Seventh day session of Pyithu Hluttaw continues

Seven questions asked, replied, one bill approved

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Feb—The seventh day session of the Pyithu Hluttaw, attended by Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann and 353 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives, continued at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building, here, at 10.20 am today.

Seven questions were replied and one bill approved. The Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw submitted his message to be sent to the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

U Kyaw Naing Htay of Indaw Constituency asked whether there is a plan to solve the problem that local people use muddy water in creeks nearby villages all the year round due to gold mining works. Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htaik replied that Myanma Gems Enterprise of the Ministry of Mines permitted five companies to carry out jade mining along Laytan Creek in Mohmyn Gems Land and supervise their works.

In jade mining works, 1,500 feet in the blocks from the confluence, the companies excavate the stone layers with the use of backhoes and screen the stony soils with water. They store muddy water from the production again and use it once more.

The muddy water in the creek may be flowed from spilling the embankment. However, the water may not be muddy due to the fact that the muddy water has been settled in the sediment ponds. As both the mining blocks and farmlands are 15 miles from Laytan Creek, the mining works cannot damage the farmlands according to the survey.

The companies have been explained not to harm the natural environment and to emphasize flow of clean water to the creek by constructing the sediment lakes systematically. The Ministry of Mines has issued directives to five gems mining companies for their works to cause muddy creek water, for abiding by the prescribed rules and (See page 8)

Representatives on arrival at Pyithu Hluttaw. — MNA

Third regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw continued for seventh day

Donations for library put on record, six questions answered, two bills discussed, one proposal discussed and recorded

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Feb — The third regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw continued for the seventh day at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of the Hluttaw Building here at 10 am today, attended by Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint and 201 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives.

U Than Swe of constituency No.3 in Taninthayi Region contributed 75 books to the library of Amyotha Hluttaw and the meeting put the donation on record.

Amyotha Hluttaw representatives from Taninthayi Region donated cash to the library of Amyotha Hluttaw and the meeting put the donation record.

Afterwards, representatives asked questions and Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Zaw Win answered the questions.

Dr Htay Naing of Ayeyawady Region constituency No 7 asked to upgrade the earthen road linking Nyangoawgyi Village and Tagundaing Village in Einme Township and Kangyi Village in Myaungmya Township and asked whether there was a plan to upgrade the earthen road linking Maizali Sarphyusu in Einme Township and Kangyi, Kyonton villages in Myaungmya Township to a gravel one.

The deputy minister replied that the earthen road linking Nyangoawgyi Village and Tagundaing Village in Einme Township and Kangyi Village in Myaungmya Township is five miles and seven furlongs long. It was estimated that it would cost about 262,455 million kyats to upgrade the road to the gravel one, he added.

Development Affairs Department would spend 11,055 million kyats on upgrading the 2-furlong road section of the road in Myaungmya Township and 20 million kyats on (See page 9)

Representatives on arrival at Amyotha Hluttaw. — MNA
A piece of advice

Basically, repeating a lesson or subject by rote is one of the most fundamental ways to learning any lesson for students. Generally, the method includes reading notes or a textbook again and again, and re-writing them. Here, time is the most important thing a student has. But unfortunately, some students are wasting it for nothing. In this context, a student should draw a schedule that will guide him best to allocate the available time in the most effective way. It will be a difficult job for him to stick to the schedule. But he should not squander his valuable time. So, it’s up to him to follow his own schedule faithfully. Because avoiding study will be the easiest thing for a student.

Time management for study must be based on priority system to get maximum benefit. First, a student should listen carefully to the lectures of his teachers in the classroom and try to identify the important topics so that he can get the best overall view of all his lessons in detail. It’s like looking at a map before going on a trip. Because the map is the best help to travel in an unknown territory. Then he will have to wisely choose the topics to be studied first. Normally, he should learn the most important and simple topics first. Next comes the important but time-consuming ones. He should give less priority to the lessons that are difficult and not very important.

We hope that this piece of advice or method may be simple, but it may be helpful both for parents and their children and may also be instrumental to the success of any student pursuing education at any level. Wishing every student success!

Myanmar Open Championships 2012 to be held on grand scale at Theinbyu Tennis Court

YANGON, 21 Feb—Under the leadership of Myanmar Tennis Federation, Myanmar Open Championships 2012 will be held on a grand scale at Theinbyu Tennis Court in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, here, from 1 March to 6 March.

In the event, men’s single and double events, women’s single and double events, men’s single and double 35 aged and above events, men’s single and double 45 aged and above events, men’s single and double 55 aged and above events, men’s single and double 60 aged and above events will be included.

The tennis players need to enroll at the court not later than 12 noon of 29 February and dial 01-372360, 381991 and 381992 extension (0) for detailed facts. The court will practise in accordance with International Tennis Federation Rules and Regulations and use only Wilson during the event.

The players also need to pay K1000 for single event, K2000 for double event and US$5 for foreigners single event and US$10 for foreigners’ double event in each event.—MNA

Rehabilitation of displaced families in Kachin State discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Feb—A coordination meeting on rehabilitation of displaced persons, who moved in Kachin State due to regional security, was held at the hall of Kachin State Government Office on 18 February afternoon.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Zaw Win said that he and his team met some families wishing to resettle in their region and some wishing to establish new villages in better transport areas. Thanks to food, clothing and accommodation assistance of the State and the respective organizations, the displaced families are now comfortable, and communication difficulties were found at only a few relief camps. At a time when the conflicts were over, if needs to systematically keep necessary accounts for rehabilitations. In undertaking rehabilitation works, it is necessary to consider fulfillment for not only basic requirements but also reserved rights of the families, he said.

Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Phone Swe stressed the need to carry out regional development tasks inclusive of rehabilitation tasks. All are to work in concert for improvement of health and education sectors as necessary infrastructures are built for regional development. The local authorities are to place emphasis on taking out the tasks in conformity with the aspirations of all national races of the region with Union Spirit.

The participants of the meeting submitted on arrangements for rehabilitations and difficulties of the national race families. The deputy ministers attended to the needs. Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Zaw Win said that the Union government will provide more necessary assistance for the requirements. The respective organizations are accelerating the peace-making process for enabling the displaced families to safely do agricultural tasks in their respective regions, he said.

The plan with 11 sectors is being implemented to be able to resettle the displaced families at their native regions of their own accord, to effectively provide assistance for regional development and rehabilitation tasks, improve their livelihoods and take care of the aged, children and women when the conflicts were over in Kachin State.

Also present at the meeting were Kachin State ministers, Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Khet Htein Nan, officials of UN agencies and social organizations.

Those wishing to donate cash and kind to the displaced persons may dial 074-299520 of Kachin State Ministry of Social Affairs, 074-22386 of Kachin State Government Office and 074-24015 of State Department of Relief and Resettlement.

—MNA

Sixth Mandalay Region Working Committee of the Sangha meets

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Feb—Fifth annual meeting of sixth Mandalay Region Working Committee of the Sangha was held at Sasana Newpadetha Masoyein Monastery in Mahaungmay Township in Mandalay yesterday.

The meeting was attended by Chairman of the committee Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Ganthavacaqa Pandita Bhaddanta ViCiıtahthivamsa of Masoyein Monastery of the township, member Sayadaws, Region ministers, Region, district and township level officials and guests.

Ovada蠡ya Sayadaw Bhaddanta Tejinda of Maha Vithutayama Monastery in Myingyan Township and the chairman Sayadaw, who also presided over the meeting, gave sermons.

The Chief Minister of Mandalay Region supplicated on religious affairs and donated offerings. Then, Region ministers and wellwishers donated offerings to members of the Sangha. —MNA

Traffic Rules Enforcement Team supervised Htanuchkin Junction, Junction of 3rd street of No. 9 Ward, Juction of Hlawga to be smooth traffic and road safety on 20 February.—MNA

Dy FM attends 10th BCIM Forum

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Feb—U Maung Myint, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, attended the 10th Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar Forum on Regional Cooperation (10th BCIM Forum) which was held in Kolkata from 18 to 19 February 2012 and arrived back in Myanmar yesterday. The deputy minister was accompanied by U Kyaw Thi Wa, Deputy Director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. At that forum, the four partners countries discussed and exchanged views on cooperation in economic, culture, education and tourism fields.

