President U Thein Sein starts goodwill visit to five EU member countries

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein left here by special aircraft at 9 am today to pay goodwill visits to European Union member countries namely Norway, Finland, Austria, Belgium and Italy.

The goodwill delegation led by President U Thein Sein was seen off at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Vice-Presidents Dr Sai Maung Kham and U Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Union Ministers Lt-Gen Ko Ko, U Aung Hlaing, U Nyan Lin of ASEAN Secretariat and UNITAR (UNITAR) headquartered Ministry of Foreign Affairs and United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) headquartered in Geneva of Switzerland, and Dr Sai Maung Maung Lwin, Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun, departmental heads and Ms Lilien Otto of the Norwegian Embassy.

The President was accompanied by Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Soe Win, Union Ministers U Wunna Maung Lwin and U Soe Than, Deputy Ministers U Thant Kyaw, U Ye Htut, Dr Daw Thein Thein Zin and Dr Daw Thein Thein Hlay and departmental heads.—MNA

President U Thein Sein congratulates Korean President

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein has sent a message of congratulations to Her Excellency Ms. Park Geun-hye, inaugurated on 25 February 2013 as the President of the Republic of Korea.—MNA

Republic of the Union of Myanmar President Office (Order No. 12/2013)
Fullmoon day of Tabodwe, 1374 ME 25th February, 2013
Appointment of Chairman and members of Constitutional Tribunal of the Union

In accordance with Sections 327 and 332 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the following persons have been appointed as Chairman and members of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union.

Chairman

1) U Mya Thein
2) U Myint Win
3) U Than Kyaw
4) Daw Hla Myo Nwe
5) U Mya Thein
6) U Myint Lwin
7) U Tin Myint
8) Daw Kyin San
9) U Myo Chit

Members

(1) U Mya Thein (Retd Director-General, Supreme Court of the Union)
(2) U Myint Win
(3) U Than Kyaw
(4) Daw Hla Myo Nwe
(5) U Mya Thein (Advocate)
(6) U Myint Lwin
(7) U Tin Myint
(8) Daw Kyin San
(9) U Myo Chit

Sd/ Thein Sein
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Senior officers study hosting of ASEAN Summit

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb—Jointly-organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) headquartered in Geneva of Switzerland, the opening of the course for senior officers for doing necessary training for hosting ASEAN Summit in 2014 was held at Zabuthiri Hotel, here, this morning, with an address by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Zin Yaw.

The course instructors Deputy Secretary-General U Nyan Lin of ASEAN Secretariat and UNITAR Representative Mrs. Isabel Hubert made speeches.

The ceremony was attended by directors-general, high ranking officials from the ministry, course-in-charge and course instructors from UNITAR and 30 trainees of the ministries. The course will last till 1 March as of today.—MNA

USCC inks deal with Myanmar counterpart to boost trade, investment

YANGON, 25 Feb—The United States Chamber of Commerce (USCC) and the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) on Monday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) in a bid to promote bilateral trade and investment between the two countries.

The MoU was signed between two organizations at the US-Myanmar trade and investment symposium here for increased understanding between business communities of the two countries.

The symposium brought together senior business executives and government officials from both countries, including a major business delegation of the USCC led by Jose Fernandez, United States Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs, and consisting of 50 representatives of US companies from a wide range of industries from agribusiness and automotive to electronics, energy, retailing and telecommunications.

“We have made tremendous progress in normalizing economic relations between our countries. It is now time to take the relationship to the next level,” said Tammy Overby, vice president of Asia US Chamber of Commerce.

The conference helped the participants to identify Myanmar’s economic development priorities and objectives, and explore opportunities for expanding US-Myanmar trade and investment across a range of key industry sectors.

It is the first major US business delegation since President Barack Obama’s historic visit to the country in November 2012.

On Friday, the Obama administration eased sanctions on four major Myanmar banks — Myanmar Economic Bank, Myanma Investment and Commerzial Bank, Asia Green Development Bank, and Ayearyawady Bank — allowing transactions with them and their access to American financial system.

According to Myanmar official statistics, US investment in Myanmar amounted to 243.56 million US dollars in 15 projects, accounting for merely 0.6 percent of the total as of July 2012 since Myanmar opened to such investment in late 1988 and ranking the ninth in Myanmar’s foreign investment line-up.

Bilateral trade between Myanmar and the United States reached 293.64 million US dollars in the fiscal year 2011-12, of which Myanmar’s export to the United States accounted for 29.57 million dollars while its import stood at 264.07 million dollars.

MNA/Xinhua
Htamane-making ceremony of Thiri Mingala vegetable market in Hline Township

Yangon, 25 Feb — Organized by the development committee of Thiri Mingala vegetable market in Hline Township, the second Myanmar Traditional Htamane-making ceremony was held in conjunction with Myanmar traditional cane-ball contest at the market on 22 February.

Chairman of the committee and members and shopkeepers joyfully took part in Htamane-making and cane-ball contest. Under the leadership of Thiri Mingala market alms-offering association and the market’s development committee, shopkeepers collectively made 160-hand-moulded pans of htamane and presented to monasteries.

Kyemon

Dredging for proper flow of creeks and drains in Nyaunglebin Township

Nyaunglebin, 25 Feb — With the aim of ensuring proper flow of water in creeks and drains, facilitating fish farming in lakes and creeks and preventing them from becoming completely dry and outflow of water from them, dredging works were being carried out by Nyaunglebin Fishery Federation on a self-reliant basis along a distance of 15-mile from Moakamu to Chaungta since becoming completely dry and outflow of water from them, being carried out by Nyaunglebin Fishery Federation on a self-reliant basis along a distance of 15-mile from Moakamu to Chaungta since

avoiding annual floods in this region. Moreover, fish farming will develop.

“Flow of water was poor in the past. It was difficult for flood waters to recede as fast as they had risen because embankments blocked the flow of water. It was difficult to do cultivation works in the flooded fields. Dredging works would help farmers resume their agricultural work on their fields. Works, making proper flow of water in the creeks”, says a farmer.

The village-tracts in the region faced difficulties in cultivation and fish farming due to floods. Upon completion of dredging works, it will benefit about 12000 acres of farmland in the region.

Kyemon

Free health care for local people in Sedoktara Township

Sedoktara, 25 Feb — Magway Region Chief Minister U Phone Maw Shwe encouraged giving free health care service to local people by a medical specialist team at Sedoktara Township People’s Hospital on 22 February.

While performing free medical treatment at the hospital, members of Magway Region Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee donated cash and kind to the elderly persons in the township and a medical team gave educative talks on maternal and child health and provided refreshment to expectant mothers at the hall of the township General Administration Department.

Next, the chief minister oversaw renovation of a historic pagoda near Kudaw Village and road works on Ngape-Sedoktara-Longshe-Gangaw road.

Kyemon

Free milk to schools in Shwebo Township

Shwebo, 25 Feb — Under the arrangement of Pyi Shwebo all-round development public company, teachers and students of Taganan village Basic Education Primary School in Shwebo Township were provided with free milk on 20 February.

The free milk program started on 28 January in all basic education schools in urban wards and villages of Shwebo Township. So far, free milk has been provided to 5276 students from 23 schools in the township.

Kyemon

Hostel fire caused by electric kettle in Meiktila

Meiktila, 25 Feb — A fire broke out at a hostel in Aungsan ward of Meiktila Township in Mandalay Region at about 5 am on 21 February.

The fire started from an overheated wire of electric kettle which was left forgetting to switch off when the electricity was off. When the electricity resumed, a shower of sparks from the overheated wire had set fire to the bamboo wall nearby.

