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.

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Feb—Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, accompanied by Union Ministers, Chief Minister of Sagaing Region U Tha Aye and party, arrived at the University for Development of National Races in Ywathitgyi, Sagaing Township, yesterday.

They were welcomed by national race students of the university.

At the meeting hall of the university, Rector U Zaw Min Thein reported on the history, structure and teaching of the university.

Afterwards, Chairman of the Union Civil Service Board U Kyaw Thu, Union Minister for Border Affairs and Myanmar Industrial Development Li-Gen Thein Htay reported to the Vice-President on matters related to the university.

Afterwards, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham visited the university’s booth, museum and library established in Pinglong Hall to mark the 40th anniversary of the university.

In meeting with faculty members and students of the university at the graduation hall, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham said that over 100 ethnic tribes of the national races had been living through thick and thin in the country since yore. However, political conflicts after the independence had resulted in armed conflicts for over 50 years.

(See page 8)

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham visits Degree College for Development of Union Nationalities Youths (Mandalay)

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Feb—Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, accompanied by Union ministers, the Mandalay Region chief minister and party, visited Degree College for Development of Union Nationalities Youths (Mandalay) in Mandalay this morning.

Principal of the degree college U Aung Than Myint and Union Minister for Border Affairs Li-Gen Thein Htay presented reports to the Vice-President at the convocation hall.

The Vice-President put some questions for his knowledge and gave necessary instructions. He then looked round computer room, ethnical culture booth, lecture halls, practical rooms, computer numerical control machine room and engineering workshop and had cordial conversations with the students.

The Vice-President met lecturers and students at the convocation hall. Speaking on the occasion, the Vice-President said all the national brethren have been living in the Union through thick and thin since time immemorial sharing joy and sorrow, who joined hands in the battles against colonialists and fascists with a sense of comradeship.

(See page 9)
Anticipated by film lovers, Myanmar Motion Picture Outstanding Awards (Academy Awards) Presentation Ceremony will be held on a grand scale in Nay Pyi Taw this evening. Academy Award is the highest honour for men of the film world and the ceremony wins considerable attention of movie crazies.

Some fans are in the ceremony while some are watching on live coverage TV. Some may have tipped their favourites and film stars may have attached high hope on their hard work. They will soon learn whether the result is favourable or not.

Myanma Motion Picture Enterprise under the Ministry of Information scrutinizes films produced and screened each year and presents Academy Awards for development of Myanmar’s film standard. Awards are presented to outperformed actors, artists and technicians. The ministry has been presenting the awards since 1952. Before 1988, only seven types of the award were presented. In time of Tatmadaw government, the category was extended to 11, namely Best Picture Award, Best Director Award, Best Leading Actor Award, Best Leading Actress Award, Best Supporting Actor Award, Best Supporting Actress Award, Best Music Award, Best Photography Award, Best Audio Award, Best Screenplay Award and Best Editing Award.

Unusually for this year, the ceremony is held with special stage displays with the help of IT. 15 films which hit big screen in 2010 are on shortlist for the awards.

Film fanatics predict dramas will sweep the board.

Hope all wishes are fulfilled.

Kyeeohn Kyeewah Multipurpose Dam Project is being implemented on Mon Creek near Wunlo village 15 miles upstream Mezali Diversion Weir in Pwintbyu Township in Minbu District of Magway Region.

The project started in 2002-2003 fiscal year and is scheduled to open this year.

The dam is 3280 ft long and 164 ft high and of zone dam type.

The 100 per cent of project has been completed and a 37-Megawatt generator has been installed as first installment, with next one to be installed within February.

The electricity from the generator, now in operation, surges through National Power Grid. Upon completion of measures for supplying electricity to Rakhine State, Kyeeohn Kyeewah Multipurpose Dam will become a major source of electricity for Rakhine State.

From two 37-Megawatt generators, 370 KWHs of electricity will be produced each year. The dam will also irrigate 96,777 acres of farmlands, meaning it is not only a boost for agricultural development but a source of electricity.

Translation: HKA
Obama: I deserve a 2nd term

WASHINGTON, 6 Feb—US President Barack Obama said Sunday he deserves a second term in office based on his performance so far. In an exclusive interview with NBC that will air in its entirety on the network’s “Today” programme Monday, the Democratic president was reminded of a comment he had made three years earlier that he would be facing “a one-term proposition” if the economic crisis wasn’t resolved by now. Asked if he had done enough to merit re-election with unemployment still above 8 percent and many Americans still hurting financially, Obama said, “I deserve a second term, but we’re not done.”

“We’ve made progress, and the thing right now is to just make sure we don’t start turning in a new direction that could throw that progress off,” he said, speaking from the White House. Obama also said diplomacy is the “preferred solution” to getting Iran to veer away from any ambitions to obtain nuclear weapon.

“No, we’re not taking any options off the table,” Obama said. “Our preferred solution is diplomatic, we’re going to keep on pushing on that front... [but] I’ve been very clear that we’re going to do everything we can to prevent Iran from getting a nuclear weapon and creating an arms race, a nuclear arms race, in a volatile region.” Iran, he said, needs to say, “We will pursue peaceful nuclear power, we will not pursue a nuclear weapon.” In a lighter moment in the pre-Super Bowl interview, Obama declined to pick a winner in the big game in which the New York Giants ultimately defeated New England.

“You’re not going to get me, ”alauhing Obama said. “I say to look for a great game.” “I think this is going to be tough. I can’t call it.”

US congressmen want US citizenship for Pak doctor who aided CIA to track Osama

ISLAMABAD, 6 Feb—A group of congressmen has sought the US citizenship for jailed Pakistani doctor Shakeel Afridi, who helped the CIA track down and kill former al-Qaeda chief Osama bin Laden last year in his Abbottabad hideout.

A congressional legislation has been introduced in the US House of Representatives seeking citizenship for the doctor, who is currently in a Pakistani jail for treason.

“Today I have introduced legislation to grant American citizenship to Dr Shakeel Afridi, the Pakistan medical doctor who risked his life to identify Osama Bin Laden and help US military forces bring him to justice,” the Daily Times quoted Congressman Dana Rohrabacher, as saying.

If convicted, he could be executed, the lawmaker from California said. “My bill would grant him US citizenship and send a direct and powerful message to those in the Pakistani government and military who protected the mastermind of 9/11 for all those years and who are now seeking retribution on those who helped to execute Bin Laden,” Rohrabacher said in the House of Representatives.

The Afridi citizenship bill has been endorsed by more than a dozen top congressmen, including Bill Posey and Roscoe Bartlett, he said, adding: “This bill shows the world that America does not abandon its friends.”

Afghan police detain 156 suspected terrorists last week

KABUL, 6 Feb—Afghan police arrested 156 persons on charge of involvement in subservient activities during series of operations over the past one week, Interior Ministry said in a statement released here on Monday.

“The National police during series of independent and joint operations across the country over the past one week had captured 156 people on suspicion of being involved in terrorist activities,” the statement said. Afghan National police have conducted 12 independent and 23 joint operations with national army and NATO-led troops over the past week during which 624 pieces of different mines including anti-tank and anti-personnel and 167 pieces of assault rifles had also been seized, the statement added.

According to the statement, the police also took into custody 105 persons on charge of involvement in criminal activities over the past week. It also said that police discovered 33,567 kilogram of drug including poppy over the week from across the country and arrested 34 people in this connection, according to the statement.—Xinhua

Afghan bombing death toll rises to nine

KANDAHAR, 6 Feb—Afghan President Hamid Karzai condemned Sunday’s deadly car bombing in Kandahar City, saying only a “desperate enemy” would resort to such a cowardly act.

The Voice of America quoted the president’s official Facebook page as saying the explosion outside a police station in the country’s violence-hit southern region killed nine people and wounded 19 more. Earlier reports said the blast killed seven people, including five Afghan police officers, and that the incident was followed by 10 minutes of gunfire.

NATO’s International Security Assistance Force also condemned the attack, VOA reported.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the bombing although Kandahar is known to be a centre of Taliban militancy.

A day earlier, the United Nations said the Taliban were responsible for 2,300 civilian deaths in Afghanistan in 2011, higher than any previous year in the decade-old war. The Taleban militancy.

