President U Thein Sein oversees progress of rehabilitation works in quake-hit victims, meets local people

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Jan
— President U Thein Sein visited quake-hit regions in Mandalay and Sagaing Regions on 24 and 25 in November and gave necessary instructions on rehabilitation works in the aftermath of 6.8 -Richter Scale Thabeikkyin earthquake on 11 November 2012.

The President accompanied by Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye, Pyithu Hluttaw committee chairman U Tin Htut, Thura U Aye Myint and U Thein Zaw, Union Ministers U Nyan Tun Aung, U Win Tun and Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin, deputy ministers and departmental head left here and arrived at Mandalay International Airport this morning in order to oversee progress of rehabilitation works in quake-hit regions.

Next, the President and party together with Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint, Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye and the commander of Central Command proceeded to Thabeikkyin in PyinOoLwin District of Mandalay Region by helicopter. The President visited Kaba-Aye Ghetto in Thabeikkyin where Mandalay Region Electric Power and Industry Minister Dr Myint Kyu and Region Departmental head left here and arrived at Mandalay International Airport this morning in order to oversee progress of rehabilitation works in quake-hit regions.

Next, the President and party together with Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint, Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye and the commander of Central Command proceeded to Thabeikkyin in PyinOoLwin District of Mandalay Region by helicopter. The President visited Kaba-Aye Ghetto in Thabeikkyin where Mandalay Region Electric Power and Industry Minister Dr Myint Kyu and Region Departmental head left here and arrived at Mandalay International Airport this morning in order to oversee progress of rehabilitation works in quake-hit regions.

Pathein University organizes gala concert, funfair

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Jan
— The opening of gala concert and funfair took place at Pathein University on 24 January. Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung and Pro-Rector of Pathein University Dr Than Soe formally opened the ceremony and viewed round shops at the festival. At the gala concert, organized by the Arts Association of Pathein University, students and faculty members sung songs and performed dances. Region Social Affairs Minister U Tin Soe presented K 500,000 by the region chief minister and families of the region government and K 100,000 by Myanma Timber Enterprise for hearts association through Chairperson Dr Myint Myint San of the association.

Chief Minister U Ye Myint reported on work progress and availability of electricity and water supply. The President viewed round the low-cost housing and left necessary instructions.

The President paid homage to PuangdawU and Phaungdaw Pat Buddha Images at Aungmyintha monastery and visited quake-stricken mona-steries and Aung Sekkya Pagoda. He looked into progress of rebuilding of houses and spoke words of encouragement to local people.

On his arrival at Sampanagoh village in Thabeikkyin Township, the President observed documentary photos on rehabilitation works at relief camps and called on officials to take measures for availability of electricity in the village through solar system.

Next, the President inspected progress in construction of new school buildings for village BEMS, repair of quake-hit old school building and progress of low-cost housing and village dispensary.

(See page 9)
**LOCAL NEWS**

**e-Pension Card facilitates drawing pensions at bank in Sittway**

SITTWAY, 26 Jan — Pensioners have been drawing their pensions through e-Pension Cards at the Myma Economic Bank in Sittway since January 2013. There are 3500 pensioners who draw their pensions at bank in Sittway. Among them, 1200 pensioners were given e-Pension Cards and bank staff are striving for issuing the cards to the remaining pensioners. Card holders are able to draw their pensions within the short period of time at the bank during the office hours. The e-Pension Card system satisfies the aged and old pensioners.

**Traffic rules enforcement carried out in Hsipaw**

HSIPAW, 26 Jan — Aimed at reducing road accidents in Hsipaw Township of Shan State (North), a combined force led by Police sub-inspector Aung Myo Win of Hsipaw Township Police Station performed traffic rules enforcement on the road near Sibinthaya Market in the township on 15 January under the arrangement of Hsipaw Township Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee. Due to reckless driving, drunk driving, violation of traffic rules by road users and overloaded vehicles, road accidents are frequent in the township, causing loss of lives. — Kyemon

**Dredging of drains for proper flow of water in Yangon**

YANGON, 26 Jan — Yangon Region M inister for Development Affairs U Hla Myint inspected dredging of drains for proper flow of water near the junction between Pyay Road and Zakawa Street in Dagon Township of Yangon City Development Committee on 23 January. Next, the mayor visited Lanmadaw, Kyauktada, Pazundaung, Bahan, Thingangyun, Dagon Myothit (North) and Mingaladon Townships where YCDC staff performed sanitation works.

MNA

**Bus brake failure kills woman, injures three in North Okkalapa Township**

YANGON, 26 Jan — A passenger bus knocked down four pedestrians, killing one woman and fatally injuring two women and one man in North Okkalapa Township on 20 January. After its brakes failed while driving from Aung Mingala Bus Terminal to Sule, the No.43 passenger bus driven by Min Lwin Oo, 47, hit three women and one man and then collided head-on with a saloon at the junction between Thudhamma Street and Kantainga Street in the township at about 11.45 am. One woman was pronounced dead in the road accident and the injured were sent to North Okkalapa Hospital. Wabagi Police Station filed a lawsuit against driver Min Lwin Oo and investigation into the case is ongoing.

**A tourist dies of drowning at Ngapali Beach**

THANDWE, 26 Jan — A foreigner was drowned in the water at Ngapali Beach in Thandwe Township of Rakhine State on 23 January. A Norwegian tourist, 79, was found dead in the water when he tried to swim. The man who is believed to have drowned was transported to Thandwe hospital and investigation into the case is ongoing.
Cleavage comment puts German politics in a fluster

BERLIN, 26 Jan—A female journalist’s allegations that a senior member of Chancellor Angela Merkel’s coalition made sexist comments about her cleavage in a bar one year ago have stirred a debate about the relationship between reporters and politicians in Germany.

Rainer Bruederle, the 67-year-old parliamentary leader of the Free Democrats (FDP), junior partners in the coalition, was reported by Stern magazine this week to have told one of its reporters she could “really fill a dirndl”—the low-cut Bavarian traditional dress. Bruederle has not made any public comment about the report and his office declined to react to it on Friday.

But FDP leaders have questioned the magazine’s motives for reporting the year-old events days after Bruederle was put in charge of its campaign for a national election in September.

Stem’s story about the events in a bar in Stuttgart during an FDP congress last January have made the silver-haired former economy minister the butt of ridicule in some German media, while other publications, and some politicians, have defended him.

Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle, a former FDP leader, said it was “deeply unfair” to carry a story about a party in an election year.

Protesters cut the metro line and burn tires to cut the main roads to the presidential palace during clashes with security forces in front of the presidential palace in Cairo, on 25 Jan, 2013. — Xinhua

CAIRO, 26 Jan—Clashes between protesters and security forces in a massive demonstration marking the second anniversary of the so-called “revolution” throughout Egypt killed five and injured at least 252 on Friday, arousing fears of more violence in the country.

“The number of those injured during the demonstration reached 252 as off now. Those with bruises have been treated and left the hospital, while others more severely injured are still under treatment,” spokesman of the Egyptian Health Ministry Ahmed Omar told Xinhua on late Friday.

Five protesters were killed during clashes in Suez while 31 policemen and soldiers were wounded nationwide, according to the state TV.

Protesters stormed the governorate building in Suez on Friday night. The confrontations are continuing outside the Suez provincial government and security directorate premises, official news agency MENA reported.

Since on Thursday night, hundreds of thousands of Egyptians had begun rallying in public squares of main cities in Egypt, in a bid to express their anger toward President Mohamed Morsi and the Muslim Brotherhood, whose electoral muscle put Morsi into office.

The story has been making waves since Wednesday, when a preview of the article was released to media.— Reuters

File photo shows faction leader Rainer Bruederle of the liberal Free Democratic Party (FDP) during a two-day extraordinary party convention in Karlsruhe on 22 April, 2012. — Reuters

The timing of the claims has also led others in the FDP to call it a “set-up” designed to undermine the party in an election year.

French-backed Mali forces push towards rebel-held Gao

SEGOU/BAMAKO, 26 Jan—French-backed government forces advanced into northern Mali on Friday toward the Islamist rebel stronghold of Gao, recapturing the town of Hombori, as they followed up on relentless French air strikes against the rebels.

Two weeks after France sent troops and aircraft into its West African former colony to block an offensive south by al-Qaeda-allied Islamists this month to grab territory, which could provoke retaliatory strikes on the advances because it had asked them not to report explain the offensive.

Malian officials, who said an offensive against Gao could take place in the next few days, said government forces entered Hombori, about 160 km (100 miles) from Gao, late on Thursday.

65 Nigerians deported over immigration offenses arrive in Lagos

LAGOS, 26 Jan—A total of 65 Nigerians on sojourn in four European countries arrived southwest Lagos State on Friday, following deportation over immigration offenses, a senior airport official told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

The repatriated Nigerians including 48 males, 12 females and five children arrived at the cargo section of the Murtala Muhammed International Airport in Lagos on Friday morning, said the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) official. According to the official, the citizens were deported from Romania, Bulgaria, Spain and the United Kingdom (UK) where they had scores to set with the immigration officials. “The deportees were arrested and deported in the respective countries for allegedly having expired documents, therefore regarded as illegal migrants,” the official told Xinhua on phone, adding eight of the deportees, including three women, were repatriated for alleged criminal offenses.

The eight persons who were deported for committing various crimes in the foreign lands were immediately arrested on arrival at the airport by some multi-wearing policemen, the source said.

