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Friday, 10 February, 2012

Our Three Main National Causes

- * Non-disintegration of the Union
- * Non-disintegration of National Solidarity
- * Perpetuation of Sovereignty

National unity is of utmost importance

Only if the nation is in peace with national unity, can democracy be practiced in earnest. Socio-economy of the people will improve only through democratic practices and national development. All the people should therefore be well aware of the fact that national unity is of utmost importance.

(Excerpt from the message sent by President U Thein Sein on the occasion of the 64th Anniversary Independence Day 2012)

President U Thein Sein receives Philippine Secretary of Department of Foreign Affairs and party

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Feb—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein received a goodwill delegation led by Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs Hon Mr Albert F Del Rosario of the Republic of the Philippines at the Credentials Hall of the President Residence, here, at 11 am today.

Also present at the call were Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Industry U Soe Thein, Union Minister at the President Office U Thein Nyunt, Union Minister for

Labour and for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Aung Kyi and departmental heads.

The Philippine Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs and party were accompanied by Ambassador of the Philippines Ms Maria Hellen M Barber and officials.

They had a cordial discussion on further strengthening bilateral relations between Myanmar and the Philippines and mutual cooperation between the two countries.—MNA

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein receives a goodwill delegation led by Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs Hon Mr Albert F Del Rosario of the Republic of the Philippines.—MNA

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein cordially greets Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs Hon Mr Albert F Del Rosario of the Republic of the Philippines.—MNA



Ayeyawady River-crossing Bridge (Yadanabon)

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Myanmar, Malaysia eye to cooperate in banking services

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Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister inspects development undertakings in Patheingyi, Ngathayaw

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Significant night temperatures (9-2-2012)

Namhsan	3°C
Lashio	4°C
Pinlaung	5°C
Heho	5°C

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 10 February, 2012

A hundred of arrows

The race means a group of people who share the common attitude and interest for years through thick and thin. Myanmar is home to Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Bamar, Mon, Rakhine and Shan nationalities. Despite variations on traditional customs, language and social systems, they are brethren in essence.

Experiences we have come across in the course of history have highlighted the vital importance of unity among the national races. Firm unity portrays high level of civilization and a national character that could shape a harmonious society. Myanmar said no to yoke of colonialism and toughts of Fascist rule. The country can now stand on her own feet and hold her head high on the international stage.

Essence of unity is well entrenched in hearts of Myanmar people. Proverbs of various national races show their love for unity. "Men cannot crack a hundred of arrows. Only if eaten together is it sweeter. Only if carried together is it lighter."

Global nations are moving towards peaceful co-existence. Though, developing countries are still confronting interference and hegemony of some powers. For a country like Myanmar with rich natural resources and strategic geopolitical position, it is needed to prevent attempted hegemonies of foreign countries.

Mainly, national unity is essential. In establishing democratic nation, the new democratic nation cannot be built up by the government alone. It is high time for all the national people to get involved in harmony in the process for flourishing democratic practices, the rule of law, national reconsolidation and eternal peace.

Stability of the State is the key to building a new nation. Only with national unity, will there be stability. The onus is on all national races to safeguard the Union. Now is time for all national brethren to live in unity and amity.

History of the Union is of all national races. Unity is the strength of the Union. Regardless of topography, all the national people should march towards the new peaceful democratic nation, maintaining fine traditions of high morale and unity.

All townships of Nay Pyi Taw witness Paletthwe hybrid paddy plantation

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Feb—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing visited farmer educative plantation for Paletthwe hybrid paddy growing of 100-acre modern farm project in Taegyigon region in Zabuthiri Township this morning.

Nay Pyi Taw Council Area lies at the heart of the country. So, setting up of plantations in eight townships of Nay Pyi Taw are carried out simultaneously. It is importance of staff to educate farmers so as to know the benefit of growing Paletthwe hybrid paddy, he said.

After that, the Union Minister inspected Paletthwe plantations and presented foodstuff to paddy growers and staff. Then, he proceeded to advanced farmland (369-acre) plantation in Alyinlo village in Pyinmana Township, inspected thriving Paletthwe F1 paddy plantation and presented foodstuff to paddy growers and staff.

He enjoyed the growing of Paletthwe hybrid paddy at modern farmland (945-acre) plantation in Aungchantha region in Zabuthiri Township.

MNA

Chinese guests call on Dy Health Minister



Deputy Health Minister Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin receives Deputy Secretary-General Mr Bai Wei and party of China Foundation for Peace and Development.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Feb—Deputy Secretary-General Mr Bai Wei of China Foundation for Peace and Development paid a call

on Deputy Health Minister Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin at the ministry yesterday.

They discussed eye care services by mobile eye treatment teams with the assistance of the government, internal social organizations and well-wishers, provision of modern eye surgical equipment to eye specialist hospitals in Myanmar, and conducting of courses designed to enhance competency of eye specialists and nurses.

Also present at the call were Deputy Director-General of the Medical Science Department Dr Tin Lay, Deputy Director (Trachoma) Dr Daw Khin Nyein Lin and officials.

MNA

Myanmar, Malaysia eye to cooperate in banking services



Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein meets Malaysian Ambassador Dr Ahmad Faisal Muhamad.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Feb—Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar of Ministry of Finance and Revenue U Than Nyein and Malaysian Ambassador Dr Ahmad Faisal Muhamad discussed bilateral cooperation in banking services in Myanmar.

The meeting at the Governor's office here today focused on development of banking services in Myanmar.

Also present at the call were the Vice-Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar and head of departments.

MNA

LOCAL SPORTS

Women's Football Tournament kicks off in DaikU

DAIKU, 9 Feb—The DaikU Township Women's Affairs Organization's Cup Inter-Ward/Village Women's Football Tournament 2012 kicked off at the township football ground in DaikU on 26 January.

After delivering an address, Chairman of the Township Sports and Physical Education Committee Township Administrator U Kyaw Swa Aung opened the tournament.

In the debut, Waso Ward team won over Doetan Village-tract team 2-0.

Three ward teams and five village-tract teams are taking part in the tournament.—Township SPEC

Htay Min Lwin claims champion in Chess Open Championship

YANGON, 9 Feb—The prize presentation of the Myanmar Chess Open Championship 2012, jointly organized by Sports and Physical Education Department and Myanmar Chess Federation, took place at Aung San Gymnasium, here, on 3 February.

Executives of the federation U Myo Min Aung and U Thet Lin presented cash awards to first to tenth prize winners. Vice-President U Win Aung gave trophies to first prize winner Htay Min Lwin, second prize winner Aung Myo Hlaing and third prize winner Than Min Hlaing.

President U Maung Maung Lwin awarded championship trophy to Htay Min Lwin.

The federation allowed the players from first to tenth



positions to take part in the National Chess Championship that will start on 1 March 2012.

MNA



Chinese State Councilor Dai Bingguo (R) shakes hands with Indian Foreign Minister S.M. Krishna in Beijing, capital of China, on 8 Feb, 2012. XINHUA

US senior diplomat to visit southeast Asian countries for defence cooperation

WASHINGTON, 9 Feb—US Assistant Secretary of State for Political-Military Affairs Andrew Shapiro will travel to the Philippines, Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia for defence cooperation, State Department announced on Wednesday. From Thursday to Saturday, Shapiro will visit the Philippines to consult with senior civilian and military officials on further enhancing

defence and security cooperation, building on the recent US-Philippines Bilateral Security Dialogue in Washington, the department said in a statement.

From Sunday to Monday, he will be in Indonesia for talks on bilateral political-military cooperation, including Indonesia's recent decision to acquire F-16 aircraft, said the statement. From Tuesday to next

Thursday, Shapiro will attend the Singapore Air Show, as well as discuss political-military and defence trade issues with Singaporean senior government officials and industry representatives, according to the statement.

In his final stop, he will travel to Malaysia to hold bilateral meetings with senior civilian and defence officials there, said the statement.

Xinhua

Ten bodies found in two mass graves in eastern Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 9 Feb—Bodies of 10 people allegedly murdered by organized crimes were found on Wednesday morning in two mass graves in eastern Mexico's Veracruz state, the Mexican Navy said.

The navy said the graves were found in two ranches in Acayucan city, nearly 540 km southeast of Mexico City, following the arrest of a man on Tuesday.

In a joint statement released by the navy and the local government of Veracruz, the murder of the 10 persons was attributed to the drug gang "Los Zetas."

Acayucan, located in south Veracruz, is a livestock farming area, which is considered by local and federal authorities as a "hot spot" of great danger, because of growing insecurity in the region.

On Tuesday morning marines arrested the occupant of a vehicle that tried to evade

a checkpoint set up near Acayucan.

The man, identified as Juan Francisco Alvarado Martagon, alias "El Pollo H," confessed himself as chief of a criminal group in the service of "Los Zetas."

The suspect later pointed out the exact locations of the two mass graves.

During Tuesday night and early Wednesday, staffers of the Attorney General of the state carried out excavations and uncovered the 10 bodies, which were in state of decomposition. Last October, the Mexican government launched the operation "Veracruz Insurance" by deploying federal forces and strengthening intelligence work to ensure security in the area shaken by a wave of violence. The move came after the findings of 32 bodies in three homes, and other 35 bodies dumped on a busy avenue in the tourist area of Veracruz on the Gulf of Mexico.—Xinhua



This file photo taken on 9 Oct, 2011 shows that Afghan children work at a brick factory on the outskirts of Kabul, Capital of Afghanistan. The child labour has remained rampant in brick kiln industry in the war-ravaged Afghanistan, according to a joint report released on 7 Feb, 2012 by the United Nations International Labour Organization (ILO) and Afghan Ministry for Labour, Social affairs, Martyred and Disabled (MoLSAMD).—XINHUA

Four killed in US drone strike in NW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 9 Feb—At least four people were killed and two others were injured when a US drone launched missile strikes in North Waziristan tribal area of northwest Pakistan on Thursday morning, reported local Urdu TV channel ARY.

Xinhua



US drone

People look at the wreckage of a car used in a suicide car bomb attack in Mogadishu on 8 February, 2012. INTERNET



MOGADISHU, 9 Feb—A suicide bomber killed at least 11 people Wednesday in the war-torn Somali Capital Mogadishu when he

detonated an explosive-laden vehicle near the presidential palace, officials said.

"There was a heavy explosion, a car full of explosives was detonated. At least 11 people were killed and a greater number were wounded," lawmaker Mohamed Iro said.

The bomber detonated the vehicle at a small cafe where people had gathered to drink tea, a spot also close to a hotel once popular with officials and located in the heart of the government quarter.

"It was a suicide bomber in a car—they were trying to target the people near the

hotel," said Abdi Abullahi Jama, a security official.

"There are many people dead and many wounded, we are still investigating."

The attack took place hours after senior European Union diplomat Alexander Rondos, Special Representative for the Horn of Africa, visited the war-ravaged city, where he met with the embattled government.

The blast occurred outside the Mona hotel, where 32 people including six members of parliament were killed in an August 2010 attack by two Islamist suicide gunmen wearing government security uniforms.

No group immediately claimed responsibility for Wednesday's attack, the latest in a string of blasts including roadside bombs and grenade explosions that have rocked the Somali capital in recent months.

The city has seen an increase in such attacks since the al-Qaeda linked Shebab abandoned fixed positions there in August and switched to guerilla tactics against the Western-backed government and African Union troops.

The explosion was the deadliest in the anarchic city since October, when a truck packed with explosives killed at least 82 people.—Internet

Car bomb in S Thailand kills one, injures over 10

BANGKOK, 9 Feb—A car bomb in front of Provincial Public Health Office in the city of southernmost province of Pattani exploded Thursday morning, killing one immediately while wounding more than 10 others and destroying over eight cars and motorcycles nearby, local media *Thairath* reported.

Xinhua

Israel says Palestinian leadership "embrace" terror

JERUSALEM, 9 Feb—Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Wednesday lashed at the Palestinian reconciliation deal reached between the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) President Mahmoud Abbas and Hamas chief Khaled Meshaal, saying that the PNA needs to choose between the "path of Hamas or the path of peace."

Speaking at a plenum in honor of the 63 anniversary of the Knesset parliament, Netanyahu had harsh words for Abbas, *The Jerusalem Post* reported.