—MNA

Take Fire Preventive Measures
Malaysian, Thai leaders discuss border unrest

KUALA LUMPUR, 21 Feb—Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak on Monday pledged full assistance to visiting Thai Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra to help resolve the insurgency raging in southern Thailand.

Najib urged armed groups to renounce violence, as he offered to work with Thailand in seeking ways to defuse the simmering rebellion along their common border as Yingluck arrived for a one-day trip.

“We both agree (the unrest) is a domestic matter for Thailand and people in the south must not seek a separate state. They must reject violence and extremism,” Najib said at a joint Press appearance after their talks.

Yingluck, who took office in August, is finishing up a round of visits aimed at introducing herself to her neighbours.

Najib said the pair “discussed the need to find a long-term and durable peaceful solution in the south” of Thailand, where a seven-year insurgency has left thousands dead.

“Prime Minister Yingluck has requested Malaysia to provide whatever assistance and cooperation we can to help Thailand in the process towards a long-term solution in the south,” Najib said at a joint Press appearance after their talks.

Yingluck, the younger sister of ex-premier Thaksin Thaksin, vowed to make a success of the insurgency. “We both agree (the unrest) is a domestic matter for Thailand and people in the south must not seek a separate state. They must reject violence and extremism,” Najib said at a joint Press appearance after their talks.

Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak (R) shakes hands with visiting Thai Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra in Putrajaya city, Malaysia, on 20 Feb, 2012. Yingluck held a one-day official visit to Malaysia on Monday.—Xinhua

Thai police charge bomb suspect involved in Bangkok blasts

BANGKOK, 21 Feb—Thai police on Monday took the second bomb suspect, Mohammad Hazaei, to the Metropolitan Police Bureau for the first-time questioning and formally charged him of involvement in the Bangkok blasts on 14 Feb.

Hazaei, 42 year-old, was detained at the country’s main international airport last Tuesday while attempting to board a plane bound for neighbouring Malaysia.

 Deputy Metropolitan Police Chief Pol Gen Pansiri Prapawat, head of the investigation team, formally charged Hazaei together with other suspects three offences — illegally assembling bombs, illegally having explosives in possession, and causing explosions that hurt other people.

Hazaei, however, denied all the charges against him.

According to Deputy National Police Chief Pol Lt Gen Jarumporn Suramanee, the DNA test matched Hazaei with bloods found in the rented house where the first bomb went off.

The DNA test to find connection with another suspect 28-year-old Saed Moradi, who lost both legs by accident from his own explosive device and is still hospitalized, has not yet been conducted, he added.

Iranian bomb suspect Mohammad Hazaei (R) talks to Thai police officers during an investigation at his rented house in Bangkok.—INTERNET

Darfur rebels claim holding 52 peacekeepers

KANDAROU, 21 Feb—A major armed rebel group in Sudan’s Darfur region claimed on Monday that it was holding 52 international peacekeepers of the United Nations-African Union peacekeeping mission UNAMID.

Gibril Ibrahim, spokesman of the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), said that “The held members of UNAMID include 46 Senegalese, one Yemeni officer, one from Rwanda, and one from Ghana, besides three Sudanese. We believe they work for the Sudanese intelligence and security service.”

Ibrahim told Xinhua on phone that the peacekeepers were not abducted, but “only being held” by the group.

“We are holding the UNAMID soldiers because they entered our territory without our permission,” the spokesman said.

The rebel spokesman said all the held peacekeepers were fine and at a safe place. “They have been held at a safe place and they are fine. We are waiting for a justification from the mission on why this force moved into the movement’s areas,” he said.

He added that the group also suspected the Sudanese soldiers accompanying the peacekeepers were working for the Sudanese security services.

The UNAMID could not be reached for a comment on the event at the moment.

This event came only few days after the movement asked for signing an agreement between it and the UNAMID to facilitate the work of the mission in Darfur, but Ibrahim Gambhari, the chief of UNAMID, refused the signing of this agreement,” he noted.

He further criticized the UNAMID chief for not being “neutral” in the mission, saying that “yes, we have a big difference with Gambari. He has become a persona non grata in Darfur. We demand him to resign.”

“We believe that the force we are holding is on a mission to bring information for the interest of Khartoum. This is a clear violation for the UNAMID task in Darfur,” the spokesman said.UNAMID, which was deployed 2008 in Darfur as a peacekeeping mission, has encountered repeated attacks by unidentified gunmen in the region, which led to the death of more than 34 peacekeepers.

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THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Wednesday, 22 February, 2012

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Cold baths ‘ease aching muscles, but may be risky’

**London**, 21 Feb —

Taking a cold bath after exercise can soothe sore muscles but it is unclear whether this is safe, say experts. Plunging into chilly water can provide a shock to the system and may even be harmful, researchers at the UK Cochrane Centre warn.

After looking at available trial evidence — 17 small studies involving 366 people — they say there is not enough evidence to back the technique. There may well be other better ways to ease muscular aches, they suggest.

This might include a spot of light jogging or a dip in a warm bath, they say. The idea behind submerging the muscles in icy water, sometimes referred to as cryotherapy, is to reduce swelling and the associated stiffness and soreness that comes with working the muscles hard.

The trend started in elite level sport, but it is becoming increasingly popular among amateur athletes too. Comedian Eddie Izzard, who last year ran 43 marathons in 51 days to raise money for charity, said chilly ice baths were a necessary evil to stop his ‘legs inflating to twice the size of an elephant’.

In the studies that the Cochrane team looked at, participants were asked to get into a bath or container of cold water after running.

Taking a cold bath after running, into a bath or container of water at much lower temperatures than would be used for cryotherapy, is to reduce swelling and the associated stiffness and soreness that comes with working the muscles hard.

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**Jacuzzi vents’ model CO2 future**

**London, 21 Feb —** A UK scientist studying volcanic vents in the ocean says they hold a grave warning for future marine ecosystems. These vents have naturally acidified waters that hint at how our seas might change if atmospheric carbon dioxide levels continue to rise. They are conditions that would make it harder for corals and similar organisms to make the hard parts in their bodies. Dr Jason Hall-Spencer’s work suggests our oceans could lose perhaps 30% of their biodiversity this century.

The Plymouth University researcher has been presenting his latest findings to a major conference in Vancouver, Canada. “I am investigating underwater volcanoes where carbon dioxide bubbles up like a Jacuzzi, acidifying large areas of the seabed, and we can see at these vents which types of organisms are able to thrive and which ones are most vulnerable,” he told the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

Dr Hall-Spencer treats the vents like a time machine. As he swims towards them, the pH level of the water falls and he can use particular locations to simulate what the open ocean will be like in the decades ahead if emissions of atmospheric CO2 go unchecked and much of that gas is absorbed into sea. “What we see as you swim along a gradient of carbon dioxide, up to levels we expect for the end of this century, is diversity loss.

“As you go along that gradient, species drop out of the system,” he told BBC News. “It’s not all calcified species—ones with hard shells or skeletons—which drop out; there are other organisms with soft bodies which drop out as well. “This CO2 is a stressor. Some organisms can adapt but there’s only a few species that can handle it. I extended the gradient up to the year 2100 — that represents a 30% loss in biodiversity.”

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**Japanese scientists confirm fat-burning protein**

**Osaka, 21 Feb —** A team of researchers of Japan’s Kyoto University has found a protein that helps the body burn fat following an intake of fatty meals, Japanese public broadcaster NHK reported on Monday.

The researchers at the Kyoto University’s Institute of Chemical Research compared mice with protein called GPR120 with those that do not have the protein and provided them with high-fat feeds, the report said.

They confirmed that the mice without the protein were heavier than those who had it by an average of 15 percent, and accumulated twice as much fat in their bodies, it said. The Japanese scientists also analyzed the genetic sequence of about 20,000 people in Europe, including the French and the British, and found that people with mutant GPR120 genes were 1.6 times more likely to be obese.

Based on the result of the research, the Japanese scientists concluded the protein is capable of detecting fat, and also plays a role in promoting the body to burn the fat. Prof. Gozo Tsujimoto, head of the research team, was quoted by NHK as saying that the development of drugs that activate the protein will help prevent obesity.

