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Sunday, 5 February, 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.

Government implementing human resources development plans to change natural resources economy into knowledge-based economy

Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham meets officials concerned at Technological University (Yatanarpon Cyber City).

MNA



NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham, accompanied by Union Minister for Border Affairs and for Myanmar Industrial Development Lt-Gen Thein Htay, Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint, Union Minister for Science and Technology U Aye Myint, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Sports U Tint Hsan, Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye, deputy ministers and departmental heads, left here by air at 9 am yesterday and arrived in Mandalay.

Accompanied by Chief Minister of Mandalay Region U Ye Myint and region ministers, the Vice-President and party went to Technological University (Yatanarpon Cyber City) in PyinOoLwin Township.

At the meeting hall, Principal Dr Aung Win briefed the Vice-President and party on opening of the university, aims and conducting the courses. The Union Minister for Science and Technology gave a supplementary report.

In his speech, the Vice-President said that the university was named Technological University (See page 8)



Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham visits lecture halls at Technological University (Yatanarpon Cyber City).—MNA



US recommends routine HPV vaccination for boys

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Iran dismisses Western sanctions, warns against US war threats



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Surveillance drone crashes in Somali capital



Page 3

Significant night temperatures (4-2-2012)

Namhsan	(2°C)
Pinlaung	(2°C)
Haka	(2°C)
Loilem	(3°C)

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 5 February, 2012

A burden no democratic society can tolerate

When we say reforms it includes institutional changes both the government and the private sectors are undergoing. As for the government sector, normally, the departments will have to rely on the budget allocations of the Union as they are not money-making bodies.

They are just the institutions combating crime, enforcing the rule of law, conserving the environment, collecting revenues for the Union, taking care of public health and education,

facilitating public communication and transport or rendering assistance to disaster-hit areas at Union's expense.

In fact, they are financial outflows of a nation, but on the other hand they are essential tools for efficient government machinery.

Currently, government departments in our country will be trying to adapt themselves more to the changing trend, while conducting staff capacity-building programmes as every government-provided penny they are spending on their functions is precious and should serve the people's interest best in one way or another.

In some cases, government departments are overstaffed, low in competence and they also lack of enthusiasm.

But that can be changed. They can assess their present structure, find their faults and weaknesses, modify staff welfare and training

programmes, cut unnecessary procedures where loopholes occur and later introduce means to become actually helpful tools of the government spending less and doing more for the people and the country.

As the country is gaining more ground in conducting reforms that covers institutional changes, there is extra room for the departments to develop the sense of accountability, responsibility, liability and consideration among the staff.

What's more, good governance and clean government is the most important and reliable force behind all measures to curb corruption the worst enemy of all institutions trying to improve their image.

We believe no department will be left behind in this reform drive as failure will turn it into a burden a democratic society cannot tolerate.

Measure for transportation of the new government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar (Nay Pyi Taw Airport)

- * Constructed on 7 April, 2009 in Nay Pyi Taw, the new capital of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Nay Pyi Taw International Airport was commissioned into service on 19 December, 2011.
- * The airport building measures 660,347 square feet. The airport has 12000x200 feet runway, 1200x900 feet concrete apron and two 350x150 feet taxiways. The runway is 26 inches in thickness and can withstand 873,000 pounds. VIP Hall measuring 195x130 feet plus lounge measuring 96x60 feet is included in the airport.
- * It can handle 2 million domestic passengers and 3 foreign passengers, totaling 5 million per year. The airport is equipped with 10 passenger boarding bridges, where from 50,000 to 60,000 airplanes can make landing a year.
- * The airport was built with a view to aiding the national economy through air transportation by utilizing the every inch of the air territory of the nation. It is also



Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham and State Councillor of the People's Republic of China Mr Dai Bingguo unveiled inscription of Nay Pyi Taw International Airport on 19 December, 2011.



aimed to make it possible for any aircraft of international airlines land in, stop over in and cross over Myanmar, providing services for refueling and technical failures.

- * The airport is also intended for speedy air transportation

as well as coping with consequentially increasing number of international travelers following the increasingly forwarded economic, social and diplomatic relations with the global countries. Built in the

administrative hub of the country, it is aimed to grease the wheel of administrative mechanism, making it swift travel possible to regions and states.

Translation:TKK



Departures Lounge of Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.



Airport Information Signs.

Iran dismisses Western sanctions, warns against US war threats

TEHRAN, 4 Feb—Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei dismissed on Friday Western sanctions and warned against the US war threats against the Islamic Republic. Khamenei said that Iran benefits from Western sanctions. He made the remarks in Tehran when leading the Friday prayers that was broadcast live by the state TV. In response to Western sanctions on the country, including the recent US and EU embargo on Iran's oil exports, Khamenei said

that the sanctions have helped the potentials within the country bloom and prompted the country to grow domestically.

He said that in face of Western sanctions Iran has proved that it "turns to the internal potentials and grows domestically." In January, the EU imposed further sanctions against Iran's oil exports as well as its central bank in a bid to ramp up pressure over Iran's disputed nuclear programme. Major EU importers of Iran's oil, such as Greece, Italy and Spain, have to find alternative

oil suppliers before 1 July, when the embargo comes into force. On Friday, Khamenei referred to the military advancements and nuclear enrichment progress of the country and said that such achievements were made as the Islamic republic came under diverse sanction pressures from Western countries. Also, Khamenei warned against any war threats on the country saying that the United States will suffer from any war threat or potential war against the Islamic Republic.—Xinhua



Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei speaks during Friday prayers in Teheran, Iran, on 3 Feb, 2012. Khamenei dismissed on Friday Western sanctions and warned against the US war threats against the Islamic Republic. He said that Iran benefits from Western sanctions.

XINHUA

Afghan civilian deaths in war hit 5-year high

KABUL, 4 Feb—A UN report says last year was the deadliest on record for Afghan civilians, with 3,021 killed in the war. That was an 8 percent increase in civilian deaths from 2010. It was also the fifth year in a row that the civilian toll has become steadily worse.

The report issued on Saturday says armed groups killed more than three-quarters of the civilians who died, with a steep rise in people killed in suicide bombings. It says roadside bombs were the single biggest killer of civilians, accounting for nearly one in three deaths. NATO and Afghan security forces were responsible for 410 civilian deaths — about 14 percent of the total. The report comes as NATO begins to work out a schedule to hand over security to Afghan.

Internet



Somali soldiers patrol inside the Badbado refugee camp in Mogadishu, Somalia on 3 Feb, 2012. — INTERNET

Sudan rebels "seeking way" to hand over abducted Chinese

BEIJING, 4 Feb—Sudanese rebels said they are looking for ways to hand over 29 Chinese workers held in the border state of South Kordofan, Chinese state media said, as Sudan's government confirmed the death of one worker in a firefight. The construction workers were captured last Saturday and are apparently being held as pawns in a dispute between Sudan and rebels allied with the newly independent and oil-rich South Sudan.

"Presently we are looking for a way ... to release these Chinese workers, set a date for their release and the party to which they are to be handed over," Arno Taloudy, a rebel spokesman, told China's state news agency Xinhua. Chinese officials had returned to Khartoum from Juba, the capital of South Sudan, and had been urging the rebels through "various channels" to release the workers, beginning with two women being held, Xinhua reported late on Friday.

The case marks the third abduction of Chinese in Sudan since 2004 and highlights the risks to China's expanding economic footprint in Africa, particularly in troubled spots often shunned by Western companies. On Wednesday, China secured the release of two dozen Chinese cement factory workers who were kidnapped in Egypt's Sinai Peninsula, a day after being taken hostage by Bedouin tribesmen, Chinese and Egyptian media reported.

Reuters



Chinese workers who escaped after being abducted sit after arriving at Khartoum Airport on 30 Jan, 2012. — INTERNET

Surveillance drone crashes in Somali capital

MOGADISHU, 4 Feb—Witnesses say a surveillance drone has crashed into a refugee camp in the Somali capital. Drones have been used by the US to attack or observe al-Qaeda-linked militants in the Horn of Africa

nation.

Refugees and soldiers in Mogadishu's Badbado camp say they watched the drone crash on Friday into a hut made of sticks, corrugated cans and plastic bags.

Sadiyo Sheikh Madar,

a refugee at the camp, says African Union peacekeepers came to remove it. Police officer Ali Hussein says the drone was shaped like a small plane. A similar drone crashed into a house in Mogadishu last year.—Reuters

Cuba's President Raul Castro, left, shares a moment with Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez upon his arrival at the international airport in La Guaira, Venezuela, on 3 Feb, 2012.

INTERNET



Cuba's Raul Castro visits Venezuela's Chavez

CARACAS, 4 Feb—Cuban President Raul Castro flew to Caracas on Friday to attend a meeting with other allies of Venezuelan leader Hugo Chavez, who was at the airport for the arrival. Neither man spoke to reporters, and it was

unclear what they planned to discuss. Castro is joining other national leaders of the Bolivarian Alliance, or ALBA, at the Sunday summit, including the presidents of Nicaragua and Bolivia.

Haitian President Michel Martelly also arrived ahead of Sunday's meeting, at which he will have observer status. He said he hopes to discuss the status of Haitian migrants in ALBA countries and will seek aid for Haiti's school food programme. Martelly met with Chavez at the presidential palace on Friday night and was accompanied by actor Sean Penn, who earlier this

week was named ambassador at large for Haiti in recognition of his humanitarian work since the country's 2010 earthquake.

Penn has met with Chavez several times in recent years, and the Venezuelan leader has praised the American actor for his critical stance toward US foreign policy. Chavez's allies arrived in time for celebrations on Saturday marking the 20th anniversary of a failed coup that Chavez led when he was a military officer. The government plans a military parade and other events for the anniversary.—Internet

Hackers intercept confidential FBI conference call

SAN FRANCISCO, 4 Feb—Hacker group Anonymous on Friday released a recording of a confidential conference call between the US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and British law enforcement officers on cybercrime investigations. According to the 17-minute conversation posted on YouTube, the US and British law enforcement officers discussed ongoing investigations into some hackers being tracked and their plans for legal action. Some of the real names have been bleeped out while the online pseudonyms of suspects are kept in the recording.

Anonymous also published an email from the FBI, entitled "Anon- Lulz International Coordination Call." The email was sent to over 40 law enforcement officers in the US, Britain,

Ireland, Netherlands, France and Sweden, inviting them to discuss investigations related to Anonymous, Lulzsec, AntiSec and other hacker groups. The recording showed that officers from London, Los Angeles and Washington attended the conference call on 17 January.

MNA/Xinhua

Afghan analyst warns US early pullout would fuel militancy

KABUL, 4 Feb—The announcement made by US Defence Secretary Leon Panetta saying the United States will end combat operations in 2013 would stimulate the Taliban and its associated armed groups to intensify activities in Afghanistan, an Afghan analyst warned on Friday.

"The surprise decision announced by the US defence secretary to end combat mission in Afghanistan would benefit Taliban and eventually lead to surge in militancy," Faizullah Jalal, a professor at Kabul University, told Xinhua in an interview.

According to media

reports, Leon Panetta has said that the United States hopes to end its combat mission in Afghanistan by the middle of 2013, a year earlier than NATO had planned for, and that it will focus instead on training, advisory and assistance role. It was the first time that the US defence secretary hinted an early pullout of his soldiers from Afghanistan amid increasing Taliban-led insurgency.

