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Saturday, 19 February, 2011

Four political objectives

- * Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- * National reconsolidation
- * Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- * Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives

- * Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- * Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- * Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- * The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives

- * Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- * Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- * Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- * Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Ninth-day regular session of First Pyidaungsu Hluttaw held Approval sought for appointment of Union Election Commission Chairman

Person suitable to be appointed as Attorney-General of the Union nominated

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb—The ninth-day regular session of the First Pyidaungsu Hluttaw was held at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Hall in Hluttaw Building, here, at 11 am today, attended by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint, Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann and representatives of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw.

Director-General U Myint Thein of the Hluttaw Office acted as master of ceremonies.

After taking position, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint announced the validity and start of the session as 654 out of 658 Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives who have the right to attend today's



First Pyidaungsu Hluttaw holds ninth-day regular session at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building.—MNA

It is imprudent to squeeze a country to practise democracy overnight. For instance, the US launched economic sanctions against and invaded Iraq under the cloak of antidictatorship and democratization, despite strong objection from the international community. The invasion is just to exploit rich oil deposits of Iraq.

MAUNG HMAT

Pages 8+9

session were present, accounting for 99.39 per cent.

The Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw announced that although an announcement was issued for Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives to raise objections with clear evidences, if any, in accord with Sub-section (b) of Article 398 prescribed in

the constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar regarding nomination of U Tin Aye to the post of Chairman of Union Election Commission made by the elected President, there was no objection to the nominee. Accordingly, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved the nominee.

(See page 7)

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 19 February, 2011

Maintain Inlay Lake for its greening

Inlay Lake is a mountain lake in Nyaungshwe Township. It is a freshwater natural lake with a large array of biodiversity. The beauty of Inlay Lake and its environs attract tourists.

It is found that although a cluster of creeks flow into Inlay Lake, deforestation in watershed areas has led to erosion of the lake with a lot of silt. Slash-and-burn agriculture, cultivation of crops in columns on mountain slopes and non-mixed cropping lead to soil deprivation.

Measures are being taken for maintenance of the watershed areas and greening of a 20-mile radius of the environs of the lake in order to prevent Inlay Lake from being silt up. Departmental organizations are also taking measures for balanced ecosystem, greening of the lake, reforestation and mixed cropping.

Myanmar Agriculture Service has been carrying out the tasks for maintenance of fertile soil and ensuring correct cultivation methods in the watershed areas of the lake since 1995 in collaboration with UN organizations. In more than 600 villages in Nyaungshwe, Ywangan, Kalaw, Pindaya and Pinlaung townships, cultivation methods to maintain fertile soil were employed.

Agriculture inputs are being distributed and environmental conservation courses conducted in the villages of Nyaungshwe Township. In addition, correct cultivation methods, natural pesticides and natural fertilizers are being used.

Taking measures with added momentum for greening of Inlay Lake and its environs contributes towards national level environmental conservation. So, it is necessary to work for greening Inlay Lake through cultivation of perennial trees, use of highland farm and natural pesticides and fertilizers in carrying out reforestation tasks in the watershed areas.

Talks and reading skills contest held in Lashio District

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb— With the aim of developing the libraries and raising reading habit, Lashio District Information and Public Relations Department held the talks and reading skills contest at Pinyin Alin Library in Hopeik Village.

Member of Village Library Committee Chairman of Village Peace and Development Council U Sai Aung Phu made a speech, and Deputy Staff Officer Daw Khin Nyunt of Lashio District IPRD gave talks on studying literature to escalate reading skills.

Next, the reading skill contest followed. Officials presented prizes to outstanding persons.

Similar contact was held in Napha Village of Tarpon Village-tract.—MNA

Peoples' Festival

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

CSSTB conducts Experience Sharing Workshop



CSSTB Chairman U Kyaw Thu addresses Experience Sharing Workshop on study tour of India.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb — The Experience Sharing Workshop on study tour of India conducted by delegates who visited India from 31 January to 5 February was held at Civil Service Selection and Training Board here this morning with an opening address by CSSTB Chairman U Kyaw Thu. The delegates were among those who attended the Workshop on Capacity Enhancement of Myanmar Civil Service-2010 (Nay Pyi Taw) organized by CSSTB under the sponsorship of Sasakawa Peace Foundation of Japan.

It was also attended by CSSTB members U

Hla Myint Oo, U Win Aung, U Soe Oo, U Nyi Tun, U Kyaw Aung and departmental officials, participants in the workshop and delegation members.

On behalf of delegates, Deputy Director Dr Tha Tun Kyaw of Health Department, Assistant Director U Zaw Tun of Civil Service Affairs Department, Head of Branch Daw Si Si Myint and Assistant Lecturer Daw Sau Swang of University for Development of National Races recounted their experiences during the visit and answered the queries raised by those present.— MNA



Automobile & Living Products Show with the display of automobile and its parts, construction materials, TV entertainment system, furniture, cosmetics and foodstuff going on at Tatmadaw Convention Hall on U Wisara Road in Yangon.—MNA

Liver diseases talks held

YANGON, 18 Feb—KC Health Care Service organized talks on liver diseases and provided free consultancy to liver patients at the Chatrium Hotel in Natmauk Street here yesterday.

Intestine and Liver Specialist Professor Anupam Sibal from Indraprastha Apollo Hospital in New Delhi, India, consulted the patients one by one and gave talks about liver diseases and liver



transplant.

He also replied to the queries raised by interested attendees.

MD Dr Kyaw Min of KC Health Care Service explains liver disease and free consultancy.—MNA

Those wishing to receive treatment in Apollo hospitals in India may contact KC Health Care

Service at G-1, 2, 11, Pearl Condo (C) Apollo 1 (Ph: 01-73076404), 01-557448; Ext 899).—MNA

Somali pirates heading to Asia

WASHINGTON, 18 Feb—A US military commander warned Thursday that Somali pirates were skirting pressure by moving deeper into Asian waters and said the only solution was to restore stability in the African nation.

Admiral Robert Willard, head of the 300,000-troop Pacific Command, voiced exasperation at years of naval efforts to stem the flow of pirates from Somalia — which has been effectively without a central government for two decades.

“It’s remarkable that 28 nations combining their maritime forces together in the Gulf of Aden have not been able to defeat this challenge,” Willard said at the Asia Society on a visit to Washington.

Due to the naval campaign, “the pirates are just ranging farther out into the Indian Ocean — hundreds of miles, quite literally,” Willard said.

Willard said the pirates posed particular problems for Maldives, a sparsely populated Indian Ocean archipelago of 1,192 tiny coral islands best



Suspected Somali pirates sit with their faces covered during a media interaction on board an Indian Coast guard ship off the coast of Mumbai on 10 February.—INTERNET

known for its upmarket beach resorts.

Willard said he recently visited Maldives and President Mohamed Nasheed told him that “his problem was that either abandoned pirates or pirates that were lost in the middle of the night in their activities, or otherwise detached from their motherships, were now landing in the Maldives.”

Internet

New York airport bomb plotter handed life sentence

NEW YORK, 18 Feb—A US judge on Thursday sentenced a militant to life in prison after a jury found him guilty of participating in a plot to bomb New York’s John F Kennedy International Airport.

Russel Defreitas, 67, a naturalized US citizen from Guyana, was found guilty in August by a federal jury of conspiring to blow up buildings, fuel tanks and pipelines at the airport in the New York City borough of Queens. He was sentenced by Brooklyn US District Court Judge Dora Irizarry.

Defreitas, who had worked at the airport, provided knowledge of its facilities and layout, US prosecutors said. He was arrested in June 2007 along with three other men. During the trial, jurors heard testimony and watched video clips of the airport filmed by Defreitas, and listened to audio recordings of the men made by a government informant.

“Russel Defreitas plotted to commit a terrorist attack that he hoped would rival 9/11,” Brooklyn US Attorney Loretta Lynch said in a statement. “Now, our courts have dispensed justice by handing out the life sentence that Defreitas richly deserves.”—Reuters

ISAF soldier killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, 18 Feb—A soldier with the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) was killed Friday bringing to two the number of military alliance casualties over the past two days.

“An International Security Assistance Force service member died following an improvised explosive device (IED) attack in southern Afghanistan today,” ISAF said in a Press release issued here. The nationality and position of the victim had not been revealed in the Press release, adding, “It is ISAF policy to defer casualty identification procedures to the relevant national authorities.”

Troops, mainly from US, Britain, Canada and Australia, have been stationed in the southern region within the framework of ISAF to fight Taliban militants.—Xinhua



Afghan police officers and locals inspect a damaged hotel building near a police headquarters which was attacked on Saturday by Taliban militants in Kandahar, south of Kabul, Afghanistan, on 15 Feb, 2011.

INTERNET

An Afghan police officer stands guard on top of a damaged vehicle near police headquarters attacked by Taliban militants in Kandahar south of Kabul, Afghanistan on 15 Feb, 2011.

INTERNET



Kidnapped Italian woman says being held by Al-Qaeda

DUBAI, 18 Feb—An Italian woman snatched early this month in Algeria said she was being held by the North African branch of Al-Qaeda, in an audiotape aired by the Dubai-based Al-Arabiya television early Friday.

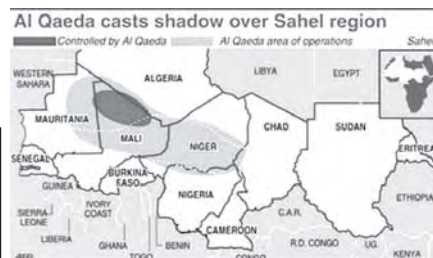
“I am Italian and I was kidnapped on Wednesday, 2 February, in Algeria. I am still being held by the Al-Qaeda in the

Maghreb, the Tarek ibn Zyad battalion. I am asking Al-Arabiya to air this statement,” the hostage, identified as Maria Sandra Mariani, said in halting French.

