Scouts return to Myanmar after five decades

By Darryl Gibson

NAY PYI TAW (Myanmar), 12 Jan—It’s all systems go as flags of all 11 competing nations were raised in a brief ceremony at the Wunna Theikdi Stadium under the Games Village in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

SSPF President Dato Zainal Abu Zarin and the Federation’s Board members attended the brief ceremony which saw the hosting of flags by Brunei, Cambo- dia, Thailand, Malaysia, Laos, Indonesia, Singapore, Philippines, Vietnam, Timor Leste and Myanmar. The ASEAN Para Games is held every two years after the SEA Games.

“Despite all the shortcomings and challenges, I’m quite sure that Naypyitaw will be a great host of the Para Games. Various aspects such as in the area of sports, classification, facilities and accessibility has been looked into. I foresee that it’d be a great Games,” said APSF President Datuk Zainal Abu Zarin.

Myanmar is hosting the ASEAN Para Games for the first time. The previous editions were held in Kuala Lumpur in 2001 and 2009, Hanoi (2003), Manila, (2005) and Nakhonratchasima, Thailand in 2007 and Solo in Indonesia in 2011.

ASEAN sports powerhouse Thailand are seeking their 10th consecutive overall crown in the Games while host Myanmar, will be looking to improve their standings to help boost the profile of para sports in the country.

In the 2011 Solo Games, Thailand reigned supreme amassing 116 gold followed by Indonesia and Malaysia in the overall second and third spots respectively.

Some 1,800 athletes are competing in the Myanmar Games from 14 to 20 January, which will have 12 sports being contested. Sports listed in the six-day Games are archery, athletics, boccia, and chess, Football 5-a-side, Football 7-a-side, Goalball, Powerlifting, Swimming, Table Tennis, Volleyball-Sitting and Wheelchair Basketball.

Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) on Letpadaungtaung Copper Mining Project clarified to locals in Salingyi

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Jan—Vice-President Dr Sai Maung Kham called on those present at coordination meeting for forming the Myanmar Scout Central Committee to shape any possible role of the government to best support the formation of scout associations in Myanmar.

Scout activities have stopped in Myanmar since 1964. Vice-President Dr Sai Maung Kham acknowledged the return of the scout associations to Myanmar after five decades.

The Vice-President praised the efforts of the interim scouts committee in making known the people. Ar- rangement will be made to observe the report at liaison office and Report Scrutiniz- ing Committee is assessing the report systematically as the project is pivotal for the State and people.

Chairman of Environ- mental Impact Assessment Report Scrutinizing Committee Deputy Director-General of Environmental Conservation U Hla Maung Thein explained reviews to chapter (20) of ESIA (draft), quality of soil, water and air, biodiversity, socioeconomics and environmental manage- ment programmes.

Consultant Mr. Brett Loney of Knight Pies sold Co who compiled the report discussed matters on base- line studies and key issues for environmental manage- ment plan.

Deputy Minister U Than Tun Aung clarified questions raised by local people. —MNA

Ceremony to clarify environ- mental and social impact assessment (ESIA) on Letpadaungtaung Copper Mining Project in progress.

Nav Pi Taw, 13 Jan—A ceremony to clarify environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) on Letpadaungtaung Copper Mining Project took place at the town hall in Salingyi Township yesterday morn- ing.

ESIA (draft) was officially submitted by UME- HL and MWMCL on 11 December 2013 to implement the project in accord with international norms and standards and the report is being scrutinized by Environmental Impact Assessment Report Scrutinizing Committee formed by the State. The meeting’s purpose is to clarify data from the report and seek suggestions from the locals.

Work progress of the project, undertakings of unbi- ased assessment committee, holding meetings related to ESIA (draft) and surveys with regard to the project and environmental green- ing activities were clarified to the locals. Member of Environmental Conservation Committee Director-General of Environmental Conserva- tion Department U Nay Aye said ESIA (draft) will be posted on the project website both in English and Myanmar languages to make known the people. Ar- rangement will be made to observe the report at liaison office and Report Scrutinizing Committee is assessing the report systematically as the project is pivotal for the State and people.

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Anti-gov’t protesters start “shutdown rally” in Bangkok

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Magway Region organizes Workshop on Regional WASH Planning

Magway, 13 Jan—The Workshop on Regional WASH Planning, jointly organized by Magway Region Rural Development Department and UNICEF, was held at the city hall in Magway on 10 January.

Nation-building Endeavours

Officials make field trips to grassroots level

Kalay District officials meet local people in discussion on local requirements.

Kalewa, 13 Jan—One-storey brick school buildings are under construction for post-primary schools for 2013-14 fiscal year.

The school building will be 60 feet long and 30 feet wide and located in Chinchaung, Kyaukgyi and Waibon Village, east of Mahamyang Forest, 50 miles northeast of Kalewa in Sagaing Region.

Sagaying Region Hluttaw MP U Kyaw Soe Win and Chairman of Kalay District Management Committee U Maung Htoo together with township level authorities and officials inspected progress of construction tasks.

In meeting with local people, they discussed requirements of education, health, transport and rural development tasks and attended to the needs.

Kyemon-Ju Nine

Thukha Myitta donates stationery, teaching aid worth K 550,000

Mandalay, 13 Jan—Thukha Myitta Social Group was formed with 30 students who are learning at Law and other majoring subjects at Yadanaung University of Mandalay in July 2013.

The aim of the group is to donate cash to needy children.

They went to the monastic primary school of Yadana Maungmyu Monastery in Monywa Village-tract in Monywa Township on 11 January and offered meals and robes to members of the Sangha and food to teachers and students and stationery, books and journals worth K 550,000 to the school and library through Abbot Bhaddanta Nanobhasa.

The monastic education school teaches 170 children from the villages nearby the monastery.

Kyemon-Kyaw Zin (Monywa)

Traffic accident kills motorcyclist

Thazi, 13 Jan—A traffic accident occurred between mile posts 352/0 and 352/1 of Yangon-Mandalay Highway near Wanta Village in Meiktila District at 8 pm on 9 January.

A light truck driven by Zarni Soe, 36 of Ward 2 in Wundwin Township bumped against another motorcycle driven by unknown person. Zarni Soe dodged his vehicle to the right side, so it caused upside down. Zarni Soe was injured at his head and motorcyclist injured in critical condition and rushed to Wundwin Hospital but he died on the way. Hanzar Police Station filed a lawsuit against Zarni Soe under the law.

Kyemon-Thura Tun

Cash donated to construction of traditional medicine hospital

Thudhamma Manjotadadhara U Maung Maung explained the purpose of donation.

The wellwishers presented cash donation to Hospital Construction Committee Chairman Region Hluttaw Representative U Tint Aung and Secretary of Township Development Supportive Committee U Kyaw Soe.

Officials gave certificate of honour to the wellwisher.

The ceremony was attended by the township administrator, departmental officials, wellwishers and those of social organizations.

Thudhamma Manjotadadhara U Maung Maung explained the purpose of donation.

Cash donation for 16-bed traditional medicine hospital in progress in Pyu of Bago Region.

Pyu, 13 Jan—The cash donation for the 4-acre land plot of 16-bed traditional medicine hospital was held at the hall of Township Development Affairs Committee in Pyu of Bago Region on 12 January.

Wellwisher Chairman of Pyu Township Association Agga Maha Thiri

HRD

Naw Htet Shein who replied to discussions.—Kyemon-Thura Tun

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Kyemon-Kyaw Zin (Monywa)
Jakarta braces for bigger floods as over 5,000 displaced

Jakarta, 13 Jan — Indonesia’s capital Jakarta is taking precautions to ensure the safety of people from possible bigger floods as more than 5,000 people have been displaced by the waters so far, official said here on Monday.

Days of heavy downpours in Jakarta and upstream areas of Ciliwung River have bloated the river and burst its banks, pushing communities to stay on alert as the surface of the river keeps rising, said Sudoto Parwo Nugroho, a spokesperson of national disaster agency.

Waters have flooded in several parts of Jakarta and inundated 7,367 houses in the city, said Sudoto. “As many as 5,152 people fleeing to escape floods and taking shelters at higher grounds at 35 spots,” he told Xinhua over phone.

