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Sunday, 15 January, 2012

True patriotism

* It is very important for every one of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.

* Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

First 37-megawatt generator from Kyeeohn Kyeeewa Multi-purpose Dam Project goes into operation

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing visited Kyeeohn Kyeeewa Multi-purpose Dam Project site in Pwintbyu Township, Minbu District, Magway Region, yesterday. At the briefing hall, an official reported to the Union Minister on progress in the project work.

Next, Irrigation Department Director-General U Kyaw Myint Hlaing briefed the Union Minister on cent per cent completion of the project, the first-phase installation of a 37-megawatt generator, installation of another one in the coming month and Hydropower Generation Enterprise Managing Director U Khin Maung Win under the Ministry of Electric Power No (1) on condition of power supply.

In giving instructions, the Union Minister said the project has started in the time of the Tatmadaw government and it is now heartening to see the completion in a short period thanks to the experts and technicians of A&I Ministry and Ministry of Electric



Power.

He continued to say that the electricity to be generated from the 37-megawatt generation will be supplied to Rakhine State through the national power grid. Then, the Irrigation Department director-general

pressed the button to operate the generator.

The Union Minister later presented a baskets of fruits to the technicians from Goundong Company and inspected the turbines, generators, computer control room and the dam.

Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing looks into progress in implementing Kyeeohn Kyeeewa Multi-purpose Dam Project in Pwintbyu Township, Minbu District, Magway Region.

MNA



The multi-purpose dam project started in 2002-2003 and will complete in 2011-2012. Two 37-megawatt generators will generate 370 million kilowatt hours of electricity to irrigate 96000 acres of farmlands.—MNA

Importance of public-private partnership stressed



Union Minister for Cooperatives and for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint inspects finished crab production of Crabs World Manufacturing Co Ltd in Kyauktan Township.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan—Union Minister for Cooperatives and for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint highlighted the SMEs development for national economic growth in meeting with crab and prawn breeders, personnel of Yangon Region Cooperative Department and Fisheries Department, Thanlyin and Kyauktan townships Cooperative Departments, Fisheries Department and Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department at Crabs World Manufacturing Co Ltd in crab breeding zone in Kyauktan Township Yangon this morning.

Companies engaging in crab and prawn farming reported to the Union Minister on difficulties in breeding and production. The Union Minister stressed the public-private partnership in facing challenges and conserv-

ing the environment. He urged the breeders to recruit the newly graduates from Cooperative Colleges and University of Veterinary Science and give a hand to them in their field studies.

The Union Minister then inspected the breeding of soft-shell crabs, packaging process for exportation and visited crab farming of Aung Moe Khaing Industrial Co Ltd. He then inspected antibiotics and virus lab of Fisheries Department in Thakayta Township.

MNA

New Rainfall Record

YANGON, 14 Jan—The Meteorology and Hydrology Department announced that the amounts of rainfall at (09:30) hours MST today (14 January 2012), at the following stations set the new maximum (24 hours) rainfall record for the month of January is as follow:-

No.	Station	New Rainfall Record		Previous Record		Last Record Date	Record Period
		mm	inches	mm	inches		
1.	Kyaikkhami	75	2.95	42	1.65	30-1-1999	30

MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 15 January, 2012

May peace be with us

Although some armed conflicts occurred due to misunderstanding between the national brethren in Myanmar since it regained her Independence in 1948, the government's peace-making process is going to bring eternal peace and prosperity to the whole nation.

In line with the address delivered by President U Thein Sein at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 30 March 2011, negotiations have been undertaken for realizing the eternal peace with armed groups that have not accepted the constitution yet.

In the peace-making dialogues, Hluttaw representatives of the State side who understand the region and local people and state level and Union level ministers were constituted as the representative groups for peace to hold talks with respective national race organizations.

In this regard, the peace process is planned to hold talks at three levels—state level, Union level and Hluttaw level. The state level is to seek initial agreement for ensuring ceasefire and future tasks of the peace talk. The Union level is to hold talks for solving problems on a political basis.

After reaching agreements at the Union level with armed groups individually, all national race armed groups will be invited to the Hluttaw for holding dialogues to be able to reach the common agreement. If necessary, the Constitution will be amended. The 11-point agreement has been signed in principle so as to continue the discussions at the Union level peace talk at the completed final stage for eternal peace.

Thus, the national race armed groups that held armed struggle lines in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in the past have signed peace agreements one after another step by step. In fact, the peace agreements are signs of everlasting peace.

Sangyoung BEHS-2 to pay respects to retired teachers

YANGON, 14 Jan—A ceremony to pay respects to retired teachers of St Philomena's Convent and Sangyoung Basic Education High School No. 2 will be held for the 13th time at Sabei Hall of Sangyoung BEHS No. 2 at 9 am on 28 January (Saturday).

The executive committee will hold the second meeting at Pyinnya Beikman Hall of Sangyoung BEHS No. 2 at 12 noon on 19 January (Thursday).

MNA

Union Construction Minister inspects road, bridge repairing



NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan—Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint inspected repair work on Nay Pyi Taw-Taungnyo-Myothit-Kanpya (Magway) road and measures for prevention of Sun Creek Bridge against erosion on 12 January. Next, he inspected Minbu-Padan-A road expansion and paving of gravels.



Yesterday, the Union Minister inspected stockpiling of gravels on An-Swittway road and maintenance and repair work of Dhalat Creek Bridge and road works being carried out on the top of Me Mountain with use of heavy machinery.

MNA

Myanmar, Japan to further cooperate in forestry



Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun receives Prof Dr Tetsuo Koyama and party.

MNA

YANGON, 14 Jan—Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun received Director-General and Chairman Prof Dr Tetsuo Koyama of Kochi Prefectural Makino Botanical Garden & Museum and Kochi University of Japan and party at Myanmar Timber Enterprise

Headquarters here yesterday.

They held discussion about cooperation in forestry sector, matters related to medicinal plants, and Myanmar Ginseng growing on Mt. Natmain in Chin State and promotion of researches on forestry and scholarship programmes.—MNA

Myanmar National Women's Affairs Committee meets

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan—The Myanmar National Women's Affairs Committee held the meeting 1/2012 at the hall of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement yesterday afternoon.

Speaking at the meeting, Chairman of the Committee Union Minister for Labour and for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U

Aung Kyi said that the constitution (2008) of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar comprises provisions on non-gender discrimination and equal rights in the chapter of Citizen, Fundamental Rights and Duties of the Citizens. The All Myanmar National Women's Affairs Committee was reformed in December 2011 to

effectively realize the said provisions, he noted. Today's meeting was for the first time, he said. At present, he said that a national level plan is being drawn for development of women and it will implement the UN Millennium Development Goals and the Beijing Declaration.

The secretary of the committee Director-General

of Social Welfare Department explained formation of the Myanmar National Women's Affairs Committee and its functions, organizing of 11 subcommittees and their functions, and future plans.

Those present took part in the discussions. The Union Minister reviewed the discussions and gave necessary instructions.

MNA

DISTRICT NEWS

Vegetable crops thriving along Sittoung River basin



YEDASHE, 12 Jan—In the cold season this year, onion and other kitchen crops are being grown on a manageable scale along the basin of Sittoung River in Yedashe Township. Tomato, lettuce, cabbage, beans and pulses and edible oil crops such as groundnut, sesame and sunflower plantations are thriving in the fertile regions.

The surplus vegetables from local consumption can be transported to the domestic market to earn increased incomes for local farmers.—Kyemon

Rural development discussed

KANBALU, 12 Jan—Talks on rural development and poverty alleviation were held at the ground in Myedu Village-tract of Kanbalu Township on 13 January.

Township level officials and local authorities gave talks

on rural development and poverty alleviation and replied to queries raised by those present.

Township IPRD

Students take part in poem recitation and story telling contest

YANGON, 12 Jan—The poem recitation and story telling contest was held at Shwedaw self-reliant library in Ward 5/8 of Shwepyitha Township on 2 January.

Local authorities and departmental officials formally opened the contest.

After the contest, officials awarded the prize winning students.

Township IPRD



Visiting Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad greets local residents upon his arrival at the Carondelet Palace, in Quito, capital of Ecuador, on 12 Jan., 2012. Ahmadinejad arrived in Ecuador Thursday on the last leg of his Latin American tour.—XINHUA

Coroner says man decapitated in wood chipper accident

SAN FRANCISCO, 14 Jan—A Northern California tree trimmer was decapitated when he became entangled in a rope that was sucked into an industrial wood chipper, a deputy coroner said on Friday. Martin Lara, 50, was part of a crew clearing brush on Thursday on a hillside in Nevada City, California, which is 50 miles northeast of Sacramento, said Sergeant Paul Schmidt, chief deputy coroner for Nevada County. Lara, who was from the nearby town of Applegate, was operating a mobile wood chipper and other members of the crew were using ropes to tie up bundles of brush to bring to the chipper, Schmidt said.

Somehow, a rope wound around Lara's neck and the tension had the effect of beheading him, authorities said.

"No part of him went into the chipper at all," Schmidt said, contrary to published reports. "The tension of the rope cut off his head almost like a guillotine."

Preliminary indications are the death of Lara, who was married with two adult children, was an accident and not an equipment malfunction, Schmidt said. He added that California workplace safety investigators would perform an independent examination.

Reuters

Italy cruise ship runs aground, at least six reported dead



ROME, 14 Jan—A large Italian cruise ship carrying more than 4,000 people ran aground on a sandbar off the west coast of Italy on Friday

night and media reports said at least six people were killed in the incident.

The some 3,200 passengers and 1,023 crew in board the ship, the 290-metre-long *Costa Concordia*, were being evacuated by lifeboats, helicopters and other ships in the area, a statement from the Italian coastguard said.

They Italian news agency *Ansa* quoted rescue workers as saying at least six people were killed and a number injured, but that the cause of the deaths was not immediately known. *Ansa* said some people had jumped into the water. No official confirmation of the reported deaths was immediately available.

About five hours after



the incident, several hundred people were still on board the ship and waiting to be evacuated. *Ansa* quoted passengers as saying the ship jolted as dinner was being served and that the electricity went out for awhile before the evacuation operation began.

The *Costa Concordia* ran aground on Friday evening. INTERNET

The Italian coastguard said the ship has taken on water and was listing about 20 degrees but that there was no danger of it sinking.

The cruise ship company said the cause of the incident was being investigated.

MNA/Reuters

US Army to pull back two brigades from Europe

WASHINGTON, 14 Jan—US Defence Secretary Leon Panetta said on Thursday that the Army will withdraw two brigade combat teams from Europe, and replace them with rotational units. The change is part of a new, 10-year defence strategy announced by US President Barack Obama last week that "emphasizes air-sea doctrine to better allow the US to confront more than one threat at a time," Panetta said during an interview with the American Forces Press Service.

The rotational deployments mean the military "will be in a position to cover not only the area that will be a primary focus ... but we will be able to cover the world," he said. The change means rotational forces — the way Army Special Forces currently deploy — will expand to conventional forces. As the Army replaces the two brigade combat teams with rotational units, the Europeans actually will see more US forces because the American forces in Europe have more often than not been deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan, Panetta said.

Last week, Obama unveiled a new military strategy that aims to strengthen military presence in the Asia Pacific region despite fiscal constraints, adjusting troops structure to a new era of austerity.—Xinhua

Royal Navy captures 13 Somali pirates

LONDON, 14 Jan—The Royal Navy has captured 13 Somali pirates in the Indian Ocean, the Ministry of Defence says. *RFA Fort Victoria* and a US Navy vessel intercepted the pirates' boat, which had refused to stop despite warning shots from a Royal Navy helicopter. Royal Marines in speedboats approached the vessel and boarded it, capturing 13 pirates and seizing weapons.

Defence Secretary Philip Hammond said the UK troops, part of a NATO-led force, could be "proud" of the success. "The Royal Navy and Royal Marines are playing a crucial role in securing and protecting international sea lanes that are vital to global trade," the

minister said. Capt Gerry Northwood, who leads the counter-piracy operation on *RFA Fort Victoria*, said: "This firm and positive action will also send a clear message to other Somali pirates that we will not tolerate their attacks on international shipping."

The operation was carried out around dawn on Friday. Capt Shaun Jones RFA, commanding officer on *RFA Fort Victoria*, said: "To manoeuvre such a large ship at speed in close vicinity of a nimble dhow takes extreme concentration and skill; my team were never found wanting. "The 13 Somalis certainly found on Friday 13th unlucky for them."

Internet

Tensions high, US warns Iran not to block shipping

WASHINGTON, 14 Jan—Tensions rising by the day, the Obama administration said Friday it is warning Iran through public and private channels against any action that threatens the flow of oil



Defence Secretary Leon Panetta speaks at the Pentagon. INTERNET

from the Persian Gulf. The Navy revealed that two US ships in and near the Gulf were harassed by Iranian speedboats last week.

Spokesmen were vague on what the United States would do about Iran's threat to block the strategic Strait of Hormuz, but military officials have been clear that the US is readying for a

possible naval clash. That prospect is the latest flashpoint with Iran, and one of the most serious. Although it currently overshadows the threat of war over Iran's disputed nuclear programme, perhaps beginning with an Israeli military strike on Iran's nuclear structure, both simmering crises raise the possibility of a shooting war this year.

