President U Thein Sein sends message of felicitations to King of Brunei Darussalam

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Feb—On the occasion of the 28th Anniversary of the National Day of Brunei Darussalam which falls on 23 February 2012. U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has sent a message of felicitations to His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Muizzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam.—MNA

Government implementing plans on Dawei Special Economic Zone, Thilawa Special Economic Zone and Kyaukpyu Special Economic Zone in addition to establishment of many industrial zones to create long-term economic opportunities for merchants and entrepreneurs

In practising democracy, the country is constituted with sharing three kinds of power—the legislative power at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the region/state Hluttaws, the executive power at the Union government and region/state governments, and the judicial power at the Union Supreme Court and region/state High Courts. He said that check and balance system is to be exercised among these three bodies to improve the nation by flourishing justice, liberty and equality. He expressed his thought that the nation is on the right track though it has not yet to enjoy all the rights.

In 2010 general election, the people elected Hluttaw representatives, he recounted, adding that the Hluttaw representatives elected the government. Thus, he said that the people are to elect the representatives in vacant constituencies in the coming by-election.

He said that the people of Lashio are to elect Amyotha Hluttaw representative again in the vacant constituency. In doing so, he said that the people are to carefully elect the representative, who can really serve the interest of the State, Region and the people.

The Vice-President said that Myanmar is home to 70% of rural population and 30% of urban population, and most of the rural people are in poverty. Thus, he said that the government is undertaking eight-point task of rural
Delegation led by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker leaves for China

YANGON, 22 Feb—A Myanmar delegation led by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann left Yangon for China to pay a goodwill visit at the invitation of Chairman of National People’s Congress of the People’s Republic of China Mr Wu Benguo this afternoon.

The delegation was seen off at Yangon International Airport by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Deputy Speaker of Yangon Region Hluttaw U Tin Aung, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Junhua and officials.

The delegation was accompanied by 18 members including Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw National Races Affairs and Internal Peace Making Committee U Thein Zaw, Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo, Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Judicial and Legal Affairs Committee Thura U Aung Ko, Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Social Development Committee U Maung Maung Swe, Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Water Transport Development Committee U Kyi Min, Speaker of Yangon Region Hluttaw U Sein Tin Win, Speaker of Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw U Hsan Hsint, Secretary of Hluttaw Reform and Development Vetting Committee Dr Maung Maung Wint, Member of Pyithu Hluttaw Public Management Committee Col Hlaing Ko and Defence Services Personnel Pyithu Hluttaw Representative Maj Thi Han Oo.

Union Minister provides Palethwe quality paddy strain to farmers

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Feb—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing conducts farmers around 100-acre modern mechanized farm in Tegyikon Region of Zabuthiri Township. —MNA

The union minister provided Palethwe quality paddy strain to farmers in Tegyikon Region of Zabuthiri Township. He also proceeded to 500-acre farmer educative farm at 369 acres modern farm of Ahlyinlo Village by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe.

On arrival at 369 acres modern farm of Ahlyinlo Village, the union minister and party were seen off by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Deputy Speaker of Yangon Region Hluttaw U Hsan Hsint, Secretary of Hluttaw Reform and Development Vetting Committee Dr Maung Maung Wint, Speaker of Yangon Region Hluttaw U Sein Tin Win, Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Judicial and Legal Affairs Committee Thura U Aung Ko, Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Social Development Committee U Maung Maung Swe, Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Water Transport Development Committee U Kyi Min, Deputy Speaker of Yangon Region Hluttaw U Tin Aung, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Junhua and officials.

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CBM Governor receives Executive Vice President of OCBC Bank

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Feb—Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue U Than Nyein received Mr. Linus Goh Ti Liang, Executive Vice President of OCBC Bank and party at his office, yesterday.

They cordially discussed bilateral cooperation between Myanmar Banks and OCBC Bank. Also present at the call were the heads of department of the Central Bank of Myanmar. —MNA

Identity cards to be taken out for matriculation exam announced

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Feb—Myanmar Board of Examinations has announced that the students who applied for the matriculation exam to be held from 12 to 22 March, 2012 are allowed to take out identity cards from their respective examination centers starting from 27 February (Monday), and for the students in Yangon City municipal area, starting from 1 March (Thursday), 2012.

The students from Basic Education High Schools and BEHSs (Branch/Affiliated) are to take out their identity cards from the respective heads of their schools, and external students are to get them from the heads of their respective examination centers.

As for the students, if necessary they can contact respective school heads and township education officers. —MNA

Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister inspects development tasks

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Feb—Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung yesterday morning donated K 7.6 million to the fund for construction of new building at Takongyi Village Basic Education High School (Branch) in Kangyidaunt Township.

He also provided cash to the fund for construction of new building at Sanmyaing Village BEPS in Pathein Township and cash to the fund of Shwemyintin Village BEHS.

He also donated cash to the fund of Thiri Wunna Pagoda in Shwemyintin Village. —MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 23 February, 2012

Going on the right track

Developing the Education Sector is a vital factor in taking concrete steps to improve the human resources of a nation. Investment in Education Sector is indeed the best guarantee and most valuable for the future of our country.

Moreover, by developing human resources through promoting the Education Sector, our vision of “building a modern, developed and democratic nation” can be achieved. It will improve the quality of life as well. Promoting human resources is an important component in the nation-building process too.

It is also encouraging that the motto “Morale, Discipline and Education” is to be stressed at all schools, colleges and universities across the nation.

These developments are viewed positively as the press will benefit the whole society of our country, as well as the democratization process.

On the platform of unity, all citizens must contribute to and participate in nation-building tasks in harmony to achieve our goal.

We are indeed going on the right track.
Rebels release peacekeepers in Sudan’s Darfur

KHARTOUM, 22 Feb—More than 50 international peacekeepers and other personnel who were blocked by rebels in northwestern Darfur on Sunday have been allowed to leave, officials at the African Union-United Nations Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) confirmed on Tuesday.

The 55-person peacekeeping contingent was block by more than 100 armed men belonging to the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) while conducting a long-range patrol in the village of Shegg Tova in Darfur, a region in western Sudan, about 60 kilometres (37 miles) from its team site in Umn Baru.

Rebels initially accused the peacekeeping patrol of cooperating with Sudanese security services, but most of them were allowed to leave on Monday after negotiations.

A Yemeni police advisor and two Sudanese language assistants were being held until Tuesday, when rebels agreed to release them without injury and without any conditions.

“Our officers and their troops demonstrated true resolve, courage and compassion in facing down a large contingent of armed JEM rebels who were holding three UNAMID personnel,” said Ibrahim Gambari, head of UNAMID.

“Our troops held their ground; they called in reinforcements and they refused to leave the area without all personnel back on the patrol, including the Yemeni police advisor and two Sudanese language assistants. This afternoon everyone has returned, without injury and without any conditions.”

Senior Philippine law enforcer wounded in ambush

MANILA, 22 Feb—A senior official of the Philippines’ premier crime-fighting agency was shot in an ambush in a Manila street late Tuesday but survived the attack, police and hospital officials said.

Reynaldo Esmeralda, deputy director of the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), was fired upon while being driven home from work, said a police statement.

The police report said Esmeralda had been wounded and hospital officials interviewed on radio station DZMM later said the official, his brother and his driver all suffered wounds from gunshot and glass fragments.

All three were described by the doctors as in “stable,” and not in danger.

Men on a motorcycle fired at Esmeralda’s car after the vehicle and three back-up cars exited the NBI compound, Justice Secretary Leilani P. David said in separate radio interview.

The justice secretary, whose department is in charge of the NBI, said Esmeralda told her via telephone that he did not know who might want to kill him.

De Lima said the incident might be related to the sacking of NBI chief Magtaggol Gatdula and 10 of his agents last month after an investigation linked them to the kidnapping of a Japanese woman for ransom.

She said Justice Department officials who investigated Gatdula’s case had recently received death threats.

“I am not saying that this is the reason (for the attack). I am just warning that there is already a serious threat,” she said.

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev said that if Moscow’s participation in the joint European-missile defence project fails, Russia would deploy tactical missiles in the Kalingrad enclave and halt its disarmament and arms control efforts, including participation in the new strategic arms reduction treaty with the US.

