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Our Three Main National Causes

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

Common ground

Everyone who is honest and good-hearted loves their homeland. They want their country to enjoy prosperity and to live in amity and unity. And they have strong attachment to their country and own people, and build a peaceful and prosperous society. That is our common ground. I would like to urge all to work hard together based on the common ground in order that our country will be able to stand tall as a peaceful and modern one in the international community.

President U Thein Sein

(Excerpt from the speech delivered at the meeting with responsible persons of economic and social fields and various organizations on 17-8-2011)

Investment in education sector the best guarantee and most valuable for future nation

President U Thein Sein meets Sagaing dwellers to open Arts and Science University (Sagaing), to upgrade Cooperative College (Sagaing), Technological College (Sagaing) to university level



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein speaks words of encouragement at No. 1 Wheat and Wheat Products Factory in Sagaing Township.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Feb—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein, accompanied by Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Lt-Gen Soe Win, Union ministers U Kyaw Hsan, U Soe Thein, U Thein Htaik, U Khin Yi, U Aye Myint, U Win Tun, U Khin Maung Soe and U Tint Hsan, Deputy Ministers U Ba Shwe and Dr Win Myint, the Chief of Myanmar Police Force, departmental heads and officials, left here by air at 8 am today and arrived at Mandalay International Airport.

National entrepreneurs namely Chairman of Kanbawza Groups of Companies U Aung Ko Win, Chairman of Max Myanmar Co U Zaw Zaw, Chairman of Shwe Thanlwin Co U Kyaw Win, Chairman of Cooperative Bank Ltd U Khin Maung Aye, Chairman of Shwetaung Development Co U Aung Zaw Naing, Chairman of IGE Co U Nay Aung and Chairman of Aye Aye Khaing Gems Co

U Soe Naing came along the President and party.

Accompanied by Union Ministers U Ohn Myint and U Khin Maung Myint, Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye and Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint, the President and party arrived in Sagaing of Sagaing Region where they were heartily welcomed by local people and students of Cooperative College (Sagaing) and Technological College (Sagaing), waving miniature flags, along Sagaing-Monywa Road from Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon) to Sagaing.

On arrival at No. 1 Wheat and Wheat Products Factory of Ministry of Industry in Sagaing Township, the President and the Vice-President cordially greeted the local people and spoke words of encouragement to the whole region.

At the hall of the factory, the President and party met Chairman of Arts and Science University (Sagaing)

Committee U Zaw Win and officials and discussed opening of the university.

In his speech, the President said that they came there to undertake development of human resources for the youths of Sagaing Region as a gesture of hailing the Union Day that falls tomorrow. He said that his trip was aimed at fulfilling the requirements submitted by the local people on the inspection tour of Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham last week. First and foremost, he went on to say that arrangements will be made for opening Arts and Science University (Sagaing) in coming academic year to enable the students of Sagaing Region to pursue higher education in the future. He said that there are a large number of students wish to learn university education in Sagaing Region and they went to Monywa and Shwebo of the region for pursuing arts and science education. As such, he added that not only

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HONOURING THE 65TH ANNIVERSARY UNION DAY

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 12 February, 2012

Our Union! our family

There are a number of families on different social and economic backgrounds. Some live a comfortable life whereas some live a difficult life. And some live together through thick and thin sharing weal or woe.

Whatever it may be, there can be no unity among those families who are devoid of family spirit aspired by attachment. Some families live a peaceful life weighing incomes and expenses and sharing responsibilities among them. They are members of a united and compact family.

The Union Day when national brethren forged the unity falls today. National brethren—Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Bamar, Mon, Rakhine and Shan established the Union in Panglong 65 years ago. They had been able to build the Union with Union spirit and the family spirit.

Nowadays, the Union put in place by national brethren is taking full shape with fruits of prosperity, development and peace. In line with the proverb saying “A reliable tree is a shelter for thousand birds”, the entire people are now in a position to live a peaceful life in the Union.

Bearing the value of unity in mind, all national brethren—Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Bamar, Mon, Rakhine and Shan are to continue upholding Our Three Main National Causes—Non-disintegration of the Union, Non-disintegration of national solidarity and Perpetuation of sovereignty setting aside sectarianism, racism, regionalism and dogmatism that are rife among them.

Shwe Consortium’s donation to Sittway and Kyaukpyu

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Feb—Shwe Project led by Daewoo International donated two schools and three sub-rural centres worth about US\$ 180,000 in Kyaukpyu Township, and US\$ 33,000 worth of medicines and medical equipment to Sittway General Hospital on 1 February.

Shwe Project is the natural gas development project in A-1 and A-3 blocks offshore Rakhine State and it is supported by the Shwe Consortium which consists of South Korean company Daewoo International Corporation, India’s ONGC Videsh, GAIL and Korea Gas Corporation and MOGE.

The socio-economic programme of Shwe Project has spent about 2.7 million dollars on construction and renovation of schools in Rakhine State with the establishment of health and water facilities. It has carried out a wide range of relief activities after Nargis and Giri Cyclones.—NLM

SPED Director-General meets sports teams

YANGON, 11 Feb—General Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General of the Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaung Htaik this morning met members of sports teams that will take part in the international sports competitions, at the hall of SPED in Tamway Township.

Officials from Myanmar archery team, those of the boxing team that will join the boxing training in England from 18 February to 10 March and those of snooker teams that will took part in the Sang Som Suphanburi snooker contest in Thailand submitted reports on their preparations.

The director-general left necessary instructions.

MNA

Post-primary schools upgraded to BEMS branches in Myaing Township

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Feb—A ceremony to upgrade Basic Education Post-Primary Schools to BEMS branches were held in Pantaungtaw, Tegyi-2 and Nyaungywa villages in Myaing Township on 8 February.

After delivering an address, Union Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Thein Tun presented permits of upgrading the schools by the Ministry

of Education to respective school heads. Wellwishers donated school uniforms for teachers and cash to the funds of the schools.

Townsenders expressed thanks for upgrading the schools.

Later, the Union Minister cordially greeted the townsenders, parents, teachers and students.

