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.

President U Thein Sein felicitates President of Hellenic Republic

NAY PYI TAW, 25 March—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Karolos Papoulias, President of the Hellenic Republic, on the occasion of the National Day of the Hellenic Republic, which falls on 25 March 2012.

Malaysian Prime Minister and wife to pay goodwill visit to Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 25 March—At the invitation of U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, His Excellency Dato Sri Mohd Najib Tun Razak, Prime Minister of Malaysia and wife Datin Sri Rosmah Mansor, will pay a goodwill visit to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in the near future.—MNA

His Majesty King of Cambodia extends warm welcome to President U Thein Sein

NAY PYI TAW, 24 March—His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni extended a warm welcome to President of the Republic of Myanmar U Thein Sein at the square in front of the Throne Hall of Royal Palace in Phnom Penh of Cambodia at 4 pm on 21 March.

When President U Thein Sein left for the Royal Palace from his hotel to attend the welcoming ceremony, he was accorded rousing welcome by Cambodian people and students along the road to the Royal Palace holding up the pictures of the Myanmar President and the His Majesty King of Cambodia and waving miniature flags of both countries with traditional dances and music.

At the Royal Palace, His Majesty King of Cambodia cordially greeted the President.

On the dais, the President and the His Majesty King of Cambodia took the salute of the Guard of Honour. Meanwhile, the State Band played the national anthems of the two countries. Then, the President and the King inspected the Guard of Honour.

His Majesty King of Cambodia presented his entourage—Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Royal Palace Samdech Chea Phaung Somol, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Mr Hoe Namlong, Minister of Ministry of Land Management Urban Planning & Construction Mr Im Chhun Lim, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Mr Chan Saran, Minister of Information Mr Khieu Kanharith, Minister of Health Mr Mam Bunheng, Minister of Tourism Industry Mr Thong Khon and departmental heads—to the President.

Likewise, the President introduced his delegation members Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Lt-Gen Soe Win, Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Maung Nyunt, Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun, Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Sports U Tun Hsan, Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint, Myanmar Ambassador to Cambodia U Cho Tun Aung and Director-General U Min Zaw of the President Office.

After the ceremony, the President and the His Majesty King of Cambodia held a talk at the Throne Hall of the Royal Palace.

Speaking on the occasion, the His Majesty King of Cambodia said that he was glad to have opportunity to welcome the President on his behalf and on behalf of the Royal Father and Mother. The visit of the President was a historic trip. Friendly ties have been strengthening among the governments of Cambodia and Myanmar and between the two peoples. He said that he will always remember mutual respects and contributions between the both sides.

He continued to say that Myanmar and Cambodia are the same in religion, culture and customs. He proposed a toast for successful and smooth visit as the President’s visit is a beneficial one.

For his part, the President expressed his thanks for a heartily welcome to the Myanmar delegation by the His Majesty. He was granted audience by His Majesty King of Cambodia three times. For the first time, he himself as Prime Minister (See page 6)
Health Ministry has been fighting TB with support of WHO and Stop TB Partnership and works have been on right track to meet UN Millennium Development Goals in 2015

NAY PYI TAW, 24 March—The following is the translation of the message sent by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Aung San Suu Kyi to the ceremony to mark World TB Day:-

Esteemed people,

First, I wish you all good health and happiness. Now is the time of approaching the first anniversary of the new government that took office on 30 March 2011 after being elected by the people in accord with multi-party democracy system.

During the short period of taking office, the new government has adopted a rural development and poverty alleviation scheme as a national objective and is carrying out 8-point action plan with a view to serving the interests of the citizens.

We are also planning to promote public healthcare services to cover the whole nation with more State fund.

In the health sector, national health plan (2011-2016) has been drawn and efforts are being made to meet the millennium development goals by 2015.

Myanmar is taking measures to combat three major common diseases namely HIV/STD, malaria and TB as a national task. Today, the whole nation is marking World TB Day.

Annually, the world has seen about 8.4 million TB patients and 1.4 million deaths. It is found that 80% of TB patients are most common among those aged between 15 and 54. So it can be deduced from the fact that the disease is spreading among those who are productive force of the nation. Eighty percent of global TB outbreaks happen in 22 countries with the largest number of TB outbreaks in the world. The countries from South East Asia include India, Indonesia, Thailand, Bangladesh and Myanmar.

Myanmar is listed in 22 most TB-rampant countries out of the 198 countries which send report to the World Health Organization on fight against TB, 27 countries most vulnerable to drug-resistant TB and 41 most TB/HIV-vulnerable countries. TB is the second biggest killer in the world in term of epidemic-caused death. TB is barely given attention in World Health Development Programme. So, it is desperately needed to pay more attention to fight against TB.

To review the anti-TB campaigns conducted by the Health Ministry of Myanmar, it is preparing to extend TB care to rural areas enabling township Health Departments diagnose and cure TB and patients easily receive the treatment.

The Health Ministry has been fighting TB with the support of the WHO and The Stop TB Partnership and the works have been on the right track to meet the UN Millennium Development Goals in 2015. I would like to urge the people to gear up efforts to meet the goals in time.

The Health Ministry of Myanmar only allocated 14 million kyats for anti-TB campaign in 1995-96 but increased to 626 million kyats in 2010-11. It is the example of cooperation with friendly organizations that Myanmar receives 3D funds and world funds as the government has made proportional contributions for fight against TB.

I would like to urge foreign and local social friendly organizations to join hands in successfully curing every TB patient as the government would increase the health expenditure fourfold in 2012-13 fiscal year.

Therefore, I wish my encouragement today to contribute towards harmonious efforts coupled with full health awareness of the State, the people, health staff, and social organizations at home and abroad in fight against TB for the future younger generations to be free from TB, leading to drastic decline in TB outbreak rate.

In building peaceful, modern, developed new nation, I would like to urge every citizen to participate in anti-TB campaigns in unison with me to make sure that every citizen is healthy and free from TB.

NAY PYI TAW, 24 March—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein and party on 22 March morning by special flight took off to Lao People’s Democratic Republic at the invitation of President of Lao PDR Mr Chhoummaly Sayasone after paying a goodwill visit to Cambodia.

The President and party were seen off at the Phnom Penh Airport by Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Royal Palace Mr Samdech Chea Yuon Kong Som Och, Minister of Transport Mr Thong Khon and officials, Myanmar Ambassador to Cambodia U Cho Tun Aung, Military Attaché to Lao PDR Brig-Gen Win Maung and embassy staff and staff of military attaches office.

The special flight carrying the President and party left the airport and arrived at the Wattay International Airport in Vientiane, Lao PDR at 11 am local time.

Myanmar Ambassador to Lao PDR U Kyaw Soe Win and the Director-General of Protocol Department of the Laotian Ministry of Foreign Affairs boarded the flight to welcome the President and party while Laotian Minister at the President Office Mr photsavath Boupha, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Deputy Vientiane Mayor, the Laotian Ambassador to Myanmar and officials, Military Attaché to Lao PDR Brig-Gen Win Maung and embassy staff waiting to welcome the President and party.

Next, the President and party in a motorcade arrived at the State Guest House in Vientiane where they are going to stay.

The country’s ultimate goal is to uplift traditional medicine till it becomes a globally accepted therapy and the world to know its delicate nature, and to ensure its perpetuation and propagation.