Fire crews accompanied by four fire engines and one water bowser put out the fire at about 5:20 am.

No (1) police station of the township opened a case about the fire outbreak.

Kyemon

Ten-wheeled truck hits, kills cyclist in Yamethin

Yamethin, 25 Feb — A cyclist died on the hospital due to severe injuries got from the crash between her bicycle and a ten-wheeled truck in Yamethin on 19 February.

The ten-wheeled truck driven by Thein Win, 35, knocked down Ma San San Aye, 40, on the bicycle crossing Yangon-Mandalay road near No (BEHS) in Yamethin Township of Mandalay Region, causing severe injuries to the cyclist.

The injured cyclist was sent to Yamethin People’s Hospital where she died due to the injuries.

Kyemon

Lashio special anti-narcotic squad finds drugs haul hidden under clothes

Lashio, 25 Feb — According to a tip-off, Lashio anti-narcotic squad (special) interrogated two suspects at Kyaladagun bus line to work harder in growing summer paddy to be able to meet a target of 90 baskets per acre.

Kyemon

Summer paddy cultivation in Yedashe Township

Yedashe, 25 Feb — Farmers in Yedashe Township of Bago Region are working harder to grow summer paddy with the use of irrigated water from Swachuang Dam. During the rainy reason, the township had a low rainfall, causing low yield of paddy. Now, summer paddy is being put on more than 20000 acres of farmland in the township. A local farmer said they have brought a department of police to the police station where they were under a thorough search by police women.

The search led to the seizure of eight packets each containing 195 stimulant tablets worth K 3.12 million from Ma Yan Saik Lan and small plastic bags with 1950 stimulant tablets worth K 3.9 million from Ma Gu Shwin Yin of ward-6 in Kuiktai. The seized stimulant tablets were hidden under their clothes. Now they are under police custody and were charged with possession of stimulant tablets by No (1) Police Station in Lashio.

Kyemon

Young man run over after falling off truck

Bago, 25 Feb — A young man was run over and killed after falling off a truck on a road section between Phayagyi village and Thabyeyoe village in Bago Township on 9 February.

Zaw Min Tun, 22, of Phayagyi village was run over by the rear tier after he fell off the truck carrying bags of paddy husk and three workers including the victim driven by Zaw Min Naing, 42, of Phayagyi village.

He was pronounced dead on the way to Bago Hospital.

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Kyemon
S Korea’s first female president takes office

SEOUL, 25 Feb—Park Geun-hye was sworn in as South Korea’s first female president on Monday, pledging economic revival, educational system overhaul and restoring trust between the two Koreas.

“The new administration will usher in a new era of hope promised on a revitalizing economy, the happiness of our people, and the blossoming of our culture,” Park said in an inauguration speech delivered to some 70,000 people gathered in front of the parliament for the ceremony.

The 61-year-old vowed to root out “unfair practices” that stifled the growth of small and medium-sized businesses, reform the educational system to allow more room for creativity and bring about “flourishing culture.”

Complete list of 85th Oscar winners

LOS ANGELES, 25 Feb— The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences unveiled the 85th Oscar winners at Hollywood’s Dolby Theater on Sunday night for the best movies, performances, writing, directing and other achievements on film in 2012. The following is a complete list of this year’s Oscar award winners in the leading categories:

Best picture: “Argo”
Best actor: Daniel Day-Lewis in “Lincoln”
Best actress: Jennifer Lawrence in “Silver Linings Playbook”
Best director: Ang Lee, “Life of Pi”
Best supporting actor: Christoph Waltz in “Django Unchained”
Best supporting actress: Anne Hathaway in “Les Miserables”
Best foreign language film: “Amour” (France)
Best animated feature: “Brave”
Best production design: “Lincoln”

Best original song: Adele’s 007 movie theme tune “Skyfall”
Best costume design: “Anna Karenina”
Best documentary feature: “Searching for Sugar Man”
Best documentary short: “Inocente”
Best film editing: “Argo”
Best makeup: “Les Miserables”
Best short animated film: “Paperman”
Best short live action film: “Curfew”
Best sound editing: “Zero Dark Thirty”, “Skyfall”
Best sound mixing: “Les Miserables”
Best visual effects: “Life of Pi”
Original Screenplay: Quentin Tarantino, “Django Unchained”
Original Score: Mychael Danna, “Life of Pi”
Adapted Screenplay: Chris Terrio, “Argo”

Markets brace for crucial Italy election test

MILAN, 25 Feb—Investors are awaiting the outcome of the wide-open Italian election that could trigger a sell-off in stocks and bonds and renew concerns about the euro if the polls bring an unstable government.

Polling stations open for a second and final day on Monday and exit polls will be published soon after they close at 3 pm (1400 GMT).

Opinion polls have suggested the centre-left Democratic Party (PD) of Pierluigi Bersani could secure a narrow victory in the recession-hit country, the euro zone’s third-largest economy. But the rise of anti-establishment comedian Beppe Grillo’s 5-Star Movement and the impressive comeback of centre-right leader Silvio Berlusconi have cast doubt over Bersani’s ability to govern even if he forms a coalition with the centrist party of outgoing technocrat Prime Minister Mario Monti.

Exit polls soon after 1400 GMT could spark an initial market reaction although a clear political picture may emerge well after market close. Official results are expected by early Tuesday.

“If we don’t have an indication of clear winner, there will be pressure on Italian bond yields,” said Ishaq Siddiqi, market strategist with trading house ETX Capital who said markets were expecting a Bersani win.

“If this is confirmed, there should be a short-lived positive reaction and the euro should go up,” he said.

“But next immediate question for the market will be how viable the winning coalition will be and whether it is able to continue with much-needed reforms.”

Denmark finds horsemeat in pizzas

COPENHAGEN, 25 Feb—Denmark’s food authorities confirmed on Sunday that they found a slaughterhouse on Peninsula Jutland illegally mix both horsemeat and pork in pizzas labelled as pure beef. The slaughterhouse, by the name of Haarby, was located in the city of Skanderborg in west Denmark, said the food authorities.

“We have reported the slaughterhouse to the police, because they have misled their customers,” Michael RosenMark with the Ministry for Food, Agriculture and Fisheries told reporters.

The slaughterhouse has previously claimed that the ingredients of the slaughterhouse was informed the pizza mix contains both meat from horses and cattle. However it turns out to be a lie.

The inspection report from the samples taken in Haarby Slaughterhouse on 13 February stated that “private and business customers have ordered beef and received products consisting of mixed species, including ground beef mixed with horsemeat and pork.”

The Danish Food Standard Administration has kept a particular focus on mixed meat following the revealed scandal of horsemeat in beef lasagna and several other foods, which have involved some popular European and Danish supermarkets.

“We have had an eye on Danish slaughterhouses to see whether there could be a mix of beef and horse meat,” RosenMark said.

The ceremony was held at the Dolby Theatre in the Hollywood district of Los Angeles, California on Sunday.—Xinhua
WASHINGTON, 25 Feb — The White House has moved to make the results of federally funded research available to the public for free within a year, bowing to public pressure for unfettered access to scholarly articles and other materials produced at taxpayers' expense. “Americans should have easy access to the results of research they help support,” John Holdren, the director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, wrote on the White House website. An online petition on the White House website demanding free access over the Internet to scientific journal articles and other materials from a digital archive at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The directive comes amid a changing landscape for publishing and the availability of information due to the Internet. Scientists have long published the results of their work in scholarly journals, and many such publications have warned that open access would destroy them and the function they provide the scientific community. The White House move on one of the company's Mac software business units, was set for later this year. “The CTCN will use new technologies to improve developing countries. The UN Centre of the Climate Technology Network (CTCN) was established by UNEP in 2009, in response to a call to action on climate change, which normally requires face-to-face meetings. The CTCN will work with developing countries to develop and implement climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies.”