MNA

Union Health Minister receives IOM, MBCA delegations

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Feb—Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin received a delegation led by Mr Mariko Tomiyama of International Organization for Migration and Chairman of Myanmar Business on AIDS (MBCA) and party at his office here at 1.30 pm and 2 pm on 8 February respectively.

In meeting with the former, they discussed health projects being implemented along with IOM, future tasks and tasks to be carried out with the aid of Global Fund.

In meeting with the latter, they discussed research on

malaria and control of the disease in cooperation with the Health Department and Medial Research Department under the Ministry of Health and Guangzhou University of Chinese Medicine of People’s Republic of China, and emergence of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Programme.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint, Director-General of HD Dr Tun Naing Oo and officials.

MNA

Kachin State Chief Minister visits first aid training

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Feb — Chief Minister of Kachin State U La John Ngan Hsai visited the Training Workshop on Special First Aid at Kachin State Red Cross Office on 9 February and encouraged the trainees.

He also visited the garage where relief aids are stored.

Afterwards, the State Chief Minister assisted in construction roads in Shwepyitha Ward in Myitkyina by Kachin State Development Affairs Department and inspected

the site chosen to build GSM mobile tower by the Myanmar Post and Telecommunications.

During his tour, the State Chief Minister inspected BTS station in Tatgon Model Ward, Kachin State Information and Public Relations Department, GSM Station No. 3 in Sathmu Zone Ward and construction a building for GSM station and a tower.

MNA

CBM Governor receives foreign guests



Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein receives Leader of Technical Assistance Group of Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) Mr Jean-Pierre A Verbiest, D Phill.—MNA

YANGON, 11 Feb—Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein received Leader of Technical Assistance Group Mr Jean-Pierre A Verbiest, D Phill and party of Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) at his office (Yangon branch) this morning.

They cordially discussed cooperation in realizing the smooth process of practice for foreign currency exchange to develop foreign exchange market in Myanmar.

Also present at the call were the vice-governor of Central Bank of Myanmar and heads of departments.—MNA

LOCAL SPORTS

Athletes in sports trials of billiard, snooker

YANGON, 10 Feb—The Myanmar Billiards and Snooker Federation conducted the sports trial for the XXVII SEA Games at Asia Billiard and Snooker Center at Than Market in Lanmadaw Township on 9 February.

Khin Maung Oo, Min Min Oo, Aung Htay, Ko Ko Naing, Sithu, Kyaw Ngwe, Aung Hsan Oo, Pauk Sa, Zaw Lin and Chit Ko Ko participated in the billiard sports trial. Eight best players will be chosen as selected players for the Games.

Hein Lwin Moe, Zaw Than Htaik, Win Ko Ko, Aung Moe Thu, Zaw Aung, Phone Myint Kyaw, Zaw Tun, Ye Zaw Htut (Mon), Ko Htet, Min Min Thein, Ye Zaw Htut (Bago), Thiha win and Man Hein Kyaw took part in the snooker trial. Of them, seven selected players will be chosen.

MNA

Tennis Course for Beginning and Intermediate Levels

YANGON, 10 Feb—Organized by Myanmar Tennis Federation, the Tennis Course for Beginning and Intermediate Levels was opened at Theinbyu Tennis Court in Mingala Taungnyunt Township on 7 February morning.

Chief coach of the federation Mr Robert Davis is providing training to the trainees.

The course lasts up to 20 February.—MNA



Chinese VP's US visit important for advancing China-US cooperative partnership

WASHINGTON, 11 Feb—Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping's upcoming visit to the United States is crucial to advancing the China-US cooperative partnership, Chinese Ambassador Zhang Yesui said on Friday.

"This is an important high-level visit between China and the US this year," Zhang said in an interview with US-based Chinese journalists.

Xi will visit the United States on 13-17 Feb at the invitation of his US counterpart Joe Biden.

The ambassador said the visit was aimed at consolidating the China-US cooperative partnership by implementing the consensus

reached by the two heads of state last year.

"The visit to the US by Vice President Xi is set to be successful through the joint efforts of both sides," Zhang said.

The Chinese envoy hailed the remarkable progress achieved in developing China-US relations in the past four decades since former US President Richard Nixon's historic visit to China in 1972, when the two countries issued the Shanghai Communiqué that paved the way for the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries years later.

Though differences exist between the two sides on

some issues, Zhang said cooperation prevails in China-US relations because the two countries share more common interests than differences.

He said the consensus reached last January by visiting Chinese President Hu Jintao and his US counterpart Barack Obama on building a China-US cooperative partnership based on mutual respect and mutual benefit was "pragmatic and forward-looking."

With enhanced cooperation, the two countries are sharing increasing common interests as they are becoming increasingly involved with each other in many ways.—Xinhua

Korean tourists kidnapped in Egypt's Sinai peninsula

CAIRO, 11 Feb—Three South Korean tourists and their Egyptian guide have been kidnapped by Bedouin tribesmen in the Sinai peninsula, officials have said. The four had been travelling on a bus with other tourists to St Catherine's Monastery on Mount Sinai when armed men forced it to stop and seized them. The kidnappers are reportedly demanding the release of fellow tribesmen detained by the authorities.

Last week, two American women and their guide were also kidnapped by Bedouins. They were released unharmed within hours after mediation efforts between the local authorities and tribal leaders.



And on Thursday, 18 Egyptian security guards were held briefly in protest at the killing of a tribesman, according to the *Associated Press*.

Bedouin tribesmen in Sinai have been involved in a

series of confrontations with security forces in recent months. A gas pipeline from Egypt to Israel has also repeatedly been sabotaged, though Sinai's tourist resorts have remained largely secure.

Internet

Soldiers found barrels full of the synthetic drug at the ranch outside of Guadalajara.—INTERNET



MEXICO CITY, 11 Feb—The Mexican army says it has seized 15 tonnes of methamphetamine in the western state of Jalisco. Soldiers found the synthetic drug, thought to be the largest amount ever seized in Mexico, at a ranch after a tip-off by a local.

Massive methamphetamine seizure in Mexico

The production of methamphetamine is on the rise in Mexico, with the powerful Sinaloa cartel smuggling huge amounts into the United States. Methamphetamine creates a powerful psychological dependency. Soldiers discovered the cache at a ranch in Tlajomulco de Zuniga, south of the state capital, Guadalajara.