With government support and encouragement practitioners are uplifting traditional medicine full with essence in all aspects to be on a par with western counterparts and attain global popularity. Additionally, the government has been adopting and implementing policies and means of the national health schemes for the long-lasting of traditional medicine.

Moreover, emphasis is to be placed on development of Myanmar traditional medicine in the long run to develop traditional medicine science, extend post-graduate traditional medicine courses such as master’s course and doctoral course, make utmost efforts for development of treatment and research works till meeting international standard, provide people with quality, genuine and potent traditional medicines, open private traditional medicine hospitals and clinics in line with the prescribed rules, conserve herbal plants and exactly identify scientific names of Myanmar herbal plants.

Thanks to the practitioners’ ardent endeavours, we at present are witnessing the constantly rising standard of Myanmar traditional medicine. Apart from rural folks, urban people are also accepting and relying more and more on the medicine. Truly, the development and advancement of the medicine at the service of Myanmar people is an encouraging sign and our pride and joy.

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 25 March, 2012

An encouraging sign

Myanmar people have full trust and confidence in their long-accepted indigenous medicine. Actually, Myanmar traditional medicine has a firm foundation as it has won popularity and trust throughout the successive periods. Myanmar traditional medicine is formed with four main branches of subjects (Naya) – Desana Naya, Bhesijja Naya, Natkhattabeda Naya and Vijdadhara Naya. So, it can be said unique when compared with counterparts of other countries.

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**Russia’s Medvedev warns West over missile shield**

Moscow, 24 March— President Dmitry Medvedev said on Friday time was running out for the West to come up with new proposals to secure Russia’s agreement to a missile defence shield in Europe.

Ahead of talks with US President Barack Obama next week, Medvedev gave a downbeat assessment of global security and international relations at the end of his four-year presidency, saying the “Euro-Atlantic” security community he hoped to create remained a “myth”.

Medvedev, who will be succeeded by Vladimir Putin in May, said Moscow was unconvinced by NATO’s argument that the planned missile defence shield was intended as protection against a missile attack by countries such as Iran.

“We have time for (an agreement) but it is running out, and I think that it would be in our mutual benefit to reach mutually acceptable agreements,” Medvedev told a security conference.

“The main thing is that we must hear one simple thing from them and receive confirmation: ‘Respected friends from Russia, our missile defence is not aimed against Russian nuclear forces.’” This must be affirmed, he added.

**One killed, 12 injured as building collapses in Pakistan**

Islamabad, 24 March— One woman was killed and 12 others including 6 children were injured when a three-storey building collapsed in Pakistan’s central city of Multan on Friday night, said rescue workers and hospital sources.

A local photo journalist in Multan told Xinhua on the phone that hospital sources in the city told him that one woman injured in the incident later died at the hospital.

All the 12 others trapped in the collapsed building have been rescued and shifted to local hospital, the source in Multan told Xinhua by quoting rescue workers.

Earlier reports by some local media said that 16 people were trapped under the debris after the building collapsed.

Initial investigation revealed that the 90-year-old building was located in a congested commercial area in the city collapsed because of its age.

There was a tuition centre inside the building when it collapsed. The centre provided education for kids aged between 8 and 14, said local media.—Xinhua

**US to appeal WTO ruling against meat labels**

Washington, 24 March— The United States said on Friday it would appeal a World Trade Organization ruling against a law requiring country-of-origin labels on meat sold in grocery stores, a move which disappointed Canada and Mexico, both of which want the law changed.

The meat labels became mandatory in March 2009 after years of debate. US consumers and mainline farm groups supported the requirement, saying consumers should have information to distinguish between US and foreign products.

Big meat processors opposed the provision, which they said would unnecessarily boost costs and disrupt trade. A WTO panel ruled in November that the country-of-origin labeling, or COOL, provision violated WTO rules on technical barriers to trade. The case was brought by Canada and Mexico, which have sizeable cattle and hog trade with the United States.

Andrea Mead, a spokeswoman for the US Trade Representative’s office, said the November ruling confirmed the United States has the right to adopt mandatory COOL requirements to help consumers make informed purchasing decisions.

But “we were disappointed that the panel disagreed with the way that the United States designed its COOL requirements with regard to beef and pork. Accordingly, we are challenging the panel’s report before the WTO Appellate Body,” she said.

In their complaint, Canada and Mexico said cattle and hog shipments to the United States declined sharply after the new law took effect. They said the US rules were unjust as their request to distinguish between US and foreign products.

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**At least two dead in two small plane crashes in Colorado**

Longmont, 24 March— At least two people were killed after crashes of two single-engine planes that may have collided Friday while in the air north of Denver, authorities said Friday. One person survived. The wrecked planes were found six miles apart near the city of Longmont, police Cmdr. Tim Lewis said.

The crashes were being investigated as a possible mid-air collision, Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Mike Fergus said.

A Cessna 180 went down near a small airport in the city, while a Cessna 172 crashed about a half-mile from the Walmart southeast of Longmont, close to two homes, police said.

“We were very fortunate neither home appeared to be in danger,” police Cmdr. Jeff Satur said. Two people died in the plane that crashed near the Walmart, said Gabriel Marquez, deputy coroner for Weld County.

**Five dead in San Francisco house collapse**

San Francisco, 24 March— Five people were found dead in a house in the western US port city of San Francisco on Friday, in what police suspected as a gun-related murder-suicide case. Police said they believed it was a murder-suicide case and no suspect was at large.—Xinhua

**Russia’s President Dmitry Medvedev delivers a speech during the “Euro-Atlantic Security in a New Era or Reality?” conference in Moscow on 23 March, 2012**

INTERNET

not in a friendly chat over a cup of tea or a glass of wine, but in a document.”

**Pakistan’s President Asif Ali Zardari and US President Barack Obama:**

According to a report by Reuters, the US Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) has announced a significant change in its recommendations for mammography screening, advising women over age 40 to have breast exams every two years, rather than annually, as can be seen in the photo.
Apple’s new iPhone will use bigger 4.6-inch display

A woman takes a picture of US President Barack Obama with her iPhone upon his arrival at Hickam Air Base near Honolulu, Hawaii, 23 Dec, 2011. — Reuters

SEUL, 24 March—
Apple Inc’s new iPhone will have a sharper and bigger 4.6-inch “retina” display and is set to be launched around the second quarter, a South Korean media reported on Thursday.

Sales of the iPhone, first introduced in 2007 with the touch screen template now adopted by its rivals, account for around half Apple’s total sales.

Apple has decided on the bigger 4.6-inch display for its latest iPhone and started placing orders to its suppliers, the Macel Business News reported, citing an unnamed industry source.

Digital skills shortage leaves EU youth a step behind

A woman uses a computer in the lounge area of the 27th Chaos Communication Congress (27C3) in Berlin, 27 Dec, 2010.—Reuters

BRUSSELS, 24 March—European policy makers have identified a large shortfall in computing and IT skills among school leavers and graduates with required IT and digital skills that could make them more easily employable in the digital economy, according to a European Commission report presented Wednesday.

The major display suppliers LG Display and Samsung Electronics Co declined to comment.

Samsung, which is also the biggest challenger to Apple in smartphones, uses 4.6-inch OLED display for its flagship Galaxy S II smartphone, introduced in April last year.

The high-definition “retina” display—containing several times as many pixels within the same area—is used in the latest iPad released earlier this month.