Clashes throughout Egypt kill five, injure more than 252

Protests and violence have been spreading faster and faster throughout the country, with the death toll rising to five on Friday. Some protesters have been injured, with the total number of injured reaching more than 252 as the day went on.

Syrian troops and militia push to take Sunni Homs areas

AMMAN, 26 Jan—The Syrian army has stepped up an offensive on opposition Sunni Muslim strongholds in the central city of Homs, bringing in ground forces and loyalist militia to try to secure a major road junction, opposition sources said on Friday.

A round 15,000 Syrian civilians are trapped on the southern and western edge of the city near the intersection of Syria’s main north-south and east-west arteries, crucial to let the army travel between Damascus and the Mediterranean coast, opposition campaigners in Homs said.

Rebels said they had moved into new areas of Homs this month to grab more territory, which could explain the offensive. Activists said that rebels had asked them not to report on the advances because it could provoke retaliatory strikes. But activists in Homs said a barrage of armor rock, artillery and aerial bombardment had killed at least 120 civilians and 30 opposition fighters since Sunday.

In the south, eight members of Syria’s military intelligence were killed by an Islamist militant car bomb on Thursday night near the frontier with the Israel-occupied Golan Heights, opposition activists and a violence monitoring group said on Friday. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said the bomb was planted by Al-Nusra Front, a rebel unit fighting to oust the United States has labeled a terrorist group.— Reuters

Russia regrets US withdrawal from bilateral group on civil society issues

MOSCOW, 26 Jan—Moscow regrets the US decision to withdraw from a working group of the bilateral presidential commission, a Kremlin spokesman said on Friday.

“We regret whenever a bilateral format is cancelled without an appropriate substitute,” the Interfax news agency quoted spokesman Dmitry Peskov as saying.

Peskov added that there had been a full in the work of the group for some time. “Perhaps, some reformation will be needed,” he said.

Tomos Melia, a US deputy assistant secretary of state, told Interfax that the US had decided to withdraw from the working group as a response to Moscow’s recent moves to restrict freedom in Russia.

Russia repeatedly offered that the US conduct a meeting of the working group in 2012, Konstantin Dolgov, the Foreign Ministry’s envoy for human rights, democracy and supremacy of law, told reporters.— Xinhua
Moscow, 26 Jan—Russia and Kazakhstan will upgrade their relations to a new level of cooperation, foreign ministers of the two countries said on Friday, denying reports of discord over a space center in Kazakhstan.

A stana and Moscow have been preparing a new friendship treaty which would move the bilateral relations to a higher level. "In all directions" the Interfax news agency quoted the visiting Kazakh Foreign Minister Erlan Idrisov as saying.

Idrisov and his host Sergei Lavrov also denied recent Russian media reports that the two countries have been at odds over the Baikonur space centre, which Russia rents from Kazakhstan.

A stag earlier formally informed Moscow that it has to decrease launches of Proton rockets from Baikonur from 17 to 12 times this year, citing environmental concerns. Lavrov urged the media "not to make a mountain out of mole hill " and said he was not aware of how that information has leaked into mass media.

"I would not talk about any disagreements. This is a working situation, our presidents understand a necessity to sort out all similar situations," the minister told the reporters.

He added that Russia did all its best to improve the Proton’s ecological friendliness. In October 2012, Russian Federal Space Agency Roscosmos said it plans to upgrade Proton rocket carrier and Breeze booster for the upcoming launches.

Xinhua

Dung beetles look to the stars

Johannesburg, 26 Jan

A species of South African dung beetle has been shown to use the Milky Way to navigate, making it the only known animal that turns to the galactic spray of stars across the night sky for direction.

Researchers have known for several years that the inch-long insects use the sun or moon as fixed points to ensure they keep rolling dung balls in a straight line—the quickest way of getting away from other beetles at the dung heap.

But scientists have puzzled over how the beetles, which perform an orientation dance on top of their dung balls before setting off, achieve a straight line on moonless nights. To prove the Milky Way theory, scientists at Johannesburg’s Wits University took beetles into the university planetarium to see how they fared with a normal night sky, and then one devoid of the Milky Way.

"The dung beetles don’t care which direction they’re going in. They just need to get away from the bun fight at the poo pile," Wits professor Marcus Byrne said. "But when we turned off the Milky Way, the beetles got lost." A nd on cloudy nights without a moon or stars? "They probably just stay at home," Byrne said.—Reuters

A species of South African dung beetle is seen in this undated handout photo from University of Witwatersrand released on 25 Jan, 2013. ReuterS
Skin whitening vegetables

Pea
White Radish
Carrot
Sweet Potato
Mushroom
Oxal Gourd
Cucumber
White Gourd
Tomato

New strains of norovirus circulating in US: CDC

WASHINGTON, 26 Jan — A new strain of norovirus called GII.4 Sydney was the leading cause of norovirus outbreaks in the United States from September to December 2012, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said on Friday in its Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report.

The new strain was detected in Australia in March 2012, and caused outbreaks in that country and several other countries. CDC researchers analyzed 2012 data collected through CaliciNet on norovirus strains associated with outbreaks in the US. They found that of the 266 norovirus outbreaks reported during the last four months of 2012, 141 were caused by the GII.4 Sydney strain.

Xinhua

Quitting smoking before age 40 greatly reduces death risk: study

VANCOUVER, 26 Jan — A study published on Thursday found smokers who quit when they are young adults can significantly reduce their risks of dying sooner. Quitting smoking before age 40 and preferably well before 40, gives back almost all of the decade of lost life from continued smoking," said the study's lead author Dr Prabhjot Jha. However, Dr Jha, who is also the head of the Centre for Global Health Research at St Michael's Hospital in Canada, said that does not mean it is safe to smoke until one turns 40 and then stop. "Former smokers still have a greater risk of dying sooner than people who have never smoked. But the risk is small compared to the huge risk for those who continue to smoke," he said.

D Jha’s team obtained smoking and smoking-cessation histories from more than 200,000 people who were interviewed between 1997 and 2004 in the US National Health Interview Survey, and related these data to the causes of deaths that occurred by the end of 2006. They found people who quit smoking between ages 35 and 44 gained about nine years and those who quit between ages 45-54 and 55-64 gained six and four years of life, respectively. — Xinhua

Credit Suisse could owe $2 billion in National Century fraud

NEW YORK, 26 Jan — Credit Suisse Group Inc faces a potential $2 billion of exposure over fraud that occurred a decade ago at National Century Financial Enterprises, a result of a federal judge’s determination on how to apportion responsibility.

Friday’s decision by US District Judge James Graham could expose the Swiss bank to hundreds of millions of dollars of added liability over the activities of Lance Poulsen, who co-founded National Century in 1990 and was its chief executive. He is now serving a 30-year prison term and is presumed insolvent.

The decision is also a victory for bondholders including the state of Arizona, AllianzBernstein Holding LP, Lloyds TSB Bank Plc, Metlife Inc, Allianz SE’s Pimco unit that accused Credit Suisse of deceiving it about the company and missing its estimated $2.9 billion fraud. “Credit Suisse and Mr Poulsen are the last remaining defendants in this very serious case, and we are confident that our clients will prevail at trial,” Kathy Patrick, a lawyer for some of the bondholders, said in a telephone interview.

Xinhua

Wall Street Week Ahead:

Bears hibernate as stocks near record highs

NEW YORK, 26 Jan — Stocks have been on a tear in January, moving major indexes within striking distance of all-time highs. The bearish case is a difficult distance of all-time highs. Stocks have been on a tear since 31 Oct, 2007. The S&P 500 index’s all-time intraday close above 1,500 — climbing 5.4 percent this year and 500 Index .SPX has gained 5.5 percent since the start of the year.

Earnings have exceeded expectations, the housing and labour markets have strengthened, lawmakers in Washington no longer seem to be the roadblock that they were for most of 2012, and money has returned to stock funds again.

The Standard & Poor’s 500 Index SPX has gained 5.4 percent this year, and closed above 1,500 — climbing to the spot where Wall Street strategists expected it to be by mid-year. The Dow Jones industrial average DJI is 2.2 percent away from all-time highs reached in October 2007. The Dow ended on Friday’s session at 13,895.98, its highest close since 31 Oct, 2007. The S&P has risen for four straight weeks and eight consecutive sessions, the longest streak of days since 2004. On Friday, the benchmark S&P 500 ended at 1,502.96 — its first close above 1,500 in more than five years.

“Once we break above a resistance level at 1,510, we dramatically increase the probability that we break the highs of 2007,” said Walter Zimmermann, technical analyst at UnitedICAP, in Jersey City, New Jersey. “That may be the start of a rise that could take equities near 1,800 within the next few years." The most recent Reuters poll of Wall Street strategists estimated the benchmark index would rise to 1,550 by year-end, a target that is 3.1 percent away from current levels.

That would put the S&P 500 a stone’s throw from the index’s all-time intraday high of 1,576.09 reached on 11 October, 2007. — Xinhua

Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, on 23 Jan, 2013. — Reuters

Exxon Mobil regains crown from Apple as most valuable listed company

NEW YORK, 26 Jan — Oil giant Exxon Mobil on Friday regained crown from Apple as the most valuable listed company after trading into the tech giant a year ago. By the closing on Friday, Apple’s shares slid 2.36 percent to 439.98 dollars per share for a market value of around 413 billion US dollars and sales in the first quarter of its 2013 fiscal year. In the quarter ending 29 December, Apple made a record-high profit of 13.1 billion US dollars on a revenue of 54.5 billion dollars, but the figures still fell short of analysts expectations.

