True patriotism

It is very important for every one of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.

Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

A fund must be set up with contributions of local and foreign wellwishers so as to conserve Inlay Lake in long run

NAV PYI TAW, 10 March—Accompanied by Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Lt-Gen Soe Win, Union Ministers Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Lt-Gen Thein Htay, U Khin Maung Myint, U Tin Naing Thein, U Khin Yi, U Aye Myint, U Win Tun, U Khin Maung Soe and Dr Mya Aye, Deputy Minister Dr Win Myint and departmental heads, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein left here by air at 9 am yesterday and arrived at Heho Airport of Shan State.

They were welcomed by Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat, Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Soe Htut, ministers of Shan State government, departmental officials, cultural troops of Shan, Palaung, Pa-O, Taungyoe and Danu national races and local people.

On arrival at Phaungdaw U Pagoda in Inlay Lake of Nyaungshwe Township, they were welcomed by members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees and local people waving miniature flags.

The President and wife Daw Khin Khin Win donated flowers, water and meals to the Buddha images of the pagoda and offered gold foils to the Buddha images.

The President signed the visitors’ book, and the President and wife made cash donations.

They paid homage to State Ovacacyariya Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Nanbhosa and members of the Sangha at Nanhu Monastery on the platform of the pagoda.

The President, wife and party took the Five Precepts from Ovacacyariya of the pagoda board of trustees Chairman of Shan State Sangha Nayaka Committee Dhammakathiha Bahujana Hitadhara Bhaddanta Dhammavara.

They donated provisions to members of the Sangha.

The President cordially greeted the pilgrims and local people.

At the hall on the platform, the President heard reports on facts about Inlay Lake for its durability and environmental conservation, condition of silting, instructions of VIPs on their inspection tours, undertaking of five main tasks in three regions for first five-year plan, progress of 2011-2012 fiscal year, disbursement of loans to group-owned forest founders, participation of UN agencies and plan for construction of the area of lake.

After hearing the reports, the President said that Inlay Lake is a good natural heritage. It is a significant landmark in Myanmar and ASEAN Heritage Part. Next generations are to conserve the lake for its durability. At present, the respective work committees have been formed for systematically maintaining the lake. In so doing, maintenance work and conservation work are divided at Inlay Lake.

A fund must be set up with assistance of local and foreign wellwishers so as to conserve the lake in the long run. Hotel industry at Inlay Lake is to take responsibility of fund in ratio for the maintenance works. Labour and boats of the local people will not be enough for conservation of the vast lake, and it is necessary to use heavy machinery in carrying out the tasks on a wider scale.

Due to increasing of local people and residences at Inlay Lake, water for agricultural purpose and land utilization are also raising. Thus, it is necessary to take remedy for reforestation at damaged in watershed areas of the lake. Moreover, a plan is to be adopted for growing walnut and macadamia plantations on a (See page 8)
**PERSPECTIVES**

**Sunday, 11 March, 2012**

**The dark side of technology**

Being sons and daughters of the age of technology, we used to close to screens round the clock, wear earphones for non-stop music and find for a button every time we need help. Technologies try to not allow us stand up, offering every tool to work. Even if you want to do a sport, there is always a game app for it. Various “smart” devices are on sale today. But do they really turn geeks smart?

I am not going to put my finger on adverse impact of technology. And I do believe technology has redefined our daily life. We wake to Google, take a rest on Youtube and sleep on Wikipedia. Facebook itself become a nation where we socialize with our fellow netizens.

But there are also many thorny dilemmas technology presents us with. Parental control became an issue to discuss. Besides, technology has started to set some iron rules in our daily lives. You must check your Gmail inbox before you start your daily works. You must see who writes something on your Facebook wall even before your breakfast. You must take Wikipedia as your big brother who will tell everything you do not know. You do not even have to remember your own birthday. Your Facebook friends will write, “Happy birthday,” on your wall.

The technology lures us still on our chairs. We can even babysit through CCTV camera. We unknowingly become “couch potatoes”. Many years ago, the people had to reserve some special luxurious hours to listen to music from radio. Now, you simply have on earphones of iPod or other portable MP3 players. Music will follow anywhere you go. But we are often out of the music as we fall into “iPod oblivion”.

Deeply dependent on technology, we have started to take care of things on World Wide Web, rather than the things around us. Your Facebook friend could become the dearest one, but your classmates are the nearest and the most realistic ones. You cannot ignore them. Google Images may offer you the breathtaking scenes of the season. But it surely cannot compare the scene you can see through the window. The music through earphones will never better the sound of rustling leaves.

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**Myanma Radio and Television marks its 66th Anniversary**

NAY PYI TAW, 10 March – The 66th anniversary of Myanma Radio and Television of the Ministry of Information was celebrated at the MRTV auditorium here this morning. Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan addressed the celebration and awarded prize winners.

Present on the occasion were Daw Kyi Kyi Win, wife of Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan, Deputy Minister for Information U Soe Win, Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sanda Khin, departmental heads of the Information Ministry and Culture Ministry, technicians from the MRTV, members of music scrutiny board, executives of Myanmar Music Asiayon, guests and staff members.

Speaking on the occasion, Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan said that reviewing the strong and weak points of the previous year, it is necessary to have more strong points and reduce weaknesses in 2012-2013. Only if individuals or divisions review themselves, can the whole department improve.

As outstanding personnel are awarded in every anniversary celebration, those who have won prizes need to try to achieve outstanding awards with a highly competitive spirit. By doing so, unity can be forged among the personnel and their quality will improve.

The union minister added that MRTV was entrusted with 12 tasks to be implemented in 2011-2012. Out of the tasks, it was found to have been able to accomplish two tasks – to safeguard and maintain the constitution through media and to work steadily through media in building a modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. Moreover, it carried out agricultural and livestock breeding tasks and fulfilled the needs of the personnel to a certain extent for their welfare. So, he recognized the successful implementation of the 12 tasks, said the union minister.

Media work is delicate and important. All the personnel ranging from the director-general down to lower staff were able to carry out media work that is sensitive to policy sector with fewest mistakes.

At a time when the government is striving for the nation to become a peaceful and developed one with flourishing democratic practices, civil servants on their part are to participate in the drive with a sense of cooperation, urged the union minister.

MRTV has been assigned duties to implement 12 tasks in 2012-2013. So, all the personnel must try to know the 12 tasks and implement them successfully. It is required to ensure that the nation’s media is always good in both form and essence and that all are skilled media persons. For quality improvement, everyone needs to be competent in their respective duties. In this rapidly developing world, all should try constantly to be skillful and qualified. The ministry itself will always render necessary assistance.

Next, Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan presented cash assistance for the MRTV staff to be used in the Thingyan festival to Director-General U Thein Aung. Then, Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan awarded Staff Officer (Production) U Hla Kyaining, Assistant Director (National race) Daw J Lu Pan, Staff Officer (National race) Daw Mi Yin Nwe and Staff Officer (Program) Daw Yi Yi Lwin, artists (Grade II) U Aung Min Oo, U Aung Chaint and Daw Khin Mya Thet who won prizes in the 18th Myanmar traditional cultural performing arts and TV Technician (Grade I) Daw Zar Zar who stood second in database management course conducted by the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs. Deputy Minister U Soe Win presented prizes for 65 staff members for their outstanding duties and nine staff members who won general outstanding awards through Staff Officer U Tin Yu and TV Technician (Grade II) U Myo Thant Htwe.

Deputy Minister Daw Sanda Khin presented prizes for 28 staff members for their outstanding performance to Chief Engineer U Myo Win. MRTV Director-General U Thein Aung presented cash assistance for uniforms and education purposes of the staff. Information and Public Relations Department Director-General U Ye Htun to those who won prizes in sports and games and Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise Managing Director U Aung Myo Myint to those who took no leave.