The official warned the people to stay cautious as more rains are feared to come down.

“Based on satellite monitoring, there are still many clouds in the air of Jakarta and Java Sea, heavy downpours are still potentially to come down. Be always cautious,” he said.

The capital Jakarta was paralyzed by floods on 17 January, 2013, as waters submerged the centre of business and office buildings.

Seasonal downpours often incur floods each year in Indonesia, a chain of 17,500 islands where over millions of people live in vulnerable flood plains near to rivers.

Xinhua

Iran, 6 powers agree to implement nuclear accord from 20 January

TEHRAN, 13 Jan — Iran and six major powers on Sunday agreed that their accord reached last year on curbing Tehran’s nuclear activities will be implemented from 20 January.

The agreement on the implementation date was disclosed by Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, according to Iran’s official IRNA news agency.

US President Barack Obama said in a statement that he has “no illusions about how hard it will be” to achieve the objective of the earlier accord, but added that “for the sake of our national security and the peace and security of the world, now is the time to give diplomacy a chance to succeed.”

European Union negotiator Catherine Ashton said in a statement that the “foundations for a coherent, robust and smooth implementation” have been laid.

The accord reached last November between Iran and the six countries — Britain, China, France, Germany, Russia and the United States — requires Iran to stop uranium enrichment above a fissile purity of 5 percent and halt construction of its Arak heavy-water reactor, which could yield plutonium.

In return, the six countries will remove the previous metals trade embargo on Iran, while refrain ing from imposing new sanctions for six months.

Kyodo News

Anti-gov’t protesters start “shutdown rally” in Bangkok

BANGKOK, 13 Jan — Anti-government protesters blocked main roads and intersections Monday in Bangkok as they staged a “shutdown rally” aimed at toppling the caretaker government led by Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra.

The big crowds of protesters have blocked main roads in northern and central Bangkok including business and shopping places, putting pressure on the Yingluck government that has vowed to stay in power until elections are held.

Yingluck held a special meeting on Monday with ministers concerning the rally, while nearly 30,000 police and soldiers were deployed in the rally areas to ensure safety. Yingluck recently reiterated that the general election will be held as scheduled, even though the Election Commission called for it to be rescheduled in light of the political turmoil.

The army chief, Prayut Cha-ocha, also called a meeting of the military top brass to monitor the situation amid rumors of a potential military coup if the violence gets out of control.

The army chief has said the government has to take responsibility if the violence escalates and causes casualties. However, he urged all sides to avoid violence and confrontation.

On Sunday, the government designated zones that the protesters planned to occupy as off-limits in an unsuccessful attempt to prevent them gaining access.

Under the shutdown, besides occupying several key intersections in the capital, the protesters led by former Deputy Prime Minister Suhep Thaugsuban plan to cut off electricity and water supply to government agencies and also Yingluck’s private residence. —Kyodo News

Al-Qaeda Syria unit executes dozens of rivals in Raqqa

AMMAN, 13 Jan — The al-Qaeda-linked Islamist State of Iraq and the Levant executed dozens of rival Islamists over the last two days as the group recaptured most territory it had lost in the northeastern Syrian province of Raqqa, activists said on Sunday.

One of the activists, who spoke from the province on condition of anonymity, said up to 100 fighters from the Nusra Front, another al-Qaeda affiliate, and the Ahrar al-Sham brigade, captured by ISIL in the town of Tel Abyad on the border with Turkey, the nearby area of Qanlar and the provincial capital city of Raqqa, were shot dead.

There was no independent confirmation of the report.

“About 70 bodies, most shot in the head, were collected and sent to the Raqqa National hospital,” the activist said.

“Many of those executed had been wounded in the fighting. The fact that Nusra Front and Ahrar al-Sham are ideologically similar to the ISIL did not matter,” he added.

ISIL’s growth has alarmed Western nations, who are pushing the opposition to attend peace talks in Switzerland in 10 days’ time, and has helped President Bashar al-Assad to portray himself as the only secular alternative to Islamist extremism.

Fighting between the ISIL and rival Islamists and more moderate rebels have killed hundreds of people over the last 10 days and shaken the hardline militant group led by foreign jihadists. —Reuters

Cambodian court frees former Russian tycoon

PHNOM PENH, 13 Jan — A Cambodian court freed Russian real estate tycoon Sergei Polonsky on Monday and he will not be extradited to Russia to face embezzlement charges there, his lawyer said.

Polonsky, who was once worth $1.2 billion, is accused of fraud in a case that has vowed to stay in power until elections are held.

Polonsky’s Cambodian lawyer Benson Samay said judges at closed-door decision at the Appeal Court on Monday cited the lack of an extradition treaty between the two countries to fight other charges.

He also told reporters his client would stay in the country to fight other charges.

Polonsky was detained last year in Cambodia and released on bail in April with two other Russians after being charged with assault and illegal detention after an alleged altercation with the crew of a tourist boat.

“He won’t be extradited to Russia and he will continue to help Cambodia by investing here,” his lawyer told reporters. “I will help him find a wife, he is a good man.” —Reuters

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Friends of Syria group urges opposition to attend Geneva talks

PARIS, 13 Jan — The “Friends of Syria”, an alliance of mainly Western and Gulf Arab countries who oppose Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, urged opposition groups on Sunday to attend this month’s peace talks, saying there was no other route to a political solution.

With 10 days to go until the first direct talks between the opposition and President Bashar al-Assad’s government - set for 22 January in Switzerland and dubbed “Geneva 2” - Western backers have struggled to unify rebel groups.

The main political opposition body in exile, the Syrian National Coalition (SNC), has been plagued by internal bickering. It postponed a decision on whether to attend until next week after nearly a quarter of its 121 members threatened to resign following after the re-election of its Saudi-backed leader, Ahmad al-Jarba.

In a final statement, the 11 core Friends of Syria nations urged the SNC to attend the talks on the shores of Lake Geneva. “We invite them to form, as soon as possible, a delegation of opposition forces to participate in the political process,” the joint statement said.

“There is no other political solution,” French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius said. “There will be no political solution for Syria unless ‘Geneva 2’ meets.”

Even SNC participation at Geneva 2 is no guarantee that there will be an interlocutor in the talks who can truly represent the armed rebellion.

Led from abroad, the SNC has limited influence over the fighters on the ground who are acceptable to the West, and none over the more radically Islamist rebels who have supplanted them on many fronts of the rebellion.

South Sudan peace talks continue on truce

KISUMU, 13 Jan — The delegation of the South Sudanese government will continue to negotiate with the opposition side to resolve the crisis in Africa’s newest state, Michael Makuei, South Sudanese Minister of Information and Broadcasting, said on Sunday.

Under the mediation of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the two sides have continued the peace talks in Addis Ababa, capital of Ethiopia. Makuei, who is also spokesperson of the government delegation to the peace talks, told the press that the South Sudanese government continues the peace negotiation without conditions.

He expressed optimism that the two sides would sign the cessation of hostilities in few days. Makuei said IGAD envoys on Saturday held discussion with Rek Machar, the former South Sudanese vice president.

“Yesterday, the special envoys went to visit Rek Machar in his place inside South Sudan. They went to discuss with him issues of concern and special issues that are the main obstacle to the signing of the cessation of hostilities,” he stated.

He said those in the opposition side condition it on the release of detainees.

The minister said the release of detainees, who have allegedly been involved in the reportedly attempted coup, should not be a condition for the negotiation. “We will continue to negotiate, the mediators or the envoys will continue, and we are optimistic that we will be signing this agreement within the coming few days,” he noted.

The minister also said, “We have fully controlled the whole of Unity State. We have recovered the oil installations even though they were badly destroyed. This is very unfortunate. We have recovered them all. They have destroyed whatever facilities that are there including the hospital, which was recently built. They have done a massive destruction. Nevertheless, we have pushed them out.”

M6.5 earthquake jolts Puerto Rico

WASHINGTON, 13 Jan — A magnitude-6.5 earthquake jolted Puerto Rico at 0401 GMT on Monday, the US Geological Survey (USGS) said.

