Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham makes inspection tour of Women’s and Children’s Hospital, Sao San Tun General Hospital in Taunggyi

Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham visits Women’s and Children’s Hospital in Taunggyi.

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb—Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham made an inspection tour of Women’s and Children’s Hospital in Taunggyi, Shan State today.

On his arrival at Women’s and Children’s Hospital in Taunggyi, the Vice-President held a coordinated meeting with Shan State chief minister U Sao Aung Myat and the deputy health minister for acquisition of a generator at the neonatal care unit of the hospital and called for the betterment of medical equipment and making the hospital rooms neat and tidy. The Vice-President also inspected OG ward, children ward and outpatient ward at the hospital.

During his visit to Sao San Tun General Hospital, the Vice-President comforted patients and observed a medicine store and a chosen site for construction of an operation theater and patient wards.

After hearing reports on health care services and requirements of the hospital, he left instructions, calling for promotion of health standard through establishment of a computer-assisted drug storage system and acknowledging efforts of medical staff who are providing health care to local people in Shan State (South). He invited letters of suggestions for improvement in the health sector.

In meeting with leaders of national race literature and cultural groups of Shan State, the Vice-President guaranteed that matters related to Shan literature and culture could be carried out freely, without harming the existing laws and other national races. He also informed them of discussions on enactment of Law to protect the rights of national races being held at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. He called on the groups to participate in peace-making processes, pointing out that armed conflicts bring no benefits for everyone concerned.

Next, the Vice-President presented K 2 million each to seven literary and cultural groups and Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat, 1 million each to them.

After that, the Vice-President cordially greeted the cultural delegates.

In the evening, the Vice-President visited Shwe Phone Pwint Pagoda and Mya Sein Taung Pagoda in Taunggyi. —MNA

GDP provides assistance for two monastic schools

YANGON, 4 Feb—Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects (GGP) Scheme under the Government of Japan has extended the assistance totaling US$ 187,657 for two humanitarian assistance programs $ 87150 to North Okkalapa BEMS in Yangon Region.

The handed-over and opening ceremonies of two monastic primary and middle school buildings were held at Mingaladon and North Okkalapa Townships yesterday. Minister-Counselor of the Japanese Embassy, officials of school construction project, students and local residents attended the ceremonies.

The Government of Japan provided necessary assistance for those monastic schools buildings through its GGP Scheme. This assistance will provide better learning for the students and further strengthen existing friendly relations between Japan and Myanmar.

Japan has built school buildings under GGP Scheme since 1998.—MNA

Photo shows a newly-opened monastic primary school building in Kandaw Village in Pakokku Township. —MNA
Nantyin Creek Bridge to link Mohnyin, Nantpok

Photo shows construction of Nantyin Creek Bridge to link Mohnyin and Nantpok funded by Pyidaungsu Hlutaw.

Mohnyin, 4 Feb—As part of efforts to ensure smooth of agricultural product transportation, Nantyin Creek Bridge is being constructed in Mohnyin Township, Kachin State.

It was also attended by the head of Kayin State Customs Department and party, Deputy Commissioner U Tint Wai Min Kyaing formally opened the Bridge. Mohnyin Township, Pyithu Hlutaw MP Kyaw Soe Lay and Amyotha Hlutaw MP Sai Tin Aung manage construction of the bridge spending K 5 million allotted by Pyidaungsu Hlutaw in 2013-14 fiscal year. The bridge will be 120 feet long and six feet wide. Its clearance is 12 feet high.

Director-General U Thein Tun speaking opening of training course in Myawady

Min Kyaing formally opened the 15th Annual General Meeting

YANGON, 4 Feb—Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association will hold the 15th Annual General Meeting at the Drug Elimination Museum at the corner of Kyundaw Street in Kamayut Township, here, on 14 February morning.

Chairmen of regions and states association who are also members of Central Executive Committee and chairmen of district associations are invited to attend the meeting. Those who did not receive the invitation cards are urged to attend the meeting without fail. Travel allowance and accommodation will be issued to those from countryside.—NLM-017

HRD

Shwe Karuna free clinic holds third anniversary

SITTWAY, 4 Feb—Shwe Karuna free clinic opens its temporary clinic in South Lammadaw Ward of Sittway in Rakhine State.

The third anniversary of the clinic took place in front of the clinic being built in Baungdhikhasu Ward of Sittway on 2 February. Clinic officials explained construction of the new clinic, treatment of general diseases, future tasks of the clinic and raising fund.

The clinic board of trustees presented gifts and cash prizes to volunteer doctors and doctors and staff of Sittway General Hospital for their efforts in giving health care services to the local people.—MMAL-Sittway District IPRD

Transport

Nguwah Street inaugurated in Pakokku

PAKKOKU, 4 Feb—As a gesture of hailing the 67th Anniversary Union Day, Nguwah Street, 1115 feet long, was inaugurated in Ward 14 of Pakokku.

The street was repaved as asphalt one at a cost of K 17.3 million funded by Township Development Affairs Committee. District level departmental officials and 135 trainees, members, departmental officials and 135 trainees, the training course will be run one month. Tun Tun Oo (Myawady)

National Sports

Kyaukdaga Township Administrator’s Cup Men’s Open Football Tournament commences

KYAUKDAGA, 4 Feb—Organized by Township Sports and Physical Education Department, the Kyaukdaga Township Administrator’s Cup Men’s Open Football Tournament of Bago Region was held at the township sports ground daily.

On 2 February, Tawkwywel Youth team edged out Ye Mann FC in the knockout matches. A total of 16 teams in four groups are taking part in the tournament. Semifinal matches will be held on 9 February and the final on 11 February. MMAL-Khin Ko (Kyaukdaga)
Obama congratulates Tunisian PM on new constitution, gov’t

WASHINGTON, 4 Feb — US President Barack Obama congratulated Tunisian Prime Minister Mehdi Jemaa on the passage of a new constitution and the formation of a new government, the White House said on Monday.

In a phone call between the leaders, Obama commended the efforts of all Tunisian parties to secure the gains made since the start of Tunisia’s revolution, said a statement issued by the White House.

Tunisia’s new government led by Jemaa was sworn in on Monday.

A few days earlier, Tunisia approved its first post-corruption and growing losses order for 1.2 million tonnes of rice due to a corruption scandal sparked by classified documents obtained from whistleblower Edward Snowden.

Obama invited Jemaa to visit Washington later this year to continue to build the US-Tunisian relationship, the statement said. The United States will continue to be a friend and partner to Tunisia to support its democratic transition, to bolster security, and to promote a more peaceful and prosperous future, the statement added. — Xinhua

Monetary base hits record high for 11th consecutive month in January

TOKYO, 4 Feb — Japan’s monetary base increased 33.9 percent in January from a year earlier to 200.41 trillion yen, marking a record for the 11th straight month as the Bank of Japan kept injecting money into the financial system under its more aggressive monetary policy, BOJ data showed on Tuesday.

The average daily balance of liquidity provided by the central bank — consisting of cash in circulation and the balance of current account deposits held by commercial financial institutions at the bank — increased for the 21st consecutive month.

At the end of January, meanwhile, the country’s monetary base stood at 200.88 trillion yen, down by around 1 trillion yen from 201.85 trillion yen at the end of December, as companies and individuals secured necessary funds for the year start.

The balance of current account deposits — the sum of funds financial institutions can use freely — more than doubled to 108.67 trillion yen, as the BOJ injected more liquidity into the banking system by buying a large number of financial assets from banks.

In introducing “quantitative and qualitative monetary easing” on April last year to beat deflation, the BOJ set the monetary base as the main target for its monetary policy, instead of the overnight call rate.

The BOJ has since sought to double the monetary base within two years. If the bank increases it at an annual pace of about 60 trillion yen to 70 trillion yen, the monetary base is expected to rise to 270 trillion yen at the end of this year.

US NSA director, S Korea defence chief discuss cybersecurity

SEOUL, 4 Feb — US National Security Agency Director Gen Keith Alexander, who is also commander of the US Cyber Command, held talks on Monday in Seoul with South Korean Defence Minister Kim Kwan Jin on ways to cope with cybersecurity threats, a Defence Ministry spokesman said on Tuesday.

They also discussed the threat of cyberattacks, Kim Min Seok told a Press briefing. The spokesman’s remarks came after he was asked to confirm local media reports that Alexander had made a secret visit to South Korea for talks with top-ranking security and intelligence officials.

South Korea’s Yonhap News Agency reported that Alexander made a one-day visit to Seoul on Monday after a stop in Japan, as part of his trip to close alliances before stepping down in March.

Alexander, a four-star general who has served as the NSA director since 2005 and as the US Cyber Command commander since 2010, last year announced his plan to retire after the NSA was rocked by the worldwide spying scandal sparked by classified documents obtained from whistleblower Edward Snowden.

On 30 January, the Pentagon said US President Barack Obama nominated Navy Vice Adm. Michael Rogers, who currently commands the US Fleet Cyber Command, to succeed Alexander as head of both the NSA and the US Cyber Command.

