True patriotism

* It is very important for every one of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.
* Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo
inspects Yasagyo Multi-purpose Dam Project,
development undertakings in Kalay

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Jan—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo, accompanied by Union ministers, the Sagaing Region Chief Minister, the Chin State Chief Minister, the commander of North-West Command, deputy ministers, the Indian Ambassador to Myanmar and officials, visited construction site of Yasagyo Multi-purpose Dam Project at Nerinzara Creek, two miles north of Yasagyo Village in Kalay Township yesterday.

At the briefing hall of the project, Deputy Agriculture and Irrigation Minister U Khin Zaw explained that project is located near Yasagyo Village in Kalay Township, Sagaing District, Sagaing Region and is being constructed by damming up Nerinzara Creek and reported to the Vice-President on main task of dam construction.

The Vice-President stressed the need for harmonious implementation of irrigation facility construction and hydropower generation as the project is (See page 8)

Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo meets officials at briefing hall of Yasagyo Multi-purpose Dam Project.—MNA

Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo meets district and township officials in Kalay

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Jan—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo who arrived in Kalay of Sagaing Region attended a get-together at Aung Zeya Hall in Kalay on 16 January.

Also present on the occasion were Union ministers, the Sagaing Region chief minister, the Chin State chief minister, the North-West Command commander, deputy ministers, ministers of Sagaing Region and Chin State, district and township level departmental officials, social organization members and town elders.

First, the deputy commissioners of Kalay, Tamu and Mawlaik districts reported on data of the districts, land utilization, rainfalls, expected rate to grow monsoon crops and actual crops cultivation, growing of cold season crops, targeted production rate of ten major crops, transforming to mechanized farming system, agricultural loan disbursement, net product and per capita income, education and (See page 9)

Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo cordially greets those present at Aung Zeya Hall of Kalay.—MNA
Perspectives

Thursday, 19 January, 2012

Always be alert

Full of roses is the life when the world is in peace and tranquility. Full of thorns is it when the world is amidst armed conflicts and disputes. This explains the efforts for bringing human-induced tragedies to an end.

The impact of natural disasters has been topping in the destructive causes of human society. Natural disasters can be categorized into flood, storm, fire outbreak, etc. Naturally, unstoppable they are, but prevention can be made to avert the catastrophic consequences.

In 2008, the cyclone Nargis claimed lots of lives and inflicted widespread damages in riparian regions of Myanmar and cyclone-shelters and communication links were constructed since its aftermath.

Moreover, it needs to run more and more fire prevention campaigns. In 2011, the nation saw a total of over 900 fire outbreaks, resulting in massive loss and damages. Some fire outbreaks even led to causalities apart from damages to properties. There are a number of occasions for fire outbreaks such as negligence, electric shock and arson but negligence accounts for the most.

The number of fire outbreaks has increased year by year with some causing enormous damages. There has been a surge in the number of high-rise buildings, transportation machinery, and fuel and chemicals warehouses due to the growth of the nation and increasing population. Thus, more effective fire preventive measures are a must.

In spite of Fire Services Department organizing fire prevention educational talks and fire drills in offices and departments, emergency responses are still weak on real occasions. All in all, fire prevention is concerned with all the people and shopkeepers and urban residents are to have a hand in fire preventive works. Over-1000-gallon-capacity water tanks should be constructed on the top floors of skyscrapers and large markets. Fire is a good servant but a bad master. All the citizens are to be alert to fire outbreaks in all seasons, sticking to the instructions of Fire Services Department.

Danger of narcotic drugs disseminated

Yangon, 15 Jan—An educative talk on danger of narcotic drugs was given at ACA Education Institution in North Okkalapa Township of Yangon on 13 January morning. IP Myint Thein of Yangon Anti-Drug Squad (East) of Myanmar Police Force explained today’s youth and danger of the drugs to ACA students. The talk was released by the Myanmar Police Force.

The Myanmar Police Force explained today’s youth and danger of the drugs to ACA students. The talk was released by the Myanmar Police Force.

U Kyaw Soe Win appointed as Ambassador to Lao PDR

Nav Pvt Taw, 19 Jan—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Kyaw Soe Win, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Lao People’s Democratic Republic.

Myanmar, Bangladesh hold bilateral air services consultations

Yangon, 18 Jan—Their services consultations between the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh was held at the meeting room of the Department of Civil Aviation, Yangon International Airport, here, on 16 January.

The Myanmar delegation led by Director-General U Tin Naing Tun of DCA comprised the representatives from the Union Attorney-General’s Office, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the DCA and Myanmar Airways International.

The Bangladeshi delegation led by Secretary of the Ministry of Civil Aviation & Tourism Mr Md Atharul Islam comprised Ambassador of Bangladesh to Myanmar Maj-Gen Anup Kumar Chakma, Chairman of Civil Aviation Authority Air Cdre Mahmud Hussain, officials of the CAA of Bangladesh and representatives of the Bangladesh Embassy.

During the course of consultations, the two delegations drafted and agreed a new Bilateral Air Services Agreement in line with international air transport developments, to replace the old one signed on 3-8-1977. And then, an agreed minutes, mentioning airlines designation, traffic rights between the two countries and beyond third country and airlines cooperation arrangement was signed.

Moreover, the two sides agreed that the designated airlines of each country shall be permitted to operate seven flights per week between the two countries and the two sides also agreed on the designation of Myanmar Airways International Co Ltd and Air Bagan Co Ltd as designated airlines of Myanmar and designation of Biman Bangladesh Airlines, GMD Airlines and United Airways (BG) as designated airlines of Bangladesh.

Sports competitions organized in Yanbye

Yangon, 18 Jan—The Yanbye Township Administrator’s Trophy Inter-Station Football Tournament took place at Rammawy Myoma Sports Ground in Yanbye from 24 December 2011 to 3 January 2012.

Information & Culture Minister receives BBC world news editor

Nav Pvt Taw, 18 Jan—Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan received a delegation led by BBC World News Editor Mr Jon Williams at the Information Ministry here today. They had a cordial discussion on close cooperation in media development and TV broadcasting.

It was also attended by Deputy Minister for Information U Soe Win, Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sanda Khin, directors-general and managing directors and the head of office.—MNA

Sports trial for billiards, snooker, carom on 9 Feb

Yangon, 18 Jan—Take part in the XXVII SEA Games to be hosted by Myanmar, a sports trial for billiards, snooker and pool carom events, jointly organized by Sports and Physical Education Department of the Ministry of Sports and Myanmar Billiards and Snooker Federation will be held to choose selected players at the training hall of MBSF at Aung San Gymnasium beginning 9 February. The players wishing to take part in the sports trial may enlist at the federation in person, not later than 6 February. The selected players are to join the training centre in Nay Pyi Taw.—MBSF
Ethiopia gunman ‘kill five foreign tourists’

Addis Ababa, 18 Jan — Five foreign tourists have been killed in Ethiopia in an attack by unknown gunmen, state TV reports. The attack was carried out late on Monday in the northern Afar region of the country by gunmen who had crossed from neighbouring Eritrea, the TV said. Two other tourists were seriously hurt and a third is said to have escaped the attack unharmed. The nationality of the victims was not given.

Afar is regarded as a haunt of both Ethiopian and Eritrean rebels. Ethiopia and Eritrea have been bitter adversaries since their 1998-2000 border war. Ethiopian television (ETV) said the two injured tourists had been taken to a clinic by defence forces. “The group of foreign tourists was attacked by gunmen late on Monday by members of a group that was trained and armed by the Eritrean government,” Ethiopian government spokesman Bereket Simon told Reuters.

Mexican navy seizes huge haul of precursor chemicals

Guatemala and Nicaragua. The authorities said that Mexican drug cartels have been expanding their methamphetamine operations to Guatemala. Mexican officials said the chemical, methyla-mphetamine, could be used to make the drug metham-phetamine, and also to produce cocaine.

Over the past six weeks, the Mexican security forces have seized nearly 900 tonnes of precursor chemicals, almost all of them bound for Guatemala. Estimates by the United States indicate that Mexico has in the past been the main supplier of meth used in the US, but recent seizures of precursor chemicals suggest Guatemala may be producing more. A 2011 report by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime said amphetamine-type stimulants had become the second most widely used illegal substances. According to the report, the main producers of synthetic drugs remain the Netherlands and Burma, but manufacture has spread to Latin America.

Yahoo co-founder Jerry Yang resigns from its board

New York, 18 Jan — Jerry Yang, the co-founder of Yahoo!, has resigned from its board. Mr Yang founded the online company in 1995 with David Filo and was its chief executive from June 2007 until January 2009. His resignation comes two weeks after the company hired former PayPal executive Scott Thompson to be its new chief executive.