The epicentre, with a depth of 28.51 km, was initially determined to be at 18.9974 degrees north latitude and 66.8287 degrees west longitude.—Xinhua

Japan pledges 70 billion yen in ODA to Mozambique

MAPUTO, 13 Jan — Japan will provide a total of 70 billion yen in official development assistance to Mozambique over five years for a transport corridor project, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said on Sunday.

Abe made the pledge in a meeting with President Armando Guebuza in the Mozambique capital of Maputo as they agreed to strengthen cooperation on energy sources such as liquefied natural gas and coal.

The Nacala Corridor, located in the north of Mozambique, extends from the port of Nacala to inland districts of the African nation and further to neighboring countries such as Malawi and Zambia. “We agreed to deepen bilateral relations,” Abe said at a joint Press conference, while Guebuza expressed his gratitude for Japan’s development assistance.

The two leaders also confirmed that the successful development of natural resources in Mozambique is important for its economic growth and energy supply to Japan. As for an already signed investment accord, the two leaders expressed hope it will take effect at an early date.

Abe, on a weeklong trip to the Middle East and Africa, also said Japan will contribute to world peace and stability with his policy of “proactive pacifism.” Japanese Self-Defense Force troops participated in UN peacekeeping operations in Mozambique between 1993 and 1995.—Kyodo News

Syrian refugees in Lebanon exceed 868,000

BERLIN, 13 Jan — The number of Syrian refugees seeking shelter in Lebanon has crossed the mark of 868,000, an increase of about 240,000 than last month’s registration, the United Nations Higher Council for Refugees said on Sunday in its weekly report.

The report said that 819,239 refugees have been registered so far while there are 48,985 refugees who are still waiting to finalize their registration.

The refugees were distributed as follows: 243,106 in North Lebanon, 278,296 in the Bekaa, 192,956 in Beirut and Mount Lebanon and 104,881 in South Lebanon.

The report added that more than 7,000 Syrian refugees have received medical care during last week particularly in the field of pediatrics.

The number of Syrian refugees in the neighboring countries has exceeded two million and Lebanon host most of them, according to the report.

Ex-NBA star Rodman says 1-week trip to North Korea trip “amazing”

BEIJING, 13 Jan — Former US basketball superstar Dennis Rodman said on Monday his one-week trip to North Korea, including a meeting with leader Kim Jong Un, was “amazing.”

“I am not the president. I am just Dennis Rodman and an individual,” he told a crush of reporters at Beijing airport on arrival from Pyongyang, after celebrating Kim’s birthday with the leader last week. “We can actually get along and be happy.”

Rodman has been criticized for not using his close personal ties with Kim to raise concerns about repression in North Korea and seek the release of an imprisoned US missionary. —Kyodo News
Singapore, 13 Jan — The Singapore Management University, established in 2000 as a specialized business university, is planning to expand to be a more comprehensive university in the future. The university’s 7,000 undergraduates in business, law, information systems management, accountancy, economics and social sciences will be able to study subjects in history, literature and philosophy when school of humanities is set up in the next few years, the Straits Times reported. It will also offer a full degree course in applied mathematics.

Also on the cards is a short-stay residential college, or SMU Village, for students to incubate their project ideas.

“We no longer see ourselves as a specialized business school modeled after the Wharton School of Business, but one that offers its courses and research in the management of all fields including health care, public policy and art,” said Ho Kwon Ping, chairman of the governing board.

The university, which has its campus in downtown Singapore, is in talks with the relevant government agencies to build the village, which will have rooms to house 600 students.

But Ho said the university will be striking out in a slightly different direction. “Going forward, we also want to work with social, and natural sciences as well as the humanities, a comprehensive university in the European sense,” he said.

Ho said the university may offer a degree in the liberal arts in future, should the humanities courses prove to be popular.

The university’s president Arnaud De Meyer said it was ready to “embrace” its location within the city.

“We don’t want to be an academic island within the city. We want to be part and parcel of the city and be a change agent within it,” he said.

Xinhua

6 policemen killed in attacks on aide to Pakistani Prime Minister

Islamabad, 13 Jan — Six policemen were killed in two attacks on a special adviser to Pakistan’s Prime Minister in the northern part of the country Sunday, senior police officials said.

The adviser, Amir Muqam, told reporters that one of the attacks was carried out by a suicide bomber and the second by a bomb in his hometown of Shangla district in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province.

Muqam said the attacks took place when he was returning from a meeting that brokered reconciliation between two feuding groups.

Muqam, who served as federal minister under former Prime Minister Pervez Musharraf, is currently working for Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif as a Cabinet-level special adviser.

“This was the sixth attempt on my life apparently carried out by terrorists,” Muqam said.

Shangla is regarded as a semi-tribal area bordering Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province and the autonomous region of Gilgit-Baltistan, with the location within the city. It was ready to “embrace” its location within the city.

“We don’t want to be an academic island within the city. We want to be part and parcel of the city and be a change agent within it,” he said.

Xinhua

Pentagon chief calls for “transparent” constitutional referendum in Egypt

Washington, 13 Jan — US Defence Secretary Chuck Hagel on Sunday called for a “transparent” constitutional referendum in Egypt to ensure all voters cast their vote “freely.” Hagel spoke at a meeting that brokered reconciliation between two feuding groups.

The adviser, Amir Muqam, told reporters that one of the attacks was carried out by a suicide bomber and the second by a bomb in his hometown of Shangla district in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province.

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Xinhua

Ukraine pro-Europe protesters hold first big rally of 2014

Kiev, 13 Jan — At least 50,000 opponents of Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich rallied in a central Kiev square on Sunday, reviving an anti-government protest movement after a Christmas and New Year lull.

The mass rally in Independence Square was a continuation of street protests that erupted in November after Yanukovich decided to abandon a free trade agreement with the European Union in favour of closer cooperation with Russia. The demonstration came a day after baton-wielding riot police tried to disperse protesters outside a Kiev courthouse, sparking clashes in which at least 10 people were injured.

“What are the next steps? We will fight, ... protest peacefully,” Vitaly Klitschko, an opposition leader and former world heavyweight boxing champion, told a crowd waving the blue-and-yellow national flags of Ukraine.

He accused the authorities of using the police to silence protests, and repeated the opposition’s call for early presidential elections, which are not due until 2015. Another opposition leader, Arseniy Yatsenyuk, called on the West to impose sanctions against senior state officials, including Interior Minister Vitaly Zaharkenko, who, he said, had violated Ukraine’s constitution by authorizing the use of force against the protesters.

On 7 January, the US Senate passed a non-bind- resolution urging the US president and Congress to consider applying sanc-

ions including visa bans and asset freezes against any officials who ordered or carried out violence against protesters. — Reuters

38 arrested after Spain’s construction plan stirs protests

Madrid, 13 Jan — Twenty-two people were arrested on Saturday night in the Spanish city of Burgos, bringing the total of arrested people to 38 since a protest against a street construction plan started on Friday night, officials said.

Twelve people were also injured during the Saturday night incidents that followed on from the disturbances on Friday in which people protested against a government decision to turn a four-lane road into a two-lane Boulevard.

On Friday, a group of protestors threw bottles and stones at police, burned rubbish containers and broke shop windows. The violent attacks ended up with riot police arresting 16 pro-
testors.

The clashes on Saturday followed a march organized in support of those arrested and saw a further 22 arrests, eight of whom were under 18 years old.

Saturday’s march involved over 1,000 people and had been peaceful, but then degenerated into incidents similar to those on Friday with street furniture damaged, street barricades erected and various baton charges by riot police.

Spanish media reports said there was more damage caused on Saturday than in the previous night. Local authorities held a meeting Sunday to evaluate the damage and consider what action should now be taken. — Xinhua

Death toll from S Philippine landslides, flooding climbs to 13

Davao City, (Philippines), 13 Jan — At least 13 people are confirmed dead due to landslides and mass- sive flooding in a number of areas in southern Philip-

pines on Sunday, local gov-

ernment officials said on Monday.

Loreto Rirao, civil defense chief for Davao region, said 11 of the fatal-

ities were caused by land- slides that hit mining min-

eralties in Compostela Valley and Davao Oriental Provinces.

