Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe attends ceremony to provide warded patients with aid, crutches

YANGON, 28 Feb—Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe of the Ministry of Defence attended the ceremony to provide warded patients with aid and crutches held at Defence Services Orthopedic Hospital (500-bed) in Mingaladon Township here this afternoon.

Also present at the ceremony were Chairman of Yangon Region Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Tun Than, officials concerned, medical staff and patients.

On the occasion, Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe, the commander and officials concerned presented aid to the patients and 30 pairs of crutches through an official.

Next, Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe accepted certificates of honour presented by an official.

Afterwards, Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe, the commander and officials concerned comforted the patients under medical treatment.

Crops in abundance in Tatkon Township

Soon after we had got informed that crops were in season in the villages in Tatkon Township, Nay Pyi Taw District, we made a trip to the farmlands.

Firstly, the itinerary took us to Kyathay-ai Village by Yangon-Mandalay Highway. The village has about 450 houses and its traditional business is agricultural farming. The little village gets well on with its business. As a sign of rapid economic development, most of the houses in the village have at least a motorbike. We also noticed vehicles, large and medium, in the village to get crops from the village.

A pile of potato produced at the plantations near the Hsinthay Creek.

When asked about his business, U Kyaw Thaung of Kyathay-ai Village told The Myanma Alin, “Mostly, our village grows cabbage, cauliflower, onion, tomato, corn and peas.”

Regarding the farming of onion, he said, “We also grow extra onion to get onion seeds for following season. Onion is at harvest when it is 90 days old. I have an onion farm with an area of 1.25 acres. This season, onion output from my farm is expected to reach at least 4000 viss. I sell it at face price. I deliver my onion to Yangon and Mawlamyine.”

It was heartening to view farms of crops such as onion, cabbage and cauliflower, completely surrounding the village.

(See page 7)
Prospering west bank of Ayeyawady River

More and more transport networks are being built for smooth transport between one region and another across the nation. Railroad projects are underway in the regions and states where there were no railroads in the past. Railroad projects designed to improve commercial growth include 320 miles long Kyangin-Pakokku Railroad.

Kyangin-Pakokku Railroad is an artery along the west bank of the Ayeyawady River. Pathein-Kyangin Railroad is being extended to the western bank of the river. Completed sections of the project have been put into service. The regions are now accessible by train from other parts of the nation.

Kyunchaung-Daungtha section, over 19 miles long, of Kyangin-Pakokku Railroad Project was inaugurated on 26 February. When Pwintbyu-Hsinbyugyun section is completed, there will be a direct railway between Pathein and Pakokku. By then, local goods of the delta and central Myanmar can be marketed in other regions.

Kyunchaung-Daungtha section crosses Tantkyi Mountain range that lies between south and north. The project is a technological challenge for Myanmar engineers. Along the railroad are over 50 bridges, large and medium, along with four stations.

Having vast expanses of arable lands with fertile soil, water sources and favourable climate patterns, the areas on the western bank are a source of crops especially edible oil crops, and beans and pulses. Previous to the transport facility projects, the areas were difficult of access and slow commodity flow due to natural barriers.

Now, Pathein-Monywa Road has upgraded to a tarred one. The delta has witnessed several bridges spanning the Ayeyawady River and many railroad networks. So, the areas on the western bank of the river are poised to become affluent with swift commodity flow.

Shu Ma Nyee Travel & Photography Magazine hits bookshops

Shu Ma Nyee Photography Magazine, has come out today. The magazine with bilingual travelogues is a must read for those who are interested in Myanmar’s tourist destination. Sarpay Lawka (5) at No (138/140), First Floor, Pansodan Street (Central), Kyauktada Township distributes the book to the whole nation.
US repositions troops in eastern Afghanistan

KABUL, 28 Feb—The US military will start carrying out more counterterrorism missions against insurgents in eastern Afghanistan and work more closely with Pakistani forces in operations against militants along the porous and rugged frontier, the US general commanding the region said.

Maj Gen John Campbell, commander of NATO coalition forces in eastern Afghanistan, said he has been repositioning some of his troops since last August to make them more effective in the region that borders Pakistan. The area has seen an upsurge in violence and is a main route for militants infiltrating into Afghanistan from safe havens in Pakistan’s tribal regions.

The realignment of troops will allow more force to be used against militants and shore up security along a key trade route from Pakistan to the Afghan Capital.

“As we realign forces it does give me the ability to provide additional forces in other areas,” Campbell said in a weekend interview with The Associated Press. One of the most significant moves is the reduction of US troops in bases along the remote Pech River Valley, a rugged and mountainous area in Kunar Province near the Pakistani border that has seen fierce fighting in recent years.

“You know there are thousands of mountainous isolated valleys out there where we don’t have forces and so I can’t be everywhere and I just have to prioritize the resources,” he said.

Attacks in Mexican bars kill 15

MEXICO CITY, 28 Feb—At least 14 people were killed and 15 others injured in three bar attacks by armed groups in northern Mexico, authorities said Sunday.

In Torreon City of Coahuila State, three gunmen killed five clients and injured nine more in a bar on Saturday afternoon.

In another bar in the city, two men shot dead five people, leaving six others wounded.

Coahuila’s public security department has ordered all bars, night clubs and cantinas in the state to be closed to shun new violence.

Assailants killed another five men late Saturday in a bar in the crime-ridden border city of Ciudad Juarez, police said.

Iraqi court sentences Briton to 20 years

BAGHDAD, 28 Feb—An Iraqi court has convicted a British man and sentenced him to 20 years in the shooting deaths of two contractors. The conviction on Monday makes Danny Fitzsimons the first Westerner to be convicted in an Iraqi court since the 2003 US-led invasion.

Fitzsimons was convicted in the 2009 shooting deaths of a British and Australian contractor who worked with him and with attempting to kill an Iraqi guard.

A US-Iraqi security pact that took effect 1 Jan, 2009, killed immunity for foreign contractors, an important development for Iraqis who viewed the security contractors operating in Iraq as reckless and acting with impunity.—INTERNET

Three service members killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, 28 Feb—Three NATO service members were killed Monday in eastern and southern Afghanistan, the scene of the heaviest fighting in the war.

NATO said two died in bomb blasts before dawn — one in the east and one in the south. A third died following an militant attack in the east, the coalition said.

The nationalities of the service members were not released.

The latest deaths bring to 33 the number of NATO service members killed this month, after 31 were killed in January.

Last year was the deadliest of the 9-year-old Afghan war for the international forces, with 701 killed.

Two judges kidnapped in SW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 28 Feb—Unknown men kidnapped two lower court judges in Pakistan’s troubled southwestern Balochistan Province, local media reported on Monday.

Session Judge Jan Muhammad Gohar and Senior Civil Judge Muhammad Ali went missing along with their driver and body guard in Jafarabad District late Saturday night, the daily DAWN reported, quoting official sources.

Jaffarabad Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Ayub Jaffar said the judges had gone to Usta Muhammad to attend a marriage ceremony but lost contact with their families.