Gen Gilberto Hernandez Andreu said the ranch had been used as a lab to manufacture the drug, which can be swallowed, sniffed, smoked or injected. "It's an historic seizure: more than 15 tonnes of methamphetamine, five kilos of crystal, and around seven tonnes of precursor chemicals," General Hernandez Andreu said.

Soldiers also seized equipment used to produce the drug, but no arrests were made. The Mexican Defence Ministry said the security forces had discovered seven drug laboratories in Jalisco so far this year. Over the past few months, the authorities have also seized a record amount of precursor chemicals used to produce the drug.—Internet

UK sent nuclear sub near Falklands, says Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, 11 Feb—Argentina's foreign minister has accused the UK of sending a nuclear-armed submarine to the South Atlantic, after making an official complaint to the UN over the Falklands dispute.

Hector Timerman demanded that the British confirm the location of nuclear submarines in the region. But UK officials said the accusations of militarisation were "absurd".

UN chief Ban Ki-moon earlier called on both sides to

repeating accusations made by Argentine President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner earlier this week.

"Argentina has information that, within the framework of the recent British deployment in the Falklands, they sent a nuclear submarine with the capacity to transport nuclear weapons to the South Atlantic," Mr Timerman said.

He did not elaborate on the information, but said the vessel was Vanguard-class, a group that carries Trident

India hails missile shield test a success

BHUBANESWAR, 11 Feb—India successfully tested on Friday an interceptor defence shield developed to detect and destroy incoming ballistic missiles, a government official said.

Officials from the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) said an indigenously developed interceptor missile locked on to the targets, two nuclear-capable missiles, and destroyed them in a test in eastern India.

DRDO spokesman Ravi Gupta said radars following the two destroyed missiles detected fragments falling into the Bay of Bengal off the state of Orissa. "India is the

fifth nation to have these ballistic missile defence capabilities in the world," Gupta said in a statement.

The test was carried out

at a missile launch site located 200 kilometres from Orissa state capital of Bhubaneswar.

Nuclear-armed Pakistan, with which India has



Indian army soldiers fire air defence missiles during joint Army and Air Force exercises in 2008.—INTERNET

fought three wars since their independence in 1947, has said New Delhi's missile programme could trigger a new arms race in the region.

A similar test in 2010 by the DRDO was abandoned when radars following a "hostile" missile lost track of it after it blasted off from the launch site.

The system's tracking and fire-control radars were developed by the DRDO jointly with Israel and France.

India last month said it would soon test a nuclear-capable missile with a range of over 5,000 kilometres.

India's current longest-range nuclear-capable missile, Agni-IV, can travel 3,500 kilometres.

Internet



The UK says HMS Dauntless is being sent to the South Atlantic as part of routine operations.

INTERNET

avoid an "escalation" in tensions over the Falkland Islands. The two countries went to war in 1982 over the British overseas territory.

Mr Timerman told a news conference at the UN in New York that the UK was "militarizing the region",

nuclear missiles.

He added that Mr Ban had agreed to talk to the British about Argentina's complaints. The Latin America and the Caribbean region is designated a nuclear-free zone under a treaty signed in the 1960s.

In response, Britain's UN envoy Mark Lyall Grant said the government does not comment on the "disposition of nuclear weapons, submarines etc". And he dismissed the accusation that the UK was militarising the situation as "manifestly absurd". Before 1982 there was a minimal defence presence in the Falkland Islands," he said.

Internet

Militants including Taliban local leader detained in Afghanistan

KABUL, 11 Feb—Afghan and NATO-led troops during joint operations have arrested several anti-government militants including a Taliban local leader on Saturday, the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said in a Press release issued here.

"An Afghan and coalition security force

captured a Taliban leader during an operation in Zurmat District, Pakiya Province, today," the Press release added.

However, the Press release without revealing the name of the captured local leader said the leader conducted explosive attacks against Afghan forces throughout the district.

Furthermore, the joint

forces during combined operations in Terayzai district of the neighbouring Khost Province, 120 km southeast of Afghan capital Kabul, on the same day on Saturday while searching for a Haqqani network leader had arrested several suspected militants, according to the Press release.

"In Terayzai District, Khost Province, an Afghan

and coalition security force conducted an operation in search of a Haqqani Network leader today. The security force confiscated several firearms and detained multiple suspected militants during the operation," the Press released emphasized.

Taliban militants fighting Afghan and NATO-led forces have yet to make comment.—Xinhua

Baby 'unharmful if pregnant mum has chemotherapy'

PARIS, 11 Feb — Women who are given chemotherapy during pregnancy do not run a risk of harming their baby, doctors reported in *The Lancet Oncology* on Friday. European cancer specialists looked at 68 pregnancies, producing 70 children, during which 236 cycles of cancer drugs were administered. On average, the women were 18 weeks pregnant when their cancer was diagnosed. The children were born at 36 weeks on average. The investigators assessed the

children at birth, at the age of 18 months, and at either five, eight, nine, 11, 14 or 18 years.

They examined the children for general health, damage to the central nervous system, heart and hearing problems, and tested their cognitive skills. They found no evidence that the children were harmed by the cancer treatment, said the study. Babies born prematurely tended to do less well in cognitive tests, but this is common among pre-term infants across the general population, it noted.

Internet



Women who are given chemotherapy during pregnancy do not run a risk of harming their baby, according to a study in *The Lancet*.

INTERNET



Cannabis can impair a driver's ability to respond to potential dangers, research shows. —INTERNET

Cannabis drivers 'twice as likely to cause car crash'

HALIFAX, 11 Feb — Drivers who use cannabis up to three hours before driving are twice as likely to cause a collision as those not under the influence of drugs or alcohol, says a Canadian study. This is because cannabis impairs brain and motor functions needed for safe driving, the researchers suggest.

The study in *bmj.com* reviewed nine studies of 50,000 people worldwide who had been in serious or fatal crashes. Experts support the close monitoring of serious accidents involving drugs. The study analysis was carried out by researchers at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Canada.

They looked at observational studies of collisions between one or more moving vehicles on a public road which involved the consumption of cannabis.