Yonhap quoted a government source as saying Washington has recently told Seoul through diplomatic channels that the NSA has not spied on South Korea’s President Park Geun Hye, in an apparent effort to dispel lingering suspicions after a list of foreign leaders under US surveillance surfaced, taking the world by surprise.

Over 400 flights canceled as snowstorm hits New York area

NEW YORK, 4 Feb — More than 400 flights have been canceled due to the heavy snow on Monday at the three major airports in the New York area.

The flight-tracking website FlightAware reports that by 12:00 on Monday afternoon, 177 flights have been canceled at LaGuardia Airport, 75 at John F Kennedy International (JFK) Airport, and 188 at Newark Liberty International Airport.

The National Weather Service has issued a winter storm warning for New York City, Long Island and parts of New Jersey, where 5 to 8 inches (about 12 to 20 centimeters) of snow and dropping temperatures are expected. Many schools around the area have been closed. In New York City, public schools are open, but all school field trips and after-school programs are canceled due to the weather.

The New York City Department of Sanitation has issued a “snow alert” for Monday, with its staff beginning initial equipment readiness, including loading its salt spreaders, attaching plows when necessary, preparing tire chains and notifying supplementary personnel as needed.

Massive winter storms have dumped snow across the northeast of the country and ushered in dangerously cold temperatures, leading to at least 13 deaths in the eastern United States so far.

US President Barack Obama

BANGKOK, 4 Feb — Pressure on Thailand’s embattled government mounted on Tuesday, when a flagship rice-buying scheme vital to its support stumbled closer to collapse and the opposition filed legal challenges that could void a disrupted weekend election.

The crisis in the rice scheme is a humiliating blow for Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra — it helped sweep her to power in 2011, but has divided Thais for at least eight years. He was toppled by the military in 2006.

Shinawatra’s brother, Thaksin Shinawatra, pioneered the scheme in power, between 2008 and 2011, came after the courts dissolved the Thaksin-backed government and payment protests against Yingluck’s military in 2006.

The opposition Democrat Party boycotted the election, the three major airports in Thailand — Suvarnabhumi, Don Mueang and Phuket — have dumped snow across the region, leading to widespread disruption.

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Anti-government protesters gather near a barbed-wire fence at a government office where Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra had been holding a meeting in Bangkok on 3 Feb, 2014.— Reuters

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Iran foreign minister: nuclear deal possible in six months

BERLIN, 4 Feb — Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Mohammad Zarif said on Monday a final deal with world powers on Teheran’s nuclear programme is possible within six months if there is good will and he was not worried about the US Congress trying to impose new sanctions.

US President Barack Obama used his State of the Union address last week to veto any legislation that threatens the talks with Iran. US senators including some of Obama’s Democrats have co-sponsored a bill that would impose new restrictions on Iran if talks on a permanent accord falter.

But Iran has warned that it will walk away from negotiations — raising the risk of conflict in the Middle East — if the bill becomes law. It is now stalled in the Senate.

“With good will we can reach an agreement within six month,” he said in a speech to the German Council on Foreign Relations. “I don’t fear a decision in the US Congress. The US president has promised to veto it.” Zarif was visiting Berlin after meeting US Secretary of State John Kerry and other members of the six powers negotiating with Iran at the annual Munich Security Conference at the weekend.

Iran reached a landmark preliminary agreement with them in November to halt its most sensitive nuclear operations, winning some relief from sanctions in return. Talks with the six powers about a definitive settlement begin in Vienna on 18 February.

The meetings with Kerry and others from the six powers in Munich evoked the easing of antagonism between the Islamic Republic and the West, with Zarif describing the talks in Vienna as an historic opportunity Iran would not squander.

Iran insists its nuclear programme is entirely peaceful but Western countries have long suspected Teheran of covertly researching the means to develop a nuclear weapon. The prospect of a deal has lessened the risk of Israel or the United States taking military action against Iranian nuclear facilities to prevent Teheran acquiring a nuclear bomb.

Investigators raid railway agency over suspected bid rigging

TOKYO, 4 Feb — Investigators raided the Japan Railway Construction, Transport and Technology Agency’s Tokyo branch over alleged bid rigging in the production of snow-melting equipment for the Hokuriku Shinkansen bullet train line, investigative sources said.

The Tokyo branch opened bidding for 13 projects to install snow-melting panels and hot water sprinklers along bullet train tracks between March 2011 and November 2012.

The raid by Tokyo prosecutors and the Japan Fair Trade Commission came after more than 10 companies were alleged to have colluded to determine tender prices and bid winners beforehand, according to the sources.

An official of the Yokohama-based independent administrative agency is suspected of having leaked planned prices for the projects to these companies, the sources said.

With the construction projects covered by the Hokuriku Shinkansen Line’s section from Nagano to Kanazawa, which will open by the end of March 2015, the ruination of thousands of international troops has not halted the violence.

Elie Mbaiato, police commissioner of Mbaiki, about 100 km (62 miles) from the area around the town of Boda where the killings took place, said Christians attacked Muslims after Seleka passed through.

“The mayor of (Boda) has told me that there were more than 70 dead and over 30 houses burned,” Mbaiato said of violence that began late last week.

Boda, some 100 km west of Bangui, involved residents armed with guns and machetes, scenes that have been played out across much of the former French colony over much of the last year. Abuses by Seleka fighters once they came to power led to mainly Christian self-defence militia springing up.

An attempt to oust Seleka from power in December sparked mass killings and cycles of retaliation that spiralled out of control and prompted UN warnings that the country was on brink of genocide.

There are some 1,600 French and about 5,000 African troops deployed in the country but peacekeepers have been focused on restoring order to Bangui and struggling to make their presence felt to the north.

Over 70 killed during clashes in Central African Republic town

BANGUI, 4 Feb — At least 70 people have been killed and dozens of houses torched in clashes between Muslim and Christian communities in a town in Central African Republic, a local police official said on Monday.

The scale of the violence underscores the challenge facing French and African peacekeepers trying to restore order to a country that has been torn apart by inter-communal violence since mainly Muslim rebels seized power in March.

The leader of the rebel force, known as Seleka, stepped down as president last month, having come under intense international criticism for failing to stem waves of killings that killed hundreds and displaced about 1 million, about a quarter of the country’s population.

But their retreat from power and the deployment of the 41 militants killed, injured in Egyptian army raid in Sinai

CAIRO, 4 Feb — At least 15 dangerous jihadist elements were killed and wounded in the village of Goes Abou Raad in southern Rafah city, while 26 others were killed and injured in the village of Wady Al-Ahker in Sheikh Zuweid city, the source added.

Other 12 militants were arrested in the crackdown with weapons, explosive materials and ammunition in their possession, he added. Security conditions have been deteriorating in the restive Sinai since the ouster of Islamist president Mohamed Morsi by the army last July, as the Islamists took from the Peninsula a stronghold for staging attacks against army and police facilities.

Investigators head to the Japan Railway Construction, Transport and Technology Agency’s Tokyo branch in Tokyo on 4 Feb, 2014. Tokyo prosecutors and the Japan Fair Trade Commission raided the Tokyo branch over alleged bid rigging in the production of snow-melting equipment for the Hokuriku Shinkansen bullet train line, investigative sources said.

KYODO NEWS

New Light of Myanmar
Dakar, 4 Feb — The United Nations appealed on Monday for more than $2 billion to feed and care for a record 20 million people across Africa’s Sahel belt, but aid workers said they feared donor fatigue and a weak global recovery may prevent them from reaching the target. Conflicts in Mali, Nigeria, Sudan and Central African Republic have disrupted markets and caused food shortages across the savannah region, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) has warned.

The problems in the Sahel, a semi-arid belt south of the Sahara Desert that stretches from the Atlantic Ocean eastward to the Red Sea, have also weighed on the United Nations’ efforts to protect refugees, another component of its aid appeal. More than 1.6 million people have abandoned their homes and half of these have sought refuge in countries like Mauritania, Burkina Faso, Niger and Chad, which are already under strain.

The impact is to distort local food production and make it harder for countries to battle feeding their own populations. However, funding may fall short because of a slow global economic recovery and a $6.5 billion appeal for Syria, the largest UN humanitarian campaign in history, said Robert Piper, the UN regional humanitarian coordinator for the Sahel. Donors met just over 60 percent of the $1.72 billion UN appeal for Sahel last year.

Russia says Syria to ship more chemical arms, attend talks

Moscow, 4 Feb—Russia on Tuesday said it would launch a fresh round of peace talks next week and will call for Damascus to speed up shipments since the West accused President Bashar al-Assad’s government of dragging its chemical weapons arsenal.

The statement appeared intended to ease Western concerns about President Bashar al-Assad’s commitment to a peace process that started last month, and to abandon his chemical arsenal by mid-year under a deal to eliminate its chemical weapons arsenal.