Mr Yang announced some shareholders by turning down a $47.5bn ($31bn) takeover offer from Microsoft in 2008. The company’s current market value is about $20bn.

Mr Yang has also resigned from the boards of Yahoo Japan and Alibaba Group and said in a statement: “The time has come for me to pursue other interests outside Yahoo!”. He expressed support for the company’s current management. “I am enthusiastic about the appointment of Scott Thompson as Chief Executive Officer and his ability, along with the entire Yahoo! leadership team, to guide Yahoo! into an exciting and successful future,” he said. Yahoo! shares rose 3.4% in after-hours trading.

The attack, in the town of Rutha, came two days after gunmen stormed a government compound killing seven in the provincial capital of Ramadi. Violence in Iraq has been steadily on the rise in the past few months. Security forces have been one of the main targets of recent attacks, in addition to Shia religious processions. There has also been a marked deterioration in Iraq’s fragile political process since the withdrawal of US forces from the country at the end of last year.

An arrest warrant was issued for Vice-President Tariq Hashemi, the country’s most prominent Sunni politician, on terrorism charges. He fled to the Kurdish-controlled region of northern Iraq, and denied the accusations against him. But the warrant triggered a political crisis, as the biggest bloc in parliament accused Prime Minister Nuri Maliki of using the law to consolidate his grip on power.

Iraqi policemen killed at checkpoint in Anbar

Baghdad, 18 Jan — Five policemen have been killed in an attack on a checkpoint in Iraq, close to the Jordanian and Syrian borders. Gunmen in the western province of Anbar targeted policemen who were guarding a highway that links Iraq to Jordan just after midnight on Tuesday. One report said an attacker was killed in the ensuing clash. The attack, in the town of Rutha, came two days after gunmen stormed a government compound killing seven in the provincial capital of Ramadi. Violence in Iraq has been steadily on the rise in the past few months. Security forces have been one of the main targets of recent attacks, in addition to Shia religious processions. There has also been a marked deterioration in Iraq’s fragile political process since the withdrawal of US forces from the country at the end of last year.

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Mexican police chief killed by unidentified gunmen

Mexico City, 18 Jan — Unidentified gunmen have killed the police chief of the central Mexican Town of Zacatepec. Juan Manuel Zamudio was shot by three men who ambushed his car as he was travelling alone in Morelos State. Seven alleged hitmen were shot dead by security forces in a separate incident in Morelos.

There have been a number of shoot-outs in the state in recent months but Morelos had escaped the high levels of violence seen in some other regions. It is not known who was behind Monday’s violence in Morelos but the authorities have blamed the shootings on organised crime.

Early on Monday, police and suspected hitmen exchanged fire near Temixco, close to the city of Cuernavaca. Reports said the alleged gunmen had run a police checkpoint on the Cuernavaca-Mexico City motorway and officers gave chase.

In the ensuing shoot-out, “seven alleged criminals who were armed” were killed, a statement from by the Morelos prosecutor’s office said.

Later in the day, gunmen said to be on motorcycles opened fire on Mr Zamudio as he stopped at a petrol station.

The police chief was taken to hospital but died soon after from his injuries.

Internet

MoD announces details of 4,200 job cuts

London, 18 Jan — The Ministry of Defence has announced 4,200 job cuts in a second round of armed forces redundancies. The Army will see up to 2,900 job cuts, including 400 Gurkhas, while the RAF will lose up to 1,000 members and the Royal Navy up to 300. The job losses will account for some of the cuts announced under the defence review — intended to help plug a £38bn hole in the defence budget. Ministers said there was “no choice” but to axe the posts.

Under the terms of the Strategic Defence and Security Review, announced in 2010, the navy and the RAF have to cut 5,000 jobs each by 2015, the Army 7,000 and the Ministry of Defence 25,000 civilian staff. Last September 2,860 people were selected for the first tranche of redundancies, with the Army and RAF each losing 920 posts, and 1,020 cut from the navy.

Defence Secretary Philip Hammond said the government had “no choice but to reduce the size of the armed forces — while reconfiguring them to ensure they remain agile, adaptable and effective”. Mr Hammond said: “As we continue with the redundancy process we will ensure we retain the capabilities that our armed forces will require to meet the challenges of the future.”
**Babies try lip-reading in learning to talk**

It happens during that magical stage when a baby's babbling gradually changes from gibberish into syllables and eventually into that first 'mama' or 'dada.' Florida scientists discovered that starting around age 6 months, babies begin shifting from the intent eye gare of early infancy to studying mouths when people talk to them.

"The baby in order to imitate you has to figure out how to shape their lips to make that particular sound they're hearing," explains developmental psychologist David Lewkowicz of Florida Atlantic University, who led the study being published Monday. "It's an incredibly complex process.

Appropriately, it doesn't take them too long to absorb the movements that match basic sounds. By their first birthdays, babies start shifting back to look you in the eye again — unless they hear the unfamiliar sounds of a foreign language. Then, they stick with lip-reading a bit longer.

"It's a pretty intriguing finding," says University of Iowa psychology professor Bob McMurray, who also studies speech development. The babies "know what they need to know about, and they're able to deploy their attention to what's important at that point in development." — Internet

**India reports new TB strain resistant to all drugs**

MUMBAI, 18 Jan — Indian doctors have reported the country’s first case of totally drug-resistant tuberculosis — a more long-lived and feared untreatable form of the killer lung disease.

It's the first time highly resistant cases like this have been seen. Since 2003, patients have been documented in Italy and Iran. It has mostly been limited to impoverished areas, and has not spread widely. But experts believe there could be many undocumented cases.

No one expects the Indian TB strains to rapidly spread elsewhere. The airborne disease is mainly transmitted through close personal contact and not “reinfectious” as the flu. Indeed, most of the cases of this kind of TB were not from person-to-person infection but were mutations through close personal contact and isn’t nearly as contagious as the flu. The disease becomes harder and more expensive to treat. — Internet

**Canadian stocks drop despite Chinese economic growth boost**

TORONTO, 18 Jan — Canadian stocks lost early momentum at the end of the day on Tuesday even as commodity prices rose sharply in the wake of data indicating that China is managing to avoid an abrupt economic slowdown. The S&P/TSX Composite Index was down 25.77 points, or 0.21 percent, at 12,232.83 while the S&P/TSX Venture Composite Index lost 1.21 points, or 0.08 percent, at 1,537.72.

The Bank of Canada announced on Tuesday that it was going to leave its key rate unchanged at one percent. The bank observed that the Canadian economy did better than expected in the last half of 2011, but it expects the pace of growth going forward to be more modest than previously forecast, largely due to deteriorating economic performance outside of Canada. China reported its economy grew 8.9 percent in the final quarter of last year, down from 9.1 percent in the third quarter and the slowest in two and half years. But markets had been expecting growth to come in at 8.7 percent and the data also showed that December retail sales and factory output accelerated. The Chinese government moved to slow its economy last year to deal with high inflation. But leaders have recently started easing lending to encourage growth in the face of plunging export demand from the US and Europe. There have been worries that Chinese officials would be unable to engineer a soft landing for the economy. A growing Chinese economy has been an important source of support for a struggling global economy. In particular, it has boosted prices for oil and metals and in turn energy and mining stocks on the resource-heavy Canadian stock market. — Xinhua

**India to consider foreign investment in airlines**

NEW DELHI, 18 Jan — India’s government will consider a proposal allowing foreign airlines to buy stakes of up to 49% in India’s airlines, Minister Ajit Singh has said. Five of India’s six main airlines have reported losses in recent years. They have been particularly badly hit by fuel price rises. Foreign airlines are currently not allowed to invest in Indian carriers.

Correspondents say that allowing foreign investment will bring much-needed cash for the ailing airlines. India is one of the fastest growing aviation markets in the world with the number of passengers increasing at between 15% to 20% a year. But its airlines may lose a total of $2.5bn (£1.63bn) in the year ending March 2012 because of high fuel costs, an economic downturn and price wars, according to a study by the Centre for Asia Pacific Aviation, an industry body.

A group of senior ministers met late on Tuesday and agreed that foreign airlines be allowed to buy stakes in India’s domestic airlines. “The question was to allow foreign airlines to participate in foreign direct investment (FDI),” Aviation Minister Ajit Singh told reporters. “I discussed it with the finance minister (Pranab Mukherjee) and he has agreed.”

**Toll from pedestrians wearing headphones triples**

WASHINGTON, 18 Jan — The number of US pedestrians who have been killed or badly injured while wearing headphones has tripled in six years, according to a study published Tuesday.