Microsoft says small number of its computers hacked

SEATTLE, 25 Feb — Microsoft Corp said on Friday a small number of its computers, including some in its Windows software development lab, were infected with malware, but there was no evidence of customer data being affected and it is continuing its investigation. The company is one of the largest software companies.

UN launches facility to transfer climate technology

NAIROBI, 25 Feb — The United Nations (UN) on Tuesday launched a new climate change research center aimed at accelerating the transfer of climate-related technology to developing countries. The UN Environmental Programme (UNEP) Executive Director Achim Steiner told journalists in Nairobi that the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) was one of the key agendas of the first universal UNEP governing council meeting. “UNEP’s leadership, the CTCN will use new technologies to improve the lives of millions of people in developing countries who are currently dealing with the impacts of climate change,” Steiner said.

China deploys uranium enrichment centrifuge

BEIJING, 25 Feb — China’s largest atomic energy developer on Friday announced the successful installation of a domestically produced uranium enrichment centrifuge for industrial use. The centrifuge was designed and manufactured by the China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC). The centrifuges are necessary to obtain concentrated U235, which is used as fuel for nuclear power plants. Many countries are developing such devices, although few have had success with industrialized production.

HTC smartphone maker settles US software security case

WASHINGTON, 25 Feb — HTC America, which makes smartphones and tablets that use Android and Windows software, will settle a US regulator’s charges it failed to take adequate steps to eliminate security flaws that put millions of users’ data at risk.

Boeing says talks with SPEEA union will resume on Wednesday

SEATTLE, 25 Feb — Boeing Co (BA.N) and its engineering union have agreed to resume talks on Wednesday to replace an expired contract for 7,500 technical workers, another step toward settling negotiations that have continued for nearly a year. Boeing said it had agreed to resume the talks with the Society of Professional Engineering Employees in Aerospace (SPEEA) under the auspices of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, which has been involved in the talks since December. The union also said it had sought talks next week.

The resumption of talks comes after technical workers, one of two SPEEA bargaining units at Boeing, voted narrowly on Tuesday to reject Boeing’s latest offer. The other unit, representing 15,500 professional engineers, voted narrowly to accept the offer. Both units had authorized the union to call a strike in the vote, but the engineers’ authorization is moot, since it agreed to the contract and that agreement prohibits workers from striking while a contract is in effect. The union on Friday launched a survey of its technical workers, asking which issues they think are priorities for the next stage of negotiations. — Reuters

President Barack Obama (L) gets direction from White House science adviser John Holdren during an event to look at the stars with local middle school students and astronomers from across the country on the South Lawn at the White House in Washington, on 7 Oct. 2009. — Reuters
Moody’s cuts Britain’s top AAA credit rating to Aa1

London, 25 Feb — Ratings agency Moody’s cut Britain’s domestic and foreign currency government bond ratings by one notch to Aa1 from the top notch triple A on late Friday. The outlook on the ratings is now stable, the rating agency said on its website.

The downgrade was based on the expectation that Britain’s sluggish economic growth would extend into the second half of this decade. Moody’s also doubted the capability of the British government to reduce debts before the targeted 2016, with its high and rising debt burden.

Britain’s net sovereign debt was the equivalent of 68 percent of the country’s annual economic output, or GDP, at the end of 2012. Moody’s, along with the other two ratings agencies Standard & Poor’s and Fitch, last year put Britain’s triple-A rating on “negative watch,” meaning they could downgrade the rating if Britain’s situation deteriorates.

The British pound has depreciated sharply this week as rumors came that Britain could soon have a downgrade in its sovereign debt rating. It fell to 1.514 against the US dollar following Moody’s decision to cut Britain’s credit rating. — Xinhua

FDA recalls J&J’s orthopedic device because of fracture potential

New York, 25 Feb — The US Food and Drug Administration on Friday said it has notified healthcare professionals of a Class 1 recall, the most serious type, of an orthopedic device made by Johnson & Johnson. The device, called LPS Diaphyseal Sleeve, is used in reconstructive knee surgery. It was recalled because of the potential for fractures, the FDA said. The agency said it has received 10 reports of incidents in which the device has malfunctioned. The affected devices were manufactured by Depuy, J&J’s orthopedic unit, from 2008 to 2012, Reuters reported.

A fracture in the sleeve at the joint of it could lead to loss of function or loss of limb, infection, compromised soft tissue or death, the FDA said. The FDA said the company is not recommending revision or additional follow up in the absence of symptoms of patients with this implanted device. J&J's Depuy is currently defending itself in a clinical trial experienced severe side effects that those who received standard therapy. The appeal was based on a study of about 1,000 women who had already been treated with Roche’s drug Herceptin and a taxane chemotherapy.

Patients who were given Roche’s drug Herceptin and a taxane chemotherapy were no more likely to heal and more than twice as likely to undergo amputations as those getting standard care alone. “We really thought we could downstage the disease, but what we found was that the drug didn’t work,” Dr. Stephen Thomp, a professor at the Perelman School of Medicine in Philadelphia, told Reuters.

Boeing proposes full 787 battery fix to FAA

Washington, 25 Feb — Boeing Co on Friday gave US aviation regulators its plan to fix the volatile battery aboard its new 787 Dreamliner, ever-present though investigators have not yet determined what caused the batteries to heat up on two planes last month. Boeing did not propose abandoning the lithium-ion batteries and is not working on a breadboard or longer-term fix for the problem that has grounded its entire fleet of 50 Dreamliners for nearly five weeks. Sources familiar with the plan said.

The company and the US Federal Aviation Administration said no final agreement emerged from the meeting between Deputy Transportation Secretary John Porcari, FAA Administrator Michael Huerta and other FAA officials and Boeing Commercial Airplanes CEO Ray Conner and other senior Boeing executives in Washington.

With Boeing’s costs mounting by millions of dollars a day while the planes are on the ground, the FAA said it is “reviewing a Boeing proposal and will analyze it closely. The safety of the flying public is our top priority and we won’t allow the 787 to return to commercial service until we’re confident that any proposed solution has addressed the battery failure risks.” — Reuters

FDA approves Roche drug for late-stage breast cancer

Washington, 25 Feb — US health regulators approved a new drug made by Swiss drugmaker Roche Holding AG for some patients with late-stage metastatic breast cancer who fail to respond to other therapies. The US Food and Drug Administration said on Friday it had approved Kadcyla, also known as adnectumumab, for patients whose cancer cells contain increased amounts of a protein known as HER2.

The drug’s label will carry a boxed warning, the most serious possible, of the Kadcyla’s potential to cause liver and heart damage or even death. The drug can also cause life-threatening birth defects.

Still, fewer patients in a clinical trial experienced severe side effects than those who received standard therapy. The appeal was based on a study of about 1,000 women who had already been treated with Roche’s drug Herceptin and a taxane chemotherapy. Patients who were given Roche’s drug Herceptin and a taxane chemotherapy were no more likely to heal and more than twice as likely to undergo amputations as those getting standard care alone. “We really thought we could downstage the disease, but what we found was that the drug didn’t work,” Dr. Stephen Thomp, a professor at the Perelman School of Medicine in Philadelphia, told Reuters.