Drivers of cars, sports utility vehicles, vans, lorries, buses and motorcycles featured in the studies. The study found a near doubling of risk of a driver being involved in a motor vehicle collision resulting in serious injury or death if cannabis had been consumed less than three hours before.

Internet

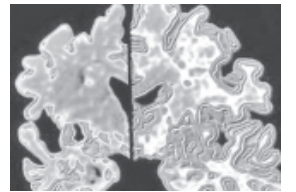
Alzheimer's brain plaques 'rapidly cleared' in mice

LONDON, 11 Feb — Destructive plaques found in the brains of Alzheimer's patients have been rapidly cleared by researchers testing a cancer drug on mice. The US study, published in the journal *Science*, reported the plaques were broken down at "unprecedented" speed. Tests also showed an improvement in some brain function.

Specialists said the results were promising, but warned that successful drugs in mice often failed to work in people. The exact cause of Alzheimer's remains unknown, but one of the leading theories involves the formation of clumps of a protein called beta-amyloid. These damage and kill brain cells, eventually resulting in memory problems and the inability to think clearly.

Clearing protein plaques is a major focus of Alzheimer's research and drugs are already being tested in human clinical trials. In the body, the role of removing beta-amyloid falls to apolipoprotein E - or ApoE. However, people have different versions of the protein. Having the ApoE4 genetic variant is one of the biggest risk factors for developing the disease. — Internet

Sections of Alzheimer's, left, and healthy brain tissue showing brain shrinkage with the condition. — INTERNET



Breast-fed babies better able to resist asthma as children

WELLINGTON, 11 Feb — Breast-fed babies can develop natural protection against asthma and wheezing up to the age of six, New Zealand researchers said on Friday. Researchers at the University of Otago studied 1,105 infants in the cities of Christchurch and Wellington over six years and found that exclusive, or any breastfeeding, had a protective effect on the development of asthma in young children.

The study team asked questions about breast-feeding and gathered information on wheezing and asthma in the children at two, three, four, five and six years old, said a statement from the university. The protective effect against the development of asthma was even stronger in infants and children who were atopic — those who had allergies and were therefore more vulnerable, said the statement. Exclusive breast-feeding for three months of atopic infants reduced asthma at 6 years by 59 percent, bringing their risk down to that of non-atopic children. — Xinhua

MF Global trustee sees \$1.6 billion claims gap

NEW YORK, 11 Feb — The shortfall in funds available to pay back customers of MF Global's collapsed brokerage is at least \$1.6 billion and could be more, the trustee liquidating the brokerage said on Friday. Until now, trustee James Giddens had estimated a shortfall of about \$1.2 billion, although he also said most of the funds had now been tracked down — although recovering them from other entities may be protracted. "The \$1.2 billion number is history," Kent Jarrell, a spokesman for Giddens, told *Reuters*.

The latest figures provided marginally more

clarity for MF Global's thousands of commodity futures customers, who are still missing about 28 percent of their funds, although multiple variables could still

cause the shortfall to rise or fall.

MF Global Holdings Ltd, the parent of the brokerage, filed for bankruptcy on 31 October amid fears about its

exposure to risky European debt. In a report on Monday, Giddens said the firm's use of customer funds to cover corporate transactions led to a massive shortfall. The new estimate for the size of that shortfall is broken down into two main components: roughly \$700 million for customers who traded on foreign exchanges, the rights to which are in dispute with MF Global's UK entity; and about \$900 million for customers who traded on domestic exchanges.

The estimate was reached through the processing of loss claims submitted by customers.

Internet



The sign marking the MF Global Holdings Ltd offices at 52nd Street in midtown Manhattan is seen in New York. — Internet



Bank of America Merrill Lynch traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange in New York. INTERNET

Turbo-traders take Bank of America for a ride

NEW YORK, 11 Feb — On a normal day, 4 billion shares of stock change hands on the New York Stock Exchange. One in 10 belongs to a single company. It's not McDonald's or IBM, both of which have been on a tear.

It's Bank of America — bailed out by the government three years ago, reviled for being part of the mortgage frenzy that helped wreck the economy and selling for not much more than an ATM fee. When the market goes up because of positive news about the economy, Bank of America stock shoots up past the stocks of other big banks. When traders get worried about Greek debt, Bank of America takes the biggest plunge. The big swings are not driven by a

fundamental bet that the bank will be more profitable because the economy is getting better or a real concern that it will lose more money than others if there is a default in Greece.

Instead, Bank of America is the stock of the moment for high-frequency trading, the supercomputer-driven buying and selling that barely existed a few years ago and now accounts for as much as two-thirds of US trading. The bank's single-digit stock price and flood of shares on the market — three times as many as its nearest big-bank competitor — make it an attractive target for hedge funds and banks that employ high-powered, computerized trading.

Internet

Barclays Bank profits fall 3% to £5.9bn



Barclays Bank has announced a slight drop in its annual pre-tax profits—but still banked nearly £6 billion last year. — INTERNET

LONDON, 11 Feb — Barclays has reported a 3% fall in profits to £5.9bn for last year, hit by a slowdown at its investment bank arm. The bank also said the bonus pool at the investment banking division was down 32% to £1.5bn in 2011. Chief executive Bob Diamond declined to discuss his own bonus during a news conference.

But senior executives will see bonuses cut about 48%, which BBC business editor Robert Peston says would give Mr Diamond about £3m. Barclays' total bonus pot for the year will now be about £2.15bn, down 25%, with cash bonuses capped at £65,000.

The average bonus payout for a Barclays' employee fell 21% year-on-year to £15,200. At a Press conference, Mr Diamond avoided questions about his own bonus. "This [news conference] is about results today," he said.

Internet



Miami battling invasion of giant African snails

MIAMI, 11 Feb — No one knows how they got there. But an invasion of African giant snails has southern Florida in a panic over potential crop damage, disease and general yuckiness surrounding the slimy gastropods. The US and Florida departments of agriculture have mobilized 34 agents to battle the infestation and the US Fish & Wildlife Service is heading up an investigation into how the mollusks — which can be up to 20 centimeters (eight inches) long — arrived.

