President U Thein Sein delivers address at first Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum

I am very happy to see I would like to welcome you to the First Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum and say “mingalar bar” to all participants including the Union Ministers, members of the Pyithu Hluttaw and political parties, members of the Governments, and representatives from donor countries, development partners and international organizations.

As you all know, the government is striving to foster good governance and promote clean government throughout the country.

We hope to discuss the reform strategies and the long-term development plans with all of you as we move forward. The government will adopt a people-centered approach in line with the Framework on Economic and Social Reform (FESR) when reforming the 10 priority areas such as finance and revenue, relaxation of restrictions on trade and foreign investment, development of the agricultural sector, security and development in the social and economic sectors work together.

These stakeholders may come from the government, the general public, the private sector, civil society organizations ranging from local non-governmental organizations (INGOs) to international non-governmental organizations (INGOs), and the international donor community.

While taking the driver’s seat, we will have to effectively utilize the development assistance we receive in ways that will help us achieve the millennium development goals and strengthen our relationship with our development partners so that this development partnership and assistance is continued into the future.

In order to ensure the effectiveness of the development assistance, we will institute a monitoring and evaluation mechanism. We will also try to make the development assistance more effective by regularly sharing information about our projects and the programs we are implementing with our development partners.

In striving to enhance economic growth, we will need to utilize the technological knowhow and resources we receive from the international community.

At the same time, we will work hand in hand with our development partners to better serve the public.

(See page 9)
**LOCAL NEWS**

**Yangon International Marathon on 27 January**

This event will be held with the aim of raising the public awareness of 2013 SEA Games, convincing the international community of objective situation of the country and promoting the image of the country and scenic beauty and tourism sector in a different way. Marathon runners not only from ASEAN countries but also from China, India, Japan, England, the US, Australia, Ethiopia ad Kenya will compete in the event.

Participants will be classified into three events—42 km, 10 km and 3 km. The first two events will be for professionals and the last one for amateurs. While the events are in progress, traffic will be postponed temporarily along the roads included in the marathon routes. Handsome prizes will be presented to five winners in each event. Further information, please contact FMI Centre (Ph: 240 363).

— K’emon

**Upgrading of Kyweshin-Panntin road section in progress**

Nay Pyi Taw, 19 Jan — Upgrading of seven miles and two furlongs long and two furlongs wide Kyweshin-Panntin tarred road into 24 feet wide concrete one is being carried out by Special Projects Group (1) of the Public Works under the Ministry of Construction.

It is the road section of Nay Pyi Taw-Taungpyo-Chuangnar-Taungdwingyi road. Upon completion, there will be only eight turns left on the road section on which there were 31 turns once for the safety of running vehicles. So far, five miles and five furlongs have been paved with concrete.

— K’emon

**Leaving MP 4 battery on charge long time causes house fire in Maahauungmye Township**

Mandalay, 19 Jan — A fire broke out at home at Block (838) in Chan’Mauk ward in Maahauungmye Township in Mandalay at about 2 pm on 17 January.

The fire started while leaving the MP 4 battery on charge for a long time, with the result that a switch board was caught in fire that destroyed some parts of the wall, a coil of wire and arice cooker. Altogether 13 fire engines accompanied by 20 fire crews and 60 members of auxiliary fire brigade managed to bring the fire under control in cooperation with local people.

Likewise, a fire broke out at a vacant land which is covered with some trees and bushes on Industrial Zone 21st Street in Pyayidalung Township in Mandalay at about 3 pm on 15 January.

— K’emon

**Hot springs crowded with locals, visitors in cold season in Shan State**

Taunggyi, 19 Jan — In January, it grew colder in Shan State (South). During the first week of January, Taunggyi had the night temperature of 9 degrees from 14 degrees centigrade while the temperature went down to minus two degree centigrade from zero degree centigrade in Lilem, one degree centigrade in Namhsan, Pinlaung and Heho and three degrees centigrade in Hsipaw and Lashi of Shan State (North) and it was colder than the previous year. The temperature dropped to 6 degrees centigrade in Taunggyi on 12, 13 and 14 January. According to the observation of Centre for Hydrology in Taunggyi centre at 8 am on 15 January, Taunggyi had the night temperature of 7 degrees centigrade.

On those days, local people flocked to hot springs in Y enwe and Taunglaylone in Shweyayang and Innlay Khaungdine hot spring in the early morning. Hot springs in Taunglaylone and Y enwe villages were packed with visitors from dawn to dusk. Local much preferred Innlay K haungdine hot spring which has much more sulphur than other ones.

— K’emon

**Yangon**

**Book Fair on 26 January in Yangon**

Yangon, 19 Jan — Myanmar Publishers and Distributors Association will organize a book fair and literary talks on the ground floor of Tawin Centre from 26 to 28 January and at National Theater on Myoma Kyaung Street from 31 January to 3 February.

The list of the places for shops that are to be kept open at the book fair will be announced at the meeting hall of Myanmar Writers Association in Sarpay Beikman Building at 1 pm on 24 January.

For further information, call ph: 502673 and 09 503 9065.

— K’emon

**Brake failure leaves car crash in Insein**

Yangon, 19 Jan — A car crash occurred at the traffic light near the railways bridge in Insein Township on 14 January.

A Nissan truck carrying bags of rice powder driven by Myo Myint Aung, 39, crashed into the back of an ice truck driven by saw Y Aung Naing Soe, 23, near the traffic lights while its brakes failed.

— K’emon
US Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta (R) and Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Carl Levin (D-MI) arrive at the Senate Armed Services Committee hearing on the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2013 and the Future Years Defense Programme on Capitol Hill in Washington on 14 Feb, 2012.— REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 19 Jan—Two Senate Democrats urged President Barack Obama on Friday to reconsider plans to shrink an Afghan national security forces by a third after 2015, saying a robust Afghan fighting force will be needed to fight al-Qaeda and its allies.

The appeal comes as President Barack Obama weighs how large of an American force to leave behind in Afghanistan after NATO declares the costly, unpopular war over at the end of 2014 and most foreign forces return home.

Officials say the White House is considering keeping between 3,000 and 9,000 troops in the country, a lower range than initially recommended by the top commander in Afghanistan, Carl Levin of Michigan, head of the Senate Armed Services Committee, and committee member Jack Reed of Rhode Island said Obama, a fellow Democrat, should use the US troop level announcement—expected in the coming months—as an opportunity to revisit plans to slash the Afghan forces from 352,000 to 230,000 after 2015.

“We support the establishment of a small number for the post-2014 (American) force,” they wrote to Tom Donilon, Obama’s national security adviser.

“At the same time, we are convinced that it will be necessary for the success of the mission, i.e., to prevent Afghanistan from once again becoming a safe haven for al-Qaeda and its affiliated organizations, to reconsider plans to reduce the size of the (Afghan forces).”

Ryan Crocker, a former US envoy to Afghanistan, has estimated that the United States would end up paying about $2.5 billion a year for Afghan security forces totaling $230,000.

He called the expense “pretty cheap insurance.”

Reuters

ALGIERS, 19 Jan—The Algerian army have killed 18 militants of the armed group which assaulted a gas field facility in Illizi province, the official APS new agency reported Friday.

APS quoted a security source as saying that the army’s special forces conducted a raid on the militants at In Amenas in Illizi province, some 1,600 km southeast of Algiers, and killed 18 militants.

Local Ennahar television reported that the killed militants include a French, a Malian, a Tunisian, two Egyptians, two Libyans and several Algerians. Algerian Interior Minister Daho Ould Kabila indicated on Thursday that the number of militants who attacked the gas field was around 20.

“The militants came on three 4x4 vehicles, which can carry some 20 people,” he said.

For his part, Communication Minister Mohamed Said Oublad said on Thursday that “we are in front of a new nature of terrorism, as the militants who carried out the assault are hailing from multi nationalities,” adding that “this attack aimed at destabilizing Algeria and force it to join the military intervention in Mali.”

The special forces launched on Wednesday a raid on the gas field compound to rescue Algerian and foreign workers being detained by the armed group.

On Friday, local media reported that US and British planes arrived in Algeria to take home their nationals.

Meanwhile, a number of injured workers have been evacuated to Azhar clinic in Algiers’ southwestern Dey Brahim suburb.— Xinhua

Twin suicide car bombs go off in Syria’s Daraa city, killing many

DAMASCUS, 19 Jan—Two suicide bombers detonated their explosive-laden cars in front of a mosque in the Syrian southern city of Daraa, killing many civilians, many of whom were worshipers who were leaving the mosque after Friday’s traditional prayers, the state TV said.