Xinhua



Pakistani rescuers work at the blast site in northwest Pakistan's Peshawar on 3 Feb, 2012. At least four people were killed when a suicide bomber targeted the office of a property dealer in Peshawar on Friday night. — XINHUA

US recommends routine HPV vaccination for boys

WASHINGTON, 4 Feb—US health authorities on Friday urged all boys age 11-12 to get a routine vaccination against the most common sexually transmitted disease, human papillomavirus, or HPV. Other changes as part of an annual update to US immunization schedules included a recommended hepatitis B vaccine to protect the livers of adults up to age 60 who have diabetes and a vaccine against whooping cough for pregnant women.

The updates, agreed upon by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), were published in the CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly report of 3 February. The HPV vaccine has been approved for girls since 2006 but the CDC had not expressly urged it for boys, though boys were included among those who could receive it to prevent certain cancers and genital warts.

Health experts have expressed hope that if pre-teen boys and girls are both encouraged to get the vaccine, the



A pediatrician gives an HPV vaccination to a 13-year-old girl in 2011 in Miami, Florida. US health authorities urged all boys age 11-12 to get a routine vaccination against the most common sexually transmitted disease, human papillomavirus, or HPV.—INTERNET

rate of infection will decrease in the general population.

About half of all sexually active adults will get HPV in their lifetime. There are more than 100 types of HPV, and most clear the body on their own, but some strains can linger and lead to cervical, anal or oral cancer.—Internet

Surgical procedure repairs severed nerves

WASHINGTON, 4 Feb—A revolutionary surgical procedure could repair severed nerves within minutes and set the patient firmly on the road to recovery within mere days or weeks, reveals a study.

The study, led by researcher George Bittner, professor at University of Texas, used a cellular

mechanism similar to that of many invertebrates to repair damage to axons, an extension of the nerve cell that chats with other nerve cells or with muscles.

"We have developed a procedure which can repair severed nerves within minutes so that the behaviour they control can be partially restored within days and often largely restored within two to four weeks," said Bittner, the *Journal of Neuroscience Research* reported.

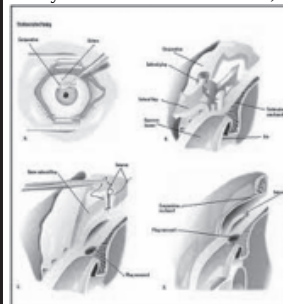
"If further developed in clinical trials this approach would be a great advance on current procedures that

usually imperfectly restore lost function within months at best," added Bittner, according to a university statement.

This research success arises from Bittner's discovery that nerve axons of invertebrates severed from their cell body do not degenerate within days, as happens with mammals, but can survive for months, or even years.

"Severed invertebrate nerve axons can reconnect... within seven days, allowing a rate of behavioural recovery that is far superior to mammals," said Bittner.

Internet



A revolutionary surgical procedure could repair severed nerves within minutes and set the patient firmly on the road to recovery within mere days or weeks, reveals a study.

INTERNET

Active kids more likely to avoid heart disease

SYDNEY, 4 Feb—Physically active children are more likely to keep diabetes and heart disease at bay, a new study reveals.

The study, led by researchers Glenn McConnell and Mary Wlodek from Victoria and Melbourne Universities, tested whether exercise could re-programme rats predisposed to diabetes and heart disease owing to their lower birth weight.

"Those born small are programmed for a higher chance of disease later in life because of their underdeveloped heart and pancreas, but we think you can re-programme yourself by exercising early in life," said McConnell, the *American Journal of Physiology-*

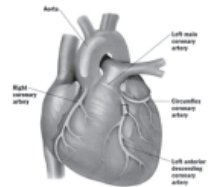
Endocrinology and Metabolism reported.

In the trials on rats born small, those that exercised from five to nine weeks of age showed a small improvement in organ function at the end of that month, but remarkably, six months later their organs were the same as the healthy control group, a university statement said.

Another group of born small rats were not exercised and showed no improvement. McConnell said a nine-week old rat correlated roughly with a five-year-old child and a six-month-old rat with a young adult person.

"We think this means more activity for children and more physical education in school could really help set them up for better health later in life and even help those predisposed to diabetes and heart disease to re-program themselves in time to avoid it," added McConnell.

Internet



Physically active children are more likely to keep diabetes and heart disease at bay, a new study reveals.

INTERNET



Factory orders up, business spending rises

WASHINGTON, 4 Feb—New orders for US factory-made products posted a second straight monthly rise in December and business capital spending also picked up, a government report on Friday showed. The Commerce Department said orders for manufactured goods increased 1.1 percent, slightly below Wall Street economist's forecast for a 1.5 percent gain.

But November's gain was revised up to 2.2 percent from a previously reported 1.8 percent and there were signs in the report of a firmer pace of overall factory activity.

During the full year 2011, factory orders gained

12.1 percent after a 12.9 percent rise in 2010. Orders for non-defence capital goods excluding aircraft—a closely watched category because it is taken as a sign of businesses' future spending plans—climbed a solid 3.1 percent in December. That followed declines of 1.5 percent in November and 0.9 percent in October.

Shipments for this category also increased by 3.1 percent in December after matching decreases of 0.9 percent in each of the two prior months.

Business spending had been a driver of the recovery since the 2007-2009 financial crisis, which pushed the US economy into a deep recession.—Reuters



Workers assemble a pre-production 2013 Dodge Dart during a tour of the Chrysler Belvidere Assembly plant in Belvidere, Illinois, on 2 Feb, 2012.—INTERNET

US job market still on long path to recovery

WASHINGTON, 4 Feb—The US labour market teed off the new year with a nice surprise as the country's unemployment rate dropped to a near three-year low of 8.3 percent in January, but experts believe that the jobs growth was insufficient to cure the lingeringly sick labor market in the short run.

UNEMPLOYMENT THREE-YEAR LOW

Payroll growth last month was matched with a decrease of the unemployment rate for the fifth consecutive month, adding to a recent string of positive economic data pointing to a stronger economic recovery.

The US unemployment rate edged down to 8.3 percent last month from 8.5 percent in December 2011, a near three-year low since February 2009, as total US nonfarm payroll employment rose by 243,000 in January, beating economists' expectations of about 150,000, the Labour Department reported on Friday.

Private-sector employment grew by 257,000 last month, but governments at all levels continued to trim 14,000 jobs against the backdrop of slashing government outlays.

"The latest payroll survey offers further evidence of a strengthening labor market," said Gary Burtless, a senior fellow with the Brookings Institution, adding that after showing little change over the first half of last year the jobless rate has now fallen 0.8 percentage point since last August.

WIDESPREAD JOB GROWTH

Across-the-board jobs growth in professional and business, leisure and hospitality, health care sectors, as well as upward revisions of earlier data contributed to the decline of the unemployment rate.

The number of newly created jobs for November 2011 was upwardly revised from 100,000 to 157,000, and that for



Customers rent cars at the Reagan National Airport in Washington DC, on 3 Feb, 2012. The US unemployment rate edged down to 8.3 percent last month from 8.5 percent in December 2011, evidence of an improving job market, the Labour Department reported on Friday.—XINHUA

December 2011 was revised from 200,000 to 203,000.

The latest job figures gave a boost to US President Barack Obama who has geared up his reelection bid.

"The unemployment rate came down because more people found work. And altogether, we've added 3.7 million new jobs over the last 23 months," Obama said on Friday in a speech after the release of the report when visiting a fire station in Virginia, urging Congress to take more steps to bolster the economic recovery and create jobs.

With the nation's shaky property market reversing the freefall decline trend starting the end of last year, employment in construction increased by 21,000 in January, following a gain of 31,000 in the previous month.

Xinhua



New Vega rocket sets for inaugural flight

PARIS, 4 Feb—The European Space Agency (ESA) announced on Friday that it would use the rocket Vega to launch nine satellites into orbit in mid February, in the very first mission of the lightweight rocket.

The first mission, designated VV01, is scheduled for liftoff from Europe's spaceport in Kourou, French Guiana, during a two-hour launch

window during 1000-1200 GMT on 13 Feb.

If successful, Vega's virgin launch would mark the culmination of nine years of development by the ESA and its partners, the Italian space agency (ASI) and ELV SpA, the prime contractor for developing the vehicle, the ESA said in a statement.

Seven ESA member states including Belgium, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and

Switzerland support the programme.

Named after the second brightest star in the northern hemisphere, Vega's development officially started in 1998. Its main objective is to provide Europe with a safe, reliable and competitive capacity to carry science and Earth observation satellites into orbit, and complement the heavyweight Ariane 5 and medium Soyuz rockets.

Xinhua



The European Space Agency (ESA) announced on Friday that it would use the rocket Vega to launch nine satellites into orbit in mid February, in the very first mission of the lightweight rocket.

XINHUA

Dolphins take up residence in Japan bay

KAGOSHIMA, 4 Feb—Wildlife experts in Japan say Indo-Pacific bottlenose dolphins appear to have taken up permanent residence in Kagoshima Bay on the south coast of Kyushu. Experts at Kagoshima City Aquarium said several years of field studies have confirmed two schools of some 50 dolphins are residing in the bay, Kyodo News reported.

There are young dolphins in both schools, meaning the animals are probably reproducing in the bay off Japan's southernmost island, they said. It is rare for dolphins to be observable year round so close to a city, aquarium official Nobutaka Kubo said. The rich marine resources in the bay present the perfect environment for dolphins, he said.—Internet



An Indo-Pacific bottlenose dolphin is seen in Kagoshima Bay last September, with Mount Sakurajima, an active volcano, in the background.

INTERNET

science



Iran launches observation satellite.

INTERNET

Iran launches observation satellite: media

TEHRAN, 4 Feb—Iran on Friday launched an observation satellite into orbit above Earth, its third since 2009, the official IRNA news agency reported. "The Navid satellite was launched successfully.... It will be placed into an orbit (at an altitude) between 250 and 370 kilometers," IRNA quoted the head of Iran's Space Organisation, Hamid Fazeli, as saying. The launch comes as Iran is marking the anniversary of its 1979 Islamic revolution — and as tensions are heating up over Iran's nuclear programme.

The 50-kilogram (110-pound) satellite is meant to stay in orbit for 18 months, sending back images to Iran as it completes a revolution of Earth every 90 minutes. It was unveiled two years ago and its launch had long been

expected. President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad led the launch ceremony, media said. "It's the beginning of an immense labour... which holds the promise of friendship for all mankind," Ahmadinejad was quoted as saying.

Iran's defence minister, Ahmad Vahidi, said the Navid satellite would beam its images to several ground stations across the country, according to media. "The telemetric and command stations give and receive data and control the satellite," Vahidi said.

It was the third domestically made satellite Iran has put above the planet using its Safir rockets. The other two observation platforms, launched in February 2009 and July 2011, stayed in orbit for two to three months.—Internet

Three in four people use mobile phone while in toilet

LONDON, 3 Feb—In a study of mobile phone habits, about 75 per cent of those questioned admitted to surfing the web, using apps, emailing and texting while in the toilet with more than 90 per cent saying they had even returned calls.

One in five men said they had participated in conference calls while sitting on the loo," according to the website Wtop.com.

And they did it seemingly unfazed by the prospect of accidentally activating the iPhone FaceTime video feature or the potential for people to hear dubious noises coming from the cubicle, the *Daily Mail* reported. The research, who surveyed 1,000 people, also revealed that cubicle activities would be determined by the type of Smartphone you owned.

It found that Android owners were more likely those who like to multi-task by doing a number of things while using a range of apps.

While Blackberry users tended to take and make calls, those with iPhones were more likely to be playing with apps.