Later, the staff from various divisions sang the songs to the accompaniment of Myanma modern music band. — MNA

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**Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan presents prize to Assistant Director (national race) Daw J Lu Pan.** — MNA

**Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan addresses 66th Anniversary of MRTV.** — MNA

**Deputy Minister for Information U Soe Win presents prize for nine outstanding staff to TV technician-II U Myo Thant Htwe.** — MNA

**Deputy Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan presents prize to Assistant Director (national race) Daw J Lu Pan.** — MNA

**Deputy Minister for Information U Soe Win presents prize for nine outstanding staff to TV technician-II U Myo Thant Htwe.** — MNA
Romney claims victory in caucuses in Guam

SAN FRANCISCO, 10 March—Republican presidential frontrunner Mitt Romney late Friday claimed victory in caucuses in the US Pacific territory of Guam, saying he had secured the support of all nine delegates at stake there. “The people of Guam have always stood bravely for America and the values we hold dear,” Romney said in a statement. “I am honoured to have won the Guam caucuses, an important milestone in my quest to restore America to the principles and practices that made us great.”

Seven Pakistani soldiers die in militants’ attack

ISLAMABAD, 10 March—At least seven Pakistani soldiers were killed and several others injured in an attack by suspected Taliban militants in Pakistan’s North Waziristan tribal region on Friday, security officials in the region said.

The militants fired rockets on a convoy of security forces in the Khar Qamar area of North Waziristan, bordering Afghanistan, they said.

The convoy was heading to the Datta Khel area near its headquarters in Miranshah, main town in North Waziristan. The militants had been hiding in the mountains overlooking the road and used rockets to hit the convoy.

Sources said that several vehicles were also destroyed in the attack. The security forces also retaliated, but there had been no confirmation of casualties of the militants. Local media had reported that nine militants were killed when the army returned fire.

It was not clear which militant group had been involved in the attack.

The main Taliban group, led by Hafiz Gul Bahadar, had struck a peace deal with the government in 2007 and both sides do not attack each other. The Gul Bahadar group denied any involvement and its spokesman Ahmadullah Ahmadi said the group will investigate and punish those involved.

US drones raid al-Qaeda hideouts in southeast Yemen, 20 killed

WASHINGTON, 10 March—US President Barack Obama and Russian President-elect Vladimir Putin agreed on Friday to build on the successful reset in bilateral relations.

Obama made a phone call to Putin on his Air Force One special plane en route Richmond, Virginia to congratulate him on his victory in the 4 March presidential election, the White House said.

Obama and Putin, the incumbent Russian prime minister, highlighted achievements in US-Russia relations made over the past three years with President Dmitry Medvedev, including cooperation on Afghanistan and Iran, the conclusion and ratification of the new Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, and Russia’s recent accession to the World Trade Organization.

The reset in relations with Russia has been hailed as a signature foreign policy achievement for the Obama administration. However, bilateral ties have cooled down in the last few months.

Putin and President-elect Putin agreed that the successful reset in relations should be built upon during the coming years, “the White House said in a statement.

While the reset is improving US-Russian security cooperation, including boosting trade and investment relations, and they agreed to continue discussions on areas where the two countries have differed, including Syria and missile defense.

“President Obama and President-Elect Putin agreed to continue their efforts to find common ground and remove obstacles to better relations,” the White House said, noting Obama looks forward to hosting Putin at the G8 summit on 18-19 May at Camp David, the presidential retreat in Maryland state.”

Romney claims victory in caucuses in Guam

SAN FRANCISCO, 10 March—Republican presidential frontrunner Mitt Romney late Friday claimed presidential frontrunner Mitt Romney— Republican

rockets to hit the convoy.

overlooking the road and used

been hiding in the mountains

Waziristan. The militants had

near the border from its

Afghanistan, they said.

Waziristan, bordering

Qamar area of North

security forces in the Khar

rockets on a convoy of

militants were killed when the

army returned fire.

It was not clear which

militant group had been

involved in the attack.

The former Massachusetts governor did not campaign in Guam personally, but sent his son Matt to the island to campaign on his behalf. The official vote tally from the territory was not immediately available.—Internet

White powder mailed to New England schools

HARTFORD, 10 March—Schools in New England have been receiving envelopes filled with a white powder, which has been disrupting school days, officials said.

The most recent incident in Connecticut occurred Wednesday at Island Avenue School in Madison, the Hartford (Conn.) Courant reported.

The Connecticut State Department of Education issued a statement Wednesday saying three schools had received letters containing a white substance.

“The CSDE has been in contact with the State Department of Public Health and law enforcement officials regarding these incidents,” the statement says. “In addition, affected schools are working with their local emergency responders and law enforcement officials in response to these incidents.”

Schools in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Maine and New Hampshire have also been targeted.—Internet

Israel: Airstrike prevents planned attack

JERUSALEM, 10 March—Israel sustained a barrage of rocket fire from Gaza Friday after an airstrike prevented a terrorist attack by killing the man who planned it, officials said.

More than 40 rockets were fired into southern Israel from Gaza in retaliation for the airstrike, Haaretz reported. Eight people were wounded by the rockets, while Israel’s Iron Dome system intercepted at least six rockets, the military said.

In addition to the would-be attacker, another man was killed and a third was injured in the earlier Israeli airstrike, which hit a car in Gaza, officials said.

The Israeli military said the attack plotter was Zohra el-Qun, who was also known as Abu Ibraim, secretary-general of the Popular Resistance Committees, Ynetnews.com reported.

Quass was planning an attack that would have been aimed at Israeli communities near the Egyptian border, officials said.

The military said he was the political head of the PRC and carried out a terrorist attack on the border last year that killed eight Israelis and an attack on a fuel terminal, and was also involved in rocket fire from Gaza into Israel.

Internet
Surgeon general: Teen smoking 'epidemic''

WASHINGTON, 10 March—Nearly 25 percent of US high school seniors and one-third of young adults 26 and under smoke despite 50 years of warnings, the US surgeon general said.

The numbers are really shocking—it’s a problem we have to solve,” Dr. Regina Benjamin, the surgeon general said in an interview with USA Today.

Adolescents, because their bodies are developing, are more at risk than adults to nicotine’s addictiveness and tobacco’s damage to the body, Benjamin said. A report by the surgeon general found the dramatic decrease in smoking from 1997 to 2003, slowed in percent years and more high school students are using smokeless tobacco and at least half of white and Hispanic male tobacco users and nearly half of Hispanic female users smoke and chew tobacco. Tobacco is the leading cause of preventable and premature death, killing more than 1,200 Americans every day, the report said. “For every tobacco-related death and premature death, the report said. “Nearly 90 percent of these two new young people under the age of 26 become regular smokers,” the report said. “So many people smoke despite 50 years of warnings, the US surgeon general said.

FDA warns of ‘caffeine inhaler’

WASHINGTON, 10 March—Officials of the US Food and Drug Administration said they have concerns about children and teens using a “caffeine inhaler” with alcohol.

The FDA said in a warning letter to Breathable Foods Inc, the makers of AeroShot, that it has questions about the safety of the caffeine inhaler for false or misleading statements in the labeling of their product as well as questions about the safety of the caffeine inhaler. Breathable Foods says AeroShot is designed to provide “breathable energy, anytime, anywhere,” but that it also says the product is intended to be ingested by swallowing. The FDA said the company’s labeling is false or misleading.

The AeroShot energy inhaler.

Health Tip: Help prevent birth defects

Although birth defects can’t always be prevented, there are plenty of steps pregnant women can take to help reduce the risk.