“The cars were detonated before the Hassan M oque in Daraa, the state TV said, casting accusation on the al-Qaeda-affiliated group Nusra Front. Further details on the casualties are still emerging.

The twin blasts came shortly after a rocket, allegedly fired by rebels, slammed a residential area in the country’s northern city of Aleppo, leaving unspecified numbers of casualties and material damages.

SANA news agency said the rocket was fired Friday from al-Kalasseh area at the Muhafaza District, stopping short of giving more details. Meanwhile, the al-Khabar TV said the rocket has fully destroyed two four-storey buildings and killed and injured scores of people.— Xinhua

85 detained in anti-terror raids in Turkey

ISTANBUL, 19 Jan— Turkish police detained 85 people on Friday in a series of anti-terror raids in seven cities including Istanbul, Ankara and Izmir in a full-scale crackdown on an outlawed left-wing group.

Initial reports said that among those detained were lawyers affiliated with the Contemporary Jurists’ Association, according to English daily Today’s Zaman.

The lawyers were reportedly held on accusations that they were receiving messages and orders from jailed leaders of the Revolutionary People’s Liberation Party/Front, a terrorist organization that has carried out a number of attacks in Turkey, and conveying them to members of the terrorist group.

The operation took place at dawn with the assistance of officers from the Special Forces Command and riot police. About 1,000 officers participated in the operation.

In Istanbul alone, police carried out raids in several districts and detained 55 people—15 of them are reportedly lawyers.

Claims surfaced that the lawyers had given support to prisoners who staged a massive hunger strike in their prison cells last year in support of broader rights for Abdullah Ocalan, the jailed leader of the terrorist Kurdistan Workers’ Party (PKK).— Xinhua

700,000 M alians expected to be uprooted in next few months

GENEVA, 19 Jan—As conflict escalates in Mali, the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) said on Friday some 700,000 Malians are expected to be uprooted in the next few months. UNHCR is urgently reinforcing its staff and resources for the country in anticipation of the further new displacement, said Melissia Fleming, chief spokesperson with the agency.

There are now 147,000 Malian refugees in surrounding countries including Mauritania, Niger, Burkina Faso, Algeria, Guinea and Togo, and close to 220,000 displaced people inside Mali.

Elisabeth Byrs of the World Food Programme (WFP) stressed at the press briefing that there was a reduced humanitarian presence in Mopti which is directly impacting distribution plans in the region. WFP was planning the delivery of food assistance to 1,500 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Mopti this week, which had to be put on hold.

Armed groups in the north of Mali started moving their armed factions south on 10 January, which triggered the intervention of the French army in support to the Malian army, leading to the deterioration of humanitarian situation in the country.— Xinhua

Residents gather reusable materials from their burnt houses after a fire hit a slum area in Rizal Province, the Philippines, on 18 Jan, 2013. Two hundred houses were damaged in the fire, leaving more than a thousand residents homeless.— Xinhua

Don’t shrink Afghan forces, two key Senate Democrats warn Obama

Venezuela, Colombia to build third border bridge

CARACAS, 19 Jan—Venezuela and Colombia have agreed to build a third border bridge to improve the traffic along their 2,220-km border, officials from the two countries said here on Friday.

The bridge will be located between Venezuela’s border city Urena in Tachira state and Cucuta in Colombia’s northern Norte de Santander state, Colombian Foreign Minister Maria Angela Holguin said after meeting with her Venezuelan counterpart Elias Jaua. The bridge will be financed by the Andean Development Corporation and the governors of the two states involved will oversee its progress.

Holguin said she and Jaua had also discussed border security and fuel supply. Their three-hour closed-door meeting was part of the regular meetings between Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez and Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos, which had taken place every three months since 2010.— Xinhua

Yuki Obayashi, one of nearly 20 concierges employed by the Uno Lisa casual clothing at its flagship store in Tokyo’s Ginza District, attends to a customer on 18 Dec, 2012 at the store in Tokyo’s Cho Ward. — KYODO NEWS
Scientists awarded top prize, Xi urges innovation-driven growth

BEIJING, 19 Jan—Ex-plosion mechanics expert Zheng Zhemin and radar engineer Wang Xiaomo won China’s top science award on Friday at a high-profile annual ceremony held to honour distin-
guished scientists and re-
search achievements. They were honoured for their remarkable con-
tributions to scientific and technological innovation, according to a government statement. They were each awarded 5 million yuan (803,792 US dollars).

Their awards were presented by President Hu Jintao at the ceremony. Chinese leaders Xi Jinping, Wen Jiabao, Li Keqiang and Liu Yunshan were also present.

The government has given the annual award to distinguished scientists for 13 consecutive years, and to many, many top-tier op-

terators globally,” he added.

Kallasvuo gave no de-

New York, 19 Jan—Nasdaq OMX Group said on Thursday it is combin-
ing its software and mar-

ket technology units as the exchange operator looks to sell more services to the companies that list on its exchanges and draw more revenue from its corporate

customers.

The catalyst for the new software-based seg-
mant was Thomson Reuters

Corporation’s investor relations, public relations and mul-
timedia services units for $390 million in Decem-

ber, Bob Greifeld, Nas-
daq’s chief executive of-
ficer, said in an interview.

“With that deal, our soft-
ware businesses will ex-
ceed $500 million in rev-

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we’re never going public," said SurveyMonkey Chief

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Top economies face fuel price spike as LNG supply drops

**New York/London 19 Jan** — Global prices for liquefied natural gas are rising toward record highs this year as increasing demand runs up against stuttering supply, threatening to drive up fuel costs in some of the world’s biggest economies.

After a record, unexpected drop in LNG output in 2012, production is expected to grow only marginally this year.

Demand, meanwhile, continues to march higher, driven by energy-hungry Asia’s rapid economic growth, Japan’s near total shutdown of its nuclear industry and a drought in Brazil that has forced the South American nation to buy emergency fuel supplies at high prices.

With 80 percent of global LNG supplies locked up under long-term contracts, it is countries such as Brazil, Argentina, number two economy China and India that rely on short term deals who face the biggest hit.

LNG helps bridge fuel supply gaps in countries where domestic output fails to keep up with demand. The intricate process of liquefying gas, shipping and regasifying the fuel can also make it more expensive than pipeline supplies.

Spot prices of liquefied natural gas are currently about $18 per million British thermal units (mmBtu), up about $2 from the same time last year, but still lower than record levels above $20 in 2008. The supply situation is worse than we thought it would be,” said independent LNG analyst Andy Flower, who tracks global export and import volumes. “LNG production declined last year and it doesn’t look as though it will increase by much this year.”

He added that LNG output has fallen just three other times in the 50 years it has been produced. In 2008 when the global economy was in free fall and in 1980 and 1981 when Algeria halted LNG exports to the United States over a price dispute.

Moreover, the tighter market means that any unforeseen events, such as Japan’s Fukushima nuclear disaster, big weather events or sudden plant shutdowns, could push prices even higher. In the wake of Fukushima in March 2011, imports by the world’s top consumer of LNG rocketed to meet power needs, pushing Asian prices up 70 percent in the following seven months, according to Reuters data. Only two of Japan’s 50 nuclear plants are back online nearly two years later.— Reuters

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**Citi’s Corbat tempers investor expectations in debut**

**New York, 19 Jan** — Mike Corbat, Citigroup Inc’s new CEO, used his earnings debut to temper investor expectations for a turnaround at the company, delivering subdued profits and saying the bank still had a lot left to clean up.

Corbat, who took over as chief executive in October after the board abruptly ousted Vikram Pandit, promised investors the third-largest US bank will do a better job for shareholders during his tenure. But he warned that the environment remained challenging and it would take time.

Citigroup’s fourth-quarter profit missed Wall Street’s expectations by a wide margin, even though earnings were up from a year earlier as trading revenue rebounded. The bank’s shares fell 2.9 percent for the day.

The bank took $3.22 billion of charges for layoffs and lawsuits in the fourth quarter. It also declined to release loan loss reserves just yet, a step which would have boosted profits.

Pandit was still in the job when the fourth quarter started, and some analysts said that by not releasing reserves Corbat may have understated financial results. “It may be that the new CEO is holding back,” said Gary Townsend, president of hedge fund Hill-Townsend Capital LLC. “There’s no reason that the quarter when Pandit left (and Corbat) came in should be great.”

Citigroup declined to comment on whether that was its strategy.

“But analysts on the conference call repeatedly challenged Chief Financial Officer John Gerspach on why the company did not draw down more of its loan loss reserves, particularly those for mortgage assets, whose value is being lifted by the stronger housing market.”