Rirao said two people were drowned after floodwater swamped commu-

nities in Baguian City in Agusan del Sur Province.

The landslides and floods injured 10 others while 14 people were re-

ported missing. The flooding and landslides swept by days of continuous rains due to a lingering low pres- sure area also displaced some 12,000 people in southern Philippines.

In Compostela Valley province alone, provincial police chief Senior Supt. Camilo Cascolan said some 1,200 families or about 1,500 individuals have been evacuated.

Several bridges and homes were also attacked and washed out and major roads were submerged in floodwaters. — Xinhua

An Israeli police helicopter hovers above Israeli Knesset (parliament) where the mourning ceremony of former Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon takes place in Jerusalem, on 12 Jan, 2014. — Xinhua

New Light of Myanmar
Asian shares mostly firmer, gold gains as dollar skids

SYDNEY, 13 Jan — Asian shares and currencies were mostly firmer on Monday in the wake of surprisingly weak US jobs numbers that added to the case for the Federal Reserve to keep rates low for longer. Friday’s disappointing data pulled down bond yields and the dollar, while lifting prices for gold and many commodities. It was also seen as beneficial for some emerging market countries which had been pressured by funds flocking to western assets.

While activity was curbed by a Japanese holiday, South Korea managed a rise of 0.7 percent.

An office worker walks past the board of the Australian Securities Exchange building displaying its logo in central Sydney on 5 April, 2013. — REUTERS

S Africa issues warning against Congo fever

JOHANNESBURG, 13 Jan — The South African health organization on Sunday warned people against risking time outdoors should they contract the Congo fever.

As the summer comes, the logo of German carmaker Volkswagen is seen at a VW dealership in Hamburg, on 28 Oct, 2013. Volkswagen is due to present company results on Wednesday. — Reuters

Jaguar Land Rover reports record sales for 2013

LONDON, 13 Jan — Jaguar Land Rover (JLR), the largest car manufacturer in Britain, reported on Sunday sales worldwide in 2013, thanks to strong demand in the United States and Germany as well as growing markets of India and China.

JLR, a British brand which is now owned by India’s Tata Motors, said the sales of vehicles reached a new high in 2013 to 425,006 units, rising 19 percent year on year. Sales of Land Rover brand topped 350,000 units worldwide last year, accounting for more than 80 percent JLR’s total sales.

Its vehicles are now sold in 38 international markets. JLR’s sales surged 30 percent in the Asia-Pacific and China region; 21 percent in North America; 15 percent in Britain; six percent in the rest of Europe and 23 percent in other markets outside Britain. Ralf Speth, chief executive of Jaguar Land Rover (JLR), said: “2013 has proven to be a very positive year for Jaguar Land Rover thanks to continuing strong demand for vehicles across the range.”

“Our unrelenting focus on design, technology, innovation and quality has seen Jaguar Land Rover reach global consumers in more markets than ever before thanks to its most desirable product line-up, enriched further in 2013 by the Jaguar F-TYPE and all-new Range Rover Sport”, Tata Motors bought Jaguar and Land Rover from Ford Motor in 2008 for 2.3 billion US dollars as part of plans to expand its reach beyond Asia. — Xinhua

Volkswagen says it plans to invest $7 billion in North America

DETROIT, 13 Jan — Volkswagen AG said on Sunday it plans to make a sport utility vehicle tailored for the North American market and will invest $7 billion in the region as it seeks to increase sales.

Europe’s largest automaker reiterated its goal of selling 1 million Volkswagen and upscale Audi vehicles annually in the United States by 2018 as it launches more locally made cars.

The company said the move was a sign of renewed commitment to the the eye of the North American Auto Show. The $7 billion is to be spent over five years as part of investment plans previously announced at a global level by the Wolfsburg, Germany-based group. VW said the new seven-seater SUV would be launched in 2016.

Wintekorn declined to say whether the new vehicle would be assembled at VW’s Chattanooga, Tennessee plant or in Mexico, where production of the Golf compact begins next week. Volkswagen’s Phaeton se-
Australia’s Telstra to offload majority stake in struggling Sensis

SYDNEY, 13 Jan — Australia’s biggest phone company Telstra Corporation Ltd has agreed to sell 70 percent of its directories unit Sensis, offloading a struggling business challenged by digital transition for less than the market had anticipated.

The sale of Sensis, following Telstra’s sale of Hong Kong mobile phone business last month, would further boost the telco giant’s cash war chest to invest in new growth businesses and expand its mobile network.

Telstra said on Monday that it had agreed to sell the Sensis stake to Platinum Equity, a US-based private equity firm, for A$454 million ($407.17 million). Telstra will retain 30 percent of Sensis, a business valued at A$649 million, it added. Analysts had said the entire business was worth as much as A$3 billion.

“This is Telstra getting out as soon as they can because it believes the business in the longer term may not be as viable as some people suggest,” said IG market strategist Evan Lucas. He added that the deal was “disappointing” from a price perspective but was “probably a good thing” for Telstra as a whole.

Telstra shares dipped 0.1 percent to A$5.26 at 0009 GMT. Sensis publishes print and online directories including the White Pages and the Yellow Pages. The unit generated earnings before interest, taxation, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) of A$571 million for the year ending June 2013, down 22 percent from the previous year. Chief Financial Officer Andrew Penn told investors in an August briefing that the transitioning of the Sensis business to a digital model remained “challenging”.

“We have spent the last two years enhancing our print directories business with a rich set of digital directory offerings,” Telstra chief executive David Thodey said in a statement on Monday. “To drive further momentum, we believe it is the appropriate time to introduce Platinum Equity as a strategic partner.”

But the sale price implies the business could be in deeper trouble than people had thought, said another telecommunications analyst who declined to be named according to company policy.

Samsung Galaxy S5 ‘premium’ model to be made of stainless steel, plastic

NEW DELHI, 13 Jan — Ahead of the much-anticipated launch of Samsung’s next flagship smartphone, widely expected to be dubbed Galaxy S5, there is endless speculation around the device. Now, a report emerging from Korea has claimed that Samsung is adopting a blend of stainless steel, to increase the endurance, and plastic, to check the weight of the alleged ‘premium’ variant of the Samsung Galaxy S5.

Further, the report claims that the rear panel covering the battery compartment will be made of metal, and will be cast alongside a plastic material. The report also suggests that the South Korean manufacturer is also working on aluminium and magnesium chassis with a sealed battery compartment for the alleged ‘premium’ variant of the Galaxy S5.

An earlier report had indicated that Samsung is planning to release two versions of the alleged Galaxy S5: a premium variant which will sport a metal chassis and a flexible OLED, and a variant which will come with the usual plastic body, as found on other Galaxy smartphones. Notably, the South Korean giant has also been rumoured to be working on the alleged Samsung Galaxy F, which would sport a metal body and could be launched in 2014 after the release of rumoured Galaxy S5.

It can be expected that the current Korean report might be referring to the alleged Galaxy F. Earlier report revealed that Samsung’s alleged Galaxy F’s metallic prototype was manufactured in Europe and then was moved to the South Korean giant’s Vietnam production unit.

On Thursday, a report quoted a Samsung VP as saying the company was considering the inclusion of an iris-scanning feature on the Samsung Galaxy S5. The VP added that Samsung is looking to launch the Galaxy S5 in April, alongside the company’s successor to the Galaxy Gear.

Iran to launch 3 new satellites

TEHERAN, 13 Jan — Iran is preparing to send into orbit three new homemade satellites, Vice President for Executive Affairs Mohammad Shariatmadari was quoted as saying by Iran daily on Sunday.

“Tadbir, Sharif Sat and Fajr satellites are all in the final stages and ready for launching,” Shariatmadari said.

He declined to specify dates for the launch, saying that the blast-offs will take place once technical tests are concluded.

In December, a senior Iran’s Space Agency (ISA) official said that Teheran would send Tadbir and Sharif Sat into orbit by the end of the current Iranian year (20 March, 2014).

“Tests are being conducted on the two satellites before the launching process,” Hamid Fazeli said.

