President U Thein Sein receives MEP, Chairman of European parliament’s delegation to ASEAN

In the afternoon, representative Sayadaws from nine Sangha Ganas from regions and states discussed Viniççhaya affairs, religious affairs and education matters involved in the report of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee in the one-year period, and the second day session came to an end.

At the second day session, well-wisher (U Maung Maung Swe Tin)-Dr Mya Thida Swe Tin and family of SI Co of 33 on Bo Ya Nyunt Road in Dagon Township of Yangon offered alms meals to members of the Sangha of the meeting.—MNA

MMCWA hands over new building to BEPS in Pathein District

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Feb—A new school building handed over to No. 9 Basic Education Primary School in Tinthochaung Village, Thatkonekyi Village-tract in Pathein District in Ayeyawady Region on 24 February.

The construction of the school was funded by Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, members of MMCWA in Ayeyawady Region and wellwishers. The building was constructed at the cost of K20,850,000 and MMCWA contributed K20.2 mln to the building. The building was handed over to the school at the presence of Chairperson of MMCWA Dr Mon Mon Aung and members. They also donated cash and kind to primary schools in Pathein, Nyaungdon and Pantanaw Townships, MMCWA’s delivery rooms in Pathein and Pantanaw Townships, and Maternal Child Healthcare Centre in Kangyidaung Township.—MNA

Shweli River Crossing Bridge (Namhkam) brings about easy access to Mandalay-Lashio-Muse-Namhkam-Bhamo Road

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives EU parliament member

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker receives EU parliament member

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein receives Member of European Parliament and Chairman of the European parliament’s delegation to ASEAN Dr Werner Langen and party at the Credentials Hall in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA
**Perspectives**

**Myanmar: Next bright spot in Asia**

Nowadays, Myanmar sees a lot of reforms since the civilian government has taken office. Recent changes in Myanmar can draw the attentions of foreign investors. Based on the foreign investments, domestic companies’ productivity would increase, thereby spurring the country’s economic growth. But, investments of foreign companies alone cannot increase productivity of the domestic companies. All countries in the world have agreed that Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) can push the economic development of a country. So, most of the countries use FDI as a strategic tool for the country’s development.

A country’s economic development depends on microeconomic stability. Thanks to the FDI, the country would see an increase in microeconomic indicator, which generates more job opportunities and huge foreign investment, more exports and increase in balance of payment (BOP) ratio. And to enjoy the fruits of FDI, domestic companies need to have good human resources management and research and development (R&D). They can learn technologies and management systems of these foreign companies. The domestic workers would become skilled ones because of working in these companies. The FDI also brings mass production, technological transfer and access to export markets.

Myanmar has a high growth potential and could become the next economic frontier in Asia. So, Myanmar is to seize this golden opportunity through the agency of the FDI. Here, domestic companies and businesses need to be well aware of the FDI’s negative effects. Due to a massive inflow of foreign investments, foreign companies and businesses might take up domestic market shares. Most Asian countries top the chart by using the FDI as a stepping stone to the development of their countries. The chance of becoming a next Asian Tiger is in the hands of Myanmar. Let’s start our promising future right now!

**Union EP-2 Minister looks into construction of Tachilek District Electrical Engineer’s Office**

YANGON, 28 Feb—Union Minister for Electric Power No.2 U Khin Maung Soe inspected Tachilek District Electrical Engineer’s Office in Shan State (East) on 26 February.

At the meeting hall, the union minister heard report on staff matter, electric power supply, unit losses, safety in electric by officials concerned and left necessary instructions. —MNA

**ICCA 2012 kicks off**

Yangon Region Minister U Nyan Tun Oo delivering address at the 10th International Conference on Computer Applications 2012 (ICCA 2012). —MNA

**Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives EU parliament member**

Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann receives Dr Werner Langen, member of the European Parliament and the Chairman of the European parliament’s delegation to the countries of South East Asia (ASEAN) and party at Zabuthiri Hall of the Hluttaw Building in Nay Pyi Taw. —MNA

**UEC Chairman receives EU parliament member**

Nay Pyi Taw, 28 Feb —Union Election Commission Chairman U Tin Aye received Dr Werner Langen, a member of the European Parliament and the Chairman of the European parliament’s delegation to the countries of South East Asia (ASEAN) at his office here today.

During the meeting, they exchanged views on matters related to developments in Myanmar, preparation for the April-1 by-elections, elections campaigns and counting votes and voting systems.

The meeting was also attended by members of the UEC U Myint Naing, Dr Daw Myint Kyi, U Nyunt Tin, U Win Kyi and Secretary of UEC U Win Ko and officials concerned.

**YANGON, 28 Feb—The 10th International Conference on Computer Applications 2012 organized by Yangon University of Computer Studies of the Science and Technology Ministry was kicked off at Sedona Hotel here this morning.**

Scholars working at Korean, Canadian and Japanese universities and companies gave talks on software development, followed by workshops on natural language speech recognition, image processing and internet security jointly organized by faculty members of Yangon University of Computer Studies and Japanese and Malaysian universities.

Scholars and resource persons from Japan, Korea, Egypt, Africa, Canada, Malaysia, Thailand, Portugal and Denmark were present at the conference at which universities from Japan, Korea, Canada, India, Denmark, Kenya and Myanmar submitted 107 papers. —MNA
Politics still in my blood: Hillary Clinton

WASHINGTON, 28 Feb—Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has said that politics is in her blood, and she couldn’t help it when she that she believed President Barack Obama would win reelection. “Probably, my enthusiasm for the president got a little out of hand,” Clinton told CNN in an interview broadcast on Sunday. Clinton, who lost her bid for the Democratic nomination in 2008, said politics is in her blood. “I’ve tried to dampen them down. I’ve tried to have them taken out, in a blood transfusion, but occasionally they rear their heads,” she said

Asked if that suggests she might reenter the political fray after leaving her post at the end of this year, Clinton offered a definite “no.” “I just suggest what’s best for my country,” she said

Chinese Navy fights piracy in Somalia

BEIJING, 28 Feb—The Chinese Navy is once again sending forces to Somalia to target piracy in the Gulf of Aden. China first began patrolling the waters along with an international flotilla in 2008. Since then, it’s undertaken ten such missions—protecting some 4,500 ships.

The farewell ceremony is becoming more and more familiar to the Chinese Navy these days. A fleet left the port Qingdao on Monday morning, ready to carry out its orders.

Yang Junfei, fleet commander, said, “Fleet 113 ready for duty.” Ding Yiping, deputy commander of Chinese navy, said, “Set Sail!”

Philip Haslam, staff captain of European Naval Force, said, “I represent the European Naval Force, which is based in London, and the tactical coordination the ships have on the region—a total of 800 naval personnel are involved.”

The UN Security Council has been urging member countries to combat piracy along the Somali coast since the 1990s. The Chinese Navy joined 4 years ago and has been an active partner ever since. Last Thursday, The People’s Liberation Army Navy held the International Symposium on Counter-Piracy and Escort Operations in China’s eastern city of Qingdao. Delegations from more than 20 states and organizations gathered there to get to know more about each other.

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Hillary Clinton

Israeli defence minister heads to US to discuss Iran

JERUSALEM, 28 Feb—Israeli Defence Minister Ehud Barak on Tuesday headed to Washington for talks with senior US officials about the Iranian nuclear programme.

The Israeli minister’s two-day US visit comes ahead of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s and President Shimon Peres’ scheduled visits next week, Xinhua reported. “There are some security issues that apply to the defence minister. These sensitive issues (that will be discussed in Netanyahu’s visit) require early coordination and many talks,” said a senior political source explaining the objective of Barak’s visit.

Barak will meet with senior US officials, including Vice President Joe Biden, Secretary of Defence Leon Panetta, National Security Advisor Tom Donilon and other security and intelligence figures. Prime Minister Netanyahu will leave for north America on Thursday, first to Canada where he will meet Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper, and then to Washington where he is to meet with US President Barack Obama as well as Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and senior congressmen.

President Peres, who will also leave for Washington on Sunday, said talks with US officials, including Vice President Joe Biden, are expected to focus on Iran. “The US and Israel are working to prevent Iran from attaining nuclear weapons,” he said.

Argentina blocks two British cruise ships

LONDON, 28 Feb—Two British cruise ships that entered Ushuaia in southern Argentina after both ships stopped at the Falklands on Saturday.

“We are very concerned to hear the Adonia and Star Princess have been refused access to the port of Ushuaia,” said a spokesman for Britain’s Foreign Office. “There can be no justification for interference in free and legitimate commerce.”

“British diplomats in Argentina are urgently seeking to clarify the circumstances surrounding this incident, and we are in contact with the company concerned.”