The company also

Toyota SUV assembly to start in Vladivostok in February

VLADIVOSTOK, 26 Jan — Toyota Motor Corp said on Friday a joint venture between a Russian automaker and a Japanese trading house will start full-fledged assembly of a Toyota sport utility vehicle in Vladivostok in mid-February.

The 50-50 venture between second-largest Russian automaker Sollers and Mitsui & Co, OOO

Sollers-Bussan, plans to assemble 1,000 units a month of the Land Cruiser Prado SUV, a model popular in Russia, Toyota said.

A ceremony to mark the start of assembly on a trial basis was held in Vladivostok on Friday, with Russian First Deputy Prime Minister Igor Shuvalov delivering a speech.

Russia’s First Deputy Prime Minister Igor Shuvalov (far R) views the assembly process for Land Cruiser Prado sport utility vehicles at a plant of Japanese automaker Toyota Motor Corp in Vladivostok in the Russian Far East on 25 Jan, 2013. Toyota said it will commence full-fledged production of SUVs at the plant in February. — Kyodo News
At least Five killed in clashes with Iraqi army in Fullujah

Bagdad, 26 Jan—At least five people were killed and 45 others wounded when Iraqi troops opened fire during clashes with Sunni protesters rallying against the Shiite-led government in Fullujah city on Friday, local police and medical sources said. The main city hospital in Fullujah has received at least five dead bodies and 45 injured people, all of whom are protesters, said a hospital source who earlier put the toll to 20 killed and 10 injured.

The clashes broke out when Iraqi army forces tried to prevent protesters from heading to a city square after the Friday prayers, a local police source told Xinhua. They added that security forces fired shots on angry protesters who threw stones at them and tried to set fire on military vehicles.

Sunni in Iraq have been protesting for a month, asking Prime Minister Nouri Maliki to quit, after Sunni Finance Minister Rafia al-Assawi’s security chief and bodyguards were arrested on terror charges.

The Sunni stronghold Fullujah, hometown of al-Assawi, has seen some major demonstrations against Maliki’s government over the past month. Sunni Arabs in Iraq, who used to rule the country in pre-war regimes, now complain of being sidelined by the Shiite-led government and demand more powers.

Number of Syrian refugees in Turkey exceeds 162,000

Ankara, 26 Jan—A total of 162,329 Syrian refugees are currently taking shelter in Turkey, Turkey’s Disaster and Emergency Management Directorate (AFAD) announced on Friday.

According to the AFAD, Turkey has set up five tent cities in Hatay, two in Sanliurfa, three in Gaziantep, and one each in Kahramanmaras, Osmaniye and Adiyaman, as well as two container sites in Kilis and Sanliurfa. The Syrian refugees were provided with all the humanitarian aids including health care, security, education, worship, communication and banking services, said the AFAD.

A total of 230,724 Syrians are currently taking refuge in Kilis and Sanliurfa. The Turkey has set up five tent cities in Osmaniye and Adiyaman, as well as two container sites in Kilis and Sanliurfa.

AU to honour former Zambian President Kaunda

Lusaka, 26 Jan — The African Union (AU) is expected to honour Zambia’s first President Kenneth Kaunda during its 50th anniversary for the role he played in the liberation struggles in the southern African region, the Times of Zambia reported on Friday.

The African regional body is scheduled to hold its 50th anniversary in May this year at its headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

“I am happy to inform you that Dr Kaunda will be honoured this year here at the AU for his role he played in the liberation of southern Africa. You know, Zambia sacrificed so much of its resources including manpower to liberate the southern African region,” Francis Sumenda, Zambia’s Ambassador to Ethiopia, said ahead of the 20th Ordinary Session of the Summit of AU which starts on Sunday.

The Zambian envoy said Kaunda, who will turn 89 on 24 April this year, was among the great African leaders who immensely contributed to the liberation struggles in most African countries, adding that it was surprising that even after the immense contribution he made, the former Zambian leader was barely noticed.

Dutch SNS Reaal in talks with capital investors

The Hague, 26 Jan — Troubled Dutch banking and insurance group SNS Reaal is in talks with potential capital investors, Financial Daily reported on Friday.

According to sources in the financial sector, SNS Reaal needs between 2.1 and 2.5 billion euros (between 2.7 and 3.4 billion US dollars) to solve problems at its property unit. A number of Dutch and foreign investors would be prepared to put between 1 and 1.5 billion euros (1.3 and 2 billion US dollars) in the troubled bank.

SNS Reaal, which received Dutch state aid in 2008, is widely expected to require a second bailout because of problems at its property unit and is due to come up with a restructuring plan when it reports its earnings next month.

Japanese Armed Forces are halting their 2016 defense buildup programme

Tokyo, 26 Jan — The Cabinet of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe decided on Friday to craft a new midterm defence programme for the DPJ-led government, which pertains to the Self-Defence Forces’ size and equipment, and aim to work out a new one by the end of this year.

The original midterm defence buildup programme adopted in 2010 was meant to cover a five-year period through the end of March 2016.

At the same time, the government adopted a provisional defence policy in the Cabinet meeting on Friday, which will be reflected in the current works to draft a budget for the next fiscal year starting April. The government plans in fiscal 2013 to increase defence spending for the first time in 11 years.

The provisional policy stipulates that Japan will beef up its defence capabilities to protect the nation’s territory and strengthen the Japan-US security alliance, given that North Korea remains an “uncertain factor” in the region and due to “increased activity” of China in airspace and waters near Japan.

“The security environment around our country has become increasingly severe,” Defence Ministry spokesman Genichi Ondera told a Press conference, pledging to establish “proper (defence) posture in terms of both quality and quantity.”

1995 Zhejiang serial murder case reopened

Hangzhou, 26 Jan — A court in east China’s Zhejiang Province has announced a review of a serial murder case from 1995, 18 years after five people were given reprieved death sentences over the crime.

The Supreme People’s Court in Zhejiang said in a notice that it has restarted investigation of the robbery and murder of two taxi drivers that happened in Xiaoshan District of Hangzhou city on 20 March and 12 August, 1995, respectively.

The move came after police captured a suspect in late December last year whose fingerprint matched those collected by police at the scene of the March murder. Police have no new evidence on the second murder. The supreme court said during the reinvestigation, “If there was a mistake, it will have to be corrected.” The fingerprints of none of the five jailed people matched any of those collected at the crime scenes. Xinhua’s sources with the court said the verdicts were given based on “oral testimonies” from police.

All of the then 28-something men appealed for a second trial after three were given death sentences, one was given a death sentence with a reprieve and another life imprisonment for robbery, murder and theft at the first trial in 1997.

None of them admitted they had been involved in the robbery and murder at the second trial by the Hangzhou Intermediate People’s Court, which only granted a re-review on each of the three death sentences and sustained the firsttrial sentences of the other two. Among the five, Tian Weidong was freed from jail on 11 January this year after receiving several mitigations of punishment in prison.

Tian declined media interviews, saying he would rather wait for the court to deliver its result of the reinvestigation.— Xinhua


Kyodo News

JAPAN TO LAUNCH A WEAPONS RACE AGAINST CHINA
M oU signed between Small Scale Industries Department, Pact Global Microfinance Fund

Nay Pyi Taw, 26 Jan—Union Minister for Cooperatives U Kyaw Hsan attended the signing of MoU for implementation of microfinance services between Small Scale Industries Department and Pact (INGO) Pact Global Microfinance Fund (PGMF) at Zabuthiri Hotel here yesterday morning.

At the ceremony, the Union Minister said that the ministry has disbursed loans to 373,186 households in 25 townships under microfinance project being implemented by the ministry and UNDP in cooperation with Pact since 1997.

Plans are underway to loan US$ 6 million more between 2013 and 2015 in cooperation with the department and PGMF, he said.

The agreement on cooperation in forest sector between ASEAN member countries and the Republic of Korea was signed in Seoul of the Republic of Korea on 5 August 2012 and the executive council’s first meeting followed.

At the meeting, implementation for mitigation of climate change and deforestation was carried out.

Reviewing on plans and projects, technical exchange, capacity-building for assessment of forest resources and coordination for drawing plans for reduction of climate change in cooperation with local people was discussed at the meeting.— MNA

Second meeting for executive council of ASEAN-Korea Forest Cooperation held

Nay Pyi Taw, 26 Jan—The second meeting for executive council of ASEAN-Korea Forest Cooperation—AFoCo was held at Tongha Puri Hotel here yesterday afternoon, with an opening address by Director-General Dr Nyi Nyi Kyaw of Forest Department.

The agreement on cooperation in forest sector between ASEAN member countries and the Republic of Korea was signed in Seoul of the Republic of Korea on 5 August 2012 and the executive council’s first meeting followed.

At the meeting, implementation for mitigation of climate change and deforestation was carried out.

Reviewing on plans and projects, technical exchange, capacity-building for assessment of forest resources and coordination for drawing plans for reduction of climate change in cooperation with local people was discussed at the meeting.— MNA

Blood donors honoured in Nyaunglebin

Nyaunglebin, 26 Jan—Karuna Blood Donors Association honoured blood donors for the first time in Nyaunglebin at the Chinese Temple on 24 January.