Assistant Commissioner Dera Murad Jamali said the judges were kidnapped and their vehicle was abandoned.

The security forces Sunday launched a major operation to recover the judges, Muhammad said.

Three lawyers were also abducted last week from Sibi area of Balochistan.—Xinhua
Science

New state of matter found at star’s core

WASHINGTON, 28 Feb—Scientists have discovered the direct evidences for a new state of matter, superfluid, at the core of a neutron star, according to the study published in Physical Review Letters Friday.

The finding was based on a study of the supernova remnant “Cas A” 11,000 light years away from the Earth.

The ultra-dense neutron star in “Cas A” was found in a more rapid temperature decline than scientists expected, according to the data collected by NASA’s Chandra X-ray Observatory.

The study was conducted by two independent research teams. And they drew the same conclusion that this rapid cooling can be explained by the formation of the neutron star.

“The rapid cooling is the first direct evidence that the cores of these neutron stars are, in fact, made of superfluid and superconducting material,” said the leader of a team, Peter Shtremin of the Ioffe Institute in St Petersburg, Russia.

Superfluidity is a state of matter, like solid, liquid or gas, in which substance can flow uncontrollably and be at exactly the same temperature throughout itself.

NASA assesses new launch dates for the Glory mission

WASHINGTON, 28 Feb—Preparations for the launch of NASA’s Glory mission from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California have been suspended temporarily. Engineers continue to troubleshoot a malfunction in ground support equipment associated with the Taurus XL rocket.

On 23 Feb. a false indication was received about the rocket’s status after commands were sent approximately 15 minutes before launch to activate the Taurus.

“We had an indication that a ‘hold-fire’ command was sent when indeed it had not,” said Omar Baez, NASA launch director.

The commands originated from the Vehicle Interface Control Console in the mobile launch support van stationed a few miles from the launch pad. The problem has not yet been isolated, and troubleshooting continues.

Managers are evaluating possible Glory launch opportunities in early to mid-March.—INTERNET

Mission to extra-solar planets approved

LONDON, 28 Feb—The European Space Agency has backed a £400 million pound mission to study extra-solar planets, led by UCL (University College London). A key objective of the mission is to look for signs of life in planets which are orbiting stars nearby our Sun.

The Exoplanet Characterisation Observatory — is led by Dr Giovanna Tinetti, from the UCL Department of Physics and Astronomy, and is supported by over 150 of Europe’s top astronomers. It will consist of a 1.2 metre telescope designed to carry out spectroscopy of the atmospheres of a range of extra solar planets, from giant gas planets (similar to Jupiter in our own Solar System) down to terrestrial planets in the habitable zone of some stars.

The telescope should be launched some time between 2020 and 2022, and will look at the atmospheres of planets that may be orbiting in the “habitable zone” of their stars, where water can exist as a liquid.

“This is tremendously exciting news,” said Dr Tinetti. “One of the key aims of our mission is to see if we can detect molecules such as ozone and carbon dioxide in the atmospheres of planets not much bigger than our Earth.

Technology

Microsoft shows off the latest in gesture interfaces

WASHINGTON, 28 Feb—The future is here (well, sort of) with the latest in gesture technology from Microsoft. Not only could you soon be able to draw without ever touching the screen or a mouse, but the screen could follow your eyes to project a 3D image directly at you. Check out this video from Microsoft Research on YouTube as Microsoft’s Applied Sciences director, Steven Balchich, shows off the latest gesture tech.

The gesture control you see is a projector facing down at a retroreflective screen which grabs the shadow from your hands (or any other object in the path of the light) and sends it back to the projector and then to the computer. From here, any movements you make are rendered into a drawing both on the PC’s monitor and the retroreflective screen (by the projector). This allows you to draw without using a mouse or touching the screen.—INTERNET

SeaMicro’s new server has latest intel atom N570 chip

NEW YORK, 28 Feb—SeaMicro on Monday announced a low-power server that includes 256 of Intel’s latest Atom N570 dual-core processors.

The SM10000-64 has 512 Atom processing cores running at 1.66GHz, which combine to deliver 850GHz of processing power, the company said. Each core is capable of running two threads simultaneously, which helps boost application performance.

Intel’s low-power Atom processors are typically used in netbooks. But these chips are considered more power-efficient than traditional server chips for certain tasks such as Web transactions, which contain small amounts of data and can be quickly processed.

The server is targeted at data centers that handle a large volume of Internet transactions, such as e-mail, search and social networking, said Andrew Feldman, CEO of SeaMicro.

The server is also targeted at managed hosting providers and cloud-based service providers.—INTERNET

Google glitch disables 150,000 Gmail accounts

WASHINGTON, 28 Feb—Google, we have a problem. About 150,000 Gmail account holders woke up to a nightmare this morning, with all their e-mail, attachments and Google Chat logs gone. What happened?

Google explains that “less than 0.08%” of all Gmail users were affected by the bug, which completely reset accounts, even down to the detail offering a welcome message to those users when they first logged on today. They, and especially visitors to the Gmail Help Forum, were not amused.

In an earlier message, Google wrote, “For those Gmail users reporting missing messages, our engineers are working to restore them as soon as possible.” So maybe this is not so bad after all. As long as Google restores the messages, all we had was a big scare. Will Google restore all the messages? We’ve contacted a Google spokesperson, and will let you know when we hear back.

Internet

SeaMicro’s new server has latest intel atom N570 chip

New state of matter found at star’s core

NASA assesses new launch dates for the Glory mission

Mission to extra-solar planets approved

Science

Technology

Google glitch disables 150,000 Gmail accounts

Internet
Gum disease can kill you

BEVERLY HILLS, 28 Feb—When people with gum disease chew or brush their teeth bacteria can enter the blood stream boosts clotting risk and risk of stroke, a US periodontist says.

Dr Mahnaz Rashti, a Beverly Hills, Calif, periodontist says dental care is a key way to prevent the development and progression of periodontal disease, ultimately decreasing one’s propensity for having a stroke.

Having healthy teeth and gums not only decreases the chances of stroke, but the chances of cardiovascular disease, diabetes, preterm pregnancies, prostate cancer and breast cancer as well, Rashti says.

Periodontal disease is a chronic inflammatory disease that affects the gum tissue and other structures supporting the teeth. If left untreated, it can lead to tooth loss and may also interfere with other systems of the body.—INTERNET

Doctors urge indoor tanning ban for miniors

NEW YORK, 28 Feb—US tanning salons should close their doors to minors to protect them from skin cancer, a group of 60,000 pediatricians said Monday in a new policy statement.

With the move, the American Academy of Pediatrics joins the World Health Organization (WHO), the American Academy of Dermatology and other groups that are already pushing for a ban.

“There are more tanning facilities in the US than there are Starbucks or McDonald’s,” said Dr Sophie J. Balk, who helped write the new statement for the American Academy of Pediatrics. “More than a million visits are made every day.”

Since 2009, the International Agency for Research on Cancer, a part of the WHO, has classified tanning beds as cancer-causing.

Research shows people who start going to tanning salons before age 35 have a 75-percent increase in their chances of developing melanoma, the deadliest type of skin cancer.