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Residents grieve after a bomb attack, at Zafaraniya hospital in the Zafaraniya neighbourhood in Baghdad recently. A suicide bomber detonated his explosive-filled taxi near a funeral procession in Baghdad killing 31 people in the latest attack in a Shi’ite neighbourhood amid rising violence since an Iraqi political crisis erupted in December. —Internet

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China tests stealth fighter J-20 in dragon year

BEIJING, 6 Feb—“Different from previous fighters such as the J-7 and J-8, which drew on the merits of aircrafts from other countries, the J-20 is a masterpiece of China’s technological innovation, ” Xu Yongfeng, said, comparing the stealth jet to the US Air Force’s F-22 Raptor stealth jet and Russia’s first stealth fighter, the Sukhoi T-50.

Xu, one of China’s top test pilots, told the Global Times that the J-20 possesses an advanced supersonic cruise ability and powerful air mobility that are technological breakthroughs for the country. “J-20 stealth fighter jet “innovative, not stolen from US plane”

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Afghan bomb attack killed at least seven people and wounded 19 on Sunday, the province’s media office said.

An Afghan policeman retrieves documents stained with blood after a car bomb blast in the city of Kandahar on 5 February, 2012. The car bomb in the south Afghan City of Kandahar killed at least seven people and wounded 19 on Sunday, the province’s media office said.

Iranian television reported early on Tuesday that Iran had tested a long-range ballistic missile in the Gulf, targeting the large US aircraft carrier Nimitz, and said the test was a response to US accommodation of Israel’s nuclear program.

A US military spokesman said that Iran’s announcement was “an unfortunate development” but that that Iran’s nuclear weapon program was being monitored as part of the UN Security Council’s sanctions against Tehran.

Iran to strike back if attacked

Tehran, 6 Feb—Iran will strike back at any location from where attacks against it are mounted, Fars news agency quoted a senior military commander as saying Sunday.

“Any location which is used by the enemy for raids against the Islamic republic will be targeted by the IRGC forces,” Xinhua quoted Shahid Salemi, the deputy head of Iran’s Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC). Salemi made the remarks during IRGC’s ongoing military drills near Iran’s southern waters.

On Saturday, the IRGC announced that the country started “Hamiane Velayat” (supporters of Velayat) military drills in southern Iran.

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**US girl, gets six-organ transplant**

**Booths, 6 Feb—**A nine-year-old girl is making what doctors describe as “remarkable recovery” Sunday, days after surgeons transplanted six of her organs in a groundbreaking medical procedure.

The surgery performed last Tuesday on young Alannah Shevoneil, sought to remove an aggressive cancerous growth fostering since 2008, and that had attacked her liver, lung, pancreas, esophagus, small intestine and spleen.

The surgery was performed in Boston, Massachusetts at Children’s Hospital, one of this nation’s most highly regarded medical facilities. “For just under 100 days Alannah and her grandmother have been staying at Children’s while she received treatment for a rare and aggressive cancer that was compromising several of her internal organs,” the hospital said in a statement.

“If just under 100 days Alannah and her grandmother have been staying at Children’s while she received treatment for a rare and aggressive cancer that was compromising several of her internal organs,” the hospital said in a statement.

“While all other treatments had failed, Heung Bae Kim, MD, director of Children’s Pediatric Transplant Centre suggested a multi-organ transplant over time according to a Japanese study that covered thousands of people.

Green tea contains antioxidant chemicals that may help ward off the cell damage that can lead to disease. Researchers have been studying green tea’s effect on everything from cholesterol to the risk of certain cancers, with mixed results so far.

For the new study, published in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, researchers decided to examine the question of green tea drinkers who have lower risk of frailty and disability as they grow older.

Yasunori Tomata of the Tohoku University Graduate School of Medicine and his colleagues followed nearly 14,000 adults aged 60 or older for three years. They found those who drank the most green tea were the least likely to develop “functional disability,” or problems with daily activities or basic needs, such as dressing or bathing.

Specifically, almost 13 percent of adults who drank less than a cup of green tea per day became functionally disabled, compared with just over 7 percent of people who drank at least five cups a day.

“Green tea consumption is significantly associated with a lower risk of incident functional disability, even after adjustment for possible confounding factors,” Tomata and colleagues wrote.

The study did not prove that green tea alone kept people spry as they grow older. Green-tea lovers generally had healthier diets, including more fish, vegetables and fruit, as well as more education, lower smoking rates, fewer heart attacks and strokes, and greater mental sharpness.

They also tended to be more socially active and have more friends and family to rely on. But even with those factors accounted for, green tea itself was tied to a lower disability risk, the researchers said.

People who drank at least five cups a day were one-third less likely to develop disabilities than those who had less than a cup per day. Those people who averaged three or four cups a day had a 25 percent lower risk.

Although it’s not clear how green tea might offer a buffer against disability, Tomata’s team did note that one recent study found green tea extracts seem to boost leg muscle strength in older women.

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**Breastfeeding strengthens children’s Lungs**

**WASHINGTON, 6 Feb—**A study published by the American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine reverses earlier thinking that breastfeeding by mothers with asthma might increase the child’s risk for the disease.

The study found breastfeeding strengthens children’s lung function, even in mothers with asthma. The findings are the third-leading cause of hospitalization in kids.

- **Asthma** is the most common chronic illness among children and 3.6 million children younger than 18 have been diagnosed with asthma. One in 10 school-age children have asthma and it is the third-leading cause of hospitalization in kids.

- **According to Web MD, the AJRCCM conducted a long-term study** of children’s Respiratory Study in 2007 in which kids were followed from birth through age 16 and periodically tested for lung function. Children of mothers without asthma who were breastfed longer than four months had stronger lung function. But children whose moms had asthma and were breastfed beyond 4 months showed a 6 percent decrease in lung strength.

According to former Surgeon General Dr. Garth Lewis that though this represented a significant drop in lung function, it was probably not enough to warrant health care providers advising asthmatic mothers to limit breastfeeding to four months to avoid risk.

- In 2011, Science Daily reported on a study in the European Respiratory Journal that showed formula-fed babies had a 50 percent more wheezing episodes than babies who were exclusively breastfed until age six months.

- Babies who were given supplemental foods along with breast milk had a 20 percent greater risk for wheezing.

- The ARJCCM study revisited the 2007 and the 2011 findings to look for further links between breastfeeding and asthma, particularly in children whose mothers who had the disease and breastfed. Reuters Health reports 1,500 children were tested periodically up to age 14. Parents were also surveyed about breastfeeding habits, exposure to secondhand smoke and other environmental risks.

- The tests found children who were breastfed showed greater lung volume, less air loss and better capacity to hold air. Children of mothers with asthma were able to hold more air if moms had breastfed them past age four months.

- Study authors said the findings weren’t linked to fewer respiratory infections, but that stronger lungs meant less risk of developing asthma later.

Marilisa Kinney Sachteleben writes about parenting concerns from 23 years raising four children and 25 years teaching K-8, special needs, adult education and home-school. —Internet

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**Wen says China has stake in helping Europe**

**Beijing, 6 Feb—**China has a stake in helping euro zone countries get through their debt crisis, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said in comments published on Sunday, pointing to Europe’s importance as a market and hinting at more possible support for beleaguered exporters. Wen’s remarks, reported by the official Xinhua news agency, built on comments he made during German Chancellor Angela Merkel’s recent visit to China, when he said Beijing was considering increasing its participation in rescue funds to address the euro zone debt crisis.

This time, Wen urged skeptical Chinese citizens to understand that supporting Europe was in their own benefit.

“Now Europe is facing a debt crisis and we must consider relations with Europe strategically to protect our national interests,” Wen said while visiting the export-dependent southern Chinese Province of Guangdong on Saturday, said Xinhua. China, with its $3.2 trillion worth foreign exchange reserves, is often seen as a potential source for funds needed to bail out some European governments.

The Chinese premier’s latest call for European support came amid growing concerns over the euro crisis against did not include any specific commitments to European economies. But he stressed the scale that China holds in defining the euro crisis.

“The one hand, our biggest export market is Europe,” said Wen. “On the other hand, Europe is our big export market for importing technology. From this perspective, helping to stabilize European markets in fact amounts to helping ourselves. We must make all quarters of society understand this point.”

At a joint media briefing in Beijing with Merkel on Thursday, Wen said China was studying how it might lend Europe further support. —Reuters

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**Boeing to correct 787 Dreamliner fuselage issue**

**Washington, 6 Feb—**Boeing has discovered a problem related to the aft fuselage of its 787 Dreamliner planes and is making repairs that will not affect production of the aircraft, the company said in an emailed statement on Sunday. The Dreamliner is a lightweight, fuel-efficient, carbon-composite aircraft. It was three years behind its development schedule but finally entered service last year. “Boeing has found that incorrect shimming was performed on support structure on the aft fuselage of some 787s,” Boeing spokesman Scott Lefeber said. Lefeber added, “we do not expect that it will affect our planned production rate increases,” and that there are no short-term supply-concerns. Boeing aims to ramp up monthly production on the airplane to 10 by the end of 2013. Some experts believe the target rate is too ambitious, but Boeing is standing by it.

