President U Thein Sein comforts wounded military personnel, workers and civilians in Lashio

**NAV PYI TAW, 27 Feb**—President U Thein Sein comforted members of the government army wounded in recent clashes in Luakkai and honoured them with financial assistance and other benefits in kind at a military hospital in Lashio, Shan State, on Friday morning, officials said.

The cash assistance amounted to K10 million.

At the hospital, the president encouraged the families of fallen military personnel and provided them with financial support worth K1.5m.

He also met wounded civilians and education staff and provided them with financial support including presents and foods. They were attacked by Kokang insurgents while driving in a convoy, according to a report.

The president visited a general hospital in Lashio, where he provided financial assistance and benefits in kind to Red Cross members, teachers, workers and civilians wounded in insurgent attacks.

A Shan Buddhist monastery in Lashio provides shelter for victims of clashes, with the president speaking words of encouragement to them. He paid homage to the presiding Sayadaw at the monastery, followed by a donation of K32.5m, 100 bags of rice, edible oil, salt, chillies and onions for the victims.

The president and his entourage flew back to Nay Pyi Taw in the evening.

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**President U Thein Sein’s radio message on air**

**NAV PYI TAW, 27 Feb**—A radio message to be delivered by U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, will be broadcast through radio programmes on both March 1 and 2.

Myanmar Radio, Mandalay FM, Pyinsawaddy FM, Shwe FM, Cherry FM, Padamya FM, FM Bagan and Thazin Radio will broadcast the message at 7 am, 11 am, 6 pm and 8 pm respectively.

The full text of the message in Myanmar language will be published in Myanmar dailies to be issued on 11 am, 6 pm and 8 pm respectively.

**Human resources development, supports for SMEs vital:**

**Myanmar-Japan business communities**

**By Ye Myint**

**YANGON, 27 Feb**—Cooperation in human resource development and support for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) are vital to increasing investment between Japan and Myanmar, according to two leading bilateral business communities.

In their joint statement released after the conclusion of the 11th Joint Meeting of Myanmar-Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry Business Cooperation Committees on Wednesday, the business groups also highlighted the importance of strategic priorities and master plans to be developed in important sectors that can contribute towards Myanmar’s economic growth.

Moreover, it called for joint efforts to achieve a better business environment in which Myanmar is able to increase investment from Japan.

There will be further expansion of business relations between the two countries through Thilawa Special Economic Zone, the Japan-Myanmar Joint Project which is expected to be completed this year, said the joint statement.

During the joint meeting held in Yangon, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce (RUMFCCI) and Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCCI) had discussions on the business potential of the agro-based food industry in Myanmar, business cooperation in Myanmar’s SMEs and human resources development for SMEs.

(See page 2)
Pyidaungsu Hluttaw concludes discussions on national planning bill

NA Pyi Taw, 27 Feb — Healthcare, school upgrades and improvements to the banking system were on the agenda during Friday’s session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, which concluded discussions on the National Planning Bill for 2015-16.

The national legislature session also heard deliberations on a number of specific projects. Representative Dr Aung Than of Shwebo Constituency said there are more hospitals and clinics thanks to the increased use of banks and to scrutiny of the banking system in order to improve healthcare for citizens.

Representative U Thein Yi of Hantabin Constituency said that standard requirements for upgrading basic education schools, such as those concerning student numbers and furniture, make it more difficult to improve schools, while the number of primary school drop-outs has been increasing.

Representative U Zaw Myint Pe of Mandalay Region Constituency (5) said it is necessary to upgrade the banking system in order to increase the public use of banks and to scrutinize work of government agencies so that funding for projects is not overlapped.

He also talked of the need for strict regulations on foreign loans, ordinary spending and capital spending, to prevent use of budgets under different titles.

Representative Dr Nay Lin of Seikkan Constituency said that it is important to nurture doctors, nurses and midwives in human resources development sector and to exert concerted efforts for a more responsible and accountable healthcare system.

Representative Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency (4) said that it is essential to reduce the number of staff in order to increase their salaries.

Deputy Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa said that abuse of public funds can be prevented by closely monitoring tender systems.

Discussions on principles and fundamental principles of the National Planning Bill concluded at the session and members of union-level organizations will explain the matters related to the bill on 5 and 6 March.

The Pyithu Hluttaw session today put the foreign trips of President U Thein Sein on record. MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw speaker receives Australian, Laotian ambassadors

Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann receives Australian Ambassador Mr Nicholas Coppel. — MNA

Australia, the private sector, account-majority of businesses in the country’s economic reform and development. The SME sector is also the big-

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw concludes discussions on national planning bill

Chiefs of jails, architects and planners exchange views on challenges of jail

NA Pyi Taw, 27 Feb — The 4th Asian Conference of Correctional Facilities Architects and Planners, jointly organized by Myanmar Correctional Department and the International Committee of the Red Cross, took place at Chatrium Hotel in Yangon on 24 February.

Director-General of Myanmar Correctional Department U Than Huy and Coordinator Mr Hiroiyuki Nabana, Chief of Facilities Planning, Facilities Division, Minister’s Secretariat, Ministry of Justice of Japan gave introductory speeches.

Delegates from Myanmar, Bangladesh, Cambo-
dia, Laos, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines and Sri Lanka discussed current situations and chal-

Chiefs of jails, architects and planners exchange views on challenges of jail

Regarding the human resources development for SME development, another presentation stressed the need for skilled workers and capacity building in the sector, calling for addressing skills gaps and constraints that are serious obstacles for firms.

The next round of discussion, the 12th Joint Meeting of Japan-Myan-
mar CCI Business Coop-
eration Committees, will be held in Japan within one year, the joint statement said.

Public Announcement for remonstration

The Danu National Organization Party headquar-
ted at 1-348 of U Tin Maung Oo, Thitsa street in Zaytan (South) Ward, Ywangan, Shan State, registered by the Union Election Commission as a political party under the Article 5 of the Political Parties Registration Law, submitted an application to register and to use title, flag and logo of the party on 27-2-2015.

It is hereby announced that those who want to remonstrate with the UEC about the party’s title, flag and seal may submit a complaint along with the strong evidences within seven days starting from issuance of this announcement in line with Section 14 (d) of the Political Parties Registration Rules.

Union Election Commission

Flag of Danu National Organization Party

Logo of Danu National Organization Party

Political parties apply for registration at UEC

NA Pyi Taw, 27 Feb — The Union Election Commission scrutinizes and allows registration for political parties. On 27 February 2015, Danu National Organiza-
tion Party submitted an application to register at the Union Election Commission. — MNA

Candidates for President’s scholarship award may take out IELTS Band Score

NA Pyi Taw, 27 Feb — A total of 138 candidates entered the interviews for the President’s scholarship award on 17 February in Yangon.

Those wishing to take out IELTS Band Score may contact Exam Centre of British Council or eiei, mon@gmail.britishcoun-

cil.org as of 2 March.

Human resources development, supports for SMEs . . .

(from page 1)

According to a presentation made at the meet-
ing on SMEs in Myanmar, small-and-medium-sized enterprises constitute the majority of businesses in the private sector, account-

for 96% of the econom-
ic sector in both rural and urban areas and 92% of the manufacturing sector, and are the main driver for the country’s economic reform and development. The SME sector is also the big-

foreign countries, 23 mem-

berg of ICRC, three from

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Logo of Danu National Organization Party
Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham meets Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand Gen. Tanasak Patimpragorn.—MNA

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives foreign ambassadors

NAV PYI TAW, 27 Feb—Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received Ambassador of Australia to Myanmar Mr Nicolas Coppel and Laotian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Lyying Sayaxang separately in Nay Pyi Taw on Friday.

At the meeting with the Australian ambassador, the senior general said that although Kokang insurgents said that they were not fighting against the government but they were attacking Tatmadaw forces, Kokang Self-Administration Zone is a part of the union and the Tatmadaw had to defend the area where the insurgents attacked government offices, individuals and camps. The senior general added that the best way to restore stability in the area was the military administration. He invited positive assistance from Australia at the meeting.