The country will soon launch another domestically-built satellite carrier Karoshgar-7 (Explorer-7) into space. On 14 December, Iran sent a second live monkey “Fargam,” by the rocket “Research” into space. In January, Iran had sent a capsule containing a monkey onboard Pishgam (Pioneer) I into space. — Xinhuayar

Orbital Sciences cargo ship arrives at space station

CAPE CANAVERAL (Florida), 13 Jan — Orbital Sciences Corp, one of two companies hired by US space agency NASA to make supply runs to the International Space Station, delivered its first cargo ship on Sunday, a NASA TV broadcast showed.

Space station flight engineer Mike Hopkins used the outpost’s 60-foot-long (18 metre) robotic arm to pluck a Cygnus freighter capsule from orbit at 06:08 am EST as the two ships sailed 264 miles over the Indian Ocean, northeast of Madagascar.

“A big sigh of relief for Orbital,” said astronaut and NASA TV commentator Catherine “Cady” Coleman from Mission Control in Houston. About two hours later, Hopkins latched the capsule, which is about the size of a small bus, to a docking port on the space station’s Harmony module.

The capsule is loaded with 3,221 pounds (1,461 kg) of food, equipment, science experiments and supplies for the station, including computers and replacement parts for NASA’s spacesuits. Several commercial payloads also are aboard the Cygnus freighter, including a “Cubesat” launcher owned by Houston-based NanoRacks. Cubesats are 4-inch-sided, standardized, relatively inexpensive spacecraft.

They produce their own power, transmit signals and are used for a variety of scientific purposes. Individual Cubesats can be configured to fly together. The launcher will be operated from Japan’s Kibo module, which includes a small airlock, robotic arm and external platform.

The Japan Aerospace and Exploration Agency already operates a similar CubeSat launcher. The Cygnus capsule is scheduled to remain docked to the outpost for about 45 days, and will be unpacked, then refilled with trash and items no longer needed aboard the station.— Reuters

Two Chinese businessmen booked space trips for 2015

BEIJING, 13 Jan — Two Chinese businessmen have already booked tickets for space trip in 2015 since registration began on the Chinese mainland on 27 December, the China Daily reported on Monday.

More than 100 people have expressed their interest to explore space since such trips became accessible to Chinese travellers late last year, Zhang Yong, chief executive officer of Dexto Travel, a Chinese travel agency focusing on high-end travellers, was quoted as saying.

If everything goes well, the first group of private Chinese astronauts will likely to travel into space before the end of 2014 by boarding Lynx Mark I spacecraft and paying a minimum of 95,000 US dollars for a one-hour journey, according to the newspaper.— Reuters
Another significant year

Ten or more days after bidding farewell to the old pal and welcoming the new buddy, we are now at the very start of a New Year, which according to Gregorian calendar is 2014. This year will be a very busy year for Myanmar as she takes the Chair of the ASEAN will have to organize over 200 meetings of the regional body. She is now preparing to host summits, retreats, ministerial meetings, officials meetings all leading to the integration of the regional body and the realization of its goal – one vision, one identity, and one community.

As the Chair, there will be prospects, advantages, privileges, benefit for her. But on the other hand she will have to overcome challenges, settle disputes, and sometimes act as an arbitrator. We believe Myanmar as a country embodying five principles of peaceful co-existence and non-interference will be able to do the job well, and from this assignment, we can learn valuable knowledge and experiences for our future progress and prosperity. Because of the democratization process which brings together with it transparency, accountability, liability and responsibility, we are going to win greater international trust that may be the cornerstone for development of various fields especially the national economy through increase in the flow of foreign direct investment and greater international partnership. And in the domestic sector, political parties will start drumming up public support for their organizations and delegates as the general elections will be held next year.

We hope no political party will try to win votes or power at the cost of national unity, and they will do their job as per the democratic principles. On the whole, 2014 will be another significant year for Myanmar during which she will experience a lot of activities, international and regional dealings, business overtures and prospects, and diplomatic economic and political gains that will help shape our future.

Preparation for hosting ASEAN Meetings in 2014 inspected

Nay Pyi Taw, 13 Jan— To support, advice and coordinate the work of Myanmar’s Chairmanship for 2014, ASEAN Secretariat Delegation led by Secretary-General of ASEAN, Mr Le Luong Minh accompanied by U Nyan Lynn, Deputy Secretary-General for ASEAN Political and Security Community, Dr Lim Hong Hin, Deputy Secretary-General for ASEAN Policy and Finance, Dr Thet Thet Swe and Joint Secretary (1) Daw Tin Tin Win paid a call on Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shin at his Office this morning.

The Japanese delegation discussed that Myanmar and Japan have a long history of amity and relations since yore. Both countries had talks on legal affairs cooperation in June, 2013, contributing to better relations between the two countries. The Union Attorney-General’s Office of Myanmar serves as focal point for legal affairs. The Union Attorney-General for his part said that 21 seminars and workshops have been held by the Union Attorney-General’s Office in cooperation with JICA, UNDP and USAID etc. There should be the rule of law not only in judiciary system but also in 36 government ministries. The

Attorney General says rule of law in Myanmar FDI Law

Nay Pyi Taw, 13 Jan— A Japanese delegation led by Vice-President of Japan’s ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and former Foreign Minister of Japan Mr. Masahiko Komura paid a call on Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shin at his Office this morning.

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MCCWA donates stationery to students in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area

Nay Pyi Taw, 13 Jan— Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association (MCCWA) donated stationery worth K 1 million to students at basic education schools in eight townships of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area in 2013-14 academic year. On the occasion, Vice-President of MCCWA Daw Thet Thet Swe and Joint Secretary (1) Daw Tin Tin Win explained the purposes of donation and school heads from 30 schools accepted the donations. The Vice-President and officials from MCCWA, school heads, teachers, town elders and students attended the donation ceremonies.

By order,

(Aung Myint)
Member
Union Election Commission

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Nay Pyi Taw,
Announcement No.3/2014
13th Waxing of Pyatho, 1375 ME
(13th January, 2014)
Kachin Democratic Party allowed to register as party

It is hereby announced that Kachin Democratic Party headquartered at No.12, 5th floor (A), Myawady Road, Myaynigone (North) Ward, Sanyangyone Township of Yangon Region was allowed to register as a political party in accord with Article 9 of Political Parties Registration Law as of 13 January 2014. The registration number of the party is 72.

By order,

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By order,

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Member
Union Election Commission
Dr Khin Shwe donates K 45 million to Tipitaka Cakkhupala Team

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Jan—A ceremony for donation of eye vision of Tipitaka Cakkhupala Team was held at People’s Hospital in Yathedaung Township in Rakhine State on 11 January.

The ceremony was attended by Amyotha Hlut-taw Deputy Speaker U Mya Nyein, Relief and Victims Care Committee Chairman Dr Khin Shwe, officials, eye specialists and patients.

The Deputy Speaker and officials viewed the eye operations and donated glasses, medicines and necessary equipment to the patients.

Dr Khin Shwe donated K 45 million to the team through eye specialist Dr Aye Tun before the Secretary Sayadaw of Tipitaka Cakkhupala Team delivered a sermon.

The specialists of the team performed 398 major operations and 11 minor operations and provided eye care services to 1800 out patients.—MNA

Singaporeans engage in infrastructure development of Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Jan—Jointly organized by Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development and Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy in Singapore, Senior Management Programme for Infrastructure Development and Competitiveness Workshop in Myanmar opened at Nay Pyi Taw Thinghaba Hotel, here, this morning.

The course is aimed at supporting for Myanmar’s reform processes and rapidly development of infrastructure in Myanmar. It was supported by Cooperation Social Responsibility (CSR) of GE International Inc.

Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw pointed out the important role of senior officials in political, economic, social and administrative development of Myanmar and administration of the State. Plans are underway to conduct public administration and development post-graduate course for senior officers to be opened in Nay Pyi Taw, he added. Chief Executive Officer Mr. Kovit Kantapasara of GE Thailand clarified the undertakings programmes for socio-economic development of Myanmar and another supporting plan for Myanmar.

Joint Professor Eduard do Araval of Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy explained about the subjects of the course. A total of 40 senior officers are attending the 5-day course. Of them, 15 outstanding trainees will be selected to attend the course in the U.S.—MNA

Educative talks given to cotton growers in Pyaybwe Tsp

MEIKTILA, 13 Jan—To generate incomes of cotton growers, educative talk on boosting production of RAKA long staple cotton to the cotton growers conducted by Hot Biotechnology Co., took place in Yintaw Village, Pyaybwe Township in Meiktila, on 11 January.