"We've seen recently that the PA (Palestinian Authority) has chosen to refrain from taking action against extremists, even chose to embrace them," Netanyahu said.

In line with the prime minister, Israeli President Shimon Peres said during the plenum that the PNA must choose between Hamas, who "aspires to terror" and Fatah who "is ready for negotiations" and calls for renewed peace talks.

Abbas and Meshaal on Monday announced the unity deal in Doha, Qatar, which ended a dispute between the two rivals on forming a transitional unity government.

According to the declaration, Abbas will head the interim government, which will include independent ministers and will prepare for the presidential and legislative elections in the Palestinian territories and the reconstruction of the Gaza Strip.—Xinhua



A reserve soldier of Israel Defence Forces (IDF) operates an equipment which can track rockets' direction and instantly analyze exactly where they will fall during a military drill monitoring the skies for falling rockets in Ashkelon, near the border of Israel and Gaza Strip, on 8 Feb, 2012. XINHUA

Genetic Parkinson's disease brain cells made in lab

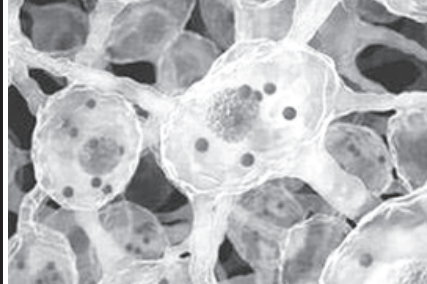
LONDON, 9 Feb — Scientists in the US have successfully made human brain cells in the lab that are an exact replica of genetically caused Parkinson's disease. The breakthrough means they can now see exactly how mutations in the parkin gene cause the disease in an estimated one in 10 patients with Parkinson's. And it offers a realistic model to test new treatments on—a hurdle that has blighted research efforts until now. The team told Nature Communications their work was a "game-changer". "This is the first time that human dopamine neurons have ever been generated from Parkinson's disease patients with parkin mutations," said Dr Jian

Feng who led the investigations. "Before this, we didn't even think about being able to study the disease in human neurons. The brain is so fully integrated. It's impossible to obtain live human neurons to study."

Studying human neurons is critical in Parkinson's disease since animal models that lack the parkin gene do not develop the condition, rendering them useless for this research purpose. To make the human neurons the scientists used a technique already successfully tested by others which can turn donated skin cells into brain tissue. They used skin samples from four volunteers — two healthy people and two with Parkinson's disease caused by a parkin gene mutation. This allowed them to

observe the parkin gene at work. Normally, parkin controls the production of an enzyme called MAO (monamine oxidase) which, in turn, keeps a check on the brain-signalling chemical dopamine.

When parkin is mutated, that regulation is lost and levels of MAO increase, which can be toxic to dopamine-producing brain cells. The scientists now want to test new treatments that might prevent this damage occurring and stop this form of Parkinson's. They have already shown that they can reverse the defect by putting a normal parkin gene into diseased neurons. Dr Michelle Gardner, research development manager at Parkinson's UK, said the study was particularly exciting because it provided a new way to investigate this genetic form of Parkinson's. "Parkinson's UK funded research has already shown that parkin plays a key role in how Parkinson's develops in the brain nerve cells that die." — Internet



Abnormal accumulations of protein develop inside nerve cells in Parkinson's disease. — INTERNET



Tai chi helps ease symptoms of Parkinson's



In this undated photo provided by the Oregon Research Institute, people participate in a tai chi class at the institute in Eugene, Ore. The ancient Chinese exercise improved balance and lowered the risk of falls in a study of people with Parkinson's disease led by Fuzhong Li published in the New England Journal of Medicine on 8 Feb, 2012. — INTERNET

NEW YORK, 9 Feb — The ancient Chinese exercise of tai chi improved balance and lowered the risk of falls in a study of people with Parkinson's disease. Symptoms of the brain disorder include tremors and stiff, jerky movements that can affect

walking and other activities. Medications and surgery can help, and doctors often recommend exercise or physical therapy.

Tai chi (ty-CHEE'), with its slow, graceful movements, has been shown to improve strength and aid stability in older people, and has been studied for a number of ailments. In the latest study, led by Fuzhong Li of the Oregon Research Institute in Eugene, tai chi was tested in 195 people with mild-to-moderate Parkinson's. The participants attended twice-weekly group classes of either tai chi or two other kinds of exercise—stretching and resistance training, which included steps and lunges with ankle weights and a weighted vest. The tai chi routine was tailored for the Parkinson's patients, with a focus on "swing and sway" motions and weight-shifting, said Li, who practices tai chi and teaches instructors.

After six months of classes, the tai chi group did significantly better than the stretching group in tests of balance, control, walking and other measures. Compared with resistance training, the tai chi group did better in balance, control and stride, and about the same in other tests. — Internet

Health official calls for real-name HIV testing

BEIJING, 9 Feb — A senior health official on Wednesday advocated the use of real-name HIV testing, stating that the tests will be beneficial for the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS.

Wang Yu, director of the Chinese Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, made the remark at a Press conference held by the Ministry of Health

on Wednesday in response to a question about a controversial piece of legislation that may soon be approved in south Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region.

A draft regulation on HIV/AIDS prevention is expected to be handed over to the standing committee of the region's local people's congress for approval. The regulation states that HIV tests should be carried out

on a real-name basis, with those who test positive obliged to inform their spouses or sex partners. "HIV carriers might spread the virus to others through unprotected sex or other channels. Under such circumstances, should we protect the privacy of the carriers, or control the epidemic and protect public health?" Wang said.

Xinhua

German exports set record of a trillion euros in 2011

BERLIN, 9 Feb — Germany's trade surplus reached 158bn euros (£132bn; \$209bn) in 2011 on record exports that rose 11.4% to top 1tn euros for the first time. The national statistics office also said that imports rose 13.2% to reach an all-time high of 902bn euros. In 2010, the trade surplus for Europe's biggest economy was 155bn euros.

Meanwhile, the Bank of France has warned that the eurozone's second biggest economy would stagnate in the first three months of 2012. German exports to countries outside the 27-nation European Union showed the strongest growth last year, up 13.6% to 432.8bn euros. Exports to other EU countries rose 9.9% to 627.3bn euros. Of those, 420.9bn euros went to the eurozone bloc, an 8.6% rise.

Germany's balance of payments, a broader measure of exchanges with other countries that includes financial transactions, showed a surplus of 136bn euros 2011, down from 142bn euros the year before. Also on Wednesday, the Bank of France said the country's economy was likely to see zero growth in the first three months of 2012. The French economy, the second-largest in the eurozone, has posted a trade deficit for 2011 of almost 70bn euros.

Internet



Greek party leaders agree in principle on debt deal to avert default

ATHENS, 9 Feb — Greek leaders have wrapped up a 7.5-hour talk and reached an agreement in principle on austerity and reform measures in exchange for a bailout package deemed vital to avert a potentially disastrous default next month, a statement from the prime minister's office said on early Thursday. "There was wide agreement on all the points of the programme except for one issue that requires further talks with creditors," the statement said. It said the dialogue would continue immediately to conclude the deal ahead of the euro group meeting scheduled for Thursday afternoon in Brussels.

The statement added that George Karatzafis, President of the Popular Orthodox Rally (LAOS), the small rightist party supporting the three-party transitional administration, "expressed every reservation" on the agreement. The

Exports have been the backbone of Germany's economic strength.

INTERNET



Greek Prime Minister Lucas Papademos (2nd R), Socialist PASOK party leader and former Premier George Papandreou (1st R), conservative New Democracy President Antonis Samaras (2nd L) and rightist Popular Orthodox Rally head George Karatzafis (1st L) attend a meeting of the political leaders of the three parties in the coalition government in Athens, capital of Greece, on 8 Feb, 2012. — XINHUA

in-principle accord comes after lengthy and tough talks with a delegation of European Union (EU)/International Monetary Fund (IMF) inspectors in Athens since last week, over the conditions to release a vital rescue loans package

to Greece. The 130-billion-euro (172.56 billion US dollars) loan, the second of its kind since May 2010, is deemed crucial to escape a bankruptcy that could have major repercussions across the eurozone and global economy. — Xinhua



Nokia to carry out 4,000 job cuts

HELSINKI, 9 Feb — Finnish mobile phone maker Nokia announced the details of 4,000 job losses on Wednesday at plants in Hungary, Mexico and Finland. The company said the plants would remain open and refocus on customising phones whilst the actual assembly would move to South Korea and China. The cuts are planned to be complete by the end of the year.

Nokia said the move is aimed at placing its production closer to its component suppliers who are also based in Asia.

The cuts come two weeks after the Finnish firm posted a 1.08bn euro (\$1.4bn; £905m) loss for the three months to the end of December 2011.

Nokia reported that its net sales fell 21% on a year earlier to 10bn euros and net sales of its mobile phones were down by a quarter.

Internet

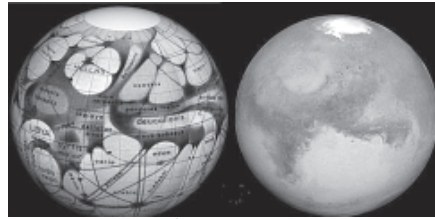
Scientists melt mystery over icecaps and sea levels

SINGAPORE, 9 Feb — US scientists using satellite data have established a more accurate figure of the amount of annual sea level rise from melting glaciers and ice caps which should aid studies on how quickly coastal areas may flood as global warming gathers pace. John Wahr of the University of Colorado in Boulder and colleagues, in a study published on Thursday, found that thinning glaciers and icecaps were pushing up sea levels by 1.5 millimetres (0.06 inches) a year, in line with a 1.2 to 1.8 mm range from other studies, some of which forecast sea levels could rise as much as 2 metres (2.2 yards) by 2100.

Sea levels have already risen on average about 18 centimetres since 1900 and rapid global warming will accelerate the pace of the increase, scientists say, threatening coastlines from Vietnam to Florida and forcing low-lying megacities to build costly sea defences. To get a better picture of the pace of the melting, Wahr and colleagues used a satellite that measures variations in gravity fields to study changes in the mass of large ice-covered areas. The data covered 2003-2010.—Reuters



A block of ice from the Perito Moreno Glacier melts in Lago Argentina outside Calafate, Argentina, on 13 Jan, 2011.—INTERNET



This 1894 map of Mars was prepared by Eugene Antoniadi and redrawn by Lowell Hess. (Right) A Hubble Space Telescope photo of Mars shows the modern view of our neighbouring planet. — INTERNET

Mars and the moon have night sky rendezvous on Thursday

NEW YORK, 9 Feb — Late Thursday night (9 Feb), skywatchers who cast a glance toward the waning gibbous moon in the eastern sky will also notice the presence of a very bright, yellow-orange “star” shining with a steady glow hovering a bit above and to the moon’s right. That’s no star, though. It’s the planet Mars. The apparent distance between the moon and Mars will be rather large, amounting to about 9 degrees. That’s roughly equal to the width of your fist held at arm’s length. The sky map of Mars and the moon for this story shows how they will appear on Thursday night to skywatchers with clear skies.

But even though the gap is quite large, the brightness of Mars at this time makes it stand out despite the much greater brilliance of the nearby moon. On this night, Mars will be 69 million miles (111 million kilometres) from Earth. Mars is unmistakable once it rises in the east around 7:45 pm. Its fiery-colored luster shines nearly twice as bright as the lighter-hued Arcturus star far to its lower left (Arcturus rises in the east-northeast a couple of hours after Mars). Mars currently shines at magnitude -0.8; excluding the moon, it is outshone in our current evening sky by only Venus, Jupiter and Sirius.—Internet

America and Eurasia ‘to meet at north pole’

LONDON, 9 Feb — America and Eurasia will crash into each other over the North Pole in 50-200 million years time, according to scientists at Yale University. They predict Africa and Australia will join the new “supercontinent” too, which will mark the next coming together of the Earth’s land masses. The continents are last thought to have come together 300 million years ago into a supercontinent called Pangaea. Details are published in the journal *Nature*.