The logo of Swiss pharmaceutical company Roche is seen at the company’s headquarters in Basel on 5 April, 2012. — Reuters

Oxygen treatment may not help foot ulcers

New York, 25 Feb — Despite past clinical trials demonstrating that exposure to pure oxygen can help stubborn wounds heal, a large new study of diabetes patients with severe foot ulcers finds no benefit from oxygen treatments and possibly some harm.

Researchers following more than 6,000 diabetes patients receiving treatment for deep foot wounds found that patients who got oxygen-chamber treatments along with standard wound care were no more likely to heal and more than twice as likely to undergo amputations as those getting standard care alone. “We really thought we would see a replication of what occurred in the randomized trials. The data demonstrates that didn’t come to pass," said Dr. Thomas Stephom, a professor at the Perelman School of Medicine in Philadelphia.

Drug Administration said therapies. The US Food and Drug Administration said therapies. The US Food and Drug Administration said therapies.

For more than 20 years, people with diabetes have been put into pressurized chambers or rooms that expose them to pure oxygen, in the belief that it helps to promote tissue growth and speed healing. Because of nerve and blood vessel damage, people with diabetes are at risk of persistent ulcers forming on their toes and heels — wounds that can become infected and even lead to gangrene and amputation.—Reuters

Comparison on severity between novel CoV, SARS-CoV prematurity

Geneva, 25 Feb — Any comparison between the novel coronavirus, which caused seven deaths globally, and SARS virus in terms of spread speed or disease severity is premature, a top Swiss immunobiologist said on Friday. Volker Thiel of the Institute of Immunobiology at Cantonal Hospital in St Gallen, Switzerland, with other researchers, published the new findings on the novel coronavirus on Tuesday in the American online journal mBio, which showed the new virus replicates very well in human airway epithelial cells.

However, “from these data one can’t conclude that the novel CoV is more dangerous than SARS-CoV,” Thiel told Xinhua. For example, we don’t know how the novel CoV interacts with the immune system, therefore, any comparison between the novel CoV and SARS-CoV with regard to spread, disease severity, ect. is premature,” he said, — Xinhua
**WORLD**

**Cuban leader Raul Castro announces he will retire in 2018**

HAVANA, 25 Feb — Cuban President Raul Castro announced on Sunday he will step down from power after his second term ends in 2018, and the new parliament named a 52-year-old rising star to become his first vice president and most visible successor. “This will be my last term,” Castro, 81, said shortly after the National Assembly elected him to a second five-year term.

In a surprise move, the new parliament also named Miguel Diaz-Canel as first vice president, meaning he would take over if Castro cannot serve his full term. Diaz-Canel is a member of the political bureau who rose through the Communist Party ranks in the provinces to become the most visible possible successor to Castro.

Raul Castro starts his second term immediately, leaving him free to retire in 2018, aged 86. Former President Fidel Castro joined the National Assembly meeting on Sunday, in a rare public appearance. Since falling ill in 2006 and ceding the presidency to his brother, the elder Castro, 86, has given up official positions except as a deputy in the National Assembly.

The new government will almost certainly be the last headed up by the Castro brothers and their generation of leaders who have ruled Cuba since they swept down from the mountains in the 1959 revolution. Cubans and foreign governments were keenly watching whether any new, younger faces appeared among the Council of State members, in particular its first vice president and five vice presidents.—Reuters

**Afghan leaders sign deal aimed at peace in eastern Congo**

African leaders failed to sign the deal last month after a disagreement over who would command the force.

The UN Security Council welcomed the signing of the deal on Sunday and called on Ban to keep the 15-member body informed of its implementation and any breaches of the commitments.

The members of the Security Council remain deeply concerned by the worsening security and humanitarian situation in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of Congo,” the council said in a statement.

—Reuters

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—Reuters

**Bomber killed near Afghan capital’s diplomatic zone**

KABUL, 25 Feb — Afghan security forces shot dead at least one would-be suicide bomber on Sunday in a high-security area of Kabul, home to government departments and diplomatic missions.

 Violence across the country has increased over the last 12 months, sparking concern about how the 350,000-strong Afghan security forces will manage once most foreign troops withdraw by the end of

**One killed in Lebanese border town by shells from Syria**

BERUIT, 25 Feb — Ten people were killed on Sunday in Wadi Khaled area by gunshots from the Syrian side, Lebanon’s official National News Agency said on Sunday.

A state of rage and anger overwhelmed the town after Hussein Ismael’s death and army unit was deployed in the region. Since the eruption of the Syrian crisis in 2011, Lebanon’s northern cities have been witnessing clashes and other security incidents. —Xinhua
Express buses plying between Kalay & Yangon

With a view to creating smooth transportation of over 700 miles long Kalay-Yangon route, the bus lines namely Tatlan express buses, Yazar Min express buses, Tin Taing Aung express buses and High Class express buses leave Kalay for Yangon daily passing along Kalay, Kalewa, Monywa-Yagyi-Monywa, Mandalay and Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon expressway. The bus-lines charge K25000 per passenger for the along the route.

Myaunn Aalin

Union Cup Games

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3G GSM tower gives better access to telephone users

TATKON, 25 Feb—Myanma Posts and Telecommunications has installed 3G networks at the tower in Tatkon Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council, so local people can use it as of 15 February.

In the past, the tower was installed with 2.75 G networks.

Thanks to installation of 3G network at present, the users have better access to applying download.

MPTC has established GSM towers in Taungpoh Village, Aungmyay Yeiktha Village, Nyaunglunt Village and MRTV for enabling the telephone users from rural areas to have better access to tele-communications.

Myaunn Aalin

25-player Myanmar team for AFC Challenge Cup qualifier

YANGON, 25 Feb—Myanmar National Team that will take part in the 2013 AFC Challenge Cup qualifier to be hosted in Myanmar at Youth Training Centre in Thuwanna of Thingangyun Township in Yangon Region from 2 to 6 March 2013 was constituted with 25 players.

The players are gathered at 12 February noon and they started training as of 4 pm.

The team left Ninya Lwin, Nanda Kyaw, Nanda Lin Kyaw Chit, Aung Moe, Sithu Aung, Maung Maung Soe and Htoo Htoo Aung who participated in the tune-up match with the Philippines.

They were substituted with Naing Lin Oo, Kyi Lin, David Dune, Khin Maung Lwin who have recovered from the injuries in addition to Paing Soe and Myo Zaw Oo.

The 25-member squad is formed with Goalkeepers: Thaha Sithu (Yadanabon), Kyaw Zin Phyo (Magway), Pyae Phyo Aung (Yangon United), Thein Than Win (KBZ), Midfielders: Phyo Ko Ko Thein, Nyi Nyi Min, Naing Lin Oo (Aseyawady), Yauk Aung Kyaw, Yazaw Win Thein, Kyi Lin, David Dune, Khin Maung Lwin (Yangon United), Paing Soe (Yadanabon), Myo Zaw Oo (Magway), Forwards: Kyaw Ko Ko (Yangon), Kaung Sithu (Yadanabon), Kyaw Zeyar Win and Soe Min Oo (KBZ).

U Tin Myint Aung will discharge duty as manager, Chief Coach Pak Sawng-hua, Assistant Coach U Zaw Win Tun, Physical Coach Ha Hae Jun and Goalie Coach UMyo Chit and interpreter U Aung Thura.
Wonderful summer holidays

Most of the school boys and school girls have finished their final examinations that actually are a part of their future lives. We all know that most of the boys and girls did well and will surely pass their examinations.

So, what are you going to do during your long summer holidays? Boys and girls may have many options. As they are young and cannot make right decisions in all matters, mostly their parents will be the decision makers.