“Ye will do everything in the direction voiced by me earlier, with the only exception being if our partners drop their plans or propose to us a scheme for participating in the joint development of missile defences,” Medvedev said.

Russia delivered on Tuesday new S-400 Triumf air defence systems to its Western Military District and pledged to put them on alert during a month.

Russia-NATO missile defence talks have stalled as Moscow seeks legally binding guarantees that the US-backed European missile defence programme will not be directed against it.

Chinese VP discusses bilateral ties, regional situation with Turkish leaders

ISTANBUL, 22 Feb—The second day of Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping’s visit to Turkey was packed by political meetings on topics ranging from economic cooperation to regional situation.

Xi met with Turkish Parliament Speaker Cemil Cicek and held talks with President Abdullah Gul in Ankara on earlier Tuesday.

After arriving in Istanbul on Tuesday afternoon, he met with Prime Minister Reccep Tayyip Erdogan.

The Chinese vice president and Turkish leaders discussed ways and means to advance bilateral ties, particularly in economic and trade areas.

Both sides agreed to advance China-Turkey strategic and cooperative ties, which were officially forged in 2010.
210,000 people face alcohol death risk, warn doctors

LONDON, 22 Feb — Failure to reform alcohol laws could lead to 210,000 preventable deaths in England and Wales in the next 20 years, doctors have warned. They are putting pressure on the government ahead of its “alcohol strategy” for both countries, expected in the coming months. Writing in The Lancet, doctors said the UK was at a “potential tipping point”.

Prime Minister David Cameron has already vowed to tackle the “scandal” of drunkenness and alcohol abuse. The projected mortality figures come from Prof Ian Gilmore, a former president of the Royal College of Physicians, Dr Nick Sheron, from the National Institute for Health Research and members of the British Society of Gastroenterology. Their figure of 210,000 is a reduction from their previous estimate of 250,000 and represents their “worst-case scenario” of no change to alcohol policy.

“It remains entirely within the power of the UK government to prevent the worst-case scenario of preventable deaths,” they wrote. The figures for England and Wales suggest 70,000 of the deaths could be from liver disease and the rest from accidents, violence and chronic illnesses such as high blood pressure, stroke, heart disease, breast cancer and cancer of the gastrointestinal tract. — Internet

Pancreatic cancer: Trial drug MRK003 shows promise

LONDON, 22 Feb — Scientists say they may have found a new weapon against pancreatic cancer after promising early trial results of an experimental drug combination. Giving the chemotherapy agent gemcitabine with an experimental drug called MRK003 set off a chain of events that ultimately kills cancer cells, studies in mice show. Patients are now testing the treatment to see if it will work for them. The Cancer Research UK-funded trials are being carried out in Cambridge. Richard Griffiths, 41, from Coventry, has been on the trial since being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in May 2011. “After six cycles of treatment, a scan showed the tumours had reduced and so I have continued with the treatment,” he said. “The trial gives you hope — I really feel I can do this with the science behind me.”

Cancer Research UK says it is promising research into pancreatic cancer because the survival rate still remains abysmally low. About 8,000 people in the UK are diagnosed with pancreatic cancer each year, and the disease is the fifth most common cause of cancer death in the UK. Level of rates are very low in relation to other cancers, and the length of time between diagnosis and death is typically short, usually less than six months. The most recent data for England show that about 16% of patients survive the disease beyond 12 months after diagnosis — prompting the need for new treatments. — Internet

Total rethink needed on dieting

WASHINGTON, 22 Feb — Everything you know about dieting is wrong, say US scientists who have devised a new formula for calculating calories and weight loss that they hope will revolutionize the way people tackle obesity. Obesity rates have doubled worldwide in the past 30 years, coinciding with a growing food surplus, and the ensuing epidemic has sparked a multibillion dollar weight loss industry that has largely failed to curb the problem.

Current standards in the United States, where two thirds of people are overweight or obese, advise people that cutting calories by a certain amount will result in a slow and steady weight loss over time. But that advice fails to account for how the body changes as it slimms down, burning less energy and acquiring a slower metabolism, researchers told the American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting in Vancouver.

The result is a plateau effect that ends up discouraging dieters and sending them back into harmful patterns of overeating. As an example, researcher Kevin Hall offered up his large vanilla latte, purchased at a popular coffee shop. When he asked, the barista told him it contained about 240 calories.

Lloyds cuts back £2m from bonuses paid to executives

LONDON, 22 Feb — Lloyds Banking Group has confirmed it is cutting £2m from bonuses paid to 13 executives, including the former chief executive Eric Daniels. Mr Daniels is set to lose £580,000 after his original £1.45m bonus was cut by 40%. Bonuses for another four directors will be cut by £190,000 to £260,000, while eight executives will receive about £100,000 less.

They are being penalised for the bank’s mis-selling of payment protection insurance to 377,000 customers, with estimates that some £3.2bn to £3.5bn of compensation is needed. Lloyds has been forced to set aside £190,000 to £260,000, while a further eight executives will receive about £100,000 less. But eight executives will receive about £100,000 less. They are being penalised for the bank’s mis-selling of payment protection insurance to 377,000 customers, with estimates that some £3.2bn to £3.5bn of compensation is needed. Lloyds has been forced to set aside £190,000 to £260,000, while a further eight executives will receive about £100,000 less. They are being penalised for the bank’s mis-selling of payment protection insurance to 377,000 customers, with estimates that some £3.2bn to £3.5bn of compensation is needed.

Oil prices hit nine-month peaks after Iran halts exports

NEW YORK, 22 Feb — Oil prices hit nine-month highs on Monday after Iranian sales to France and Britain, and as China eased credit policy amid expectations of a bailout deal for Greece, analysts said. The Brent and New York contracts reached $121.15 and $105.44 a barrel in early trading on Monday — the highest levels since 5 May, 2011.

In late London deals, Brent North Sea crude for delivery in April stood at $120.14 a barrel, up 56 cents compared with Friday’s closing level. New York’s main contract, West Texas Intermediate light sweet crude for March, jumped $1.84 to $105.08. “Iran’s decision to halt oil exports to France and Great Britain is commonly cited as the reason for the price rise,” said Commerzbank analyst Carsten Fritsch. — Internet

Asia stocks down despite deal to end Greek crisis

BANGKOK, 22 Feb — Asian stock markets fell Tuesday even as European leaders finally clinched a deal for a rescue package to prevent Greece from going belly up. Benchmark oil hovered near $105 per barrel, while the dollar fell against the yen. Japan’s Nikkei 225 index was down 0.3 percent at 9,460. Hong Kong’s Hang Seng fell 0.5 percent to 21,323.99 and South Korea’s Kospi fell 0.5 percent to 2,014.38. Benchmarks in Taipei, Singapore, mainland China and the Philippines also fell.

Australia’s S&P/ASX 200 added 0.8 percent to 4,291.20. New Zealand and Indonesia also rose. European leaders said they had agreed to a rescue package for Greece, which has been teetering on the brink of a major debt default. The rescue money had been delayed because lenders wanted the country to do more cost-cutting first. Greece urgently needs the euro 30 billion ($170 billion) package before it can move ahead with the next round of talks to sharply reduce the amount of money Greece owes its private investors. Without the money, Greece will default on its debts, starting on 20 March when a bond repayment is due. But the deal didn’t make a dent on Asian markets. Many observers feel it falls far short of what Greece needs to prevent financial collapse. — Internet

Greek Finance Minister Evangelos Venizelos, left, gestures while speaking with European Central Bank President Mario Draghi, second right, during a round table meeting of eurozone finance ministers at the EU Council building in Brussels on 20 Feb, 2012. — INTEXT

"I am the first UK bank to reduce bonuses following a worse-than-expected performance." — LLOYDS

Lloyds is the first UK bank to reduce bonuses following a worse-than-expected performance. — Internet

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"It remains entirely within the power of the UK government to prevent the worst-case scenario of preventable deaths," they wrote. The figures for England and Wales suggest 70,000 of the deaths could be from liver disease and the rest from accidents, violence and chronic illnesses such as high blood pressure, stroke, heart disease, breast cancer and cancer of the gastrointestinal tract. — Internet
MoU signed between Boards of Trustees of Beijing Tooth Relic Temple and of Shwedagon Pagoda

Yangon, 22 Feb—A press conference of China Buddhism Association on its support to Myanmar’s charitable contributions was held in conjunction with signing ceremony of goodwill MoU between Boards of Trustees of Beijing Tooth Relic Temple and of Shwedagon Pagoda this evening at Shwedagon Pagoda.