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**At these volcanic vent sites, carbon dioxide bubbles up like a Jacuzzi.**

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**Single-atom transistor busts the records**

**Cannes, 21 Feb —** Researchers in Australia said on Sunday they had made with pinpoint accuracy a working transistor consisting of a single atom, marking a major stride towards next-generation computing.

The device comprises a single phosphorus atom, etched into a silicon bed, with “gates” to control electrical flow and metallic contacts that are also on the atomic scale. “Our group has proved that it is really possible to position one phosphorus atom in a silicon environment, exactly as we need it, with near-atomic precision, and at the same time (incoherent) gates,” said lead researcher Prof. Michelle Simmons.

Transistors, which switch or amplify electrical flow, are the building blocks of computer chips. For more than 50 years, the semi-conductor industry has been upholding Moore’s Law, the celebrated prediction by Intel Corp pioneer Gordon Moore that the number of transistors on a chip would double every 18 months or so. But the astonishing run of success could hit a wall by the end of this decade without a breakthrough in miniaturising transistors.

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**Samsung shifts to new TV technology with LCD spin off**

**South Korea’s Samsung Electronics Co., the world’s biggest maker of...**

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**British firm develops ‘cheapest wireless tablet’**

**London, 21 Feb —** A British technology company claims to have developed the world’s least expensive computer tablet for wireless Internet access. At a cost of as little as $35, DataWind Ltd hopes to supply a market of billions of customers, many in underdeveloped countries.

The student tablet released in October costs $25, but DataWind released an updated version of the Aakash computer tablet this month for the commercial market that costs $50. It comes with more features.

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**‘Abyss Box’ to keep deep animals**

**Paris, 21 Feb —** The public are going to get the chance to see live creatures pulled up from the deep ocean in a permanent display. Normally when organisms are raised from kilometres below the sea surface, they quickly die because of the huge change in pressure. But scientists have now developed the Abyss Box, which can maintain animals in the extreme environment they need. The vessel, containing deep-sea crab and shrimp, will go on show at the Oceanopolis aquarium in Brest, France.

The volume of the box is quite small (16 litres) but researchers believe the technology could eventually be scaled up to house larger animals, such as fish. It is hoped such vessels will enable scientists to study bottom-dwelling creatures over long periods of time — something that is just not possible at the moment.

We want such basic information as the length of life of a deep-sea animal,” explained Dr Bruce Shillito, a marine biologist at the Universite Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris — Internet

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**A British technology firm claims to have developed the world’s least expensive computer tablet for wireless Internet access.**

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**The Aakash computer — Internet**

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**The Abyss Box will contain deep-sea crab and shrimp — and sustain them over the long term.** — Internet

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**Internet**

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**Xinhua**
**Obama to meet Netanyahu at White House on 5 March**

WASHINGTON, 21 Feb—US President Barack Obama will meet Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at the White House on 5 March, as a potential Israeli strike on Iranian nuclear sites has become a hot topic in Washington, the White House said on Monday.

Tom Donilon, the president’s national security advisor who just concluded a three-day visit to Israel, relayed to Netanyahu that Obama “looks forward to meeting with him,” the White House said.

In his consultations with senior Israeli officials including Netanyahu, Defence Minister Ehud Barak, Chief of the General Staff Benny Gantz and National Security Advisor Yaakov Amidror, Donilon addressed the “full range of security issues of mutual concern,” the White House said in a statement. Donilon’s visit is referred as part of the “continuous and intensive dialogue” between the two countries which reflects unshakable US commitment to Israel’s security. Last month, Martin Dempsey, chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, travelled to Israel.

Last Thursday, Netanyahu called Iran “the most irresponsible” country in the world, saying sanctions against the Islamic Republic were not working. He alleged that Iran was “trying to deceive the world.”

**Chinese vice president arrives in Turkish capital for official visit**

ANKARA, 21 Feb— Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping arrived here on Monday evening for an official visit to Turkey at the invitation of Turkish President Abdullah Gul.

“The main purpose of my visit is to deepen mutual understanding and the traditional friendship between our two peoples, and boost the friendly and mutually beneficial cooperation between China and Turkey in a variety of fields so as to better benefit the two countries and the two peoples,” Xi said in a written speech upon his arrival at the Esenboga Airport in Ankara.

“Turkey, like China, has a long history and colourful cultures. Friendly exchanges between China and Turkey date back to ancient times,” Xi said.

“We are pleased to see the continuous development in bilateral cooperation in the political, economic, cultural and other fields since China and Turkey established diplomatic relations in 1971,” the Chinese leader noted.

“As two important developing nations, China and Turkey share extensive common interests in safeguarding world peace, promoting common development and meeting global challenges,” Xi said, adding that China is willing to strengthen its ties with Turkey in a bid to further push forward their strategic partnership.

During his stay, Xi will meet separately with Turkish President Abdullah Gul, Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan and Parliament Speaker Cemil Cicek.

Turkey is the last leg of Xi’s three-nation tour, which has already taken him to the United States and Ireland.

**Vietnam, Argentina promote scientific, technological cooperation**

HANOI, 21 Feb—The Vietnam's Minister of Science and Technology (MST) and the Embassy of Argentina to Vietnam co-organized a seminar here on Monday, under the theme, “First Vietnam-Argentina forum on connectivity and renewal of technologies”.

The event attracted representatives of businesses from both countries, and members of the visiting high-ranking delegation of the Argentine National Scientific and Technological Research Council.

Vietnam and Argentina have signed an cooperative agreement on using atomic power for peaceful purpose, and exchange visits of different levels in the areas of atomic power, biotechnology and agriculture, addressed MST Deputy Minister Ngheim Vu Kha.

The seminar will provide businesses from both sides with opportunities for cooperation, which will help boosting cooperation in science and technology between the two countries, Kha said.

Argentina's Ambassador to Vietnam Alberto Jaime Kaminker highly evaluated the organization of the seminar, saying that it will promote the bilateral scientific and technological cooperation in areas that the two sides are interested in.

Participants exchanged experience in scientific research and transfer, as well as explored opportunities for further cooperation in the fields—Internet.

**China hopes Iran, Britain, France resume oil talks**

BEIJING, 21 Feb—China hopes relevant parties will resume dialogues amid Iran’s talks on oil exports to Britain and French companies, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said on Monday.

China has consistently advocated settling international disputes through dialogue and consultation and does not support resolving such issues through pressure and confrontation, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei said.

Iran’s oil ministry announced on Sunday that Iran has stopped oil sales to Britain and French companies, just months before the European Union’s embargo on Iranian oil will take effect.

**Last nuclear reactor in western Japan shuts down for checkup**

OSAKA, 21 Feb—The last nuclear reactor in western Japan operated by Kansai Electric Power Company has shut down for a regular checkup, leaving only two out of Japan’s total 54 commercial reactors operating, local Press reported. Kansai Electric Power Company said it completed the shut down procedures for the No. 3 reactor at the Takahama nuclear power plant in Fukui Prefecture early on Tuesday.

Kansai Electric has 11 reactors and had produced half of its electricity from nuclear power before the quake-triggered disaster in northeastern Japan. With the shutdown of the government, the company forecasts its supply capacity could fall short of peak demand by 8.8 percent by mid-March under the current severe situation and said his company would make efforts to resume nuclear power generation.

“We will strive to restore trust by taking all possible measures to ensure the safety of nuclear power generation,” he said. Now, only two of Japan’s 54 nuclear reactors are running. But those two, in the central prefecture of Niigata and in the northern prefecture of Hokkaido will also be shut down by late April for checkups. As no reactors have resumed operation after going through regular checkups since the Fukushima complex disaster last March, it is highly likely that Japan will have no operating nuclear reactors this spring.

The Japanese government will ultimately decide on whether to resume the reactors which are being checked, but it also needs the approval of the local governments where the reactors are located. The local governments are urging the central government to set new safety standards based on lessons learned from the Fukushima disaster—Xinhua.

**Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping (C) waves to the crowd as he arrives in Ankara, Turkey, on 20 Feb, 2012. Xi Jinping arrived in Ankara on Monday evening for an official visit to Turkey.**

**Cuba condemns Spanish “interference” in domestic affairs**

HAVANA, 21 Feb—Cuba on Monday condemned Spanish foreign minister Jose Manuel Garcia-Margallo’s criticism of its human rights situation, saying it “disrespectful interference in Cuban internal affairs.”