Internet

Samsung and LG's OLED

SEOUL, 4 Feb—Though we've covered a lot of CES stuff, we still couldn't publish everything at once because the show hadn't ended when we went about preparing the CES issue. One of the things that we found interesting, but couldn't cover, were two massive 55 inch OLED TVs from Samsung and LG.

OLEDs have become increasingly common these days, with companies like Samsung pushing out various flavours of the technology. The lighting on these displays comes from a layer of organic compounds that emit light when exposed to electricity. They're amazingly energy efficient, and when used in displays, produce very high quality images. They can also be used to make flexible

transparent displays.

Due to their cost, however, 55-inch OLED screens are very rare, which is what makes the two offered by the South Korean companies unique. Both displays are very thin (only 4mm!) and support a 100,000,000:1 contrast ratio. The bezel of the TV is virtually non-existent, and I must say, the TVs are beautiful. However, I don't really know if they'll ever become mainstream. I mean, a Full HD TV is only useful to normal people if it's not going to sell at \$8,000, right? We all know that 3D TVs have only had limited success thus far. Looks like OLED TVs are going the same way. True, both products aren't in the production



Samsung and LG's OLED

stage, but they're apparently slated for a late 2012 release, and no, I wasn't joking about

the price; though I may add that the estimate is based on market speculation and that

neither companies said anything about it.

Internet

New app tells who 'unfriended' you on Facebook

LONDON, 4 Feb—A new tool on Facebook now allows users to see if someone on their friends list has 'unfriended' them, or has ignored their friend request.

The software 'Unfriend Finder', which can be installed in almost any Internet browser, has been a huge hit worldwide and has been downloaded nearly 44 million times.

After downloading this new tool, users see a red counter in their menu bar which comes up '-1' the second someone unfriends them, a dig at Facebook's logo for adding friends, which is a '+1'.

Till now, Facebook itself did not alert people when somebody clicked to 'unfriend' someone. According to *The Daily Mail*, Unfriend Finder's page said, 'Unfriends are people who were previously your friend but have either deactivated their account or have

removed you from their friend list.'

'Unfriend Finder makes identifying unfriends easy by displaying a red counter in the menubar with the amount of unfriends you have. Unfriend Finder will also tell you people you have requested friendship with and who has declined your friend request,' the site said.

"Unfriend Finder makes identifying unfriends easy by displaying a red counter in the menubar with the amount of unfriends you have," it added. The script works in browsers such as Chrome, Firefox and Internet Explorer, and can be downloaded for free from the official site.—Internet



The Logo of Facebook.—INTERNET

Two kidnapped American tourists freed

CAIRO, 4 Feb — Two American tourists who were seized in Egypt's Sinai earlier Friday, had been released, the Sinai security chief Mohamed Naguib told *Xinhua* on Friday. The two kidnapped American tourists had been released after talks between the kidnappers and Sinai security forces, said

Naguib. He didn't meet kidnapper's demands to release their relatives involved in drugs traffic but he promised to study the case immediately.

The two tourists and their Egyptian guide were kidnapped by local Bedouins in Egypt's South Sinai on their way back from

a visit to a local monastery. Masked gunmen traveling in a mini truck blocked the road and robbed them of their cell phones and watches, and stole the pistol of the security guard accompanying them, demanding their detained relatives be freed, official news agency MENA reported.— *Xinhua*



At least three people are confirmed dead while more others are feared killed and over 50 were injured in a train mishap near Gauhati Friday.— *XINHUA*

Mars surface too dry for life

LONDON, 4 Feb—Life could not exist on the surface of Mars because the planet has been in a "super-drought" lasting 600 million years, British researchers say.

Scientists at Imperial College London said they based that assertion on analysis of data on Martian

soil transmitted back to Earth from the 2008 NASA Phoenix mission

Their three-year analysis suggests the Martian surface has been dry for such a long time any possible life would have to be deep underground, *The Daily Telegraph* reported on Friday.



The surface of Mars has been too dry for too long to support life, British researchers said.

INTERNET

Soil on Mars is formed under arid conditions similar to those on the Moon, the researchers said. The sample was taken from Mars' icy northern arctic region.

"We found that even though there is an abundance of ice, Mars has been experiencing a super-drought that may well have lasted hundreds of millions of years," research leader Tom Pike said. "Future NASA and ESA (European Space Agency) missions that are planned for Mars will have to dig deeper to search for evidence of life, which may still be taking refuge underground."— *Internet*

South Sudan shoot-out kills 37, wounds UN policeman

JUBA, 4 Feb — A shoot-out among South Sudanese security forces using truck-mounted machineguns killed 37 people and injured a United Nations policeman Wednesday, UN and government officials said on Friday. The government in South Sudan - formed in July, six years after a peace agreement that ended decades of civil war—is struggling to assert control in a country awash with weapons and whose army is made up of former rival militias.

The shooting broke out

when the commissioner for Rumbek North County interrupted a meeting about recent cattle raiding with other officials in Unity state and made "angry remarks," according to Kouider Zerrouk, a spokesman for the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS). "Four pick-up trucks carrying armed men believed to be (army) and (police) then appeared and started shooting indiscriminately at the... commissioner's compound," Zerrouk said in a statement.

He said it was unlikely

that the UN team was a target, and that one UNMISS staff member attending the meeting was wounded. A spokesman for Unity state, Gideon Gatpan Thoar, said 16 people from Unity state were killed and 21 from Lakes state. "...the big machineguns mounted on the trucks started shooting on the people in the meeting," he said.

"The Rumbek North Commissioner then went to burn down the local wildlife center." The Rumbek North Commissioner was not immediately available for comment.— *Reuters*

Amid peace bid, US got purported letter from Taleban

WASHINGTON, 4 Feb — The White House received a letter last year purported to come directly from Mullah Omar, the reclusive leader of the Taleban, asking the United States to deliver militant prisoners whose transfer is now at the heart of the Obama administration's bid to broker peace in Afghanistan. The unusual message kicked off a debate within the administration about whether it was truly authored by the mysterious one-eyed preacher believed to be directing the Taleban from hiding in Pakistan — and its meaning for US efforts to forge a negotiated end to America's longest war.

Dancers wearing colorful bird-themed costumes perform during the fifth Ibon-Ebon (Bird-Egg) Festival in Pampanga, the Philippines.

XINHUA

"As we have engaged various interlocutors as part of the reconciliation process, we have received a variety of messages that were represented as being from senior members of the Taleban," an administration official said on condition of anonymity. "However, we haven't received a letter that we are certain is from Mullah Omar." The message, conveyed through an intermediary and intended for President Barack Obama, reportedly expressed impatience that the White House had not yet transferred five former senior Taleban officials out of Guantanamo Bay military prison.

US officials have been considering moving the detainees to Afghan custody in the Gulf state of Qatar as one of a series of good-faith measures that, if successful, could lead to talks on Afghanistan's future between militants and the government of Afghan President Hamid Karzai. The accelerating efforts to set such talks in motion are a central part of the Obama administration's strategy for leaving behind a modicum of stability as it winds down the US combat mission in Afghanistan.

Reuters

18-mile crack seen by NASA in Antarctic glacier



Pine Island Glacier in Antarctica, seen from NASA's Terra satellite.— *INTERNET*

NEW YORK, 4 Feb — Antarctica is so vast that the pictures give you no sense of scale. The pencil-thin line across the satellite image of Pine Island Glacier (above) is actually more than 18 miles long, 800 feet across in places, and 180 feet deep. And it's growing. In the next few months, scientists expect the glacier to create an iceberg about 350 square miles in area. It will probably float northward, melting as it goes.

"Pine Island Glacier is losing ice very quickly, about six meters per year," said Michael Studinger of NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland, which sent an expedition called Operation IceBridge to Antarctica in October in an old DC-8 jetliner, modified for scientific operations. It spotted the break in the ice. Earth-observing satellites have been watching it since.

"These things happen on a semi-regular basis in both the Arctic and Antarctic, but it's still a fairly large event," said John Sonntag, Instrument Team Lead for Operation IceBridge, in video recorded on the plane. "So we wanted to make sure we captured as much of that process as we could."

"A lot of times when you're in science, you don't get to capture the big stories as they happen, because you're not there at the right place at the right time," he said, "but this time we were." To scientists, this is more than a vast spectacle. Both polar caps are losing ice, and researchers studying the world's climate say they want to understand the process.— *Internet*

Euro crisis shows signs of easing but far from over

BRUSSELS, 4 Feb — The eurozone debt crisis is showing signs of easing now that the European Central Bank has injected cheap money into the economy and the European Union has agreed on a new fiscal accord. As borrowing costs for eurozone countries declined, Portugal returned to the government bond market with a better response than expected for the first time this year.

The yield rate of Italian 10-year bonds dropped from peaks at around 8 percent to 6 percent in January, while Spanish 10-year bonds fell below 5 percent. International rating agencies Standard & Poors and Fitch downgraded the credit ratings of some eurozone countries, including France, in January, but without having a huge impact on the European market. ECB chief Mario Draghi said last Friday that financial market have revived since the central bank injected nearly 500 billion

euros (633.3 billion US dollars) into eurozone banks since late December.

"We know for sure that we have avoided a major credit crunch, a major funding crisis," Draghi said at the recent World Economic Forum in Davos. A total of 523 European banks applied for the 3-year loans, which come with a low interest rate of 1 percent.

According to a recent Morgan Stanley report, Italian banks were the biggest users of the ECB fund, receiving 50 billion euros (65.55 billion US dollars), which covered more than 90 percent of their funding requirements for 2012.

Xinhua



Thai Foreign Minister visits Myanmar-Thai Friendship Bridge, trade zone

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb—Thai Foreign Minister Mr Surapong Tovichakchaikul and party visited Myanmar-Thai Friendship Bridge and trade zone in Myawady in Kayin State yesterday.

The Thai Foreign Minister and party were conducted round by State Chief Minister U Zaw Min, state ministers and Chairperson of the Myawady Traders Association Daw Thin Thin Myat and others.

The Thai Foreign Minister and party had discussions with the state minister for Finance and Revenue, the state minister for Planning and Economy, the state minister for Transport, members of OSS, departmental

personnel and the chairperson of Myawady Traders Association at the meeting hall of Myawady Trade Zone.

Thai Foreign Minister Mr Surapong Tovichakchaikul and party viewed the import and export process at the Myawady Trade Zone.

MNA

Thai Foreign Minister Mr Surapong Tovichakchaikul being greeted by State Chief Minister U Zaw Min in Myawady.—MNA



Dancing on the Mountain Tops

**Article: Hpone Thant;
Photos: Sonny Nyein**

Since the emergence of civilizations the Earth has been the provider of both food and shelter for the humans. In return festivals are celebrated annually to thank and return the favours of Mother Earth for the bountiful harvests. These festivals and celebrations are held in many forms by various communities and clans on earth mostly after harvest times.

One of these is the New Year Festival held annually in January by our Naga cousins who live on the high mountain peaks of northwestern Myanmar. Many Naga clans live on these high mountains, scattered in small villages and hamlets but they always come together at New Year time to celebrate their New Year at a designated town in what is known as the Naga Hills.

The Naga New Year Festival normally falls in January, specifically between January 14 and 15. The Festival also alternates between the principal towns in the Naga Hills area in the



Dancing Around the Bonfire

northwestern region of Myanmar between India and Myanmar.