"We have to make sure we are ready for any situation and have all options on the table," Defence Secretary Leon Panetta said, addressing a soldier's question Thursday about the overall risk of war with Iran. Navy officials said that in separate incidents on 6 Jan, three Iranian speedboats — each armed with a mounted gun — briefly chased after a US Navy ship just outside the Gulf near the Strait of Hormuz and a US Coast Guard cutter in the northern Gulf. No shots were fired and the speedboats backed off.

Internet



Small Iranian military motorboats ride in the wake of US Coast Guard cutter Adak in the Strait of Hormuz in this still image taken from 6 Jan, 2012 video footage.

INTERNET

Iran ships approached US vessels in Gulf

WASHINGTON, 14 Jan—Small Iranian military motorboats approached US vessels passing through the Strait of Hormuz twice last week but the Pentagon said the interactions were not seen as hostile, even at a moment of heightened tensions between the two countries.

Video released by the Pentagon showed the armed boats with the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps' navy approaching within several hundred yards (meters) of the *USS New Orleans*, an amphibious transport ship, on 6 January, a US military official said. The same day, a similar incident occurred with the US Coast Guard cutter *Adak*, with the Iranian boats seen riding in its wake, guns visible.

"This interaction between US naval vessels and the Iranian vessels is commonplace," said Captain Jane Campbell, a Pentagon spokeswoman. "There is nothing in these that shows any kind of hostile intent. US officials say it is routine to take video of such incidents and the US military decided to release imagery at the request of news organizations."

Internet



The ship was identified as a known pirated vessel operating in Indian Ocean shipping lanes.—INTERNET

Health Tip: Take care of dry skin

Dry skin can be itchy, uncomfortable and even painful if the skin begins to crack.

The Cleveland Clinic offers these suggestions for caring for dry skin:

- * Make sure your shower or bath water is lukewarm; never too hot.
- * Take baths or showers of no longer than 10 minutes.
- * Apply a moisturizer as soon as you get out of the bath or shower.
- * Wash with a moisturizing cleanser.
- * During winter months, moisturize with a heavy cream or ointment. Use a lighter lotion during summer.—Internet



This file photo shows smoked monkey meat, displayed for sale in Nigeria. Bushmeat illegally imported from Africa and seized at five top US airports often contained potentially dangerous bacteria, according to a new study made public in the US.—INTERNET



Israeli firm develops scanning system to tackle into brain diseases

JERUSALEM, 14 Jan—An Israeli company has developed a system that scans the brain and provides a three dimensional image of the nerve cell connectivity to treat brain diseases like Alzheimer's or HDHD.

The firm ElMindA trademarked a non-invasive system, the BNA (Brain Network Activation), that helps doctors visualize the connectivity between nerve

cells and synchronization that can even measure the severity of the patients condition from one day to another, the *Israel21c* news site reported on Thursday

By creating a three-dimensional image of the brain while asking the patients to repeat an activity several times, BNA developers hope this system will become a regular way of diagnosing brain illnesses.

"Our vision is that every psychiatrist and neurologist in the world will routinely send every patient for BNA tests," said Dr Eli Zangvil, ElMindA's strategic advisor for business development. "Our test would add information and aid in diagnostics in a way no other existing technology can do," he added.

BNA could help doctors find out exactly at what stage



An Israeli company has developed a system that scans the brain and provides a three dimensional image of the nerve cell connectivity to treat brain diseases like Alzheimer's or HDHD. INTERNET

Illegally imported bushmeat contained bacteria

NEW YORK, 14 Jan—Bushmeat illegally imported from Africa and seized at five top US airports often contained potentially dangerous bacteria, according to a new study made public in the US.

The study led by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) was published by PLoS ONE magazine.

Items confiscated as part of the study included raw to semi-cooked animal parts, including those of primates like baboons and chimpanzees as well as various rodent species.

Among the pathogens identified in the products were

a zoonotic retrovirus, simian foamy viruses, and several nonhuman primate herpesviruses.

"Exotic wildlife pets and bushmeat are Trojan horses that threaten humankind at sites where they are collected in the developing world as well as the US," said Ian Lipkin, a researcher from Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health.

"Our study underscores the importance of surveillance at ports, but we must also encourage efforts to reduce demand for products that drive the wildlife trade," he added.

The United States is one

of the largest consumers of imported wildlife products and wildlife.

A previous study by EcoHealth Alliance showed that over a six-year period that began in 2000 approximately 1.5 billion live wild animals were legally imported into the country with 90 percent slated for the pet trade.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service has also reported that more than 55 million pounds (25 million kilograms) of wildlife products enter the country each year, with New York City being the most common port of entry followed by Miami, and Los Angeles.—Internet

of the disease patients and prescribe the exact medication for them.

"To do that, we must collect a lot of data," Zangvil said.

"To say this person has a certain disease or condition, I have to be able to compare their pattern to a normal brain pattern of a person of the same age and gender," he said.

Researchers hope to gather the amount of data they need to obtain FDA approval in the US by the end of 2012, and start marketing it to hospitals by 2013.

Internet

Apple suspends sales of iPhone 4S at Beijing flagship store

BEIJING, 14 Jan—Mobs of customers and organized scalpers forced Apple to suspend initial sales of its iPhone 4S smartphone at one of its two stores in downtown Beijing.

A salesperson at the company's store in the Sanlitun shopping district announced through a megaphone early Friday morning that the store would not open its doors, according to customer Wang Qiannan, who remained waiting outside of the store.

Wang said the store's staff did not explain why they were not opening, but suspects it was out of safety concerns.

At least 1,000 people who were hired by scalpers to stand in line and wait for the phone to go on sale were displeased with the

decision to keep the store closed. A bag of broken eggs was found on the ground in front of the store and egg residue was seen on the store's glass walls.

A second Apple store located in the Xidan shopping district opened its doors shortly before 7:00 a.m. and sold its iPhone 4S stock within one hour.

Apple previously announced that the iPhone 4S, the latest version of the device, would be released in China and 21 other countries on 13 Jan. The phone will be available at Apple stores in Beijing and Shanghai, as well as through online retailers. One of China's largest online retailers, 360buy.com, had the phone available for purchase as of 10 am Friday.—Xinhua

JPMorgan profit falls, but sees hope in economy



A woman walks past a JP Morgan Chase bank branch in New York, on 15 October, 2008.—INTERNET

NEW YORK, 14 Jan—The drag of the European debt crisis on investment banking weighed on JPMorgan Chase & Co's fourth-quarter profit, sending financial stocks tumbling even as the bank provided evidence that the domestic economy is

strengthening.

Chief Executive Jamie Dimon said the New York-based bank was seeing signs of improvement in credit quality as well as loan demand from corporations and consumers in the United States.

"We see a mild recovery which actually might be strengthening, and it's broad," Dimon said in a conference call with reporters following the earnings report on Friday. "Hopefully, it will add to more jobs. We have seen jobs growing ... it's not enough but it could be self-sustaining."

Loan balances in JPMorgan's commercial division were up 13 percent at the end of December compared with a year earlier, the sixth consecutive quarterly rise in the measure of business borrowing.

Reuters



A sign identifies the Aon Centre in Chicago on 31 March, 2011. The Aon Centre serves as the corporate headquarters for Aon Corp, the world's second largest insurance brokerage, and largest reinsurance brokerage.—INTERNET

Insurer Aon to move headquarters to London

CHICAGO, 14 Jan—Insurance giant Aon is moving its headquarters to London to get closer to the action, the company said Friday.

The insurance firm that operates 500 offices with 61,000 employees worldwide, said London provided better access to emerging markets and to Lloyd's.

Aon said the London market was "one of the key international hubs of insurance and risk brokerage."

Aon said it was not abandoning Chicago, where it has 6,000 employees.

The firm said it would keep its US headquarters in the Windy City and will move an additional 750 jobs into the city's downtown Aon Center. The insurer said it would be adding 1,000 jobs in the United States this year.

"The move will not cause job loss in either Chicago or the United States," Aon said.

Aon said it will change its jurisdiction of incorporation from Delaware to England.

Xinhua



ECB, BOE hold interest rates

BEIJING, 14 Jan—European Central Bank president Mario Draghi is meeting press in Frankfurt, following a meeting of the Governing Council.

As expected, the ECB will keep benchmark rates at 1 percent, the lowest level ever after two consecutive cuts.

Analysts say the steady hold will allow the bank to assess the impact of crisis-fighting steps it took in the last two months of 2011. Markets will be keeping a close eye on the press conference, for any sign the ECB could steer rates even lower in coming months. The Bank of England is also keeping interest rates at record low of half a percent Thursday, where they have been since March 2009.—Xinhua

New ink promises 'bendable' circuits



Reactive silver ink is airbrushed onto a thin, stretchy plastic film to make a flexible silver electrode.

INTERNET

CHAMPAIGN, 14 Jan—US researchers say a new kind of silver ink could lead to printable low-cost electronic circuits on flexible materials like paper, plastic or fabric.

University of Illinois materials scientists, led by Jennifer Lewis, have developed a particle-free reactive silver ink that holds the promise of creating flexible circuits for antennas, batteries, sensors, solar energy, wearable devices and more, a UI release reported Thursday.

While most conductive inks rely on tiny metal particles suspended in the ink, the new formula is a transparent solution of silver acetate and ammonia in which the silver remains

dissolved in the solution until it is printed and the liquid evaporates, yielding

NASA looking at Cassini radio problems

PASADENA, 14 Jan—NASA says it's conducting diagnostic tests on its Cassini spacecraft orbiting Saturn after its signal was not detected during a tracking pass in late December.

The spacecraft has been communicating with Earth using a backup radio system, the space agency said in a release Thursday.

The problem centers on the ultra-stable oscillator, used for radio science experiments and also as a means of sending data to Earth.

conductive features. "It dries and reacts quickly, which allows us to immediately deposit silver as we print," researcher S. Brett Walker said.

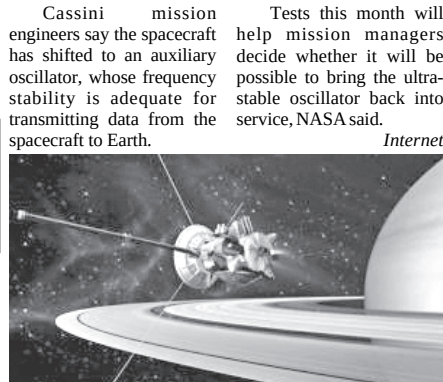
The reactive ink has several advantages over particle-based formulation, Walker said. A batch can be mixed in minutes, as opposed to particle-based inks that take several hours and multiple steps to prepare.

The ink also remains stable and usable for several weeks, he said.

"For printed electronics applications, you need to be able to store the ink for several months because silver is expensive," Walker said. "Since silver particles don't actually form until the ink exits the nozzle and the ammonia evaporates, our ink remains stable for very long periods. For fine-scale nozzle printing, that's a rarity."

The ink's low viscosity makes it suitable for inkjet printing, direct ink writing or airbrush spraying over large areas, the researchers said.

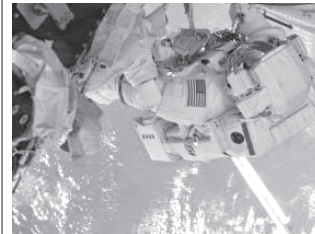
Internet



Artist concept of Cassini spacecraft.—INTERNET

science

Space station dodges super-fast debris



This NASA image taken on 12 July, 2011 shows NASA astronaut Mike Fossum, Expedition 28 flight engineer. INTERNET

HOUSTON, 14 Jan—The International Space Station dodged a small but super-fast piece of orbiting communication debris Friday, NASA said.

The crew fired the Zvezda service module thrusters at 11:10 a.m. EST to avoid a 4-inch piece of a former communications satellite orbiting at very high speed in the space station's general direction that had "the potential of a collision," the space agency said. The engine-burn moved the station slightly to take it out of range of the piece of broken satellite that was due to pass between 0.6 and 15 miles of the station, SPACE.com reported.

Contact with the object, once used for voice and data communication from hand-held satellite phones, could have punctured the six-story high, 24-story-long and 36-story wide station, officials said. The orbital modification marked the 13th time since 1998 the low-Earth-orbit station has had to take evasive action to avoid debris, NASA said.

The maneuver eliminated the need to boost the station's altitude next week for the launch and docking this month of a Russian unmanned Progress resupply cargo ship, NASA said.—Internet

TECHNOLOGY



In this 11 Jan, 2012 file photo, ultrabooks sit on display at the Intel exhibit at the 2012 International CES tradeshow, in Las Vegas. The International Consumer Electronics show gathered more than 140,000 people in Las Vegas this week. These are some of the more significant gadgets that were announced at the show.—INTERNET

Gadget Watch: Control a PC with body motions

LAS VEGAS, 14 Jan—Don't trash your keyboard and mouse just yet. But three companies at the International Consumer Electronics Show demonstrated depth-sensing cameras that let you to control your computer by moving your hands or body.