Armed forces searched the ships, which had 3,400 passengers and crew members, before they set sail from Ushuaia on Tuesday.

The Adonia, owned by P&O Cruises, and the Princess Cruises vessel Star Princess were both blocked from entering Ushuaia in southern Argentina after both ships stopped at the Falklands on Saturday.

“Tensions are running high between Britain and Argentina,” said London-based defence analyst Patrick Allen. “The Argentine government is highly sensitive to any perceived affront to their national honour.”

The Argentine government has referred to illegal acts committed by the British military in the Falkland Islands, a disputed archipelago in the South Atlantic Ocean. The islands are claimed by Argentina, which refers to them as the “Islas Malvinas.”

The Royal Navy and the Argentine Army have been involved in a dispute over the islands since the 1982 Falklands War, when the United Kingdom invaded the islands and their territories.

In 1982, the United Kingdom began a military operation to retake the islands, which had been controlled by Argentina since 1982. The operation led to a war between the United Kingdom and Argentina, as well as the United States.

The war resulted in the deaths of more than 1,000 people, mostly Argentine, and the United Kingdom lost the islands.

Seven civilians killed in S Afghanistan blast

LASHKAR GAH, 28 Feb—Seven civilians were killed Monday in a blast in the southern Afghanistan Province of Helmand, a spokesman for provincial government said on Tuesday.

“Seven civilians were killed in a powerful blast occurred at around 4:00 pm local time on Monday in a market in Now Zad District of Helmand Province,” spokesman Daud Ahmad told Xinhua.

He said four women and three children were killed in the explosion that happened in a house in Sarkalda area of the district.

Ahmad said it was not clear how the explosion happened, adding an investigation was launched to probe why the explosive was placed in the house.

Taliban militants have often attacked Afghan and NATO-led forces with improvised explosive devices (IEDs) but the lethal weapons also inflict casualties on civilians. The number of civilian casualties has been soaring in the militancy-plagued Afghanistan as a total of 3,021 Afghan civilians have been killed in 2011 which offered, an 8 percent rise in non-combatants’ deaths compared with 2010, according to the United Nations annual report released in Kabul earlier this month.

An injured man receives medical treatment at a hospital in northwest Pakistan’s Nowshera on 27 Feb, 2012. At least five people were killed in a suicide bomb attack near the venue of a ruling party rally in Pakistan’s northwest city of Nowshera on Monday, police and hospital sources said.

18 killed in bus attack in N Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 28 Feb—At least 18 people were killed and eight others injured when unknown gunmen opened fired on a passenger bus in Pakistan’s northern district of Kohistan on Tuesday morning, said local media.

Local Urdu TV channel DAWN quoted local residents as saying that the firing incident took place early on Tuesday morning when a passenger bus heading from Rawalpindi, a sister city of the country’s capital Islamabad, to Gilgit, capital city of Gilgit-Baltistan province in northern Pakistan, was attacked by unknown gunmen. The attack occurred on the Karakoram Highway in the Harban area of Kohistan, said the report.

There were at least 26 people on board when the bus was attacked, it said, adding that all the injured people have been shifted to hospitals in Kohistan and Gilgit.

An injured man receives medical treatment at a hospital in northwest Pakistan’s Nowshera on 27 Feb, 2012. At least five people were killed in a suicide bomb attack near the venue of a ruling party rally in Pakistan’s northwest city of Nowshera on Monday, police and hospital sources said.

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Shweli River Crossing Bridge (Namhkam) brings about easy access to Mandalay-Lashio-Muse-Namhkam-Bhamo

Salient points of Shweli Bridge (Namhkam)
1. The upper structure of the bridge is of bailey suspension bridge.
2. Its lower concrete and foundation are reinforced concrete piers.
3. The total length of the bridge is 600 feet flanked by 24 feet pedestrians on each side.
4. It can withstand 36 tons of load.
5. The bridge was successfully opened on 27-4-2009.

Translation: TLA

Archive: Maung Nyein Aye

* The bridge lies on Mandalay-Lashio-Muse-Namhkam-Bhamo Road in Namhkam Township in Shan State (North).
* The emergence of the bridge, it makes more contribution to smoothly road connection of Mandalay-Lashio-Namhkam-Bhamo road.
* As local products are being transported easily, the local people are improving a lot in the economic, social, health and education sectors.
* From the development of each region further strengthens towards the region’s development and as a result the nation will develop.
* The bridge was constructed by Myanmar engineers and working experiences of technicians.
Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker receives EU parliament member

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Feb.—UKhin Aung Myint, Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw, received Dr Werner Langen, a member of the European Parliament and the Chairman of the European parliament’s delegation to the countries of South East Asia (ASEAN), and party at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of the Hlutaw Building here today. Also present at the call were Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyine, chairman of the committee of Amyotha Hluttaw and officials of the Amyotha Hluttaw Office. Also present together with Dr Werner Langen were Vice Chairmen of the European parliament’s delegation Mr Robert Goebbels and Mr Ivo Belet and members of the delegation.

During the meeting, the two sides cordially discussed matters on promotion of the friendship between the European parliament and two Hluttaws of Myanmar and stepping up efforts for development of Myanmar. — MNA

Union Minister U Thein Tun addresses at concluding of workshop on Information and Technology

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Feb.—A workshop on Information and Technology launched at Myanmar International Convention Centre in Nay Pyi Taw concluded this afternoon, with an address of Chairman of Computer Knowledge Development Council Union Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Thein Tun.

Among the respective groups held discussions on their related topics in all of the meeting rooms of MICC in this morning were Chief Executive Officer U Tin Htut Oo of the Consultative Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development, Myanmar Computer Professionals Association Chairman U Ye Yint Win on ICT For Service Sector Development, Chief Executive Officer Dr Aung Thein of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry on ICT For Industry Sector Development, Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry Officer Dr Aung Thein of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry on ICT For Service Sector Development, Myanmar Computer Professionals Association Chairman U Ye Yint Win and party at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of the Hlutaw Building in Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA

Third regular session of Mandalay Region Hluttaw continues

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Feb.—Third regular session of first Mandalay Region Hluttaw continued for tenth day this morning, with the attendance of Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint and 73 Hluttaw representatives.

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

The Region Hluttaw speaker read out the message sent by the President which was then put on record by the Region Hluttaw.

Six questions were answered, approvals for bills approved and date set for approval of Mandalay Region Budget Bill for 2012 at today’s session. Today’s session concluded at 11.5 am. — MNA

Third regular session of Magway Region Hluttaw continues

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Feb.—Third regular session of first Magway Region Hluttaw continued for second day this morning, with the attendance of Region Hluttaw Speaker U Ye Myint and 65 Hluttaw representatives.

Thirteen questions were answered and Region ministers made clarifications on bills. Today’s session concluded at 2.50 pm. — MNA

Third regular session of the first Kayin State Hluttaw goes on

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Feb.—The fourth day’s session of the third regular session of the first Kayin State Hluttaw continued at 10:00 am on 27 February, attended by Kayin State Chief Minister U Zaw Min, Chairman of State Hluttaw, State ministers and a total of 22 representatives. At today’s session, there were three approved bills; general projects in Kayin State in 2011-2012, general projects in Kayin State in 2012-2013 and additional budget allocation for the state in 2012; two tabled proposals “progress of peace-making activities in Kayin State in January, 2012” and “progress of peace-making activities in Kayin State in February, 2012” to be put on record. The today’s session came to an end at 11:50 am, after the chief minister made a speech. — MNA

The 10th day of the third regular session of the first Mandalay Region Hluttaw in progress. — MNA

Mro Nationalities given green light to register as political party

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Feb.—The Union Election Commission issued announcement No. 13/2012 today and its translation is as follows:

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Nay Pyi Taw
Announcement No. 13/2012
7th Waxing of Taboung (28 February, 2012)

Mro Nationalities Party granted to register as political party

Mro Nationalities Party, headquartered at No. 245, No. 4 Ward, Buthidaung Township, Rakhine State was granted to register in accord with Article (9) of the Political Parties Registration Law beginning 28 February, 2012. The registration number of the party is 52.

Sd/
Win Ko
Secretary
Union Election Commission

Union Minister U Thein Tun delivering address at concluding of workshop on Information and Technology. — MNA

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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session continues for 16th day
One message put on record, one bill discussed

Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw
U Khin Aung
Myint reading message sent by the President.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continued for the 16th day session at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Hall of the Hluttaw Building, here, at 10 am, today attended by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint, Speaker of Pyothu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann and 561 Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives.

The session put one message on record and discussed one bill.