“This is a big snail, a very big snail,” says Suzi Distelberg, a district inspector for the Florida Department of Agriculture, as she probes one of the shells with a gloved hand. “No it’s not empty, see... eeew. It’s very heavy, you can tell the snail is still in there. “We’ve been told that they like to eat the stucco off the sides of the houses because it contains calcium, and the calcium helps to build their shells.”

The lissachatina fulica, or giant African land snail, can live up to nine

years, and are prolific in reproduction, laying up to 1,200 eggs a year, making it extremely invasive. A single snail can create a mass that invades an entire neighbourhood. Local resident Yolando Garcia Burgos one morning discovered snail excrement on her exterior wall, and ended up collecting 583 of the mollusks in a week, finding them in her bushes, on her grill and in her ivy. State authorities say they have captured 35,000 since the invasion began in September.—*Internet*



Giant African land snails are shown to the media as the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services announces it has positively identified a population of the invasive species in Miami-Dade county, last September. — INTERNET

Two genes for sealing in memories identified

TAIPEI, (China) 11 Feb — Inside the teensy brains of fruit flies lies the blueprint for how memories form — information that likely carries over to our bulky noggins — and researchers have just identified two genes that are key to forming long-term memories. “The research could help us tremendously in understanding our own brain and how it forms long-term memories,” said lead researcher Ann-Shyn Chiang, a neuroscientist at the

National Tsing Hua University in Taipei.

Fruit flies (*Drosophila melanogaster*) have long been used as models to understand how memory works in other species, humans included. Most scientists thought that fruit fly memory consolidation — the conversion of short-term memories to long-term memories — happened entirely in a brain region called the mushroom body, which is the adult learning

and memory center and is analogous to the human hippocampus.

But, using new genetic tools, Chiang and his colleagues found that two specific neurons located outside of the mushroom body are the primary workhorses in the formation of new long-term memories. Moreover, they’ve identified two genes that are essential to the formation of proteins that enable memories to be locked in.—*Internet*

Man’s healthy skin sexually attractive to women

NEW YORK, 11 Feb — In the game of love and sex, beautiful skin may draw the line between winners and losers: Women find men with a healthy skin colour more appealing than those with a masculine face, new research shows. Previous studies have suggested that heterosexual women find men with manly faces — that is, those with prominent cheek bones, heavy brows and a relatively long lower face with a defined jaw line — most attractive, particularly during ovulation. Researchers have proposed that women instinctually choose men with masculine features because those traits are an indication of good health, which would then be passed on to their children.

However, Ian Stephen, a psychologist with the University of Nottingham in Malaysia, previously found that “golden” skin is also a natural indication of good health, and that people tend to find those with this complexion attractive. So which would women prefer: a guy with golden skin or a macho mug? To find out, Stephen and his colleagues took photographs of 34 white and 41 black men’s faces. They then measured the color of the faces and used a computer programme to rate the masculinity of the faces. “We used this [computer] technique to mathematically compare the shape of the men’s faces to a similar sample of women’s faces from the same populations,” Stephen said in statement.

The researchers showed the photos to 32 white and 30 black women, who then rated how attractive they thought the men were. The scientists found that facial masculinity wasn’t nearly as important as skin tone to the women in either ethnic group. They did not see an association between masculinity and rated attractiveness, but they did find an association between skin tone and attractiveness.—*Internet*

science

Google ‘entertainment device’ in the works



Google will reportedly soon jump into the consumer electronics market with a “home entertainment device,” according to the Wall Street Journal. — INTERNET

WASHINGTON, 11 Feb — Google will reportedly soon jump into the consumer electronics market with a “home entertainment device,” according to the *Wall Street Journal*. The fabled device will first work as a wireless music streaming unit, but could later be updated for other purposes.

Currently, Google does not make any electronics of its own. Of course, the Internet giant will soon own Motorola Mobility, which would put Google firmly in the cell phone-making business. And it has helped beat back Apple’s dominance in the smartphone arena through its development and free distribution of the Android operating system, which is used by a swath of electronics companies.

The Google entertainment system would be a different beast entirely. Reportedly in the works for years, the device would help Google maintain its dominance as the Internet connectivity expands into more and more devices. In this way, the decision to release a gadget of its own mimics Amazon’s strategy with the Kindle line of e-readers and the Kindle Fire tablet.

According to a Google application filed with the Federal Communications

Commission in December, which was first uncovered by GigaOm, users “will connect their device to home Wi-Fi networks and use Bluetooth to connect to other home electronics equipment.” The device will be based on Android, reports WSJ, and will run apps. Google said in its FCC request that it plans to have employees test 252 device units until the middle of July. The device will allegedly be released to the public sometime later this year.—*Internet*

Microsoft’s Sinofsky reveals Windows on ARM ambitions

WASHINGTON, 11 Feb — Microsoft has revealed more details of Windows on ARM (WOA), a version of its planned Windows 8 operating system which will run on ARM-designed chips. The chips are widely used in smartphones and mobile devices because of their performance and low power consumption. Microsoft hopes WOA will help it compete with iOS and Android tablets.

However, analysts have warned Microsoft faces “huge hurdles” in making the product a success. Microsoft hopes WOA will help it exploit the growth in mobile devices using ARM chips. Cambridge-based ARM Holdings licenses its designs to manufacturers. So far, 20 billion chips based on its designs have been shipped worldwide.

In an 8,600 plus word blog post Windows president Steven Sinofsky detailed the “energising and daunting” challenges in developing Windows on ARM. Analysts said the post was evidence of the importance of the technology to Microsoft. “One of the clues we get from this post is that Microsoft is very much all-in in terms of pushing this, they have no intentions of letting this one fail, it’s not a punt,” said Chris Green of the marketing firm, Davies Murphy Group.—*Internet*

More people are using tablet computers, which makes them an important market for Microsoft. INTERNET



Anonymous says attack put CIA website offline

WASHINGTON, 11 Feb — Hackers have claimed responsibility for making the CIA website inaccessible on Friday—the latest attack on a US federal agency. A Twitter post on a feed used by hackers’ collective Anonymous said “CIA



Anonymous has stepped up its attacks against US federal agencies. — INTERNET

Tango down”, a phrase used by the US Special Forces after killing an enemy. Anonymous said in another tweet that just because it reported a hack, that did not mean it carried out the attack. This would not be the first time the CIA website has been put offline.