Lefeber declined to identify how many aircraft were affected. The news was first reported by the aviation website FlightGlobal.

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**Greek debt talks with creditors to continue on Monday**

**Athens, 6 Feb—**A new crisis meeting chaired by Prime Minister Lucas Papademos will be held with auditors of the EU/IMF, and Eurozone Ministers on Monday, said a Press release of the prime minister’s office.

A crucial five-hour meeting of the leaders of the three parties backing the Greek interim government ended on Sunday night in Athens with no agreement over the terms of the vital second international aid. According to the official statement, the political leaders agreed on the necessity to promote measures to reduce public spending by 1.5 percent of GDP in 2012 and policies to ensure the sustainability of any additional funds.

The statement added that there is consensus to tackle the competitiveness deficit with a package of measures including an agreement on the recapitalization of Greek banks.

Greece is under great pressure to strike a final deal with creditors this week, or face the prospect of a second bailout package, along with an agreement with the private sector on the write-down of a portion of the debt burden, in time to escape bankruptcy in coming March. —Xinhua

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**Job seekers attend a job fair in Haikou, capital of south China’s Hainan Province, on 3 Feb, 2012. Five job fairs would be held in Haikou from 3 Feb to 2 March, where 8,000 job opportunities provided to qualified applicants. —Xinhua**
Scientists excavate underground ant city in Brazil

BEIJING, 6 Feb.—A sophisticated underground ant city once populated by millions of insects has been discovered by a team of scientists. The abandoned megapolitans, which feature vast subterranean highways, paths and gardens, was found buried beneath the earth in Brazil.

It is thought to have housed one of the biggest ant colonies in the world. But no one is sure when the leafcutter species left and what caused their demise.

Experts poured ten tonnes of concrete into holes on the surface—which served as air conditioning ducts for the ants—to expose the tunnels by solidifying in the space.

It took ten days to pour the material down the labyrinth of tunnels, which covered an area of 500m2 and extended to 26ft below the surface. After a month, scientists, led by professor Luis Furgi, began digging and revealed the incredible city described as the ‘ant equivalent of the Great Wall of China’.

The community of ants—described as a superorganism—because of the way they cooperated in themselves—carried out a Herculean task building their giant home. Each insect would have repeatedly carried loads of earth, weighing more times than more than the worker, a distance of what would be just over half a mile in human terms.

In total, they excavated around 40 tonnes of soil to create the labyrinth. The documentary, also featuring Dr Bert Hölldobler from the Arizona State University, the network was designed to allow good ventilation and provide the shortest transport routes. It features scores of highways connecting the main chambers—and, off the main routes, are side roads.

From there, paths branch out and lead to the many rubbish pits and fungus gardens, which are grown by the vegetation collected by the workers.—Xinhua

Underground City: The network of tunnels and dens built by millions of Leaf Cutter ants in Brazil.—Internet

Tree rings may undervalue climate response to volcanic eruptions

LONDON, 6 Feb.—Some climate cooling caused by past volcanic eruptions may not be evident in tree-ring reconstructions of temperature change as huge temperature plumes lead to greatly shortened or even absent growing seasons, researchers say. The climate researchers compared tree-ring temperature reconstructions with model simulations of past temperature changes.

“We know these tree rings capture most temperature changes quite well,” said Michael Mann, professor of meteorology and geosciences and director of the Penn State Earth System Science Centre.

“But the problem appears to be in their response to the intense short-term cooling that occurs following a very large volcanic eruption. Explosive volcanic eruptions place particulates called aerosols into the stratosphere, reflecting back some fraction of incoming sunlight and cooling the planet for several years following the eruption.”

Tree rings are used as proxies for climate because they can create unique rings each year that often reflect the weather conditions that influenced the growing season that year. For reconstructing climate conditions, tree-ring researchers seek trees growing at the extremes of their growth range. Inferring temperature changes required going to locations either at the tree line caused by elevation or at the boreal tree line, the northern most place where the trees will grow.

“The problem is that these trees are so close to the threshold for growth, that if the temperature drops just a couple of degrees, there will not be any growth and a lack of sensitivity to any further cooling. In extreme cases, there may be no growth at all,” said Mann.—Xinhua

Record 10,000 tweets per second at Super Bowl

NEW YORK, 6 Feb.—Twitter said users were firing off record 10,000 tweets per second in the final three minutes of the Super Bowl.

Madonna’s half-time performance during the New York Giants 21-17 victory over the New England Patriots also saw a surge in Twitter activity with users tapping out an average of 8,000 tweets per second for five minutes, the San Francisco-based short-messaging service said in its Twitter feed. The 10,000 tweets per second in the final three minutes of the game, when Giants quarterback Eli Manning guided his team downfield for the game-clinching touchdown, topped the previous record of nearly 9,000 tweets per second set in August with Beyoncé’s pregnancy announcement at the MTV Video Music Awards. The previous record for a sporting event was the 7,196 tweets per second at the final whistle of Japan’s World Cup final in July.

Twitter’s more than 100 million users sent more than 60 billion tweets last year.—Internet

A man looks at Lenovo notebooks at the Lenovo Exclusive Store in Zagreb, capital of Croatia, on 2 Feb, 2012. The first Lenovo Exclusive Store in Croatia is opened on Thursday in downtown Zagreb.

China publishes high-resolution full moon map

BEIJING, 6 Feb.—China on Monday published a set of full coverage of moon map and moon images with a resolution of seven meters captured by the country’s second moon orbiter, the Chang’e-2.

This is the first time in the world to obtain and publish the 100 percent coverage of moon images with the resolution of seven meters or better, the State Administration of Science, Technology and Industry for National Defence said in a statement.

The satellite is now orbiting the second Lagrange Point (L2) more than 1.5 million kilometres away from Earth.—Internet

Soon, bendable batteries to charge gadgets buried in your clothing

LONDON, 6 Feb.—Canadian scientists have designed a flexible battery that can be woven seamlessly into fibres. Plut, flexible batteries have been connected to T-shirts sporting arrays of flashing LEDs, but they have not been built into the very stuff of a garment. This is what Makisin Skorobogatyi and colleagues at the Polytechnic School of Montreal in Canada have just done.

In order to build their battery, they sandwich a solid polyethylene oxide electrolyte between a lithium phosphorus cathode and lithium titanate anode. All of these are thermoplastic materials, which can be stretched under mild heating.

The material looks like artificial leather. After stretching, the team wove strips of it into cotton fabrics and used conductive threads to connect these batteries in series. This configuration was used to illuminate LEDs. “It’s the first fully wearable, soft lithium-ion battery that uses no liquid electrolytes,” New Scientist quoted Skorobogatyi as saying. He says a garment made of the material could provide hundreds of volts, enabling applications in which a battery-backed garment could deliver power in an emergency.—Internet

New procedure busts deadly brain tumour cells

WASHINGTON, 6 Feb.—Glioblastoma multiforme (GBM) happens to be the nastiest and most common brain tumour, affecting 10,000 patients in the US alone every year. Now, a novel non-invasive procedure called Tumour Treating Fields (TTF) that inhibits tumour growth is offering hope to thousands, says a study. On the average, a patient with GBM survives less than 15 months with optimal treatment and only three to five months without additional effective treatment.

The TTfF procedure, which disrupts rapid cell division exhibited by cancer cells with the help of alternating electrical fields, may provide physicians with a fourth treatment option in addition to surgery, radiation therapy and chemotherapy. “Patients with recurrent GBM present a significant treatment challenge,” said Santosh Kesari, director of Neuro-Oncology at University of California San Diego Moores Cancer Centre.

“The initial clinical research for the approval trial demonstrated that, compared to patients who were treated with chemotherapy, patients treated with NovTTF achieved comparable survival times, had fewer side effects, and reported improved quality of life,” said Kesari, according to a university statement.—Internet

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Israeli gov’t approves construction of Tel Aviv-Eilat rail line

JERUSALEM, 6 Feb—Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s cabinet on Sunday approved plans to construct a rail line linking Tel Aviv on the Mediterranean coast to the Red Sea port of Eilat. The 350-kilometre project is part of a comprehensive push to revive the country’s transport infrastructure, and is due to begin operations five years from the start of construction. “In the coming decade, new powers will rise and the State of Israel must create vital interests from a national point-of-view,” Netanyahu’s bureau quoted him as saying in a statement. The prime minister said the rail line would constitute an alternative transport route that bypasses the Suez Canal, significantly shortening the current route freight ships use to reach the Mediterranean.

