The entire people need to join hands in safeguarding the independence

All the people will be well aware of the fact that today, some powerful nations are attempting to influence weaker ones resorting to various ways and means. So, the entire people of the Union need to join hands in safeguarding and maintaining independence and sovereignty. Only Myanmar people can bring peace, development and prosperity to the nation. It should be noticed that the nation would fall again under the alien subjugation if national unity broke up. Therefore, it is especially important for all the national people to try to ensure non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty.

Esteemed national brethren

Today is the 64th Anniversary Independence Day, which is of significance for all the Myanmar people. Another significant point is that it coincides with a time when Myanmar is marching towards a democratic nation of justice and liberty aspired by the national people born in the Union. Independence was achieved thanks to the unity of the national people who fought back with the noble spirit of sacrificing their lives, blood and sweat. This is why all the people must recognize the 64th Anniversary Independence Day as a noble, significant day. At such a time, I extend my greetings and wish all the national people of the Union both physical and mental well-being.

Myanmar people are the simple and honest ones living in the nation in peace and unity. Always respecting their faith and culture, they are helpful to each other. All the national races have been living in amity and intimacy respecting each other’s tradition and culture. However, they had bitter experiences such as being under evil colonialism and under occupation by the colonialists. The British colonialists encroached upon Myanmar’s sovereignty by waging three aggressive wars during the period from 1824 to 1885. Though the national people fought back the colonialists with all weapons they had after enlisting the public strength, they lost due to unequal strength. And consequently, all the national people fell under colonial rule. After annexing Myanmar, the colonialists systematically governed the people forcing them into enslavement. They exploited aboveground and underground resources in various ways. They even ruled the country in various wicked ways so that the faith, culture, tradition and language of the Myanmar people died away. What’s more, the imperialists adopted adivide-and-rule policy in order that the hilly regions and plains and casting doubts among the national brethren with intent to disintegrate national unity.

Under colonial rule, the Myanmar people had to live in dire poverty. At the colonialists’ instigation, a slavery education system emerged and so did those uncivilized persons who wanted to prolong the colonial rule. Yet, the political awareness, growing public strength and strong anti-colonialism of the brilliant, patriotic youths of Myanmar could drive the imperialists out of the country.

Educated youths headed by General Aung San were able to recruit the national people to join the People’s Tatmadaw risking their lives. Although the British colonialists could be driven out with the strength of the Tatmadaw, the Myanmar people suffered the severe penetration of fascism during independence struggles. The Tatmadaw side by side with the people put up a strong resistance to the fascists. After the fascists had fled, General Aung San together with Myanmar leaders had to fight for independence through political means when the British colonialists re-entered the country. To be able to enjoy complete independence, all the national people regardless of where they came from, hilly regions or plains, took part harmoniously in the fight against the colonialists. Owing to the physical strength, mental strength and united strength of the national people sacrificing their lives, blood and sweat, Myanmar became an independent, sovereign nation on 4 January, 1948, and it has turned 64 this year. The cost of lives, blood and sweat the people sacrificed for regaining independence and sovereignty was tremendous. All the people will be well aware of the fact that today, some powerful nations are attempting to influence weaker ones resorting to various ways and means. So, the entire people of the Union need to join hands in safeguarding and maintaining independence and sovereignty. Only Myanmar people can bring peace, development and prosperity to the nation. It should be noticed that the nation would fall again under the alien subjugation if national unity broke up. Therefore, it is especially important for all the national people to try to ensure non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty.

Esteemed national brethren

Tatmadaw safeguarded the nation. It was the Tatmadaw that directed the nation towards building a peaceful, modern and developed democratic one by reconstructing the State which had been in ruin in all aspects due to the 1988 disturbances. For emergence of such a new nation, sound political, economic and social foundations were built in earnest. From political perspective, internal peace was built and efforts were exerted to make sure that national race armed groups returned to people’s hearts. Besides, the Tatmadaw government laid down seven-step road map of the State and took step-by-step measures for writing a constitution in order to practise multi-party democracy, holding referendum, approving the constitution, holding the general election, holding Pyithu Hluttaw sessions with people’s representatives and forming a government with the representatives elected by the people. As a result, a new people’s government has emerged today. It has been known to all that the Republic of the Union of Myanmar is moving forward with multi-party democratic system alongside changes and developments.

Economic strength calls for public participation. The government is inviting foreign investments by setting up industrial zones for establishment of an industrialized nation while trying to accelerate agricultural development. Moreover, Myanmar is marching towards a new modern, developed nation enlisting the strength of human resources like intellectuals and intelligentsia.

When it comes to the proper evolution of market economy in the economic sector, the nation needs a lot of intellectuals and technocrats who must be healthy, strong and intelligent. Therefore, efforts are being made to develop the education and health sectors in order that human resources can be best employed for the future nation.

General Aung San was one of the Union leaders who made the Union a democratic nation. Of course, if the nation is in peace with national unity, can democracy be practised in earnest. Socio-economy of the people will improve only through democratic practices and national development. All the people therefore should be well aware that national unity is of utmost importance.

Hailing the 64th Anniversary Independence Day

All the people should be well aware of the fact that national unity is of utmost importance

Nay Pyi Taw, 4 Jan—The following is the translation of the message sent by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein on the occasion of the 64th Anniversary Independence Day.

Dear Esteemed national brethren

Today is the 64th Anniversary Independence Day, which is of significance for all the people of Myanmar. It should be noticed that the nation would fall again under the alien subjugation if national unity broke up. Therefore, it is especially important for all the national people to try to ensure non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty.

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PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 4 January, 2012

Ardently safeguard our own nation

4th January, 2012 is the 64th Anniversary Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Myanmar is an independent, sovereign nation standing tall in the global community with its own territory, people and culture. Myanmar did not become such a nation easily. Her independence was achieved after fighting back the imperialists through sacrificing lives, blood and sweat of the patriotic national people and monks.

Independence can be lost all of a sudden, when dignity prevails. But it will take a long time to regain independence. Struggles for independence call for lives, blood and sweat as well as hard work. The Myanmar national people have passed through many eras and gone through a series of oppression under the colonial rule. They have also experienced fruits of independence when the nation is free from the yoke of aliens.

The onus is upon all the national people to continue to safeguard and maintain independence inherited from their ancestors while living in the Union in unity and amity.

Now Myanmar is on the road to democracy. The government is undergoing changes and reforms in the legislative, executive and judicial sectors in a democratic way. It is also striving for democracy in the legislative, executive and judicial sectors in a democratic way. It is also striving for democracy in the legislative, executive and judicial sectors in a democratic way.

All the national people are therefore urged to try to ardently safeguard their independent, sovereign democratic nation for its long-term existence with patriotic spirit, nationalistic spirit and united strength.

LOCAL SPORTS

Muse organizes mass walk activities

Muse, 3 Jan—The mass walk activities were organized in Muse of Muse District on 3, 10, 17 and 31 December.

The activities started in front of the city hall. The government is undergoing changes and reforms in the legislative, executive and judicial sectors in a democratic way. It is also striving for democracy in the legislative, executive and judicial sectors in a democratic way.

Japan Cup Karatedo Championship 19-20 Jan

Nay Pyi Taw, 3 Jan—Under the supervision of the Ministry of Sports, Myanmar Karatedo Federation will organize the 3rd Japan Cup Karatedo Championship with the sponsorship of the Japanese Embassy at Aung San Gymnasium on 19 and 20 January.

Outstanding Karatedo athletes will be picked out as tentatively selected players for Myanmar team to take part in the 2014 SEA Games in 2013. Those wishing to take part in the championship may enlist at the federation in Aung San Stadium, not later than 15 January or may dial 379939.—MNA

Tourists bade farewell to old year on U Pein Bridge in Amarapura Township, Mandalay Region on 31 December. The wooden bridge was built under the aegis of U Pein in 1211 ME.—Kyemon

Public notice for remonstrations

1. Myanmar National Congress, headquartered at No.84/ A, Daw Thein Tin Road, Kantawlay (North) Ward, Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon Region, applied for registration as a political party on 3-1, 2012 in accord with Political Parties Registration Law Section 5. In applying for its registration, the Flag of Myanmar National Congress party has submitted its name, flag and logo to be used as mentioned hereunder.

It is hereby announced in accord with Political Parties Registration Rule 14 (d) that those who want to remonstrate with the Union Election Commission about the party name, flag and logo may do so with firm evidence within seven days from the date of this announcement.

Logo of Myanmar National Congress

Myanmar Gems Emporium 2011 ends

Nay Pyi Taw, 3 Jan—Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium 2011, organized by Central Committee for holding Myanmar Gems Emporium, continued for the last day at Mani Yadana Jade Hall here today.