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After AT&T price cuts, all eyes on Verizon

BANGALORE, 4 Feb — AT&T Inc’s plan to cut prices on its large shared data plans could prompt other US carriers, particularly larger rival Verizon Wireless, to offer new discounts, analysts said.

The No 2 US mobile services provider said on Saturday it would slash the monthly fee for its 10 gigabytes per month data share plan aimed at families to $15 per phone from $20 less than Sprint Corp and $20 less than T-Mobile US for a comparable service, according to AT&T. AT&T’s move follows recent price adjustments at the top US wireless providers as they attempt to sustain growth in a mature market built on stealing growth from competitors.

“It is too soon to see if others react. With these plans AT&T is still at a premium to Sprint and T-Mobile US, but a clear discount to Verizon,” Wells Fargo Securities analyst Jennifer Fritzsche wrote in a note. “(Verizon) will be the one to watch, in our view as they have been on record saying it would react to price moves if they felt the need.” AT&T’s shares were down 2 percent at $33.32 in premarket trading on Monday, while Verizon’s shares were down 1.5 percent at $47.25. Analysts have said a price war could dent the industry’s profits but the new plans might prompt higher data use by consumers.

“The (AT&Ts price cut) will likely have an impact on service revenue from some of the higher data users, this new pricing approach may also have some positives which should bode well for longer-term margin trends,” Wells Fargo Securities analyst Jan Dawson said the best way for AT&T to grow revenues was to increase the amount of data people include in their plans.” The strategy is important as the market becomes saturated and there are fewer new customers to go around,” he said. — Reuters

Samsung Electronics to unveil latest Galaxy smartphone in late February

SEOUL, 4 Feb — Galaxy S smartphone this month, but expectations are low that features such as a bigger screen will lead to a sharp jump in sales given intensifying competition. Samsung sent out invitations on Tuesday for “Samsung unpacked 5” event on 24 February at the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona. The launch has been brought forward by around three weeks after sales of Samsung’s S4 came in weaker than expected, analysts said.

The Droid Mini, Droid Ultra and Droid Maxx are seen on display during the Verizon Wireless media event in New York on 23 July, 2013. — Reuters

The world’s biggest smartphone maker is bracing for its weakest mobile annual profit growth in seven years amid fierce competition from Apple Inc and Chinese vendors, and as growth for high-end smartphones eases due to near saturation in many markets. The S5 is widely expected to feature a bigger screen, an improved rear camera and biometric functions such as iris recognition or a fingerprint scanner. It may also come with an improved Galaxy Gear smartwatch.

In a mid-Infrared Spectrograph that can analyze 100 objects at once, a Mid-Infrared Instrument that sees light in the mid-infrared region of the electromagnetic spectrum, or wave-lengths longer than the human eye can see, and a Fine Guidance Sensor and Near-infrared Imager and Slitless Spectrograph to improve the telescope’s resolution. — Xinhua

The Bell logo is seen on the company’s building in downtown Montreal on 9 Feb, 2011. — Reuters

BCE’s Bell Canada says some passwords were posted online

TORONTO, 4 Feb — BCE Inc, Canada’s largest telecom company, said online over the weekend after an unnamed third-party supplier was hacked.

Five valid credit card numbers were also posted, BCE’s Bell Canada unit said in a release on Sunday. It said its own systems were not affected.

The company said it had disabled the passwords and informed credit card companies, and it was contacting affected customers. — Reuters

Icelandic social media site targets surveillance-weary users

OSLO, 4 Feb — Up-start social media platform Vivaldi aims to capture tech savvy users seeking to avoid aggressive advertising and the prying eyes of governments, and hopes for a boost from the closure of a rival, founder Jon von Tetzchner told Reuters.

Based in Iceland, a country known for its commitment to privacy and free speech, Vivaldi is luring users with strong data encryption and a promise not to use the content of private mail to generate advertising.

“Our initial focus is on the computer geeks because they usually have higher demands for functionality, safety and privacy,” said von Tetzchner, co-founder of Internet browser maker Opera Software. “But a lot of ordinary people also worry about these things and we will welcome everyone.”

The recently established Vivaldi.net currently offers a mail service, photo sharing, chat functions, a blog platform and discussion forums.

“There has been a lot of focus on safety lately, and it has mainly been focused on governments. But I think this is just as much an issue for the companies in this business,” said von Tetzchner. Vivaldi hopes for a boost from Opera Software’s decision to shut its own social network platform on 1 March and aims to capture its several million users, von Tetzchner left Opera in 2011.

“As a society I feel that we should be more focused on limiting the massive surveillance we all are under from governments and from companies that use people’s private information for advertising purposes,” von Tetzchner said. “I don’t think anyone can guarantee to keep NSA away, so I won’t make that promise.”

The Bell logo is seen on the company’s building in downtown Montreal on 9 Feb, 2011. — Reuters

US space agency says next generation telescope on track for 2018 launch

WASHINGTON, 4 Feb — The head of the US space agency NASA said on Monday its next-generation James Webb Space Telescope, the successor to the 24-year-old Hubble Space Telescope, is on track for a planned launch in 2018.

All four of Webb’s science instruments and all 18 of its primary mirror segments have already been delivered to the NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Centre in Greenbelt, Maryland, where the agency’s flagship science project will be assembled once the telescope structure arrives.

“The recent completion of the critical design review for Webb, and the delivery of all its instruments to Goddard, mark significant progress for this mission,” NASA Administrator Charles Bolden said in a statement.

“The design, build, delivery and testing of these components took meticulous planning and action … It’s very exciting to see it all coming together on schedule.” Accord-
Pfizer’s new breast cancer drug succeeds in trial

BANGALORE, 4 Feb — Pfizer Inc’s experimental breast cancer drug significantly improved patient survival rates in a mid-stage trial without their condition worsening, maintaining the company’s lead in the race for a new treatment standard for the disease. The oral drug, palbociclib, is considered one of Pfizer’s most valuable development projects.

Analysts have said it could have annual sales of more than $5 billion if successful.

Palbociclib was designated a “breakthrough” drug by the US Food and Drug Administration last April based on initial data from the trial. The FDA grants “breakthrough” status to drugs that may offer substantial improvement over existing treatments for serious or life-threatening diseases. The status helps to speed up the approval process.

The trial, called Paloma-1, tested the drug in post-menopausal patients in combination with the hormonal therapy letrozole. Results were compared with patients receiving only letrozole.

Pfizer has started two late-stage trials of the drug — Paloma-2 and Paloma-3 — in patients with advanced breast cancer.

Paloma-2 will test the same drug combination, palbociclib and letrozole, as an initial treatment for women who have not previously been treated with aromatase inhibitors. Paloma-3 will evaluate palbociclib in combination with another hormone therapy, fulvestrant, in women whose cancer has progressed after hormonal therapy.

Palbociclib works by blocking two enzymes, cyclin dependent kinases (CDK) 4 and 6, which enable tumor cell growth. Companies are working to develop similar treatments in combination with other drugs.

Ablynx agrees Merck cancer deal worth up to 1.7 billion euros

BRUSSELS, 4 Feb — Belgian biotech company Ablynx has signed a deal with Merck & Co worth up to 1.7 billion euros ($2.3 billion) to develop drugs triggering the body to fight cancer by itself. The collaboration involves a new generation of drugs designed to activate the immune system. The first in the field — Bristol-Meyer Squibb’s Yervoy — is targeting melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer.

Rival Merck filed the first part of an application to market its own potential drug for advanced melanoma earlier this month, pushing up its share price. The firm is testing the same drug for lung and renal cancer.

Ablynx, which already has a neurology partnership with the US drugmaker dating back to 2012, said on Monday that it would be responsible for discovering antibody-derived proteins, known as nanobodies, to target “immune checkpoint modulators.” The modulators regulate the body’s immune response, but cancers can evade the immune system because tumor cells can be like the patient’s own and can also interfere with the immune response. Ablynx believes its nanobodies — typically a 10th the size of an antibody, and able to penetrate further and be manipulated more than an antibody — could help activate the immune system to attack cancer cells.

Under the terms of the deal, Ablynx will receive a payment of 20 million euros and up to 10.7 million euros in research funding during an initial three-year research term.

The firm is eligible for payments on reaching development, regulatory and commercial milestones, which could push up its share price.

Chrysler US January sales up 8 percent on Jeep strength

DETROIT, 4 Feb — Chrysler Group’s US January sales rose 8 percent on the strength of its Jeep and Ram truck brands.

Chrysler, a unit of Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA, MI), said it expected overall US industry auto sales to be 15.6 million vehicles on a seasonally adjusted annualized basis.

The company’s forecast includes medium and heavy trucks, which typically account for between 200,000 and 300,000 vehicles annually.

Chrysler’s Jeep Cherokee SUV sold five times more vehicles in January than the Jeep Liberty, the model it replaced in the brand’s lineup, sold a year ago.

While Chrysler beat analysts’ expectations by selling 127,183 vehicles in January, snow and bone-chilling weather likely hurt total US auto sales for the month, analysts said. Still, any dip in monthly sales is not seen cutting into the automotive industry’s rebound, which has been outpacing the recovery of the overall US economy since the 2008-2010 downturn.