The latest iPhone 4S was introduced in October last year.

Mercury spacecraft offers new data

Mercury, as seen by the MESSENGER spacecraft. Internet

SANTA BARBARA, 24 March—NASA’s MESSENGER spacecraft has completed its one-year primary mission to study Mercury, revealing new insights into the planet, researchers say.

The spacecraft captured nearly 100,000 images while orbiting Mercury and recorded data that revealed new information about the planet’s core, its topography and the mysterious, bright, material in the permanently shadowed areas near the poles, the researchers said.

“There is the last unexplored planet,” said UC Santa Barbara physicist Stanton Peale, who devised the procedure used for detecting whether Mercury had a liquid core.

The way Mercury was formed, he said, may provide hints about the formation of the solar system.

Mercury’s core is larger than expected, almost 85 percent of the planet’s radius, whereas Earth’s core is just over half of the planet’s radius, researchers said.

Other findings include a topographic model of the planet’s northern hemisphere that shows a smaller variation in elevations compared to those of Mars or the moon, a UC Santa Barbara release reported.

Radar-bright features at the poles located in areas of permanent shadow have been found to be consistent with a water-ice hypothesis, researchers said, but further tests will be required, using instruments aboard MESSENGER.

Future of Monarch butterflies a concern

COLEGE STATION, 24 March—The numbers of Monarch butterflies moving north across Texas from their breeding grounds in Mexico are expected to be down almost 50 percent in 2012 as they make their annual trek north into the United States.

The figures show an alarming decades-long decline in their numbers, Wilson said.

“Last year’s severe drought and fires in the region no doubt played a part, resulting in less nectar for the Monarchs as they migrated south,” he said in a university release.

“But estimates show that each year, millions of acres of land are being lost that would support Monarchs, either by farmers converting dormant land for crop use — mainly to herbicide tolerant corn and soybeans — or the overuse of herbicides and mowing.

“Milkweed is the key plant because it’s the only plant where the female will lay her eggs,” Wilson said.

The loss of such lands is a critical issue for the Monarchs’ survival, he said. “We need a national priority of planting milkweed to assure there will be Monarchs in the future,” Wilson said.

New images give clues to asteroid’s past

New as others, giving clues to the asteroid’s hinterland, NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif, reported on Wednesday.

“Bright areas appear everywhere on Vesta but are most predominant in and around craters, where cosmic impacts on the surface seem to have exposed and spread this bright material, researchers say.

“Our analysis finds this bright material originates from Vesta and has undergone little change since the formation of Vesta about 4 billion years ago,” Jian-Yang Li, a Dawn participating scientist at the University of Maryland, said.

“We’re eager to learn more about what minerals make up this material and how the present Vesta surface came to be.”

Dark areas of Vesta are thought to be from collisions that melted the outer crust of the asteroid, researchers said.

Some of these past collisions were so intense they melted the surface, Brett Denevi, another Dawn imaging scientist at Johns Hopkins University, said.

“Dawn’s ability to image the melt marks a unique find. Melting events like these were suspected, but never before seen on an asteroid.”

In this image from NASA’s Dawn spacecraft, bright material extends out from the crater Caulealia on Vesta. The bright material appears to have been thrown out of the crater during the impact that created it. — Internet.
President U Thein Sein meets with staff and families of Myanmar Embassy and Military Attaché Office in Phnom Penh

NAY PYI TAW, 24 March—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein met Myanmar Ambassador to Cambodia U Cho Tun Aung and wife, Military Attaché Brig-Gen Aung Naing and wife, embassy staff, staff of military attaché office and families and Myanmar overseas trainees at Inter-Continental Hotel in Cambodia at 7.30 am on 22 March.

First, embassy staff, staff of military attaché office and families paid homage to the President in accord with Myanmar tradition and the President blessed them.

Afterwards, President U Thein Sein made a speech. He said that Cambodia and Myanmar share a common in religion, culture and tradition and they are partners that have been forging mutual friendship and respect, that it is necessary to further cement the existing mutual friendship, and stressed the need for embassy staff to try their best to have a good relation with the partner country and to learn language of the country concerned when they are on duty.

Afterwards, the President presented cash assistance and gifts to embassy staff, staff of military attaché office and families and Myanmar overseas trainees and ten sets of Sky Net receivers for the embassy and the military attaché office.

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham addresses World TB Day celebration

NAY PYI TAW, 24 March—World TB Day for 2012 was celebrated at Myanmar International Convention Centre here at 9 am today with an address by Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of National Health Committee Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin, committee members deputy ministers, departmental heads, resident representatives from UN agencies, members of social organizations and officials of the departments under the health ministry.

Speaking on the occasion, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham said: It is learnt that TB started spreading about 6000 years ago. The TB virus was discovered by German scientist Dr Robert Koch on 24 March 1882. March 24 was therefore designated as World TB Day. The day has been celebrated in Myanmar for 17 times starting 1996. TB medicines were first developed in 1947 and it can be cured within 6 to 8 months with the use of fixed dose combination and TB patient kits. As a result, the disease outbreaks and deaths have declined since 2004. However, out of 8.4 million TB infected people in 2011, about 1.4 million died. It is found that 80% of TB patients are most common among those aged between 15 and 54. So it can be deduced that the disease is infected among the age groups who can produce productive strength of the nation. According to WHO, India, Indonesia, Thailand, Bangladesh and Myanmar are in the list of 22 countries with the largest number of TB outbreaks.

Stop TB in my lifetime. The TB elimination tasks are:

- To ensure that every person is free from TB since their childhood, that TB causes no deaths and that infected people are cured with DOTS or other quick and cost-effective remedies
- To mobilize TB patients undergoing treatment and cured patients to participate in combating TB together with the people
- To ensure that children are free from cerebral TB
- To monitor every HIV patient whether he is infected with TB and to cure him quickly if he is infected
- To find out TB immune patients and cure them effectively and
- To cooperate with international organizations, local congential associations, related ministries and private hospitals

WHO Resident Representative Dr HS B Tennakoon reads message sent by WHO SEA Regional Director.

NAY PYI TAW, 24 March—Chief Minister U Phone Maw Shwe of Magway Region yesterday morning met district and township administrators, chairmen of region, district and township election sub-commissions, departmental officials, staff of General Administration Department, townswelders, and members of social organizations at the hall of Magway Township GAD.

After hearing the reports, The Region Chief Minister attended to the needs. —MNA

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein presents gifts to staff and family members of Myanmar embassy and military attaché office in Phnom Penh.

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Magway Region Chief Minister meets personnel, local people

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His Majesty King of Cambodia extends warm...

(from page 1)

called on the His Majesty. For the second time, he called on the His Majesty together with leaders of other countries while attending the CLMV Meeting, and that now was the third time.