The womenshealth.gov website offers these suggestions:

* Make regular visits to your doctor throughout pregnancy.
* Get 400 mcg of folic acid each day through diet or supplements.
* Don’t smoke, use illegal drugs or drink alcohol while you’re pregnant.
* Always check with your doctor before taking any medication.
* Get all vaccinations recommended by your doctor.
* If you have diabetes, keep it under control.
* Stick to a healthy body weight.

South Korean economy faces various risk factors in 2012: regulator

SEOUL, 10 March—South Korea economy faces various risk factors at home and abroad despite foreign investors’ recent positive stance on the nation’s financial market, the top financial regulator said Friday.

“Foreign investors are taking more positive stance on South Korea. Since the beginning of this year, the KOSPI rose and the dollar won exchange rate fell on the reflection of the positive stance,” Financial Supervisory Service (FSS) governor Kwon Hyouk-se said in an opening speech at the seminar held in central Seoul.

Kwon, however, noted that the market outlook seemed not to be bright due to various risk factors at home and abroad. On the global outlook, the governor cited the lingering European fiscal crisis and rising oil prices as the threat to the global economy.

On the domestic front, Kwon said that there are both economic and political risks existing. Slowing exports, weak domestic demand and growing household debts were cited as difficulties for the economy along with the general and presidential elections that may hamper the implementation of policy measures. The governor forecast the Asia’s No.4 economy will encounter some headwinds and volatilities this year in the financial market due to the external risk factors, but he stressed that foreigners will think of the country as growth market.

Meanwhile, Stephen Lacky, chairman of BNY Mellon Asia Pacific said the South Korean financial market from the positive perspective “South Korea’s financial system becomes healthier. Our bank’s expansion of the Seoul office reflects our strong confidence on the long-term growth of South Korean economy,” Lacky said at the seminar.—Xinhua

Apple to build $304 million campus in Texas, add 3,600 jobs

SAN FRANCISCO, 10 March—Apple Inc is expanding its presence in Texas with a $304 million investment to build a new campus in Austin, which will add 3,600 jobs over the next decade, more than doubling its workforce in the city. The Cupertino, California, consumer device giant already employs thousands in Austin, whose tasks include handling customer complaints and support.

“Our operations in Austin has grown dramatically over the past decade from less than 1,000 in 2004 to more than 3,500 today,” Apple spokesman Steve Dowling said. Apple plans to add jobs in customer support, sales and accounting.

The company is receiving an investment of $21 million over 10 years from a state fund and also possible incentives from Austin and Travis County, according to Texas Governor Rick Perry, who announced the news on Friday.—Reuters

Nikkei climbs to 7-month high as Greek debt concern eases

TOKYO, 10 March—Nikkei surged to a seven-month high Friday morning as market was encouraged on eased concern over Greece’s debt crisis.

In the first 15 minutes of trading, the 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average rose 107.32 points, or 1.10 percent, from Thursday to 9,876.28, trading at its highest intraday level since Aug. 1, when it hit 10,040.13.

The broader Topix index of all First Section issues on the Tokyo Stock Exchange was up 9.09 points, or 1.09 percent, at 845.25.—Xinhua
ABC National Women Pool-8 Ball Championship kicks off

YANGON, 10 March—Jointly organized by Myanma Billiards and Snooker Federation under the Ministry of Sports and mainly sponsored by Myanmar Brewery Ltd, the first ABC National Women Pool 8-Ball Championship was kicked off at Kokkine Swimming Club in Bahan Township here this noon. Patrons MBSF Col Kyaw Zan Hla (Rtd), President U Tin Maung Win and MD Mr Lim Yew Hoe of Myanmar Brewery Ltd officially opened the championship.

The patron spoke on the occasion and hit the cue ball to open 8-Ball Pool Championship. A total of 44, 36 from Yangon Region, four from Mandalay Region, two from Bago Region, one each from Ayeyawady Region and Kachin State are vying in the competition.

Myanmar Olympic Committee Chairman meets athletes

YANGON, 10 March—Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaung Htaik held a meeting with referees/manager and six athletes, who will partake in Asia Women’s Boxing Championship to be held in Mongolia from 3 to 26 March, and a leader of the three-member group who are going to participate in Kuwait International Friendship Shooting Contest in 19 to 26 March, at the meeting hall of the Sports and Physical Education Department in Tamway Township here yesterday evening.

Educational infrastructures in Chin State

The government is striving to narrow development gap and bring about equitable development to Chin State where topographical features have long been a barrier. In this attempt, it is fulfilling the needs for improvement of education standards in order to turn youths to intellectuals and intelligentsia.

Chin State is designated as development region where a arts and science university, technological university and university of computer studies.

Night and day at Technological University (Kalay) (Upper and lower), an educational infrastructure in the border town which was opened with the view to making ethnic youths of Chin State accessible to higher education.

University of Computer Studies (Kalay) under construction (Upper). On completion, it will allow local youths study computer sciences.

Kalay University (Right), a preferable option for young Chin nationals to complete their higher education without needing to go far from home.

Archive: Maung Nyein Aye
Shan Nationalities Democratic Party presents its policy, stance and work programmes

Nav Pt. Taw, 10 March—CEC member of Shan Nationalities Democratic Party U Sai Bo Aung presented the policy, stance and work programme of the party through radio and television programmes on 10 March evening.

The following is the translation of his presentation:

Union national brethren,

Auspiciousness to you all. I am CEC member of Shan Nationalities Party and I would present the belief, objective, policy, stance and work programmes of our party.

Union national brethren,

Our party was formed on 26 May, 2010. 157 representatives from our party contested in the 2010 general election and 57 were elected, 21 to Pyiduangu Hluttaw and 35 to region and state Hluttaw engaging in national development undertakings.

Our party has won second largest number of seats in the First Pyiduangu Hluttaw and Shan State Hluttaw.

In the forthcoming by-election, our party will contest in Kayah Township Constituency for Pyithu Hluttaw, Shan State Amyotha Hluttaw Constituency No (3), Kachin State Moguang Constituency for Pyithu Hluttaw and Sagaing Region Amyotha Hluttaw constituency No (7).

Union national brethren,

First of all, I would like to explain the meaning of the party’s name. Shan nationalities in the party’s name represent Shan nationalities spreading across the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and all the national races residing in Shan State living through thick or thin.

The emblem of the party is a white tiger marching towards its goal with determination. This is originated from our traditional belief of the white tiger guarding Shan nationals.

Our party flag is a blend of green colour representing coolness and peace, red colour representing bravery, tenacity, and dynamism and white moon depicting tranquility and honesty. Like the reflection of our party’s flag colour, we will participate actively, bravely, honestly and peacefully in building the democratic Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Shan Nationalities Democratic Party

The belief of Shan Nationalities Democratic Party is, that we strongly believe a united, peaceful and strong Union can be built only when we can build the democratic nation of no oppression, amity and equal human rights among national races, justice and freedom.

The objectives of our party are—(1) To build democratic nation through peaceful means. (2) To work to achieve perpetuity of the Union, amity and unity among national brethren. (3) To make sure all national brethren residing in the Union enjoy basic human rights. (4) To strive to enact a law for preservation and development of literature, culture and tradition of respective national races. (5) To follow programmes rather than pursuing utopia. (6) To make use of all the authorities available in politics and other sectors for more productive results avoiding opposition and objection. (7) To update aim, objective and policy of the party in democratic process with the changing time based on experiences to be gained in certain period.

I would further explain the policy of the party.

1. Our party’s attitude towards the multi-party democracy system is as follows:

(a) We believe that the prosperous Republic of the Union of Myanmar can be built only under genuine multi-party democracy system.

(b) The elected government is obliged to serve the interests of the people, safeguarding the interests of the entire nation.

(c) The foundation stone of democracy can be laid down to preserve peace, liberty and national consolidation for ever with every citizen sticking to basic democratic practices such as freedom of action, expression, and faith without harming the interests of others.

