in the quarter-finals.

As Group A runners-up, Australia will play the Group B winners China with the defending champions Japan lurking as a possible semi-finalist.

The Australians dominated possession and territory but paid a high price for squandering their best chances and resting some of their key players, includ-



South Korea's Lee Jeong-hyeop (L) jumps for a header against Australia's Matthew Spiranovic during their Asian Cup Group A soccer match at the Brisbane Stadium in Brisbane on 17 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS

ing star striker Tim Cahill, who only came on for the last 20 minutes when the Socceroos were desperate for an equaliser.

The Korean goalkeeper Kim Jin-hyeon pulled off a series of sharp saves to keep his team ahead and the visitors were unlucky

not to grab a second on the counterattack as they raised hopes of winning their first Asian Cup since 1960.

Lee, who was recalled to the starting lineup after missing South Korea's previous group win over Kuwait, broke the deadlock in the 32nd minute when he

got his foot on to a perfectly angled cross from his team mate Lee Keun-ho.

The glance was just enough to divert the ball into the net at the far post, evading the diving Australian goalkeeper Mat Ryan.

With both teams already assured of a place in

the quarter-finals, the two regional powerhouses initially adopted a cautious approach, on a hot and humid evening at Brisbane's Lang Park that was invaded by thousands of moths.

The match began in slightly bizarre circumstances when thousands of moths descended onto the stadium field and grandstands, forcing staff to vacuum some of the benches where players and officials were trying to sit.

But once the Koreans scored, the match opened up as both teams ran themselves to the point of exhaustion.

Tomi Juric forced the South Korean goalkeeper Kim Jin-hyeon to make a sharp save at the near post after an attacking run while James Troisi just missed the target after he fooled the Korean defence in the box and turned quickly to shoot.

The Australians raised the tempo in the second half, starving South Korea of possession and pressing for an equaliser.

Juric missed another chance shortly after the re-start when he shot over the bar from close range after combining with Ivan Franjic.

Nathan Burns almost scored when he weaved his way past two defenders and into the box only to see his shot saved.

Burns was immediately replaced in a double substitution which saw Cahill and Robbie Kruse introduced with 20 minutes remaining.

Kruse was given golden chance to equalise three minutes from the end when he found himself free in the box but couldn't beat Kim Jin-hyeon one on one.

In the other Group A match, being played at the same time in Newcastle, Oman beat Kuwait 1-0 to finish third in the group, courtesy of a 69th minute header from Abdul Aziz Al-Maqbal.

Neither team had the chance to advance after losing their first two matches.

Reuters

Doubtful Nadal rules out Australian Open glory

MELBOURNE, 17 Jan — Rafa Nadal has downplayed his chances of winning the Australian Open, saying his back remains a concern and he lacks confidence from having little match practice in the lead-up.

On the comeback trail after injury and illness wiped out the latter half of his 2014 season, the Spaniard had a poor start to his new year, dumped from the first round of the Qatar Open by German journeyman Michael Berrer.

"No, I don't consider myself one of the favourites here," the 28-year-old, seeded third for the tournament, told reporters at Melbourne Park.

"Last year, yes. This year is a different story. (I) would be lying if I say I feel that I am ready to win today. I don't feel myself ready to win the tournament here today.

"If I am here in a press conference in one week, maybe I will say another thing because I will have the feeling that I will play a few matches, and if I'm able to win that couple of matches, then probably I will have little bit more rhythm, I will have more confidence.

"But in theory, playing four, five matches in seven months, you cannot be a favourite of a tournament that is not clay, it's on hard (courts)."

Nadal made the final last year but was beaten by Stan Wawrinka in four sets, having carried a painful back injury into the match that affected his movement.

He recovered to win a record ninth French Open crown but was blighted by a wrist injury and then appendicitis late in the year.

"I cannot say (I am) completely recovered because that can happens when you compete, when you put your back under stress," Nadal said. "It's something that I (am) not 100 percent confident yet.

"I am confident about my knees because (they) are working very well. But my back, I don't have enough time having good feelings to say I am 100 percent perfect, no".

"I need to take care about this for the moment. But hopefully it will be fine." Nadal's fitness will be put to the test in a tough first round encounter against wily Russian veteran Mikhail Youzhny, a former top 10 player.

"It's true that having a grand slam that early in the season after injury like this is not the ideal thing. "But here we are. I worked a lot since 10th of December. "I am with calm and happy the way I did the things."

Reuters

Milan set to sign Suso from Liverpool, says Galliani

MILAN, 17 Jan — AC Milan are on the verge of signing Liverpool's little-used Spanish winger Suso, chief executive Adriano Galliani said on Friday.

"It is done 99.9 percent," Galliani told reporters, adding the 21-year-old would arrive in Italy in the "coming days".

Suso joined Liverpool in 2010 but has never established himself, spending the 2013/14 season at Almeria back in Spain.

Another player who looks set to leave the city of Liverpool is Everton's Samuel Eto'o, with Italian media reports saying the 33-year-old ex-Cameroon striker is close to joining Sampdoria having only signed for the Toffees at the start of the season.

Reuters



Liverpool midfielder Suso



Asian Cup Australia 2015

	15:30 MST (18.1.2015)	
China PR		DPR Korea
	15:30 MST (18.1.2015)	
Uzbekistan		Saudi Arabia
Asian Cup Australia 2015 Result		
Australia	0 - 1	Korea Republic
Oman	1 - 0	Kuwait