In the putting the message on record, the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw read the message on residue of ministers at Mandalay Region Government sent by the President, and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw put the reassignments of U Phone Zaw Han as Minister for Finance and Revenue and U Aung Maung as Minister for Development Affairs at Mandalay Region Government on record.

With regard to National Planning Bill for 2012-2013 fiscal year, the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw made clarification, saying that the Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, on behalf of the Union government, submitted the 2011-2012 FY National Planning Bill and the 2012-2013 FY National Planning Bill to the Hluttaw on the first day third regular session of the first Pyidaungsu Hluttaw held on 31 January 2012.

At a total, 65 Hluttaw representatives discussed the plans in principle from the sixth day session on 7-2-2012 to the 10th day session on 13-2-2012. In this regard, nine Hluttaw representatives held discussions on the 2011-2012 FY National Planning Bill and another 66 representatives, the 2012-2013 FY National Planning Bill.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee submitted the reports that the National Planning Bills submitted by the Union government to the Hluttaw should be amended as a law, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw coordinated with the Union Government. So, the improved 2011-2012 FY National Planning Bill was submitted to the Hluttaw, thus, the Hluttaw decided to put the bill on record at the 13th day session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 22 February 2012 in line with the remarks of the Joint Bill Committee.

As the 2012-2013 FY National Planning Bill has been improved system, in this regard, the bill will be submitted to the Hluttaw. The copies of amended bills have been distributed to Hluttaw representatives. In this regard, the bill was amended in form, but its presentations were similar to the previous bill. In amending the bill, the Chapter (III) Policy, Vision and Tasks of the previous bill were placed in Appendix (i); the formal Appendix (ii) State-owned sector Investment Plans went to Appendix (ii); formal Appendix was replaced with Section of Production, Service and Vision to Appendix (iii). There is no any change in subject in the bill in discussing the principle and basic factors of the 2012-2013 FY National Planning Bill. Thus, the discussions of 66 Hluttaw representatives from 7 to 13 February will not be cancelled and it is still in existence.

On 23-2-2012, as the list was taken for those wishing to discuss matters related to 2012-2013 National Planning Bill and to submit proposals of amendment, a total of 28 Hluttaw representatives nominated themselves. The submissions of 15 representatives went to continuous discussions at the Hluttaw in principle and basic factor as their discussions are to amend the Hluttaw.

Those Hluttaw representatives are U Pauk Thang Htai of Chin State Constituency No. 3, Daw Mi Myint Thant of Ye Constituency, U Steven Thabeik of Chin State Constituency No. 4, U Tin Maung Win of Mingaladon Constituency, U Aung Than Lin of South Okkalapa Constituency, Dr Banya Aung Moe of Mon State Constituency, Dr Nay Lin of Seikkan Constituency, U Khin Maung Tin of Rakhine State Constituency No. 9, Dr Mya Oo of Bago Region Constituency No. 9, U Sai Thant Zin of Shan State Constituency No. 4, U Kyaw Ni Naing of Lhunlaik Constituency, U Win Oo of Yebyu Constituency, U Kyi Tha of Gwa Constituency, U Aye Mauk of Mahlang Constituency and U Khet Hein Nan of Kachin State Constituency.

Although the remaining representatives have submitted proposals of amendment to the Hluttaw, it is necessary to amend the proposals of some representatives. They are U Paw Hlyan Lwin of Chin State Constituency No. 9, U Thein Yi of Htanban Constituency, U Tha Win of Yankin Constituency, U Min Swe of Daik U Constitution, U Soe Than of Twantay Constituency, U Win Myint of Pyay Constituency, U Maung Toe of Mithila Constituency, Dr Aye Maung of Rakhine State Constituency No. 1, U Win Win of Thabang Constituency, U Myo Myint of Mandalay Region Constituency No. 6, U Aye Maung of Mainglaih Constituency, U Myan Myint of Tanai Constituency, Daw Su Kyaw of Hlaing of Dagon Myothit (South) Constituency and U Kyaw Naing Hny of Indaw Constituency.

In submitting the proposals of amendment for the bill, it is necessary to exactly present the matters to allow reduction of project-wise implementation, to suspend the projects and to terminate the projects. The amount of money for the projects in the bill is not needed to be presented, and per cent of the work or titles of individual works for example to suspend, terminate and reduce 50 per cent of projects.

The representatives’ proposals to be amended among 14 representatives must be re-written in line with the rules and regulations. The representatives’ proposals to submit proposals of amendment and those wishing to submit more proposals including previous submissions of the representatives are to submit their proposals to the Director of the Hluttaw Office, not later than evening of 29 February (Wednesday).

At a time when the Hluttaw representatives have discussed the principles and basic factors of the bill, the President or the person assigned by the President, on behalf of the Union government, may make clarification. After that, the discussions of the principles and basic factors of the bill will come to an end. Thus, he said that he would like to inform the Hluttaw that process of tasks will be undertaken for submission and discussion of proposals of amendment, clarification of the Union level body may be taken for the reading of the Hluttaw and approvals in line with the prescribed procedures.

With regard to the 2012-2013 fiscal year, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Theyin submitted the 2012-2013 fiscal year National Planning Bill and the 2012-2013 FY National Planning Bill, which are first and second years of the fifth five-year short-term national plan of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 31 January. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives suggested that the bill should be line with the form of law. In accord with their suggestions, the bill was rewritten.

Likewise, the rewritten bill 2012-2013 is also submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Nine Hluttaw representatives participated in the discussion of amendments of the principles and basic factors of the 2012-2013 FY National Planning Bill. U Tin Maung Latt of Rakhine State Constituency No. 6 said that there are many differences among the regions of Myanmar in geographical conditions such as hilly regions, plateaus, plains, inland regions, coastal regions and border areas. Moreover, these regions have different natural resources and human resources. As a result, drawing the plan must be depended on the actual conditions of the regions.

In the matter of roads construction projects covering in basic infrastructures which are crucial for nation building endeavors, Thwedaung and Myeobon Townships in Rakhine State are located in plain region. But, it has yet to connect Sittway-An Union Road. Discussions on road networks are going on at Hluttaws. The connection of only one road in Rakhine State has not yet finished till now. Road transportation of Thwedaung and its environs do not include in 2012-2013 National Planning.

The National Planning is made up of projects in Regions and States. Like the developed countries, national development is to be implemented in the GDP and GNP of each region have been calculated systematically. Priority is to be given to the underdeveloped regions after considering advantages and disadvantages of the regions. Only then the country sees harmonious development.

U Tin Maung Win of Mingaladon Constituency said: A total of K 111,548 million is proposed for border regions new roads development of National Planning Bill. The maintenance of new roads should not be. So, that proposed project should be cancelled.

A total of K 2.5 million is put under the heading of “Greening” of “Others” heading of National Planning. Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry is undertaking the greening tasks and so do local authorities. So, Ministry of Border Affairs should use it under such exact headings as Minister’s Office greening and training school greening. Otherwise, it should be used for other productive development tasks.

U Sai Thant Zin of Shan State Constituency No. 4 discussed: An analysis of Myingyan (Nabuaing) Industrial Zone Project and which is one of the ongoing project of Directorate Industrial Planning Department under the Ministry of Myanmar Industrial Development should be carried out. Moreover, the developed Pulp Mill (Thwedaung) of Myanmar Paper and Chemical Industries, huge investment and difficulties of projects and ongoing projects, works and supplementary works of No.1 Heavy Industries, and expenditures and heavy costs of industries and supplementary works of No.2 Heavy Industries under the Ministry of Industry, are to be carried out.

Hluttaw representatives have no enough time to scrutinize these projects. It would be most appropriate if all projects which will not be put in this year National Planning. So, based on the facts that projects do not benefit people, the projects are not yet as much important as staff’s day-to-day living status and there needs to have budget analysis, which is a first step towards a democratic country. Ministry of Industrial Development and Ministry of Industry should not put unproductive projects in the plan, to fulfill the aims of emergence of national planning and budgets in line with the monetary policies and fiscal policies.
Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker calls on Chief of Chinese PLA General Staff General Chen Bingde

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Feb—Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann paid a call on Member of the Central Military Commission Chief of Chinese People’s Liberation Army General Staff General Chen Bingde at Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing on 23 February.

Also present at the call were Myanmar delegation members, Ambassador to China U Tin Ou, Military Attaché Col Tin Wai and personnel from Pyithu Hluttaw and Myanmar Embassy. Together with the Chinese general were Deputy General Secretary of National People’s Congress Mr Cao Wei Zhou, Director-General of General Staff Department Maj-Gen Ji Wanning, Maj-Gen Bai Junjun and Maj-Gen Chen Yirong of Military Operations Department, Chief of Logistics Department Maj-Gen Sun Wangtian, Deputy Director-General Maj-Gen Si Guowei of National Defence Ministry, Deputy Chief of Armaments and International Cooperation Department Maj-Gen Xian Guanhui and Chief of Asia Division of International Relations Department Brig-Gen Wu Xiaoyi.