The land masses of the Earth are constantly moving as the Earth’s tectonic activity occurs. This generates areas such as the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, where Iceland has formed, and areas such as that off the coast of Japan, where one plate rides over another. Geologists believe that, over billions of years, these shifting plates have driven the continents together periodically, creating the hypothesised supercontinents of Nuna 1.8 billion years ago, Rodinia a billion years ago, and then Pangaea 300 million years ago. The next supercontinent has already been given the working title of

Amasia, as it is expected to involve the convergence of the Americas and Asia.

What the researchers have set out to do is predict when and where it will form by looking back at where its predecessors emerged. “We’re all pretty familiar with the concept of Pangaea, but there hasn’t been much convincing data to suggest how the supercontinents take shape,” Ross Mitchell of Yale University told *BBC News*. “In our model, we actually have North America and South America joining by closing the Caribbean Sea and the Arctic Sea closing and connecting the Americas and Asia.”—Internet



How the new continent of Amasia might look. INTERNET

One in six UK parents can’t operate kids’ gadgets

LONDON, 9 Feb — Many parents may spend a good deal of time glued to the screen of their smartphones fiddling about with all manner of apps, but when it comes to getting a handle on the gadgets they buy for their children, many have no idea how to use them. A survey by UK website ParentPort found that 16 percent of parents who had bought their child a gadget, such as a games machine or media player, didn’t know how to use it themselves.



The survey, which examined how parents control their children’s access to adult media, questioned 1,800 parents from two UK-based online parenting communities. The research also revealed that among parents who watched movies at home, four in ten allowed their kids to watch movies classified above their age. At the same time, parents said they kept a close eye on what was coming out of the family’s TV, with 82 percent claiming to know at all times what TV shows or movies their kids are watching. The figure for Internet use was also high, with 77 percent saying they always or usually knew what websites their children were visiting.

However, the survey

showed that the growth of smartphone use among the young was a cause for concern among one in eight parents, with many such devices entering the household as a gift from well-meaning friends or relatives. Some parents said they were concerned about smartphones and laptops giving their children unsupervised access to the Web. There were even instances where preteens received 18-rated video games, and those under 10 were given 12-rated DVDs. ParentPort said the research highlighted “challenges and pressures” faced by parents as they endeavor to keep tabs on what kind of media their children are engaging with.—Internet

Soulo converts iPad into karaoke machine



This product image provided by First Act, Inc., shows the Soulo Digital Wireless Mic and App, a consumer electronics product that turns an iPad into a karaoke machine. INTERNET

LOS ANGELES, 9 Feb — Karaoke lovers typically fall into two categories: Those who enjoy it, and those whose arms have to be twisted to get up and sing in public. Enter Soulo, a software and microphone kit that can turn an iPad or other Apple device into a karaoke machine. It

gives you instant karaoke in the privacy of your own home, or wherever you carry your Apple gadgets. That’s the idea, anyway. In practical terms, the quality of the karaoke experience depends largely on the kind of sound system you pipe Soulo through.

The software app does a great job of emulating the sing-along video animation typically found in a commercial karaoke machine. It also offers a good selection of songs.

But I wasn’t thrilled by the sound quality I got from the Soulo microphone. That dampened an otherwise entertaining way to use an iPad. In particular, I like how the Soulo-iPad combo makes it a snap to record audio and

video of a performance and then post clips — not full songs — on YouTube, Facebook and elsewhere. Soulo is available with a digital wireless microphone, which retails for \$99, or with a wired microphone, which sells for \$69. Songs cost extra after the first handful. I tested the wireless version, which comes with a receiver that plugs into the iPad dock and syncs with the microphone.

The karaoke app and microphones are compatible with iPads, iPhones and the iPod Touch. Audio output options include listening through headphones or other speaker systems via the devices’ stereo jack. The wireless receiver also can connect to a TV. Transforming the iPad into a karaoke machine is easy. You download the free Soulo app from the Apple Store and register the software.

Soulo comes with a few songs and a code to download 10 karaoke tracks for free. You can purchase and download more songs for 99 cents each.

Internet

Sony abandons PlayStation Vita UMD Passport plan in North America

NEW YORK, 9 Feb — As reported by Kotaku earlier today, Sony is ditching plans to allow new Vita owners to download PSP titles that they currently own on UMD disc. Sony rolled out this programme in Japan at launch during December 2011 and all Japanese owners can register their UMD titles on the Vita by paying a fee based on the value of the game, thus Japanese owners can avoid having to

repurchase the titles at full cost on the PlayStation Vita digital download store. New PlayStation Vita owners in North America on February 22 will have to keep the PSP in order to access old titles or repurchase older games at full price to utilize the software on the newer handheld system.

By announcing this decision two weeks prior to the launch of the PlayStation Vita, Sony fans that held onto old PSP games in hopes that

the titles could be transferred to a new PlayStation Vita will get significantly less money or trade-in value for the titles than six months ago. However, PSP owners would have still had to pay an average of \$13 per title for each game they already owned



according to The Escapist, an expensive solution for anyone that wanted to enjoy classic titles. Since over half of the PSP library is only available on UMD disc, new Vita owners may find the Sony Entertainment Network store lacking for PSP content.

While North American UMD collectors are out of luck, people that own digital PSP titles will be able to re-download the games on the PlayStation Vita.

Internet



Santorum wins clean 3-state sweep

DENVER, 9 Feb—Christian conservative Rick Santorum scored a third win in Tuesday's Republican presidential voting contests with a victory in Colorado, the state's party chairman Ryan Call told CNN.

The former Pennsyl-

vania senator had earlier notched victories in Missouri's primary and the Minnesota caucuses, reigniting his White House campaign and staking his claim as the main conservative rival to frontrunner Mitt Romney.

Call exclusively announced the results of the Colorado caucuses on CNN, telling the network: "It has been very exciting tonight... Rick Santorum surprised a lot of folks." According to the unofficial results provided by the Colorado Republican Party to CNN, Santorum won more than 40 percent of the vote, besting Romney's nearly 35 percent.

Former House speaker Newt Gingrich took 12.8 percent of the vote, and veteran Texas congressman Ron Paul finished last with 11.7 percent.

With nearly all of the precincts reporting in Missouri, Santorum was the big winner with 55 percent of the vote, more than double Romney's 25 percent. Paul earned 12 percent, and four percent of voters were

uncommitted.

In Minnesota, Santorum won 45 percent of the vote, easily defeating Paul at 27 percent.

Romney was a distant third at 17 percent and Gingrich took 11 percent, with 86 per cent of precincts reporting. The results in Minnesota and Colorado are non-binding but will help guide the results at state conventions to be held later.

The Missouri primary is seen as a "beauty contest" as the state will only award its delegates after a 17 March caucus.—Internet



Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao (R) shakes hands with Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper during a welcoming ceremony held for Harper in Beijing, capital of China, on 8 Feb, 2012.—XINHUA



Rick Santorum

Police Web site hacked amid threats

BOSTON, 9 Feb—The Internet hackers known as Anonymous are preparing more trouble for the Boston Police Department, an unofficial spokesman for the group says.

Anonymous is angry over the 10 Dec eviction of Occupy Boston protesters from Dewey Square in downtown Boston and is seeking revenge, Gregg Housh, a former member of

Anonymous from Malden, Mass, said.

"They're mad. They've proven the point that they can get in your networks and do things," he told the *Boston Herald* on Tuesday. He warned that Internet saboteurs are eager to punish the police for the eviction.

Friday the group took over a police-operated Web site which is used as a crime-fighting tool to provide

updates to citizens and community groups. Visitors to the site are now being directed to the Police Department's Facebook page.

Boston Police spokeswoman Elaine Driscoll did not confirm Housh's comments, but said federal investigators have been brought in to assist the police in dealing with Anonymous.

Internet



The Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) is shown in the Arabian Sea on 19 Jan, 2012, before transiting through the Strait of Hormuz without incident on 22 Jan, 2012. The EU banned oil purchases from Iran on 23 Jan, 2011. Iran has said it may blockade the Strait of Hormuz, but the US Fifth Fleet has said it will not allow this to happen.—INTERNET

Foreign diplomats in Israel cautious

TEL AVIV, 9 Feb—Foreign diplomats stationed in Israel are preparing contingency plans in case Israel is hit with a missile attack, a *Yedioth Ahronoth* report said.

The Israeli daily *Yedioth Ahronoth* said foreign embassies in Israel are worried that Israel will strike Iran, triggering a retaliatory missile attack. Diplomats are concerned that thousands of Israeli citizens with foreign passports would seek to be evacuated.

Senior officials told the newspaper several foreign diplomatic missions have requested gas masks, *Ynetnews.com* reported. The Foreign Ministry has provided the foreign embassies with a list of public bomb shelters and an instructional pamphlet produced by the Israeli military, *Ynetnews.com* said.—Internet

Iran warns against military action

TEHERAN, 9 Feb—The United States and Israel are in no position to launch a military strike against Iran over its nuclear programme, the deputy head of Iran's armed forces said. Brig Gen Masoud Jazayeri told Iran's Press TV that any strike against the Islamic Republic would be met with a counterattack.

He said Americans have been pouring into the streets to protest the capitalist system and chant slogans in support of Iran. Relatively small protests were held in dozens of US cities last weekend to register opposition to the possibility of going to war in Iran. US President Barack Obama has noted a military campaign against Iran over its nuclear programme would carry serious risk, adding "our preferred solution here is diplomatic."

Iran insists its efforts to acquire nuclear technology are strictly for peaceful purposes.—Internet



Denmark's Queen Margrethe II inspects triphibian military members in Copenhagen, Denmark, on 7 Feb, 2012. Denmark's national defence ministry held a ceremony at Kastellet on Tuesday celebrating Margrethe II's 40 years on the throne.—XINHUA

Govt to build 10 more family centres to bring help closer

SINGAPORE, 9 Feb—The government is committing S\$30 million to enhance the capabilities of Family Service Centres (FSC) to reach out to vulnerable families. This brings the total amount it has committed for the next three years to S\$100 million.

Speaking at this year's

FSC seminar, Acting Minister for Community Development, Youth and Sports (MCYS), Chan Chun Sing, said the ministry plans to build another 10 full or branch FSCs to bring help nearer to the community.

Currently, there are 39 FSCs with two more in the

pipeline at Admiralty and Punggol. Mr Chan said MCYS will also encourage FSCs in a geographical area to cluster together and work with other community partners to provide more integrated services.

He said the ministry also aims to decrease the workload of social workers by 20 per cent. At the same time, it wants to systematically groom some of the social workers to develop depth and expertise to handle new challenges and complex cases.

Mr Chan said the National Council of Social Service will also work with the Committee for Practice Standards to develop a Code of Professional Practice for FSCs.—Internet



Singapore Skyline

Turkey delivers three modernized F-16 aircraft to Pakistan

ANKARA, 9 Feb—Turkish Aerospace Industries Inc (TUSAS) on Wednesday delivered three modernized F-16 aircraft to Pakistani Air Forces, the semi-official *Anatolia* news agency reported.

Turkish Defence Industry Undersecretary Murad Bayar was quoted as saying at a delivering ceremony that Turkey and Pakistan have successfully cooperated in a wide range of technologies, including radio, electronics and military information systems.

Pakistani Deputy Commander of Air Forces Gen Asim Suleiman said Pakistan's air defence will become even stronger with the aircraft modernized in structural and avionics aspects.

TUSAS signed the contract with Pakistan Ministry of Defence in June 2009 after winning out in the tender of Pakistan Air Force F-16 Modernization (Peace Drive II) programme.

Under the programme,

TUSAS's engineers and technicians are responsible for the modernization of a total of 41 F-16 aircraft in the inventory of Pakistan Air Force (PAF).

The Peace Drive II programme, which started in October 2010, is expected to finish by September 2014.

The required parts, material and technical data are furnished to TUSAS in line with another contract between the US government and PAF.

Within the scope of the Peace Drive II programme, TUSAS also provides classroom and on-the-job training to 72 PAF technicians.

TUSAS, which was established for co-production of F-16 aircraft for the Turkish Air Force in 1984, is one of the major aerospace companies in the world in F-16 manufacturing and modernization.

It is also currently modernizing 175 F-16s for the Turkish Air Force.