“We express our strong opposition to these statements constituting a new interference in Cuban internal affairs,” Cuban Deputy Foreign Minister Dagoberto Rodriguez Barrera said in an official release Monday afternoon.

In an interview with Spanish daily El Mundo published on Sunday, Garcia-Margallo said that “as long as Cuba does not take steps toward democracy...and full recognition of rights and freedoms, his country would not support any change of the so-called ‘Common Position’ of the European Union (EU) toward Havana.”

“The ‘Common Position,’ adopted in 1996, conditions the EU relations with Cuba to the “improvement of the respect to human rights and freedom on the island.” Havana considers the EU measure and conditions as “a violation to its sovereignty and interference in its domestic affairs.”

“The Spanish foreign minister should remember that Cuba is no longer a Spanish colony” and “does not accept questions from anyone, especially those trying to give lessons, when they actually have a roof of glass,” Havana stressed. Rodriguez stated that instead of interfering in Cuban internal affairs, the Spanish government should try to solve its own economic and human rights problems. —Xinhua
Thanlwin River Crossing Bridge (Tarkawatt) in Tangyan, Shan State; smooth transport from west to east of Thanlwin River

* Located in Tangyan Township in Shan State (North), the Thanlwin River Crossing Bridge (Tarkawatt) was put into service on the occasion of the 50th golden jubilee of the Union Day to become a show piece for national unity. Thanks to the bridge, there has been enormously increased in rural development of border areas and national races.

* National people who faced uneasy access to the west from the east of Thanlwin River, where could be reached only by a ferry ride at the time when the place was lack of stability, are now enjoying the fruit of emerging the bridge.

Translation: AKK

Notable facts of Thanlwin River Crossing Bridge
1. The Thanlwin River Crossing Bridge (Tarkawatt) is situated on Tangyan-Pansan motor road in Shan State.
2. It is 600 feet in length and 16 feet and 5 inches in width.
3. It’s of RC type and it’s a bailey suspension bridge.
4. The construction of the bridge was started on April 1, 1995, and it was commissioned into service on February 12, 1997.

Soon, driverless cars will zoom in streets with no stoplights
WASHINGTON, 21 Feb — Traffic red lights will soon be a history, says a computer scientist who is developing virtual intersection systems for fully autonomous vehicles.

According to Peter Stone, a professor of computer science at The University of Texas at Austin, intersections of the future will not need stop lights or stop signs, but will look like a somewhat chaotic flow of driverless, autonomous cars slipping past one another as they are managed by a virtual traffic controller.

“Open windows could help prevent infections
WASHINGTON, 21 Feb — Air conditioning and the ultra-sterile environment in places like hospitals may actually contribute to infections, say experts.

Friendly bacteria found outdoors could be recruited to fend off the potentially deadly microbes that cause hospital-acquired infections, according to Jack Gilbert of Argonne National Laboratory in Chicago and head of the Earth Microbiome Project, a global database of microbial species, The Independent reported on Monday.

He said the idea is supported by a study showing that open windows influence the composition of microbial communities found on handles and surfaces, but did not increase the numbers of dangerous pathogens — the sort of antibiotic-resistant superbugs which infect patients. “Open windows let bacteria in from outside and you will either dilute out the pathogens, or you are not allowing the pathogens to establish themselves because there is too much competition for the nutrients and energy that the bacteria need to survive,” Gilbert told the American Association for the Advancement of Science. — Internet
Myanmar archers celebrate 

kissing one gold, two silver

YANGON, 21 Feb—The first Asian Archery Grand Prix 2012 took place in Bangkok of Thailand from 14 to 20 February.

Among archery teams of 29 countries, the 12-member Myanmar archery team stood the test of international archery competition by securing one gold and two silver medals. Aung Hniniameter bagged one gold in the singles compound knockout event. She also won one silver medal together with Ye Min Swe in the mix team knockout event. The Myanmar gold medalist scored one more silver in the ranking in total point.—MNA

In-chARGE ReCTOR Dr HUy Aung presents Myanmararch team that stood first in humane (stickey rice) preparing competitions sponsored by Buddhist Association of Mawlamyine University on 7 February. And marine science team and philosophy team stood second and third respectively at the competition.—MNA

RevinE U Hla Tun said he had nothing special to discuss in this regard.

U Ko Gyi accepted the amendment of the committee.

Regarding Paragraph (5) (b), Member of Bill Committee U Aung Mya Than said the original text is more condensed and it should be approved as original. The Union Finance and Revenue Minister passed on the clarification.

Regarding Paragraph (14) (b), Member of Bill Committee U Tin Maung Shwe said U Ko Gyi’s amendment is more appropriate and Union Minister U Hla Tun showed his approval.

Dr Sai Kyaw Ohn of Namhkam Constituency proposed amendments of Paragraph (22) and Paragraph (27) (b).

Regarding Paragraph (23), Member of Bill Committee U Aung Mya Than said Dr Sai Kyaw Ohn’s amendment is more appropriate and Union Minister U Hla Tun showed his approval.

Regarding Paragraph (27) (b), Member of Bill Committee U Aung Mya Than said the amendment of the committee is more appropriate and Union Minister U Hla Tun said he agreed the amendment of the committee.

In seeking approval for all amended sections and subsections at one stroke, these were approved unanimously.

At invitation of Chairmen of National People’s Congress of China, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker and representatives visits China from 22 to 26 February. On the visit, measures will be taken for fostering China-Myanmar friendship tie, cooperation and friendship and cooperation between the Pyithu Hluttaw and Chinese National People’s Congress.

Today’s session concluded at 1.25 pm and the date for eight day session will be announced later.—MNA
Third regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw continued...

(from page 1)

upgrading the 3.5-furlong road section of the road in Einme Township in the 2012-2013 fiscal year.

The earthen road linking Mezali Sarpyasu and Kanygi and Kyonme in Einme Township is 23 miles and six furlongs long. The 4-furlong distance of the 9-mile road section of the road in Einme Township was upgraded to gravel one in the 2008-2009 fiscal year and two-furlong distance was upgraded in the 2009-2010 fiscal year by Einme Township Development Affairs Department, he added. Einme Township Development Affairs Committee would spend 80 million kyats on upgrading the two-mile-long section of the road in Myanmaung Township and K 40 million on upgrading the one-mile-long section of the road in Einme Township in the 2012-2013 fiscal year, he said.

Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Majen Zaw Win replied that the ten-year project funded by the State, Bandoola Bridge in Einme Township was constructed by the local people in the 1990-1991 fiscal year and the earthen road was 13 miles long and 10 ft wide. Though two miles and 2.6 furlong sections of the road was upgraded in the 2012-2013 fiscal year and one mile and 0.6 furlong distance of the road in the 2011-2012 fiscal year and it was estimated that it would cost K 51 million. It was estimated that it would cost K 40 million funded by Yeikyo Township DAC and K 20 funded by the State, he added.

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Myanmar tourism delegation leaves for Thailand

Yangon, 21 Feb—At the invitation of the Foundation for International Human Resource Development of Thailand, professors led by Prof Dr Dwala Khan Sway Myint who are giving lectures on tourism education at Yangon University and Mandalay University and Secretary of Myanmar Tourism Board U Tin Tun Aung and party left here by air to study academic matters of tourism education at universities in Thailand.

They will pay a three-day visit to Thai universities with a view to conducting tourism study major at Yangon and Mandalay universities in 2012-2013 academic year.

The diploma courses in tourism and management are being conducted at Yangon University and Mandalay University.

Union FM meets Director of Japan-Myanmar Association

Nay Pyi Taw, 21 Feb—Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Wunna Maung Lwin received Director of Japan-Myanmar Association and Former Ambassador of Japan to Myanmar, Mr Takashii Tajima, at the Ministry here at 4 pm today. During the meeting, they cordially discussed promoting of bilateral relations and mutual interests.

Refresher course for assistant directors and district auditing officers commences

Nay Pyi Taw, 21 Feb—Today’s auditing is aimed at scrutinizing undertakings of work organizations and effects on the state and the people; and while work organizations are carrying out their respective tasks for raising the public interest, the auditors are to control these organizations with positive attitude not to derail their policies and aims by contributing to smoother process of tasks, said Union Auditor-General U Lun Maung at the refresher course for assistant directors of the office of the Union Auditor-General and district auditing officers at the office of the Union Auditor-General, here, this morning.