Gerspach said that while the housing and mortgage loss trends are good, the company had first to resolve the US government got past the so-called “fiscal cliff” threat to the economy and the damage that might have done to housing.

“What we would like to see now is how the US deals with the ongoing debt ceiling debate,” Gerspach said. He eventually allowed that if the economy proves resilient to prolonged debates in Washington over government debt, “maybe that will give us the basis then to make some other decisions.”— Reuters

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**Whole body vibration may help elderly get up and go**

**New York, 19 Jan** — When the elderly can’t exercise, stints on a vibrating platform may help older adults become slightly stronger, faster and more agile, according to a new Spanish study, although they were too small. Those who did the vibration training, second faster than before and walked 33 yards one second faster than before.

The method involves measures, bringing the full-government-funded study, 24 men and women over 65 performed 10 squats held for 45 seconds on the vibrating platform, with a minute rest in between, three times per week for 11 weeks. The study also included 25 people who did not take part in the vibration exercises.

There were some differences between the groups by the end of the study, although they were small. Those who did the exercises were on average, able to do two more repetitions of upper and lower body strength exercises, had almost half an inch more lower body flexibility, and walked 33 yards one second faster than before the vibration training, according to results published in the journal Maturitas.

“Whole body vibration is an easy and quick way of exercise that stimulates muscles and improves fitness,” said Cabello.

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**China’s industrial output growth decelerates in 2012**

**Beijing, 19 Jan** — China’s industrial production growth decelerated in 2012 from a year earlier to 10 percent on year, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) announced on Friday.

The figure represents a 3.9 percentage points decline from the growth rate of 2011, said the NBS chief Ma Jian-tang at a Press conference in Beijing.

In December last year, the value-added industrial output increased 10.3 percent from a year earlier, marking the rise for a fourth consecu-
tive month after the figure hit a year low of 8.9 percent in August. China’s economic growth quickened to 7.9 percent in the fourth quarter on government pro-growth measures, bringing the full-year figure to 7.8 percent.

According to the latest data released by the NBS.

In the third quarter of 2012, China’s economic growth slowed to 7.4 percent, the weakest reading since the second quarter of 2009, dragged down by domestic woes and global economic downturn. Value-added in-
dustrial output measures the final output value of industrial production, or the value of gross industrial output minus intermediate input, such as raw materials and labour costs.

For heavy industries, value-added industrial output dropped 10.4 percent on year on while light industries climbed 9.6 percent from the a year earlier.

By regions, industrial output expanded 12.3 percent in China’s western area, followed by 11.0 percent and 9.4 percent in central and eastern parts of the country, respectively. China’s industrial profits grew 3.0 percent on year on year to 4.66 trillion yuan in the first 11 months of 2012, data showed.

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**Wipro says deal pipeline strong**

**Bangalore, 19 Jan** — Wipro Ltd (WIPR.NS), India’s No 3 software services provider, sees a strong deal pipeline for its services, Suresh Senapaty, its chief financial officer, said on Friday.

Earlier, the company reported an 18 percent rise in quarterly profit, although shares fell on worries the company’s IT business did not perform as well as expected.

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**New Light of Myanmar**

**Sunday, 20 January, 2013**

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**Reuters**
Foreign Heads of State/Government send felicitations to President U Thein Sein

NAV PSI TAW, 19 January 2013 — The following are messages of felicitations from foreign Heads of State/Government sent to President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein, on the occasion of the 65th Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

From Mr. Quentin Bryce AC
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia
Your Excellency,

On the occasion of the 65th anniversary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar’s Independence Day on 4 January 2013, I wish to convey to you and the people of Myanmar my congratulations and best wishes for your country’s progress and prosperity.

I am heartily glad for the ongoing steps forward your country has been taking. I encourage the government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to go straight with determination on paving the way to democracy. Linked to this process, our increasingly strong relations received a new and noteworthy boost by the lately bilateral meetings.

With the attitude, I express my greetings of prosperity to You and to your People.

From Mr. Giorgio Napolitano
President of Italy
Your Excellency,

The celebration of the National Day offers me a welcome occasion to send you, on behalf of the Italian People and on my personal behalf, the most sincere wishes of peace and well-being to the People of Myanmar.

I am heartily glad for the ongoing steps forward your country has been taking. I encourage the government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to go straight with determination on paving the way to democracy. Linked to this process, our increasingly strong relations received a new and noteworthy boost by the lately bilateral meetings.

With the attitude, I express my greetings of prosperity to You and to your People.

From Mr. Islam Karimov
President of the Republic of Uzbekistan
Your Excellency,

I am very pleased to note that the friendly relations and cooperation existing between our two countries have been continuously enhanced and strengthened for mutual benefit and progress.

I am heartily glad for the ongoing steps forward your country has been taking. I encourage the government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to go straight with determination on paving the way to democracy. Linked to this process, our increasingly strong relations received a new and noteworthy boost by the lately bilateral meetings.

With the attitude, I express my greetings of prosperity to You and to your People.

From Mr. Rosen Plevneliev
President of the Republic of Bulgaria
Your Excellency,

On behalf of the people of Bulgaria and myself, please accept most sincere congratulations on the occasion of the National Day of the Union of Myanmar.

I am heartily glad for the ongoing steps forward your country has been taking. I encourage the government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to go straight with determination on paving the way to democracy. Linked to this process, our increasingly strong relations received a new and noteworthy boost by the lately bilateral meetings.

With the attitude, I express my greetings of prosperity to You and to your People.

From Mr. Mohammad OULD ABDEL AZIZ
President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania
Your Excellency,

On behalf of the People and Government of Mauritania, I wish your personal role in this reform process and hope that the government and people of Myanmar will continue to show on-going commitment to strengthening democracy, transparency, economic reform and the rule of law in 2013 and beyond.

Challenges remain, particularly in Rakhine and Kachin states, and the Australian Government stands ready to assist Myanmar in addressing these issues of serious concern whenever possible.

I am heartily glad for the ongoing steps forward your country has been taking. I encourage the government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to go straight with determination on paving the way to democracy. Linked to this process, our increasingly strong relations received a new and noteworthy boost by the lately bilateral meetings.

With the attitude, I express my greetings of prosperity to You and to your People.
First Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum continues

Nay Pyi Taw, 19 Jan—First Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum continued its second session, with an address by Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw. In his speech, Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw said that we hope to encourage partnerships between development lenders and grant donors to enhance the quality and inclusiveness of loan projects. We want to ensure there are adequate resources to anticipate, manage and resolve problems. Partly, this will be resolved through thorough oversight and guidance to focus our efforts and get the most from our combined resources. This emphasis on maximizing our result for the people of Myanmar will be the recurring theme of this meeting, he added. After that, third and fourth sessions were held. In the evening, Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw hosted a dinner to the guests at Thingapa Hotel.

Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw at the dinner hosted to participants of First Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum.

KIA attacks local station in Phakant Township, Kamaing Sub-Township police station

Nay Pyi Taw, 19 Jan—One civilian was injured in KIA’s attack on local station in Seikmu village in Phakant township on 18 January night as the shell spilled over a house in the village. According to Kachin State government, KIA also attacked Kamaing Sub-Township Police station in the same township the next morning, blocked Kamaing-Mogaung and Kamaing-Phakant roads with logs. They entered the police station yard at about 8.10 am and set fire to two buildings and exploded two mines before their withdrawal from the yard at 9.50 am. Two policemen were killed and five injured in the police station attack.

The attack on the police station by KIA is the second assault followed by the similar attack on 18 December that killed one police and two family members, and injured one.

Union Peace-making Work Committee invites KIO for peace negotiations

Nay Pyi Taw, 19 Jan—Union Peace-making Work Committee has reportedly sent a letter dated today addressing to Chairman of Kachin Independence Organization U Zaung Haya inviting to hold peace talks with KIO and the following the full text of the letter:

To U Zaung Haya
Chairman
Kachin Independence Organization
Subject: Invitation for negotiation

1. Responsible parties were urged through Pyithu Hluttaw at its second day sixth regular session on 11 January to publicize the electronic online negotiation in a transparent manner while both sides find it difficult to enter negotiation at table for ongoing armed conflicts in Kachin State and to build understanding and then trust through negotiations paying attention to voices of the people to ease military tensions to pave the way for lasting peace.
2. The Union Peace-making Work Committee would also like to hold peace negotiations with Kachin Independence Organization.
3. We are looking forward to your reply.