Xinhua

Ayeyawady River-crossing Bridge (Yadanabon)

- * Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon) is built between Khawahdaw of Shwekyatya village of Amarapura Township, Mandalay Region and Takaung of Sagaing, Sagaing Region, crossing Ayeyawady River. It is located at strategic main connector that can link to states and regions across the country. It was commissioned into service on 11 April 2008, which is the eighth Ayeyawady River-crossing Bridge.
- * It lies near about 2000 feet upstream of Inwa Bridge (1934).
- * Its motor road is 49 feet in width. It is four lane road and has two six-foot-wide pedestrians on both sides.
- * Its water clearance is 700 feet in width and 40 feet in height. It can withstand 60 tons of load.
- * Thanks to the Bridge, Sagaing Region sees smooth flow of commodity.
- * Local people can now go to townships in Mandalay Region and other regions and states and are enjoying the fruit of it.



Facts about Ayeyawady River-crossing Bridge (Yadanabon)

1. Total length of the bridge is 5614 feet long
2. Main bridge's length is 3694 feet long
3. Approach bridge's length on Mandalay bank is 1140 feet long and on Sagaing bank, 780 feet long
4. Reinforced RC beam and floor
5. Bridge type is steel truss
6. More than 9900 tons of steels are fitted in the bridge.

Translation :MT

Archives : Maung Nyein Aye



Union Industry Minister, Kayin State Chief Minister inspect Hpa-an Industrial Zone construction

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Feb—Union Industry Minister U Soe Thein and Kayin State Chief Minister U Zaw Min inspected the progress of Hpa-an Industrial Zone construction on 1 February.

The state chief minister inspected 25-acre hybrid paddy farm near Hti-long Village in Hlinebwe Township and chicken and goat farms in Hpa-an Livestock Breeding Zone. He then visited Domestic Science Vocational Training School.

On 3 February, the state chief minister inspected roadworks on Kawkareik-Aukbotae road and starting point of the proposed site for Myawady-Thingannyinaung-Kawkareik-Hpa-an road construction and land plot for construction of Myawady Industrial Zone. He then attended the tree-planting activity held at wards collaborative nursery in No. 3 Ward of Myawady.

MNA

Sagaing Region Chief Minister on tour of Kanbalu

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Feb—Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye inspected construction of school buildings in Technical High School in Kanbalu, and encouraged the patients receiving treatment at 100-bed hospital where he donated cash for medical fund. He graced the 11th Maha Shwesigyi Buddha Pujaniya and Hta-ma-nae Preparation Contest. His inspection tour extended to Ingyinsu Garden and Chatthin sanctuary.

He attended a ceremony of upgrading to a Basic Education Middle School along with opening of the school hall in No. 3 Ward and looked round the school.

The Region Chief Minister and officials provided school requisites to officials of the school.

The newly opened one-story school hall measuring 90 feet in length, 45 feet in width and 15 feet in height was constructed at the cost of over K 40 million.—MNA

Hailing the 65th Anniversary Union Day

Join hands for the democratic Union

Maung Maung Myo
(Bago)

Unity is strength

Hailing the 65th Anniversary Union Day

POEM

Build the country with
enthusiasm

- * Rainy season came after summer
Then appeared the mist
Covering the land under blue sky
Flowers in full bloom
Ushered in the cold season
- * Forests and springs in Shan land
A blanket of fog on Panglong
A conference in session
On the 12th of February
Gathering was the strength
- * Mon, Rakhine, Chin, Shan, Kachin
Kayin, Kayah all Myanmar kinship
Happy and reinvigorating they were
Bonds between hills and plains
In unity all nationalities
Hands they joined in harmony
- * Amity among brethren
Sense of comradeship
Prevailing all over Myanmar
Country in peace and prosperity
Serving nation in harmony
- * All in oneness and goodwill
Indivisible they all are
Solid as stone their courage and zeal
Union like a garden of flowers
Brethren as the guardians
- * Try hard brethren, future in
golden age
- * Build the Union with all energy

Min Shwe Moe (Trs)

In world of diverse attitudes, rallying all the people is not as easy as ABC. Though, national unity was built up by national races representatives in Panglong on 12 February, 1947, singing an agreement. It is the day the entire national races in Myanmar displayed their unanimous tendency towards togetherness. And, it is the day we call the Union Day.

Myanmar is a sovereign nation with a rich history. When development of the country and its national people is reviewed from historical point of view, it will be found that ups and downs of the country depended on unity of its national races along the course of the history.

The stronger the national unity, the higher the national prestige. The weaker the national unity, the lower the political, economic, security and social standards of the country.

Now is the time to abandon narrow-minded nationalism, regionalism, attachment to party, idealism, personality cults, extremism, and extremist ideologies. Apart from the interest of any particular race or region, that of the Union and all the national people should be taken into account. It should be noticed that denizens of the Union suffered grieves among conflicts ignited by racism, regionalism, idealism, and extremism.

Disintegration of the Union is not to think of, not to write about, not to speak of and not to mastermind. Understanding all the national brethren are our own flesh and blood, ideologies, thoughts, principles and works that would strengthen the Union should be encouraged.

Perpetuation of the Union is not propaganda, but real requisite for all of the people. All the people of Myanmar should adopt the idea unanimously. If anyone really loves the Union and desires the development of the country, they will throw themselves heart and soul into the strides for its development.

To perpetuate the Union, to maintain the national unity and to protect the sovereignty of the State are needed for the whole Union and the entire people for ever and ever. They are also a reality to face and a duty to accomplish for sustainable development of the Union. They are policies that guarantee the national people—the interest of the people and the interest of the Union—for long, facts that commensurate with the reality and eternal truth, and national goals all the

citizens should uphold.

In retrospect, non-disintegration of the national unity is found to be the main theme of national politics. If without national unity, the Union will split and then the sovereignty will follow to be lost. So, any of Our Three Main National Causes cannot be breached. It is national duty for all Myanmar citizens to uphold Our Three Main National Causes.

Section 3 of the constitution describes, “The State is where multi-National races collectively reside.” Despite seemingly different customs, languages and social systems, national races of Myanmar are in unity, based on Union Spirit.

According to first-hand knowledge of various national races, wish of the pure national people is stability of their own region. They want to live a peaceful life in their own region. They want to live for ever with their family, healthily and happily.

The importance of Union Spirit for the Independence of the country and non-disintegration of the Union is crystal clear. The Union Spirit simply means firm belief seeing the entire Union is a single family or a home. It is built on nationalistic fervour, the love for the races and of the region.

The nationalistic fervour should not be shown in words but by works. Some are giving lip services with the words national unity, national reconciliation, national reunion and national reconciliation. But their actions lead to disintegration of the national unity. So, they should try to cultivate the Union Spirit, getting rid of these activities.

Helping each others, solving problems together, working cooperatively, and showing sympathy and understanding towards each others are sound foundations of the Union Spirit.

Otherwise, the Union Spirit means the attitude assuming the people of the Union are national brethren, overcoming difficulties together without leaving behind, sticking together through thick and thin, having united when the situation calls and showing no regard of hills or plains. As sayings go, “Unity brings about developed country,” and, “Unity is strength.”

In picking up the strength of the Union, the entire national races of the Union have to live together in unity
(See page 9)

With a view to building up national unity for stability of the State, the policy of working in cooperation on common ground in the interest of the people is being adopted. Necessary measures to let all the people participate in national political scenario have been taken. Citizens outside the country for various reasons are invited to return to participate in nation-building tasks. Thanks to these measures, national unity becomes stronger and internal peace prevails. It is why the new government succeeded to establish national reconciliation or national unity within short range of time. So, the entire people of the Union are heartened. Maintaining prevailing peace, eternal peace should be built with added momentum.



Objectives of the 65th Anniversary Union Day

- * To build the Union for its perpetual existence through the strength of national unity
- * All the national people to uphold Our Three Main National Causes forever
- * To endow the national people with Union Spirit
- * To strive for ensuring eternal peace for all the national races
- * To build a modern and developed Union by practising discipline-flourishing democracy in accord with the constitution

Join hands for the democratic...

(from page 8)

and amity forever without seceding from the Union.

As long as the muscle of Union Spirit is strong, the Union will be perpetuated. The Union is a haven for all the national people. The onus is on all national races to protect their haven.

In restoring stability of the State, new policies are being adopted for building eternal peace in the Union, based on the reality of the State and historical experiences. Negotiations were made with 11 national races armed groups which had yet to return to legal fold and fundamental agreements have been signed with seven groups. Talks with other four groups are under way. In short, peace-making procedures are a success. Eternal peace is now taking shape.

With a view to building up national unity for stability of the State, the policy of working in cooperation on common ground in the interest of the people is being adopted. Necessary measures to let all the people participate in national political scenario have been taken. Citizens outside the country for various reasons are invited to return to participate in nation-building tasks. Thanks to these measures, national unity becomes stronger and internal peace

prevails. It is why the new government succeeded to establish national reconciliation or national unity within short range of time. So, the entire people of the Union are heartened. Maintaining prevailing peace, eternal peace should be built with added momentum.

Democracy is the rule of law driven by the will of the people and respect for human rights under the law. They are foundations for flourishing democracy. If democratic practices are adopted among political parties, social organizations and organizations exercising power invested by the people and other institutions thoroughly, they are said to be in democracy and have human rights.

Democracy protects and promotes prestige and fundamental rights of individuals. It is the only political system that allows applying one's own capacity and reasoning power. Most people accept democracy as a practice and set as a goal. Justice, liberty, equality, transparency, accountability, and unity in diversity are ABCs of democracy. If the society could be organized in democracy, internal peace and development could be translated into reality.

Good governance is not the command-driven system, but the management steered by the majority and governed under policies and law. It is the essence of democracy. Only when democracy

comes together with good governance, will it become a success. So, the new government gives emergence of good governance top priority in Myanmar's transition to democracy.

The new government is taking measures for stability of the state and the rule of law, national reconciliation, flourishing democratic practices, emergence of good governance and clean government, granting citizens with fundamental rights as prescribed in the constitution, improvement of education and health standards, economic reforms, socio-economic development of the State and the people and environmental conservation.

Especially, it is implementing stability of the State, development of the State and socio-economic development of the people, establishing democracy or enabling people to earn their livings freely under the law as aspired by the people.

All in all, it is striving for emergence and perpetuation of developed democratic nation where worldly values of justice, liberty and equality are flourishing for better future of the country and its people. All the people are urged to work in concert in the interest of the State in endeavours for building the democratic Union.

Translation: HKA

F&MD problem addressed



Deputy Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Khin Maung Aye addresses opening of 11th Meeting of Upper Mekong Working Group on Foot-and-Mouth Disease Zoning and Animal Movement Management.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Feb—The 11th Meeting of the Upper Mekong Working Group on Foot-and-Mouth Disease Zoning and Animal Movement Management jointly organized by Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and South East Asia Sub-region

Representative's Office of the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) took place at Shwe Nandaw Hotel here this morning, with an address by Deputy Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Khin Maung Aye.

The deputy ministers said that foot-and-mouth disease

is one of the transnational diseases and important factors commercially. He called for promotion of information exchange and technical cooperation among regional countries to control foot-and-mouth disease.

Officials of the ministry,

Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister inspects development undertakings in Patheingyi, Ngaputaw

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Feb—Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung attended the opening of three-storey RC type school building of No. 24 Basic Education Primary School in No. 4 Ward of Patheingyi on 7 February.

On the occasion, U Aung Moe Tun from Kyawzan Company contributed K 15 million to No. 177 BEPS for construction of new one-storey RC type school building and U Thein Zaw on behalf of businessmen donated K 1.82 million for supply of electricity to students of Patheingyi Township sitting for matriculation exam through the

township administrator.

The region chief minister also presented K 0.3 million to the fund of No. 24 BEPS and K 0.5 million for construction of new washrooms.

The region chief minister, Region Electric Power and Industry Minister U Saw Mya Thein, the Patheingyi Township administrator and donor Daw Myitzu Thin formally opened the new school building.