By January 14 almost all Naga clans had arrived at the Festival venue. Early morning, while the mist still blankets the mountain tops, they congregate at the main ceremonial grounds. Dressed in their colourful costumes

men are in thick blankets with fangs of wild boars and tiger claws hanging on their neck. Skull caps are of cane stuck with feathers of hornbills and monkey furs.

The women are more modest though. During ancient times there were photographs of them going about topless but now all

territory it is quite a spectacle. However, modernity had also caught up with our cousins. But thankfully, they focus their creativity on their native dresses and textiles designs and did not imitate their sisters in the west!

January 15 is normally an "official day". Government officials and the Naga chiefs give speeches and exchange gifts between themselves. The visitors, both local and foreigners alike, are given traditional food packets of sticky rice and pork curry. But be careful of the curry. The chilli is so hot that it could double as rocket fuel and propel you to the moon.

January 15 night is also a memorable one. As dusk gathers a huge bonfire is lit in the middle of the festival ground. Huge logs are stacked high and lit as all festival comers—the officials, Naga elders, ordinary Naga villagers and the foreign tourists—join in a conga line and dance around the roaring bonfire. And in the hearts of the revelers is sadness as all



Naga couple

know that tomorrow they must part.

But tonight the warmth in their hearts conquers even the hot flames leaping from the bonfire and the cold night wind howling over the high peaks.



Naga traditional warriors

**Vice-President of
the Republic of the
Union of Myanmar
Dr Sai Mauk Kham
visits Yatanarpon
Web Portal Data
Center of
Yatanarpon
Teleport Co Ltd.**

MNA



Government implementing human resources...

(from page 1)

(Yatanarpon Cyber City) with the aim of taking a leading role in information and communication technology across

the nation.

He praised the university for its arrangements to carry out academic matters by linking international technological universities to be able to meet the aim for establishment of the international level technological university so as to conduct advanced research tasks.

Moreover, he said that the university entrance sys-

tem has been adopted systematically and is being implemented for providing ICT technologies to the students through effective academic system. As the applicants were scrutinized through the writing and oral test in line with the university entrance system to become eligible ones for raising the standard of the university, a total of 50 per cent of the total applicants passed the entrance test last year and 25 per cent this year, he said.

It can be seen that aims are being realized to shape the university to conduct advanced research tasks and to be an electronic learning hub, he said. In fact, he said that research tasks are very beneficial to the organization. Moreover, the research work is a drive for bringing the own organization to the goal and it can contribute towards establishment of the firm education, he said.

He noted that students are pursuing technological learning by overcoming various tests with the confidence that they would effectively apply the technological knowledge and experiences provided by the university in the fields of State service personnel, private services and own businesses. Thus, he said that faculty members must continuously uplift the proficiencies themselves to win the confidence and reliance of the students.

(See page 9)



Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham inspects tasks of Medical Research Department (Upper Myanmar) of Ministry of Health in PyinOoLwin Township.

MNA

Daw Nan Shwe Hmon attends work coord meeting of PyinOoLwin Township MCWA and WAO

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb—Daw Nan Shwe Hmon, wife of Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham, attended the work coordination meeting of members of PyinOoLwin Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Women's Affairs Organization held at District General Administration Department in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Region yesterday.

On the occasion, Daw Nan Shwe Hmon said that she was there to meet the members of MCWA and WAO and witness measures and capabilities of the members.

Taking part in maternal and child welfare activities proves noble and profound and so does in women's affairs works as they concerned with social and economic matters of all women.

She urged the members to candidly discuss if there are difficulties and problems in work environment. She vowed she would attend to the needs by holding discussion with Central Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Central Women's Affairs Federation when she is back in Nay Pyi Taw. She said she took great pride to witness all executives and members doing philanthropic works to the best of their ability, adding that majority of women society would give their claps to the association and the organization.

Patron Daw Myat Ngwe of Mandalay Region Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee and Women's Affairs Organization expounded on role of the association and organization in contributing to social, health, education and poverty alleviation measures driven by the State in the



Daw Nan Shwe Hmon, wife of Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, views trainees practicing knitting sweaters at Knitting Training School opened by PyinOoLwin Township MCWA (branch).—MNA

region, populations of the association and organization, and undertakings. The members set out sector-wise tasks and discussed general matters.

The Vice-President's wife donated K one million each to PyinOoLwin Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Township Women's Affairs Organization.

She viewed female trainees knitting wool at the knitting

training school opened by Mandalay Region MCWA (branch).

She proceeded to Mitta Panngon nursery school opened by MCWA in No. 4 Ward and viewed demonstration by the children. At delivery room of the township MCWA, Daw Nan Shwe Hmon encouraged pregnant women, viewed healthcare treatments to babies and provided cash assistance.—MNA

Government implementing human resources...

(from page 8)

He urged the faculty members to conduct student centred approach system instead of spoon feeding in teaching the students. He stressed the need to train the students, who will be graduates in 2014-2015, to have personal initiative in the ASEAN Community in 2015.

Only when the faculty members comprehensively know the advancements of the education era with capability to join the developing world, will they be on a par with development of ASEAN and Asian regions, he said. He pointed out that everybody must be aware of a point that today's knowledge may be out of date tomorrow. Only when the technicians keep in touch with international academic field as much as possible, will they be highly-qualified scholars, he said. If the academic matter at university level sets the academic goal for ordinary

urged the faculty members and students to vigorously pour out harmonious efforts to be able to emerge a technological university that can turn out qualified technicians and intellectuals and apply ICT technologies in the nation effectively.

Next, the Union Minister for Sports presented sports gear, Shwe Thanlwin Co Ltd two sets of Sky Net TV receivers, Chairman of IGE Co U Nay Aung, U Kyaw Kyaw Win of New Star Light Co, U Aung Zaw Naing of Shwetaung Co, U Aung Min Thein of Shwe Than Lwin, U Myat Cho Win of Asia World Co, U Nay Win Kyaw of Thawta Win Co and U Soe Naing of Aye Aye Khaing K 10 million to the fund of the university.

The Vice-President viewed round computer server room, software development room, English language lab, e-library and computer lab and cordially greeted the students.

Businessmen donate cash for Medical Research Department (Upper Myanmar) under the Ministry of Health.
MNA



mentum, and shaping it as the Cyber University so as to share modern technological academic and research literatures to domestic universities by linking with international community.

The university provides Information and Communication Technology-ICT, Electronic Engineering-EC, Advanced Materials Engineering-AME and Preci-

ports on progress of the new town presented by Union Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Thein Tun and construction of Yatanarpon Myothit (North) private housing project by Mandalay Mayor Mandalay Region Minister for Development Affairs U Phone Zaw Han.

After hearing the reports, the Vice-President said that he came there to seek the answer in delay of construction tasks for Yatanarpon Myothit established as ICT City in last 2-3 years. He said that the government will fulfill the requirements for the town and will ease the task as much as possible. He said that the President has given guidance to establish an industrial zone in Muse. He noted that it is necessary to consider connectivity tasks of undertaking ICT between Muse and Yatanarpon Myothit. The State will encourage CMP works as creation of job opportunities for the people though it cannot bring too much benefit to the nation, he said. He urged the entrepreneurs to put their investments in sound foundations created by the State and attract the foreign investments.

Next, the Vice-President viewed round Yatanarpon Web Portal Data Center, IPTV Room, Switch Room, ISP Data Center and Network Operation Center in providing media and services of Yatanarpon Teleport Co Ltd.

While looking into the site for construction of the staff quarters for private companies in Soft Based Factories Area, the Vice-President heard reports on matters related to the land plot presented by the Managing Director of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunica-

tions.

The Vice-President also viewed production of fiber cables at Yatanarpon Fiber Optical Factory, manufacturing of pre-paid top-up cards being distributed to the whole nation for CDMA-450, CDMA-800, GSM mobile phones and Y-Talk (VoIP Recharge) at Elite-Tech Manufacturing Factory, production of Crystalline Silicon Solar Modules of Solar Panel Factory and training the students at Asia Mega Link Training Centre.

At Medical Research Department (Upper Myanmar) in Pyin Oo Lwin Township, Director-General Dr Kyaw Zin Thant of the department reported on research works of the department. The Union Minister for Health gave a supplementary report.

After hearing the reports, the Vice-President said that health care services have been provided to all walks of life with the use of traditional medicines since many centuries. The health care services depended on experience based knowledge not only in the eras of kingdoms but also the monarchical era, and there was lack of research work. Due to applying different experiences of the traditional medicine practitioners, imprecise therapies were found in some cases, he said.

Although the therapies of experience based knowledge were famous in the past, the practitioners missed the chance to win the reliance and trusts of the users at present due to lack of sharing their valuable experiences to others, he added.

He noted that only then will scientific evidence based knowledge win the long-term confidence and reliance and can it be

analyzed for sharing knowledge to the new generations. He pointed out that there were some senses of contradictions that some traditional medicine practitioners wish to apply the experience based knowledge but not to apply the evidence based knowledge. However, he said that if they wish to improve Myanmar traditional medicine and win the trusts of the people, they should conduct systematic research tasks in applying Myanmar traditional medical and western medical sciences in harmony. As such, the Myanmar traditional medicine will be a medical science accepted by the global community, he said.

In fact, he said that research tasks must be conducted continuously though it cost large amount of money, and progress of a work depends on research work. Nowadays, he said that the developed nations emphasize doing research tasks in all aspects by spending a large sum of money.

He noted that as the government is giving encouragements to research tasks on a wider scale, it is necessary to conduct health research works to come out correct and accurate results. Thus, he urged the Medical Research Department (Upper Myanmar) to make relentless efforts for achieving greater success in its field.

Later, Shwe Thanlwin Co Ltd donated two sets of Sky Net receivers and entrepreneurs, K 10 million.

After cordially greeting the personnel, the Vice-President visited the e-library, bio-medical library, documents on research works and malaria lab.

MNA



Production process of prepaid top-up cards in Elite Manufacturing Plant in Yatanarpon Myothit Project.—MNA

cottage industries, its standard will not be on a par with that of the region.

At present, he said that the government has adopted and is implementing the human resources development plans to change natural resources-economy of the State into knowledge-based economy in the future.

Nowadays, he noted that human resources and technology are in connectivity with economic development. He said that if Myanmar, blessed with plenty of natural resources, has capability to systematically apply the natural resources, human resources and technology, it will be a developed nation quickly.

In conclusion, he

He also viewed round progress in construction of the three-storey main lecture building.

Technological University (Yatanarpon Cyber City) was inaugurated on 10 October 2010 with the aims of turning out skillful engineers and researchers with advanced technological knowledge for undertaking development of the nation, establishing the international level technological university for enabling the students to conduct advanced research works, producing highly-qualified engineers who will contribute towards transforming the agro-based country to the modern mechanized nation with mo-

sion Engineering-PrE to the students.

Altogether 76 doctoral course students, 1014 first year engineering students and 658 second year engineering students, totaling 1748 are pursuing technological learning.

Technological University (Yatanarpon Cyber City) will participate in establishment of ASEAN-Korea Cyber University and it will be the first-ever institution in Myanmar to link with foreign universities.

The Vice-President and party proceeded to Yatanarpon Teleport in Pyin Oo Lwin Township.

At the briefing hall, the Vice-President heard re-

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan,...

(from page 16)

fifth estate of the nation. Therefore, the three pillars need to interact with the fourth estate so that the people can give a correct decision, noted the Union Minister.

He then suggested five principles that the Fourth Estate, the distributor of knowledge is assumed to focus on

He continued that the media law is being drafted, which is aimed to build real Fourth Estate but not to prevent and ban. They are writing the media law by studying the every media law within the reach including those of global countries and ASEAN fellows.