The Chinese side explained about management of donations of Myanmar people to Buddha Tooth Relic in China and purpose of inking the deal. Both sides signed the MoU and exchanged gifts.

The Chinese side donated cash to Shwedagon Pagoda through Union Minister for Foreign Affairs Thura U Myint Maung.

Union Foreign Affairs Minister felicitates Brunei Darussalam counterpart

Nay Pyi Taw, 23 Feb—On the occasion of the 28th Anniversary of the National Day of Brunei Darussalam which falls on 23 February 2012, U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Royal Highness Prince Haji Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Brunei Darussalam. —MNA

Union Mines Minister receives foreign guests

Nay Pyi Taw, 22 Feb—Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htaik met Mr Yan Charles, Chairman of Zhongchu International Mining of People’s Republic of China and party at 9:15 am, Mr K V Rao, Managing Director of Trust Energy Resources Pte Ltd of Singapore at 11am, Mr Li Fanping, Chairman of Beijing YZH Coal Engineering Design Co., Ltd at 12:15 pm at the latter’s office respectively today.

At the meeting, they held discussion on precious metal, nonferrous metals used in industry and charcoal resources are found in Myanmar, rules and regulations to explore mineral mining, cooperation programme, investment, using modern technologies in exploring mineral mining, and environmental conversation.

Also present at the meeting were the directors-general and the managing directors of the Ministry of Mines.

MNA

Workshop on strengthening bilateral cooperation in rice industry between Myanmar and Thailand held

Yangon, 22 Feb—Director-General of Mr Charit Damrongkiet of Rice Department of Thai Agriculture and Cooperatives, Special Adviser to the Ministry Dr Apichart of Thai Agriculture and Cooperatives, Mr Charit Damrongkiat of Rice Department even at Shwedagon Pagoda.

Those present pose for documentary photo at Workshop on strengthening bilateral cooperation in rice industry between Myanmar and Thailand. —MNA

Coasts in peril plan ahead for rising seas

New York, 22 Feb—Scientists warn that by the end of this century, the sea level along North America’s west coast will rise by about a metre due to global warming and melting arctic glaciers. That presents a scenario that few people in the world’s coastal and island communities want to think about — the end of their water’s edge way of life, their homes flooded, their farming fields drenched and rendered useless. But one coastal port in British Columbia has begun to plan for this grim future with the help of scientists who created computer images that show exactly what their town will look like when it is inundated with water. “In our work we try to visualize four different worlds,” said David Flanders, a landscape architect and research scientist at the University of British Columbia. Those include building larger sea walls and dykes to hold the water back, crafting barrier islands to absorb some of the tides and reinforce the shores, moving entire towns inland, or building everything higher by raising homes on stilts and elevating roads. —INTERNET

MNA

Animal diseases increasingly plague the oceans

Santa Barbara, 22 Feb—When dead sea mammals started washing ashore on Canada’s west coast in greater numbers, marine biologists and special agricultural zones in Dagon River in Siberia, a top site for people looking for mammoth bones. The Institute of Cell Sciences (PNAS), they note this is the oldest plant material by far to have been brought to life. Prior to this, the record lay with date palm seeds stored for 2,000 years at Masada in Israel. The leader of the research team, Professor David Gilichinsky, died a few days before his paper was published. In it, he and his colleagues describe finding about 70 squirrel fur tubercles burrows in the riverbank.

A hurey seal pup lies on an ice floe in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence in Canada, on March 2008. —INTERNET

The success of the operation hinges on the habits of the Arctic ground squirrel. —INTERNET

Moscow, 22 Feb—Scientists in Russia have grown plants from fruit stored away in permafrost by squirrels over 30,000 years ago. The fruit was found in the banks of the Kolyma River in Siberia, a top site for people looking for mammoth bones. The Institute of Cell Biophysics team raised plants of Silene stenophylla — of the campion family — from the fruit. Writing in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS), they note this is the oldest plant material by far to have been brought to life. Before this, the record was held by date palm seeds stored for 2,000 years at Masada in Israel. Leader of the research team, Professor David Gilichinsky, died a few days before his paper was published. In it, he and his colleagues described finding about 70 squirrel fur tubercles burrows in the riverbank.

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INTERNET
Pyithu Hluttaw Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission meets civil society

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann extends greetings at meeting between Pyithu Hluttaw Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission and civil society.

Mandalay Region Hluttaw continues for sixth day

Mandalay Region Hluttaw building this morning. It was attended by Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint, Region Hluttaw Speaker U Win Maung and 73 Hluttaw representatives.

Today’s session came to an end at 12.40 pm.—MNA

Union H&T Minister receives guests

Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Sports U Tint Hsan received President of Zhongchuan International Holding Co Mr Ximing Sun and party of People’s Republic of China.

The development of a nation calls for high morale of its citizens and also their trust on their government. I have proposed pay rise in my capacity as the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker and so I would like to invite suggestions on salary increase for civil servants and beneficial to the citizens at this meeting between Pyithu Hluttaw Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission and scholars and experts from different circles and also cooperation between parliament, people and the MPs.

Next, Pyithu Hluttaw LASCAC Chairman Deputy Hluttaw Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa explained facts about the commission.

Next, businessmen and personnel of Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Myanmar Fishery Federation, banking associations, Public Accountants Association and Myanmar Audit Council made frank suggestions about salary increase and consequential increase in commodity price and inflation, necessary preparations and the role of legislative sector in serving interests of the nation and its people.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann assessed the suggestions and made concluding remarks. He then replied to queries of local journalists and foreign correspondents.—MNA

Donate Blood

Minister U Ye Myint, Region Hluttaw Speaker U Win Maung and 73 Hluttaw representatives.

At today’s session, 16 questions were answered, bills were approved, dates were set for approval of bills, clarification of reports, discussion of Hluttaw representatives, and submission of bills. Today’s session came to an end at 12.40 pm.—MNA

The meetings focused on investment and human resources development in hotels and tourism sectors.

The meetings were also attended by Deputy Minister U Hay Aung, the managing director and officials.—MNA
**Union Minister**

**U Kyaw Hsan receives Yunnan TV delegation**

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Feb—Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan received Yunnan TV delegation of Yunnan Province led by Mr Yang Yuming at the Ministry of Information here this afternoon.

It was also attended by Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sanda Khin and officials of departments and enterprises under the Ministries of Information and Culture.

The Union minister said TV series will help strengthen friendship between peoples of two countries and cooperation in media and broadcasting sectors will be continued. He discussed in detail matters to be coordinated between the two sides for shooting TV series.

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**Thanlwin Bridges (Tarhsan and Tarpa) contributing much to smooth transportation of local people in Shan State**

Thanlwin Bridge (Tarhsan) linking Shan State (South) and (East).

**Thanlwin Bridge (Tarhsan)**

- The bridge is 900 feet long and 16.5 feet wide.
- Located on Mongpan-Mongton motor road, the bailey suspension bridge links Shan State (South) and Shan State (East).
- It can withstand 36 tons of loads.
- The eastern areas of Thanlwin River lagged far behind in development of the western areas of Thanlwin River as Thanlwin River serves as barrier which brought poor transport.
- The advent of the bridge has created easy access to Mongton and Monghsat in the east of Thanlwin River via Taunggyi by motorway.
- With the rough current of the river, there was frequent interruption of transport and this caused higher commodity prices in Mongton and Monghsat, and as a result, local people had to live a miserable life. At present, those difficulties have been overcome.

Translation: TLA

Archive: Maung Nyein Aye

Photo shows Thanlwin Bridge (Tarpa), a reliable transport facility for people.

Thanlwin Bridge (Tarpa) seen across Thanlwin River.

Thanlwin Bridge (Tarpa) linking Shan State (North) is 600 feet long with 16 feet and 4 inches wide motorway.