(d) In multi-party democracy system, only when national people can fully enjoy such basic political rights as rights to join, support and contribute the legal party they favour, can strong national unity be built with no mutual doubt. And then, Union with perpetual territorial integrity can be built.

(e) Such organisations as national races literature and culture preservation and promotion organizations, religious associations, volunteers organizations, social organizations, youth affairs organizations and women’s affairs organizations which are born out of awareness of the people and desire of the society are essential parts in democracy system. We believe that valuing them would increase the wish to serve the people by people leading to transformation to united, firm, and democratic Union.

2. We view that realizing the national consolidation is the most important part of the Union.

(a) As the Republic of the Union of Myanmar is home to various national races in unity and amity, the genuine national consolidation plays an important role in ensuring perpetuation of the State.

(b) Equality is an essential basic ideology for national races.

(c) In line with the freedom, justice, friendship and mutual respect, utmost efforts are to be made for bringing about development of the Union, perpetuation of independence and sovereignty, and national unity through united strength of national races who enjoy rights of democracy in the actual life.

3. Foreign affairs and international relations

(a) We all wish to exercise the independent foreign policy.

(b) Based on principle of peaceful co-existence, we will uphold the policy on friendly relationship with all global countries in international relations.

(c) We will practise the foreign policy based on five principles of peaceful co-existence—

   - mutual respects for sovereignty ad territorial integrity
   - non-interference in each other’s internal affairs
   - equality and mutual benefit, and
   - peaceful co-existence.

(d) while forging mutual respects to each other with benevolent attitude to be free from fear, the global countries are to practise peaceful coexistence for promotion of friendly ties based on the following principles.

   (da) To abide by visions of the human rights and UN Charter,

   (db) To pay respects to sovereignty and territory of all countries,

   (dc) To recognize equality of standards of all nationals and countries regardless of large and small in size,

   (dd) To prevent interference in internal affairs of other countries,

   (de) To follow rights of defence of each country according to the UN Charter

   (df) To keep away from participation in collective defence programmes for serving the interests of a nation and bullying a nation.

   (dg) To avoid posing threats to politics and territory of any country and turning it through to internal affairs.

   (dh) To apply peaceful ways and means in solving disputes of all countries,

   (di) To encourage mutual issues and unity,

   (dj) To respect international responsibilities and justice

4. With regard to economy

(a) We will exercise independent market economic system for uplifting sufficiency of basic needs of all citizens and national races and high living standard and full keeping abreast of global countries.

(b) The independent economic system must be in conformity with world trade system.

(c) We will practise independent economic system by joining hands with partner countries in the world so as to serve the interest of the citizens.

5. As agriculture is the livelihood for most of the citizens at present, We will always focus on promotion of living standards of the farmers.

At the same time, we will try hard to grant the workers to enjoy promotion of social life, responsibility and rights, work hour and salary, rights of leave and compensation for injuries at workplace.

We will arrange peace of mind for life of retired service personnel without worries. (We believe that the esteemed people will remember endeavours of Hluttaw representatives of our party with regard to this issue.)

As the workforce plays a key role in building a peaceful, modern and developed new nation, we will practice stick and carrot system and combat bribery and corruption in the personnel affairs.

In the health sector, We will try hard to achieve success in implementing the national health care plan meeting the international standard. It is necessary to promote rural health care so as to narrow the gap between urban and rural areas in the health care service sector.

5. Regarding education sector,

(a) We will strive to implement basic primary education as compulsory free education system.

(b) We will try our best to promulgate law for enabling all national races to learn their languages and literature at schools to be able to preserve and promote their literatures.

(c) We will make arrangements for emergence of international standard education system.

(d) We will grant the students of states in ratio to be admitted at vocational universities.

(e) We will manage flourishing of international level education system that can promise brighter future of the people.

8. With regard to natural resources in general sectors,

(a) We will place emphasis on depletion of natural resources and environmental conservation.

(b) We will manage cultivation and production of forest products and industrial raw timbers.

(c) We will give encouragement to greening of environment.

Moreover, I would like to present that this party will emphasize development of various sectors including industrial, communication, transport and social sectors keeping abreast of international community and equitable development of regions and states.

Union national brethren,

We make clarifications on policy, stance and work programmes in brief of Shan Nationalities Democratic Party.

Perpetuity and strengthening of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in future much depends on fully enjoying the rights of democracy such as unity, equality of social-based rights, freedom and justice of national brethren of the Union.

In conclusion, I would like to pledge that our party will adhere to its policy, stance and work programmes with the aim of flourishing and strengthening of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar with full essence of democracy.

6 THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR  Sunday, 11 March, 2012
Nay Pyi Taw, 10 March—Secretary of National Political Alliances U Kyaw Swa Soe and CEC member U Win Zaw presented the party’s policy, stance and work programmes through radio and TV today.

The translation of their presentations is as follows.

Esteemed people,

I am U Kyaw Swa Soe, Secretary of the Central Executive Committee of National Political Alliances. I am also a Pyithu Hluttaw candidate who will be running for the by-election in Pwintphyu Township to be held on 1 April representing our party.

Our party is a national political force that is formed with national interest-minded people based on patriotic spirit.

Today, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has emerged in the global community as a country that rules in accord with the constitution. A democratic government elected in accordance with the constitution has emerged as well.

Esteemed people,

My father is a native of Salin and my mother a native of Pwintphyu Township. In other words, I am a native of Salin as well as of Pwintphyu. As a local resident of this region, I am the one who feel the same as the people of this region do. While having shared the sufferings, losses and needs with the people of this region, I will try to do to the best of my ability to fulfill the wishes of the people.

The majority of the people in Pwintphyu Township are farmers. Socioeconomic improvement of these farmers is the key to the development of the township. They have to work so hard to provide food necessary for the people. Despite their hard work, the farmers have not yet enjoyed the benefits they deserve. So, we need to promote the living status of our farmers. After assessment, we have found out the following main requirements of the residents of Pwintphyu Township.

The township is formed with 205 villages and 56 village-tracts and there are about 110,000 eligible voters. The majority are the working people. The key measures to be taken for the township development are:

1. To ensure smooth transport
2. To make sure that the farmers grow their favourite marketable crops (eg. cow bean) after cultivating monsoon paddy.

Remark: They have to grow summer paddy as an essential requirement.

3. The villages have little progress due to insufficient energy supply.
   (They have no adequate power supply.)
4. The people have little health knowledge as well as little healthcare. If our party comes to win seats in the Hluttaw, we will establish a collective healthcare association in Pwintphyu Township in cooperation with the local people.

5. Every citizen needs to be familiar with laws. To make sure that the grassroots without knowledge of law are not bullied by the administrativeness having knowledge of law, the village people need to know about laws. Our party will help the people within the framework of law.

6. As everyone needs education, we dare to say that if our party has the authority to speak out in the Hluttaw, we try to do the best of our ability to take all possible measures both inside and outside the Hluttaw for development of our village schools and for getting assistance from the State.

Esteemed people,

The upcoming by-election is a deciding factor for our country to stand as an independent, sovereign nation after freeing itself from the shadow of colonialist superpowers. So, I believe our patriotic people of Pwintbyu Township will be able to cast their valuable votes correctly and considerably. Now, our Pyithu Hluttaw candidate U Win Zaw representing Meiktila will continue his presentation. I wish all the people good health and happiness.

Thank you.

I am U Win Zaw, CEC member of National Political Alliances. I am also a Pyithu Hluttaw candidate who is going to stand for the by-election in Meiktila Township to be held on 1 April representing our party.