Secretary
Union Peace-making Work Committee

KIA attack passenger vehicles, 22 innocent people wounded

Nay Pyi Taw, 19 Jan—Two passenger vans and one hilux pickup were attacked by KIA with the use of three mines at milepost 27 on Bhamo-Lwejel road at 10:45 am today. Due the attack, 22 innocent people including four women got injured. The Tatmadaw columns rushed to the scene and were carrying out the relief tasks. Arrangements are being made to send injured persons to Bhamo.

The attacks occurred after issuing press release 3/2013 of Information Team 3 of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on 18 January.—MNA

No casualty in offshore vessel accident

Nay Pyi Taw, 19 Jan—An offshore support vessel Penrith Hallin carrying out offshore natural gas pipeline laying at Zawtha Development Project being implemented by the Ministry of Energy at Mottama Offshore, hit coral reefs near Mawgyi Village in Yebyu Township of Dawei District at 7 pm on 17 January. The vessel sunk under the water this morning. Thanks to the relief tasks by other support vessels near the accident, 42 staff on board were rescued in time.—MNA
Mongolia is also a republic that practices parliamentary system. Though the president can veto the parliament’s resolution, he or she is rather nominal. The parliament has to approve the prime minister. There are elections every four years. Though there are a number of political parties in Mongolia, only two of them are major parties. Civil society organizations (CSOs) actively took part in public administration reforms. Non-governmental organizations are involved with such issues like the lack of accountability of public leaders, frequent changes in public administration, offering legal advice and environmental conservation. Open Society Forum established in 2004 is the biggest organization and is encouraging public participation in developing public administration policies.

Major public administration and public service reforms were initiated in early 1990s. Since 2000, the focus was shifted to promotion of efficiency and effectiveness of departments. Despite a series of reforms, Mongolia still has the worst record of public service. The number of public servants who receive much reduced rates of pay. Work plan for public servant reform was launched in 2007. Its objectives were to ensure competitive selection to senior positions, application of human resources management information system and introduction of a merit-based pay rate suited to the labour market.

The new constitution was approved in 1992 and then new laws and by-laws were formulated to fulfill the requirements for market economy system. In spite of this, there have been considerable financial and judicial systems as they still bear traces of the socialist system. Though the civil law system is functioning reasonably, judicial system is strained, said the Asian Development Bank in 2004. Mongolia was ranked 102 in 180 countries in Transparency International’s Corruption Index, 2008, making it obvious that Mongolia has yet to tackle corruption.

A report to the Asian Values Survey data, the degree of trust in the government and National Assembly of Vietnam is high whereas the degree of confidence in public institutions, media and corporations is relatively low. Vietnam is a socialist country and the party is on equal terms with the government’s administrative mechanism. The National Assembly is simultaneously a constituent and legislative power. Though it was under the thumb of the Communist Party in the past, it has recently reached a more independent position on issues of direct concern to Vietnamese populace. The National Assembly elects the president for five-year term and the president nominates the prime minister from the executives of the National Assembly. The prime minister has the right to nominate his cabinet members who are counter-signed by the president and approved by the National Assembly.

Though civil society was developed in many countries many years ago, it is free for discussion now. A according to 2006 data, there are approximately 2000 non-governmental organizations, most of which are volunteer organizations. Organizations once under the control of the party have become more independent over the last decade. Market-oriented reforms have rapidly developed the economy of the country, said the 2004 report of the World Bank. Involvement of the government, market and people for common interests has led to a considerable number of appropriate legal reforms. Though the government is split, rivalry, competition in the economy has been quite open. Public Administration Reform Programme adopted in 2010 includes—

(1) To replace cumbersome administrative procedures with more simplified and transparent ones;
(2) To reduce red-tape and corruption;
(3) Streamlining and defining the mandates and functions of the departments and administrative institutions;
(4) To perform provincial and sub-national administrative arrangements and redefine their relations with the central administration;
(5) To rationalize the organizational structure of ministries.

Over the last ten years, Vietnam has reformed a good number of laws, resulting in a significant shift from monopoly to macro-economy in line with international norms. Though the corruption was still rampant according to 2008 Transparency International’s Corruption Index, anti-corruption law was promulgated in 2005 and the prime minister himself taking actions against corruption chaired the anti-corruption committee.

Analysis
Across the world, people have been increasingly demanding good governance with high standards of accountability, transparency, morality, openness, efficiency, equity and inclusiveness. Of the above-mentioned countries, Japan and Korea made remarkable progress in their democratic governance and market economy over time. Both governments have paid serious attention to new challenges like globalization and information technology advancement. Nevertheless, they still have tough problems to tackle. The economic performances of China and Vietnam have remarkably improved over the recent years with significant increase in foreign direct investments. The global competitiveness of China had already surpassed Korea in 2009. Furthermore, those countries could modernize civil service and legal systems.

In 1990, Mongolia abolished the totalitarian regime as the planned economy and started the transition to multi-party political system. Many political, administrative, economic and legal systems are rapidly changing but competent human resources are severely lacking and thus new systems are facing deadlocks.

To sum up, East Asian countries, having put in place administrative reforms with great momentum, have gained substantial progress. Economic performances are also improving although the degree is different in each country. However, public administration reforms are proofs for political parties. Working on political scandals and corruption. Regardless of their political ideology, East Asian countries could speed up public administration reforms in recent years. For example, South Korea has given top priority to reforming the government. Even the socialist countries like China and Vietnam have placed special emphasis on public administration reforms.

The general public perceive the quality of the public service issue as one of the several major factors in government. The general public’s perception in government may not change considerably so long as the society has a high degree of cynicism and distrust on politics. However, a government can finally find a solution that can offset all the losses by recognizing the role and function of civil society organizations, exercising administrative system that can ensure development in practice, ensuring somewhat comprehensive changes rather than partial changes, practicing real concept of change best suited with the public service issue as well as one of the several major factors in government. The general public’s perception in government may not change considerably so long as the society has a high degree of cynicism and distrust on politics. However, a government can finally find a solution that can offset all the losses by recognizing the role and function of civil society organizations, exercising administrative system that can ensure development in practice, ensuring somewhat comprehensive changes rather than partial changes, practicing real concept of change best suited with the public service issue as well as one of the several major factors in government. The general public’s perception in government may not change considerably so long as the society has a high degree of cynicism and distrust on politics. However, a government can finally find a solution that can offset all the losses by recognizing the role and function of civil society organizations, exercising administrative system that can ensure development in practice, ensuring somewhat comprehensive changes rather than partial changes, practicing real concept of change best suited with the public service issue as well as one of the several major factors in government.
Nay Pyi Taw Accord to strengthen cooperation with global partners to...

(from page 1)
The Nay Pyi Taw Accord was envisioned with this intention to ensure effective cooperation between the government and the development partners.

If we manage the development assistance, low-interest or interest-free loans, and foreign direct investment properly, systematically, and transparently, the donors will be more encouraged to continue this partnership; we will be able to achieve our development goals, improve the standard of living of Myanmar citizens, and raise the capacity of human resources in the country. This will also help us undertake political reforms and raise the capacity of the agricultural sector, the development of small rural manufacturing businesses and home industries, the development of micro-credit businesses, the development of rural cooperatives, and environmental protection.

While focusing on improvements in productivity, job creation and income opportunities, we will also need to help people have better access to education, health care, social welfare, electricity, and telecommunication systems. In addition to improving the agricultural sector, we will also adopt and implement policies that are designed to create export-oriented manufacturing and industrial sectors. I am convinced that we will be able to implement these policies more effectively and successfully if we work together and receive assistance from the international community.

It is worth noting that peace and stability in the country, we must engage in peace-building activities together with all ethnic armed groups. My government will continue to do everything necessary to turn ceasefire agreements into lasting peace. It is very important to create job opportunities in order to start political dialogue with all ten major ethnic armed groups that have concluded ceasefire agreements with the government in the near future. We have extended an invitation to KIO to join the peace meeting. I want to invite my colleagues from KIO to come to the peace meeting from here on again. I believe KIO will soon join us in the peace process. I have urged the Tatmadaw and other relevant government agencies to seek a peaceful solution to the conflict. I want to note that KIO will like to highlight the fact that this is the first time we are holding a forum like this in the last fifty years. I would like to express my gratitude to our development partners and representatives of international organizations and other distinguished guests who participated in this forum in spite of their busy work schedule. Since the forum will be focusing on the crucial reforms strategy and long-term development plan of this country, I would like to encourage the development partners to make comments, give advice, and share their wealth of experience in the development field without any reservation.