In June 2011, a group affiliated with Anonymous, Lulz Security, temporarily brought down the agency’s homepage. The CIA site remained offline on Friday evening after several hours, and a spokeswoman said the agency was looking into the reports. Hackers usually target such websites through a denial-of-service attack, which involves bombarding

the site with traffic until its servers are overwhelmed.

There is no suggestion that the security of the CIA’s actual computer systems have been compromised. Earlier this month, Anonymous managed to intercept a conference call between the FBI and British police as they discussed legal action against hackers. And following the shutdown of the Megaupload file-sharing website last month, a statement attributed to Anonymous claimed responsibility for shutting down the websites of the Department of Justice and FBI, among others.

Internet

TECHNOLOGY



President U Thein Sein meets with faculty members and students at Government Technological College (Sagaing).—MNA

Investment in education...

(from page 1)

students but also parents cost a large sum of money on basic needs in their learning. He showed off his sympathy for both students and parents because he had to pursue education in the region far from the native area when he was young. Thus, he said that the arts and science university will be opened after deeply considering the submissions of the local people of Sagaing Region. The Arts and Science University (Sagaing) Committee is to strive for emergence of the university through contributions of the State, local wellwishers and entrepreneurs, he noted. As the site has been chosen for the university, three miles exit from Sagaing, buildings are to be constructed as quickly as possible, he said.

For the second point, he pomised to upgrade Cooperative College (Sagaing) to Cooperative University. He said that in the past, the diploma holder students who had completed the two-year courses at Cooperative College continued their learning to secure the degree at the Cooperative Degree College in Thanlyin of lower Myanmar. At present, he added that Cooperative Degree College in Thanlyin will emerge Cooperative University while Cooperative College (Sagaing) will be upgraded to Cooperative University in coming academic year. As such, he noted that upper and lower Myanmar will have one cooperative uni-



President U Thein Sein greets locals at Wheat and Wheat Products Factory No. 1 of the Ministry of Industry in Sagaing Township.—MNA



*President U Thein Sein meets with faculty members and students at Cooperative College (Sagaing).
MNA*

versity each.

For the third point, he said that Technological College (Sagaing) will be upgraded to Technological University because it provides training to the students so as to confer degrees on the students. He said that Sagaing Region is vast in area and it is home to 4.8 million of population. Therefore, Sagaing has been facilitated with a 200-bed hospital in conformity with the larger region in the health sector, he said. Enhancement of education sector is aimed at turning out all youths to become graduates in the future, he added. Only when all youths become intellectuals and intelligentsia in the future, will the nation enjoy fruits of development, he noted. Thus, he said that all the people are to accept the concept that investment in education sector is the best guarantee and most valuable for the future nation.

He stressed that as the nation is blessed with good natural resources, it is not difficult for prosperity of the State and the people if all the people of the nation actually work hard. In conclusion, he pointed out that if the local people work hard honestly under law, they can much benefit both themselves and the State.

Arrangements are being made for opening the Arts and Science University in Sagaing this academic year. At

present, the first year courses will be conducted at No. 1 Wheat and Wheat Products Factory. At the same time, new lecture halls will be built as quickly as possible. Now, the buildings to be used as lecture halls will be facilitated with good ventilation and adequate lighting for systematic academic system.

The President and party paid homage to Pyinsalawha Buddha Image at Yazamanisula Pagoda with offering of flowers, water, lamps and joss sticks.

After donating cash to the funds of the pagoda, the President and the Vice-President visited the pagoda.

They signed the visitors' book after cordially greeting those from the souvenir shops.

On arrival at Government Technological College (Sagaing) in Kyauksit Ward of Sagaing, they were welcomed by students and faculty members.

At the meeting hall, Acting Principal Dr Aung Hsan Lin reported to the President on location of the college, history, aim and academic matters.

In meeting with faculty members and students, the President said that he came there as a certain trip to meet local people as leaders of the State made lesser visits to Sagaing. In commemoration of the Union Day, he said

that he would like to give invaluable educational promotion to Sagaing dwellers. These educational promotions are to upgrade Arts and Science University (Sagaing), Cooperative University (Sagaing) and Technological University (Sagaing). He said that wellwishers and entrepreneurs are to join hands with the government in opening new university and upgrading educational institutions. He added that as the government is carrying out all the tasks for the whole nation on a wider scale, it is not easy to completely fulfill the requirements of the nation. Thus, he said that the government implements the plans through contributions of both local wellwishers and national entrepreneurs. The national entrepreneurs of his tour donated cash to the funds for three universities in Sagaing Region of their own accord, he said.

He said that Cooperatives College (Sagaing) and Technology College (Sagaing) would be upgraded to universities in the upcoming academic year and the State would provided necessary assistance to the colleges.

The country saw its elected government and parliaments and on transition to democracy, however, the country's one-year old democracy would be same with that of

(See page 7)



President U Thein Sein pays obeisance to Yarzar Mani Sula Pagoda.—MNA

Investment in education...

(from page 6)
western countries that had practiced democracy for over a hundred year. It was impossible to copy the democracy, he added. While the country had not yet mature for democratic practices and was in the transition period, it should practice the democracy which was in conformity with the country and the people. In Myanmar, three pillars for the democracy : the parliament, the government and the judiciary body had been established and the country is beginning to take shape as a discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

As peace and economic development are sine qua non for the democratic system, the government was making all-out efforts for peace and stability, to reduce pressure from outside and to make peace with armed ethnic groups, he said. Meanwhile, it had relaxed the rules and regulations,

made reforms and new promulgations and the democratic reforms had attracted international investors.

As to the investment, the government had taken three steps and considered the investment in the country. As a first step, businesses which can offer job opportunities as much as possible for the people (eg a garment factory) must be established. The second was to establish factories which produce value added materials for export instead of raw materials and the third step was to establish businesses based on high technology, he added.

Regarding foreign investment, it had taken the interests of the people, the integrity of the country and the sovereignty into consideration, he said.

He continued to say that efforts should be made to attract investments and to create jobs. When factoris are mushrooming, skill labour and intellectuals and intelligentsia would be in high demand.

He urged the students to work hard to become intellectuals and intelligentsia while the government was upgrading the education system.