The region chief minister donated K 4 million to Shwe Myin Tin Pagoda board of trustees for construction of a hall in Sasana Beikman of the pagoda in Ngaputaw.—MNA

Two injured in mine blast in Mansi Township, Kachin State

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Feb—Two civilians were injured in a mine blast in Ywathitgon Village, Hanhtet Village-tract in Mansi Township of Kachin State yesterday evening.

Daw Kawn Hsan, 47, and Daw Marit Rwe, 53, living at Hanhtet Village stepped a mine planted by insurgents while they were walking in Ywathitgon Village. The two were slightly wounded in right groin and left shin respectively and receiving treatment at respective rural health centre of their home village.—MNA

Resident Representative Dr Ronello Abilla of OIE South East Asia Sub-region Office and personnel, and representatives from countries of the Upper Mekong Region—Laos, China, Vietnam and Thailand and reps of Livestock and Veterinary Department were present at the meeting.—MNA



A giant "Dragon Boat" Chinese lantern is unveiled in front of the San Francisco City Hall to mark Chinese Lanterns Festival, the United States, on 6 Feb, 2012. XINHUA

British pupils to learn from failure

LONDON, 9 Feb—A British school has launched a week-long programme in which students will be taught how to learn from failure, no matter whether they come across it during exams or on the sports field.

Education experts in Britain have welcomed the initiative, the *Daily Express* reported.

Wimbledon High School says its Failure Week will coach children how they can use failure to their advantage.

It will draw on famous figures such as author JK Rowling, who said she "failed on an epic scale" before writing the Harry Potter books.

The move by a school in London is being viewed as a bid to battle against the politically correct "prizes for all" culture.—*Internet*

Soldiers could 'control guns with their minds'

LONDON, 9 Feb—British scientists have suggested that soldiers could control weapons systems simply by using their minds. A study, from the Royal Society, Britain's national academy of science, described the possible benefits of neuroscience to military and law enforcement. It predicted new designer drugs that boost performance, make enemy troops fall asleep and ensure captives become more talkative. They also suggested the use of devices called brain-machine interfaces (BMIs) to

connect soldiers' brains directly to military technology such as drones and weapons, the *Telegraph* reported.

The study, published on Tuesday, stated that the work built on previous research that has enabled people to control cursors and artificial limbs through BMIs that read their brain signals. In their report, one of a series from the Royal Society looking at the field of neuroscience, the experts call on the UK Government to be as "transparent as possible" about research into military and law enforcement

Sunlight may help prevent food allergies and eczema

MELBOURNE, 9 Feb—People who are exposed to more sunlight may be less likely to suffer from food allergies and eczema, researchers say.

The study of 7600 Australian children found that those in southern parts of the country were more likely to develop eczema and food allergies than those who lived further north. Professor Katie

Allen said the results support the hypothesis that sunlight, or more specifically vitamin D, may be a contributing factor to the development of food allergies and eczema.

"We know that people in Queensland get more exposure to sunlight, and sunlight produces more vitamin D in your skin," the *Herald Sun* quoted Prof Allen as telling a new agency.

"The research lends to the already existing hypothesis that the further you are from Equator the more likely you are to have food allergies and eczema," she explained. Australia has among the highest reported

food allergy rates in the world and Prof Allen said southern states were struggling to keep up with demand for allergy testing. "It's only indirect evidence, but our waiting lists for allergy testing are more significant in the south than the north," she said.

"It's really blowing out the medical system's ability to cope with it in the south," Prof Allen added. While the study by Murdoch Children's Research Institute found a possible link between Vitamin D and eczema and food allergies, a causal relationship is yet to be proven.

Internet

Skydiver could pass speed of sound

VIENNA, 9 Feb—An Austrian skydiver says he'll attempt to set the record for highest skydive in history this year, aiming to fall faster than the speed of sound.

Felix Baumgartner's jump from a balloon 120,000 feet in the air could lead to a descent so rapid, he would become the first human to go faster than the speed of sound — 768 miles per hour — unaided by a machine, the *BBC* reported on Monday. No date for the jump attempt was announced.

Baumgartner said the latest tests on his flight suit were successful — it will have

to encase him completely to maintain air pressure and an oxygen supply. The suit will also have protect the daredevil from minus 70-degree temperatures.

"It means I can deliver, I can perform. The equipment will function," he said.

If there's a serious flaw in the suit, Baumgartner's bodily tissues would swell and the moisture in his eyes and mouth with boil, the *BBC* said. The previous record for highest skydive was set in 1960 by Joe Kittinger, who jumped from a balloon at 102,800 feet.

Internet



A Hindu devotee (C) carries the "Kavadi" with metal prongs piercing his skin as he leaves the temple while taking part in a traditional ceremony during the annual Hindu festival of Thaipusam in Singapore. INTERNET

Google celebrates Charles Dickens' 200th birthday with doodle

LONDON, 9 Feb—Charles Dickens's 200th birthday, which falls on 7 February, has been commemorated with a Google doodle. The Dickens Google doodle went up first in New Zealand and features characters from his novels including Scrooge, Bob Cratchit and Pip.

The Prince of Wales and

the Duchess of Cornwall will be leading celebrations in the United Kingdom and Prince Charles will lay a wreath on Dickens' grave at Westminster Abbey, where he was buried in 1870, the *Telegraph* reported.

Ralph Fiennes, who will next be seen as Magwitch in a new film adaptation of 'Great

Expectations', will read an extract from 'Bleak House' with readings also being given by Mark Dickens, great grandson of the legendary author.

Other recent Google doodles have been in tribute to Charles Addams, Mark Twain and Louis Daguerre.

Internet



A sandhill crane (1st R) rests with red-crown cranes in a wetland in Yancheng, east China's Jiangsu Province, on 7 Feb, 2012. The sandhill crane is a large crane of North America and extreme northeastern Siberia, but it's rare in China. XINHUA



Photo taken on 3 Feb, 2012 shows the Yellow River's Hukou Waterfall in north China's Shanxi Province. The fall, located in Shaan-Jin Grand Canyon, resumed majestic as the upriver ice melted.—INTERNET

China breaks Guinness record for longest parade float

BEIJING, 9 Feb—China has created a Guinness record for the world's longest parade float of 791.5 metres.

The new record made in Gutian county of Fujian Province, broke the earlier record for the world's longest parade float of 204.53 metres set in Taipei in 2011.

The adjudicator, Cheng Dong, presented the Guinness World Record certificate to the organizer chairman of a council for the Hua clan, Hua Tiande.

Hua said his group started to make the dragon float last week, *Xinhua* reports. The dragon's head was two metres

high and had a red ball in its mouth. The dragon float was accompanied by a band playing drums and gongs.

Hua said he hoped the Guinness record would help boost the traditional art, and make the county more attractive to tourists.

Internet

Woman learns to love giant pet pig

A woman in eastern England says she has learned to love the giant porker she bought as a piglet believing it to be a micropig.

Meeka now weighs upward of 200 pounds, *The Sun* reported. Janey Byrne of Laughton, Lincolnshire, said the breeder told her the pig when full-grown would be the size of a springer spaniel and weigh in at no more than 30 pounds.

The pig is 5 feet long and stands 2 1/2 feet high.

But Byrne said she loves every ounce. And she said her husband, who was worried that feeding the pig would empty their savings, has learned to love Meeka as well. "At first, her size was a bit of a shock and my husband Dave thought she'd eat us out of house and home," she said. "But I knew

he'd come round because it's impossible not to love her. When Dave gets back from work he loves snuggling up on the sofa with Meeka and watching TV."

Byrne said she and her husband spend 200 pounds (more than \$300) every month to feed Meeka, who chomps through 10 bags of carrots and apples a week.

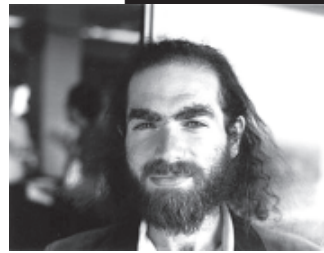
Math genius explains \$1m prize refusal

Grigori Perelman, the Russian math whiz who solved a century-old problem, said he refused a \$1 million prize because he knows "how to control the universe."

Perelman, 43, of St Petersburg told the Russian daily *Komsomolskaya Pravda* he had no reason to accept the \$1 million prize the Clay Mathematics Institute of Cambridge, Mass, offered him in 2010 for proving the Poincare conjecture, *RIA Novosti* reported on Friday.

"Emptiness is everywhere and it can be

Grigori Perelman in 1993, courtesy of George M. Bergman via Wikimedia Commons.



calculated, which gives us a great opportunity ... I know how to control the universe. So tell me, why should I run for a million?" Perelman said. Perelman, a reclusive mathematician who neighbours say lives in poverty with his mother, presented proofs in 2002 and 2003 proving the conjecture proposed by Henri Poincare in 1904. The conjecture suggested three-spheres are the only possible bounded three-dimensional spaces to contain no holes. "I learned how to calculate voids, along with my colleagues we know the mechanisms for filling in the social and economic voids," he said.

Loose goat captured in Australia

Police in Australia said a goat reported on the loose near the Melbourne Zoo was caught at the end of a four-hour search.

Police said officers were sent to search the area around 10:20 am Monday after the billy goat was reported wandering near the zoo. The animal was finally located and captured at 2:30 pm, *The Sydney Morning Herald* reported on Monday.

Melbourne Zoo spokeswoman Judith Henke said no goats are kept at the zoo.

Investigators said it is unclear whether the goat was the same animal spotted wandering in the city several times in recent weeks.

Swedish pickpockets hugging for loot

Swedish police are warning residents and tourists to be on alert for a gang of thieves who pickpocket valuables while hugging their victims.

The gang, which could include up to four men, have robbed more than 20 people in Stockholm, *The Local* reported on Wednesday.

"Even men have fallen victim," said Gunnar Thun of Stockholm police. "But in those cases it's more of an embrace or a pat on the back."

Police said victims have reported one thief usually approaches and hugs the victim without any greeting, sometimes even lifting them off the ground. Meanwhile, a second thief takes the opportunity to steal valuables from the victim, mostly wallets and mobile phones.

The attacks have happened mostly at night and usually target young girls.



Actress Anne Hathaway and actor Adam Shulman

Anne Hathaway throws engagement bash in New York

LONDON, 9 Feb—Actress Anne Hathaway and actor Adam Shulman threw an engagement party for family and friends in New York.

Hathaway joked that her beau ruined her plans to stay single.

"I am very much in love with him, Adam totally ruined my plan. I was really actually looking forward to a little alone time, and then I fell in love like a fool," contactmusic.com quoted the 29-year-old actress as saying.

The couple celebrated their engagement Saturday with 125 guests at Housing Works Bookstore Cafe in Manhattan. Hathaway and Shulman started dating in 2008.

"We hit it off immediately but it took us a pretty long time to get together. He thought that I had a boyfriend and I thought that he had a girlfriend, so I thought that I'd better keep my distance," she added.—*Internet*

Milla Jovovich to host Sci-Tech Awards

BEVERLY HILLS, 9 Feb—Actress Milla Jovovich is to serve as host of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences' Scientific and Technical Awards in Los Angeles, organizers said.

"The Fifth Element" and

the "Resident Evil" star will hand out 10 awards Saturday at the Beverly Wilshire hotel.

Portions of the Scientific and Technical Awards presentation will be included in the Oscar ceremony on 26 February.—*Internet*



Actress Milla Jovovich at the 24th Tokyo Film Festival on 22 Oct, 2011. INTERNET

Lady Gaga to meet fans picked from the crowd

LONDON, 9 Feb—Pop superstar Lady Gaga has promised to pick fans from the crowd and meet them backstage at her upcoming shows. The 25-year-old singer shared her plans through her Twitter page, contactmusic.com reported.

"To give you a bit of insight on the design of my

new tour, the central area within the stage will be known as The Monster Pit. The Monster Pit is General Admission only, and Little Monsters (fans) unlock it when they arrive to the arena or stadium," she tweeted.

"Entry to The Monster Pit is relegated (sic) to the fans who have arrived first,

waited all night, (and) dressed to 'Ball.' Every night Haus of Gaga will choose fans from The Monster Pit to come back stage (and) meet me! These tickets are not more expensive. No dress code requirement. Born This Way means anything goes." —*Internet*

Pop superstar Lady Gaga



Naomi Campbell

Campbell rejects

'supermodel' title

LONDON, 9 Feb—Naomi Campbell does not consider herself a "supermodel".