President U Thein Sein together with Vice-President Dr Sai Maikham, ambassadors, resident representatives of UN agencies, delegates from ASEAN member countries, representatives from global donor countries, and development partners and international organizations posed for documentary photos. Present on the occasion were Vice-President Dr Sai Maikham, Union ministers, MPs, deputy ministers, region/state ministers, departmental heads, representatives from donors countries across the world, development partners and international organizations and special guests.

Sunday, 20 January, 2013

New Light of Myanmar
NATIONAL

Nay Pyi Taw Accord to strengthen cooperation with global partners to...

(continued from page 1)

The government must, therefore, be a people-centered government that pays attention to the interests, expectations and wishes of the people. The tasks the government will have to undertake include the development of the agricultural sector, the will the country be peaceful and stable. On the basis of the principle of unity in diversity, we will have to embrace our differences. While we work together on areas we agree on, we will patiently try to reconcile our differences until we find a common ground. We will work with concerted activities effectively. I would like to express our gratitude towards all donor countries and organizations that have contributed our peace building process.

In conclusion, I would need to reciprocate in a similar way. We will also be undertaking census collection in 2014. This will be the first census we will be collecting in the last three decades. I would like to request our international partners to help us with the census collection in any way they can.

Efforts to be intensified to find a mutually acceptable solution to conflict sooner

NAY PYI TAW, 19 JAN — The Myanmar National Human Rights Commission issued the Statement No. 1/2013 on humanitarian assistance for the conflict victims of the Kachin State dated 18-1-2013. The full text of the statement is as follows:-

Statement No 1/2013 of Myanmar National Human Rights Commission on humanitarian assistance for the conflict victims of Kachin State

1. A four-member team of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission (MNHRC) visited Kachin State from 8 to 10 December, 2011 for the first time in order to observe at first hand the civil population who displaced as a result of armed skirmishes. During that visit the team from the Commission was able to liaise and coordinate with the concerned authorities to enable the distribution of humanitarian assistance by the Kachin State Government, UN Agencies and Civil Society Organizations to the displaced persons in and around Laiza.

2. The Commission also stated that it would continue to exert efforts for enhancing assistance to the displaced persons in Kachin State.

3. After the visit, the Commission, while acknowledging the efforts of the Kachin State Government to fulfill the basic humanitarian needs arising as a result of the ongoing conflict, urged, among other things, the business enterprises to contribute in these efforts and also strongly urged that the peace negotiations be carried out to its successful conclusion.

4. While acutely aware of the difficulties being encountered in these negotiations, the Commission is encouraged that the Peace-Making Group is relentlessly continuing their negotiations amidst the continued outbreak of skirmishes. At the same time, the Commission is greatly concerned about the deteriorating humanitarian situation stemming from the conflicts and the difficult access of humanitarian assistance to the conflict victims inside Kachin State and along the border. The Commission is of the view that, due to the intensification of the conflict, the humanitarian situation is likely to worsen, affecting in particular the vulnerable groups like children, women and the aged, unless urgent actions are taken by all parties concerned to address the issue of humanitarian access.

5. The Commission, therefore, strongly urges that the question of humanitarian access to the conflict victims and of how safe passage for humanitarian supplies could be guaranteed, be addressed as an urgent matter in the peace dialogue. The world donor community also may play an important role in the supply of humanitarian assistance.

6. In view of the impact which the conflict in Kachin State has on the lives and properties of the people as well as on the endeavors of the country for its democratization process, the Commission wishes to urge that efforts be intensified to find a mutually acceptable solution to the conflict sooner.

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission

Dated 18 January, 2013
Thai government granting official documents to undocumented Myanmar migrant workers

Nay Pyi Taw, 19 Jan—At the request of President U Thein Sein while meeting with the Thai Prime Minister in Dawei in Taninthayi Region on 17 December, 2012, Thai Prime Minister M.S. Yingluck Shinawatra has allowed to grant additional three-month grace period to unregistered Myanmar migrant workers, against Thai government’s decisions to stop issuing official documents to undocumented Myanmar migrant workers on 14 December, 2012.

Migrant-Thai labour experts held a work-coordination meeting in Bangkok, Thailand, on 15 January, 2013. Myanmar delegation led by Director-General of the Labour Department under the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security attended the meeting.

WY brand tablets seized in Yamethin Township

Yamethin, 19 Jan—IP Taing Za Oak of Southern Mandalay Region Anti-Drug Special Squad and Sgt Than Hlaing Win and party of Nwalan Police Station, security persons of National Development Co and witnesses searched the house of Zaw Lin Kyu and M Ar Ho Wu Mo Lay and seized 0.7072 tons of illegal sawn teak timber in Nyaunglebin-Zeyawady Township on 9 January near Bawnetgyi Bridge.

Illegal sawn teak timber seized from van

Hlegu, 19 Jan—Staff Officer U Phyo Zin Mon Naiing and party of Hlegu Township Forest Department and staff from forest departments in Bago, Thingangyun and Insein townships stopped a suspected van enroute to Yangon at 6.22 am on 9 January near Bawnetgyi Bridge.

Union Attorney-General holds talks with guest from UNODC

Nay Pyi Taw, 19 Jan—Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shin met Country Manager Mr. Jason EiLih from United Nations Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC) at his office here this morning.

At the meeting, they discussed the role of the office of the Attorney-General of the Union in judicial sector, cooperation with UNODC in making field trips. The Union Attorney-General said that Myanmar has formed anti-corruption committee to realize clean government and good governance in accord with the guidance of the President.

Progress of roads, bridges inspected in Bago Region

Nay Pyi Taw, 19 Jan—Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin made an inspection tour of roads and bridges in Bago Region on 13 January.

The Union Minister looked into progress of Yangon-Bago section and Bago-Nyaunglebin section of Yangon-Bago-Mandalay Highway through BOT system. He then inspected construction of Madaukale Bridge on Nyaunglebin-Madauk-Shweygin road section and Yangon-Mandalay Highway, progress of Nyaunglebin-Zeyawady Bridge.

Participants express...

(from page 16) The result of the forum will be followed up to have more interactions to follow. I do hope that there will be the Nay Pyi Taw accord signed. I do hope that the section meeting will come up with concrete actions on how to move toward the process and how to gain cooperation with business partners not only talk but something to get plan to help Myanmar.

Koki: This event is very comprehensive. We are very much impressed with the speech of the president. His speech is very confident of the progress up till now. And I am also very much impressed of the whole audience. They are very supportive and I appreciate their discussion. The Myanmar Government is committed. We expect to discuss about the substantial development of sectors such as education and health issues.

NLM: Does your organization have any specific mandate to help Myanmar?

Koki: We have many plans to help your country, especially in social, education and regional development and other sectors. Today discussion is largely dealt with substantial development in your country. It’s a very good opportunity for your country to hold such a kind of forum. JICA is comprehensively supporter and we will coordinate more among donors for your country.

Robert Clarke, Regional Director of Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and Representative in Thailand under United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

NLM: I would like to know your view on our country as to this forum?

Clarke: Myanmar is a beautiful country and I am happy to be here for this historic 1st Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum. We are attending this important meeting to better understand and respond to the national priorities of the government. In the morning session, the government representatives spoke about the importance of good governance. There was also a discussion on inclusive growth and equity. Given UN Women’s mandate to support initiatives and policies that promote women’s equal participation in the economic and political processes of the country, we will be supportive of the law reform agenda such as the ongoing work on the law on protection of violence against women.
Two Japanese airlines cancel more flights

Tokyo, 19 Jan—Japan’s 2 major airlines plan to continue suspending flights of their Boeing 787 Dreamliner jets over the weekend, affecting more than 7,400 passengers.

All Nippon Airways is canceling 28 domestic flights on Saturday and 16 flights on Sunday. All of the flights were to arrive or leave from Tokyo’s Haneda Airport. The airline will also cancel 8 international flights, including those linking Beijing in China and Narita Airport near Tokyo on Saturday and Sunday. Japan Airlines will suspend 2 flights between Narita and San Diego in the United States on Sunday.

Philippine gov’t assures assistance to kidnapped nationals in Algeria

MANILA, 19 Jan—The Philippine government said on Friday that it is ready to confirm if indeed some of the casualties were Filipinos reportedly involved in the kidnapping incident in Algeria.

However, the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), through its post in Tripoli of Libya, which has the jurisdiction over Algeria, has yet to verify reports that there were Filipino casualties in the incident, deputy presidential spokesperson Aduigal A Valte said in a news briefing.

“The DFA is continuing as a matter of fact to get their immediate details to determine their status in that particular country so we can extend all the assistance that is necessary to them and to their loved ones,” she said.