Microsoft's Kinect add-on for the Xbox 360 console has already popularized these cameras for gaming. Now, the technology is being set loose for use on other devices. However, like many gadgets shown at the annual Las Vegas-based extravaganza of phones, PCs and TVs, the cameras aren't quite ready for the mass market.

The companies showed off their cameras to give software developers and gadget makers a chance to work with the technology and incorporate it in their products. For the rest of us, it's a taste of what the future might hold.

WHY IT'S HOT: The cameras represent another challenge to the keyboard-and-mouse regime, which is already being eroded by touch screens. If you're in front of a depth-sensing camera, you don't have to touch the screen to control it with your fingers or hands. (This works with non-depth-sensing cameras as well, but they're not as good at figuring out what



In this 11 Jan, 2012 file photo, a boy plays with a motion sensing 3D version of the video game Fruit Ninja at the LG exhibit at the 2012 International CES tradeshow, in Las Vegas.—INTERNET

you're doing.) At the PrimeSense booth, visitors could browse and play the contents of a digital video library with hand gestures—basically, anything you'd do with a mouse today. The Israeli company's camera goes into the Kinect and is now sold separately as the Asus Xtion.

BEHIND THE LENS: The cameras can tell how far away things are in their field of vision. PrimeSense does this by sending out an invisible pattern of light, and registering how it's deformed when it hits objects. SoftKinetics' camera works almost like radar, but with light: it sends out infrared light and measures how fast it comes back. Where it takes longer, it figures out that that part of the image is further away.

THE DOWNSIDE: If you buy one of these now, there isn't much you can do with it, unless you're a software developer. The Asus Xtion comes with a few simple Kinect-like games for your PC. For all of these cameras, the depth-sensing range is limited to about 12 feet, and at the far end of the range, accuracy is reduced. That means finger gestures may not be picked up from across the living room.

AVAILABILITY: Microsoft said it will start selling a "Kinect for Windows" camera starting Feb. 1st, for \$249. Asus started selling the Xtion in December for \$149. SoftKinetics, a Belgian company, started selling its camera around the same time for \$499.—Internet

Apple discloses suppliers for the first time

NEW YORK, 14 Jan—Apple has disclosed a list of its suppliers for the iPhone, iPad and other popular gadgets for the first time amid growing criticism over labor and environmental practices, especially in China.

The list for years has been strictly and fervently protected. Even a glimpse of an Apple iPhone or its components before a public release became a source of intrigue and controversy. Investors have played a guessing game about which contractors would become

Apple's next supplier, or who was on the outs.

Apple disclosed its list of its suppliers responsible for 97 percent of its procurement expenditures worldwide. Some examples are Intel Corp, Broadcom Corp, Amphenol Corp. and Sanyo Electric Co.

The transparency may be a sign of changes coming to the Cupertino, Calif. company in the post-Steve Jobs era under CEO Tim Cook.

The 2012 "Supplier Responsibility Progress Report" released Friday,



This Wednesday, 9 March, 2011 file photo shows an Associated Press reporter demonstrating the Apple iPad 2 in San Francisco. INTERNET

documents 229 audits throughout its supply chain last year by Apple Inc. That's up 80 percent from 127 audits in 2010.

The audits found labor, health, health and environmental violations, including instances of underage labor and discrimination based on pregnancy. Apple also outlined its response to each of the violations that were uncovered, which included ending its relationship with repeat offenders and requiring companies to come up with measures to prevent them from occurring again.

Internet

Singapore hospitals stop providing free formula milk to encourage breastfeeding

SINGAPORE, 14 Jan—Public and private hospitals in Singapore have stopped giving out free formula milk in a bid to encourage breastfeeding, local daily *Lianhe Zaobao* reported on Friday. The formula milk producers and sellers are not allowed to provide free products or samples under the changes that were put in place by the Sales of Infant Food Ethics Committee with effect starting from 1 January this year, it said.

Doctors said it was very common for the mothers of new-born babies to ask for free formula milk. This is not helpful when encouraging breast feeding as the first hours after the birth are the most important. It sometimes leads to the parents believing that the brands of the formula milk given at the hospitals were recommended, too. Those who want to have formula milk for their babies now will have to pay for it, some of the hospitals said.

The Ntional University Hospital of Singapore has been adopting some practices to encourage breastfeeding, like trying to let the mothers staying with their new-born babies within the first hours after birth. The breastfeeding rate among the new-born babies in Singapore is currently at about 50 percent. The rate falls to 30 percent at two months after the babies leave the hospitals where they are born.—*Xinhua*

Russian tanker reaches ice-bound Alaskan port

NOME, 14 Jan—A Russian tanker escorted by the US Coast Guard reached the frozen Alaskan port of Nome with emergency fuel supplies on Friday after a 10-day voyage through ice-choked seas, the Russian company that owns the vessel said.

The mission to Nome is the first mid-winter marine delivery to western Alaska and comes as oil and gas development and climate change increase commercial traffic along trade routes in the Arctic.

The Russian ship, the Renda, got an exemption last month from US maritime law for the journey, after the city of 3,600 residents missed its final scheduled barge delivery before winter when one of the worst storms in decades swept the northwest coastal town.

The Renda has reached Nome. It has stopped 8 miles out at the edge of the ice. People are relieved and resting now. It is night there now," Fazil Aliyev, the general director of the Russian shipping firm that owns the Renda, told *Reuters*.

"We will start offloading (fuel) in the morning," he said by telephone from Russia's Far Eastern port city of Vladivostok where the company, RIMSCO, is based.

The Renda is carrying about 1.3 million gallons of Arctic-grade diesel and gasoline, according to Vitus Marine, the Anchorage-based company that arranged for the special delivery.

Even with the US Coast Guard's only functioning icebreaker, the Healy, slicing a path for the Renda through Bering Sea ice as thick as 24 inches, slow progress had raised doubts about whether it would reach the port.—*Internet*

Cow brains seized at Cairo airport



A pound of raw cow brains bought in Sudan for less than 60p can be resold in Egypt for six times as much.—*INTERNET*

CAIRO, 14 Jan — Officials at Cairo's international airport have confiscated 420lb

(190kg) of frozen cow brains from three Sudanese travellers who planned to sell them to Egyptian restaurants, authorities said.

An airport official said it was the fourth time this week that customs officers there had foiled an attempt to smuggle cow brains into the country, reflecting the growth of a moneymaking scheme made possible by some realities of international supply and demand: Cow brains are cheap in Sudan, and Egyptians like to eat them.

A pound of raw cow brains bought in Sudan for less than 60p can be resold in Egypt for six times as much, airport officials said. That means Friday's haul could have earned the men more than £1,000. Restaurants specialising in liver and brains are popular in Egypt. Both items are deep fried and often eaten in pitta bread with spicy red sauce. The seized brains would be burned, the officials said.—*Internet*

Oscars may leave Hollywood for bigger venue

LOS ANGELES, 14 Jan — For the last decade the world's biggest film awards ceremony has been held at the Kodak Theatre on Hollywood Boulevard but a contract with the venue allows organisers the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences to explore other options starting with the 2014 show. A rumoured successor is the Nokia Theatre in downtown Los Angeles which is owned by AEG and has 7,100 seats, double the number at the Kodak. It already hosts The Emmy Awards and The American Music Awards.

The Kodak was built specifically with the Oscars in mind but critics have complained about aspects of it, including its grand staircase which has 37 steps and has proved a challenge for actresses in evening gowns and heels.

Local campaigners are likely to fight to keep the Oscars in Hollywood. A spokesman for Councillor Eric Garcetti, who represents the Hollywood district on Los Angeles City Council, said: "The Academy Awards belong in Hollywood."



Colin Firth at last year's Oscars in Hollywood.

INTERNET

Hollywood Chamber of Commerce president Leron Gubler said moving the ceremony would send a "very negative message to the community," adding: "Obviously, we'd be very disappointed. Historically the Academy is tied to Hollywood, with the first Academy Awards held in Hollywood." —*Internet*



Can bacon increase the risk of cancer?—*INTERNET*

Processed meat 'linked to pancreatic cancer'

LONDON, 14 Jan—A link between eating processed meat, such as bacon or sausages, and pancreatic cancer has been suggested by researchers in Sweden. They said eating an extra 50g of processed meat, approximately one sausage, every day would increase a person's risk by 19%. But the chance of developing the rare cancer remains low.

The World Cancer Research Fund suggested the link may be down to obesity. Eating red and processed meat has already been linked to bowel cancer.

As a result the UK government recommended in 2011 that people eat no more than 70g a day. Prof Susanna Larsson, who conducted the study at the Karolinska Institute, told the BBC that links to other cancers were

"quite controversial".

She added: "It is known that eating meat increases the risk of colorectal cancer, it's not so much known about other cancers." The study, published in the *British Journal of Cancer*, analysed data from 11 trials and 6,643 patients with pancreatic cancer.

It found that eating processed meat increased the risk of pancreatic cancer. The

risk increased by 19% for every 50g someone added to their daily diet. Having an extra 100g would increase the risk by 38%. Prof Larsson said: "Pancreatic cancer has poor survival rates. So as well as diagnosing it early, it's important to understand what can increase the risk of this disease." She recommended that people eat less red meat.

Internet



Check out those cool sabres all around the world.—*XINHUA*

Dinner out is on the menu for the big night

BEIJING, 14 Jan—The growing popularity of dining out on the Lunar New Year's Eve, which falls this year on 22 Jan, is fattening restaurants' reservation books. "Sales of the Chinese New Year Eve dinner have surged 15 percent compared with last year," said Zhang Jianyi, branding executive at the Grand Mansion Restaurant Management Co Ltd.

Zhang said that all of the tables his company had to offer, with meals priced at 2,680 yuan (\$425) to 8,880 yuan, were fully booked. The Spring Festival is a golden season for restaurants offering Chinese food, he said. "People think of Western food on Christmas or Valentine's Day. They come to us at the Lunar New Year for the Chinese flavor." It's long been a tradition for Chinese people to eat at home on this special night as family members prepare dinner together. Asked what's been getting people to leave home, Zhang cited a better economy and an appetite for quality food.

"Some dishes cannot be cooked well at home. With a big bonus at the end of the year, people simply want their parents and children to try some nice food," Zhang said. "Also, it is not easy for relatives to get together every year," he said. "They want to spend the precious time learning more about each other rather than washing dishes in the kitchen." —*Xinhua*

'Tom and Jerry' now in Tibetan language

BEIJING, 14 Jan — American cartoon series "Tom and Jerry" is among 1,500 hours of English and Chinese TV programmes translated into Tibetan language and on show daily through a local cable channel in Tibetan capital Lhasa, a top official said.

Tenzin, a six-year-old first-grade student in Lhasa believes the US-born cat and mouse can actually speak Tibetan. "It makes me laugh to see the cat make a fool of itself every time," said Tenzin. Zhang Chongyin, chief of Tibet's regional bureau of radio, film and television, said: "Many Chinese classics have also been translated into the Tibetan language, such as the 'Monkey King' and the 'Legend of the Condor Heroes'."

All urban residents living in Tibet's cities have access to at least three wireless TV channels and 30 cable TV channels, while about 70 percent of the rural population can receive satellite TV and radio signals, *Xinhua* reported. A 24-hour Tibetan-language TV channel that offers news and drama series is most favoured by Tibetan people. Besides TV, Tibet translates more than 10,000 hours of radio programmes and 60 films every year, said Zhang.

Internet



Photo taken on 12 Jan, 2012 shows a Renault electronic car on the 90th European Motorshow in Brussels, capital of Belgium.—XINHUA

Mother sentenced to 45 years for murder of son, six

NEW HAMPSHIRE, 14 Jan — A Texas woman who admitted killing her 6-year-old son and leaving his body on a Maine roadside tearfully apologized before being sentenced on Friday to 45 years to life in prison, New Hampshire court officials said. A remote road in Maine last May and remained unidentified for four days until authorities tracked down his mother, Julianne McCrery, at a Massachusetts highway rest stop.

Prosecutors said McCrery, 42, of Irving, Texas, killed her son at a New Hampshire motel and dumped his body, covered with a blanket, hours later. The cause of death was ruled as asphyxiation. Depressed and suicidal, McCrery smothered her son with pillows, his limbs flailing until his body went limp, officials said. Chief Justice Tina Nadeau

in Rockingham Superior Court in Brentwood, New Hampshire, sentenced McCrery to 45 years to life in prison, officials in the court clerk's office said.

Before the sentencing, McCrery cried as she apologized for "causing pain and suffering" to her son, saying he never deserved such a fate, video footage from the hearing showed. McCrery pleaded guilty in November to second-degree murder. McCrery, who had a history of depression, had been suicidal on her road trip to New England from Texas, said Susan Morrell, New Hampshire senior assistant attorney general. McCrery contemplated killing her son because she did not believe any relatives were able to raise him nor did she want to place him with another family or a child welfare agency, Morrell said.—Internet

Russia's failed Phobos-Grunt space probe heads to Earth

MOSCOW, 14 Jan — Russia's failed Mars probe, Phobos-Grunt, is about to fall back to Earth — quite probably on Sunday. The spacecraft has been losing altitude rapidly in recent days and will soon be pulled into the top of the atmosphere where it will be destroyed. Phobos-Grunt weighed some 13 tonnes at launch, but very little of this mass should make it through to the surface.