The annual tally rose from 16 in 2004 to 47 in 2011, bringing the total of cases to 116 over this period, says the authors.

More than half of the incidents involved pedestrians who were run down by trains. Two-thirds of the victims were males and under the age of 36.

The research, published in the British journal Injury Prevention, was headed by Richard Lister, professor of the University of Maryland Hospital for Children in Baltimore.

The paper warns of “intentional blindness” when wearing headphones, meaning a distraction that lowers the resources the brain devotes to external stimuli. The tawd of US accident statistics covered iPods, MP3 players and other musical devices. It did not include mobile phones. — Internet

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**Five of India’s six main airlines have reported losses in recent years.**

**'Worst' December for Scottish shops**

EDINBURGH, 18 Jan — Scottish shopkeepers have reported their worst December since at least 1999, according to the Scottish Retail Consortium (SRC). Although sales last month were up by 1.6% compared with the previous year, it was the weakest December since the survey began in 1999. Like-for-like sales, which discounts new store openings, were up 6.4%.

Scottish shops performed worse than the rest of the UK where total sales grew by 4.1% last month. Although Scottish sales showed some growth, the consortium said the true picture was worse because the latest figures are compared to December 2010 when heavy snow affected many shops. David McCorquodale, head of retail in Scotland, KPMG, said: “A slight uplift of 0.4% appears to have brought some cheer at the end of what has been a wretched year for retailers.”

“However, we should not forget that for two weeks of December last year the country was under a heavy blanket of snow and, with Christmas falling on a Saturday that year, there wasn’t a full week’s trading during that critical period. As a result this slight uplift in like-for-like sales is illusory.” He added: “Christmas this year came at a real cost to retailers as the discounting was deep, impacting margins, and opening hours were longer, costing more in wages. Several retailers have not made it into the New Year and more shop closures are anticipated in the coming months.” — Internet
Facebook Koobface worm ‘hacker gang named’

Sophos researchers identified a network of connections linking group members.—Internet

LONDON, 18 Jan — Alleged cybercriminals behind an internet worm, which spread via Facebook and other social networks, have been named. The suspects were tracked down to St Petersburg after an investigation by Facebook and cybersecurity researchers. The worm gave the gang control of hundreds of thousands of computers. While not the largest such network of hijacked machines “but not the smallest”, the so-called Koobface worm is notable for its targeting of social networks.

The security company Sophos published details of an extensive investigation into Koobface on its blog. The report, based on work by independent researcher Jan Dromer, and the firm’s Dirk Kolberg, details how the suspects were tracked down. Graham Cluley, a senior technology consultant at Sophos, told the BBC he believed they had identified the right people: “We’re pretty confident. I mean 100% certain of these things.”

“It’s very difficult to be 100% certain of these things. Of course it’s always possible that someone could be trying to frame these people, but the evidence feels pretty strong to us. Certainly there’s enough evidence to investigate these people.”

None of the alleged gang members have been arrested or charged with offences connected to Koobface. The BBC attempted to contact members of the group via a business linked to the gang but was unsuccessful. One became active in 2008. The worm spread through social networks, prompting users with bogus links to online videos.

The links encouraged users to install a malicious Koobface malware masquerading as a Flash update. The worm was even able to create fake social networking profiles able to propagate the malware. “It can create Facebook accounts and then use those accounts to start sending links to people,” Mr Cluley said. Researchers believe that up to 800,000 machines could have been infected by the worm. Facebook is expected to share details of the gang with social media and Internet companies later.

Herschel telescope revisits cosmic classic

LONDON, 18 Jan — Europe’s Herschel space telescope has produced a majestic new view of a cosmic astronomical target — the Eagle Nebula (also called M16). This dense region of gas and dust some 6,500 light-years from Earth hosts copious numbers of bright new stars. Radiation from these objects is sculpting the clouds of gas and dust, producing in places great columns and curtains of material. The picture is being featured on the BBC’s Stargazing Live series.

Brian Cox and Dara O’Brian are presenting the popular programme this week from Jodrell Bank radio observatory in Cheshire. Look just below the centre of the image and you will see the columns that were famously dubbed the “Pillars of Creation” when they were pictured by the Hubble telescope in 1995. But Herschel and Hubble see distinctly different things in the nebula. Hubble is sensitive to optical light, the kind of light we detect with our eyes. This is easily blocked or scattered by the dust, and shows us merely the shadow of the glowing clouds of material.

Herschel, on the other hand, is sensitive to much longer wavelength radiation, far-infrared. This enables it to detect the emission coming directly from the cold gas and dust that clumps so much of the region. It is a powerful ability that enables Herschel to look inside the columns and curtains, at the places where dense gas is collapsing under its own weight to trigger the nuclear reactions that give rise to new stars. Herschel is a false colour image in which the warm material is relatively warm, and the redder material is relatively cold. It’s “relatively” because these are temperatures below minus 200°C.—Internet

Time for decision on removing leap seconds

Pedestrians walk through the Canary Wharf business district in London on 12 Sept, 2011.—Internet

London, 18 Jan — Experts have recommended eliminating leap seconds from the time scale used by most computer systems, but governments are split on the issue, to be decided this week, the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) said Tuesday. Leap seconds, introduced in 1972 as part of Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), are added some years to reconcile the difference between atomic time used by computer systems and time as defined by measuring the movement of the earth around the sun and the earth’s rotation. The latter, known as Universal Time, fluctuates due to the earth’s irregular rotation, tides or earthquakes.

“This will be a major decision because the problem of introducing the leap second will disappear and we will be able to have a more standard time than the one we have today,” Vincent Meens, who headed an ITU experts’ group that recommended removing leap seconds, told reporters.

“Time is very, very important for synchronization of the radio communications systems. For instance, a lot of systems are using GPS time, just to synchronize themselves and that would be very important for everybody to have the same time,” he said, referring to satellite navigation systems. The Geneva-based ITU, one of the UN agency responsible for coordinating international communications standards, said it had rescheduled a meeting to continue its discussion and was due to make a decision on Thursday. But clear divisions remain, officials said.

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SpaceX delays trial run to space station

Cape Canaveral, 18 Jan — Space Exploration Technologies, a startup space transportation firm hired by NASA to fly cargo to the International Space Station, is delaying a planned 7 February test flight to allow more time to prepare for its first mission scheduled for Tuesday. The launch of the company’s Falcon 9 rocket and Dragon capsule from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station has not yet been rescheduled. “We believe that there are a few areas that will benefit from additional work,” said Kirstin Brust Grantham, a spokeswoman for the company, also known as SpaceX.

“We continue to test and review data. We will launch when the vehicle is ready,” she said. The flight will be the second and possibly last test flight before privately owned SpaceX begins delivering cargo to the station under a $1.6 billion NASA contract.

The firm, based in Hawthorne, California, and founded by Internet entrepreneur Elon Musk, hopes to combine its two remaining test flights into one with a berthing at the space station, pending NASA’s approval.—Reuters

Soon, ‘smart vehicles’ to communicate with each other to boost road safety

Washington, 18 Jan — Automakers and government agencies are teaming up to lay the foundations for a future in which smart vehicles will be able to communicate with one another to improve road safety.

Many new cars today can connect to the Internet, but most of them use their connectivity for “infotainment” purposes like navigation or streaming music. What car companies like General Motors envision for “infotainment” purposes is the ability of cars to sense and avoid each other on the road. “It will be an important step in the evolution of vehicles,” Taub, GM’s vice president of global R&D, said telling this year’s ‘CES’ show. In such a fully automated world, what one car sees or senses could be immediately available to other cars on the road.

As a result of all this interconnectivity, automakers say, will be safer because drivers will no longer be limited to only what they can see or what their vehicles can sense. “We want vehicles to have the equivalent of 360-degree situational awareness,” Taub said. “We accomplish that today with on-board sensors ... but we can see a world where a vehicle-to-vehicle communication system can first augment and then replace many of those on-board sensors,” he said.

According to Clint Steiner, the senior manager of Automotive OEM at Garmin, if the vehicles can talk to each other, “your car could look at the other car’s route ahead of time, and determine that, yes, that car is going to change lanes based on the route that the driver has programmed into their GPS.”