Next, Patron of Tun Foundation Literary Award Committee Chairman of Tun Foundation Bank said that it had been the sixth time Tun Foundation had presented literary awards with a view to development of Myanmar literature, emergence of great works of literature and increased number of readers.

of Myanmar History and Culture".

Yangon Region Finance and Revenue Minister Daw San San Nwe, Patron of Tun Foundation Literary Award Committee and Tun Foundation Bank Chairman U Thein Tun and responsible persons awarded winners San Lwin, Dr Toe Hla, Prof Nay Win (medical), U Thein Khaing (bank), Chit San Win, Maung Khin Min (Danubyu), Mya Han, U Soe Win, Tun Yi (archaeologist), Daw Aye Aye Kun on behalf of Thakshin Hla Tun, Ko Pho Aye (Myanma Radio), Dr Myo Myint, Tain Oo, U Kyaw Swe Oo and Shwe Myaing Pyone Le' Maw.



Union Minister for Information and Culture U Kyaw Hsan addresses the 6th literary award presentation 2011 of Tun Foundation held at Myanmar Banks Association in Yankin Township.

MNA

in the future which are non-media bias; all-angle presentation in informing a piece of news to the public in order that the public can see and consider rightly; freedom and responsibility, and freedom and reasoning in news presentation; reflection of unity and democracy although democracy permits freedom to have different opinions; and consideration of national interests.

Member of Tun Foundation Literary Award Selection Committee Patron of MWJA U Myint Kywe presented remarks of the committee in brief.

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan presented gifts to lifetime achievement literary award winner retired ambassador Wunna Kyaw Htin U Thet Tun through U Thaw Kaung, and U Thaw Kaung who grabbed award with the book of "Aspect

Patron U Thein Tun presented honorary gifts to committee member U Hla Tun (Hla Tun-Twantay) for Tun Foundation Literary Award Selection Committee.

After the ceremony, the Union Minister cordially greeted the attendees and viewed 6th Tun Foundation (2011) award-winning books, manuscripts and books published by Tun Foundation Bank.—MNA

MPT to introduce more GSM/UMTS release in March



Agreement signing ceremony for second-phase implementation of GSM/UMTS mobiles extension project in progress.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb — Officials of the Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications of the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs and responsible personnel of the 23 private joint venture companies held a meeting on the GSM/UMTS mobile network extension project here today.

During the meeting at the Telecommunications and Postal Training Centre of MPT here today, they reviewed the first phase of the project and signed agreements on the second phase of the project.

They also discussed to release GSM/UMTS in March. —MNA

Hend maintains Zaygaba Open lead after third day



Scott Hend (AUS) takes the lead after third-day round in Zaygabar Myanmar Open Golf Tournament.—MNA

YANGON, 4 Feb — Scott Hend took the Zaygaba Myanmar Open-2012 lead after the third round at the Royal Mingaladon Golf & Country Club today.

After the third day, Australian Scott Hend has maintained his lead of the open (16-under) for the tournament, followed by Kiradech Aphibarnarat of Thailand (15-under) and Tetsuji Hiratsuka of Japan, Marcus Both of Australia and Ben Fox of the USA (14-under).

Myanmar's Thein Zaw Myint is 5-under and Zaw Moe is 2-under for the tournament.—MNA



Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe being welcomed by Sri Lankan Ambassador Mr Handunnethi Rannulu Piyasiri at the reception to mark 64th Anniversary Independence day of Democratic Republic of Sri Lanka at Park Royal Hotel on 4 February.

MNA

Yangon Mayor inspects road upgrading, sanitation

YANGON, 4 Feb — Yangon Region Minister for Development Affairs Yangon Mayor U Hla Myint has assisted in laying the 24-inch in diameter pipes in Thingangyun Township today.

The new pipe line is 22.97 mile long linking Thingangyun Township and Ngamoeyik Water Plant and it would be used to supply 45 million gallons of water daily to Yangon.

The mayor also

inspected upgrading of roads and dredging drains in Thakayta, North Okkalapa, Insein, Kyimyindine, Ahlon, Latha, Kyauktada and Mingala Taungnyunt townships.

MNA

Basic education level work coordination meeting held

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb — Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyu addressed the basic education level work coordination meeting of the ministry on behalf of Union Minister for Education here this morning.

The deputy minister called for accuracy of statistics and invited suggestions for promotion of education standard.

Director-General of Education Planning and Training Department U Bo

Win explained measures to be taken and directors-general and chairperson of departments and associations reported on ongoing works. The work coordination meeting ends tomorrow.

MNA

It is possible to prevent certain cancers: doctor

SINGAPORE, 4 Feb — The incidence of cancer is indeed rising globally, but it is possible to prevent certain types of cancer by avoiding some of the known risk factors, like smoking, and get vaccinations for certain viruses, a doctor said on Friday.

Lee Soo Chin, senior consultant at the National University Cancer Institute, Singapore, said smoking is one of the most preventable lifestyle risk factors for cancer. "If people stop smoking, it will significantly reduce the risks of lung cancer, throat cancer and a lot of other smoking-related cancers," she said in a recent interview with Xinhua ahead of the World Cancer Day on 4 February.

There are other cancers that are related to viral infections, too. Hepatitis B, which is common in many parts of Asia, is associated with increased risks of liver cancer. Therefore, it works for people to be vaccinated against the virus by getting commercial vaccines. Hepatitis B used to be common in parts of China, where many people are getting vaccinations against the virus nowadays.— *Xinhua*



Members of a forensic team work at a crime scene where three masons were gunned down at the Pablo Gonzalez neighbourhood in Monterrey, on 3 Feb, 2012. The men were shot dead by unknown hitmen, according to local media.—INTERNET



Visitors view artworks of Chinese artist Fan Zhou during Fan's exhibition at the Chinese culture center in Paris, on 31 Jan, 2012. Fan's artwork exhibition was opened on Tuesday and will last until 10 Feb, 2012.—XINHUA

Study finds US racial segregation at lowest level in a century

NEW YORK, 4 Feb— Segregation of African-Americans in cities and towns across the United States has dropped to its lowest level since 1910, according to a study released on Tuesday.

The Manhattan Institute, a New York-based conservative think tank,

reported that "all-white neighbourhoods are effectively extinct" and that black populations in urban ghettos are in decline based on analysis of census data from neighbourhoods.

Immigration and gentrification helped convert ghettos into racially-mixed

communities and contributed to diversifying suburbia, according to economists Edward Glaeser of Harvard University and Jacob Vigdor of Duke University, who co-wrote the study. The Hispanic population has increased nationwide since the 1990s, with Latin American immigrants settling in both predominantly black and white neighbourhoods, the report said. The typical African-American now lives in a neighborhood that is 14 percent Latino.

Some experts, however, argued that the decline in desegregation in residential areas has not meant an end to racial inequality. Minorities at every income level tend to reside in poorer neighbourhoods than whites with comparable incomes.

Xinhua

Five people killed in Turkey due to carbon monoxide heater poisoning

ANKARA, 4 Feb—Five people from four families were killed in carbon monoxide heater poisoning in southeastern Gaziantep Province of Turkey on Friday, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported.

The victims are Dondu Acar, 29 years old; Resul Acar, 10; Muslum Acar, 12; Fatma Acar, 7; and Mustafa Acar, 17.

They were found dead at home in Nizip district of Gaziantep, when one of the relatives could not reach his family and informed villagers to look for them.

The bodies were taken to Birecik State Hospital, said the report.

An investigation into this incident was underway.—*Xinhua*

Arctic changes could spell dire consequences

SYDNEY, 4 Feb—The first signs of dangerous climate change in the Arctic could spell dire consequences for the whole of humankind, scientists warn.

The Arctic has been warming at three times the global average and the loss of sea ice, which had melted faster in summer than predicted, was linked tentatively to recent extreme cold winters in Europe.

But there's more to come and in a manner that has not been highlighted before.

University of Western Australia researchers say the Arctic region is fast approaching a series of imminent "tipping points" that could trigger an abrupt domino effect of large-scale climate change across the entire planet, the Swedish journal *AMBIO* and *Nature Climate Change* report.

Mexico drought worsened by cold

MEXICO CITY, 4 Feb—What officials call the most severe drought Mexico has ever faced has been worsened by a spate of cold weather. This week, the government authorized \$2.63 billion in aid for 19 of Mexico's 31 states. With agriculture devastated in nearly half of the country, the money will go to potable water, food and temporary jobs for citizens displaced by the drought.

Freezing temperatures worsened the already rising prices of produce such as corn and beans, and may lead to inflation.

The *New York Times* reported Tuesday certain areas in need of aid are difficult to reach, delaying the flow of food and water to people in those regions.

The most severely affected are indigenous communities, particularly tribal areas of the Tarahumara community in the Sierra Madre, among Mexico's poorest citizens.—*Internet*

"There is evidence that these forces are starting to be set in motion. This has major consequences for the future of humankind as climate change progresses," said Carlos Duarte, professor and director of the university's Oceans Institute.

Researchers suggest that the loss of Arctic summer sea ice, most likely over the next four decades, if not before, was expected to have abrupt knock-on effects on cities including Beijing, Tokyo, London, Moscow, Berlin and New York, according to a varsity statement.

Duarte, winner of last year's prestigious Prix d'Excellence awarded by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, said Arctic records showed unambiguously that sea ice volume had declined dramatically over the past two decades.—*Internet*



A price list of coffee and dessert is seen at a Starbucks outlet in Shanghai, east China, on 31 Jan, 2012. Seattle-based coffee chain Starbucks Corp on Tuesday raised prices in its 500 Chinese Mainland stores, the first price hike for its Mainland stores in five years.—XINHUA

US researchers find obesity begins in brain

HOUSTON, 4 Feb— Though most people think obesity is a problem of hips, thighs and bellies, a new study by US scientists shows that obesity begins in the brain where the female hormone estrogen plays a role. The study by a group of researchers, led by Baylor College of Medicine and The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, shows that the hormone works through two populations of neurons, steroidogenic factor-1 (SF-1) neurons and the pro-opiomelanocortin (POMC) neurons, in a particular part

of the brain called the hypothalamus.

The researchers found that the two kinds of neurons play different but important roles in metabolism, fat distribution and appetite control, according to the February issue of the *Baylor College of Medicine* news. "Before menopause, women are protected from obesity and associated disorders by estrogen," said Dr. Yong Xu, the first author of the study and assistant professor of the USDA Agricultural Research Service Children's Nutrition Research Center at BCM and Texas Children's Hospital.

After menopause, the risk of obesity in women rises, while the risks of estrogen replacement therapy outweigh its effect on reducing obesity, Xu said. Researchers studied four different kinds of mice to determine the effect of estrogen and focused their work on neurons in the hypothalamus that carry an estrogen receptor alpha. The hypothalamus links the nervous system to the endocrine system to regulate multiple physiological processes, including those controlling bodyweight.

Xinhua

Cadmium pollution cleanup measures safe, effective: experts

LIUZHOU, 4 Feb — The measures adopted to bring down cadmium concentration levels following a toxic spill in a river of south China's Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region are safe and effective, experts have told *Xinhua*. By 6 am Saturday, the water quality of the Liujiang River, a source of drinking water for local residents, is up to national standard, according to data released by the emergency headquarters handling the incident.