Russian space agency (Roscosmos) estimates suggest perhaps only 200kg will survive the fiery plunge. Orbital debris experts say there are large uncertainties in predicting re-entry events and it is currently not possible to forecast precisely when or where on Earth the final descent will occur.

"The major uncertainty for prediction is the atmospheric density the spacecraft encounters in orbit, but it's also due to the orientation of the vehicle as it comes in," explained Prof Richard Crowther, the UK Space Agency's chief engineer. "It can very quickly tumble and if pieces break off—that all changes the trajectory and where debris might impact."

Internet



The German TIRA (Tracking and Imaging Radar) facility caught this image of Phobos-Grunt.—INTERNET

Phobos-Grunt - Mishap sequence

8 Nov (GMT): The probe launched successfully on its Zenit rocket from the Baikonur Cosmodrome

It was dropped off 11 minutes later in an elliptical orbit some 345km above the Earth

Two firings from the probe's hydrazine-fuelled cruise stage were planned over South America

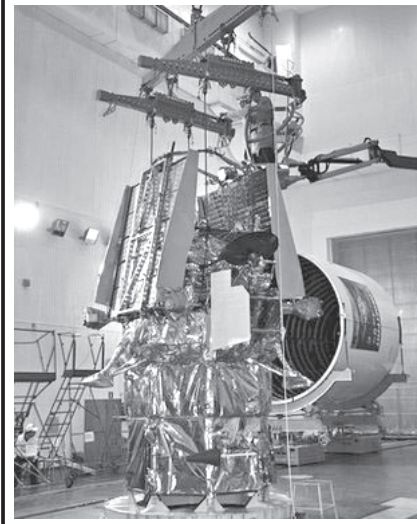
The first, lasting 11.5 minutes, should have raised the orbit of Phobos-Grunt to 4,000km

A second burn, four hours into the mission, was to have sent the probe on a path to Mars

But Russian engineers later confirmed that neither burn took place

Controllers have had only limited radio contact with the probe; mission recovery was not possible

Re-entry is now imminent; 20-30 fragments are expected to survive the descent to Earth.



Wireless technology may change how consumers charge devices

LAS VEGAS, 14 Jan — One of the most revolutionary changes for consumers that may come out of this year's International Consumer Electronics Show (CES) will not be the electronic devices themselves, but the way they are charged. Instead of using traditional cords to power mobile phones, kitchen appliances, and even vehicles, exhibits showcasing wireless power technologies offer a glimpse into the future of how individuals can charge their devices without a plug or cord.

Fulton Innovation, who develops and licenses its eCoupled intelligent wireless technology, demonstrated how the technology could be applied across a variety of usage cases at home and at work. At CES, the company

announced that it is releasing its next generation wireless power solutions that incorporate near-field resonant magnetic induction, allowing devices to charge without actually touching a charging surface.

Additionally, it will allow power to transfer through metal surfaces, a property which had previously been unsafe to use as a surface conductor for power. While the products with integrated eCoupled capabilities currently in the marketplace focus predominantly on smartphone charging surfaces, in part due to the low-power demands of these devices, the company said there will be more applications using this technology expected to come to market in the near future.—Xinhua

"We are in the middle of a technology revolution"

LAS VEGAS, 14 Jan — "We are in the middle of a technology revolution," the chief of the Consumer Electronics Association (CEA) said on Thursday. Gary Shapiro, CEA president and chief executive officer, told Xinhua in an exclusive interview at the sidelines of the 2012 International Consumer Electronics Show (CES) "We are still starting in a shift to the digital revolution. There is room for tremendous growth." Shapiro believed innovation, this year's CES theme, is the key to growth. "Innovation is creating

something different that people would pay for," he said. Shapiro observed that innovation is displayed in many companies' exhibits throughout the International CES this year. Ultrabook, Smart TV, 4k TV and 4G automobiles are just a few examples. "No one company dominates. What I'm seeing is tremendous excitement in the consumer electronics technology category and growth in so many different areas, whether it's video, audio, smartphones, or home health-care," he said. Xinhua

Four survive as Colombia plane make emergency landing

BOGOTA, 14 Jan — The pilot of a small plane managed to make an emergency landing in the jungle after his motor failed, and all four people aboard survived, including a pregnant woman he was trying to fly for medical care, Colombian officials said on Friday. Air Force Lt Col Jorge Suarez said rescue teams found the survivors on Friday and none had suffered major injuries. Suarez said the Cessna 185 had left the southwestern city of Guapi Thursday and plane's motor went out a few minutes after takeoff.

Pilot Fernando Valencia told Caracol Radio that he set the plane down on jungle foliage, calling it "a procedure that all pilots handle. It was an emergency landing on the jungle." The plane was damaged. Suarez said Miyerlady Florez and her unborn child are healthy, and that Florez was close to giving birth.—Internet

Carrying a meteorological satellite, Fengyun-II 07, a Long March 3 rocket lifts off from Xichang Satellite Launch Center in southwest China's Sichuan Province, on 13 Jan, 2012. XINHUA



China launches meteorological satellite Fengyun-II 07

XICHANG, 14 Jan — China successfully launched meteorological satellite Fengyun-II 07 at 8:56 am Friday from its southwestern Xichang Satellite Launch Centre. Capable of providing continuous meteorological monitoring and sending maritime and water resource data, the satellite is expected to play an important role in weather forecasting and disaster reduction.

Developed and produced by the Shanghai Academy of Spaceflight Technology, a subsidiary of the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC), the orbiter will collect data for the China Meteorological Administration.

The Long March 3A rocket that was used to carry the satellite into space is a product of the China Academy of Launch Vehicle Technology, another CASC subsidiary. Friday's launch marked the 157th Long March rocket launch.

Xinhua

Foreign Heads of State and Honorary Consul General of Myanmar in Lebanon send felicitations to President U Thein Sein

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Jan—*The following are messages of felicitations from foreign heads of State and Honorary Consul General of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in Lebanon to President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein, on the occasion of the 64th Anniversary Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.*

From Dato Sri Mohd Najib, Prime Minister of Malaysia
On behalf of the Government and people of Malaysia, I would like to extend my heartiest congratulations and best wishes to Your Excellency on the occasion of the 64th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

I trust that the existing ties between our two countries will be further strengthened in the years ahead and Myanmar will enjoy greater economic prosperity and attain the objectives of the country's Roadmap to Democracy in the near future.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

From Omer Hassan Ahmed Elbashir, President of the Republic of Sudan
Excellency

On behalf of the people and the government of the Republic of Sudan, and on my own behalf, I would like to sincerely congratulate you and the people of Myanmar on the occasion of the national day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

I hope that the distinguished existing relations between our friendly countries will further develop and get strengthened.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration, wish you and your country all the best in the upcoming future.

From Tsakhia Elbegdorj, President of Mongolia

I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to Your Excellency and the friendly people of Myanmar on the auspicious occasion of the National Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

I would like to cooperate with your Excellency towards intensification of our bilateral ties between Mongolia and Myanmar for the benefit of our people and regional prosperity.

I take this opportunity to extend my best wishes for Your Excellency's good health and well being and progress and prosperity to the friendly people of Myanmar.

From Elie J Debahy, Honorary Consul General of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in Lebanon
Your Excellency,

Please accept my congratulations as you celebrate your country's 64th Independence Anniversary.

Knowing it is a great day of celebration and patriotism, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my most sincere wishes for continued good health, prosperity and joy to you and your people on such a happy occasion.

I avail myself of this opportunity to express to your Excellency my best wishes for a happy, peaceful and prosperous 2012, and to renew to your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

Honorary Consul General of Myanmar in Lebanon sends felicitations to Vice-Presidents

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Jan—*The following is message of felicitations from Honorary Consul General of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in Lebanon to Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo, on the occasion of the 64th Anniversary Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.*

From Elie J Debahy, Honorary Consul General of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in Lebanon
Your Excellency,

Please accept my congratulations as you celebrate your country's 64th Independence Anniversary.

Knowing it is a great day of celebration and patriotism, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my most sincere wishes for continued good health, prosperity and joy to you and your people on such a happy occasion.

I avail myself of this opportunity to express to your Excellency my best wishes for a happy, peaceful and prosperous 2012, and to renew to your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Jan—*The following is message of felicitations from Honorary Consul General of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in Lebanon to Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham, on the occasion of the 64th Anniversary Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.*

From Elie J Debahy, Honorary Consul General of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in Lebanon
Your Excellency,

Please accept my congratulations as you celebrate your country's 64th Independence Anniversary.

Knowing it is a great day of celebration and patriotism, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my most sincere wishes for continued good health, prosperity and joy to you and your people on such a happy occasion.

I avail myself of this opportunity to express to your Excellency my best wishes for a happy, peaceful and prosperous 2012, and to renew to your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan) in Kachin State, nearing completion

Byline: Kayan Soe Myint
Photo: Kyaw Moe Lwin

Recently, our media group went down Ayeyawady River by a craft from Bhamo to attend ceremony to fix golden nut at frame of Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan) being built on Ayeyawady River in Kachin State, at the invitation of Chief Engineer U Myo Win of Special Bridge Construction Group (2). Kachin State, located at northernmost part of Myanmar, is endowed with snow-capped mountain, gold, jade and gems, metals and thick forests. Maykha and Malikha rivers originated in snow-capped mountain, converge into Ayeyawady River near "Karein-naw as a confluence.

Under the guidance of the Head of State, rail-cum-road Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan), located upstream second defile, near Sinkhan Village, Bhamo Township, Bhamo District, are under construction by Chief Engineer U Myo Win of Special Bridge Construction Group (2) and party.

Five Ayeyawady River-crossing Bridges are being built simultaneously by Ministry of Construction. Recently, Ayeyawady Bridge (Nyaungdon) and Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku), the longest one in Myanmar, were put into operation. Efforts are being put into completion of it. We arrived at the construction project on 6 January evening the evening. The project office was packed with people because of being on the eve of the ceremony. But being so cold, we went to bed early. The ceremony started next morning. At the ceremony, Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint, Kachin State Chief Minister U La John Ngan Hsai, Kachin State Minister for Transport U Kadu Man Naw and Minister for Forestry and Mines U Aung Naing fixed the golden nuts at Bridge's frames.



The Head of State instructed Ministry of Construction and Minister of Rail Transportation to do feasibility study for construction of a rail-cum-road bridge linking Katha and Bhamo regions which are far-flung areas so as to develop northernmost part of Myanmar in record time.

A team led by the deputy chief engineer (bridge) of Public Works under the Ministry of Construction held a coordination meeting with Project Director of Katha-Bhamo Rail Road Construction Project of Myanmar Railways. After

that, the submitted their feasibility study to the Head of State.

A resolution was passed by the Head of State at Special Project Implementation Meeting No 1/2009 held on 4 May 2009. Special Project Group (2) of Public Works under the Ministry of Construction started building the project.

Translation: MT
Kyemon: 14-1-2012

AFEO presents engineering awards



Union Minister for Industry U Soe Thein and party visit booths at Engineering Products Show.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan—Union Minister for Industry U Soe Thein attended the ceremony to present engineering awards along with honouring donors at Myanmar Engineering Society building in Hline University campus here this morning.

Speaking on the occasion, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe cheered up the award winners. MES Chairman U Win Khaing and Commissioner Mr Choo Kok Beng of ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organizations extended greetings.

Union Minister for Science and Technology U Aye Myint, Union Minister at the President Office (Rtd) U Kyaw Swa Khaing, and Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Sports U Tint Hsan and Union Minister for Border Affairs and Myanmar Industrial Development Lt-Gen Thein Htay and MES Chairman U Win Khaing won AFEO Honorary Fellowship titles and

responsible persons accepted the titles presented by the AFEO Commissioner, on behalf of the title winners.

The AFEO Commissioner then presented AFEO honorary membership awards to Auditor Dr Charlie Than, Joint General Secretary U Ohn Myint and CEC member U Khin Maung Seof MES, Managing-Director (Rtd) U Myint Htay and Director U Win Myint of Ministry of Energy, and ASEAN Outstanding Engineering Achievement Award to Yadana-Yangon domestic use offshore natural gas pipeline project of Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise under the Energy Ministry.

Next, donors presented cash assistance for the MES including Union Minister U Soe Thein who then viewed booths at engineering products show jointly organized by the MES and Young Engineer in National Stadium (2) in Hline University campus.—MNA

Innocent civilian injured in mine blast of KIA (Kachin) Group

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan—U Kyaw Myint, 46 of Lebyin Village in Phakant Township of Kachin State stepped on a mine planted by KIA (Kachin) Group, five miles east of Lonkhin Village at 10 am on 10 January while going to farmland.

The mine blast blew off his left fingers and injured at his buttock.

Officials rushed him to Lonkhin Station Hospital for medical treatment and provided necessary assistance to him.