However, before a world where networked cars are a reality, there are a lot of hurdles to be overcome first. For instance, the more data that smart cars receive, the more drivers will be inundated with notifications. If you think distracted driving is a problem now, imagine if your car alerted you to every potential hazard on the road. If not designed the right way, the notifications themselves could become a danger by distracting drivers.—Internet
Sherlock return for third series

LONDON, 18 Jan — Sherlock will return for a third series, its creators have revealed after a dramatic conclusion to the second run of the BBC One drama. Ahead of series two, co-creator Steven Moffat told BBC News there was “no guarantee we’ll be bringing him back”. But on Sunday night, Moffat wrote on Twitter: “Of course there’s going to be a third series – it was commissioned at the same time as the second. Gotcha!” It was watched by an average audience of 7.9 million overnight figures show. That compared with the 8.8 million audience of the opening episode on New Year’s Day. The modern take on Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s detective tales stars Benedict Cumberbatch in the title role. Moffat’s co-creator Mark Gatiss also wrote on Twitter: “Gotcha! And of course there’ll be a third series!” Conan Doyle’s The Final Problem, published in 1893, ended with Holmes and his arch-enemy Professor Moriarty apparently falling to their deaths at the Reichenbach Falls in Switzerland.

Conan Doyle later resurrected his hero while travelling on a train roof. The Canadian firm Africa Oil behind the project said its two wells are the first to be drilled in 21 years. The semi-autonomous Puntland region where the drilling is taking place says it is an average audience of the third series.!

The region of Somalia where the wells are being drilled may have reserves of up to 4bn barrels of oil.

HANOI, 18 Jan — Vietnam’s navy has taken delivery of its first locally-made warship, equipped with artillery and missile systems, local media report. The 8,000 ton Ha building company started building the model in 2008 and tested the warship last year.

The ship’s design was reportedly bought from an unnamed foreign company.

A high-ranking navy official said it would patrol the country’s territorial waters. The vessel’s launches 14-metre long and has an operational range of more than 2,000 nautical miles.

Vietnam has said that it intends to build more vessels in the future. At the moment most of its vessels come from Russia and the former Soviet Union.

INTERNET

SOMALIA, 18 Jan — Oil exploration has begun in the arid north-east of Somalia, which has been wracked by civil war for two decades. The Canadian firm Africa Oil behind the project said its two wells are the first to be drilled there in 21 years. The semi-autonomous Puntland region where the drilling is taking place says it is an opportunity for peace.

The site was reportedly selected because the area is far from the conflict areas. That is why even the oil will not be produce for the local market.

INTERNET

Indonesia concrete balls combat ‘train surfing’

JAKARTA, 18 Jan — Railway staff in Indonesia have started hanging concrete balls above train tracks to try to prevent commuters from riding on carriage roofs. The first balls were installed just above carriage-height near a station outside the capital, Jakarta. More will be put up elsewhere if they prove effective.

Previous attempts to deter roof riders included spraying roofs with paint, spreading oil on carriages and hiring musicians to perform safety songs. Correspondents say those initiatives have failed. Officials hope that the latest move will prove to be the ultimate deterrent. Roofs also face the possibility of imprisonment.

The balls – which can deliver a severe blow to the head – will be suspended a few inches above the tops of carriages at points where trains enter or pull out of stations, or where they go through crossings. Officials told the BBC that “roof surfing” can be extremely dangerous. In 2008 at least 53 passengers died in an accident while travelling on a train roof. In 2011, 11 people were killed. Most victims are electrocuted by overhead power cables, but some fall off train carriages while trains are moving.

INTERNET

Workers erect the concrete balls to deter ‘train surfers’ — Internet

INTERNET

Vietnam’s navy unveils first home-made warship

VIETNAM, 18 Jan — The three-part series ended with episode The Reichenbach Fall. — Internet

INTERNET

Ethiopia Airlines rejects Lebanon report into air crash

ADDIS ABABA, 18 Jan — Ethiopian Airlines officials have bluntly rejected the findings of a Lebanese investigation into an air crash of an Ethiopian Airlines aircraft in 2010.

The Lebames airline’s co-pilot was killed in the accident, which claimed the life of 96 passengers. The airline’s official said the plane exploded, which they say points to sabotage, a claim bluntly rejected by the airline.

INTERNET

The World Bank said lower inflation had been good news for developing countries — Internet

INTERNET

World Bank warns developing world to prepare for shocks

LONDON, 18 Jan — The World Bank has warned developing countries they need to be prepared for shocks as global economic growth slows. The organization has slashed its growth forecasts, and is now predicting a 0.3% contraction for the eurozone in 2012. "Developing countries need to evaluate their vulnerabilities and prepare for further shocks, while there is still time," said World Bank chief economist Justin Yifu Lin.

"Escalation of the crisis would spare no one," the report’s author warned. Referring to the eurozone crisis and its potential to impact growth in rich and poor countries, Andrew Burns said: "Developed and developing-country growth rates could fall by as much as more than in 2008/09. "The importance of contingency planning cannot be stressed enough."

The World Bank is predicting growth of 5.4% for developing countries in 2012 and 1.4% for high income countries, down from its forecasts of 6.2% and 2.7% respectively in June.

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Nav Pyi Taw, 18 Jan—The following are messages of felicitations from foreign heads of State to President of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein on the occasion of the 64th Anniversary Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

From Abdullah Gul, President of the Republic of Turkey

Dear President,

On behalf of myself and the people of Turkey, I would like to sincerely congratulate Your Excellency and the people of Myanmar on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

We are monitoring closely and welcoming the opening process initiated last year in Myanmar. Sustaining the democratic reforms realized in this framework will surely be the most important guarantee for Myanmar to proceed towards the more prosperous future in peace and stability.

We aspire to further our bilateral relations between our two countries on the basis of our people’s mutual benefit. Our decision to open an Embassy in Nay Pyi Taw is the solid sign of our stance.

Taking this opportunity, I would like to reiterate my best wishes for Your health and happiness as well as the prosperity and well-being of the people of Myanmar.

From Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey

Dear President,

On behalf of the Turkish people, the Government of the Republic of Turkey and myself, I would like to congratulate the National Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Taking this opportunity, I extend my best wishes for the prosperity and well-being of the people of Myanmar.

From Viktor Yanukovitch, President of Ukraine

Dear President,

On behalf of the people of Ukraine and myself please accept my sincere congratulations on the occasion of the National holiday of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar—Independence Day.

I am confident that friendly bilateral relations between our countries have great potential for its further development.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I wish You, Your Excellency, a strong health and successes in Your responsible activities, as well as peace and prosperity to the friendly people of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

From Anibal Cavaco Silva, President of the Portuguese Republic

On the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, I would like to convey to Your Excellency my congratulations and sincere wishes for Your personal well-being and for the progress and prosperity of the Myanmar people.

Nav Pyi Taw, 18 Jan—Union Transport Minister U Nyan Tun Aung received Malaysian Ambassador to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr Faisal Muhammad at the hall of the latter’s office, here, at 1 pm today.

They cordially had a discussion on extension of the Myanmar-Malaysia aviation sector, aviation management and services at Nay Pyi Taw Airport and investment, too. Also present at the call were Deputy Minister U Win Shein and officials.—MNA

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Nav Pyi Taw, 18 Jan—Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shin received Singaporean Ambassador here, this morning.

Mr Chua Hian Kong Robert at the Credentials Hall of the Office of the Attorney-General, here, this morning. —MNA

Ingapu, 18 Jan—The Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department opened the basic livestock breeding and veterinary course at the town hall of Ingapu on 9 January for development of livestock breeding and meat and fish production in the township.

It was attended by Pyithu Hluttaw representative of Ingapu Township member of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Development Committee U Maung Maung Soe and local authorities.—Township IPRD

Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa receives a delegation led by member of the House of Representatives of Australia Ms Janelle Saffin.—MNA

Chinese Spring Festival marked: Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe being welcomed by Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr Li Junhua at the reception to mark Chinese Spring Festival at Sedona Hotel in Yangon on 18 January.—MNA

Nav Pyi Taw, 18 Jan—Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa received a delegation led by member of the House of Representatives of Australia Ms Janelle Saffin at the room-1 of the Hluttaw Building Meeting Hall here at 1 pm today.

Also present at the call together with the Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw were chairmen of Pyithu Hluttaw Committees and officials.

They held discussions on further cementing friendly ties between the two countries and mutual cooperation between the two parliaments.—MNA

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Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo inspects Yasagyo...

(from page 1)

The region, the Vice-President noted that, serves as the rice bowl of Chin State, Naga region and Hpakhant region, adding that triple cropping pattern could be applied on over 8500 acres of farmland on condition that the region has access to irrigation water. So, the dam project is a practically beneficial one to agricultural output of the region.

Furthermore, the potential electricity of the project can somewhat satisfy the electricity demand of the region, said the Vice-President who urged for soonest completion of the project.

The Vice-President then inspected the progress of the project, waterway of Nayraokaiz Creek, and samples of sand and gravels to be used in dam construction.

The Vice-President and party from there proceeded to construction site of new three-storey main building of University of Computer Studies (Kalay) under the Ministry of Science and Technology.