“This is an insurance policy, and must become a continental land crossing route and create great power interests,” Netanyahu said. The Israeli government seeks to double the population of the Negev, a vast desert region largely uninhabited, to 1.2 million by 2025. Israel’s first prime minister, David Ben-Gurion, devoted much of his career to realizing his vision of inhabiting the area. The railway’s planners say it would help spur regional development, including housing and new employment opportunities, and entice Israelis to leave the country’s congested centre. Once in place, the railway will cut travel time from Eilat, at Israel’s southernmost tip, to the country’s centre down to two hours. Eilat’s hoteliers say that would dramatically raise tourism to their city, with visitors currently forced to drive near four hours or take a commuter flight. “It will change the face of the country. For 63 years, there has been talk about linking the periphery to the center, but nothing was done,” Netanyahu said, adding, “The railway and Israel’s natural resources can forge strong economic links.”

Netanyahu said he directed the task-general of his office, Harel Locker, to head a team that will review options for financing the 27 billion USD project, whether through state funding, cooperation with the private sector, or an inter-governmental agreement between Israel and another government with which Israel maintains economic and strategic interests. At a meeting with Chinese Commerce Minister Chen Deming in Israel last March, Netanyahu proposed that the two countries cooperate in rail infrastructure after a Chinese firm last year completed a tunnel in the northern port city of Haifa ahead of schedule.—Xinhua

6.8-magnitude quake hits Negros - Cebu region, Philippines

MANILA, 6 Feb—An earthquake measuring 6.8 on the Richter scale jolted Negros - Cebu region, Philippines, at 03:49 GMT on Monday, the US Geosurvey Geology said. The epicentre, with a depth of 33.00 km, was initially determined to be at 10.0310 degrees north latitude and 123.7505 degrees east longitude.—Xinhua

Cuba producing sugar with new technology

HAVANA, 6 Feb—Cuba has begun to employ a new technology to produce white sugar, a measure that improves its quality, avoids the refining process and reduces the cost of manufacture, a media report said Sunday. The technology, which to date had never been used in the island’s sugar industry, uses a sulphur salt produced in Guatemala that—once dissolved in water—directly adds to the bleaching, according to official daily Juventud Rebelde.

The procedure replaces the method of “sulphurizing” the sugarcane juice via the combustion of sulphur, which is very damaging to the environment, the report says. The daily also reported that the sugar produced with this method can be sold for a higher price than either crude or standard refined sugar on the world market and that its use is spreading rapidly. Rigoberto Toledo, the director of the Melanie Hernandez sugar refinery in central Sancti Spiritus province, said last week that using it they will be able to optimize the production process and avoid refining the raw sugar, a situation that will reduce production costs.

That refinery is scheduled to produce between 15,000 and 17,000 tonnes of white sugar during the current harvest, all of which will be destined for local consumption. Cuba is carrying out its current sugar harvest at a time when it is in the midst of restructuring the sector by replacing the Sugar Ministry with the Sugar Agro-industry and Business Group with the aim of achieving more efficient management, employing new technologies and generating new exports to finance its own expenses. According to government forecasts, this harvest should see a 20 percent rise in sugar production, after the country in 2011 experienced a slight recovery and after the drastic plunge in the sugar harvest registered in 2010, the worst in 105 years. Internet

China bans airlines into EU carbon scheme

BEIJING, 6 Feb—China’s airlines are not allowed to pay a charge on carbon emissions imposed by the Europe Union(EU), and neither to hike freights nor to add other fees accordingly without government permission, the Civil Aviation Administration of China(CAAC) said Monday. The CAAC said in a statement that it had been authorized by the State Council, China’s Cabinet, to notify the ban to all domestic airlines. The statement said the EU’s decision to charge flights into and out of EU airports for carbon emission “runs contrary to relevant principles of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the international civil aviation regulations.”

The EU’s Emissions Trading Scheme, which has taken effect on Jan. 1, is one of the widest-reaching measures adopted by any country or regional bloc to regulate emissions of greenhouse gases blamed for climate change. It is estimated that around 4,000 airlines will be charged by the EU for their carbon emissions.

“China objects to the EU’s decision to impose the scheme on non-EU airlines,” and has expressed its concerns over the scheme through various channels,“the statement said.

“China will consider adopting necessary measures to protect interests of Chinese individuals and companies, pending the development of the issue,” the statement said. It added that China hopes the EU can find proper solutions to the issue with considerations of the overall bilateral relations, the two sides’ combined efforts to combat climate change as well as the sustainable development of the international airline industry.—Xinhua

Russia’s new vice foreign ministers

BEIJING, 6 Feb—China’s State Council on Monday appointed Song Tao and Cheng Guoping as vice foreign ministers, replacing Lu Guogong and Li Jinzhang. It also appointed Cui Yuying, replacing Dong Yunn, as deputy director of the State Council Information Office. In addition, Li Xiaojie was appointed director of the State Administration of Cultural Heritage, replacing Shan Xijiang.

Chinese government press release

BEIJING, 6 Feb—China’s government said on Monday that it had removed Wei Liqun as the shorthandier of the Information Office, replacing Wei Liqun as the shorthandier of the Information Office.

Zhang Yaping was vice president of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, while Wei Liqun was removed from his vice president post at the Chinese Academy of Governance.

China’s new vice president of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, 6 Feb—Zhang Yaping was vice president of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, while Wei Liqun was removed from his vice president post at the Chinese Academy of Governance.

Evaluate the potential impact of the new rail line linking Tel Aviv and Eilat on tourism and economic development in Israel.

The proposed rail line between Tel Aviv and Eilat could have a significant impact on tourism and economic development in Israel. The line would provide a faster and more convenient alternative to the current route that freight ships currently take to reach the Mediterranean, significantly reducing travel time and cost. This could make it more attractive for tourists to visit Israel, especially those interested in visiting the country’s southern most tip, the port city of Eilat. The railway could also spur regional development, including housing and new employment opportunities, entice Israeli settlers to move to the country’s less populated areas, and help realize Benjamin Netanyahu’s vision of doubling the population of the Negev desert region by 2025.

In addition, the new rail line could enhance Israel’s economic ties with its southern and eastern neighbors, particularly with Saudi Arabia and Jordan. The line could facilitate trade and investment, improve transportation links, and help Israel to become a Mediterranean state. However, the project is estimated to cost billions of dollars, and there may be concerns about its sustainability and environmental impact. The government and railway’s planners will need to carefully consider these factors in order to ensure that the project is a success.
Daw Nan Shwe Hmon addresses meeting of Sagaing Township MCWA, WAO

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Feb—Daw Nan Shwe Hmon, wife of Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, visited Hswan-U Ponnya Shin Pagoda in Sagaing this morning and made cash donations.

First, she offered flowers, water, oil and scented water to the pagoda and made cash donations.

Next, Daw Nan Shwe Hmon attended a work coordination meeting of Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Women’s Affairs Organization at Sagaing Township MCWA.

In her greetings, Daw Nan Shwe Hmon said the purpose of holding the meeting with the two social organizations is to study their functions, to give some advice if necessary and to help promote the spirit of the associations.

The tasks of Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Women’s Affairs Organization include health, education, social and economic affairs of the women folk, prevention of violence against women, prevention of trafficking in women, nurturing and all-round development of young women and caring and guiding of women to live in conformity with the Myanmar culture. The success of social work to a certain extent is due to the noble goodwill, lobby and patience of the associations.

Daw Nan Shwe Hmon on behalf of the central level women’s affairs organization expressed thanks to those who successfully implemented the tasks of MCWA and WAO with goodwill and kind patience. She next called for continued efforts for the sake of the women folk. She then invited open discussion about the matters related to the township MCWAs and WAOs in Sagaing Region and difficulties, adding that coordination will be made with central level Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Women’s Affairs Federation to cope with irresolvable difficulties.

Afterwards, Sagaing Region Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Chairperson Daw Khin Swanyi reported on the association’s participation in social, health, education and poverty reduction measures in the region, the strength of the association and functions. Those present at district and township levels also reported on their respective tasks.

Then, Daw Nan Shwe Hmon presented K 1 million each to Sagaing Region MCWA and WAO, viewed the training of women from tailoring course being conducted by township MCWA and providing of health care to pregnant women and children at the delivery room of township MCWA and rendered cash assistance.