At the meeting with the Laotian ambassador, the senior general said that Myanmar will cooperate with Thailand and Laos to eliminate drugs in the Golden Triangle Region and called on the ambassador to open border gates for trade and exchange of visits between the two people. Also present at the occasions were Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win and senior officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army).

Myawady

Union FM meets Malaysian, Laotian ambassadors

NAV PYI TAW, 27 Feb—U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs received newly-appointed Malaysian Ambassador Mohd Hamid Bin Abd Rahman at the ministry, here, on Friday.

The union minister expressed confidence that the friendly relations and cooperation existing between Myanmar and Malaysia would continue grow during his term in office as well. The union minister also held talks with Laotian Ambassador Mr Lyying Sayaxang on Friday, focusing on matters relating to the promotion of bilateral relations and cooperation between Myanmar and Lao People’s Democratic Republic.

Australian Ambassador Mr Nicholas Coppel also called on the union minister on Friday morning.

MNA
Solar power improves living standard of rural people

TATKON, 27 Feb—Residents of Aingkye Village in the capital’s Tatkon Township gained a brighter outlook Thursday evening with the commencement of electricity supply from newly installed solar panels.

As part of efforts to improve living standards for rural people, local authorities have been electrifying the villages in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area one after another.

Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Phone Zaw Han, Nay Pyi Taw Development Council member U Myint Shwe and Deputy Chief Engineer of Nay Pyi Taw Electricity Supply Enterprise U Than Tun Aung were on hand to launch the supply of electricity for the village.

Electricians from Jasmine Family Company, assigned duty by Nay Pyi Taw Council, installed one 90W solar panel, one battery, one 300W inverter and other necessary equipment at each house from 12 to 16 February. Nay Pyi Taw Council allotted K67.8 million for installation of solar panels and equipment.

Resident Daw Hla Myint said having electricity was a “dream come true” for people in the village. “In the past, we spent K3,000 per month for a fluorescence lamp but we lit it a few hours a day,” she said. “Now, solar panels have been installed at our houses free of charge under the arrangements of the council. So, all rural people are happy having light every night with the solar panels.”

Tin Soe Lwin
(Tatkon IPRD)

Firefighters, shopkeepers join fire drill and rescue works

MYAWADY, 27 Feb—With current weather conditions raising the level of fire danger, firefighters, shopkeepers and volunteers came together Thursday for an emergency drill aimed at improving readiness at Bayintnaung Market in Myawady, a town in Kayin State bordering Thailand.

Participants practiced using fire extinguishers and carrying out rescues.

The drill was supervised by Myawady District’s deputy commissioner U Lwin Ko Oo and officials.

Hein Lin Aung (IPRD)

Nay Pyi Taw WAO discusses UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Feb—A roundtable discussion on United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities took place at the hall of Zabuthiri Township General Administration Department on Thursday, with a speech by Chairperson of Nay Pyi Taw Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Myat Myat Moe.

Director of Nay Pyi Taw Social Welfare Department U Tun Oo outlined the purpose of the roundtable, while Project Manager U Win Naing of TLMM (The Leprosy Mission Myanmar) and General Secretary U Nyunt Aung of Myanmar Council of People with Disabilities discussed specific articles of the convention.

Participants in the roundtable sought ways to protect the fundamental rights of people with disabilities, as well as improve their standing in society.

Thant Maung

People hope for smooth transport of road to Mandalay International Airport

MANDALAY, 27 Feb—Road users traveling to and from Mandalay International Airport are hoping for an upgrade on one of the main access routes to the central Myanmar aviation hub.

A 6-mile long road was built in 1990 to improve access between TadaU and the international airport, located in TadaU Township, Mandalay Region, but its condition deteriorated during the construction of the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway, when it was heavily used by trucks.

The road has since been filled with gravel, but users hope local authorities can improve safety and comfort on the route. — Htay Myint Maung
Road Administration Department issues driving licenses to applicants

MYINGYAN, 27 Feb—Myingyan District Road Administration Department conducted a driving and traffic rules course No. 3/2015 at the hall of Natogyi Township General Administration Department on 14-15 February.

Head of the district department U Lay Naing gave lectures on traffic rules to 757 trainees.

TOITU Co., Ltd of Japan donates hospital equipment to North Okkalapa General Hospital

YANGON, 27 Feb—TOITU Co., Ltd of Japan donated one unit of Fetal Actocardiograph, two units of Doppler Fetus Detector and one unit of Cyrosurgery system worth US$12,900 to North Okkalapa General Hospital on Thursday.

Mr. Yoshinori Komuro, Managing Director of Myanmar Yutani Co., Ltd. on behalf of TOITU Co., Ltd. handed over the donations to medical superintendent Dr Than Htut Oo.

The Japanese company has donated Fetal Actocardiograph, Doppler Fetus Detector and Cyrosurgery system to Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital, Magway General Hospital, Defence Services OG and Children’s Hospital (Yangon) and Defence Services OG and Children’s Hospital (Nay Pyi Taw) and Doppler Fetus Detectors to Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association (Nay Pyi Taw).

The donation ceremony for all donated items worth US$97,500 was held at Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital (1000-bed) on 25 November 2014.

Rural lakes under maintenance in Natogyi Township

NATOGYI, 26 Feb—Natogyi Township Irrigation Department has assigned duty to Kaday Kyaw Company to maintain Leduta Lake in Padaung Village so as to store larger volume of water. The lake is 3,000 feet long and three feet high. Under the arrangement of townships authorities, two lakes are being maintained in the village.

Mandalay Region government arranges maintenance of 25 lakes in Natogyi Township for storing water for local consumption and for irrigating farmlands.

Police seize stimulant tablets in Myawady Town

MYAWADY, 27 Feb—A police squad led by IP Phone Kyaw Naing, acting on a tip-off, searched Khin Maung Miint, aged 42, from Awayin Village in Manaung, Rakhine State, at the administrative office in Ward 4, Myawady, Kayin Sate, on Thursday.

Police seized 22 pink stimulant tablets worth K66,000, a piece of lead paper used in stimulant tablets, two Nokia brand mobile phones and K200,000 from the leather bag of the suspect.—Tun Tun Oo (Myawady Town)

Pyithu Hluttaw MP visits construction site of staff quarters in Natogyi

NATOGYI, 27 Feb—Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Kyi Pe of Natogyi Township, Mandalay Region, together with Chairman of the Township Development Affairs Committee U Than Htai and officials, inspected progress of a three-storey staff quarter in Natogyi Township on 23 February.

Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development of the Ministry of Construction assigned duties to Amt Min Construction Company and Aung Myint-nmo Company to construct two three-storey buildings for government staff in Ward 8 beside Myingyan-Mandalay Road.

The MP instructed officials to construct the buildings meeting standards.

115th Buddha Pujaniya of Shwemyintin Pagoda set to draw visitors from around country

YAMETHIN, 27 Feb—Pilgrims from around the country will converge in early March for a major festival at the historic Shwemyintin Pagoda, situated in Myinar Model Village, about seven miles east from Yamethin.

The 115th Buddha Pujaniya of Shwemyintin Pagoda will run from 1-5 March for a major festival at the historic pagoda, built by a great hermit U Khamti on a peak in the Shan mountain ranges, can be easily accessed by pony-cart or car from Yamethin, Mandalay Region. Pilgrims from nearby areas will also throng into the Buddha Pujaniya by bullock-cart.

Organizers have made preparations for accommodation, security, health and drinking water for visitors from four corners of the country, a member of Shwemyintin pagoda’s board of trustees said.

Renovation of religious edifices, rest houses and stairways are underway and there is a plan to install an escalator for visitors with limited mobility, he added.

Bullock-cart races, for which Yame-thein locals will also monitor the Buddha Pujaniya by bullock-cart.

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Intelligence chief named new presidential chief of staff in S Korea

Seoul, 27 Feb — South Korean President Park Geun-hye on Friday named head of the state intelligence organization Lee Byung Kj as her new chief of staff, according to Park’s spokesman.