Especially, he stressed the need for auditing officers to encouraging enhancement of internal control system and internal audit of respective departments. Emphasis is to be placed on higher proficiency of respective departments and on achieving success in the works.

In conclusion, he urged them to work hard for serving the interest of the State and the people, to be loyalty to the State, abide by codes of civil service and carry out the tasks honestly.

Grow love in 38KKK record setting books ‘like her kids’

Melbourne, 21 Feb—A woman who has claimed that her record setting 38KKK breasts saved her life, by acting as air bags during a car accident, has revealed the struggles she faces with her chest and the operations she underwent to get it.

The Herald Sun has eventually started out as a B-cup, but 13 years and 22 operations; worth 250,000 dollars and five litres of saline later she has become a whopping KKK.

Despite not being able to find clothes that fit, tie her shoelaces or jog, she says she still loves her breasts “like they are my kids.”

“They are the most good thing in my life,” Herald Sun quoted her as telling on a TV programme ‘My Strange Addiction’.

Hershey said that she went under the knife in Brazil because Texas law limits the amount of silicone that can be injected into breast implants.

Hershey has 2.51 litres of silicone in each breast.

Hitler had eye on UK mansion for headquarters

London, 21 Feb—Hitler would have set up his headquarters in a sleepy Midlands market town in Britain if he had succeeded in invading the country.

Historians believe the dictator had selected Apley Hall, near Norton, in the heart of the Shropshire countryside, and it would have been the nerve-centre of his operations.

A bundle of 1940s papers recovered in a bunker in Belgium at the end of the war contained maps highlighting strategic sites for attack by the Germans, including railway stations, power plants and bridges. Anonymous amount of attention was focused on Bruges for expedition and the turtle.

The Stanton, Grade II listed Apley Hall, just seven miles from the tourist town of Bridgnorth, was once a retreat for rich guests wanting to escape the city.

But, historians believe Hitler’s interest in the area was due to it being geographically in the middle of England. It was also away from the urbanised Midlands and had a handy airbase nearby.

As “far-fetched as it may sound, the papers, which were marked ‘top secret’, earmarked a place in the middle of nowhere where Hitler hoped to set up camp during his planned invasion,” the Daily Mail quoted Richard Westwood-Brookes, who studies historical documents, as saying.

Myanmar, Philippines to cooperate mines exploration

Nay Pyi Taw, 21 Feb—Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htaik meet the Philippine Ambassador to Myanmar Ms Maria Hellen M Barber and Philipino entrepreneurs, at the Minister’s office, yesterday afternoon.

Mines Laws and Bylaws and site visit of technical team. Executive Director Mr Edward A Tortorici and party of First Pacific Company Ltd of the Philippines cordially discussed matters sending of technical team and cooperation. Also present on the occasion were Managing Directors and Directors-General of the Ministry.

WWII grenades found, detonated

Dayton, 21 Feb—The Dayton, Ohio, Bomb Squad exploded two World War II-era Japanese hand grenades after they were discovered at an estate sale, police said. A few attendees at Sunday’s sale took one look at them and became concerned enough to call police in Kettering, a suburb of Ohio, WHO-TV, Dayton, reported.

“Instead of having a pin like American [grenades] have, they had string,” said Larry Hyatt, conductor of Sunday’s estate sale, “And it was really rotten-looking string.” Because old explosive devices can be sensitive to radio frequencies, Kettering police stopped using their radios and closely observed the sale’s locale not to use their cellphones.

Italy to try accused Somali pirates

Rome, 21 Feb—Nine Somalis will be tried in Italy’s first international piracy trial on charges they attacked an Italian cargo vessel off Somalia, a court ordered on Monday.

Four minors and five adults will stand trial March 23 on charges of piracy, weapons possession and other damages incurred when they allegedly laid siege to the Italian cargo vessel, Montecristo off Somalia in October, the Italian news agency ANSA reported.

The accused surrendered to US and British troops working under NATO’s Ocean Shield, CNN reported.

The multinational crew had thrown overboard a message in a bottle and put up a cardboard sign alleging pirates knew they were holding an engineer awaiting help.

Lt. Gwenn Laine of NATO said the USS De Wert kept an eye on the hijacked vessel until the British ship HMS Fort Victoria arrived with a boarding team, CNN said late the night of the October incident.

The minors are being detained in a juvenile facility while the adults are being held in Rome’s Rebibbia and Regina Coeli prisons, ANSA said. If convicted, the accused face 20 years in prison.

MNA

Hluttaw continued...

Third regular session

TV, Dayton, reported.

attendees at Sunday’s sale took one look at Japanese hand grenades after they were and party left here by air to study academic education at Yangon University and professors led by Prof Dr Daw Khin Swe Resource Development of Thailand, the Foundation for International Human Tourism Board, yesterday afternoon.

M Barber and Philipino entrepreneurs, at the Minister’s office, yesterday afternoon.

The minister explained the facts that mines exploration occasions were Managing Directors and Edward A Tortorici and party of First Pacific team. Executive Director Mr for the athletes to get a practice with athletes from foreign countries by holding friendly sports competitions and allowing them to take part in sports competitions abroad. In addition, the ministry has arranged prizes for the athletes so as to up their ability.

As for the ministry, it is carrying out tasks mentioned above, forming the leading committee for holding the XXVIII SEA Games and the sub-committees.

Tests for refugees and juries are being held to serve in the SEA Games, and assessments for experienced volunteers are being carefully done. The deputy minister discussed the proposal to be put on record for it is targeting at the tasks being done by the ministry.

The Hluttaw announced that it is recorded as the proposal.

After that, the sixth day of third regular session of the first Amyotha Hluttaw ended at 4:00 pm today.

At the today’s session, the donation of 75 books by U Than Swe of No. 2 Constituency of Thaninthayi Region was put on record, the cash-donation for the library by Amyotha Hluttaw representative of Thaninthayi Region was put on record, six questions were answered, two bills were discussed and one proposal discussed and recorded.
Skydiver killed in accident

PERRIS VALLEY, 21 Feb—A San Diego skydiver took a deadly fall in an accident during a competition at Perris Valley Skydiving Center on Thursday. Sean Carey, 35, was in the midst of a solo maneuver when he hit the ground around 9 a.m. He was rushed to the hospital where he was pronounced dead at 9:52 a.m., The San Diego Union-Tribune reported.

Carey’s death is the 15th at the Perris skydiving facility since 2000, the Los Angeles Times reported.—Internet

Swedish man stranded in car for 2 months

UMEA, (Sweden), 21 Feb—A Swedish man survived being buried in snow in his car for two months, with only snow and ice to keep him alive, authorities said.

The middle-aged man, whose name was not reported, was found by a pair snowmobiling Friday in Umea, Vasterbottens-Kuriren reported. They believed he was, which was parked at the end of a forest track, to be abandoned.

“Absolutely incredible that he is alive, in part considering that he hasn’t had any food, but also bearing in mind that it was really cold for a while there after Christmas,” one rescuer told the newspaper. Emergency medical personnel estimated the man had been in the car for about two months, the longest a human can live without food, The Local reported Friday. He was serious emaciated and had very limited ability to speak or move. The man is in intensive care at Umea University Hospital.

Stuntman burned in Mountain Dew commercial

LOS ANGELES, 21 Feb—A stuntman is in critical condition at a California hospital after sustaining burns to his face while filming a commercial in Los Angeles, police said. The 28-year-old stuntman, whose name was not released, was swung from a crane while filming a Mountain Dew commercial on Friday when explosive powder misted the Los Angeles Times reported.

Another stuntman said the victim was suspended about 60 feet in the air when the blast occurred at Ellyson Park near Dodger Stadium. KCBS-TV, San Francisco, reported. A device the man was wearing for protection malfunctioned, leading to the severe burns, the Times said. The Los Angeles Fire Department and California Occupational Safety and Health Administration are investigating the incident.

A middle-aged Swedish man was found alive Saturday after two months trapped in a snowed-in car, above, in the woods north of Umea, northern Sweden.—INTERNET

A gruvis an exhibition entitled “In Search of Roots” in San Francisco, U.S.A, on 18 Feb, 2012. Sponsored by the Programme Chinese Culture Centre of San Francisco, the exhibition opened on Saturday. XINHUA

Sharks target sea otters more than ever

MONTEREY, 21 Feb—Scientists say the number of sea otters found dead along the California coast due to shark bites has risen sharply in recent years.