Nestle sells PowerBar and Musashi to US group Post Holdings

LOUIS / ZURICH, 4 Feb — Food group Nestle (NESN.VX) is selling its sports nutrition business under the PowerBar and Musashi brands to US group Post Holdings (POST.N), the Swiss company said, in its drive to shed underperforming assets.

The world’s biggest food company is reviewing its portfolio to identify brands to be improved or sold, having already off-loaded the bulk of its Jenny Craig weight-loss business in November.

Several consumer goods companies are pruning their portfolios as faltering economies have made trading more difficult worldwide. Moody’s Investors Service said in a recent report that these reviews could lead to a wave of mergers and acquisitions among food producers.

We have an ongoing process of portfolio review and this decision came out of that,” a Nestle spokesman said in an emailed statement. “The divestment allows Nestle Nutrition to focus more closely on the core elements of our business.”

She declined to reveal the financial details, but Kepler Cheuvreux analyst Jon Cox estimates that PowerBar and Musashi have combined annual sales of about 200 million Swiss francs ($220.8 million). “As a result, Post Holdings potentially paid up to 400 million Swiss francs for the businesses,” he said.

Reuters reported in September that Nestle was looking to sell its PowerBar brand. A statement from Post Holdings said that the company expects the acquisition to boost sales in its active nutrition business to about $550 million a year. It added that it expects to fund the acquisition from cash reserves.

Nestle reported full-year results on 13 February.

More evidence HPV vaccine doesn’t promote risky sex

NEW YORK, 4 Feb — Young women who get the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine don’t see it as a license to have more sexual partners or forgo condoms, a new study confirms.

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention calls for both girls and boys to be vaccinated against HPV, the sexually transmitted virus that causes cervical cancer. Some parents have been concerned that the vaccine might promote risky sex, however, and the issue of HPV vaccination became a topic of debate during the 2012 Republican primaries.

But in the new study, even the small group of girls who misunderstood their risk of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) after getting vaccinated didn’t change their behavior as a result, researchers found. “There are so many contributing factors to whether an adolescent decides to have sex or not, and whether they decide to limit their number of partners or use condoms,” said Dr Jessica Kahn, “Getting a vaccine probably just plays a very, very small role in their decisions.” Kahn worked on the study at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center in Ohio.

Her team’s findings are in line with another report that showed girls who had been vaccinated weren’t more likely to get other STIs or become pregnant.”

To me, the issue is laid to rest,” Kahn told Reuters Health. “As clinicians and researchers, we have no concerns that vaccination will lead to riskier sexual behaviors.” She and her colleagues studied 339 young women between 13 and 21 years old who were getting their first of three HPV shots. Most of the women were black and came from low-income families.

The researchers surveyed participants about how important they considered safe sex to be, and how concerned they were about STIs. They then asked the participants about changes in their sexual behavior when the young women came back two and six months later for their next shots.

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A future of a country lies within youths

The youths of today are supposed to be the leaders of tomorrow. The future of a country lies within the youths and the youths are resources of a country as well. There is no doubt that the resources of the youths can be channeled into developing the country and its people.

The leading role of the youths is becoming wider and wider as the information technology is advanced day by day. The youths should not lose sight of advantages during the age. Only when they pursue latest developments in their time, would it be possible for them to keep abreast of changes in their time.

Youths must be active fresh and the youthful age is full of energy, ideas, zeal to work etc. There is so much hoe, strength and energy in the youths, and they should not allow these resources to waste. They need to be burned with a great zeal in learning.

And, the goodwill is the spirit the youths should have. The youths of community spirit and sympathy are considered in the forefront of building a country.

Youths should choose to use their energy daily to gain knowledge and skills. Only then, will they become the intellectuals and intelligentsia.

Press conference on opening of new Goethe-Institute

YANGON, 4 Feb—A press conference on opening of new Goethe-Institute was held at Strand Hotel on Strand Road, here, this morning.

Director Franz Xaver Augustin of Goethe-Institute (Myanmar) explained the purposes of opening the Institute to train tour guides and exchange culture.

Jazz musician Tim Isfort elaborated on “Myanmar meets Head of Officer of UNESCO

YANGON, 4 Feb—The hand over and opening ceremony of the new building was held at No. 4 Monastic Basic Education Middle School in Kandaw Village in Pakokku Township on 2 February.

The school was established in 1993 for the children of poor families from Kandaw and near-by ten villages under the Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects (GGP) Scheme of the Government of Japan. The Government of Japan also provided 105,845 USD for the construction of two-storey RC school buildings with eight classrooms and provision of school furniture through GGP Scheme as the number of students also increased gradually and the school lacks enough space for teaching and learning.

Under the GGP Scheme, students of Kandaw Village and near-by villages can pursue their education with better learning environment and further strengthen existing friendly relations between Japan and Myanmar.

Government needs …

(from page 16)

on 50 percent of the value of the purchased vehicle, Deputy Minister Dr Lin Aung replied that tax relaxation on purchase of vehicle was allowed for the convenience of the people in buying/making vehicles or vessels in accord with the Ministry of Finance and Revenue’s Order No (104/2007).

Next, two representatives discussed a report of Amyotha Hluttaw Government’s Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee, calling for more attentions to be taken on the delayed pledges for the sake of the people. Then, the Hluttaw approved the report.—MNA

Union Minister for Border Affairs receives Nagaland Chief Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb—Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win received Chief Minister of the State of Nagaland (India) Mr Neiphiu Rio and party at the ministry here this morning.

Both sides focused on cooperation in uplifting development of Naga region at the border area of the two countries, exchanging traditional culture, work progress of infrastructures for road transport, education and health sectors in Chin State and Naga Self-Administered Zone with the assistance of India and ongoing plans for the development of border areas.

MNA

Acting Union Minister for Education meets Head of Officer of UNESCO

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb—Acting Union Minister for Education Dr Myo Myint held a cordial discussion with Head of Officer of UNESCO (Myanmar Office) Mr Sardar Umar Alam at the ministry yesterday afternoon.

They focused on holding the Consolidation of Higher Education Institutions Workshop in Yangon.

MNA

Kandaw Village Monastic Primary School constructed under GGP Scheme

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MNA
Vice-President U Nyan Tun visits Sittway, Maungtaw, ...

(from page 16)

On his arrival at Buthidaung, the Vice-President explained measures to be taken for ensuring development and peace and stability in the region fulfilled the requirements of local people.

Next, he inspected construction of a two-storey building for the post-primary school in Thabyaykon ward and observed learning of students at the school. After inspecting development undertakings being implemented in the township on a motorcade, the Vice-President flew back to Sittway.

In the afternoon, the Vice-President delivered a speech in meeting with officials, Hluttaw representatives, social organizations and local people at a hall of Rakhine State government office in Sittway.

First, the state chief minister, Union ministers U Zeyar Aung and U Huy Aung and Deputy Ministers Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun and U Aung Than Oo presented their respective reports.

In the evening, Vice-President U Nyan Tun visited the Kaladan River transportation project at Sittway Port.

The Sittway Port is being upgraded to handle a 20,000-ton vessel.

During his visits in Rakhine State, Vice-President U Nyan Tun clarified the efforts of the government to cease the armed conflicts in the country while working hard for transition to democracy and for building market-oriented economic system.

He said Rakhine State is the western gate of the country, possessing the opportunities for trading with western countries, middle-east region, ASEAN countries, India and Bangladesh.

The Vice-President also expressed his delight for upgrading Sittway Port and Kyaukpyu Port to international ones.

The Rakhine State would become the corridor of the country and east and west countries as well, he said.

He also stressed the need for improving the education and living standard of the local people through the development of the economy of the state.

He urged the departmental officials to build the good governance system which can guarantee the stability, the rule of law, transparency and effectiveness of the governance.

The Vice-President also called on support groups for development, regional development affairs committees, MPs and townsenders for working together for carrying out people-centered development tasks.

All are obliged to enforce the rule of law in Rakhine State, he said.—MNA

CCPAT reviews judiciary sector for trafficking in persons

NAY P'TA W, 4 Feb

The Central Committee for Prevention Against Trafficking in Persons conducted a workshop on the Criminal Justice Response to Trafficking in Persons in Myanmar here today.

Deputy Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo and Chief of Myanmar Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win, said.

During the workshop, participants will discuss the judiciary sector for the trafficking in persons including legal framework, role of the judiciary institutions and their responsibilities and regional judiciary sectors.

They will also review the current judiciary sector for the trafficking in persons. The workshop continues tomorrow.

Out of 236 trafficked victims in 102 cases in 2013, 223 have been rescued, according to Myanmar Police Force.

Most were trafficked to China and Thailand.

NAY P’TAW, 4 Feb — Following the suggestion of the investigation commission for the Latpadaungtaung Copper Mining project, the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) report on the project is being carried out by the Knight ‘Pie’ sold Co Ltd.