- Its upper structure is of steel truss suspension structure and its lower structure is reinforced concrete piers. The clearance is 400 feet in width and 30 feet in height. It can withstand 60 tons of loads.
- It is situated on Kutkai-Tamoenye-Monesi-Tarpa-Tarshwehtan road which is 17 miles far from Kutkai.
- Thanks to the bridge constructed in Shan State (North), national brethren are devoted to each other. Moreover, domestic products can be transported in local areas plus border areas through the bridge.
Government implementing plans on Dawei Special Economic Zone... (from page 1)

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham meeting with local people and departmental officials in Lashio.—MNA

Kyaukpyu Special Economic Zone in addition to establishment of many industrial zones as part of its efforts to create long-term economic opportunities for merchants and entrepreneurs. Likewise, feasibility survey is being conducted for investment of public companies, private companies, joint venture companies and foreign-owned companies to establish a suitable industrial zone or a special economic zone in Muse District, he said. Moreover, he noted that establishment of the industrial zones is aimed at promoting the tourism industry based on ecology, regional history and national races' culture, and creating job opportunities not only for all walks of life from the region but also for Myanmar migrant workers from other countries.

He invited the suggestions from entrepreneurs and merchants to come out the opportunities and to emphasize undertaking of future tasks in the long-run interest. As such, he said that Myanmar would have capabilities to be on a par with ASEAN countries in realizing the ASEAN Integration in 2015. As Myanmar which is home to various national races in the Union nation, all national races possess respective literatures and cultures, he said. In line with the provision of the constitution, saying that every citizen shall enjoy the rights to pursue respective literature by upholding Our Three Main National Causes without harming languages, religions, literatures and cultures of other national races, he granted that the State will assist flourishing of national race literatures. At present, he said that national race Hlutaw representatives are seeking ways to teach their respective literatures as proposals were submitted to the Hlutaws. In fact, he said that the Government personnel are strengths of the government. He pointed out that the machinery of the government cannot be operated without State service personnel as well as the massive personnel cannot march towards the goal without leadership of the government, and the both sides are relying on each other.

He stressed the need for personnel to be loyal to the State in discharging their duties, and the government will emphasize development of social life of the staff, he noted. While the government is striving for undertaking the process of clean government, he urged the service personnel to avoid malpractices of bribery. Moreover, he said that in line with the changed situations, the people wishing to submit their requirements on behalf or for the majority to the government directly or through Hlutaw representatives of respective constituencies. The submissions on the right way will be assisted within the framework of law, he said.

State Hlutaw representative U Sai Kyaw, ward and village administrators, entrepreneurs and merchants and local people submitted reports on opening of an Education College in Lashio, supply of electricity and drinking water, allotment of the land plot for Chambers of Commerce and Industry and regional requirements.

Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi, Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye, Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat and Deputy Minister for Electric Power No. 2 U Aung Than Oo replied to the submissions on their respective sectors.

With regard to supply of electricity, he stressed the need to form the local power supply committees for contributing to the government in coverage of electricity supply tasks across the nation. Likewise, he said that if the local people cooperate with the government in conservation of environment and maintenance of buildings and land plots, supply of water and upgrading of schools can be carried out as quickly as possible. In consequence, he said that the projects of the State will be accomplished in a short time.

made concluding remarks, saying that the Union ministers, the state chief minister and deputy ministers have fulfilled the requirements regarding the submissions of ward and village administrators, townelders and organizations as much as they could. Among these submissions, priority will be given to the issues for the majority, he said. Reporting the regional requirements is designed to contribute towards undertaking of regional development tasks, he added. He urged the local people to join hands with the government in successfully implementing the projects.
Daw Nan Shwe Hmon, wife of Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, meets WAO and MCWA in Lashio District, donates rice, oil, cash to orphanages

**Displaced families in Kachin State provided with necessities**

**Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham presents robe and alms to the abbot of Maha Bawdayon Monastery in Lashio No. 4 Ward.—MNA**

The Kachin State government set out education plans for 40/19 school-age children.

The displaced families want to return to their own land wishing for regional stability and eternal peace.

Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Zaw Win encouraged that the President has had wish to provide displaced people with necessary assistance and to carry out resettlement and rehabilitation works when the region restores peace. As the State government holding Union level and state level peace talks is taking measures to ensure ceasefire and endless peace, the locals will be able to pluck peace flowers in next to no time.

The victims need to pull themselves together without being downhearted. The State government sympathizes with displaced people and heartedly thanks the Kachin State government for taking great care of them.

The displaced people now have to return to their own land wishing for regional stability and eternal peace.

**The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Thursday, 23 February, 2012**

**Governor implementing plans on Dawei Special Economic Zone...**

(from page 8)

period. Thus, he urged the people to pour out their utmost efforts in nation-building tasks.

After the meeting, the Vice-President cordially greeted those present.

At Maha Bawdayon Monastery in Ward 4 of Lashio, the Vice-President and party paid homage to the Abbot and presented robes and alms to the Sayadaw and presented cash to the fund through the monastery board of trustees.

At Khayoe Pariyatti Monastery in Ward 9, they also paid homage to President Nayaka Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sumana and members of the Sangha and made donations.

In the afternoon, the Vice-President met merchants and entrepreneurs from Lashio, Kyaukme and Muse districts in Shwelel Yeiktha in Lashio.

First, merchants made self introductions from Lashio, Muse, Kyaukme and Nawngkio.

Chairman U David of Lashio Merchants and Industrial Entrepreneurs Association, Chairman U Tin Maung Oo of Kyaukme District Merchants and Industrial Entrepreneurs Association, Chairman U Chit Tin of Nawngkio Township Merchants and Industrial Entrepreneurs Association and Vice-Chairman U Htay Oo of Namkham Border Trade Merchants Association reported on their requirements and development of domestic trade.

Chairman of Cooperative Bank U Khin Maung Aye, Chairman of Asia World Co U Tun Myint Naing, Chairman of Shwe Thando Co U Kyaw Win and Chairman of New Star Light Co U Kyaw Kyaw Win submitted reports on development of Shan State and establishment of Muse Special Economic Zone to create job opportunity for the local people.

Union Minister for Livestock and Fisheries and for Cooperatives U Ohn Myint reported on export of advanced tea from Kyaukme and Nawngkio townships and assistance of the ministry for milk cow and fish breeding tasks.

U Min Min of Muse Township presented suggestions on development of Muse.

After reviewing the reports, the Vice-President said that he would like to present actual difficulties to the entrepreneurs in the meeting. He said he will solve the present difficulties at first.

He urged those present to make efforts for achieving success in long-run to as to export the value-added products.

As factories and workshops are operated at full capacity in production works for generating more job opportunities in the nation, it is necessary to consider establishment of industrial zones, he noted. In conclusion, he urged those present to expedite their efforts step by step for establishment of industrial zones and special economic zones to be able to uplift socio-economic life of the local people.—MNA
Representatives attending 13th day session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.—MNA

Thirteen day session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw… (from page 16)

implemented currently should be rejected and suspended and
allowed to work in low volume. It was found that money could
be saved if the union government handed over plans and
projects that should not be implemented by the union
government to the private sectors under FDI, PPP and
suspended the plans and projects that should be suspended
and the salary increases could be done to a certain percent in
the upcoming 2012-2013 fiscal year if the money were injected
to the salary payment for the service personnel, he said.

Those plans were industrial development project
and Nay-Pyi Taw development project and more plans and projects
could be found when assessment were made, he added.

If the people’s representatives carried out assessment
to the public finances and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw carried out
assessment the projects in which Public finances should not
be spent unnecessarily, salary increases for the service
personnel could be made to a certain extent.

The good service personnel shaped the good
government, and only the good government would benefit
the State and people, and when the service personnel enjoyed
the recognition of the legislative body and executive body,
they would become good service personnel with moralities
who could support for the national building.

And it would help the country to overcome the
challenges in the future and help the work for creating the
Clean Government. Good Governance as soon as possible
promising the good future of the country, he said.

In conclusion, he urged Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to carry
out assessment to the national plans and projects and the
Union Budget Bill presented by the Union Government in
the interests of the people and the State for bringing the pride
to the State, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and representatives of
Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

At the proposal discussion session, regarding the
proposal on “adopting National Transport Network Policy
that can cover the whole country, drafting new projects
after carrying out detailed examinations—whether or not
new projects are beneficial, whether or not it can actually
benefit people and whether or not it can meet the
expectations, and urging the Union Government to publicize
the allocation of money to respective projects for transparency” submitted by U Sai Tha Ha Kyaw of Mongyalh
Constituency on 13 February and discussed by 10 representatives, U Ye Htun Tin of Phaphsaung Constituency
made a clarification on findings and remarks of the committee
which link other countries are to be like those of neighboring
countries.