The tape started with a man speaking in Arabic and claiming that the Al-Qaeda offshoot was holding

her, adding that “we want her to be able to communicate with the leader of her country.”

The 53-year-old woman was abducted in Alidena, an area about 130 kilometres (80 miles) south of Djanet, the main town in southeastern Algeria.—Internet



Map of Sahel region showing where Al-Qaeda operates.—INTERNET

Nine killed, over 30 injured in suicide attack in Afghan Khost Province

KHOST, 18 Feb—A suicide bomber blew himself up Friday morning in Khost city capital of Khost Province, 150 km southeast of capital Kabul, killing nine people and injuring 30 others, a provincial police official said.

“A suicide bomber blew himself up near a police checkpoint in Khost city killing nine people and injured more than 30 others majority of them civilians,” a police official told Xinhua.—Xinhua

US army vehicle kills pedestrian in Kabul

KABUL, 18 Feb—A pedestrian was killed by a US army vehicle in Afghan capital Kabul on Thursday, a private television channel reported.

“A US army vehicle hit a pedestrian in Masoud Square Kabul city this morning and killed him on the spot,” said Tolo news bulletin.

Quoting eye witnesses, the television added that the reckless driving of the US army vehicle had caused the tragic incident.

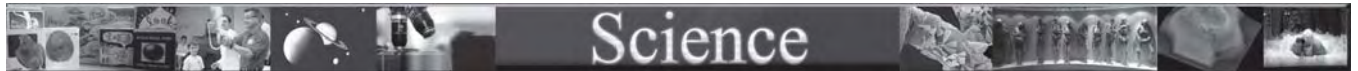
According to an eyewitness, the victim was a policeman. However, an official with the press department of the Interior Ministry told Xinhua, “We have not received the report yet.”—Xinhua

NATO, Afghan forces detain militant leaders

KABUL, 18 Feb—NATO and Afghan forces captured leaders of an militant group in eastern Afghanistan, including one believed to be linked to last month’s suicide attack on a Kabul supermarket, the coalition said Thursday. Militant attacks elsewhere killed three, including a NATO service member. The detainees were identified as members of Hizb-i-Islami, a militant group made up of loyalists of regional warlord Gulbuddin Hekmatyar. Among those captured was the group’s Kabul-based “media emir” — typically a senior official responsible for disseminating propaganda. He was arrested Wednesday in Parwan Province.

NATO said the media emir, who was not identified, has ties to multiple militant groups, including the Movement of Uzbekistan and the Taliban, and was involved in suicide bombings in November and January.

Internet



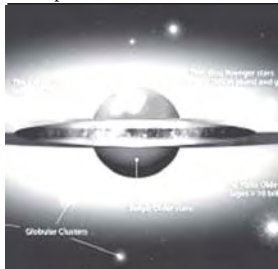
NASA shuts down prolific sky-mapping space telescope

WASHINGTON, 18 Feb—A prolific sky-mapping telescope that has spent more than a year scanning the heavens for asteroids, comets and other cosmic objects received its last command on 17 Feb.

NASA shut down its WISE spacecraft – short for Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer – at 3:00 pm EST (2000 UTC) today. The mission's principal investigator, Ned Wright of the University of California in Los Angeles, sent the final command to the now-hibernating spacecraft, according to an update from the WISE mission's official Twitter account.

"The WISE spacecraft will remain in hibernation without ground contacts awaiting possible future use," NASA officials said via Twitter.

WISE launched on 14 Dec, 2009 to begin a 10-month mission to collect data to be stitched together into a composite map of the entire sky. The spacecraft surveyed the cosmos in infrared light, which allowed it to peer through dense layers of dust to capture stunning space photos of previously unseen objects in unprecedented detail.—Internet



Schematic representation of a thick disc structure. The thick disc is formed of stars that are typically much older than those in the thin disc, making it an ideal probe of galactic evolution.

INTERNET



This undated handout artist rendering provided by Lynette Cook, National Science Foundation, shows a new planet, right. Astronomers have found a planet that is in the Goldilocks zone just right for life.—INTERNET

European space 'freighter' reaches orbit

PARIS, 18 Feb—European scientists say their robotic space freighter, launched to carry supplies to the International Space Station, has reached its planned orbit.

The ATV Johannes Kepler, launched Wednesday aboard an Ariane rocket after a one-day delay, reached its intended orbit 161 miles above the Earth and European Space Agency controllers were preparing to begin maneuvers to match its trajectory with the ISS for a docking rendezvous in seven days, an ESA release said Thursday.

"We had an excellent orbit injection thanks to Ariane, and the spacecraft itself is performing flawlessly," ESA's Alberto Novelli said. "With the one-day launch delay, docking with the ISS is now set for one day later than initially planned, now on 24 February."

With the craft in its initial orbit, controllers will plan and conduct the first in a series of "phasing maneuvers" using Kepler's thrusters to raise the craft's altitude to match that of the ISS, presently at 217 miles above earth.—Internet

Algae in wastewater seen as energy source

ROCHESTER, 18 Feb—US researchers say algae grown in wastewater could be a promising source of biofuel while cleaning up the waste-water at the same time.

Researchers at the Rochester Institute of Technology say their project to develop bio-diesel from microalgae is doubly "green" because in addition to creating biofuel, the algae consume nitrates and phosphates and reduce bacteria and toxins in the water, an RIT release said on Thursday.

Biodiesel from algae could reduce diesel fuel's telltale black puffs of exhaust with cleaner emissions low in the sulfur and particulates that come from fossil fuels, the researchers say.

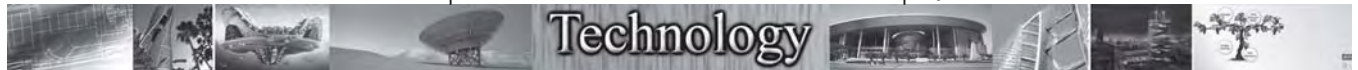
"Algae as a renewable feedstock grow a lot quicker than crops of corn or soybeans," RIT researcher Eric Lannan says.

"We can start a new batch of algae about every seven days.

It's a more continuous source that could offset 50 percent of our total gas use for equipment that uses diesel."

Starting with algae production from 30 gallons of wastewater in a lab at RIT and moving to 100 gallons in a 4-foot-by-7-foot tank, the researchers say they plan to build a mobile greenhouse at a wastewater treatment plant in the spring and scale up production to as much as 1,000 gallons of wastewater.

Internet



GM to offer Pandora Internet radio on Chevy cars

DETROIT, 18 Feb—General Motors Co will launch a new system to stream online radio from Pandora in upcoming Chevrolet models starting with the Volt and Equinox.

GM said the 2012 Chevrolet Volt and the Equinox would come equipped with a new system dubbed "Chevy MyLink" anchored by a seven-inch, colour touch-screen display in the dashboard.

The system will allow Chevy drivers to stream music from Pandora Media Inc by syncing the vehicle to a smartphone and using an existing Pandora account.

GM was the first automaker to

launch an on-board navigation and safety system when it debuted OnStar in 1996, a satellite system that it developed on its own.

In addition to Pandora, GM also announced tie-ups with Nuance Communications and Sony Corp subsidiary Gracenote.

Nuance will provide a voice-recognition system for the Chevy MyLink system that will allow drivers to control their cell phones and select radio stations or songs. Gracenote provides a service that recognizes music being played in the car and prompts with artist name, title track and other information.—Reuters

New mobile can check pulse, send ambulance

BARCELONA, 18 Feb—You probably have good reason to worry if you get a call on your mobile phone with the following message: "Sir, an ambulance is on the way."

That's the worst call you can receive if you buy a new EPI Life mobile phone, which comes complete with mini electrocardiogram.

It's a new phone developed in Singapore that takes your pulse when you press your fingers on a receptor, and sends the results to a 24-hour medical call centre.

"Anywhere in the world you can use it as a phone but you are also able to transfer an ECG and get a reply,"

Chow said.

"If you get a normal reply it will just be an SMS," he added.

"If it's severe, you get a call: 'Sir, an ambulance is on the way.'

EPI Life costs \$700 (516 euros), the price of a top range smartphone, and 2,000 of them have been on the market since 2010.

Depending on your health or nervous disposition you can choose from three packages offering 10, 30 or 100 tests a month.—Internet



A new product from Ephone International Pte Ltd is displayed at the 3GSM World Congress in Barcelona, Spain. The EPI Life mobile phone comes complete with mini electrocardiogram and takes a user's pulse when he or she presses their fingers on a receptor.

INTERNET



Visitors walk past the BlackBerry display area at the GSMA Mobile World Congress in Barcelona, on 14 February, 2011.

INTERNET

SPYRUS puts a PC in your pocket

SAN FRANCISCO, 18 Feb—At the RSA Conference in San Francisco SPYRUS showed off a number of secure portable storage devices. Most impressive of them is the Secure Pocket Drive, a complete Windows 7 PC on a USB drive.

Insert the Pocket Drive in a PC, boot from it, and you're running your own secure desktop. The host PC supplies keyboard, monitor, and other hardware support but nothing more. There's no connection whatever between the host system's hard drive and your portable PC.

MXI Security's Stealth ZONE is similar, but runs Windows Embedded Standard, not Windows 7. The Secure Pocket Drive includes a removable micro SD card that holds your programmes and data. According to Sue Pontius, SPYRUS's President and CEO, the operating system occupies about 8 gigabytes with the rest of the device's capacity available to load whatever applications are desired. A typical installation might include the Microsoft Office suite and a VPN for securely connecting to the office.—Internet



Lap-Band approved for those less obese

IRVINE, 18 Feb—US officials say the maker of the Lap-Band, used in weight-loss surgery, may treat patients less obese than those who have already had the surgery. The Food and Drug Administration gave its approval for Allergan Inc, based in Irvine, Calif, to market the Lap-Band to those who have a body mass index of as low as 30 and have at least one weight-connected medical condition, the *Los Angeles Times* reported Thursday.