The RAKA strain long staple cotton can produce 1200 viss per acre and it can be sold at K 1300 per viss. It is estimated that cultivation of cotton costs K 300,000 per acre and the growers can get K 1.2 million net profits per acre. Over 100 cotton growers from Pyaybwe, Yamethin and Thazi townships attended the talks.—MNA
**National Sports**

Victorious Myanmar boxers honoured

**Yangon**, 13 Jan—A ceremony to honour victorious Myanmar selected boxers who secured medals in the XXVII SEA Games was held at Summit Parkview Hotel on Ahlon Road, here, on 11 January evening. President of Myanmar Boxing Federation U Yan Win handed over gifts for the achievement to Principal of Sports and Physical Education Institute U Kyaw San Oo and Physical Education on behalf of the Ministry of Institute U Kyaw San Oo and Physical Education to Principal of Sports and Physical Education Institute U Kyaw San Oo and Physical Education.

Vice-President of the federation U Kyaw Kyaw Soe, Treasurer U Kyi Lin and General Secretary U Tin Hlaing presented gifts to the organizations and companies that contributed to success of the boxing team.

**Development Endevours**

Development fund allotted to wards, villages in Katha

KATHA, 13 Jan—A ceremony to hand over the development fund to wards and villages was held at District General Administration Department in Katha of Sagaing Region, the border town of Sagaing Region and Kachin State, on 11 January.

Administrator U Zaw Min Htak instructed officials of wards and villages to spend the development fund on 11 January.

Ancient silverwares found in preparation of construction for new building

KYANGIN, 13 Jan—A significant occurrence happened in Kyangin Township of Ayeyawady Region on 9 January.

While digging out the roots of a mango tree as preparations for construction of the new building in the precinct of Inwa Monastery in Myoma Ward of Kyangin, ancient silverwares were found. Abbot of the monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Açara informed township level officials of findings.

Two silver rings, one silver earring were found on 9 January and one silver bracelet, two silver earrings and one silver coin, totally weighing over 32 ticals.

**Accident**

Overloaded vehicle breaks wooden bridge in Mongkai

MONGKAI, 13 Jan—Passengers buses and trucks daily pass through Mongkai Township of Loilem District in Shan State.

At 10.30 pm on 9 January, a truck with the load of maize seeds heading for northern State from Namsang of southern Shan State passed the Namkham Creek bridge of Mongkai. Due to overload of truck, the 100 feet long bridge broke in the incident.
Philippines on alert against human trafficking from typhoon-hit areas

MANILA, 13 Jan — The Philippines has taken measures to prevent possible human trafficking activities, particularly involving children from areas hit by typhoon Hayan (Yolanda), a senior government official said on Sunday.

Presidential Communications Operations Office Secretary Herminio Coloma Jr said that the Inter-Agency Commission Against Trafficking (IA-CAT) has been focused on the issue.

“The concerned government agencies are doing everything to prevent any violations of the law,” he said in an interview over a state-run radio station.

Plan International, a UK-based children’s charity, has urged the Philippine government to probe the alleged recruitment of child workers for sex trafficking. The victims reportedly came from Samar, one of the provinces in central Philippines, struck by Hayan on 8 November.

The super typhoon left over 6,100 people dead and more than 1,700 others missing.

Severe to extreme heatwaves to hit southern Australia this week

CANBERRA, 13 Jan — Large part of southern Australia is expected to experience severe to extreme heatwave conditions throughout this week, the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) warned on Monday.

An extremely hot air mass over western and inland Australia is forecast to spread across the southeast on Monday, directing very hot northerly winds over central Australia, with temperatures and above average minimum temperatures.

The coming Spring Festival, or “lunar new year,” falls on 31 January, putting great pressure over whether the president or the chairman of the interim government should call the meeting.

Before this row, the assembly’s formation was delayed by a party led by former Maoist insurgents who announced an assembly boycott over alleged policy focus in Tokyo. The Maoists won the largest number of seats in the previous election, but came a distant third this time.

The 601-member assembly, in which the Nepali Congress and the Communist Party of Nepal-Unified Marxist Leninist won the highest and second-highest number of seats, is tasked with drafting up a permanent constitution that the previous assembly elected in 2008 failed to finalize. The previous assembly was dissolved last year after a months-long deadlock.

The new constitution will cap a seven-year-old peace process with the Maoists, who fought state forces for 10 years until 2006. The insurgency cost 17,000 lives.

Political parties have vowed to finalize a permanent constitution within a year. The decade-long insurgency and continuing political turmoil have delayed development projects and dried up investment.

Nepal is currently facing a 12-hour daily power outage caused by delays in initiating construction of new hydropower plants.

Kyodo News
Invitation for Prequalification

Myanmar Electric Power Project (IDA-53060-MM)
Thaton Combine Cycle Gas Turbine (CCGT) Power Plant
(IDC MEPE-G-01)

This invitation for prequalification follows the general procurement notice for this project that appeared in Development Business of October 22, 2013 on-line. The Republic Of The Union Of Myanmar has received a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) toward the cost of the Myanmar Electric Power Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of the contract for Thaton Combine Cycle Gas Turbine (CCGT) Power Plant at the existing Thaton gas station (GT) in Mon State with a new combined cycle gas turbine (CCGT) power plant. The Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise (MEPE) intends to prequalify contractors for supply and installation of a gas power plant which will generate and supply as much electricity as possible to the grid, limited by the available fuel gas up to 25MM CFD. Power export shall be at 66kV and 230 kV. The power station shall primarily generate base load power to Myanmar National grids. The main specifications include: the overall capacity of the power plant to be constructed is in the range of 105-110 MW, the minimum capacity of gas turbine and steam turbine is 35-45MW/unit and 20-40 MW/unit respectively.

It is expected that invitations for bid will be made in April 2014. Prequalification will be conducted through the procedures specified in the World Bank’s Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD loans and IDA Credits, January 2011, and is open to all bidders from eligible source countries, as defined in the guidelines. Interested eligible Applicants may obtain further information from and inspect the prequalification document from 10:00 -15:30 hrs. at

Thermal Power Department
Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise,
Bldg No. 27, Nay Pyi Taw
Myanmar
Phone: + 9567410228
E-mail: gtecoffice@gmail.com

A complete set of the prequalification document in English language may be obtained free of charge by sending a request to above email address. A copy of the prequalification document will be sent to the interested eligible Applicants as the attachment to the email. Applications for prequalification should be submitted in sealed envelopes, delivered to the address below by 24.2.2014, 14:00 Hr and be clearly marked “Application to Prequalify for Thaton Combine Cycle Gas Turbine (CCGT) Power Plant(IDC MEPE-G-01)”

Material Planning Department
Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise,
Ministry of Electric Power,
Bldg No. 27, Nay Pyi Taw
Myanmar

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THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(1/2014)

Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United States Dollars and Myanmar Kyats.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.No</th>
<th>Tender No</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Remark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>IFB-164(2013-2014)</td>
<td>7” Liner Hanger and Accessories</td>
<td>(2) Sets</td>
<td>US$</td>
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<tr>
<td>(2)</td>
<td>IFB-163(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Ariel Compressor JGK-4 with Waukesha L-7042 GSI Spares</td>
<td>(14) Items</td>
<td>US$</td>
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<td>(3)</td>
<td>IFB-166(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Ariel Compressor J2E-2 with Waukesha F-2895 GSI Spares</td>
<td>(23) Items</td>
<td>US$</td>
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<td>(5)</td>
<td>IFB-168(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Cooper MH64 with Waukesha P-9390 GL Spares</td>
<td>(20) Items</td>
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<td>(7)</td>
<td>IFB-170(2013-2014)</td>
<td>AJAX DPC 600 Engine Spares</td>
<td>(16) Items</td>
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<td>(9)</td>
<td>IFB-172(2013-2014)</td>
<td>NKK/Kobelco Compressor KJB-2&amp; KB-2 Spares</td>
<td>(24) Items</td>
<td>US$</td>
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<td>(10)</td>
<td>IFB-173(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Spares for Hydraulic Mobile Grove Crane</td>
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<td>IFB-175(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Industrial Chamber Oven and Core Plugging Machine for Applied Research Center</td>
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<td>(13)</td>
<td>DMP/L-051(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Mechanical Spares for J70L SR I&amp;II</td>
<td>(1) Lot</td>
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<td>(14)</td>
<td>DMP/L-052(2013-2014)</td>
<td>3.25 MM, 4.0 MM &amp; 5.0 MM Welding Electrode</td>
<td>(3) Items</td>
<td>Ks</td>
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</table>

