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, wife Daw Khin Khin Win warmly welcome Malaysian Prime Minister, wife and party

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—President U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win extended a warm welcome to the Malaysian goodwill delegation led by Malaysian Prime Minister Dato’ Sri Mohd Najib Tun Razak and wife on the lawns of the Presidential Palace, here, at 4 pm today.

On arrival at the Presidential Palace from Hotel Amara, the Malaysian Prime Minister, wife and party were cordially welcomed by President U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win.

On the dais, President U Thein Sein and Malaysian Prime Minister Dato’ Sri Mohd Najib Tun Razak took the salute of the Guard of Honour. Meanwhile, the State Band played National Anthems of Malaysia and the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

President U Thein Sein and the Malaysian Prime Minister inspected the Guard of Honour.

Next, the Malaysian Prime Minister presented his entourage to President U Thein Sein.

Likewise, President U Thein Sein introduced 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 Industry U Soe Thein, Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister for Labour and for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Aung Kyi, Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Sports U Aye Myint Kyu and Ambassador of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to Malaysia U Tin Latt to the Malaysian Prime Minister.

MNA

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein and Malaysian Prime Minister Dato’ Sri Mohd Najib Tun Razak take salute of the Guard of Honour.

MNA

President U Thein Sein receives Malaysian Prime Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein met Malaysian Prime Minister Dato’ Sri Mohd Najib Tun Razak, at the Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace, here, at 4.15 pm today.

Also present at the call together with the President were Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin and Director-General at President Office U Min Zaw.

The Malaysian Prime Minister was accompanied by Malaysian Foreign Affairs Minister Hon Dato’ Sri Anifah Hj Aman.

At the call, they had a cordial discussion on further strengthening amity between the two countries and promoting economic cooperation.

MNA

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein holds talk with Malaysian Prime Minister Dato’ Sri Mohd Najib Tun Razak at Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw.

MNA
**PERSPECTIVES**

**Mindset surgery**

The world in 21st century is depicted as the global village on media. The rapid IT advancement has shrunk the world, letting us discover the new things. If so, what have we really discovered?

Western movies have poured into our film market over the recent years either legally or illegally. Leaving aside the parental control over explicit movies, we have learnt not their attitude towards work, love for adventure and innovation but mini-skirts, tight-fitting and backless dress.

Myanmar has its own unique culture and tradition, which shapes our mindset and influences our behaviours. Under the influence of religion, Myanmar people tend to be honest, humble and hospitable. But, the other side of the coin is that we are too easy-going and content with life in nature. Myanmar is rich in terms of natural resources. There are a lot of things we can blame for the poverty. But, have we worked hard enough for the prosperity? It is time to force our idle brains and work hard with concert. Working for a day’s meal simply would not make you rich.

We surely have to move with the times. But, we still have to preserve our own culture. We must preserve and promote our fine customs and correct and mend the negative ones, seeking the winning combination. We have to change our outlook in search of flowery future. Changes have to begin within ourselves, from individual to the whole society.

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**Meeting (1/2012) of Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control held**

Chairman of C DAC Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko delivers an address at Meeting 1/2012 of Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—Myanmar has been undertaking drug abuse control by laying down two strategies as national duty and drafted 15-year plan (from 1999-2000 to 2013-2014). To hit the goal of a drug-free zone ASEAN 2015, Myanmar has to reduce growing of illegal crops, illegal drug trafficking, drug-related crimes and use of illegal drugs, said Chairman of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Union Minister for Home Affairs Li-Gen Ko Ko, at meeting 1/2012 of the CCDAC held at Ministry of Home Affairs today.

The MPF Chief reported implementation on CCDAC meetings (1/2011 and 1/2011) resolutions; Police Col Tin Maung Maung, three-year poppy eradication plan and official from 12 groups, their undertakings. After that, those present discussed providing assistances for poppy eradication programme in cooperation with DEA, UNODC, WFP, NNCC and ONCB. It was also attended by Deputy Ministers Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint, Maj-Gen Zaw Win, Dr Myo Myint, Dr Win Myint, Chief of Myanmar Police Force Police Maj-Gen Kyaw Tun and Vice-Chief of MPF Police Brig-Gen Zaw Win, officials from the CCDAC, UNODC, WFP, DEA, NNCC and ONCB.—MNA

**Union Minister receives German human rights commissioner and ICRC rep**

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—Union Minister for Border Affairs and for Myanmar Industrial Development Lt-Gen Thein Htay received German Human Rights Commissioner of Foreign Affairs Ministry of Germany Mr Markus Michael Maria Loning and party and Head of Delegation Mr Georges Paclisman of the International Committee of the Red Cross at his office separately this evening.

They discussed promotion of ties between Myanmar and Germany and between Myanmar and the International Committee of the Red Cross.—MNA

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**Review on National Forestry Master Plan workshop held**

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—Opening of workshop on review of National Forestry Master Plan, organized by Forest Department of Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry, was held at Forest Department (Head Office) here this morning, attended by Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun. He said: Myanmar is rich in forest resources and biodiversity. The 47 per cent of country’s total areas is covered with forests. Systematic forest management has been carried out since 1856. Thanks to it, the country can undertake continued extraction of forest and forest products till now.

National Forestry Master Plan (from 2001-02 to 2030-31) had been drafted since 1998. Implementation of it started in 2001-2002. It needs to review pros and cons in respective sectors and to successfully implement the remaining periods, he added.

A total of 13 papers will be read out at the workshop which will go on till 30 March. Five groups discuss respective works in National Forest Sector Master Plan.