The 41-year-old, who got her big break at the age of 15 when she was spotted while shopping in London's Covent Garden, was one of the first to ever be given the title but insists there is nothing "super" about her.

"I would never call myself supermodel. I don't have any superhuman powers," femalefirst.co.uk quoted Campbell as saying.

Internet

Chris Brown to return to the Grammys

LOS ANGELES, 9 Feb—Chris Brown is to perform at the 54th annual Grammy Awards show in Los Angeles, CBS said Tuesday.

Brown has skipped the Grammys ceremonies for the last few years. He was arrested for assaulting his then-girlfriend Rihanna during a heated argument the day of the 2009 prize presentation. Both he and Rihanna were scheduled to perform at the show, but they backed out at the last minute.

Brown pleaded guilty and was sentenced to probation and community service and was ordered to attend anger-management classes.

Tony Bennett and Carrie Underwood also are to perform together at Sunday's ceremony at the Staples Centre.

Alicia Keys and Bonnie Raitt are to perform a tribute to Etta James, as well, while



Chris Brown performs in concert at the American Airlines Arena in Miami on 5 October, 2011.—INTERNET

LL Cool J is to serve as host of the event.

Added as presenters are Marc Anthony, Lady Antebellum and Ryan Seacrest, CBS said.—*Internet*

Jessica Lange heading back to 'Horror'

LOS ANGELES, 9 Feb—"American Horror Story" co-creator Ryan Murphy says actress



Actress Jessica Lange—Winner Female Actor in a Drama Series—poses in the Press room during the 18th annual Screen Actors Guild Awards in Los Angeles on 29 January, 2012.—INTERNET

Jessica Lange will return for the FX show's second season.

Lange won Golden Globe and Screen Actors Guild awards for her work on the haunted-house drama.

Murphy previously said Season 2 will feature a new cast and setting, with the possibility of a few familiar faces from Season 1 coming back.

Interviewer Andy Cohen asked Murphy on TV's "Watch What Happens Live" on Monday night whether Lange will make an appearance on the show next season, to which Murphy replied "yes."

E! News said it is unclear whether the actress will reprise her role of Constance Langdon, who was left to raise her demonic grandson in the Season 1 finale, or a different character.—*Internet*

INVITATION FOR TENDER

TENDER NO. BRIDGE/YTG/2011-2012/NPT/ST-001

1. Opened Tender is invited by Public Works, Ministry of Construction, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar for the supply of Steel Truss and Accessories for YADANATHEINGA BRIDGE (Two lanes Highway Bridge Construction Project) across Ayeyawady River on Shwe Bo — KyaukMyaung— Sintgu in Sagaing & Mandalay Region.
2. Tender application form of YADANATHEINGA BRIDGE (including Technical Specifications, terms of Tender, Tender Schedule and Offer Form) can be purchased with USD 2000.
3. The Payment for tender application must be paid to Public Works' Account No. SEE 11015, Myanmar Economic Bank (2) through Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank.
4. The Tender documents can be obtained from Bridge Division, Building No.(11), Public Works, Ministry of Construction, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar only with the Cash Receipt delivered by account Division, Public Works.
5. Tender should be submitted to the above address not later than 16:30 hours on 14th March, 2012.
6. For further detail information, Please contact to Telephone No. 067-407276, 407602.

Managing Director
Public Works

INVITATION FOR TENDER

TENDER NO. BRIDGE/AYW/2011-2012/NPT/ST-002

1. Opened Tender is invited by Public Works, Ministry of Construction, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar for the supply of Steel Truss and Accessories for BRIDGE (Two lanes Highway Bridge Construction Project) in Ayeyawady Region.
2. Tender application form of BRIDGE (including Technical Specifications, terms of Tender, Tender Schedule and Offer Form) can be purchased with USD 2000.
3. The Payment for tender application must be paid to Public Works' Account No. SEE 11015, Myanmar Economic Bank (2) through Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank.
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Managing Director
Public Works

Ministry of Information

Invitation for open tender of Printing and Publishing Enterprise to purchase Duplex Board (Local)

1. Duplex Board (Local) will be purchased for Printing and Publishing Enterprise under the Ministry of Information-
 - (a) Duplex (32"x40") 180 Gsm - 2000 packets
 - (b) Duplex (32"x46") 180 Gsm - 2000 packets
2. Application forms of open tenders may be taken out from Office No. 7, Ministry of Information, Nay Pyi Taw, from 09:30 hr to 16:30 hr from (8-2-2012) to (14-2-2012) during the office days.
3. The open tenders are to be submitted to Office No.7, Ministry of Information, Nay Pyi Taw, in the presence of the members of the tender committee from 13:00 hr to 14:00hr on (15-2-2012). The tenders, later than the designated date, will not be considered.
4. For the application forms of open tender and detailed information, may contact the following address.

Procurement Committee
Ministry of Information
Office No. (7), Nay Pyi Taw
Tel: 412327, 412323

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Tin Ohnmar Tun & The Law Chambers

Ph:0973150632, Email:law_chambers@seasiren.com.mm
(For. Ella Cheong Spruson & Ferguson (Singapore) Pte Ltd, Singapore)

Dated 10 February, 2012.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (473)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (473) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.2.2012 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SINAR BIMA VOY NO (108)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BIMA VOY NO (108) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.2.2012 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797



Ships lay in a frozen and snow-covered port in Rostock's Warnemuende District, eastern Germany.
INTERNET

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Sigma-Tau Industrie Farmaceutiche Riunite S.p.A., of Viale Shakespeare, 47-00144 ROMA, Italy, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

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Reg. No. 12948/2011

in respect of "Pharmaceutical and veterinary preparations; sanitary preparations for medical purposes; dietetic substances adapted for medical use, food for babies; plasters, materials for dressings; material for stopping teeth, dental wax; disinfectants; preparations for destroying vermin; fungicides, herbicides".

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

Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for Sigma-Tau Industrie Farmaceutiche Riunite S.p.A.

P. O. Box 60, Yangon
makhinkyi.law@mptmail.net.mm
Dated: 10 February 2012

Woman rescued from Siberian wilderness

GORNO-ALTAISK, 9 Feb—A Russian woman who disappeared while hunting in the Siberian wilderness was rescued from a hunter's hut where she was trapped by snowdrifts, officials said.

Galina Sinelnikova, who is in her 40s, went hunting on 8 Dec in Altai Republic's Turochansk District. She wasn't reported missing until 31 Jan, RIA Novosti reported Wednesday.

Internet

Missouri teen gets life for slaying

JEFFERSON CITY, 9 Feb—A Missouri teen who described brutally killing her 9-year-old neighbour as "ahmazing" was sentenced to life in prison Wednesday.

"If I could give my life to bring her back, I would," 18-year-old Alyssa Bustamante said to the family of her victim prior to the sentencing. "I just want to say I'm sorry for what happened. I'm so sorry." Cole County Presiding Judge Patricia Joyce sentenced Bustamante to one life sentence for second-degree murder and 30 years for armed criminal action, *The (Jefferson City) News-Tribune* reported.

Bustamante pleaded guilty 10 Jan to second-degree murder in the October 2009 death of Elizabeth Olten —Bustamante confessed she strangled, stabbed and slit the throat of the girl.

Bustamante, who was 15 at the time of the slaying, described the experience of killing Olten in her journal as "ahmazing," a forensic consultant testified in court.

Her court-appointed lawyer, Donald Catlett, said Bustamante struggled with severe mental illness for more than two years prior to the slaying.

A psychiatrist, who testified on behalf of the defendant, said changes in Bustamante's Prozac dosage may be linked to mood swings that could have played a role in the slaying, the newspaper said.

Internet

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV PLATINUM EMERALD VOY NO (PE/V01/12)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PLATINUM EMERALD VOY NO (PE/V01/12) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.2.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

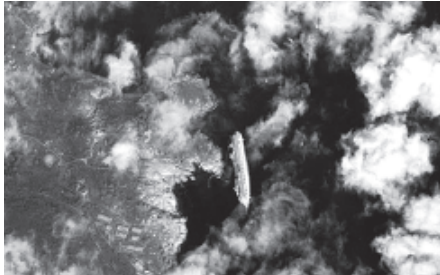
**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
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AGENT FOR: M/S HUB SHIPPING SDN BHD**
Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

Costa Concordia closer to edge of rocky shelf

GIGLIO, 9 Feb—The crippled cruise ship *Costa Concordia* has shifted 2 feet since it capsized 31 Jan in Italy, moving closer to plunging off a rocky shelf, officials said.

If it fell to the seabed, a depth of more than 230 feet, salvage operations would become much more difficult and the fuel tanks could be ruptured, sending 500,000 gallons of diesel and heavy oil into the waters off the Tuscan island of Giglio, *The Daily Telegraph* of Britain reported.

Movement of the ship is being measured hourly with sophisticated instruments attached to the hull.



A satellite image captured by Digital Globe of the Costa Concordia, a luxury cruise ship that ran aground in the Tuscan waters off of Giglio, Italy on Friday, 13 January, 2012.—INTERNET

"The more time passes, the weaker the wreck [of the *Concordia*] becomes," said Alessandro Gianni, director of Greenpeace Italy. "The best option would be to remove it in its entirety from Giglio, even if that takes a couple of months longer." Trying to cut the ship into pieces in the water would be "disastrous" for the environment, he said.

When the cargo ship *Rena* broke up off the coast of New Zealand this year, pollution affected about 40 miles of coastline, Greenpeace Italy said. There's no immediate danger of the 950-foot *Concordia* breaking up or sinking deeper into the sea, experts said.—*Internet*



Metropolitan Police officers in London.—INTERNET

MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION MYANMAR RAILWAYS INVITATION TO OPEN TENDER

- Open Tender is invited for supply of the following items in Euro:

Srl No	Tender No	Description	Quantity
1.	12(T)25/MR(ML) 2011-2012	Rolled Steel for Diesel Electric Locomotive Tyre(Rough Turn) Wheel Monoblock Rolled Steel (Rough)	360 Nos 60 Nos
- Closing date & time - 9.3.2012 (Friday) (12:00) Hrs
- Tender documents are available at our office starting from 13.2.2012 during office hours and for further details, please contact: Deputy General Manager, Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Corner of Theinbyu Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung, Yangon.
Phone: 95-1-291994, 95-1-291985

Russian cold snap kills 110

Moscow, 9 Feb—Exceptionally cold weather in Russia has killed at least 110 people since the beginning of the year, the health ministry said on Wednesday.

"By this morning, 110 adults have died" from the cold, ministry spokesman Konstantin Proshin told AFP, adding that official data did not include children under 18 years of age.

An abnormally cold front sweeping across Central and Eastern Europe over the past week has also led to numerous deaths in neighbouring Ukraine as well as in Poland and Romania.

In the southern Krasnodar region on the Black Sea, the authorities have closed schools amid



Men work on a pipeline in minus 40 degree celsius temperatures in Novy Urengoi, northern Russia.—INTERNET

severe weather conditions.

The regional power provider Kubanenergo said on Wednesday that 28,000 people were without electricity in the Black Sea City Novorossiysk and

several villages after high winds damaged powerlines on Tuesday evening amid temperatures of minus 16 degrees Celsius (+3 Fahrenheit). *Internet*

Rats spreading deadly virus in Chile

SANTIAGO, 9 Feb—Chile's health minister said rats displaced by wildfires in the Biobio region are spreading the life-threatening hantavirus to humans.

Chilean Health Minister Jaime Manalich said at least three people have died from the flu-like virus and another eight are thought to be infected with it, *The Santiago Times* reported.

Two of the deaths and eight separate infections have been linked to a prison

in Concepcion. The third death was a man camping in the area.

Wildfires that were rampant in early January destroyed as much as 50,000 acres in southern Chile, causing the exodus of rodents to more inhabited areas.

Hantavirus is spread through the urine, feces and saliva of rats, especially deer mice. Humans can acquire it through direct contact or inhaling air contaminated with dust from the waste matter of infected animals.