It was reported that two Filipinos died in the Algerian hostage incident.

This week, Islamist militants abducted an unidentified number of hostages— including Westerners— at a gas plant in a remote area of Algeria.

The Algerian forces reportedly launched military operations upon noticing that the kidnappers have started to move their hostages to a neighboring country, resulting in a number of casualties.

Cambodian cargo ship on fire off Japan’s Kobe, all sailors confirmed safe

Osaka, 19 Jan—A Cambodian-registered cargo ship, with nine crew members, seven Chinese and two from Sri Lanka and Myanmar, on board, caught fire off the coast of the western Japanese city of Kobe on Friday, according to Japanese maritime authorities.

The fire broke out on the freighter “CHUN XING” in waters several kilometers south off shore of the city at around 9:30 am local time, the Japanese Coast Guard said.

After receiving a call from the 1292-ton freighter, the coast guard dispatched five patrol vessels to the ship to put out the fire but there were no reports of injured people. A spokesperson for the coast guard in Kobe told Xinhua that its teams stopped the spread of fire, but the fire-extinguishing operation is expected to continue through the night at Kobe Port. Also, the official of the Chinese Consulate-General in Osaka confirmed the safety of all the sailors. The cargo ship, carrying 948 tons of iron scrap, was sailing from Chiba Port in eastern Japan to China.

Residents carrying baggage wait outside airport

Residents carrying baggage wait outside airport in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 18 Jan. 2013. Heavy rain that caused flood in almost all Indonesian provinces, mostly the capital city Jakarta, has been disrupting goods and services distribution and will impact inflation in short term.—Xinhua

Indian Supreme Court says Italian marines to be tried in special court

NEW DELHI, 19 Jan—India’s Supreme Court on Friday ruled that the two Italian marines, accused of killing two Indian fishermen off the coast of the southern state of Kerala, will be tried in a special court in the national capital as “it’s a federal crime”.

A two-judge bench, headed by the Chief Justice of India, Altamas Kabir, directed the central government to set up the special court in consultation with the apex court to try the two accused who are currently on bail in Kerala, rejecting a plea by the Italian government to transfer to Rome the case.

The court also asked the central government to get the two marines—Massimiliano Latorre and Salvatore Girone—shifted to the Indian capital and keep them under the control of the Italian Embassy.

The case has sparked diplomatic row between India and Italy. India accuses the two Italian marines of killing two of its fishermen last February. The two marines, then guarding an Italian oil tanker, MV Enrica Lexie, directed the central government to set up the special court in consultation with the apex court to try the two accused who are currently on bail in Kerala, rejecting a plea by the Italian government to transfer to Rome the case.

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**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR**

**MINISTRY OF ENERGY**

**INVITATION FOR BIDS TO CONDUCT PETROLEUM OPERATIONS IN MYANMAR ONSHORE AREAS (2013)**

1. The Ministry of Energy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar hereby announces Invitation of Sealed Bids for Petroleum Operations to be conducted in Myanmar Onshore Areas on production sharing basis.

2. The following Onshore blocks are available for bidding in this bidding round:-

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<th>No.</th>
<th>Block</th>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Type of Contract</th>
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<td>PSC B2</td>
<td>Zabyutung-Nandaw</td>
<td>PSC</td>
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<td>(2)</td>
<td>PSC C1</td>
<td>(Indaw-Yenan)</td>
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<td>(3)</td>
<td>PSC H</td>
<td>(Taugoo-Pyinma)</td>
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<td>(4)</td>
<td>PSC J</td>
<td>(Mawlamyine)</td>
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<td>(5)</td>
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<td>(18)</td>
<td>MOGE 4</td>
<td>(Myintha)</td>
<td>PSC</td>
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</tbody>
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3. All interested parties are cordially invited to submit “the Letter of Expression of Interest”, together with Company’s Article of Association (AOA), Memorandum of Association (MOA), Certificate of Incorporation, latest Annual Report and latest Financial Statement (or) Financial Report and Track Record, which are to be endorsed for authenticity by the respective Embassy of the Republic of Myanmar at the place of Company’s registration (or) establishment or nearest, in sealed envelopes superscribed “Confidential” “Myanmar Onshore Blocks Second Bidding Round-2013”, to the following address not later than two (2) Months after the date of announcing of this invitation (17th January 2013).-

Director General Energy Planning Department Ministry of Energy Building No.6, Nay Pyi Taw The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

4. The petroleum operation shall be conducted on production sharing basis and/or improved petroleum recovery basis and the party(s), who desire to enter into the Production Sharing Contract (PSC) and/or Improved Petroleum Recovery Contract (IPR) with the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE) shall have technical competency, financial capability, experience, expertise and technical know how to conduct petroleum exploration and development works and must have good track record.

5. The potential bidders will be pre-qualified and selected. Then the potential bidders who passed pre-qualification will be presented with General Overview of each block consisting of representative data and information free of charge by Geological Geophysical Team of Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise.

6. The potential bidders will be explained and provided with Standard Terms and Conditions by Energy Planning Department in order to submit proposal(s).

7. The potential bidders will be allowed to submit up to three (3) proposals for three (3) onshore blocks to gether with proposed Terms and Conditions. The proposal submitted shall be on a block by block basis.

8. The potential bidders’ proposed Terms and Conditions will be assessed and the best offered Terms and Conditions will be selected for awarding.

9. The potential bidders must cooperate with a minimum of (1) one Myanmar national owned company registered at Energy Planning Department, Ministry of Energy, of their own choosing.

10. Energy Planning Department will provide the list of Myanmar national owned companies registered at Energy Planning Department to interested foreign companies.

Note: For further inquiry (and/or) information, please contact the following:

Director General Energy Planning Department Ministry of Energy Building No.6, Nay Pyi Taw The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

**NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR**

**ADVERTISE & GENERAL**

**Ministry of Information**

**Myanmar Radio and Television**

**(Nay Pyi Taw, Tatkon)**

Invitation for Open Tender to purchase machinery for sub-power station

1. Open Tenders are invited to purchase machinery for sub-power station for 2012-2013 fiscal year at Myanmar Radio and Television Ministry of Information.

   a. Acessories for 33/11 KV sub-power stations 1 Lot
   b. VCB (Studio Complex) for 33/11 KV sub-power station 1 Lot
   c. VCB (Radio Complex) for 33/11 KV sub-power station 1 Lot
   d. VCB (Padaukmyaung) for 33/11 KV sub-power station 1 Lot

2. Open Tenders form are available at the Myanma Radio and Television, Nay Pyi Taw (Tatkon) in office hours (9:30 to 16:30) from (20.1.2013) to (21.1.2013).

3. Open Tenders are to be submitted in the presence of the tender board at the Myanma Radio and Television, Nay Pyi Taw (Tatkon) from 9:30 to 16:30 hours on 22.1.2013. The overdue tenders will not be accepted.

4. The Open Tenders forms and detailed information are available at the following address.

**Machinery Purchasing Committee**

**Myanmar Radio and Television**

**(Nay Pyi Taw) Ministry of Information**

Ph: 067 79411, 79079, 79135

Orthodox Christian pilgrims attend a mass at a baptism site by the Jordan River on 18 Jan. 2013. Thousands of Orthodox Christians flocked to the baptism site on Friday to start a pilgrimage.

**Nine killed in road accident in southeastern Kenya**

Nairobi, 19 Jan—At least nine people were killed and 27 others injured in a grisly road accident involving a bus and a trailer in Nairobi-Mombasa highway on Thursday night.

Deputy Traffic Police Commandant Samuel Kimaru said on Friday the accident which occurred at Manyani area happened when the Nairobi bound passenger bus tried to overtake a speed ing vehicle which was head ed to Mombasa. “The bus driver was overtaking care less and the trailer seemed to be on high speed, forcing it to collide with the oncoming trailer at Manyani area at about 8:45 pm (local time),” Kimaru told Xinhua by telephone on Friday. “Both drivers and six passengers died on the spot. One passenger later died while undergo ing treatment at the hospital brings the number of people who died from the accident to nine,” Kimaru said. He said the deceased are eight men and a 14-year-old girl. Some said the injured are critical situation at the hospital.— Xinhua

Photo taken on 18 Jan, 2013 shows a wall of smiling faces of students in Liaocheng University in Liaocheng, east China’s Shandong Province. Xinhua
Jennifer Lopez happy about Ben Affleck’s Golden Globes win

LONDON, 19 Jan—Jennifer Lopez says she is “really happy” for Ben Affleck.