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**Country Director of Norwegian Refugee Council calls on Union I&P Minister**

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yee received Country Director Mr Christopher Bleers and party of Norwegian Refugee Council at his office, here, at 10.30 am today.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister U Kyaw Kyaw Win, Director General U Maung Maung Than of Immigration and National Registration Department, Director General U Myint Kyawing of Population Department, Head of Office U Than Naing Tun and officials.

The guests praised the staff of the ministry for making field trips to remote areas of Kayin State for issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards and proposed to render assistance for the works.

They discussed endeavours of internal peace-making process, plans for ensuring eternal peace through step by step negotiations, issuance of CSC in field trips, collection of national census, training and technology for uplift of staff’s proficiency and assistance for work equipment.

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**Health knowledge disseminated in Kyimyindine Township**

District, on 18 March.

At the outset, Chairperson of District Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Myint Kyi and Chairperson of Township Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Su Su San made speeches.

An official of Township Health Department gave talks on health knowledge for women and children.

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**VACCINE PROVIDED: Age-wise anti-measles vaccination campaign was launched at Dhammayagon on 28th Street in Ward 3 of Pabedan Township on 22 March, Acting Head of Township Health Department Dr Daw Ei Ei Khang and health staff inject children from nine months to five years old.**

MYANMA ALIN
Exchange of fire along Israel-Egypt border

reported additional attacks.

said that several of them were wounded.

said, indicating that several of them were wounded.

said, without specifying at what time he was there.

in the Asia-Pacific that has

of concerns.

this could be used. “Cocos

opponents from abroad to

terrorism or hate crimes and

is a possibility... it’s a long-

made it a crime to consult

potential extremists and

us as ‘al-Qaeda’s

and worrying some Asian

of increasing

on broadcasting

the Interior Ministry said on

and worried some Asian

and claimed that

economic defence

in regions.

as well as an AQAP member of

Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) as

Abu Qatada, head of AQAP's

beletised by Beijing.

and examined the ongoing construction of a vast barrier along the

and did not open fire. The US

to recruit, and the

in the heart of the terrorist

from abroad to

into official drought status, reflecting

and East Anglia.

said the suspect worked full-

time from home to recruit

terrorist organization as ‘al-Qaeda’s

tain a drought spilling over

drought could spread to more regions of

southeast, including London, and East Anglia.

said. A large part of England is already in

of the country, while the US and

US could fly spy drones from Australian

Drought spreads east and

north-environment agency

Photograph of a US Air Force Predator drone.—INTERNET

The boats were carrying more than 100

the incident took place 2:00 pm (1200 GMT), the army

were being crossed from Egypt, a military spokesman

from New York, which had

the pilot-in-command

on board when the pilot-in-command

and did not open fire. The US

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Apple offers refunds for new iPad in Australia over 4G 

A New York, 28 March — US technology firm Apple has offered to refund Australian customers who felt misled about the 4G capabilities of the new iPad. The country’s consumer watchdog has taken Apple to court for false advertising. The ACCC said it was seeking an injunction on sales as well as a financial penalty against Apple. Apple says the new iPad works on what is globally known as the 4G network. Apple’s lawyers said they were willing to publish a statement by a senior executive admitting to misleading customers.

Amazon’s Kindle Touch comes to Europe, but no Fire news

New York, 28 March — Amazon is launching a touchscreen version of its Kindle e-reader in the UK, Germany, France, Spain and Italy. The Kindle Touch will be available for £99 from 27 April, five months after it went on sale in the US. Unlike in America, there will not be a 3G version of the new ‘iPad with WiFi + 4G’ is misleading because it represents to Australian consumers that the product can, with a SIM card, connect to a 4G mobile data network in Australia, which is not the case.

New York, 28 March — Amazon said UK readers will be able to buy on ‘the go’ from Amazon. The device also contains an ‘experimental’ web browser, but it only works with a wifi signal. The product is 70 grams (2.5 ounces) heavier and slightly larger than the basic Kindle model, which is sold for £39. However, it also offers an ‘e-toy’ feature — exclusive content — that is device-specific. (Japanese) customers may find related passages in a book as well as more detailed information from Wikipedia and Amazon.com’s community-written book encyclopaedia ‘Sheflari’. The latest version of its operating system will allow books to be read in both portrait and landscape mode. US-owners had previously been prevented from holding the device vertically and had failed to return home, and had failed to return home on their own, and had failed to return home. The new version will fix this.

Hector’s dolphins living off the coast of Christchurch, New Zealand have benefitted from the nation’s special designation, say scientists.

This 4,000-year-old monolith in England may have been an ancient astronomical tool used to track the seasons, according to archaeological evidence.

NZ dolphin survival boosted by Marine Protected Area

Wellington, 28 March — Researchers studied the animals, one of the world’s most endangered species of dolphin, for 21 years. Their results show that the survival rate of the dolphins has increased by 54% since the Marine Protection Area (MPA) was declared. This finding is published in the Journal of Applied Ecology. “This is the first evidence that Marine Protected Areas can be effective for marine mammals. We found a significant improvement in the survival rate,” said Dr Liz Slooten from the University of Otago who undertook the research. In 1988 the Banks Peninsula Marine Mammal Sanctuary was established in the hope that resident dolphins would be protected from fatalities associated with the Gillnet and trawling activities of the fishing industry. A team of ecologists conducted regular photo identification of the dolphins for 21 years, starting two years before the area was officially protected. We can identify individual dolphins from their battle scars—which range from small nicks out of the dorsal fin to major scarring following shark attacks,” explained Dr Slooten. The researchers used the photographs to create a population model; with this they were able to analyse how the animals had fared over two decades. “Estimating population changes in marine mammals is challenging, often requiring many years of research to produce data accurate enough to detect these kinds of biological changes,” said Dr Slooten.