- Tender Closing Date & Time -
10-2-2014, 16:30 Hr

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 13 January, 2014 at the Finance Department, Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, No(44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph: +95 67 - 411097 / 411206

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MALTE RAMBOY VOY NO (14002)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV MALTE RAMBOY VOY NO (14002) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14.1.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.LP where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS MCC - TRANSPORT S’PORE PTE LTD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV WEST SCENT NO (032)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (032) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.1.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS INTERASIA LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MCP LARNACA NO (024)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV MCP LARNACA NO (024) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.1.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.LP where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS MOL (S’PORE) PTE LTD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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Early to bed and early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise.
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV NEVER ABLE VOY NO (366)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV NEVER ABLE VOY NO (366) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.1.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S EVER GREEN SHIPPING LINE
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SPRING SKY VOY NO (32)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV SPRING SKY VOY NO (32) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.1.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-4 where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ECLI (S’PORE) PTE LTD
Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV NOCC PUEBLA VOY NO (7)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV NOCC PUEBLA VOY NO (7) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.1.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CHUN AN SHIPPING CO LTD
Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV MAGNUM VOY NO (126)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV MAGNUM VOY NO (126) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.1.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

Lindsay Lohan dating British student

LONDON, 13 Jan — Troubled star Lindsay Lohan is reportedly dating British student and part-time model Christian Arno Williams after the pair met at an awards show.
The 27-year-old actress is said to have been secretly dating Christian and they have just enjoyed a romantic trip abroad, reported Daily Mirror.
“Christian is a total cheeky chappy and has no fear. He caught Lindsay’s eye and just went in for the kill. He’s very good-looking and Lindsay loves the British accent,” a source said.
“They spent loads of time together and got pretty close, quite quickly. Neither knows whether this will lead to anything or if it was merely a holiday romance but, at the moment, Christian is really happy and quite excited.
“He has only told a handful of people and is trying to keep is discreet, as is Lindsay,” the source said.—PTI

Meryl Streep finds Katie Holmes perfect for son

LOS ANGELES, 13 Jan — Veteran actress Meryl Streep has reportedly hit it off well with Katie Holmes, and she believes the latter will be the perfect girlfriend for her son Henry Wolfe Guummer.
The 64-year-old got on well with her The Giver co-star, who has seven-year-old daughter Suri with ex-husband Tom Cruise. When her new friend told her she was ready to find love again, Streep instantly thought of her son Henry Wolfe Guummer.
“Katie and Meryl got on like a house on fire. Katie was quite open about wanting to have a man in her life again and Meryl decided to show her a picture of Henry.” femalefirst.co.uk quoted a source as saying.—PTI

Madonna not dating new guy

LOS ANGELES, 13 Jan — Queen of Pop Madonna is not dating a dancer after breaking up from Brahim Zaibat, her representative has confirmed.
The representative for the 55-year-old singer has responded to a report that she dated 26-year-old dancer called Timor Steffens, telling it is not true, reported Radar online.
The Like a Virgin singer was said taking Steffens, who has worked with stars such as Michael Jackson, Beyonce Knowles and Whitney Houston, to a new year party which was held by designer Valentino Garavani in Switzerland. “The chemistry between Madonna and Timor was pretty intense,” an onlooker, who was at the bash, said. Giancarlo Giammetti, honorary president of the Valentino Fashion House, shared a photo of Madonna and the Dutch dancer on his Insta gram. “Happy new year. Madonna and Timour fun new years eve dance,” he captioned the photo.—PTI

Madonna was seen with dancer Timor Steffens at a new year party.

Lindsay Lohan reportedly met Christian Arno Williams at an awards show.

Meryl Streep and Katie Holmes feature in the movie The Giver.
Serena crushes Barty to storm into second round

MELBOURNE, 13 Jan — A ruthless Serena Williams kicked off her bid for an 18th grand slam title with a 6-2 6-1 demolition of local wildcard Ashleigh Barty to advance to the Australian Open second round on Monday. After breaking the 155th-ranked Barty early, Williams reeled off seven consecutive games to march into the second set under the lights of Rod Laver Arena.A former Wimbledon girls’ champion, Barty pumped her fists in the air after finally holding serve, raising a rare roar from the crowd.

She was powerless to prevent the American, who did not lose a point off her first serve, from cruising to her 23rd consecutive win and setting up a second round match with Serbia’s Vesna Dolonc.

Ferrer, Li lead race to beat the Melbourne heat

MELBOURNE, 13 Jan — Top 10 seeds David Ferrer, Tomas Berdych, Stan Wawrinka and Richard Gasquet raced into the second round of the Australian Open on Tuesday, apparent-ly eager to make the most of relatively mild conditions at Melbourne Park.

With temperatures forecast to soar well above 40 degrees Celsius in Melbourne from Tuesday onwards, there was good reason for the players to keep their time on court to a minimum and rest up for challenges to come.

China’s Li Na also played like a woman on a mission and dispatched teenager Ana Konjuh 6-2, 6-0 in just over an hour but American Venus Williams bid an early farewell to the tournament when she lost 2-6, 6-4, 6-4 to Ekaterina Makarova.

Novak Djokovic kicks Li Na of China serves to Ana Konjuh of Croatia during their women’s singles match at the Australian Open 2014 tennis tournament in Melbourne on 13 Jan, 2014. Reuters

Real Madrid’s Daniel Carvajal (L) fights for the ball against Espanyol’s Christian Shami during their Spanish First division League match at Cornellia-El Prat stadium, near Barcelona January 12, 2014. Reuters

West Ham defender Demel out of hospital after concussion

LONDON, 13 Jan — West Ham United’s Ivory Coast international Guy Demel was released from hospital on Sunday after suffering a head injury during his side’s 2-0 Premier League win at Cardiff City, the club said on Twitter.

The 32-year-old defender was carried away on a stretcher after receiving oxygen on the pitch, hav-ing fallen heavily following a collision with Hammers team mate Roger Johnson on Saturday.

He suffered concussion and a damaged shoulder and was unconscious for several minutes before spending the night in hospital in Cardiff.

The West Ham defender was unconscious for several minutes before spending the night in hospital in Cardiff.

Tennis-Australian Open order of play on Tuesday

MELBOURNE, 13 Jan — Order of play on the main showcourts at the Australian Open on Tuesday (play starts at 0000 GMT on all courts, prefix denotes seed):

Rod Laver Arena
Johanna Larson (Sweden) v 2-Victoria Azarenka (Belarus)
James Duckworth (Australia) v 6-Roger Federer (Switzerland)
24-Andreas Seppi (Italy) v Lleyton Hewitt (Australia)
From 0800 1-Rafa Nadal (Spain) v Bernard Tomic (Australia)
Banthanin Mattek-Sands (US) v 3-Maria Sharapova (Russia)
Hisense Arena
Lourdes Dominguez Lino (Spain) v 10-Caroline Wozniacki (Denmark)

David Ferrer of Spain hits a return to Alejandro Gonzalez of Colombia during their men’s singles match at the Australian Open 2014 tennis tournament in Melbourne on 13 Jan, 2014.—Reuters

Guy Demel and was unconscious for several minutes before spending the night in hospital in Cardiff.