The actual numbers remain small, however. In one large Scandinavian study, 24 out of every 10,000 young women who tanned regularly developed melanoma compared to 17 out of every 10,000 who had never or only rarely used a tanning bed.—INTERNET

China used less energy per unit of GDP in 2010

SHANGHAI, 28 Feb—China’s efforts to reduce energy consumption per unit of economic output were less successful in 2010 with the reduction far less than achieved in the previous year.

The National Bureau of Statistics said Monday that energy intensity — energy use per unit of gross domestic product — fell 4 percent last year from 2009.

The bureau released the figure in an annual report of economic statistics posted on its website. It said the percentage decline was measured in terms of energy use per 10,000 yuan ($1,520) of GDP, but gave no specific figure.

The report nonetheless noted strong absolute increases for most types of energy used, with the combined total at 3.25 billion tons of coal equivalent, up 5.9 percent from the year before.

Coal consumption, which accounts for about three-quarters of China’s electricity generation, rose 5.3 percent, oil use climbed 12.9 percent, natural gas use jumped 18.2 percent and electricity consumption surged 13.1 percent, the report said without providing breakdowns for each category.

Internet

Survey finds high Australian dollar hurting business

CANBERRA, 28 Feb—Australian business chiefs predicted a patchy economic growth outlook for 2011, with trade exposed industries particularly hit by the strength of the Australian dollar, survey showed on Monday.

A research conducted by the Australian Industry Group (Ai Group) and Deloitte, surveyed 530 CEOs from a range businesses in manufacturing, services and construction.

According to statement released by Ai Group chief executive Heather Ridout, different growth rates in the multi-speed economy, compounded by higher exchange and interest rates, has raised concerns about the underlying competitiveness and sustainability of Australia’s economic prospects.

The research found that 93 percent of manufacturing CEOs see their exports as uncompetitive as a result of the Australian dollar being at parity with its US counterpart.

This compares with 87 percent in the services sector and 82 percent in construction.—INTERNET

Depressed new moms respond differently

LARAMIE, 28 Feb—New mothers who are depressed respond differently to their crying babies than do other mothers, US researchers found.

Heidemarie K. Laurent, assistant professor at the University of Wyoming, who led the study as a postdoctoral researcher in the laboratory of Jennifer C Ablow, a professor of psychology at the University of Oregon, examined brain activity of depressed women responding to recordings of crying infants, either their own or someone else’s.

The study found that as a group, brain responses in non-depressed mothers listening to their own babies’ cries were seen on both sides of the brain’s lateral paralimbic areas and core limbic sub-cortical regions, including the striatum, thalamus and midbrain. Depressed mothers showed no unique response to their babies.

The study’s findings were published online in advance of the print edition of the Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience.—INTERNET

Blackstone to buy Centro US assets for $9.4 billion

SYDNEY, 28 Feb—Private equity firm Blackstone Group (BXN) will pay about $9.4 billion for the US shopping mall assets of Australia’s debt-laden Centro Properties (CNPAX) after winning a three-way bidding contest, a source with knowledge of the transaction said on Monday.

Blackstone beat rival bidders including Morgan Stanley Real State (MSN) which had teamed up with Starwood Capital Group and New York-based NRDC, the source said.

Blackstone agreed to pay book value for the assets which Centro has valued at around $9.4 billion, the source said, confirming media reports.

Shares in Centro were earlier placed in a trading halt ahead of an announcement about a potential transaction. Centro narrowed down bidders for the US shopping mall assets to three consortiums, including Blackstone, sources told Reuters on 9 February with final bids for the 600 US properties due in late February.—Reuters

Internet
Hill collapse in Bolivian capital ruins 400 homes

LA PAZ, 28 Feb—Heavy rains caused a hilltop to collapse in a poor neighbourhood of the Bolivian Capital Sunday, cracking roads, destroying at least 400 homes and burying people’s belongings under mud and debris.

There were no fatalities but significant damage from the landslide in the barrio of Callapa, La Paz Mayor Luis Revilla said.

Edwin Herrera, a city government spokesman, called Sunday’s slide the worst that La Paz has ever seen — and he said the earth was still moving downhill.

“So far we are talking about 5,000 people affected, but the slide is affecting neighbourhoods in lower areas,” he said.

Residents began evacuating late Saturday when the hill, saturated after prolonged rains, began sliding and cracks appeared in streets and homes.

“My neighbours were running around and told me to get out,” said Maria Elena Siles, the mother of three adolescent children. “I looked out the window and there were no more homes to the left or the right of mine.”

Siles was able to flee before the hill collapsed entirely early on Sunday.

Young girls, not just teens, bullied

NEW ORLEANS, 28 Feb—Girl Scouts Louisiana East is hosting a one-day seminar in New Orleans to put a spotlight on girls in elementary school being bullied, scout officials say.

Yvette Hairston, vice president of membership for Girl Scouts Louisiana East, says television and movies primarily portray girl bullying in a high school setting, but it’s happening at all ages.

“While we continue to see the negative effects of relational aggression among children and teens, many adults are without the knowledge or skills needed to provide assistance in dealing with bullying,” Hairston says in a statement.

“This conference will give adults insight into the hidden world of relational aggression and situational tools that can help our girls.”

A survey by i-SAFE Inc, a leader in Internet safety education, says 58 percent of children say someone has said mean or hurtful things to them online with more than 40 percent experiencing it more than once, Hairston says.

The Girl Bullying — Awareness to Action seminar, scheduled for 26 March, is open to troop leaders, parents, educators and community leaders.

Construction of China’s IPTV platform going “smoothly”

BEIJING, 28 Feb—The project to build a national IPTV platform is going “smoothly,” said a senior Chinese official here Monday.

Building a broadcast and control platform in Internet Protocol Television (IPTV) services is to integrate the Internet, TV and telecom networks, said Zhang Haitao, deputy chief of the State Administration of Radio, Film and Television (SARFT), at a press conference held in Beijing.

The planned IPTV broadcast and control platform will not only carry TV broadcasts but also Internet, data transmission and IP phone-call services via cable networks.

The platform is divided into two tiers, namely, the central level, which will provide programs and services catering to all audiences throughout the country, and the local level, which will be designed for audiences in specific regions.

All 12 pilot cities, chosen by the SARFT to build local IPTV platforms, had finished the construction and linked their platforms to the central-level platform late last year, Zhang said.

Traditional cable TV networks must be digitalized in order to operate IPTV services.

The country has speed up updating cable TV networks over the past five years, Zhang said. About 50 million households in China have access to the interactive digital cable TV services and people in 308 cities have access to digital TV programmes, he said.
Crops in abundance in...

Near the Hsinthay Creek are potato plantations stretching as far as one can see. A farmer from Hsinthay Village said, “I am U Soe Myint. I live in Hsinthay Village. The major crops our village grows are potato, onion and aster flower. ‘This potato farm has an area of one and a half acres. We get the potato strain from Naungtaya in Shan State. Potato grows well in alluvial soil and sandy soil. We put a lot of cow dung into the farm in order that potato plants grow fast. Potato is at harvest when it is 75 to 90 days old.”