MNA

Winners in Doh Kyay Ywa Journal Short Story Contest announced

YANGON, 14 Jan—The winner list was announced today by Manuscript Scrutiny Committee for Doh Kyay Ywa Journal Short Story Contest, organized by Information and Public Relations Department.

U Shwe Thein (Ye Yint Kyaw) stood first, U Khin Maung Shwe (Taw Myint Myay-Kyunhlain), second and U Ye Win (Ye

Myat Tin) third in the short story contest together with five honorary prize winners.

IPRD will award the first, second and third winners at its anniversary ceremony in Nay Pyi Taw. Honorary prize winners will be awarded at respective District and Township IPRD Offices.

MNA

Myanmar, Japan eye closer...

(from page 16)

After that, MoU on investment cooperation between Directorate of Investment and Companies Administration and JETERO-Yangon and MoU

on renewable energy and environmental conservation between Myanmar Rural Area Energy Development Committee and NEDO were signed. According to participating experts, Myanmar's economy is expected to experience development in coming years profited by Japanese companies' investment in infrastructural, economic and industrial sectors.—MNA

Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein back from Pakistan

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan—A Myanmar Tatmadaw goodwill delegation led by Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein arrived back Yangon this evening after paying a goodwill visit to Pakistan at the invitation

of Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Rao Qamar Suleman of Pakistan.

Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein was welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by the commander

of Ayeawady Naval Region Command and the commander of Mingaladon Airbase. Members of the Myanmar Tatmadaw goodwill delegation also arrived back on the same flight.—MNA

Delegation led by French Minister for Foreign Affairs arrives



French Minister for Foreign Affairs and European Affairs Mr Alain Juppe and party being welcomed at Yangon International Airport.—MNA

YANGON, 14 Jan—A delegation led by French Minister for Foreign Affairs and European Affairs Mr Alain Juppe arrived here this evening.

They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Director-General of Training, Research and Foreign

Languages Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Daw Yin Yin Myint, Deputy Director-General of Protocol Department U Maung Maung and officials, French Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Thierry Mathou and officials.

MNA

Swamp scheme for old vehicles going on

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan—Since the launch of old automobiles swap scheme on 12 September last year, special permits have been issued to import new cars. Apart from this, exporters, importers, hoteliers, gems merchants, diplomats and civil servants on mission, and civil servants studying abroad are now allowed to purchase a car each if the ministries concerned recommend.

Seafarers also have the permit for importation of vehicles on condition that

they got the recommendation of Department of Marine Administration under the Ministry of Transportation. Since the allowance of Directorate of Trade for vehicle importation till 12 January, permits have been issued for importation of 17955 automobiles, 694 trucks and 276 buses under the old bus swamp scheme and for importation of 15 cars to seafarers, and 113 to company owners.

MNA



Pansodan-Dalla ferry crowded with tourists

At the beginning of this year, Pansodan-Dalla jetty of Inland Water Transport is packed with a number of foreign travelers. On 8 January morning, I saw a German tourist group including three males and ten females taking photos of Yangon River and the beauty of jetty on Kyansittha Ship heading to Pansodan from Dalla. "They all are from Germany and come back from Dalla after touring around Dalla. At the start of this year, there has been a massive influx of tourists into the country compared with previous year. So, the country receives much

foreign earnings from it," the interpreter said. The number of tourists who used at IWT jetty from 1 to 7 January has reached 670. Most of them are from Korea, France, Spain and Australia, according to office's records. So, IWT earns more foreign currency. The ship fare for a Myanmar citizen is amount to K 50 and to and fro ticket fare for a tourist, two USD or K 2000.

Translation: MT
Myanma Alin
13-1-2012

How a 16-carat diamond was stolen from a London jeweller, 'found' in a Hong Kong pawn shop, and is now being held in New York



Some of the diamonds stolen during the hold-up in London in 2007. It has now emerged that a 16-carat yellow diamond taken during the raid has appeared in a Hong Kong pawn shop.—INTERNET

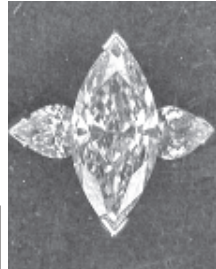
NEW YORK, 14 Jan — A huge yellow diamond snatched in a £13million jewellery raid in London has resurfaced in a Hong Kong pawn shop. Armed robbers took the 16-carat stone, valued at £1million, in an audacious heist on the Graff jewellers in Sloane Street in 2007. Arriving in a £118,000

chauffeur-driven Bentley Continental, the two robbers — one wearing a panama hat and the other a beige suit — were allowed into the store by security staff.

They chatted briefly to the assistants before pulling out a pair of silver handguns and grabbing handfuls of rings, necklaces, earrings and diamonds. The stockily-built men, aged between 40 and 55, then fled in the waiting Bentley. The case has never been solved and the yellow diamond is understood to be the first item in the haul ever to be located. The Hong Kong pawn shop claims it paid around £250,000 in 2010 for the stone, which had been recut after it was stolen. They then sent it to the Gemological Institute of America in New York for appraisal.

However, institute staff had certified it before and recognized the diamond as

one of the stolen Graff gems. The London jewellers are now suing for the diamond's immediate return at Manhattan's state supreme court in New York. Graff says it is the diamond's 'only rightful owner', but claims the pawn shop will not let the institute return it to them. Sam Hung, a director at the



The raid was carried out by a pair of sharply dressed thieves who arrived in a \$250,000 Bentley Continental Flying Spur.—INTERNET

Yau On pawn shop in Hong Kong, said he was not aware the diamond was stolen when the shop bought it.

'When I received the diamond, I had documentation about where I bought it but I had no method of knowing the source (of the diamond),' he said. 'But we did pay for it — we're a pawn shop. We are now negotiating.' Graff has suffered a string of high profile robberies in recent years. In May 2003, a Serbian gang known as the Pink Panthers stole jewellery worth £23million from its flagship store in New Bond Street. The branch was targeted again in 2009 when gems worth £40million were stolen in one of Britain's biggest jewellery robberies. Four men, who robbed the shop wearing suits and heavily disguised with make-up, were later jailed for up to 23 years.

Internet

18 killed, 60 injured in three road accidents in Peru

LIMA, 14 Jan — At least 18 people were killed and 60 others injured in three road accidents early Friday morning in Peru, local police said. Police said that a passenger bus had a head-on crash with a freight bus with 15 tons of cement in the town of Barranca, 208 kilometres north of capital Lima. After the crash, the bus was on fire, which caused the immediate death of 13 passengers and injuries to 30 others.

In the second accident a bus left from the highland town of Puno and was traveling to Arequipa, the

capital city of the department with the same name, veered off the road and turned, killing four passengers and injuring 20 others. The injured were taken to a nearby hospital.

In the third accident a passenger bus departed from Lima and was traveling to the Huanuco department, on the centre-north of Peru, crashed against a bus that was carrying potatoes. The passenger bus driver was killed and 10 passengers were injured, according to road authorities.

Xinhua

Gunman kills three in North Carolina workplace shooting



A view shows the McBride Lumber Company after a fatal shooting in Star, North Carolina on 13 Jan, 2012. A worker at the lumber company is suspected of shooting dead three colleagues and critically injuring another, before shooting himself on Friday, police said.—INTERNET

STAR, 14 Jan — A lumber company worker in Star, North Carolina, is suspected of shooting dead three colleagues and critically injuring another, before shooting himself on Friday, police said. The suspect apparently targeted specific co-workers at the McBride Lumber Company when he opened fire with a 12-gauge shotgun about 6am, said Sheriff Dempsey Owens of Montgomery County.

"It appears that a lone gunman entered his workplace and went to four individuals inside and confronted them and shot all four of them, killing three and injuring one," said Owens. The suspected shooter then returned to his home about a mile north of the lumber company where he shot himself in the head, Owens said. The man, Ronald Dean Davis, 50, was still alive when police found him slumped on his couch.

Police also discovered a six-page handwritten note at the scene. The note, Owens said, is "very vague and rambles a lot." Davis and the injured victim were both flown to a hospital in Chapel Hill. "Both of them are in bad shape," Owens said. Owens said it was unclear what sparked the shooting. The McBride Lumber Co, which makes wood pallets, declined to comment.—Internet

Heart-stopping organ transfer bungle in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 14 Jan — Bungling medics in Mexico are the butt of jokes after being filmed dropping a human heart that was being rushed to a patient needing a transplant. Worst of all, the whole dramatic medical emergency was caught on camera. The nation's media were following every step of the dramatic journey in Mexico City to the capital's hospital.

They watched as the heart was driven across police-cleared streets to the airport strip where a private plane was waiting,

successfully transferred to the plane and then carefully unloaded on its arrival. But as the medics hurried to transport it to the hospital — the plastic case opened and the heart fell out.

Using only their bare hands, the medics snatched the package up, locked the case and hurried on their way. Fortunately, the heart was wrapped up within three layers and the transplant went ahead with the patient recovering well, according to the surgeon who performed the operation.—Internet



Fortunately, the heart was well wrapped in protective layers.—INTERNET

Volkswagen's China sales up 17.7 pct in 2011

BEIJING, 14 Jan — Volkswagen China said Friday that its auto sales rose 17.7 percent year-on-year to hit 2.26 million units in 2011. The figure was 3.4 percentage points higher than the global sales growth of the German-based Volkswagen Group, making China the company's largest overseas market for the third straight year.

The growth was bolstered by strong performances by the company's two Chinese joint ventures — Shanghai Volkswagen and FAW-Volkswagen. Despite a slowdown in China's auto market, Shanghai Volkswagen's sales surged 24.4 percent year-on-year to hit 1.16 million units last year, while FAW-Volkswagen's sales reached 1.02 million.

Xinhua

NVIDIA integrates mobile processing power in automobiles

LAS VEGAS, 14 Jan — NVIDIA, the computer chip manufacturer best known for its high performance graphics processors, is looking to make further inroads with the automobile industry by integrating its new Tegra 3 mobile processors in upcoming vehicle models. At the 2012 International Consumer Electronics Show (CES), NVIDIA and Audi announced that all models from the German auto manufacturer in 2013 will use Tegra 3 quad-core processors to power their in-car digital systems.

These processors, which are traditionally found in smartphones and tablets, will support the vehicle's digital systems at lower energy rates and also allow for shorter lead times in getting concepts to market. In addition to powering infotainment systems that allow for web

browsing and Google Earth integrations, they will also give automakers the ability to replace traditional dashboards with instrument cluster systems, or digital dashboards.

"By leveraging technology from the very latest smartphones and tablets, Audi is leading the market with innovations that enhance safety and make driving more enjoyable," said Ricky Hudi, the company's chief executive engineer, at Audi's official conference at CES. For Audi, this means that they will be able to offer cars like the next-generation A3 model beginning in 2013, which features an integrated touchpad system and mounted monitor with the ability to render 3D imaging. Current 2012 Audi vehicles house the Tegra 2 processor.—Xinhua

Office workers 'forget to stand'

LONDON, 14 Jan — Office workers need to get out of their chairs more and talk to people face-to-face instead of using email, according to researchers. They are warning that people are spending too long sitting at desks. A study, to be presented at the British Psychological Society's Annual Occupational Conference, claims people spend an average of five hours and 41 minutes at their desk on a work day.

The researchers said workers "just forget" to stand up. Dr Myanna Duncan, from Loughborough University, said: "We're looking at an ageing population, working later into their lives. To work later you need to be healthy." She warned that people were spending nearly as long at their desks as they were sleeping in the beds. She added that people who sat at work were also more likely to sit at home and "surprise, surprise" this was linked with weight.



Forgetting to stand up?—INTERNET

The study was based on interviews and surveys with more than 1,000 people from a variety of jobs including those in retail and telecommunications. Dr Duncan said: "We need to be aware of how much we sit. 'People don't need a psychologist to tell them to get up and walk around. But if it helps, I'd tell them to put a post-it note on their computer to remind them. — Internet



The Chinese New Year Concert is held at the Vienna Musikverein, Vienna, Austria, on 12 Jan, 2012. A Chinese New Year Concert was held Thursday evening at the Vienna Musikverein, with Chinese American pianist Yin Chengzong bringing his renowned piece "The Yellow River Piano Concerto" again to the Austrian audience after 53 years. — XINHUA

Seabird foraging areas 'key for conservation'

LONDON, 14 Jan — The feeding patterns of seabirds around the UK coastline can be used to help identify the location of possible marine protection areas, a study



UK is an internationally important breeding site for a range of species, including puffins. — INTERNET

says. Researchers compiled data on 25 species' foraging behaviour, adding that feeding sites played a vital role in the success of breeding colonies. There is just one Marine Conservation Zone in English waters but a network is expected to be decided by 2013.

The findings appear in the journal *Biological Conservation*.

"There is an increasing need to protect areas of sea for marine species because the environment is facing pressures - such as oil, shipping, gas and renewable energy," explained co-author Chris Thaxter, research ecologist for the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO). "It is important not to let these events impact on the species that are using these areas."