The best way to solve a problem at work

New York, 28 March — New research may just change what you know about how you solve problems. According to study co-author Bryan Bonner, “for groups to be successful, they must exploit the knowledge of their (individual) members effectively.” Questions included: what is the minimum driving distance between Salt Lake City and New York City and what is the weight of the heaviest man? The answers: “It doesn’t take much. All you have to do is have people sit and think,” Bonner said. “What is it I already know about this, and how can that help find the solution?”

Apple’s latest offering is a £99 e-reader with a wi-fi signal. The e-reader contains an “experimental” web browser, but it only works with a wifi signal. The device is marketed as a way for users to find related passages in a book as well as more detailed information from Wikipedia and Amazon.com’s community-written book encyclopaedia ‘Sheflari’. The latest version of its operating system will allow books to be read in both portrait and landscape mode. US-owners had previously been prevented from holding the device vertically and had failed to return home, and had failed to return home on their own, and had failed to return home. The new version will fix this.

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Núi Salban, 28 March — A woman in Núi Salban killed herself by inhaling poisonous fumes while chatting with friends on Facebook, police said on Tuesday.

This 4,000-year-old monolith in England may have been an ancient astronomical tool used to track the seasons, according to archaeological evidence.

The third version of Apple’s iPad went on sale earlier this month. — Internet

Apple offers refunds for new iPad in Australia over 4G

New York, 28 March — US technology firm Apple has offered to refund Australian customers who felt misled about the 4G capabilities of the new iPad. The country’s consumer watchdog has taken Apple to court for false advertising because the tablet computer does not work on Australia’s 4G network. Apple’s lawyers said they were willing to publish a clarification. However, the company does not accept that it misled customers.

Australia’s Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) said on Tuesday that Apple’s recent promotion of the new ‘iPad with WiFi + 4G’ is misleading because it represents to Australian consumers that the product can, with a SIM card, connect to a 4G mobile data network in Australia, which is not the case.

The watchdog then lodged a complaint at the Federal Court in Melbourne. At a preliminary hearing, Apple lawyer Paul Anastassiou said Apple had never claimed the device was a 4G device. However, the ACCC maintains that it is misleading to say that customers can, with a SIM card, connect to a 4G mobile data network in Australia.

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Fiji takes control of national airline from Qantas

Wellington, 28 March — Fiji’s military government says it is taking control of the country’s national carrier Air Pacific from Australian company Qantas. The government of Commodore Frank Bainimarama has issued a decree saying that all Fijian-registered carriers must now be owned and controlled by Fijian nationals. Fiji already owns a majority stake in the airline, holding 51 percent of it while Qantas owns 46.3 percent. But Fijian Attorney General Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum said Qantas since 1998 has exercised effective control over the carrier because Qantas-appointed board members enjoy supermajority and veto rights.

Qantas said it would issue a statement later Wednesday. “It’s an open secret that Qantas has proposed to sell their stake to the Fijian government,” said Sayed-Khaiyum. He said the two groups haven’t been able to agree on a price and that Fiji is hoping Qantas will agree to a binding independent valuation of its stake. He added the decree has nothing to do with the potential sale. However, the Fijian government’s latest move could negatively impact the value of the stake to Qantas and to any interested third parties.

In a question-and-answer statement on the change, the Fijian government said it is “false and misleading” to think Fiji is nationalizing the airline and depriving it of its shareholder rights. Qantas will retain its ownership stake and its right to dividends, according to the Fijian government, but will no longer be able to exercise control over the airline’s management and will not be able to influence the appointment of the airline’s chairman, the addition of new directors, or a host of other management decisions. Fiji claims it has been directly communicating with Air Pacific through Qantas’s wholly owned subsidiary Jetstar.

Harry Potter breaks e-book lockdown

New York, 28 March — When the Harry Potter books finally went on sale in electronic form on Tuesday, it was as if Harry himself had cast the “Alohomora” spell on them — the one that unlocks new doors. In a break with industry practices, the books aren’t locked down by encryption, which means consumers can move them between devices and read them anywhere they like.

If “Pottermore” can be a model for other authors and publishers and undermine the clout of Amazon.com Inc, which dominates e-book sales, “I think it’s a very large crack in a dam that’s going to collapse in the next nine to twelve months,” says Matteo Berlucchi, the CEO of an independent British-based online bookstore, aNobi.

E-books from major publishers are sold in encrypted form today. The text of a book is scrambled so that only authorized devices and software can read it. For instance, a book bought from Amazon.com Inc is locked to one device and can’t be shared.

Richard Norris is seen before (L) and after (R) his face transplant operation performed at two hospitals in New York. - Reuters

Man hugs doctors after seeing face transplant in mirror

Baltimore, 28 March — Surgeons from the University of Maryland Medical Centre on Tuesday detailed what they believe is the first comprehensive face transplant — allowing a 37-year-old man to emerge from behind a mask 15 years after a gun accident almost killed him.

Richard Norris of Hillsville, Virginia, was shot in the face in 1997 and lost his nose, lips and most movement in his mouth. Since then, he has had multiple life-saving and reconstructive surgeries but none could repair him to the extent where he felt he could return to society. He wore a prosthetic nose and a mask even when entering hospital for the transplant.

But last week, during a 36-hour operation, University of Maryland doctors gave him a new face from an anonymous donor whose organs saved five other patients’ lives on the same day. Six days after the surgery, he could already move his tongue and open and close his eyes and was recovering much faster than doctors expected.