Priority is given to main union roads linking regions
and states for economic growth and commercial
activities.

Ministry of Construction is implementing road networks
in accord with basic principles in constructing roads and
bridges, which are the basic infrastructures for harmonious
development of the country.

Road network system of a country is to be drafted
based on many factors. It needs to consider indexes such as
economic scale, international relations etc. Sometimes, even
though it does not bring benefits to the country, amity of
national races, regional development and not lagging far
behind are to be taken into consideration. I approved the
proposal. The proposal was approved with yes vote.

Regarding Village-tract Administration Bill, Hluttaw
representatives discussed remarks of the President and the
Hluttaw sought approval paragraph-wise.

Regarding Paragraph (7) (c) of Chapter (4) of the
bill, comment of the President is, “Regarding the amendment
to the bill submitted by the ministry replacing the phrase ‘by
straw poll’ with ‘by secret ballot’, election of the
representative of ten-house groups by straw poll is election
by pleenary meeting and will choose qualified representative.
This basic level election pattern will lessen stuffs to do,
doing away from unnecessary administration and reduce
its cost. It will also avoid further complications caused by
ballot. It should be kept as in the original.”

In regard of the Joint Bill Committee is to keep as approved by the
Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, “Respective breadwinners of ten households in the ten-house group shall elect one person who satisfies set requirements from dwellers of the group by secret ballot, shall inform the name and
calendar vitae of the representative elect.”

U Man Kan Nyunt of Kayin State Constituency (2)
seconded the remark of the President. U Aung Aung Kyaw of Ywangan Constituency and U Tun Aung Kyaw of Ponnyaung Constituency discussed in favour of the comment of the Joint
Bill Committee.

Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko
proposed the vote on the paragraph.

As there are more votes against the proposal, “the part
of the bill shall be in accordance with the President”, the bill was
approved as first approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Regarding Paragraph (29) of Chapter (13) of the bill,
the remark of the President is, “Since the bill prescribes,
‘Expenses of ward or village-tract administrator’s offices shall
be paid from commission earned on taxes on farmlands as an
income ratio’, wards and villages with no farmland will face
difficulties.”

The amendment of the Joint Bill Committee based on
the President’s remark is, “To enable ward or village-tract
administrator’s offices bear expenses for respective
transparency”.

U Aung Thein of Ywangan Constituency and U Tun
Aung Kyaw of Ponnyaung Constituency seconded the
amendment of the Joint Bill Committee. Union Minister Lt-Gen Ko Ko gave his consent for the amendment.

As there are more votes for the proposal, “the
amendment of the Joint Bill Committee should be part of the
bill”, it was approved.

Regarding Paragraph (30) of Chapter (13) of the bill,
the comment of the President is, “Since the bill prescribes,
‘If income does not meet office expenses, fund shall be requested
from township administrator’, the township administrator
could allow the fund only when he/she has permission to
allow it from the fund of the State.”

The amendment of the Joint Bill Committee based on
the President’s remark is, “The fund allotted under paragraph
(29) shall be acquired from township administrator by ward or
village-tract administrator and used systematically.”

U Aung Thein of Ywangan Constituency and U Tun
Aung Kyaw of Ponnyaung Constituency seconded the
amendment of the Joint Bill Committee. Union Minister Lt-Gen Ko Ko gave his consent for the amendment.

As there are more votes for the proposal, “the
amendment of the Joint Bill Committee should be part of the
bill”, it was approved.

Regarding Paragraph (31) of Chapter (13) of the bill,
although the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved it as, “Ward or
village-tract administrator shall report expenses to township
administrator”, the Joint Bill Committee canceled the paragraph
to be in accordance with the amended paragraphs (29) and (30)
of the Chapter (13). As the proposal obtained more yesses, the
Hluttaw cancelled the paragraph.

The Joint Bill Committee considered that the
undertakings in 2011-2012 fiscal year National Plan Bill are
completed one or under way; it will be more appropriate that
the Hluttaw should record it, rather than approve it, and let the
works continue. The Hluttaw put the bill on record.

Member of the Joint Bill Committee Dr Myat Nyunt Soe
made clarification on procedures and features to be included
in discussion and approving the Budget Bill of the Union under
Pyidaungsu Hluttaw rules.

Secretary of the Joint Bill Committee U Saw Hla Tun
made clarification on findings and remarks of the committee
in 2012 Additional Budget Allotment Bill of the Union and
Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun submitted
the proposal to discuss these at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

The proposal was approved unanimously.

Regarding Village-tract Administration Bill, representatives discussed remarks of the President and the
Hluttaw sought approval paragraph-wise.

Regarding Paragraph (7) (c) of Chapter (4) of the
bill, comment of the President is, “Regarding the amendment
to the bill submitted by the ministry replacing the phrase ‘by
straw poll’ with ‘by secret ballot’, election of the
Local Sports

Football Tourney concludes in Singaing
SINGAING, 22 Feb—The first Singaing Township Inter-Ward Village Football Tournament was held at township sports ground in Singaing Township from 31 January to 2 February. A total of 14 football teams—six teams from six wards and eight teams from village-tracts—participated in the tournament.

After the final match, Region Hluttaw Representative U Nyi Nyi presented cash awards and trophy to first prize winning Thikkhun Village team.

Next, Region Hluttaw Representative U Sein Thaung gave cash award and prize to Yannain Ward team that stood second in the football tournament.

Sports Ministry organizes mini-marathon, track & field
YANGON, 22 Feb—To turn out new generation athletes, Ministry of Sports organized the Inter-District Men’s and Women’s Mini-marathon and track and field contest in Yangon Region.

On 10 February, attended by Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung and officials. Region Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Breeding U Tin Soe, Region Minister for Development Affairs U Kyaw Win Naing and wellwishers Thudhamma Manjotadhara U Kyin Han formally opened the road. They also opened Aungtheikdi, Aungmaga and Bantbwegon—section-1 concrete roads.—Myanma Alin

New concrete road inaugurated
PATAHEIN, 22 Feb—In honour of the 65th Anniversary Union Day, Minyekyaww Road, repaved with concrete facility, was inaugurated in Patahein of Ayeyawady Region on 10 February, attended by Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung and officials.

The head of Yangon Region Social Welfare Department and the principle of the training school presented certificates to 252 trainees.

The course No/2012 will be opened for tailoring the dresses, snacks, Myanmar foods, Chinese foods, floral arrangements (basic/advanced) on 20 February and knitting courses on 25 February. The courses will last two months each.—vts

Outstanding teachers, students awarded
HINTHADA, 22 Feb—The prize presentation of No.1 Basic Education Primary School in Hinthada was held at the school on 29 January.

The township administrator and the township education officer presented prizes to outstanding teachers and students.—Myanma Alin

Vocational courses conclude
YANGON, 22 Feb—The vocational training course No.1 2012 concluded at the training school at 135 on Dhammazedi Road in Bahan Township on 17 February.

The head of Yangon Region Social Welfare Department and the principle of the training school presented certificates to 252 trainees.

The course No/2012 will be opened for tailoring the dresses, snacks, Myanmar foods, Chinese foods, floral arrangements (basic/advanced) on 20 February and knitting courses on 25 February. The courses will last two months each.—vts

Development of fish resources discussed
SHWEGYIN, 22 Feb—To be able to contribute to rural development and poverty alleviation, the talk on conservation of fish resource was held at Inagini Village Basic Education Primary School in Shwegyin Township on 3 February.

Departmental officials explained digging of fish ponds on a manageable scale, conservation of trees around the fish ponds and supply of fingerlings.—Township IPRD

Health services discussed
MAWLANAYEINGON, 22 Feb—A seminar to review public health services for 2011 was held in conjunction with the 2012 public health plan at the hall of health care school in Mawlamayegyon Township on 15 February.

Township departmental officials explained public health care services.