Lee replaces Kim Ki Choon who was at the center of mounting criticism for a string of policy flip-flops and other appointment failures.

The appointment of a new chief staff followed the parliament approval earlier this month of Park’s nomination of Lee Wan Koo as prime minister on a vote by the ruling party after weeks of friction over his eligibility for the job.

Park also carried out a cabinet shake-up that affected the country’s financial regulator and three ministries, including the unification ministry handling inter-Korean affairs.

The reshuffle is widely seen as an effort to seek a turnaround in the management of state affairs.

Park has recently seen her approval rating drop to barely 30 percent, the lowest since she took office on 25 February, 2013.

Kyuoda News

China’s stealth fighter makes brief appearance in air force film

Beijing, 27 Feb — China’s prototype stealth fighter, the J-20, has made a rare appearance on screen after a brief shot of it was included in a new Chinese air force recruitment video.

The J-20 had its first test flight in early 2011 – at the same time then-US defense chief Robert Gates was visiting China — but since then few images of it have surfaced.

In the air force video, entitled “Heroes’ Sky” and released on Thursday on Chinese video-sharing websites, the aircraft can be seen very briefly taking off, interspersed between other images of past wars.

“The new fighter jets call for a new generation... flying stars,” air force spokesman Shen Jinke told the official Xinhua news agency in a report carried on Friday.

“The film shows the air force’s role in safeguarding state security and maintaining military strategies, and as a responsible great power, China needs to build an air force to maintain regional stability and world peace,” Shen added.

The six-minute film is split into three parts, called “The sky needs you”, “The future belongs to you”, and “The nation calls on you”.

It also shows female pilots and another new type of aircraft, the Y-20 military transport aircraft. While China is still in the early stages of testing stealth technology and any deployment is likely years away, it could eventually help narrow the military gap with the United States.

However, the latest pictures may heighten concern about China’s military build-up as it presses its claims to most of the South China Sea, including the deployment of its first aircraft carrier and new anti-ship and anti-satellite ballistic missiles.

Some analysts have said that the J-20 photos suggest that China may be making faster-than-expected progress in developing a rival to Lockheed Martin’s F-22 Raptor, the world’s only operational stealth fighter designed to evade detection by radar.

Reuters

Australian PM dismisses rumours of leadership challenge

Sydney, 27 Feb — Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott dismissed speculation about another challenge to his leadership on Friday after many of his fellow Liberal politicians claimed he did not have the numbers to rule the party.

Ministers have told the local media they believed Communications Minister Malcolm Turnbull now had the numbers to win a challenge and should use them. A motion to vote for a change of prime minister was held earlier this month and was defeated 39 to 61.

Abbott was touring Rockhampton in Queensland, which was damaged by cyclone Marcia, and told reporters he was confident in running government. The prime minister said rumours about a spill was just “insider gossip”.

“I am just getting on with government. I’m not going to be distracted and none of my ministers are going to be distracted,” he told reporters. “Other people can obsess about this kind of insider gossip, but I’m certainly not going to. “Frankly it rather diminishes the pain of the people of this part of central Queensland when their difficulties are intruded upon by this kind of Canberra nonsense,” said Abbott.

Xinhua

Singapore’s Changi Airport passenger traffic drops 3.8 pct in January

Singapore, 27 Feb — A total of 4.42 million passengers passed through Singapore’s Changi Airport in January, down 3.8 percent year on year, according to latest figures released by the Changi Airport Group (CAG) on Friday.

The decline was due to the strong base last year, which saw the Chinese New Year falling on the last day of January in 2014.

Traffic to and from South Asia in January grew 5 percent year-on-year, mainly driven by a growing number of travelers on India routes. Passenger traffic to Thailand recorded the biggest growth, which increased 34 percent, CAG said.

Flight movements in January fell 5.2 percent to 28,800, while airfreight movements rose 1 percent, with 151,800 tons of cargo handled during the month.

Xinhua

Experts give various views on Abe’s planned war anniversary statement

Tokyo, 27 Feb — The government has released minutes of the first meeting of experts Wednesday to advise Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on his statement for the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II, indicating the existence of a variety of views on the statement.

“We would like to discuss details of the statement while looking ahead to the next generation,” Japan Post Holdings Co President Taison Nishimuro said, according to the minutes. He chairs the panel of 16 experts. “We should consider Japan as part of the world without separating Japanese history from world history,” said Acting Chairman Shinichi Kitaoka, president of the International University of Japan.

The minutes summarized the other panel members’ remarks on an anonymous basis.

Concerning World War II, one expert noted, the problem is that the European war and the Asia-Pacific war have not been separated and are being analyzed from the same viewpoint in some cases.

Another panel member indicated an interest in how Chinese and South Korean views on Japan differ from Southeast Asian views.

“We should be confident of Japan’s 70-year postwar history,” another said. Japan should stick to historical facts as much as possible and face history fairly and sincerely, another expert said.

Another called for paying attention to Japan’s postwar contributions and for looking to the future rather than to the past.

The panel is expected to submit recommendations to the prime minister by this summer.

Attention has been focused on whether Abe will reiterate the key aspects of the statements issued on the 50th and 60th anniversaries by then Prime Ministers Tomiichi Murayama and Junichiro Koizumi.

The past statements offered apologies for Japan’s “colonial rule” and “aggression.” At Friday’s symposium in Tokyo, the panel’s acting chairman, Kitaoka, doubted the advisability of the coming statement adopting terms used in the Murayama statement.

“Maybe we should review the entire past is important,” he said. “The prime minister will include political decisions in the statement.” —Kyodo News

Rescuers search for the missing people on the capsized ferry on the sea in Macao, south China, on 27 Feb, 2015. A ferry carrying 19 people capsized Friday off China’s Macao, and four people have been rescued, the customs said. The sunken ferry is a smuggling boat, with one captain, two sailors and 16 other stowaways on board, according to the customs. The four rescued are all stowaways, while other 15 people are still missing, said the customs. —Xinhua
Four killed, one injured in S Korean shooting rampage

SEOUL, 27 Feb — Four people were killed and one was injured in a South Korean air-rifle shooting rampage in Hwaseong, Gyeonggi Province, Yonhap News Agency reported on Friday.

Police received an official report at about 2 a.m. local time that “my uncle shot at my parents” with an air rifle in a single-family house in Hwaseong, southwest of capital Seoul. When police officers arrived, a married couple in their mid-80s was found lie down on the floor along with the uncle aged 75 and head of a police station named Lee. The uncle was estimated to be shot dead while trying to suppress the shooter.

The daughter-in-law, who reported the case to police by phone, suffered a light injury as she jumped from the second-story house to escape from the scene.

The four were allegedly released after paying 400,000 US dollars in ransom to the pirates who had been holding the men in Camara town in Galmudug State in Central Somalia. Other than the chief negotiator, Ali, who is a director of anti-piracy office in Galmudug state, said the negotiations which have been going on for the last four years ended Thursday after the ransom was paid, though he did not disclose whether the family or government officials say the talks should stick to standard issues regarding embassy functions.

The United States is hoping to reach agreement on reopening embassies in time for a 10-11 April regional heads of state summit in Panama, where US President Barack Obama and Cuban President Raul Castro could meet for the first time since announcing their joint agreement last December.

The two countries currently conduct business via interests sections in Havana and Washington. Cuba says it has faced US banking problems after it was dropped by its US bank last year and has been unable to find a replacement.

Lee was added to the terrorism sponsors list in 1982, when it aided Marxist insurgencies during the Cold War, but is currently aiding a peace process with Colombia’s left wing FARC guerrillas.
Mistakes must be corrected before it is too late

By Myint Win Thein

The phrase “To err is human” means everyone makes mistakes. However, it does not necessarily mean that human beings can make endless mistakes in their lives and leave them in the past without any consequences. Without correction of mistakes, man cannot make progress.