At the briefing hall of the construction site, the Vice-President heard report on construction progress presented by a responsible person of Shwetaung Co Ltd and called for arrangements for teachers accommodation.

Next, Shwe Thanlwin Co presented 3-in-1 MPS Sky Net Receiver (Telecommunication, Internet and TV channels), TV and potable generator for the university. The Vice-President inspected progress in construction of the main building and left necessary instructions.

The Vice-President looked around the hospital and comforted the patients. On behalf of the entrepreneurs, IGE Co Chairman U Nay Aung contributed K 5 million for Kalay People’s Hospital and K 4 million for two rural dispensaries in Kalay District.

On his visit of Kalay University, the Vice-President met lecturers and students. Rector-in-charge of the university explained briefed history of Kalay University, available academic subjects, number of students from different townships, research works, academic matters and management of the university.

Speaking on the occasion, the Vice-President said that he and his entourage visited universities in Kalay Development Region today and fulfilled the requirements. Universities in Kalay Region were established for youths of Chin State and Sagaing Region to be able to pursue higher education. The Arts and Science University can cope with over 5000 students and currently over 4000 are easing their starvation of intellectual nourishment there. A total of 125 students are learning at University of Computer Studies and 1400 at Technological University.

Nevertheless, number of students attending at vocational universities is still low and to fill this gap is the duty of Basic Education Department which needs to take more effective actions to produce qualified students.

Plans are underway to extend one additional academic year for universities commencing 2011-2012 academic year. The main reason behind this move is that although curriculums could be completely taught to the students within three academic years, students have less time to make further self-studies and compile theses, leading to a gap in bridging the theories and practices.

The move is believed to help the graduates climb the career ladder with right qualifications and attitude. Teachers on their part need to place emphasize on improving educational qualifications of students.

The Vice-President urged the lecturers to train their students to be able to join the work life with appropriate qualifications, mentioning that all kinds of businesses are mushrooming in the nation today and jobs opportunities would increase following the influx of international corporations into the country.

Next, the Shwe Thanlwin Co Chairman presented three-in-one MPS Sky Net receiver, TV and portable generators to Kalay University.

(See page 9)
Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo inspects Yasagyo…

Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo…

Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo cordially meets district and township departmental officials, members of social organizations and townselders at Aung Zeya Hall of Kalay.—MNA

Next, the Vice-President said that he was there to meet local authorities and attend to the needs of regions.

He encouraged growing of rubber and other commercial perennials in vacant land of Kalay, Tamu and Mawlaik districts as well as meeting targeted production rate of ten major crops.

He continued that the districts see not only food sufficiency also surpluses. But, as Chin State and Naga Region still rely on other districts for foods, it is required to make all-out efforts for development of those areas more than current situation.

As crude oil and gold mining explorations are being carried out in the region, it is needed to pay attention to security and management measures, healthcare services for Kalay Hospital, availability of an ambulance and upgrading of schools will be coordinated. Monywa-Yagyi-Kalewa (115 miles) that will be a link among India, Myanmar and Thailand will be repaired. Pakokku Bridge on that road has been commissioned into service recently.

The Vice-President urged those involved to actively take part in rural development and poverty alleviation scheme led by the President.

Today, representatives elected by the people in line with the Constitution have taken on legislative, executive and judicial powers. The image and essence of a democratic nation come into view step by step.

Stability and rule of law are important issue for long-standing and sustainable development of the nation earmarked for spending on education and health sectors in coming fiscal year.

The Vice-President urged that all the people as a sound society needs to participate in the clean government, good governance drive implemented by the President.

All the staff members also need to do their bit tinged with goodwill in the interest of the people in building a modern developed nation.

The Vice-President cordially greeted the attendees.
**Farmlands of Palethwe hybrid paddy strain inspected**

NAV Pyi Taw, 18 Jan—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing attended the seeding of Palethwe hybrid paddy strain on 25.5 acres of farmlands through good agriculture pattern in Ngyannat Village of Ottarathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area today.

The Union Minister and party presented Palethwe hybrid paddy seeds, foodstuffs and gifts to female farming workers and farmers. After inspecting filling of gravels along the 6760 feet long retaining walls at the canal No. 1 of Nganlaik Dam near Htantaw Village of Dekkhinathiri Township, the Union minister gave instructions on timely completion of gravel filling works before summer paddy cultivation.

At Htantaw Village BEPS No. 28, he attended to the needs. The Union Minister looked into construction of 16000 feet long production road near Aungthukha Village, digging of drains and construction of production road at Kyuntepe Village-tract, thriving 369-acre Palethwe paddy plantation in Ayino Village of Pyinnmana Township and land preparations for seeding at 945-acre mechanized farm in Aungchanta Village of Zabuthiri Township.

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**Dy Construction Minister inspects rural development tasks in Kawhmu**

NAV Pyi Taw, 18 Jan—Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint made an inspection tour of the Kawhmu-Htamanawin-Thamianchaw-Thayetaw road and also the road construction works of the Magyikan-Hnetawso-Masalseik-Kyakhaw road in Kawhmu Township of Yangon Region on 15 January.

Afterwards, the Deputy Minister met teachers and local residents at Natsingon Basic Education High School (Branch) in Kawhmu Township and left necessary instructions.

Next, the Deputy Minister looked into Wahbalaukthauk Station Hospital and asked station/village administrators, responsible persons, village elders and local people in Htamanawin and Wahbalaukthauk villages to meet the requirements of the village needs.

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**KIA mine blast leaves three dead and one injured...**

(from page 16)

planted by KIA group on a road 50 yards away from the village primary school at about 4.30 pm on 17 January. The mine blast caused serious injury to his left calf and he was rushed to Lonkhin Station Hospital by officials concerned for medical treatment.—MNA

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**Union F&R Minister meets officers, staff of departments, enterprises under F&R Ministry in Mandalay**

NAV Pyi Taw, 18 Jan—Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun delivered an address citing that at the time of devoting efforts to improve the country’s interests, it is important to perform monetary affairs and taxation tasks in accordance with the rules and regulations, in the meeting with departmental heads and officers, staff and other ranks of the departments and enterprises under the ministry, held at the meeting hall of the Internal Revenue Department in Mandalay Region on 16 January morning.

At the event, the Union Minister left necessary instructions after hearing reports presented by Region level departmental heads of the departments and enterprises under the ministry.

The Union Minister encouraged the trainees at the Basic Computer and Office Works Course No. 31 before he went to Customs Department Region (1), Region/State and Township Internal Revenue Departments to instruct the officials to stay away from doing exports and imports illegally, and to undertake the tasks in accordance with the rules and regulations.

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**Thithnapin General Economic Cooperative Ltd formed**

NAV Pyi Taw, 18 Jan—Deputy Minister for Cooperatives U Than Tun this morning delivered an address at the formation ceremony of Thithnapin General Economic Cooperative Ltd at Mount Pleasant Resort Hotel in Ottarathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

In his address, the deputy minister said that a total of 11323 cooperative societies including Central Cooperative Union have been registered to bring about social-economic development of the people. He urged those present to set up their cooperative society to become a reliable organization for serving the society members and the people.

The ceremony was attended by officials of the Ministry of Cooperatives, the Pyinmana Township Administrator and members of the cooperative society.

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**Educative talks on traffic rules given**

YANGON, 18 Jan—The traffic police members led by Head of No. 5 Traffic Police Region Police Captain Nyi Nyi Tun of Yangon Region Wireless and Traffic Police Corps gave an educative talk on traffic rules to 300 teachers and students at No. 1 Basic Education High School in Pabedan Township here on 16 January morning.

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A satellite photo shows Meethwayphogon Village which previously had only about 17 households.—MNA

A satellite photo shows Meethwayphogon Village which has now over 133 households.—MNA

Maung Shwe Toe Aung, victim of KIA’s mine blast.—MNA

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**Land management under systematic supervision...**

(from page 16)

natives. At present, the remaining eight households of the village were given K 200,000 each as transport charges, and one household returned to its original region by dismantling the house. The present households in Meethwayphogon Village removed from Aunglan, Taungdwingyi, Thayet, DaikU, Pyinmana and Yangon and its surrounding villages namely Thayagon, Gyopin, Dorenwe and Shwege-in villages, illegally living there in temporary huts on the plots of farmlands they bought at about K 300,000-K 200,000 each. Article 4 of the 1953 the Farmland Nationalization Act 1953 said that if it is not in line with this act or by-laws of this act, the farmlands shall not be pawned, sold, handed over or allotted.

The Nay Pyi Taw Council Land Management Scrutiny Committee systematically supervises the tasks of land managements under the law not to lose the rights of the deserved persons.