The Government Technological College (Sagaing) was opened on 17, September, 1990, and was upgraded to the Government Technical Institute on 1 December 1998, and to the Government Technological College on 20 January, 2007. The college was upgraded to the Technological University today.

The President and party proceeded to Cooperative College (Sagaing) where Acting Principal U Aung Thura reported on facts about Cooperative Degree College, colleges and training schools.

The President said that he and his entourage arrived there to help the local people overcome difficulties as the region was rich in cultural heritage and especially, handicrafts were flourishing in the region.



President U Thein Sein at jade and gems products shops opened at Gems Merchants Association (Sagaing).—MNA



President U Thein Sein gives instructions to personnel for establishment of Arts and Science University (Sagaing).—MNA

The government was striving for peace and stability and economic development, focusing on development of rural areas, poverty alleviation and creating jobs for the people. Myanmar migrant workers were working poorly in foreign countries as there were a few job opportunities in the country, he said. Therefore, to create job opportunities for the people, factories must be established in the country.

There would also be plenty of job opportunities for graduates from the cooperative colleges as investors are eyeing in the country, he added.

Apart from becoming graduates, students should be equipped themselves with patriotic spirit, nationalist fervour and self-reliance attitude, he said. He also stressed the need for building the country as strong as possible based on self-reliance efforts and for abandoning the thinking of relying on foreign countries.

Afterwards, the President cordially greeted faculty members and students.

Afterwards, the President visited the jade and gems products shops at the office of Gems Merchants Association (Sagaing) and called for making high-standard objects of jade and jewelleryes to win foreign markets.

The President and party flew back to Nay Pyi Taw and arrived back here at 2.40 pm.

MNA

Unity is strength



Rare is Union and a thing of great value it is. There are over 190 countries in the world and none of them does not have different national races. However, there are only over 20 Unions constituted with diverse national races. So, Union is rare, accounting for only over ten per cent of the global countries.

Why a Union is invaluable? In reality, every rare thing does not have value. Meteors falling down from the sky are rare but do not worth much like diamond and rubies lying deep in the ground.

Union is rare in terms of number and possesses high value as it is built on mutual trust, friendship and reciprocal magnanimity among national races.

Studying the formation of a Union, the core essence is it is made up of Union members (regions/states) and these Union members have equal legislative and administrative powers. To stress the equality at Union level, there has established two-house executive system—Upper House authorized to represent region and state small or large and Lower House based on equal proportion of population.

It is usual to prescribe laws ensuring the equal rights of national races in social, economic, religious and administrative sectors in the constitution of the Union.

Since her independence in 1948, Myanmar has stood as a Union. Myanmar has seen three constitutions so far. The comparative study of these three constitutions will show that the number of states representing ethnic minorities has increased one constitution after another. In other words, it means an increase in rights to represent the ethnic minorities.

For example, there were only three states in the initial stage of the 1947 Constitution, namely Shan State, Kayinni (a) Kayah State and Kachin State. Chin nationals did not demand state and remained in the Union as Division of Chin Feature.

General Aung San and other national leaders acknowledged that Shan State out of these three

Honouring the 65th Anniversary Union Day

Beauty of Union

Ko Myanmar

states is large in size and population that time and deserved to stand as separate state culturally and historically. Kayinni (a) Kayah State was sparsely populated and small in size but its historical background gave it every reason to be a part of the Union. In addition, Sawbwa and Sawphya who had reigned in Shan State and Kayah State with traditional monarchical rule were allowed to join as racial MPs even though it was less democratic.

Kachin was a state emerged as a result of magnanimous cooperation of the mainland leaders. Kachin was constituted with Myitkyina and Bhamo districts and in the colonial period, mountainous regions of these districts were under the direct control of British governor whereas plain regions mainly dominated by Bamar and Shan nationals were under partial control of British governor, where administrative power was shared by ministers. If Kachin State was to be established only for Kachin nationals, it was absolutely impractical to form Kachin State with mountainous regions alone and there was not even a town to establish as major town of the state. Therefore, mainland leaders combined the mountainous regions with plain areas and formed as Kachin State. So, since its birth, Kachin has been a mixed community of Kachin, Bamar, Shan and other nationals.

In 1947, there were only four Union members—three national race states and one feature division. There were problems to designate separate state for Kayin nationals and only a Kayin Affairs Council representing Kayin nationals could be founded. Kayin could later be formed following the amendment to the 1947 Constitution in 1951.

Following the fraction within the AFPFL in late 1950s, Rakhine and Mon nationals were loud in demand for own states.

In the 1974 Constitution of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the number of Union members had increased to seven divisions and seven states. It is noteworthy that the number of states had increased to seven (Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, and Shan) for the political system of the country that time was more like a unitary state with only one parliament rather than a Union. In the public opinion polls on the draft of the 1974 Constitution, people voted most in favour of the unitary state. When the six types of state structure suggested by the people were discussed within the Constitution Drafting Committee, most of its members supported the nine divisions and four states type. The final agreement to form seven states showed the goodwill of the majority to acknowledge national races as independent members of the Union.

The 2008 Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, in comparison with previous constitutions, can be said to be in most compliance with Union type for six self-administered zones to a certain extent of size and population are included in the structure of the Union apart from seven regions and seven states, increasing to 13 members of the Union.

While the number of the regions of national races has gradually increased from four to 13, the executive and legislative standards have improved considerably. In the 1947 Constitution, there were only State Councils in states constituted with Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives and the state chief minister (state chairman) and no separate state chamber and state government whereas the 2008 Constitution has allowed separate state chamber and state government. The 1947 Constitution allowed monarchical chieftains to take a grip over state councils and legislature, and thus it can be concluded that they were even more power than colonial period.