An estimated 11 million more Americans would be eligible to have the surgery, which shrinks the size of the stomach to reduce food intake, the *Times* reported.

Currently, approximately 37 million Americans meet the criteria for the procedure, Allergan said.

The symptoms of Type 2 diabetes may be mitigated after the procedure when the patient loses weight, which can be several months after the surgery. Gastric bypass surgery, the other of two weight-loss procedure options, can start to alleviate such symptoms much more quickly, the *Times* said.—Internet



Staff scientist Marcus Jones walks towards the Genetex Qarray2 Micro Array Printer used for spotting DNA and protein in the laboratory at the J Craig Venter Institute in Rockville, Maryland, 29 March, 2010.—INTERNET

Research sheds light on gene linked to preeclampsia

RALEIGH, 18 Feb—Pregnant women who develop a serious condition known as preeclampsia have an overabundance of a gene that helps regulate the body's immune system, researchers have found.

The findings may lead to improved screening and prenatal care for these patients and their babies, said the North Carolina State University researchers.

Preeclampsia is a sudden rise in blood pressure that can result in stroke, seizures or organ failure in the mother. The condition occurs in up to 10 percent of pregnancies and is responsible for about 15 percent of preterm births. Recent research has focused on preeclampsia as an autoimmune disorder, in which the mother's body regards the placenta as an invader.

In this new study, the researchers compared genetic analyses of placentas from women with preeclampsia and from women with normal pregnancies.

"When we looked at the preeclamptic placentas, we found that several genes associated with a particular autoimmune pathway are 'upregulated' — basically, that there were more of them in placentas of preeclamptic women than in normal placentas," study author and genomics professor Dr Jorge Piedrahita said in university news release.—Internet

Health tip: Make work less painful if you have arthritis

Sitting at a desk and working at a computer all day can be painful for someone with arthritis.

The Arthritis Foundation offers these suggestions to ease arthritis pain and stiffness while you're at work.

- * Take regular breaks every 20 minutes to 30 minutes, getting up to stretch and move around.
- * Make sure your desk chair fits you well, and sit with your feet flat on the floor.
- * Set up your computer screen so it's level with your eyes.
- * Place papers in a document holder so they're easier to see without straining.
- * If your chair lacks lumbar support, use a rolled-up towel or small pillow to provide better support for your lower back.—Internet



This undated photo released by Prasad Ushus shows Sabine Steiger, 28, an anthropology student from Vienna, left, as she tries the "nasya" treatment at the Athreya Ayurvedic Resort in Kottayam, India.

INTERNET



Anglo American profit surge beats forecasts



Global miner Anglo American said Friday that net profits almost tripled to \$6.54 billion (4.82 billion euros) last year, boosted by soaring commodity prices and booming demand from emerging markets.

INTERNET

LONDON, 18 Feb—Anglo American, the world's fourth-biggest diversified miner, posted better than expected profits thanks to sharply higher metal prices, and said demand growth remained extremely positive.

It also said it is to move its Tarmac UK aggregates and cement business into a joint venture with Lafarge to create a UK construction materials combine with sales of about 1.8 billion pounds.

Anglo's profits were driven by its Kumba iron

ore, copper and platinum businesses. Copper and iron ore were Anglo's biggest earnings contributors in 2010 and prices for both commodities are close to or at record highs this year.

Net profit surged to \$6.54 billion last year, exceeding the \$4.99 billion average forecast made by analysts, according to Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S Estimates, and up from the \$2.43 billion made in 2009.

The company said it will pay a final dividend of 40 cents a share, after

restoring the payout with an interim dividend of 25 cents.

"A small negative is a slightly stingy dividend a function perhaps of the increased commitment to organic growth," said Liberum Capital.

Anglo said it has a \$70 billion pipeline of more than 60 projects that has the potential to more than double production over the next decade and expects to approve \$16 billion of projects in the next three years.

Reuters

Business



A Chevrolet Volt is on display during the press days for the North American International Auto show in Detroit, Michigan, on 11 Jan, 2011.—INTERNET

Kristi G Go & Grow chairs recalled

WASHINGTON, 18 Feb — Two US firms are recalling Kristi G Go & Grow chairs for children due to a fall hazard, the US Consumer Product Safety Commission said.

SwimWays Corp of Virginia Beach, Va, has received eight reports of the chairs tipping over with two reports including injuries to children, the commission said in a statement.

The chairs, imported from China, were distributed by SwimWays Corp and Kristi G Co of Atlanta. They are lightweight, polyester chairs sold for children older than three months but weighing less than 75 pounds, the commission said.

The chairs include a sun canopy that can be detached, a tray and a three-point harness.

Model 80325 is brown with blue polka dots. Model 80326 is brown with green dots. Model 80327 is brown with pink dots. Model numbers are printed on the box.

The chairs were sold nationwide from March 2010 through January 2011 for between \$35 and \$90.—Internet

Bank fears rise on ECB emergency borrowing spike

FRANKFURT, 18 Feb — Emergency overnight borrowing from the European Central Bank remained exceptionally elevated for the second day running on Friday, strengthening fears that a euro zone bank could be facing serious funding problems.

ECB figures showed banks borrowed more than 16 billion euros in high-cost emergency overnight funding the highest amount since June 2009. The sum compared with the 1.2 billion euros borrowed before the figures spiked to more than 15 billion on Thursday.

The ECB gives no breakdown of the borrowing figures and declined to comment when asked for an explanation for the sudden spike.

Reuters

BP could have prevented blowout

WASHINGTON, 18 Feb—BP's oil well in the Gulf of Mexico might never have blown last year if the company's engineers had been consulted about a key test that pointed to a defective cement job, investigators reported on Thursday.

Those and other details were disclosed in a report wrapping up an investigation by a presidential commission that blamed the 20 April, 2010 disaster on management failures by BP, Halliburton and Transocean.

A massive explosion on the BP-leased Deepwater Horizon rig killed 11 workers, sank the rig and sent

millions of barrels of oil flowing into the Gulf over a three month period, wreaking havoc on the region's environment and economy.

The report by the commission's lead counsel, Fred Bartlit, zeroed in on the failure of the cement well casing put in by Halliburton and a key negative pressure test just before the blowout that should have warned BP supervisors of a problem.

But investigators found that "well site leaders accepted facially implausible explanations for the negative test results."

Internet

A US Coast Guard handout image of fire boat response crews as they battle the blazing remnants of the BP operated off shore oil rig, Deepwater Horizon, in the Gulf of Mexico in April 2010. INTERNET



In this undated photo released by Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), body parts of endangered animals confiscated from an arts shop are displayed at a police station in Jakarta, Indonesia. INTERNET

Indonesia cracks down on online wildlife trade

JAKARTA, 18 Feb—An Indonesian man has been arrested for allegedly using the Internet to sell hundreds of illegal wildlife parts — from ivory and tiger skins to the teeth of the world's smallest bears.

The parts were allegedly destined for both domestic and international markets and several other suspects were being pursued, Darori, director general of the Forestry Ministry, said

Thursday.

The suspect was arrested in his art shop during a 9 Feb raid carried out by police and forestry officials in the capital, Jakarta, he said, adding that the US-based Wildlife Conservation Society helped tip off authorities.

They found 26 items at the scene and hundreds more waiting to be shipped by courier service, including teeth from sun bears, native to Southeast

Asia.

"This is just the first case," said Darori. "If you are trying to sell wildlife online, beware. We will catch you and you will be prosecuted." Indonesia, made up of more than 17,000 islands straddling the equator, is of the most biologically diverse corners of the earth, with thousands of animal species, many of which can't be found anywhere else.—Internet

Japan halts Antarctic whaling for rest of season

TOKYO, 18 Feb—Japan will halt its Antarctic whaling mission for the rest of the season because of harassment by environmentalists on the high seas, a government minister said Friday.

Activists from the US-based environmental group the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society have pursued the Japanese fleet for months in a bid to stop its harpoon ships from killing the giant sea mammals.

"To ensure the safety of crew members' lives, of assets and of the research fleet, the government is compelled to end the research," farm and fisheries minister Michihiko Kano told a news conference, citing harassment by Sea Shepherd vessels.

Jiji Press news agency quoted Kano as saying the factory ship the *Nisshin Maru* was "being chased, and it is difficult to ensure the safety of the crew members."

Sea Shepherd hailed the announcement, but pledged they would not give

up shadowing the vessels.

"It's great news," group founder Paul Watson said. "We will however stay with the Japanese ships until they return north and make sure that they're out of the Southern Ocean whale sanctuary."

Internet



Japan will halt its Antarctic whaling mission for the rest of the season because of harassment by environmentalists on the high seas, farm and fisheries minister Michihiko Kano said on Friday. INTERNET

NY City to fire teachers, cut capital spending

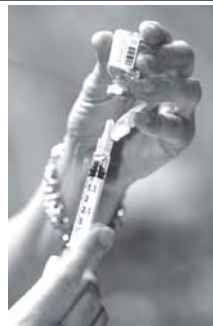
NEW YORK, 18 Feb—New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg on Thursday unveiled a \$65.6 billion budget plan for fiscal year 2012 that calls for firing 4,666 teachers and reducing capital spending 10 percent over the next decade.

Bloomberg blamed an approximately \$4.4 billion reduction in aid from the state and the US government for painful cuts that have already provoked a clash with school teachers and are certain to draw opposition from other public sector unions.

"The future does have some clouds," Bloomberg, a political independent, told a news conference.

New York City has withstood the recession better than many cities across the country, in part because Wall Street rebounded quickly from the 2008 financial crisis. For the second year in a row, Bloomberg has cut spending. The new budget plan is \$300 million less than the current budget.