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Groundwater overuse, climatic change threaten lives of 60 mn in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 18 Jan — Unplanned withdrawal of groundwater and adverse impacts of climatic change pose dangerous threat to the lives and livelihood of about 60 million people in Bangladesh, state-run news agency BSS reported on Monday, quoting leading water and environment experts. Water table of groundwater is declining rapidly due to its excessive use for irrigating an agriculture sector, which causes salinity water intrusion, posing a serious threat to the ecosystem and biodiversity of the southern part of the country, said Md Ehteshamul Alam, Agriculture, Water and Environment Engineer of Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC).

He said in Bangladesh, 80 percent of irrigation water and 98 percent of drinking water is collected from underground sources without proper study and planning. “The groundwater is the most valuable natural resource of the country. If this resource is polluted by saline water intrusion, it will destabilize the food security, the ecosystem and biodiversity of the southern part,” he added.— Xinhua

Ayye ‘heats up’ middle finger

LONDON, 18 Jan — Madagascan’s mysterious ayye warms up its extra-long middle finger for foraging coconuts and drinking. The animal uses it to move its tongue, soft palate, throat and tonsils. “The spread of cancer throughout the body accounts for about 45 percent of the deaths from oropharyngeal carcinoma,” says the study’s senior author, Douglas Chepeha, an associate professor at the U-M Medical School. “Our findings may help doctors identify patients who are at higher risk for having their cancer metastasize and who would benefit from additional systemic therapy.”

Researchers find new indicator to identify patients with increased risk from throat cancer

WASHINGTON, 18 Jan — Researchers at the University of Michigan Health System have found a new indicator that may predict which patients with a common type of throat cancer are most likely have the cancer spread to other parts of their bodies.

Patients with oropharyngeal squamous cell carcinoma who had “matted” lymph nodes — nodes that are connected together — had a 69 percent survival rate over three years, compared to 94 percent for patients without matted nodes, according to a study published online Monday in Head & Neck.

“The oropharynx is an area that includes the back of the tongue, soft palate, throat and tonsils. “It’s a very simple process using simultaneous photography by nine cameras and then some software modification to produce a 3D image,” says Dr Chris Abela, a senior craniofacial fellow at Great Ormond Street Hospital.

London’s Science Museum to scan visitors’ faces in 3D

“Any visitor to the stand will be able to spin their image around, look at themselves from behind their ear or from the worm’s eye view as we call it and really see themselves in another dimension.” Visitors, who must first sign a consent form so that their data can be used for research, will also have the option of rendering their 3D faces in beige and red/dole skin, just for fun.

“More faces scanned, the better we will understand the human face in all its great variety, the researchers say, and that could mean better facial surgery for children born with disfiguring disorders or for patients requiring reconstructive surgery. “We know a lot about the bones in our faces but...”

Dr Chris Abela, a senior craniofacial fellow at Great Ormond Street Hospital, explains what participants will experience.—Xinhua

Passenger train derailed by truck in Taipei, train driver dead

TAIPEI, 18 Jan — A passenger train collided with a truck which carried sandstone and intruded into the rail track in the northern part of Taipei Tuesday morning. The train’s driver died from wounds. The collision occurred in Taoyuan county when the train was coming from central Changhua County to eastern Hualien County at a speed of 130 kilometres per hour in the island. The locomotive was derailed and the driver was taken to hospital but died. More than 20 train passengers were slightly injured. The truck’s driver was missing.—Xinhua

China’s urban population outnumbers rural for first time at end of 2011

BEIJING, 18 Jan — The number of people living in China’s cities for the first time exceeded those in the country’s rural areas at the end of 2011, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) said on Tuesday. The number of urban dwellers increased by 21 million to hit 690.79 million at the end of 2011, accounting for 51.27 percent of the country’s total, the NBS said. Meanwhile, the rural population fell by 14.56 million to 656.56 million at the end of 2011, the NBS noted.—Xinhua

British Royal Marines practise Olympic security on Thames

LONDON, 18 Jan — The British Royal Marines have joined police on the Thames in London on Monday for a week-long security exercise in preparation for the 2012 Olympics. The Green Berets have joined the Metropolitan Police’s Marine Policing Unit for a series of training exercises on the Thames, which involve more than a dozen craft on the water, plus helicopters, the Ministry of Defence said. More than 140 commandos and police personnel will be involved in the five-day exercise which is designed to ensure the smooth running of the security mission during the Olympics this July and August. The Metropolitan Police’s Assistant Commissioner Chris Allison said it is important that civilians and the military can work hand-in-hand during the large-scale operation, and all involved understand the Thames and understand each other’s tactics.— Xinhua

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**Claims Day Notice**

**MV West Scant Voy No (12002)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (12002) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.1.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon. Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm. Claims Day will be declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

**Shippping Agency Department MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

Agent for: M/S T.S Lines

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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**Claims Day Notice**

**MV Platinum Jade Voy No (PJ/V0112)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PLATINUM JADE VOY NO (PJ/V0112) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.1.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon. Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm. Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

**Shipping Agency Department**

**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

Agent for: M/S Third Shipping SDN BHD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

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**Claims Day Notice**

**MV Catalonia Voy No (+)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CATALONIA Voy NO (+) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.1.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon. Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

**Shipping Agency Department**

**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

Agent for: CITIC-SHIP MANAGEMENT LTD

Phone No: 256924/256914

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**Ukraine declares measles outbreak, 883 people infected**

Kiev, 18 Jan — The Ukrainian Health Ministry on Monday declared an outbreak of measles, with 883 cases of the infectious disease so far reported. “It is still too early to talk about the epidemic, but we have recorded outbreaks of measles in some regions,” UK Health said. Sergey Platov, chief expert of the ministry’s Public Health and Epidemiological Welfare Department, Platov told a Press conference here alerts had been issued in the country’s western and central regions and in Kiev, Ukraine’s capital. The report also urged people to be vaccinated against the disease immediately. 

**Cuba’s electricity generation increases tenfold in 50 years**

Havana, 18 Jan — Cuba currently generates over 4,000 megawatts of electricity, 10 times as much as 53 years ago, official of the National Electric Company (UNE) said on Tuesday. In January 1959, the island produced only 475 megawatts of electricity, and only 60 percent of the population had access to it. But today, 96 percent of the population has electricity, the official daily Gramma quoted UNE’s Commercial Director Ramon Lopez as saying. Since 1998, the country has diversified electricity not only from ordinary feedstocks like oil and accompanying gas from oil wells, but new energy sources like photovoltaic cells, wind farms and sugarcane biomass as well. Lopez said the “Energy Revolution” was started in 2005 by former leader Fidel Castro to guarantee a high electricity supply. Current leader Raúl Castro is also trying to achieve energy independence, though half of the country’s oil supply for electricity still comes from Venezuela.
Fake iPad 2s made of clay sold at Canadian stores

As many as 10 fake iPad 2s, all made of slabs of modeling clay, were recently sold at electronic stores in Vancouver, British Columbia. Best Buy and Future Shop have launched investigations into how the scam was pulled off.

The tablet computers, like most Apple products, are known for their sleek and simple designs. But, most electronic products cannot be returned to stores. For the tablets and customers to be fooled by the clay replacements, the thieves must have successfully weighed out the clay portions and rescaled the original Apple packaging.

Future Shop spokesman Elliott Chun told CTV that individuals bought the iPads with cash, replaced them with the model clay, then returned the packages to the stores. The returned fakes were restocked on the shelf and sold to new, unwitting customers.

“Customers don’t expect to receive this kind of product from Future Shop, so it’s a very serious matter and something we are addressing by going back for anyone who has been impacted,” Chun told CTV British Columbia. “It really saddens Future Shop that people stoop to be this opportunistic and make money in this kind of organized way.”

One of the clay tablets sold to an unwitting customer as an iPad 2.

Escaped bomb-sniffing dog captured

A retired bomb-sniffing dog that worked at the White House was captured Tuesday after escaping from handlers and biting two officers at a Detroit Airport.

Arco, a 5-year-old Belgian shepherd, had arrived on a flight Monday from Arizona to be reunited with new owners, but got loose when the owner let him out to relieve himself, the Detroit Free Press reported.

Arco bit two Romulus police officers when they attempted to grab him by the collar around 5:30 am near Detroit Metro Airport. One officer required stitches to a bite on his hand.

Animal control officers and police captured the dog Tuesday afternoon using a looped leash. Arco will be quarantined for 10 days at the Romulus Animal Shelter before being released to the new owners.

Lindsay Lohan received her second favourable probation report and in a row and a judge told the actress that she appears to be on track to complete a strict program by the end of March.