The President on his behalf and on behalf of Myanmar people proposed a toast for wellbeing of the His Majesty King of Cambodia, royal families and Cambodia people. He showed off his deep belief for further strengthening friendly relations between Myanmar and Cambodia. He said that both countries have similar histories, customs and religion. In his address, His Majesty the King of Cambodia said that the Royal Family extended greetings to the President. He was pleased for the goodwill visit of the President to Cambodia. He expressed his hopes for maintaining the friendly ties between Cambodia and Myanmar to be handed down to next generations. He continued to say that both countries, peoples and governments have assisted each other and especially, in cooperation in economic and social affairs, tourism, trade and investment and they are much beneficial to both countries. He was very glad to hear that Myanmar people are witnessing peace and development under the leadership of the President. The President said that Myanmar and Cambodia has established diplomatic ties for 60 years. There was no problem between the two countries. He pledged that friendly relations between Myanmar and Cambodia will be handed down to new generations. Myanmar President expressed his thanks for Cambodia’s support on Myanmar in international arena. His Majesty said that Cambodia always stands by the side of Myanmar, and Cambodia has given support to Myanmar and her seven-step democratization process. The President said he has learnt that His Majesty is a religious person. Myanmar is a land of pagodas including Shwedagon Pagoda. He invited the His Majesty to pay a goodwill visit to Myanmar at opportune time. His Majesty expressed thanks for the invitation. He said that he would like to pay a State visit to Myanmar where Theravada Buddhism is flourishing, promising to visit Myanmar at his earliest convenience. He said that Cambodia is proud of Myanmar for its positive progress. He expressed his belief for promoting bilateral ties and cooperation in the future. In conclusion, His Majesty proposed a toast for prosperity of Myanmar people.

After the call, the President and His Majesty the King of Cambodia posed for documentary photo together with the delegation members. Later, the President laid a wreath at Independence Monument in Phnom Penh.

President U Thein Sein leaves Vietnam for paying goodwill visit to Cambodia

NAY PYI TAW, 24 March—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein together with Myanmar delegation arrived at Noi Bai International Airport from Melia Hanoi Hotel in Hanoi on 21 March morning to pay a goodwill visit to Cambodia.

President U Thein Sein and party were seen off at the airport by Chairman of the President’s Office of Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr Dao Viet Trung, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Pham Quang Vinh, Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Chu Cong Phuong, departmental heads of External Affairs Department of the President’s Office and Southeast Asia, South Asia and South Pacific Affairs Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and officials, Myanmar Ambassador to Vietnam U Thet Oo and wife, Military Attaché Col Win Hlaing and wife, staff of the embassy and the military attaché office.

At 11.40 am, the President and party left for Cambodia by special flight and arrived at Phnom Penh Airport of Phnom Penh of Cambodia at 1.20 pm local time.

On arrival at the airport, Myanmar Ambassador to Cambodia U Cho Tun Aung, Director Mr Prak Gounhone of Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Cambodia boarded the aircraft to welcome the President and party.

Likewise, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Royal Palace Samdech Chaurea Veang Kong Som Ol of Cambodia, Minister of Tourism Industry Mr Thong Khon and officials, Daw Nan Yin May Win, wife of the Myanmar Ambassador, Military Attaché Brig-Gen Aung Naing and wife Daw May Than Oo, staff of the embassy and the military attaché office.

Later, the President and party arrived at Inter-Continental Hotel in Phnom Penh in a motorcade.
President U Thein Sein holds talks…

President during the summit for sector-cooperation and Asia Development Bank’s assistance to Myanmar. It was welcoming that the US and EU had positive views on the developments of Myanmar. Cambodia and Myanmar were friendly nations accompanying each other in the time of hardships. He said he was pleased to see the developments of Myanmar today, expressing his belief that Myanmar would successfully take the responsibilities of the ASEAN Chair in 2014.

The Cambodian PM added that he was grateful to the Myanmar President’s assistance for promotion of Myanmar-Cambodia ties. Myanmar rendered aid when floods occurred in Cambodia. He said he was glad about launch of direct air transport between the two nations, promoting the tourism industry. He added that he would like to promote economic cooperation further as Myanmar had lots of trade opportunities. He suggested detailed discussion to the Myanmar President for increased economic cooperation.

The Cambodian PM went on to say that Cambodia was currently taking the alternative chairmanship of ASEAN. It was required all the ASEAN fellows join in discussion to activities the slogan saying “One vision, one identity, one community”. It was required the cooperation of ASEAN countries to establish ASEAN Community.

The Myanmar President said that he agreed to the points of the Cambodian PM. His visit was aimed at deepening the amity of the two countries. He added that it was a privilege for him to receive the red carpet in calling upon the Cambodian King and warm welcome of Cambodian people along the road to the palace. He was grateful to Cambodia for its support to Myanmar delegation to witness the recent development of Cambodia. Myanmar government, being a Government elected by the people, is committed to fulfilling the needs and aspiration of the people to the most possible degree. And the government is constantly implementing tasks for prevalence of peace and stability and economic development aspired by the people. In that regard, it met with local political groups and has been able to bring about local political stability. Meanwhile, it had extended an olive branch to national races armed groups for national reconciliation. With prevalence of peace and stability in the nation, external pressure had been decreased and there is frequent contact and cooperation with outside, thereby creating potentials for international investments. On the other hand, it is in the process of building an industrialized country while laying down and implementing short term and long term projects for human and infrastructure development as well as improving technology, environmental conservation, ensuring an institution on the basis of law, competitive economic sphere, and boosting the ration of private participation.

Myanmar Government is striving for reforms, nation building tasks and promotion of Myanmar society standard at the same time. While it is implementing tasks for prevalence of peace and stability and economic recovery, the Myanmar delegation was on a State-visit to Cambodia, from which it could observe infrastructure development and many improving sectors including tourism industry and communication sector. He praised the Cambodian Government for those progresses, and wished more success and stronger ties between the two peoples.

President U Thein Sein and Cambodia King enjoyed the dinner. During the dinner, Cambodian cultural troupes entertained those present with cultural dances of the two countries.

MNA

Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister meets local people in Wakema

Nav Pha Tw frontier, 24 March—Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung looked into river slide in Shwegon and Upper Paygon Villages in Wakema Township on 22 March.

Next, the region chief minister gave offerings to Sayadaws in Alynnyaung Monastery in Upper Paygon Village. Where he met local people and gave bags of cement and cash assistance. Moreover, the region chief minister met local people in Shweilaung Local Station Hospital and inspected paddy husk fired power station of the village. He then paid homage to Pyinnyatagon Monastery Sayadaw and presented offerings.

MNA

Age-wise measles vaccination 2012 launched in Rakhine State

Nav Pha Tw, 24 March—The age-wise measles vaccination 2012 was launched in Rakhine State at U Ottama Hall in Sittway on 22 March morning. State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin delivered an address. Next, Head of Rakhine State Health Department Dr Than Tun Aung explained matters related to vaccination.

MNA

The State Chief Minister and party viewed vaccination to children and presented gifts to them.

In Taunggyi and Pyidawta regional clinics in Sittway, they viewed giving of measles vaccination to the children.
Hailing the 67th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

Tatmadaw with significant characteristics

Maung Mann Nyo

To have characteristics that a Tatmadaw should have, Tatmadaw (Air) was formed on 15-12-1947 and Tatmadaw (Navy), on 24-12-1947 just after Myanmar regained her Independence. It was 4 January, 1948 that Myanmar became an independent, sovereign nation. Our leader General Aung San did not enjoy the fruit of Independence as he was assassinated before Independence. Thirty comrades continued to head Tatmadaw. Unfortunately, civil war broke out along with independence. Then, foreign media dubbed governments as Yangon government because they could rule the country as absolutely. Tatmadaw safeguarded the country and settle the 1948-49 conflict. After the end of civil war, Tatmadaw could fight against KMT Chinese invasion hand in hand with people. Due to the weaknesses in parliamentary democracy system, ruling parties and governments handed over power to Tatmadaw. In so doing, Tatmadaw held free and fair elections. But, there emerged elections from the opposition. As the country was on the edge of collapse, Tatmadaw safeguarded the country as Revolutionary Council Government after taking power. And then Tatmadaw handed over power to Myanmar Socialist Programme Party Government that exercised single party system. First generation leaders had been serving country’s affairs dutifully. After that, second generation leaders started assuming duties when country’s economy was in recession in the 1980s. Myanna Socialist Programme Party was abolished as people called for democracy. After that, the basic foundations were laid for the establishment of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. Tatmadaw’s second generation was capable to do smooth transition and drafting the Constitution.