Later, Daw Nan Shwe Hmon and party visited U Ba Mint’s silverware shop and workshop, Shwe Lamin stone counting beads shop and workshop and Thitashin cane ware shop.—MNA

Tasks discussed for conference on special reference to education, health

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Feb—A work coordination meeting on holding Conference on Development Policy Options with Special Reference to Education and Health in Myanmar was held for the second time at Ministry of Education here today. The meeting was opened with an address by Deputy Minister for Education U Ba Shwe. Tasks to be carried out by sub-committees were reported by Secretary of the organizing the conference Director of Education Planning and Training Department U Bo Win.

The participants of the meeting and U Bo Win discussed the tasks.

Coord meeting of Kayah State Government held

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Feb—Kayah State Government held the coordination meeting 1/2012 at its meeting hall on 26 January, with an address by Kayah State Chief Minister U Khin Maung Oo. The work coordination was held among the Kayah State Chief Minister, the state ministers, the chief justice of the state high court and lawyers in the state on 27 January.

Zaykabar Myanmar Open 2012 finishes

YANGON, 6 Feb—The fourth day of Zaykabar Myanmar Open 2012 golf tournament along with prize-presenting ceremony took place at Royal Mingaladon Golf & Country Club in Mingaladon Township here today.

Kieran Pratt (Aus) stood first securing US$ 47550, and Adam Blyth (Aus) second winning US$ 25425 while Kiradech Aphibarnrat (Thai) came in third gaining US$25425.

In 2010, over 0.3 million international travelers entered Myanmar through Yangon International Airport. But, the figure arose to 0.4 million in 2011 alone.

Over 0.8 million travelers visited the country through Yangon, Mandalay, Bagan and border gates. From 1 to 24 January, 2011, 25983 foreign tourists visited Shwedagon Pagoda. It is the same with the figure for the whole January of previous year, a member of Pagoda Board of Trustees confirmed.

Loving home has really received guests. They surely deserve our hospitality. Translation: HKA (Myanma Alin: 4-2-2012)

More tourists flock to Myanmar

Roughly speaking, this year’s tourist arrival in Myanmar has multiplied.

Loving home receives guests. Foreign tourists are often seen in group at major tourist attractions in Yangon, such as Shwedagon Pagoda, Sule Pagoda, Botataung Pagoda, Thanlyin Kyiikhaikhaik Pagoda and Bogyoke Aung San Market.

According to phone messages of friends from Bagan, Mandalay, Taunggyi and Inlay, their towns are having more and more foreign travelers than ever.

An official of Myanmar Tourism Association said, “Myanmar’s tourism industry started to enjoy a boost at the end of 2009. Arrival of foreign travelers soared in 2011 and earlier 2012. Strictly speaking, it has increased by 35 per cent.”

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Tourists in front of Sule Pagoda and City Hall in Yangon.

Donate blood

Translate: HKA

Article & Photo: Tin Win Lay (Kyimyindaing)
Thanks to far-sightedness of leaders of the State...

(from page 1)

The armed conflicts were more serious in border areas than in the mainland. The people had experienced the disastrous consequences of the armed conflicts during the prolonged period of the conflicts, he said.

The people living in the plains also had suffered the consequences of the armed conflicts happened in the border areas, he added.

Instead of working together hard for development of the country after the independence, brethrens of the national races had fought each other and the country had lagged behind development as it could not invest in the economic and social infrastructures.

Therefore, thanks to the far-sightedness of the leaders of the State, the University and colleges for Development of National Races had been established in the country to train new generation of the national races as part of the human resource development which was necessary for the development of the country, he said.

Youths from the national races living across the country had been trained at the university and colleges so that not only they could conserve the Our Three Main National Causes but also they could serve in the interests of their respective national races when they arrived back home while understanding the customs of the each other national races and conserving the amity between them, he added.

From 1964 to 2011, so far 12104 students from national races had graduated from universities and colleges in the border areas. It is the great debt of the gratitude of State to help the students from national races pay their education and other expenditure during their learning at the universities and colleges, he said.

He called on the students to actively taking part in implementing the development and peace making tasks as part of their commitment to development of the country and their respective areas while understanding the gratitude of the State.

The Vice-President then cordially greeted the students.

To produce education staff capable of upholding Our Three Main National Causes and nature junior leaders for regional development, Development of National Races Institute was opened in Sagaing on 20 October 1964. In 1968, the Institute was moved to current place Ywathitgyi and upgraded as a university on 10 May 1991 by the State.

The university has been running one-year BEd course, two-year access course for BEd degree, four-year BEd course and JAT training course. From starting year to March of 2011, the university has graduated 12104 students.

The Vice-President and party encouraged students learning at Shwe-kywal-pon Village Basic Education High School in Sagaing Township, looked round computer and audio visual room, language lab and laboratory, and greeted locals from the village and its surrounding area.

Union Minister U Tint Hsan provided sports gears; Shwe Thanwin Co Ltd, Sky Net TV receivers; and well-wishers, K 50 million and 10 sets of computers worth K 30 million.

On arrival at Raza Mani Kaunghtutaw Pagoda, the Vice-President and wife paid homage and donated cash.

The Vice-President proceeded to Government Technological College (Sagaing), BEHS No. 3, University of Education (Sagaing), Cooperatives College (Sagaing), BEHS No. 2 and Education College (Sagaing) where he greeted teachers and students and attended to the needs.

He inspected extension of two-story patient ward and surgical ward at 200-bed People’s Hospital. Work on constrution started on 24 November 2007 and now completed by 98 per cent.

In the evening, the Vice-President met with Sagaing Region Hluttaw representatives, district and township level departmental officials, faculty members, teachers, social organization members and locals at Sagaing Town Hall.
Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham visits Degree College for…

(from page 1)

The independence was regained as inspired by our forefathers. However, border conflicts had erupted due to unsolvable political turmoil stemming from various causes. Consequently, locals from border regions were forced to migrate to bordering countries in search of work due to instability of the region.

The President has articulated that stability of the State and national consolidation is at the top of the government’s agenda. The government has been trying hard to bring about lasting peace with genuine goodwill, putting out the flames of lengthy internal conflicts and its efforts have started to bear fruits.

The human resources development measures of the degree college which was established with a view to national consolidation would contribute a great deal to the move towards eternal peace, said the Vice-President.

The Vice-President pointed out that the students to work with affordability in the interests of home region and the State by effectively using arts and science and engineering subjects taught by the college.

Next, Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hlaen presented sports gear, businessmen K 10 million, Shwe Thanbin Co Ltd two sets of Sky Net receivers, and U Kyaw Kyaw Win of New Star Light Co 1200 dozens of note books to the college.

U Kyaw Myo Htut appointed as Myanmar Ambassador to Sweden

YANGON, 6 Feb—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Kyaw Myo Htut, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, concurrently as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Kingdom of Sweden.

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham
greets shopkeepers in Manmmyo Market, Maha Aungmye Township of Mandalay. MNA

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The human resources development measures of the degree college which was established with a view to

Degree colleges for Development of Union Nationals youths were opened in Yangon and Mandalay with a view to development of human resources in border regions and producing intellectuals who can drive the regional development. Mandalay Degree College was opened on 12-7-2000. Those from nationalities youths development training schools and free schools under the Ministry of Border Affairs who have matriculated are eligible for the degree college but the admission is subject to entrance selection board. The degree college is currently conducting arts, science and engineering subjects and has turned out 258 engineering diploma holders, 228 BA degree holders and 402 BSc degree holders.

The Vice-President then proceeded to Buddha Tooth Relic Temple (Mandala) in the precinct of the pagoda.

The Vice-President then inspected the proposed site for elephant shed and gave instructions to the region chief minister and personnel. He then inspected construction of washrooms in Maha Nwesin Stadium and Manmyo Market by Mandalay City Development Affairs Committee. He instructed the committee to build washrooms as many as possible in downtown Mandalay with eye-pleasing designs.

The Vice-President and party then paid homage to Maha Muni Buddha Image and offered golden robe to the Buddha Image. He then signed the guests’ book and donated cash to the pagoda board of trustees.

The Vice-President and party then went to Mandalay Region government office where he heard reports on layout of government buildings and looked round the residence of the region chief minister and government departments. The Vice-President and party then went back to here in the evening.

Visiting the teaching and learning, the teachers should turn their sight on student-centred method, English language skills, morality, health knowledge, agricultural knowledge, environmental conservation practices, apart from parrot learning, and build up their own capacity through self study, we went on.