During the meeting, they had cordial talks on matters related to defence and security of China and Myanmar, border security and stability, and promotion of communication and cooperation between the two armies.

The General then hosted dinner to the Myanmar delegation at the guest house. The Chinese General and the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker toasted each other and had dinner together.

During the dinner, artists entertained with sweet melodies, Myanmar songs, Chinese traditional dances and magic tricks to the accompaniment of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army band.

After the dinner, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker and the Chinese General exchanged gifts and the former presented gifts to the artistes. —MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session continues for 16th ... (from page 6)

U Kyi Tha of Gwa Constituency said: Ministry of Industry has proposed to make state-owned investments of K 16,990,013 million in 2012-2013 fiscal year. Running of Myanmar Pharmaceutical and Foodstuff Industries, cement factories, glass factories, projects, and paper mills and pulp mills under the Myanmar Paper and Chemical Industries should be carried out, based on investments, actual productions and profits and losses.

Dr Banya Aung Moe of Mon State Constituency (7) discussed that he would like to advice the government to run joint-venture business between private sector and the government should be carried out. Government-owned factories and workshops should run for profit.

Public companies and companies will emerge after opening stock markets and they will be able to address to public and companies.

Dr Mya Oo of Bago Region Constituency (9) said: Only when education and health sectors are merged into poverty alleviation targets, will the goals of poverty alleviation be achieved. In education sector, poverty alleviation should be prioritized, fund for rural healthcare should be established and drawing on the fund should be avoided. Initial healthcare should be provided to townships, sub-townships and rural areas effectively for ensuring public health. Fitness of youths including students should be extensively monitored.

In objectives prescribed in the law of the Ministry of Health, figures of Millennium Development Goals and figures related to maternal, infant, child, malaria, TB and HIV should be mentioned exactly. National Plan for 2012-2013 fiscal year is seconded.

U Steven Thabeik of Chin Constituency (4) said: The accuracy of figures is important in calculating GDP of the whole nation. If the figures are far from approximation, the investment ratio and planning will not be accurate. Myanmar’s investment is lower than that of neighbours on average between 2005-2006 fiscal year and 2010-2011 fiscal year. In this period of modest investment, some ministries squandered millions from the fund of the country in implementing projects which were failures.

Though projects drafted by respective ministries for 2012-2013 fiscal year with huge fund estimated are submitted for good purposes, the projects, which could not give immediate profit to the country, should be delayed as the country is still undeveloped and cannot make huge investment now. Investment, taxation, budget of Chin State and other regions and states and drafting of anti-corruption law should be considered in fundamental principles of National Planning Bill for 2012-2013 fiscal year submitted by the Ministry of Finance and Revenue.

Daw Mi Myint Tha of Ye Constituency said: Transportation sector should be extended by drafting National Transportation Policy in accord with need of the people, economic profitability and other requirements. The rail transportation should set sight on running electric train. For all-round transportation in transportation, container transportation should be established. Staff should be employed for each department and trained to improve their capacity. The emergence of modern railroads should be implementing by replacing wooden sleepers with concrete ones. A system investigating passenger coaches and cargos should be adopted and enforced for foolproof inspection. If there is investigation, new staff should be recruited under directives. Running hours of the train should be reduced.

As the salary of the government personnel could be decreased if the unprofitable projects are suspended and irrelevant expenses are reduced in 2012-2013 fiscal year, Budget for 2012-2013 should be redrawn.

U Paul Htan Htai of Chin State Constituency (3) said: The Section (363) of the Constitution clearly states, “The Union may assist and protect the religions it recognizes to its utmost.” The constitution should transparently portray the fact. Without adding any fund to the Ministry of Religious Affairs in 2012-2013 budget, changes should be made in the current budget of the ministry and expenditures for Christian, Islam, Hindu and other religions should be included.

Today’s session concluded at 1:25 pm and the 17th day session will be held at 10 am on 1 March.—MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and party leave PRC

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Feb—The Myanmar goodwill delegation led by Pyithu Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann left Grand Hotel Beijing and arrived at Beijing Capital Airport at 7 am local time on 26 February after paying a goodwill visit to the People’s Republic of China.

The Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw and party were seen off at the airport by Deputy General Secretary Mr Cao Wei Zhou of National People’s Congress of the People’s Republic of China, Ambassador to the PRC U Tin Ou, Military Attaché Col Tin Wai and embassy officials. At 8:10 am local time, the Speaker and party left Beijing International Capital Airport and arrived at Beijing International Airport at 11.25 am local time. They were welcomed by Chairman of the National People’s Congress of Yunnan Province Mr Yang Bao Jian and officials.

At the special lounge of the airport, the Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Vice-Chairman of the National People’s Congress of Yunnan held discussions on cooperation between Myanmar Hluttaw and Yunnan Congress.

After that, the Speaker and party left Kunming International Airport and arrived back in Yangon at 1:35 pm.—MNA

Union Mines Minister inspects gold mining in Yamethin

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Feb—Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htaik assisted in mining during his tour of inspection to gold mining plots on Moohi-Moohi Hill in Yamethin Township, Mandalay Region, yesterday.

The Union Minister called on joint-venture mining companies for boosting production of gold and for conserving the environment at least of degradation when they carried out gold mining and for work-site safety. During his tour of the mining area, Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htaik inspected construction of a hospital and a clinic and sites chosen for construction of a school and a police station.

He also inspected the 50-ton reprocessing plant and owners of the mining companies.—MNA

Thai guests call on UMFCCI Vice-President

YANGON, 28 Feb.—A six-member delegation led by Dr Terapool Prakasam of Sutech Engineering Co Ltd of Thailand paid a call on Vice-President of the Union of the Republic of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and CEC members at the UMFCCI Headquarters here on 23 February and discussed matters related to investment.—MNA

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Wednesday, 29 February, 2012
Vice-President Thiha Thura
U Tin Aung Myint Oo inspects...
(from page 16)

The Vice-President cordially greeted the officials concerned and the companies’ staff.

In a special flight back to Kyaukpyu, the Vice-President and his entourage viewed progress of the construction site for an oil tank, a jetty and progress of laying down inland crude oil pipelines and the construction sites for Maed Island project and a water tank for distributing freshwater to the villages nearby.

At a meeting with State district and township level departmental heads, social organization members, townselders, rural people at Yamawady Hall, Kyaukpyu, the Vice-President was respectively reported by Kyaukpyu Township Administrator, Yanbye Township Administrator, Kyaukpyu District Administrator and Maanag Township Administrator on needs for their townships. Then, Kyaukpyu townselders U Nyi Hlaing, U Tun Pe and Yanbye townselders U Hla Tun Pyu also reported to the Vice-President on their needs.

Then, State Chief Minister U Maung Tin gave a supplementary report to him. After the Vice-President had fulfilled the needs in collaboration with Union Ministers and Deputy Ministers to assist in education, health and transportation matters reported by departmental officials and townselders.

According to the Vice-President, plans have been made to supply power generated by Kyunh-Kyawa hydel power plant to An, Mhinbya, Mrauk-U, Kyauktaw, Ponnagunyang and working together with the government for the regional development. Afterwards, responsible personnel of CNPC presented US$10 mln to Deputy Minister for Electric Power No. 2 U Aung Than Oo for building power supply system to supply power to Kyaukpyu and Yanbye.

Daewoo Company presented US$5.5 million to Executive Officer U Than Lin Tun of Township Development Affairs Committee for repairing the jetties and roads in Kyaukpyu.

Entrepreneurs also spent US$2.68 million on education, health, water supply, electricity supply and rescue work after natural disasters in Rakhine State in 2006 and 2011.

CNCP Co donated US$6 million for undertaking education and health tasks in the regions along the pipeline. SEAOP and SEAGP companies also spent US$1 million on the tasks.

The Vice-President and party left Kyaukpyu and arrived at Thandwe in the evening.

They looked into burnt conditions of Dwarawady Myoma Market in Thandwe and gave words of encouragement to shopkeepers at Dwarawady Hall.

They also inspected construction of Dwarawady temporary grocery market and attended to the needs of the market committee.

Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo cordially greets those present at Yamawady Hall in Kyaukpyu. — MNA
Daw Khin Saw Hnin meets members of
township WAOs, MCWAs in Kyaukpyu District, Rakhine State

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Feb—Wife of
Vice-President of the Republic of
the Union of Myanmar Thaha Thura
U Tin Aung Myint Oo, Patron of
Myanmar Women’s Affairs
Federation and Myanmar Maternal
and Child Welfare Association, Daw
Khin Saw Hnin met chairpersons,
secretaries and members of Rakhine
State, Kyaukpyu District and
Township Women’s Affairs
Organizations and Maternal and
Child Welfare Supervisory
Committees of Rakhine State at the
hall of Kyaukpyu District General
Administration Department
yesterday morning.

Speaking on the occasion, Daw
Khin Saw Hnin expressed her
pleasure in meeting with members
of MCWA and WAO of Rakhine
State. She said that she arrived there
to fulfill the requirements of the
associations at the state, district and
township levels. She noted that
MWAF and MCWA are reliable
organizations for the State. These
organizations are engaged in health,
education and social tasks for the
people, she said. The organizations
are upholding the life security of
the women, and she stressed the
need for prevent trafficking in
person and preserve traditional
culture.

She said that the central body of
the association assigned the
various levels of the organizations
to give community-based care to
the TB patients. Thus, it is
necessary to give door-to-door
health care service to the patients,
she said.

Members of the MCWA are
working in concert for turning out
qualified men and women, and they
have been voluntarily participating
in the social affairs for many years,
she said. She stressed the need for
women to uplift themselves as a
direct national duty to become
outstanding women in the
international arena.

In conclusion, she said that it
should take pride in their
endeavours of welfare tasks for the
State, in addition to that of ward,
village and township level. She
urged them to double the efforts for
future tasks of the MWAF and
MCWA.

Chairperson of Rakhine State
WAO and MCWSC, Daw Mya Nu
reported on progress of the WAo
and MCWSC.

Chairpersons of Kyaukpyu
District, Kyaukpyu Township,
Yanbye, Manaung and An
townships WAOs and MCWAs also submitted
reports on their respective sectors.

Next, Daw Khin Saw Hnin presented K 1
million each for Rakhine State WAO and Rakhine
State MCWSC through Patron of the State WAO
and MCWSC, wife of Rakhine State Chief Minister
Daw Nu Nu San.

Secretary of MMCWA, Daw Than Zin Nwe
donated K 200,000 each to Township WAOs and
Township MCWAs of Kyaukpyu District through
officials of the associations.

After that, Daw Khin Saw Hnin and party
cordially greeted members of WAO and MCWA.

At the self-reliant pre-school being
opened by Kyaukpyu Township MCWA, they
viewed progress of education of pre-school
children and presented gifts and nutritious foods
to them.

They donated K 200,000 to the pre-primary
schools in Kyaukpyu Township.

MMCWA (Central) donated K 300,000 to
Kyaukpyu Township MCWA’s pre-school school.
They then cordially greeted members of WAO and
MCWA.—MNA

Brazil’s Under-Secretary-General for Political
Affairs of the Ministry of External Relations
calls on Union Minister at President Office

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Feb—Workshop on
Myanmar-Japan Cooperation Program for Economic Development, organized by the
Ministry of National Planning
and Economic Development
and Japan International Cooperation Agency, was
held at Thiri Yadana Hall at Myanmar
Women’s Affairs Federation here this
morning, with an address by Union Minister
for National Planning and Economic
Development U Tin Naing Thein.

The Union Minister said, in his
speech, that he expressed words of thanks
for Japan’s cooperation in development
of human resource of Myanmar; that national
development planning project are being
drawn for development of Myanmar, under
task of which there are many projects running for
development of the country; and that in
giving benefits to socio-economic
general; that the project being drawn would
give benefits to socio-economic
development of the country; and that in
doing so, tasks for rural development
poverty alleviation and human resource
development would be given top priority
in cooperation with not only the country’s
strength but also international
organizations, donor countries including
United Nations.

Also present at the event were Union
Ministers from Industry and for Rail
Transportation, deputy ministers, advisers
to the President, departmental heads,
representatives of the Republic of the Union
of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of
Commerce and Industry, officials
consulted from Japan Embassy to
Myanmar and from Japan International
Cooperation Agency, Japanese Economists
and officials.

Workshop on Myanmar-Japan Cooperation
Program for Economic Development held

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Development U Tin Naing Thein.
Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham addresses ...

(From page 16)

ensure the comprehensiveness of Zabuthiri Stadium where the opening and closing ceremonies would be held. The accommodation and catering subcommittee was to prepare for provision of pleasant and convenient accommodations and nourishing and fresh foods to guests, coaches, and workers.

The transportation subcommittee was to prepare to ensure smooth transport, enough number of vehicles and skilful, discipline and polite drivers and to report the required amount of oil to the departments concerned.

Dr Sai Mauk Kham said health and medical subcommittee must prepare in detail for drug abuses of athletes in addition to healthcare, prevention and treatment.

The fund-raising and prize presentation subcommittee must seek necessary fund from sponsors and wellwishers and must prepare medals in advance and acquire anthem of each nation, he said. He urged the information and record subcommittee to prepare for broadcasting news of the event and matches live or replay and compile and distribute IT cable networks for live or replay and to compile and distribute broadcasting news of the event and matches every genre. He urged those present at the meeting to give a facility to the country by hosting XXVII SEA Games successfully and participating in every genre.

Chairman of Transport Subcommission Union Minister for Transport U Nyun Tun Aung presents reports on progress of works.—MNA

Chairman of Fund-raising and Prize Awarding Subcommission Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun, Chairman of Information and Record Subcommission Deputy Minister for Defence Maj-Gen Nay Lin and officials submitted reports of respective subcommittees.

Presidents of sports federation presented trainings of each federation and plans for achieving victory in the games.

Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Kyaw Kyaw Win and Deputy Minister for Sports U Aye Myint Kyaw reported onzemence of sports contingents and delegates in Myanmar in XXVII SEA Games and needs for organizing opening and closing ceremonies and for achieving victory.

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham in his concluding remarks thanked those present for participating in discussion in unison for winning victory in XXVII SEA Games. He highlighted the need of honesty of athletes in the games. He said international-standard referees, juries and coaches, at home and abroad. He said the athletes must be sent to foreign countries for international experiences, joint trainings must be conducted, and invitation tournaments must be organized. Myanmar settled eight place in previous XXVI SEA Games as it won first place in this SEA Games held after 44 years. He guaranteed that the government will honour hard work and success of presidents of the federations and the victorious athletes. He demanded support and suggestions of wellwishers.

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham addresses ...

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and party visit Tianjin City, meet Chairman of Tianjin National People’s Congress

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann holds talks with Chairman of Tianjin National People’s Congress Mr. Xiao Huiyan—MNA
Over 120-year monastery attracts tourists

**Yaungu, 28 Feb—**Shwe Yanpyae monastery is one of the tourist destinations in Inlay region of Shan State. The monastery is located on Shwenyaung, Yaungu highway, one and half miles to Yaungu.

As it is an ancient monastery decorated with ancient works, the edifice should be preserved without losing its original style. A lot of ancient Myanmar architectural works can be seen at the monastery. In fact, it is a tourist attraction site," said a tour guide.

Shwe Yanpyae Monastery was built with wooden floral arabesques, tiers, oval shaped windows, doors and gilt teak posts of Yatanarpon era architectural works. As it is a master-piece work of ancient artists and sculptors, the monastery is an observatory site not only for the tourists but also for researchers. According to the stone inscription at Shwe Yanpyae Pagoda, the monastery was built in 1525 Myanmar Era.—Kyemon

Summer Palethwe paddies collectively grown

**Labutta, 28 Feb—**The growing of summer Palethwe hybrid paddy was held on five acres of farmlands of farmer U Kyaw Kyaw Aung in Shwepyitha Village in Kyeingongyi Village-tract of Labutta Township, Labutta District, on 13 February. Deputy Commissioner U Aye Maung Kyi of Labutta District and the district manager of Myanmar Agriculture Department made speeches. Officials and farmers observed systematic reclamation of five acres farmland, thriving Palethwe hybrid paddy through good agriculture pattern and infection of pests. It was reported that a total of 900 acres of farmlands will be put under summer paddy in Kyeingongyi Village-tract in Labutta Township.

Yesagyo to get smooth communication access

**Yesagyo, 28 Feb—**Thanks to Myanma Posts and Telecommunications under the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs, the people of Yesagyo Township will have easy access to smooth and convenient communications of GSM mobile phones soon.

A 790 m tower has been built on Shinna Hill and the communication machine came into operation beginning 8 January. As a result, some parts of the township and around Myaung Township can use GSM mobile phones.

