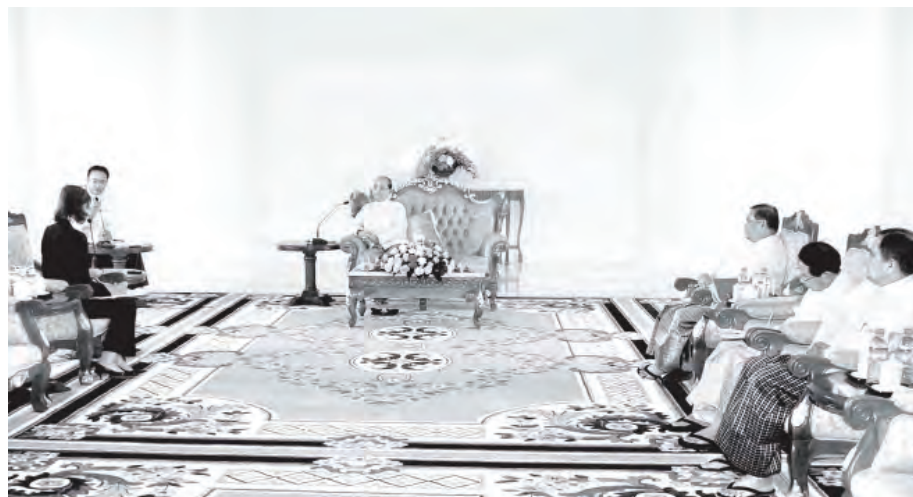


The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XIX, Number 275

13th Waning of Pyatho 1373 ME

Saturday, 21 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.

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein receives Senior Associate Editor Ms. Eizabeth Graham Weymouth of The Washington Post and replies to queries raised by her.—MNA

President U Thein Sein gives an interview with Ms Eizabeth Graham Weymouth, Senior Associate Editor of The Washington Post

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Jan— President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein received Senior Associate Editor Ms. Eizabeth Graham Weymouth of The Washington Post and party at the Presidential Residence in Nay Pyi Taw at 3 pm on 17 January, 2012 and responded to the questions.

Also present at the interview together with the President were Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan and Union Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi.

The following is the complete questions and answers during the interview between the President and the Washington Post.

President: Welcome you. The Washington Post is a very influential one. This is the first time for me to give interview to a foreign media as the President. Also together here with me are the Union Minister for Foreign Affairs, Union Minister for Information and for Culture and Union Minister for Labour. I am receiving you not only as a media personnel but also as a visitor to our country.

Washington Post: I usually ask a lot of questions during my interview. Especially, I hope I can ask many questions with regard to the reforms that the President is currently carrying out.

President: I will answer your questions. If you are not clear about any matter, you can ask me again.

Washington Post: I will start the questions. The whole world is interested in the current reform process in Myanmar. Particularly, the international community is watching with great interest on the release of political prisoners, dialogue with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, and ceasefire with the armed ethnic groups. So, what are the main driving forces for all these reforms?

President: The main driving forces behind all these reforms today in Myanmar are actually the people of Myanmar. Because we are striving to fulfill the will of the people and undertaking reforms. People want to have peace and stability in the country. Then, they want their country to be economically developed and become a modern and developed country. That is the will of the people today. We are doing these reforms to fulfill that will of the people. It is important to achieve peace and stability, economic development and harmony with the internal political forces as desired by the people. That's why, we met with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and achieved mutual understanding and political situation inside the country has become more stable. Another point is that the people wish to have peace in the country. Therefore, we offered olive branch to the armed ethnic groups and negotiations are being carried out. Therefore, our efforts in the reforms process are based on the people's desire. The people are the main driving forces.

Washington Post: I would say even though all these efforts are the will of the people, in fact you took the initiative. Mr. President, you yourself met with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. So, I would like to know how do you see the future of Myanmar?

President: In future, I hope Myanmar will have more transparency and better relations with countries around the world.

Washington Post: Mr. President you have met with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. You took initiative to do these reforms. So, I would like to know whether you will continue to carry out these reforms in the future?



President U Thein Sein met US Secretary of State Mrs. Hillary Clinton on 1-12-2011.

President: Our aim is to have peace and stability in the country and for the national economic development. Thus, we have to continue our efforts to fulfill these aims for the peace and stability and further economic developments for the country.

Washington Post: If I may say exactly Mr. President, you have done to normalize relationship with the United States. You have released political prisoners. You have reached ceasefire with some armed ethnic groups to achieve peace. Therefore, how do you foresee what are the requirements in order to proceed the reform process in the future? What will you do in the future?

President: We will continue our serious effort to have peace and stability in the country. Respective laws have been amended by the Hluttaw in order for Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to be able to participate in the elections. She herself re-registered the NLD

(See page 8)

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 21 January, 2012

Natural beauty vis-à-vis showy beauty

Every woman wants to be beautiful. They like being told they are beautiful. They try to be beautiful as well. But beauty can be categorized into two aspects – natural beauty and ostentatious beauty.

Natural beauty is simple. Being too natural can make a beautiful woman unattractive whilst a too fashion-conscious woman may lapse into the ostentatious world. Showy beauty is far beyond the nature and it is unnatural and inauthentic.

Women greatly value their facial beauty. They wear make-up to make their faces look more attractive. In doing so, some wear Myanmar traditional natural make-up (thanakha) while some wear foreign make-up with chemical ingredients.

Some women have no knowledge of side effects from those chemicals and beauty is their top priority. Long-term use of cosmetics such as make-up, powder and lip stick can be hazardous.

Having a lust for beauty, women wear make-up on a constant basis, resulting in their facial problems like rash, swollen face and oily face. Some kinds of make-up make women seem to age with wrinkles. This is the result of longing for beauty.

Taking advantage of women's weakness for beauty, cosmetics producer companies from across the world are competing with each other for their products to penetrate the market without considering how their chemical ingredients have an impact on health. Myanmar traditional natural thanakha however causes no side effects and can whiten and smooth the skin.

All in all, it is good for every woman to try to live a beautiful life. Yet, it is important to possess natural beauty rather than showy beauty.

Road to Victory golf tournament 24-27 Jan

YANGON, 20 Jan—The Zaykabar Myanmar Open 2012, jointly sponsored by Myanmar PGA and Asia Tour, will be held, here, from 2 to 5 February.

As part of efforts for the Road to Victory of Myanmar golfers in the open, the pre-gold tournament, organized by Myanmar Golf Federation, will be held at Royal Mingaladon Golf & Country Club from 24 to 27 January.

Eligible golfers Zaw Zaw Latt, Soe Kyaw Naing, Yin Aung Latt, Hla Myo, Min Naing, Aung Win, Bo Bo, Thein Zaw Myint, Naing Naing Lin, Yan Myo Aye, Zaw Zin Win, Aung Hsan Win, Nay Bala Win Myint, Myint Shwe, Soe Moe Win, Yan Naing Phyo and selected players Myo Win Aung, Maung Maung Oo, Naing Ye Lin and Ye Htet Aung will participate in the tournament.

The pre-golf tournament is aimed at enhancing skills of Myanmar golfers to be able to compete with international golfers in the Myanmar Open. Enthusiasts may enjoy the golf tournament free of charge.

MNA

Tobacco Kills

IMF Mission calls on Union Energy Minister



NAY PYI TAW, 20 Jan—Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay received Article IV Consultation Mission headed by Ms Meral Karasulu of International Monetary Fund at the ministry here this morning.

The mission discussed suggestions about monetary sector and energy sector and the Myanmar side discussed policy changes in energy resources and business prospects.—MNA

Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay receives Ms Meral Karasulu of International Monetary Fund.—MNA

MoU on 17th State level meeting of Myanmar-India Civil Authorities signed

Nay Pyi Taw, January 2012

Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint and Home Secretary of the Ministry of Home Affairs Mr R K Singh of the Republic of India exchange notes of MoU of 17th State level meeting of Myanmar-India Civil Authorities.

MNA



NAY PYI TAW, 20 Jan—A memorandum of understanding on the 17th State level meeting of Myanmar-India Civil Authorities was signed at Myat Tawwin Hotel here this morning.

The MoU signing ceremony was attended by Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint and departmental heads, Home Secretary of the Ministry of Home Affairs Mr R K Singh of the Republic of India, Indian Ambassador Dr V S Seshadri and officials.

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint and Home

Secretary Mr R K Singh signed the MoU and exchanged the documents.

According to the MoU, it has been agreed to cooperate between the two governments in addressing the issues of security threats and cross-border and transnational crimes along the Myanmar-India border, to coordinate and cooperate in ensuring border region peace and stability and cooperate in capacity building of the police forces of the two countries and other general matters.

MNA

Wesley Hospital in Kalay reaches its silver jubilee

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Jan—The celebration to mark silver jubilee of Wesley Hospital founded to provide healthcare to needy people took place at Methodist Hall in Tahan Ward, Kalay of Sagaing Region on 15 January.

Bishop U Zaw Win Aung of upper Myanmar Methodist Church, Venerable Reverend U Lawm Hsar Nga and In-

charge medical superintendent Dr Htan B Lwel opened the celebration. Sagaing Region Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Minister U Sein Win unveiled the signboard of celebration. Officials appreciated those who contributed to the hospital, full-time staff members, blood donors and well-wishers who founded medical fund.—MNA



LOCAL SPORTS

Chess trainees pass FIDE Trainers Seminar

YANGON, 19 Jan—The FIDE Trainers Seminar, jointly organized by Sports and Physical Education Department and World Chess Federation, concluded at Central Hotel on Bogyoke Aung San Street, here, yesterday afternoon.

General Secretary of World Chess Federation Mr Ignatius Leong spoke on the occasion.

President of Myanmar Chess Federation U Maung Maung Lwin gave words of encouragement to the selected Myanmar chess players.

General Secretary Mr Ignatius Leong presented certificates of FIDE Trainer to two trainees, certificates of FIDE Instructor (FI) to six trainees, certificates of National Instructor (NI) to five trainees and certificates of Developmental Instructor (DI) to seven trainees.

MCF President U Maung Maung Lwin gave K 1.8 million as cash award to Win Zaw Tun, silver medalist in the XXVI SEA Games and Vice-President U Win Aung, K 900,000 to bronze medalist Kyaw Lin Naing.—MNA



Two foreigners seized in Multan

MULTAN, 20 Jan — Two foreigners have been kidnapped from the City of Multan in Pakistan's Punjab Province, local police say. The Italian Foreign Ministry said that one of the two is Italian and that it is in contact with the victim's family. The two are believed to be foreign NGO workers, with the other victim thought to be German.

The two were working for a development agency helping victims of the 2010 floods, reports say. "Three armed men entered the house and kidnapped two foreign nationals. One of them is an Italian national and the other we believe to be German," local police spokesman Amir Zulfiqar told *Reuters*. "So far we have not established a motive but it is too early to say. We are continuing investigations," he added. — *Internet*

Security tight after two bombs explode in Londonderry

LONDON, 20 Jan — A massive security operation is under way in Londonderry following two explosions in the city. The bombs exploded at Strand Road, close to the DHSS office, and at the tourist centre in Foyle Street, within 10 minutes of each other.

There are no reports of injuries. Homes and businesses were evacuated after two telephone bomb warnings. Police described the attacks, which happened just after 20:00 GMT on Thursday, as "cowardly and callous". Officers had half an hour to clear the area before the bombs went off. The BBC understands that the PSNI received a warning through a third party. Stephen Martin, said the attacks were "cowardly and callous". "Thankfully we are not dealing with mass casualties or worse this evening," he said. "The reckless acts of those



Two areas in Londonderry remain cordoned off. — *INTERNET*

A huge security operation is under way in the city. — *INTERNET*



who planted these devices stand in stark contrast to those of the brave officers who entered these areas to evacuate local residents and businesses. "The people in Derry do not want this disruption." The extent of any damage to property is not yet known. A number of elderly residents had to be moved from a residential home during the police operation.

One woman said she had been told there was a bomb at the bottom of the street. "We heard one (bomb) go off. It was very loud," she said. "It was getting everybody out of the place where we live. But we all got out safely enough."

— *Internet*

Suicides down among US soldiers but violent crimes rise

WASHINGTON, 20 Jan — US Army suicides are levelling off but rates of domestic violence and sex crimes among soldiers have increased, a report says. Suicides among active duty soldiers, as well as in the National

Guard and the Reserve, totalled 278 in 2011, down 9% from 2010. It was the first decline in four years.

The report also calls post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) an "epidemic", estimating there could be as

many as 472,000 troops with the condition. "There's a lot of good news in this report, but there's also some bad news," Gen Peter Chiarelli told reporters at a Pentagon news conference. "We know we've got still a lot of work to do." Violent sex crimes and domestic violence have increased more than 30% since 2006 and child abuse by 43%.

The findings follow a 2010 report that said the Army was either missing signs that suicidal soldiers were trouble or were looking the other way as commanders tried to keep up with tight deployment schedules in both Iraq and Afghanistan. — *Internet*



Seriously injured soldiers are now treated at specialized units across the US. — *INTERNET*

Six NATO soldiers killed in Afghan helicopter crash

KABUL, 20 Jan — Six NATO soldiers have been killed in a helicopter crash in Afghanistan, the worst crash since 30 soldiers died last August. A NATO statement said the helicopter came down in the south of the country. NATO said no militant activity had been reported in the area at the time. The cause of Thursday's crash is now being investigated.

No further details of the crash would be released until the families of those on board had been informed, NATO said. "The cause of the crash is under investigation, however initial reporting indicates there was no enemy activity in the area at the time of the crash," a spokesman from the International Security Assistance Force led by NATO said on Friday. The British Ministry of Defence said there were no UK soldiers involved.