“He’s actually looking in the mirror shaving and brushing his teeth, which we never even expected,” said Dr Eduardo Rodriguez, associate professor of surgery at the University of Maryland School of Medicine and head of the transplant team, who spoke at a Press conference.

Study suggests too much sitting can kill you

New York, 28 March — For better health, try standing up more, a new study suggests.

Those who spend 11 or more hours a day sitting are 40 percent more likely to die than those who spend less time sitting, according to the Fijian government, but will no longer be able to exercise control over the airline’s management and will not be able to influence the appointment of the airline’s chairman, the addition of new directors, or a host of other management decisions. Fiji claims it has been directly communicating with Air Pacific through Qantas’s wholly owned subsidiary Jetstar.

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Snakes, spiders, scorpions taken from New Mexico home

Santa Fe, 28 March—Animal control officials confiscated 31 venomous snakes, two tarantulas, two black widow spiders and about 10 scorpions from an Albuquerque apartment, an official involved with the collection said on Friday.

Following an anonymous tip, animal welfare officials were called to the apartment on Thursday. The reptiles they found were primarily rattlesnakes, which are commonly found in New Mexico, but also included several cobras, including the cape cobra, “which is probably the most venomous of all the cobras,” said Doug Hotle, curator of herpetology at the Albuquerque BioPark. Hotle, who was called in to help collect the snakes, said the owner did not have the proper permits required to keep such a large number of snakes nor to keep animals such as the cobra that are not native to New Mexico. The city of Albuquerque allows residents to keep up to 14 exotic or wild animals without a permit.—Reuters

Colo wildfire could be linked to controlled burn

Conifer, 28 March—Investigators on Tuesday were trying to determine whether a controlled burn designed to minimize wildfire risk reignited and became a stubborn mountain wildfire that forced hundreds of residents to flee their homes and may have caused the deaths of two people.

Federal agencies dispatched two large air tankers to tackle the 7-square-mile blaze that damaged or destroyed 28 structures and resulted in mandatory evacuations of 900 homes south of the commuter town of Conifer, about 8,200 feet up in the Rockies foothills and 25 miles southwest of downtown Denver. Some 450 firefighters from Colorado, Idaho, Nevada and Utah were sent to assist 250 firefighters on the ground. The fire consumed grass, brush and some ponderosa pine tree canopies. Winds were 20 mph to 30 mph before calming late Tuesday. Denver’s tightly populated southwestern suburbs were not threatened.—Internet
**Malaysian PM, wife and party arrive in Nay Pyi Taw**

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—At the invitation of President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, a Malaysian goodwill delegation led by Malaysian Prime Minister Dato’ Sri Mohd Najib Tun Razak and wife Datin Sri Rosmah Mansor arrived here by special flight at 2.30 pm today to pay an official visit to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

The Malaysian Prime Minister and party were welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin and wife Daw Lin Lin Tin, Deputy Minister for Transport U Win Shein, Deputy Minister for Sports U Aye Myint Kyaw and wife Dr Daw Khan Swe Myint, Myanmar Ambassador to Malaysia U Tin Latt and wife Daw Htwe Htwe Mya, Malaysian Ambassador to Myanmar Dr Ahmad Faisal Bin Muhammad and wife, officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and staff of Malaysian Embassy.

**Union Sports Minister meets Chinese, Japanese guests**

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—A Chinese delegation led by Director Mr Lu Jian Kang of China BEIAO International Cultural & Sports Events Co., Ltd of China and party paid a call on Chairman of the Leading Committee for preparation of XXVII SEA Games Union Minister for Sports U Tin Hsan, at the minister’s office here this morning.

At the call, Mr Lu Jian Kang explained LED system to be displayed at opening and closing ceremonies of XXVII SEA Games and related programmes.

After that, the Union Minister also received CEO Mr Keichii Tatesawa of Japan-based AZNET Corporation Co., Ltd, at the same venue. Both sides discussed the sponsorships of Japanese companies for the SEA Games and sending Japanese coaches for Karatedo, Judo and weightlifting. Also present at the calls were Deputy Minister U Aye Myint Kyaw, Director-General U Tharng Htay and officials.

**Ayeayawdy Region Chief Minister receives Chairman of Tanzania-based company**

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—Ayeayawdy Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung received Chairman Mr Mahesh Patel and party of Tanzania-based Export Trading Commodities Pte Ltd at the region government office yesterday afternoon and discussed investment in the region.

In the afternoon, the Region Chief Minister attended the cash donation for placing concrete on the road to Shwezigon Pagoda at the prayer hall of the pagoda in Pathein.

At the ceremony, wellwishers including Chief Minister of the region U Thein Aung and wife Daw Khin Htaw Myint donated cash to the fund for construction tasks.

**Planning and Implementation course (4/2012) (Officer Level) concludes**

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—Concluding ceremony of Planning and Implementation course (4/2012) (Officer Level) took place at the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development, here this morning, attended by Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Thein.

He urged project in-charges to submit reports on increase in value and quantity of economic sectors including agriculture and industry to Township Planning and Implementation Committee, to compile records on the ground, to submit socio-economic, education and health indexes to the committee for review, to scrutinize whether it in compliance with the budget.

After that, the deputy minister presented certificates through group leaders. A total of 210 heads of Township Planning Department attended it.

**Prize-presenting ceremony of inter-club cricket tournament held**

YANGON, 28 March—Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe attended prize-presenting ceremony and dinner of inter-club cricket tournament (2011-2012) at Yangon International Hotel Ball Room, on Aikon Road, here yesterday.