Secretary of the Central Committee U Thein Sae presented certificate of honour and gifts to U Khin Zaw of Jade Dragon Company who bought gems lots most.

The emporium was packed with gems merchants from home and abroad. In the afternoon, Patron of the Central Committee Union Minister for Mines U Thein Thaik visited the sale of jade through competitive bidding system and presented certificate of honour and gifts to Mr Lin Xibin of Hong Kong who bought jade lots most.

The 8290 jade lots were sold. The emporium came to an end today.

MNA

Good news for Myanmar handicrafts

YANGON, 2 Jan—As part of capacity enhancement for entrepreneurs from Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV member countries), the ASEAN-Japan Centre (AJC) and Ministry of Commerce will jointly organize a workshop on penetration of exports into Japan at federation of chambers of commerce and industry in Mandalay on 24 January.

The workshop aims to help exporters and manufactures from CLMV countries to ensure quality goods, give advice for choosing participants to take part in INACRAFT to be held in Jakarta of Indonesia, and ensure design and quality of goods so as to make a way into Japan market.

Entrepreneurs running gems, lacquer, seashells, garment and cane ware firms as well as handicraft may attend the workshop.

Any interested persons may contact the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry in Yangon Region (Ph: 01-2143444).—MNA

December Mass Walk held in Mon State

Nay Pyi Taw, 3 Jan—December Mass Walk was held in Mon State on 31 December. Mon State Chief Minister U Ohn Myint, State Htuttaw Speaker U Kyin Pe, State ministers, secretary of state governmental and departmental officials, teachers and trainees from Education College and nursing training school participated in it, and took collective physical exercise.—MNA

Model monsoon paddy plot harvested

KALAW, 3 Jan—Shweyinaye monsoon paddy strain on 3.14 acres of model plot was harvested in Heho Village-tract in Kalaw Township on 3 December. The model plot produced 125.32 baskets of paddy per acre.

The harvesting work was attended by township level officials and local farmers. —Myanma Alin

District News

Traditional medicine kits presented to villages

TAUNGUP, 3 Jan—Traditional Medicine Department presented emergency use traditional medicine kits to village-tracts in Taungup Township, at the office of Township General Administration Department on 30 December.

Head of Township TMD Daw Zin Mar Aung explained usage of the kits. Officials handed down the kits to 50 villages from 46 village-tracts.

Township IPRD

Model monsoon paddy plot harvested
Iraq war death toll at 162,000

BAGHDAD, 3 Jan—Around 162,000 people, almost 80 percent of them civilians, were killed in Iraq from the start of the 2003 US-led invasion up to last month’s withdrawal of American forces, a British NGO said on Monday.

Iraq Body Count (IBC) warned that, contrary to apparent trends in figures released by the Iraqi government, the level of violence has changed little from mid-2009, though attacks are marked down from when the country was in the throes of sectarian war in 2006 and 2007.

In all, the non-governmental organization said an estimated 162,000 people were killed in Iraq in the nearly nine years of conflict. It said around 79 percent of the fatalities were civilians, while the remainder included US soldiers, Iraqi security forces, and militants.

“The violence peaked in late 2006 but was sustained at high levels until the end of last year,” IBC said in a statement. But it warned that “there has now been no noticeable downward trend (in civilian deaths) since mid-2009.”

Recent trends indicate an persistent low-level price war that is likely to continue to kill civilians at a similar rate for years to come. While these data indicate no improve-ment, time will tell whether the withdrawal of US forces will have an effect on casualty levels.” US troops, who at their peak numbered nearly 170,000 on an as many as 505 bases in Iraq, completed their withdrawal from the country on 18 December and Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki dubbed Saturday to be “Iraq Day,” marking when the bilateral pact allowing American forces to stay expired.

IBC said it had recorded more than 144,000 civilian deaths in Iraq since the invasion, and that the addition of figures from US military logs published by whistleblower website WikiLeaks, as well as officially recorded US and Iraqi security deaths and militants, put the overall figure at 162,000.

The NGO said 80 percent of the fatalities were civilians, while the remainder included US soldiers, Iraqi security forces, and militants.

Around 162,000 people, almost 80 percent of them civilians, were killed in Iraq from the start of the 2003 US-led invasion up to last month’s withdrawal of American forces, a British NGO said on Monday. —Internet

Iraq to build advanced destroyers

TEHERAN, 3 Jan—A senior Iranian naval commander said Monday the Islamic republic is planning to build advanced destroyers, the local satellite Press TV reported.

Rear Admiral Abbas Zamini said on Monday that the country has managed to acquire the state-of-the-art expertise to manufacture and maintain all sorts of destroyers, said Press TV.

Zamini said that building numerous surface and subsurface destroyers, including currently-used Jamaran-class destroyers, are currently underway at the country’s defense industries, said the report.

The production of five other naval destroyers similar and even more advanced than the Jamaran are on the Navy’s agenda, he added.

According to the report, the Iranian Navy launched its first domestically-manufactured destroyer Jamaran in the waters of the Persian Gulf in February 2010. The 1,420-ton destroyer, which is part of the 16th fleet of Iranian warships, is equipped with modern radars and electro-optical warfare capabilities.

It has a top speed of up to 30 knots and a helicopter landing pad.

The destroyer features highly advanced anti-ship, anti-air, anti-submarine and anti-surface systems.

The vessel has also been equipped with torpedoes and naval cannon.

Iranian police carry a man into a hospital after he was wounded a bomb attack in Karkk in May 2011. Around 162,000 people, almost 80 percent of them civilians, were killed in Iraq from the start of the 2003 US-led invasion up to last month’s withdrawal of American forces, a British NGO said on Monday. —Internet

NATO service member killed in S Afghanistan

KAR, 3 Jan—A NATO service member was killed in a blast in Afghanistan’s restive southern region on Monday, the military alliance confirmed on Tuesday morning.

“An International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) service member died following an improvised explosive device (IED) attack in southern Afghanistan, yesterday,” the NATO led ISAF said in a Press release.

However, the brief release did not reveal the nationality of the victim, only saying “it is ISAF policy to defer casualty identification procedures to the relevant national authorities.”

Forty-nine countries are contributing 130,000-strong forces in Afghanistan with over 90,000 of them American mainly stationed in the east and south, followed by 9,500 from UK mainly based in southern Afghanistan. This is the first casualty of NATO-led troops, reported by the military alliance in 2012.

A total of 56 NATO soldiers, most of them Americans, have been killed in Afghanistan in 2011. —Xinhua

Roadside bomb kills three Afghan civilians

PUL-E-ALAM, 3 Jan—Three civilians were killed a roadside bomb struck their car on Monday in Logar Province, 60 km south of capital City Kabul, an official said.

“The tragic incident took place outside provincial capital Pul-e-Alam around 10:00 am local time leaving three civilians including a child dead,” spokesman for provincial administration Deen Mohammad Davish told Xinhua.

He also named Taleban militants for planting the mine on the road and killing non-combatants, but the pull-out has yet to make comment.

Xinhua

Dengue fever kills 72 Cambodian children in 2011, up 89 pct

PHNOM PENH, 3 Jan—Cambodia’s Ministry of Health reported on Tuesday that at least 72 Cambodian children had been killed by dengue fever in 2011, an increase of 89 percent, compared with the 2010’s death of 38 kids.

It said that there were 15,805 dengue fever cases reported in 2011, up 26 percent from 12,500 cases in a year earlier.

“The disease broke out in a large scale every three to five years and the year 2011 was the large scale breakout, that’s why the cases were on the rise and the deaths were almost double,” Ngan Champa, director of dengue control at the Ministry of Health, told Xinhua over telephone on Tuesday.

He said the long-stayed floods that had submerged most provinces between August and October were also the main cause of the disease increase.

Ngan Champa estimated that the country spent an average 7 million US dollars a year for campaigns to prevent the disease and for medical attention.

Dengue is caused by mosquitoes. The disease causes an illness that usually is of such severity that there is a risk of death.

The disease occurs in warm and humid conditions, and is most prevalent in tropical regions.

Xinhua

An Iranian missile is launched during Iranian naval maneuvers dubbed Velayat 90 on the Sea of Oman, Iran, on 2 Jan, 2012. Iran successfully tested and range and guided three short range missiles during its military drill in the Strait of Hormuz on Monday, state media reported. —Xnews

Road accidents kill 241 in first 4 holidays of New Year in Thailand

BANGKOK, 3 Jan—Road accidents have claimed lives of 241 people and injured 2,382 others in the first four days of the New Year holiday week, a little higher than the same period last year, the Road Safety Centre said on Monday.