The association was established in 2011. Head of Nyaunglebin Township Health Department Dr Khin Zaw made a speech.

Chairman of the Township Writers Association Dr Myint Khin (Nyangglebin) gave talks on youth and blood donation.

Officials presented gifts to the blood donors who had donated blood for 40 times and other blood donors. Those wishing to donate blood may contact Jivitadana Sangha Hospital, Nyaunglebin Township, Tel: 052-50084, Dr M yin T hein of the association, Tel: 052-50092, U M yo K yaw Zaw, Tel: 09-511070, RI Shin Co, U M yo M yin, Daw O nhma K hin, Tel: 09-428173525.

Ward administrators elected in Kyangin Township

Kyangin, 26 Jan—A ceremony to appoint administrators for three wards and 30 village-tracts was held at Ayeya Oo Hall in Kyangin Township of Ayeyawady Region.

Chief Justice of the Bago Region High Court U Maung Maung Shwe, High Court judges and the head of Region Judicial Office presented cash assistance to the students of staff.

Cash assistance provided to children of courts’ staff in Bago Region

Bago, 26 Jan—A ceremony to provide cash assistance to children of staff from Bago Region High Court, Regional Judicial Office, District and Township Courts was held at the hall of Bago Region High Court in Bago for 2011-2012 academic year on 8 January morning.

Chief Justice of the Bago Region High Court U Maung Maung Shwe, High Court judges and the head of Region Judicial Office presented cash assistance to the students of staff.

Thiri Yadana Hall opened at Shwethanbyu Parahita Monastery in Pathein

Nay Pyi Taw, 26 Jan—Chief Minister of Ayeyawady Region U Thein Aung attended the ceremony to open Thiri Yadana Hall at Shwethanbyu Parahita Monastery in Pathein yesterday morning.

The Abbot of the monastery and wellwisher Five One fuel station owner U Win Naing and wife Daw San Yin Aye formally opened the new hall.

Next, the merit-sharing ceremony for the hall followed.

After that, Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung and those present at the ceremony offered alms to members of the Sangha.

Later, the Sayadaw of Shwethanbyu Parahita monastery delivered a sermon.

A member of School Board of Trustees gives prize to Ma May Yupa Aye who secured the outstanding award in the fourth standard for 2011-2012 academic year at the School Family Day and prize presentation ceremony of No. 8 Basic Education High School in Zabuthiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw on 19 January.

Sunday, 27 January, 2013
Scouts reborn

It gives us the great pleasure to welcome the government’s recent move to encourage the re-introduction of long-suspended scout movements in the country where the scout programme was banned since almost fifty years ago.

Aimed at boosting morale and morality, physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing of schoolchildren, the Ministry of Education had resumed the formation of the scouts at the schools in each and every region and state across the nation that had a rich five-decade history in scout movements, hoping to nurture the schoolchildren to be equipped with the sense of voluntary service and philanthropy. Before the 50-year ban on the scout movements was lifted, Myanmar used to be described as one of the few countries which do not have scout movements.

Now the scout programme was relaunched nationwide and scouts have been formed with 50 each grade seven boys and girls from each school of each region and state, totaling 18000 members. Scout movement is a programme of informal education with an emphasis on outdoor activities in which boy and girl scouts are to learn leadership and management skill through the fun ways to become independent self-reliant ones. They are also to be taught to cultivate team spirit and comradeship, to use their initiative and observational skills and to help others. It is aimed to contribute towards the development of future generations in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials as good and able citizens, as conscientious individuals and as duty-conscious and law-abiding members of their communities and the human society.

Following its foundation in the United Kingdom laid down by Robert Baden-Powell in 1907, scouting spread around the globe with its motto “Be Prepared”. A total of 190 countries around the world formed the scouts with the membership of 30 million scouts including 10 million girl scouts. Scouting was introduced in Myanmar in 1910 under the programme for British colonies. Myanmar saw the first-ever girl scouts in 1916. The various levels of boy scouts were formed in 1920 and scout movements were terminated in 1963.

(Continued from 20-1-2013)

Examples of some South Asian countries

In 2005, it indicated a decline in trust in political parties and police force. A study of historical background suggests that it is due to the failure to respond local and international pressure with good governance and lack of specific plans to embrace the challenges of the globalization. The Soviet Union’s collapse and the globalization paradigm model impact largely on administration process of developed and developing countries. Although developed countries could manage to adjust to the paradigm with fewer difficulties, developing countries had to survive the test of globalization. Countries are identified as ‘Partially Failing State’, alarming bell ringing state and ‘Failed state’ or ‘Rogue state’, according to the gravity of the emerging situations in economic, infrastructural sectors of developing countries.

In the cold war period, the government could keep many pressing socio-economic, ethnic, regional and religious issues under the carpet. At the end of the cold war, these suppressed issues erupted with severity in and in some cases accompanied by violence. A the globalization paradigm also demanded major shift in their orientations, the exhausted developing countries were harnessed in the historical backdrop of the new agenda of free-market economy, privatization and deregulation. They had to open up spaces for the civil societies and were also pushed to democratize.

Athough the new concept of privatization or private-public partnership or having joint ventures with foreign investors could not burden the governments, the unburdening process did not evolve clearly due to weakness and lack of experience of private sector in new developing countries. As for the privatesector and the civil societies, in infancy, it is hard to cope with the rapid change. The interaction between the private and public sectors is causing confusion and decline in the credibility of governments. The issue that could escalate crisis is failure to fulfill basic needs. The supply of safe drinking water, food, shelter, electricity and security of the government is inversely proportional to the fast growing demand of the people. The poverty levels have been raised in recent decades, posing the major threat. The above-mentioned issues are the root causes of problems that are common in transition period. The transition will not terminate these issues which will emerge again in many different ways. Looking back the past of the South Asia, democracy in the region is playing hide and seek. It seems that it is more important that different stakeholders collaborate to prioritize the interest for the sake of viable democracy.

Administrative practice

Eight characteristics of Good Governance—accountability, consensus oriented, accountable, transparent, responsive, effective and efficient, equitable and inclusive and the rule of law—are shown in a UN report. It produces effective outcomes in which corruption is minimized, the opinions of minorities are to be taken into consideration and the elites and the global giants are in a very vulnerable position in society are heard.

In the process of realizing these points, the governments have to perform the process simultaneously, not separately and independently, while successfully tackling the pollution of global affairs, media, terrorism, fulfilling the basic needs of the people for their survival and freedom of religion. Addressing these issues effectively is of great benefit to the governments in building trust.

According to a report on human resources development in 2003, problems in administrative mechanism of South Asian countries have occurred and reocurred in similar patterns. They are lack of participation, ineffective and inefficient goals, a huge degree of political interference for ensuring advantages, a tremendous amount of waste caused by lack of transparency and corruption, capacity inefficiency in administrative departments and poor monitoring and assessment mechanism. The plight of the poor are more suffering than that of the rich while the administrative atmosphere is filled with the aforementioned weaknesses apart from inequalities which are deeply rooted in public service sector.

Participation

The issue of participation is of vital importance, as it is the link between the development of the political system. The credibility and legitimacy of a certain political system rest on instruments of electoral politics of free and fair elections. There may arise a sense of making a regime change if the government is incompetent when hope and a sense of empowerment occur among the people. The political process operated through electoral activities has firmly existed in India. Although India shares similar issues as those perplexed with Pakistan, India’s political system is obviously contrast to the Pakistan’s. In Pakistan, the balance of power is in favour of the president in its hybrid system between the president and parliament, after passing through the periods of parliamentary, presidential and military administration. It needs to take more time to attain a stable and mature democracy.

Although it encountered a civil war, Sri Lanka with the highest literacy rate of 96 per cent in the region seems to achieve participatory politics as elections were held regularly and parliaments are stable. The matters of participation, development and security are in interaction, there is a trust deficit in governments of South Asian counties to a certain extent. It is not strange that the region which is under challenges and global pressures has not become a model of good governance. Source: Building trust in Government in South Asia, Contributor – Sajjad Naseer. (To be continued every Sunday).
A glimpse of the nature of rural development

The evolution of national-level reform strategy which had started life in earlier 2011 drove Myanmar’s political renaissance and socio-economic development by the end of 2012, getting itself ready to undergo administration and management reforms in its third phase.

There arises a need of community-based reform strategies and public enterprises. Political and economic analysts are well aware of the moment being a high time for the ones who implement the policies as the government is formulating them fast.

The shift from Top Down Policy to Bottom Up initiative to improve living conditions of rural people in 69417 villages, which constitute 70 percent of the entire population, represents community-based policy and governance that has started life.

Side by side with good governance, the government is planning to develop rural areas and alleviate poverty. Myanmar Socio-Economic Improvement Workshop in 2011 laid eight rural development work plans: development of agricultural production, development of livestock breeding and fishery, rural productivity and cottage industries, micro saving and credit enterprises, rural socio-economy, rural energy and environmental conservation.

It has been long that civil societies have played a larger role in political developments. Once, there were some privileged private companies due to weak competitiveness. It is now boosted by the rise of high-standard civil societies in a short period.