Lohan appeared in court for less than five minutes Tuesday to update the judge on her progress in completing strict probation terms that were imposed in November after a series of missteps by the actress.

By all accounts, the rigid programme has changed Lohan, with Superior Court Judge Stephanie Sautner telling Lohan that she received favourable reports from probation officials and her community service programme. Lohan is doing mandatory cleanup duty at the county morgue and attending frequent psychotherapy sessions, with Sautner requiring Lohan to appear in court monthly for updates.

“Just keep doing what you’re doing, you appear to be doing it well,” Sautner told Lohan.

The model and actress arrived early for Tuesday’s hearing, wearing black slacks, a blue blouse and matching sweater.

The “Mean Girls” star was ordered to work at the morgue 15 times before she returns to court on 22 Feb. —Internet

Judge says Lindsay Lohan doing well on probation

Lindsay Lohan leaves Los Angeles Superior Court after a probation progress hearing on 17 Jan, 2012. —Internet

Alba keeps it ‘Honest’ with eco-friendly products

New York, 18 Jan.— Jessica Alba has another new baby. She’s launched an e-commerce company at Honest.com (named after her 3-year-old daughter Honour) to sell eco-friendly and toxic-free baby products and household items for a monthly subscription.

Alba, who welcomed her second daughter Haven in 2011, said Tuesday the idea was born after she learned bed bugs and toxic chemicals are in widely used, everyday products.

“I would buy what I thought was an eco-brand and pay out the wazoo for it and then find out that it’s made with the same ingredients as any other brand, but the packaging is a little more biodegradable and you’re like ‘But I care about the product touching my kid. Is that OK?’”

Stars walk snowy ‘white carpet’ of Serbian film festival

BEGRADE, 18 Jan.—French screen star Isabelle Huppert was among guests to walk a “white carpet” of snow at Tuesday’s opening of the Fifth Kustendorf film and music festival in Serbia.

The event is organized by Sarajevo-born director Emir Kusturica in Drvengrad, a wooden village he built as a movie set some 250 kilometres (156 miles) southwest of Belgrade. Huppert, asked to compare the festival with the glamorous red-carpet event in Cannes, told AFP: “They are not comparable, that’s for sure... but there is a white carpet” of snow in Drvengrad.

“There is a plethora of directors, great directors coming here. From that point of view, they (the festivals) can be compared.” Kusturica, atwo-timeGolden Palmwinner, said the main goal of the festival was to “defend the dignity of author films that are facing the terror of the market” and praised Huppert as “one of the best actresses in the world.”

Thierry Fremaux, artistic director of the Cannes film festival, said Kustendorf was an “unique festival in times when it is difficult to invent a new form of festivity celebrations”. —Internet

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Sarajevo-born director Emir Kusturica (L) and South Korean director Kim Ki-Duk (R) attend the opening ceremony of the Fifth Kustendorf film and music festival in Drvengrad. —Internet

Actress Jessica Alba poses for a portrait Tuesday, on 17 Jan, 2012, in New York to promote Honest.com, a new e-commerce eco friendly and non-toxic baby product company. —Internet

She decided the best solution was to make available the kinds of products she would buy. To launch the business, she partnered with author and environmentalist Christopher Gavigan, ShoeDazzle founder Brian Lee and PriceGrabber.com executive Sean Kane.

The 36-year-old actress said the venture is “hands down” more nerve-racking than the opening of a new movie but also more gratifying. —Internet

Internet
Nadal, Federer advance at Australian Open

MELBOURNE, 18 Jan—Rafael Nadal advanced to the third round of the Australian Open on Wednesday without much trouble from his opponent or his injured right knee. Rival Roger Federer got through without picking up a racket Nadal beat German veteran Tommy Haas 6-4, 6-3, 6-4 in a 1 1/2-hour match, declaring that the twisted tendon in the heavily taped knee was no concern.

Just before Federer was due on Hisense Arena, the Swiss found out that his scheduled opponent, German's Andreas Beck, had a back injury and had to withdraw. "Now, I'll just take it easy this afternoon and come out tomorrow and be ready," he said. "I'll be ready for the next match," said Federer, a four-time Australian Open champion asked after his match if he would have appreciated the same kind of good fortune, was pragmatic. "Before the day started, yes," he said, smiling. "Now that I've played and won, I'm happy. It was a positive match, but not that demanding. We didn’t play four hours, five hours. Three sets, so it wasn’t that tough." Nadal and Federer will play next week.

Victoria Azarenka of Belarus hits a return to Casey Dellacqua of Australia during their second-round women's singles match at the Australian Open tennis tournament in Melbourne 18 Jan, 2012. — Reuters

Azarenka silences mockers with ruthless victory

MELBOURNE, 18 Jan—Victoria Azarenka underlined her credentials as an Australian Open title contender, if not a crowd favourite, with a ruthless 6-1, 6-0 demolition of local wildcard Casey Dellacqua in the second round on Wednesday.

The Belarusian's lead grunts inspired a string of mocking imitators in the partisan crowd on Rod Laver Arena but the third-seed ignored the jibes to brush aside her opponent in just 57 minutes.

Azarenka, who won the title against a strong field at the Sydney warm-up tournament last week, was simply too sharp, too accurate and too mobile for the 126th-ranked Dellacqua.

Li ends post-Paris slump, into 3rd round at Aussie Open

MELBOURNE, 18 Jan—Li Na advanced to the third round of the Australian Open with a 6-2, 6-2 win over Olga Rogowskaya on Wednesday, her best run at a major since her breakthrough win at the French Open. Li lost last year's Australian Open final to Kim Clijsters but rebounded at the subsequent major at Roland Garros to become the first player from China to win a Grand Slam singles title.

Her form dipped, with losses in the second round at Wimbledon and the first round at the US Open, until she returned to Australia. Coming off a run to the final at last week's Sydney International, Li is the first woman into the third round.

Li, who will be 30 next month and is seeded No 5 at Melbourne Park, said she had great memories of the start of 2011. "I'm feeling always good to come back to Rod Laver Arena," she said, reflecting on how her life had changed dramatically since last season started. "This year is much better than the last year — more fans come to watch me play, not only from China but all over the world." Li's opponent in the following match on Rod Laver Arena is Williams.

Wozniacki, Clijsters into 3rd round at Aussie Open

MELBOURNE, 18 Jan—Defending champion Kim Clijsters and No 1-ranked Caroline Wozniacki advanced to the third round of the Australian Open in contrasting styles on Wednesday.

Clijsters needed only 47 minutes to beat Stephanie Foretz Gacon of France 6-0, 6-1, then showed just how much support she has at Rod Laver Arena by getting the crowd to sing 'Happy Birthday' to her younger sister.

Wozniacki seemed to be on the same trajectory, but had to battle to beat Anna Tatishvili of Georgia in the second set, recovering two service breaks and saving a set point en route to a 6-1, 7-6 (4) win. She needs to reach the quarterfinals to have a chance of retaining the top ranking she held for all but one week in 2011. That's also the stage when she could come across Clijsters. The No 11-seeded Clijsters showed no signs of a hip problem that forced her to retire during a semifinal against Daniela Hantuchova at a warmup tournament two weeks ago.— Internet

Bale says Spurs can test Man City

LONDON, 18 Jan — Tottenham Hotspur's striker Gareth Bale has praised the quality of Manchester City's squad and believes his ability to upset them in Sunday's League match at the Etihad Stadium.

City enjoyed a 5-1 win at White Hart Lane in August as Roberto Mancini's side enjoyed a lightning start to the season, but Spurs have hit brilliant form since then and are keeping pace in this title race. 'It'll be a big game and one we're looking forward to. There is no reason why we can't pull off a result there," said Bale. "City still have a great squad and a great team and no matter what team they put out it will be difficult to play against. It wasn't a great start to the season losing to the two Manchester clubs, but all the lads have shown what a great spirit we have here and the determination we have. We've come a long way since then.

'We know we have to play our best football to beat them - they gave us a lesson at home at the start of the season. If we don't play well, we could lose and that is the perfect result: we could lose at home and then win away from home, you never know what's going to happen," he said. The coach has duties over the fitness of the players, after he took over at the Stadium Of Light at the beginning of December.

'Training has been really enjoyable and the lads are buzzing to get out there every day," Turner told the Sunderland Echo. "Tactically, it's very austere and his team talks are very efficient and you know what you've got to do out there and do. 'The manager puts you in a good mindset to not fear anyone.'