Therefore, man has learnt by trial and error before being able to enjoy the advancement of society today. It is important that mankind should be able to correct its mistakes and should be able to learn lessons from them in order to avoid them in the future. In order to be able to correct one’s mistakes, it is important to distinguish between what is right and what is wrong, while one must also accept one’s mistakes as they are in order to correct them. Since a mistake remains a mistake as long as it is not corrected, it will always remain with the person who makes it. Unfortunately, committing another mistake will not also alleviate the first mistake.

On the contrary, it just adds more woes to the mistake-maker and will exacerbate his social position. Without correction, mistakes inevitably cause further error, and eventually people can even make errors knowingly or brazenly in their own interests, which can be defined as wrongdoing. Such people will not be able to emancipate themselves from the cycle of wrongdoings which their society cannot tolerate anymore. Such people live outside their society with hearts full of hatred and hinder the progress of the society. Therefore, it is essential that every mistake should be corrected before it is too late.

Good government and clean governance

By U Kin Maung (Retired Diplomat)

First and foremost, let me present my own views of the two catch-phrases: good government and clean governance. These two catch-phrases, in my views, are closely related to each other.

When there is good government, there is clean governance and vice versa. In this connection, I believe that we should make a study of the essential ingredients of “good government and clean governance” which we can understand them better.

The essential ingredients of “good government and clean government” I, therefore, contain the following attributes or qualities.

1. Accountability
2. Transparency
3. Rule of Law
4. The Independence of the judiciary
5. People’s participation
6. Democracy

And, now please allow me to elaborate on each essential ingredient:

Accountability means being accountable. And accountable means responsible, answerable for a person, organization or institution of decisions or decisions is expected to explain them when asked or necessary. The government is an organization, representing the people and as such, the government is entrusted to carry out and manage the state’s mission and function and, in particular, for the welfare of the people is represented. In other words, the elected government or the government representing the people and as such, the government is entrusted to carry out and manage the state’s mission and function and, in particular, for the welfare of the people is represented. In other words, the elected government or the government representing the people is accountable, answerable and responsible for its actions or decisions and it is expected to explain them when necessary.

Transparency means being transparent, being obvious and being not opaque. Or, in another sense, transparency means openness. Except for national security reason, everything carried out and every action taken by a good government should be transparent. And the people, to whom a good government owes its administrative powers and existence, should have the right to have access to information.

The Rule of Law means the condition in which the members of a society including the government accept the authority of the law. Under this doctrine, the government, and the people, including the ruler and the ruled, must respect the rule of law. This doctrine also means “equality before the law, fair play, uniformity of laws for all private citizens and the public officials alike”. It also means that “disputes and differences that are unavoidable to be settled will be taken to the courts and peacefully settled, and that they will not lead to violence”.

And, where there is no rule of law, there comes in lawlessness, chaos and unrest. Therefore, “law and order is often equated with the rule of law”. Moreover, there is a conflict, whenever there is a clash, minor of serious, civil or criminal, the rule of law must prevail, justiciable by the courts.

The Independence of the judiciary

The judiciary is the branch of government, responsible for interpreting the laws and administering justice. As such, “the independence of the judiciary is not merely a window-dressing, but a vital necessity” for a good government and clean governance. In simple language, the independence of the judiciary means “the courts can freely decide, without considering the wishes of the government, but only considering the demands of justice according to the law”. From another point of view, the independence of the judiciary means the courts can independently administer justice, strictly following the stipulated laws of non-interference or non-intervention of the government or of any other institution.

People’s participation

A government is simply an organization formed with the people’s representatives. A government needs no only the people’s support, but it also needs people’s participation in its mission and nation-building tasks. The greater the number of people’s participation is there in the governments tasks, the better and brilliant success the government will achieve. People and power, people and government are interdependent. We have an old saying “if a tremendous task cannot be achieved single-handedly, it can be achieved by many hands”. There is an English old-saying which goes “many hands make light work.” In view of this, a good government and clean government needed people’s participation. The greater the number of the people participate, the better the government.

Democracy.

A good government is the government democratically elected. In this sense, a good government can also be defined as “the government of the people, by the people, for the people”. This being so, I think we can also define a good government as a government which is free from corruption, a government that implements people’s hopes and aspirations with might and mien, with equality and justice but without one iota of nepotism, or cronyism. In other words, a good government can also be defined as “the people’s government, not only for the people, made by the people and answerable to the people”. And where there is good government, there will surely be clean governance.

This write-up is the result of an arduous attempt of mine, to express my humble opinions about society, government and any government related comment, and criticism, any addition, any amendment or any alteration to make, you are warmly and respectfully welcome. Thank you.

Reference:
(1) Law and Custom in Burma and the Burmese Far East, Dr. Maung Maung
(2) A book of essential quotations
(3) Black’s Law Dictionary (Second Pocket Edition)

The author is a retired Deputy Director-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Maintenance-free — non-existent

By San Shwe Aung

Since the beginning of civilization, mankind has been creating numerous things for his living, accommodation, houses and buildings. He has also invented many transporters which are faster than walking and running. Initially he used domesticated animals such as horses, oxen, men and elephants to power the transporters in the forms of carts, coaches and chariots. A fast transporter called a “car” was invented in the early 19th century which was initially powered by a steam engine and now in 21st century developed so much so that there are cars run by petrol, diesel, gas, hybrid (both petrol engine & electric motor), battery (electric car) and currently fuel cell propulsion; using hydrogen gas from the filling station which is mixed with oxygen from the air and get the power through combustion and water will come out from the “exhaust” pipe making the environment completely safe. No carbon dioxide and/or carbon monoxide gases will be released from the fuel cell engine but only water, making 100% environmentally friendly.

In the area of construction, man has been building buildings, residence, apartments, condominium, hotels, guest houses and hotels for human accommodation. To provide and facilitate transport we have built roads, culverts, bridges, flyovers, under ground roads, railways, trams and sky and underground trains. Not only road transport has been developed but also sea and air transport are now very advanced. Mega size container carrier, bulk carrier and cargo carriers are now plying in international sea lanes to transport heavy goods and various products around the world. Aircrafts are also so advanced that they can carry hundreds of travel-
Kyaukpyu gas turbines send electricity to Rakhine State, national power grid

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Feb—A ceremony to mark the launch of sending electricity from gas turbines in Kyaukpyu to Rakhine State and the national power grid was held in Kyaukpyu, Rakhine State, on Thursday.

In his speech, Union Minister U Khin Maung Soe elaborated on the ministry’s efforts for electricity access to all Rakhine State at a cost of US$102.419 million (K88.508 billion), resulting in availability of electricity at Kyaukpyu and its environs in September 2013, Taungup, Thandwe, Ngapali, An, Sittway, Ponnagyun, Kyauktaw and MraukU in December 2014.

Next, the Union minister, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Maung Maung Ohn and officials formally opened the power station.

Rakhine State has been connected to the national power grid as of 15 December 2014, and 10 townships in the state now enjoy national grid-based electricity. Before connecting to the national grid, a unit of electricity costs about K450 in Rakhine State.

According to officials, work is underway to supply electricity to Minbya, Madaukyun, Pauktaw, Myeik, Ma, Gwa, Taunggyi, and Kamthi. The year this year and Kyentali sub-township, Buthidaung, Maungtaw and Taungpyo Letwe sub-township later. —MNA

Art and heritage festival celebrates life in Yangon

Union Minister U Khin Maung Soe and Chief Minister U Maung Maung Ohn cut the ribbon to launch Kyaukpyu gas turbines.—MNA

Stimulant drugs seized in Laukkai

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Feb—Narcotic drugs were seized by military columns on patrol in Laukkai on 25 February, following a search on three suspects, officials said.

The seizures included 350 grams of Ice powder, over 4,500g of Amphetamines and 1,550 WY-inscribed stimulant tablets, worth K13.2 million in total.

On 26 February, a raid on a building led military columns to an ownerless seizure of 1,200 WY-inscribed stimulant tablets worth K1.8m. A local police station has filed a lawsuit against the culprits.—Myawady

Exhibition of Japanese health and longevity products to come in March

YANGON, 27 Feb—To create new business links between Myanmar and Japan, the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), a government-related organization, will organize its first health expo, Japan Healthful Lifestyle Exhibition, in March at the Tatmadaw Convention Hall in Yangon.