Stiff competition exists in border development, urbanization, housing development and rural development which are included in public management. It was made clear by the fact that 95 companies and two organizations submitted bids worth K 37762.30 million in four areas which cover 28 road and bridge construction projects, 22 rural water supply projects, 126 rural electrification and model housing development projects as the Rural Development Department invited bidders through newspapers. It is heartening to see that local companies and organizations eye development of rural areas.

The open tender represents transparency that encourages competitiveness and combat corruption as the public budget must be spent by the approval of the representatives of the people. Obviously, soft power and negotiation have replaced hard power and order which characterized the previous eras. A material advantage is the out-of-date concept since modern technologies serve as the most significant example of the winning combination of soft power and hard power to produce best performance and best results.

A long with the changing political trend of Myanmar which has attracted considerable international attention, international organizations have begun to extend a helping hand. The World Bank has granted 80 millions USD toward community-driven project for development of 15 village-tracts—one each in seven regions and seven states and Nay Pyi Taw Council Area— to be implemented over a period of six years from 2012 to 2019. The village-tract development plan is quite interesting.

The plan through people-centered approach will empower rural communities to choose investments they need most and enable the villagers of both sexes to have equal rights and include at least a project proposed by the women folk. For three years, each village-tract will receive USD 27,000 per year to meet its basic requirements.

Those villages if acted with a traditional sense of community which values mutual support will be able to make their places better for sure. As it is targeted to reduce the poverty rate up to 16 percent by 2015 in implementing rural development and poverty alleviation scheme, Union ministries, region and state governments and Nay Pyi Taw Council are working hard on a self-reliance basis.

Rural development scheme must be carried with reciprocal check and balance between overseer departments and companies/organizations to guarantee value for public money and standard quality to the people. Only then, can companies/organizations build up reputation and grasp an opportunity for their potentials.

To mobilize participation of rural folk, joint committees are to be formed with community elders and village administrators. At the same time, focal departments and subordinate divisions and responsible companies/organizations are to teach and lead the villagers in using properly the utilities for their social-economic improvement and minimizing wastage of power and water and damages to facilities. Finally, those villages are to be linked with communication network providing access to information technology.

I wish the success of community-driven socio-economy, the modernization of the popular traditional community-based socio-economic culture in Myanmar society.

Trs: HKA+TKK

Aung Marga (Yawmyay)
Li Xueyong re-elected governor of Jiangsu Province

Manila, 26 Jan—Philip- 
ipine authorities have ar-
rested 17 Chinese nationals
wanted for internet fraud
and cybercrimes in China, a
senior government official
said on Friday.

Buoyed by Immigration
(Bl) Commissioner Ricardo
David Jr said the alien fu-
gitives, 15 of them women,
were arrested in Makati
City. M tro Manila last
Monday during an opera-
tion conducted by elements
of the immigration fugitive
search unit.

He said the arresting
agents stumbled upon the
fugitives inside their condo-
minium units in a day-long
operation at the Manhattan
Square compound along
San A gustin Street, Salcedo
Village, Makati City.

“All of them could not
present their passports and
travel documents, thus we
will deport them for being
undocumented and over-
staying aliens,” David said.

Atty Ma Antonette
Mangrobang, Bl acting
intelligence chief, said Bl
operatives conducted inten-
sive surveil lance on the for-
eigner’s safehouse for sev-
eral days before they were
arrested.

Mangrobang said the
Chinese Embassy has sought
the immediate deportation of
the fugitives so they could
face criminal prosecution in
China.

“The aliens were sub-
sequently charged with vio-
lation of immigration law
and they will be deported
after the Bl board of com-
mis sioners issues the order
for their summary deporta-
tion,” he added.

Xinhua

Seventeen Chinese fugitives nabbed in
Philippines problem, differ in details: Kreml in

Moscow, 26 Jan—Russia
and the United States
share a common vision on
the Iranian nuclear problem
but differ on the specific ap-
proach to the issue, a Kremlin
spokesman said on Friday.

“We do not want to
jeopardize the non-prolif-
eration regime, meanwhile
we will accept the rights
of the Iranians for peaceful
use of nuclear energy,” Dmitry
Peskov told The National
Interest, an American maga-
azine.

Russia accepts only dip-
lomatic and political means
in dealing with Teheran, re-
jecting any sanctions, he
said.

“We still have room for
diplomatic activity and
we still have to use our joint
influence to continue the dia-
logue with Iran. Diplomacy
is preferable,” Peskov said.

The official said Mos-
cow hopes Iran would be
have reciprocally. “We are
hoping for reciprocal under-
standing from our Iranian
partners, who will definitely
take a cooperative attitude,”

Russian Foreign Min-
ister Sergei Lavrov warned
on Wednesday at an annual
press conference that at-
tempts to solve the Iranian
nuclear problem via military
means could be dangerous.

Lavrov urged Iran to be
responsive to requests from
the IAEA on possible mili-
tary elements in its nuclear
programme.

He pointed at the linger-
ing pauses and slow pace of
the talks between the P5+1,
the United States, China,
Russia, the United States,
China, plus Germany, and
Iran over the latter’s nuclear
programme. —Xinhua

54 killed in Venezuela
prison riot

Caracas, 26 Jan—At
least 54 people were killed
and 88 others injured on
Friday in a prison riot in
northwest Venezuela, local
media reported.

Crossfire broke out in
Uribana prison outside
Barquisimeto in Lara state
after some prisoners resis-
ted a spot check on weapons
at the prison.

Explosions were heard
near the prison, which cur-
rently jai ls 2,600 immi-
grant officials said.

Nineteen ambulances
arrived at the scene, and a
priest and a soldier were
among the dead.

The Venezuelan gov-
ernment has not yet made
any comments on the re-
volt, one of the most violent
incidents in the country.

Venezuela is one of the
most violent countries in
Latin America. More than
21,000 murders were regis-
tered in the country in 2012,
up 15 percent from the pre-
vious year, according to in-
national organizations.
N ational murder rate has
reached 73 per 100,000 in-
habitants. —Xinhua

India holds 64th Republic
Day parade in Delhi

New Delhi, 26 Jan—India
on Saturday held the 64th
Republic Day parade in
central Delhi by display-
ing its cultural heritage and
military strength.

The parade was held
at an eight-km route from
Rajpath, a central axis of
the capital city, to the his-
torical Red Fort, the imperial
palace of the Mughal Empire.

India’s new Agni-V
ballistic missile, which is
capable of striking targets
some 6,000 km away, was
mounted on a road mo-
bile launcher and paraded
through the Rajpath from the
Presidential Palace to the
Indian Gate.

Indian President
Pranab Mukherjee, visiting
Bhutan king Jigme Khesar
Namgyel Wangchuk, Vice
President Hamid Ansari,
Prime Minister Manmohan
Singh, Defence Minister
A K Antony, ruling United
Progressive Alliance Chair-
person Sonia Gandhi, and
top political and military
brass reviewed the parade.

Xinhua

People bundled up against the cold walk in New
York’s mid-town Manhattan, on 25 Jan, 2013, as cold
continues to grip the northeast US. —Xinhua
China's Xi meets Japanese ruling party leader

BEIJING, 26 Jan — Xi Jinping, General Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, met with Natsuo Yamaguchi, leader of the New Komeito party, on Friday morning in Beijing.

Yamaguchi, who arrived in Beijing on Tuesday, is the first senior member of the Japanese ruling bloc to travel to China since the Japanese government announced in September the “purchase” of part of the Diaoyu islands, a move that soured bilateral relations.

The New Komeito party is the smaller one of Japan’s two ruling parties.

Cambodia releases list of foreign leaders to attend Sihanouk’s cremation

Phnom Penh, 26 Jan— Cambodia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Friday released a list of foreign leaders who will attend the royal cremation ceremony of the late former King Norodom Sihanouk at the Parachute Royal Palace.

Marc Ayrault and Prince Akishino, among others, will attend Sihanouk’s cremation next to the Palace on Feb. 1 and moved from the Royal Palace to make an emergency tribute. The body will be kept for another three days at the site before it is cremated on 4 February.

Japanese airlines back Boeing, as battery probes make slow progress

Tokyo, 26 Jan— Japan’s leading airlines are firmly behind Boeing Co’s 787 Dreamliner, saying they have had no second thoughts on orders for several dozen more of the planes— even as they have $5 billion worth of the futuristic aircraft sitting idly pending a complex investigation into unexplained battery problems.

All Nippon Airways Co and Japan Airlines Co Ltd have been the biggest customers to date for the technologically advanced 787 jetliner, which has a list price of $207 million and is about one third made by Japan’s companies— from fuselage and engine parts to batteries and toilets.

US safety officials said on Thursday they were nowhere close to completing their probe into a battery fire on a JAL-operated 787 at Boston airport almost three weeks ago. [ID:nLN1DAT9R] And investigators in Japan, looking into a later incident that prompted an ANA 787 to make an emergency landing on a domestic flight, have made little headway in finding out what caused a lithium ion battery to overheat, triggering alarms in the plane’s cockpit.

About 40 Dreamliners in service were grounded on 17 January.

Korea has improved missile technology

ISLAMABAD, 26 Jan— At least 32 people were killed southward from others injured on Friday during the ongoing fierce clashes between two militant groups in northwest Pakistan, local media reported.

Local media quoting official sources said that the outlawed Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and Ansarul Islam (AI) militant groups were fighting for control in the Tirah Valley of the Khyber Agency, Pakistan’s northwestern tribal region bordering Afghanistan.