The term ‘generation’ is used as fine traditions and good heritages have been maintained for generations. At a time when the nation is starting democratic practices as the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, leaders of third generation are also upholding the good traditions of the Tatmadaw. Quoting the speech of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief General Min Aung Hlaing at the 54 intake of Defence Services (Army) Training Course on 9-12-2011, he said: “When it comes to national defence, it includes safeguarding Our Three Main National Causes, the State Constitution and the country’s territorial land, air and waters as well as protecting the lives and property of the national people.” Indeed, the excerpt of the speech has highlighted defence duties the Tatmadaw should shoulder in the change of the nation’s system and era. In other words, it means that the Tatmadaw and the people have been in oneness if it is in the national interest. It is the Tatmadaw that will always safeguard the nation’s objective called Our Three Main National Causes, the nation’s charter called the constitution, the nation’s territory called territorial land, air and waters and lives and property of the national people by risking their lives. In the objectives of the 67th Anniversary Armed Forces Day which falls on 27 March 2012, the Tatmadaw has committed itself to support Our Three Main National Causes: non-disintegration of the Union, non-dis-integration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty, to participate in the national political role with Union Spirit which is true patriotism, to protect the constitution which is the key to building a modern democratic nation and to build a strong, efficient, modern and patriotic Tatmadaw so as to safeguard the nation’s independence and sovereignty.

Today’s Myanmar has generated a lot of interest. Looking to the course of history ranging from 14 years of parliamentary democracy era (1948 independence period-1962), to 12 years of revolutionary council (1962-1974) to 4 years of Myanna Socialist Programme Party era (1974-1988), it can be found that a transition period has divided two different systems. And there are many lessons to be taken. Despite different systems and eras, all leaders would have had the same ambition of national interest, in other words, the same goodwill. That is to say, they would have served the cause for wellbeing of the nation and the people. They would have tried to implement a system most suitable to most of the people by weighing everything through their experiences. There would have been a variety of difficulties and hardships. While trying to solve problems in various ways as much as possible, they would have experienced success as well as failures. As the current constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar was drawn in the end of the 20th century and the early 21st century, now is the time when we are in position to collect sophisticated data and to clearly see the mature democratic nations, the nations that hastily changed into democracies without experience, the course of history Myanmar has passed through and the needs and wishes of its people in democratic transition. We are continuously carrying our journey ensuring check and balance in the three State pillars: executive, legislative and judiciary. The media called the fourth estate will soon develop with fine traditions such as freedom and accountability and freedom and rationality.”

“Our Tatmadaw is…

The State Constitution

The four estate...
Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan addresses emergency meeting of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association

YANGON, 24 March—Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association convened an emergency meeting at University of Nursing and Journalists Association in Yangon Region Finance and Revenue Minister Daw San San Nwe, Region Social Affairs Minister Dr Myint Thein, departmental heads and officials of the Information Ministry, patrons, chairman and CEC members of MWJA, members of organizing committee of the informal convention, special guests, media and observers.

MWJA Secretary U Ko Ko, Joint Secretary (1) U Myaing Khin, (Myat Khin) as joint MC. Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan said in his address that the informal convention was called in accord with fundamental principles of MWJA as it was summoned in the time of calling fifth central leading committee meeting after fifth convention.

Within one year of Myanmar’s democracy, sweeping reforms were initiated in accord with the constitution, he said. It is everybody’s knowledge that these reforms were made in the interests of the country and the people, not for any individual or any organization, he said.

Existing civil societies were being reorganized to cope with democratic society, the minister said. The convention was summoned for emergence of organizations which are commensurate with the age and the media federation formed with these organizations, he said.

MWJA was derived from Myanmar Literary Workers Organization, he recalled. It was the association serving the interests of the State and the people with the pens, he said. The organization was formed with authors of novel, article, poem and research papers, reporters, news editor, photo journalists, cartoonists, publishers printing a variety of publications and distributors, he said. To help them do works in each sector, it was learned that the approval of the convention would be sought for formation of associations, he said.

More systematic and stronger media federation would be formed, based on responses, he said. Formation of associations with sound foundations, drafting organizational structure and fundamental principles and electing the CEC members democratically are important steps, he said.

Only in the national interest, MWJA created the world of letters which brought about the good to the country and the people, he said. It also fulfilled the necessities of men of the world of letters in technical and human resources development and provided social services, he said. He said he would like to urge to strive for emergence of associations which would serve the national interest and contribute to the development of the world of letters.

We need to take lessons from the past experiences in forming the associations, he said. To think of the future, we also need to consider what happened in the past, what we are doing at the present and what is happening, he said. In post-independent period from 1948 to 1962, there are above 20 organizations related to the literature, he said. Although the men of letters had firstly worked for patriotism and nationalism, they were then split up following, political allegiance, personality cult and sectarianism, he said. Then the power struggle followed as they wanted to control all the organizations in the world of letters, he said.

In that period, they could not serve the interest of the country, the people and the literary world effectively, he said. Being NGOs, literary associations need to distance themselves from party politics, sectarianism and personality cult, he recommended. To form genuine fourth estate, every association must have firm policies, rules and regulations, and codes of conduct, he said. The government has already acknowledged its stance that it values and confides in the literary world. He urged the men of letters to establish genuine fourth estate, which is highly qualified and ethical and can serve the interest of the country and the people.

In building democratic nation, there are three estates—legislation, executive and judicial estates, he said. The fourth estate or media is to check and balance these three estates, he said. There is still another estate, the people, who decide everything in democracy, he said. The fourth estate and any other estates need to inform and help the people make right decisions, he said.

He said he would like to repeat five principles he always demanded from journalists for realization of the genuine fourth estate. The first one is being free from bias, he said. The second one is writing an event from various angles to let the people make right decisions, he said. The third principle is exercising freedom and accountability, freedom and rationality in parallel. We could freely think, believe, judge and differ in democratic system, he said, saying Unity in Democracy is needed. The fourth one is Unity in Democracy, he said. The last one is the national interest in realizing unity in democracy, he said. In moving towards democracy, the media estate key to the nation should apply these five principles, he said.

He urged to carry out procedures systematically with firm policies, right stance and procedures with the view to emerging literary organizations esteemed and trusted by the people and the government.

The first session of the convention was adjourned and Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan cordially greeted those present and posed with them for documentary photo.