In August 2011, 30 soldiers, including 22 US Navy Seal commandos, died in a helicopter crash in the east of Afghanistan. They were



aboard a Chinook helicopter that went down in a district of Wardak Province, west of Kabul. Officials, witnesses and the Taliban have said it was shot down by insurgents during a combat mission.

The crash happened on the same day at least seven civilians died in a suicide attack at an airport used by international forces in the southern Afghan City of Kandahar. The attacker, driving a car, detonated explosives close to a gate at the perimeter of the airport. Afghan officials said the victims included two children. — *Internet*

Mexican army frees three children held by alleged gang

MEXICO CITY, 20 Jan — The Mexican army says it has rescued three children who were being held by a suspected criminal gang. Officials said the children had been chained and locked up in a private home in the central City of Mexico. Inside the home, soldiers also found the decapitated body of a man, whose head had been dumped on Tuesday.

Thirteen people suspected of belonging to a criminal gang specializing in theft, kidnapping and drug

trafficking were arrested during the raid. No information was released about the children, or where and when they may have been abducted. Officials only said they would be receiving psychological counselling.

The army said the body found in the apartment belonged to Eduardo Gonzalez Mora. His head had been found inside a motorcycle helmet in the nearby Town of Nueva Morelos de Xochitpec on Tuesday. A threatening



message had been left next to the head signed by a criminal gang calling itself "Los Rojos" (Red Ones). Officials said very little was known about Los

Police found a threatening message at the place where a head was dumped on Tuesday. — *INTERNET*

Rojos.

Morelos State, where Temixco is located, has seen a number of violent events in recent weeks. — *Internet*

Afghan suicide attack kills seven at Kandahar airport

KANDAHAR, 20 Jan — At least seven civilians have died in a suicide attack at an airport used by international forces in the southern Afghan City of Kandahar, officials say. The attacker, driving a car, detonated explosives close to a gate at the perimeter of the airport. NATO says none of its personnel was killed. Afghan officials say the victims included two children.

The Taliban told the BBC it was behind the attack, which analysts say shows Kandahar's fragile security situation. A series of recent attacks has shattered a relative peace enjoyed by Kandahar - seen as the spiritual home of the Taliban, as well as being the birthplace of Afghan President Hamid Karzai. Earlier this month, a series of blasts killed at least 12 people in the city. — *Internet*



The gates to the base are often busy with queuing trucks and cars. — *INTERNET*



BAGHDAD, 20 Jan — A village elder and his three sons have been killed by gunmen south of the Iraqi Capital,

Gunmen kill Iraq village elder and three sons

Baghdad, police say. Mohammed Dwaiyeh's wife and a fourth son were also reportedly wounded when the gunmen burst into their home in Latifiya before dawn and opened fire. Mr Dwaiyeh was

a member of the Awakening Councils, a group of Sunni fighters who fought alongside the US army against al-Qaeda-linked militants.

Awakening Council leaders have been the targets

of many assassinations. Wednesday's attack comes amid a marked deterioration in Iraq's fragile political process since the withdrawal of US forces from the country at the end of last year. — *Internet*



Health Tip: Stick with your healthy New Year's resolutions

People who make New Year's resolutions often have the best of intentions, though these goals frequently slide. The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics suggests how to stick with your goals for the new year:

- * Make your goals specific. For example, instead of proclaiming that you want to exercise, commit to 30 minutes of activity per day.

- * Choose one realistic goal, rather than several goals that are likely to be unachieved.

- * Create a reminder list.

- * Take immediate action, whether it's by changing your diet beginning with the next meal, or by joining a gym.

Internet



Plastic surgeon Denis Boucq poses at his office in a clinic in Nice on 16 December, 2011, holding a defective silicone gel breast implant, which was removed from a patient and manufactured by French company PIP.—INTERNET

High risk oesophageal cancer gene discovered

WASHINGTON, 20 Jan—British researchers have uncovered a gene which plays a key role in the development of oesophageal cancer (cancer of the gullet), according to a study published online Thursday in *American Journal of Human Genetics*.

The research concentrated on three families with a hereditary condition called tylosis with oesophageal cancer. This condition affects the skin and mouth and sufferers have a 95 percent chance of developing oesophageal cancer by the age of 65.

The research revealed that all three families carried a faulty version of a gene

called RHBDP2. Experiments showed that this gene plays an important role in how cells that line the oesophagus, and cells in the skin, respond to injury. When the gene is functioning normally it ensures that cells grow and divide in a controlled fashion to help heal a wound. However, in tylosis patients' cells, and in cells from oesophageal cancers, the gene malfunctions.

This allows cells to divide and grow uncontrollably, causing cancer. The new study was led by Professor David Kelsell from Queen Mary, University of London with collaborators from the University of Dundee and the University of Liverpool.

US study reveals mechanism of lung cancer drug resistance

WASHINGTON, 20 Jan—New research published this week in *Nature Medicine* indicates that targeted drugs such as gefitinib might more effectively treat non-small cell lung cancer if they could be combined with agents that block certain microRNAs.

The study, led by investigators with the Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Centre, shows that overexpression of two genes called MET and EGFR causes the de-

regulation of six microRNAs, and that this deregulation leads to gefitinib resistance.

The findings support the development of agents that restore the levels of these microRNAs.

It offers a new strategy for treating non-small cell lung cancer, which is responsible for about 85 percent of the 221,000 lung-cancer cases and 157,000 deaths that occur annually in

factor receptor (EGFR) is frequently overexpressed in non-small cell lung cancer, and this leads to uncontrolled cell proliferation.

Gefitinib selectively inhibits EGFR activation and triggers cancer cells to self-destruct by apoptosis.

However, non-small cell lung cancer cells inevitably develop resistance to the drug. The



New research published this week in *Nature Medicine* indicates that targeted drugs such as gefitinib might more effectively treat non-small cell lung cancer if they could be combined with agents that block certain microRNAs.—XINHUA

the United States.

It also suggests that measuring the expression levels of certain microRNAs — those controlled by the MET gene — might predict which lung-cancer cases are likely to be resistant to gefitinib.

Epidermal growth

study reveals how this resistance occurs.

"Our findings suggest that gefitinib resistance that is caused by MET overexpression is at least partly due to miRNA deregulation," says principal investigator Carlo Croce.

Xinhua

S Korea approves sales of new B stem cell drug

SEOUL, 20 Jan—South Korea's government drug agency cleared the way Thursday for commercial sales of what it called the world's first approved medicine using stem cells collected from other people.

Cartistem, developed by Seoul-based Medipost, will help regenerate knee cartilage using stem cells developed from newborns' umbilical cord blood, the Korea Food and

Drug Administration said. "Cartistem is... the world's first approved allogeneic (taken from different individuals of the same species) stem cell drug, that can offer new opportunity for treatment of patients with degenerative arthritis," the administration said in a statement. Medipost said 27 billion won (\$23.8 million) from private investors and government funds had been invested to develop Cartistem since

2001. The drug can be injected into a patient's knees via surgery. Clinical trials have been under way in the United States since last year, the statement said.

Two of the world's top 10 drugmakers are in talks to seek a worldwide licence to make the drug, a Medipost spokesman told AFP, adding that final trials involving a large number of people would likely begin in the US in 2015.—INTERNET



This handout photo released by Medipost shows a South Korean researcher holding Cartistem, an allogeneic stem cell drug developed by Seoul-based Medipost in Seoul. South Korea's government drug agency cleared the way Thursday for commercial sales of what it called the world's first approved medicine using stem cells collected from other people.

INTERNET

GM regains crown as top-selling automaker, Toyota No 3

TOKYO, 20 Jan—General Motors Co regained its title as the world's top-selling automaker from Japanese rival Toyota Motor Corp in 2011, but the US company faces a challenge to stay on top this year as Toyota rebuilds its disaster-struck business. GM, bouncing back from bankruptcy only less than three years ago, said on Thursday it had sold 9.026 million vehicles globally last year, up 7.6 percent from 2010, with its Chevrolet brand setting a sales record of 4.76 million vehicles.

The Detroit-based automaker's return to the top slot comes after its 2009 taxpayer-funded bankruptcy restructuring allowed it to cut its spiraling legacy costs. It also comes as Toyota's sales fell an estimated 6



General Motors CEO Dan Akerson smiles while sitting in a GM auto outside of the New York Stock Exchange 18 November, 2010.—INTERNET

percent in 2011 to 7.9 million vehicles, hit by severe production cuts following an earthquake, tsunami and nuclear crisis in Japan, and deadly floods in Thailand.

The Japanese automaker is ramping up production to rebuild depleted inventory and will add output capacity in emerging markets such as Brazil and China this year. But analysts said it also faced stiffer competition as rivals step up their game.

"Toyota's biggest problem is that even without the natural disasters, its sales weren't exactly growing," JP Morgan auto analyst Kohei Takahashi said. "The ranking is not that important, but they need a convincing strategy to boost their sales," he said, adding that Toyota was behind rivals such as Nissan Motor Co in rolling out small cars for emerging markets.—Reuters



Momentum to drain from world economy in 2012

LONDON, 20 Jan—The world economy will lose momentum in 2012 but it will keep moving in the right direction, according to Reuters polls of around 600 economists who said crisis-hit Europe would drag on global growth. Asian economies will again power the expansion of the world economy this year, but with relatively subdued performances. The United States, meanwhile, should continue to contribute modest growth that will easily outpace its recession-hit European peers.

Brazil will be one of the few big economies that will pick up steam this year, outshining slower Latin American stablemates Mexico and Argentina.

A Reuters poll that covers all of the top 20 developed and emerging economies, as well as some others in Asia, suggests global economic growth will slow to around 3.3 percent this year from an estimated 3.7 percent in 2011. That is more optimistic than the latest forecast from the World Bank, which predicted world GDP would rise only 2.5 percent this year.—Reuters

China's 1st interplanetary probe hits mars mission

NEW DELHI, 20 Jan—The loss of China's first interplanetary probe, attached to an ill-fated Russian spacecraft, has cost scientists the chance to conduct breakthrough research on Mars, according to a top scientist. Wu Ji, director-general of the National Space Science Centre under the Chinese Academy of Sciences, said that new objectives must now be considered for a Mars exploration mission, probably in 2016.

Yinghuo-1, launched in November two years later than was originally planned from Kazakhstan on a

Russian spacecraft, crashed into the Pacific Ocean on Monday. The Russian Phobos-Grunt spacecraft the probe hitchhiked on failed to fire two booster engines that would have set it on course for the Red Planet.

However, no reason was given for the failure of the booster engines. Wu said that the failure cost the centre a chance to conduct research and come up with breakthrough findings before their counterparts in the United States.

"We had hoped that the micro-satellite could help us discover something about the atmosphere on Mars," the

China Daily quoted Ji as saying. He also said that the US will send a probe to Mars in 2013. As China's first probe to Mars, the Yinghuo-1 mission had been expected to explore the Red Planet's environment, climate history and look into why water had vanished from the surface.

Those specific objectives were selected by the centre in 2006 to differentiate China's mission from those of other countries.

"Previous missions mainly focused on whether there is water and life on the planet, consequently humans have limited knowledge of the Martian atmosphere," Ji said. NASA's Mars Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution (MAVEN) spacecraft, scheduled to launch in 2013, also aims to find about the Red Planet's atmosphere and climate history, among other tasks.

The MAVEN mission was selected in 2008 from 20 proposals submitted in response to a NASA Announcement of Opportunity in 2006. Both countries are interested in the Martian atmosphere as it continues to be a cause of intrigue for scientists.

Internet



The loss of China's first interplanetary probe, attached to an ill-fated Russian spacecraft, has cost scientists the chance to conduct breakthrough research on Mars.

INTERNET

Why birds of a feather don't always stick together



WASHINGTON, 20 JAN—Visible traits don't always coincide with genetics, a new study has claimed.

According to the new study conducted by researchers from the University of Utah, a bird from one breed may have huge foot feathers, while a closely related breed does not, yet two unrelated pigeon breeds both may have large foot feathers.

"Most people think of pigeons as rats of the sky, but in fact they're really incredibly diverse," Michael Shapiro, senior author of the study, said.

More than 350 breeds of pigeons differ in colour, colour pattern, body size, beak size and shape, structure

of the skeleton, posture, vocalizations, feather placement and flight behaviour.

With the help from pigeon breeders worldwide, the researchers studied the genetic relationships and visible traits of 361 pigeons from 70 domestic breeds and two free-living populations, one from Salt Lake City and the other on Scotland's Isle of Skye.

"What we found through this study is that birds that are only distantly related to each other can have very similar traits, and others that are very closely related to each other can look quite different in terms of their traits," Shapiro said. In some cases, birds of a feather don't stick together —

genetically. The old German owl pigeon and English trumpeter both have head feathers known as a head crest, yet the two pigeon breeds aren't closely related.

In another case, English trumpeters have feathers on their feet instead of scales. So do English pouters. Yet they are not closely related.

Other examples include traits not matching genetics. Pigeon breeds known as the African owl and Budapest short-faced tumbler both have very short beaks, but they are not closely related.

The African owl and old German owl pigeon breeds both have short beaks and are closely related, yet the African owl pigeon has a plain head, while the German owl has a head crest. And the English pouter and Brunner pouter are closely related, yet the former has foot feathers and the latter does not.

Internet



Kerala to have 450 e-toilets by March

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, 20 Jan—Kerala will have 450 functional e-toilets by the end of this fiscal, becoming the first state in India with Connected Toilet Infrastructure which would be on a par with health and hygiene standards of developed countries.

An e-toilet has an automated door opening, power flushing, automatic closet washing and sterilisation and automatic platform-cleaning mechanism — all backed by SMS alerts to inform a control room about the status of water tank and biogas plant in the event of any errors or failures.