Serena Williams

10-Jo-Wilfried Tsonga (France) v Filippo Volan-dri (Italy)
5-Agnieszka Radwanska (Poland) v Yulia Putintseva (Kazakhstan)
Not before 0600 4-Andy Murray (Britain) v Go Soeda (Japan)

Margaret Court Are-na
Katarzyna Piter (Poland) v 11-Simona Halep (Romania)
Francesca Schiavone (Italy) v 20-Dominika Cibulkova (Slovakia)
8-Jelena Jankovic (Serbia) v Misaki Doi (Japan)
Rhyne Williams (US) v 5-Juan Martin Del Potro (Argentina)
From 0800 Ryan Harrison (US) v 25-Gael Monfils (France)

14 Tuesday, 14 January, 2014
**General**

**Electronic passage at Kaesong complex to begin this month**

**Seoul, 13 Jan**— Electronic passage of South Korean workers to and from the inter-Korean factory park in Kaesong, the border town in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK), will be made possible later this month, the South Korean Ministry of Unification spokesman Kim Eui-do told a routine Press briefing that construction of the radio frequency identification (RFID) system at the Kaesong industrial complex, due to be made possible in late January after test-running the electronic passage system for 1-2 weeks.

Currently, South Korea should fax a list of workers to the DPRK a day before their trip to the joint industrial zone. The DPRK has allowed only those on the list to visit the factory park during a designated time.

The electronic passage system would allow South Korean workers to visit the factory park and return home at any time on days when they are permitted to visit the site.

The Kaesong industrial complex, the last remaining symbol of inter-Korean economic cooperation, is home to 120 South Korean small companies that produce mostly labor-intensive products such as shoes and garments.

Introducing the RFID system was expected to help resume the stalled talks on holding an investor relations (IR) session for foreign investors. The two Koreas originally agreed to hold such investment briefing on 31 Oct, but rising tensions on the Korean Peninsula delayed the process.

South Korea offered last month again to the DPRK to hold the IR session within this month, but Pyongyang had to make a specific response yet.

The spokesman said that Seoul would consult with Pyongyang on the IR session for foreign investors in case that progress is made in the related issues such as the RFID system and customs process.

**Xinhua**

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**Man City and Liverpool battle to away wins**

**London, 13 Jan**— Manchester City went top of the Premier League after securing a controversial 2-0 win at Newcastle United on Sunday with an early Edin Dzeko goal and a stoppage-time effort from Alvaro Negredo.

Liverpool also won away with an astonishing 5-3 victory at Stoke City after the home side battled back from a two-goal deficit to level the match at 2-2 by halftime.

The results lifted City to the top of the Premier League on 47 points, one ahead of Chelsea and two clear of Arsenal, who will return to the summit if they win at Aston Villa on Monday.

Liverpool climbed above Everton and Totten-ham Hotspur into fourth on 42 points.

The outcome could have been very different at St James’ Park if a stunning 34-minute volley from Newcastle’s Cheick Tiote had not been disallowed after a contentious decision by referee Mike Jones.

He ruled that Newcastle’s Yoan Gouffran was offside and had unsighted City keeper Joe Hart, a claim hotly disputed by Newcastle boss Alan Pardew.

One blot for City was a potentially serious knee injury suffered by France international Samir Nasri who was carried off on a stretcher late in the game.

An eight-goal thriller at Stoke ended with Liverpool winning with two goals from Uruguay striker Luis Suarez, the top scorer in the Premier League this season who took his tally to 22 goals.

An own goal from Ryan Shawcross, a penalty from Steven Gerrard on his 650th Liverpool appearance and a fine individual goal from substitute Daniel Sturridge on his return from injury completed Liverpool’s scoring.

Stoke’s goals came from former Liverpool duo Peter Crouch and Charlie Adam, and Jon Walters.

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**Newcastle United’s Papiss Cisse (R) attempts an overhead kick on goal during their English Premier League soccer match against Manchester City at St James’ Park in Newcastle, northern England, on 12 Jan, 2014.**—**Reuters**
Parliament responsible to fulfill hopes of people: Thura U Shwe Mann
Pyidaungsu, Pyithu, Amyotha Hluttaw resumes

Nay Pyi Taw, 13 Jan—Myanmar parliaments continue today.

The Myanmar parliament is responsible for granting equal rights and self-determination to the ethnic people in the multi-ethnic nation, said Thura U Shwe Mann, Pyidaungsu Hlutaw Speaker in his opening speech on first day of ninth regular session of parliament today.

He stressed the need for appropriate management of the budget and convincing the people to voluntarily pay taxes, as the speaker pressed for fair taxation practices.

The National Plan for 2014-2015 Fiscal Year and the National Budget for 2014-2015 Fiscal Year would be submitted by the government during the session, the speaker noted.

The government will also put forward a taxation bill to the parliament.

Regarding constitutional reform, the speaker said the law would be amended to suit the social and economic needs of the country under law.

The president’s previous tour to the Philippines and the Myanmar Engineer Council Bill, which would be deemed to be approved by the Pyidaungsu Hlutaw were put on record.

Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr. Han Zaw submitted the National Plan for 2014-2015 Fiscal Year.

Union Minister for Finance U Win Shein submitted the Bill Amending Myanmar Stamp Law, Bill Amending Myanmar Tariff Law, Bill Amending Income Tax Law and Bill Amending the Office Tax Law. The amendments were deemed to follow by the major Taxation Bill.

The president notified the Hlutaw of the proposed appointment of retired law professor from Yangon East University Daw Thida Oo.

The first daily session of Pyithu Hlutaw kicked off today with a greeting by Pyithu Hlutaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann. The Speaker praised MPs for implementation of development tasks with the use of development funds in cooperation with respective organizations. He called for systematic use of allotted development funds in accord with the directives. Foreign trips of the Speaker, deputy speaker and the MPs were put on record.

The messages sent to the president on the appointment of a member of the constitution Tribunal of the Union and the question on glaze-sniffing were also submitted to the Hlutaw. With regard to the question of U Aung Zin of Pauk Passaung Constituency on peaceful assembly and peaceful procession, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint replied that the applicants would not get the green light due to belated applications and security concerns. But they can lodge an appeal to the respective Region Police Force Commanders within seven days.

The Region Police Force Commander can deny or allow it within 14 days from the day he received it after taking the approval from the commissioner of the General Administration Department. Under the Constitution, the applicants will have chance to lodge an appeal. Regarding the question on actions taken against those who sell the pesticides that can damage the crops by MP U Aung Thant and the dis-tribution of quality pesticides, Deputy Minister for Agriculture (See page 9)

Union Minister U Tin Naing Thein attaches importance to Demand Driven Approach

Yangon, 13 Jan—A coordination meeting to conduct vocational training courses by the government and private sector for human resource demand in business firms took place at the hall of UMPCCI Head Office on Min Ye Kyaw Swa Street, this afternoon.

Union Minister U Tin Naing Thein attached importance to demand driven approach from supply driven approach and stressed the need for cooperation to turn out skilled workers to meet labour market. Arrangement is being made to conduct three vocational training courses with the assistance of Germany and opening of a technical institute is being discussed with Japan.

Those attendees discussed requirements for cooperation between the government and private sector to open vocational training courses to meet human resource demand in business firms.

Union Minister U Tin Naing Thein addresses coordination meeting—MNA

A total of 29 persons including U Ba Shein applied for merging of Rakhine Nationalities Development Party and Rakhine League for Democracy as Arakan National Party to the UEC today. The UEC found that the Arakan National Party has applied for registration as political party in accord with political parties registration rules and regulations and thus it passed the registration of the party today.

The second phase will be commenced in 22 towns as Myitkyina, Loikaw, Hpa-an, Falam, Kennedy (Tiddim), Mawlamyine and Monywa, among others”. The TV fans must install DVB2 Set Top Box for enjoying the programmes. MRTV will provide 304,944 set top boxes to families, social organizations, schools, hospitals and libraries free of charge.

At present, FM radio programme are on the air at eight border regions. Plans are underway to build 15 FM radio stations in Loikaw, Kennedy (Tiddim), Sagaing, Myeik, Bago, Minbu, Popa, Pym anim, Mawlamyine, Sittway, Yangon, Lashio, Pathein, Peeneteang (Rakhine) and Maungtaw soon, he added.

Concerning with Sarpyekinman Award Ceremony, the leader informed the journalists that the manuscripts are to be presented not later than 31-1-2014 instead of 31-12-2013.