He told BBC News that there was a discrepancy between the level of protection offered to the birds while they were on colonies and when they were searching for food. "Seabirds are an important part of the marine ecosystems," Dr Thaxter said.

"Seabird colonies are relatively well protected but offshore areas are not - and that has been a big gap in [scientific] knowledge. "This is the challenge that the government faces: deciding what areas to protect when they do not have the best evidence to hand."

Internet

Number of US visa applications on sharp rise in China, Brazil

WASHINGTON, 14 Jan — The number of applications for US visas that were processed in China and Brazil in the first quarter of the fiscal year 2012 increased more than 50 percent from the same period last year, the US State Department said on Thursday.

In China, US consular officers adjudicated nearly 260,000 visas in China in the first quarter of fiscal year 2012, which lasted from October to December 2011, compared to 175,000 in the same period in fiscal 2011, an increase of 48 percent.

In Brazil, nearly 280,000 visas were processed in the period, compared to 171,000 in fiscal 2011, an increase of 63 percent, the department said in a statement. The sharp increase in visa processing resulted from the initiatives taken by the State Department to greatly reduce the wait time for visa interview in China and Brazil, two of the fast-growing economies in the world. In China, visa interview wait times have been reduced

to only two days at any of five US visa-processing posts. In Brazil, wait times have been reduced to 15 days in Rio de Janeiro and six days in Brasilia, the capital city.

To meet increasing demand for US visas, the US State Department is deploying additional personnel, expanding visa sections, and utilizing new systems and technologies to facilitate legitimate travel

without compromising national security. As visitors from China and Brazil represent a growing market for travel and tourism to the United States, the remarkable growth in visa processing signals good news for the US economy, the statement said. Every additional 65 international visitors to the US generate enough exports to support an additional travel and tourism-related job, the statement said. — Xinhua

Thieves dig 100ft tunnel to steal cash in Levenshulme

LONDON, 14 Jan — Thieves in Manchester dug a 100ft (30m) underground tunnel to get to a cash machine. The theft happened overnight on 2 January at Blockbuster in Fallowfield Shopping Precinct, Levenshulme. Thieves dug the tunnel directly under the cash machine and used machinery to cut through more than 15in (38cm) of concrete to steal the money. Det Sgt Ian Shore from Longsight CID said: "In all my years of service, I've never seen anything as elaborate."

The tunnel started from a railway embankment at the rear of the shop, and went under a car park and beneath the foundations of the store. The passageway was about 4ft (1.2m) tall and had been fitted with lighting and roof supports. Police said the offenders also made their getaway back down the tunnel. Officers believe the people responsible could have spent up to six months digging the passageway. — Internet



The passageway was about 4ft (1.2m) tall. — INTERNET

Wedding-gift, children expos attract large crowds in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 14 Jan — The 6th Wedding-Gift Expo along with 5th Children Expo kicked off here Thursday, attracting a large number of visitors. Wedding is of great significance in all cultures and religions. In Nepal, it is associated with many rituals and cultures. To promote products needed for wedding, Direction Nepal has organized the event which coincides with the wedding season in the country. There are a total of 80 booths which showcase various wedding-related products. Other excitements of the event are the bridal fashion show and bridal makeup. "These kinds of events help enhance economy and business in the nation," said Event Director Pashupati KC. The expos not only target people who think about marriage but also woo visitors who have kids.

Many families who came to the expos with their children were very excited. The Children Expo has some 70 booths which feature various products and services related to children. Children Expo 2012 is being organized with a motive to provide education and entertainment to kids. More than 40 companies in the sector are participating in the event, according to the organizer.

"We have introduced various items, study materials, child counseling, hand writing competition, fancy dress competition and others which will help in the development of children," said Trilokeshwor Malla from Direction Nepal. Princia Shrestha, one of the participant of the bridal make-up competition, said she feels very happy to be part of the competition. "Although I am not a real bride, my marriage will not be soon but I am very happy to look like a bride today in a competition," she said smilingly. — Xinhua



Precious photos of Hollywood legendary actress Elizabeth Taylor. — XINHUA

Capital begins hourly updates on air pollution

BEIJING, 14 Jan — The Chinese capital began releasing hourly air pollution data on Thursday to address growing public concern over air quality.

The Beijing Municipal Environmental Monitoring Center will publish readings for the levels of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and PM 10 - particulate matter smaller than 10 micrograms - detected by its 27 air quality monitoring stations.

The data, released hourly on the center's website and micro blog, "is provided to better serve the residents of the capital", said Zhao Yue, deputy director of the centre.

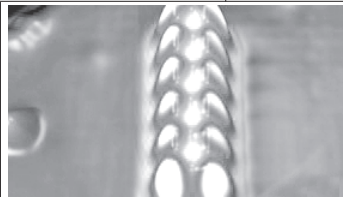
Residents generally hailed the move, but some said more needs to be done. "It is undoubtedly a step forward," said Wang Bao, 27, a physical education teacher at a primary school in northern

Beijing's Changping district.

However, Wang said he cared more about how the government works to curb the pollution. Ma Jun, director of the Institute of Public and Environmental Affairs, a non-government organization, said hourly figures help improve the transparency of the environment watchdogs.

"The move respects citizens' right to know." Readings for more pollutants will be announced after stricter air quality standards are adopted in the future, Zhao said.

She did not elaborate, but the new readings might include the level of PM 2.5 - particulate matter smaller than 2.5 micrograms. These particles could be comparatively more hazardous to people's health, causing breathing problems. They are also believed to be the cause of smog. — Xinhua



The groups of atoms were built using a scanning tunneling microscope. INTERNET

IBM researchers make 12-atom magnetic memory bit

LONDON, 14 Jan — Researchers have successfully stored a single data bit in only 12 atoms. Currently it takes about a million atoms to store a bit on a modern hard-disk, the researchers from IBM say. They believe this is the world's smallest magnetic memory bit. According to the researchers, the technique opens up the possibility of producing much denser forms of magnetic computer memory than today's hard disk drives and solid state memory chips.

"Roughly every two years hard drives become denser," research lead author Sebastian Loth told the BBC. "The obvious question to ask is how long can we keep going. And the fundamental physical limit is the world of atoms. "The approach that we used is to jump to the very end, check if we can store information in one atom, and if not one atom, how many do we need?" he said. Below 12 atoms the researchers found that the bits randomly lost information, owing to quantum effects. A bit can have a value of 0 or 1 and is the most basic form of information in computation. "We kept building larger structures until we emerged out of the quantum mechanical into the classical data storage regime and we reached this limit at 12 atoms." — Internet

LANN PYI MARINE CO., LTD.
(Container Feeder Service)
ARRIVAL AND CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

Consignees of cargoes carried by M.V. GW BEYCHEVELLE are hereby notified that the estimated arrival time of the vessels from Port Kelang are as follows:-

Voy-035 PKG 11-01-2012 YGN 15-01-2012
Voy-037 PKG 22-01-2012 YGN 26-01-2012

Cargoes will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the bye-law and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargoes will be surveyed daily from 8:00 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:00 Noon to 4:00 PM and Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No Claims against these vessels will be admitted after the Claims Day.

AGENCY DEPARTMENT

No.55/61, Strand Road, Yangon, Myanmar.
Phone No. : 01-201787, 201790 (Ext: 108, 109)

Yangon Sailing Club
Annual General Meeting

All members of Yangon Sailing Club are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting to be held as follows:

Date : 29th January 2012
Place : Yangon Sailing Club
Time : 9:30 a.m.

Hon. Secretary
Yangon Sailing Club



The Shangri-La Ski Resort allows tourists to combine sightseeing with outdoor activity and helps boost local tourism in winter. —XINHUA

Woman loses arm, shoulder after injecting bath salts

NEW YORK, 14 Jan — A woman lost her arm, shoulder and collarbone due to flesh-eating bacteria that was caused by a self-injection of 'bath salts,' WWLTV reported. The woman, who is 34, visited the emergency room and complained of arm pain, according to Dr Russell Russo of Louisiana State University Sciences Centre. "As bath salts gain popularity, medical centers of all disciplines must be prepared to identify not only the signs of intoxication, but the potential side effects, including deadly necrotizing fasciitis," Russo said.

Bath salts are being sold all over the US with names like "Ivory Wave," "White Lightning" and "Hurricane Charlie." They are not the type of salts you would add to your bath, however; these so-called bath salts are intended to be snorted, smoked or injected — and users are getting high off of them. The Drug Enforcement Administration does not regulate these substances, but they are under federal scrutiny, as the effects of these salts are comparable to methamphetamine abuse, according to poison control centers and other law enforcement agencies.

Internet

Dental body's complaints backlog

LONDON, 14 Jan — The body which investigates dangerous or incompetent dentists has been battling a backlog of serious complaints, the BBC has learned. The problems at the General Dental Council were at their worst in 2010, when 72 serious complaints had still not been dealt with after nine months. That compares to a total of 224 serious complaints referred during the year. The GDC has since appointed a new chief executive, and increased the number of investigatory hearings and staff.

The council is responsible for monitoring the dental professional. But its own regulator, the Council for Healthcare Regulatory Excellence (CHRE), was asked by the government in September 2011 to report on



Just over half the population see an NHS dentist each year. — Internet

Internet

Russian finds Kalashnikovs in firewood crates

MOSCOW, 14 Jan — A man who had bought crates off the back of a lorry in Russia for firewood found they contained 79 Kalashnikov rifles and parts, Russian media report. The villager in Udmurtia reported the rifles to a local policeman, after which investigators examined the 64 crates.

It was established that the army-issue rifles had been delivered for scrap to the nearby Izhmash arms plant. The



The Kalashnikov is one of the world's most recognisable guns. — INTERNET

Slide down the snow slopes of Shangri-La

BEIJING, 14 Jan — A cluster of low-rise village houses embraced by surrounding mountains, Shangri-La has all the otherworldly qualities described in "Lost Horizon". Boasting majestic natural scenery of snow-capped mountains, pristine alpine lakes and wide spreading grasslands, Shangri-La has been a popular travel destination with young backpackers from home and abroad.

In 2007, the Shangri-La Ski Resort opened, turning another page for local tourism. Constructed at an altitude of over 3300 meters, the resort provides a welcome With a capacity to house one thousand people and equipped with top facilities, the ski resort attracts tourists and local Tibetans alike. Because of its close location to the equator, temperatures at Shangri-La are much warmer than other ski resorts in northern Chinese cities. Temperatures may nosedive at night, but daytime temperatures can allow for comfortable skiing in T-shirts. Starting from 2008, the resort has been hosting a ski festival each winter. Ski competitions have even drawn contenders from Europe. Tickets: Tickets are 80 to 100 yuan per hour. How to get there: Shangri-La is one hour by air from Kunming, capital city of Yunnan Province. Major cities in China have flights to the Shangri-La airport. —Xinhua



driver had sold off the crates, thinking they were all empty. However, seven of them were found to contain rifles, as well as 253 magazines and other parts, a police source told *Interfax* news agency.

Once delivered to Izhmash in the city of Izhevsk, the crates had been used for removing rubbish. The driver, 39, had been working for a private firm, transporting the rubbish to a dump. "Along the road, he decided to make a bit of extra money and sold [the crates], thinking they were empty," *Interfax* reports. However, an investigation has begun into whether the rifles were "thrown out accidentally or there was an organised channel for selling them off illegally", Udmurtia prosecutors' assistant Olesya Fedchishina told Russian newspaper *Rossiyskaya Gazeta*. —Internet



Jia Qinglin (C), chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference National Committee, poses for a group photo with performers after a Spring Festival gala held for overseas Chinese, in Beijing, capital of China, on 12 Jan, 2012. — Xinhua

China holds Spring Festival gala for overseas Chinese

BEIJING, 14 Jan — China's Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of the State Council held a gala for overseas Chinese here on Thursday, ahead of the traditional Spring Festival.

Jia Qinglin, chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference National Committee, attended the gala and watched the performances with representatives of Chinese living abroad and returned overseas Chinese as well as their relatives. The gala will also be on air for Chinese around the world during the Spring Festival, or the Chinese Lunar New Year, which falls on 23 January this year.

Since 2009, the Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of the State Council has had a tradition of holding a Spring Festival gala every year, arranging for troupes to perform in countries that are home to large numbers of Chinese. This was the first time that the gala has been held at home. —Xinhua



The 90th European Motorshow runs from 11 to 22 Jan in Brussels, Belgium. — XINHUA

Magnesium-rich diet tied to lower stroke risk

LONDON, 14 Jan — A fresh look at past research concludes that people who eat lots of greens and other foods rich in magnesium have fewer strokes — a finding that supports current diet guidelines.

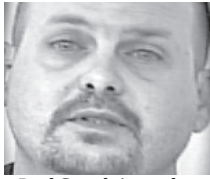
But because the research focused on magnesium in food, the authors stopped short of recommending that people take a daily magnesium supplement. It's possible that another aspect of the food is responsible for the finding.

Internet

Police: Man claimed cabbie kidnapping

Authorities in Florida said they arrested a man who allegedly called 911 seven times and claimed he was being kidnapped by Checker Cab.