The clashes started between TTP and AI militants in Maidan village of Tirah Valley on Friday morning that continued till the evening. The official sources feared that the death toll was likely to surge as the battle had not ended yet.

The fighters on both sides have been using heavy weapons including grenades, rockets and mortar shells along with automatic guns. There have been no words from militant groups involved in the skirmishes.

The clashes between different militant groups were also witnessed in the past in the same region, especially, between TTP and local small faction Lashkar-e-Islam (LI).

Japans's airplanes back Boeing, as battery probes make slow progress

Tokyo, 26 Jan— Japan’s leading airlines are firmly behind Boeing Co’s 787 Dreamliner, saying they have had no second thoughts on orders for several dozen more of the planes— even as they have $5 billion worth of the futuristic aircraft sitting idly pending a complex investigation into unexplained battery problems.

All Nippon Airways Co and Japan Airlines Co Ltd have been the biggest customers to date for the technologically advanced 787 jetliner, which has a list price of $207 million and is about one third made by Japan’s companies— from fuselage and engine parts to batteries and toilets.

US safety officials said on Thursday they were nowhere close to completing their probe into a battery fire on a JAL-operated 787 at Boston airport almost three weeks ago. [ID:nLN1DAT9R] And investigators in Japan, looking into a later incident that prompted an ANA 787 to make an emergency landing on a domestic flight, have made little headway in finding out what caused a lithium ion battery to overheat, triggering alarms in the plane’s cockpit.

The analysts noted that the rocket’s third stage appeared to change course westward over the East China Sea, off the South Korea coast.

Observers recorded that an object carried by the rocket then entered orbit. They have since confirmed the object continues in orbit.

Experts say a rocket needs to change course in order to send a satellite into orbit. This is done by adjusting the power of the rocket’s propulsion devices.

The ministry says its analysis of the launch indicates the North Korea’s December ballistic-missile launch last month. North Korea calls it missile-control technology.

The report also says the rocket’s third stage appeared to change course westward over the East China Sea, off the South Korea coast.

Observers recorded that an object carried by the rocket then entered orbit. They have since confirmed the object continues in orbit.

Experts say a rocket needs to change course in order to send a satellite into orbit. This is done by adjusting the power of the rocket’s propulsion devices.

The ministry says its analysis of the launch indicates the North Korea’s December ballistic-missile launch last month. North Korea calls it missile-control technology.

The report also says the rocket’s third stage appeared to change course westward over the East China Sea, off the South Korea coast.

Observers recorded that an object carried by the rocket then entered orbit. They have since confirmed the object continues in orbit.

Experts say a rocket needs to change course in order to send a satellite into orbit. This is done by adjusting the power of the rocket’s propulsion devices.

The ministry says its analysis of the launch indicates the North Korea’s December ballistic-missile launch last month. North Korea calls it missile-control technology.

The report also says the rocket’s third stage appeared to change course westward over the East China Sea, off the South Korea coast.

Observers recorded that an object carried by the rocket then entered orbit. They have since confirmed the object continues in orbit.

Experts say a rocket needs to change course in order to send a satellite into orbit. This is done by adjusting the power of the rocket’s propulsion devices.

The ministry says its analysis of the launch indicates the North Korea’s December ballistic-missile launch last month. North Korea calls it missile-control technology.

The report also says the rocket’s third stage appeared to change course westward over the East China Sea, off the South Korea coast.

Observers recorded that an object carried by the rocket then entered orbit. They have since confirmed the object continues in orbit.

Experts say a rocket needs to change course in order to send a satellite into orbit. This is done by adjusting the power of the rocket’s propulsion devices.

The ministry says its analysis of the launch indicates the North Korea’s December ballistic-missile launch last month. North Korea calls it missile-control technology.

The report also says the rocket’s third stage appeared to change course westward over the East China Sea, off the South Korea coast.

Observers recorded that an object carried by the rocket then entered orbit. They have since confirmed the object continues in orbit.

Experts say a rocket needs to change course in order to send a satellite into orbit. This is done by adjusting the power of the rocket’s propulsion devices.

The ministry says its analysis of the launch indicates the North Korea’s December ballistic-missile launch last month. North Korea calls it missile-control technology.

The report also says the rocket’s third stage appeared to change course westward over the East China Sea, off the South Korea coast.

Observers recorded that an object carried by the rocket then entered orbit. They have since confirmed the object continues in orbit.

Experts say a rocket needs to change course in order to send a satellite into orbit. This is done by adjusting the power of the rocket’s propulsion devices.

The ministry says its analysis of the launch indicates the North Korea’s December ballistic-missile launch last month. North Korea calls it missile-control technology.

The report also says the rocket’s third stage appeared to change course westward over the East China Sea, off the South Korea coast.

Observers recorded that an object carried by the rocket then entered orbit. They have since confirmed the object continues in orbit.

Experts say a rocket needs to change course in order to send a satellite into orbit. This is done by adjusting the power of the rocket’s propulsion devices.

The ministry says its analysis of the launch indicates the North Korea’s December ballistic-missile launch last month. North Korea calls it missile-control technology.

The report also says the rocket’s third stage appeared to change course westward over the East China Sea, off the South Korea coast.

Observers recorded that an object carried by the rocket then entered orbit. They have since confirmed the object continues in orbit.

Experts say a rocket needs to change course in order to send a satellite into orbit. This is done by adjusting the power of the rocket’s propulsion devices.

The ministry says its analysis of the launch indicates the North Korea’s December ballistic-missile launch last month. North Korea calls it missile-control technology.
Second suspect charged in Texas college shooting

HOUSTON, 26 Jan.—A second suspect has been charged with two counts of aggravated assault in the shooting that left three wounded at a community college in the US state of Texas, authorities said on Thursday.

Trey Foster, 22, who was charged with aggravat- ed assault Thursday morning, appears to have been the actual shooter in the Tuesday afternoon shooting at the North Harris campus of Lone Star College, according to an online report by newspaper The Houston Chronicle.

Authorities also have charged the first suspect, 22-year-old Carlton Berry, with two counts of aggra- vated assault with a deadly weapon, according to the report.

Berry, who is Foster’s friend, initially denied knowing anything about the shooting, but later told investigators that a student had “bumped” into Foster earlier in the day, and it had escalated into an argument.

Berry told authorities that Foster said he was going to fight the man & he saw him again. When he saw the man again, another argument broke out and Foster began shooting, according to court records.

Harris County Sheriff Adrian Garcia said at least 10 shots were fired on Tuesday on the campus. Jody Neal, 25, was hit in the leg and abdomen. It’s unclear if Neal was the intended target of the shooting.

An innocent bystander, Bobby Cliburn, a 55-year-old maintenance worker on campus, was also caught in the crossfire and shot in the leg.

The shooting, but later told investigators that a student had “bumped” into Foster earlier in the day, and it had escalated into an argument.

Berry told authorities that Foster said he was going to fight the man & he saw him again. When he saw the man again, another argument broke out and Foster began shooting, according to court records.

Harris County Sheriff Adrian Garcia said at least 10 shots were fired on Tuesday on the campus. Jody Neal, 25, was hit in the leg and abdomen. It’s unclear if Neal was the intended target of the shooting.

An innocent bystander, Bobby Cliburn, a 55-year-old maintenance worker on campus, was also caught in the crossfire and shot in the leg.

Military officer escapes assassination in southeastern Yemen

ADEN, 26 Jan.—A senior military officer escaped an assassination attempt in Yemen’s southeastern province of Shabwa on Thursday evening, a government official told Xinhua. Two unidentified gunmen riding motorcycles shot at Col Hamid al-Solemy, the commander of 119th Brigade in Shabwa Province, the local official said on condition of anonymity.

“Colonel Hamid was driving his own car on a main road when the masked men on motorcycles intercepted his car and shot at him,” the government source said.

Another military intelligence officer told Xinhua anonymously that Col. Hamid was returning back to his residential building from a meeting with army command- ers at the 119th Brigade when his two-car convoy was attacked. The Yemeni interior ministry’s latest sta- tistics showed that more than 70 high-ranking officers were killed last year in hit-and-run shootings across the country, and 70 officers were claimed responsibility by al-Qaeda, the Arab Peninsula (A.Q.A).

Yemen has undergone a political transition led by President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi after the step down of former President Ali Abd- dulah Saleh earlier last year. An offensive was launched in 2012 against al-Qaeda hideouts in the southern province of Abyan.

On the opposition side, the Britain-based Syr- ian Observatory for Hu- man Rights said an explo- sion rocked the Damascus’ capital and Barzeh late on Thursday, giving details on human losses. The Observatory, meanwhile, said that five civilians, including two women, were gunned down in the Damascus’ country- side of Tishreen, adding that pro-government gun- men were behind the kill- ing.

Tourists have been heavily shelling on rebel strengths in eastern and southern rims of Damascus and elsewhere in the war-engulfed country on Thurs- day.

On the opposition side, the Britain-based Syr- ian Observatory for Hu- man Rights said an explo- sion rocked the Damascus’ capital and Barzeh late on Thursday, giving details on human losses. The Observatory, meanwhile, said that five civilians, including two women, were gunned down in the Damascus’ country- side of Tishreen, adding that pro-government gun- men were behind the kill- ing.

Tourists have been heavily shelling on rebel strengths in eastern and southern rims of Damascus and elsewhere in the war-engulfed country on Thurs- day.