Beings an agro-based country, Myanmar is switching from manual farming to mechanized one, the Vice-President said. Only then, will the production rate increase, production cost be reduced, lack of labour be solved, wastages be minimized, quality be improved and living standards of farmers be improved, he said.

The Vice-President pointed out that agriculture alone cannot bring about wealth to either individual or the country and the national has to rely on three sectors for development, namely agriculture, industry and service sectors.

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Industry and service sectors play significant roles in developed countries where the agriculture constitutes 10-20 per cent of development of these countries, he said. The Vice-President underlined development of education sector as intellectuals and intelligencias are needed for development of industry and service sectors.

He continued to say that profit from brains largely outnumbers that from natural resources and is sustainable. He urged all the people to work in concert for development of education sector, a foundation stone for development of a nation and a source of human resources development.

Shwe Than Lwin Co Ltd donated Sky Net receivers to universities, colleges, schools and hospitals. Entrepreneurs donated cash for universities, colleges and schools. Shwe Taung Co Ltd donated cash for maintenance of 18 downtown roads of Sagaing.

On arrival at Gems Entrepreneurs Association (Sagaying) Office, the Vice-President heard reports submitted by Association Chairman U Taing Aung and U Soe Naing of Aye Aye Khaing Gems Company on production of fine products. Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye made a supplementary report.

The Vice-President attended to the needs and arrived in Mandalay in the evening.

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Nav Pyi Taw, 6 Feb—Authorities concerned exposed 235 cases of narcotic drugs in January – 33 opium cases (336.5166 kilos), 84 heroin cases (11.0031 kilos), opium oil solid (0.053 kilo), 3 low-grade opium cases (3.5618 kilos), 18 marijuana cases (1.3333 kilos), 79 stimulant cases (207169 pills), one opium powder case (2.6128 kilos), one stimulant powder case (0.2618 kilo), 1.6 kilos of brawn opium powder, 604 liters of Lysol, two cases of pseudo ephedrine (66.8 kilos) and one ephedrine case (25.664 kilos).

In the 235 cases, action was taken against 254 males and 53 females totaling 307.
First Myanmar Traditional Htamane preparing contest attended by Union Minister U Thein Nyunt

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Feb—Union Minister at the President’s Office U Thein Nyunt attended the first Myanmar Traditional Htamane preparing contest held at Aungyanadar Monastery in Shwekyarbin Ward in Zabuthiri Township here at 5:00 pm today.

The contest was packed with Union Ministers, deputy ministers, Nay Pyi Taw Council members, departmental heads and officials concerned and rural people.

Just as the contest started at 5:00 pm, Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council Union Minister U Thein Nyunt and his entourage encouraged the participants trying hard with Hercules force in the contest in harmonious clapping of the their teammates and locals. After Htamane had been made respectively, the referees judged their tests.

In the awarding-ceremony, Director-General U Tin Myo Kyi presented special prizes to Pyankapyae Village (A) team and Pyankapyae Village (B) team, and Pyankapyaely Village and Nyuanghbo Village, Director-General U Zaw Min to Letpankhathila, Aungchantha and Khaunphou Villages, Nay Pyi Taw Council Member U Myo Nyunt to Ayinlo, Tegyigon, Shartaw and Thabyaekon Villages, Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Committee for public management U Maung Oo to Thabyaekon Ward (B) team and Shwekyarbin (B) and (C) teams.

Afterwards, Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Committee for farmers, workers and youths affairs U Tin Htut awarded third prize to Union Solidarity Developing Party team, following the second prize winner Gonmin Village by Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Committee for fundamental right of citizens, democracy and human rights U Htay Oo.

Union Minister U Thein Nyunt rewarded first prize to Shwekyarbin Ward (A)team and then honoured Dagonmyothit (North) Maha Aung Bawdi Anandatheidishin Ornamental Placing Group. It was known that there were a total of 93 participant teams in Htamane preparing contests held in Nay Pyi Taw Council region; 17 teams in Zabuthiri Township and the rest were in another seven townships—Pobbathiri, Zeyarthiri, Dekhinathiri, Ottarathiri, Tatkon, Pyinmana and Leway—MNA.
British Queen marks 60 years on the throne

LONDON, 6 Feb — Monday is exactly 60 years since British Queen Elizabeth II ascended to her throne, and marks the beginning of a series of celebrations in Britain. The Queen is the second British monarch in history to have a Diamond Jubilee celebrating 60 years on the throne. The previous Diamond Jubilee monarch was Queen Victoria, whose jubilee was held in 1897. She went on to reign for a further four years after the jubilee, making her reign longer than the current queen’s at the moment. The coincidence of the Diamond Jubilee and the Olympic games being in the same year in London will draw international attention on the Queen and Britain.

Former royal reporter Robert Jobson told Xinhua that the jubilee does “have significance outside Britain because the Queen is probably the only monarch who is an international monarch — she is not only the queen of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, she is also the queen of 15 other Commonwealth realms including Australia, New Zealand, Canada, so it’s a very important point to celebrate because she has global reach.”

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The dead livestock are loaded onto a truck in Mandalt Township of Sonid Zuoqi, Xilin Gol Meng, north China’s Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, on 3 Feb, 2012. As the cold wave of winter swept Inner Mongolia and brought gale winds and plunging temperature, the grassland was covered by snow and ice. Many livestock raised by local herdsmen were killed due to shortage of food.

Seamlessly blending into flowers

BRITISH, 5 Feb — Cecilia Paredes was born in Lima, Peru. She lived and worked in Costa Rica from 1998 to 2004. The photography of Paredes constitutes and attempts to demonstrate that the body of the woman — her own body — is a sacred zone, not profane, to restore its perception as something miraculous amidst the technological chaos that currently surrounds us.

Cecilia Paredes is interested in using art to explore the boundaries of nature and technology. She often uses her own body as a medium for presenting a dialog between the spirit and the natural world.

In the latest work, the representation of her body is part of the landscape. For this series, she chose specific natural fabrics as printed linen.

‘Pint-sized’ toddler becomes world’s youngest table tennis sensation

LONDON, 6 Feb — An 18-months-old toddler, who is yet to play on thousands of Internet users with his table tennis skills.

Talented Jamie Mykova-Buddell’s parents uploaded a 90-second video clip of him on YouTube, where he can be seen perched on a full-size table waiting for his dad to hit the ball to him before he dispatches it back with pinpoint accuracy, the Daily Mail reported.

Over 650,000 people already viewed the clip of him in just four days, with Jamie’s dad, Kevin Buddell, describing the experience ‘mind-boggling’.

The family, from Plymouth, are now being bombarded with international media requests as the tot becomes a global star and even TV legend Ellen DeGeneres wants him on her US chat show.

“Jamie seemed to pick it up naturally after he started playing with a table tennis ball and it wasn’t long before he was hitting it, but, he was hitting it with great force,” Kevin said.

“Now he carries a bat everywhere he goes, there’s a swing ball between the living room and dining room at home and he hits it every time he passes through,” he said.

“We put him on the table and he loved hitting the ball back - he has got great hand-eye coordination.”

The 45-year-old, who runs a car hire company in Plymouth, is a former table tennis star himself while his partner Marketa Mykova, 34, also travels around the UK playing the sport.

Kevin said that his wife wanted to send a video of Jamie back to her family in Prague. “So she filmed us playing table tennis and then uploaded it to YouTube so they could watch their grandson from home,” he said.

“It only had 350 views but then it went crazy last week — it is mind-boggling what has happened. We have been on ABC and now Ellen DeGeneres is trying to get us on.”

“We did it as a bit of fun for Jamie and now everyone is raving about it — the Americans for Jamie and now everyone is trying to get us on. ABC and now Ellen DeGeneres is trying to get us on.”

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“We did it as a bit of fun for Jamie and now everyone is raving about it - the Americans absolutely love it,” he added.

Internet

Iran to launch new generation of satellites into orbit

TEHERAN, 6 Feb — Iranian Defence Minister Brigadier General Ahmad Vahidi said Sunday that Iran was planning to send a new generation of satellites called Fajr (Dawn) into orbit to mark the 33rd anniversary of the Islamic republic’s establishment, the local satellite Press TV reported.

On Friday, Iran announced that it “successfully” launched an observation satellite into orbit. The spacecraft, named Navid (Herald) and weighing 50 kilograms, can take pictures in low altitudes of about 250 km to 375 km from the earth. The launch of Navid satellite using Safir satellite carrier was not simply an aerospace operation, but stood for creativity, self-reliance and wisdom of Iran’s aerospace engineers, Vahidi said Sunday.