From 29 Dec, 2011 to 1 Jan, 2012, there were 2,167 road accidents in total, falling by 306 or 12.37 percent from the 2,473 accidents reported during the same period last year, the Thai News Agency reported, citing statistics of the Road Safety Centre.

On New Year’s Day, the fourth day of the New Year travel period, the Road Safety Centre reported 562 accidents, down 26.67 percent from 777 recorded on the same day last year, Public Health Minister Witthaya Buranasiri told a news conference.

Some 47.86 percent of the accidents were caused by drunk driving, followed by speeding with 19.93 percent and motorcycles are involved in most of the accidents, accounting for 82.59 percent, he said. —Xinhua

Dengue is a viral disease transmitted by the bite of infected mosquitoes. The disease causes an acute illness of sudden onset that usually is of such severity that there is a risk of death.

Xinhua
Ignorance about calories putting millions at risk

London, 3 Jan—Millions of people are unaware of the calories they take in their daily meals and thus risking themselves to be affected by diseases like cancer, diabetes or heart ailments due to their uninformed choices in everyday life, a study has suggested.

According to a survey commissioned for World Cancer Research Fund (WCRF), in Britain, two-thirds of adults underestimated the level of calories in foods such as 100g of ‘light’ mayonnaise. Just 32 percent correctly said it was high in calories and only 20 percent said that low-fat mayo was also high in calories.

The fact is both ‘homous’ and ‘light’ mayonnaise are actually high-calorie foods. It shows how there is a ‘troubling’ lack of understanding about the calorie content of foods. As per the YouGov poll, confusion about terms such as ‘light’ or ‘reduced fat’ was complicating the problem. This is a major concern since being an overweight in a key factor in causing a range of diseases from cancer and heart disease to diabetes.

A fifth — 20 percent — of the 2,128 adults questioned for the research thought bananas were high in calories even though the fruit contains just 95 calories per 100g on average.

Poor sleep aggravates health and behaviour problems in young diabetics

Washington, 3 Jan—Young diabetics struggling to get a good night’s sleep have worse control of their blood sugar, perform poorly in school and behave badly, a new study has found.

According to Michelle Perfect and her colleagues, lighter sleep and breathing problems lead to to control blood sugar, despite adherence to diabetic health guidelines “Despite adhering to recommendations for good diabetic health, many youth with Type 1 diabetes have difficulty maintaining control of their blood sugars,” Perfect, principal investigator of the study, said.

The researchers tracked the sleep health of 50 Type 1 diabetics, aged 10 to 16, and compared that data with a similar control group.

They found that the young diabetics spent more time in a lighter stage of sleep than youth without diabetes, which was related to compromised school performance and higher blood sugar levels. “Sleep problems were associated with lower grades, poorer performance on state standardized tests, poor quality of life and abnormalities in daytime behaviour,” Perfect said.

“On the upside, sleep is potentially modifiable health behaviour, so these kids could be helped by a qualified professional to get a better night’s sleep,” she added.

Asian shares rise on China economic data

Hong Kong, 3 Jan—Asian shares rose Tuesday, taking a lead from European markets which started 2012 in positive territory, and after China announced better-than-expected manufacturing data.

Australia’s S&P/ASX 200 was up 1.16 percent, Hong Kong rose 1.80 percent in morning trade while Seoul was 2.50 percent higher.

Financial markets in China, Japan and Thailand were closed for a public holiday.

“We are starting the new year on a positive note and data such as better than expected PMI (purchasing managers index) out of China over the weekend will help to give investors new confidence,” said Jason Hughes, Head of Premium Client Management at IG Markets.

“However, the major issues of 2011 still have to be resolved with meaningful solutions required from Europe – until this is finally put to bed we are likely to have a amount of uncertainty remaining around global markets.”

China’s manufacturing unexpectedly rebounded in December on holiday shopping, as the world’s number two economy showed some resilience despite uncertainty remaining around global markets.

The purchasing managers index (PMI) rose to 50.3 in December, the China Federation of Logistics and Purchasing said in a statement Sunday.

A reading above 50 indicates the sector is expanding.

Indian stocks open higher

Mumbai, 3 Jan—Indian main stock index Sensex opened at 15,640.56 points Tuesday 122.64 points or 0.79 percent higher from previous close of 15,517.92 on the opening-up of Indian stock markets to foreign individual investors.

Consumer durables, metal, banking and capital goods sectors gained 1.35 percent, 0.95 percent, 0.93 percent and 0.86 percent, respectively.

Tata Motors, Coal India, Tata Power and property developer DLF picked up 2.23 percent, 2.13 percent, 1.99 percent and 1.98 percent, respectively.

Sensex is the common name for the Bombay Stock Exchange Sensitive Index. It consists of the 30 largest and most actively traded stocks, representative of various sectors, on the Bombay Stock Exchange.
World’s first hybrid sharks found in Australia

Researchers in marine biology have discovered the world’s first hybrid sharks in Australian waters, a media report said on Tuesday. The researchers have come across 57 animals along a 2000-km stretch from Queensland to New South Wales which they believe are the result of cross-breeding between the common blacktip shark and Australian blacktip shark, two related but genetically distinct species, a newspaper reported.

The inter-breeding between the two species shows that the animals are adapting to climate change and the hybridization can make the fishes stronger, the scientists said. “Hybridization can enable sharks to adapt to ecotological change as the smaller Australian blacktip currently favours tropical waters in the north while the larger common blacktip is more abundant in sub-tropical and temperate waters along the south-eastern Australian coastline,” Jennifer Ovenden of Queensland Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries was quoted as saying by the daily.

“Wild hybrids are usually hard to find, so detecting them and their offspring is extraordinary. To find 57 hybrids along 2000 km of coastline is unprecedented,” she said. Another researcher at the University of Queensland researcher, Jess Morgan, said it was unusual for sharks to breed in such a way. She said as sharks physically mate, it makes sure they do not hybridise with the wrong species.

Surge in UFO sightings a sign of 2012 hysteria: New Zealand meteorologists

Wellington, 3 Jan—Chinese lanterns or life from the stars? New Zealand meteorologists said Monday they were opting for the former and other mundane explanations after being inundated with reports of UFOs since the start of the New Year.

WeatherWatch.co.nz said it normally received “a handful” of eyewitness reports of meteors and lights in the sky, with about 10 reports on a busy day. However, since Sunday, the reports of “floating orbs” and UFOs had been flooding in from around the world at a rate of about 10 each hour.

WeatherWatch.co.nz weather analyst Philip Duncan said the reports ranged from “normal meteor sightings to the strange and unusual.”

“Many people around the world have been outside celebrating the New Year,” said Duncan in a statement. “In the US, where most of the sightings came from, conditions were fairly mild and dry in many areas - so more people were outside to see things. Finally, it’s the year the world is supposed to end according to the Mayans and it seems many are already worrying.”

One report from Ireland on the weather information company’s website said, “At 1am on New Year’s Eve My mother and I were heading out of our house to go to town there was no wing and a lantern but it was moving very fast in a perfect straight line. There was no wing and a lantern we were outside and the earth.”

NajmTek U-Book dual-screen notebook due at CES

NajmTek is finally planning to take the wraps off its dual-screen U-Book at CES 2012, sporting a fully customizable second touch screen display instead of a traditional keyboard. —INTERNET

New York, 3 Jan—Last year’s computer maker Acer raised some eyebrows at CES with its Acer Iconia notebook, which replaced a notebook’s traditional keyboard with a second touch-sensitive display that could be used to show content—but also be used as a keyboard and customizable controller for media, applications, and more. At this year’s CES, new laptop manufacturer NajmTek plans to step into the same game with its U-Book, focusing on multilingual users. The advantage of the second touch screen display is that it can handle a wide variety of keyboard layouts supporting many different languages—and users with truly specialized needs—think video editing or 3D software—will be able to design their own input layouts, even in an app-by-app basis.

NajmTek has been talking about the U-Book since 2010, but intends to launch the device at this year’s CES show. So far, technical details on the U-Book are sketchy—NajmTek says it’ll be offered with either dual-core or quad-core processors, Nvidia GeForce Go discrete graphics, and either a 250 or 500 GB hard drive. The U-Book will also sport a usual slate of notebook connectivity and accessories, including an HD webcam, memory card reader, Wi-Fi and Bluetooth wireless connectivity, and “a kind of HDMI output.”