The 43-year-old Parker star—who is dating her 25-year-old back-up dancer Casper Smart—has revealed she still sees her ex-fiance regularly and was thrilled to see him win two Golden Globe Awards last Sunday (13.01.13).

She said: “I see them a lot. We’re in the same business. You know, we run in the same circle.”

Nicole Kidman respects her eldest children Scientology beliefs

LONDON, 19 Jan—Nicole Kidman says she “utterly respects” her eldest children’s Scientology beliefs.

The 45-year-old actress—who is married to Australian singer Keith Urban—with whom she shares daughters Sunday Rose, four, and Faith Margaret, two,—said she will never discuss her older children Isabella, 20, and 17-year-old Connor Cruise’s commitment to the controversial sect or speak out against it.

The Paperboy star—who was previously married to Isabella and Connor’s father Tom Cruise—told The Hollywood Reporter: “I’ve chosen not to speak publicly about Scientology. I have two children who are Scientologists—Connor and Isabella—and I utterly respect their beliefs.”

The Oscar winner also opened up about her views on fame and thinks that some of the perks are “tacky”. She said: “Never would I take free clothes. That would be so … tacky. These people work so hard to make beautiful things—you have to appreciate that.” Nicole revealed that she much prefers to have the kind of relationship where she relies on me for advice,” he said of the star.

But we do have the kind of relationship where there’ll be an e-mail saying, “Oh, your movie looks great. I touch base. I respect her. I like her. She’s put up with some stuff that was unfair in her life, and I’m really pleased to see her successful.”

Hugh Jackman helps church that Les Miserables was filmed in

NEW DELHI, 19 Jan—Hugh Jackman helped pay for heating at a church. The charitable 44-year-old actor was struck by the plight of St Mary the Virgin church in Ewelme, Oxford, where he filmed scenes for Tom Hooper’s new musical drama Les Miserables and organized for producers to pay 10,000 pound to fund the building’s new heating system. The Rev Jonathan Meyer told The Daily Star newspaper: “The spiritual message of the film brought everyone together.”

Generous Hugh also impressed his co-stars—who included Russell Crowe, Anne Hathaway and Amanda Seyfried—with his kind-hearted nature because he kept everyone’s spirits up on set during the gruelling shoot by treating them to fun gifts. Les Miserables star Eddie Redmayne recently said: “Hugh was the leader. He would keep all our spirits up and every Friday he would buy all the cast and crew a lottery ticket because by that time we were on our knees. His capacity for generosity of spirit was extraordinary.”

Megan Fox, Brian Austin Green to get $620 from photographer

LONDON, 19 Jan—Megan Fox and Brian Austin Green have been awarded $620 from a photographer who sued the couple for assault. Paparazzo Delbert Shaw had alleged the former Beverly Hills 90210 star hit him after he was “egg’d on” by wife Megan as they holidayed in Hawaii in December 2010 and wanted compensation from them.

However, a Los Angeles judge has now ruled Shaw has to pay the couple $620 towards their legal fees, although they had initially requested $2,475.

Angelina Jolie’s father doesn’t know when she will marry Brad Pitt

NEW DELHI, 19 Jan—Angelina Jolie’s father has revealed he has no idea when she will marry her fiance Brad Pitt.

The actress’s father Jon Voight—who reconciled with her in 2010 after nearly a decade of estrangement—has admitted he isn’t privy to any of the couple’s wedding plans and said he only really spends time with their six children, Maddox, 11, Pax, eight, Zahara, seven, Shiloh, six, and four-year-old twins Knox and Vivienne.

He told EOnline.com: “Actually, I don’t know. I’m not like that with them. You know, I’ve heard the rumours and so and so and what’s going on. No, I’m not like that. I’m happy when I see them, we play with the children and that’s it.”

The 37-year-old The Tourist star is rumoured to have tied the knot with her 49-year-old long-term partner on Christmas Day (25 December, 2012) but they have yet to comment on the reports.

A Los Angeles judge has now ruled Shaw has to pay the couple $620 towards their legal fees, although they had initially requested $2,475.

He told EOnline.com: “Actually, I don’t know. I’m not like that with them. You know, I’ve heard the rumours and so and so and what’s going on. No, I’m not like that. I’m happy when I see them, we play with the children and that’s it.”
Sharper putting gives Mickelson reason to smile

LA QUINTA, (California), 19 Jan—With his flu all but gone, Phil Mickelson had much more of a bounce in his step after an improved putting performance helped him shoot a five-under-par 67 in Friday’s second round at the Humana Challenge.

Mickelson is eager to build momentum on the PGA Tour’s West Coast Swing as he prepares for the Masters, the opening major of the year, and he was delighted to shake off some pre-season rust on another glorious late winter’s day in the California desert.

“I feel much better,” the American left-hander, who has been battling flu-like symptoms for nearly two weeks, told reporters after totaling only 26 putts in a seven-birdie display on the Nicklaus Private course at PGA West.

“I was excited to get out and play. I thought that this was a great day to go low. I left a few shots out there, but the last couple of holes were very encouraging to me. They were the first time that my rhythm kind of set in.”

Red Sox sign Ellsbury to $9 million contract

BOSTON, 19 Jan—The Boston Red Sox have avoided arbitration with Jacoby Ellsbury by agreeing to a one-year, $9 million contract with the center fielder, the team’s website reported on Friday.

Ellsbury, 29, was plagued by injury in 2012, suffering a partially dislocated right shoulder in the home opener in April and did not return until July.

He hit 271 with four home runs and 26 runs batted in (RBIs) while playing 74 games.

The previous year, Ellsbury had finished second in voting for the American League’s Most Valuable Player award, hitting .321 with 32 homers and 105 runs batted in. The 2011 All-Star will be eligible for free agency after the 2013 season.

Azeranka fends off Hampton to reach fourth round

MELBOURNE, 19 Jan—Defending champion Victoria Azarenka survived a huge scare from hard-hitting American Jamie Hampton, coming back from a break down in the deciding set to win 6-4, 4-6, 6-2 and reach the fourth round of the Australian Open on Saturday.

The 63rd-ranked American wincing through the way to a roller-coaster 72 on the La Quinta layout in the opening round as he launched his 2013 PGA Tour season.— Reuters

Phil Mickelson

Schalke wins 5-4 over Hannover at German Bundesliga

BERLIN, 19 Jan—The German Bundesliga resumed with a thrilling match into the second half of the campaign in 2013 as Schalke and Hannover celebrated a nine-goal festival on Friday.

Schalke started highly motivated against Hannover into the opener of the second half of the season. The hosts collected a few scoring opportunities through Jefferson Farfan and Ciprian Marica at the opening period but yet their efforts remained unrewarded.

Hannover remained unable to gain a foothold into the match because Schalke dictated the proceedings on the pitch. Thus Schalke’s Jefferson Farfan broke the deadlock with 44 minutes on the clock. The Peruvian international utilized a long throw in by teammate Christian Fuchs to putting Hannover’s goalkeeper Ron Robert Zieler with a drop shot from a sharp angle. After the break Schalke started where they left off and they were rewarded, as Julian Draxler was able to exploit Lewis Holtby’s assist at the 49th minute to make it 2-0 on the scoresheets.

It looked like an easy win for the “Royal Blues” but the match took an unexpected turn Sergio Pinto’s long-range effort introduced Hannover’s comeback, with the assistance of Schalke’s Roman Neustaedter who deflected the ball unstoppable for Timo Hildebrandt at the 55th minute. Only four minutes later, Hannover leveled the score through Szabolcs Huszti who had all time and space to handle Chahed Sofian’s cross to slot home into the bottom right corner.

Schalke remained unfazed and responded with two goals five minutes later. Marco Hoeger slotted home after a one two with Holtby to beat Zieler whereas Ciprian Marica made it 4-2 after a solo run and goal following a fast break at the 67th minute. It was a short-lived joy by the “Kappen” as Huzsti again reduced the lead to 4-3 at the 68th minute. Finally, Lewis Holtby sealed the deal when he utilized the build up play by Jeffson Farfan with two minutes left.

Hannover’s Marek Bram-Duif capped it all off when he marked the final 5-4 score with an overhead kick at injury time. The following matches are scheduled for Saturday: front runners Bayern Munich host Greuther Fuhrth, Bayer Leverkusen meet Eintracht Frankfurt, Wolfsburg see Stuttgart, Hoffenheim face Monchengladbach, Mainz encounter Freiburg and Bremen clash Dortmund.— Xinhua

Lysacek withdraws from US championships

SAVOY, 19 Jan—Olympic champion Evan Lysacek has withdrawn from next week’s US figure skating championships as he is still not fit enough to compete following surgery.