Last year, 70 sea otters washed ashore between San Mateo County and Santa Barbara showing signs of shark attacks. Today, 30 percent of sea otters found dead along the California coast have been killed by sharks. In the mid-1990s, it was only 10 percent.

Scientists are at a loss to explain what is causing the sudden increase in shark attacks. “Is it because the sharks are changing their behaviour, or is there a change in the number of sharks? Or is there something wrong with the otters?” he said. “Are these otters sick and maybe doing something at the surface of the water that attracts a shark? Are they unable to avoid predators?”

The federally designated threatened animal still struggles to recover its numbers, and the recent spike in shark attacks is one of the most significant hurdles.

Campaign reports show contribution probes

WASHINGTON, 21 Feb—A third-party committee supporting Mitt Romney spent $14 million on advertising against his Republican US presidential rivals last month, reports indicate.

Documents filed with the Federal Election Commission indicated Restore Our Future, a super political action committee, spent $5 million raising $4.5 million in January, a person close to Paul’s campaign told The Washington Post. Restore Our Future’s campaign last week said it raised $11.9 million for its campaign and $17.5 million more for the Democratic National Committee in January, the Post said.

Paul’s campaign had until midnight Monday to file their January fundraising reports with the FEC.

A woman visits the San Francisco International Gift Fair in San Francisco, the United States, on 18 Feb, 2012. The four-day fair kicked off on Saturday. XINHUA

Bus driver snoozes, bus goes wild

LOS ANGELES, 21 Feb—A Los Angeles City bus driver dozed off, causing the vehicle to careen off of two signs, several trees, a light pole and a bus stop, authorities said.

California Highway Patrol Sgt Scott Hawkins said there were no passengers aboard the bus or at the bus stop, the Los Angeles Times reported on Monday.

A crew from Southern California Edison was dispatched to the scene of the 1:30 am PST incident in the unincorporated South Los Angeles community of Willowbrook to power down the area and repair electrical damage done by the fallen light standard, Hawkins said.

The 40-year-old driver, whose name was not released, was taken to Memorial Hospital of Gardena, Calif, to treat cuts on her hands, the Times said.—Internet

A gruvis an exhibition entitled “In Search of Roots” in San Francisco, U.S.A, on 18 Feb, 2012. Sponsored by the Programme Chinese Culture Centre of San Francisco, the exhibition opened on Saturday. XINHUA

A 7 kg baby is born in China!

BEIJING, 21 Feb—A baby boy weighing 7.4 kilograms at birth has set a record for China’s heaviest newborn.

Chunchun was born via caesarean section that lasted about 20 minutes on 4 February. Both mother and the baby are doing fine, according to doctors in Henan province’s Xinxing City, the Global Times reported.

His 29-year-old mother Wang Yujuan said Chunchun’s elder sister was four kilogrammes at birth who is now six years old.

“I clearly felt that my body was more clumsy than when I had been pregnant with my daughter. My belly was bigger than it was then,” Wang said.

“I guessed the baby would be four-and-a-half and five kilos. I never expected to hear that he weighs so much,” For the title of China’s heaviest newborn, Chunchun edged out three other babies born between 2008 and 2010, all of whom weighed exactly 6.98 kg. In a study researchers have found that the baby’s genes, or genes shared between mother and child, certainly contribute to high birth weight. The chance a baby will weigh more at birth is greatly increased if the mother gains excessive weight during pregnancy.

The study, published last year in the scientific journal The Lancet, defined high birth weight as four kilogrammes or heavier.

The heaviest birth listed by Guinness World Records belongs to a baby boy born in 1999, who weighed 10.77 kg at birth and whose mother was said to be a “giants.” Unfortunately, the baby died 11 hours after birth.

Activists also decry a new piece of legislation introduced into congress this week would allow the Navy to continue testing weaponry on remote Channel Island, saying would endanger the area’s otter population by exempting the Navy from provisions of the Endangered Species Act and Marine Animal Protection Act.

The bill also includes requirements to ensure the populations of commercially valuable shellfish and endangered abalone.

Steve Shimiek, executive director of The Otter Project, told the Santa Cruz Sentinel he thinks the bill should be called “SOS, Sacrifice Otters for Shellfish.”—Internet

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Wednesday, 22 February, 2012 11
Fake lawyer sentenced to two years in prison

MOSCOW, 21 Feb.—A Russian court sentenced a man to two years in prison for practicing law without a diploma for 12 years. Vladimir Oreshniko, a well-known lawyer in Moscow, pleaded guilty to fraud for working as a lawyer without a proper diploma, RIA Novosti reported on Monday. The investigation into Oreshniko found he applied for a license to practice law at the Moscow Regional Bar Association with a fake diploma allegedly issued to him in June 1991 by the Belarusian State University. “The lack of higher education may be grounds to review cases in which he participated, as well as the provision of low-quality legal services, which is a violation of the right for defense,” said Vladimir Zherebenkov, the chairman of the Bar Association. Oreshniko was sentenced to two years in prison by the Tver District court.—\textit{Internet}

Israel holds earthquake drill in schools

JERUSALEM, 21 Feb.—Israel’s Home Front Command conducted a simultaneous earthquake exercise on Monday in schools all over the country. The drill was a joint exercise held by the Home Front Command along with the Ministry of Education, the Israel Police, Magen David Adom, the Fire and Rescue Services, as well as local authorities.

All schools and kindergartens in Israel participated in the drill, which was intended to raise the awareness of the education system to “an earthquake scenario” and to test the effectiveness of the procedures during and following such an event, according to a statement from the Israel Defence Forces.

The aim of the drill is “to strengthen the cooperation between local authority and the educational establishment along with the Home Front Command, Emergency Services and volunteers from different organizations,” the statement said. Last spring, a similar drill throughout schools in Israel was staged by the Home Front, including a missile strike.

Parts of Israel and the West Bank lay on the Syrian-African fault line. The last earthquake to hit Israel was a magnitude 4.2 one in last August.

\textit{Xinhua}

Suit says Scouts hide widespread abuse

SANTA BARBARA, 21 Feb.—A California lawsuit says the Boy Scouts of America’s reluctance to call in police in a troop leader’s case shows an effort to conceal widespread child abuse. The suit also targets the organization’s secret files of Scouts leader abuse allegations, and a judge has ordered the Scouts to turn over documents covering 20 years. In addition, the civil suit says the Scouts should have known a troop leader put a boy in jeopardy in 2007 criminal case, the Los Angeles Times reported.

The mother called in police herself. Scout leader Al Steven Stein, then 29, was charged with abusing her son and two other boys. He pleaded not guilty to 2008 felony child endangerment.

Stein was put on probation but when officials later found pictures of nude children on his cellphone data card, he was sent to prison.

\textit{Internet}

Man arrested for bringing gun to airport

CHICAGO, 21 Feb.—A Chicago man was arrested for attempting to bring a loaded gun onto an airplane, prosecutors said.

Willie T Thomas was arrested at the Midway Airport Saturday morning when an X-ray scan of his laptop bag showed he was carrying a loaded handgun, the Chicago Tribune reported.

Thomas, who was travelling to Atlanta to visit family, said he forgot the gun was in his bag when he went to the airport, said his attorney, Michael Schmiege.

He was charged with attempting to board a plane with a weapon and held on $30,000 bond Sunday. Schmiege said Thomas would not have intentionally brought a loaded gun onto an airplane, because that would be “about the stupidest thing anyone could ever do.”—\textit{Internet}

San Francisco quake survivor, 109, dies

SANTA ROSA, 21 Feb—Rose Cliver, one of the last five known survivors of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, died during the weekend at a Santa Rosa, Calif., residential care home. Cliver, 109, died Saturday, her son, Don, told the \textit{San Francisco Chronicle}. Cliver, one of 13 siblings and a mother of two, was 3 when the quake and subsequent fire hit San Francisco, killing 1,000 people and destroying more than 28,000 buildings.

Cliver was honored at noon Monday at John’s Grill, said Lee Houskeeper, one of the organizers of San Francisco’s annual earthquake commemoration.