Some parents draw travel plans for their children to know about other places in the country and for pleasure. But that is just a short-term plan. Mostly, they will let their children attend one of the many summer courses that will be the most beneficial and cost-effective as money always matters.

So, boys and girls can attend English proficiency courses to improve their four-skill in the globally used language as there may be more English courses than any other courses during the summer time. Here one of the best ways in this IT age is to enroll in computer courses. Whether you use the computer for work or simply for fun and leisure, the training will help you with the basics and make your transition to professional level easier.

As fit and healthy youths are important for the country, parents should also send their children to sports courses for giving them the habit of doing regular exercise or even become good in at least one sporting event since childhood. Swimming or martial arts will be the most effective as it can even save lives and childhood. Swimming or martial arts will be the most beneficial and cost-effective as it can even save lives and childhood.

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Now is time to face bravely and wisely with genuine goodwill

Esteemed Speaker and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Representatives,

This year's Pyithu Hluttaw speaker traced the Hluttaw's motto and included some matters occurred in the process and rehabilitation to be taken into consideration in his speech given on the first day of the sixth regular session. Parliamentarians held constructive and in-depth discussions on bills for 2013-14 fiscal year as submitted by the Union government, it is found that these discussions reflected people's voices, people's wishes and people's requirements for the sake of the Union.

As a people's representative, I would like to stress the need for implementation of people's hopes, placing emphasis on these goodwill discussions by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. Esteemed Speaker and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Representatives,

The onus is on the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to pass the laws that can fulfill the requirements of the people, ensuring public interest and national interest after making an analysis of projects and bills presented by the Union government.

It is required to reassess the points included in the bill, ensuring them to be appropriate, equivalent, beneficial and fair. So it is required to reassess the points included in the bill, ensuring them to be appropriate, equivalent, beneficial and fair.

Esteemed Speaker and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Representatives,

Discussions held in Hluttaw have revealed that Hluttaw representatives are striving to fulfill the requirements of the people, upholding interest of the State and its people and desisting from partisanship, dogmatism, regionalism and religion. It is required not only to draw laws in respective sectors for unemployed people, especially the youths, service personnel with great hardship in grass root levels, debt-burdened farmers and breeders, poor workers and peace-yearned people but also to enact them as a law for the use of implementation. Implementation of these matters is an essential prerequisite for the present time.

It is necessary to provide necessary assistance and allowance to teachers of affiliated schools, post-primary schools, self-reliant schools and monastic education schools who were appointed by local people starting from coming fiscal year while our country is moving towards a compulsory primary education system, to appoint medial graduates and those who had completed their duty of house surgeon at the necessary posts after scrutinizing them by Medical Council or a suitable team although they had failed to pass the exam by Union Civil Services Board and to narrow the gap of health care between rural and urban areas to a certain extent. If necessary, they are to be sent to Central Institute of Civil Service to take the course later in accordance with the decision of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. Esteemed Speaker and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives,

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Esteemed Speaker and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Representatives, Report of bills presented by the government shows that the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw pay attention to public service personnel and keep the promise it has pledged. Hluttaw also spotlighted and made constructive discussions on malpractices of some departments.

Esteemed Speaker and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Representatives, New Light of Myanmar

The comprehensive monetary policy and fiscal policy are important as well as the good banking system for the development of the country and the interest of the people. Reasonable exchange rate and decent price for the products are required. Measures to raise the currency unnecessarily must not be accepted. We have to think about the promise it has pledged.

Esteemed Speaker and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Representatives, It is required to pass the laws that the people may have the right to decide whether a law is needed for makingpeace. It is required to set up funds to be spent on peace-making process, even if enactment of a law is not needed.

We don't know clearly whether we will be given international aid, how much of international aid we will be given and when international aid will be given, it is required for Hluttaw to decide to use public money in peace making process. Peace could not be achieved by enactment of a law and spending of money. It calls for participation of the entire people in good faith.

Esteemed Speaker and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Representatives, Every piece of legislation should be reasonable and fair and fits for any citizen.

Esteemed Speaker and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Representatives, Some Hluttaw representatives have made referrals related to taxation to ensure reasonable and fair legislation. People's representatives of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw need to be briefed on sector-wise and industry-wise tax collection system. Only then, will the MPs be able to discuss and pass the legislation. So, respective teams are responsible for collecting taxes need to submit orders, notifications and directives on taxation in due time and year as soon as possible.

Only when the MPs and responsible departments discuss the bills, will the good taxation laws be approved...
Suspect named in Las Vegas shooting that killed aspiring rapper

A crime scene analyst photographs a car in front of Caesars Palace hotel-casino after a shooting and car accident that left three people dead and at least three injured on the Las Vegas Strip in Las Vegas, Nevada on 21 Feb, 2013.—Reuters

LAS VEGAS, 25 Feb—Police have identified a suspect in the fatal shooting of an aspiring rapper as he drove on the Las Vegas Strip in a Maserati before dawn on Thursday, sparking a fiery crash that also killed a cab driver and his passenger.

Ammar Asim Furqan Harris, described as armed and dangerous, was still at large on Saturday but the black Range Rover from which he is suspected of opening fire had been impounded, Las Vegas police said.

Authorities said a gunman in a Range Rover opened fire early on Thursday, sparking a fiery crash that also killed a cab driver and his passenger.

Tourists do ice climbing on a frozen waterfall in the Anjiazhuang Valley of Mentougou District, a suburb of Beijing, capital of China, on 23 Feb, 2013.—Xinhua

Teenage fan confesses to stadium flare tragedy

RIO DE JANEIRO, 25 Feb—A 17-year-old Corinthians fan has made an impassioned plea for forgiveness after admitting to throwing the flare that killed Bolivian boy Kevin Beltran Espada during a Copa Libertadores match last Wednesday.

The Brazilian teenager, who revealed only his initials HAM, said on Sunday he had decided to make the confession after being haunted by guilt. “First of all I want to say sorry not only to the family of Kevin, but to all the guys who were arrested,” HAM said. “I feel like the worst person in the world. I bitterly regret what I did.”

“I am not protecting anybody. I only want to assume responsibility for what I did because it’s not right that others pay the price for something they didn’t do.”

Twelve Corinthians fans remain in police custody in the Bolivian city of Oruro, two of whom have been charged with homicide. The incident occurred while Corinthians supporters celebrated a first-half goal during their team’s 1-1 draw against San Jose at the Jesss Bermudez stadium. HAM said he only learned of the boy’s death while leaving the stadium after the match.

He did not immediately confess to the crime due to his “fear” of the consequences. The teenager will present himself to a children’s court in the city of Guarahulos on Monday, according to his lawyer Ricardo Cabral.

Panama-registered freighter catches fire off east China coast, 15 rescued

QINGDAO, 25 Feb—Fifteen of the 16 crewmen on a Panama-registered freighter that caught fire off east China coast have been rescued, according to local marine authorities late Sunday. One person was still stranded on the freighter “HUA SHAN,” said officials with the maritime safety administration of Shandong Province.

The crewmen are all from the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. None of the 15 rescued was injured. At 7:57 pm on Sunday, the Shandong maritime rescue centre received a report that the engine room of the freighter was on fire in waters about 18 sea miles off Chaoshan Island, which is about 31 kilometres from Qingdao city.

The centre made contact with the owner of the freighter carrying 4,000 tonnes of coal after receiving the report. Fifteen sailors boarded the lifeboat and were rescued by a passing ship. Qingdao maritime rescue centre reported at 9:43 pm.