MWJA Chairman U Tin Hlaing (Ledwintha Saw Chit) presided over the second session and Members of the panel are U Kyaw Myint (Maung San Shin), U Aye Kyi (Maung Nyo Aye-Mawwaryaw), U Myint Swe (Swe Nwe Oo), U Hnin Min (Min Aye Nye Tin Sae), U Khin Aung (Shwobo Bama Nht Khin Aung) and U Tin Tun Ohn (Maht Cheint Phale). MWJA Joint Secretary (3) U Aung Thein Win (Maung Khin Khaing) act as MC and Joint Secretary (2) Dr Than Tun Oo (Dr Tha Tun Oo) as joint MC.

MWJA Vice-Chairman (1) U Khin Maung Tun (Khin Maung Tun-Lanmadaw) explained organizational set-up of Myanmar Writer Association and Vice-Chairman (3) U Ko Ko Hlaing (Ko Ko Hlaing), organizational structure of Myanmar Journalist Association. U Thein Win (Min Yon Su) submitted the CEC report and U Khin Maung Lay (Maung Ye Min) the financial report. U Win Aung (Htet Tha Aung) and U Soe Aung (Soe Aung-Tamway) respectively seconded organizational set-ups of MWA and MJA.

Secretary U Ko Ko read out the lists of members committees for formations of MWA, MJA and Myanmar Publisher Association. Then the convention paused.

Secretary U Ko Ko, on behalf of CEC members, made clarifications on discussions of convention representatives. The concluding remarks of the MWJA chairman brought the convention to an end.

MWJA hosted dinner to the reps at Panda Hotel.

The convention decided to form MWA, MJA and Myanmar Publisher Association based on existing Myanmar Printers and Publishers Association.
Heath infrastructures in Ayeyawady Region to provide local national people with health care services

* With the emergence of the 200-bed hospital in Labutta Township, the 200-bed hospital in Pyapon Township, the 25-bed hospital in Pyinsalu Township, and the 100-bed hospital in Mawlamyinegyun Township, Ayeyawady Region, local people in the region are able to receive medical treatment within their reach.

* Meanwhile, the status of health care services in the region become higher than ever before.

Final Match and prize presenting ceremony of Myanmar CP Open Tennis held

YANGON, March 24—Jointly organized by Myanmar Tennis Federation and Ministry of Sports, the prize presenting ceremony and final match of Myanmar CP Open Tennis with the assistance of Myanmar CP Livestock Co., Ltd was held at Theinbyu Tennis Court in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon on 23 March. MNA

Union Foreign Minister sends message of felicitation to the counterpart of Hellenic Republic

NAY PYI TAW, 25 March—U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Stavros Dimas, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic, on the occasion of the National Day of the Hellenic Republic, which falls on 25 March 2012. MNA

Translation: AKK
Yangon, 24 March—The writing test on knowledge about Buddhology at middle school level youth for the first step will be held on 8 April.

The application may be submitted through e-mail or application form, not later than 31 March. The application must be filled with name of applicant, age, date of birth, father’s name and address (e-mail, telephone).

The applicants must study the book entitled A good Buddhist and the Buddhism Desana (basic level) published by the Religious Affairs Department. Outstanding applicants will have to sit for the writing and oral tests. For further information, may contact branch of Sky Net TV, Tel: 09-7319331, webs thutasein@gmail.com and Dhamma Yangu Chhama Dhana, Thanyi Market Complex, Building 4, (first floor), Shwedagon Pagoda Road, Tel: 01-382953, 09-5076974, 09- 5143998 and 09- 5015446.—Haung Bwa

Writing test on knowledge about Buddhology on 8 April

Certificates presented to trainees in mercantile deck officer course

Yangon, 24 March—With the aim of emerging the qualified mercantile officers, the certificate presentation for the mercantile deck officer skill course, conducted by Directorate of Marine Administration, was held at the Trades Hotel, here on 12 March morning. Yangon Region Minister for Kayin National Race U Saw Tun Aung Myint presented the best trainee award to Maung Aung Paing and oral test. The training course was conducted in the compound of Directorate of Marine Administration under the Ministry of Transport in Dawbon Township.

Those of under-40 who had passed matriculation examination in health and fitness with designated sea knowledge may sit for the examination concerning sailor knowledge, English and Computer subjects.

Mo New

Development of fresh water fish breeding undertaken

Yangon, 24 March—Focusing on development of livestock breeding and meat and fish production, Head of Yangon Region Fisheries Department U Myo Aung, the head of Kawhmu Township Fisheries Department, officials of fresh water resources and fish and prawn disease control branch made a field trip to Rakhineus Village of Mahsinie Village-tract in Kawhmu Township recently. They inspected health condition of fish and prawn, quality of fish breeding ponds and performed talks on control of disease and rural development tasks.

Fisheries Department

Firewood distributed to local people in Shwedagon

Shwedagon, 24 March—Under the supervision of Shwedagon Township Forest Department of Pyay District in Bago Region, a ceremony to present firewood from the village plantation was held in Wawhvitagon Village of Shwedagon Township on 4 March.

Deputy Director U Kyaw Lwin of Pyay District Forest Department spoke on the occasion. Assistant Director U Than Oo of Pyay District Forest Department explained distribution of firewood and posts. Head of Township Forest Department talked about environmental conservation. Later, 144 wooden poles and five tons of firewood from 200 acres of village plantation established in 1999 were distributed to local people as an act of rural development and poverty alleviation.—Mya Mar

Citizenship cards issued to people in Budalin Township

Yangon, 24 March—A level town talk on age-wise vaccination of measles 2012 was held at the hall of Township General Administration Department in Htantabin Township of Yangon Region on 15 March. At first, Township Administrator U Ngwe Doe made a speech After that, Head of Township Health Department Dr Khin Maung Tin explained matters related to vaccination of measles for children from nine months to five years old.—Mya Aung

Linyaungchi Library opened in Chauk Township

Chauk, 24 March—A ceremony to open Linyaungchi self-reliant library was held in Nansinikan Village of Poppanak Village-tract in Chauk Township of Magway Region on 4 March. Staff Officer U Than Huy of Magway District Information and Public Relations Department, Township Administrator U Nyein Maung Maung, wellwisher U Win Tin and village administrator U Than Doe formally opened the library.

Students of Nsansinikan Village Basic Education Primary School unveiled the signboard of the library. The Township Administrator and the Staff Officer of the TownshipIPRD made speeches. Wellwisher U Win Tin explained the purpose of the donation. The Staff Officer handed over books and publications donated by Myanmar Libraries Foundation to the chairman of Linyaungchi Library Committee of Nansinikan Village and the chairman of Thuta Nyanyau Library of Nalinkkan (East) Village.

Mya Mar

Crabs released into natural mangrove forest

Pyapon, 24 March—A ceremony to donate crab pedigrees to Pyapon District Fisheries Department of Ayeyawady Region was held in Pyapon on 14 March morning.