The seminar was attended by health assistants, female health staff, midwives, health supervisor-1 and -2. The seminar lasted from 15 to 18 February.—Township IPRD

Anti-snake venom donated
LABUTTA, 22 Feb—A ceremony to donate anti-snake venom took place at Yway Nadi Hall in Labutta on 5 February.

Speaker of Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw Thay Thay Sittu U Hsein Hsein made a speech. The Speaker and wellwishers donated 70 ampoules of anti-snake venom to Medical Superintendent Dr Sein Haing of Labutta District Hospital (200-bed). Nine wellwishers donated K 495,000 to the fund of emergency health care to Deputy Commissioner U Aye Maung Kyi and officials.—District IPRD

Repaved road commissioned
TOUNGO, 22 Feb—A ceremony to commission Hanthanwady Asphal Road was held in Toungo on 5 February morning.

Local authorities formally opened the road.

Senior Engineer U Pyay Kyaw of Township Development Affairs Committee explained facts about the road. The 12 feet wide and 900 feet long facility was built at a cost of over K 8.6 million.—Township IPRD

TB patient care service lectured
YAMETHIN, 22 Feb—The community based multiplier course for TB patients was opened in Yamethin on 14 February.

Head of District Health Department Dr Nilar Tun explained health care for TB patients and Chairperson of Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Yi Yi Thaung, the purpose of the training course and its disciplines.

 Altogether 30 trainees from wards and villages attended the two days course. Myanma Alin

Outstanding teachers, students awarded
HINTHADA, 22 Feb—The prize presentation of No.11 Basic Education Primary School in Hinthada was held at the school on 29 January.

The township administrator and the township education officer presented prizes to outstanding teachers and students.—Myanma Alin

Inter-village bridge opened
LABUTTA, 22 Feb—The bridge linking Aungkhlaing-Thitpok villages was put back into service in Aungkhlaing Village of Pyinsalu Sub-Township in Labutta District on 9 February.

Officials opened the bridge.

The administrator of the Sub-Township and departmental officials presented certificates of honour to the in-charge of Action Aid Myanmar and local wellwishers. The 6 feet wide and 120 feet long bridge was built at a cost of K 8.5 million by Action Aid Myanmar and K 4.5 million by local people.—Township IPRD

Htamane making contest held
KENGTUNG, 22 Feb—Kengtung General Administration Department organized the Myanmar Htamane making contest at Myoma sports ground in Kengtung on 6 February afternoon.

Local authorities cut the ribbon to open the contest.

Altogether 14contending teams participated in the contest.

After that, district and township level departmental officials presented the first prize to education team, the second prize to No. 5 Ward team, the third prize to General Administration Department team and competitive prizes to other teams.

Football Tourney concludes in Singaing
SINGAING, 22 Feb—The first Singaing Township Inter-Ward Village Football Tournament was held at township sports ground in Singaing Township from 31 January to 2 February.

A total of 14 football teams—six teams from six wards and eight teams from village-tracts—participated in the tournament.

After the final match, Region Hluttaw Representative U Nyi Nyi presented cash awards and trophy to first prize winning Thikkhun Village team.

Next, Region Hluttaw Representative U Sein Thaung gave cash award and prize to Yannain Ward team that stood second in the football tournament.

WAKEMA, 22 Feb—The strand road (Ywale ward), repaved with asphalt, was inaugurated in Wakema on 12 February.

Local authorities cut the ribbon to open the road. The 1000 feet long and 18 feet wide asphalt road, built by Wakema Township Development Affairs Committee, cost K 11.1 million.

Myanma Alin

Wakema gets new asphalt strand road

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SANG THAI IRIS VOY NO (03)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV SANG THAI IRIS VOY NO (03) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.2.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
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: M/S SANG THAI SHIPPING CO LTD
Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV PHILIP VOY NO (005)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV PHILIP VOY NO (005) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.2.2012 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: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA TAMAN VOY NO (433)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TAMAN VOY NO (433) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.2.2012 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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Heavy fog disrupts trains, flights in China

BEIJING, 22 Feb—Two Beijing-Shanghai high-speed trains, G119 and G121, have been canceled and some have been delayed due to dense fog sweeping east Tianjin City and central Hebei Province Wednesday morning, according to the Beijing Railway Administration’s blog on Sina Weibo.
Air traffic is affected.

The shipping service connecting the island to the mainland across the Qiongzhou Strait has been suspended since 1:20 am on Wednesday by local maritime authorities. The National Meteorological Centre warned at 8 am on Wednesday of heavy fog in central and eastern China, with visibility reduced to less than 200 meters in some areas.—Xinhua

An Afghan family walk along a road during a heavy snowfall in Kabul, capital of Afghanistan, on 19 Feb, 2012.—Xinhua

The innovative “Re:START” shopping mall, which opened last October and built from shipping containers, is pictured in downtown Christchurch, nearly one year after a 6.3-magnitude quake hit New Zealand’s second largest city, killing 185 people.—Ivanhoe

Missing Canadian skiers found
NELSON, 22 Feb—Two back-country skiers who’d been missing overnight in British Columbia were found in good condition on Tuesday, authorities said.
Wendy Hetherington, the manager of Kimberly Search and Rescue, told CTV News the man and woman were found about 9 am about 2 miles from where darkness approached.
They became concerned when their car was still at the trailhead as they had left their vehicle. The pair used shovels and some gear to build what Staff-Sgt Dan Seibel of the Kootenay and Rescue, told CTV News the man and woman were found in good condition on Tuesday, authorities said.

Nelson Search and Rescue encountered the Canadian couple who lived in Nelson and were skiing in and got turned around,” Seibel said.

The skiers were skiing in an area they had never been before, Seibel added, and became disorientated in the area they had left their vehicle.

The couple used shovels and some gear to build a shelter and slept in the snow Saturday night.

“Things got a bit hairy for them there,” said Seibel.

When the pair was found, they were fully clothed and had a small emergency cache of food and water.

The searchers were able to point them to a nearby ski area where they found a chalet.

“My thoughts are with the people involved in this situation,” said Nelson mayor Bill Savage.

Nelson Search and Rescue, along with members of the North Coast Search and Rescue, were also involved in the search.

The ski area is not far from McCall Lake, where the couple’s car was found Saturday morning.

The couple was found in good condition.

“Thank you to all the people that helped with this search,” said Savage.

“We are really thankful to them.”

Four cups of coffee daily may help cut diabetes risk

LONDON, 22 Feb—Moderate consumption of coffee—four to five cups of coffee a day—may lower the chances of developing type 2 diabetes compared with those drinking it occasionally or not at all, say researchers.
A major European investigation into the effects of diet and lifestyle on health, found a cut in risk of around 30 per cent from regular consumption of coffee—whether it was caffeinated or decaffeinated.
The findings also reveal that coffee drinking does not appear to increase the risk of heart disease or cancer, the Daily Mail reported.

In total 42,659 people took part in the European Prospective Investigation into Cancer and Nutrition (EPIC) Germany study, and were followed up for almost nine years on average.
During that time, there were 1,432 cases of type 2 diabetes diagnosed, 394 heart attacks, 310 strokes cases and 1,801 cancer cases.

Drinking more than four cups of coffee a day—caffeinated and decaffeinated—compared with less than one cup was not linked to a higher risk of developing a chronic disease. A lower risk of 20-30 per cent of developing type 2 diabetes was linked to moderate consumption of both kinds of coffee.
Although caffeine is known to act as a stimulant, it has been unclear how much a driver needs to keep alert during long journeys.

The latest study, carried out by scientists at Utrecht University in the Netherlands, suggests a single cup of caffeinated coffee is all it takes to boost alertness midway through a four-hour motorway drive.

Caffeine acts as a stimulant and is known to combat tiredness during monotonous tasks such as motorway driving.

“This study adds to the growing scientific data that suggests moderate coffee consumption, four to five cups of coffee per day, is safe and does not increase the risk of a range of chronic disease,” said Dr Euan Paul, executive director of the British Coffee Association.

"It is particularly encouraging to see that coffee consumption may lower the risk of type II diabetes given that around 90 per cent of all adults in the UK with diabetes have type 2 diabetes,” Dr Paul added.

Two killed in small plane crash in US

WASHINGTON, 22 Feb—Two people were confirmed dead after a small plane crashed in Texas State in the US, authorities said.