President of Myanmar Cricket Federation U Nyunt Win extended the greeting. After that, Deputy Minister for Commerce Dr Pwint Hsan handed over championship shield and medals to Myanmar Timber Cricket Club.

**Dy Culture Minister receives German Ambassador**

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sanda Khin received German Ambassador Mr Christian Ludwig Weber-Lortsch together with Cultural Attaché Mrs Katrin Fruehinsfeld at the ministry, here, at 3 pm today.

They discussed cooperation and exchange of culture between Myanmar and Germany.

Also present at the call were Director-General U Kyaw Oo Lwin of Department of Archaeology, National Museum and Library, Director-General Daw Nanda Hmooin of Historical Research Department, Head of Office U Aung Naing Myint and officials.

**Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Aid of Germany calls on Deputy FM**

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Aid of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany Mr Markus Michael Maria Loning and party called on Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Myo Myint at the ministry, here, at 4 pm today.

They discussed promotion and protection of human rights and cooperation between the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Federal Republic of Germany.

**UMFCCI to hold educative talks**

YANGON, 28 March—The UMFCCI to hold educative talks to Township at 2 pm on 7 April (Saturday).

Writer Maung Wun Tha will give talks on Democratic Society and the Role of the Fourth Estate.
Myanmar and Malaysia issue joint Statement

NAY PYI TAW, 28 March—At the invitation of His Excellency U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, His Excellency Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Razak, Prime Minister of Malaysia, paid an official visit to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar from 28 to 29 March 2012. President U Thein Sein held bilateral talks with Prime Minister Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Razak on 28 March 2012 at Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace. The Joint Statement on the Occasion of the Official Visit to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar of His Excellency Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Razak, Prime Minister of Malaysia, was issued during the visit.

The full text of the Joint Statement is as follows:-

Joint Statement Between The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar And The Government of Malaysia

1. The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, His Excellency U Thein Sein and the Prime Minister of Malaysia, the Honourable Dato’ Sri Najib Tun Razak met in Nay Pyi Taw on 28 March 2012 during the first Official Visit of the Prime Minister of Malaysia to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. The visit had strengthened the friendly relations and promoted greater cooperation for the mutual benefit of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Government of Malaysia.

2. Both leaders recognized the network of interdependence between neighbouring countries including Myanmar and Malaysia. With both countries being part of the ASEAN family, supporting and complementing the economic and social developments of each other remain paramount in this relationship. The Prime Minister of Malaysia was pleased to note of the significant progress in Myanmar with regard to its national reconciliation process and the aim to transform the country into a modern and democratic state.

3. The two leaders expressed satisfaction at the excellent state of bilateral relations at all levels, including the positive growth in trade and investment between both countries. They reaffirmed the commitment to consolidate the existing bilateral relations and strive for greater cooperation between Myanmar and Malaysia in strategic areas of mutual interest. Both leaders agreed that mutual trust and understanding, including constant engagement in dialogues are the ingredients for elevating the friendly and constructive relations between the two countries.

4. In order to further expand and deepen the bilateral relations as well as the mutually beneficial partnership and cooperation between Myanmar and Malaysia, both leaders have agreed in the spirit of goodwill on the following:-

(i) The two leaders agreed to foster greater political linkage through exchanges of visits at all levels in order to further enhance government-to-government cooperation as well as people-to-people contacts;

(ii) Both sides agreed to convene the first Joint Commission Meeting headed by the Foreign Ministers of the two countries to continuously facilitate consultation and cooperation in the areas of common interest at a mutually agreed date;

(iii) The two sides, realizing the tremendous potential that exists due to complementary nature of both economies, affirmed their commitment to elevate the level of bilateral trade and investment. To this end, both leaders are pleased to note the significant impact of the Malaysian Trade and Investment Mission led by the Minister of International Trade and Industry to Myanmar on 23 February 2012;

(iv) Both leaders agreed to explore the possibilities of expanding cooperation in potential sectors in the Myanmar economy particularly in the fields of plantation, agriculture, energy, construction, manufacturing, telecommunications, tourism and hospitality where Malaysia has the expertise and experience;

(v) The two leaders expressed satisfaction with the close cooperation between the two countries in the areas of labour and human resources. Both countries acknowledged the important contribution of Myanmar’s labour force to Malaysia’s economic development progress;

(vi) Both sides recognized the significance of tourism in fostering greater understanding and friendship between the people of the two countries, and as such are prepared to renew their cooperation in tourism with the aim to further enhance people-to-people interaction as well as to the economic development of both countries;

(vii) The two sides agreed to continue working together in the field of capacity building through identified training courses under the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP) in the specific areas according to Myanmar’s immediate need;

(viii) Both leaders look forward to continue collaborating closely to ensure the success of Myanmar’s chairmanship of ASEAN in 2014 before the eventual succession of Malaysia as the next chair of ASEAN in 2015;

(ix) The two leaders welcomed the cooperation in the field of training for young and mid-level diplomatic officers to enhance the skills of officers in light of the Myanmar’s Chairmanship of ASEAN in 2014;

(c) Both sides agreed to enhance collaboration in the field of Sports through assistance and sharing of experience vis-à-vis Myanmar’s preparation in hosting the 27th SEA Games in 2013;

5. The leaders of both countries reaffirmed that with the Official Visit of the Honourable Prime Minister of Malaysia to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar have further strengthened the bilateral ties between the two countries. The Prime Minister of Malaysia has also extended an invitation to the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, His Excellency U Thein Sein to undertake an official visit to Malaysia, and President U Thein Sein has accepted the invitation with pleasure.