Shwe Min Thar Crab Broker U Khin Maung Win and wife Daw Thida Khang donated over 10,000 crabs weighing 620 kilos in total to Head of District Fisheries Department U Thet Aye. The crabs were released into the mangrove forest on 14 March morning. It was attended by Head of District Fisheries Department U Thet Aye and staff, Principal U San Aung of Pyapon Fisheries Training School, the Shwe Min Thar Crab Broker and local fishermen. Myanmar Amin

MLF invites donation for cash, books

Myanmar Libraries Foundation is giving encouragement to broaden 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 Dan Jang VOY No (063)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DAN JANG VOY NO (063) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.3.2012 and cargo will be discharged at the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm. Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

**Shipping Agency Department**

Myanmar Port Authority

Agent for: M/S Interasia Lines

Phone No: 256008/378310/376797

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**Drug-resistant TB blamed on Indian treatment flaws**

New Delhi, 24 March—India’s inadequate government-run tuberculosis treatment programs and a lack of regulation of the sale of drugs that fight the disease are responsible for the spiraling number of drug-resistant cases that are difficult to treat, health activists said Friday. India adds an estimated 99,000 cases of drug-resistant TB every year, but only a tiny fraction of those infected receive the proper drugs to treat the strongly drug-resistant disease through the government-funded programme.

The benchmark FTSE 100 Index rose 0.16 percent Friday to 5,854.89 points — but was down 1.86 percent overall from the same period.

**London shares close just higher**

London, 24 March—London shares closed higher on Friday at the end of a week of steady losses driven by concerns of a slowdown in global growth.

The benchmark FTSE 100 index ended up 0.16 percent to end at 5,854.89 points — but was down 1.86 percent overall from the previous week.

This represents the FTSE’s worst week this year and came amid global economic growth worries caused by weak data out of China and the eurozone. It follows a strong first-quarter rally for world stock markets thanks to robust US jobs data. Lloyds Banking Group (LBG) was the most traded stock, seeing 154 million units change hands, followed by Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS), which saw 98.1 million units switched ownership.

HT Group was the biggest blue-chip gainer, up 5.4 percent — or 11.9 pence — to 222.1 pence, after it announced plans to halve its pension scheme deficit by the end of the year. It was followed by fund manager Ashmore Group, which gained 3.17 percent — or 11.6 pence — to 377.1 pence. Luxury fashion group Burberry was the day’s worst performer, seeing shares drop 2.01 percent — or 31 pence — to 1,513.

The second-worst performer was Randgold Resources, which slumped a further 1.99 percent — or 113 pence — to 5,650, following Thursday’s 13 percent loss in the wake of the military coup in Mali where the gold miners have two big facilities.

The pound was worth $1.5870 at 5:20 pm, up from $1.5813 at the same time Thursday, while it slipped to $1.5854 from $1.5899 at the same period.

**Electric cars risk losing green sheen in Japan**

Tokyo, 24 March—Electric car owners who prized themselves on being environmentally friendly now find themselves in a bind as Japan’s government mandates to restart nuclear power plants idled over last year’s meltdown.

A kiosk falls on a car in Haidian District of Beijing, capital of China, on 23 March, 2012. Strong winds hit Beijing and neighbouring areas Friday. The Beijing Municipal Meteorological Station issued a blue alert about the gales, which reached more than 60 km per hour. —Xinhua

**Scotland to have 150 mn euro wind turbine factory**

Edinburgh, 24 March—Gamea, the Spanish maker of wind turbines, is to build a major manufacturing facility in Scotland, helping to create 400 jobs, the government said on Friday.

“We thank turbine manufacturer Gamesa today gave a huge vote of confidence to the UK offshore wind industry by announcing their plans to build a major manufacturing facility,” next to the port town of Leith, the Department of Energy and Climate Change said in a statement.

The project could be worth up to 150 million euros of investment expected to support over 800 direct jobs,” Prime Minister David Cameron added. It was described as a “fantastic news for Scotland and shows that the UK remains an attractive place for foreign investment.”

The UK already leads the world in the amount of offshore wind installed, according to the Department of Energy and Climate Change and has ambitions to increase it to as much as 18 gigawatts by 2020 — a more than 10 fold increase on current levels.

_Reuters_
**Police seek pizza costume thief**

**Bradt Pitt**

**Brad Pitt ‘fell in love with New Orleans’ long ago**

**WASHINGTON, 24 March—** Brad Pitt has revealed that he fell in love with New Orleans when he was made a visitor to the city in early 90s. Long before the actor himself surveyed the devastation caused in New Orleans by Hurricane Katrina and founded the Make It Right foundation to rebuild the community he already had a special place in his heart for the city.

Pitt revealed this when he made an appearance on ‘The Ellen DeGeneres Show’ on Tuesday. “It was a bit of a blur because New Orleans did that to you,” People magazine quoted him as saying on the show. “I fell in love with the place. The people. The music. It’s in the air. It’s something you can’t describe on camera,” he added.

**Russell Crowe to play Noah in film**

**LOS ANGELES, 24 March—** New Zealand-born actor Russell Crowe will play the titular Old Testament figure in the upcoming film ‘Noah’. The actor has been preparing for the role by reading the Bible and learning about the history of the biblical story.

Crowe is known for his roles in films such as ‘Gladiator’, ‘Cinderella Man’, and ‘A Beautiful Mind’. The actor has also received critical acclaim for his portrayal of real-life figures like Steve Jobs and Nelson Mandela.

**Katy Perry promises honesty in her lyrics**

**WASHINGTON, 24 March—** Katy Perry has promised that she will always tell the truth in her songs, and findings going into the studio is often “cathartic.”

“The people who write the lyrics are a bit vulnerable sometimes, but I think that is what everybody wants to hear, they want to hear the truth, no matter how much it hurts,” Contactmusic quoted her as telling BBC Radio 1.

“Writing songs is cathartic, it’s definitely like I’m pushing something out. Whenever I’m feeling toward breaking point, rather than going into a bad place I just get my guitar, or get myself into the studio and free verse, basically,” she said. “The 27-year-old singer added that she always carries a recorder wherever she goes in order to capture all the funny and interesting phrases and descriptions that come to her in her everyday life. I have this little red recorder I have with me at all times, and if I’m walking around the streets it’s in my purse and I just pull it out. It’s all about catchphrases and people and conversations and whatever.”

**Coleman to be new ‘Doctor Who’ companion**

**LONDON, 24 March—** Jenna-Louise Coleman will play Doctor Who’s latest companion, the British science-fiction series’ producer announced on Wednesday.

Matt Smith portrays the titular Time Lord. Coleman, 25, has had roles in the British soap ‘Emmerdale’, the movie ‘Captain America’ and the upcoming miniseries ‘Titanic’.

**Penelope Ann Miller and husband split up**

**LOS ANGELES, 24 March—** Actress Penelope Ann Miller has filed for legal separation from her husband, actor James Huggins, Los Angeles Superior Court documents show. The former couple were married nearly 12 years and have two children.

People.com said the star of ‘The Artist’ and ‘The Freshman’ cited irreconcilable differences as the reason for the breakup.

**NJ city dodges toilet paper crisis**

**Officials in Trenton, NJ, said a toilet paper crisis at city hall has been staved off with a $16,000 emergency order of paper products. Supplies of toilet paper and paper towels at City Hall and other city-run facilities including police headquarters and senior centres are nearly depleted due to Mayor Tony Mack’s administration being unable to get City Council approval for a $46,000 contract to keep the facilities supplied for the next year, The Times of Trenton reported on Wednesday.**

Acting city purchasing agent Marchelle Marshall said relief is now on the way in the form of $16,000 worth of toilet paper and paper towels.

“Some of the supplies were supposed to be delivered at 5 o’clock today, and some of the rest will be delivered tomorrow,” Marshall said on Tuesday.