Bloomberg said the city was creating jobs at a faster rate than the rest of the country, had benefited from a record 48.7 million visitors in 2010, and that its commercial real estate market remained the strongest in the country.—Internet



File photo shows, a nurse prepares a vaccine shot during a flu clinic in Montpelier, Vt. The Vermont Health Department says the flu is on the rise this winter and it describes its presence across the state as widespread. INTERNET

US flu season picking up, CDC reports

NEW YORK, 18 Feb—The flu season got off to a slow start in the United States last fall, but is now circulating in all 50 states and widespread in 37, health officials report.

Pediatric deaths from flu tripled in the past month, jumping from 10 early in January to 30 by 5 Feb, according to the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention.

"We still have a lot of flu out there," said CDC spokesman Tom Skinner. "We saw activity really start to pick up in December, and it has continued through January into February, which is

normal," he said.

Outpatient doctor visits because of flu increased steadily from January to February, according to the report in the 18 Feb issue of the CDC's *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. The report covers the period from 3 Oct, 2010, to 5 Feb, 2011.

While it's too early for exact numbers, the flu, which usually peaks in February, contributed to 8 percent of adult deaths in 122 cities that report this data to the CDC. This is considered an epidemic level.

Internet

Six injured in heli ski tour crash

GENEVA, 18 Feb—A helicopter carrying tourists to a high-altitude ski run in western Switzerland crashed Thursday, injuring six, the company operating the flight said. The helicopter pilot and five of the twelve passengers on board suffered light to medium injuries, the director of Heli Suisse, Alex Baechlin, said. He was unable immediately to provide details such as nationality and ages of those injured.

Baechlin said the crashed happened on the Tsanfleuron glacier — also known as Glacier 3,000 — near the Les Diablerets ski resort 30 miles (50 kilometres) southwest of the capital Bern.—Internet

Ninth-day regular session of First Pyidaungsu Hluttaw held...

(from page 1)

Afterwards, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker submitted nomination to the post of Attorney-General of the Union made by the elected President to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

The elected President nominated Dr Tun Shin to the post of Attorney-General of the Union in accord

with Sub-section (a) of Article 237 of the constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Rule 26.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced that the contact persons of respective parties may take out the curriculum vitae of the nominee, suitable to

be appointed as the Attorney-General of the Union nominated by the elected President, at the Director-General of the Hluttaw Office, to examine whether the said person is qualified as prescribed in Sub-section (a) of Article 237 of the constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and that if there were any



Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint submits nomination to the post of Union Attorney-General made by the elected President to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

MNA



Photo shows arrival of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives to attend Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session.

MNA

Hluttaw representatives inclined to raise objection against the nominee, they may report to the Director-General of the Hluttaw Office by 4 pm tomorrow evening with clear evidence, in accord with Sub-section (b) of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Rule 27.

Next, the

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw announced the ninth-day regular session of First Pyidaungsu Hluttaw ended and tenth-day regular session would continue at 11 am on 21 February.

The session came to an end at 11.15 am.—MNA

New Myanmar GPS product Polar Star introduced

YANGON, 18 Feb— New Myanmar GPS product Polar Star map directions for drivers was introduced at Myanmar Info-Tech in Hline Township on 15 February.

Secretary of Myanmar Computer Federation U Thaung Tin made a speech and U Htoo Myint Naung of Technomation Studio explained matters related to Polar Star.

User may choose Myanmar or

English language in Polar Star.

Sales of Polar Star will start at Computer Show to be held in Mandalay on 25 February. In addition, Polar Star is available at auto parts shops and computer sale centres in Yangon and Mandalay. For further information, may dial 243893, 398140 and 095054013.

MNA



JE-2 proficiency course concludes

YANGON, 18 Feb— The Junior Engineer-2 Proficiency Course No. 4/2011 of the Ministry of Electric Power No. 2 concluded at the central training school in

Hlinethaya Township this morning.

Director-General U Khin Maung Zaw presented completion certificates to the trainee leaders.

The director-general awarded the outstanding trainees. The two-week course was attended by 90 trainees.

MNA

KNU's heavy weapon kills four local people, wounds three

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb—KNU insurgents are undermining peace of the State, tranquillity of community and prevalence of law and order and committing destructive acts for

causing death, injury and fear of innocent people.

As KNU insurgents fired heavy weapon at Waboetaw area of Shwegyin Township, Bago Re-

gion, at about 9 am on 17 February, and blasted in lemon farm of U Zaw Lay Htoo, leaving four farm workers dead and three wounded.

Three wounded persons were rushed to Shwegyin People's Hospital and given medical treatment. Officials provided necessary assistance to the injured.—MNA

Secretary of Myanmar Computer Federation U Thaung Tin speaking at introduction to New Myanmar GPS product Polar Star map directions.—MNA

High time to take strides to national goal without economic sanctions

Maung Hmat

In a broadcast aired by a radio station in the West, the Vice-Chairman of NLD said that economic sanctions imposed by Western countries had effects on the ruling government, rather than on the majority of the people, so they should keep sanctions. He also said that they would issue a report regarding the effects of the sanctions against Myanmar, based on NLD's findings and advice by economists. Soon after the broadcast, NLD issued a statement under the title of "Economic sanctions against Myanmar".

The statement says that sanctions are imposed against the nation according to the decision made by the nations concerned, not because of demands by any political parties, organizations or individuals in Myanmar. The US and the West Bloc have imposed sanctions against Myanmar for eight years or since 2003, issuing Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003 under the signature of President Bush. There is no secret that sanctions were launched at the instigation of certain persons and organizations inside the nation.

Once, some persons repeatedly demanded: don't invest in Myanmar, don't provide humanitarian aids for Myanmar; foreign tourists should not visit Myanmar; and international organizations should not recognize Myanmar. Therefore, Myanmar people got used to the word "sanction". That is common knowledge. It is very brazen of them to say that sanctions are not due to their demands.

Very recently, the leader of the evoked party said that they had to ascertain the desire of the people to decide whether or not they should lift sanctions. Now, they have made a decision: economic sanctions should be sustained. They initiated economic sanctions, and said that they are

in support of economic sanctions, at the expense of public interests.

Flagrantly, they also said that economic sanctions were designed to improve human rights and democracy in Myanmar. Actually, economic sanctions stem from the schemer conspired by the group of axe-handles and the West Bloc. In that regard, the axe-handles group demanded economic sanctions to come to power and serve their interests. And the West Bloc launched economic sanctions with the intention of installing a puppet government that will dance to their tunes. Surely, economic sanctions they impose against Myanmar must be intended to keep control over Myanmar in the political, economic and social fields in their interests.

To cut humanitarian aids and impose sanctions against a developing country like Myanmar is the most inhuman treatment, indeed. If the people of a country are in dire straits in consequence of economic sanctions, that is the worst human right violation. Only with economic growth of the nation, will the people enjoy high socio-economic status and high standards in the education, health care standards with high reasoning power. And the gap of basic needs between the people will become narrow. Only then, can a nation practise democracy. So, imposing economic sanctions under the pretext of democratization is, in fact, disrupting Myanmar's democratization processes.

They proclaim that economic sanctions harm only the government and its partnerships, rather than the majority of the people. In reality, the conditions of the nation and living conditions for the people go together. So, they should have known well that

economic sanctions harm both the government and the people. Thus, totally unacceptable is the claim that economic sanctions are to attack the government only.

In 1988, the ruling government evoked the one-party system of the Myanmar Socialist Programme Party and introduced the market economy and the multiparty democracy system to the nation, as aspired by the people. In the process, the government has been laying profound foundations for smooth transition to democracy in line with the socio-economic status of the people, instead of copying Western democracy system. Showing great resilience and tenacity amid two-pronged disruptions in political and economic fields sparked by internal and external elements, the government has been working hard to boost national economy and improve the living standard of the people. The government, the people and the Tatmadaw have been working closely for over a couple of decades. However, needless to say that the nation and the people are not in a position to enjoy development momentum as high as it should be, due to such hindrances.

The nation and the people greatly suffer unfair sanctions imposed by the West countries. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has been withdrawn from Myanmar, and the nation hardly gets aid from Global Fund. Trade embargo has adverse effects on production, export and import of goods, and production of agricultural produce. Not only that, many people also have lost their employment opportunities. Economic sanctions led to closure of factories, thereby making the workers redundant and harming their dependants. Similarly, strong negative impact on tourism industry cause damage to hotels and tourism services, souvenir shops and restaurants and even taxi drivers and trishaw men. Series of events due to sanctions are endless to say. The root cause of varieties of hardships is none other than unfair sanctions imposed irresponsibly by the West countries in response to the demands made by certain persons in the nation.

If my memory serves me, the US government alone has imposed over 60 economic sanctions around the world, most of which are on the pretext of democratization. But, none of the countries facing economic sanctions has become a democratic one. Owing to economic sanctions, huge numbers of citizens suffer untold miseries and the targeted countries are being paralyzed with economic decline, but the majority of the people have remarkable resilience in the times of austerities. It is out of the question to help introduce democracy with economic sanctions. Democratization and sanctions are against each other.

(See page 9)

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High time to take strides to national goal without economic sanctions

Maung Hmat

Now, Myanmar witnesses a lot of positive changes as time goes by. Hluttaw sessions are in progress to form a new government. That is a giant step to democracy in compliance with the aspiration of the people. ASEAN countries demanded with one voice for lifting economic sanctions against Myanmar. In like manner, political parties and experienced politicians in the country demanded that the powers lift their sanctions as soon as possible. Recently, a leader of NDF said that it was badly needed to lift economic sanctions especially trade and investment embargos if national reconciliation was in favour. He also said that economic sanctions sparked loss of employment opportunities and deterred the nation from approaches to economic development.

(from page 8)

It is imprudent to squeeze a country to practise democracy overnight. For instance, the US launched economic sanctions against and invaded Iraq under the cloak of anti-dictatorship and democratization, despite strong objection from the international community. The invasion is just to exploit rich oil deposits of Iraq. Now, what is going on Iraq? Has Iraq practised democracy? Taking all the scenarios, we can see the real intention of economic sanctions and invasion. Who will compensate for the death and damage of the country? No way.