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**Malaysian PM’s visit, trip in recognition…**

(from page 16)

The Malaysian Prime Minister discussed matters related to mutual relations, establishment of the joint commission, and cooperation in the sectors of trade and investment, energy, education, banking, livestock and fisheries, agriculture, tourism and sports.

The President notified the Malaysian PM of political developments of Myanmar and thanked him for Malaysia’s full support for Myanmar’s bid for alternate ASEAN Chairmanship in 2014 and unanimous support of ASEAN countries including Malaysia for lifting sanctions on Myanmar at the ASEAN Foreign Ministers’ Meeting in Cambodia.

The President also discussed matters related to establishment of the joint commission for economic cooperation, continued cooperation in affairs of Myanmar workers in Malaysia and increased cooperation in trade, economic and investment sectors.

President U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win hosted dinner at Presidential Palace in honour of the delegation led by Malaysian Prime Minister Dato’ Sri Mohd Najib Tun Razak and wife.

The dinner was also attended by Vice-President Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife Daw Nan Shwe Hinn, Union ministers, deputy ministers, the Myanmar ambassador to Malaysia, departmental heads, the Malaysian ambassador to Myanmar and high-ranking officials.

The State Band played national anthems of the two countries before the dinner.

Artists from the Fine Arts Department of the Ministry of Culture performed with Myanmar traditional songs and dances before and during the dinner.

After the dinner, the President presented the visiting Malaysian PM the documentary photo album of the latter’s visit. The President and Malaysian PM gifted the artistes with bouquets of flowers.—MNA

**Daw Khin Khin Win meets wife of Malaysian Prime Minister and party**

**Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker receives Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Aid of Germany**

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint received Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Aid of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany Mr Markus Michael Maria Loning and party at the hall of the Amyotha Hluttaw in Hluttaw Complex, here, at 1 pm today.

Present at the call together with Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint were Chairmen of the Amyotha Hluttaw Committee and officials of the Hluttaw Office.

At the call, they exchanged views on human rights in Myanmar, lifting of EU’s sanction, Hluttaw affairs, ongoing tasks of development for Myanmar, by-election matters, promotion of friendly ties between Myanmar and Germany and cooperation matters.—MNA

**Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint receives Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Aid of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany Mr Markus Michael Maria Loning at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall in Hluttaw Complex in Nay Pyi Taw.**—MNA
It is vital important for country that representatives put forward people's desires to Hluttaw as questions, proposals, bills and laws

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann addresses members of Pyithu Hluttaw committees, commission, townsenders from Mandalay and Sagaing Regions, traders, entrepreneurs and social organizations.

Constitutional Tribunal of the State delivers final verdicts

Nav Pyi Taw, 28 March — The Constitutional Tribunal of the State delivered final verdict on proposal No 1/2012 and proposal No 2/2012.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann congratulated the attendees.—MNA

The President asked the tribunal to reconsider its resolution made on 14 December, 2011 which defined that provisions of the Article 5 and Article 17 of the Region or State Personalities’ Insignia Law are not conformity with the constitution because Region or State national races affairs ministers are officially appointed as Region or State ministers of respective Region or States. The tribunal did not accept the proposal as its resolution is final verdict legally.—MNA
Environmental journalism course for new generation journalists 7 May-9 June

YANGON, 28 March—The environmental journalism course will be conducted from 7 May to 9 June. Those wishing to attend the course may enlist not later than 6 April. The training course is aimed at disseminating knowledge about environmental conservation among the periodicals for creation of news and articles on environmental protection, emerging the journalists to become scholars in environmental affairs and enabling them to have exposures on environmental conservation. The coming course will be the 4th batch and it will be kept open three days a week. Two persons from each journal and magazine may attend it. The experienced trainers will provide new writing on environmental affairs, interviews on environmental situations and incidents, journalists and reporters ethics and translation. Moreover, the experts from environmental social economic field will give talks on their respective sectors. The applicants may submit the applications to be attached to two photos to Spectrum Office, Room C, 9th Floor, Myeikgyen Plaza, Sangayyoung Township, Yangon. Htet Khairng-Sangayoung explained that he bought Eugenia at K 6 per sapling from Meetaingtaw region of Kyunykyi Township. It was reported that Eugenia plants are to be supplied water in the summer for its thriving. Depending on growth of the saplings, Eugenia plants can be sold at K 2 million to K 4 million per acre yearly. “At present, I see some customers purchase Eugenia plants worth K 200, K 500 or K 1000. Now, it is time to pluck the sprouts of the plants, so we can earn incomes for covering the kitchen costs”, farmer U Hla Hmway explained. Kyemmon

Cash donated to war veterans MIKTILA, 28 March—To mark the 67th Armed Forces Day, a ceremony to donate cash to the aged members and disabled members of Meiktila Township War Veterans Organization on 21 March morning. At the hall of No. 1 fire station, officials presented K 2,365,000 to 138 members of Township WAO. On behalf of the war veterans, an aged member spoke words of thanks.

Myanma Alin

APBCC inspects safety of gas cylinders, pipelines at NVGs

YANGON, 28 March—A combined team inspected gas safety of natural gas vehicles of All Private Bus-line Control Committee(Central) in Yangon Region for life safety of passengers. Beginning 22 March, said an official of APBCC (Central) in meeting with media. The combined team comprises eight special inspection teams of APBCC (Central) and CNG experts. They inspected safety of gas cylinders and systematic installation of gas pipelines at the vehicles.