The wreckage of the plane, which disappeared on a flight to Oklahoma, was found Tuesday on a ranch 10 km from the city of Albany. Lynn Lunsmford with the US Federal Aviation Administration said two deaths have been confirmed.

Xinhua reporting CTCABC.

A pilot and a passenger were on the single-engine plane flying from Abilityce in Texas to Oklahoma on Monday night when it went off radar near Albany.

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Xinhua reporting CTCABC.
**Emma Watson wants to be her own stylist**

The ‘Potter’ star has always welcomed assistance from stylists but now admits that she wants to make her own wardrobe choices.

“I was fully game for, ‘Throw me in this, throw me in that’ but I didn’t develop my own sense of style and dress for myself,” Contactmusic quoted her as telling the Independent newspaper.

“The Press destroyed me over this Kate Moss dress I wore once — it was bright blue with chains on it. I loved it. And I wore a leather Christopher Kane dress with embroidered flowers all over it. It wasn’t that crazy, but at the time...”

The 21-year-old beauty believes that her interest in fashion has helped her forge an identity for herself away from the ‘Harry Potter’ franchise.

“Fashion gave me a chance to feel like I was something outside of ‘Potter’. I’m a multi-dimensional person and that’s freedom of fashion; that you’re able to reinvent yourself through how you dress and how you cut your hair or whatever,” she added.

**Rihanna, Chris Brown collaborate again**

LOS ANGELES, 22 Feb — Rihanna and Chris Brown say via Twitter three years after their headline-making altercation in Los Angeles they have recorded remixes of each other’s songs.

The singers performed separately on Sunday’s Grammy Awards show.

Brown has skipped the Grammys ceremonies for the last few years. He was arrested for assaulting his then-girlfriend Rihanna during a heated argument the day of the 2009 prize presentation in Los Angeles. Both he and Rihanna were scheduled to perform at the show, but they backed out at the last minute.

Brown later pleaded guilty and was sentenced to probation and community service, and was ordered to attend anger-management classes.

**Adele, Sheeran win big at Brit Awards**

LONDON, 22 Feb — Adele and Ed Sheeran were crowned Best British Female and Male Artist at the Brit Awards ceremony in London on Tuesday. “It’s been an amazing year. Thank you,” the BBC quoted Adele as saying. She also took home the Best Album trophy for her “21” and the Best British Single award.

Adele also won six Grammy Awards in Los Angeles. The singer’s second Brit Awards acceptance speech was cut short as a blurry hand could give the final performance of the evening, prompting Adele to briefly flip her middle finger in protest. She apologized quickly after the ceremony.

“Afraid,” she said. “It’s a fight.”

British singer Adele attends the “Brit Awards” at O2 Arena in London on 21 Feb, 2012.—INTERNET

**Florist Don DeFoe carries 3,000 bouquets to Brit Awards**

Florist Don DeFoe carries an over sized bear that will go with a flower arrangement that is being made for Valentine’s Day, in St Louis on 13 Feb, 2012. DeFoe says 3000 orders are ready to go out for the door for the holiday on 14 Feb, 2012.

The tour is in preparation for a mini-tour is to finish up 15 April at Cafe Du Nord. The San Francisco dates will be 10 April at Cafe Du Nord. The mini-tour is to finish up 15 April at the Fillmore.

**Judi Dench says she’s not going blind**

New York, 22 Feb — Judi Dench, who was reported to be going blind due to eye condition, has published all such rumours.

Dench, 77, responded after her failing eyesight swamped the Internet over the weekend.

In response to the numerous articles in the media concerning my eye condition - macular degeneration - I do not wish for this to be overblown,” the New York Daily News quoted the actress as saying in a statement.

The condition is something that thousands and thousands of people all over the world are having to contend with.

**Kiwi women choose wrinkles over surgery**

A poll of women in New Zealand found that nine out of 10 women would not get cosmetic surgery to combat the signs of old age.

The online study found that 1,000 women found only one in five said they felt “sad” about wrinkles and only a third would consider cosmetic surgery.

**Mass toy store gets liquor license**

A Danvers, Mass, toy store was mistakenly issued a liquor license, meant for the previous occupant of the location, officials said.

“It was very shocking to us,” said Jennifer LaMontagne, co-owner of the toy store Green Elephant. Last week the governor of Massachusetts approved a request liquor license at 13 Elm Street, where the toy store is located in Danvers, WHDH-TV, Boston, reported on Thursday.

LaMontagne said she had no idea anyone had ever applied for a liquor license for the location of the shop. “We heard about it yesterday, that was the first time we had heard about it,” said LaMontagne.
THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Thursday, 23 February, 2012

League leaders start to reach the Europa League’s
that they still have work to do

Craig Dawson has forced himself into first-team
reconquering at West Brom this season.—Internet

West Brom’s Dawson signs long-term deal
Baggies defender commits to Hawthorns club until summer of 2015

Naples, 22 Feb — Chelsea faced a tough task to qualify for the Champions League quarter-finals after Napoli fought back strongly to take the initiative in their last 16 first leg tie in Italy. Andre Villas-Boas’s side raised hopes of a famous win as Juan Mata calmly sidefooted in the loose ball after it cannoned off Paolo Cannavaro on 27 minutes.

But Ezrequel Lavezzi cut inside and neatly curled minutes and leave the London side with plenty to think about ahead of the return on 14th March.—Internet

Napoli 3-1 Chelsea
cross to put Napoli 2-1 up at the break. Lavezzi took advantage of some slack defending to rifle in Napoli’s third on 65

Wernbloom saves the day for CSKA in injury time

The Premier League tournament was
will come from that.”—Internet

Top-seeded players advance in Argentina

Buenos Aires, 22 Feb — Upset David Ferrer of Spain, seeded players had an easy day on Tuesday as almost all moved through to the second round of the clay-court Copa Claro. Ferrer had no trouble beating Argentine Andrea Molteni, 6-0. “I’m happy to get out of the first round, and think (Molteni) was a little nervous,” Ferrer said. Molteni had plenty of support from local fans, who were cheering him on as he went for Spain’s victory over Argentina last year in the Davis Cup final at Valencia, Spain. “I like fans supporting the local players,” Ferrer said. “It’s the normal thing to do, and personally I like it.”

No 2 Nicolas Almagro of Spain was hard-pressed to beatPotito Starace of Italy 4-6, 6-3, 7-6(4), and No 3 Gilles Simon of France defeated Rui Machado of Portugal 6-3, 7-5. No 5 Juan Monaco of Argentina moved on when Filippo Volandri of Italy retired in the second set with an injury. Monaco was leading 6-1, 3-1. Seventh-seeded Fernando Verdasco of Spain also reached the next round, beating Probono of France 6-4, 6-1. The biggest upset came when eighth-seeded Juan Ignacio Chela of Argentina lost to Albert Ramos of Spain 4-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Fulham & Arsenal U14s book Barcelona date

Chelsea in the Premier League Under-14
tournament—Internet

LONDON, 22 Feb — Two Premier League Academy teams have booked their places at a chance-of-a-lifetime event in Barcelona after winning their respective competitions at the 2012 Barclays Premier League Under-14 National Tournament. Arsenal and Fulham were the fiercely competitive tournament involving all 20 Premier League clubs at the London Soccerdome in Greenwich. And the two London U14 sides now have the prospect of taking part in a four-team event at Barcelona’s Ciutat Esportiva Juan Gamper training complex on 17th and 18th March.

The Premier League tournament was
split into two-day events with 10 sides in each competition. Arsenal defeated Tottenham Hotspur on penalties after Sunday’s final ended 0-0, the Gunners having come through a group featuring Everton, Newcastle United, Stoke City and Swansea City.

On Friday, Fulham topped their group ahead of Manchester City, Blackburn Rovers, West Bromwich Albion and Sunderland before recording a 2-4 victory over Chelsea in the final. “I am very pleased,” said Fulham Academy Development Manager Geoff Nomann, who revealed that his players were not told about the Barcelona prize until just before the start of the final. “We will learn a great deal from the trip to Barcelona, whatever happens results-wise.”

“Playing against teams that keep the ball for long spells will be another learning experience. There will be a tactical and technical challenge as well as the challenge of the travel and the boys dealing with a different culture and country.”