Asus could bring a 7-inch tablet to CES 2012

London, 3 Jan—Asus could be planning a move into Samsung’s territory with the launch of a 7-inch Android tablet. The Taiwanese company currently restricts its tablet range to models with 10-inch screens, such as the Eee Pad Transformer Prime. Asus, on the other hand, offers 7-inch, 8.9-inch and 10.1-inch versions of its Galaxy tablets. The recent success of the Amazon Fire has shown consumers are interested in more portable tablets too.

Rumors of an Asus 7-inch tablet have been circulating for sometime, with reports of a device named the Eee Pad MeMo being slated for launch during CES 2012 doing the rounds before Christmas. Now an image, believed to show just such as device, has been leaked to the website Netbook Italia. Is the Eee Pad MeMo, asrummer version of the Transformer, or an entirely new model replacing or complimenting them? With no details other than the picture to go on, it’s impossible to answer, and one must always consider the possibility the image is the work of a cheeky fan too. If the image is genuine, and an Asus 7-inch tablet is ready for a CES 2012 debut, could it use the same quad-core Tegra 3 chip as its larger cousin, the Transformer Prime?

Watch out for Jupiter, Moon conjunction Tuesday

New Delhi, 3 Jan—As the sun went down on Tuesday evening, two of the brightest objects in the winter sky - Jupiter and the moon - will get together and offer a visual treat to those who are interested in stargazing. A beautiful conjunction of Jupiter and the moon, which can be seen with a naked eye, will be visible in the sky for hours after sunset Tuesday evening.

There will be a spectacular sight in the sky tomorrow (Tuesday) as the moon and Jupiter will be placed very close together. The celestial event will be impressive and it can be seen with naked eyes,” CB Devgun, president, Science Popularisation Association of Communicators and Educators (SPACE), told ANI.

Both the moon and Jupiter will appear very near to each other, he said, “As moon comes in between earth and Jupiter, a conjunction is going to happen and the giant planet will look about ten times brighter than a star in the sky.” Devgun added. Conjunction is a phenomenon in which celestial bodies appear near one another as seen from the earth.

Science

Samsung DV300F dual-view camera adds Wi-Fi

TOKYO, 3 Jan—Samsung continues to cater toward casual photographers who treat to the sky gazers. A beautiful conjunction of Jupiter and the moon - will get together and offer a visual treat to those who are interested in stargazing.

In addition to a traditional LCD viewfinder, 16 megapixel resolution, and 5x optical zoom, the DV300F point-and-shoot camera features a front-facing 1.5-inch LCD display so users can easily see what they’re doing when they’re shooting…well, themselves. Thence DV300F also features Wi-Fi connectivity, so users can instantly upload their photos and video to services like Flickr, Picasa, Facebook, and YouTube, as well as cloud services like Microsoft SkyDrive and Samsung’s own AllShare Play.

“Our aim is to continually cater toward casual photographers who treat the sky gazers. A beautiful conjunction of Jupiter and the moon - will get together and offer a visual treat to those who are interested in stargazing.” Myoung Sup Han, in a statement. “This latest model with the DualView LCD, Wi-Fi connectivity, ultra premium styling and the latest creative features, demonstrates Samsung’s unwavering commitment to consistently meet the needs of our customers.”

Technology

The New Light of Myanmar Wednesday, 4 January, 2012

INTERNET

This sky map shows where to look to see the moon and Jupiter together in the night sky on 2 Jan, 2012 at 6 pm local time from mid-northern latitudes. —INTERNET

INTERNET

An image showing an Asus tablet with a smaller screen than the 10-inch Transformer Prime has leaked, re-igniting rumors that Asus may be planning a 7-inch device for CES 2012. —INTERNET
**Fathers: Thankful for passers-by who saved children**

LOGAN, 3 Jan—Roger Andersen thought it was over. The 46-year-old lost control of his carouding on a winding Utah canyon road and slid into an icy river, trapping the 9-year-old daughter Mia and 4-year-old son Baylor, along with their friend, 9-year-old Kenya Willden. The car flipped upside-down and quickly became submerged.

“The first thought was, ‘So this is how it ends,’” Andersen said while choking back tears Monday. “This could very easily have been a funeral for four of us.”

But it wasn’t. Thanks to a handful of passers-by who stopped and within seconds, jumped in and helped, “And I was amazed at the readiness of people and the readiness of people to jump in and help,” Andersen said at a news conference in Logan, about 80 miles north of Salt Lake City. “Without hesitation, they just did what they had to do, And that...for our family, made all the difference.”

Andersen said they were on their way to a ski resort Saturday when the accident happened on a road they’ve travelled hundreds of times. The road didn’t appear icy, at first, but as they made their way up the canyon, it got slicker so he slowed. But just one tap on the brakes was all it took. “In a second, I was completely off the road and sliding down the embankment,” he said. “Within a second, the entire cabin of the vehicle was full of water.”

He struggled to free the children from their seatbelts, but couldn’t get them loose, and he had to hike. “I decided the best thing was to get out of the car and get air,” he said. “In no less than 10 seconds, there were half a dozen men standing on the banks of the river, and they’re questions to me were, ‘Who else was in the car?’”

“Within five seconds, there were eight men in the river... ready to assist,” he added.—Internet

**Los Angeles Fire Department firefighters extinguishes numerous cars on fire in a carport in the Sheraton Oaks neighborhood of Los Angeles on 2 Jan, 2012.**

**Mexico gas station attendant dies, seen as hero**

ACAPULCO, 3 Jan.—A gas station attendant who died of burns after shutting off pumps set alight during a violent protest was being honored Monday in the southern Mexican State of Guerrero. Officials held a ceremony to honor Gonzalo Rivas Camacho, who worked for the Guerrero State government said he died of his injuries Sunday at a hospital near Mexico City.

More attention has been focused on two protesters who were shot to death at the 12 Dec. protest after students from a rural teachers’ college blocked a highway to demand more funding for the school and battled police trying to clear the highway. Armed police were photographed at the scene pointing their guns at the protesters, and 12 policemen are under investigation in those slayings.—Internet

**Los Angeles, 3 Jan—Authorities arrested a German man Monday in connection with dozens of suspected arson attacks that destroyed parked cars, scorched buildings and rattled much of the nation’s second-largest city over the New Year’s weekend.**

Harry Burkhardt, 24, was booked for investigation of arson of an inhabited dwelling and was being held without bail, authorities said. He is a German national, but authorities said they didn’t know how long he’s been in the United States. Police said he told arresting officers he’s from Frankfurt. Burkhardt was arrested earlier in the day because he resembled a “person of interest” captured on surveillance video.

He was stopped by a reserve sheriff’s deputy in a van being sought by arson investigators, who did not rule out the possibility that others may be involved.

More than 50 blazes have flared since Friday in Hollywood, neighbouring West Hollywood and the San Fernando Valley, causing about $3 million in damage.

**24-year-old arrested in Los Angeles arson spree**

Andersen said that more than 80 passengers were on board when the passenger boat MV Njoro capsized and sank, in Lamu County, Kenya. The passenger boat collided with a cargo boat Sunday night near the resort town of Lamu, killing at least seven and leaving some dozen still missing.—Internet

**Eight drown, 20 missing in Kenya boat accident**

**Jerusalem, 3 Jan—Israel plans to build a wall that would separate its northernmost town from a Lebanese village in a bid to quell tensions in the area.**

The military has begun preparations for the construction of a five-metre-high wall between Metulla, a community of 1,400 people, and the southern Lebanese Village of Kleya.

“The area in question has been a source of friction in the past. The IDF (Israel Defence Forces), UNIFIL (United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon) and LAF (Lebanese Armed Forces) are assessing available options in order to reduce this friction in the future,” an Israeli army spokesman told Xinhua on Monday.

Work on the barrier is due to begin in the coming weeks. Once completed, it will stretch one kilometre and be equipped with electronic surveillance measures, including cameras and motion sensors.

The move came on the heels of escalating tensions in the area in recent years. The Lebanonese Village is located just meters from the international border and Metulla’s apple orchards.—Internet

**Japan police turned away surrendering Aum fugitive**

TOYAMA, 3 Jan—Japanese police turned away one of the nation’s most wanted fugitives when he tried to surrender to Tokyo police headquarters on New Year’s Eve after nearly 17 years on the run, reports said Tuesday.

A police officer at the main entrance of the Tokyo Metropolitan Police thought it was a bad joke when Makoto Hirata, a former member of the Aum Supreme Truth doomsday cult, responsible for the 1995 nerve-gas attack on the Tokyo subway, showed up.

According to local media, he approached the officer around 5:35 p.m. Saturday and said: “I am Makoto Hirata. I am turning myself in.”

But the officer dismissed him as a fake and urged Hirata to go to a local police station some 700 metres (yards) away, said the Asahi Shimbun, the Yomiuri Shimbun and the Mainichi Shimbun newspapers.