Now, Myanmar witnesses a lot of positive changes as time goes by. Hluttaw sessions are in progress to form a new government. That is a giant

step to democracy in compliance with the aspiration of the people. ASEAN countries demanded with one voice for lifting economic sanctions against Myanmar. In like manner, political parties and experienced politicians in the country demanded that the powers lift their sanctions as soon as possible. Recently, a leader of NDF said that it was badly needed to lift economic sanctions especially trade and investment embargos if national reconciliation was in favour. He also said that economic sanctions sparked loss of employment opportunities and deterred the nation from approaches to economic development.

In spite of many positive demands for lifting economic sanctions, the group responsible for

the issue keeps asking variously their master countries for extending economic sanctions against the country. Besides, it is very flagrant of the stooges to say that they wanted to hold discussions with Western countries to reach an agreement to modify sanctions, thus showing their innate nature. The Western countries also said that it was too early to lift economic sanctions against Myanmar.

Myanmar has opened door to the market economy, but the drive is not much satisfactory due to the sanctions. The nation's economic decline has provoked adversities to the people. Small- and medium-scale enterprises essential for national development are not as successful as expected, and the nation loses large number of jobs for the people. Unless the axe-handles had demanded economic sanctions, our country would have enjoyed far greater development than that at present.

In conclusion, they are under a responsibility to address the issue they have sparked. They have to mend their ways, begging public pardon for the acts they have breached in their interests, at the expense of that of the nation and the people. They should no longer say that economic sanctions harm the government alone, rather than the public. And they should have stopped putting all the blame on the government, saying that all evil consequences being faced by the nation and the people are largely due to the mismanagement of the government. The nation is at the crossroads to a new system. Therefore, I would say that it is high time the nation kept taking strides to the goal without economic sanctions.

Translation: MS



Myanmar Football Federation held Press Conference on football projects to be launched, Myanmar's international games and FIFA President's visit to Myanmar at MFF meeting hall in Yangon on 17 February.

MNA

MEPE, eight companies sign contracts

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb—Minister for Electric Power No. 2 U Khin Maung Myint attended the signing ceremony between Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise and eight companies—Barons Machinery & Engineering Pte Ltd, Sino Hydro Corporation Ltd, Gunkul Engineering Public Co Ltd, United National Oil & Gas Pte Ltd, Chint Electric Co Ltd, Supplier Global Pte Ltd, Smart Technical Service Ltd, and Central China Power Grid International Economic & Trade Co Ltd at the Ministry of Electric Power No. 2, here,

yesterday evening.

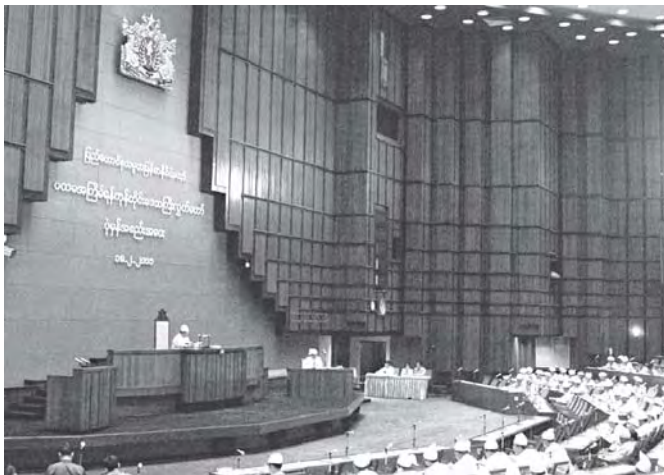
Also present on the occasion were Minister for Electric Power No. 1 U Zaw Min, Attorney-General U Aye Maung, Deputy Minister for Electric Power No. 2 Dr Win Myint, Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe, Deputy Minister for Industry-2 U Khin Maung Kyaw, departmental heads and responsible persons of eight companies.

Minister U Khin Maung Myint made a speech. On behalf of the companies, Deputy Managing Director U Than Win Swe of United

National Oil & Gas Pte Ltd spoke words of thanks.

Managing Director of MEPE U Aung Than Oo and managing directors of eight companies signed contracts on purchase of electrical equipment for Nay Pyi Taw-2 Main Power Station, Hlawga Main Power Station, Kamanat Main Power Station, Taungdwingyi Main Power Station, Hlinethaya Main Power Station, Myaungdaga Main Power Station and 230KV and 132KV power stations and exchanged notes.

MNA



First Yangon Region Hluttaw Regular Session in progress.—MNA

Regular sessions of first Region and ...

(from page 16)

Chin State

The regular session of Chin State Hluttaw started at 10 am today. At the session, the speaker of the State Hluttaw submitted the State Chief Minister-proposed nomination of retired State Law Officer U Cappati L as State Advocate-General and of retired Director U Kyaw Zan of State Accounts Office as State Auditor-General. Next, the speaker announced the approval of the nomination as all the 24 Hluttaw representatives made no objection.

The first regular session of Chin State Hluttaw concluded at 10.26 am.

Sagaing Region

The regular session of Sagaing Region Hluttaw started at 8 am today. At the session, the speaker of the Region Hluttaw submitted the Region Chief Minister-proposed nomination of Sagaing Region Law Officer U Maung Maung Lin as Region Advocate-General and

of Director Daw Khin Myint Aye of Sagaing Region Accounts Office as Region Auditor-General. Next, the speaker announced the approval of the submission as all the 101 Hluttaw representatives made no objection.

Next, the speaker of the Region Hluttaw submitted the Region Chief Minister-proposed nomination of executive committee members of Leading Body of Naga Self-Administered Zone and announced the approval of the nomination as all the 101 Hluttaw representatives made no objection.

The committee members are U Ru San Kyu of Lahe Constituency No (1) as chairman and U Wah Lo of Lahe Constituency (2), U Kyawt Nah of Leshi Constituency No (2), U Yang Ran of Nanyun Constituency No (1) and Defence Services Personnel Representative Lt-Col Soe Min Thu as

members.

The first regular session of Sagaing Region Hluttaw concluded at 8.10 am.

Taninthayi Region

The regular session

Director U Thein Han of Taninthayi Region Hluttaw Accounts Office as Region Auditor-General. Next, the speaker announced the approval of the nomination as all the 28 Hluttaw representatives made no objection.

The first regular session of Taninthayi Region Hluttaw concluded at 10.44 am.

Bago Region

The regular session of Bago Region Hluttaw started at 10 am today. At the session, the speaker of the Region Hluttaw submitted the Region Chief Minister-proposed nomination of retired Region Law Officer U Myint Aung as Region Advocate-General and of Deputy Director-General U Aye Win of Auditor-General

Magway Region

The regular session of Magway Region Hluttaw started at 10 am today. At the session, the speaker of the Region Hluttaw submitted the Region Chief Minister-proposed nomination of Magway Region Law Officer U Maung Maung Pyu Tint as Region Advocate-General and of Deputy Director-General U Hla Than of Auditor-General Office as Region Auditor-General. Next, the speaker announced the approval of the nomination as all the 68 Hluttaw representatives made no objection.

The first regular session of Magway Region Hluttaw concluded at 10.15 am.

Mandalay Region

The regular session of Mandalay Region Hluttaw started at 9.15 am today. At the session, the speaker of the Region

State Chief Minister-proposed nomination of U Win Kyi (Advocate) as State Advocate-General and of retired Director Daw Khin Khin Myo of State Accounts Office as State Auditor-General. Next, the speaker announced the approval of the nomination as all the 30 Hluttaw representatives made no objection.

The first regular session of Chin State Hluttaw concluded at 10.20 am.

Rakhine State

The regular session of Rakhine State Hluttaw started at 10 am today.

At the session, the speaker of the State Hluttaw submitted the State Chief Minister-proposed nomination of Law Officer U Hla Thein



First Kayah State Hluttaw Regular Session in progress.—MNA

of Taninthayi Region Hluttaw started at 10 am today. At the session, the speaker of the Region Hluttaw submitted the Region Chief Minister-proposed nomination of retired State Law Officer U Soe Myint as Region Advocate-General and of

Office as Region Auditor-General. Next, the speaker announced the approval of the nomination as all the 76 Hluttaw representatives made no objection.

The first regular session of Bago Region Hluttaw concluded at 10.10 am.

Hluttaw submitted the Region Chief Minister-proposed nomination of retired Region Law Officer U Ye Aung Myint as Region Advocate-General and of Director U Kyaw Win of Auditor-General Office as Region Auditor-General. Next, the speaker announced the approval of the nomination as all the 76 Hluttaw representatives made no objection.

The first regular session of Mandalay Region Hluttaw concluded at 10.20 am.

Mon State

The regular session of Mon State Hluttaw started at 10 am today. At the session, the speaker of the State Hluttaw submitted the

of Rakhine State Law Officer as State Advocate-General and of retired Director U Tun San Aung of State Accounts Office as State Auditor-General. Next, the speaker announced the approval of the submission as all the 47 Hluttaw representatives made no objection.

The first regular session of Rakhine State Hluttaw concluded at 10.30 am.

Yangon Region

The regular session of Yangon Region Hluttaw started at 10 am today.

At the session, the speaker of the Region Hluttaw submitted the Region Chief Minister-proposed nomination of

(See page 11)



First Sagaing Region Hluttaw Regular Session in progress. —MNA





First Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw holds its regular session.—MNA

Regular sessions of first Region and ...

(from page 10)
retired Law Officer U Kyaw Moe Naing of Region Law Office as Region Advocate-General and of retired Director U Myint Aung of Region Accounts Office as Region Auditor-General. Next, the speaker announced the approval of the nomination as all the 123 Hluttaw representatives made no objection.

The first regular

Law Officer U Maung Maung of Shan State Law Office as State Advocate-General and of retired Deputy Director-General U Thein Myint of Auditor-General's Office as State Auditor-General. Next, the speaker announced the approval of the nomination as all the 139 Hluttaw representatives made no objection.