In his seven League matches in charge, O'Neill's team have picked up 13 points from a possible 21, a run which included the 0-1 victory over leaders Manchester City on New Year's Day. Sunderland lost 1-0 at Chelsea last time and Turner says the performance will give Sunderland a boost as they prepare for a run of three home matches, starting with the contest against Swansea on Saturday. "I think we can take confidence from Chelsea and previous weeks into these three home games," added Turner, whose side currently lie in 12th place in the League table. — Internet

Turner hails O'Neill influence

LONDON, 18 Jan — Sunderland defender Michael Turner believes manager Martin O'Neill is the man to lead the club into the top half of the Barclays Premier League. The 28-year-old has hailed the positive influence O'Neill has had on the club since he took over at the Stadium Of Light at the beginning of December.

"Training has been really enjoyable and the lads are buzzing to get out there every day," Turner told the Sunderland Echo. "Tactically, it's very austere and his team talks are very efficient and you know what you've got to do out there and do. 'The manager puts you in a good mindset to not fear anyone.'

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Wenger issues Arsenal rallying call

LONDON, 18 Jan — Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger says next weekend’s match against Manchester United is the perfect opportunity for his side to bounce back from two straight Barclays Premier League defeats. The Gunners were beaten 2-1 by Fulham at Craven Cottage at the beginning of January while on Sunday, they took an early lead against Swansea at the Liberty Stadium only to lose the contest 3-2. But Wenger believes that his side can use Sunday’s match against Manchester United to rejuvenate their attempt to cement a place in the top four. “It is a massive opportunity because you feel we have given six points away in the last two games in a way that is unbelievable,” Wenger told the official Arsenal website. “It is time for us to wake up and be focussed — we have a good opportunity to do that against Manchester United.”

And Wenger says his team will need to show a big improvement if they are to overcome Manchester United, who currently lie second in the League table. “That’s now twice — 0-2 and straight away we gave the third goal away. It is really a concern.” — Internet

Newcastle sign striker Cisse

LONDON, 18 Jan — Newcastle have completed the signing of Senegalese striker Papiss Cisse for an undisclosed fee on a five-and-a-half year contract. The 26-year-old joins the Barclays Premier League club from German Bundesliga side Freiburg, where he enjoyed a prolific spell, scoring 37 goals in 65 matches. He will join up with his country Senegal for the African Cup of Nations before setting into life on Tyneside, having been given Newcastle’s famous number nine shirt.

“I would like to thank everybody for their welcome, and for inviting me to sign for the club,” Cisse told the club’s official website (nufc.co.uk). “It is an honour to play for such a big club and I am looking forward to it. “I want to pay back the confidence the club have shown in me, and give the supporters something to be proud of. “I am aware of the huge importance of the number nine shirt, and when I spoke with the manager he made it very clear how important this shirt is. “I will treat it with the respect and I hope to do my very best in this shirt.” — Internet

Guardiola wary of Real Madrid threat

MADRID, 18 Jan — FC Barcelona coach Pep Guardiola has raised some doubts over whether or not he should play on Wednesday. Guardiola, however, showed total loyalty to his player. “I have in my mind that Pinto should play. He is an excellent keeper and I would be betraying myself if I didn’t play him and I would also betray him.” — Xinhua

Arsenal were beaten 0-2 by Man Utd in the corresponding fixture at Old Trafford. — Internet

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL</th>
<th>MYANMAR TV</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(19:12-20:12: 09:30 am - 20:12-09:30 am) MST</td>
<td>(19-1-2012) (Thursday)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oversea Transmission</td>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>News</td>
<td>1. Marital Song</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fantastic Villa From Ancient Cultural Land</td>
<td>4:10 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>News</td>
<td>2. Musical Programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>News</td>
<td>4:20 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Myanmar Beauty and His Creation (Episode-1)</td>
<td>5. Cute Little Dancer</td>
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<tr>
<td>News</td>
<td>4:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aseyawady Bridge (Sinkhan) in Kachin State</td>
<td>4. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Myanmar Culture &amp; Food Festival in Bangladesh</td>
<td>4:45 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foreign Investment in Garment Factories</td>
<td>5. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) - Third Year (Geography)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth of the Future (Harry Ko, Violinist, Gitamate)</td>
<td>5:10 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>News</td>
<td>6. Songs For Upholding National Spirit</td>
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<tr>
<td>‘Bringing us closer through fairer journey’</td>
<td>5:20 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Artworks of Bagan Gift Centre</td>
<td>7. Instrumental Music</td>
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<tr>
<td>Music Gallery</td>
<td>5:35 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>‘I would like to thank everybody for their welcome, and for inviting me to sign for the club,’ Cisse told the club’s official website (nufc.co.uk). “It is an honour to play for such a big club and I am looking forward to it. “I want to pay back the confidence the club have shown in me, and give the supporters something to be proud of. “I am aware of the huge importance of the number nine shirt, and when I spoke with the manager he made it very clear how important this shirt is. “I will treat it with the respect and I hope to do my very best in this shirt.” — Internet</td>
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<tr>
<td>‘Zaw Paing &amp; Moo Hay Ko’</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visitation to Mawlamyine (Part-1)</td>
<td>11. TV Drama Series</td>
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<tr>
<td>Myanmar Movies “Love was Born”</td>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myanmar News</td>
<td>12. News</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Weather forecast for 19th January, 2012

- Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the South Bay and partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and eastern half of the Bay of Bengal.
- Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers (60%).
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District News

Fire drills demonstrated

GEWUGOUNG, 18 Jan — Saw Mill Manager U Oo Kyaw Win, Head of Township Fire Services Department Ye Kyunwua Phyu Win and fire brigade members participated in the fire drill, supervised by departmental officials. — Myanmar Alin

Settway, 18 Jan — Nine acres of model farmland was harvested in Bumay Village of Settway Township on 28 December. The model plot produced 78.91 baskets of paddy per acre. The harvesting of model plot was supervised by township departmental officials and local village authorities and observed by local farmers.

Model monsoon plot harvested

Township SLRD

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Kean retains Hoilett hope

Rovers boss still believes forward could extend stay

LONDON, 18 Jan—Blackburn Rovers boss Steve Kean has not given up hope of securing Canadian forward Junior Hoilett on fresh terms.

The 21-year-old’s contract expires at the end of the season, although Rovers would be entitled to compensation if he leaves in the summer.

Talks over a new deal have ground to a halt, but that has not hindered Kean’s hopes of extending the youngster’s stay at Ewood Park.

It has been suggested Hoilett will see out of the campaign with Rovers and Kean sees no reason why more contract talks cannot take place.

“I think it’s been very public where we are with Junior’s contract,” Kean told Sky Sports.

“I think if anyone saw him play on Saturday against Fulham he’s still here until the end of the season.”

The 21-year-old’s hopes of extending the campaign with Rovers and Kean sees no reason why more contract talks cannot take place.

“If it goes beyond this window and he’s still here until the end of the season we’ll have to sit down at the appropriate time with him and tie him to the club because we’re developing players and we want to keep him.”

Internet

Among 145 households, a total of 49 households comprising natives and their offspring and those who resettled on their own plots were allotted to 60x60 ft plots in Inwa Ward 4 of Dekkhinathiri Township. Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee has given K 18.911 million as compensation for buildings, K 12 million for transport charges and K 2.087 million for perennial crop compensation to them.

Moreover, Nay Pyi Taw DC helped them transport their property to the new places.

It was scrutinized that the remaining households of the village moved from other regions bought the farmlands illegally so that they can get plots as compensation if they were moved from Meethwayphogon Village. The State gives plots, transport charges and compensations to the local people who were moved as necessary and deserved to get the compensations. In addition, the State has met transport costs for illegal settlers enabling them to return to their property to the new places.

KIA mine blast leaves three dead and one injured in Phakant Township

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Jan—Maung Huan Win, 18, of Hein-o Chay Village, Minbya Township, stepped on a mine reportedly planned by KIA insurgents when he got off an express bus which stopped for a while for the passengers to get relaxed on the way from Phakant to Mogaung on 16 January.

The mine blast left Maung Huan Win and a man (under scrutiny) dead on the spot. The mine blast also blew off right elbow and arms of Maung Aung Tun Khaiing, 21, of Sinohn Village, Mrauk-U Township, Rakhine State and left his right thigh fractured. And he died of serious injuries on the way to Mogaung People’s Hospital.

In a separate incident, Maung Shwe Toe Aung, 18, of Lonkhin Village, Phakant Township, stepped on a mine (See page 10)

Significant night temperature

(18-1-2012)

Namhsan (1º C)
Pinaung (1º C)
Heho (2º C)
Loilem (2º C)
Mogok (4º C)

Information & Culture Minister receives BBC world news editor

Mourinho says nobody plays to lose

Li ends post-Paris slump, into 3rd round at Aussie

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Thursday, 19 January, 2012