Esteemed voters,

The motto of our party which is formed based on patriotic spirit and nationalist spirit is: Peace is the first and foremost

Democracy cause is the first and foremost

Improvement of the public life is the first and foremost

Our country needs to have eternal peace. We need to terminate armed insurgency born together with independence.

Only when the eternal peace prevails in the country, would the people live in peace and the democratization process meet with success. Only when the democratic system is built in the country, will the people have the rights to decide their own fate.

Esteemed voters,

Only the peace and genuine democratic system would help to form the democratic parliament and government comprising genuine representatives elected by the people, paving the way for modern and administrative system to promote the living standard of the people.

The fundamental concept of our party is our patriotic fervour, nationalist spirit and the Union Spirit.

Esteemed Voters,

For the peace and development of our Union depends on the peace and development in each township. Therefore, I believe that peace and development in wards and villages in my native town Meikhtila is the base for the prevalence of peace in the Union and development of it.

I pledge that I and our party would make utmost efforts for giving protection and helping hands to the people in Meikhtila.

Which shall we give protection to? Though the government and the parliament have been making genuine efforts to reform the country as a democratic country, it is found that it is hard for some authorities and departments at bottom of the government to keep pace with reforms of the President and the Union Government and to fully understand the genuine efforts of the President and the Union Government, still, causing burden on the people and losing their rights. We are committed to protect the rights of the people.

We are also committed to help with efforts for improvement of social, economic, health and education sectors and fighting the poverty. As Meikhtila is located at the junction of roads, the town is populated largely by merchants, traders and businessmen and by members of the Tatmadaw and their families as Tatmadaw battalions and regiments are established there as well. Besides, many factories are established there as there is a university, a college and training schools in the town, and the town is also populated with government service personnel as there are regional and divisional offices in the town. Besides, farmers living in rural areas make up 65% of the population of Meikhtila Township and the township is a home to the people from all walks of life. Therefore, we should be farsighted to improve the all-round development of the people from all walks of life.

I and our party have committed to protect the rights of farmers, to provide sufficient loans to farmers, to supply irrigation water to farmland sufficiently, to give loans to farmers without interest for a season when they lost their crops due to natural disaster and pests, to supply power to rural areas and to upgrade roads in rural areas, to help improvement of the socio-economic life the members of the Tatmadaw, to help social security of the state service personnel and to upgrade the bridge across the Meikhtila Lake in an attempt to ease the volume of traffic and an increase in population and to conserve the Meikhtila Lake which represents the gracefulness of the town.

To do so, only when we are elected to the parliaments, can we submit the proposals to carry out the tasks.

My party’s logo is a white star on the white circle and for getting assistance from the State. To do so, only when we are elected to the parliaments, can we submit the proposals to carry out the tasks.

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May all voters enjoy peace and development in the new era of democracy. Thank you.

ZALUN, 9 March—Hinthada District Forest Department of Ayeyawady Region provided firewood free of charge to local people on 12 February morning.

Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw representative U San Maung, Director of Region Forest Department U Zaw Win 5, Assistant Director U Aung Win Tun of Hinthada District Forest Department and Zalun Township Administrator U Soe Myint explained presentation of firewood free of charge to the people.

Later, they presented firewood to 52 households from Danubay Village.

Township IPRD
A fund must be set up with contributions of local and foreign...

(from page 1)

manageable scale so increase incomes of the local people and establish forests in the long run. At the same time, the village plan is to be drawn for systematic settlement of increasing population.

He stressed the need to emphasize maintenance and conservation of the lake that benefits the local people. At present, encouragements are to be given for harmoniously undertaking maintenance of the lake for its durability and conservation of the lake due to climate change.

Next, the President and party arrived at Taunggyi by helicopter.

On his tour of Inlay Lake, the President gave instructions to respective ministries to supply electricity to southern part of the lake as quickly as possible and provide solar-powered electricity to the some parts of the region that have difficulty with installation of power lines.

President U Thein Sein offers flowers, water and meals to the Buddha images kept in PhaungdawU Pagoda monastery.

President U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win offer alms to State Ovadaçariya Sayadaw and Chairman Sayadaw of Shan State Sangha Nayaka Committee at Namhu Monastery on platform of PhaungdawU Pagoda.

MNA

YANGON, 10 March—Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win met local farmers at industrial farmland reclamation course in Pauktabin village, DaikU Township yesterday and left instructions on reclamation of advanced farmlands and elimination of gambling cases.

Then, the region chief minister and the region agriculture and livestock breeding minister presented uniforms to the trainees and inspected reclamation of 20 acres of farmlands.

MNA

Drive Safely
As end of armed conflicts…

(from page 16)

brothers being the family members living under the same roof had the common attitude to serve the nation. There were still different armed groups now but one day, there would be only one armed forces according to the constitution. The arms we held should not be used to kill our own brothers and sisters but to protect our country. Peace had been built to a certain extent and the attitude of international community towards the country has changed. Meanwhile, altogether 28,000 prisoners have been granted amnesty with the aim of enabling them to take part in national reconsolidation and nation-building endeavours.

Moreover, the government has extended olive branches to armed groups that go against the State and held discussions with them to build eternal peace. In the process, it has adopted three steps, namely, state level discussion, Union level discussion and signing an agreement at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for forging eternal peace. At present, peace-making trial is achieving success to a certain extent. Due to magnanimity and correct stance of the government, it has been able to make peace with all national race armed groups, and it, on assumption that, will be able to eventually build eternal peace.

The new government is also striving for improvement of socio-economic status which is the second requirement of the people, while making peace with national race armed groups. With this end in view, it is creating job opportunities with the launch of projects for establishment of an industrial group in Hpa-an, Thingamyimaung, Phayahtinhshu regions which include at least ten factories. Inviting investment from foreign countries, the government is trying to make harmonious efforts for human resources development for emergence of democratic society and national economic development. The development in human resources would bring about improvement in national economy. As the national economy would also be developing, the socio-economy of the civil servants would be improving. In conclusion, the President called on to try hard in unison for sector-wise development making full use of economic opportunities in the state.

As the state would see more and more internal stability, the rate of economic growth of the entire state would increase higher and higher. It needed to combine internal efforts with foreign investments to achieve development in short time. Industrial zones were being established all over the country to ensure every citizen had a job. At the same time, it was required to make harmonious efforts for human resources development for emergence of democratic society and national economic development. The development in human resources would bring about improvement in national economy. As the national economy would also be developing, the socio-economy of the civil servants would be improving.

In conclusion, the President called on to try hard in unison for sector-wise development making full use of economic opportunities in the state.
Daw Khin Khin Win meets Shan State WAO, MCWSC in Taunggyi

YANGON, 10 March—Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, met Shan State Women’s Affairs Organization at the office of Shan State MCWSC in Taunggyi yesterday. It was also attended by vice-chairman of the Shan State Chief Minister Patron of State MCWSC Daw Phyu Phyu Nyunt, chairman of State WAO Daw Kyemon Oo, members of State/District MCWSC and WAOs. Speaking on the occasion, Daw Khin Khin Win said that since her working days at central body, she has known that Shan State MCWSC and WAO are successfully undertaking their tasks in accord with their fine chronicles. She said that tasks are to be carried out continuously in providing health care services and improving life of the women. Thus, she urged those present to discharge duties in their respective sectors.

Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of President U Thein Sein meets Shan State Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee and Shan State Women’s Affairs Organization. MNA

Graduation dinner marks 21st convocation of UDNR

NAVPYATAW, 10 March—Vice-Chairman of University for Development of National Races Council Chairman of University Central Management Committee Chairman of Union Civil Services Board U Kyaw Thu hosted a graduation dinner to mark the 21st convocation of the university at the university on 8 March.

Vice-Chairman of the University Council Chairman of University Central Management Committee U Kyaw Thu and Chief Minister of Sagaing Region U Tha Aye cordially greeted the trainees. After the dinner, trainees entertained the guests with traditional songs and cultural dances.