The major objectives of the event are to enhance Japan’s image as a forerunner in health and longevity products among Myanmar people and to help establish local business bases for Japanese firms, the organizer said.

The Japan-brand exhibition from 21 to 23 March covers a wide range of fields, including sports, health management services, drugstores, healthy food, beauty, nursing care, hospitals and so on by 87 Japanese firms and organizations via more than 100 booths.

JETRO said: “This exhibition is a rare opportunity to witness an abundant lineup, including demonstrations for care exercises, weightlifting and beauty products and speeches on medical treatment and more.”

Director Kenji Mizuta of JETRO said he believes the expo will contribute to expanding the lifespan and improve the health environment for Myanmar people of all generations in the future.

To provide continuing support to the industry, JETRO is considering hosting the same event in other ASEAN countries following Myanmar, the group told the press.

According to the director, Japan, is one of the top five longest-living nations in the world with average life expectancies of more than 80 years.—GNLM

Photo shows Solar-Impulse-2 that will arrive in Mandalay on 10 March.—MNA

Holiday makers including couples taking relax at Mahabandoola Park, one of public parks in downtown Yangon. PHOTO: KHAING THANDA LWIN

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 27 Feb—Organized by the British Embassy, the “My Yangon My Home” art and heritage festival will take place at a range of venues in the city in March.

The main aims of the festival are to promote public interest in community arts, as well as to explore the everyday life of the city, the organizer said.

The fair will run 1 to 22 March and will be open to the public free of charge. Works will be exhibited in various locations around downtown Yangon, with more than ten art galleries taking part.

The event covers more than ten satellite projects including the “Circular Train” urban installation; ‘Mohinga’ street food narratives and history; ‘La Casa,’ an exhibition of contemporary art in domestic spaces; and ‘Downtown Short Stories’ from cartoon artists.

“This is the first ever festival and it brings together diverse communities to share experiences through public arts,” said the organizer.

The festival also includes a traditional Myanmar puppet show, a photo competition called “Inside my home” and an urban interactive installation dubbed “Planetarium.”

About 200 Myanmar artists will share their works with Yangon residents through participatory art workshops.—GNLM
Argentine judge says no evidence government tried to derail bombing probe

BUENOS AIRES, 27 Feb — There is no evidence that President Cristina Fernandez tried to whitewash Iran’s purported involvement in a deadly 1994 bombing, an Argentine judge told Reuters in an interview on Thursday after dismissing the case.

On the contrary, the evidence suggested “the government exhausted all possibilities to enable the investigation into the AMIA (Jewish community centre) attack to advance”, said Judge Daniel Rafecas, who showed Reuters copies of the evidence. Rafecas on Thursday discontinued the case brought by prosecutor Alberto Nisman, who was found dead in mysterious circumstances in January.

In January, Nisman had accused Fernandez of seeking to whitewash the investigation into the 1994 AMIA attack that killed 85. Four days later he was found dead with a bullet to the head, sparking a torrent of conspiracy theories.

The inquiry into the alleged cover-up was given this month to prosecutor Gerardo Pollicita, who succeeded the complaint. Rafecas said the evidence presented “was exactly the opposite of what Nisman claimed. In these conditions, what I decided today was that it was not possible in any circumstance to open a criminal investigation,” he said.

Some government officials said they believed Nisman had not even written the report himself — a claim Rafecas also refuted. “I have no doubt (it) was written by the prosecutor. There is an eloquence and a way of writing that does not make me suspect in any way that someone else might have written this.” While the case has raised long-festering questions over interference and intimidation in the justice system, Rafecas said he had not been subject to any pressure. “I started studying the case two weeks ago. In these two weeks, I worked with utmost tranquility, and no-one, from either side, has approached me to make suggestions or exert pressure,” he said.

German leader Merkel to visit Japan on 9-10 March

BERLIN, 27 Feb — German Chancellor Angela Merkel will pay an official visit to Japan on 9-10 March in what will be her first trip to the country in seven years, the government said on Friday.

In their meeting, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Merkel will discuss the fight against terrorism, the crisis in Ukraine and Syrian and Israeli issues, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said.

With Germany and Japan hosting Group of Seven summits this year and next, the two governments promote cooperation, Suga told reporters.

“We see Chancellor Merkel as one of the most important leaders in the European Union and the international community,” he said. “We would like to make the upcoming visit an opportunity to send a message to the world that Japan and Germany, as partners sharing basic values, will proactively contribute to global peace and prosperity.” According to the Foreign Ministry, Merkel plans to hold talks with Abe on 9 March. She will also have an audience with Emperor Akihito the same day. Merkel last visited Japan in 2008 for a Group of Eight summit in Hokkaido.

EU-Russia-Ukraine gas talks to be held on Monday

BRUSSELS, 27 Feb — Russia, Ukraine and the European Union will hold talks in Brussels on Monday to discuss problems with gas supplies to Ukraine, the EU said on Thursday.

European Commission spokesman Andrew Hermon said that talks between energy chief Maros Sefcovic and the energy ministers of Russia, Ukraine and other countries were confirmed for Monday.

Sekovic had said earlier that Sefcovic had invited Russian Energy Minister Alexander Novak and his Ukrainian counterpart Volodymyr Demchyshyn for talks, but was awaiting confirmation that they would take part.

A Russian Energy Ministry official said earlier she was not able to confirm whether Moscow has agreed to take part in the meeting yet. “We are talking by phone at the moment,” she said. President Vladimir Putin warned on Wednesday that Russia would halt gas supplies to Ukraine if it did not receive advance payment, raising the possibility of onward deliveries to Europe being disrupted for the fourth time in a decade.
**WORLD**

**‘Jihadi John’ from Islamic State beheading videos unmasked as Londoner**

**ABU DHABI/BAGHDAD, 27 Feb — Ultra-radical Islamic militants in northern Iraq have destroyed a large expanse of two ancient cities in northwestern Iraq dating back around 2,000 years.**

The destruction of the Bamiyan Buddhas, which were identified as antiquities by Asim Qureshi, the research director of the Cage Foundation, comes as an episode to the dynamiting of the 8th-century antiquities in Samarra by Islamic State militants in Kirkuk, north Iraq, on 26 Feb. The video showing Emwazi as 'Jihadi John' widespread and British Prime Minister David Cameron before televised hostages wearing in orange jump suits. Emwazi's name was first disclosed by the Washington Post. Two US government sources who spoke on condition of anonymity confirmed to Reuters that Emwazi was the former home of Mohammed Emwazi. Emwazi's name was first disclosed by the Washington Post. Two US government sources who spoke on condition of anonymity confirmed to Reuters that Emwazi was滋生 accent was shown in the video. The security services. The black-clad militant brandishing a knife appeared the videos released by Islamic State (IS) apparently de-captivating hostages including Americans, Britons and Syrians. The 26-year-old militant used the videos to threaten the West, admonish its Arab allies and taunt President Barack Obama and British Prime Minister David Cameron before televised hostages wearing in orange jump suits. Emwazi's name was first disclosed by the Washington Post. Two US government sources who spoke on condition of anonymity confirmed to Reuters that Emwazi was the former home of Mohammed Emwazi. Emwazi's name was first disclosed by the Washington Post. Two US government sources who spoke on condition of anonymity confirmed to Reuters that Emwazi was the

A flat is seen through railings in west London on 26 Feb. Local media reported that the flat is the former home of Mohammed Emwazi. Emwazi was born in Kuwait but came to Britain aged 6 and graduated with a computer programming degree from the University of Westminster before coming to the attention of Britain’s main domestic intelligence service, MI5, according to an account given by Asim Qureshi, the research director of the Cage charity that campaigns for those detained on terrorism charges. Emwazi, a fluent Arabic speaker, said MI5 had tried to recruit him and then prevented him from travel -ing abroad to flee without telling his family, Qureshi told a news conference in London. Emwazi travelled to Syria around 2012. Qureshi said — Reuters