Hirata, who is wanted over a 1995 kidnapping, then told the officer: “I am Hirata on the special wanted list.”

The officer did not consult with his colleagues and again told Hirata to head to the Marunouchi police station, where he arrived 15 minutes later.

Hirata’s hair was longer than in his photos from the mid-1990s, but his major facial features and body shape had not significantly changed, the Asahi said.

Hirata also admits to having called a police hotline recently about his case, but was not taken seriously, national broadcaster NHK said.

He turned himself in after nearly 17 years on the run for his alleged role in a plot to kidnap a man in 1995 and conspire with others to hold him in confinement and inject him with a chemical, causing him to die.

Hirata reportedly told investigators that he wanted to turn himself in after seeing the devastation caused by the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami.

A policewoman walks past a ‘most wanted’ poster of three former members of Japan’s Aum Supreme Truth doomsday cult, including Makoto Hirata (C). Japanese police turned away one of the nation’s most wanted fugitives when he tried to surrender to Tokyo police headquarters on New Year’s Eve after nearly 17 years on the run.—INTERNET

**Israel to construct barrier on Lebanese border**

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**A photo provided by Chris Wilden shows a car in the Logan River in Utah on 31 Dec, 2011, after the car was flipped upright by rescuers who saved three children trapped in the car. The car plunged off an embankment into the river and Wilden shot out the car’s window with a handgun and cut a seat belt to help free the children after the accident.—INTERNET**
**Foreign Heads of State send felicitations to President U Thein Sein**

**NAV PYO TAW, 4 Jan—** The following are messages of felicitations from foreign heads of State to President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein, on occasion of the 64th Anniversary Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

**From Yoshihiko Noda, Prime Minister of Japan, Excellency,**

On the 64th anniversary of the Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, I wish to extend to Your Excellency, on behalf of the Government and people of Japan, my warm congratulations and best wishes for the prosperity of your country. I am looking forward to seeing you on the occasion of the Fourth Japan-Mekong Summit Meeting in Japan this year.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

**From Mr. Lee Myung-bak, President of the Republic of Korea, Excellency,**

On behalf of the Government and people of the Republic of Korea, I would like to extend to you and the people of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, my warmest felicitations and good wishes on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Over the past two decades, there has been significant growth in mutual understanding and cooperation between our two countries. I hope that our friendly and good relations can be further strengthened in various fields for the mutual benefit of our two peoples in the years ahead.

Please accept, Your Excellency, my best wishes for your continued good health and happiness, and success in all your noble endeavours,

**From Hu Jintao, President of the People’s Republic of China, Excellency,**

Upon the auspicious occasion of the 64th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Republic of Myanmar, I would like to extend my good wishes to all the people and in the firm belief that you will extend to Your Excellency and through you to the people of Myanmar the warmest congratulations and best wishes.

Since the inauguration of the new government, Myanmar has undertaken positive efforts in maintaining stability, promoting development and improving people’s livelihood, and achieved new progress in domestic political reconciliation and expansion of international exchanges. China highly values and cherishes the “Pauk-Phaw” friendship between our two countries, and is willing and ready to work with Myanmar to further enhance traditional friendship, deepen mutual beneficial cooperation, and promote China-Myanmar Comprehensive Cooperative Partnership to new highs.

I would like to take this opportunity to convey my best wishes for your good health, long life and happiness as well as for the continued peace, progress and prosperity of the friendly people of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

**From Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of the Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh, Excellency,**

On behalf of the government of the people of Bangladesh and on my own behalf, I have great pleasure in conveying my best wishes to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on the auspicious occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

It is a matter of deep satisfaction that Bangladesh and Myanmar maintain excellent bilateral relations. There exist tremendous potentials for further improvement of our relations through greater economic activities and enhanced interactions at the political and official levels. Bangladesh would greatly be honoured to participate in the development process of Myanmar in the days ahead.

I wish you good fortune and long life and the friendly people of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar peace, progress and prosperity.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

**From Yingluck Shinawatra, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, Excellency,**

On the occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, I have the honour to extend, on behalf of the Royal Thai Government and the Thai people, my sincere congratulations and best wishes for the prosperity and progress of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and her people.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

**From M. Jayaratne, Prime Minister of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, Excellency,**

I have great pleasure to congratulate Your Excellency on the auspicious occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

I firmly believe that the bonds of friendship and cooperation that so happily exist between us will be further strengthened for the well-being of our two peoples in the future.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

**From Christian Wulff, President of the Federal Republic of Germany, Excellency,**

On the occasion of Independence Day in Myanmar, permit me to offer you and the people of Myanmar my sincere congratulations and best wishes.

Germany is following with keen interest and good will the new course your country is steering in the direction of national reconciliation and democracy.

I wish you and all reform-minded people in Myanmar good luck and every success. Germany stands ready to provide Myanmar with advice and active assistance in taking its reform agenda forward.

**From Md. Zillur Rahman, President of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh, Excellency,**

I am pleased to see that our bilateral relationship, based on the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, developed very smoothly and favorably. The contacts and cooperation between the two countries in the fields of politics, economy, culture and etc., was broadening continuously, which generated a lot of tangible benefits to the peoples of two countries. The Chinese government always attaches great importance to the good neighbourly and friendly cooperative relations with Myanmar, and is willing and ready to make joint efforts with Myanmar to deepen all-areas pragmatic cooperations, enrich the contents of China-Myanmar Comprehensive and Cooperative Partnership constantly.

I would like to take this opportunity to convey my best wishes to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and well-being to the people of Myanmar.

**From Md. Zillur Rahman, President of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh, Excellency,**

On the auspicious occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, on behalf of the people of Bangladesh, I extend to Your Excellency and through you to the friendly people of Myanmar, our warmest greetings and felicitations.

Bangladesh and Myanmar enjoy excellent bilateral relations based on common history, culture and shared vision for development. It is my firm conviction that the existing bond of friendly relations between our two countries will further be strengthened in depth and dimension in the coming years.

I shall avail of this opportunity to convey my best wishes for your good health, long life and happiness as well as for the continued peace, progress and prosperity of the friendly people of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

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**From Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of the Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh, Excellency,**

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I wish you and all reform-minded people in Myanmar good luck and every success. Germany stands ready to provide Myanmar with advice and active assistance in taking its reform agenda forward.
Active and dynamic international relations

One sector that is the most remarkable and successful in the time of the new government is international relations. In practice, international relations are related to domestic political affairs. As you will have guests only when you show your kind hospitality, a sign of progress has been seen in the sector of international relations as national reconciliation is dawning in Myanmar’s political situation.

The new government achieved two marked successes in the arena of international relations last year. The first is that Myanmar has been allowed to take ASEAN Chairmanship in 2014, which is important in regional politics.

As the government was able to built trust with regional countries through its genuine, practical reforms, the ASEAN Summit held in Bali, Indonesia, in 2011 unanimously announced that Myanmar has been entrusted with the duty to take ASEAN Chairmanship for 2014. At this point, the kind support Indonesia taking ASEAN Chairmanship has given to Myanmar as a good neighbour should be put on record. Another follow-up success is that Myanmar’s relations with Western nations (especially America) which had been cool for some time have improved. Shortly after the Bali ASEAN Summit, US President Obama announced that Secretary of State Mrs Hillary Clinton would pay a visit to Myanmar. Since it was the first ever visit of a US Secretary of State to Myanmar in more than 50 years, the whole world got surprised.

But, that visit did not come as a surprise. Relations with Western countries have developed rapidly since the new government taking office. Particularly, high-ranking officials, scholars and business people from European nations have paid frequent visits to Myanmar. Likewise, senior officials from America, including US Special Envoy to Myanmar Mr Derek Mitchell, visited Myanmar. More and more discussions with exchange of views have led to more understanding in bilateral relations.

The first ever visit of US State Secretary in half a century has opened a new phase in Myanmar-US relations that were at a standstill for a long time. Then followed the visits of Singaporean, British and Japanese Foreign Ministers.

The clear images in Myanmar’s foreign relations in the time of the new government are exchange of goodwill visits of State leaders. After taking office, the President paid goodwill visits to the People’s Republic of China and the Republic of India. China and India have had close and friendly relations with Myanmar as the most important neighbours throughout history. The President’s visits further strengthened the existing relationships.

Heads of Government of the neighbouring countries also made their visits to Myanmar. They are Thai Prime Minister Ms Yingluck Shinawatra and Bangladeshi Prime Minister Mrs Sheikh Hasina, Mr Mikhail V Myasnikovich, Prime Minister of Belarus, far away from Myanmar, paid a goodwill visit to Myanmar as well.