The product has been developed by city-based Eram Scientific Solutions Pvt Ltd, a part of Eram Group which has operational presence in India, the Middle East and Southeast Asia. This latest technological innovation is a convergence of web-mobile-electronics technologies and is expected to bring about a revolutionary change in the public health and hygiene sector of the state, a company statement said Friday.—Internet



An e-toilet occupies around 20 square feet and has two doors — a sliding door at the front and a normal door ahead of the toilet.—INTERNET



Intel boosts capex, beats tempered expectations

SAN FRANCISCO, 20 Jan—Intel Corp sharply increased its capital expenditure budget for 2012 in a bid to catch up in tablets and smartphones and to extend its lead in corporate data centers. The chipmaker's fourth-quarter earnings beat scaled-back expectations on Thursday as it faces a tough PC market hit by a weak economy and shortage of hard drives.

Rushing to speed up its development of competitive chips for smartphones and tablets, Intel said it is boosting capital spending in 2012 to \$12.5 billion, plus or minus \$400 million. Last year its capital expenditures were \$10.7 billion. Analysts on a



A woman takes a photo of ultrabooks at the Intel booth during the 2012 International Consumer Electronics Show (CES) in Las Vegas, Nevada on 10 Jan, 2012.

INTERNET

call with Chief Executive Paul Otellini and other executives questioned whether increased spending by Intel could become

permanent and hurt profit margins. Chief Financial Officer Stacy Smith told them it would pay off in the long run to make more invest-

ments now in cutting-edge facilities to develop and make chips for smartphones and a new category of super-thin laptops dubbed "Ultrabooks."

"We'll come down from here, but this is an investment year for us in some areas where I think we'll get long-term shareholder return," Smith said. Intel warned last month that the damage wrought by flooding in Thailand—the world's largest producer of computer drives—would curtail December-quarter earnings in a PC market already hit by a weak economy.

Reuters

Windows Phone 7 may get Instagram before Android

NEW YORK, 20 Jan—Instagram has catapulted to major success, winning iPhone's app of the year and spawning an entire ecosystem of smartphone photo products. Despite its enormous popularity, the app has remained rather simple, with only one major upgrade being issued and the team staying relatively small.

But an Android app has

always been the biggest priority for Instagram, and CEO Kevin Systrom confirmed as much during Le Web this year. Now, it appears that Windows Phone 7 users will get their hands on the much-anticipated app first. Insiders tell FastCompany that just may be the case. "A source recently left the impression that the Windows Phone team has possibly been working

with the folks from Instagram," says the site. Systrom would not confirm or deny the rumor. "Other than having pre-announced Android, we don't comment on roadmap stuff." Momentum has been building for WP7. The Nokia Lumia 900 has been incredibly well-received, and Microsoft has been hard at work fine-tuning built-in features for its fleet of phones.—Internet



Rumor has it that the hit app will be making its way to Windows Phones before it debuts on Android.—INTERNET

Sony Ericsson phone
Shipments of Sony
Ericsson's mobiles were
down 20% from
a year ago.
INTERNET



Microsoft quarterly profits fall slightly

NEW YORK, 20 Jan — Microsoft's profits in the three months to the end of December fell slightly as lower computer sales hit its core Windows business. The world's largest software firm made a net profit of \$6.624bn (£4.27bn), against \$6.634bn for its second quarter last

welcomed the figures, with Microsoft's shares rising 2.1% in after-hours trading.

Colin Gillis, an analyst with BGC, said: "People were afraid it was going to be much, much worse." Tighter cost control and a continuing reduction of losses at the Bing search engine helped boost

The computer industry is facing a worldwide shortage of hard disk drives due to flood devastation in Thailand hitting suppliers. from the growth of tablet computers such as Apple's iPad and mobile devices using Google's Android system. However, Microsoft is hitting back with the release of Windows 8, an operating system for PCs and mobile devices.

Microsoft chief executive Steve Ballmer said in a statement: "We delivered solid financial results, even as we prepare for a launch year that will accelerate many of our key products and services." During the quarter the Windows and Windows Live division posted revenue of \$4.74bn, a 6% fall on the previous year. The Entertainment & Devices division saw the sharpest revenue rise, up 15% to \$4.24bn. — *Internet*



A fall in global computer sales has hurt sales of Microsoft's Windows operating system. — *INTERNET*

year. Revenues rose 5% to \$20.89bn, slightly down on some analysts' expectations. server, Xbox 360 and online services arms. Wall Street

the figures, he said. Analysts were expecting a fall in business at the Windows division due to slower sales of PCs.

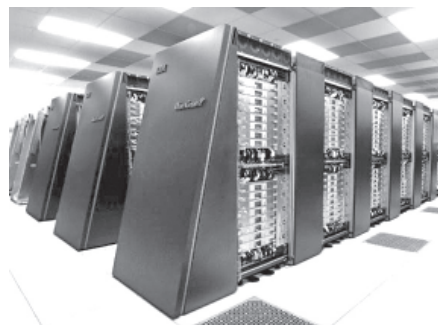
Chinese supercomputer begins operations

BEIJING, 20 Jan — China's Sunway BlueLight supercomputer, which was built with domestically-produced microprocessors and is capable of performing around 1,000 trillion calculations per second, has officially begun operations.

The computer began working on Thursday at the National Supercomputing Centre in the eastern City of Jinan in Shandong Province, *Xinhua* reported.

The computer was installed in September 2011 and underwent a three-month trial period before going into official use, making China the third country in the world - after the US and Japan - to produce such a supercomputer with domestically-produced processors.

Developed by the National Research Centre of Parallel Computer Engineering and Technology, the Sunway BlueLight marks a great technological leap for China's indigenous innovation in development and utilisation of high-performance computers, the centre said. The Sunway BlueLight will promote



China's Sunway BlueLight supercomputers. — *INTERNET*

scientific and economic development of Shandong in fields of ocean utilisation, biopharmacy, industrial design and financial risk prediction.

Internet

Eastman Kodak files for bankruptcy protection

NEW YORK, 20 Jan — Eastman Kodak, the company that invented the hand-held camera, has filed for bankruptcy protection. The

move gives the company time to reorganize itself without facing its creditors, and Kodak said that it would mean business as normal for customers. The company has recently moved away from cameras to focus on making printers, to try to stem its losses.

The 133-year-old firm has struggled to keep up with competitors who were quicker to adapt to the digital era. "Kodak made all its money from selling film, then the digital camera came along and

Sony Ericsson reports fourth quarter loss

TOKYO, 20 Jan — Mobile phone company Sony Ericsson has reported a fourth quarter loss, citing tough competition and the global economic slowdown for the deficit. The firm — which is soon to be fully taken over by Sony — posted a net loss of 207m euros (\$267m; £173m), compared with an 8m euro profit a year ago. Sony Ericsson also said it had been hit by component shortages following the floods in Thailand last year.

The firm reported a net loss of 247m euros for the whole of 2011. Chief executive Bert Nordberg said: "Our fourth quarter results reflected intense competition, unfavourable macroeconomic conditions and the effects of

a natural disaster in Thailand." Sales for the final three months of 2011 were 1.3bn euros, down 16% from the same period a year earlier, and 13% less than the previous quarter. The company shipped nine million handsets in the fourth quarter, down 20% from a year ago.

In October last year, Japan's Sony agreed to take full control of Sony Ericsson from Sweden's Ericsson. Sony is buying Ericsson's 50% of the business for 1.1bn euros, a deal which is expected to be completed within the next few weeks. After the release of Sony Ericsson's results, Ericsson said the mobile phone maker's loss would cut its fourth quarter earnings by 1.1bn crowns (\$160.3m; £104m). — *Internet*

Google revenues worse than expected

NEW YORK, 20 Jan — Google reported a 27% increase in revenues for the last three months of 2011, but even that was not good enough to meet Wall Street estimates, sending the shares tumbling. Google shares fell 10% in after-hours trading to \$575. It reported 3-month revenues of \$10.6bn (£6.8bn). Its net profit rose 6.4% to \$2.7bn. "Google had a really strong quarter ending a great year," said chief executive Larry Page.

"I am super excited about the growth of Android, Gmail, and Google+, which now has 90 million users globally — well over double what I announced just three months ago." But analysts were less impressed. "Expectations were very high and they have



The amount Google managed to charge advertisers per click fell 8%. — *INTERNET*

missed that," said Trip Chowdhry, from Global Equities Research. "Unlike Microsoft and Intel, estimates for Google have been rising for a few months."

The number of clicks on Google's search adverts rose significantly in the fourth quarter, but the amount that

Google was able to charge advertisers for each click fell 8%. "Expectations had got ahead of themselves for Google, largely because investors don't have a good feel for what happens outside the US," said Jordan Rohan from Stifel Nicolaus.

Internet

Kodak moments

Kodak founder George Eastman produced the first camera film in rolls in 1883

The firm Kodak is set up in 1888 and launches the first consumer camera in 1888 with the slogan: "You Press the button, we do the rest"

In 1900 Kodak introduces a consumer camera for \$1 called the Brownie, which goes on to become a best-seller in America

In 1969 a Kodak camera is used during the first Moon landing

Kodak claims to have invented the world's first digital camera in 1975. It had a resolution of 0.1 megapixels; the camera was the size of a toast



Kodak's Philip Cullimore says the company has already begun transforming itself.
INTERNET



NEW YORK, 20 Jan — Eastman Kodak, the company that invented the hand-held camera, has filed for bankruptcy protection. The

move gives the company time to reorganize itself without facing its creditors, and Kodak said that it would mean business as normal for customers. The company has recently moved away from cameras to focus on making printers, to try to stem its losses.

The 133-year-old firm has struggled to keep up with competitors who were quicker to adapt to the digital era. "Kodak made all its money from selling film, then the digital camera came along and

now no-one's buying film. It's not like they didn't see it coming. Kodak hesitated because they didn't want to eviscerate their business," said Rupert Goodwins, editor of technology website ZDNet.

Announcing the move to seek bankruptcy protection, Antonio Perez, Kodak's chairman and chief executive, said: "The board of directors and the entire senior management team unanimously believe that this is a necessary step and the

right thing to do for the future of Kodak." The company said it had already arranged a \$950m (£615m) credit facility from Citigroup to keep it going.

The bankruptcy protection move by Kodak affects its operations and companies in the US, but the company said its non-US subsidiaries were not included in the move and would

continue to operate as usual. Its shares were suspended following the announcement. They last traded at 36 cents per share. Kodak's shares have been in decline over the past decade. It fell out of the Dow Jones Industrial Average of 30 top US companies in 2004. That year, its shares were around \$30 each. — *Internet*

Vienna ball dropped from UNESCO Austrian heritage list

VIENNA, 20 Jan — The Viennese ball has been dropped from a list of Austrian cultural traditions compiled by UN cultural body UNESCO. The move comes after protests from anti-fascist campaigners, who say one event that the Austrian arm of UNESCO included as an example of Vienna's ball season has links to far-right politics.

Ewa Nowotny, president of Austria's UNESCO commission, expressed "regret" over the listing of the WKR Ball. The ball's organizers deny any link to the extreme right. Every year the ball attracts demonstrations by activists who say it is attended largely by members of far-right groups, and by far-right politicians from across Europe. This year's event, scheduled for 27 January, is expected to see similar protests.

A "clarified" list of Viennese balls could be reinstated to the list of "intangible cultural traditions", Ms Nowotny said, according to local media. But she added that UNESCO's list



Vienna's ball season is currently in full swing, INTERNET

had to reflect the body's principles, "which give a special priority to tolerance and respect for other cultures, and to esteem for cultural diversity". Nobel Prize-winning Austrian author Elfriede Jelinek had been among those who condemned the WKR Ball's inclusion on the list. She said the inclusion of the "scandalous event" was a "denigration of Austria", and called for the Austrian UNESCO commission to resign, reports *Die Presse* newspaper. — *Internet*

China wealth fund buys nearly 9% of Thames Water

LONDON, 20 Jan — China Investment Corporation (CIC), the country's \$410bn

sovereign wealth fund, has bought an 8.68% stake in the UK utility group Thames Water. It marks the fund's first acquisition in the UK and follows a visit to China this week by Chancellor George Osborne. In a short statement CIC said it bought the stake through a wholly-owned subsidiary, but did not reveal a price.

CIC was set up in 2007 to invest some of China's huge \$3.18 trillion in foreign exchange reserves. CIC chairman Lou Jiwei had

recently said that the company was interested in investing in European and US infrastructure. Thames Water is the UK's largest water and sewerage company, serving about 14 million customers.

Mr Osborne met China's Vice-Premier Wang Qishan and the heads of CIC and the ICBC bank on Tuesday. He also announced that Britain had agreed to work with Hong Kong to develop the City of London as a major offshore centre of trade in China's yuan currency. — *Internet*

CIC had previously said it wanted to invest in European infrastructure. INTERNET



Megaupload file-sharing site shut down

NEW YORK, 20 Jan — Megaupload, one of the Internet's largest file-sharing sites, has been shut down by officials in the US. The site's founders have been charged with violating piracy laws. Federal prosecutors have accused it of costing copyright holders more than \$500m (£320m) in lost revenue. The firm says it was diligent in responding to complaints about pirated material.

The news came a day after anti-piracy law protests, but investigators said they were ordered two weeks ago. The US Justice Department said that Megaupload's two co-founders Kim Dotcom, formerly known as Kim Schmitz, and Mathias Ortmann were arrested in Auckland, New Zealand along with two other employees of the business at the request of US officials. It added that three other defendants were still at large. "This action is among

the largest criminal copyright cases ever brought by the United States and directly targets the misuse of a public content storage and distribution site to commit and facilitate intellectual property crime," said a statement posted on its website.