Arms smuggling threatens unity, transition in Yemen

SANAA, 25 Feb—A UN team started on Sunday an investigation into the allegedly Iranian arms cargo seized in Yemen’s territorial waters in January, coinciding with rampant riots in some southern cities ahead of a national reconciliation dialogue, Yemeni official Saba news agency reported.

Experts said smuggling arms into Yemen at the moment adds to the challenges threatening the national unity and the West-backed political transition as well as the country’s stability and security which largely serve the regional and international security.

Mohsen Khostroof, a retired military Brigadier General and a sociology researcher, said arms smuggling in Yemen at the moment has very dangerous consequences on Yemen’s stability that can be reflected on the regional and international security.

“Well, Yemen should not focus only on the weapons that come from Iran, there should be concrete steps to put a ban to all countries including those responsible for the other arms cargos seized recently,” he said.

The UN team inspected the weapons, which were seized on Jeeban 1 ship and included anti-aircraft missiles, C-4 Explosives, 122 mm mortar launchers, rocket-propelled grenades (RPG), land mines and anti-vehicle magnetic bombs.

“Our visit comes to help Yemen find out why and to whom Iran has sent the weapons and to investigate the crew of the ship in an effort to collect as much information as possible about the arms cargo and report that to the UN Security Council,” Saba quoted chief of the expert team Laurens as saying.

The Iranian weapons were part of several arms seizures carried out by the Yemeni authorities in recent months including a few Turkish-made arms cargos, mostly of which carried pistols.

The authorities did not comment on other cargos, focusing solely on the Iranian ship, an attitude some observers argue has a connection to the disputes among sponsors of the power-transfer deal, namely the United States, Saudi Arabia, and Iran.

Seven killed in fresh gunmen attack in northern Nigeria

GUSAU, 25 Feb—At least seven people have been killed in northwest Nigeria’s Zamfara State on Sunday when unknown gunmen numbering about 30, attacked a village and injuring several others.

The incident occurred in the early hours of Sunday when people from the Beni village in Dansada emirate of Maru Local government area of Zamfara were observing their prayers.

A security source told Xinhua that the hoodlums stormed the village with AK-47 rifles and other offensive weapons as they move from house to house attacking the innocent villagers.

Those who were not lucky to escape the gunmen trap were either killed or severely wounded, the source added.

According to the source, seven people were reported to have died as a result of gunshots, while several others were injured and have been taken to the general hospital Tsafe for medical atten- tion. State police spokes- man Lawal Abdullahi was not available to comment on the incident.
Japan PM Abe keeps ratings high as he pushes reflation steps

Tokyo, 25 Feb—Voter support for Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe rose to 70 percent or more in two weekend opinion polls, signalling that his drastic economic policies are winning backing and giving him a shot at becoming a rare long-term leader.

Abe, who took office in December after his conservative Liberal Democratic Party’s massive election win, has promised to beat deflation and revive the long-stagnant economy with a mix of hyper-easy monetary policy and big fiscal spending.

Abe, just back from a summit in Washington with US President Barack Obama, is set to nominate Asian Development Bank President Haruhiko Kuroda, a supporter of his aggressive monetary easing stance, as the next Bank of Japan (BOJ) governor, sources said on Monday.

Seventy percent of voters backed Abe in a survey by the Nikkei business daily, up two percentage points, while Kyodo news agency put his rating at 72.8 percent, up 6.1 points. Fifty-eight percent in the Nikkei survey agreed the next BOJ governor should be a proponent of drastic monetary easing. The consistent high levels of support are rare for a Japanese leader, whose ratings often start high but then sink. That fate be fell Abe during his troubled 2006-2007 first term—Reuters

One dead, one missing after boats collision in W Japan

Osaka, 25 Feb—Two fishing boats capsized after collision with a cargo ship from China’s Taiwan in waters in Osaka Bay in western Japan on Monday morning, leaving one crew member on the fishing boats dead and another missing, local Press reported.

The collisions occurred at around 6:00 a.m local time when the two fishing boats, which belong to a local fisheries cooperative, collided with the 13,000-ton cargo ship, and there were four crew members on the two fishing boats according to the country’s public broadcaster Nippon Hoso Kyokai (NHK).

Philippines waits for Malaysia’s response on deadline extension

Manila, 25 Feb—The Philippines government is waiting for Malaysia’s response to its request to extend the deadline for the peaceful withdrawal of the armed Filippinos from Sabah, Deputy President Spokesperson Abigail Valte said on Sunday.

“I was told that there’s no response yet,” Valte said in an interview over a radio interview on Sunday.

She said it has been “relatively quiet” for a time now since the standoff started after more than 100 armed men claiming to be part of the “Royal Security Forces of the Sultanate of Sulu and Northern Borneo” occupied part of Tanduau in Lawit Datu Town in Sabah two weeks ago.

She said the Philippines’ priority at present is for the peaceful resolution of the standoff and safe return of the Filipinos.

Blast in Vietnam film effects warehouse kills 10

Hanoi, 25 Feb—Two blasts at a warehouse owned by a cinema special effects expert killed 10 people and reduced three homes to burning rubble in Vietnam’s biggest city, state media reported on Sunday.

Teams of firefighters worked through the early hours after the overnight explosions and found three survivors among the bodies buried beneath what was left of the houses in southern Ho Chi Minh City early on Sunday, the Tuoi Tre newspaper said on its website.

Among the dead was Le Minh Phuong, 58, who worked in pyrotechnics for local films and stored explosives in his home, which doubled as a warehouse.

Rescuers search for survivors at a collapsed building after an explosion in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam on 24 Feb, 2013—Xinhua

Indian PM visits twin blast sites in southern city

New Delhi, 25 Feb—Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Sunday visited the sites of the twin bomb blasts which hit capital Hyderabad of the country’s southern state of Andhra Pradesh on Thursday evening in a span of less than 10 minutes, killing at least 16 people and injuring over 117 others.

The prime minister arrived at Hyderabad’s Begumpet airport this morning by a special Indian Air Force plane, where he was received by state governor ESL Narasimham, Chief Minister N Kiran Kumar Reddy and other dignitaries.

He later flew by a chopper to a place near the twin blast sites.

Local TV channels showed footage of Singh spending some 10 minutes each at the twin blast sites at Dilsukhnagar, a busy commercial hub in the city, where he was briefed by the chief minister and the state police chief.

He covered the second blast site from the helicopter.

The prime minister had earlier described the terror attacks as “dastardly” act and said that those responsible for the blasts would not go unpunished.

Singh had already sanctioned from the Prime Minister’s Relief Fund two lakhs Indian rupees (4,000 US dollars) each to the families of those killed and Rs 50,000 (1,000 US dollars) each to those seriously injured in the blasts.

Xinhua

Malaysians perform dragon dance to celebrate the traditional Chinese Lantern Festival in Malacca, Malaysia, on 24 Feb, 2013—Xinhua

Senior Taliban leader captured in eastern Afghanistan

Kabul, 25 Feb—A senior Taliban leader was arrested on Sunday morning in eastern Afghan Province of Nangarhar, the coalition forces said.

“Afghan and coalition forces arrested a senior Taliban leader and three other insurgents during an operation in Khugyani district, Nangarhar Province, today,” the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said in a Press release.

The detained Taliban commander was believed responsible for coordinating and directing insurgents fighters in the province 120 km east of Afghan capital of Kabul, the release said without revealing the name of the captured man.

“His capture is also the result of having maintained direct operational control of a significant number of suicide bombers prepared to carry out attacks against Afghan and coalition forces,” it noted.

Earlier Sunday, the Afghan Interior Ministry in a statement said that the Afghan police supporting army and coalition forces detained a total of 22 armed Taliban insurgents in different provinces within the last 24 hours.