The draft of the report is being reviewed in detail by a 39-member expert team, said U Than Tun Aung, Deputy Minister for Mining and leader of the Environmental Conservation Team, at the meeting on reviewing the ESIA report at Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry here today.

Construction Environmental and Social Management Plan (CESMS) is also drafted during the period of working for the ESIA report.

Measures are being taken in accordance with Environmental management plan (EMP), Social Management Plan (SMP) and Monitoring Plan to be able to reduce the impacts on the environment and socio economy of the residents, said Deputy Minister U Than Tun Aung said.

A non-aligned committee comprising experts and local people has been formed to monitor the project.

Regarding the finalizing the ESIA report, the deputy minister suggested to seek advices from local people and to take the voices of local people, suggestions of the non-aligned committee and findings of the experts of the respective ministries into account.

The experts discussed and reviewed the draft of the ESIA report.

Experts review ESIA draft on Latpadaungtaung Copper Mine

MNA
Specialists on field trips of providing health care services

KUNLONG, 4 Feb—With the aim of giving health care services to the local people in border areas and far-flung areas, a specialist team made a field trip to Kunlong of Shan State (North) on 2 February. Under the arrangement of Shan State Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myo Tun, the specialists provided 354 eye patients, 169 dental patients, 15 OG patients and 123 general patients, totaling 661.

The specialists team comprised eye specialist Dr Tin Moe Kyi, dentist Dr Tun Min and Dr Min Khant Ko Ko, physicians of Laukkai Hospital Dr Soe Htut Khang and OG specialist Dr Mu Mu Kyaw. 

Township level officials and medical officer assisted in providing health care to the people. MMAL-Sai Zaw Khum (IPRD)

Knowledge shared on census taking process

PRUHSO, 4 Feb—Talks on population and housing data collection was given at Basic Education Primary School in Nyaungzin Ward of Pruhso, Kayah State, on 1 February afternoon.

Head of Township Immigration and National Registration Department U Saw Kane Poe explained matters related to questions to the people in detail.

Uplifting livelihoods of rural people undertaken

LOIKAW, 3 Feb—Cooperative Department of Ministry of Cooperatives held the rural region and social economic development at the town hall in Loikaw on 3 February, with an address by Kayah State Minister for Planning and Economic U Taw Yei.

Director of Kayah State INRD U Khin Soe stressed the need to correctly and accurately answer the queries on population, economic, social and livelihoods. Depending on answers of the people, the government will fulfill the requirement if necessary. All the people are to join hands with the department in census taking process as a national duty, he said.

Konphauk Bridge commissioned into service in Myeik

MYEIK, 4 Feb—Konphauk concrete bridge linking Konphauk Ward and Inlaymyaing Ward was inaugurated in Myeik of Taninthayi Region on 3 February in commemoration of the 67th Anniversary Union Day.

Assistant Director U Thet Naing Tun of Progress of Border Areas and National Races Department under the Ministry of Border Affairs reported on matters related to the bridge.

Taninthayi Region Minister for Transport Dr Kyaw Hsan, Deputy Commissioner of Myeik District U Lwin Ko Oo and Chairman of Township Development Affairs Committee U Maung Lay opened the new bridge.

Chief Minister of the region U Myat Ko unveiled the archway of the bridge.

The region chief minister and party strolled along the bridge. The bridge was built at a cost of K 95 million funded by border region development in 2013-14 fiscal year.

The bridge will be a linkage among downtown, Myeik Airport and highway bus terminal. The bridge is 100 feet long and 14 feet wide flanked by three feet wide pedestrian on either side. It was built within four months.

MMAL-Moe Hein (Myeik)

Pay Your Tax

Myint Myint Maw of Yangon West District Information and Public Relations Department and officials presented prizes to the winners. Writer Pathein Aung Than Oo lectured raising reading habit.

Kyemon-Aung Myint

National Objectives of 67th Anniversary Union Day 2014

- For all the national races to cultivate the Union Spirit to perpetuate the Union
- For all the national races to live in unity and harmony
- For all the national races to build up the prevailing national recon-ciliation
- For all citizens to participate in tasks for tranquility and the rule of law
- For all the national races to join efforts for modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation

Electrification

Hsakha Village of Myingyan Tsp gets electrification

Myint Myint Maw of Yangon West District Information and Public Relations Department and officials presented prizes to the winners. Writer Pathein Aung Than Oo lectured raising reading habit.

Kyemon-Aung Myint

Out of 315 houses in the village, a total of 202 houses are enjoying electricity. The village electricity committee spent K 62 million for electrification tasks.

Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)

HSAKHA Village of MYINGYAN TSP GETS ELECTRIFICATION

Myint Myint Maw of Yangon West District Information and Public Relations Department and officials presented prizes to the winners. Writer Pathein Aung Than Oo lectured raising reading habit.

Kyemon-Aung Myint

MMAL-Township IPRD

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The talks was attended by 120 local people.

MMAL-Township IPRD

The specialists team comprised eye specialist Dr Tin Moe Kyi, dentist Dr Tun Min and Dr Min Khant Ko Ko, physicians of Laukkai Hospital Dr Soe Htut Khang and OG specialist Dr Mu Mu Kyaw. 

Township level officials and medical officer assisted in providing health care to the people. MMAL-Sai Zaw Khum (IPRD)

Pay Your Tax

MMAL-State IPRD

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MMAL-Moe Hein (Myeyik)

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MMAL-Moe Hein (Myeyik)
China Navy starts West Pacific drill

ABOARD CHANGBAISHAN, 4 Feb — A flotilla with China’s Nanhai Fleet entered the West Pacific Ocean on Monday to start a drill there after exercises in the Indian Ocean.

The three-ship flotilla consists of amphibious landing craft Changbaishan and destroyers Wuhan and Haiyau, according to military sources.

After reaching the Indian Ocean on 29 January, the ships conducted 10 exercises including anti-ship, joint search and rescue as well as damage control drills.

Exercises based on defense and settlement of emergencies were also conducted to test the command system’s response and soldiers’ combat skills.

Changbaishan is the country’s largest landing ship by gross tonnage and is equipped with an advanced weapons system.

Both Wuhan and Haiyau have experience of major drills and escort missions in the Gulf of Aden.

The flotilla passed along the Lombok Strait, Makassar Strait and the Sulawesi Sea to enter the West Pacific Ocean according to the drill plan.

Cambodia has 325,900 hectares of rubber plantations by 2013

Cambodia has 325,900 hectares of rubber plantations as of last year, up 16 percent compared with 280,350 hectares in a year earlier. — Xinhua

Motorcyclists find safety in numbers: ANU study

CANBERRA, 4 Feb — New research has helped explain the frequency of motorcycle collisions with cars, finding drivers are slower to notice motorbikes when there are fewer motorbikes on the road, the Australian National University (ANU) said in a release on Monday.

Vanessa Beanland from ANU Research School of Psychology found motorists would see and react to motorbikes up to three seconds faster when more motorbikes were on the road.

“When motorcyclists were high frequency, drivers detected them on average 5 meters further away, compared to when they were at low frequency,” Beanland says.

“At a driving speed of 60 km/h, this allowed the driver an extra three seconds to respond.”

More than 200 motorcyclists were killed on Australian roads each year, with 211 killed in 2013.

Latest figures for 2011 found more than 7,500 motorcyclists were treated for injuries. Beanland said the results could also help explain collisions between cars and bicycles.

Government figures show 50 cyclists were killed on the roads in 2013.

Along with colleagues from Monash University and the University of Nottingham, Beanland examined how the frequency of a specific type of vehicle in traffic can influence drivers’ ability to detect and respond to them.

Nintendo buys own shares worth 114 bil. yen off market

OSAKA, 4 Feb — Nintendo Co said on Tuesday it has acquired its own shares worth 114.2 billion yen through off-market trading at the Tokyo Stock Exchange.

The leading game machine manufacturer bought 9.5 million shares at 12,025 yen per share, comprising a portion of the shares owned by family members of Hiroshi Yamauchi, Nintendo’s former president who died last September.

The company said the acquisition was aimed at stabilizing the price of its shares on the stock market.

Unofficial voter turnout in Thai election stands at 45.8 percent

BANGKOK, 4 Feb — Unofficial reports show that around 45.8 percent of the total of 44.6 million eligible Thai voters cast ballots in Sunday’s general election, secretary-general of the Election Commission (EC) said on Monday.

The figures did not include voters in nine provinces where voting was canceled, Puchong Nutrawong was quoted by Bangkok Post as saying.

The Democrat Party, which boycotted the general election, is set to petition the Constitutional Court to nullify the election, deputy party leader Ong-art kla mapoon said.

Ong-art also requested the caretaker government to revoke the emergency decree, citing its negative impact on the country’s tourism and economy.

A 60-day state of emergency has been imposed in the capital and some nearby areas, effective from 22 January. Regardless of the election, anti-government protests would continue to push for the stepping-down of the caretaker government and implementation of a national protest, reform leader Suthep Thaugsuban said on Monday. Protesters will continue to seize government offices, according to Suthep.