Next, the Speaker of the State Hluttaw

representatives made no objection.

U Khun Tun Lu (a) U Tun Lu of Hopang Township Constituency (1) was elected as Chairman and U Sai Hla Pe of Hopang Township Constituency (2) and Defence Services Personnel Representative Major Thurein Win as members of Leading Bodies of "Wa" Self-Administered Division.



The regular session of First Shan State Hluttaw in progress.—MNA



Representatives attending regular session of First Taninthayi Region Hluttaw.—MNA

session of Yangon Region Hluttaw concluded at 10.40 am.

Shan State

The regular session of Shan State Hluttaw started at 10 am today.

At the session, the speaker of the State Hluttaw submitted the State Chief Minister-proposed nomination of

submitted the nomination for members of Executive Committees of the Leading Bodies of "Wa" Self-Administered Division and Danu, Pa-O, Palaung and Kokang Self-Administered Zones. Next, the speaker announced the approval of the nomination as all the 139 Hluttaw

U Htoo Ko Ko of Pindaya Township Constituency (2) was elected as Chairman and U Ko Ko of Ywangan Township Constituency (1) and Defence Services Personnel Representative Major Htin Zaw Lwin as members of Leading Bodies of Danu Self-Administered Zone.

U San Lwin of Hopong Township Constituency (2) was elected as Chairman and U Khun Aye Maung of Hopong Township Constituency (1), U Khun Maung Pei of Hsihseng Township Constituency (2), U Khun Hla Hsan of Pinlaung Township

(2) and Defence Services Personnel Representative Major Officiating Kyaw Zeyar Tun as members of Leading Bodies of Palaung Self-Administered Zone.

U Pei Sauk Chien (a) U Bay Hsaw Chien of Laukkai Township Constituency (1) was elected as Chairman and U Myin Shaw Chan (a) Myi Shauk Chan of Laukkai Township Constituency (2) and Defence Services Personnel Representative Lt-Col Kyaw Zeya as members of Leading Bodies of Kokang Self-Administered Zone.

The first regular session of Shan State Hluttaw concluded at 10.30 am.

Ayeyawady Region

The regular session of Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw started at 10 am

announced the approval of the nomination as all the 72 Hluttaw representatives made no objection.

The first regular session of Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw concluded at 10.15 am.

Regular sessions of the first Region and State Hluttaws systematically carried out appointments for Region or State Advocates-General, Region or State Auditors-General and members of Executive Committees of the Leading Bodies of Self-Administered Division and Regions in line with Section 266 (a) and 271 (a) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Region or State Hluttaw Rule-50 and Article 17 of Self-Administered Division or Zone Leading Bodies Law.—MNA



The regular session of First Kayin State Hluttaw in progress.—MNA



Fire engine driver course concludes

YANGON, 18 Feb— The fire engine driver course No. 27/2011 of Fire Services Department concluded at the hall of the FSD in Mayangon Township, here, this morning.

On behalf of the director-general of FSD, Director U Kyaw Thura made a speech.

Altogether 42 trainees attended the course that lasted eight weeks starting from 27 December 2010.—MNA

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV XIANG DA VOY NO (1106)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIANG DA VOY NO (1106) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.2.2011 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 CHINA SHIPPING
(MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV JIAO CHENG VOY NO (0109)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV JIAO CHENG VOY NO (0109) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.2.2011 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 COSCO SHIPPING
CO, LTD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV SANG THAI QUARTZ VOY NO (03)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SANG THAI QUARTZ VOY NO (03) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.2.2011 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: SANG THAI SHIPPING
CO LTD**

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV MOROTAI VOY NO (YF 149R)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MOROTAI VOY NO (YF 149R) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.2.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CMA-CGM SHIPPING
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV THIGAYU VOY NO (02/11)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV THIGAYU VOY NO (02/11) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.2.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W(1) 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 INTER TRANS CO LTD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV JIN DE 5 VOY NO (-)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV JIN DE 5 VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.2.2011 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: ARK SHIPPING CO LTD
KOREA**

Phone No: 256924/256914

TRADE MARK CAUTION

N.V. Organon, a company incorporated in The Netherlands, of Kloosterstraat 6, 5349 AB OSS, The Netherlands, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

EXLUTON

Reg. No. 1913/1996

in respect of "medicines and pharmaceutical preparations for human use".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.
for N.V. Organon

P. O. Box 60, Yangon

Dated: 19 February 2011

World's top chefs in mourning after star chef died while serving guests

MADRID, 18 Feb — A gathering of the world's top chefs has paid tribute to one of their own as they mourned Spain's Michelin-starred Santi Santamaria who died in Singapore. Santamaria, who was 53, collapsed on Tuesday while serving guests gathered to inaugurate the opening of Singapore's Marina Bay Sands resort and died following a reported heart attack while being taken to

hospital.

Michelin-starred Daniel Boulud, Guy Savoy and Wolfgang Puck — along with acclaimed Asian chefs Justin Quek and Tetsuya Wakuda — gathered on stage to pay their respects to Santamaria, who like the five chefs had in the past year opened a restaurant at the \$US5.7 billion (\$A5.69 billion) resort. "Santi was crazy about cooking, his cooking, and

he was crazy about the one thing we all love — great cuisine," said the Austrian-born Puck, famous for his two-Michelin-starred Spago Beverly Hills.

Santamaria was generally acknowledged as the man who took Catalan cooking to the world and his Can Fabes restaurant in the Spanish city of Sant Celoni has been rated with three Michelin stars since 1994. —*Internet*



Daniel Bouled, Wolfgang Puk, Justin Quek and Gui Savoy pay tribute to fellow chef Santi Santamaria of Spain.—INTERNET

IBM computer Watson wins Jeopardy clash

LONDON, 18 Feb — The 1984 film *The Terminator* foretold of an epic battle between man and machine, each striving for dominance.

Little did the writers know how prescient their tale would be. Fast-forward to 2011 and non-fictional humans are pitting their wits against a supercomputer although this time in an effort to win US quiz show *Jeopardy*, rather than guarantee the survival of humanity.

Ken Jennings, the 74-

time winner of the popular trivia quiz, and Brad Rutter, a 20-time champion, have gone head-to-head-drive with an IBM supercomputer called Watson three times in the past three days. Unlike in *The Terminator*, they lost each time.

The supercomputer, named after former International Business Machines corporation president Thomas Watson, is a showcase of the company's expertise in advanced science and computing.—*Internet*



Watson wins: Jeopardy host Alex Trebek, executive producer Harry Friedman and former champion Brad Rutter discuss the battle between man and machine. — INTERNET

Man in County Kildare was 'forced to eat part of ear'

LONDON, 18 Feb — Irish police are investigating claims a 21-year-old homeless man was forced to eat part of his own ear during an attack in County Kildare. A gang armed with metal bars and hammers is reported to have attacked the man during the incident at Newbridge on Monday morning.

Police sources said it was unclear whether part of the man's ear was cut off or bitten off by the gang. The man told medical staff he had been forced to eat part of his ear. It is understood the man has discharged himself from hospital and has not made a complaint to police about the incident. He is believed to have suffered bruising and cuts to his face, head, jaw and arms.—*Internet*

Skiing grandfather ready to race world's best

He may be a 47-year-old grandfather, but Haiti's Jean-Pierre Roy wants to tackle the icy slopes of the world ski championships to raise awareness for his disaster-hit country.

He is the president, team captain and lone racer for the Haiti Ski Federation, which was only recognised by the sport's governing body, the FIS, last November.

"I am probably the only grandfather in the world to be taking

part in the world ski championships," he said with a smile.

Having been born on the Caribbean island, which was devastated by a massive earthquake last year, Roy is prepared to be ridiculed against the world's best skiers to draw attention to his country and, maybe, raise some money.



A lion statue made from porcelain tableware is seen during a lantern show in Tangshan, north China's Hebei Province, on 15 Feb, 2011. The lantern combination of dancing lions is made from 21,000 pieces of porcelain tableware.

News Album

California cat burglar caught red-pawed

A thieving feline has been caught on camera, stealing over 600 items from neighbours' homes in a California town, reports said on Wednesday.

Dusty the cat burglar was videoed by a night-vision camera carrying everything from a bath sponge and a toy dinosaur to a neighbour's bikini top down the street in San Mateo, south of San Francisco. "Towels, gloves, shoes, socks and children's toys," owner Jean Chu told local ABC News television, listing the various household goods her pet has brought home.

"He took my mom's swimming clothes," added one neighbour's five-year-old, after the feline was finally fingered for the theft of some 600 items over the last three years.

A cat is napping while another one runs around. A thieving feline has been caught on camera, stealing over 600 items from neighbours' homes in a California town, reports said.



Spectators watch a horse fighting game in Rongrui, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on 15 Feb, 2011. A horse fighting game was held in Rongshui of Guangxi to celebrate the upcoming Lantern Festival.

Owner of dead kitten offered air fare plus \$50

The owner of a hairless kitten that died after being shipped in the cargo hold of a Delta flight says the airline is only offering to refund her air fare plus \$50. Snickers froze after flying to Connecticut from Utah last month. A door latch malfunctioned in 10-degree weather and it took nearly an hour to unload her. Heather Lombardi says Delta Air Lines initially told her she would get \$2,900 for the cat and \$290 for airfare, plus reimbursement for vet bills and even a freezer where she's keeping Snickers until the ground thaws.

Cyclist charged with hitting car

Police in Washington state allege a cyclist threw his bike at a car and smashed a window after the vehicle's driver honked at him. Redmond police said Chad Olson, 42, of Redmond threw his bike at the Volvo on 16 Oct, smashing a window, after the driver pressed the vehicle's horn, *Seattlepi.com* reported Monday.