The Afghan security forces in partnership with the NATO-led coalition troops have intensified operations against Taliban and other militant groups recently. But the insurgent groups responded by armed attacks and bombings.

Earlier Sunday, three Afghan security members were killed and four were wounded in two separate suicide car bombings in eastern Nangarhar and neighbouring Logar Province while the country’s security forces killed two suicide bombers and defused their car bomb before targeting a security compound in Kabul—Xinhua
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Hlaing Township, Yangon Division

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Contact Address:

Hledan Branch
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Comedy “Identity Thief” back on top of North American box office

Los Angeles, 25 Feb—Comedy “Identity Thief” snatched the weekend box office title in the United States and Canada during its third weekend in theatres, narrowly beating new action movie “Snooch” as Hollywood focused on Sunday evening’s Academy Awards ceremony. “Identity Thief” starring Melissa McCarthy grabbed $14 million in ticket sales from Friday through Sunday, according to studio estimates compiled by Reuters. “Snooch” featuring Dwayne Johnson finished close behind with $13 million in sales at Friday through Sunday. The animated offering “Escape From Planet Earth” took in $11 million to finish third in its second week in theaters.—Reuters

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV EVER ABLE VOY NO (335N)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV EVER ABLE VOY NO (335N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25-2.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S EVER GREEN SHIPPING

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (329)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (329) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26-2.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV BLPL BLESSING VOY NO (1209)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV BLPL BLESSING VOY NO (1209) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25-2.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises 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 ORIENT EXPRESS LINE PTE LTD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV BILLION VOY NO (137)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV BILLION VOY NO (137) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25-2-2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T. where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV BANGKHONTHI VOY NO (166)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGKHONTHI VOY NO (166) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26-2-2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(5) 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 PHULSAWAT SHIPPING CO. LTD.
Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV BANGSAPHAN VOY NO (105)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGSAPHAN VOY NO (105) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25-2-2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T. where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S WONGSAMUT OCEAN SHIPPING CO. LTD.
Phone No: 256919/256916

Nathan Dyer of Swansea City shows his Man of the Match trophy and the League Cup trophy after their 5-0 victory in Capital One Cup (the League Cup) Final football match between Swansea City and Bradford City at Wembley Stadium in London, Britain on 24 Feb , 2013.

LONDON, 25 Feb — Giant killer Bradford failed to have a fairytale ending at League Cup final on Sunday as Premier League side Swansea conquered the fourth-tier team with an overwhelming 5-0 victory to lift their first trophy in more than 100 years. Bradford, who beat three Premier League teams including Wigan, Arsenal and Aston Villa in the previous rounds, became first team from England football’s bottom league since 1962 to enter this final at Wembley. However, with 69 teams between the opponents in the English league pyramid, Michael Laudrup’s side was clearly too strong for the nicknamed Ban-tams, who failed to make a shot in the first half. Nathan Dyer’s brace, Michu’s cool finish, Jonathan de Guzman’s penalty for being fouled by Goalkeeper Matt Duke, made the game with few doubts after 60 minutes when Duke was also shown a red card to leave a battling ten-man Bradford side.

Drive Safely

Yokozuna Harumafuji points to his name on a new sumo rankings list in Osaka on 25 Feb., 2013. KYODO

Sumo: Harumafuji dethrones Hakuho to sit on prestigious east side

TOKYO, 25 Feb — With the Japan Sumo Association’s release of the new rankings on Monday, grand champion Harumafuji finally finds himself at sumo’s true summit after his promotion to the prestigious east position in the elite makuhari division.
The 26-year-old Harumafuji, who won his fifth career title at the New Year basho in January with his third 15-0 record, will sit at the top of the throne for the first time for the Spring Grand Sumo Tournament getting under way on 10 March at Bodymaker Colosseum.
Rival yokozuna Hakuho, who lost to Harumafuji on the final day in January and ended with a pedestrian 12-3 mark, has been relegated to the west wing for the first time since the 2010 January meet — ending his streak as sumo’s top gun at 18 consecutive meets. — KYODO NEWS

Bradford thrashed in League Cup final but still creates history

Swansea City v Bradford City - 2013 League Cup Final

One Cup (the League Cup) Final football match between Swansea City and Bradford City at Wembley Stadium in London, Britain on 24 Feb , 2013.
Guo Chuan expects to finish solo world sailing in one month

QINGDAO, 25 Feb—Chinese sailor Guo Chuan expected to finish his non-stop solo sailing around the world in one month, according to his supporting team on Monday. Many parts of Guo’s yacht were broken last week, like jib, generator and radar. “I got the boat only one year ago, and tests of the boat are few. Therefore, many problems were not found before the sailing,” Guo said. “I also missed the great opportunity of testing the boat when it was transported from Europe to Hong Kong from July to September of last year,” Guo said.

Sailing on the south of the Indian Ocean, Guo said unpredictable winds, fishing nets and many merchant ships were difficulties for him in the last one month.

Bryant silences Cuban with 38 points in Lakers’ win

LOS ANGELES, 25 Feb—Kobe Bryant fired back at Dallas owner Mark Cuban with 38 points as he lifted the Los Angeles Lakers past the Mavericks 103-99 on Sunday. After Cuban recently suggested the Lakers should consider waiving Bryant and his league-high salary next season, theive-time NBA champion put up 30 points and 13 assistsv for a spot and Dirk Nowitzki put up 30 points and 13 rebounds.

“Towards the end, he was a little bit of a two-way spark for the team,” Steve Nash who finished with 20 points. The victory secured the team will playoff spot that Bryant has moved within 2-1/2 games Los Angeles (28-29) led 90-87 midway through the fourth quarter. However, it was his performance in left as the team expected to missed about 10 weeks, the Yankees said on their website. X-rays revealed the extent of the injury. The 31-year-old Grander son has spent the last three years in center field for New York but he started Sunday’s game in left as the team experimented with a move that put Brett Gardner to centre.

Johnson wins Daytona 500, Patrick eighth

DAYTONA BEACH, 25 Feb—Jimmie Johnson cemented his place in NASCAR’s list of greats by winning his second Daytona 500 on Sunday, while pole-sitter Danica Patrick placed eighth, the best finish for a woman in the Great American Race. Five-times Sprint Cup champion Johnson led for the final 10 laps to finish ahead of Dale Earnhardt Jr and 54-year-old Mark Martin.

Patrick, who was the first woman to start on pole in the 500, went into the final lap in third but fell back five places during the final push to the finish line. Driving the number 48 Chevrolet for Hendrick Motorsports, Johnson first won the race in 2006 but had not finished above 27th in the last six editions of stock car racing’s premier event. “I had a lot of confidence in those final two laps leading the train because I knew just how fast this car was,” said Johnson.

The race came a day after a crash in the second tier Nationwide race at the Daytona International Speedway left around 30 fans needing treatment after debris flew into the crowd. As usual there were some wrecks in the always incident-filled race with an early collision on lap 33 involving nine cars but there were no injuries. Several vehicles spun off the track, including favourites Tony Stewart and Kasey Kahne, and previous Daytona winners Kevin Harvick and Jamie McMurray.

It was more disappointment for Stewart, who having won virtually every honour in the sport has yet to taste success in the famous Daytona Victory Lane. Stewart took little comfort from the fact there is a long season ahead. “To hell with the season. I wanted to win the Daytona 500,” he said. “We had a car that we could pass with today.”