“I can only hope in their eyes at the end, I think they were tired from the game. It will sink in during the next few days that they will get their trip and the excitement will come from that.”—Internet

Porto aren’t beaten yet, says Toure

LONDON, 22 Feb — Yaya Toure has warned his Manchester City team-mates that they still have work to do to reach the Europa League’s last 16 stage. The Premier League leaders start Wednesday’s last 32 second

leg tie with holders Porto firm
favourites to progress after
securing a 2-1 advantage in
Portugal. But Toure does not expect Porto to relinquish their
euroLeague crown without a fight at the Etihad Stadium.

city’s Ivory Coast international said that Roberto
Mancini’s men will have to play as well as they did in the first leg if they are prosperous.

“We’ll have to play well again because this is a game that will be the same, very hard, although we’ll have the advantage of playing in front
of our fans,” said the former Barcelona midfielder. “It’s not finished yet. Porto have fantastic players and it will be

FC Porto’s Brazilian defender Alex Sandor (nd R) takes part in a training session at the Etihad
stadium in Manchester, north-west England, on the eve of their UEFA Europa
League football match against Manchester City.

Internet

Fulham recorded a 4-2 victory over Chelsea in the Premier League Under-14
tournament.—Internet

MOSCOW, 22 Feb — An injury-time goal on his debut for Swedish midfielders Poton
Wernbloom grabbed CSKA Moscow a 1-1 draw with Spanish giants Real Madrid here on Tuesday in their
Champions League Last 16 first leg match. A goal from Real’s Portuguese superstar Cristiano Ronaldo in the 28th minute put the nine-time European champions ahead and they looked set for their seventh successive win in this season’s competition until Wernbloom blasted the ball home.

“We conceded a goal to a schoolboy’s defensive mistake in the first half and it cost us a goal,” CSKA coach Leonid Slutsky said. “But late

Wernbloom saves the day for
CSKA in injury time

in the second half we put more attacking players onto the pitch and levelled the scores.

“In general we played good in defence, while in attack we created several chances. Luckily, we managed to convert one of them. Real of course remain the favourites but now I start to believe that everything is possible.”

Real coach Jose Mourinho meanwhile expressed his satisfaction with the result despite the fact that his men missed out on victory. “Anyway it is a good result for us in the away match,” Mourinho said. “But in the return match we have no other choice but to win.”

CSKA are difficult opponents and tonight it was a difficult match. But they created few chances tonight, while we missed a pile of opportunities to increase our lead after the break. a tough battle there also.”—Internet

Cristiano Ronaldo (R) of Real Madrid fights for the ball against Poton
Wernbloom (L) of CSKA Moscow during their
round of 16, first leg match UEFA Champions League in Moscow. The match ended in a 1-1 draw.—Internet

Internet

Internet

Internet

Internet

Internet
Four more bodies found on Italian cruise liner

Tourists look out at the cruise liner Costa Concordia off the west coast of Italy at Giglio island in 22 Feb, 2012, file photo.—INTERNET

Rosie, 22 Feb—Salvage workers have found four more bodies in the submerged Costa Concordia cruise liner, bringing the confirmed number of dead to 21 on the ship that ran aground and capsized off the Italian coast last month, authorities said on Wednesday.

Bad weather has prevented divers from recovering the four bodies from the ship’s submerged deck, and 11 people remain missing, authorities said.

“It would seem that there are four bodies, recovery operations are underway,” the agency said in a statement.

The Costa Concordia, a huge floating resort carrying more than 4,200 passengers and crew, foundered off the Tuscan coast on January 13 after a rock tore a gash in its side, letting water flood into the engine rooms and causing the vessel to capsize.

Italy’s Civil Protection authorities said difficult weather conditions were hampering workers attempting to recover the bodies and it was unclear how long the work would take.

The ship’s captain Francesco Schettino has been blamed for the accident, which occurred when he took the ship close to the shore of the island of Giglio to perform a display manoeuvre known as a “salute.”

MNA/Reuters

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

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Weather forecast for 23 Feb, 2012

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Skill contest of children held

YANGON, 22 Feb—Organized by Yangon West District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee, the skill contest of pre-primary children was held in conjunction with presentation of aid at General Administration Department in Bahan Township on 11 February.

Altogether 80 children from four pre-primary schools of MCWA in the district took part in the contest. Later, refreshment was fed to the children.—Township IPRO

Wakeema facilitated with new rural jetty

WAKEMA, 22 Feb—Mya Ayeya jetty in Wegyi Model Village was commissioned in Wakeema Township on 12 February.

Local authorities formally opened the jetty. The reinforced concrete facility is 22 feet long and 16 feet wide. It cost over K 8 million donated by wellwisher (U Thein Hlaing) Daw Mya Khin of Yangon.

Myanma Alin

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Gerrard desperate for Cup glory

LONDON, 22 Feb — Steven Gerrard is desperate to end Liverpool’s six-year wait for silverware by leading the side to Carling Cup victory this weekend.

The Reds take on Cardiff at Wembley on Sunday hoping to pick up the first trophy of the season on offer. Gerrard admits six seasons without any silverware is not good enough for a club like Liverpool, but he believes success on Sunday could be the catalyst for a return to better times at Anfield. “Six years without a trophy for this football club isn’t good enough,” Gerrard told the Liverpool Echo. “It’s been too long and everyone knows that. It’s time we delivered a trophy. “Everyone knows the club has been through some tough times but we’re moving forward now.

Cannabis drivers ‘twice as likely to cause car crash’

HALIFAX, 22 Feb — Drivers who use cannabis up to three hours before driving are twice as likely to cause a collision as those not under the influence of drugs or alcohol, says a Canadian study. This is because cannabis impairs brain and motor functions needed for safe driving, the researchers suggest.

The study in bjm.com reviewed nine studies of 50,000 people worldwide who had been in serious or fatal crashes. Experts support the close monitoring of serious accidents involving drugs. The study analysis was carried out by researchers at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Canada.

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan receives Yunnan TV delegation

Thanlwin Bridges (Tarhsan and Tarpa) contributing much to smooth transportation of local people in Shan State

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint reads out the message sent by thePyithu Hluttaw Speaker.— MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw 13th day session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meeting continues

One proposal and one bill discussed, one bill put on record, one bill clarified, one bill submitted

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint was responsible to make decisions in accordance with laws, considering that they had a duty to set an example during the transition period for the future generation, he said.

His proposal and presentation to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 7 February, 2012, were unanimously supported by representatives, and however, on behalf of the President, Union ministers presented their clarification to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 16 February, 2012, saying that salary increases for governmental employees would not be easy due to current circumstances though it should be done and salaries for those government employees who were assigned to far-flung areas would be increased, he added.

Their presentations meant that Pyidaungsu Hluttaw was obliged to agree, permit and promulgate laws in accordance with the plans and projects presented by the executive body and measures would be taken in accordance with the law enacted by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, he said in his message.

The legislation is the main duty of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, and committees and commissions concerned were to monitor whether responsible personnel and bodies carried out tasks in accordance with the law or not, he added.

Therefore, legislative bodies were obliged to monitor and carry out assessments of the plans and projects in the interests of the people and the State as part of efforts for helping spending the public finances in systematic and correct ways, and the work should be considered as an important one and should be done thoroughly at a time when the Hluttaw was being convened, he said.

The Union Government was obliged to spend the money collected due to the assessment in salary and wage increases for the service personnel for their livelihood, he said.

In his message, he also clarified wages earned by labour in Nay Pyi Taw.

(a) A hard labour who starts work earns K2000 per day, reaching K60,000 per month.
(b) A hard labour who has experiences from one to two years earns K3000 per day, reaching K90,000 per month.
(c) A hard labour who has experiences from two to four years earns K5000 per day, reaching K120,000 per month.
(d) A hard labour who has experiences from three to four or five years earns K7000 per day, reaching K150,000 per month.

Therefore, minimum salary and wages of the service personnel should be around K100,000 per month when the State had sufficient budget, he suggested, and a personnel who got around K100,000 per month as a salary should earn K30,000/K50,000 per month after giving tax and salary for service personnel should be increased as possible if the Union government was tight with its budget.

He also suggested that to set a minimum salary or wage for a service personnel, out of plans and projects presented by the executive body of the State, some plans and projects that should not be

(See page 10)