On the opposition side, the Britain-based Syr- ian Observatory for Hu- man Rights said an explo- sion rocked the Damascus’ capital and Barzeh late on Thursday, giving details on human losses. The Observatory, meanwhile, said that five civilians, including two women, were gunned down in the Damascus’ country- side of Tishreen, adding that pro-government gun- men were behind the kill- ing.

Tourists have been heavily shelling on rebel strengths in eastern and southern rims of Damascus and elsewhere in the war-engulfed country on Thurs- day.
Mila Kunis’ stalker ordered to stay away from her for 10 years

New Delhi, 26 Jan—Mila Kunis’s stalker has been ordered to stay away from her for 10 years. Dunn had been in custody since last May after he was arrested for showing up at Mila’s Beverly Hills gym three days in a row.

As he tried to approach her at the gym, Mila alerted authorities as he already had a restraining, stemming from when he pleaded no contest to breaking into an at-the-time-unoccupied condo owned by the 27-year-old beauty.

Last June, LAPD Detective John Gregorowicz testified at a hearing to say Mila had stated to authorities that she was “in fear for her safety”.

First Steve Jobs movie gets red carpet premiere

Park City, 26 Jan—The first movie about Apple’s legendary co-founder got its world premiere on Friday, just 15 months after Steve Jobs’ death.

“JOBS,” starring Ashton Kutcher as the tech and computer entrepreneur who revolutionized the way people listen to music and built Apple Inc into an international powerhouse, got a red carpet roll-out at the Sundance Film Festival ahead of a US national release in April.

“JOBS” chronicles 30 defining years of the late Apple chairman, from an experimental youth to the man in charge of one of the world’s most recognized brands. It is the first of two US feature films about Jobs, who died in 2011 at age 56.

“Everybody has their own opinion about Steve Jobs, and they have something invested in a different part of his story. So the challenge is to decide what part of his story to tell, and not disenfranchise anybody,” director Josh Stern told Reuters.

“Everyone can tear you apart. Everyone can look at any detail, a piece of clothing or a speech pattern and go ‘No, no, this is not what it was,’ and that’s terrifying because everyone is an appropriate critic,” Kutcher told Reuters.

“Hazarding a guess and venturing into too much speculation is always dangerous, especially with a character who is so well-known...”, Stern added.

Kutcher, 34, said on Friday he was honored to play Jobs but also terrified because of the former Apple chairman’s iconic status.

“To be playing a guy who so freshly is in people’s minds, where everywhere you go you can run into people who met him or knew him or had seen a video of him... that’s terrifying because everyone is an appropriate critic,” Kutcher told Reuters.

“Everyone can tear you apart. Everyone can look at any detail, a piece of clothing or a speech pattern and go ‘No, no, this is not what it was,’ and that’s really scary,” the actor said.

Daniel Craig gaining weight after James Bond?

London, 26 Jan—Actor Daniel Craig has reportedly gained weight ever since he stopped filming for James Bond franchise.

Craig, 44, who appeared in three Bond movies consecutively, has been advised by his friends to hit the gym again, reports dailystar.co.uk.

“He spent months beefing up for Bond. He needs to get back in the gym and start a nutritional plan to regain his Bond-esque muscles,” a source said.

“Having a dabby stomach is not really his style,” the source added.

Craig has played role of James Bond in 2006 release Quantum Of Solace and Skyfall, which released in 2012.

US TV channels to air ‘Legend of Zhen Huan’

Beijing, 26 Jan—Zheng, also a member of Beijing Municipality’s Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference—the local advisory body, said he has so far signed a draft contract with a US company, who will later re-cut the series into six mini-films to be broadcasted by the mainstream US TV stations.

Zheng said the unnamed US company plans to re-edit the entire series, while at the same time adding some scenes and changing its soundtrack. He said the original Chinese producers will completely stay out of the remake, because they are not up-to-date about what would appeal to the American viewer.

Additionally, the company believes the show can attract a large audience on the English speaking market, according to Zheng, who added that the show’s popularity in China is based on the positive values it tries to convey.

The show has reportedly been aired in its original language on several Chinese TV stations in the States. Of course this language barrier limited its audience to one strictly consisting of ethnic Chinese based in the US. But the remake of the ‘Legend of Zhen Huan’ will enable it to reach a broader public.

“This is a real going abroad,” the director said.

Despite the excitement surrounding the new project, China’s online community has expressed some concern. One netizen named @Zhang Xinyu wasn’t sure whether or not the Americans would understand the drama’s cultural implications. But she showed optimism about the show’s ability to expand cultural influence.

“A Californian student who has been living in China for five years said he had watched the show in its original version. The student, named Shang De in Chinese, was doubtful about the remake. ‘Most of my friends from the US and Europe are more interested in blind dating shows such as ‘If You Are the One’,’ he said.

In his opinion, the cultural difference forms the main obstacle for obtaining good ratings. On the one hand, the plot seems too slow to be exciting, unlike the average Hollywood or HBO show. On the other hand, the American audience still has difficulties to comprehend any Chinese costume drama set in long foregone times. Shang added that Jackie Chan and Zhang Yimou’s films cater better to the average American taste.

A popular Chinese costume drama, “Legend of Zhen Huan,” is likely to be introduced to the United States, said the series’ director Zheng Xiaolong.—Xinhua

Daniel Craig gaining weight after James Bond?

London, 26 Jan—Actor Daniel Craig has reportedly gained weight ever since he stopped filming for James Bond franchise.

Craig, 44, who appeared in three Bond movies consecutively, has been advised by his friends to hit the gym again, reports dailystar.co.uk.

“He spent months beefing up for Bond. He needs to get back in the gym and start a nutritional plan to regain his Bond-esque muscles,” a source said.

“Having a dabby stomach is not really his style,” the source added.

Craig has played role of James Bond in 2006 release Quantum Of Solace and Skyfall, which released in 2012.

US TV channels to air ‘Legend of Zhen Huan’

Beijing, 26 Jan—Zheng, also a member of Beijing Municipality’s Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference—the local advisory body, said he has so far signed a draft contract with a US company, who will later re-cut the series into six mini-films to be broadcasted by the mainstream US TV stations. Zheng said the unnamed US company plans to re-edit the entire series, while at the same time adding some scenes and changing its soundtrack. He said the original Chinese producers will completely stay out of the remake, because they are not up-to-date about what would appeal to the American viewer.

Additionally, the company believes the show can attract a large audience on the English speaking market, according to Zheng, who added that the show’s popularity in China is based on the positive values it tries to convey. The show has reportedly been aired in its original language on several Chinese TV stations in the States. Of course this language barrier limited its audience to one strictly consisting of ethnic Chinese based in the US. But the remake of the ‘Legend of Zhen Huan’ will enable it to reach a broader public. “This is a real going abroad,” the director said.

Despite the excitement surrounding the new project, China’s online community has expressed some concern. One netizen named @Zhang Xinyu wasn’t sure whether or not the Americans would understand the drama’s cultural implications. But she showed optimism about the show’s ability to expand cultural influence. A Californian student who has been living in China for five years said he had watched the show in its original version. The student, named Shang De in Chinese, was doubtful about the remake. “Most of my friends from the US and Europe are more interested in blind dating shows such as ‘If You Are the One’,” he said.

In his opinion, the cultural difference forms the main obstacle for obtaining good ratings. On the one hand, the plot seems too slow to be exciting, unlike the average Hollywood or HBO show. On the other hand, the American audience still has difficulties to comprehend any Chinese costume drama set in long foregone times. Shang added that Jackie Chan and Zhang Yimou’s films cater better to the average American taste.

A popular Chinese costume drama, “Legend of Zhen Huan,” is likely to be introduced to the United States, said the series’ director Zheng Xiaolong.—Xinhua
**Sports**

**Real Madrid re-sign Diego López to cover for the injured Casillas**

**Madrid, 26 Jan—** Real Madrid this Friday announced the signing of Sevilla goalkeeper Diego López to cover the loss of Iker Casillas, who will be out of action for almost three months after breaking a bone in his left hand.

The 33-year-old player for the Real Madrid C and B teams before being promoted to the first team squad as substitute to Casillas, but left the club in 2007 in order to play first team football. He left Villarreal after five seasons following the club’s relegation to the second division at the end of last season, but his move to Sevilla was not a success given that he has only made eight league starts and had lost his place in the side to veteran Andrés Palop.

One reason for Madrid’s decision to sign a keeper is that although Casillas underwent a successful operation on the hand he broke in the Copa del Rey on Wednesday night, his recovery time has been extended form two to three months, meaning he will not be available again until the end of April. He will miss the club’s Copa del Rey semi-final against FC Barcelona, the last 16 Champions League tie against Manchester United and around 12 BBVA Primera Liga matches.

Given the length of Casillas’ absence the club have decided to bring in an experienced player to compete for a first team spot with Antonio Adán, who has only a handful of appearances to his name. López could now be asked if what will be his third league appearance for Madrid at home to Getafe on Sunday and it will be interesting to see if coach José Mourinho puts his faith in his new signing or in Adán, a keeper who he picked ahead of Casillas in two matches earlier this month, arguing until the end that the now injured Spain international.

**Bruins rebound from Rangers loss to beat Islanders**

**Boston, 26 Jan—** The Boston Bruins rebounded from their overtime loss to the New York Rangers two nights earlier to beat the Islanders 4-2 on Friday.