“It’s disappointing because health-wise I’m fine,” Lysacek said in a statement released by US Figure Skating on Friday. “Due to the long layoff from the surgery I still need about three more weeks to get back into competition form.

“The good news is I am finally healthy, back to a full training schedule and already working hard to be ready for next season to defend my Olympic title at the 2014 Olympics in Sochi,” added the 2009 world champion.

The 27-year-old had been expected to resume a full competition schedule this season after taking a two-year break following his gold-medal winning performance at the 2010 Vancouver Olympics. But injuries followed.

Lysacek withdrew from the men’s championships held on 27 January in Omaha, Nebraska. — Reuters

Olympic champion van Lysacek

Players of Boca Juniors attend a training in Banco, city of Tandil, in the province of Buenos Aires, Argentina, on 17 Jan, 2013.— Xinhua

Azarenka fends off Hampton to reach fourth round

Azarenka dug deep to break the flagging Hampton twice and sealed off five successive games to win in two hours and nine minutes. Azarenka will next play Rus sia’s Elena Vesnina or 16th seeded Italian Roberta Vinci.

Players of Boca Juniors attend a training in Banco, city of Tandil, in the province of Buenos Aires, Argentina, on 17 Jan, 2013.— Xinhua

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Neymar: I want to play under Guardiola

SAO PAULO, 19 Jan — Brazilian football starlet Neymar expressed on Friday a desire to one day play under recently appointed Bayern Munich coach Pep Guardiola.

Neymar has been heavily linked to Guardiola’s former club Barcelona but the 20-year-old reiterated his desire to remain at Brazil’s Santos until his contract expires after the 2014 World Cup, Brazil’s U19 reported.

“He (Guardiola) is a great coach, one of the best in the world. Yes, I have an ambition to work with him but also with other great coaches,” Neymar said during an event in Praia Grande, near Sao Paulo, on Friday. “But I am going to repeat that I want to continue with Santos. I am happy here.”

Bayern Munich announced on Wednesday that Guardiola would take over from Jupp Heynckes as the club’s new coach when the 67-year-old’s contract expires this summer. — Xinhua

Talent can pop up anywhere in the world, it’s not just one city block.

The Swedish founder of internet service provider said the future tech business will not be geographical and come from ‘anywhere’ of the world rather than Silicon Valley or a city. The venture capitalist also advised potential tech talents to scale up their business “if you have a product that works.”

“The wind of change is blowing all over the country now.”

The president of Haiti which suffered deadly earthquake in 2010 said the country’s disaster awareness is increasing and the Haitians change its traditional ways of construction “to stay safe”.

“This is fighting fire with fire.”

Associate Professor of Queensland Institute of Medical Research

David Harrich

The QIMR’s recent study represents a medical breakthrough that could lead to a cure for AIDS. Harrich called it “fighting fire with fire” because the method modifies protein in the virus so as to prevent the replication of virus and maintain healthy immune system of patients.

Sun’s part ways with head coach Gentry

Phoenix, 19 Jan — The Phoenix Suns have ended head coach Alvin Gentry’s tenure of almost four years in charge of the Western Conference strugglers after both sides “mutually agreed to part ways”, the team said on Friday. The Suns have made a poor start to the campaign and sit bottom of the Pacific division with a 13-28 record, which is also the poorest in the conference.

“All of us, including Alvin, realized that the pieces weren’t fitting,” Suns president of basketball operations Lon Babby said in a statement. “To be sure, integrating nine new players was a challenge.”

Gentry has been part of the Phoenix coaching system since 2004, first as an assistant before taking over the top job as interim head coach in February 2009 and on a permanent basis from M ay the same year. “Alvin’s hard work, dedication and coaching ability over the last nine years have been an important part of the success of our organization.” Suns managing partner Robert Sarver added. “These partings are never easy but are, unfortunately, part of the business of professional sports. I wish nothing but the best for Alvin and his family.”

In his time as head coach of the Suns, Gentry compiled a 158-144 (.523) record, earning one playoff appearance and a trip to the 2010 Western Conference Finals.

“After nine years with the Suns, the organization and I came to a mutual agreement to go in different directions,” Gentry said. “I have the utmost respect for Robert (Sarver) and what he’s done with the organization. It’s unfortunate that I was unable to accomplish what I set out to do here.” The team said an interim replacement would be announced within 48 hours. — Reuters

Serena sweeps into last 16 at Australian Open

MELBOURNE, 19 Jan — Serena Williams overcame a feisty challenge from A yumi M orita at the start of second set but recovered to saw aside the Japanese 6-1 and ease into the fourth round of the Australian Open on Saturday. The 31-year-old American, seeking a sixth crown at Melbourne Park and a third successive grand slam title, was 3-0 down in the second set after suffering a service break for the first time in the tournament.

Showing no discomfort from the ankle strain she sustained in the opening round, however, the third seed stormed back to win the next six games and dispose of the world number 72 in 67 minutes. Williams, who approached record levels with her serve when she hit the 207 kilometres per hour (129 mph) mark in the first set, set up a last
### President U Thein Sein receives Chinese Vice Foreign Minister

**Nay Pyi Taw, 19 Jan**—President U Thein Sein received visiting Vice Foreign Minister of the People’s Republic of China Madam Fu Ying and party at Yangon Region Government Office this evening.

Present on the occasion were Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Wai Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Electric Power U Khin Maung Soe, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe and departmental heads and the Chinese delegation was accompanied by Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Junhua.

They exchanged views on matters related to amity and cooperation between two countries, assistance to Myanmar and border area stability of the two countries.—MNA

*President U Thein Sein and party pose for documentary photo with Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Madam Fu Ying.*

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### Participants express views on 1st Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum

The First Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum was held at the Myanmar International Convention Centre in Nay Pyi Taw on 19 January 2013. In the morning session National Development Priorities and Plans, Promoting a culture of democracy and national harmony and Priorities and Plans were presented. And after the first day morning session we NLM news crew held interview with the following persons:

**Niels W. Guenther, CEO Three Diseases Fund (3DF)**

NLM: After a series of discussions at this forum, what is your view on this forum and also on our country Myanmar?

Guenther: I have very positive views on this event. I think it is a very good, appropriate and a very suitable event in order to move things in this area. I believe that as time has changed significantly, it is necessary for all those actors to come together under the leadership of the government to discuss where the government wants to go, in view with the change situation

*By: Tin Maung Than and Tha Sein*

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### Republic of the Union of Myanmar Investigation Commission

**Press Release No.2/2013**

8th Waxing of Pyatho, 1374 M E

(19th January, 2013)

1. Fourth plenary meeting of Investigation Commission was held at ward No.(I-12) in the compound of Hluttaw at 13.30 pm on 18 January. At the meeting, the Commission reviewed its undertakings and coordinated the ongoing programme.

2. The Commission is to submit provisional report to the President at the end of January. The meeting mainly focused on the facts to be included in the provisional report. The provisional report covers the following points:

   (a) Simultaneous undertakings by forming the teams in serving the duties vested to the Commission.

   (b) Commission teams’ survey and findings pertaining to Letpadaungtaung Copper Mine Project, mines in Sabetuag and Kyesintaung and environmental conservation, health and socio-economic status.

   (c) Advices taken from Sayadaws regarding religious edifices.

(d) Myanmar Environmental Institute’s findings on social and environmental impacts.

(e) Discussions with Wembao Company

(f) Discussions with Myanma Economic Holdings Ltd by appointing mine and legal experts

(g) Commission’s coordination on medical treatment of monks and civilians injured in the incident

(h) Discussions with Myanmar Police Force and General Administration Department on the crackdown on Letpadaungtaung protesting camps

3. The Commission is planning to submit the provisional report to the President within 48 hours. The report is aimed at letting the President know the commission’s undertakings and findings, not for release. The detailed facts will be publicized only when the Commission issues its final report.

Investigation Commission

19 January, 2013

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### Myanmar, Thai boxers to face head-to-head in Yangon

**Byline & Photo: Tin Soe**

**Belts: Asian Muay gold medalist secured a sweeping victory against Muay Thai boxers in two games. He has a lustrous career record of 20 victories, five draws and five losses.**

**Pekpakai is a winner of Vice Champion Rard Dum Nem’s Boxing Stadium with the record of 35 wins, 10 draws and five losses.**

**There may also be five challenges between Myanma traditional boxers.**

**Myanmar Alinn:**

14-1-2013

**TrsHKA**