The Vice-Chairman of the University Council Chairman of University Central Management Committee and the Region Chief Minister presented flower basket and cash award to the trainees. —MNA

Chairman of Union Civil Services Board U Kyaw Thu and Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye at the graduation dinner of University for Development of National Races. MNA

Business deals signed to share profits on inland drilling

NAVPYATAW, 10 March—Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise under the Ministry of Energy signed business deal with EIPI Holdings Limited of the People’s Republic of China and Aye Myint Khine Co Ltd owned by Myanmar nationals to share profits on RSF-10 (Kama-Nattaung Region) drilling at the Energy Ministry here yesterday evening.

Present on the occasion were Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay, Member of Myanmar Investment Commission U Hla Tun, Union Minister for Transport U Nyi Aung, MIC Joint-Secretary Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation U Thein Tun, Deputy Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo, Deputy Energy Minister U Soe Aung, MD Mr Chang Yun-Peng of the Chinese company and Executive Director U Soe Aung Kyaw of Myanmar company.

Personnel of the MOGE and the two companies signed and exchanged the business deals. It is the first business deal for RSF-10 (Kama-Nattaung Region), it is learnt. —MNA

Union Energy Minister U Than Htay hands over work permit to MD Mr Chang Yun-Peng of EIPI Holdings Limited. —MNA

Workshop on Education Sector Review Processes commences

YANGON, 10 March—Deputy Minister for Education U Ba Shwe on 8 March delivered an address at the Workshop on Education Sector Review Processes at Chatrium Hotel, here.

Also present at the meeting were directors-general of departments under the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Science and Technology, the president of Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science and officials, the resident representatives and officials.

Officials of the company that supplies mobile phone machinery to Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications submitted a report on progress of sector-wise works.

Deputy Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Tun Lwin instructed those present to apply quality mobile telephone system.

The deputy minister inspected construction of GSM mobile station near Yadana Thetking Market of North Okkalapa Township. —MNA

Extension of GSM/UTMS mobile phone project discussed

YANGON, 10 March—A coordination meeting on extension of GSM/UTMS mobile phone project took place at the hall of Yatanarpon Teleport Ltd (Yangon Branch), here, yesterday. The project manager of GSM mobile extension project and the chief engineer discussed progress of the project.
Citizenship scrutiny cards issued

YANGON, 10 March—In realizing Moe Pwint-2 Plan, citizenship scrutiny cards were issued to eligible citizens in Sangyoung Ward of Sangyoung Township in Yangon West District of Yangon Region on 5 March. The issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards were supervised by Staff Officer of Sangyoung Township Immigration and National Registration Department U Kyaw Soe Khaing and staff, ward administrator and members. Myanna Alin

Loans disbursed in Taikkyi Township

TAIKKYI, 10 March—With the aim of ensuring rural development and poverty alleviation, a ceremony to present loan for present small-scale industries was held at the hall of Taikkyi Township General Administration Department on 28 February.

Chairman of the Taikkyi Township Rural Region Small-scale Industries Development Subcommittee Township Administrator U Tin Swe Myint spoke on the occasion.

Later, the township administrator and officials presented K 8.7 million to 29 small-scale industries from Gyobyu Model Village-tract and Bingala Ward in Taikkyi Township.

Township IPRD

Surgical operations performed at cleft lip and palate children

MANDALAY, 10 March—Organized by Ministry of Health and Mandalay Region Government, doctors of Singapore Medical Friendship Mission and doctors of Mandalay General Hospital performed surgical operations on over 100 inborn cleft lip and palate children with the assistance of Myanmar Brewery Ltd held at the Facial, Maxilla and Dental Department of Mandalay General Hospital from 19 to 26 February.

Mandalay Region Maternal and Children Welfare Supervisory Committee provided foods, medicines and nutrition to the children.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Tamarind fruit gets good price in NyaungU

NYAUNGU, 10 March—Tamarind plants grow in various places of NyaungU Township in Mandalay Region. Trunks of some tamarind plants are 10-15 feet diameters. Tamarind fruits are sold through bargaining between owners and buyers. Tamarind fruit without seeds is sold at K 1500 per viss and tamarind with seeds at K 200,000 to the second and K 100,000 to the third prize winning team.

Fresh seawater fish on sales

YANGON, 10 March—The government is striving for ensuring domestic food sufficiency and raising exports.

For enabling the local people to consume fresh sea fish at fair prices, Cooperative Department, Fisheries Department, Annaw Aung, ShweZinYawHein, Myanmar Mann and MMG in Yangon Region sell various species of seawater fish at the shops of Township Cooperative Departments.—Swe Naing

Invitational Sepak Takraw in Yangon, Mandalay, Mawlamyine

YANGON, 10 March—Myanmar Sepak Takraw Federation will organize the Double Strong Championship in Yangon, Mandalay and Mawlamyine. In the schedules of the first round qualifiers, the champion will be held in Yangon from 25 to 29 April, in Mandalay from 23 to 27 May and in Mawlamyine from 9 to 15 July. First, second and third prize winning teams from three first round qualifiers will meet in the final round in Mawlamyine.

One selected Sepak Takraw athlete is allowed to join each men’s team. The championship will be divided into the classes as open and new generation events. The new generation classes will be categorized with two novice events. As cash awards, K 300,000 will be awarded to the first prize winning team, K 200,000 to the second prize winning team and K 100,000 to the third prize winning team. First, second and third prize winning teams from men’s open, novice classes and women’s open events are allowed to take part in the final round. As cash awards, K 500,000 will be given to the first prize, K 400,000 to the second, K 300,000 to the third in men’s open event, K 400,000 to the first, K 300,000 to the second and K 200,000 to the third in the novice events, and K 300,000 to the first, K 200,000 to the second and K 100,000 to the third in the women’s open event. Myanmar Brewery Ltd will award the winners.

Outstanding players of championship will be chosen as tentatively selected players to take part in the XXVII SEA Games. For detail information, may contact the Federation, Tel: 01-577461, Secretary U Kyaw Zin Moe, 095129085 and Coach U Than Lwin, Tel: 0949872377.

Myanna Alin

Shwe Parami Myitta Clinic comes into free service

SEKWANG, 10 March—With the aim of providing health care services to needy persons regardless of race and religion in Myawady of Kayin State, Shwe Parami Myitta Clinic was opened in the precinct of Mogok Township in Ward 1 of Myawady under the patronage of Shwe Parami Daw Aung Than Aung, Ashin Chandadhitka, on 20 February.

Dynamism of patriotic spirit talked in Bago

BAGO, 10 March—Bago Region Women’s Affairs Organization organized the talks on dynamism of patriotic spirit and traditional foods sales at city hall in Bago on 26 February. At first, Patron of Bago Region WAO Daw Myint Myint Soe made a speech. Head of Organizing Department Daw Moe Thuzar Kyaw talked about dynamism of patriotic spirit and Dr L Hsay about bone disease. Patron Daw Myint Myint Soe accepted K 100,000 donated to Bago Region WAO by MEGA Pharmaceutical Company. Patron of the organization Daw Myint Myint Soe, Daw Tint Maw, Chairperson Daw May Thu and members visited Traditional Foods sales by Bago Region, district and township WAOs.—Township IPRD

Criminal reduction talk: Commander of Launglon Township Police Force Police Captain Myint Thein gave talks on reduction of criminal cases at Basic Education Primary School in ShweParami Township of Taninthayi Region on 28 February. Township IPRD

MLF invites wellwishers to donate cash, books

Myanmar Libraries Foundation is giving encouragement to broadening the horizon of the people and developing self-reliant libraries across the nation. Those wishing to donate cash and books to the libraries may contact Myanmar Libraries Foundation at No. 228 on Theinbyu Street in Botataung Township, Yangon, Tel: 01-371342, 01-201936 and 01-398756.
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV BIENDONG TRADER VOY NO (1210)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BIENDONG TRADER VOY NO (1210) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.3.2012 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 byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon. No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AUTHORITY DEPARTMENT
MYANM MARITIME AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING (MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD
Phone No: 256080/378316/376797

Japan wants cuisine listed as UNESCO heritage

Tokyo, 10 March—Japan said Friday it was applying to UNESCO to have its cuisine listed as a global cultural treasure as part of a bid to restore global confidence in its food after the Fukushima nuclear disaster.