Several hundred protesters on Monday besieged the Office of the Permanent Secretary for Defence Ministry, where caretaker Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra and several cabinet members have been working temporarily.

More than 10,000 polling stations in 67 constituencies in 18 provinces were forced to cancel voting on Sunday, due to protests, or insufficient election officials and ballots.

EC member Somchai Srisuthiyakorn said a new round of voting not be held until solutions are found to the current political conflict. Otherwise, any electoral process will inevitably be disrupted, Somchai said, indicating a new round of voting might be postponed for one month, or much longer.

Three children slain in shooting in southern Thailand

BANGKOK, 4 Feb — Three children were shot dead and their parents were injured on Monday night in an attack in Thailand’s restive southern province of Narathiwat, police said, but it was not immediately clear whether the shooting was insurgency-related.

The unknown assailants attacked the five family members around 9 pm in a village of Bahjok district as they arrived home after Muslim prayer, killing the three boys aged 3, 5 and 9, and injuring the parents.

The mother was in serious condition, while the father was slightly injured.

Police are investigating the incident including links, if any, to the insurgency that has plagued Thailand’s predominantly Muslim southern provinces since 2004, leaving nearly 6,000 dead.

An Indonesian man wades through the flutal outdoor soccer field full of mud and waste snagoged nets, after floods recede in Jakarta, Indonesia, opn 3 Feb, 2014.

Flooding that occurs over several weeks in Jakarta began to recede in some areas. — Xinhua

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The unknown assailants attacked the five family members around 9 pm in a village of Bahjok district as they arrived home after Muslim prayer, killing the three boys aged 3, 5 and 9, and injuring the parents.

The mother was in serious condition, while the father was slightly injured.

Police are investigating the incident including links, if any, to the insurgency that has plagued Thailand’s predominantly Muslim southern provinces since 2004, leaving nearly 6,000 dead.

Kyodo News

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sc.No</th>
<th>Tender No</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Remark</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>IFB-181(2013-2014)</td>
<td>30 Ton (6x6) NGV Tractor (1) No with 30 Ton Cascade Trailer (3) Nos</td>
<td>(1) Lot</td>
<td>US$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2)</td>
<td>IFB-182(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Skid Mounted Engine Driven Air Compressor</td>
<td>(1) No</td>
<td>US$</td>
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<tr>
<td>(3)</td>
<td>IFB-183(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Cummins Engine with Gear Box</td>
<td>(1) Set</td>
<td>US$</td>
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<tr>
<td>(4)</td>
<td>IFB-184(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Assorted Sizes of Seamless Casings</td>
<td>(10) Items</td>
<td>US$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5)</td>
<td>DMP/L-058(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Spares for CAT D 3512 Engine Ex D 3 T 2 SR-I &amp; II Rigs</td>
<td>(4) Items</td>
<td>Ks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(6)</td>
<td>DMP/L-059(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Spares for FA 1600 Triplex Pump Ex EmSCO Rig</td>
<td>(1) Lot</td>
<td>Ks</td>
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<td>(7)</td>
<td>DMP/L-060(2013-2014)</td>
<td>500 KVA Transformer and Dual Transformer</td>
<td>(2) Items</td>
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<tr>
<td>(8)</td>
<td>DMP/L-061(2013-2014)</td>
<td>1.5 HP Air Conditioner Split Type and Floor Standing Type Air Conditioner</td>
<td>(2) Items</td>
<td>Ks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Tender Closing Date & Time - 5-3-2014,16:30 Hr

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 5th February, 2014 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No(44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV NINOS VOY NO (1011)**
Consignees of cargo carried on MV NINOS VOY NO (1011) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4.2.2014 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.

**SHIPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**
**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**
**AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING (MALAY-SIA) AGENCY SDN BHD**
Phone No: 256098/378316/376797

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV SINGAPORE BRIDGE VOY NO (060)**
Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINGAPORE BRIDGE VOY NO (060) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.2.2014 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.

**SHIPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**
**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**
**AGENT FOR: M/S SAMUDEERA SHIPPING LINES**
Phone No: 256098/378316/376797

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV MOROTAI VOY NO (227)**
Consignees of cargo carried on MV MOROTAI VOY NO (227) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.2.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**
**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**
**AGENT FOR: M/S CMA CGM**
Phone No: 256098/378316/376797

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV CALMY CORAL VOY NO (-) (12810)**
Consignees of cargo carried on MV CALMY CORAL VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.2.2014 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.

**SHIPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**
**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**
**AGENT FOR: M/S E.C.I S’PORE PTE LTD**
Phone No: 256092/256914

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Actor acknowledged for establishing friendship with Asia

Tokyo, 4 Feb — The Japanese government has praised actor Ryotaro Sugi for his efforts to establish friendship between Japan and Vietnam, as well as with other Southeast Asian countries, the top government spokesman said on Tuesday. Referring to Sugi, also a singer, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga told a press conference, “His grassroots charitable activities have made great contributions to cultural exchanges and promotions between Japan and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.”

Sugi, 69, is known for his dedication to building schools at his own expenses and adopting orphans in Vietnam. He has also assumed goodwill ambassador for Japan-Vietnam relations for nearly a decade and also played public roles last year to celebrate the 40th anniversary of friendship between Japan and the 10-member ASEAN.

Kyodo News
**Advertisement & Entertainment**

**Announcement to City Golf Resort Members for 19th Anniversary of Golf Tournament**

1. 19th Anniversary Golf Tournament of City golf members will be held on 9-2-2014 in the level of A, B, and C according to the handicap-wise fixed as the followings-

   (a) Special guests and Ambassadors: Ngwethawtar Golf Course
   (b) Gold level (Hcap 0 to 12): Myakanthar Golf Course
   (c) Silver level (Hcap 13 to 18): Myakanthar Golf Course
   (d) Bronze level (Hcap 19 to 24): Ngwethawtar Golf Course
   (e) Women members: Ngwethawtar Golf Course

2. Members who like to participate can make a list at the front office the handicap with 5000 kyat on dead line 6-2-2014 at 15:00 hr in the afternoon. If the list at the front office is not made up, the list must be made up as City Golf Resort fixed.

3. As for the paid members, the list of golf players to whom like to play together in one group can give at the front office on the dead line 6-2-2014 at 15:00 hr in the afternoon. (If not at the fixed time, must play with the list of fixed by the City Golf Resort.)

4. Tournament list and Tee Off Time will be declared in the afternoon on 8-2-2014 at the club houses in City Golf Resort and Tee Off, and those who haven’t favorable time to come and see in persons are requesting to make an inquiry through contact the Tel: No- mentioned below-

   (a) City Golf Resort Office: 01-641342
   (b) City Golf Resort, Ngwetawtar Front Office: 01-641343.01-604086
   (c) City Golf Resort, Myakanthar Front Office: 09-42119932

**Tournament Organizing Steering Committee**

**‘Silly’ selfies craze will die out, says ‘60s snapper Bailey**

**London, 4 Feb** — The craze for taking “selfies” will die out soon, said British photographer David Bailey, famously known for capturing the free spirit of the swinging ‘60s.

The 76-year old, whose famous subjects include supermodel Kate Moss, Rolling Stone singer Mick Jagger and actor Jack Nicholson, said he had never taken a self portrait on a smartphone or webcam because he was too busy taking pictures of other people.

“I only just found out what selfies were. I thought it was something entirely different! It’s just a silly moment,” he told Reuters ahead of his latest exhibition at London’s National Portrait Gallery.

“People won’t be doing it in six months’ time.

There will be another craze, I can see the point.”

“Bailey’s Stardust”, which opens on 6 February, features 250 portraits spanning his 55-year career but the photographer insisted the show was not a retrospective.

Organized into different groups. Bailey dedicated rooms in the exhibition to his wife Catherine, the Rolling Stones and fashion icons like Moss and Jerry Hall as well as his travels to Papua New Guinea and East Africa.

Whilst his show features color photography, he is best known for his stark black-and-white portraits against a simple white background, which he says helps to convey the message of his work in a direct manner. “When you look at a color picture, you kind of look at the color before you look at the message, whereas black and white cuts out the color, so you go straight to the message.”

Showing no signs of slowing despite his age, Bailey says he spends his time working on various projects across film, sculpture and photography, adding he never gets nostalgic. “I’m only interested in now, this moment. Because that is the only thing we have in life, it’s now, this moment.

When this moment is gone, it’s another moment,” he said.—Reuters

**Philip Seymour Hoffman death comes amid rise in heroin abuse, trafficking**

**Los Angeles, 4 Feb** — The apparent heroin overdose death of actor Philip Seymour Hoffman comes amid a sharp rise in trafficking of the illegal narcotic across the US-Mexico border in recent years and growing abuse of the drug nationwide, federal officials said on Monday.