Police said Olson left the scene before they arrived but he showed up at a police station about an hour later and said he wanted to report a road rage incident. He told police any damage done to the car was self-defence when the driver, Ben Han, 46, tried to hit him, *The Seattle Times* reported on Monday.



Actors Robert Downey Jr (L) and Gwyneth Paltrow pose during a photocall for the movie "Iron Man 2" in Los Angeles, California on 23 April, 2010.—XINHUA

Feel-good "Idol" right for the times, producer says

BEIJING, 18 Feb—Is "American Idol" and its new judging panel going soft this year? Yes, says executive producer Nigel Lythgoe. Brutal honesty was the right tone when the TV talent show and Britain's Simon "Mr Nasty" Cowell brought a breath of fresh air to US television 10 years ago.

But times have changed, economically and socially, and that's why newcomers Steven Tyler, Jennifer Lopez and old hand Randy Jackson sent a record 300 plus wannabe pop stars from nationwide auditions onto a second round in Hollywood this year.

"I believe these are times when we need to be warmer, brighter, and we need to think we have a future," Lythgoe told reporters on a conference call on Thursday.—Xinhua

"Iron Man 3" gets new director Shane Black

BEIJING, 18 Feb—The famous screenwriter Shane Black was confirmed to direct "Iron Man 3," according to Deadline's reports.

Jon Favreau, the director of "Iron Man" and "Iron Man 2," dropped out of the project due to his focus on the movie "Magic Kingdom" for Disney.

In Black's director debut "Kiss Kiss Bang Bang" (2005), he previously had a good cooperation with the "Iron Man" star Robert Downey Jr.

As a veteran writer to humor-tongued action, Black penned all four scripts in the "Lethal Weapon" series, "The Last Boy Scout," "Last Action Hero," "The Long Kiss Goodnight" and "The Monster Squad." He also wrote "Kiss Kiss," which could be a potent proof that Black and Downey work well together.—Xinhua



Judges Steven Tyler (L), Jennifer Lopez (C) and Randy Jackson take part in a panel discussion for the show "American Idol" at the Fox Broadcasting Company Winter Press Tour 2011 for the Television Critics Association in Pasadena, California on 11 Jan, 2011.—INTERNET



South Korean director Yoon-ki Lee, actress Soo-jung Lim and actor Bin Hyun of the film "Come Rain, Come Shine" pose for the global premiere of the film at the 61st Berlinale International Film Festival in Berlin, capital of Germany, on 17 Feb, 2011. The film is the sole Asian contender for the Berlin Film Festival's Golden Bear top prize. XINHUA

Downbeat S Korean drama booed in Berlin

BERLIN, 18 Feb—The sole Asian contender for the Berlin film festival's Golden Bear top prize, minimalist South Korean breakup drama "Come Rain, Come Shine", met with jeers from critics Thursday.

It tells the story of a woman who announces to her husband she is leaving him but, before she goes, spends one last day with him in their home — an experience that fills them both with longing and regret.

"Saranghanda, Saranghaji Anneunda", as the film is called in Korean, features long takes of shifting weather patterns, wistful gazes out of windows at falling rain, sparse dialogue, little music, and a pared-down plot.

It was the fourth Berlinale outing for director Lee Yoon-ki, and his first competition entry.

But despite the prominent cast including Lim Soo-jung, who last appeared at the festival in 2008 in Park Chan-wook's quirky "I'm a Cyborg But That's OK" and Seoul heart-throb Hyun Bin, critics loudly booed the bleak picture.

"I know I have more of a spotlight on me in the competition so the reaction might be more critical but I'm happy for the exposure," Lee said. The 45-year-old director, who studied business management at the University of Southern California before becoming a film-maker, was asked by a French reporter whether Korean audiences might be more responsive to the picture.

Internet

Napoli and Liverpool held to scoreless draws in Europa League

PARIS, 18 Feb—Serie A title-chasers Napoli will travel to Spanish opponents Villarreal next week with their Europa League hopes in the balance after they were held 0-0 in their last 32 first-leg clash on Thursday.



Dynamo Kiev's players celebrate a goal during their UEFA Europa League match against Besiktas, at Inonu Stadium in Istanbul. Kiev won 4-1.— INTERNET

It will not be the ideal scenario for the former Italian champions — playing in only their second European campaign in 16 years — as days later they face Serie A leaders AC Milan in a match pivotal to their title hopes. There was no winning return to European competition for Liverpool manager Kenny Dalglish, meanwhile, as the Scottish legend — who replaced Roy Hodgson at the helm — had to make do with a workmanlike 0-0 draw at Czech side Sparta Prague.

"There's a lot of value coming out of the game," said Dalglish. "It was not a classic. The onus is on the home team to put pressure on us and they did not really do that. On the night, 0-0 was probably fair enough." — *Internet*

Logjam at Riviera leaderboard

LOS ANGELES, 18 Feb —Ten years after Robert Allenby won a six-man playoff at Riviera, he was part of a nine-way tie for the lead on Thursday in the Northern Trust Open. Allenby kept it simple on a gorgeous day along Sunset Boulevard with a 4-under 67 that turned out to be enough for a share of the lead when former Ryder Cup captain Corey Pavin faltered late.

It was the highest score to lead after one round at Riviera in 15 years. Also atop the leaderboard when play was suspended by darkness were John Senden, Martin Laird, Spencer Levin, Aaron Baddeley, Ben Martin, Bill Haas, Carl Pettersson and JB Holmes.

Internet



Wembley stadium in North London. — INTERNET

Tickets for Champions League most expensive ever

LONDON, 18 Feb — Tickets for this season's Champions League final at Wembley will be the most expensive in history, UEFA confirmed Thursday as officials revealed sharp price hikes for entry to the football showpiece. While the cheapest tickets sold via allocations to clubs will be 80 pounds (129 dollars/95 euros), the cheapest on general sale "category three" will cost 176 pounds (284 dollars/209 euros), which includes an administration fee.

Speaking at UEFA's ticket launch at London's City Hall, director of competitions Giorgio Marchetti said the prices were consistent with comparable top-tier sporting events such as the World Cup final. "The prices are based on the type of event and when you compare it to other events we don't think that the Champions League final is overpriced," Marchetti said. "We do not want to squeeze every single penny out of the market."

"Last year there was already a significant increase compared to the previous editions but it's nothing to do with being in London and it is still priced below comparable events." UEFA said 11,000 tickets for the May 28 showpiece go on general sale at 300 pounds, 225 pounds and 150 pounds with wheelchair entry costing 80 pounds.— *Internet*

SPORTS

FIFA suspend Israel coach Fernandez

PARIS, 18 Feb — Israel national coach Luis Fernandez was suspended from all football activity with immediate effect by world governing body FIFA on Thursday, a FIFA source told AFP.

The 51-year-old Spanish-born former French international had been suspended FIFA said because of an outstanding judgement made against him in 2009 relating to Qatari team Al-Rayyan he had coached in 2005. The Israeli Football Association (IFA) had said earlier on Thursday they had re-

ceived an "official request" from FIFA to fire Fernandez.

The request said Fernandez "must cease all football related activities immediately due to a failure to pay a debt to a team he coached in the past in Qatar," the Israeli body said in a statement.

The IFA said in a statement they were due to meet Fernandez to discuss the issue. "Next week I will meet with Luis Fernandez and decide together how to solve the problem that was created," IFA chairman Eli Luzon said.

Internet



Israel national coach Luis Fernandez

Agbossoumonde loan to Djurgarden finalized

STOCKHOLM, 18 Feb — American defender Gale Agbossoumonde has joined Swedish club Djurgarden on a six-month loan. The Stockholm club, which plays in Sweden's top Allsvenskan league, says the contract was signed on Thursday.

The 19-year-old impressed Djurgarden's coaching staff during a two-week trial and is expected to have a good shot at making the starting lineup when the Swedish season kicks off in April.

Agbossoumonde says: "I feel we have a very good team and I think we will do well in Allsvenskan." In December, Agbossoumonde was

cited as the top young male player of 2010 by the US Soccer Federation. He has previously been with Miami FC and Portuguese clubs Sporting Braga and Estoril.

Internet

Raonic hammers 38 aces to advance in Memphis tennis



Milos Raonic

MEMPHIS, 18 Feb — Milos Raonic hammered a career-high 38 aces defeating Radek Stepanek 6-4, 6-7 (10/12), 7-6 (7/1) on Thursday to reach the quarter-finals of the ATP/WTB Memphis event.

After dropping a marathon second set tie-breaker, Canada's Raonic needed a tiebreaker in the third to oust the Czech star

and post his sixth consecutive victory.

He will next face American qualifier Robert Kendrick for a spot in the semi-finals. In other second round matches on Thursday, American Sam Querrey beat Brian Dabul of Argentina 6-3, 7-6 (7/3) and Juan del Potro, of Argentina, easily beat Croatian Ivan Dodig 6-4, 6-4.

Internet



Andy Roddick

Roddick returns to US Davis Cup team

NEW YORK, 18 Feb — Andy Roddick will make his return to Davis Cup after a two-year absence when the US takes on Chile in a first round match on 4 March in Santiago, the United States Tennis Association announced.

New American team captain Jim Courier on Thursday also named Sam Querrey, John Isner, Bob Bryan and Mike Bryan to the team. The Bryan brothers are

the No 1 ranked doubles team in the world.

Roddick, 28, is the current world No. 8 and has not played in the event since the first round of the Davis Cup in 2009. This is the fifth meeting all-time between the US and Chile with the Americans holding a commanding 4-0 record. The winner will face either Belgium or Spain in the quarterfinals on 8-10 July.—*Internet*

Wenger says Barca still favourites



Barcelona's goalkeeper Victor Valdes (L) blocks the ball in front of Arsenal's Robin van Persie (R) during their Champions League soccer match at the Emirates stadium in north London on Wednesday.— INTERNET

LONDON, 18 Feb — Arsene Wenger insisted Barcelona remained favourites to progress to the Champions League quarter-finals after Arsenal came from behind to score a dramatic 2-1 victory over the Spanish giants. A goal apiece from Robin van Persie and Andrey Arshavin in the final 12 minutes sealed a memorable win for the Gunners after a largely dominant Barcelona had taken a first-half lead through David Villa.