Iran, a founding member of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, launched its first domestically-made data-processing satellite, the Omid (Hope), into space in 2009.

Iran also plans to launch the country’s first manned mission into space by 2019, according to Press TV.

Xinhua
Norway prince evacuated from plane in Denmark

COPENHAGEN, 6 Feb — A total of 135 passengers, including Norway’s crown prince Haakon and his wife, crown princess Mette-Marit, were evacuated from an aircraft at the Copenhagen airport after smoke was detected in one of the plane’s motors.

A Danish broadcaster DR News said the royal couple from Norway had been in Copenhagen to celebrate Danish crown princess Mary’s 40th birthday.

No passengers were hurt, and the plane was safely evacuated, said SAS airlines, which operates the aircraft.

The plane was scheduled to fly to Oslo, said Xinhua.

China shipwreck death toll rises to nine

CHANGSHA, 6 Feb — Rescuers have recovered the bodies of nine people from a shipwreck and are still searching for another two missing in central China’s Hunan Province, local officials said Monday.

Seventeen people fell off of a boat last Tuesday when the ship they were on capsized amid high winds on a tributary of the Dongting Lake, China’s second-largest freshwater lake.

Six of the rescued have returned home following treatment at a local hospital, local officials said.

Authorities are still investigating the incident.

Xinhua

Toxic food kills four in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 6 Feb — Four people in Pakistan’s port city of Karachi died after consuming poisonous food, Geo News reported.

The four, including a woman, were residents of Sohrab Goth area of the metropolis.

Police sources said 11 people were taken to hospital Sunday night after eating the poisonous food, and three died during treatment.

The report, however, did not specify as to how the food got poisoned or give details about the poison.

Internet

Man held for failing to repay loan to 1,000 lenders

BEIJING, 6 Feb — The head of a Chinese firm that owns 36 schools and companies across the country has been detained after he failed to repay 2.2 billion yuan (about USD 350 million) in debt to about 1,000 private lenders.

Police in eastern Zhejiang Province detained Dong Shumin, president of the Liren Education Group in Wenzhou City, Xinhua reported.

The firm had announced in October that it would stop repaying creditors after the company’s cash chain ruptured.

The local government said it was still assessing the amount of loans and the number of creditors of the company.

The group, set up in 2003, has subsidiaries operating in several sectors including education, real estate and mining.

Internet

Woman charged for leaving baby on street

SACRAMENTO, 6 Feb — A Sacramento woman, charged with endangering the life of her 1-month-old grandson, said she left him on a busy sidewalk but did not abandon him.

“I will plead not guilty. I did not endanger my grandson. I love my grandkids,” Kit Samuel said.

Samuel, 34, said while she was being visited from a Motel 6 Friday afternoon, she walked her grandson across the street and left him there to go back and gather her belongings, KTXL-TV, Sacramento, reported. Witness said the infant was left on the street for about 45 minutes. Samuel said she was not more than 500 feet from the baby at any given time.

Deputies contended leaving a child that young for any amount of time is dangerous. Officers also said Samuel was intoxicated when they found her.

Samuel was arrested for child endangerment and public intoxication, but she said she was not drunk.

“I did not drink that day. I drank the night before,” Samuel said.

Internet

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV JINDAL TARA VOY NO (116N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV JINDAL TARA VOY NO (116N) are hereby notified that the vessel will arrive on 5.2.2012 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 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: MS CARRIER KING LOGISTIC SERVICES LTD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA MACHAN VOY NO (339)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA MACHAN VOY NO (339) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.2.2012 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.

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (475)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (475) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.2.2012 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.

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
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Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

This photo taken on 4 Feb, 2012 shows the Second Temple Model, a 50:1 scale model of ancient Jerusalem at its peak in 66 CE, in the campus of Israel Museum in Jerusalem, Israel Museum was founded in 1965 and has become Israel’s leading cultural institution. Its collections, nearly 500,000 objects of fine art, archaeology, Judaica and Jewish ethnography, represent the history of World culture from nearly one million years ago to the present day. — Xinhua

Visitors visit a contemporary art exhibition in the campus of Israel Museum in Jerusalem, on 4 Feb, 2012. Israel Museum was founded in 1965 and has become Israel’s leading cultural institution. Its collections, nearly 500,000 objects of fine art, archaeology, Judaica and Jewish ethnography, represent the history of World culture from nearly one million years ago to the present day. — Xinhua

Internet
Castro releases memoirs

HAVANA, 6 Feb—Former Cuban President Fidel Castro made a rare public appearance in Havana in conjunction with the publication of his memoirs, officials said.

The event Saturday took place after the city was hit by the winter’s worst storm, the San Antonio Express-News reported.

“It never rains on my parade,” said Alex Pena, who organized the pro-rodéo downtown cattle drive.

Pena said there were about 8,000 more people at this year’s cattle drive than last year’s, despite the poor weather conditions.

A parade was held after the cattle drive, which had 300 participants and included an Army marching band from Fort Sam Houston and vintage horse-drawn buggies and stagecoaches.

The cattle drive and parade serve as the kickoff for the rodeo and stock show that begin Thursday at the AT&T Centre.

FORKED LIGHT OF MYANMAR Tuesday, 7 February, 2012

Joan Rivers had over 700 surgical operations

LOS ANGELES, 6 Feb—American comedian Joan Rivers claims she has had a total of 739 surgical procedures. According to the publication of her memoirs, she has undergone the knife under the knife more than 700 times, and says she has had treatment done so often that she gets one free-thinking visit for every 10.

“Every weekend, I just go in and get something done. Sometimes I get a 10th one free. It’s a little like coffee you just keep going,” said Rivers.

“Gothenburg, Sweden, after the presiding judge fell asleep, Swedish news agency TT reported Saturday. The hearing was ordered for an appeals court case in Gothenburg, Sweden, after the presiding judge fell asleep, TT reported.

The beauty, whose name was not reported, maintains he did not fall asleep during the trial but has nonetheless agreed to no longer preside over the case, Swedish news agency TT reported Saturday. TT said all the incidents of falling asleep were witnessed in court that day.

“She normally when a person falls asleep there are certain indications of this you start by closing your eyes and then the head falls forward. followed by jerking movements as you pull yourself together,” she said.

Retrial ordered after judge falls asleep

A re-try has been ordered for an appeals court case in Gothenburg, Sweden, after the presiding judge fell asleep during proceedings, lawyers said. “It is a very important point of law that the presiding judge was asleep,” said prosecutor Margareta Espeland.

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MAN BUILDS EGYPTIAN COFFIN

An 89-year-old Florida man says he has spent the past 25 years and about $10,000 building an Egyptian-style coffin.

“It’s an unusual hobby and I’ll admit it,” said Fred Guentert.

Guentert, who lives near Orlando, said he began crafting the coffin in the mid-1980s, the Orlando Sentinel reported Saturday.

The coffin is hand-painted red, black, gold and green and is made of cedar to resist rot. The nearly 7-foot-tall box was created using chisels, files and sandpaper, and is held together with dowels and glue, Guentert said.

The lid is adorned with a hand-carved image of the Egyptian god Osiris, with other gods surrounding him.

“I have always been an admirer of Egyptian art. His fascination dates back to when archaeologist Howard Carter discovered King Tutankhamen’s tomb in 1922, the year Guentert was born. He has a collection of Egyptian memorabilia, including statues and miniatures.

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**Xinhua**

**Win 2-1 in the fifth round of the Sao Paulo state celebration.** Despite Neymar's historic goal, he headed the ball past keeper Deola before starting the Palmeiras net. Neymar leaped into the air and the lower left side of the field towards the front of 100th career goal.

Rome, 6 Feb—Juventus and AC Milan were held to draws to keep things tight at the Serie A summit as only one of the top two teams managed to win on Sunday.

Neymar scores 100th career goal on birthday

Rome, 6 Feb—On his 20th birthday on Sunday, Santos star striker Neymar scored his 100th career goal.

The highly anticipated goal came in the 70th minute as teammate and godfather of his newborn son Paulinho Ganso drove a free kick from the lower left side of the field towards the front of the Palmeiras net. Neymar leaped into the air and headed the ball past keeper Deola before starting the celebration. Despite Neymar’s historic goal, he was unable to help Santos as Palmeiras rallied to win 2-1 in the fifth round of the Sao Paulo state championship.