Tokyo is to ask the UN’s educational, scientific and cultural arm to register “Wasoku: Traditional dietary cultures of the Japanese” as part of the intangible heritage of humanity, the foreign and agriculture ministries said.

“Wasoku” or the Japanese diet, is traditionally based on rice, fish and vegetables, but the varied and highly seasonal cuisine of the country has won it plaudits around the world.

The government said waso was characterised by respect for nature and the importance placed on the way in which dishes are served.

Bill may lower allowed motorcycle noise

Concord, 10 March—Proposed legislation in New Hampshire would require motorists to maintain the noise of their bikes at lower decibels, officials said.

Current New Hampshire law allows for 106 decibels for revving engines, but a bill approved by the state House of Representatives lowers allowed motorcycle noise levels to 92 decibels for idling engines and between 96 and 100 for revving engines.

Obama appoints chief technology officer

WASHINGTON, 10 March—US President Barack Obama Friday appointed Todd Park as the administration’s chief technology officer (CTO).

The post had been vacant after the departure of Aneesh Chopra last month.

Park served as CTO of the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) since August 2009.

Todd Park has demonstrated a remarkable talent for enlisting innovative technologies to modernize government, reduce waste, and make government information more accessible to the public,” Obama said in a statement.

In his new position he will bring those skills to the entire federal enterprise, ensuring that government will serve all Americans fairly, effectively, and efficiently,” Obama said.

The US CTO’s position that Obama created on his first day as president is responsible for ensuring the adoption of innovative technologies to support administration priorities, including job creation, broader access to affordable health care, enhanced energy efficiency, a more open government, and national and homeland security, according to the White House.

In his work at HHS, Park led the creation of Healthcare.gov, which promotes the president’s healthcare legislation and allows consumers to compare health insurance plans by zip code.—Internet

China store blaze kills fireman, injures two

HANGZHOU, 10 March—A fireman died and two others were critically injured while fighting a blaze that engulfed a store in eastern China’s Zhejiang Province Saturday, the local fire brigade said.

The wholesale store selling small commodities in Zhuzhi city caught fire around 4 am, a spokesman with the city’s fire brigade said. He said the brigade sent nine fire engines and 45 firemen to the site. Cans of chemical, presumably hair spray, exploded during the rescue operation and the shockwave knocked down three soldiers and destroyed their respirators, the spokesman said.

One of the soldiers, Tian Sijia, was declared dead at hospital and the other two, Tan Guojie and Yang Wanding, were in critical condition, he said.

The store was located on the first floor of a seven-story apartment building. More than 60 people were saved in time and no further casualties were reported, he said. The flames engulfed more than 600 square meters of the building. The cause of the fire is under investigation.—Xinhua

5.4-magnitude quake hits eastern Japan

Tokyo, 10 March—A moderate 5.4-magnitude quake struck eastern Japan early Saturday, US seismologists said, but there were no immediate reports of damage and no tsunami warning was issued.

The quake hit at 2:25 am (1725 GMT), 41 kilometres (25 miles) north of Mitoyo on the largest island of Honshu at a depth of 25 kilometres, the US Geological Survey said.

The Japanese Meteorological Agency said the quake was a 5.5-magnitude tremor and struck at a depth of 10 kilometres.—Internet

INTERNET

A chef presents a plate of food at a Tokyo sushi bar. Japan is applying to UNESCO to have its cuisine listed as a global cultural treasure as part of a bid to restore global confidence in its food after the Fukushima nuclear disaster. (INTERNET)

An Ayamara peasant woman wades through a barley field, flooded by the overflowing of the Colorado and Katuri rivers in Masaya, 60 km west of La Paz. (INTERNET)

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INTERNET

A seismograph reading—INTERNET

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Current New Hampshire law allows for 106 decibels for revving engines, but a bill approved by the state House of Representatives lowers allowed motorcycle noise levels to 92 decibels for idling engines and between 96 and 100 for revving engines. The Boston Globe reported on Friday.

Those in favor of noise control said the measure is a step forward, but not as far as they would like.

“We have made some progress,” said Bill Mitchell, founder of NHCAFM, a group dedicated to quieting loud bikes. “We’ve dropped the decibels to 92 from 106. That’s significant. But it comes down to enforcement.”

Bob Wyman, past president of the New Hampshire Motorcyclists’ Rights Organization, said his group is in favor of the measure.

“We care about the motorcyclists,” he said. “We care about our riding rights. If you are going to have to make a change, this is the best we can have.”—INTERNET

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Firefighters extinguish fire of a central warehouse of the Ministry of Education in Lima, capital of Peru, on 9 March, 2012. A category 3 fire started on Thursday night and was controlled early on Friday. The fire destroyed thousands of books, which have been distributed to students from the provinces, leaving 5 firefighters injured and fire trucks useless, local press reported Xinhua.
Knife-wielding kite surfer defeats Red Sea sharks

Polish kite surfer Jan Lisewski fought off repeated shark attacks, overcame thirst and exhaustion in a two-day battle of survival on the Red Sea, Polish media reported on Tuesday.

The 42-year-old Lisewski had completed two thirds of a 200-km (124 miles) attempt to cross the Red Sea from the Egyptian town of ElGouna to Duba in Saudi Arabia when the wind suddenly stopped, deflating his kite.

Faced with rising waves and approaching nightfall the Gdansk-born Polish kite surfing champion and instructor sent out his first SOS signal, but it took nearly 40-hours to benefit lower-income residents in the nation’s eighth most economically depressed state.

Based on the information provided, it seems like the document is about various news articles, with some focusing on personal interests and events. However, the specific content of the document is not clear due to the fragmented nature of the text.
London 2012 Olympics: Rebecca Adlington overcomes her nerves and rivals to qualify for Games 800m freestyle

INTERNET

LONDON, 10 March—A nervous Rebecca Adlington was told to “man up” just minutes before qualifying for the London Olympics in her pet event, the 800 metres freestyle, at the British Gas Championships and selection trials in a tense gee-up from British Swimming sports psychologist Simon Maddenas.

But it was hearing the voice of pool commentator Hugh Porter on the turn of her 16-lap event that nearly derailed Adlington’s attempt to qualify for the Olympics in the event in which she is the world record holder, Olympic champion and world champion.

“I never hear the commentary, but I could hear the commentator on the turn and I thought something must have happened, I thought someone must have been disqualified or something,” Adlington said.

Adlington, the Beijing double Olympic gold medalist, managed to put the distraction to the back of her mind and dominate the race. She led from the first 59.18sec 100-metre split — under the world record and settled into a smooth rhythm well ahead of second placed Eleanor Faulkner, who also qualified for the team.

Adlington clocked 8min 15.84sec, two seconds shy of her best textile suit time and four seconds off her world record, but she took heart that it was faster than she swam at a similar time last year before the World Championships.

Indeed the heaviest weight the 23-year-old dragged through the water was in her head. Adlington had been anxious in the lead-up to this week of Olympic selections, fearing a last minute illness or injury might jeopardise her hometown Olympic dream.