The City Council initially rejected the $46,000 bid from Pennsauken-based firm Amsan in September due to the company wanting $4,000 for a supply of hot drink cups. Marshall asked the council Tuesday night to reject a contract with Amsan so the city can solicit bids from other companies.

The council voted as Marshall recommended.

**Baby born at side of highway**

Emergency responders in Phoenix said a baby was born at the side of the freeway when the parents realized they wouldn’t make it to the hospital.

Scott Walker of the Phoenix Fire Department said the parents, whose names were not released, were driving on the Loop 101 freeway near Seventh Avenue on their way to a hospital when they realized they would not make it in time for the birth, KPHO-TV, Phoenix, reported on Thursday.

Walker told KNXV-TV, Phoenix, the father was delivering the baby at the side of the road when paramedics and fire crews arrived.

KTVD-TV, Phoenix, reported the mother and baby boy were taken to Arrowhead Hospital where they were said to be doing fine.

Emergency responders in Phoenix said a baby was born at the side of the freeway when the parents realized they wouldn’t make it to the hospital.
Deschamps desperate to end Marseille losing streak

World Cup winner expects his players to help get their dire domestic season back on the right path. While league leaders and arch-rivals Paris Saint-Germain continue the business of winning a first league title since 1994, the plight of 2010 champions Marseille is sure to dominate Saturday’s league programme.

Marseille’s hopes of playing in next season’s Champions League were virtually ended last weekend by a fifth consecutive league defeat, to relegation-haunted Dijon. Another humiliation came Tuesday in the shape of a French Cup quarter-final defeat at the hands of Ligue 2 strugglers Châteauroux. The club has already dismissed coach Paul Le Guen and is likely to appoint former Reims manager Didier Deschamps, who has previously worked with the club. Marseille are desperately in need of a win to get their season back on track. Deschamps is expected to be named as the new manager of Marseille on Saturday.

Chelsea’s John Terry: I do have a point

In response to comments suggesting that I think I’m the manager, I’d like to say Robbie has stepped up and been immense,” Terry told the Evening Standard newspaper. “Terry, standing to the side of Di Matteo, was spotted screaming orders at his players from the bench after being substituted in last week’s dramatic Champions League win over Napoli. I am Chelsea through and through, whether I am on the pitch or off it, added the 31-year-old. “But I was still on the pitch, I would have been saying the same things that I was from the bench. That’s my role as captain of this club. “Just because I have come off the pitch, it doesn’t mean to say my mentality changes. “People might see it in the wrong way, but I care about this football club - we all do - and Robbie and his backroom staff deserve full credit.”

Tiger Woods share 36-hole lead at Bay Hill

Tiger Woods plays a shot on the second hole. Woods served notice that he has regained top form with the Masters less than two weeks away, grabbing the clubhouse lead on Friday at the PGA Arnold Palmer Invitational. — Internet

OcTOBER 25, 2012

Tiger Woods served notice that he has regained his top form with the Masters less than two weeks away, grabbing the clubhouse lead on Friday at the PGA Arnold Palmer Invitational. The 14-time major champion fired seven birdies in a bogey-free second round to finish 36 holes level with South Korean Charlie Wi on 13-under 134 in the $6 million event. And Woods didn’t even think he played that well on the same Bay Hill course where he has won five times.

“I putted well. I didn’t feel like I hit it all that good,” Woods said. “My misread just better, I just played smart all day. I didn’t make any bad mistakes. That’s what I’m enjoying. I had to smart work. My bad days are not as bad as they used to be. “I feel comfortable on this course right now. I just understand how to play it.”

Other scores:

Charlie Wi of the USA plays his tee shot at the par 5, 16th hole during the second round of the 2012 Arnold Palmer Invitations in Orlando, Florida. — Internet

Cast your vote

Charley Watts tells Wilshere: Forget Olympics, you can have a go

Charley Watts tells midfielder Jack Wilshere to forget about playing in the Olympic Games and target a full Premier League season instead. Wilshere has not been in the side for the past few months and has not played in any of the club’s last five games. Watts has told Wilshere to focus on playing in the Premier League and not to worry about playing in the Olympics. "Forget Olympics," Charley Watts said. "Just concentrate on playing in the Premier League and you'll be able to play in the Olympics next year."
Citizenship cards issued in

PANGLONG, 24 March—As part of efforts for implementing Moe Pwint-2 Plan, a ceremony to issue citizenship scrutiny cards to local national races was held in Panglong of Loileum District, Shan State, on 29 February.

MEASLES CAMPAIGNED: The campaign of age-wise measles vaccination was launched at the administrative office in Ward 1 of Kamayut Township on 22 March. Head of Township Health Department Dr Thin Thin Khaing, Nurse Grade I Daw Thin Thin Aye and staff members joined in the campaign.

EPL Results on Saturday,

24 March, 2012

Chelsea 0 - 0 Tottenham H.
Arsenal 3 - 0 Aston Villa
Bolton W. 2 - 1 Blackburn R.
Liverpool 1 - 2 Wigan Athletic
Norwich C. 2 - 1 Wolverhampton W.
Sunderland 3 - 1 Queens Park R.
Swansea C. 0 - 2 Everton

Chelsea fail to close gap after 0-0 draw with Spurs

LONDON, 24 March—Chelsea missed an opportunity to close the gap on fourth-placed Tottenham Hotspur as the lunchtime derby in the Premier League ended 0-0 at Stamford Bridge on Saturday.

Tottenham remain five points above Chelsea in the race for a top-four spot although they wasted the best opportunities in a fixture they have not won since 1990.

A draw moved them level on 55 points with third-placed Arsenal who are at home to Aston Villa later on Saturday. Chelsea, who rarely threatened, have 50.

Chelsea’s Rams during their English Premier League soccer match at Stamford Bridge in London on 24 March, 2012— Reuters

Hotspur’s Gareth Bale (L) is challenged by Chelsea’s Emmanuel Adebayor on Saturday. Tottenham’s Rafael van der Vaart in stoppage time the second was much livelier with both sides hitting the woodwork.

Juan Mata curled a free kick against the post for Chelsea while Gareth Bale’s header struck the crossbar at the other end.

Emmanuel Adebayor spurned a great chance for Spurs when he rounded goalkeeper Petr Cech but had his weak shot cleared off the line by Gary Cahill.

Cech also saved a dangerous Bale free kick in stoppage time. Reuters
His Majesty King of Cambodia hosts dinner in honour of President U Thein Sein

His Majesty King Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni hosted a dinner to President U Thein Sein of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar at Preah Reach Damnak Serei Mongkol at Royal Palace in Phnom Penh, Cambodia at 7:15 pm on 21 March.

Also present at the dinner together with President U Thein Sein were Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Lt-Gen Soe Win, Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing, Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint, Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun, Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Sports U Tint Hsan, Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint, Myanmar Ambassador to Cambodia U Cho Tun Aung, and departmental heads.

Cambodian King was accompanied by Prime Minister of Cambodia Samdech Hun Sen, Speakers of upper and lower houses of Cambodia, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Royal Palace, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Ministers Council, and departmental heads.

On the occasion, Cambodian King extended greetings and blessed those present. Afterwards, President U Thein Sein made a speech, expressing special thanks to His Excellency the King, the Prime Minister, the Cambodian Government and the people for their warm welcome and hospitality since his arrival at pleasant and beautiful Phnom Penh.

Phnom Penh is situated where the four rivers meet and...