Houskeeper said this year’s 18 April ceremony will be dedicated to Cliver. Funeral arrangements were pending.—\textit{Internet}
A British mother launched an attack on her ex-husband on eBay after losing a custody battle for her children.

The woman, who requested anonymity, said she posted a photograph of her ex-husband and a picture of him with his new girlfriend on the online marketplace.

She said she posted the items because she was upset that he had moved in with his new partner and taken the children away from her.

The items were removed from the site after they were reported to eBay.

Meanwhile, in Hollywood, the upcoming 007 movie is a film starring Daniel Craig playing the iconic spy for the third time.

Craig is expected to be the star of the film, titled 'Skyfall', which was released in cinemas in October.

It is the fourth Bond film to feature Craig in the lead role.

Craig has already won critical acclaim for his performance in the previous Bonds, including 'Casino Royale' and 'Quantum of Solace'.

The new film is expected to continue the franchise's success and is set to do well at the box office.

Meanwhile, in New York, Lindsay Lohan has announced via Twitter that she will star in the upcoming comedy film 'The Canyons', directed by Paul Thomas Anderson.

Lohan, who is best known for her roles in films such as 'Mean Girls' and 'Confessions of a Shopaholic', says she is excited to be working on the new project.

The film is set to be released later this year.
Xavi expects Guardiola to stay at Barcelona

Barcelona coach Pep Guardiola.—INTERNET

BARCELONA, 21 Feb — Barcelona playmaker Xavi is confident that coach Pep Guardiola will sign a new deal with the club. Guardiola’s existing contract with the Catalans expires at the end of the current campaign and the former Spain international has yet to give any indication as to whether he will sign an extension. Though Xavi is reluctant to second-guess his coach, the veteran midfielder remains optimistic that Guardiola will still be at Camp Nou next season. “The coach has given us a great security,” said Xavi. “The World Cup winner told reporters at a Caixa promotional event on Monday. “He is the key. We’d love him to renew because we are very happy with him. We have to wait because, after all, it’s he who must decide. But he will renew.” Barcelona have taken some stuck in recent weeks for falling 10 points behind Real Madrid in La Liga and Xavi said Saturday’s 5-1 rout of Valencia has lifted the players’ spirits. “The feelings were very good [after the game] and it gives us great confidence going into the [remaining] fixtures,” he said. “But we have won three titles, are in the cup final and we will continue fighting to reduce the gap with Real Madrid in the league.” Xavi was only used as a substitute against Valencia on Sunday because of a minor calf problem but the 32-year-old insists that he will be fit to start against Atletico Madrid next weekend. “I’m fine,” he claimed. “I felt good against Valencia and will hopefully be in top [condition on Sunday] [at the Vicente Calderon].” Xavi, a product of the Barcelona youth team, is now approaching 500 La Liga appearances for the club.

INTERNET

Liverpool are at home to Stoke in last eight

LONDON, 21 Feb — Merseyside rivals Everton and Liverpool were handed home ties in the sixth round of the FA Cup. Everton will host Sunderland, who knocked out Arsenal in the fifth round, while Liverpool will face Stoke at Anfield in the other all-Premier League tie. “I think we’re back at home to Bolton if they can come through their replay against Leeds,” said Leon Osman. Stevenage at White Hart Lane. Should Chelsea win their replay at Birmingham they will play host to another Championship side in Leicester.

Full-sixth-round draw: Liverpool v Stoke Chelsea v Birmingham v

Leicester

Stevenson/Tottenham

v

Els never expected it to be easy after being gifted a spot in the Round of 64, South African Els has backed his vision for the Blues’ long-term future. Speaking on the day before the club meets Napoli in the Champions League, Vilas-Boas insists that he is restructuring the club to “sustain” their success.

Chealsea midfielder must back me, says manager Andre Vilas-Boas

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Barcelona coach Pep Guardiola.—INTERNET

Barcelona playmaker Xavi.—INTERNET

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Xavi expects Guardiola to stay at Barcelona

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INTERNET


city)

Manchester United’s Sir Alex Ferguson rejected the chance to sign Joe Hart

Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson has rejected his rival’s interest in signing Hart and will continue fighting to reduce the gap with Real Madrid in the league.” Xavi was only used as a substitute against Valencia on Sunday because of a minor calf problem but the 32-year-old insists that he will be fit to start against Atletico Madrid next weekend. “I’m fine,” he claimed. “I felt good against Valencia and will hopefully be in top [condition on Sunday] [at the Vicente Calderon].” Xavi, a product of the Barcelona youth team, is now approaching 500 La Liga appearances for the club.

INTERNET

Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson has revealed his regret at passing up the chance to sign Joe Hart for £100,000 earlier in his career. Hart, 24, joined Manchester City from Shrewsbury in 2006 and has become England’s first-choice goalkeeper. But Ferguson told BBC Radio 5 live: “I could have bought Joe Hart for £100,000 so we all make mistakes.” The Scot also said he would like an ambassadorial role at United after another “two or three years” as boss.

In a wide-ranging interview, the United manager claims Hart will be an English regular for at least another decade and is the best goalkeeper the country has produced for the last 20 years. After struggling to replace Peter Schmeichel, who left Old Trafford in 1999, Ferguson eventually signed Edwin van der Sar from Fulham in 2005. Van der Sar retired last summer and although Ferguson has defended the purchase of David de Gea, many United fans will be frustrated to hear that Hart could have been their player.

The United manager claims he could have picked the youngster up from Shrewsbury before he eventually moved to rivals City for an initial fee of £600,000 in 2006. Ferguson said: “I’ve no doubt [that Hart will be England goalkeeper for the next 10 years].”
**DICTR  OIT NEWS**

**Micro-credit cooperative society set up**

**Yangon**, 21 Feb—A ceremony to set up Ngehtawm micro-credit cooperative Ltd was held at Township Cooperative Department in Hlınethaya Township on 3 February. Assistant Director of Yangon Region Cooperative Department U Aung Min made a speech, and Staff Officer of the township department U Thein Win formed the cooperative limited with Chairman U Nyo Zin, Managing Director U Sein Win, five directors and two auditors with 50 members. The society was set up with K 1 million capital.

**Ghana’s Asamoah Gyan.**

CAPE TOWN, 21 Feb—Missing key penalties for Ghana in successive tournaments has left Asamoah Gyan “psychologically down” and wanting a break from the national team, the striker said on Twitter on Monday. Gyan, who missed penalties during the 2010 World Cup quarter-finals and this year’s African Nations Cup semi, used the social network to explain his decision to suspend his international career but said he would be back bigger and mentally stronger. I have never fully recovered from (the) 2010 World Cup and now 2012 Afcon (Nations Cup). “I would like to ask for prayers and support from Ghanaians to help me come back with renewed strength to continue serving my country,” he Tweeted Gyan hit the crossbar with a last-minute penalty against Uruguay in the World Cup quarter-final in Johannes- burg, that had he converted would have meant Ghana becoming the first African country to reach the last four. —Internet

**Learn from United’s Basel slip, warns Bayern boss**

MUNICH, 21 Feb—Bayern Munich boss Karl-Heinz Rummenigge insists his team must learn from Manchester United’s lesson and avoid a slip-up in Basel on Wednesday in the Champions League Round of 16 first-leg tie. Bayern will face FC Basel at their St Jakob Stadium, and chief executive officer Rummenigge has said the Bavarians must do their homework and be in the Champions League Round of 16 first-leg tie. Bayern will face FC Basel at their St Jakob Stadium, and chief executive officer Rummenigge has said the Bavarians must do their homework and be ready to recoup their thoughts and emotions will aid me to come back bigger and mentally stronger. I would never say it’s not permitted (in the Champions League),” he was asked if she had lost her focus. When Wozniacki suggested she has lost respect for Navratilova, and elsewhere Bay of Bengal. During the past (24) hours, weather have been partly cloudy in Mandalay, Ayeyawady and Chin and Kayin States, (4°C) above February average temperatures in Rakhine State and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below February average temperatures in Upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin, Chin, Rakhine and Mon States and generally fair weather. —Internet