Neutralizers designed to gather the matter and ease its removal have been placed in the waterway, and agents designed for dilution in water discharged from upriver dams, Xu Zhencheng, deputy chief of the South China Institute of Environmental Sciences (SCIES) under the Ministry of the Environmental Protection, said in an exclusive interview with *Xinhua*. Xu said cleanup procedures organized by the team of more than 100 environmental and water experts that he heads had brought peak cadmium concentrations down from 80 times the official limit to less than 20 times the limit.

Cadmium pollution was first detected in the Longjiang River on 15 Jan in the city of Hechi, and it later spread to the downstream Liujiang River, threatening water security in Liuzhou, a city with 1.5 million permanent residents. Police officers have been mobilized to join in the cleanup work and the ongoing efforts are expected to run until the end of February.— *Xinhua*

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV MOROTAI VOY NO (173)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MOROTAI VOY NO (173) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.2.2012 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: M/S CMA CGM SHIPPING
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (12003)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (12003) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.2.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S T.S LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV BIENDONG FREIGHTER VOY NO (1206)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BIENDONG FREIGHTER VOY NO (1206) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.2.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING
(MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Japanese archaeologists find pottery with ogre's face

OSAKA, 4 Feb — A team of Japanese archaeologists has found a piece of pottery painted with the face of ogre which dates back to the 12th century in Nara Prefecture in western Japan.

The earthenware was excavated from a well built in the early 12th century at Shindo Remains in Kashiwara City, Nara Prefecture, where once Japan's capital was located, Japan's Nippon Hoso Kyokai (NHK) public broadcaster reported on Friday.

The excavation team said that the pottery is round shape with about 10 centimeters in diameter, noting that a face of ogre was drawn on its surface in ink. In particular, the team stressed, bold lines are clearly shown for his eyes, eyebrows and tusks from his mouth, making the face quite

humorous and impressive. It is believed that the discovery of pottery is the first time in Japan. The team started the excavation in June 2010 and also found in the same site other pieces of pottery which seem to be used as dishes or saucers for ritual ceremony in the era.

Japanese archaeologist Shinichi Sagawa in Gangoji Institute for Research of Cultural Property was quoted by NHK as saying that it was widely believed during the Middle Ages, possibly by legend from China, that picturing or imaging of ogre was one of the popular methods to protect people's daily life from enemy, evil and illness. The pottery will be on display at Kashiwara Municipal Senduka Museum from this Saturday to the end of March. — *Xinhua*



Ferrari drivers Fernando Alonso and Felipe Massa unveil the new F1 car F2012 in Maranello, central Italy, on 3 Feb, 2012. — XINHUA

From shipwreck in Italy, a treasure now beckons

ROME, 4 Feb — In the chaotic evacuation of the Costa Concordia, passengers and crew abandoned almost everything on board the cruise ship: jewels, cash, champagne, antiques, 19th-century Bohemian crystal glassware and thousands of art objects, including 300-year-old woodblock prints by a Japanese master.

Now, a veritable treasure lies beneath the pristine Italian waters where the luxury liner

ran aground last month.

Though some objects are bound to disintegrate, there is still hoard enough to tempt treasure seekers — just as the Titanic and countless shipwrecks before have lured seekers of gold, armaments and other riches for as far back as mankind can remember.

It may be just a matter of

their finest clothes and jewels so they could parade them in casinos and at gala dinners beneath towering chandeliers ceilings.

On top of that was the massive wealth belonging to the ship itself: elegant shops stocked with jewelry, more than 6,000 works of art decorating walls and a wellness spa containing a

Mainland women giving birth in Hong Kong.

Speaking at a media session on Friday, Chow said the government will discuss the issue with the Hong Kong Hospital Authority and private hospitals over the next two months.

He said the government has cut the quota for non-local women giving birth in Hong Kong to 35,000 for 2012, to ease demand for obstetrics services.

"We can see local mothers are giving birth more now, which is a very good sign, and more young people are getting married as well. This is very encouraging for Hong Kong. So we must reserve sufficient capacity for local parents," he said.

Chow said the government needs to adjust the quota every year, and is discussing the issue with Mainland authorities to deter people from trying to bypass the birth-registration system. According to statistics, about 88,000 babies were born in Hong Kong in 2010, among them about 41,000 were given birth by Mainland mothers.

Xinhua

Vermont inmates hide pig in official police car decal

VERMONT, 4 Feb — Inmates working at a Vermont correctional unit's print shop managed to sneak a prank image of a pig into a state police crest that is emblazoned on police cars, and 30 cruisers sported the design for the last year, officials said on Thursday.

The official crest depicts a spotted cow against a background of snowy mountains, but the inmates' version featured one of the cow's spots shaped like a pig in an apparent reference to the pejorative word for police, state police spokeswoman Stephanie Dasaro said.

"It dishonours the memory of those past and present members, especially for those who have lost their lives in the line of duty," Dasaro said. Vermont contracts with correctional facilities employing prisoners to make some print products, including the cruiser decals. Police said someone who works at the print shop changed the emblem from the officially sanctioned design.

A police employee noticed the prank on Wednesday and reported it. Police said the 60 16-inch door decals would be removed as soon as it was practical. The "source and timing" of the change to the design is under investigation, Dasaro said. "While some may find humor in the decal modifications, the joke unfortunately comes at the expense of the taxpayers," Police Major Bill Sheets said in a statement. — *Reuters*



The Vermont State Police emblem is pictured in this undated handout photo received by Reuters on 2 Feb, 2012 from the Vermont State Police. — INTERNET



In this undated file photo released by the Italian Fire Brigade, Vigili del Fuoco, on 31 Jan, 2012. INTERNET

time before treasure hunters set their sights on the sunken spoils of the Costa Concordia, which had more than 4,200 people on board.

"As long as there are bodies in there, it's considered off base to everybody because it's a grave," said Robert Marx, a veteran diver and the author of numerous books on maritime history, underwater archaeology and treasure hunting.

"But when all the bodies are out, there will be a mad dash for the valuables." The Mafia, he said, even has underwater teams that specialize in going after sunken booty. The Costa Concordia was essentially a floating luxury hotel and many of the passengers embarked on the ill-fated cruise with

collection of 300-year-old woodblock prints by Katsushika Hokusai, a Japanese artist most famous for his work of a giant wave framing Mount Fuji in the distance.

Internet

30 floating marijuana bales found off California beach

LOS ANGELES, 4 Feb — Thirty bales of marijuana estimated to be worth \$500,000 have been found floating off the Southern California coast.

Los Angeles County sheriff's investigators say a boater discovered the pot Wednesday more than six

miles off Marina del Rey.

The *Los Angeles Times* (<http://lat.ms/xMpbfr>) reports the bales were fished out of the sea with the help of lifeguards and was turned over to US Customs and Border Protection officials.

Internet

Gamer dies at web cafe—but no-one notices

The body of Chen Rong-yu, 23, was found slumped in a chair at a cafe in New Taipei city on Tuesday night, according to local reports.

He was rigid on a chair with his hands stretched out towards the keyboard and mouse, police said.

He had been playing League of Legends.

Mr Chen's body had apparently been sitting there for up to nine hours without any of the 30 other people in the cafe noticing.

He was last seen by a

waitress talking on the phone around noon on Wednesday.

An initial police investigation found he might have died of a cardiac arrest triggered by low temperatures.

The man's family said he had been treated for a heart problem in September of last year. Police are still looking into the cause of the death.

They say they suspect that a combination of tiredness, lack of movement and the cold weather could have caused blood clots and a heart attack.



Group of young people in Taiwan playing computer games at a show in Taipei

News Album

Snake found in hotel trouser press

The manager of a Swedish hotel said a guest was shocked to discover a snake in the trouser press in her room.

Anders Nilsson, manager of the hotel in Ornskoldsvik, said the woman told workers she investigated the appliance when her dog was giving it a lot of attention and soon discovered the object she believed to be a belt was actually a snake hanging from the trouser press, *The Local* reported Friday.

"I have been here for 30 years and have never experienced anything like this, it is an incredible story," Nilsson said.

"When they called from reception that night I thought that I had misheard them. The line was not so good, but it turned out to be a snake," he said.

The snake, which was killed by police, was identified as a harmless Manchurian black water snake.

Nilsson said the snake was likely either left behind by a previous guest or escaped from its owner.

Family gets \$10K Internet bill for watching movies

A Canadian family said they unknowingly racked up a \$10,000 bill while using their mobile Internet to watch movies on Netflix while on vacation.

John Gibson of Weyburn, Saskatchewan, said he recently took his family on vacation to Phoenix, where his grandchildren used his SaskTel mobile Internet to watch Netflix movies on a laptop computer, the Canadian Broadcasting Corp reported on Friday. Gibson said he was shocked when his SaskTel bill arrived and the amount exceeded \$10,000. He said he was told the charges resulted from heavy data usage outside of the company's service area, causing roaming charges to accumulate.

Gibson said he spoke to the company and they agreed to reduce the bill to \$1,000. He said the experience was a pricy lesson. "It's sort of my fault," he said. "I'll pay the thousand bucks and — lesson learned."

DUI suspect complained of 'big boobies'

A Florida woman accused of driving under the influence told a sheriff's deputy her "big boobies" hindered her ability to take a field sobriety test. The Martin County Sheriff's office said Maureen Raymond, 49, of Port St Lucie was pulled over around 9:20 pm Sunday by a deputy responding to a report of a reckless driver, *TCPalm* reported Friday. Raymond, who the arrest report said

smelled of alcohol and possessed an empty glass that smelled like it had contained an alcoholic beverage, told the deputy she could not comply with his instructions in the field sobriety test because of her "big boobies."



Maureen Raymond's mugshot, via the Martin County Sheriff's department.

"I asked her if she wanted to attempt the task and she stated if I hold her hand," the arrest affidavit states. "I asked her again if she would like to attempt the task and she stated not really because she has big breasts."

Raymond was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence. She refused to take a breath test, the sheriff's office said.

Jason Segel honoured by Harvard theater group



Actor Jason Segel laughs at a response from a member of the audience as he is honoured as the *Hasty Pudding Man of the Year* at Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass, on 3 Feb, 2012.—INTERNET

CAMBRIDGE, 4 Feb—Actor Jason Segel has been honoured as Man of the Year by Harvard University's Hasty Pudding Theatricals.

He got the traditional pudding pot on Friday evening after a roast by the nation's oldest undergraduate drama troupe.

Segel plays Marshall Eriksen on the CBS comedy "How I Met Your Mother." He co-wrote and starred in last year's "The Muppets."

And Friday he sang a version of "Rainbow Connection" written by the troupe.

Segel got his start in the short-lived but critically acclaimed television series "Freaks and Geeks." He later

wrote and starred in the 2008 movie "Forgetting Sarah Marshall," which earned more than \$100 million worldwide.

Hasty Pudding honored actress Claire Danes as its Woman of the Year.

Last year's Man of the Year was Jay Leno.

Internet

Popular character actor Ben Gazzara dies in NY

LOS ANGELES, 4 Feb—Actor Ben Gazzara, known for his brooding tough-guy presence in dozens of films, television shows and stage productions over his long career, died of pancreatic cancer on Friday at a Manhattan hospital, his lawyer said. He was 81.

A three-time Tony



US actor Ben Gazzara holds his Donostia prize which was awarded in recognition of his lifetime achievement at the San Sebastian Film Festival in northern Spain in this file photo taken 22 Sept, 2005.—INTERNET

nominee for his stage work, Gazzara made his big break into films with his role as an accused killer in Otto Preminger's 1959 courtroom drama "Anatomy of a Murder."