Moreover, 450 m towers are under construction in Yesagyo communication station, Combined Office, Pakhangyi, Kyaukphla, Phon-in-Tanadan, Kyethuksyi and Ma’ Aukseik. In addition, Yatanarpon Teleport is building a tower at Yesagyo Communication Station as of 20 February. On completion, all the communication towers will provide clear and smooth communication services to the GSM users in Yesagyo Township, said in-charge of Mobile Communication U Toe Lwin (Technician-4).—Kyemon

Control of animal infectious diseases discussed

**Yangon, 28 Feb—**A coordination meeting on control of avian influenza and animal infectious diseases was held at the hall of the Yangon Region Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department on 23 February. The head of the region department explained matters related to control of bird flu and animal infectious diseases. Heads of district and township LBVDs reported on spraying the poultry and pig breeding farms, programmes to give educative talks and future tasks.

Hatching of fingerlings demonstrated

**Tatkon, 28 Feb—**The hatchery of the Ayeyawady Region Fisheries Department, Head of Tatkon Township Fisheries Department U Than Sein, together with departmental officials and staff, is making strenuous efforts for sharing hatching technology and distributing adequate fingerlings to the local people.

On 14 February, they made a field trip to Eikpyet Village of Hinthaung Township and provided three pairs of golden Hamilton’s Carp pedigree species to breeder U San Win and demonstrated practical hatching of fingerlings.—Myanmar Alin

Knowledge about anti-human trafficking disseminated

**Sino, 28 Feb—**An educative talk on prevention against trafficking in person was held at Basic Education High School in Leinpalu Village of Singu Township in Mandalay Region on 10 February morning.

Chairman of the Township Anti-Human Trafficking Committee, Township Administrator U Sai Maung La spoke on the occasion.

Milk powder, kids utensils donated to triplets

**Tatkon, 28 Feb—**Well wishers of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association (Central) donated cash and kind to triplets of Tatkon Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 24 February.

Dr Gyo Gyo San and party of MMICWA (Central), Dr San San Hlaing (Myit Taung Sanay Clinic), Chairperson Daw Win Win Khang and party of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area MCWA donated kids utensils including containers of milk powder worth over K 100,000 and over K 70,000 in cash to triplets Ma Mo Yadan Ma, Mo Marlar Maung Ma and Mo Ma Thawda Myaing of Naungbo-sh Village in Kanygi Village-tract of Tatkon Township, Nay Pyi Taw Counci Area.

They also fed children with refreshment at the pre-primary school.

**Myanmar Alin**

New generation athletes selected in Nyaungshwe

**Nay Pyi Taw, 28 Feb—**In accord with the guidance of the Myanmar National Sports Committee, the Ministry of Sports and Shan State Sports and Physical Education Department jointly organized the first sports trials for track & field event so as to achieve victories in the XXVII SEA Games and international sports competitions.

The sports trials were held at the sports ground in Nyaungshwe Township, Shan State (South), on 25 February.

Altogether 319 youth athletes from Shan State took part in the sports trials of men’s and women’s long jump, men’s triple jump, men’s 100m, 400m run, women’s discuss, shot-put and javelin events.

Deputy Minister for Sports U Aye Myint Kyu and officials awarded the winners in the respective sports events.

The Deputy Minister and party met sports officers at state, district and township levels at the office of the Township Sports and Physical Education Department.—MVA

Schools, rural dispensaries donated

**Kyaikky Township, 28 Feb—**Daewoo International Corporation which is operator of Shwe Natural Gas Project made cash and kind donation at the office of Kyaukpyu Township General Administration Department on 1 February.

The corporation donated two schools and three rural dispensaries worth US$ 180,000 in Kyaukpyu Township and medicines and medical equipment worth US$ 33,000 to Sittway General Hospital. Officials accepted the donations.

Thanks to implementing the Shwe Natural Gas Project, the corporation has spent over US$ 2.7 million on construction of new schools and renovation tasks, and supply of safe water.

**DistrictIPRD**

Books Donated: The book donation ceremony was held at Ayogon Ward of Tamwaw Township in Yangon East District on 8 February. Head of Township IPRD Daw Hla Hla Myint presents books to Ward Administrator U Aung Tan.

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**Myanmar Alin**
Experts meet to find ways for Myanmar snub-nosed monkey conservation

Nay Pyi Taw, 28 Feb—International Workshop on conservation of snub-nosed monkey was held at Forest Department of the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry here today. The workshop was jointly conducted by the Forest Department and Fauna & Flora International—FFI with the aim of reviewing conservation of the monkey in Myanmar, studying experiences of conservation of the monkey in China and Vietnam and drawing a long-term strategic plan to conserve the Myanmar snub-nosed monkey.

During the workshop, eight papers were read out and the participants of the workshop were divided into four groups and discussed matters related to conservation of the monkey and drawing the strategic plan for the conservation. —MNA

Central Bank of Myanmar Governor and Executive Vice President of Siam Commercial Bank PLC hold discussion

Nay Pyi Taw, 28 Feb—Governor U Than Nyein of Central Bank of Myanmar under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue received Executive Vice President Mr Kittiphun Anutarasoti of Siam Commercial Bank PLC and party at his office here this morning. Both sides discussed matters relating to operating of a foreign bank agent (branch) in Myanmar, and bilateral cooperation between Siam Commercial Bank and Myanmar Banks. Also present at the call were heads of the departments under the ministry. —MNA

Staff of NPE on trip to Hsandawshin Kyaikhtiyo Pagoda

Nay Pyi Taw, 27 Feb—With an aim at improving their performance at workplace and getting relaxation, the News and Periodicals Enterprise under the Ministry of Information on 25 February, 2012 created an excursion trip on pilgrimage to Hsandawshin Kyaikhtiyo Pagoda as the second time for its staff and their families.

In that evening, Kyemon Daily’s Chief Editor U Khin Maung Kyaw Din and Myanmar Alin Press’s Chief Editor U Tin Maung Than threw themselves to the 1500-oil lamps offering ritual of a total of 135 staff and pilgrims on the passage of the Pagoda square under the supervision of the Pagoda Board of Trustee. On 26 February morning, the staff and their families presented K 150,000 to the Pagoda Board of Trustee for multi-purpose renovation of the pagoda. On the way back to Nay Pyi Taw, those staff and their families paid homage to some pagodas including Kyaikpawlaw Hmaeshin Pagoda.

The third-time trip is set off on 2 March, 2012. —MNA

Union A & I Minister visits tissue culture nursery of Great World Int’l Co

Nay Pyi Taw, 28 Feb—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing visited Brazilian-tissue banana plantation of tissue culture nursery of the Great World International Co on Theikpant Street in Mandalay yesterday.

The Brazilian-tissue banana plant is reported to be able to generate an income of over 7 million Kyats per plant a year. The Union minister then observed the physic-nut plantation which is said to be used as active ingredient in making of household medicines, chemicals, engine oil and other materials up to 270 items. The agriculturalists hired by the companies are culturing Brazilian banana, orchid, eucalyptus, teaks and sugarcane with tissue culture agricultural technology. The Union minister in meeting with the executive director and agriculturalists of the company called for expansion of the research into industrial-scale production and marketing. —MNA

Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun delivers an opening address at the International Workshop on conservation of snub-nosed monkey. —MNA

22 tourists robbed in Mexico bus assault

Puerto Vallarta, 28 Feb—Mexican security officials say an armed group has robbed 22 foreign tourists who were travelling by bus near the coastal city of Puerto Vallarta.

The city’s public safety secretary said in a statement that the tourists weren’t injured in the Thursday night attack although their possessions were seized. The statement said a group of hooded attackers intercepted the bus while it was passing through the town “El Nogalito.” The statement didn’t disclose the nationalities of the robbed tourists and police hadn’t found the suspects.

The US State Department recently warned against nonessential travel to parts of Jalisco State, where Puerto Vallarta is located. The warning didn’t name Puerto Vallarta itself.—Internet

Fuel tank fire extinguished on Texas island

Houston, 28 Feb—A blast caused by an explosion at a tank containing light crude on the Texas island of Galveston was extinguished early Friday, officials said. The blast was put out at about 3 am local time on Friday, the Galveston Fire Department said. A storage tank containing 12,000 barrels of oil was reportedly burned. The fire broke out after an explosion at 7 am local time on Thursday. At least one firefighter has been injured, suffering smoke inhalation, according to local media reports.

A shelter-in-place was ordered at Texas A&M University at Galveston, and was lifted after two hours. The cause of the explosion was still under investigation. —Xinhua
Puerto Vallarta, 28 Feb—Mexican security officials say an armed group has robbed 22 foreign tourists who were travelling by bus near a coastal city of Puerto Vallarta. The city’s public safety secretary said in a statement that the tourists weren’t injured in the Thursday night attack although their possessions were seized. The statement said a group of hooded attackers intercepted the bus while it was passing through the town “El Nogalito.” The statement didn’t disclose the nationalities of the robbed tourists and police hadn’t found the suspects.