Photo shows a potato plantation near the Hsinthay Creek.

MSI to organize no-profit education tour

YANGON, 28 Feb — Myanmar Search International (MSI) will embark non-profit Webster Education Tour Package Program in March, jointly with Webster University Thailand Campus (WUTC). It is a chance to observe Bangkok Academic Centre and Cha-am and Hua-Hin Campuses which are teaching WUTC’s programmes. Each two persons from 30 families will be selected to travel the package tour. Applications will be submitted at MSI Office starting on 1 March and not later than 14 March. For more information, one may contact the office at No. 234, Second Floor (Right), Shwebontha Centre Street, Pabedan Township (Ph: 01250929, 01389915).

MNA
High socio-economic status of peasantry, fundamental to national economic growth

Kyaw Ye Min

Myanmar, an agro-based country, has engaged in agricultural farming as traditional business since monarchical times. And now, peasants form the majority of the nation’s working population. So, “Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of economy as well” is designated as one of the State’s economic objectives.

The government is totally immersed in strengthening national economy to achieve the national goal of building a peaceful, modern and developed nation. In the process, it is boosting utilization of water and land sources and exploitation of natural resources for increasing sown acreage and boosting utilization of arable lands. With respect to the agricultural sector, in 1988, Myanmar’s paddy sown farmlands stood at only over 11 million acres, and virgin lands, at over 26 million acres. So far, the total monsoon sown acreage has increased to over 16 million, and summer paddy sown acreage, to over 3 million. Thanks to the dams, sluice gates, river water pumping stations, tube-wells and artesian wells, the nation’s total sown acreage has surged to more than 57 million, from only 23.8 million, as 11.7 million of over 26 million acres of vacant lands have been reclaimed to farmlands.

In connection with land utilization, in the past, the nation saw only 138 dams. The ruling government has so far built 233 dams and sluices gates, thus bringing the irrigated acreage to over 2.8 million acres. The government built 327 river water pumping stations and 8162 tube-wells in the regions where the construction of dams is impossible. As a result of many more ways and means sought for supply of sufficient irrigation water to farmlands, crops can be grown all-year round and farmland utilization has increased sharply.

Once, farmers grew monsoon paddy as the only major crop. There were hardly fields where paddy could be grown twice a year. By contrast, now double- and triple-cropping and mixed-cropping patterns have been practised. Therefore, the nation’s paddy output has mounted to over 1560 million baskets, from only around 630 million baskets in 1988. Myanmar has stood as one of the world’s largest paddy producers, and the leading pea production country in the South-East Asia region. Besides, it has been able to produce other crops many more times than ever.

Now, the nation has achieved food security not only for present population but also for the population in future. In like manner, such other crops as corn, black gram, green gram, pigeon pea, groundnut, sesame, sunflower, long staple cotton and sugarcane are produced greater than in the past region-wise. The nation’s net sown acreage has gone up to over 33 million, and the farmland utilization, to over 170 percent. That indicates that Myanmar has possessed profound foundations to transform into an industrialized country, making good use of agricultural development.

In order to achieve such fruitful results in the agricultural sector, the government has provided advanced agricultural methods, high-yield strains of crops, and fertilizers apart from increasing sown acreage and supply of adequate irrigation water. More than that, the government has provided assistance for farmers to exercise mixed- and multiple-cropping patterns and boost production of the 10 major crops it has designated for success in the agricultural sphere. That reflects the benevolent the government shows to the nation not only for improvement of the agricultural sector but also for improving the socio-economic status of the peasantry.

The government is well convinced that in the drive for building a peaceful, modern and developed nation, only with high living conditions for the peasantry, the main human resource, will it be possible for the entire people to enjoy the sweet taste of economic growth. With this context in view, the government took all possible measures for increasing sown acreage and boosting farmland utilization. In the mean time, the government effectively implemented the five rural development programmes: smooth transport, supply of sufficient irrigation and safe water, promotion of education standard, better health care, and boosting economic standard of rural areas. As two more programmes to give further impetus to the programmes, establishment of rural libraries and supply of electric power to rural areas are being implemented with added momentum.

Myanmar’s agricultural development is like a dream in a short period. That means the nation greatly needs to transform itself from traditional farming into mechanized farming. The government and the private sector are boosting production of farm machinery and tools along with tractors, power-tillers, paddies reapers, combine-harvesters and driers, thus significantly saving time, labour and cost on farming processes. The peasantry has enjoyed benefits at the unprecedented level.

In retrospect, farmers in the colonial rule were of the lowest class. Not only the colonial government but also the treated peasants unfairly with varieties of taxes on them but also chettyars exploited the artlessness of them. Superficially, it is mouthwatering, but in practice, it was a trap in disguise. If every farmer owns a farmland, the landlords will gradually go to the hands of rich land owners in the long run, and the landlord system will rear its ugly head again. By then, farmers who really do the farming will become tenants farmers like that in the colonial period. At that time, farmers were bestowed the right to own farmlands, but in the end, all their farmlands fell into the hands of money-lenders and national farmers were at the mercy of those profiteers. That is an unforgettable lesson for the people. So, the motto “Every farmer must have access to farming” is the most appropriate system to ensure perpetual interests of farmers. In conclusion, peasants are benefactors of the people as well as a strong force of the nation. That is the reason why the government is taking measures for improving the socio-economic standard of farmers and national economy. As a gesture of honouring the Peasants’ Day (2011), I wish the peasantry greater success in their agricultural farming and I would like to urge them to work harder than ever, making good use of favourable conditions in various sectors to improve their socio-economic status and do their bit in building a new nation.

Translation: MS
A&I Minister inspects
Lawka Nanda River Water Pumping Station

NAV PYI TAW, 28 Feb — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo on 26 February inspected Lawka Nanda River Water Pumping Station project in NyaungU Township of NyaungU District in Mandalay Region.

Assistant Director U Maung Maung Lwin of Water Resources Utilization Department submitted report to the minister and Deputy Director-General U Kyaw Min Oo made a supplementary report.

The minister stressed the need to grow economically profitable crops with less water necessity.

Talks on traffic rules, trafficking in person given

NAV PYI TAW, 28 Feb — Bago Region Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee organized an educative talk on traffic rules and trafficking in persons at Pyay Technological University on 21 February.

Chief of Bago Region Police Force Ye Tha Hla San Lwin, Head of Bago Region Road Administration Department, Pyay District Chairman U Kyaw Kyaw Tun. Rector of Pyay Technological University Dr Kay Thi Lwin, students and teachers were present at the talks. The rector made an opening speech and officials gave talks on traffic rules and human trafficking. Pamphlets were distributed at the event. MNA

Eight injured in Insein Township blast

NAV PYI TAW, 28 Feb — An explosion occurred beside Ei Shwe Sin Store between Building (1) and Building (2) of Aung Zeya Housing Estate in Kannar Alei Ward, Insein Township, Yangon Region, at about 7.10 pm yesterday.