In response, hackers targeted the US Department of Justice and FBI websites. The FBI website is intermittently unavailable due to what officials said was being "treated as a malicious

act". The hackers' group Anonymous said it was carrying out the attacks. *Internet*

Megaupload charged users a fee to upload large files anonymously. INTERNET



Apple launches e-textbook tools with new iBooks

LONDON, 20 Jan — Apple aims to drive the use of electronic textbooks in the classroom by making it easier for publishers to create interactive titles. The company has announced a range of new tools and services which it claims will "reinvent the textbook".

Leading names in educational resources are involved, including the world's biggest, UK-based Pearson Publishing.

Apple will compete with existing offerings from Amazon's Kindle and Barnes and Noble's Nook device. Roger Rosner, Apple's

vice president of productivity applications, demonstrated the books, some of which are now available to download, at an event in New York. Also on display was iBooks Author, a free programme that will allow educators and authors to make their own interactive books for the iPad. Apple has also said it has enhanced iTunes U — the educational section of its iTunes store — to allow a wider breadth of university level resources. The company's senior vice-president, Philip Schiller, said books aimed at high school students would be priced at \$14.99 (£10) or below. *Internet*



The iBook Author programme allows educators and authors to create their own e-textbooks. INTERNET

Depression drugs 'causing falls'

LONDON, 20 Jan — Elderly people with dementia are more likely to suffer falls if they are given anti-depressants by care home staff, a study claims. Many dementia patients also suffer from depression and drugs known as selective serotonin uptake inhibitors (SSRIs) are frequently prescribed. But the *British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology* reports that the risk of injuries from falls was tripled.

The Alzheimer's Society called for more research into alternative treatments. The risk of falls following treatment with older anti-depressants is well

Dr Carolyn Sterke recorded the daily drug use and records of falls in 248 nursing home residents over a two-year period.

The average age of the residents was 82, and the records suggested that 152 of them had suffered a total of 683 falls. The consequences of falls were relatively high, with 220 resulting in injuries including hip fractures and other broken bones — and one resident died following a fall.

The risk of having an injury-causing fall was three times higher in residents taking SSRIs compared with those



Falls are the leading cause of accidental death in the over-65s. — INTERNET

established, as the medication can cause side effects such as dizziness and unsteadiness. It had been hoped that a move to newer SSRI-type drugs would reduce these problems, but the latest research, from the Erasmus University Medical Centre in Rotterdam, appears to show the reverse.

not taking the drug, and this risk rose further if the patient was being given sedative drugs as well. Dr Sterke said that these risks needed to be taken into account when assessing whether anti-depressants were required, in prescribing SSRIs to older people with dementia, even at low doses. — *Internet*

Mozambique and SA's Kruger park hit by deadly floods

MAPUTO, 20 Jan — Four people have died and more than 4,000 others are without shelter after torrential rains in Mozambique. Three days of storms and high winds have hit water and power supplies and destroyed farm animals and cash crops. The storms have also led neighbouring South Africa to close its famous Kruger National Park, where helicopters have been used to evacuate tourists. Meteorologists warn a stronger weather system is approaching Mozambique, where flooding in 2000 left 700 people dead. It was the worst flooding in Mozambique's living memory and half a million people were also made homeless.

The worst affected areas are in the southern Gaza and Maputo provinces, the national relief agency says. According to Dulce Chilundo of the Disaster Management Institute, tents and food are being sent to those who have lost their homes. The two others were killed when their homes collapsed — one after a tree hit the house, she told the BBC. The capital, Maputo, is also affected by the heavy rains with drivers having to manoeuvre through water of up to a metre in some areas, the BBC's Jose Tembe reports from the city. *Internet*



The floods in 2000 left more than half a million people homeless. — INTERNET



President U Thein Sein received US Senator Mr Addison Mitchell McConnell on 17-1-2012.—MNA

President U Thein Sein gives an interview...

(from page 1)

as political party and soon, she will be contesting in the upcoming by-election. If people elected her, she will be in the Hluttaw as a member of parliament. If she is elected, the Hluttaw will warmly welcome her. Another matter is regarding armed ethnic groups, first we had to build trust with them. We have signed agreements on common agreeable points. There are many things to be done for the internal peace. Whether they have come to the legal fold with or without arms, the main necessary things for them are food, clothing and shelter, health and education for their well-being. We have to continue to fulfill their needs.

Washington Post: I read in the newspaper. Which group you have reached ceasefire agreement with? Is it Karen group?

President: There are altogether (11) armed ethnic groups. In the first step, we have to discuss with them to achieve mutual understanding and agreement at State level. Then, we assigned separate groups to have meetings with them on behalf of the government. We have been engaged with all groups. We have already signed agreement with some of whom we engaged. However, the peace process is not finished yet. We have to continue our negotiations with them to reach agreement.

Washington Post: Are they making peace after reaching agreement with the government?

President: We will negotiate to get mutual agreement in building peace. In order to achieve lasting peace, every armed group has to come to the legal fold, and live under one law in equality. To reach this stage, we have to take time and negotiate with them.

Washington Post: Do you have any plan to give a position in the cabinet to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi if she won the election and becoming a member of parliament?

President: Firstly, it depends on whether she will be elected by the people or not in the election. If she is elected by the people, she will be in the Hluttaw. Secondly, it is required to get approval from the Hluttaw to submit name for the cabinet member. A cabinet appointment can be made only after getting approval from the Hluttaw. All the current cabinet Ministers are also appointed by the approval of Hluttaw.

Washington Post: Do you want to see Daw Aung San Suu Kyi as a cabinet Minister?

President: We will accept anyone as a cabinet Minister who is appointed by the approval of the Hluttaw.

Washington Post: How would you like to see Myanmar-US relations? What do you expect?

President: Currently there have been a lot of engagements between Myanmar and the US. The US Secretary of

State has visited here. I've received Senator McConnell just this morning. Our expectation is first, we would like to have friendly relations not only with the US but also with all countries of the world. Second, we would like to up grade our diplomatic relations at Ambassador level since we do not have Ambassadorial level with the United States right now. Third, US and EU have imposed economic sanctions against our country for over 20 years. Therefore, we want easing of economic sanctions. This desire is not only of the President alone but also the desire of the majority of the people.

Washington Post: In recent months, you have done a lot with great effort to successfully implement the reform process. I have heard that a few days ago, the US Secretary of State Ms. Clinton made an announcement that Myanmar-US relations to be normalized and Ambassadors will be appointed again. Have you heard about this new?

President: Yes, I heard. But until now Ambassador has not been appointed yet.

Washington Post: Yes, true. Some matters are slow in Washington. I hope you have heard about this from Senator McConnell.

President: There are (3) concerns of the western countries regarding Myanmar. The first concern is the release of the so-called political prisoners. Second concern is holding of by-elections. Third concern is for Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and her groups to be included in the political process. These (3) concerns are what the western countries have been asking from us. Now, I have dealt with all the (3) concerns. Myanmar has done her part. The rest is for US and EU to do their parts. Besides, we have done these things, neither by anyone's recommendation nor by any coercion, as a necessity of the present situation of the country.

Washington Post: Did you do it because of the pressure?

President: No. Not because of pressure. Those are things that must be done in accordance with the changing system.

Washington Post: Did you do such reform because of the sanctions? United States thinks that sanction is effective on Myanmar.

President: Frankly speaking the previous military government did not fall because of the sanctions. The military government transferred the state responsibility after taking necessary reforms to establish a democratic government. Sanction, therefore, did not affect the government. However, the people had suffered. They are hard hit. Sanction had caused poverty to the people.

Washington Post: President, are you referring to the 7-step road map laid down by Senior General Than Shwe?

President: Right. The previous government did not fall. Sanction could not cause the government to fall. At the very beginning the government had the intention

to undertake democratic reform. In pursuant to their intention, the 7-step road map was laid down and implemented step by step. Finally, a government which practices the democratic system was formed.

Washington Post: Did the 7-step road map pave the way to democracy?

President: Right.

Washington Post: A few people from outside know about this matter. During the dinner with Senator Mitchell McConnell, I came to understand that the reforms process in Myanmar have been arranged many years back.

President: There are many countries that are in trouble today due to hasty democratic transformation. As you are well aware, these countries became almost collapse because of their hasty democratic change within a short period of time. That's why we have laid down the 7-step road map and took time to change step by step. Eventually, now a government practicing democratic system has emerged.

Washington Post: Is it true that 25% of the seat in Hluttaw will be allocated to Tatmadaw? It is found that Tatmadaw also has been involved in the present reform process. I believe that democracy is the rule of people, and government has the authority over military forces.

President: Tatmadaw does not interfere in the administration. As you see, one fourth of Hluttaw members are from armed forces. Country like Myanmar could not neglect the armed forces. Tatmadaw is providing assistance in building the country. Armed forces never interfere in the administration.

Washington Post: We understand that armed forces must be involved. However, I would like to stress that people's power must prevail. The people's power shall prevail over everything. In US, the President's power is greater than Chief of the Armed Forces.

President: Right. It is the same in Myanmar. You should study a little on Myanmar Constitution. In accordance with the Constitution, the President appoints the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.

Washington Post: Next is relationship with DPRK. Recently, Republican Senator Lugar has accused that Myanmar is implementing a nuclear program with the assistance of DPRK. So, I would like to know if there is any likelihood of abolishing military cooperation between Myanmar and DPRK.

President: We have diplomatic relations with DPRK. Apart from this diplomatic relations, there are no other relationship on nuclear or weapons of mass destruction weapons. These are all suspicions on us. Because Myanmar is a country always advocating nuclear non-proliferation in the international forums. Moreover, Myanmar is a country that strictly follows the UN Resolutions. In fact, we have no relations with North Korea in terms of nuclear weapon and other

(See page 9)

President U Thein Sein gives an interview...

(from page 8)

weapons. North Korea is not a country in a position to provide assistance to Myanmar. Myanmar is also not a country enough to produce the nuclear weapon. This is just groundless accusation.

Washington Post: If so, Mr. President, will you allow the IAEA investigation mission to come to Myanmar?

President: First step, we have to sign the IAEA Additional Protocol. This matter is under consideration. We have to submit this matter to Hluttaw. Having the approval from Hluttaw and after signing the IAEA Additional Protocol, further consideration will be taken on the matter of receiving the IAEA investigation mission. For the time being, we have not yet reached the step of signing the said Protocol.

Washington Post: Can you tell me anything that you wish to convey to the American readers?

President: I wish to say that the present government is a government elected by the people to practice the democratic system. We are already on the path of democracy. As we are already on the path of democracy, we will proceed forward and there is no reason to turn back. However, the new government has been in office only for nine months. We have little experience in democracy. Democratic practices are still weak. We could not be compared on par with

the American who has practiced democracy for more than hundred years. There are two main requirements to flourish democracy. The first requirement is peace and stability of the country. We have been implementing this. We have also engaged with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. We are working with the ethnic groups to achieve peace. The second requirement is the economic development that create job opportunities for the people and improve the socio-economic life of the people. So that democracy will flourish. We are also working on it. For the time being, job opportunities are very low in Myanmar. As a result, about three million Myanmar immigrant workers are working in other countries. The current poverty rate in Myanmar is 26%. This is the result of the economic sanctions imposed against Myanmar for more than twenty years. Economic sanctions only resulted in lost of job opportunities, creating poverty, and then increase jobless rate. The people are affected. So, if you wish Myanmar to continue practicing democracy, and democracy to flourish, you should work together to lift the economic sanctions. Such a powerful paper like Washington Post should urge for this.

Washington Post: US Senator Mitch McConnell himself is an active person in matters concerning sanction. I've learnt that even he is on your side. You, yourself told that development of the country is important. Are you going to privatize the country? Or, I wish to know whether you are going to invite foreign investment to Myanmar?

President: Right. We always welcome foreign investments. We have amended the foreign investment laws in order for them to do investment in Myanmar without difficulty. However, only when the sanctions were lifted, they will come and invest with confidence.

Washington Post: But, the investors could also question about the rule of law in Myanmar.

President: Now, the country is stable. We now have cease fire with armed groups in border areas. In fact, the main difficulty for the investors is the sanctions. There are no other difficulties.

Washington Post: You have accomplished many things within nine months. Furthermore, how are you going to do for freedom of media? Particularly, I would like to know about the Media law of 1960. I wish also to know whether private daily newspaper will be allowed to publish. I would like to know because my family owns the Washington Post.

President: With regard to media, you will also notice. It is not like previous government's time. Journals have been written freely. However, as I told you we have very little democratic experience. Therefore, while allowing freedom of press, we are taking measures to ensure that freedom with responsibility, freedom with accountability, freedom with rationalism and discipline will be applied. Responsibility and accountability also come with freedom.

Washington Post: Will censor be abolished upon the freedom of media?

President: For the time being, media freedom is granted. Law will be enacted.

UEC scrutinizes political party

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Jan—An 18-member group including U Saw Win Tun applied to the Union Election Commission to set up Tailai (Red Shan) Nationalities Development Party (TNDP) today.

The UEC requested related ministries to scrutinize if those wishing to set up the political party are in line with the provision of Section 4 and 6 of Political Parties Registration Law. MNA

Counterfeit revenue stamps exposed, action taken against offenders

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Jan—As some unscrupulous persons print and sell the loose and instant document forms of revenue stamps worth K 5, K 6, K 10 and K 25, which are not officially published by the Government, in some townships, the authorities concerned exposed offenders who committed printing and sales of counterfeit revenue

stamps.

The Internal Revenue Department recently issued a warning that if the contracts are signed with the counterfeit revenue stamps, there will be unofficial deeds for people who will face many losses. Thus, the department said that they should submit subjects for signing the agreements and types of contract with correct sorts of stamps to the respective

Township IRD without buying any counterfeit stamp. Not to cause any loss for the people, information about fake stamp makers is to be given to respective Internal Revenue Department.