Reuters

Bee Gee Robin Gibb makes "spectacular" recovery

LONDON, 4 Feb—Bee Gees singer Robin Gibb said on Friday he had made a "spectacular" recovery from a serious illness, which was widely reported to be cancer.

The 62-year-old, most famous as a founding member of the disco-era hit machine the Bee Gees, told BBC Radio 2: "Well, it's all simple. I was diagnosed with a growth in my colon. It was removed. And I've been treated for that by a brilliant doctor, and in their own words 'the results have been spectacular'."

Media speculation about his deteriorating health was sparked by his gaunt and frail appearance in recent months. Some reports went so far as to suggest he was close to death, claims Gibb said had been unfounded.

"I mean the fact is, I've never spoken to anybody about my condition or the condition that I was in and a lot of them go over the top to

the point where they're telling me things that I didn't even know about myself," he said.

"The prognosis is that it's almost gone and I feel fantastic and really from now on it's just what they could describe as a 'mopping-up' operation. I am very active and my sense of well-being is good." Gibb has just finished recording his first ever classical work with son Robin-John called "The Titanic Requiem" which is due for release on 19 March.

Reuters



Robin Gibb of the Bee Gees arrives at the World Music Awards in Monte Carlo on 18 May, 2010.

INTERNET

Saif-Kareena to get engaged on 10 February?

MUMBAI, 4 Feb—Even though Kareena Kapoor has been denying her impending marriage to long-time lover Saif Ali Khan, rumours are that the Bollywood A-list couple will be getting engaged on 10th February.

This may be good news for fans of the couple, who have been waiting for the wedding of tinsel town's hottest couple.

"Both Saif and Bebo have been going steady for several years and are now ready to take that relationship to another level with a wedding," a source said.

"And the first step towards the grand wedding may take off with an engagement on 10th



February. They are quite excited about the engagement," the source added. Saif's sister, actor Soha Ali Khan revealed to a TV channel that the two will marry a week after the release of their spy thriller, *Agent Vinod*.—Internet

Steinfeld, Booth begin work on 'Romeo'

NEW YORK, 4 Feb—Hailee Steinfeld and Douglas Booth have begun work in Italy on the latest film version of Shakespeare's tragic romance "Romeo and Juliet," producers said. Ileen Maisel of Amber Entertainment and Nadja Swarovski of Swarovski Entertainment Ltd. announced Friday principal photography has begun.

The film's cast also includes Damian Lewis, Stellan Skarsgard, Paul Giamatti, Natascha McElhone, Lesley Manville, Ed Westwick, Tomas Arana, Laura Morante and Kodi Smit-

McPhee. Carlo Carlei is directing the film from a screenplay by "Downton Abbey" creator and "Gosford Park" scribe Julian Fellowes.

"Every generation is interested in love," Fellowes said in a statement.

"I mean, there is something about young love that is heartbreaking, and I think every teenager in the world would agree. All of that is very powerful."

The point about teenage love is it's before cynicism comes in to reshape one's attitudes.



Internet

Actress Hailee Steinfeld

Tomas Berdych, Gilles Simon and Gael Monfils feature in the semi-final of Open Sud de France



Gael Monfils

PARIS, 4 Feb—The Top 3 seeds at the Open Sud de France, Tomas Berdych, Gilles Simon and Gael Monfils won their respective matches to reach the last 4 of this tournament.

Top-seeded Czech, Tomas Berdych overcame Nicolas Mahut of France 6-3, 6-4 in 74 minutes. “So far everything’s going pretty well. I have a second match

under my belt. The very important thing in my game is serve. It was working pretty well, except for one game where I lost maybe a bit of concentration and lost that game, but finally was able to finish it in straight sets, so happy for that,” Berdych said after the match.

The Czech will next play German seventh seed Philipp Kohlschreiber, who struck 18 aces and capitalised on three of his six break points to defeat No. 4 seed Richard Gasquet of France 6-2, 3-6, 6-3. “I came out with a good start. I had the right tactic. Maybe he was not 100 per cent in the match in the beginning, so I felt I had a little bit of chance. I put a lot of pressure, I played very, very high quality tennis, and overall I served very well. It was a very good match for me,” said the German.

Second seed Gilles

Simon advanced to the semi-final with a hard fought 7-6(5), 6-7(2), 6-2 victory over fellow Frenchman and wild card Guillaume Rufin in two hours and 53 minutes. Simon is looking to lift his 10th ATP World Tour title and third on French soil (2007-Marseille, 2010-Metz).



Tomas Berdych

Simon will next face 2010 champion Gael Monfils, who hit nine aces and lost six points on serve in a convincing 6-3, 6-3 victory over Jarkko Nieminen of Finland in just 54 minutes.

Internet

Ryan Giggs set for new contract at Manchester United

MANCHESTER, 4 Feb—Ryan Giggs is ready to open talks on a new one-year contract after seeing Paul Scholes’ successful U-turn from retirement. The deal would take the veteran beyond his 39th birthday and 900 appearances for United. But after seeing team-mate Scholes realise the error of his ways by retiring prematurely last season, Giggs does not want to repeat that mistake. “I thought he’d retired too early - a lot of people did,” said the Welshman. “He



Ryan Giggs

was still the best in training with the reserves, so he obviously felt he could still do it. “Nobody was going to disagree with that and it was a massive boost when we found out he was coming back before

the Manchester City game.” Giggs is already the most decorated player in the history of English football with an incredible 12 Premier League titles and two Champions League triumphs. He remains a pivotal part of Sir Alex Ferguson’s team, making 21 appearances already this season. He needs three more to take him to 900 for the club - but he is more interested in winning more silverware. “The big one was overtaking Sir Bobby Charlton,” he said. “But now I’ll just see where it takes me. “We’ll sit down pretty soon and see what we want to do but at the moment I feel good and I want to carry on.” Giggs is hoping to make it 13 titles this season and believes United are heading into a crucial stage of the season with Chelsea on Sunday followed by games against Liverpool and Tottenham.

Internet

International Sports

Terry misses Chelsea’s match hosting Man Utd

LONDON, 4 Feb—John Terry was ruled out of Chelsea’s Premier League match hosting Manchester United on Friday due to a knee injury. The center back, who was removed as England captain while awaiting trial in July on charges of racially abusing an opponent, may also miss the next weekend’s away match at Everton.

“John Terry is the captain, a leader on the pitch and off it and he is a great player so we will miss him of course,” said Chelsea manager Andre Villas-Boas. Terry has been the second star defender that the fourth place Chelsea had to be without, as Ashley Cole was suspended following his red card against Swansea on Tuesday.—Xinhua



Chelsea captain John Terry will miss his side’s blockbuster clash with Manchester United because of a knee injury.

XINHUA



Carlos Tevez return is possible—Roberto Mancini

MANCHESTER, 4 Feb—Manchester City boss Roberto Mancini has named Carlos Tevez in his 25-man squad for the remainder of the season—and admitted he could pick him again. Mancini said a fully-fit Tevez could wear the sky blue shirt again, despite previously asserting that the Argentina international was “finished” at City.

Tevez remains at City after interest from AC Milan, Inter Milan and Paris St Germain failed to turn into a transfer. “If he comes back - and he is fit - it is possible,”

conceded Mancini. Tevez, 27, remains in Argentina and, as yet, there has been no indication when the striker may return. “Carlos is not an option at the moment but it is possible



Roberto Mancini, left, has offered his out-of-favour striker Carlos Tevez a route back to the Manchester City first team.

in the future if he comes back,” added Mancini. “I hope for him he has been training in the last three months to help his condition.

“There is only one thing on my mind, the Barclays Premier League.” Club captain Vincent Kompany has insisted City have the mental strength to keep their title challenge on course.

“I hope for him he has been training in the last three months to help his condition”

Mancini on Tevez.

City have had a mixed set of results in January, allowing Manchester United to draw level with them on points at the top of the Premier League table.

The Goodison Park defeat marked Kompany’s return to the City team after a four-game suspension following his red card in the 3-2 FA Cup third round loss to United in January.

Internet

Levin leads frost-bitten Phoenix Open

SCOTTSDALE, 4 Feb—Spencer Levin fired an eight-under 63 for the clubhouse lead as the \$6.1 million PGA Tour’s Phoenix Open was suspended because of darkness for the second consecutive day. Levin reached 14-under 128 through two rounds.

His closest pursuer was fellow American Harrison Frazer, who was six-under for the day and 11-under for the tournament with three holes remaining in his second round when play was halted.

“Everything was pretty good today,” Levin said. “My putting and chipping feels real solid. “I felt pretty good going into my second round and it didn’t feel like a second round.”

The beginning of the round was delayed an hour because of frost, and play was suspended because of darkness with 34 players still on the course. Last year, chilly temperatures and frosty greens delayed play a total of nine hours during the week,

forcing a Monday finish which went to a playoff. The second round was to continue at 7:30 am on Saturday which means that for the sixth consecutive year the cut will be decided on Saturday.

Levin, who had an early tee off time, finished his round with a seven-shot lead. But an afternoon wave of contenders closed the gap, including Frazer and Webb Simpson.

Internet



Spencer Levin during the second round of the Phoenix Open on 3 Feb. Levin fired an eight-under 63 for the clubhouse lead as the \$6.1 million PGA Tour’s Phoenix Open was suspended because of darkness for the second consecutive day.

INTERNET

After spell in China, Kenyon Martin joins Clippers

LOS ANGELES, 4 Feb—The Los Angeles Clippers signed Kenyon Martin, the free agent forward returning to the NBA after a stint with the Xinjiang Guanghui Flying Tigers in China.

“Kenyon is the ultimate competitor and a key acquisition,” Clippers Vice President of Basketball Operations Neil Olshey said in a statement posted on the club’s website. “We expect that he will provide additional experience, passion and



Kenyon Martin, during an NBA match in February 2011.—INTERNET

professionalism, as well as some important depth to our front court.” Martin is expected to join the Clippers on their current road trip in Orlando. The Clippers stuck

with club policy and did not announce terms of the deal, but the Los Angeles Times reported that Martin inked a one-year contract for \$2.5 million. After leaving the Tigers in December, he was required to wait until their Chinese Basketball Association campaign was over before he could join any NBA team. But the Los Angeles Times reported he had been cleared to return to the NBA by world governing body FIBA.—Internet

DISTRICT NEWS

Discussion on revenue held

LETPADAN, 4 Feb—Letpadan Township Internal Revenue department held a discussion on revenue on 26 January morning.

Staff Officer U Kyaw Hlaing of Letpadan Township IRD explained matters related to revenue. The discussion was attended by officials of Township General Administration Department, Township Development Affairs Committee and Myanmar Police Force and 100 tax payers.—Township IPRD



Palethwe paddy grown through GAP

HOPANG, 4 Feb—Cultivation of summer paddy through good agriculture pattern was demonstrated at 1.37 acres of farmland in Manmai Ward of Hopang Township on 25 January.

Departmental officials supervised cultivation of Palethwe summer paddy strain. It was attended by district and township level officials, members of township agricultural committee, local authorities and local farmers.

Township IPRD

NLM-ner Joke

Child sent to bed

A small boy is sent to bed by his father...

[Five minutes later]

"Da-ad..."

"What?"

"I'm thirsty. Can you bring me a drink of water?"

"No. You had your chance. Lights out."

[Five minutes later]

"Da-aaaad..."

"WHAT?"

"I'm THIRSTY...Can I have a drink of water??"

you!!"

[Five minutes later]

"Daaaa-aaaAAAAD..."

"WHAT?!!!"