St Lucie County sheriff's deputies said Paul Coombs, 38, called 911 seven times in less than hour 8 Jan. and claimed he was being kidnapped when the driver



Paul Coombs' mugshot.

took him back to the Checker Cab depot in Fort Pierce,

WPTV, West Palm Beach, Fla, reported Thursday.

The driver said he tried to take Coombs home, but the man was unable to give a specific address, smelled strongly of booze and rambled incoherently during the ride.

Coombs was told to stop calling 911, but he allegedly said he had a checkbook and didn't care about going to jail. He was arrested on a misdemeanor charge of misusing the 911 system.

Man surrenders after taking police car in cuffs

A man who stole a police car after being handcuffed behind his back turned himself into state troopers in Indiana after two days on the run.

William Blankenship, 22, surrendered on Thursday evening after meeting with two state troopers at his family home in Knox in the north of the Midwestern state, police said.

Blankenship was pulled over for speeding on Tuesday, handcuffed with his hands behind his back and put in the back seat of a police car after an officer reported seeing drug paraphernalia in his car, authorities said.

As the officer checked the suspect's car, Blankenship drove off with the police car, which was found on Wednesday in a pond. Blankenship was charged with theft and more charges are expected, Porter County prosecutor Brian Gensel said on Friday.

Alleged carjacker arrested when he stops for gas

An alleged carjacker in Oregon certainly didn't check the fuel gauge on the car he's accused of taking from a grocery store parking lot. Officers in Coos Bay quickly arrested the man when he stopped a few miles away to buy gas.

Authorities say the man threw a woman out of the car Tuesday and sped off. The World of Coos Bay reports (<http://bit.ly/xNh0Id>) the man pulled into a gas station and asked to pay cash, but the attendant was suspicious because the driver was agitated.

The attendant says the man was obviously relieved when police drove past the station. But officers drove around the back and cornered the suspect. Police say he tried to drive away but crashed the stolen Honda Civic into a light post.

News Album



Most horrible mutant in the world.

Woman drives 18 miles down wrong side of highway

A woman in Washington State drove 18 miles on the wrong side of the highway going up to 100 miles an hour.

"She didn't even know she was on the freeway and at first she couldn't grasp that had happened," State trooper Guy Gill said.

Police unsuccessfully tried to stop Olympia schoolteacher Pamela Drawsby, 60, by using their sirens, spotlights and even a PA system, according to the *Bend Bulletin*. A trooper even drove alongside Drawsby's

Lincoln LS, attempting to warn her that she was headed for danger.

Police were only able to stop Olympia schoolteacher Pamela Drawsby, 60, by closing down I-5 at the main gate of a joint Army and Air Force base, Lewis-McChord, using spike strips to puncture her tires. And at first, even the tire spikes were unsuccessful, "because the driver was all over the place, using all the lanes," said Gill.

Archuleta 'excited' to shoot Philippine TV series



In this 8 June, 2011, file photo, David Archuleta poses for a photo as he arrives at the CMT Music Awards in Nashville, Tenn.

INTERNET

MANILA, 14 Jan— "American Idol" runner-up David Archuleta says he's "excited" about working on a

Philippine TV series.

His Filipino co-stars Jasmine Curtis-Smith and Eula Caballero welcomed him with flower garlands at Manila's airport Friday. They'll be shooting the TV5 drama the next few weeks.

Fans and journalists jostled to take pictures as the 20-year-old singer emerged from the airport gate.

Archuleta said in a video blog before leaving the US that he has taken acting lessons to prepare. He says: "I'm excited about it. ... This is a new experience for me."

TV5 Vice President Perci Intalan says "it's a dream come true" for the network to have Archuleta in a Filipino show.

Internet

Madonna still waiting for Mr Right



Madonna, who is mother to four children, also said that she is a hopeless romantic at heart.

REUTERS

NEW YORK, 14 Jan— Even at 53, pop superstar Madonna says she is open to walking down the aisle again and is hoping to be swept off her feet by a knight in shining armour.

The 'Vogue' hitmaker, says she would consider becoming a wife for the third time after two failed marriages - to Sean Penn and Guy Ritchie - and multiple affairs, reported

Daily Mail online.

"I would actually say yes to marriage. I think I'm a pretty good judge of character but I have made a few mistakes," said Madonna, who has been dating French dancer Brahim Zaibat for more than a year now.

Madonna, who is mother to four children, also said that she is a hopeless romantic at heart.

"If you're a romantic like me, and every girl I know is,

every girl wants to be swept off her feet by a knight in shining armour. Unfortunately we're raised on those fairy tales.

"Even if we are sophisticated, educated, intelligent, evolved human beings, we like to think in the back of our minds that Mr Right is going to sweep us off our feet and take us into the sunset, and we're going to live happily ever after," she added.—Reuters

Nicki Minaj, Foo Fighters to perform at Grammys

LOS ANGELES, 14 Jan— Rapper Nicki Minaj will make her debut Grammy performance next month, joining Foo Fighters, Bruno Mars and country singer Jason Aldean on the list of artists who will take to the stage on the recording industry's biggest night.

Grammy organizers said on Thursday that Minaj, who has four Grammy nominations, will perform at the 12 February awards show, as well as country sensation Taylor Swift, and Kelly Clarkson.

But there was no official word on Thursday on whether Britain's Adele, whose album "21" was the biggest seller of 2011, will be singing at the Grammys following surgery on her vocal cords in November.

Adele, who has been on doctor-ordered vocal rest since November, was not among the first list of Grammy



Singer Nicki Minaj (R) and DJ David Guetta perform at the 2011 American Music Awards in Los Angeles on 20 Nov, 2011.

REUTERS

performers.

But the 23 year-old "Someone Like You" singer was listed on Thursday as being down to sing at the BRIT music awards ceremony in London on 21 February.

Rapper Kanye West, who leads this year's Grammys with seven nominations, is also yet to be confirmed as a performer at the live awards show in Los Angeles.

Reuters



Hrithik Roshan

Hrithik Roshan double dhamaal!

MUMBAI, 14 Jan— Hrithik Roshan's birthday turned out to be a double dhamaal, beams my Nautanki Naari from Lokhandwala. She says that the number of journals who turned up to actor on his big day at his residence was easily twice last year's count.

The number was in 50s last year and it's about 100 and counting this time. The actor cut over 25 birthday cakes and clicked a million photos with all and sundry. He ensured that no one went hungry and thirsty from his place. In very Shah Rukh Khan style, he had organised food and drinks for the guests in the building's premise.

Later in the evening, the actor spent time with his biwi Sussanne and kids Hrehaan and Hridaan over dinner that was planned by his wife much in advance. Badhiya hai! Here I'm still waiting for someone to surprise me pleasantly like this!

Internet

SRK-Salman, Kareena named most profitable actors!

MUMBAI, 14 Jan— Salman Khan and Shah Rukh Khan have been named the most profitable actors of the Hindi film industry in India and abroad respectively by ETC Bollywood Business Awards. Kareena Kapoor, who featured in Bodyguard and RA.One in 2011 opposite the two actors, has been titled the most profitable actor in the female category.

"Receiving an award wherein you are being adjudged considering the economic quotient as a cornerstone for mapping the success gives you a sense of pride. I've always maintained that commercial success is as important as the critical success of a movie. A commercially successful movie pays evidence to the fact that viewers loved watching your movie," Kareena said in a Press statement.

Salman's Bodyguard, the Hindi remake of the Malayalam film by the same name, was



Shah Rukh Khan and Kareena Kapoor pose with their award.—INTERNET

titled the top grosser of the year. The film's director Siddique, walked away with the most profitable director's trophy.

SRK's mega-budget dream project RA.One was recognised as the best marketed film of the year and also bagged an award under the highest single day collection category.—Internet

Every makes late birdies and takes Sony Open lead

HONOLULU, 14 Jan—Matt Every, finally making news for his golf, made the game look and sound easy Friday at the Sony Open. Every closed with three straight birdies for a 6-under 64, giving him a two-shot lead over David Hearn, who kept the Canadian presence on the leaderboard with his second straight 66.

Brendon de Jonge shot 62 and Pat Perez was solid again with a 67 to finish three shots behind, while Steve Stricker made double bogey from a bad lie in a bunker that stalled his momentum.

He had to settle for a 69 and was five shots back in his bid to become the first player since Ernie Els in 2003 to sweep the Hawaii events. Every, however, dominated the day on and off the golf course.

He made news in the summer of 2010 when he was arrested and jailed on a misdemeanor drug possession charge after agents were called to a casino hotel because of a strong odor of marijuana coming from the room he was in. Every confirmed he was suspended for three months, returning in time for the last event, leaving him little hope of keeping his card.—Internet



Kyle Stanley chips onto the 12th green during the second round of the Sony Open golf tournament, on 13 Jan., 2012, in Honolulu.—INTERNET

Turkish national skier killed in training accident

ANKARA, 14 Jan—Asli Nemutlu, an 18-year-old member of Turkey's national Alpine skiing team, was killed in a training accident in northeastern Turkey on Thursday, local *Hurriyet Daily News* reported. Nemutlu was training on a slope at the Konakli ski centre in the province of Erzurum at around 10 am local time (GMT0700) when she fell and broke her neck, according to the report.



Ferrari driver Spanish Fernando Alonso (L) poses with teammate Brazilian Felipe Massa on 11 Jan, 2012 during the Vrooom 2012, F1 and MotoGP Press Ski Meeting Ducati and Ferrari annual media gathering in the Italian ski resort of Madonna di Campiglio.

XINHUA

Pato to stay with AC Milan

ROME, 14 Jan—AC Milan's Brazilian forward Pato announced on Thursday that he has rejected to move to Paris St Germain and is staying with AC Milan. Earlier in the day sources at the French club claimed PSG had reached agreement to sign the 22-year-old. PSG had offered Pato a three-and-a-half year contract reportedly worth between six and seven million euros a season. However, Milan released a statement detailing the player's intention to stay in Italy. "Alexandre Pato will stay in the red and black shirt, the striker has decided to continue his young, splendid and winning career with Milan," said the club statement.

Pato, who is dating Milan owner Silvio Berlusconi's daughter Barbara, added: "Milan is my home, I didn't want to interrupt my career in red and black after having won my first two trophies with this shirt." "I want to help write the story of Milan and contribute to the future success of this club with happiness and in perfect harmony with the whole environment," he said.—Xinhua

Everton sign Gibson from Man Utd

LONDON, 14 Jan — Everton have completed the signing of midfielder Darron Gibson from Barclays Premier League champions Manchester United for an undisclosed fee. The 24-year-old Republic of Ireland international has signed a four-and-a-half year contract at Goodison Park, ending an eight-year association with United.

Gibson becomes Everton's second capture of the January transfer window after the loan signing of US forward Landon Donovan, and the Irishman could make his Toffees debut at Aston Villa on Saturday 14th January.

"It's a great club with great fans and hopefully I can improve Everton," Gibson



Darron Gibson struggled to win a regular first-team place at Manchester United.—INTERNET

told the club's official website (evertonfc.com). "I think I'm a goalscoring midfielder and hopefully I can get a few goals. "I've scored a few long-range shots - I don't think I've scored one inside the box to be honest. "If I score goals it's a bonus for me. I'm just looking to do as well as I can for the team." Londonderry-born Gibson played his last match for United in their 5-0 win over Wigan on Boxing

Day, but that was his only League appearance of the season. Gibson played 60 matches in all competitions for United, scoring 10 goals, but made only 14 Barclays Premier League starts as he struggled to hold down a first-team place.

He enjoyed a six-month spell out on loan at Wolves from October 2007 to April 2008, playing 24 times for Mick McCarthy's side.—Internet

International Sports

Paris Saint-Germain sign Maxwell

PARIS, 14 Jan—France's top league club Paris Saint-Germain (PSG) said Thursday they recruited Spain-based defender Maxwell on a three-and-a-half year deal. "Maxwell is with us for three-and-a-half year. He is a player who has an important career. We are happy that he joins today our team," Leonardo, PSG sports' director said. No details were given on the accord's value. "Projects and ambitions of the club in the near future motivated me to join PSG," the Brazilian defender said in remarks posted on the club's website. Maxwell, 30, made his first appearance in European leagues in 2001 with Ajax Amsterdam. He moved to Italian championship in 2006 where he defended Inter Milan jersey for three seasons. In 2009, he joined Barcelona.—Xinhua

Ferguson backs Evra to shine at Anfield

LONDON, 14 Jan — Manchester United boss Sir Alex Ferguson will have no problems in naming race-row defender Patrice Evra in the explosive FA Cup clash against Liverpool at Anfield. French defender Evra was at the centre of the race storm which saw Liverpool striker Luis Suarez hit with an eight-match ban after the two bitter rivals clashed in the Premier League in October.