One vital issue in late 2011 is that Myanmar hosted the GMS Summit on 19 and 20 December. Heads of Government of six GMS countries attended the summit, which adopted a strategic framework agreement to be implemented from 2012 to 2022. It is the first ever summit of its kind that Myanmar hosted in the time of the new government. And it has put Myanmar to the test for its preparedness to host the ASEAN Summit in 2014.

Overall, the new government was able to practise an active, independent and perspective foreign policy in a period of nine months, making good strides in restoring Myanmar’s status in the international arena. As the saying that goes by ‘Initial step is the most important for a thousand-mile journey’, it is crucial for Myanmar’s reformation process to be on the correct path with regular steps.

On the right path with no turning back

Myanmar’s political and economic reforms made in the new government’s nine month’s period have been internally and internationally recognized. However, some voiced their concerns that Myanmar would turn back from the path it is taking for uncertain reasons.

Those concerns come from those who are in favour of Myanmar’s interests out of genuine goodwill.

They also come from those with negative attitude saying that Myanmar’s changes and reforms are just a sham seeking the long-term interests of the old administrative classes. Such people are getting jealous of the Myanmar government gaining momentum of its reformation. They feel unbearable that other countries have come to build close relationships with Myanmar’s new government. By misleading others into thinking that Myanmar will turn back with uncertainties in its reform policy, they are devising a plan to cease ongoing and upcoming aids and to delay economic investments from the outside.

Studying democratic transition of global nations, any could not be carried out successfully without difficulty. They had to go through a series of hardships, obstacles and challenges. However difficult our journey is, we have to march towards the destination with no turning back if it is in the interests of our own nation and people. Such a commitment to reach the goal with no turning back has not been made without rationality. It has been made reflecting Myanmar’s objective conditions, the interests and desires of the people and changes and developments in international politics.

(See page 9)
**A new nation...**

If we make a study, the first point is that today’s political and economic reforms are being conducted with the common decision of the government and the people as they are the desire of the entire people and in the public interest.

Secondly, frameworks and principles have been laid down in the constitution in order to conduct those reforms. Executive, legislative and judiciary bodies formed in accordance with the constitution are already in operation. There is no constitution in the world that does not need to be amended at all. The constitution of Myanmar will be amended in accord with the law if necessary depending on necessary time and circumstances. So, there is no way we turn back from our political system seeing beyond the constitution.

The third point is public support, the fifth pillar of the nation. Most of the people across the country are in earnest support of the new government’s reformation process. Public support, the driving force of a democratic nation, is a major strength to overcome challenges and difficulties.

The fourth point is the mainstream of international politics. About 60 percent of world nations are democracies that have chosen their governments through elections. Further, democracy movements are spreading throughout the world. But some countries are experiencing violent conflicts, protests and bloodshed between their rulers and democracy activists. Myanmar however is in rapid, peaceful transition with mutual understanding and trust and negotiations as directed by its former rulers. Can there be a more efficient, correct way?

Hence, the Myanmar government can daringly disclose that there is no way to deviate from its democratic transition. The President and other responsible leaders have reassured the international community that they will never turn back from the country’s changes and reforms.

In conclusion, I would like to urge all the people to harmoniously build and maintain a peaceful and strong Union in accord with democratic practices from the 64th Anniversary Independence Day till the end of the year by quoting the following excerpts from the President speech at a meeting with responsible people from economic and social fields and organizations on 17-8-11.

“The country is in the process of starting a new life. There are many challenges as well as good opportunities. What is needed is that we show resilience in taking the challenges and we should seize all the opportunities.

In successive periods, our country had to take so long time, dealing with issues of instability and unrest, which was merely a sheer waste of time. There are so many countries that lagged behind or whose development was on a par with our country in the post-independence period, but our country left behind in terms of development now. Now the people of us should have stopped quarreling with each other, and individuals and organizations should no longer find fault with and put blame on each other.

Our country has favourable conditions, our country will be a developed one soon if we are united and work hard together. Our country belongs to all of us. Every citizen is responsible for guarding and protecting our country. We also need to build a fine society for generations to come.”

(Translation: ST)

President U Thein Sein shaking hands with US Secretary of State Mrs Hillary Clinton at President Office in Nay Pyi Taw on 1-12-2011.

**64th Anniversary Independence Day Objectives**

* All the national people to live together in the Union forever in weal or woe
* All the national people to collectively strive for non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty
* All the national people to harmoniously make all-out efforts for development of socio-economic life of the people, reducing of poverty rate and ensuring the firm and clean executive pillar in building up a modern, developed democratic new nation
* All the national people to consciously cooperate in promoting genuine democratic practice and ensuring the rule of law, national reconsolidation and eternal peace.

**Hailing the 64th Anniversary Independence Day**

* Independence Myanmar restored
  After a long period of enslavement
  Never to fall under subjugation again
  Means patriots tried to find
  Adopting system of their very own
  Prosperity for entire Myanmar
  Her future in golden age
  Democracy on the march to flourish
  Shaping country nationalities
  Union’s sons and daughters
* Unity Myanmar restored
  All in coherence and kindness
  Removed we all
  Wrong visions of past
  Our kinfolk now have in mind
  Amity for each and everyone
  Everlasting and firm
  Hands joining for Myanmar
* Development Myanmar achieved
  High rise buildings everywhere
  Impressive infrastructures also seen
  On meandering rivers are bridges
  Tunnels through high ridges
  Modernizing own country
  For her glory and dignity
  All with dynamic force
* It is independence
  That enables us bring progress
  And also prosperity to nation
  * It is independence
  That gives Myanmar new vigor
  To stand tall worldwide
* Myanmar glory rises high
  Shining like the sun
  Only if joining hands
  Remain ever for independence

POEM

**Independence and joy**

* Meanyng the joy of independence
  Never to fall under subjugation again
  Means patriots tried to find
  Adopting system of their very own
  Prosperity for entire Myanmar
  Her future in golden age
  Democracy on the march to flourish
  Shaping country nationalities
  Union’s sons and daughters
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  That gives Myanmar new vigor
  To stand tall worldwide
* Myanmar glory rises high
  Shining like the sun
  Only if joining hands
  Remain ever for independence

* Myinmu Maung Naing Moe (Trs)
Title recipient Sayadaw from abroad

1. Bhaddanta Pandava, Theravada Buddhist Missionary Monastic Education School, Maungshin Village, Aungchantha Ward, Namkham, Shan State
2. Bhaddanta Kirti, Maha Withutayama Kayasokho Monastery, Phaunghsaing Village, Hkamti Township, Sagaing Region
3. Bhaddanta Kovida, Megawady Taungthaman Monastery, Kantha Ward, Taunggyi, Magway Region
4. Bhaddanta Nevarya, Munnyong Monastery, Shanmyo Township, Mandalay Region
5. Bhaddanta Agginiha, Gunawady Taikkyawgyi Monastery, Kyunloneshaung Ward, Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay Region
6. Bhaddanta Sundara, Sangay Paipyi Monastery, Bo Teza Ward, Bilin, Mon State
7. Bhaddanta Indarcariya, Paipyi Dhammakagyo Monastery, Aungthida Ward, Taunggyi, Magway Region
8. Bhaddanta Dhammacara, Sangay Paipyi Monastery, Shawkhinta Ward, Thakaya Township, Mandalay Region
9. Dr Bhaddanta Aciyanma, Internation Tharavada Bud- dhist Missionary University, Ward 5, Mayagone Township, Mandalay Region
10. Dr Bhaddanta Narainda, State Paipyi Sasana University, Ward 7, Mayagone Township, Mandalay Region
11. Dr Bhaddanta Dhammanandabivamsa, Maha Dhammakayama Monastery, Kantha Ward, Taungyi, Shan State
12. Dr Bhaddanta Kovidabivamsa, Shwenanha Monastery, Kyauktat Legislative Assembly, 88-11 Street between 17th and 18th Streets, Rangoon, Yangon Region

Title recipient Sayadaws from abroad

14. Ven. Sayamone Dhammakayu, Maha Wirathu Monastery, Myamun Village, Taunggale Village, Hpa-an Township, Kayin State
15. Ven. Sayamone Dhammakayu, Maha Wirathu Monastery, Myamun Village, Taunggale Village, Hpa-an Township, Kayin State
16. Ven. Sayamone Dhammakayu, Maha Wirathu Monastery, Myamun Village, Taunggale Village, Hpa-an Township, Kayin State
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50. Ven. Sayamone Dhammakayu, Maha Wirathu Monastery, Myamun Village, Taunggale Village, Hpa-an Township, Kayin State
Union A & I visits 10,000-acres model mechanized farm in Dagon Myothit

Nav Pyi Taw, Jan — As a special lot, one K150-million-lot will be included in the monthly lottery of the State Lottery Division of the Internal Revenue Department of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue as from the 277th Lottery which will open on 1 February.