"When you come in to spank me, can you bring me a drink of water?"

Answer for Yesterday's Crossword Puzzle



Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(5-2-12 09:30 am ~

6-2-12 09:30 am) MST

Oversea Transmission

- * News
- * 13th Acariyapuja Ceremony of International Theravada
- * News
- * Myanmar Agarwood
- * News
- * Mogok: The Colourful Land of Rubies
- * News
- * Memorial Art Exhibition For Artist U Thu Kha
- * News
- * MI People's Celebrities "Imaginative Fractions Piece of Chan Chan"
- * Fresh-water Fish breeding industry
- * News
- * Stream of Songs
- * News
- * Beautiful Choreographic of Maid of Honour Dance and Female Spirit Dance
- * News
- * Place of Interest A Beautiful City In Myanmar
- * Myanmar Movies
- * "Longing For Mother"

MYANMAR TV

(5-2-2012) (Sunday)

7:00 am

1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw

7:30 am

2. Morning News

7:40 am

3. Nice & Sweet Song

8:15 am

4. Teleplay (Traffic)

8:25 am

5. 65th Anniversary Union Day Programme

11:00 am

6. Martial Song

11:30 am

7. TV Drama Series

12:30 pm

8. Myanmar Movies

4:25 pm

9. Songs of National Races

4:45 pm

10. Songs For Upholding National Spirit

4:50 pm

11. 65th Anniversary Union Day Programme

5:00 pm

12. Documentary

6:35 pm

13. TV Drama Series

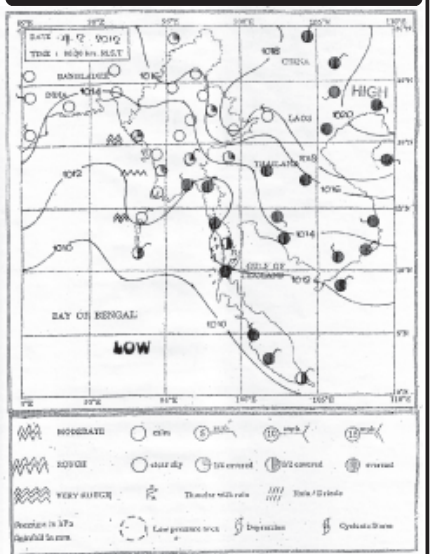
8:00 pm

14. News

15. Cartoon Series

16. TV Drama Series

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 5th February, 2012

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (C/F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	29/84	08/46	Partly Cloudy	
2	Kayah	30/86	07/45	Partly Cloudy	
3	Kayin	34/93	19/66	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	(60%)
4	Chin	23/73	02/36	Generally fair weather	
5	Upper Sgawing	28/82	10/50	Generally fair weather	
6	Lower Sgawing	32/90	14/57	Generally fair weather	
7	Tanintharyi	34/93	22/72	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	(60%)
8	Bago	31/88	19/66	Generally fair weather	
9	Magway	33/91	13/55	Generally fair weather	
10	Mandalay	33/91	14/57	Generally fair weather	
11	Mon	35/95	23/73	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	(60%)
12	Yangon	34/93	21/70	Partly Cloudy	
13	Rakhine	28/82	13/55	Generally fair weather	
14	Southern Shan	26/79	07/45	Generally fair weather	
15	Northern Shan	27/81	04/39	Generally fair weather	
16	Eastern Shan	26/79	07/45	Generally fair weather	
17	Ayeyawady	33/91	20/68	Partly Cloudy	
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	33/91	14/57	Generally fair weather	
19	Neighbouring Yangon	34/93	21/70	Partly Cloudy	
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	33/91	14/57	Generally fair weather	

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today

During the past (24) hours, light rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Tanintharyi Region, Kayin and Mon States, weather has been partly cloudy in Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Shan and Rakhine States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Night temperatures were (5°C) to (4°C), below February average temperatures in Upper Sgawing Region, Kachin, Shan and Chin States, (3°C) to (4°C) above February average temperatures in Bago, Yangon and Tanintharyi Regions, Mon States and above February average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant night temperatures were Namsan, Pindana and Haka (2°C) each and Loidien (3°C).

Day

Inference

State of the Sea

Outlook for subsequent two days

Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

Generally fair weather in the whole country.

Arsenal 7-1 Blackburn

Robin van Persie's hat-trick, two goals from Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain, Mikel Arteta's strike and Thierry Henry's late goal saw Arsenal thump Blackburn

LONDON, 4 Feb—Captain Robin van Persie was the toast of the party as Arsenal recorded their first league win in 2012 with a 7-1 destruction of Blackburn at the Emirates. Van Persie continued his phenomenal scoring record this campaign with a hat-trick to overtake Dennis Bergkamp's goal tally for the Gunners.

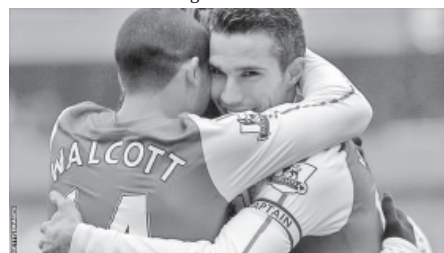
Red-hot youngster Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain also had an excellent outing, tormenting the Rovers defence and grabbing two goals for himself. Despite failing to get a goal for himself,

Theo Walcott was key to Arsenal's game as well with a hat-trick of assists, the first one coming only just 80 seconds into the game when he set up van Persie's tap-in with a cross from the right.

Blackburn looked like they had some fight in them after Pedersen scored a blistering freekick half an hour in but goals from van Persie and Oxlade-Chamberlain put paid to the notion. It was an even



tougher task for them after Gael Givet was sent off for a two-footed challenge on van Persie two minutes from the break. The second half was smooth-sailing for Arsenal, who tore the Blackburn defence with ease, allowing Mikel Arteta to get on the scoresheet as well and van Persie to complete his hat-trick. Van Persie turned provider for the final goal of the game in injury time when he set Thierry Henry up for the returning legend to score his second goal in his second coming.—Internet



Results on Saturday, 4th February 2012

Arsenal	7 - 1	Blackburn
Norwich	2 - 0	Bolton
QPR	1 - 2	Wolves
Stoke	0 - 1	Sunderland
West Brom	1 - 2	Swansea
Wigan	1 - 1	Everton
Man City	3 - 0	Fulham

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan, Chief Minister U Myint Swe attend fifth Tun Foundation Literary Award ceremony 2011

YANGON, 4 Feb—The fifth Tun Foundation Literary Award ceremony 2011 took place at the office of Myanmar Banks Association in Yankin Township, here this afternoon, attended by Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan and Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe.

Also present were Yangon Region Minister for Finance and Revenue Daw San San Nwe, departmental heads, chairmen and executive members of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, Myanmar Thabin Asiayon, Myanmar Traditional Artists and Artisans Asiayon, Myanmar Printers and Publishers Association and Myanmar Libraries Foundation, members of literary award committee, literary award selection committee and Sayawun Tin Shwe Literary Award and Thuta Swesone Literary Award committees and guests.

Speaking on the occasion, Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan said that literature plays an important role in both the international community and own country. Like the previous governments, the new government is encouraging literary development by rendering assistance.

For the development of Myanmar's literature, the State presents National Literary Award and Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award every year. The National Literary Award includes 12 genres and the

Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award 14 genres. As the Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award includes first, second and third prizes, 12 National Literary Awards and 42 Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Awards are presented each year.

The Union Minister went on to say that this year's National Literary Award includes the award for English version book, and advice has been sought from the literati to continue to present awards for the books written in English in the coming years.

Myanmar publishes about 4,700 books in various subjects. If 1000 copies per book are published, there will be more than four million copies of books every year. So, it can be said that in comparison with the yearly publishing of books, awards presented are few in number.

The Union Minister added that to fill the gap, Tun Foundation Literary Committee has started presenting Tun Foundation Literary Award and it has now been presented for six times. Similarly, Sayawun Tin Shwe Literary Award, Thuta Swesone Literary Award and Pakokku U Ohn Pe Literary Award are being presented to contribute towards national literary development. And the State foresees and welcomes more private literary awards.

Today's prize winning works are found to have included knowledgeable facts for the nation and the people. Moreover, as



Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan presents award to U Thaw Kaung for book on Aspect of Myanmar History and Culture.—MNA

awards have been awarded for the English version books and manuscripts, it will surely help develop the Myanmar literature as well as the nation's English language skills.

Now is the time when Myanmar is in the process of democracy transition in accord with the constitution. Building a democratic

nation calls for the uprightness of legislative, executive and judicial pillars. The fourth estate called media is responsible for ensuring the uprightness of the three pillars. As the people are the ones who will decide everything in shaping a democracy, they can be said the
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QPR 1-2 Wolves

LONDON, 4 Feb—

Substitute Kevin Doyle scored the winner and provided an assist as Wolves came from behind to beat 10-man QPR and record their first win in 12 games. The Ireland international came off the bench at half-time and helped set up Matt Jarvis' equaliser 51 seconds later, before going on to net the winner. Their victory was the first in 10 league attempts and helps relieve some of the pressure on under-fire manager Mick McCarthy. It had looked like QPR boss Mark Hughes would be going

home with the three points after debutant Bobby Zamora fired QPR into a deserved lead just days after his move from west London rivals Fulham.

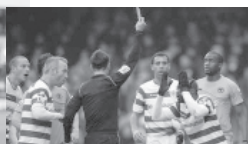
Wolves were given a way back into the game, though, when fellow striker Djibril Cisse was shown a straight red card for an altercation with Roger Johnson in the 34th minute. The sending off changed the match and goals from Jarvis and



Doyle helped Wolves to just their third victory since August. McCarthy's side came into the match looking devoid of confidence as the hosts bossed the opening minutes. Fresh from netting on his debut in midweek, Cisse tested Wayne Hennessey inside four minutes before strike partner Zamora forced the Wales international to parry a fierce 20-yard drive.

QPR's confidence in the opening exchanges was epitomised by the returning Adel Taarabt, who played a neat

Jarvis & Doyle strikes ensure visitors punish Djibril Cisse red card to move out of bottom three



one-two with Zamora before curling just wide of the far post. Steven Fletcher curled a 20-yard free-kick wide of Paddy Kenny's goal soon after as McCarthy's side pushed for an equaliser. The pressure, though, soon petered out with Cisse's pace proving a problem for the Wolves back line. However, the France international's afternoon only lasted 34 minutes after he reacted to a late Johnson challenge.—Internet

Summer sports training courses to be held in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb—A work coordination meeting for opening summer sports training courses in Nay Pyi Taw this year was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Sports here on 1 February morning.

At the event, Deputy Minister for Sports U Aye Myint Kyu made a speech citing that as youths play in a vital role in shaping a democratic country, they need to be healthy, and that the heads of schools should push their respective physical training teachers to persuade their students keep sports spirit in mind and to nurture their skills in school sports because only when a student is in good physical shape, will his brain be able to work effectively.

Then, the deputy minister heard the reports presented by Deputy Director-General U Ohn Myint Oo of Sports and Physical Education Department (Upper Myanmar) under the Sports Ministry and Deputy Director-General of No. 2 Basic Education Department U Myint Shwe on holding the courses respectively and then he left necessary instructions.

After that, township education officers, headmasters and headmistresses present at the meeting respectively reported to him about general matters.—MNA

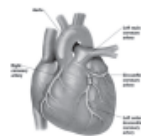
Measure for transportation of the new government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar (Nay Pyi Taw Airport)



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Terry misses Chelsea's match hosting Man Utd



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