At the scene, a suspect Zaw Min Than, 26, son of U Han Oo, was found with the left foot severely damaged, the right calf seriously injured, and fingers seriously damaged. He was sent to Insein General Hospital.

While searching building No.4, Room 502 Aung Zeya Housing Estate where the suspect resides, officials concerned seized an improvised bomb made of a detonator, four cells, a watch and TNT block with five inches in length, three inches in width and three inches in height packed with yellow paper; and six detonators, two coils of old wire and four cells in a paper box.

Due to the blast, eight innocent people got injured. The victims are:

- Zaw Min Than, 26, son of U Han Oo (Building No.4, Room 502, Aung Zeya Housing Estate, Insein Township) with the left foot severely damaged, the right calf seriously injured, and fingers seriously damaged (in critical condition);
- Tint Lwin, 25, daughter of U Win Hlaing (Padamyar road, in Kannar Anauk Ward, Insein Township) with the loss of hearing and injury in left small finger (in stable condition), Ma Nyein Nyunt (Ma/92, Danatheidi road, Kannar Anauk Ward, Insein Township) with injuries in left head and thigh (in stable condition); Kaythi Myo Kyaw, 22, daughter of U Kyaw Myint (Building, Room-003, ground floor, NyaungU Township of NyaungU District in Mandalay Region Police Force Ye Tha Hla San Lwin, Head of Bago Region Road Administration Department, Pyay District Chairman U Kyaw Kyaw Tun. Rector of Pyay Technological University Dr Kay Thi Lwin, students and teachers were present at the talks. The rector made an opening speech and officials gave talks on traffic rules and human trafficking. Pamphlets were distributed at the event. MNA

Myanmar-Austrian Entrepreneurs to meet on 17 March

YANGON, 28 Feb — General Secretary of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry Dr Maung Maung Lay received Mr Gerhard Schlattl from the Austrian Embassy in Thailand at the federation here on 22 February morning.

It was learnt that there would be a discussion between 30-Myanmar-Austrian entrepreneur delegation and Myanmar entreprenuers on mutual cooperation of investment on 17 March.

Those interested may contact UMFCCI (Ph: 214344-49). MNA

Nyein Tun, 3, daughter of U Min Min Tun (Ma/96, Khamar road, Kannar Alei Ward, Insein Township) with injuries in the head and right leg (in stable condition); Zaw Min Htai, 13, son of U Min Min Tun, (Ma/96, Khamar road, Kannar Alei Ward, Insein Township) with pain in head, injuries in abdomen and calf in stable condition; Tint Lwin Oo, 27, son of U Khin Aung Zeya Housing Estate, Kannar Anauk Ward, Insein Township) with injuries in right thigh and left eye brow (in stable condition); and Ma Wai Pa Pya Swe, 31, daughter of U Myint Swe (Ma/92, Danatheidi road, Kannar Anauk Ward, Insein Township) with injuries in left calf and ears (in stable condition).

The victims are now under treatment at Insein General Hospital, official concerned are providing necessary assistances to them. Officials concerned are now making investigation into the incident. Surgeons at home and abroad are always trying to commit destructive acts in order to disrupt peace and stability and cause public panic. Authorities concerned have reminded the general public to be aware of the danger of destructionists and to come forward with information as quickly as possible if they become suspicious of somebody or something in their surroundings.—MNA

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo inspects Lawka Nanda River Water Pumping Station.—MNA
US health officials fear measles outbreak in airports

WASHINGTON, 28 Feb—Officials from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDCP) are trying to contain a possible measles outbreak after a woman who was diagnosed with the disease traveled to three different U.S. airports during the week.

A 27-year-old woman, reportedly from Santa Fe, New Mexico, traveled from a European airport to Dulles International Airport in Virginia, the Denver International Airport, and to New Mexico’s Albuquerque International Sunport. She was later diagnosed with the measles infection in New Mexico. CDCP officials are trying to get in touch all the people who were possibly in contact with the woman, including airport personnel and airline crews.

Information regarding what airlines the woman boarded was not released. Measles is a highly contagious viral infection that affects the respiratory system, and could be spread by simple coughing or sneezing.

Symptoms include fever, cough, runny nose, red eyes, sore throat, with white spots possibly developing inside the mouth. However, symptoms from the infection usually develop around 2 weeks after the individual is infected.

CDCP officials are trying to get in touch with airport personnel and airline crews. In contact with the woman, including all the people who were possibly in contact with the woman, including airline crews.

Eleven crew missing after fishing boat hits rock in East China Sea

HANGZHOU, 28 Feb—Eleven crew members were missing after their fishing boat hit a rock near Dongji Isle off the coast of Taizhou City, east China’s Zhejiang Province, Monday morning.

The city’s maritime affairs authority said it had sent two professional rescue vessels after it received a signal from the boat for help around 1 am, while requesting civilian ships in the vicinity to help search for the boat.

Rescuers had not found the boat by 9 am, and suspected it could have sunk. —Xinhua

Five injured in boiler explosion on Taiwanese fishing vessel

MANILA, 28 Feb—Five crew members of a Taiwanese fishing vessel were injured after its boiler exploded Monday morning, the Philippine Coast Guard reported in its website.

Vessel CT7-0039 (named HO-CHUNG) was about to arrive at Manila’s South Harbour when its ice boiler exploded onboard.

The vessel’s five crew members - four Indonesians and one Taiwanese - suffered chest pains after exposure to ammonia.

The Coast Guard Action Centre said it contacted vessel Captain Hon Je-Chao through satellite phone and VHF radio.

The Coast Guard said it’s sending a medical team to intercept the fishing vessel and bring the wounded crew members to a nearby hospital.

Vehicle collision leaves seven dead in SW China Province

GUIYANG, 28 Feb—Seven people were confirmed dead after a coach and a mini-bus collided on Monday morning at a highway section in Zunyi City, southwest China’s Guizhou Province.

All of the casualties were from the mini-bus, which had eight people aboard when the accident happened at about 9 am. Six of them died on the spot, and one of the two injured died on the way to the hospital, according to rescuers sent by the city’s fire department.

The police is investigating the cause of the accident.

Xinhua
Survivors of Antarctic mission land in NZ

CHRISTCHURCH, 28 Feb—Two Norwegian adventurers Monday said they held slim hopes of finding the three other members of their party alive, after their yacht went missing in a fierce Antarctic storm.

Jarl Andhoy and Samuel Massie had been journeying by quad bike across Antarctica on their way to the South Pole when the tempest struck the 48-foot (14-metre) sailboat, but abandoned the quest on hearing the boat was missing.

Andhoy said his concern now was to contact the families of the three missing men — Norwegians Tom Gisle Bellika, 36, and Robert Skaanes, 34, and 32-year-old Leonard Banks, a dual South African and British citizen.

“There’s nothing to prove the boat is lost but I am going to be very honest with the family and realistic,” he told reporters after being airlifted to the quake-hit New Zealand City of Christchurch on a US flight.