Once the virus hits the lungs, there is less than a 50 percent chance of survival, the US National Institutes of Health said.—*Internet*



The prison El Manzano of Concepcion continues to work cleaning the area near the compound in order to avoid the presence of rats carrying the hantavirus.—INTERNET

Hundreds of raids against London gang suspects

LONDON, 9 Feb—A new specialist police unit tackling London gangs carried out hundreds of raids Wednesday, exactly six months on from the riots that hit the capital, arresting nearly 160 people.

The 158 suspected members were picked up as hundreds of Metropolitan Police officers mounted more than 300 raids across the city, starting at dawn.

Those detained are accused of assault, robbery, the supply of drugs and money laundering, police said, and "significant amounts of crack cocaine, heroin and cash" were also seized.

The arrests came as Met Commissioner Bernard Hogan-Howe said the launch of the new unit was a "step change" in tackling gang crime in London.

The 1,000-strong Trident Gang Crime Command has been created to monitor gang activity and work with local authorities in London.

The unit, thought to be the largest in the country, has 19 dedicated gang crime task forces.

The Metropolitan Police Service said in a statement: "As part of the MPS crackdown on gang crime, 144 warrants have been executed so far across London, resulting in 158 arrests for a variety of offences including possession of a firearm, the supply and possession of drugs, money laundering and gang-related violence."

"A significant amount of cocaine and cannabis has been seized at various addresses across the capital."

Two people were arrested in Barnet in north London on suspicion of possession of a firearm, and a handgun was found at the scene. Two rounds of ammunition and £4,000 (\$6,350, 4,800 euros) were also seized.

A total of £10,000 was found at another address in London.

Hogan-Howe said the new unit "will allow us to identify and relentlessly pursue the most harmful gangs and gang members." He added: "It will help us identify young people on the periphery of gangs and work with partners to divert them away."—*Internet*

2nd virus outbreak reported on cruise ship

PORT EVERGLADES, 9 Feb—A cruise ship that has been through one outbreak of a gastrointestinal virus was headed back to Florida on Wednesday after a second outbreak, its owner said.

The *Crown Princess* was scheduled to arrive Thursday morning in Port Everglades, two days ahead of schedule, *The Miami Herald* reported. Princess Cruise Lines said the vessel will go through a two-day cleanup described as "extensive sanitation" before it sails again.

Princess said that 114 passengers and 59 members of the crew have stomach problems and the Centres for Disease Control has confirmed norovirus as the cause. Last week, 364 passengers and 30 people in the crew were sickened, and an outbreak was reported on another *Princess* vessel.

Norovirus infections are common. The CDC said the symptoms, which include nausea, vomiting and diarrhea, usually last between one and three days and typically end without treatment. *Internet*

Capello resigns as England manager

Italian quits job and will not lead country at Euro 2012 in Poland and Ukraine

LONDON, 9 Feb — The Football Association has revealed that Fabio Capello has resigned from his position as England manager. The 65-year-old Italian quit after a meeting with FA chairman David Bernstein and FA general secretary Alex Horne at Wembley on Wednesday. The FA later released a statement on its official website which read: "The discussions focused on the FA Board's decision to remove the England team captaincy from John Terry, and Fabio Capello's

response through an Italian broadcast interview.

"In a meeting for over an hour, Fabio's resignation was accepted and he will leave the post of England manager with immediate effect," Bernstein added: "I would like to stress that during today's meeting and throughout his time as England manager, Fabio has conducted himself in an extremely professional manner. We have accepted Fabio's resignation, agreeing this is the right decision. We would like to thank Fabio for his work with the England team and wish him every

success in the future."

The FA also said there will be a media conference with Bernstein and the Club England Management team at Wembley at 12 noon on Thursday. Former AC Milan, Real Madrid, AS Roma and Juventus manager Capello was appointed England boss in December 2007, and successfully oversaw qualification for the 2010 World Cup as well as the 2012 European Championship. England suffered defeat in the last 16 at the World Cup in South Africa, losing 4-1 to Germany. They have been grouped with France, Sweden and Ukraine at Euro 2012, which takes place in Poland and Ukraine this summer. — *Internet*

Fabio Capello has resigned as England manager, the Football Association has confirmed. — INTERNET



Real still top football rich list

LONDON, 9 Feb — Real Madrid's revenues of 480m euros (£401m) topped the Deloitte league table of the world's richest football clubs for the seventh straight year. Deloitte's Football Money League, based on data for season 2010/11, says Real will match Manchester United's eight-year record if they stay top next year. Real's arch-rivals Barcelona remained in second place, ahead of Manchester United, who stayed third. Bayern Munich, Arsenal and Chelsea are fourth, fifth and sixth respectively.

The top seven clubs stayed in exactly the same positions as in the previous year. Aston Villa fell out of the league entirely, failing to hold on to their 20th position and leaving English clubs holding six places out of the top 20. Liverpool fell one spot to ninth place in this year's list. All of the 20 clubs in the list are from the "big five" European

leagues, with Italy contributing five clubs, Germany four, Spain three and France down to two, from three in the previous year. Together, the top 20 clubs earned 4.4bn euros, a rise of 3% on the previous year.

Nine of the 20 clubs saw their revenues grow in double digits in 2010/11. Although seven of them saw a fall in revenue, the authors said that this was mostly down to weaker on-pitch performances, causing falls in ticket sales and merchandising, rather than the effect of weakness in eurozone economies. Barcelona's shirt sponsorship deal with the Qatar Foundation is worth about 30m euros per season, according to the report. This, coupled with the club's 3.5m-euro prize money for winning the FIFA World Cup, may enable the Spanish club to catch up with its arch-rival Real next year, the report suggests. Both Spanish clubs are approaching record

revenue levels of 500m euros and may top this in the next few years, says the report. German club Schalke leapt six places to 10th after a strong

performance in last year's season, which took the club to the semi-final in the UEFA Champions League. — *Internet*

Football Facts

- * The top 20 clubs together earned 4.4bn euros
- * Nine of the top 20 clubs saw double digit growth in income
- * Barcelona's shirt sponsorship deal is worth about 30m euros per season
- * Real and Barcelona are both approaching 500m euros in revenue per year

Deloitte Football Money League

1. Real Madrid: 479.5m euros
2. Barcelona: 450.7m euros
3. Man Utd: 367m euros
4. Bayern Munich: 321.4m euros
5. Arsenal: 251.1m euros
6. Chelsea: 249.8m euros
7. AC Milan: 235.1m euros
8. Internazionale: 211.4m euros
9. Liverpool: 203.3m euros
10. Schalke: 202.4m euros

International Sports

Tiger will overhaul Jack's total, says Harrington

LOS ANGELES, 9 Feb — Pádraig Harrington believes that Tiger Woods will surpass the record 18 major victories achieved by Jack Nicklaus without ever regaining his dominance of the late 1990s and early 2000s.

Woods won the most recent of his 14 major titles at the 2008 US Open before his game went into decline after the 2009 season following assorted leg injuries and the breakdown of his marriage. However, the American has

been in good health since October and he ended a two-year winless streak with victory in December at the limited-field Chevron World Challenge which he hosts in California.

"I've played with him and the way he hits the golf ball, there wouldn't be very many players who wouldn't want to hit the golf ball like him," Irishman Harrington, a triple major champion, told reporters on Wednesday while preparing for this week's



Pádraig Harrington

Pebble Beach National Pro-Am. "I'd be still backing him to beat Jack's record, absolutely. If he turns up and plays well, he's going to win. He's in the position that he knows his best game is a winning game." — *Internet*

Jarvis: Wolves ready for West Brom

LONDON, 9 Feb — Wolves winger Matt Jarvis says last weekend's come-from-behind victory against QPR will give his side a huge boost ahead of Sunday's Black Country derby against West Brom. Jarvis was one of the goalscorers as Wolves took advantage of Djibril Cisse's sending off to record a vital 2-1 victory at Loftus Road. The win at Loftus Road was the first Wolves have picked up since the start of December and the result lifted Mick McCarthy's team out of the Barclays Premier League relegation zone.

"It was a massive result for us and much-needed," Jarvis told the club's official website. "We knew the man advantage was something in our favour and equalising right at the start of the second half gave us momentum we were able to build on. I thought we pushed on really well. We were able to create more chances as our confidence grew. We had been having a difficult time, so the win is a big boost. It has made looking at



Wolves winger Matt Jarvis scored his second goal of the season against QPR last weekend. — INTERNET

the League table a much better experience. "This week feels a bit different because we've got an extra day to prepare for the next game but the fact it's against Albion will add to the anticipation.

"Our supporters remind us at every opportunity what a massive game it is and we will make sure we're ready for it." Jarvis's goal against QPR was his second of the season, his first since August, and the 25-year-old says he is determined to add to his tally before the end of the campaign. "I hadn't

scored since we faced Fulham in our first home game, so it was great to get one on Saturday," added Jarvis.

"Of course it's good to score any time but I suppose putting one in at the end all our fans were was a bonus. I had a few members of my family there, plus my wife and her dad, so that was nice as well. "I can't afford to wait as long for my next goal as I did for this one. I think I scored four two years ago and I always aim to improve season by season. — *Internet*

Corretja begins Davis Cup reign with Spain B team



Corretja of Spain

LONDON, 9 Feb — There will be an unfamiliar look about Spain when they begin the defence of the Davis Cup against Kazakhstan on Friday with a new captain and without several regulars, most notably Rafa Nadal. Former world number two Alex Corretja, who took over from Albert Costa shortly after Spain beat Argentina in December's final, will have to make do without the team's talisman in Oviedo while the likes of world number five David Ferrer, Fernando Verdasco and Feliciano Lopez are also missing.

Nicolas Almagro played

no part in Spain's four ties last year but will shoulder much of the singles burden for Corretja, who will also call upon Marcel Granollers, veteran Juan Carlos Ferrero and doubles specialist Marc Lopez for a tie five-times champions Spain should still win comfortably. "It's not something I'm thinking about at the moment because I have the duty to build a team with the four players that we think are best suited," Corretja, who may have to get used to doing without 10-times grand slam champion Nadal, told the Davis Cup website (www.daviscup.com) about making his debut with virtually a 'B team'. "I have the luck of having four big players that are very keen to play and that's what matters the most. There are others that could be here but are not, but I also thank them for their availability." — *Internet*



Tyson Fury vacates British and Commonwealth heavyweight titles

LONDON, 9 Feb — Tyson Fury has vacated his British and Commonwealth heavyweight titles after a proposed bout with English champion David Price fell through.

Fury's promoter Mick Hennessy claimed Price's camp rejected £100,000 to fight his man, who is unbeaten in 17 bouts. "If David Price really believed

he could beat me, the smart move would have been to take the great payday to appear on terrestrial TV," said Fury.

Unbeaten Price won the English title in his last fight against John McDermott. Fury, 23, added:

"I'm really excited about my future plans as I'm doing things differently and

currently training like a Trojan in pursuit of becoming heavyweight champion of the world.

"It's been an honour to have won and held both the British and Commonwealth heavyweight titles, but as I'm now currently number seven in the world it's time to move on." — *Internet*

Spanish federation to sue French TV for Nadal skit

MADRID, 9 Feb —The Spanish tennis federation said it plans to sue a French TV channel for using its logo in a video that poked fun at Rafael Nadal. In the video skit on the satirical program called The Puppets, a life-size cartoon figure of Nadal is shown urinating into a gas tank before racing off and being pulled over by police for speeding.

A message of "Spanish athletes. They don't win by chance" flashes across the screen, surrounded by the

logos of the tennis federation and cycling and soccer federations.

The video on Canal Plus France on Monday came hours after the Court of Arbitration for Sport issued a two-year ban against Spanish cyclist Alberto Contador for doping.

"This time they have gone way too far," tennis federation president Jose Luis Escanuela said in the statement on Wednesday. "We at the tennis federation cannot tolerate the slander

and damage to the prestige of our athletes." Nadal has won six French Open titles since 2005.

Nadal's coach and uncle Toni Nadal downplayed the sketch. "Rafa hasn't given it any importance," Nadal was reported telling SER radio by sports daily AS.