After qualifying for Team GB with an ergonomic win in the 400m freestyle earlier in the week, the pressure may have been eased but she was still superstitious enough to avoid talking about her heat swim in her favoured 800m event on Friday lest it impact on her concentration for Friday night’s final.

When asked whether she was finding it easier to deal with the pressure as the meet progressed, Adlington said she was more nervous than usual before last night’s race. She said: “It is because this race means so much to me, I love to race if but I was definitely so nervous I spoke to Simon Maddenas before the race and he just said ‘Man up Rebecca’, and I just said ‘Oh, OK’,”

European champion Lizzie Simmonds finally qualified for the team in winning the 200m backstroke in 2min 0.87 sec, atoning for missing a spot in the 100m backstroke earlier in the week.

Stephanie Proud out-touched Karley Mamm, 17, for the silver medal but missed the qualifying time.

British record holder Michael Rock, also in his last-gasp effort to make the team, stormed home in the 100m backstroke to win in 52.06sec and earn an Olympic berth.

INTERNET

South Africa in control as rain threatens

DUNEDIN, 10 March— South Africa established an iron grip on the first Test against New Zealand on Saturday, reaching 359 for five wickets at lunch on day four of the first five day international cricket test match between New Zealand and South Africa at the University Oval in Dunedin. 

INTERNET

Penguins make it 8 straight, rally by Panthers 2-1

PITTSBURGH, 10 March—Florida goalie Jose Theodore thought he had a pretty good chance of making him look silly in Evgeni Malkin’s rolodex of shootout moves. Then the Pittsburgh star threw a new one at him.

Malkinlooped through the zone, stutter-stepped his way to the front of the net and flipped the puck past Theodore — to score in the streaking Penguins’ 2-1 shootout victory Friday night.

“He has a couple tricks up his sleeve,” Theodore said.

“He kind of slowed down. I thought maybe was going to go 5-hole. Tried to poke check, but he beat me with a glove shot.”

Malkin is 8 for 11 in shootouts this season for Pittsburgh, which has won eight straight games and is closing in on the New York Rangers for the top spot in the Eastern Conference.

Steve Sullivan scored the tying goal in the third period and James Neal led off the shootout with a goal as the Penguins won for the eighth time this season when trailing after two periods.

“I don’t think we’re anywhere near our best but we found a way to stick together and tie the game and win in a shootout,” said Sullivan, who has 11 points in his last eight games, tied for the league lead with Tampa Bay.

INTERNET

Jessica Ennis takes pentathlon silver at World Indoors

LONDON, 10 March—Britain’s Jessica Ennis had to settle for silver as Olympic champion Natalya Dobrynska of Ukraine won the pentathlon at the World Indoor Championships in Prague on Friday after winning gold at the London 2012 Olympics.

Ennis admitted of missing official scoring suggested she had won gold after winning the closing 800m.

But her celebrations were quickly cut short when it was confirmed that Dobrynska had broken the world record. “It’s the worst feeling in the world,” Ennis said of initially seeing her name in first place on the scoreboard. The Briton, 26, had needed to beat Dobrynska by a sizeable margin in the final event to retain her world indoor title. But the Ukrainian managed to finish within three seconds of Ennis — who ran a personal best for the 800m - and set a new pentathlon world best of 5033 points, ahead of Ennis on 4965 points and Serb Jovana Skayte on 4802.

INTERNET

Jankovic crashes out of Indian Wells

Indian Wells, 10 March—Former winner Jelena Jankovic became the first seed to crash out of the BNP Paribas Open tournament on Friday, losing in straight sets 6-4, 6-3 to world No. 99 Jamie Hampton.

The 12th seeded Jankovic blamed her second round loss on fatigue, especially being jet lagged after flying all the way from southeast Asia and arriving in the California desert on Monday night.

“Today I was a shadow of myself,” Jankovic said. “I didn’t feel like I did anything right.”

Jankovic, who won the Indian Wells title two years ago, reached the semi-finals at the Indian Wells tournament last week before heading to the United States. The 22-year-old Hampton fired three aces, including one in the final game of the match to go ahead, 30-0. She finished the win when Jankovic pushed a forehand wide, ending the 91 minute match on centre court.

INTERNET

I’m not unbeatable, says Djokovic

Indian Wells, 10 March—Novak Djokovic has been the game’s top player for more than a year but the Serbian is not taking his world number one ranking for granted.

Djokovic, who has claimed four of the last five grand slams and posted a remarkable win-loss record of 70-19 in 2012, is well aware that his form can change very quickly in the sport.

“I don’t consider myself being on the top of the world, being unbeatable or unbreakable,” said the 24-year-old, who won the US Open and Masters 1000 titles in Canada last year, and posted a remarkable win-loss record.

The World number one Novak Djokovic of Serbia lunges but misses as he shoots for the Indian Wells ATP tennis tournament in in Indian Wells, California, 7 March, 2012.—REUTERS

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INTERNET
R/489 Printed and published by the New Light of Myanmar press in Nay Pyi Taw, the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information.
As end of armed conflicts and birth of eternal peace is major aspiration of the people today, incumbent government has to go to ends of earth to realize it

NAY PYI TAW, 10 March—President U Thein Sein met Shan State government, the state Pyithu Hluttaw speaker, the deputy speaker, the chief justice of the state high court, the advocate-general of the state at Panglong Yeiktha in Taunggyi yesterday evening.

Also present on the occasion together with the President were the deputy commander-in-chief of Defence Services, Union ministers, and deputy ministers. Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat reported to the President on measures, monthly inspection and the administrative mechanism of the state government.

Speaking on the occasion, the President said that the government being the one elected by the people was trying hard to fulfill the wishes of the people devoting to serve the public interests. Today’s ethnic armed conflicts dated back over sixty years stemming from various reasons. The successive governments had tried every possible way to bring those conflicts to an end in search of peace. Reviewing the actions of successive governments, it was found that some succeeded and some failed. However, as the end of those armed conflicts and birth of eternal peace was the major aspiration of the people today, the incumbent government had to go to the ends of the earth to realize it. Currently, nine armed groups were holding peace talks with the government, all of which had agreed not to cede from the Union and to embrace Our Three Main National Causes. All the national

President U Thein Sein receives national race leader U Aung Kham Hti of Pa-O Self-Administered Zone and party

NAY PYI TAW, 10 March—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein who is currently in Taunggyi, Shan State received national race leader U Aung Kham Hti of Pa-O Self-Administered Zone and party at Panglong Yeiktha in Taunggyi at 3.20 pm yesterday.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Lt-Gen Soe Win, Union Ministers U Khin Maung Myint, U Tin Naing Thein and U Khin Maung Soe, Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat, Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Soe Htut and heads of department, Chairman of Pa-O Self-Administered Zone Leading Body U Khun San Lwin, Amyotha Hluttaw representative UN Nay Win Tun of Pa-O Self-Administered Zone, Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Khun Thein Pe and member of Pa-O Self-Administered Region Leading Body U Khun Lar.

At the meeting, the President inquired after the health of U Aung Kham Hti. The President then gave guidance, calling for the relevant ministries to ensure power supply of Hsihseng Township of Pa-O Self-Administered Zone and upgrading of the 88 miles long Kyuntaung-Kyauktalon-Naungyasaing-Sitekaung-Honam-Maukmei road into a tarred facility.

Afterwards, the President made a speech, saying that the new government is making earnest efforts to fulfill the two requirements of the people, that it is striving for ensuring peace and security which is the first requirement. In this regard, it has been undertaking a series of activities for fostering national reconsolidation and building eternal peace, while striving for those capable of participating in Myanmar

Myanmar Radio and Television marks its 66th Anniversary

Business deals signed to share profits on inland drilling

Educational infrastructures in Chin State