Massie, 18, said he hoped the steel-hulled Berserk was “sailing somewhere in South America without an engine” but acknowledged this was “the darkest time”. “It’s been really traumatic. I’m here and not my crew,” he said.

A glacier is seen close to Antartica. Two Norwegian adventurers have said they held slim hopes of finding the three other members of their party alive, after their yacht went missing in a fierce storm in the region.

(INTERNET)

Four dead in UAE plane crash

ABU DHABI, 28 Feb—The civil aviation authority in the United Arab Emirates says four people were killed when a private plane crashed shortly after takeoff.

A statement by the General Civil Aviation Authority says the Grumann 21T aircraft went down moments after taking off Sunday at Al Am International Airport about 60 miles (100 kilometres) east of Abu Dhabi. The plane was on route to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

The aviation authority says the aircraft was destroyed and investigators were at the site.

The statement Monday gave no further details on those killed or the possible cause of the crash.

Don’t Smoke

Last veteran of WWI dies in W Va at age 110

CHARLES TOWN, 28 Feb—A spokesman says the nation’s last surviving veteran of World War I has died in West Virginia. He was 110.

Biographer and family spokesman David DeJonge said in a statement that Frank Woodruff Buckles died early Sunday of natural causes in his home in Charles Town, W Va.

Buckles lied about his age to get into uniform at age 16. He served in England and France, working mainly as a driver and a warehouse clerk. He did not see combat.

Buckles also survived being a civilian POW in the Philippines in World War II.

He turned 110 on Feb. He had been advocating for a national memorial honoring veterans of the Great War to be built in Washington, D C.

More than 4.7 million people joined the US military from 1917-18 for the war.

(INTERNET)

Despite differences, Pristina and Belgrade to discuss technical issues

BELGRADE, 28 Feb—Despite intractable positions regarding the status of Kosovo, representatives from Pristina and Belgrade could begin a long-awaited dialogue moderated by the European Union in Brussels by as early as next week, reported the Serbian news agency Tanjug on Sunday.

Borko Stefanovic, head of Serbia’s negotiating team, said representatives of Serbia and Kosovo, its breakaway province that unilaterally declared independence in 2008, would initially tackle so-called “technical” issues such as identifying the remains of missing persons, mobile phone operators, electricity, etc.

“In the initial stage, we will open a number of issues related to the lives of people,” said Stefanovic.

Stefanovic said all the conditions for such a meeting had been met and that Serbian officials had been waiting for the formation of a negotiating team from Kosovo after recent elections.

On Thursday, Deputy Prime Minister Edita Tahiri was appointed to lead the Kosovo delegation.

While the Kosovo team insists talks between Belgrade and Pristina are between sovereign states, Serbia considers the final status of Kosovo unresolved, and has managed to exercise considerably influence in the north of the province, where Serbs representing a majority continue to resist any integration into Kosovo institutions.

According Stefanovic, the talks are aimed at resolving problems and not intended to produce winners or losers.

Working in the background, Robert Cooper of the EU’s External Action Service has conducted a series of behind the scenes meetings first in Belgrade and then in Pristina. Officially, the meetings were described as technical in nature with no disclosure of the discussions, reported the Serbian daily Politika.

People wearing masks perform folk dance at a sacrificial ceremony to worship the local goddess Yantuang, in Nongguang Village of Tianlin County, southwest China’s Guangxi autonomous region, on 27 Feb, 2011.

(INTERNET)

6.0-magnitude quake hits southern Chile: USGS

SANTIAGO, 28 Feb—An earthquake measuring 6.0 on the Richter scale jolted Bio-Bio, southern Chile on Sunday, the US Geological Survey said.

There has been no reports of casualties or damage from the quake, which occurred at 8:29 pm local time (0129 GMT Monday) with its epicentre at a depth of 16.7 km.

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Geneva car show aims for recovery

Some 170 world and European premiers will be unveiled at the show, which opens for the public on 3 March. The cars will enter a crowded European market where profit margins are tight. The European market declined further in January after sales fell 4.9% in 2010 to less than 14 million cars, amid widespread concerns about unemployment and economic hardship.

On top of that, carmakers that gained from last year's scrappage schemes — under which governments paid people to trade in old cars for new ones — should expect to see somewhat weaker sales during the first half of this year when compared with the same period a year ago, according to Hyundai Motor Europe's chief operating officer, Allan Rushforth.

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Drug boss Sergio ‘el Toto’ Mora held over US killing

MEXICO CITY, 28 Feb — The Mexican Navy has arrested an alleged drug kingpin in connection with the murder of a US Customs official earlier this month, officials say. The local head of the Zetas drug gang in the northern state of Coahuila was arrested from Mexico City and is believed to be the local head of the Zetas drugs gang in the northern state of Coahuila.

Julian Zapata Espinoza told soldiers he and other gunmen opened fire on the agent's car, thinking it belonged to a rival gang, officials say.— Internet

Gummen opened fire on the agent’s car, thinking it belonged to a rival gang, officials say.— Internet

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Amur tigers in population crisis

LONDON, 28 Feb — The effective population of the critically endangered Amur tiger is now fewer than 14 animals, say scientists. Approximately 500 Amur tigers actually survive in the wild, but the effective population is a measure the genetic diversity of the world’s largest cat.

Very low diversity means any vulnerability to disease or rare genetic disorders is likely to be passed on to the next generation. So these results paint a grim picture for the tiger’s chance of survival.

The findings are reported in the journal Mammalian Biology. The Amur tiger, or Siberian tiger as it is also known, once lived across much of northeastern China, the Korean peninsula, and the southernmost regions of eastern Russia. During the early 20th Century, the Amur tiger was almost driven to extinction, as expanding human settlements, habitat loss and poaching wiped out this biggest of cats from over 90% of its range.

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Fertility treatment success is not prevented by stress

LONDON, 28 Feb — Emotional distress does not affect the success of IVF or other assisted reproductive techniques, according to a study. The report, published in the British Medical Journal, aims to dispel the myth that stress prevents women from becoming pregnant. Researchers from Cardiff University reviewed 14 previous studies involving 3,583 women. Patient charity Infertility Network said the report was encouraging. The report reviewed previous research studies into the efficacy of assisted reproduction therapy.

In the 14 studies examined, women had had their stress levels assessed before beginning treatment and then underwent a single cycle of assisted repro-

VF is a popular assisted reproduction technique.— Internet

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Jet pilot's body pulled from Hudson

KINGSTON, 28 Feb — Divers Sunday the body of a pilot killed when his vintage military jet crashed into the ice-covered Hudson River in upstate New York, authorities said.

Dr Michael A Faraldi, 38, of Germantown was killed on Saturday when the aircraft went down near the Kingston-Rhinecliff Bridge. State police said his body, which was found in the plane's fuselage, was taken to the Kingston Hospit- al morgue for autopsy on Monday. The Saratogian in Saratoga Springs reported.— Internet

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Southern Chinese province to host Asian women's boxing tournament

HAKOU, 28 Feb — Asian Cup women’s boxing tournament will take place on May 7-8 in Hakou, capital city of the southern Chinese island province of Hainan, organizers said here on Monday. According to the local organizing committee, a total of 40 female boxers from 11 countries including India, Kazakhstan, Thailand, Sri Lanka, South Korea, Japan and China will be contesting in 10 calsses ranging from 48kg to +81kg at the event. The winner and runner-up of each class will pocket prize money of 3,000 US dollars and 1,000 US dollars respectively.