"It's a comedy show, we don't care. Rafa isn't affected by it." However, Nadal angrily reacted in November after former French tennis star Yannick Noah wrote a newspaper column accusing

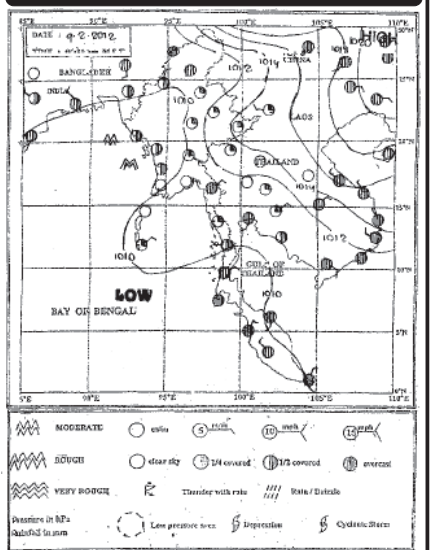


Rafael Nadal

Spanish athletes of widespread doping. Nadal suggested Noah should be banned from commenting in the media and called his remarks "completely stupid."

Internet

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 10th February, 2012

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	27/81	14/57	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	(60%)
2	Kayah	31/88	11/52	Partly Cloudy	
3	Kayin	35/95	17/63	Partly Cloudy	
4	Chin	23/73	07/45	Partly Cloudy	
5	Upper Sagaing	28/82	15/59	Partly Cloudy	
6	Lower Sagaing	32/90	17/63	Partly Cloudy	
7	Taintharyi	35/95	21/70	Partly Cloudy	
8	Bago	32/90	19/66	Partly Cloudy	
9	Magway	34/93	17/63	Partly Cloudy	
10	Mandalay	31/88	17/63	Partly Cloudy	
11	Mon	35/95	19/66	Partly Cloudy	
12	Yangon	35/95	19/66	Partly Cloudy	
13	Rakhine	30/86	16/61	Partly Cloudy	
14	Southern Shan	28/82	12/54	Partly Cloudy	
15	Northern Shan	29/84	05/41	Partly Cloudy	
16	Eastern Shan	30/86	11/52	Partly Cloudy	
17	Ayeyawady	33/91	19/66	Partly Cloudy	
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	35/95	17/63	Partly Cloudy	
19	Neighbouring Yangon	35/95	19/66	Partly Cloudy	
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	31/88	17/63	Partly Cloudy	
Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today		During the past (24) hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Sagaing, Bago and Taintharyi Regions, Kachin, Shan, Chin and Rakhine States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Night temperatures were (3°C) below February average temperatures in Upper Sagaing Region and Kayah State, (3°C) above February average temperatures in Magway Region and about February average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant night temperatures were Namsan (3°C), Lashio (4°C), Patheingyi and Heta (5°C) each.			
Bay Inference		Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.			
State of the Sea		Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.			
Outlook for subsequent two days		Likelihood of increase of night temperatures in the whole country.			

German man wins Empire State Building race again



Participants make their way up 86 flights of stairs during the 35th Annual Empire State Building Run-Up, on 8 Feb, 2012, in New York. — INTERNET

NEW YORK, 9 Feb — A German runner has won an annual race up 86 flights of stairs at the Empire State Building for a record seventh straight time. Stuttgart resident Thomas Dold completed the Empire State Building Run-Up on Wednesday in 10 minutes and 28 seconds. "Well, the good thing is that I've done better than all the others," said the 27-year-old Dold, who completed his last three run-ups in 10 minutes and 10 seconds or less.

He said he didn't know why the finish was "so exhausting" this year because he's "really fit" and compares training techniques with other runners. Two other men have won the race five times since it began in 1978: American Al Waquie from 1983-87 and Australian Paul Crake from 1999-2003. Crake remains the record holder with a time of 9 minutes and 33 seconds but has not competed since suffering a devastating bicycle accident in 2006.

Melissa Moon, of Wellington, New Zealand, was this year's women's winner in 12 minutes and 39 seconds. The 42-year-old Moon also won the race in 2010. "You can't start too fast too soon in a race like this," Moon said. "I knew I had it when I got to the 70th floor and I could no longer hear them breathing behind me." — Internet

Daw Khin Khin Ohn@ Thelma Ohn Aged (74) Years

Daw Khin Khin Ohn of No. 531, Marlar Myaing Avenue, Pyay Road, Kamayut Township, daughter of (U Ohn-ICS)+Daw Than Nwe, daughter-in-law of (U Po Thung-ISE)+Daw Sein Toke), sister of U Myint Ohn+Daw Mu Mu Thin, beloved mother of Dr. Soe Min Tun+Daw Aye Aye Khin, U Lin Win Tun, beloved wife of U Thet Tun (Retired Ambassador), passed away peacefully on Wednesday (8.2.2012), 8:00 pm at Asia Royal Clinic and will be cremated at Htein Pin Cemetery on Friday (10.2.2012) at 3:00 pm. (Transport will be residence at 1:30 pm)

Bereaved Family

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(10-2-12 09:30 am ~ 11-2-12 09:30 am) MST

Oversea Transmission

- * News
- * The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
- * News
- * Road to 27th Sea Games
- * News
- * Cuisines of Shan National
- * News
- * Myanmar Overseas Seafarers Association 9th Annual General Meeting
- * News
- * Culture Stage
- * News
- * National Expo and Car Show 2012
- * One Asia in Film
- * News
- * Fruit of Success" River Ayeyawady... Demarcated Cannot be "Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadana Thein Ga)"
- * News
- * Myanmar Arts & Sculptures
- * Myanmar Movies
- * "Love Be Win"

MYANMAR TV

(10-2-2012) (Friday)

- 7:00 am
- 1. Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw - Uppatthandi Paritta
- 7:30 am
- 2. Morning News
- 7:50 am
- 3. Nice & Sweet Song
- 8:00 am
- 4. Health programme
- 8:15 am
- 5. Teleplay (Health)
- 8:25 am
- 6. 65th Anniversary Union Day Programme
- 4:00 pm
- 7. Martial Song
- 4:10 pm
- 8. Songs Of National Races
- 4:20 pm
- 9. 65th Anniversary Union Day Programme
- 4:30 pm
- 10. 2012 University Entrance Examination (English)
- 5:15 pm
- 11. Myanmar Language
- 6:20 pm
- 12. Internet Garden
- 7:40 pm
- 13. Documentary
- 8:00 pm
- 14. News
- 15. Documentary
- 16. TV Drama Series
- 17. Song Lovers

DISTRICT NEWS



New building opened at BEPS

Mawlamyinegun, 9 Feb—The new building of Tonhleywama Basic Education Primary School was opened in Ward 8 of Mawlamyinegun Township on 3 February. Departmental officials and Mr Michael, on behalf of wellwishers of SDC of Switzerland, formally opened the building.

The facility is the 72 feet long and 32 feet wide RC cyclone shelter built at a cost of over K 130 million.

Myanma Alin

Pedigrees of golden Hamilton' carp provided

MYAUNGMYA, 9 Feb—The natural hatching course was held in conjunction with the ceremony to provide golden Hamilton's carp pedigrees in Kyonwah Village of Myaungmya Township on 31 January.

Head of Ayeyawady Region Fisheries Department U Kyaw Min presented pairs of golden Hamilton's carp to local breeders and natural hatching technology to them.

District IPRD



Eighth day session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continues



NAY PYI TAW, 9 Feb—The eighth day session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continued at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building, here, at 10 am today, attended by Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint, Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann and 554 Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives continued their discussions on National Planning Bills at the session.

Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency No. 4, U Saw Maw Tun of Bago Region Constituency No. 1, U Than Nwe of Budalin Constituency, U Soe Aung of Thegon Constituency, U Win Oo of Yebu Constituency, U Soe Win of

Kyauktada Constituency, U San Pyae of Kachin State Constituency No. 7, U Han Sein of Taikkyi Constituency, U Lun Thi of Kungyangon Constituency, U Maung Saw Phyu of Rakhine State Constituency No. 4, U Min Swe of Daik U Constituency, U Aung Sein Tha of Minbya Constituency, U Hla Swe of Magway Region Constituency No. 12, Daw Le Le Win Swe of Tamway Constituency, U Aung Kyaing of Nyaung U Constituency, U Than Swe of Tanintharyi Region Constituency No. 2, Daw Dwe Bu of Ingyanyan Constituency and U Myo Swe of Tanai Constituency discussed the sectors on investment, industry, service, forestry, transport, rail transportation, energy, mining, electricity, construction, planning, information, culture, religious affairs and communication.

The session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw was adjourned at 3.50 pm and the ninth day session will be held at 10 am tomorrow.—MNA

Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint attends eighth day session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

MNA

FA would prefer Englishman But Bernstein says next manager will 'not definitely be English'

LONDON, 9 Feb—Football Association chairman David Bernstein says there is no guarantee that the next England manager will be English, with it important for them to find the right man for the job.

He admits that the preference would be to turn to an Englishman, in the wake of Fabio Capello's resignation, but he has made it clear that all options will be considered.

Tottenham boss Harry Redknapp is the firm favourite to take the reins, with it expected that the FA will look to appoint a home-grown coach.

Main points from press conference:

Bernstein, though, claims no decision has been taken as yet regarding the

next coach, with it important for the organisation to avoid rushing the selection process.

Asked if Capello's successor will definitely be English, he said: "No, he will not definitely be English. There clearly is a preference for an Englishman.

Interesting "I have been asked this question consistently and the position hasn't changed. There is a preference for an English person, or a British person. But, at the end, we want the best person.

"We aren't prepared to rule out anything at this stage. Clearly, an English or British person would have a good start on the matter."

Pressed on whether Redknapp was among those in the running for the vacant

post, Bernstein added: "I am not going to enter into discussions on individuals, but we will do it as sensibly as we can. It will be interesting to see who comes up, who comes to us and we will put a shortlist together.

"We are in very good shape in many ways, everything is in place and there is plenty of time for a new man to get in place and

do what he needs to do, and I think we are in a much better place than what it might appear.

"I believe we will get the position put in place very soon."

Priority

Bernstein has also refused to rule out the prospect of the new manager being allowed to combine international commitments with club duties until the 2011/12 domestic season comes to a close.

He said: "I think we are open-minded.—Internet



Mini-marathon, track and field on 14 Feb, 23 and 26 March

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Feb—With the aim of turning out new generation track and field athletes who would have capabilities to take part in the XXVII SEA Games, the mini-marathons and track and field contests will be held in Myaungmya Township of Ayeyawady Region, Mingaladon Township of Yangon Region and Aungmyemandal Township of Mandalay Region.

The sports events namely men's and women's 20-kilometer mini-marathon, 100-m, 200-m and 400-m races, long jump, shot-put, discus and javelin events will be held in Myaungmya Township on 14 February, in Mingaladon Township on 23 March and Aungmyemandal Township on 26 March.

Winners in mini-marathon can win K 700,000 for the first prize, K 300,000 for the second, K 200,000 for the third, K 100,000 for the fourth and K 50,000 each for the fifth and the sixth prizes. Winners in the track and field contest can secure K 30,000 for the first prize, K 20,000 for the second and K 10,000 for the third.

The selected players, those who were camped at the Myanmar Track and Field Federation, players from Sports and Physical Education Institute (Yangon/Mandalay), first, second and third prize winners in the inter-ministry, inter-region/state open and U-18, and champion challenge cup tournaments, 3000-m hurdle, 5000-m, 10000-m and marathon races will not be allowed to take part in the contests. The contestants must submit correct evidence that they must be between 14 and 20 years old on the day of contests.

The athletes across the nation may take part in the contests once a region.

MNA

Join hands for the democratic Union



MAUNG MAUNG MYO (BAGO)

PAGES 8+9

Hailing the 65th Anniversary Union Day

POEM

Build the country with enthusiasm

* Rainy season came after summer
Then appeared the mist
Covering the land under blue sky
Flowers in full bloom
Ushered in the cold season

* Forests and springs in Shan land
A blanket of fog on Panglong
A conference in session

MIN SHWE MOE (TRS)

PAGES 8

Tai chi helps ease symptoms of Parkinson's



PAGE 4

Jarvis: Wolves ready for West Brom



PAGE 14

Corretja begins Davis Cup reign with Spain B team



PAGE 14