**Missing Canadian teens believed headed to fight with Islamic State**

**TORONTO, 27 Feb — Canadian authorities believe four young men and two women who disappeared from Quebec in a car last year are heading to the Middle East to fight with IS.** The Globe and Mail newspaper said at least four of the young people studied at Montreal’s College de Maisonneuve as recently as last fall. Global News said it had confirmed that the four teens went to Turkey, an entry point for many looking to join militants in Syria, and that Canadian authorities had lost trace of them. Asked about the reports, Canadian Public Safety Minister Steven Blaney said Thursday he couldn’t comment on operational matters. But he added that reports of such recruitments highlight the need for legislation the government is trying to pass to deter so-called high-risk travellers. Reuters

**Libya needs international maritime force to help stop illicit oil, weapons - UN experts**

**UNITED NATIONS, 27 Feb — Libyan authorities are unable to halt the illicit trade in oil or the flow of weapons in and out of the country, and they need an international maritime force to help.** United Nations sanctions monitors said in a new report. The confidential report by the UN Security Council’s Panel of Experts on Libya, first seen by Reuters on Thursday, will likely increase pressure on major world powers to consider intervention to stop the North African state from spinning further out of control.

“The capacity of Libya to physically prevent (arms) transfers is almost nonexistent and there is no authorization to enforce the arms embargo on the high seas or in the air as there were during the 2011 revolution,” the panel wrote in the report. The 15-nation Security Council imposed an arms embargo on Libya in 2011 to stop delivery of weapons to the government of former leader Muammar Gaddafi during his crack-down on pro-democracy demonstrations. Under the embargo, the government can import munitions with approval of a council committee.

“The absence of universal enforcement of the embargo, the very high demand for arms material and resources and support available to fighting parties to procure matériel indicates that continuing large scale illicit trafficking is inevitable,” the report said. The panel urged the Security Council to form an international maritime force “to assist the Libyan government in securing its territorial waters to prevent the entry into and exit from Libya of arms ... the illicit export of crude oil and its derivatives and other natural resources.”

The Libyan Mission to the United Nations was not immediately available to comment on the report. Reuters could not independently verify the allegations in the report. Earlier this month, Libya and Egypt asked the United Nations Security Council to lift the arms embargo on Libya, impose a naval blockade on areas not under government control and help build Libya’s army to tackle Islamic State and other militants. Libya has descend -ed into factional fighting, leaving it almost lawless nearly four years after the fall and death of Gaddafi. Two competing governments backed by milita brigades are vying for control of the oil-producing OPEC member, and UN-brokered talks between them have been unsuccessful. The panel said that UN exemptions aimed at enabling Libyan authorities to buy munitions to establish law and order have helped militias develop considerable arsenals.——Reuters

**Saudi ambassador moves to aden from Houthi-controlled capital — Hadi aide**

**SANAA, 27 Feb — Saudi Arabia’s ambassador to Yemen is moving to the southern city of Aden, an aide to President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi said on Thursday, in an apparent snub to the Shi’ite Houthi faction that has taken control of the capital Sanaa.**

The Saudi Foreign Ministry could not immediately be reached for comment. Saudi Arabia joined Western states this month in evacuating its embassy in Sanaa following a power grab by the Iranian-backed northern Houthis, viewed with suspicion by the Gulf’s mostly Sunni Muslim rulers.

Ambassador Mohammed Said al-Jaber’s move to Aden, Yemen’s economic hub, underlines Saudi Arabia’s support for Hadi, who fled to the port city last week after the Houthis forced him to announce his resignation and held him under house arrest in Sanaa for a month. Parliament never met to approve Hadi’s resignation, and on Saturday he said he was still president. He is now working to set up a rival power centre in Aden with loyal army units and tribes, though many members of his government, including the prime minister, Khaled Bahah, remain under house arrest in Sanaa.

“The Saudi ambassador returned to Aden yesterday together with the Gulf Cooperation Council secretary-general and began today to pursue his mission officially in Aden,” said Rajeh Badi, an aide to Hadi. He said envoys from the other Gulf Arab states would follow suit.——Reuters

**With sleddghammer, Islamic State smashes Iraqi history**

Abu Dhabi/Baghdad, 27 Feb — Ultra-radical Islamic State militants in northern Iraq have destroyed a large expanse of two ancient cities in northwestern Iraq dating back around 2,000 years.

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Government-backed Sunni Arab tribesmen from paramilitary groups look into the area controlled by Islamic State militants in Kirkuk, north Iraq, on 26 Feb., 2015.—Xinhua

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Government-backed Sunni Arab tribesmen from paramilitary groups look into the area controlled by Islamic State militants in Kirkuk, north Iraq, on 26 Feb., 2015.—Xinhua
Britain’s Prince William visits war cemetery, lunches with emperor

TOKYO, 27 Feb — Britain’s Prince William on Friday paid a visit to the Commonwealth War Cemetery in Yokohama, southwest of Tokyo, and attended a luncheon hosted by Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko during his first Japan visit that started the previous day. The Duke of Cambridge, 32, who will stay in Japan through Sunday, laid a wreath and offered a silent prayer at the cemetery dedicated to about 1,700 Commonwealth servicemen from such countries as Britain, Canada and Australia, including those who died in Japan as prisoners of war during World War II.

The prince signed his name in the visitors’ register and went through an album containing pictures of his late mother Princess Diana, who visited the cemetery during her last visit to Japan in 1995. Britain’s Queen Elizabeth II, during her last visit to Japan in 2005, met with Prince William for some 40 minutes at their residence. In their first meeting, they discussed exchanges between the Japanese imperial and British royal families and Prince William’s activities, the Imperial Household Agency said.

Later in the day, the prince expressed his gratitude to the emperor and empress who welcomed him at the Imperial Palace. He said he was glad to have an audience with them.

The Japanese imperial couple met with the prince and his wife Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge, in May 2012 during their visit to Britain to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the queen’s reign. The duchess is not accompanying Prince William this time as she is expecting the couple’s second child.

Japanese Crown Prince Naruhito and Princess Masako later met with Prince William for some 40 minutes at their residence. In their first meeting, they discussed exchanges between the Japanese imperial and British royal families and Prince William’s activities, the Imperial Household Agency said.

The Japanese crown prince and princess were invited to a wedding ceremony for Prince William and Catherine in April 2011, but refrained from attending it as the devastating earthquake and tsunami had hit northeastern Japan the previous month.

Prince William is scheduled to visit the disaster-hit region from Saturday.

——Kyodo News

Hong Kong woman gets six years in jail for abusing maid

HONG KONG, 27 Feb — A Hong Kong woman was sentenced to six years in prison and fined 15,000 HK dollars (about 1,952.99 US dollars) for abusing her Indonesian domestic helper at the District Court on Friday.

Earlier this month, the woman, Law Wan-tung, 44, was found guilty of 18 of 20 charges including grievous bodily harm, criminal intimidation and failure to pay wages or give off time off work to her domestic worker Erwiana Sulistyaningsih. Handling down the sentence, district Court Judge Amanda Woodcock said Law’s attitude and behavior were contemptible, and she had shown no compassion to her domestic helpers.

The judge said this type of conduct could be prevented if domestic helpers were not forced to live with their employers.

The case had gained international attention about a year ago after photos of Erwiana’s injuries went viral, and the case spread among Indonesians in Hong Kong. From those photos, her face, hands and legs covered with scabs and lacerations. —Xinhua

UN official urges Philippines to implement food security policies

MANILA, 27 Feb — The UN special rapporteur on the right to food urged the Philippine government on Friday to implement food security and nutrition policies, noting that despite the country’s rise to a middle-income status in recent years, millions continue to suffer hunger and malnutrition, especially among children.