The US State Department recently warned against nonessential travel to parts of Jalisco State, where Puerto Vallarta is located. The warning didn’t name Puerto Vallarta itself. The US State Department said a gunny bag was trying to leave the premises when guards found the suspects.

Teen held stealing 200 blood bags in Pakistan

Islamabad, 28 Feb—A teenager in Islamabad was caught Saturday running away with 200 blood bags from the Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS).

According to PIMS administration, a teen-aged boy carrying a gummy bag was trying to leave the premises when guards caught him and recovered 200 bags of blood and platelets, the Geo News reported. The hospital administration has ordered a probe into the incident.

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People regret ‘not saving more money’ most in life

London, 28 Feb—Wishing they’d saved more money is what people regret most in life, followed by not working harder at school, according to a survey. Starting smoking, not exercising enough and not seeing more of the world are also in the top five biggest regrets revealed by Electric Zebra, the company that makes cigarette substitutes.

Three-quarters of the 2,000 people quizzed by the “electronic cigarette firm also said they did not believe it was possible to live a life without regrets, the Daily Express reported. On average people in Britain spend 44 minutes every week thinking about things we should have done differently.

The survey found that the biggest area of regret is love/lives (20 percent), family (18 percent), career (16 percent), health and finance (both 14 percent). But two-thirds said their regrets led them to think more positively and they learnt from their mistakes. Nearly half said regrets influenced the way they live. “It’s significant that 64 percent of people listed taking up smoking as one of their biggest regrets,” said Dr Sarah Brewer, medical adviser to Electric Zebra. —Internet
**Fire forces Daytona 500 to pause with 40 laps left**

**DAYTONA BEACH, 28 Feb**—First came the rain. Then came the fire. Everything that could go wrong with this Daytona 500 did go wrong, and the first NASCAR race in primetime television could be remembered for something but the winner. That’s because there still was no winner more than four hours after the green flag, which already had been delayed a day.

Journeyman driver Dave Blaney was leading when a problem with Juan Pablo Montoya’s car sent him spinning under caution into a safety truck. That truck, which holds 200 gallons of jet kerosene, burst into flames. Montoya’s car slid into the grass, and he gingerly climbed from its fire trucks rushed to the scene. The inferno raged on, and NASCAR red-flagged the race with 40 laps remaining.

NASCAR officials were examining the track surface to determine whether the race could continue. “About the time you’ve seen about everything, you see something like this,” NASCAR president Mike Helton said.

“I think we, like everybody else, would like to see this race finished. This is within reason, and we think we can do that within reason. We’ve waited this long. Another 30 minutes is worth trying to finish the 40 laps.” Jet fuel poured down the surface of Turn 3 at Daytona International Speedway after the accident, creating a fiery lasting image of NASCAR’s biggest race of the year.—Internet

**Djokovic wins first match since Australian Open**

**DUBAI, 28 Feb**—Top-ranked Novak Djokovic played his first match since winning the Australian Open, shocking off the rust to beat Cedric-Marcel Stebe 6-4, 6-2 on Monday in the first round of the Dubai Tennis Championships. Marko Djokovic—ranked 868 spots below his brother—had a less successful day. The younger Djokovic, a wildcard entry into the tournament, was bounced in the opening round with 6-3, 3-6, 2-6 loss to Andrey Golubev of Kazakhstan.

A few hours before his victory, Novak Djokovic was courtside for his brother’s match. Djokovic serves as a mentor of sorts for the 20-year-old Marko and said it was hard to watch his brother struggling. The five-time Grand Slam champion acknowledged it must be difficult for Marko and his other tennis-playing brother, 16-year-old Djordje, to deal with comparisons to their elder sibling.

“In the end, he has to face this, I guess, pressure in a way for having Djokovic surname,” Djokovic said of Marko. “All over the world where he plays tennis, I guess he has to face this pressure that is not necessary for him at this age. It’s his burden, and he’s very committed. He wants to succeed in tennis.

Djokovic had not played a match in nearly four weeks—and it showed at times. He broke Stebe to go up 1-0 but had to save two break points in the fourth game as he struggled with the German’s return game. Stebe pushed the seto 5-4 and made a first-set double fault before Djokovic hit his first ace and another good serve which the German returned long. Djokovic had an easier second set, breaking twice.

**Villas-Boas unsure of Chelsea owner’s backing**

**LONDON, 28 Feb**—Andre Villas-Boas is unsure if he has the backing of Chelsea owner Roman Abramovich if he will be sacked in the same way as predecessor Carlo Ancelotti was last May, the Portuguese coach said on Monday.

“We are now in the exact same situation as last year,” the under-fire Villas-Boas told Portugal’s TSF radio. “It is an exact copy. I think I have felt the confidence from Abramovich but... the pattern of behaviour of the owner has led to a downfall of (coaches) in similar situations or even ‘better’ situations. What will be the reaction? It will be one of the two, a continuation of the project and full support or just the cultural pattern that has happened before. We don’t know.”—Internet

**Ferguson heaps praise on ‘amazing’ Giggs**

**Manchester United boss relieved after veteran midfielder’s late winner at Norwich**

**LONDON, 28 Feb**—Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson said it was fitting that Ryan Giggs scored the winner at Norwich. The 38-year-old Giggs marked his 900th appearance for the club in all competitions with a goal in injury time that sealed a dramatic 2-1 victory.

“Tomark his 900th game with the winning goal with the last kick of the ball...he deserved it for the service he has given to our club,” said Ferguson.

“For a player to play for the one club for 900 games is exceptional and it won’t be done again. An amazing career and an amazing man. Ferguson added that Giggs had his side were second best for spells of the match at Carrow Road against a Norwich side enjoying a successful first season in the Barclays Premier League. “We were lucky,” added Ferguson. “In the first half I thought Norwich were the better team.”

“I thought they played better football than we did.” Meanwhile, Giggs said the club’s ability for late dramatics is partly down to a determination not to accept defeat. “Right through the squad — for all the time I’ve been here—we’ve always had that ability not to give in and score late goals,” he said. “To play 900 games for this club, who I’ve grown up supporting, is special — it’s a great day for me. ‘I am sure there will be more twists and turns in the title race and I expect more drama and late goals.’”—Internet

**Wenger savours comeback victory**

**Arsenal boss praises his side’s spirit after stunning fightback against Tottenham**

**LONDON, 28 Feb**—Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger says his side are still alive after Sunday’s stunning 5-2 Barclays Premier League victory over north London rivals Tottenham. The Gunners, who have recently suffered morale-sapping defeats against AC Milan in the UEFA Champions League and Sunderland in the FA Cup, were facing the prospect of another loss when Tottenham went 2-0 up with first-half goals from Louis Saha and Emmanuel Adebayor. But Arsenal fought back, scoring through Bacary Sagna and Robin van Persie before half-time before Tomas Rosicky and Theo Walcott (twice) completed the sensational comeback. And Wenger believes the win over third-placed Tottenham will give his side renewed belief they can finish in the top four. “Arsenal are alive more than anybody thought before the game,” he said. “Today we gave a performance that on the technical side, the drive of the whole team, on the style of the game we want to play, everything was perfect despite a very bad start.”

“I felt in the first five minutes Tottenham started well, after that it was all us for 85 minutes. ‘We were always on top of the game. We were 2-0 down but refused to lose the game and kept going no matter what happened. Once we were back to 2-2 you could see that we maintained pace, we would win the game. We had a great spirit.” Arsenal are now seven points behind Tottenham and are level on points with fifth-placed Chelsea with 12 matches left in the League campaign.—Internet

**Ryan Giggs scored the winning goal for Manchester United late on at Carrow Road.—INTERNET**

**Jelena Dokic, Petra Martic advance in Malaysia**

**KUALA LUMPUR, 28 Feb**—Defending champion Jelena Dokic of Australia and fifth-seeded Petra Martic of Croatia won first-round matches on Monday at the Malaysian Open. Dokic, seeded seventh, beat Kristina Mladenovic of France 6-4, 6-1. The fifth-seeded Martic called past Erika Sema of Japan 6-4, 6-7, 7-5. Olga Rogowska of Australia also advanced, downing Elinita Kostova of Bulgaria 6-4, 6-2. Two Japanese players reached the second round. Misaki Doi held off Olga Puchkova of Russia 4-6, 6-1, 6-2, and Kurumi Nara toppled Noppawan Lertcheewakarn of Thailand 6-4, 6-3.—Internet

**Bacary Sagna scored five minutes before half-time to start Arsenal’s comeback.**

**Top-ranked Novak Djokovic**

**Internet**
Illegal sawmill, timber seized

PYINMA, 28 Feb—A combined team led by Assistant Director U Aung Naing of Management Branch of Forest Department seized one illegal sawmill, 31292 tons of teak and hardwood at Yanaungmyin public forest, west of Aungmin Village of Lewe Township on 16 February.