Tied 2-2 going into the third period, Boston went ahead through defenseman Zdeno Chara, who began his NHL career with the Bruins. The 22-year-old Dulin has taken him to Villarreal after breaking a bone in his left hand. López, who is a product of the Real Madrid youth system, returned to the club for 4.5 million Euros (around 6 million US dollars), completing a round trip which has taken him to Villarreal and Seville.

The 33-year-old player for the Real Madrid C and B teams before being promoted to the first team squad as substitute to Casillas, but left the club in 2007 in order to play first team football. He left Villarreal after five seasons following the club’s relegation to the second division at the end of last season, but his move to Sevilla was not a success given that he has only made eight league starts and had lost his place in the side to veteran Andrés Palop.

One reason for Madrid’s decision to sign a keeper is that although Casillas underwent a successful operation on the hand he broke in the Copa del Rey on Wednesday night, his recovery time has been extended form two to three months, meaning he will not be available again until the end of April. He will miss the club’s Copa del Rey semi-final against FC Barcelona, the last 16 Champions League tie against Manchester United and around 12 BBVA Primera Liga matches.

Given the length of Casillas’ absence the club have decided to bring in an experienced player to compete for a first team spot with Antonio Adán, who has only a handful of appearances to his name. López could now be asked if what will be his third league appearance for Madrid at home to Getafe on Sunday and it will be interesting to see if coach José Mourinho puts his faith in his new signing or in Adán, a keeper who he picked ahead of Casillas in two matches earlier this month, arguing until the end that the now injured Spain international.

**France back Dulin out of Six Nations squad with injury**

**Paris, 26 Jan—** France fullback Brice Dulin will be out of action for several weeks because of a hamstring injury and is set to miss most of the Six Nations championship, the French federation (FFR) said on Friday.

Fullback Maxime Medard has been called up as a replacement in the 33-man preliminary squad which will gather on Saturday to prepare for the competition, the FFR said in a statement. Wing Vincent Clerc also picked up a minor injury on Friday while training with his club side Toulouse and is doubtful.

The 22-year-old Dulin, who started France’s last five games, picked up the injury during a French league game with his French club Castres on Thursday. “With league games so close to the start of our competition, we have to expect this kind of news,” France manager Philippe Saint-André was quoted as saying in the statement.

Medard, 26, returned last November after a knee injury he suffered during France’s win over Scotland last year in the Six Nations ruled him out for eight months. The Toulouse fullback, who was the first choice in the position during the 2011 World Cup, has 31 caps. France’s squad for their opening game in Italy on February 3 will be named on Monday.

**Sumo: Harumafuji on brink of New Year championship win**

**Tokyo, 26 Jan—** Harumafuji is on the brink of winning the New Year championship after dodging Kisenosato (10-3) to advance through defenseman Harumafuji, who started France’s second division at the end of last season, but his move to Sevilla was not a success of last season, but his move to Casillas in two matches earlier this month, arguing until the end that the now injured Spain international.

**Azarenka eyes second straight Australian Open crown**

**Melbourne, 26 Jan—** Defending champion Victoria Azarenka will bid for back-to-back titles at Melbourne Park on Saturday when she takes on China’s late-blooming Li Na in the final of the Australian Open. The 23-year-old Belarusian holds a 5-4 career record against former French Open champion Li, including the last four of their encounters.

Li, however, has prevailed in both their grand slam clashes, including her run to the 2011 final at Melbourne Park where she was overhauled by Belgian Kim Clijsters in three sets. Both players are bidding for their second grand slam crown.

**ICC confirms Cuttack as venue for Women World Cup**

**Mumbai, 26 Jan—** The ICC today confirmed that some of the Women cricket World Cup matches have been relocated to the Odisha city of Cuttack but the summit clash of the mega event will be played in Mumbai as scheduled.

In the wake of protest threats by Hindu Hardliners Shiv Sena, the organisers were forced to move the Group B matches, involving Pakistan team out of the Mumbai city.— PTI
Ceremony in Vietnam marks war-end anniversary

Tokyo, 26 Jan — A ceremony was held in Hanoi on Friday, 2 days ahead of the 40th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War. On 27 January 1973, an agreement was signed in Paris by the United States, North and South Vietnam that ended direct US involvement in the war. Saturday’s ceremony was attended by 1,500 officials and veterans, including Premier Nguyen Tan Dung.

Murray outmuses Federer to reach Melbourne final

MELBOURNE, 26 Jan — Andy Murray won a knock-down-drag-out thriller of a scrap with Roger Federer on Friday to set up an Australian Open final against Novak Djokovic and finally beat the Swiss for the first time at Melbourne Park final. The 25-year-old Briton blasted 21 aces and won the winner count 62-43 but it was only in the fifth set that he was able to pull away from the 17-times grand slam champion to reach his third Melbourne Park final.

“Forgive and Forget” Conference in Vietnam

Tokyo, 26 Jan — The Women’s Chapter of Myanmar Medical Association (Yangon Region) held the Annual General Meeting 2012 at the auditorium of Myanamar Medical Association on Thanbyu Street in Mingala Taungnyunt on 20 January. Chairperson of the chapter Dr Daw Khin Ma Aye presided over the meeting. Secretary Dr Daw Myat Lay read the annual report and Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Thain, the financial report. Members of the chapter participated in the discussion. The meeting focused on increasing number of more members of the association and making field trips to grass-root level to provide health care services to the people.

No Smoking

Murray outmuses Federer to reach Melbourne final

MELBOURNE, 26 Jan — Andy Murray won a knock-down-drag-out thriller of a scrap with Roger Federer on Friday to set up an Australian Open final against Novak Djokovic and finally beat the Swiss for the first time at Melbourne Park final. The 25-year-old Briton blasted 21 aces and won the winner count 62-43 but it was only in the fifth set that he was able to pull away from the 17-times grand slam champion to reach his third Melbourne Park final.
Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham attends reception to mark India’s 64th Anniversary Republic Day

YANGON, 26 Jan—Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife Daw Nan Shwe Hmoon attended a reception to mark 64th Anniversary Republic Day of India at the Indian ambassador’s residence here this evening.

It was also attended by Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing and wife, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe and wife, Yangon Command Commander M a-Gen Hsan Oo and wife, Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister U Zin Yaw and senior military officers, departmental heads, officials of foreign missions in Myanmar.

Indian Ambassador Dr Villur Sundararajan Seshadri and wife welcomed the Vice-President and wife on their arrival at the residence in the evening.

The band played national anthems of Myanmar and India.

The Vice-President and wife posed for documentary photo with the Indian Ambassador and wife and guests.

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and Daw Nan Shwe Hmoon then had dinner together with the guests.—MNA

Byline: Akar Hein

More traffic police will lessen traffic woes in Yangon

It is usual to see daily traffic woes in Yangon, the business hub of Myanmar, especially Hledan, Myeik, San Pyay and Hanthawaddy are always clogged with traffic. So more traffic polices are deployed at these seven intersections with heavy traffic.

“Traffic police squad are formed with eight officers and 28 other ranks, totaling 38 in each township”, member of Public Transport Authority U Aung Myint said.

As 80 percent of the total population of Yangon dwellers heavily rely on road transport, delays caused by traffic congestions, road accidents and violation of traffic rules are frequent in Yangon. In order to relieve traffic stress, more deployment of traffic policers at intersections and traffic lights is underway.

Arrangements are being made to form traffic squads in all 31 townships in Yangon where nine areas see traffic squads. It is planned to form new traffic squad with the membership that range from 10 to 30 police members including one police captain.

Formation of traffic squads at Hlegu, Thanlyin and Kyaukdon Townships is included in the scheme. As traffic police corps reconstitutes itself as special squad, it will contribute to reduction in traffic delays and congestions, road accidents and violation of traffic rules.

M Mya Min 24-1-2013

Talks on value and benefits of world’s cultural heritage sites organized

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Jan—As Myanmar is rich in cultural heritages, preservation and promotion of her traditional cultural heritages is vital for the nation and the job is not only concerned with government and Ministry of Culture but with entire national people and their cooperation is crucial.

The Ministry of Culture is applying UNESCO’s World’s Cultural Heritage status for three ancient cities of Pyu Era—Vishnun, Taungawmyi and Inwa in Magway Region and Srekesta in Pyay Township, Bago Region and Hanlin in Sagaing Region. Chairperson of Pyu Ancient Cities Coordination Committee, Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sanda Khin, experts from UNESCO, and officials gave talks on benefits of world’s cultural heritage sites and required cooperation of locals.—MNA

Corrigendum

Please read para 7 of the press release issued by Ministry of Foreign Affairs appeared in this newspaper on 26-1-2013 as follows:-

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Press Release

7. Although the Government has been exerting such efforts for the national unity and peace, the US Embassy press release has mentioned the continuation of Myanmar Tatmadaw’s military offensive in the vicinity of KIA’s Headquarters and its strong opposition quoting sources from some media and NGOs. The press release could cause misunderstanding in the international community as it did not mention anything about terrorist actions and atrocities committed by the KIA against the innocent people, destruction of life and property and abduction, but on the other hand, elaborating the events as if only the Myanmar Government and the Tatmadaw launched the offensive. Myanmar strongly objects and rejects such statement.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Nay Pyi Taw

25 January 2013