The 277th lottery will consist of 16193 lots including one K150-million-lot, one K100-million-lot, one K50-million-lot, two K25-million-lots, four K20-million-lots and 15 units of K10-million-lottery pairs. The number of lots in the 277th lottery is more 1186 lots than the previous one. The price for the lottery ticket does not change.

The new light of myanmar Wednesday, 4 January, 2012

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British man shoots three family members before committing suicide

London, 3 Jan—A British man is believed to have killed three female family members and then taken his own life at a house in County Durham in northern England, local police said on Monday.

Police said they found the four bodies in different rooms in the house with gunshot wounds, and a shotgun was found next to the man’s body. Detective Superintendent Paul Goundry said he believed “the shootings were carried out by the 40-year-old male” identified as Michael Atherton, a taxi driver.

Goundry said he believed “the shootings were carried out by the 40-year-old male” identified as Michael Atherton, a taxi driver. The other nine were thought to be hybrid Scottish wildcats. Twenty camera traps were set during the study with four of them photographed during the study with four of them identified as wildcats.

Other predators such as pine martens, foxes, and Buddhist temples in the country provided free Laba porridge on Sunday. —Xinhua

Highland tigers’ not wild about snow, says SNH report

London, 3 Jan—Scientists suspect Scottish wildcats may have trouble crossing deep snow as camera traps captured no images of the animals after heavy snowfalls.

Other predators such as pine martens were photographed in thick snow in the Cairngorms National Park. Zoologists from the University of Oxford worked with Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) on the project. Thirteen “wild-living” cats were photographed during the study with four of them identified as wildcats.

The other nine were thought to be hybrid Scottish wildcats. Nicknamed “Highland tigers”, only about 400 pure wildcats are thought to survive in the wild.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV CEC FANTASY VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CEC FANTASY VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4.1.2012 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.

Claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: TASNEEM INT'L SDN BHD,
MALAYSIA

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BANG KACHAI VOY NO (107)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANG KACHAI VOY NO (107) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4.1.2012 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.

Claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS WONGSAMUT OCEAN SHIPPING CO LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919

A chef cooks Laba porridge at Quanjude, an honoured Beijing roast duck restaurant, in Beijing, China, on 1 Jan, 2012. Laba literally means the eighth day of the 12th lunar month. The Laba Festival is regarded as a prelude to the Spring Festival, or Chinese Lunar New Year, the most important occasion of family reunion, falling on 1 January this year. Many restaurants, residential communities and Buddhist temples in the country provided free Laba porridge on Sunday. —Xinhua

A Scottish wildcat photographed by one of the camera traps. —INTERNET
Walmart clerk rejects $1 million bill

Sofia Vergara wanted small role in ‘Happy Feet Two’

Kelly Clarkson dislikes talking about herself

Madonna furious over staff selling songs

Russell Brand could get 20 million pounds from Katy Perry divorce

Pirate ship runs aground on New Year’s Eve

Naked drive-through joke draws arrests

Hundreds jump into frigid Boston Harbor

Singer Kelly Clarkson

Elton John wants Justin Timberlake to play him in biopic

Madonna leaks comes from within Madonna’s camp.

Creepy body puncture at Phuket Vegetarian Festival.
Koscielny nodded in, only for Johan Djourou to be sent off in his own box, a victory that left Arsene Wenger’s side outside the Champions League. "It is a really special place," he said.

Wenger unapologetic

Arsenal boss Arsene Wenger unapologetic after loss to Fulham

London, 3 Jan — Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger said referee Lee Probert cost his side victory in the 2-1 defeat at Fulham. The Gunners had looked set to clinch three points at Craven Cottage until the home side staged a late comeback. Wenger was unhappy with the decision to send off defender Johan Djourou for two bookable offences and felt his team should have been awarded a penalty.

"The referee influenced the game in completely the wrong way, in my opinion," said Wenger. "The first yellow card [for Djourou] was not a yellow card," he said. "The second was a foul for us." Asked whether his side should have had a first-half penalty when Philippe Senderos appeared to trip Gervinho, Wenger said “20%, but we know we don’t get penalties.”

Arsenal dominated the first half but only had Laurent Koscielny’s header to show for their efforts. And they were made to pay for their profligacy in the second half as Fulham increased the pressure, culminating in a late goal after Djourou’s dismissal with Steve Sidwell and Bobby Zamora scoring in the final five minutes. “We had a good first half and in the second half we were in the last 10 minutes,” added Wenger. “We lost the game because we were down to 10 men.

“Even in the end I think it was very unlucky to lose a game with 10 men. When you see that we finished the game with 10 men it is very difficult to take and that makes a massive difference when you have a very good team.”

Wenger also apportioned some blame to Fulham, whom he claimed had attempted to get Djourou sent off.

Serbia’s Viktor Troicki celebrates after winning the first round match of men’s singles against Lukas Rosol of the Czech Republic at the ATP Qatar Open tennis tournament in Doha, capital of Qatar, on 2 Jan, 2012

Chelsea boss Roman Abramovich had his eye on a confidence-boosting win in the Premier League on Monday, as Chelsea surged to victory at Wolverhampton Wanderers and 10-man Arsenal slumped to defeat at Fulham. After the title itself, fourth place is the most hotly contested prize in English football — bringing with it the prospect of qualifying for the lucrative television deals and kudos of the Champions League group stage.

For Chelsea to be occupants of that place at Arsenal’s expense as they prepare for the second half of the season, can only be good news for Blues coach Andre Villas-Boas.

That said, his sights are set even higher. Chelsea appeared set to drop points when Stephen Ward cancelled out Ramirez’s goal in the 84th minute, but Frank Lampard produced a late goal to secure a 2-1 win at Wolves and end a four-match run without a win.

Arsenal showed no such powers of recovery, though, losing by the same scoreline at Fulham after Steve Sidwell canceled out Laurent Koscielny’s first-half header in the 85th minute.

Already down to 10 men following Johan Djourou’s sending off in the 78th, Arsenal’s defense was breached again in stoppage time when Bobby Zamora produced the winner. Chelsea now has a one-point advantage over Arsenal, but five points remain behind fierce London rivals Fulham and United. "If we are on a winning streak of five or six games we are unstoppable, and to be unbeatable we will not lose games," said Villas-Boas.
**DISTRICT NEWS**

**Model school in health awarded**

**YAMANTHON, 3 Jan—**Prizes were awarded to School Health Model School in Yamantthon Township on 30 December. The first prize went to Tabekka Basic Education Primary School, the second to Kyauktitekou BEPS and the third to Kyidawgon BEPS. —*Yamante*.

**Asphalt road opened to hail Independence Day**

**SAGAING, 3 Jan—**As a gesture of hailing the 64th Anniversary Independence Day, asphalt Chandawgyi Road (Shwehintha Road) was opened in Sagaing on 30 December.

Local authorities formally opened the road. The facility, 1575 feet long, was built by Sagaing Township Development Affairs Committee with contribution of local people. —*Kyemon*.

**Computer and spoken English course opened**

**SALINBYU, 3 Jan—**Salinbyu Township Women’s Affairs Organization, Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association and W.Com Centre conducted the basic computer and spoken English course at the hall of township General Administration Department on 15 December.

The training course will last one month. —*Township IPRD*

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**Focus Myanmar TV Programme**

**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL**

(4:1-12:09:30 am ~ 5:1-12:09:30 am) MST

- News
- Towards a Peaceful and Disciplined Democratic New Nation (Significant Events of 2011 )
- News
- Myanmar As Told By History
- Bagan, Our Pride and Glory of the Past
- The Conspicuous Dhammayangyi
- News
- Song
- News
- Diverse National Costumes & Their Fashion Trend (Episode-3)
- News
- Myanmar Traditional Identity (Episode-2)
- Myanmar Chanthe
- News
- Record Album
- News
- Shwe Myanmar (The Golden Land)
- News
- Myanmar Tradition of Lotus Flower
- Myanmar Movies “Runaway Righteous Guy”

**MYANMAR TV**

(6:45 am) (Wednesday)

1. 64th Anniversary Independence Day-flag Hoisting Ceremony
2. Documentary
3. International News
4. Martial Song
5. Sing of National Races
6. Cultural Dances
7. Teleplay (Health)
8. International Science News
9. “ASEAN” Programmes
10. Evening News
11. News
12. Independence Day Programme
13. Korea NG Award
14. TV Drama Series
15. Teleplay

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**Condules**

**Mr. Jiro Iwasaki (Aged 92)**

We would like to tender our heartfelt condolences for the passing away on December 30, 2011, of Mr. Jiro Iwasaki, aged 92, beloved father of Mr. Toru Iwasaki, Chief Coach, Myanmar Baseball Federation and an alumnus of the International University of Japan, Niigata, currently residing at No. 10, Nicole Street, Ward 7, Mayangone Township, Yangon.