If any person, not assigned duty as stamp seller, sells out the stamps or illegally possesses any type of stamp or makes fake stamps or

machinery to produce counterfeit stamps and possesses them in hand or uses the fake stamps as real stamps, they shall face imprisonment or fine. Hence, the people are to take special heed in buying stamps from private shops. Arrangements have been made that various types of stamps at correct prices are available at Internal Revenue Departments for the people.

Aung Moe Kyi-IRD

Emergence of roads and bridges testifying to national development

Byline & Photos: Kalay-Win Thu

Road Special Group No. 11 camping in Taungkhinyan Village near 32 miles away from Gangaw on Kalay-Gangaw Road is upgrading Gangaw-Kalay Road.

Of 111 villages in Gangaw Township, Taungkhinyan Village is the most developed one with Taungkhinyan Dam,

plantations, police station, basic education high school (branch), exam centre, telephone station, library and railway station. In addition, the village is famed for its bountiful paddy, and beans and pulses around Yaw region. Required arrangements are being made to have the Internet access in telephone exchange station.

On my one-day visit in Kalay, I interviewed a superintending engineer about Gangaw-Kalay Road which will be a link among Myanmar, India and Thailand and beneficial to villages along the road.

Along the road, we were captivated by well-tendered Panmon Bridge built by road special group No. 11 in 2004, Myaungchaung Bridge built in 2008 and Kabamee Bridge built by Myanma Railways.

After 15-minute drive from Kabamee Bridge, we arrived in Kyantha Village which is the last village in Kalay region, and also the last one of Gangaw region in upgrading Gangaw-Kalay Road. Thanks to Kalay-Gangaw Road, Kyantha Village developed into a large one.

Later on, we stopped over in Hanthawady Village constituted with over 1000 houses. The village is bustling with life like a city due to railroad and motorroad



Gangaw-Kalay Road constructed by Road Special Group No. 11

from Gangaw-Kalay Road.

Before long, we reached a new road between Hanthawady and Taungkhinyan on which newly constructed bridges lie. When completed, people will be able to take a trip to India and Thailand using the road.

We got to splendid Zapho Creek Bridge at sunset. The bridge situated 12 miles away from Gangaw and four miles from Gangaw-Kalay Road is 24 feet wide. The

worksite where the road special construction group No. 11 is carrying out lies 14 miles away from the bridge.

Now upgrading work of Gangaw-Kalay Road enters ten-year period which started in 2001-2002 fiscal year.

Gangaw-Kalay Road is beneficial not only to Kalay, Gangaw and the Chin mountain but also to India-Myanmar-Thailand transport network. Towns and villages along the Gangaw-Kalay

Road will gain benefits in economic, social, education and health sectors attendant upon upgrading of the road.

To sum up, emergence of roads and bridges testifies to development of the country. All are in need to engage in development tasks in building a developed country utilizing such roads and bridges.

Translation: ZZS



Overpass constructed by Road Special Group No. 11 at Kalay-Gangaw border.

Bulgaria bans shale gas drilling with 'fracking' method



Bread loaves symbolised nature at an anti-fracking rally in the Bulgarian Capital Sofia.— INTERNET

SOPIA, 20 Jan.—Bulgaria has become the second European country after France to ban exploratory drilling for shale gas using the extraction method called "fracking". Bulgarian MPs voted overwhelmingly for a ban on Wednesday, following big street protests by environmentalists. Bulgaria has revoked a shale gas permit granted to US energy giant Chevron. Critics say shale gas drilling can poison underground water and even cause earthquakes. Industry experts say correct drilling is safe.

Hydraulic fracking

involves releasing gas trapped in rocks by pumping in water mixed with sand and chemicals at high pressure. The technique is used widely in Canada and the US. The Bulgarian drilling ban stipulates a fine of 100m leva (£43m; \$66m) for any infringements. Last Saturday protesters rallied in several Bulgarian cities urging the government to halt drilling for shale gas. Currently Bulgaria and many of its former communist neighbours rely heavily on imported Russian gas. Chevron had been given a permit to prospect for shale

gas in northeastern Bulgaria.

Bulgaria has become the second European country after France to ban exploratory drilling for shale gas using the extraction method called "fracking". Bulgarian MPs voted overwhelmingly for a ban on Wednesday, following big street protests by environmentalists. Bulgaria has revoked a shale gas permit granted to US energy giant Chevron. Critics say shale gas drilling can poison underground water and even cause earthquakes. Industry experts say correct drilling is safe.

Hydraulic fracking involves releasing gas trapped in rocks by pumping in water mixed with sand and chemicals at high pressure. The technique is used widely in Canada and the US. The Bulgarian drilling ban stipulates a fine of 100m leva (£43m; \$66m) for any infringements. Last Saturday protesters rallied in several Bulgarian cities urging the government to halt drilling for shale gas.—Internet

PIP implant review could result in new insurance scheme

LONDON, 20 Jan.—An insurance scheme for cosmetic surgery patients could be introduced after the PIP breast implants scandal. Sir Bruce Keogh, who is leading the government review into PIP implants, told the BBC the scheme would protect consumers. Although there is no clear evidence PIP implants cause harm, the NHS will remove and replace those it fitted.

But patients who were treated privately are being told by most clinics they must pay for the procedure. About 40,000 women in Britain have implants made by the French firm Poly Implant Prothese (PIP). The 3,000 cancer patients who had them for breast reconstruction will have their implants replaced for free by the NHS for compassionate reasons to ease the concern of patients.

But that leaves thousands of women—fitted with implants that contain industrial silicone that is not supposed to be in human

bodies—with no official recourse for help. The three leading clinics which performed breast implant operations, and which would have used the PIP products, are Transform, the Harley Medical Group and Surgicare.

All three have declined

to offer free replacements for their patients despite the government saying they have a moral obligation to their customers. An insurance scheme for future cosmetic surgery patients would offer greater protection for consumers in these scenarios.

Internet



PIP implants contain industrial silicone but there is no evidence they pose a health risk.— INTERNET

WHO says dangerous abortions 'on the rise'

GENEVA, 20 Jan.—A rising proportion of abortions worldwide are putting women's health at risk, researchers say. The World Health Organization study suggests global abortion rates are steady, at 28 per 1,000 women a year. However, the proportion of the total carried out without trained clinical help rose from 44% in 1995 to 49% in 2008.

The *Lancet*, which carried the report, said the figures were "deeply disturbing". Unsafe abortion is one of the main contributors to maternal death worldwide, and refers to procedures outside hospitals, clinics and surgeries, or without qualified medical supervision. Women are more vulnerable to dangerous infection or bleeding in these environments.

In developing countries, particularly those with more

restrictive abortion laws, most abortions are unsafe, with 97% of abortions in Africa described this way. In comparison, 95% of abortions in Latin America were deemed unsafe, falling to 40% in Asia, 15% in Oceania and 9% in Europe. To compile the figures—often a difficult task in countries where abortion is illegal—the researchers used surveys, official statistics and hospital records.

Internet



The Guttacher Institute's Gilda Sedgh on the WHO study into abortion.

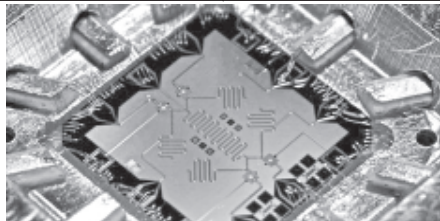
INTERNET

Study says Quantum computing could head to 'the cloud'

LONDON, 20 Jan.—A novel high-speed, high-security computing technology will be compatible with the "cloud computing" approach popular on the web, a study suggests. Quantum computing will use the inherent uncertainties in quantum physics to carry out fast, complex computations. A report in *Science* shows the trick can extend to "cloud" services such as Google Docs without loss of security.

This "blind quantum computing" can be carried out without a cloud computer ever knowing what the data is. Quantum computing has been heralded as the most powerful potential successor to traditional, electronics-based computing. One of the peculiarities of the branch of physics called quantum mechanics is that objects can be in more than one state at once, with the states of different objects tied together in ways that even Albert Einstein famously referred to as "spooky".

Instead of the 0 and 1 "bits" of digital computing, quantum computing aims to make use of these mixed and entangled states to perform calculations at comparatively breathtaking speeds. Other quantum trickery comes in



Simple laboratory-based quantum computers may yet find a way to the desktop.— INTERNET

cryptography, the art of encrypting data. Data is encoded in delicately prepared states—most often those of single particles of light called photons—and the data cannot be "read" without destroying them.

Quantum cryptography uses this feature to send the "keys" to decrypting messages with high security. However, the quantum computing approach is still in its formative stages, able to carry out only simple calculations—and quantum cryptography is, for the most part, limited to the laboratory setting. The world in which both are accessible to consumers has seemed distant.—Internet

Drink or drug-driving crackdown sees 7,200 arrested

LONDON, 20 Jan.—More than 7,200 people in England and Wales were arrested during the Christmas crackdown on drink and drug drivers, figures show. Nearly 157,000 people were tested between 1 December and 1 January. The Association of Chief Police Officers (Acpo) says young drivers had a higher rate of offending at 5.7%, compared with 4% of over-25s.

Safety campaigners say the data shows warnings about drink and drug-driving are not working. AA president Edmund King said he had hoped that positive tests across the UK would be lower this year but admitted

the weather had played a part in previous figures. He said: "We were worried that the absence of the snow and ice, which had kept many people at home around Christmas in the last two years, would lead to an increase."

"For the last two years it has been a simple case that people who can't go out can't drink and drive." Officers from 43 forces in England and Wales tested drivers at all times of the day and night. Deputy Chief Constable of Northamptonshire Police Suzette Davenport, who is Acpo lead for road policing, said the consequences of drink and drug-driving were far-reaching. She said: "It's not only socially irresponsible but it raises serious issues for those that ignore the risks."

"Those convicted are likely to face a lengthy driving ban and possible loss of jobs and livelihoods, with some even facing imprisonment." This year police forces undertook intelligence-led testing. The result was that a larger percentage of the smaller sample of drivers tested failed the test.

Internet



The drink and drug driving campaign ran from 1 December to 1 January.— INTERNET

Meghalaya, India: Where women rule, and men are suffragettes

LONDON, 20 Jan.—In the small hilly Indian state of Meghalaya, a matrilineal system operates with property names and wealth passing from mother to daughter rather than father to son — but some men are campaigning for change.



In the small hilly Indian state of Meghalaya, a matrilineal system operates with property names and wealth passing from mother to daughter rather than father to son — but some men are campaigning for change.—INTERNET

daughter rather than father to son — but some men are campaigning for change. When early European settlers first arrived here they nicknamed it "the Scotland of the East" on account of its evocative rolling hills.

Coincidentally, today the bustling market in the state capital, Shillong, is awash with tartan in the form of the traditional handloom shawls worn ubiquitously since the autumn chill arrived. Not far from here the village of Cherrapunji once measured an astonishing 26.5m (87ft) of rain in one year, a fact still acknowledged by the Guinness book as a world record.

But the rainy season is over for the time being and it is Meghalaya's other major claim to fame that I am here to investigate.— Internet

Canada freestyle skier Sarah Burke dies

NEW YORK, 20 Jan—Canadian freestyle skier Sarah Burke has died from injuries sustained in a training accident, a family spokeswoman says. Burke, 29, helped bring freestyle skiing events to the Winter Olympics, and was considered a gold medal contender for the 2014 Games. She was injured in a

superpipe accident at Park City in the US State of Utah. Tests showed the freestyle skier sustained "irreversible damage to her brain" her spokeswoman said. Burke was airlifted to hospital after her crash on 11 January.

The four-time Winter X Games champion crashed on the same superpipe where snowboarder Kevin Pearce

suffered a traumatic brain injury during a training accident in late 2009. The best-known athlete in her sport, Burke specialized in skiing the superpipe—a version of a traditional halfpipe with walls over 5m (16ft) high.

"Sarah, in many ways, defines the sport," Peter Judge, chief executive of Canada's freestyle team, said before she died. "She's been involved since the very, very early days as one of the first people to bring skis into the pipe."

"She's also been very dedicated in trying to define hersport but not define herself by winning. For her, it's been about making herself the best she can be rather than comparing herself to other people." — *Internet*



Sarah Burke helped to raise the profile of freestyle skiing into the Olympic Games.—INTERNET

Brush fire threatens Nevada's city, as thousands flee

RENO, 20 Jan — Some 10,000 people have been forced to flee their homes as a brush fire is moving towards the City of Reno in the US State of Nevada. The fast-moving blaze has already gutted several homes and is threatening dozens more, local officials say.

More than 200 firefighters are battling the fire, which has grown to nearly five square miles (13km square). Strong winds later died down and rain

started falling, the officials say. There were no reports of any injuries. The blaze, which broke out earlier on Thursday, is now burning to the south of Reno, the officials say. "It's moving at a very fast rate," Washoe County's Deputy Sheriff Armando Avina was quoted as saying by the *Associated Press*.

He said that officials were going door to door in the affected areas, urging residents to evacuate their homes. A stretch of US

Highway 395—where the fire started—remains closed. Last November, a fire Nevada destroyed 25 homes and forced nearly 10,000 people to leave the area. One man died fleeing his home and 16 were injured. — *Internet*



More than 200 firefighters are trying to contain the blaze.—INTERNET

Bee Gee Robin Gibb to make classical debut



Gibb recorded the album with his son and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. INTERNET

LONDON, 20 Jan — Bee Gees star Robin Gibb is to make his classical debut with an album about the sinking of the Titanic. The 62-year-old has collaborated with his son, RJ, on The Titanic Requiem to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the disaster. Gibb, who has recently suffered ill health, said recording the album helped him "on the road to recovery". He will also lead a concert

performance of the album on 10 April, exactly 100 years after the Titanic set sail. It sank off the coast of Newfoundland five days later, with the loss of more than 1,500 lives.