Light truck turns over on Htbonbo-Myinting shortcut

MYINTING, 28 March—A pilgrimage Light truck turned over near Daungyway Village on Htbonbo-Myinting shortcut in Amarapura Township of Mandalay Region at 9 am on 11 March. In the incident, three persons were dead and seven, wounded. The people from Yekmawu, Katipa and Myitit villages of Myinting went to the Buddha Pajaniya of Shweyasan Pagoda in Patheingyi Township in the morning by Light truck drive by Myint Tun. Near Daungyway Village, the car bumped into a tree due to puncture of left rear wheel and without control. In the scene, Ko Soe Lwin on board the car died on the spot, and Ko Thuang Naung Win and Ko Myo Win died at the scene, Ko Soe Lwin on board the car died on the spot, and Ko Thuang Naung Win and Ko Myo Win died at the scene. In the incident, three persons were dead and seven, wounded. The people from Yekmawu, Katipa and Myitit villages of Myinting went to the Buddha Pajaniya of Shweyasan Pagoda in Patheingyi Township in the morning by Light truck drive.
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV DANU BHUM VOY NO (299)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DANU BHUM VOY NO (299) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.3.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 25608/378316/376797

GERMAN PARTIES REJECT MERKEL TIMELINE ON FISCAL PACT

BERLIN, 28 March—Germany’s main opposition parties rejected on Tuesday plans by Chancellor Angela Merkel’s government to push a European pact on budget discipline through parliament by June, saying more time was needed to complement it with measures to bolster growth.

The pact, which aims to enshrine German-style fiscal rules across 25 EU countries, requires a two-thirds majority in parliament to pass, meaning Merkel is dependent on the opposition. The chancellor’s German Chancellor and Christian Democratic Union (CDU) party leader Angela Merkel waves before a party board meeting in Berlin, on March 26, 2012.—REUTERS

The Social Democrats (SPD) and Greens reacted angrily to comments by Merkel’s finance minister, Wolfgang Schaeuble, on Monday evening where he effectively ruled out the introduction of a financial transaction tax in the euro zone because of opposition from other member states.

Both parties want such a tax to help finance growth-boosting measures. They made clear on Monday that they did not consider the transaction tax to be dead and saw no reason to approve the pact according to the government’s timetable.

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Hungarian rows canoe across Atlantic Ocean

After 76 days, Gabor Rakonczay — isolated and incommunicado for nearly 50 of those after his canoe capsized — has become the first person to paddle across the Atlantic Ocean from Europe to the Caribbean. Rakonczay, who began his adventure in Lagos, Portugal, on 21 Dec, and stopped for several days in the Canary Islands for rest and supplies, reached the island of Antigua on Sunday, he told The Associated Press in a phone interview from the Caribbean nation.

When 24.61 feet (7.5 metre) canoe capsized at sea, the Hungarian adventurer said he managed to save it but his communications equipment was damaged and he had not been in contact with his family since 6 Feb. Rakonczay made the journey without a satellite tracking system which would have allowed him to signal that he was all right. So his wife, who stayed behind in Hungary, could only hope for the best. “The supplier raised the price at the last minute and I decided to leave without one because it was not possible to postpone the trip,” the 30-year-old said from Nelson’s Dockyard in southern Antigua.

“This trip was the first time I didn’t have a tracking system and the first time I really would have needed one. During the nearly seven weeks he was out of reach, Viktoria, his wife, gave no indications that she was anything but totally sure that her husband was alive and that only equipment failure was to blame for their lack of communication. She kept posting entries on their webpage nearly every day, speculating about Gabor’s position and how the weather conditions were affecting his voyage on the canoe nicknamed “Vitéz,” which means “valiant” in Hungarian.
Sharapova solves Li to reach semis at Key Biscayne

**KEY BISCAYNE, 28 March** — Second seed Maria Sharapova stormed into the quarter-finals of the Sony Ericsson Open on Tuesday, having lost to her the last few victory on Tuesday. She needed just 68 minutes to seal her jinx against China’s Li Na.

Sharapova, who broke in the fourth game of the opening set when she was trailing 4-2, finished off the 10th seed 6-3, 6-1.

She said she was “facing a tough opponent” before Sharapova eased into her baseline game and won eight consecutive games to erode victories, Sharapova.

Disability athletics coach wins Barclays Award

**LONDON, 28 March** — The Barclays Community Sports Award for February has been awarded to Ros Cramp, Disability Coordinator at the Stevenage and North Herts Athletics Club. Ros has spent the past 12 years developing a fully inclusive club for disabled athletes, four of whom are due to take part in the Paralympics test event on 8th May 2012 and seven will compete in the UK School Games on 9th May.

In addition to her role at Stevenage and North Herts Athletics Club, Ros also runs Disability Athletics Sports Association, which includes North Herts Boccia Club, the Hitchin Town Ability Counts Football Team, and the North Herts Disability Swim Squad. Upon receiving the award, Ros commented: “I was overwhelmed when I found out that I had won the Barclays Community Sport Award.”

Spurs and Everton set up FA Cup semifinal

**LONDON, 29 March** — Tottenham Hotspur scored three late goals to beat Bolton Wanderers on Tuesday and set up an FA Cup semifinal against Chelsea at Wembley.

The game was that was abandoned when midfielder Fabrice Muamba suffered a cardiac arrest on the pitch. With Bolton’s Muamba watching on after taking to his hospital bed, according to media reports, Spurs seized on the opportunity, scoring the opener in the 15th minute.

Giggs: Injured City boss gets better goal-difference and will be the hosts when the sides next meet.

“With the experience but City have the hunger, if we both keeping going like this, everything will be decided in the derby,” said Giggs. “Both sides will still have two games left after the derby, including tricky away ties in the northeast. As for his own career, Giggs is hoping to keep going for a while longer and make up 1,000 appearances for United. Last month he notified his 900th game for the Red Devils against Norwich, in which he also scored an injury time winner.