Myanmar Alumni Chapter International University of Japan

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**All study, no play making your Jack a dull boy**

**LONDON, 3 Jan—**Ever thought why does your child fail to perform better in classroom or be cheerful? Well, you can get your answer if you understand the old saying — all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy, a new study has suggested.

A study conducted by scientists in the Netherlands has indicated that the schoolchildren may be able to boost their classroom performance by getting out on the playing field.

A review conducted by scientists in the Netherlands has indicated that the schoolchildren may be able to boost their classroom performance by getting out on the playing field.

Physical activity could also boost levels of growth factors that help generate new nerve cells and assist the ‘rewiring’ of neurons.

The study authors, led by Amika Singh, from Vrije University Medical Centre in Amsterdam, wrote in the journal *Archives of Paediatrics & Adolescent Medicine:* ‘According to the best-evidence synthesis, we found strong evidence of a significant positive relationship between physical activity and academic performance.’

The findings of one high-quality intervention study and one high-quality observational study suggest that being more physically active is positively related to improved academic performance in children. -*Internet*

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**Weather forecast for 4th January, 2012**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Temperature (°C)</th>
<th>Weather Conditions</th>
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<td>32/90</td>
<td>Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers (60%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bago</td>
<td>33/91</td>
<td>Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers (60%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upper Sagaing</td>
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<td>Ayeyawady Region</td>
<td>33/91</td>
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<td>Neighbouring Mandalay</td>
<td>32/90</td>
<td>Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers (60%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw</td>
<td>34/93</td>
<td>Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers (60%)</td>
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</tbody>
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**Myanmar Television**

**Diamonds in the Rough**

(11:00 am - 11:30 am) MST

- 1. Health News
- 2. Documentary
- 3. Dhammayangyi
- 4. International Science News
- 5. “ASEAN” Programmes
- 6. Evening News
- 7. News
- 8. Independence Day Programme
- 9. Korea NG Award
- 10. TV Drama Series
- 11. Teleplay

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**Physical activity boosts academics. —Internet**

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R/489 Printed and published by the New Light of Myanmar press in Nay Pyi Taw, the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information.
President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar issues notifications on conferring titles and medals of commendation

NAV Pyi Taw, 4 Jan—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar issued the Notification No. 1(2012) on conferring religious titles on Sayadawgyi, Sayadaws who are engaged in the teaching of Buddhist literature, Sayadaws who are engaged in the teaching of meditation, mobile Dhamma preachers and those who are engaged in local and foreign missionary and those who are outstanding in the support of Buddha Sasana with four essential requisites, No. (2/2012) on conferring honorary titles and medals, No. (3/2012) on conferring Good Military Service Thingaha Medals, No. (4/2012) on conferring Good Military Service Medals, No. (5/2012) on conferring Good Civil Service Medals, No. (6/2012) conferring Good Police Service Medals, No. (7/2012) on conferring Police Service Medals and No. (8/2012) on conferring Civil Service Medals and Law and Order Restoration Medals on military, police and service personnel today, 64th Anniversary Independence Day.—mana

Third regular session of First Pyithu Hluttaw to commence on 26th January

NAV Pyi Taw, 3 Jan—Pyithu Hluttaw of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar issued Announcement No. 1/2012 dated 3-1-2012.
The translation of the announcement is as follows:
Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Pyithu Hluttaw
Announcement No. 1/2012
10th Waxing of Pyatho, 1373 ME
3rd January, 2012

Third regular session of First Pyithu Hluttaw summoned
In accord with Section 126 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Section 34 of Pyithu Hluttaw Law, it is hereby announced that the third regular session of First Pyithu Hluttaw shall be convened at 10 am on 3rd Waxing of Tabodwe 1373 ME (26 January, 2012) Thursday in Nay Pyi Taw.
Sd/
Thura Shwe Mann
Speaker
Pyithu Hluttaw

Darren Clarke hails ‘golden era’ for European golf

Darren Clarke, right, and Rory McIlroy helped Europe win the 2010 Ryder Cup.
London, 4 Jan—Open champion Darren Clarke believes European golf is experiencing another “golden era”.
The 43-year-old won his first major last summer while fellow Northern Ireland player Rory McIlroy stormed the US Open and England’s Luke Donald finished on top of the money lists.

“Golf over here is very strong at the moment,” Clarke said.

“It’s like the sort of dominance we had in the late 80s and early 90s, we’re back to that golden era,” Nick Faldo, Seve Ballesteros, Jan Woosnam, Berhard Langer and Jose Maria Olazabal were regular co-habitants in the world’s top 10 during that period and, fast forward to 2011, four Europeans occupied the top four spots in the final week of the year.

“We’re incredibly fortunate,” added Clarke, who ended a 20-year wait to land his first major, at Royal St George’s, last July.

“You look at Rory and the way he’s been playing, and what he did at the US Open.

“And you’ve got Luke, who finished number one in the money list in the United States and Europe. I don’t think that will be done again. What Luke achieved was monumental.”

The Northern Ireland player, who has played in four Ryder Cup-winning teams, and was a victorious vice-captain in 2010, said it was only a matter of time before world number two Lee Westwood would join the elite.

“My good mate is knocking on the door - he’ll win a major, or majors, sooner rather than later,” he added.

Another friend Clarke believes will again be challenging for the big prizes is Tiger Woods.

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar issues notifications on conferring titles and medals of commendation

NAV Pyi Taw, 4 Jan—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar issued the Notification No. 1(2012) on conferring religious titles on Sayadawgyi, Sayadaws who are engaged in the teaching of Buddhist literature, Sayadaws who are engaged in the teaching of meditation, mobile Dhamma preachers and those who are engaged in local and foreign missionary and those who are outstanding in the support of Buddha Sasana with four essential requisites, No. (2/2012) on conferring honorary titles and medals, No. (3/2012) on conferring Good Military Service Thingaha Medals, No. (4/2012) on conferring Good Military Service Medals, No. (5/2012) on conferring Good Civil Service Medals, No. (6/2012) conferring Good Police Service Medals, No. (7/2012) on conferring Police Service Medals and No. (8/2012) on conferring Civil Service Medals and Law and Order Restoration Medals on military, police and service personnel today, 64th Anniversary Independence Day.—mana

Third regular session of First Pyithu Hluttaw to commence on 26th January

NAV Pyi Taw, 3 Jan—Pyithu Hluttaw of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar issued Announcement No. 1/2012 dated 3-1-2012.
The translation of the announcement is as follows:
Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Amyotha Hluttaw
Announcement No. 1/2012
10th Waxing of Pyatho, 1373 ME
3rd January, 2012

Third regular session of First Amyotha Hluttaw summoned
In accord with Section 155 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Section 34 of Amyotha Hluttaw Law, it is hereby announced that the third regular session of First Amyotha Hluttaw shall be convened at 10 am on 3rd Waxing of Tabodwe 1373 ME (26 January, 2012) Thursday in Nay Pyi Taw.
Sd/
Khin Aung Myint
Speaker
Amyotha Hluttaw

Hailing the 64th Anniversary Independence Day

A new nation with new strength

YANGON, 2 Jan—As Yangon Region is going to hold flag-hoisting ceremony of 64th Anniversary Independence Day at the People’s Square on 4th January, Pyay Road (from Shinsawpu junction to Ahlon junction) will be closed temporarily, starting 3.30 am till the end.

Independence and joy

* Independence Myanmar restored
* After a long period of enslavement
* Never to fall under subjugation again
* Means patriots tried to find
* Adopting system of their very own
* Prosperity for entire Myanmar
* Her future in golden age
* Democracy on the march to flourish
* Shaping country nationalities
* Union’s sons and daughters
* Unity Myanmar, No Swaying
* All in coherence and kindness

Myinmu Maung Naing Moe (Trs)

PAGES 8+9

Internet

A new nation with new strength

Studying democratic transition of global nations, any could not be carried out successfully without difficulty. They had to go through a series of hardships, obstacles and challenges.

However difficult our journey is, we have to march towards the destination with no turning back if it is in the interests our own nation and people. Such a commitment to reach the goal with no turning back has not been made without rationality.

YANGYI AUNG

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