But Ferguson insists that Evra, who he described as "popular with a good personality" will shrug off the vitriol that is certain to pour from the Anfield terraces in the January 28 fourth round clash. "I haven't decided on that (whether Evra will play)

but it wouldn't be a problem for me," said Ferguson, who has already installed Evra as captain in the absence of centre-back Nemanja Vidic and fitness and age concerns over Ryan Giggs and Rio Ferdinand. "Rio would have been the captain if he didn't have that inconsistency because of a series of injuries," said Ferguson. "Someone who will be playing all the

times should be at the forefront of your mind to be your captain and that was the case with Patrice. "He is not as voluble as Rio but he certainly influences a lot of things and his own performance are very good. "The players look up to him. He's very popular with a good personality. He's very friendly, has humour and he is a determined lad."

Internet



Fergie backs Pat for Anfield

Chelsea preparing 30m euro bid for Lille's Eden Hazard

LONDON, 14 Jan — Chelsea appears to have set its sights on luring Belgium international Eden Hazard in the January transfer window, and has opened talks with the Lille about a potential winter transfer, *L'Equipe* reports. The Premier League side is eager to strengthen its squad after a disappointing first half of the season, and manager

Andre Villas-Boas sees the tricky winger as the perfect addition to his attack.

Chelsea is allegedly preparing a 30 million euro offer for Hazard in an attempt to convince Lille to let go of the 21-year-old this winter. However, LOSC is keen to hold on to the attacker until the end of the season, and is hoping to receive a transfer

fee in the region of 40m euros.

Hazard is one of the most sought-after players around in Europe, and has previously been linked with clubs such as Arsenal, Bayern Munich, Inter, Juventus, Barcelona and Real Madrid. He stated earlier this season that he's ready to make the next step in his career after the 2011-12 campaign.—Internet

Lendl praises "gutsy" Murray for hiring him

MELBOURNE, 14 Jan— Ivan Lendl would have been highly unlikely to coach anyone but world number four Andy Murray in whom he sees a kindred spirit with a similar wry sense of humour tested by multiple failures in grand slam finals. The Czech-born 51-year-old was tormented by four straight losses in major finals but recovered to finish his career as one of the greats with eight grand slam titles in the competitive era of John McEnroe, Stefan Edberg and Boris Becker.

Lendl turned down between "seven and 10 enquiries" to coach other players over the past 18 months but has thrown himself into a bear-pit with the 24-year-old Briton, whose agonising failure in three grand slam finals has disappointed a country clamouring for a first men's champion in 76 years. But the player once dubbed a 'scary robot' by American rival McEnroe said it was Murray who had shown courage to approach him ahead of the Australian Open, in full knowledge their relationship would be sure to attract the fiercest of scrutiny.—Reuters



Andy Murray (R) is watched by his new coach Ivan Lendl during a training session in Melbourne on 12 Jan, 2012. INTERNET



Results on Saturday, 14th January 2012.

Aston Villa	1-1	Everton
Blackburn	3-1	Fulham
Chelsea	1-0	Sunderland
Liverpool	0-0	Stoke
Man Und	3-0	Bolton
Tottenham	1-1	Wolverhampton
West Brom	1-2	Norwich

NLM-ner Joke

A frog calls a psychic

Recently, the Psychic Hotline and Psychic Friends Network have launched hotlines for frogs. Here is the story of one frog and his discussing with his psychic.

A frog telephones the Psychic Hotline and is told, "You are going to meet a beautiful young girl who will want to know everything about you."

The frog says, "This is great! Will I meet her at a party, or what?"

"No," says the psychic. "Next semester in her biology class."

Answer for Yesterday's Crossword Puzzle



Photo taken on 13 Jan, 2012 shows LED televisions displayed at the Samsung Electronics booth at the 2012 International Consumer Electronics Show (CES) in Las Vegas, Nevada State of the United States. The four-day event attracted over 3,100 enterprises with more than 20,000 latest products on display, setting a record high in 44 years. The world's largest annual consumer technology trade show ended on 13 Jan.—XINHUA

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

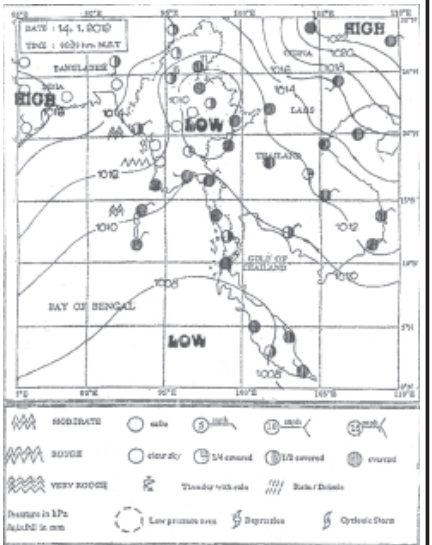
(15-1-12 09:30 am ~
16-1-12 09:30 am) MST

- Overseas Transmission**
- * News
 - * A Cordial Welcome From Pantaung
 - * Lush and Green Myanmar Land
 - * News
 - * Easily Cooked & Tasty Dishes "Fish Soup"
 - * Deserved Inheritance
 - * News
 - * Today's Efficient Youth (Debate about Money)
 - * Record Album
 - * MI People's Celebrities "Phyo Gyi & Thinzar Wint Kyaw"
 - * Kanyin Dam, A Pride of Ayeyarwaddy Region
 - * Seeking Beauty in Yoga
 - * Myanmar Toys...For Your Eye-catching
 - * Music Gallery
 - * Culture Stage
 - * Melamu Ceti with various statues reflecting life of Buddha
 - * Myanmar Movies "A Fragrant Flower From Bagan"

MYANMAR TV (15-1-2012) (Sunday)

- 7:00 am**
1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw -Uppatasanti Paritta
- 7:50 am**
2. Nice & Sweet Song
- 8:00 am**
3. Health Programme
- 8:30 am**
4. Teleplay (Health)
- 11:00 am**
5. Martial Song
- 11:30 am**
6. TV Drama Series
- 12:30 pm**
7. Myanmar Movies
- 2:50 pm**
8. International News
- 4:25 pm**
9. Health (Traffic)
- 4:40 pm**
10. Songs Of National Races
- 5:00 pm**
11. Songs for Upholding National Spirit
- 6:00 pm**
12. Naga Traditional New Festival (Live Broadcast)
- 8:00 pm**
13. News
 14. Cartoon Series
 15. TV Drama Series

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 15th January, 2012

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	20/68	13/55	Likelihood of scattered rain or thunderstorm	(60%)
2	Kayah	26/79	13/55	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorm	(60%)
3	Kayah	32/90	18/64	Likelihood of scattered rain or thunderstorm	(60%)
4	Chin	17/63	42/38	Partly cloudy	
5	Upper Sgawing	26/79	13/55	Likelihood of scattered rain or thunderstorm	(60%)
6	Lower Sgawing	32/90	15/59	Partly cloudy	
7	Tanintharyi	34/93	21/70	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorm	(60%)
8	Bago	29/84	18/64	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorm	(60%)
9	Magway	31/88	10/50	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorm	(60%)
10	Mandalay	30/86	13/55	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorm	(60%)
11	Mien	24/75	22/72	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorm	(60%)
12	Yangon	32/90	20/68	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorm	(60%)
13	Bhamo	26/79	11/52	Partly cloudy	
14	Southern Shan	23/73	11/52	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorm	(60%)
15	Northern Shan	25/77	08/46	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorm	(60%)
16	Eastern Shan	22/72	15/59	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorm	(60%)
17	Ayeyarwady	29/84	17/63	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorm	(60%)
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	31/88	16/61	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thunderstorm	(60%)
19	Neighbouring Yangon	32/90	20/68	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thunderstorm	(60%)
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	30/86	13/55	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thunderstorm	(60%)

During the past (24) hours, rain or thunderstorms have been fairly widespread in Kayah, Kayah and Mon States, scattered in Bago Region and Mon State, isolated in Upper Sgawing, Mandalay and Yangon Regions and Shan State and weather have been partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States. Night temperatures were (4°C) below January average temperatures in Bhamo State, (5°C) below January average temperatures in Chin State, (3°C) to (6°C) above January average temperatures in Bago, Yangon and Tanintharyi Regions and Kachin State, (5°C) to (6°C) above January average temperatures in Kayah and Mon States, (8°C) above January average temperatures in Shan State and about January average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant night temperature was Haka (3°C). The seasonally average amount of rainfall recorded were Kyaukse (2.5) inches, Madaya (1.8) inches and Nyaung-U (0.7) inches.

Bay Reference: Weather is cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

State of the Sea: Strong easterly winds with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed is strong wind may reach (35) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of slight decrease night temperature in the whole country.

MLF provides books to village library

TACHILEK, 12 Jan—A ceremony to donate books to Sali Library of Sali Village was held at the library in Tachilek Township on 27 December 2011.

Staff Officer U Maung Kyi of Information and Public Relations Department handed over 250 books donated by Myanmar Libraries Foundation to the village library through a village elder.

After that, the rural social economic development group discussed human resource development and availability of safe water.—District IPRD



DISTRICT NEWS



Labutta gets asphalt street

LABUTTA, 13 Jan—Uyington Street, repaved as 620 feet long and 12 feet wide asphalt road, constructed by Labutta Township Development Affairs Committee, was commissioned into service in Ward 5 of Labutta on 2 January morning.

Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Hlaing Oo and local authorities formally opened the street.

District IPRD

Babies, mothers take part in contest

Thandwe, 13 Jan—The Baby Show and Model Mother Contest was organized at Maternal and Child Welfare Association Office in Thandwe on 4 January.

District Medical Officer Dr Tin Ngwe explained purpose of holding the contest and health knowledge about mothers and expectant mothers.

Chairperson of District MCWSC Daw Yin Yin Khaing and township responsible persons presented prizes to the respective winners.—District IPRD



Myanmar, Japan eye closer cooperation in economic and industrial sectors

Meeting on economic and industrial cooperation between Myanmar and Japan in progress at the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan —A meeting on economic and industrial cooperation between Myanmar and Japan took place at the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development yesterday afternoon.

It was attended by Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Thein and deputy ministers and departmental heads of related ministries, the president of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and officials, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Mr Yukio Edano of Japan, representatives from NEDO, JETRO, Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation, Nippon Export and Investment Insurance, Keidanren Co, Japan Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and business people.

At the meeting, participants discussed economic and industrial cooperation between the two countries, cooperation in development of infrastructures, further development of economic environment, promotion of trade and investment, cooperation in energy, minerals and natural resources. Then, the participants exchanged their views.

(See page 9)



Inter to reopen Tevez talks Serie A giants plan to discuss deal with City next week

LONDON, 14 Jan — Inter Milan are preparing to re-enter the chase for Carlos Tevez following the news that AC Milan have failed to reach an agreement for the striker.

It was widely expected that the want-away Manchester City forward would be on his way to the reigning Serie A champions, with the Rossoneri making him their top transfer target.

Negotiations encountered a number of problems, though, with City's preference for a permanent deal as proving to be one early obstacle.

It appeared as though that issue would be overcome when Milan's vice-president Adriano Galliani jetted into England on Thursday for talks with City and Tevez's representatives.

No deal was agreed though, leaving the transfer door open for other potential suitors.

Inter have been long-standing admirers of the Argentina international and were in the running until

their cross-city neighbours leapt to the front of the queue.

Contact

The latest turn of events may have played into their hands, with president Massimo Moratti confirming that he intends to reopen talks with City after Sunday's Milan derby.

He told the club's official website: "We and City know all about Tevez's situation but we have decided to postpone talks until next week as right now my thoughts are on Sunday's game."

"There has certainly been contact."

"We are in talks with clubs all around the world, including City."

Reports in Italy suggest Inter are prepared to offer •25million (£20.8m) for Tevez, who has not featured for City since falling out with coach Roberto Mancini in September 2011.

Internet



Carlos Tevez: Has seen a move to AC Milan breakdown, but he could still be on his way to Italy.—INTERNET

Loans disbursed to farmers

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan—Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung attended the agricultural loans disbursement and agricultural inputs provision ceremony for cultivation of summer paddy at Mingala Rice mill in No. 14 Ward in Patheingyi yesterday.

On the occasion, the Region chief minister called for effective application GAP cultivation methods and stressed the need for the transformation into mechanized farming.

Daw Hai Wai, owner of Mingala Rice mill, disbursed K 320.45 million Kyats for 143 farmers of six villages.

MNA

Funds provided for cooperatives in Buthidaung, Maungtaw

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Jan—Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin met township level departmental personnel and locals at Buthidaung Township General Administration Department on 9 January and provided a fund of K 20 million for agricultural produce credit unions and cattle breeders groups.

He met the members of Maungtaw Township border traders association and company owners in the evening and called for boosting trade and production and exportation of new items. The State chief minister inspected the check point (Maungtaw) and attended the opening of self-reliant X-ray room in Kyeinchaung Station Hospital the following day. He then addressed the opening of new two-story building of Ngakuya Basic Education High School. He also provided a fund of K 30 million for agricultural producers cooperatives, fishery cooperatives and cattle breeders cooperatives in Maungtaw District.—MNA

Union Construction Minister inspects road, bridge repairing



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AFO presents engineering awards

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Israeli firm develops scanning system to tackle into brain diseases



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Everton sign Gibson from Man Utd

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Every makes late birdies and takes Sony Open lead

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