“There are severe implemen-
tation gaps in almost all policies related to the right to food with a lack of coordination among relevant agencies. I would urge the authorities to ensure the poorest of the poor are reached as a matter of priority without discrimination,” Hilal Elver said in a press con-
ference as she wrapped up her se-
en-day visit and assessment of the Philippine food situation. Citing latest available data, Elver said an estimated 3.8 million households suffered involuntary hunger at least once during the last quarter of 2014, some 7.36 million children are malnourished and around 4 million children suffer from stunted growth. Aside from the lack of political will to implement existing policies and budgetary constraints, the causes also include poverty, prevailing conflict and climate change and other environmental factors. “The effects of under-nu-
trition is irreversible, and lack of access to adequate and nutritious food is having a detrimental effect on future generations and must be addressed as a matter of urgency,” Elver said. “Accessing adequate and nutritious food continues to be a challenge across most of the country, both in terms of under-
and over-nutrition, with women and children faring worst,” she added, recalling personal encoun-
ners with the urban poor in the cap-
tal Manila, the survivors of super typhoon Hayan in Tacloban City and farmers in central Luzon.

——Kyodo News

Serbia prepared for worst-case scenario with gas supplies

BELGRADE, 27 Feb — Serbian citizens have no reason to concern over gas supplies as the country has three to four months’ worth of fuel supplies, Minister of Mining and Energy Aleksandar Antic said on Thursday. “Today we have all the balances established and a readiness to ensure normal supplies of all fuels to Serbian citizens, distribution systems and the economy, regardless of whether there will be any disturbances in gas transit through Ukraine,” he said.

At this time, there are no an-
nouncements of reduced gas sup-
plies, and Serbia is ready even for the worst-case scenario, which would imply a halt of supplies, the minister said.

“We have over 300 million cubic metres of gas in the Banatski Dvor underground storage facility, as well as significant quantities of mazut at heating plants, primarily at Belgrade heating plants and in commodity reserves, which total over 70,000 tons today,” Antic said.

——Tanjug

Two Vietnamese found guilty of stealing goats from researchers

Gifu, (Japan), 27 Feb — The Gifu District Court in central Ja-
pan on Friday gave a suspended sentence to two Vietnamese men for stealing goats kept for research purposes by a university in Gifu Prefecture.

Le The Loc, 30, and Bui Van Vy, 22, were both sentenced to two years in prison, suspended for three years, for stealing two goats be-
longing to Gifu University in Mi-
okamo in August last year. Both men have confessed to butchering and eating the goats, according to the ruling.

Presiding Judge Tomohiko Shinozawa said that, despite their selfish motive, the defendants have shown remorse and desire to rehab-
ilitate themselves.

——Kyodo News
INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND
INTERPRETER/TRANSLATOR
MYANMAR — ENGLISH
ASSIGNMENTS IN MYANMAR

The International Monetary Fund is seeking Myanmar-based interpreters/translator to work under short-term contracts for its missions to Yangon and/or Nay Pyi Taw as well as under long-term contracts for its technical assistance (TA) experts in Nay Pyi Taw. Candidates must be professional interpreters with knowledge of economic terminology, capable of interpreting into Myanmar and English and producing final written translations into both languages in electronic format. Assignments with TA experts may also involve office support and administrative duties.

Short-listed candidates will be interviewed and asked to take interpretation and translation tests in Yangon.

Please send your CV listing your qualifications, interpretation and translation experience, and your complete contact information by March 20, 2015 to languagecandidates@imf.org.

Attn: Mrs. Susana Eri, Chief Interpreter
(Subj ect line should contain MMR-missions”, “MMR-long-term projects”, or both)

Fukushima officials conduct on-site probe at crippled plant

Tokyo, 27 Feb — Officials from Fukushima Prefecture, including nuclear experts, conducted an on-site investigation at the crippled Fukushima Daiichi complex on Friday, following the recent revelation of another toxic water leakage into the Pacific Ocean.

The move follows Tokyo Electric Power Co’s announcement on Tuesday that highly radioactive rainwater accumulating on the rooftop of a reactor building has flowed into the adjacent sea through a gutter.

TEPCO has been aware since last April that radiation levels in the gutter rise every time it rains, but did not disclose the data for 10 months.

The officials are expected to look at the gutter and around the No.2 reactor building where the contaminated rainwater was found.

Fishermen in Fukushima met with Miyazawa the same day and called for a “radical review of measures against radioactive water,” saying that “the anger among local fishery operators is immeasurable.”

Kyodo News

Students communicate with university representatives during the Study and Go Abroad Fair at Vancouver Convention Centre in Vancouver, Canada, on 22 Feb, 2015. The fair is the largest education expo in Canada. It showcases 122 universities from 50 countries that offer different subjects and courses for those who are looking for options in studying overseas.—Xinhua

CLoAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV FORTUNE EPOCH VOY NO (EAL-09)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FORTUNE EPOCH VOY NO (EAL-09) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.2.2015 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 ECL (STPORE) PTE LTD
Phone No: 2301191/2301178

CLoAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (RSU-433)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (RSU-433) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.2.2015 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.

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WEATHER REPORT

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 28TH February, 2015: Light rain are likely to be isolated in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin State, weather will be partly cloudy in Taninthayi Region and Chin State and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (60%).
Kelly Clarkson releases single featuring John Legend

Los Angeles, 27 Feb — Singer Kelly Clarkson released a single featuring John Legend titled ‘Run Run Run’. Clarkson, who has been working with Legend on his new album ‘Piece by Piece’, has been credited with the songwriting.

The single is a cover of Swedish pop band Tokio Hotel’s song, which has been a hit in Sweden. Clarkson’s version features Legend’s distinctive vocals, and the song has been praised for its catchy melody and upbeat tempo.

The song was released via Clarkson’s own record label, Bravado Records.

Lupita Nyong’o’s $150,000 Oscars dress stolen from hotel

Los Angeles, 27 Feb — The $150,000 Oscars dress worn by Oscar-winning actress Lupita Nyong’o, which she wore at this year’s Academy Awards, has been stolen from her hotel room.

The dress was custom-designed by Francisco Costa, the creative director of Calvin Klein. The dress was one of the highlights of the Oscars red carpet, and it was widely praised for its beauty and elegance.

The dress was stolen on March 3, 2015, from the hotel where Nyong’o was staying. The actress was not in the room at the time of the theft.

Actress Lupita Nyong’o wore a Calvin Klein gown and Chopard diamonds as she arrives at the 87th Academy Awards in Hollywood, California on 22 Feb, 2015.

Rapper Kendrick Lamar plays unreleased songs for Michael Jackson’s son

Los Angeles, 27 Feb — Rapper Kendrick Lamar played unreleased songs from his yet-to-be-released album to King of Pop Michael Jackson’s son Prince during a private music session.

Prince, who was a huge fan of Lamar’s music, was treated to a few new songs off his upcoming album, reported Aceshowbiz.

“Had the great honour of meeting Kendrick and hearing some of his new tracks for his upcoming album with @RealO_Bee,” Prince captioned.

The follow-up to Lamar’s 2012 acclaimed debut album ‘good kid, mAad city’ has been in the works for a while, but it still has no official release date.

The upcoming effort is led by single “i” which recently won two Grammys for Best Rap Performance and Best Rap Song.

Ed Sheeran, Sam Smith win big at Brit Awards 2015

Los Angeles, 27 Feb — Singers Sam Smith and Ed Sheeran were the big winners at the 2015 Brit Awards, both artists taking home two gongs apiece.

Smith, 22, won Best British Male Solo Artist and Best British Single for his hit ‘Thinking Out Loud’. Sheeran, 24, received the British Breakthrough Act award as well as British Male Solo Artist.

“This is deja vu, I was here last year. This is amazing and (the trophies) are so beautiful,” Smith said. The 22-year-old singer also praised his fellow artist, Sheeran, adding, “I’m so happy that Ed Sheeran won those awards, I truly think he deserves them.”

Sheeran, 24, said winning was not what he was “used to”.

“I win now and then but winning isn’t really a thing I’m used to. To be honest I thought Sam was going to get Album or Male, so it’s nice to get both.”