Gibb's requiem is played by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and features the RSVP Voices Choir, in addition to vocals from tenor Mario Frangoulis and British choirgirl Isabel Suckling. One of the pieces, Don't Cry Alone, also features Gibb's first studio performance since last year's charity single I've Gotta Get A Message To You. Released for a Royal British Legion appeal, it was a re-recording of one of the Bee Gee's first hits with a trio of soldiers.

The Bee Gees—formed

by Gibb and his brothers Maurice and Barry—are one of the most successful bands in pop history, with hits like Massachusetts and Night Fever. They also wrote dozens of songs for other artists, including Islands In The Stream and Chain Reaction. charted in the UK from a twisted intestine. Robin Gibb—who is Maurice's twin—has had surgery for a similar problem, and was in hospital last year, reportedly with an inflamed colon. The requiem is not the star's first collaboration with his son RJ (Robin-John). The duo recorded a song for independent vampire film Blood Type—The Search in 2009, in which RJ also had an acting role.

Internet

Costa Concordia disaster: Crew urged 'return to cabins'

ROME, 20 Jan—A video has emerged showing the crew of the Costa Concordia reassuring passengers nothing was wrong, after the cruise ship had begun taking in water. In the amateur footage, a crew member says "everything is under control" and a generator problem will be fixed. She asks passengers to go to their cabins. The vessel ran aground off Italy's coast with some 4,200 people on board and capsized. At least 11 people died.

It is thought the delay in deciding to abandon the ship may have cost lives. Earlier on Thursday, Italian media broadcast what they say was the first phone conversation between port officials and crew of the Costa Concordia—about 30 minutes after the ship hit rocks. In the exchange, a crew member is heard saying it is experiencing only a blackout. Twenty-one people are still missing, and hopes to find any of them alive are fading fast.

The latest amateur footage was posted online by Italy's Rainews24 on Thursday. In it, a female crew



Costa Concordia crew member tells coastguard "we have a blackout".—INTERNET

member is heard telling passengers: "We kindly ask you to return to your cabins, or go for a walk in the hall, if you like." She says that she is relaying a message from the

commander. "We'll resolve the electrical problem that we have with the generator. Everything will be fine. If you want to stand here, it's fine. "But I'm kindly asking you to go back to your rooms, where you'll be seated and



Moldovan passenger Domnica Cemortan: 'Passengers were like a herd of lost sheep.' INTERNET

passengers had reported a huge jolt and been told to put on life vests. But an unidentified voice from the Costa Concordia replies: "We had a blackout and we are checking the conditions on board." — *Internet*

Saddam 'buttock' sale: Company boss Jim Thorpe quizzed

LONDON, 20 Jan — A company director has been arrested on suspicion of illegally keeping part of a statue of Saddam Hussein taken from Iraq in 2003. Jim Thorpe, director of Trebletap, was questioned over the company's plans to sell the 2ft bronze piece of buttock. The piece was brought to the UK by the firm's founder Nigel Ely but failed to sell at an auction in Derby after failing to meet its reserve price.

Mr Ely, from Herefordshire, was questioned earlier this week. Derbyshire police said the Iraqi government had made a complaint to the Metropolitan Police last week via the Iraqi Embassy. The complaint had been passed to them as the agents and the statue were situated in Derby. Mr Ely was issued with a notice, under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act, advising him not to alter or dispose of the item until the

matter is resolved. Mr Thorpe was questioned on suspicion of breaching Section 8 of the Iraq (UN Sanctions) Order 2003 before being released on bail pending further inquiries. Under the order, anyone possessing Iraqi cultural property must give it to the police. Trebletap, which specialises in turning war memorabilia into pieces of art, told BBC Radio Derby earlier this week that it was keeping the statue in a secret location.

Mr Ely, a former SAS soldier, used a sledgehammer and chisel to remove the portion when the statue was brought down in central Baghdad at the end of Hussein's reign. He said he planned to sell it to raise money for charity but withdrew it from sale at an auction in October after it failed to meet its £250,000 reserve.

Internet

Police had warned Mr Ely not to remove or alter the piece of statue.

INTERNET



CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV SANG THAI GLORY VOY NO (01/12)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SANG THAI GLORY VOY NO (01/12) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.1.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: SANG THAI SHIPPING
CO LTD**

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV DIBENA HAPPY VOY NO (137)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DIBENA HAPPY VOY NO (137) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.1.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S PHULSAWAT SHIPPING
CO LTD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921



The dragon is the only mythical creature in the Chinese zodiac.—INTERNET

Enter the dragons: A baby boom for Chinese across Asia

HONG KONG, 20 Jan — When Alicia Loo got pregnant 12 years ago, her husband's family was thrilled —the baby would be born in the year of the dragon. Like most Chinese around the world, they believed that this was auspicious. The dragon, the only mythical creature among the 12 animals of the Chinese zodiac, is regarded as a symbol of might and intelligence. In ancient China, the dragon was associated with the emperor.

Boys born in the year of the dragon, especially, are said to be destined to be successful and wealthy. The next year of the dragon begins on 23 January, on the first day of the Chinese New Year, and lots of dragon babies are set to make an entrance. In previous dragon years, China, Hong Kong, Taipei and countries such as Singapore with a strong Chinese diaspora have experienced baby booms. In 2000, Hong Kong saw more than 5% rise in the number of births, according to official data.

Last month, state news agency *Xinhua* reported that China was anticipating a 5% increase in the number of babies this year. Makers of baby products and companies offering pre-natal and infant care services are fired up by the business prospects. A Bloomberg report, citing Euromonitor International, estimated that sales of nappies in China will grow about 17% to 28.4 billion yuan (\$4.5bn, £2.9bn) this year.— *Internet*

Grisly mystery unfolds in Hollywood as severed body parts are found

LOS ANGELES, 20 Jan — It sounds like a plotline from a film noir thriller: a dismembered corpse has been found in parts over the past two days in Los Angeles, directly beneath the famous Hollywood sign. Police conducted an intensive search of Bronson Canyon Park, an area of the Hollywood hills known not for its grisly murders but rather for its glamour, its dizzying views, its hilltop mansions.

First, they were alerted to a severed head left ghoulishly in a plastic bag. Then, a day later, they stumbled on a severed hand, unbagged; then another,

then his feet. At first, they thought the man an Armenian in his 40s, with salt and pepper hair. The they backtracked, saying he could be as old as 60, and his ethnicity also less certain. They did not release a name.

The police's initial theory was that the man was killed elsewhere, then brought to Bronson Canyon in the expectation that his remains would be discovered sooner than later. Forensics teams said the killing appeared to be recent, and there were few signs of decomposition. The head was discovered by a professional dog walker named Lauren Komberg, who



The severed head was discovered in Bronson Canyon by a professional dog walker.—INTERNET

was out exercising nine animals. She told a local radio station how one of her charges, a golden retriever named Indiana Bones, pulled the plastic bag containing the head out of a bush.

"He was going crazy,"

Komberg told KPCC. "Hewas digging, digging, digging, barking." The plastic bag was badly shredded, but Komberg could see the head inside. At first she assumed it was a film or television prop.

Internet

UK Border Agency seizes hippo foot

LONDON, 20 Jan — The foot of a hippopotamus and 10 carved ivory ornaments have been seized from a passenger at Cardiff Airport, says the UK Border Agency.

Officers searched the bags of a 58-year-old Cardiff woman arriving last Saturday from Zambia via Amsterdam. When questioned the woman said she had cleared a relative's house in Zambia and was unaware that she needed a licence to bring the items into the UK.

The agency said

travellers should be aware of the rules on banned items. The agency said the importation of ivory and other items was restricted under the Convention in International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). They can only be brought into the UK if the correct permits had been applied for and issued, said a spokesperson.

The items were seized by the agency and the woman was allowed to leave the airport after questioning. "Just because items like this

are legal in other countries, it doesn't mean they can be brought into the UK," said Alex Lawther, UK Border Agency assistant director in Wales. "Travellers should be aware of the rules on restricted or banned items."

"You are not allowed to bring internationally protected endangered animals and plants, including products made from them, into the country unless you have a CITES permit," Mr Lawther said. UK Border Agency officers at Cardiff Airport took



The foot belonged to a young hippopotamus, said the agency. INTERNET

their role in enforcing international agreements "very seriously".

"Anyone tempted to bring items of this nature through the airport should think again," said Mr Lawther.

Internet

Airbus finds new cracks in A380 wing brackets

PARIS, 20 Jan — Airbus found new cracks on metal brackets inside the wings of two A380 superjumbo jets after inspections launched following the 2010 incident in which a Qantas A380's engine disintegrated in flight, the company said on Thursday. The cracks were found "on a limited number of non-critical brackets inside the wings of some A380s," Airbus said in a statement. These "wing rib feet," as the part is known, connect the wing's ribs to its skin.

Airbus spokesman Stefan Schaffrath said the new cracks were found on two of the nine aircraft inspected so far. Sixty-eight of the double-decker, \$390 million jets are flying with seven airlines, including Dubai's Emirates, the largest A380 operator with 20 of the aircraft now flying. The jet seats 525 people in three classes.

Europe's air safety authority, the Cologne, Germany-based EASA, will issue instructions known as an air worthiness directive to airlines flying the A380 on Friday. The timing and frequency of checks that airlines will have to carry out because of the new cracks was still being discussed late Thursday, EASA spokesman Dominique Fouda said.—*Internet*

Cornwall woman 'lucky' to escape car and train crash

LONDON, 20 Jan — A woman escaped uninjured after her car and a train collided at a level crossing near Newquay in Cornwall. Police who were called to the crossing at Trencreek Road, Trencreek at 19:40 GMT said no-one was believed to have been injured.

The railway line is a local branch line and the collision involved a single carriage First Great Western train. Driver Sarah Frampton of St Newlyn East said she had not seen the warning and was "lucky to be alive".

She said: "I've been rushed off my feet all day and was not aware that there was a warning at the crossing. 'I don't often come down that road. I was travelling fairly slowly and out of the blue saw the train. 'I slammed on the brakes, but it was coming too fast and hit me. It was quite overwhelming how close I was. I am very thankful to be alive."



No-one was injured in the collision.—INTERNET

British Transport Police are investigating at the scene, where a tractor and train collided in 2003. A police spokesman said: "There appears to be no persons injured and the scene has been secured awaiting the arrival of British Transport Police officers who will have primacy over the investigation."

Internet

Lost seal pup winds up in Skegness after 3,200km trip from Greenland

A lost seal pup is to be flown home to Greenland after she ended up 3,200km (2,000 miles) away in Skegness, Lincolnshire.

It is the second time the seal, called Eve, has lost her



Lost at sea: It's a pity Eve cannot use the GPS device on her head.

way after ending up in Germany last August weighing just 35kg.

The ten-month-old hooded grey pup, who is believed to have been born in Iceland, was released back into open water on 13 October by a seal sanctuary in Friedrichskoog.

Wildlife experts there have been able to track her progress after they fitted her with a tracker so they could monitor her by GPS.

But little Eve was not in the open waters for long.

The tracking device

shows Eve's journey from Germany to Scotland, down to the south coast of Britain and back up again before arriving on the Lincolnshire coast in December where she was taken to Skegness Natureland reserve.

And now staff at the Lincolnshire reserve are hoping to find a sponsor to help them fly her back to Greenland.

Natureland's Duncan Yeadon said Eve was very underweight when she was found, but is now recovering well.

Cute alert: Cheeky young chimp throws tantrum after getting hungry



Joya kicked up a fuss because the young in a chimpanzee group have to wait for their food.

A British couple has captured photos of a young chimp called Joya in the Republic of Guinea throwing a tantrum after having to wait for her food. Hunger is one of those things that can drive you wild—as this greedy little chimp knows only too well.

When Joya's food didn't come quick enough, she was in no mood to monkey around

and started throwing rocks at her friends and family instead. But before long, a more senior chimp stepped in to put the ravenous six-year-old in her place.

He confiscated Joya's makeshift missiles and gave her a clip round the ear before making her sit down and be quiet. The incredible scene in Bossou Forest, Republic of

Guinea, was captured by British photographers Anup Shah and Fiona Rogers.

Anup, from Watford, Hertfordshire, said: 'It was like watching a naughty girl being told off by her mum.'

'The hierarchical structure of chimpanzee communities means the elders eat first, but Joya got bored waiting for her turn and decided to make mischief.'

Anup and his wife Fiona were in Guinea to document the work of the Japanese researchers who have been observing the chimps since 1976.



The rock-throwing chimp goes bananas as she is refused food.

Hidden drugs sold as unclaimed property

Containers holding millions of dollars worth of illegal drugs shipped from China to Australia were sold as unclaimed property, police in Sydney said.

Investigators have tracked down 53 of 54 containers, the *Sydney Morning Herald* reported. Each held about \$3 million in heroin or pseudoephedrine packed into tea canisters, police said.

The canisters with the drugs were hidden

in the frames of the containers, and their new owners did not know they were there, police said. Most were bought by farmers and business owners in New South Wales to use for storage.

Detective Superintendent Steve Padstow said the missing container has been through several owners. While investigators say it is probably still in the Sydney area, it could have traveled much farther.

News Album



Young pretender: Kaia Gerber is already a favourite of fashion house Versace—at the age of ten.

Cindy Crawford's daughter, 10, makes her modelling debut for Young Versace

NEW YORK, 20 Jan—No, supermodel Cindy Crawford has not been drinking from the fountain of youth—the striking image is of her daughter Kaia Gerber.