The increasing levels of US heroin use, which has reached epidemic proportions during the past five years, stems from a corresponding spike in abuse of prescription opiate-based painkillers, such as oxycodone, Drug Enforcement Administration officials said. Many individuals who start out abusing oxycodone turn eventually to heroin as they build up a tolerance to the pain pills and find that they can buy heroin far more cheaply than prescription medications on the black market, the officials said. “Oxy is much more expensive to get than heroin,” said Sarah Pullen, a special DEA agent in Los Angeles. “Prescription drug abuse really took hold about 10 years ago, and about five years ago, we really started to see heroin abuse pick up.”—Reuters

**Britain bars entry to French comedian accused of anti-Semitism**

**London, 4 Feb** — Britain on Monday banned a French comedian accused of anti-Semitism, saying he would not be allowed to enter the country for public policy and security reasons.

Dieudonne M’Bala M’Bala, 46, has been repeatedly fined for “hate speech” in his native France where local authorities in several towns have banned his shows as a threat to public order.

He is closely associated with the “quenelle”, a gesture that critics have likened to an inverted Nazi salute and said carries anti-Semitic overtones.

Dieudonne, who has said he is not anti-Semitic, had planned to visit Nicolas Anelka, a striker at England’s West Bromwich Albion football club who is at the centre of a race row.

Anelka made the comedian’s salute after scoring a goal in a match in December, saying it was a tribute to his close friend. He is being investigated by England’s Football Association over the incident.—Reuters

**Singer Chris Brown avoids jail time, stays in rehab**

**Los Angeles, 4 Feb** — A judge in Los Angeles on Monday turned down prosecutors’ motion to jail R&B singer Chris Brown because of his arrest on an assault charge in Washington, DC, last year.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge James R Brandlin said Brown should stay at a treatment facility for substance abuse and anger management because he was doing well in the court-ordered programme and it gave him an “adequate safety net.”

Brandlin sentenced Brown to 90 days in the treatment programme in November following his October assault arrest in Washington where he allegedly punched and broke the nose of a man who was trying to get a picture with him.

Brandlin also revoked Brown’s probation from his 2009 assault on then-girlfriend and singer Rihanna on the eve of the Grammy Awards.

Brown, 24, has pleaded not guilty to misdemeanor assault in the Washington case and rejected a plea deal that would have reduced the charge to a simple assault.

“The Look at Me Now” singer had his probation from the Rihanna assault extended last year after prosecutors alleged he cut corners on community service.

**Happy 80th Birthday**

Prof. Dr. Kyaw Win Boulder, Colorado, USA
Son of Rev. On Kin, Independent Methodist, Yangon & Daw Sein Thit, Former Methodist, School, Twantay With best wishes Riri, Zali & Tom, Dewi & Brad, Spencer & Maya

**French comedian Dieudonne M’Bala M’Bala, also known as just “Dieudonne”, arrives at a news conference at the ‘Theatre de la Main d’or’ in Paris on 11 Jan, 2014.—Reuters**
SPORTS

Newcastle’s director of football Kinneir resigns

LONDON, 4 Feb — Newcastle United’s contro- versial director of football Joe Kinneir has quit seven months into a three-year deal after his second spell at the Premier League club in which they made no perma- nent signings for the first- team squad.

Kinneir, 67, had come under fire after Newcastle, who were thrashed 3-0 at home by local rivals Sun- dersland on Saturday, did not buy any new players in the January transfer window and lost playmaker Yohan Cabaye to Paris St Germain. “New- castle United can confirm that Joe Kinneir has this evening resigned from his position as director of foot- ball with immediate effect,” the north-east club said in a statement on their official website (www.nufc.co.uk).

Kinneir was responsi- ble for attracting talent to the club but strikers Luuk de Jong and Loic Remy, on loan from Borussia Moe- nchengladbach and Queens- Park Rangers respectively, were the only players added to the first-team squad un- der his watch. Kinneir, who lie- mid-table in the league, failed to sign Clement Grenier from Olympique Lyon as a replacement for Cabaye, who left for a fee that British media said could reach 25 million euros (20.7 million pounds).

After the Sunder- land defeat, manager Alan Pardew told reporters: “If I was in charge, solely, of transfers, things might be different, but I’m not. I think I’ve made my opinions very clear this week and all the rest of it is con- fidential.” The club’s diffi- culties in the January trans- fer window were the latest twist in Kinneir’s difficult relationship with the fans, who never warmed to the outspoken Irishman.

He returned to Newcas- tle, where he was manager for four months in the 2008- 09 season before his tenure was ended by a heart attack, in controversial circumstances. Many fans and the media questioned whether the Irishman’s appoint- ment by United owner Mike Ashley would undermine Pardew’s role at the club with speculation about who had the final say on trans- fers despite Kinneir saying it was a joint decision.

The day before Kinneir was officially appointed in June last year, the former Tottenham Hotspur and Ire- land fullback gave a bizarre radio interview in which he rounded on his critics. “I’ve made a series of gaffes in which he pro- nounced the names of play- ers and club officials incor- rectly and claimed credit for a signing in his former spell as Newcastle manager when the player was actu- ally recruited by another,”

UN secretary general Ban to address IOC session in Sochi

SOCHI, 4 Feb — United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon will deliver a keynote speech at the Inter- national Olympic Com- mittee session this week before the start of the Sochi winter Games, IOC Presi- dent Thomas Bach said on Monday.

Ban would become the first secretary general to address the session, Bach said. The IOC has observer status at the United Nations. “The secretary general has accepted the invitation to attend the IOC session and deliver a keynote ad- dress,” Bach told reporters in the Russian Black Sea resort of Sochi, where the Games begin on Friday.

Several heads of state, including US President Barack Obama, German President Joachim Gauck and President Francois Hollande of France, will not deliver a keynote ad- dress to the session, Bach said. The IOC has observer status at the United Nations.

“The owner of the whole course is variable as far as the jumps. I hope not, but the rails can’t be fixed but they can fix the jumps. “We may see some in- juries. I hope not, but the whole course is variable as far as the jumps.” —Reuters

Sochi course ‘dangerous,’ says Ireland’s O’Connor

SOCHI, 4 Feb — Irish snowboarder Seamus O’Connor has described the course for the Sochi Olym- pics as “pretty dangerous” and called for changes to be made to avoid injuries.

Speaking after his first training runs at the Rosa Khutor Extreme Park, where he will compete in the half-pipe and slopestyle events, O’Connor urged his fellow competitors to speak out.

“It’s pretty dangerous at the moment,” he said.

“The owner of the half-pipe and slopestyle men’s events during the Stoke match, with the for- mer suffering concussion and the latter a calf problem.

“We don’t really talk (about the Champions League) but we all know if anything that’s the mini- mum we need to aim for,” Smalling said. “If we can get on a good run, we’ve got the players — obviously we lost a couple on Saturday, but we’ve got a week now until we next play so hope- fully we can patch them up and get as many bodies out there as we can.”

“Nothing in life is a given with me, some of them are talking out of their back- sides, a load of toss and I’m not accepting it. It’s as sim- ple as that. I’ve certainly got more intelligence than them, that’s for sure.” —Reuters

Manchester United’s Chris Smalling (L) challenges Swan- sea City’s Wayne Routledge during their English FA Cup third round soccer match at Old Trafford in Manchester, northern England on 5 Jan, 2014.—Reuters

United must win all matches to reach Europe

LONDON, 4 Feb — Man- chester United must win their 14 remaining Premier League matches to keep alive their hopes of qualifying for the Champions League, according to defender Chris Smalling. The champions remain at ninth place, seven points off fourth-placed Liverpool and England’s final spot for Eu- rope’s premier club com- petition, following Saturday’s 2-1 defeat by Stoke City.

Their first league loss to Stoke since 1984 was their eighth of the season and came despite United being able to start Robin van Persie, Wayne Rooney and Juan Mata together for the first time. The Old Traf- ford club last missed out on Champions League qualifi- cation 19 years ago.

“We drop points, we lose matches to keep alive our 14 remaining Premier League club last missed out on Champions League qualifi- cation 19 years ago.

“We drop points, we lose matches to keep alive our 16-year-old was quoted as saying the Irish Times.

Thorpe admitted to rehab for depression

SYDNEY, 4 Feb — Aus- tralian swimming great Ian Thorpe has been admit- ted to rehab after suffering from depression, local me- dia said on Monday. Police were called after Thorpe was found disoriented and behaving oddly near a vehi- cle and the 31-year-old was later taken to Bankstown hospital on Monday.

“He is in rehab for de- pression,” Thorpe’s man- aged James Erskine told the Australian Associated Press. “The owner of the car basically called the po- lice and the police came. They realised it was Ian Thorpe. They realised he was disoriented.”

The five-times Olym- pic champion, who made his Games debut as a teen- ager in Sydney in 2000, retired in 2006 citing wan- ning motivation and made a comeback early in 2011 but failed to make the Austral- ian team for London.

Erskine said Thorpe was taking anti-depressants and medication for a shoul- der injury but was not under the influence of alcohol.