After investigation, officials of the Forest Department (Head Office) opened file Pa/36/2012 against U Win Bo, son of U Kywet of Aungmin Village in Lewe Township under Section 42 (b) (c), 43 (a) of Forest Law at Lewe Township Police Station.—Kyonon

Rory McIlroy is on the fast track to No 1

Rory McIlroy, of Northern Ireland, hits up the seventh fairway against Hunter Mahan in the final round during the Match Play Championship golf tournament on 26 Feb, 2012, in Marana, Ariz. —INTERNET

MARA, 28 Feb — Hunter Mahan figured out the fuss over Rory McIlroy without any help. Mahan listened, but was not surprised, when fans called out McIlroy’s name along the fairways of Dove Mountain. There is a certain appeal about Boy Wonder that makes it hard for people not to stare when he walks past them.

Mahan agrees with all the talk about McIlroy’s bid to become No 1. He just wanted to make sure it didn’t happen at his expense Sunday in the Match Play Championship. Mahan, as much as any American player, has seen this day coming. They first played against each other three years ago in the Match Play — it was McIlroy’s pro debut in America — and the 22-year-old from Northern Ireland birdied the last two holes for a 1-up win in the second round.

A year later, Mahan and Zach Johnson faced McIlroy and Graeme McDowell in a foursomes match at the Ryder Cup. The Americans were 3 down after just seven holes and wound up losing. So when Mahan talked about his tough road to the championship match, and how he had to beat five great players to get there, he quickly added, “I’ve got to beat one more incredible player to win.” That’s what Mahan did Sunday to capture his second World Golf Championship title.—Internet

Rodrick hopes for turnaround at Delray Beach

Andy Roddick

DELRAY BEACH, 28 Feb—Andy Roddick is hoping to turn around his dismal start to the season at the Delray Beach International Tennis Championships. The fourth-seeded Roddick, who has slipped to No 30 in the rankings, usually does well in the first couple of months of the year. He traditionally has fared well at the indoor tournaments in February—he’s won the Memphis and San Jose titles three times each.

But he’s battling injuries. A right hamstring injury forced him to abandon his second-round match at the Australian Open, and he hurt his right ankle during his opening match at San Jose two weeks ago. Roddick will face Philipp Petzschner of Germany in the first round at Delray Beach on Tuesday night. The American is 2-3 this year, his worst start since he began the ATP Tour full-time in 2001. “Honestly, I’m not as concerned with ranking,” Roddick said. “I just want to get into a flow again rather than days some days on, some days off. I just want to play continuously for a while.”

In all-American first-round match on Monday, Ryan Sweeting swept Donald Young 6-1, 6-1 on a windy day near the beach. Eighth-seeded Bernard Tomic of Australia also advanced, cruising past wild card Tommy Haas 6-4, 6-3. Sweeting never offered Young a break-point opportunity in the 52-minute match. He also won 21 of 23 first-serve points that went in play. Young struggled with his serve and was broken on four of nine break chances he presented to Sweeting. —Internet

Stewart Downing backs Steven Gerrard for England captaincy

LONDON, 28 Feb—England winger Stewart Downing believes Liverpool team-mate Steven Gerrard is the perfect candidate to replace recently deposed captain John Terry. Caretaker boss Stuart Pearce is yet to announce who will lead England against the Netherlands on Wednesday. Liverpool captain Gerrard is one of the leading contenders to replace Terry, who was stripped of the role by the Football Association this month. “If he’s picked to do it then I’m sure he will do it well,” said Downing.

“It’s the manager’s decision, but he has captained Liverpool for a number of years and he’s done well. “He’s a big player for Liverpool and England and he’s got a great influence on the players. He drives teams on. “If he’s given the England captaincy then great.” Gerrard, 31, skipped England during their 2010 World Cup campaign after Manchester United defender Rio Ferdinand missed the tournament through injury. Meanwhile, midfielders Jamie Milner insists England’s inexperienced forwards have the quality to hurt the Netherlands at Wembly.

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Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo inspects construction of natural gas and oil pipeline, regional development undertakings in Rakhine State

Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo making speech in meeting with State/District and Township level departmental heads, social organization members, townsenders and locals at Ramawady Hall of Kyaukpyu.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Feb—Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo inspected construction of natural gas and oil pipeline and regional development undertakings in Rakhine State yesterday.

Lt-Gen Hla Htay Win of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay, Union Minister for Science and Technology U Aye Myint, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Tha, Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin, Deputy Minister for Electric Power No. 2 U Aung Than Oo, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Phone Swe, Deputy Minister for Transport U Win Shein, Deputy Minister for Education U BaShwe, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Junhua, Thandwe Constituency Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Ye Tun, Taungup Constituency Pyithu Hluttaw Representative Dr San Hlaing, and departmental personnel accompanied the Vice-President on his tour.

On his arrival at Kyaukpyu from Nay Pyi Taw, the Vice-President, together with Union Ministers U Than Htay and U Aye Myint, the Chinese Ambassador, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Muang Tin and personnel, flew to Hyundai HD-60 vessel which is laying offshore pipeline, part of Shwe natural gas project.

Managing Director Mr SH Joo of Daewoo International Corporation, at the briefing hall, reported to the Vice-President on progress in constructing natural gas pipeline and follow-up plans.

The Vice-President put questions for his knowledge and called for systematic implementation of works, worksite safety and completion on schedule. The Vice-President then presented the managing director of Daewoo Int’l Corporation with a fruit basket. The Vice-President and party then inspected laying of offshore pipeline in HD-60 vessel.

After that, the Vice-President and his entourage flew to Maed Island. At the briefing hall of the project in Maed Island, hearing reports presented by Chairman Mr. Zang Jialin of South East Asia Pipeline Co under China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC) on progress of laying down inland oil pipelines, the Vice-President instructed them to complete in time three laying-down projects in time, which are the sea natural gas pipeline, the inland natural gas and crude oil pipelines in Myanmar, and the inland natural gas and crude oil pipelines in China, to emphasize socio-care of the rural people who live near the projects, besides socio-economic tasks, to create job prospects for rural people at the time when the facilities would start running upon completion of the projects.

(See page 8)

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham addresses third meeting of Leading Committee for Preparation of XXVII SEA Games

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham delivering address at third meeting of Leading Committee for Preparation of XXVII SEA Games at assembly hall of the Ministry of Sports.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Feb—The third meeting of the Leading Committee for Preparation of XXVII SEA Games took place at the assembly hall of the Ministry of Sports here this morning, with an address by Patron of the committee Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham.

Union Minister, deputy ministers, presidents, vice-presidents and executives of the Myanmar sports federations, departmental heads, guests and officials.

Speaking on the occasion, the Vice-President said that the leading committee and 13 subcommittees were founded to ensure success in the XXVII SEA Games and the first meeting of the leading committee was held on 10 March, 2011.

It was followed by the second meeting on 8 July, 2011 to prepare more comprehensively for the coming SEA Games, said the Vice-President. Officials concerned were dispatched to observe XXVI SEA Games for successful hosting of the SEA Games, which is the first time in 44 years.

He went on that the Ministry of Sports took over the SEA Games flag at the closing ceremony of the XXVI SEA Games. It was desperately needed to accelerate preparations as it was only 21 months away from now. It also needed to plan a budget so that the expenditure could be granted.

He called for recruitment of prospective new blood and athletes of younger generations, systematically and intensively training them under foreign and local coaches and equipping them with fighting spirit and athletes’ access to comprehensive training equipment.

He stressed the need for turning out of adequate number of internationally-recognized referee certificate holder referees and juries and supervision of them to become qualified referees and juries to ensure the fair play of the sports competitions.

He underscored the importance of training the volunteers to be fluent in English and sociable with vivid hospitality of Myanmar people, calling for reflection of culture and national prestige of Myanmar in opening and closing ceremonies.

He went on that preparatory works were to be done from now on for invitation and accommodation of local and foreign guests. Registration and Sports Techniques was to prepare for registration of the athletes, fixing schedules and holding sports events and technical solutions.

The general preparatory subcommittee was to make sure visual pleasure of the roadside views from airport along to athletes’ village, sports grounds and stadiums.

In addition, it was needed (See page 10)