Aged only ten, Kaia has followed in mum's footsteps by snapping up a major modelling deal.

The girl's uncanny resemblance to the 45-year-old was revealed when she posed in a black miniskirt and jacket for the Young Versace campaign. Only the absence of her famous parent's trademark mole is a sign that this is not an old picture of the Eighties fashion clothes horse. Crawford, a former favourite of murdered Italian designer Gianni Versace, said: 'I'm so thrilled that Kaia was chosen to be part of the first Young Versace Campaign.'

'I am so proud of her. I have so many fond memories of the times I spent with Gianni and Donatella.—Internet

Being friendly is Sonam's mantra!

NEW DELHI, 20 Jan—In an industry where people play the numbers game, actress Sonam Kapoor believes in being friendly. "Almost all of my directors are my friends. Be it Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra or Punit Malhotra, they all are dear friends. Even all my male co-stars are my friends," Sonam said at a recent event.

As for her female friends in B-Town, she said: "I am most close to Jacqueline

(Fernandes) and Jacqueline (Fernandes). In fact, these two are doing a movie (Housefull 2) together and I am so jealous of them!"

The actor, who is looking forward to her film *Players*, is set to don the garb of Santa, and play peacemaker between two friends on UTV Stars' new show *Superstar Santa*.

"My episode has two girls whose friendship is broken due to misunderstanding. My job is to

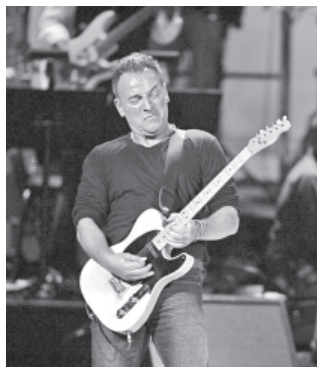


Actress Sonam Kapoor

bring them together and try to understand what went wrong," said Sonam, who insists she tries her best to be there for her own friends despite being busy.

Internet

New Bruce Springsteen album out 6 March



In this 13 May, 2010 photo, Bruce Springsteen performs during the Rainforest Fund's 21st Birthday Celebration benefit concert at Carnegie Hall in New York.—INTERNET

NEW YORK, 20 Jan—Bruce Springsteen's new album, "Wrecking Ball," will be out 6 March, and he's just released a new single, "We Take Care of Our Own."

Although the song is musically upbeat, it references the current struggles of America with lyrics like, "Where's the promise, from sea to shining sea?"

Other songs on the 11-track album include "Death to My Hometown," "This Depression" and "Easy Money."

The announcement was made Thursday morning on the rocker's website.

Springsteen's manager, Jon Landau, who is also the executive producer of the album, calls the writing on the disc "some of the best of his career."

"Wrecking Ball" is Springsteen's 17th album and the first since the death of E Street Band saxophonist Clarence Clemons last year. Springsteen and the band are due to go on tour this year, but it hasn't been revealed who may step in for Clemons.—Internet



Angelina Jolie is three months pregnant, sources close to the Hollywood actress told OK! magazine.

SRK to attend Don 2 screening at Berlinale

MUMBAI, 20 Jan—Shah Rukh Khan fans in Germany are in for a treat. The actor's latest release *Don 2: The King Is Back* will be screened at the 62nd Berlin International Film Festival, to be held 9 to 19 February, and he will attend the event also. Also, the movie, produced by Excel Entertainment, will have its mainstream theatrical release with a dubbed version in German.

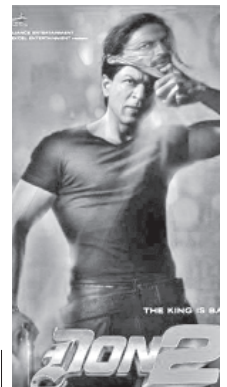
Shah Rukh, along with his co-star Priyanka Chopra, director Farhan Akhtar and producer Ritesh Sidhwani, will attend the screening, scheduled at the Friedrichstadt-Palast theatre on 11 February at 9.30 pm.

"It is an honour and a privilege for us to have our movie screened on an international platform. It had been our resolution to deliver good cinema, and we are delighted that our work is appreciated by cinema lovers worldwide," Sidhwani said

in a Press statement.

The team is also expected to hold a press conference, which can only be accessed by journalists accredited by the Berlinale.

Besides the German release on 16 February, the film will also hit theatres in Russia, Turkey, Israel, France, China and Korea.—Internet



Don 2 new poster

Jolie expecting seventh child?

LONDON, 20 Jan—Angelina Jolie is three months pregnant, sources close to the Hollywood actress told OK! magazine. Jolie, 35, and her longtime partner Brad Pitt, 48, are already the parents of three biological children—Shiloh and twins Knox and Vivienne, as well as adopted children Maddox, Pax and Zahara.

"It's not something she wants to officially announce but she's at a point where she is telling a select group of people," a source told OK! about Jolie's alleged latest pregnancy.

"Angelina is really savoring every moment. She's having a tough time with morning sickness, but says it's all worth it."

Internet



MELBOURNE, 20 Jan—Roger Federer made the most of his rare opportunities Friday against the fastest serve in tennis, cashing in with some classic returns in a 7-6(6), 7-5, 6-3 win over Ivo Karlovic to reach the fourth round of the Australian Open.

The four-time Australian Open champion fended off Karlovic's set point in the tiebreaker with a return that brought the 6-foot-10 Croatian to the net, then lobbed just over him.

For his part, Karlovic thought it was "one in a 100



World No. 3 Roger Federer of Switzerland I'm gonna lose that point." "It was unlucky," Karlovic said. "I didn't really expect him to do that. I was there, I just miscalculated how much I was jumping. If I would have won that, everything would be different but that's life."

Federer is now 10-1 against Karlovic and looking increasingly confident at Melbourne Park, where he has collected four of his 16 Grand Slam titles. He and Rafael Nadal

are on the same side of the draw at a major for the first time since 2005 and could meet in the semifinals.

Second-ranked Nadal had a 6-2, 6-4, 6-2 win earlier Friday over Slovakia's Lukas Lacko to advance without dropping a set or show any signs that a freak knee injury is bothering him.

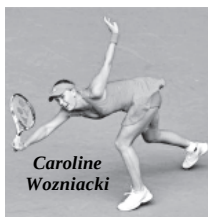
Nadal, who won the 2009 Australian title but has gone out in the quarterfinals due to injuries in the last two years,



World No 2 Rafael Nadal of Spain

felt a crack and then sharp pain in his right knee while sitting in a chair at his hotel on the weekend and was concerned that he might not be able to play in his opening match.

Medical tests didn't show any serious damage, and he has had the knee heavily taped in his three matches since. "The knee is fine. That's important thing,"

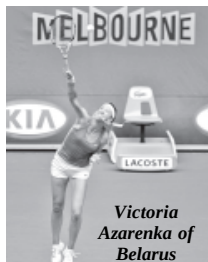


Caroline Wozniacki

the 10-time major winner said. "The match was a really complete match, a really solid one. He will play either John Isner or Feliciano Lopez in the next round.

No. 7 Tomas Berdych beat No. 30 Kevin Anderson of South Africa 7-6(5), 7-6(1), 6-1 and Germany's Philipp Kohlschreiber ousted Alejandro Falla of Colombia 6-3, 6-2, 7-6(3) in other third-round matches.

On the women's side, top-seeded Caroline Wozniacki continued her quest for a first major title with a 6-2, 6-2 win over Monica



Victoria Azarenka of Belarus

Niculescu of Romania and third-seeded Victoria Azarenka beat Mona Barthel 6-2, 6-4 in a match between champions of two warmup tournaments.

No. 8 Agnieszka Radwanska beat Kazakhstan's Galina Voskoboeva 6-2, 6-2 and will next meet No. 22 Julia Gorges, who beat Italian Romina Oprandi 3-6, 6-3, 6-1.

Wozniacki, who needs to reach the quarterfinals to have any chance of retaining the No. 1 ranking, wasted one match point and was broken when she was serving for the match, but broke back immediately to ensure she moved into the Round of 16.

Azarenka, who beat French Open champion Li Na to win the Sydney International last week, has only lost eight games at Melbourne Park and remains one of three women who can overhaul Wozniacki for the top ranking at the Australian Open.

The 22-year-old from Belarus will next meet Czech player Iveta Benesova, who beat Russian qualifier Nina Bratchikova 6-1, 6-3.

Azarenka was annoyed with herself for needing five match points to finish off Barthel, and for running out of challenges before she really

needed to review a line call in the last game.

"I've been playing in the



Australian star Lleyton Hewitt

end not brave enough to finish the match... I had to get a little," angry, Azarenka said.

Roddick is already out of the tournament, retiring during his second-round match against Australian veteran Lleyton Hewitt late Thursday.

He needed a medical timeout after injuring his right hamstring in the second set and played 16 more games before finally retiring when Hewitt gained a 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 lead.

"It's a miserable, terrible thing being out there compromised like that," said Roddick, who is hoping to return within three weeks.

Hewitt, who turns 31 next month, goes to the third round against Milos Raonic, the big-

serving, 21-year-old Canadian. If Hewitt eliminates an opponent who has dropped only two service games this year, he could face defending champion Novak Djokovic in the fourth round. Djokovic, who won three of the four major titles last year, kept getting better in his 6-3, 6-2, 6-1 win over Santiago Giraldo.

Fourth-seeded Andy Murray, who lost to Djokovic in last year's Australian final, ousted Edouard Roger-Vasselin of France 6-1, 6-4, 6-4. No. 5 David Ferrer beat American Ryan Sweeting 6-7(4), 6-2, 3-6, 6-2, 6-3, and No. 6 Jo-Wilfried Tsonga downed Ricardo Mello of Brazil 7-5, 6-4, 6-4.

Internet



Fourth-seeded Andy Murray

Jankovic humbles Mchale to reach pre-quarters

MELBOURNE, 20 Jan—World No. 13 Jelena Jankovic of Serbia eased past World No. 42 Christina Mchale of USA in straight sets with a 6-2 6-0 scoreline and secured her berth in the last sixteen of the 2012 Australian Open.

Aiming to redeem her position in WTA, former World No. 1 Jelena Jankovic of Serbia subdued World No. 42 Christina Mchale of USA in straight sets with a 6-2 6-0 scoreline and stormed into the fourth round of the 2012 Australian Open, this year's first Grand Slam tournament, being played here in Melbourne, Australia.

The Serbian needed 1 hour and 19 minutes to win this match, as she mustered 61% points on her first serve and hammered 16 winners. Jankovic also got benefitted from Mchale's 26 unforced errors. After a bit of struggle in the first



World No 13 Jelena Jankovic of Serbia

set, Jankovic took control over the proceedings and converted 6 out of 10 break points to subdue the American, who could only convert 1 out of 11 break-points.

After 50 minutes of intense action, experienced campaigner and former World No. 1 Jelena Jankovic claimed the first-set. The Serbian committed 14 unforced errors, but she made up for those by hammering 11 winners and also earned 60% points on her first serve. Jankovic converted 3 out of 6 break-points, while Mchale could convert only 1 out of 9 break-points—in the first set. It was a one-way traffic in the second-set, as Jankovic did not allow the American to win a single game and easily sailed home—in straight sets.—Internet

Corinthians eager to drop Adriano

RIO DE JANEIRO, 20 Jan—The directory of the Corinthians soccer club expressed its desire to release Adriano on Wednesday.

The news comes after the athlete decided to skip a team practice, resulting in his suspension from playing in a friendly match against Portuguesa.

Adriano's contract with Corinthians expires in June. With six months remaining in his contract, the athlete is able to sign a pre-contract with another club. The administration at Corinthians is hoping this happens as soon as possible.

Since his arrival at



The directory of the Corinthians soccer club expressed its desire to release Adriano on Wednesday.

Corinthians, Adriano has only played in a handful of games due to injuries and resulting surgeries.

Due to the little amount of soccer actually played by the athlete, the off-field problems and his expressed lack of commitment by not appearing to a number of practices, the club is counting down the days until his contract expires.

The marketing strategy of bringing in Adriano has backfired. The club now has the foresight to bring in future athletes that will still be able to be sold or traded at a high value, something they fear will not happen with Adriano in June.

Regardless, Adriano does not fit into the club's plans for the second semester of 2012.—Xinhua

Bolt to race in Rome in preparation for Olympics

LONDON, 20 Jan—World record holder Usain Bolt will race over 100 metres at the Diamond League meeting in Rome on 31 May in preparation for the London Olympics.

The Jamaican triple Olympic champion won the event at the meeting last year.

"I'm training hard, the off season has been good. Everything is going according to plan," Bolt said in a statement on Thursday.

"The aim is to defend my Olympic titles in London. Rome's race will be a good early season test and tell me what I need to do on the way

to the Olympic Games," added the 25-year-old whose world mark stands at 9.58 seconds.

Bolt also has Olympic



gold medals from the 200 metres and the 4x100 relay.

The sprinter last week confirmed he would race over 100 metres at the Bislett Games in Oslo in June.

The London Olympics run from 27 July to 12 August.—Internet

Usain Bolt of Jamaica (L) sprints to the finish line to win the 100m race event ahead of compatriot Asafa Powell at the IAAF Golden League Memorial Van Damme athletics meeting in Brussels, Belgium, on 5 Sept, 2008.—REUTERS

International Sports

NLM-ner Joke

For those unfamiliar, Welfare payments are made in the US to individuals and families with income below a level. The following quotations are taken from actual letters received by the Welfare Department in applications for support of receiving payments.

I am forwarding my marriage certificate and 6 children. I had seven but one died which was baptized on a half sheet of paper.

I am writing the welfare department to say that my baby was born two years old. When do I get my money?

Mrs. Jones has not had any clothes for two years and has been visited regularly by the clergy.