Arsenal's slender advantage gives the Premier League side a fighting chance of progressing when the two teams meet in the second leg. But while Wenger is adamant that Barcelona will be favourites to prevail, he believes his vibrant young team will be armed with a vital commodity when they enter the Camp Nou on March 8 — belief.

"We are not the favourites now," Wenger said. "But what is important is we believe we have a chance and we'll go for it. Barcelona are still favourites. "But after tonight we know that we can beat them. And we didn't know that last year," said Wenger, referring to last season's quarter-final, which saw Barcelona crush the Gunners 4-1 in the second leg, 6-3 on aggregate.—*Internet*

In memoriam Family shares merits gained Lt-Gen Tin Oo

In memory of benefactor Phay Phay Gyi Lt-Gen Tin Oo who suddenly left us ten years ago, we family members have made donations and offered 'soon' and provisions to members of the Sangha today on 19-2-2011. We family members share with you the merits gained.

Wife Daw Khin Than Nwe

Sons and daughters-

- Major Maung Maung Kyaw (Retd) (BSI)+Daw Cho Leh Oo
- Phyu Phyu Tin Oo
- Dr Myat Noe+ Yin Mar Oo
- Zaw Tun Oo+Khin Thida
- Nay Tun Oo

Grandchildren

- Hein Htet, Yin Myat Noe, Phu Ngon Kyaw,
- Thant Thi Han Zaw (Po Thila)

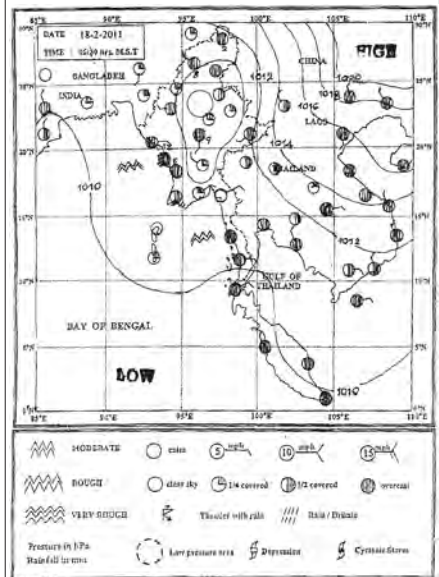
Hong Kong reports two more flu A/H1N1-related deaths

HONG KONG, 18 Feb — Hong Kong hospitals on Thursday reported two more deaths related to flu A/H1N1.

According to Hong Kong Tuen Men Hospital and Hong Kong Queen Elizabeth Hospital, a 72-year-old female patient and a male patient aged 84 with past good health died on Thursday due to continued deterioration of clinical condition.

MNA/Xinhua

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Friday, 18th February, 2011

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T.

During the past 24 hours, rain have been scattered in Mandalay and Magway Regions, Shan State, isolated in Sagaing, Bago and Ayeyawady Regions, Kachin, Rakhine and Kayah States and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above February average temperature in Upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, (5°C) to (6°C) above February average temperature in Bago Region, Rakhine and Kayah States, (6°C) above February average temperature in Kachin and Shan States and about February average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant night temperatures was Pinlaung (4°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (Tatkon) and Ministry of Transport (0.28) inch, Nay Pyi Taw (Thabyegon) (0.23) inch, Sittway (0.47) inch, Pinlaung (0.43) inch, Ann (0.39) inch and Meiktila (0.35) inch.

Nay Pyi Taw

Maximum temperature on 17-2-2011 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 18-2-2011 was 64°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 18-2-2011 was (91%). Rainfall on 18-2-2011 was (Tr).

Yangon (Kaba-Aye)

Maximum temperature on 17-2-2011 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 18-2-2011 was 70°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 18-2-2011 was (56%). Total sunshine hours on 17-2-2011 was (9.6) hours (Approx).

Rainfall on 18-2-2011 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2011 was (1.97) inches at Mingaladon, (1.89) inches at Kaba-Aye and (3.54) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southwest at (10:30) hours MST on 17-2-2011.

Bay Inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of the 19th February 2011:

Rain are likely to be scattered in Bago, Ayeyawady and Yangon Regions, Kachin, Shan, Rakhine, Mon and Kayin States and isolated in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea:

Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Likelihood of continuation of rain in the Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 19-2-2011: Possibility of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 19-2-2011: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 19-2-2011: Possibility of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Weather Outlook For Fourth Weekend Of February

2011: During the coming weekend, weather will be partly cloudy in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay Regions.

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL Programme Schedule (19-2-2011) (Saturday)

Transmissions

Times

Local - (09:00am ~ 11:00am)MST
Oversea Transmission - (19-2-11 09:30 am ~ 20-2-11 09:30 am) MST

Local Transmission

- * Opening
- * News
- * Pleasant Places for Pleasure
- * News
- * Music Gallery
- * News
- * A Day Out With Sarah (Episode-2)
- * News
- * A Graden of Aspiring and Promising Flowers

Oversea Transmission

- * Opening
- * News
- * Pleasant Places for Pleasure
- * News
- * Music Gallery
- * News
- * A Day Out With Sarah (Episode-2)
- * News
- * A Graden of Aspiring and Promising Flowers
- * News
- * The Essence of Vipassana
- * News
- * "Surprising Myanmar (Thanakha)"
- * News
- * Secret Palaces for Yummy food (porridge)
- * News
- * VCD Centre
- * Myanmar Movie "The Magician's Flower"
- * Myanma traditional Silverware



**Saturday,
19 February
View on today**

7:00 am

1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw -Uppatasanti Paritta

7:25 am

2. To Be Healthy Exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning News

7:40 am

4. Dhamma Puja Song

7:50 am

5. Nice & Sweet Song

8:05 am

6. Health Programme

8:10 am

7. Poem Garden

8:25 am

8. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

8:30 am

9. Teleplay (Traffic)

8:40 am

10. International News

8:45 am

11. Musical Programme

11:00 am

1. Martial Song

11:10 am

2. Musical Programme

11:25 am

3. Game for Children

11:55 am

4. Round up of The Week's TV Local News

12:30 pm

5. Yan Can Cook

1:00 pm

6. TV Drama Series

1:50 pm

7. Mahowthada

2:10 pm

8. Dance of National Races

2:15 pm

9. Documentary

2:20 pm

10. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

2:35 pm

11. Song Varieties

2:50 pm

12. International News

4:00 pm

1. Martial Song

4:05 pm

2. Musical Programme

4:15 pm

3. Cultural Dances

4:25 pm

2. 2011 University Entrance Examination (Geography)

5:10 pm

5. Songs for Upholding National Spirit

5:15 pm

6. International Science News

5:30 pm

7. Game for Children

6:00 pm

8. Evening News

6:15 pm

9. Weather Report

6:20 pm

10. Ahlshamae Hlagabawai

6:35 pm

11. Documentary

7:00 pm

12. TV Drama Series

8:00 pm

13. News

14. International News

15. Weather Report

16. Cartoon Series

17. TV Drama Series

18. Gitadagale Phwinfbaoahn

- ★ Only with stability and peace will the nation develop
- ★ Only with stability and peace will democratization process be successful

- ★ Anarchy begets anarchy, not democracy
- ★ Riots beget riots, not democracy
- ★ Democracy can be introduced only through constitution

People's Desire

- We favour peace and stability
- We favour development
- We oppose unrest and violence
- Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

- ★ VOA, BBC-sowing hatred among the people
- ★ RFA, DVB-generating public outrage
- ★ Do not allow ourselves to be swayed by killer broadcasts designed to cause troubles

Regular sessions of first Region and State Hluttaws go on Approval sought for nomination of Advocate-General, Auditor-General of Regions or States

Nomination of executive committee members of Leading Bodies of Self-Administered Division and Self-Administered Zone approved

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb — The regular sessions of the First Region and State Hluttaws were held at respective regions and states today. Nominations of Advocate-General and Auditor-General of the Region or State proposed by the elected Chief Ministers of respective Regions and States and executive committee members of Self-Administered Division and Self-Administered Zone were approved by respective Hluttaw representatives.

Kachin State

The regular session of Kachin State Hluttaw started at 10 am today. At the session, the speaker of the State Hluttaw submitted the State Chief Minister-proposed nomination of Law Officer (Grade-1) Daw Mary Minan of Myitkyina District Law Office as State Advocate-General and of retired Director U Nyo Hmaing of State Accounts Office as State Auditor-General. Next, the speaker announced the approval of the nomination as all the 50 State Hluttaw representatives made no objection.

The regular session of first Kachin State Hluttaw concluded at 10.12 am.

Kayah State

The regular session of Kayah State Hluttaw started at 10 am today. At the session, the speaker of the State Hluttaw submitted the State Chief Minister-proposed nomination of Director U Htay



First Bago Region Hluttaw Regular Session in progress.—MNA

Aung of Attorney-General's Office as State Advocate-General and of retired Director Daw Kyi Kyi of State Accounts Office as State Auditor-General. Next, the speaker announced the approval of the nomination as all the 20 State Hluttaw representatives made no objection.

The regular session of first Kayah State Hluttaw concluded at 10.12 am.

Kayin State

The regular session of Kayin State Hluttaw started at 10 am today. At the session, the speaker



of the State Hluttaw submitted the State Chief Minister-proposed nomination of retired Law Officer U Thein Lwin of Region Law Office as State Advocate-General and of retired Director Daw Khin Maw of Region Accounts Office as State Auditor-General. Next, the speaker announced the approval of the nomination as all the 23 State Hluttaw representatives made no objection.

The regular session of first Kayin State Hluttaw concluded at 10.07 am.

(See page 10)