Neymar has scored 82 goals with Santos while his total is 80 with the Brazilian national teams (youth and adult). With a contract valid until July 2014, Neymar has high hopes of establishing new records with Santos. —Xinhua

**Top as stimulus in Serie A**

SIXTH-placed Roma’s 4-0 thrashing of fifth-placed Inter Milan was the lone success for the leading Italian teams on Sunday.—INTERNET

**Marcelo's Mandanda frustrates Lyon for draw**

MARSEILLE, 6 Feb—Steve Mandanda’s injury-time reflex save from a close-range effort by Lyon’s Argentinian striker Lisandro Lopez helped Marseille to a 2-2 draw in Ligue 1 action on Sunday.

**Giresse dismisses Gabon revenge notion**

FRANCHEVILLE, 6 Feb—Mali coach Alain Giresse rejected out of hand the notion that revenge had been his motivation in plotting Gabon’s demise in the Africa Cup of Nations quarter-final.

The Frenchman managed Gabon at the last Nations Cup in 2010, only to be abruptly replaced afterwards by his former teammate at Bordeaux, Gernot Rohr.

Giresse, speaking at the post-match Press conference after shaking Rohr’s hand, said: “Revenge? I don’t function like that, anyone who says I was motivated by revenge doesn’t know me. “My only concern was to drill home a Kim Kallstrom reaction after Lisandro tried a range effort by Lyon’s defender Diakhaby.”—Internat.
US, Australian filmmakers die in helicopter crash

SYDNEY, 6 Feb—Award-winning American cinematographer Mike DeGruy and Australian television writer-producer Andrew Wight have died in a helicopter crash in eastern Australia, their employer National Geographic said. Police said two people—a Canadian pilot and an American passenger—died Saturday when their helicopter crashed soon after takeoff from an airstrip near Nowra, 97 miles (156 kilometres) south of Sydney, but did not immediately release the victims’ identities. Australia’s ABC News reported that Wight was piloting the helicopter when it crashed. Wight, 52, of Melbourne, was the director of underwater photography for Cameron’s 2010 blockbusters: “Under the Sea” and “Avatar.” “Wight died doing what he loved,” a joint statement said. National Geographic and “Titanic” director James Cameron confirmed the victims’ identities in a joint statement Saturday that said “the deep-sea community lost one of its finest” with the deaths of the two underwater documentary specialists.

Band star struck during Super Bowl weekend

INDIANAPOLIS, 6 Feb—The Super Bowl has attracted so many stars to the city that even The Fray admits to being a little starstruck. The band performed at the NFL’s official tailgate party at Lucas Oil Stadium ahead of the Super Bowl on Sunday.

In the days before the big game, lead singer Isaac Slade said they were in a restaurant with “Glee’s” Matthew Morrison, then another VIP walked by—NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell. Later, they saw Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones. Slade said, “It’s been surreal, it’s kind of fan-SNL (Saturday Night Live) split.” The band also enjoyed plenty of star-studded events leading up to the big game—for guitarist Joe King, maybe a little too much. King said: “I feel like I’m a sponge and I’ve had enough.”—Internet

Donor of pagoda, Buddhist ordination hall, monastery, well, lake

U B.B Barua

(95 Year)

Pylionchangar National Construction Materials Trading

Honorary Patron of the Chittagong Buddhism Association (Myanmar)

Son of (U Sarada Barua) and (Daw Kathalar Barua) lived at No 59, Plot-2, Ward-3, Pyin-Oo-Lwin, beloved husband of (Daw S.M Barua), father of (U.S.C Barua)-Daw Myint Myint Shwe, (U.S.B Barua)-Daw Pamila Barua, U Ye Kyaw-Daw Soe Tharya Barua, U Maung Kyi-Daw Susan Barua, U Min Naing-Daw Hla Hla Win, U Htay Haing-Daw Swe Swe, U Aung Lwin-Daw Mi Mi Barua, Daw Mu Mu, Uo Kyaw-Daw Mo Mo and U Lin Naing-Daw Maw Li, grandfather of 30 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren, U B.B Barua passed away on 6.45 am on Sunday, 5, February, 2012, and the funeral service was held at the 8-mile cemetery in PyinOoLwin at 3.00 pm.

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Fifth day session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continues

NAI PYI TAW, 6 Feb—The fifth day session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continued today at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building, attended by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and 566 Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives.

Members of the Union level organizations concerned submitted the session the National Planning Bills, the Supplementary Budget Allocation Bill of the Union for 2012 and the 2012 Union Budget Bill.

With respect to social and management sector, respective ministries presented reports. Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin reported on the policy, objectives and work plans of the ministry, supplementary fund for 2011-2012 fiscal year, the 2012-2013 budget, ordinary expenditure, supplementary expenditure, estimated capital expenditure and foreign income and expenditure for 2012-2013.

Deputy Minister for Science and Technology Dr Ko Ko Oo reported on the policy, objectives and work plans of the ministry, implementation of tasks and research work by departments, income and expenditure for 2011-2012 fiscal year, estimated drafted budget, ordinary expenditure for 2012-2013 fiscal year, approved estimated income accounts, capital expenditure, machinery expenditure and other expenses, approved capital expenditure and foreign currency expenditure.

Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyu submitted reports on aims and objectives of basic education and higher education and work plans, supplementary aggregate budget for 2011-2012 fiscal year, drafted budget, ordinary expenditure according to the Supplementary Budget Allocation Bill of the Union for 2012.

Comparison of income/expenditure between 2011-2012 and 2012-2013, estimated budget for 2012-2013 fiscal year, capital expenditure and foreign income and expenditure.

Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Thein reported on the policy, aims and work plans of the ministry in national projects for 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 fiscal years, the 2011-2012 supplementary budget, drafted budget and supplementary ordinary expenditure, ordinary income/estimated expenditure for 2012-2013 fiscal year, collection and spending of budget in accord with the Nay Pyi Taw development laws.

Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint reported on the policy, aims and work programmes of the ministry, the 2011-2012 supplementary budget, drafted budget and 2012-2013 budget.

(See page 10)

Stanley and Lawrie on the rise
Phoenix and Qatar stars leap over 30 spots after weekend wins

LONDON, 6 Feb—Kyle Stanley and Paul Lawrie have both made significant moves in the latest world rankings after their big wins on Sunday.

Stanley shrugged off last week’s final-hole collapse at Torrey Pines to win the Waste Management Phoenix Open in Arizona and move up 35 places to 52nd. It means, with a second and a first in the last two weeks, Stanley has risen 98 spots in the last fortnight having been ranked 150th in the world before teeing off in the Farmers Insurance Open.

Former Open champion Lawrie, who won the wind-shortened Commercialbank Qatar Masters for the second time, jumped 31 places from 78th to 47th. If he can now hold his top 50 ranking the Scot will earn a return to The Masters for the first time since 2004.

There was little movement at the very top of the list with Luke Donald, Rory McIlroy, Lee Westwood, Martin Kaymer and Steve Stricker all holding their top five positions, but behind them Jason Day’s tied second place in Qatar has seen him leap from 10th to 7th.

Tiger Woods, the long-time world number one before his fall from grace, took time off last week to ready himself for this week’s US Tour event at Pebble Beach and slipped a spot from 17th to 18th.

So too did three-time Masters winner Phil Mickelson. Despite his top 25 finish at TPC Scottsdale on Sunday, he dropped back a place to 17th, one ahead of Woods and one behind Sergio Garcia, who finished tied fifth in Qatar. World number one Donald rests up this week but McIlroy, Westwood and Kaymer will all tee it up in the Dubai Desert Classic.—Internet

Motion Picture Outstanding Award-presenting ceremony with distinct presentation

NAI PYI TAW, 6 Feb—Myanmar Motion Picture Outstanding Award-presenting ceremony will be staged tomorrow by Myanma Motion Picture Enterprise of the Ministry of Information and Forever Group Co., Ltd in cooperation with event organizers—Forever Blossom Co., Ltd and Index Creative Village of Thailand, with the use of stage decoration, advanced lighting system, sound system, movie show and digital mapping system. This year ceremony is distinct from the last year’s.

Arrangements have been made for the media to be able to collect information in systematic and disciplined manner, designated places where broadcasting media and print media can take photos easily and easy access to media center to which photos taken by 60 photographers and 60 reporters can be sent through fiber optical. It also includes movie shows by digital corners and Myanmar traditional design and decoration of Ministry of Culture.

(See page 10)

Green tea drinkers show less disability with age

Scientists excavate underground city in Brazil

Stride of new government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for electricity supply Kyeeohn Kyeevah Multipurpose Dam Project to be inaugurated soon

Capello disagrees with Terry losing England captaincy

PAGE 2

PAGE 5

PAGE 14