**Weather forecast for 22nd February, 2012**

The weather on 22nd February 2012 will be sunny, and elsewhere Bay of Bengal. During the past (24) hours, weather have been partly cloudy in Mandalay, Ayeyawady and Chin and Kayin States, (4°C) above February average temperatures in Rakhine State and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below February average temperatures in Upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin, Chin, Rakhine and Mon States and generally fair weather. —Internet

**Focus Myanmar TV Programme**

**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL**

(12-2-12 09:30 am ~ 23-2-12 09:30 am) MST Overseas Transmission


**MYANMAR TV**

**1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw** [7:00 am]

**2. To Be Healthy Exercise** [7:00 am]

**3. Nice & Sweet Song** [8:00 am]

**4. Cultural Dances** [8:40 am]

**5. ASEAN Programmes** [10:00 am]

**6. TV Drama Series** [2:20 am]

**7. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performings** [4:30 pm]

**8. 2012 University Entrance Examination (Myanmar)** [7:15 pm]

**9. ASEAN Programmes** [11:45 pm]

**10. TV Drama Series** [6:15 am]

**11. Traditional Boxing** [6:35 am]

**12. Shwe Yin Chone Than** [7:35 pm]

**13. Alkota Wt Yi Music Troupe** [8:00 pm]

**14. News** [8:15 pm]

**15. Korea NG Award** [8:30 pm]

**16. TV Drama Series** [9:00 pm]

**17. Myanmar Video** [9:30 pm]

**Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas**

**Wozniacki hits out at Navratilova**

**Dusseldorf, 21 Feb—Former world number one Caroline Wozniacki hit back at Martina Navratilova on Monday for claiming that the Dane had never deserved to be top of the world rankings. Wozniacki also suggested she has lost respect for Navratilova, regarded by many as the greatest woman player ever, implying that her TV commenting sought to stir things up and that it would be better to “think a little bit.”**

“I would never say Martina was number one when there was no-one playing,” Wozniacki said, “or that she was the best when no-one was playing. That would be disrespectful.” Her comment was an echo of Navratilova’s remarks at an Australian Open Press conference, in which the 55-year-old legend said: “Clearly nobody feels Wozniacki is a true number one.” Navratilova, whose 18 Grand Slam singles titles were achieved when the women’s game had less depth, also criticized the modern emphasis on the quantity of results over quality. She suggested the modern ranking system which placed Wozniacki at the top for 68 weeks. This places too much emphasis on the quantity of results rather than their quality, Navratilova alleged, suggesting fellow Czech Petra Kvitova, Wimbledon champion and winner of five other titles last year, should have become number one instead. When Wozniacki was asked if she had lost respect as a result of some of the remarks made about her on television, she reacted immediately. —Internet

**Palethwe grown to meet target production**

**Yangon**, 21 Feb—High yield Palethwe hybrid paddy strain is grown in Twantay, Kawhmu and Kungyangon Townships of Yangon South District. On 8 February, Deputy Region Manager U Thein Lwin and officials explained future tasks for cultivation of paddy to meet the target production.—AMS

**Gyan says psychologically shattered after penalty misses**

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**Internet**

**23-2-12 09:30 am ~ 26-2-12 09:30 am)**

**DFL Bundesliga & Skynet**

**Steamed Fish” Dishes “Hong Kong Style Steamed Fish” **

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Roundtable discussion on improving status of realization of ASEAN community and preparations for ASEAN chairmanship role to be taken by Myanmar in 2014 held

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Feb—The roundtable discussion on improving status of implementation of ASEAN community and preparations for ASEAN chairmanship role to be taken by Myanmar in 2014 was held at Satu Ringabala Hall of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs here this morning, attended by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin. Deputy Minister Dr Myo Myint, directors-general from the ministries that are setting up ASEAN political, security, economic, social and cultural communities and officials of related ministries also took part in the discussion.

The first session of the discussion started with an opening speech by the deputy minister. Director-General Daw Myat Myat Soe of Foreign Economic Relations Department and Director-General Daw Nanda Humon of Historical Research Department expounded on realization of ASEAN political, security, economic, social and cultural communities, and section-wise preparations for year 2014.

In the second session, Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin made an opening speech. Visiting ASEAN Secretary General Dr Surin Pitsuwan discussed possible opportunities and challenges with respect to taking chairmanship role of Myanmar, and replied to questions raised by the attendees.

Workshop on Responsible Tourism opened

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Feb—With the aim of ensuring systematic development of Myanmar’s tourism industry, the Myanmar Tourism Board and Germany-based Hanns Deidel Foundation and International Centre for Responsible Tourism, supervised by Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, jointly organized the Workshop on Responsible Tourism kicked off at Myanmar International Convention Centre, here, this morning.

Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Hlay Aung made an opening address. Officials of the Hanns Deide Foundation and International Centre for Responsible Tourism explained matters related the responsible tourism.

Scholars and officials discussed development of responsible tourism in future’s Myanmar based on their experiences.

The participants will focus on role of private sector and management in the hotels and tourism industry tomorrow and will hold a conference on responsible tourism based on results of government and private sectors.

Lady luck isn’t smiling on Barca, laments Xavi

BARCELONA, 21 Feb—Barcelona midfielder Xavi Hernandez on Tuesday lamented his side’s lack of luck at key times this season as the Catalan giants sit ten points adrift of leaders Real Madrid.

“This ten-point difference comes down to details. At key moments when it was double or quits luck wasn’t on our side,” said the Spanish international.

“But we’re going to battle until the end, La Liga is still not lost.” The midfielder acknowledged that “unconsciously” Barca had “perhaps taken their foot off the pedal” slightly. “We’re always competitive but unconsciously the team may not have realised it and slackened off,” he said.

Barca have failed to win seven away fixtures, a weakness not shown in previous seasons. Uncertainty also surrounds the future of coach Pep Guardiola, whose contract expires at the end of the season, with Xavi insisting that he wants him to remain at the Catalan side.

“I’d love Pep to renew his contract, he’s the key element to this machine and hopefully he will sign an extension.”

Xavi dismissed speculation linking him to a coaching role with Barca. “Leave me alone, let me play. I’m not thinking about anything else but playing football. And besides, I don’t even have a coaching diploma,” he added. —INTERNET

Men can inherit a form of heart disease from father via Y chromosome

LONDON, 21 Feb — Men can inherit heart disease from their father say scientists who have tracked the condition to the Y chromosome that dads pass to sons. By studying the DNA of over 3,000 men they found a particular version of the sex chromosome increases the risk of coronary artery disease by 50%. As many as one in five British men carry this version of Y, And the risk it confers is in addition to other heart risk factors like cholesterol.

The Lancet reports.

Experts already know that men develop heart disease a decade earlier than women, on average. By the age of 40, the lifetime risk of heart disease is one in two for men and one in three for women. Lifestyle factors like smoking and blood pressure are important contributors. This latest work suggests the male Y chromosome can also play a role in coronary artery disease — a common form of heart disease that kills thousands each year in the UK.

Dr Maciej Tomaszewski, from the University of Leicester, and colleagues studied 3,233 biologically unrelated British men who were already enrolled in other medical studies investigating heart disease risk. When they carried out genetic tests on the men they found that 90% possessed one of two common versions of Y chromosome—named haplogroup I and hap-logroup R1b1b2.

And the risk of coronary artery disease among the men carrying the haplogroup I version was 50% higher than in other men. The scientists say they now need to pinpoint precisely which genes on the Y chromosome are responsible. But they believe they already know how they exert their effect - by upsetting a man’s immune system.

Internett

Terry out for two months

Terry is due to undergo what is understood to be a small procedure on the right knee that has been troubling him ever since he collided with a post in last month’s FA Cup clash with Portsmouth.

Blues boss Andre Villas-Boas had been hoping the 31-year-old would recover in time for Tuesday night’s Champions League clash at Napoli.

But, despite taking part in training on Monday night, the England centre-back woke up in considerable pain at Chelsea’s team hotel on Tuesday morning and will now miss the game at the Stadio San Paolo as well as next week’s international friendly against Holland.

The news is a major blow for Chelsea who have struggled in recent weeks and dropped out of the top four in the Premier League to increase the pressure on Villas-Boas.

Myanmar, Philippines to cooperate mines exploration

Rehabilitation of displaced families in Kachin State discussed

Thanlwin River Crossing Bridge (Tarkawatt) in Tangyan, Shan State; smooth transport from west to east of Thanlwin River