Xinhu
A girl participates in the Red Cross Children’s Carnival competition at Queen’s Park Savannah in Port of Spain, Trinidad on 26 Feb, 2011.

Man with a steal foot
A worker named Han in a gold plant in Jinshan District of Shanghai used his special advantage over others to steal a kilogramme of gold and sell it to a jeweler. Shanghai police recently stated. Thanks to a traffic accident which left his left foot reinforced by doctors with steel, Han would routinely set off security devices at the plant, meaning guards there soon came to neglect alarms involving Han. Han took to slipping gold nuggets into his slippers worth 300,000 yuan ($45,600) four times separately over three days.

Man sues over strip club dental injuries
An Indiana man’s lawsuit for injuries he suffered when a stripper’s shoe flew off during a performance and hit him in the teeth isn’t far-fetched, lawyers say. Jake Quagliaroli, 34, of Indianapolis sat approximately 20 feet from the stage at PT’s Showclub when the shoe hit him in the face and chipped his front teeth, the Indianapolis Star reported on Friday.

Quagliaroli got veneers, which will require replacement every 10 or 15 years. He also got temporary caps and may need a root canal at some future time, said Ali Saeed, his lawyer. Quagliaroli’s complaint said the incident will cause him to suffer “lifelong dental injuries.” “I wouldn’t bet my life that this would get dismissed immediately,” Andy Klein, a law professor at the Indiana University School of Law-Indianapolis, said of the suit, in which Quagliaroli claims battery and negligence and requests a jury to determine damages. If Quagliaroli can prove the club should have known from past experience such incidents are a hazard, he might win in court, said Klein, comparing the case to suits brought against baseball teams when foul balls hit spectators.

But Bill Powers, the nightclub’s agent, said the club has not had any such complaints in the five or more years he has worked for it. “The fact is that Quagliaroli walked into someplace and wasn’t anticipating injury, and walked out of there with chewed teeth and potentially lifelong dental injuries,” said Saeed.

List of 83rd annual Oscar winners

**LOS ANGELES, 28 Feb—**Here is a complete list of winners of the 83rd Annual Academy Awards on 27 Feb, 2011, in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles.  

**Best Picture:** “The King’s Speech.”

**Best Actor:** Colin Firth, “The King’s Speech.”

**Best Actress:** Natalie Portman, “Black Swan.”

**Supporting Actor:** Christian Bale, “The Fighter.”

**Supporting Actress:** Melissa Leo, “The Fighter.”

**Directing:** Tom Hooper, “The King’s Speech.”

**Foreign Language Film:** “In a Better World,” Denmark.

**Adapted Screenplay:** Aaron Sorkin, “The Social Network.”

**Original Screenplay:** David Seidler, “The King’s Speech.”

**Animated Feature Film:** “Toy Story 3.”

**Art Direction:** “Alice in Wonderland.”

**Cinematography:** “Inception.”

**Sound Mixing:** “Inception.”

**Sound Editing:** “Inception.”

**Original Song:** “We Belong Together,” from “Toy Story 3.”

**Score:** Trent Reznor and Atticus Ross.

**Original Score:** “The Social Network.”

**Documentary Feature:** “Inside Job.”

**Documentary (short subject):** “Strangers No More.”

**Visual Effects:** “Inception.”

**Visual Effects Editing:** “The Social Network.”

**British actor Colin Firth holds his Oscar for achievement in directing for “The King’s Speech” backstage at the 83rd Academy Awards in Hollywood, California, on 27 Feb, 2011.—INTERNET**

**British director Tom Hooper accepts the Oscar for best actress in a supporting role for ‘The Fighter’ at the 83rd Academy Awards on 27 Feb, 2011, in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles.—INTERNET**

**Christian Bale accepts the Oscar for best performance by an actor in a supporting role for ‘The Fighter’ at the 83rd Academy Awards on 27 Feb, 2011, in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles.—INTERNET**

**Natalie Portman holds her Oscar for best actress in a leading role for her part in ‘Black Swan,’ backstage at the 83rd Academy Awards in Hollywood, California, on 27 Feb, 2011.—INTERNET**

**Susanne Bier, of Denmark, accepts the Oscar for best foreign language film for ‘In a Better World’ at the 83rd Academy Awards on 27 Feb, 2011, in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles.—INTERNET**

**‘Forest Gump’ sums up Americans’ life view**

The line from a movie that best describes the life philosophy of Americans is from “Forest Gump,” a US survey indicates. The DDB Life Style Study asked Americans what movie line best describes their life philosophy and 26 percent chose “Life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you’re going to get.”

“We would have expected that in America, where people are often characterized as being overly materialistic, lines like ‘Show me the money’ would have risen to the top,” James Lou of DDB says in a statement.

“We were pleasantly surprised to learn that people are much more likely to embrace unpredictability and sentimentality for their life philosophies.”

Twenty-one percent chose from “The Wizard of Oz,” “There’s no place like home,” and 8 percent chose “Carpe diem,” or seize the day from the movie the “Dead Poets Society.” The remaining Top 10 movie lines are:

—“Get busy livin’ or get busy dyin’,” from “The Shawshank Redemption.”
—“Fasten your seat belts, it’s going to be a bumpy night,” from “All About Eve.”
—“Frankly my dear, I don’t give a damn,” from “Gone With the Wind.”
—“Today, I consider myself the luckiest man on the face of the Earth,” from “The Pride of the Yankees.”
—“May the Force be with you,” from “Star Wars Episode IV: A New Hope.”
—“What we have here is a failure to communicate,” from “Cool Hand Luke.”
—“Show me the money,” from “Jerry Maguire.”

**Two women whip a 105-kilogramme spinning top in Guiyang, southwest China’s Guizhou Province, on 26 Feb, 2011.**

**20. Film Editing:** “The Social Network.”

**19. Documentary Feature:** “The Last Thing I Wrote.”

**18. Live Action Short:** “God of Love.”

**17. Costume Design:** “Alice in Wonderland.”

**16. Original Song:** “We Belong Together.”

**15. Original Score:** “The Social Network.”

**14. Sound Editing:** “The Social Network.”

**13. Adapted Screenplay:** “Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close.”

**12. Cinematography:** “Inception.”

**11. Art Direction:** “Alice in Wonderland.”

**10. Animated Feature Film:** “Toy Story 3.”

**9. Original Screenplay:** David Seidler, “The King’s Speech.”

**8. Adapted Screenplay:** Aaron Sorkin, “The Social Network.”

**7. Foreign Language Film:** “In a Better World,” Denmark.

**6. Directing:** Tom Hooper, “The King’s Speech.”

**5. Supporting Actress:** Melissa Leo, “The Fighter.”

**4. Supporting Actor:** Christian Bale, “The Fighter.”

**3. Best Actor:** Colin Firth, “The King’s Speech.”

**2. Best Actress:** Natalie Portman, “Black Swan.”

**1. Best Picture:** “The King’s Speech.”

**Top 10 movie lines are:**

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—“What we have here is a failure to communicate,” from “Cool Hand Luke.”
—“Show me the money,” from “Jerry Maguire.”