“He hadn’t had a drink,” Erskine added. “He had zero alcohol in him.” —Reuters
Smith & Nephew in $1.7 billion deal to tackle sports injuries

LONDON, 4 Feb — Britain’s Smith & Nephew (SN.L) is to buy ArthroCare Corp (ARTC.C) for an agreed $1.7 billion in cash to strengthen its treatments for sporting injuries, an area growing faster than its main replacement hips and knees business. Smith & Nephew (S&N) said on Monday it would pay $48.25 a share, a 20 percent premium to the average share price of Austin, Texas-based ArthroCare over the past 90 days. S&N Chief Executive Olivier Bohuon said revenues at the British firm’s sports medicine business were currently growing by a high single-digit percentage, compared with a low single-digit for replacement hips and knees.

We wanted to acquire in high-growth businesses and sports medicine is definitely one of them,” he said, adding ArthroCare’s expertise in treating shoulder joints would complement S&N’s strength in knee surgery. ArthroCare, which had net sales of $368 million in 2012, also comes with an ENT (ear, nose and throat) franchise that can be developed outside the United States, Bohuon said. Mick Cooper, analyst at Edison Investment Research, said: “The acquisition of ArthroCare makes clear strategic sense; it makes the company a leader in sports medicine and expands its reach into the ENT market, thereby improving its long-term growth prospects.

S&N shares, which have risen by 9 percent in the last three months, were up 1.1 percent to 885.5 pence at 1120 GMT, valuing the group at about 7.8 billion pounds. The deal, which is backed by ArthroCare’s board and One EquiPartners, its largest shareholder with 17 percent, will add about $85 million to S&N’s annual trading profit in the third full year after the deal closes, the British firm said. Including the cash on ArthroCare’s balance sheet, S&N said the acquisition would cost it a net $1.5 billion, financed from its debt facilities and cash balances.

Sports medicine typically involves non-invasive surgery to repair soft tissue in injuries sustained on the playing field. Bohuon said ArthroCare’s radiofrequency technology for non-invasive surgery would combine with S&N’s blade portfolio to give surgeons more choice. Revenues in S&N’s sports medicine business rose 7 percent in the third quarter of its financial year, compared with 5 percent growth across the whole group. —Reuters

5.0-magnitude quake hits Kepulauan Barat Daya, Indonesia

HONG KONG, 4 Feb — An earthquake measuring 5.0 on the Richter scale jolted Kepulauan Barat Daya, Indonesia at 2354 GMT on Monday, the US Geological Survey said.

Six killed, 21 injured in road mishap in western India

NEW DELHI, 4 Feb — At least six people were killed and 21 others injured in a road mishap in the western Indian state of Rajasthan, a senior police official said on Monday.

The mishap happened when a speeding bus collided head-on with a truck coming from the opposite direction in the state’s Ajmer district late Sunday evening. Most of the victims were passengers of the bus,” he said, on condition of anonymity.

The injured have been admitted to a local hospital, the official said. A probe has been ordered into the incident, he added. —Xinhua

West Ham hope Carroll avoids ban to lift survival hopes

LONDON, 4 Feb — West Ham United are hoping Andy Carroll’s productive double-act with Kevin Nolan will not be derailed by a three-match ban as the Premier League leaders look to ease their way out of relegation trouble.

Carroll, who has barely featured for the club due to injury since making a permanent move from Liverpool this season, helped set up both of Nolan’s goals in the 2-0 win over Swansea City on Saturday, a partnership which combined to give great effect last term while the striker was on loan.

However, the tall forward was sent off shortly after setting up Nolan’s second in the 92nd minute of the 2-0 win over the Swans. He was shown a straight red card by referee Anthony Taylor for swinging a high boot at Michael Chopra’s head.

West Ham United’s Andy Carroll reacts during their English Premier League soccer match against Chelsea at Stamford Bridge in London, on 29 Jan, 2014.—Reuters

With Carroll out for three games the club’s top scorer this term, this leaves the Hammers without their leading goal scorer at this stage of the season.

Carroll was sent off early in the second half, following an innocuous looking clash with Chico Flores which left the Spaniard rolling on the Upton Park turf.

“The 25-year-old faces a three-match ban if his appeal is not overturned, a loss which would hit West Ham’s hopes of moving up to safety on 18th place. ‘Hopefully we get justice in Andy’s decision being overturned,’” midfielder Mark Noble told the club’s official website (www.whufc.com).

“(Swansea manager) Michael Laudrup has come out on TV and said it wasn’t a sending off, so that’s good honest from the man. If we can keep him and Kevin firing together, with Jaruo (Micalis), I think Stewart Downing producing crosses, hopefully we can stay solid and push up the table.” Eng-land’s Carroll has recently returned to fitness, having missed the entire season since his 15 million pounds ($24.65 million) move due to ongoing foot injuries, leaving his side short of attacking options.—Reuters

West Ham hope Carroll avoids ban to lift survival hopes

Photo shows suma wrestlers — grand champion Hakahu (back R) and maegashira Endo (back L) — during an annual bean-throwing festival, marking the start of spring according to the lunar calendar, at Naritasan Shinsho Temple in Narita, Chiba Prefecture, northeast of Tokyo, on 3 Feb, 2014. KYODO NEWS

MYANMAR TV

SYDNEY, 4 Feb — Suma wrestlers — grand champion Hakahu (back R) and maegashira Endo (back L) — during an annual bean-throwing festival, marking the start of spring according to the lunar calendar, at Naritasan Shinsho Temple in Narita, Chiba Prefecture, northeast of Tokyo, on 3 Feb, 2014. KYODO NEWS

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thenewlightofmyanmar@gmail.com

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Wednesday, 5 February, 2014

15
**Vice-President U Nyan Tun visits Sittway, Maungtaw, Buthidaung Tsps in Rakhine State**

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb—Accompanied by Union Minister U Htay Aung, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin and deputy ministers, Vice-President U Nyan Tun arrived at Mawyawady village in Maungtaw district today.

First, the Vice-President cordially greeted students at a makeshift school and spoke words of encouragement to departmental personnel and local people in the village.

Next, he inspected inter-village road, village post-primary school, staff housing and resettlement of local people at the village.

After explaining measures for ensuring peace and stability and development in the region, the Vice-President presented school uniforms and cash assistance for 140 students through the school head. He also offered provisions to the abbot of the village monastery.

In meeting with departmental officials, members of social organizations and townsmen of the two communities at Thiri Mingala Hall of Maungtaw Township, the Vice-President clarified the government’s sweeping reforms. He then observed peace and tranquility and development of the township on a motorcade.

(See page 9)

**Government needs enough time to make fair and thorough review on Union Minister’s comments whether it is made in good faith or bad faith**

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb—Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw continued respective sessions today.

At today’s Pyithu Hluttaw session, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint responded to a question about measures to be taken for curbing counts of drugs and gambling in Mon State that counter-narcotics operations and a plan to fight against gambling in Mon State was taking place under the supervision of the Mon State government and the Mon State police command.

Deputy Minister at President Office U Thant Myint Shwe replied to a question whether Union Minister U Ohn Myint’s comments made in meeting with local people at Putgemone village in Kawthoung Township and Thittyarkauk village in Maungawady Township, regarding the proposal, Union Minister for Information U Aung Kyi stressed the importance of a point to be taken into consideration that whether Union Minister U Ohn Myint made bona fide (good faith) comments or mala fide (bad faith) ones. He continued that the government wanted to make a fair and thorough review on this case, taking background factors, the situation of the environment where the incident occurred, consequences of the incident and local people’s attitudes into consideration. So, it is required to have enough time to review the case, he added.

Pyithu Hluttaw decided to document the proposal and to watch the case.

Deputy Minister at President Office U Aung Thein responded to a question about Namtiphu creek that measures were being undertaken to prevent flooding and erosion and to return a creek crossing bridge and nearby farmlands into normalcy at the today’s Amyotha Hluttaw session.

Regarding a question about a rate of 15 percent (See page 8)

**Speaker of Pyidaungsu and Pyithu Hluttaw receives Indian guests**

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb—Speaker of Pyidaungsu and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received a delegation led by Chief Minister of the state of Nagaland Mr. Shri. Neiphiu Rio at Hluttaw building here at 4 pm today.

Also present at the call were Pyithu Hluttaw Committee Chairmen U Thein Zaw, U Hla Myint Oo and U T Khun Myat, and Pyithu Hluttaw representatives U Haik Khant Mahn, U Hla Tun, U Zin Wann and U Hsa Mu, and Commission member Daw Aye Aye Mu and officials of Hluttaw Office.

At the meeting, they exchanged views on amity and cooperation between the two countries.—MNA

**Integrated Ayeyawady River basin management project discussed**

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb—At Aureum Palace here today, Union Minister U Nyan Tun Aung addressed Hydromet Observation and Information System Modernization Project Preparation Workshop.—MNA

A total of 40 participants from the World Bank and relevant ministries took part in the discussion about proposed Ayeyawady integrated River Basin Management Project.—MNA