And he couldn’t be happier to win the prestigious Album of the Year gong, after previously losing out to Adele.

“I think this is the award that every British musician who’s ever been up for a BRIT would like. I was up for it before but Adele was up for it as well and that was a written off thing. I’m glad this time I won,” he added.

Fans were treated to performances from some of the music industry’s top artists including Royal Blood, Paloma Faith, Madonna, Taylor Swift and Kanye West.

My admiration for Beyonce is beyond normal: Taylor Swift

Los Angeles, 27 Feb — Singer Taylor Swift admits she loves R&B star Beyonce beyond the ‘normal amount’ and tries hard to not let it become creepy.

Swift, 25, talked about her love for the ‘Drunk In Love’ hitmaker in a recent pre-Brit Awards interview, reported People magazine.

“It’s normal for everyone to love Beyonce. I love her more than that amount. More than the normal amount. I try really hard not to let it get creepy. I channel it into a joyous admiration and appreciation,” she said.—PTI
Chelsea sign huge shirt deal with Japanese firm

LONDON, 27 Feb — Premier League leaders and Capital One Cup finalists Chelsea agreed “one of the biggest shirt sponsorships ever signed” with the Yokohama Rubber Company on Thursday. The tyre manufacturer will have its name on the front of Chelsea’s shirts for five years starting next season. The agreement brings to an end Stamford Bridge club’s 10-year partnership with Samsung Electronics.

“We believe Yokohama will play a key role in helping us drive our global expansion in international markets such as the US where they have operated with distinction for many years,” club chairman Bruce Buck said in a news release. “Also, of course, Chelsea having such an esteemed and historic Japanese company as our partner enables us to accelerate our development in their target, but Lovren stepped up, leant back and sent his effort high over the bar sparking raucous home celebrations. The statuesque Croat was perhaps an odd choice because I felt in the game he...”

Liverpool in shootout misery, holders Sevilla win

LONDON, 27 Feb — Liverpool’s Europa League campaign ended at the scene of one of their greatest European triumphs as they lost 5-4 on penalties to Besiktas in the Ataturk Stadium on Thursday on a woeful night for British clubs. Brendan Rodgers’ side were the highest profile casualties of the last 32, where holders Sevilla came through a testing encounter at Borussia Moenchengladbach, winning 3-2 on the night and 4-2 on aggregate.

But in a sign that Italian teams may not be the dying force in Europe they are sometimes made out to be, AS Roma were joined in the last 16 by compatriots Inter Milan, Fiorentina, Torino and Napoli. Roma overcame crowd trouble and the temporary suspension of their match in Feyenoord to win 2-1 in a fiery atmosphere in Rotterdam and clinch a 3-2 success over the two legs. The only British representatives in the last 16, however, will be Everton, who saw off Young Boys 7-2 on aggregate, after Premier League Tottenham Hotspur were beaten 2-0 at Fiorentina and Celtic had their hopes ended in a 1-0 defeat by Inter.

Turkish side Besiktas won their clash with Liverpool after Dejan Lovren missed the decisive penalty after the match ended 1-1 on aggregate following Besiktas’ 1-0 win on the night. Croatia centre back Lovren blasted his effort high and wide to spark wild celebrations at the ground where Liverpool beat AC Milan on penalties 10 years ago to clinch a fifth European Cup.

The Merseysiders were playing at the Ataturk Stadium for the second time since their stunning 2005 comeback victory against Milan but, with club captain Steven Gerrard injured, had no surviving members of that side on the field against Besiktas. They picked an attacking lineup but were second best most of the night and Tolgay Arslan’s crisp, curling effort after 72 minutes from the edge of the area levelled the aggregate score and took the game into extra time and eventually penalties.

The first nine of both team’s spot kicks found their target, but Lovren stepped up, leant back and sent his effort high over the bar sparking raucous home celebrations. The statueque Croat was perhaps an odd choice to take a penalty, but boss Rodgers defended the decision. “We were happy with the penalty takers and Dejan was confident. We’re obviously disappointed for him, because I felt in the game he played very well.”

Australian researchers invent world’s first self-landing drone

SYDNEY, 27 Feb — Australian scientists have developed the world’s first automatic landing system for unmanned drones. The Queensland University’s Australian Research Centre for Aerospace Automation (ARCAA) made the breakthrough which will allow the drones and other autonomous planes weighing less than 20 kilograms to map terrain to identify landing spots and then land on their own.

ARCAA director Duncan Campbell said it will help the planned operation of unmanned aircraft in disaster recovery efforts. "This shirt partnership as an integral part of our global expansion plans..." (28-2-2015, Saturday)
NAY PYI TAW, 27 Feb — Lt-Gen Sein Win and Lt-Gen Tho Hay of the Ministry of Defence together with officials enjoyed sports matches in Myanmar martial arts event, Karatedo, volleyball and boxing events in the 4th Myanmar Sports Festival on Friday.

They awarded winners in the sports events.

Po La Pyae of Yangon Region secured the first prize in men’s 45-50 kilos martial art event, Naw Phaw Law El of Kayin State, first in women’s 45-49 kilos event, Tin Aung Win of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area in men’s 50-55 kilos event, and Wai Lwin of Taninthayi Region in women’s 45-50 kilos Bando attack event.

Union Ministers U Thein Nyunt and U Tint Hsan watched the final match between Nay Pyi Taw Council Area and Yangon Region in the women’s football event at Wunna Theikdi Stadium. Nay Pyi Taw Council Area emerged champion with a 5-4 victory over Yangon Region in the final.

Union Minister U Thein Nyunt presented first prize to Nay Pyi Taw Council Area women’s football team.

On Friday, athletes participated in basketball, Futsal, weightlifting and Sepak Takraw events.

Murray woes deepen after Dubai defeat by teenager

DUBAI, 27 Feb — Andy Murray’s February tournament deepened on Thursday when he lost 6-1, 6-3 to 18-year-old Croatian Borna Coric in the quarter-finals of the Dubai Championships.

This month the world number three has lost the Australian Open final against Novak Djokovic and then failed to live up to his top seed billing in Rotterdam as he fell by the wayside in the quarter-finals.

Murray arrived in Dubai temporarily shorn of his coach Amelie Mauresmo before struggling to find practice partners. The lack of preparation may have led to his downfall at the Aviation Club on Thursday.

“I made way too many mistakes from the beginning of the match right through to the end; early in rallies, (I was) rushing points,” the Briton told reporters.

“(It was) quite similar to the match I played against (Gilles) Simon in Rotterdam which is disappointing.”

Top seed Djokovic steamed into the last four with a 6-1, 6-1 win over Mancel Ilhan of Turkey and Roger Federer eased through when Richard Gasquet retired after losing the first set 6-1 but Murray was completely outplayed.

The Scot lost three successive service games to concede the first set 6-1. Coric, who made the main draw as a lucky loser, broke for a decisive 4-2 lead in the second set before serving out for the match.

“He doesn’t have any weak spots that you can actually say I need to play on his backhand or on his forehand,” said Coric.

“I was just trying to stay in the rally as long as I can. I was running very good.”

Murray failed to earn a single break point against Coric, the Croat winning 88 and 84 percent of points on his first and second serves respectively, while the Zagreb native also broke four times.

The Scot won only five points on Coric’s serve in the entire match. The Croat, who last year became the youngest player to crack the top 100 since Rafa Nadal burst through in 2003, had failed to get past the second round in any of his five previous tournaments this year.

But the 84th-ranked player will be eager to build on his victory over Murray when he faces 17-times grand slam winner Federer in Friday’s semi-finals.

Second seed Federer is chasing an unprecedented seventh Dubai title and moved into the last four when Frenchman Gasquet had to pull out with lower back pain having lost the first set.

On the other side of the draw, Djokovic swept aside world number 104 Ilhan in 49 minutes for the loss of two games.

Djokovic next faces Czech Tomas Berdych who beat Ukraine’s Sergiy Stakhovsky 6-3, 4-6, 6-2.