Looking back over his career, mostly as a left winger, the 38-year-old scored out Lee Dixon, formerly of Arsenal, and Inter Milan’s Javier Zanetti as the toughest opponents he came up against. “I faced Zanetti for the first time in the Champions League quarter-finals in 1999, he was the right back and I was on the left,” said Giggs.

Magic Johnson group to buy Dodgers for record $2b

**New York, 28 March** — A group that includes former Lakers star Magic Johnson and longtime baseball executive Stan Kasten agreed Tuesday night to buy the Los Angeles Dodgers from Frank McCourt for a record $2 billion. The price would shatter the mark for a North American sports franchise, topping the $1.1 billion Stephen Ross paid for the NFL’s Miami Dolphins in 2009.

Mark Walter, chief executive officer of the financial services firm Guggenheim Partners, would become the controlling owner. The deal, revealed about 90 hours after Major League Baseball owners approved three finalists for an intervention auction, is one of several steps toward a sale of the team by the end of April. It is subject to approval in federal bankruptcy court.

“I am thrilled to be part of the historic Dodger franchise and intend to build on the foundation laid by Frank McCourt as we drive the Dodgers back to the front page of the sports section in our wonderful community of Los Angeles,” Johnson said in a statement.

China’s star hurdler Liu still dogged by injury

**BEIJING, 28 March** — China’s star hurdler Liu Xiang is still struggling with an injury that ended his quest to win a gold at the 2008 Beijing Olympics, state media reported Wednesday, quoting his coach.

The 28-year-old Chinese athlete was a shock out of champion in the high hurdles at the 2004 Athens Games and remains history’s second fastest man in the event.

Liu’s physical condition is good but right now, although the Athletics tuner is showing no signs of a long-term injury, his coach said that he faces a problem and is unlikely to be fit in time to train when the training is very intense,” coach Sun Haiping was quoted as saying by the China Daily.

Ros Cramp, left, has developed a fully inclusive club for disabled athletes.—INTERNET

The 23-year-old Muamba suffered a cardiac arrest on the pitch. The Spaniard made a sluggish start but Nishikori was leading 6-4, 6-4. Nishikori of Japan broke in the fourth game by a fine backhand winner from the Frenchman.

The Serb, the defending champion, broke back in the sixth only to face break point in the ninth game, but three times he failed to hold, and when Nishikori was able to emerge with the set.

The Frenchman’s determination faded in the second set as Djokovic broke in the ninth game, but three late goals to beat Bolton, 3-0, and will face Chelsea.

Djokovic and Nadal punch quarter-final tickets

**LONDON, 28 March** — World number one Novak Djokovic and second ranked Rafael Nadal moved into the quarter-finals of the Sony Ericsson Open with straight sets.

The fourth and sixth games to run out winner in one hour 40 minutes.

Djokovic will play the winner of Tuesday’s last match between Caroline Wozniacki and Serena Williams.

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Giggs expects City title showdown

Monday night. But crucially, City have a better goal-difference and will be the hosts when the sides next meet.

“We have the experience but City have the hunger, if we both keeping going like this, everything will be decided in the derby,” said Giggs. "Both sides will still have two games left after the derby, including tricky away ties in the northeast. As for his own career, Giggs is hoping to keep going for a while longer and make up 1,000 appearances for United.

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Basketball legend turned entrepreneur Magic Johnson tours the Sports Museum of America in New York on 21 Nov, 2008.—INTERNET
Kalou strike gives Chelsea victory at Benfica

LISBON, 28 March—A second-half goal by Salomon Kalou handed Chelsea a 1-0 win over Benfica in the first leg of their Champions League quarter-final on Tuesday.

The Londoners always appeared in control and Kalou grabbed the only goal in the 75th minute, tapping the ball in from close range after excellent work down the right by Fernando Torres and Ramires.

This was a very good result. We knew the difficulties were going to face and now we will take the game back to London where we will have the support of our fans," said Chelsea centre David Luiz.

"Nothing is won yet but we showed a lot of maturity and experience," added the Brazilian who was signed from Benfica in a big-money transfer 14 months ago.

Kalou’s goal vindicated the decision by interim coach Roberto Di Matteo to start the Ivory Coast forward in the Champions League – and inspire Real Madrid to victory.

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Malaysian PM’s visit, trip in recognition of Myanmar’s political, economic and social reforms and its bid for democracy

Emphasis is placed on mutual relations, establishment of joint commission, cooperation in the sectors of trade and investment, energy, education, banking, livestock and fisheries, agriculture, tourism and sports

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein and party have a discussion with goodwill delegation led by Prime Minister of Malaysia Dato’ Sri Mohd Najib Tun Razak at Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace.—MNA

Carroll nervous over Newcastle return

Liverpool striker Andy Carroll has admitted it will be with no little trepidation that he will head back to Newcastle this weekend.

Carroll left Newcastle for Liverpool in January 2011 in a £35 million deal and he will make his first appearance at St James’ Park since the transfer. It is not clear exactly what reception Carroll will receive from the Newcastle faithful and he will be nervous when he trots out ahead of the game.

“I don’t usually get nervous but this might be a bit different,” Carroll said. “All of my family and friends will be there. I’m not sure who they will be supporting.”

Newcastle have kicked on since Carroll’s departure and are ahead of Liverpool in the table. The striker is delighted to see his home-town club doing so well under manager Alan Pardew. “It’s great to see Newcastle doing so well,” Carroll told Liverpool’s official magazine.

“Obviously I support them, I was brought up there and was lucky enough to play for them. They will always mean something.”—Internet