I cannot get sick pay. I have six children can you tell me why?

I am glad to report that my husband who is missing is dead.

Welfare applications

This is my eighth child. What are you going to do about it. Please find for my husband is dead. The man I am now living with can't do anything until he knows.

I am very much annoyed to find out that you have branded my son illiterate. This is a dirty lie as I was married a week before he was born.

In answer to your letter, I have given birth to a son weighing 10 lbs. I hope this is satisfactory.

I am forwarding my marriage certificate and my 3 children one of which is a mistake as you can see.

My husband got his project cut off about two weeks ago and I haven't had any relief since.

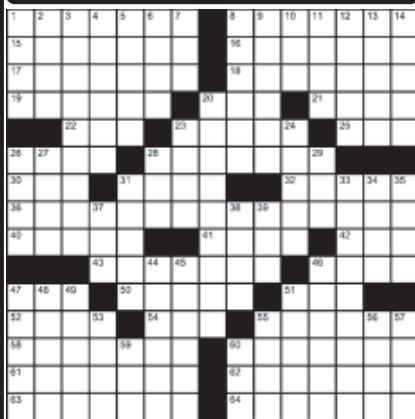
Unless I get my husband's money pretty soon, I will be forced to lead an immortal life.

You have my changed little boy to a girl, will this make any difference? I have no children yet, as my husband is a truck driver and works night and day.

I want money as quick as I can get it. I have been in bed with the doctor for two weeks and he doesn't do me any good. If things don't improve, I will have to send for another doctor.

In accordance with your instructions, I have given birth to twins in the enclosed envelope.

Crossword Puzzel



Across

1. Malleable
8. Linked sequentially
15. Inability to use spoken or written language
16. Beat, in a way
17. Hollywood hopeful
18. Have an inspiration?
19. Played (around)
20. cry
21. Call for
22. Functioned as
23. Air freshener option
25. Arid
26. "American ____"
28. Wild pig
30. Nancy, in Nancy comic strip
31. Characteristic carrier
32. TV, radio, etc.
36. Government group in charge of foreign affairs (2 wds)
40. Join securely
41. Ancestry
42. Amateur video subject, maybe (acronym)
43. Island state in the West Indies
46. "Cut it out!"
47. Bleat
50. Bring out
51. Clod chopper
52. Early pulpit
54. Anger
55. Shallow trench made by a plow
58. Residential areas outlying a city
60. North Carolina's capital
61. By and large (3 wds)
62. Kind of mark
63. Tenants with a lease
64. Letter carriers

Down

1. 100-metre, e.g.
2. "What've you been ____?" (2 wds)
3. Cleaning lady
4. Of the ankle
5. British ____
6. Emulated Pinocchio
7. "Dig in!"
8. ____ blue color
9. Cry of triumph
10. Absorbed, as a cost
11. "Terrible" czar
12. Eminent
13. Aromatic solvent
14. Industrious
20. Hot spot
23. Channel
24. French philosopher, founder of positivism
26. Acad.
27. Spoil, with "on"
28. Lent's start, e.g.: Abbr.
29. Beauty
31. Romance, e.g.
33. Stable isotope of hydrogen
34. Data
35. Above
37. Deck (out)
38. Assistant
39. Biochemistry abbr.
44. Like some mushrooms
45. Hospital caregivers
46. Most painful
47. Of primary importance
48. Charm
49. Old Jewish scholars
51. Luau dances
53. "One of ____" (Willa Cather novel)
55. Betting game
56. Shrek, e.g.
57. "Say ____"
59. Morgue, for one
60. Certain theater, for short

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(21-1-12 09:30 am ~ 22-1-12 09:30 am) MST

Oversea Transmission

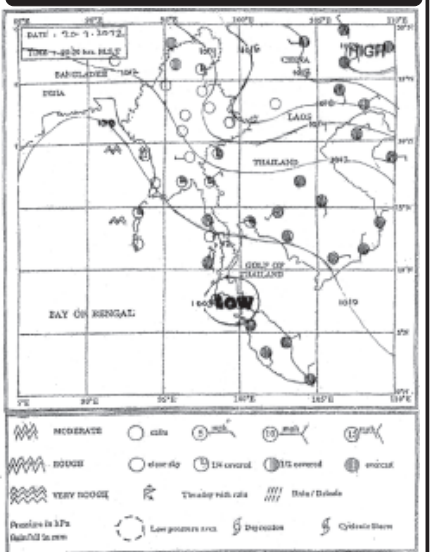
- * News
- * Hiker's Journey "Inlay Lake"
- * News
- * Myanmar Beauty and His Creation (Episode-3)
- * News
- * Today's Efficient Youth (OBF student)
- * News
- * Winter Crops
- * Song for You
- * Nipa Palm Forest
- * News
- * Annual Memento Art Exhibition of Royal Hantha Art Gallery
- * News
- * Music Gallery
- * Myanmar Teak in Higher Demand
- * News
- * Secret Places for Yummy Food "Monhinkhar"
- * Culture Stage
- * News
- * Ananda Guphaya
- * Myanmar Movies
- * "Whom do you love most?"

MYANMAR TV

(21-1-2012) (Saturday)

- 7:00 am
- 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
- 7:50 am
- 2. Nice & Sweet Song
- 8:45 am
- 3. 2011 Sports Yearend
- 11:00 am
- 4. Martial Song
- 11:25 am
- 5. Game For Children
- 1:00 pm
- 6. TV Drama Series
- 2:00 pm
- 7. Song Of National Races
- 2:10 pm
- 8. Teleplay
- 4:25 pm
- 9. Cultural Dances
- 5:10 pm
- 10. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
- 5:45 pm
- 11. International Science News
- 5:55 pm
- 12. Beautiful "ASEAN"
- 7:00 pm
- 13. TV Drama Series
- 8:00 pm
- 14. News
- 15. Cartoon Series
- 13. TV Drama Series

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 21st January, 2012

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/°F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	25/77	10/50	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
2	Kayah	28/82	07/45	Partly cloudy	
3	Kayin	32/90	18/64	Partly cloudy	
4	Chin	18/64	01/34	Partly cloudy	
5	Upper Sagaing	24/75	11/52	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
6	Lower Sagaing	30/86	12/54	Partly cloudy	
7	Tanintharyi	36/99	23/73	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
8	Bago	30/86	17/63	Partly cloudy	
9	Magway	31/88	11/52	Partly cloudy	
10	Mandalay	31/88	14/57	Partly cloudy	
11	Mon	30/99	20/68	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
12	Yangon	34/93	18/64	Partly cloudy	
13	Rakhine	29/84	15/59	Partly cloudy	
14	Southern Shan	23/73	04/39	Partly cloudy	
15	Northern Shan	25/77	04/39	Partly cloudy	
16	Eastern Shan	26/79	07/45	Partly cloudy	
17	Ayeyarwady	32/90	17/63	Partly cloudy	
18	Neighbouring New Pyi Taw	32/90	13/55	Fair weather	
19	Neighbouring Vangan	34/93	18/64	Partly cloudy	
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	31/88	14/57	Fair weather	

Fire preventive measures taken

PADAUNG, 19 Jan—No. 23 Saw Mill in Kyaukphu Village-tract of Padaung Township organized the fire drill with participation of members of Township Fire Brigade and Okshipin Auxiliary Fire Brigade on 4 January. In the morning, they participated in sanitation tasks around the mill. Next, members of Fire Brigade practiced fire drill and then demonstrated use of fire extinguishers.—Township IPRD

Stake driven for construction of bridge

MEIKTILA, 20 Jan—The stake driving ceremony for construction of a wooden bridge was held in Uyingon Village of Meiktila Township on 15 January.

The bridge, 13 feet wide and 40 feet long, will link Uyingon Village and Setpyitau Village of the township.

Township Development Affairs Committee will start construction of the bridge in January 2012 and a plan was set to complete it in March, spending K 12.5 million on construction.—Kyemon

DISTRICT NEWS



Knowledge on crime reduction disseminated

YEDASHE, 20 Jan—Myanmar Police Force gives educative talks on crime reduction during the Crime Free Month in rural areas.

At a similar talk in Sipaing Village of Yedashe Township, Tounghoo District Police Station Commander Police Lt-Col Win Sein explained eradication of gambling and reduction of heavy criminal cases. Yedashe Township Judge U Nyunt Lin talked about abiding by laws and disadvantages of gambling and Township Law Officer Daw Cho Htar about reduction of sexual abduction, anti-human trafficking and rules for traffic accidents.—Kyemon

Cornerstones laid for Concrete Block-used Sample Building

Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint delivers an address at ceremony to lay cornerstones for Concrete Block-used Sample Building and hand over technology and machinery.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Jan—Under the arrangements of the UN Habitat Development Programme, a ceremony to lay cornerstones for construction of the Concrete Block-used Sample Building and hand over the technology and machinery in line with the project-4 of the MoU signed between Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development under the Ministry of Construction and UN Habitat was held at Central Training School (Thuwunna), in Yangon, this morning.

Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint delivered an address. Resident Representative of UN Habitat Mr. Srinivasa Popuri explained production of concrete blocks.

An engineer of UN Habitat also explained technology on construction of low-cost housings with the use of concrete blocks and drawing of standards and norms for earthquake and storm resistant buildings.

The resident representative handed over the machinery to Director-General U Aung Win of DHSHD.



Also present on the occasion were Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe, Deputy Ministers for Construction U Soe Tint and U Kyaw Lwin, Region Minister for Transport U Kyaw Soe, departmental officials, responsible persons of UN Habitat and guests.

The Union minister, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe and party viewed practical works in making concrete blocks, production process of the block with the use of moulds and quality control of the concrete block with the use of hydraulic test machine.

Next, Union Minister U Khin Maung Myint, Deputy

Minister U Kyaw Lwin, Director-General U Aung Win and the resident representative of UN Habitat laid cornerstones for the building.

Afterwards, the opening of the urban region development research office which is the project (1) of the MoU signed between DHSHD and UN Habitat, was held at the DHSHD on Bogyoke Aung San Street.

After the ceremony, the Union Minister, the Chief Minister and party together with responsible persons of UN Habitat viewed round decoration and displays of the office.

MNA

Rooney - It's not me v RVP Striker says Sunday's game is not a shoot-out

LONDON, 20 Jan—Wayne Rooney says Sunday's clash between Arsenal and Manchester United is not just a shoot-out between him and Robin van Persie.

Between them they have netted 40 goals in all competitions this season, with van Persie scoring 22 times and Rooney 18, and many feel whichever forward comes out on top will decide the match. Sky Bet Odds

Who will come out on top? Rooney to score a brace 7/1, Van Persie to score a brace 5/1. Barclays Premier League Top Goalscorer: Rooney 11/2, RVP evens. Bet Now

Rooney thinks there is a lot more to the game than that but does concede United will need to keep the Dutchman quiet at the weekend.

He said: "It is not about me and Van Persie.

"It is about us against Arsenal. That is what we will be focusing on.

"There are a lot of top strikers in the league; Van Persie, Sergio Aguero, Yakubu is playing really well. Live on Sky Sports

Arsenal vs Manchester United

Arsenal v Man Utd
January 22, 2012 3:30pm
Sky Sports HD 1

Remote Record
"Van Persie has scored a lot of goals and is playing really well," added the 26-year-old.

"He will be the biggest threat for Arsenal on Sunday. Van Persie and Ramsey are certainly the two who have stood out for them this season."

When the two sides met in August, the Red Devils thumped the Gunners 8-2, with Rooney scoring a hat-trick at Old Trafford.

Rooney admitted the magnitude of the result didn't sink in until well after the



game adding: "We knew it was a great day for us and a bad one for them.

"To beat Arsenal 8-2, with the players they have got, the history of the club and the manager, it was a great result. We certainly didn't expect to beat them 8-2 and I am pretty sure it won't be like that again." You just end up in a zone. Every time we went forward we seemed to be creating chances or scoring. "I wasn't really thinking

of whether we are making history and what is going to get said. I just wanted to score more goals.

"It is only afterwards that you realise what a win it was." The result forced Arsenal to go into the transfer market and strengthen their squad as they flirted with the relegation zone. Since then the Gunners have rebuilt their season and are just four points behind fourth placed Chelsea.—Internet

Road, bridge open in Meiktila to hail 65th Anniversary Union Day

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Jan—Hailing the 65th Anniversary Union Day, road, bridge and signboard were opened in Zaungchangan Ward in Meiktila on 13 January.

Officials opened the road and bridge and Township Administrator U Kyaw Swe unveiled the signboard of ward.

With the contribution of well-wishers, Zaungchangan Road which was 15 feet wide and 300 feet long in the past was upgraded to a 27-ft-wide and 1000-ft-long road.—MNA

Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Men's Volleyball Tournament continues

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Jan—The second round knockout matches of the 5th Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Men's Volleyball Tournament 2012 continued at Nay Pyi Taw Volleyball Ground today.

In the morning matches, Information Ministry beat Rail Transportation Ministry 3-1 and Sports Ministry trounced Transport Ministry 3-0. Ministry of Finance and Revenue won over Home Affairs Ministry 3-2 and Border Affairs Ministry routed Agriculture and Irrigation Ministry 3-0 in the afternoon matches.

Tomorrow's fixtures set out as quarterfinal matches such as Defence Ministry vs. Industry Ministry; Science and Technology Ministry vs. Construction Ministry; Information Ministry vs. Sports Ministry; and Border Affairs Ministry vs. Finance and Revenue Ministry.—MNA



IMF Mission calls on Union Energy Minister

Page 2

MoU on 17th State level meeting of Myanmar-India Civil Authorities signed



Page 2



Why birds of a feather don't always stick together

Page 5

Bolt to race in Rome in preparation for Olympics

Page 14