**27 Feb, 2011.**

**26 Feb, 2011.**

**27 Feb, 2011.**
Inter go second, Udinese hit Palermo for seven

ROME, 28 Feb — Goals from Wesley Sneijder and Samuel Eto’o helped Inter Milan defeat Sampdoria 2-0 in Genoa and move second in Serie A on Sunday that saw Udinese hit seven at Palermo and move second in Serie A on a 2-0 in Genoa and move second in Serie A on a 2-0 win. Nobel Eto’o helped Inter Milan the equalizer against Sampdoria.

Inter Milan’s Cameroonian forward Samuel Eto’o celebrates after scoring against Sampdoria.—INTERNET

Police to quiz Chelsea over reports Cole shot student

LONDON, 28 Feb — British police said on Sunday they would question staff from Chelsea football club over reports that star defender Ashley Cole allegedly shot a work placement student at the club’s training ground. A spokesman for Surrey police said the force would be “contacting the club in due course to establish whether any criminal offence has been committed”.

Britain’s News of the World newspaper reported earlier Sunday that the England left-back, who was previously married to pop star Cheryl Cole, fired a .22 air rifle at the club in due course to establish whether any criminal offence has been committed”. —INTERNET

Donald wins first World Golf Championship

MARANA, 28 Feb — Luke Donald spoiled Martin Kaymer’s rise to No 1 in the world by winning the Match Play Championship on Sunday with a performance so dominant he never played the 18th hole all week.

Not even the snow and sleet could stop Donald. On a bizarre final day in the high desert, which began with snow covering the fairways, Donald pulled ahead for good with a birdie on the par-5 11th and a par on the next hole, eventually closing out Kaymer on No 16 for a 3-and-2 victory.

The consolation prize for Kaymer is going to No 1 in the rankings, which he assured by reaching the championship match.

Donald was in more dire need of this trophy, however.—INTERNET

Concussion
test

Niall Quinn undergoes concussin
test

L Bosman has undergone a
concussion test after being
injured in the Republic’s win
against Slovakia last week.

He will be assessed by the
Republic’s medical staff.

Del Potro wins Delray Beach tennis title

DEL MAR, 26 Feb — Juan Martin del Potro won his first title since his 2009 US Open triumph in the final of the $442,500 Delray Beach International Championships.

Argentina’s Del Potro defeated the sixth-seeded John Isner 6-4, 6-4 to pass another milestone in his injury comeback.

A former world number four, Del Potro has been hindered by a right wrist injury that required surgery and limited him to just three tournaments.

He needed 1hr 54 min to fashion the victory, and left Tipsarevic still seeking a first career ATP title. Del Potro had been building toward the victory, having reached back-to-back semi-finals in San Jose and Memphis in the past two weeks.—INTERNET

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INTERNET
China spends 10 bln yuan to improve nutrition for rural students

BEIJING, 28 Feb—China spent more than 10 billion yuan (1.52 billion US dollars) last year to improve the nutrition of 12.25 million poverty-stricken students in rural areas, a report from a government think-tank said Sunday. The funding targeted poor primary and middle school students in rural areas who reside on campus, and both central and local governments have been increasing the amount of funding in recent years, said the China Development Research Foundation (CDRF) in a report. Starting in November last year, China’s Ministry of Finance had hiked the daily subsidy to 3 yuan for primary school students and 4 yuan for middle school students in rural areas, a report from a government think-tank said Sunday. The funding targeted poor primary and middle school students in rural areas who reside on campus, and both central and local governments have been increasing the amount of funding in recent years, said the China Development Research Foundation (CDRF) in a report.

Starting in November last year, China’s Ministry of Finance had hiked the daily subsidy to 3 yuan for primary school students and 4 yuan for middle school students. From 2007 to 2009, the central government had allocated 9.55 billion yuan in living subsidies for poor students in boarding schools in central and western China, it said.—Xinhua

A chimney is seen in fog and smoke in the rain at an industrial district nearby Tokyo, on 28 Feb, 2011. Japan’s industrial output rose for the third straight month in January in a sign solid demand from fast-growing Asian markets is driving the economy towards a moderate recovery.—INTERNET

Rainfall on 28-2-2011 was (NIL) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2011 was (1.97) inches at Mingaladon, (1.89) inches at Kaba-Aye and (3.54) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) m/s from Southeast at (12:30) hours MST on 27-2-2011.

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

Forecast valid until evening of the 3rd March 2011: Rain or thunder showers are likely to be isolated in Taninthayi Region, and Chin and Mon States and weather will be partly cloudy in Upper Sagraing, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Kayin State, generally fair in the remaining States and Regions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of continuation of isolated rain in the extreme Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 1-3-2011 Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 1-3-2011: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 1-3-2011: Partly cloudy.
Only with stability and peace will the nation develop
Only with stability and peace will democratization process be successful

Anarchy begets anarchy, not democracy
Riots beget riots, not democracy
Democracy can be introduced only through constitution

People’s Desire
We favour peace and stability
We favour development
We oppose unrest and violence
Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

VoA, BBC-sowing hatred among the people
RFA, DVB-generating public outrage
Do not allow ourselves to be swayed by killer broadcasts designed to cause troubles

Ministry of Mines, Russian company agree to measure amount of gold and related minerals deposits

Mr Grigory Gurevich of Nobel Gold Limited and members of the board of directors and guests.
Minister for Mines U Ohn Myint delivered an opening address. Director-General Dr Ye Myint Swe of Geological Survey and Minerals Exploration Department elaborated on drilling and production works. Next, the president of Nobel Gold Ltd spoke words of thanks. The director-general and the president of Nobel Gold Ltd signed the agreement and exchanged documents. Minister U Ohn Myint gave the President of Nobel Gold Ltd minerals survey permit of the ministry and Minister U Maung Maung Thein minerals survey permit of the MIC.

4.4 magnitude quake jolts Taungdwingyi

NAV PYI TAW, 28 Feb—A slight earthquake with 4.4 Richter Scales jolted inside Myanmar (15 miles west of Taungdwingyi) 150 miles southwest of Mandalay Seismological Observatory at 7 hrs 26 min and 10 sec this morning, Meteorology and Hydrology Department announced.

Hlawga Park to run extra hours on Peasants’ Day

NAV PYI TAW, 28 Feb—Hlawga Park under the Ministry of Forestry is opened daily from 8 am to 5 pm. The park will be kept opened from 8 am to 6 pm on Peasants’ Day which falls on 2nd March for the public to be able to enjoy relaxing atmosphere there.—MNA

Significant night temperatures (28-2-2011)

Haka (2º C)
Heho (6º C)