Granderson fractures forearm, to miss Opening Day

LOS ANGELES, 25 Feb—New York Yankees outfielder Curtis Granderson fractured his right forearm in the first at-bat in spring training and will miss the start of the regular season, the American League team said on Sunday. Granderson was hit by a pitch from Toronto’s JA Happ in the first inning at Tampa, Florida and is expected to miss the rest of March, the Yankees said on their website. X-rays revealed the extent of the injury. The 31-year-old Granderson has spent the last three years in centre field for New York but he started Sunday’s game in left as the team experimented with a move that put Brett Gardner to centre.

The Yankees said on their website. X-rays revealed the extent of the injury. The 31-year-old Granderson has spent the last three years in centre field for New York but he started Sunday’s game in left as the team experimented with a move that put Brett Gardner to centre.

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NEW YORK—New York Yankees outfielder Curtis Granderson poses for a photograph during media photo day at the team’s MLB spring training complex at George M. Steinbrenner Field in Tampa, Florida, on 20 Feb, 2013.—REUTERS

Earthen road under construction for rural development

MYANMAR—Ayeayawady Region Minister for Development Affairs U Kyaw Win Naing, Deputy Superintending Engineer U Soe Than and Region Hluttaw representative U Aung Myo Nyunt inspected progress of Salokky-Gyobin earthen road on 20 February. Officials of Myaung Township Development Affairs Committee reported on construction of the road by spending fund of Township DAC in 2012-2013 fiscal year. On completion of two miles and two furlongs long earthen road, rural people from Myaung Township will travel gapu Township in a short time.—MYANMA ALIN

Myanmar international (26-2-13 09:30 am ~ 27-2-13 09:30 am) MST

7:00 am 1. Purata By Hllya Region Missionary Sayadaw
7:25 am 2. Health Programme
7:30 am 3. Morning News
7:40 am 4. International News
7:45 am 5. People Talks
8:00 am 6. Documentary
8:15 am 7. Songs of Yester Year
8:25 am 8. Dance Of National Races
8:35 am 9. “Road to 27th SEA Games” (Wrestling)
8:50 am 10. Musical Programme
9:05 pm 11. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
10:00 pm 12. Musical Programme
10:25 pm 13. Teleplay
10:45 pm 14. 2013 University Entrance Examination (History)
11:00 pm 15. The Mirror Images of The Muliged Oldies
11:20 pm 16. States orchestra and State Traditional Orchestra
11:30 pm 17. SEA GAMES (Go For Gold) (Diving)
Pyidaungsu Hluttaw highlights national development

Photo shows
Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session in progress.
MNA

Nay Pyi Taw, 25 Feb—Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint read out the message sent by the President on the nomination of chairman and members of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union and approved it, at the 13th day session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. Hluttaw approved the appointment of Reid Director-General of Supreme Court of the Union U Mya Thein as Chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal and members.

“I am pleased with the appointment of Constitutional Tribunal of the Union. We need it according to the Constitution. I believed that it would be beneficial for the State and people as experienced scholars were selected by the President, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker and the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker,” said Hluttaw representative U Aung Kyang of Bagan-NyaungU Constituency.

Regarding National Planning Bill (2013-2014), Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann highlighted the facts—providing staff with fairly-high salary and more expenses; promulgation of laws that protect farmers, livestock breeders and workers and drawing a plan to reduce unemployment rates; legislation and use of funds for local peace-making processes if necessary; enactment of taxation laws for 2013-2014 financial year; providing necessary assistances and emolvements to teachers appointed with people’s funds; appointment of house surgeons and giving necessary training if necessary and extended building of hospitals and clinics and appointment of more doctors and nurses so as to narrow health care gaps between urban and rural areas.

He also pointed out that budgets should be used only for the projects beneficial to the country and people.

Hluttaw Representatives held discussions on National Plan (2013-2014) and the projects described in appendix 2 (a).—NLM

Mongolians to cooperate with Myanmar

Nay Pyi Taw, 25 Feb—Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Mya Nyen received a Mongolian delegation led by Mr. Lundeg Puurevsuren, National Security and Foreign Policy Advisor to the Mongolian President, at the Committee Hall No. (20) of Amyotha Hluttaw Chairman and members of Constitutional Tribunal of the Union. We need it according to the Constitution. I believed that it would be beneficial for the State and people as experienced scholars were selected by the President, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker and the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker,” said Hluttaw representative U Aung Kyang of Bagan-NyaungU Constituency.

Also present at the call were Chairman of the Government Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee U Aung Tun, Chairman of the International Relations Committee Col Maung Maung Htoo, Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee U Thein Win and Chairman of the ASEAN Political and Security Community Committee U Nyunt Tin.

Pyithu Hluttaw IRC Chairman receives Advisory to President of Mongolia

Nay Pyi Taw, 25 Feb—Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo received a delegation led by Mr Lundeg Puurevsuren, National Security and Foreign Policy Advisor Building, here, at 3 pm today.

The meeting focused on further promoting cooperation between the two parliaments.

Also present at the call were Chairman of the Government Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee U Aung Tun, Chairman of the International Relations Committee Col Maung Maung Htoo, Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee U Thein Win and Chairman of the ASEAN Political and Security Community Committee U Nyunt Tin.

Encroachers brought to justice

Nay Pyi Taw, 25 Feb—Sittaung Pulp Mill and Thewinayat village-tract administrator’s office filed lawsuits against a group of nine encroachers led by U Myint Soe on 29 January for damage to state-owned property and encroachment in Eucalyptus plantation in Kyakhto Township in Mon State.

The group led by U Myint Soe and U Aung Win reclaimed 302 plots in the area of plantation and sold at the price of K 33000 per plot. They also erected the signboard that reads, “U Myint Soe (Labour) self-relating the authorities to sue against. The Mon State government is convincing homeless occupants and settling them.”—NLM

U Min Thein concurrently accredited as Myanmar Ambassador to New Zealand

Nay Pyi Taw, 26 Feb—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Min Thein, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Commonwealth of Australia, concurrently as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to New Zealand.—MVA

Union Minister oversees regional development tasks in Kanpetlet of Chin State

Nay Pyi Taw, 25 Feb—Union Minister at the President Office U Hla Tun visited Natmataung National Park in Kanpetlet of Mindat District in Chin State on 23 February. The Union Minister heard reports on environmental conservation of Natmataung and arrival of tourists presented by the deputy commissioner of Mindat District and fulfilled the requirements.

Yesterday, the Union Minister viewed the orchid garden in the compound of Natmataung National Park Administrator’s Office and called for attracting the tourists to earn the income. Then, the Union minister met elephant yam farmers in Kanpetlet Township and urged them to commercially grow elephant yam as it is compatible with regional weather and marketable crop. The Union Minister also attended the alms-offering ceremony of 4th Buddha Puja of Myo U Aung Pagoda in Kyaukpadaung Township today.—MNA

Objectives of the 68th Anniversary Armed Forces Day 2013

1. To uphold the national policy namely non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity, and perpetuation of sovereignty

2. To play the leading role in the national politics by the Tatmadaw joining hands with all national races with Union Spirit and the true patriotism in line with the Constitution

3. To crush all destructive elements at home and abroad through the strength of State, People and Tatmadaw

4. To build up a strong, competent, modern, patriotic Tatmadaw to safeguard the security and sovereignty of the nation

U Min Thein concurrently accredited as Myanmar Ambassador to New Zealand

Nay Pyi Taw, 26 Feb—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Min Thein, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Commonwealth of Australia, concurrently as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to New Zealand.—MVA

Union Minister at the President Office U Hla Tun views elephant yam in Kanpetlet Township.—MNA

Union Minister oversees regional development tasks in Kanpetlet of Chin State

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