(See page 9)

Honouring the 65th Anniversary Union Day

POEM

A chorus of amity and unity

- * Cold season in the silver mists
Colourful blooms of Myanmar
In the hearts of people
Ever flourishing Panglong spirit
A springboard to national unity
- * Anywhere in Union
Prevailing the sense of amity
Always helping one another
Essence of true kinfolk
Fostering real friendship in hearts
- * Progress of Myanmar land and society
Truly, people need to try hard
Nationalities ever in unity
Towards our golden future
Always peaceful be the Myanmar land
- * Have vision and harmony
Never again to be subjugated
Unity for national perpetuity
With borderlines tightly guarded
No harm comes from Left or Right
- * Beautiful song of peace in chorus
Democracy flourishes with glory
Have trust and zeal all nationalities
Goal of peace, modernity and progress
Country will reach soon
- * Amity and traditions we maintain
- * Celebrating the 65th Anniversary
Union Day

Myinmu Maung Naing Moe (Trs)

The 2008 Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, in comparison with previous constitutions, can be said to be in most compliance with Union type for six self-administered zones to a certain extent of size and population are included in the structure of the Union apart from seven regions and seven states, increasing to 13 members of the Union.



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

Beauty...

(from page 8)

National races who do not have own regions but have appropriate population were taken into consideration in the 2008 Constitution. Representatives of such national races are allowed to join the legislature of respective region or state and self-administered region and can be appointed as national races affairs minister in respective region or state government.

There has been more focus on equal participation of national races in legislation and administration. Meanwhile, there have been guarantees for rights and privileges of national races.

Furthermore, a sheer quantity of completed and ongoing actions is seen in the spirit of constitution for real growth of Union Spirit.

The most significant efforts are of peace negotiations with ethnic armed groups remained outside legal fold. Within one year after holding of the

office, the new government could pave the path to peace holding talks with 11 ethnic armed groups. It is striving to put out the raging flame of armed conflicts through profound political talks rather than ceasefire agreement. What is notable is that the people and social organizations are actively lending a hand in peace efforts. Therefore, peace negotiations have entered into Union level agreement from state level.

Meanwhile, the government has initiated such measures as creation of new jobs, establishment of industrial zones and transportation, education, health and social development plans so that the local people can earn their livelihood at ease.

The goodwill of the government is that it intends to build lasting peace rather than temporary one through political means plus development measures. Here, it needs to appreciate the former Tatmadaw government for its infrastructural development endeavours which brought about sound foundation in socio-economic improvement and special economic

zones establishment.

Taking a look at the big picture, the little acorn of Union Spirit initially planted by national leader General Aung San and national race leaders on 12 February, 1947 has grown into a big tree with branches, leaves, flowers and fruits. Likewise, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar is marching on the right path to democratic society with amicable cooperation of the entire national people.

The key to the success of these reforms forwarding to the new era is solidification of Union Spirit and national solidarity. If the new nation is like a brick building, the Union Spirit plays the role of cement which glues the bricks together. All the national people are to work cooperatively and actively in the interests of the entire Union embracing Union Spirit and national solidarity with heartfelt affection and goodwill.

Translation: TKK

Public Works emphasizes improvement of road/bridge constructions in regions, states

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Feb—Public Works of the Ministry of Construction held the coordination meeting for 2012-2013 fiscal year at its office yesterday morning.

Speaking on the occasion, Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint stressed the need for superintending engineers to supervise improvement in construction of roads and bridges in regions/states, systematically and effectively spend the funds in respective works, emphasize

minimizing loss and wastage of tar and heavy machinery and speed up the work in open season.

Deputy Ministers U Soe Tint and U Kyaw Lwin also gave necessary instructions.

Managing Director U Kyaw Lin of Public Works and departmental heads submitted requirements of the tasks and region/state superintending engineers, progress of their tasks.—MNA

Roads open in Ayeyawady Region to mark 65th Union Day

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Feb—Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung together with region ministers attended opening of Minyekyawzwa, Aungtheiddi, Aung Maga and section-1 of Bantwaygon roads in Ward No. 6 of Patheingyi yesterday in commemoration of 65th

Anniversary Union Day.

The chief minister attended work coordination meeting on auction of lake arranged by the region government, district/township administrators, and heads of district/township fisheries departments.

After that, he attended another work coordination

meeting on liquor license at the office of region government.—MNA

Fire breaks out in Dwayawady Market, Thandwe

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Feb—A fire broke out in Dwayawady Market in Thandwe this morning, destroying the large part of the market. The fire was finally put out around 8.30m.—MNA

Japanese researcher gives talks on exchange rate unification



Vice-Governor U Maung Maung Win addresses paper reading session on exchange rate unification.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Feb — Jointly conducted by the Central Bank of Myanmar of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue and Institute of Developing Economics JETRO of Japan, a paper reading session on exchange rate unification at the Central Bank of Myanmar (Yangon Bank-branch) here on 8 February.

Vice-Governor of the CBM U Maung Maung Win delivered an opening address and Mr. Koji Kubo, a researcher of the Institute of Developing Economics JETRO read his paper on "How Far Are We From Exchange Rate Unification." He exchanged views with the participants and answered the questions.

The paper reading session was attended by the managing-director of Myanmar Investment and Trade Bank and officials of the Central Bank of Myanmar, Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank, Myanmar Economic Bank and private banks.—MNA

Talks, essay contests, English debate organized

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Feb—In commemoration of the 65th Anniversary Union Day, the ceremony to award winners in the literary contest was held in conjunction with the educative talk at Loikaw Basic Education High School No. 2 on 8 February. Officials presented prizes to the winners in the high and middle school level essay and poem contests.

District Staff Officer Daw Myint Than Oo of Information and Public Relations Department, Maung Chit Kyi (Kandayawady) of Township WJA, Cartoonist Myo Gyi and Soe Nyunt Wai (Loikaw) talked about advantages of reading.

The educative talk to mark the 65th Anniversary Union Day, Myanmar essay contest and English debate were held at University of Computer Studies (Loikaw) on 9 February.—MNA

Ayeyawady Bridge (Magway) linking east bank and west bank of Ayeyawady River



Salient points about Ayeyawady Bridge (Magway)

- * Situated in Magway Region, Ayeyawady Bridge (Magway) is a transport facility linking Magway on east bank of Ayeyawady River and Minbu on west bank of Ayeyawady River.
- * The construction of Ayeyawady Bridge started on 20 January 2000 by the Ministry of Construction.
- * The bridge was opened 24 November 2002.
- * The emergence of the bridge brought about an easy access to regions of east bank and west bank of Ayeyawady River.
- * The total length of the bridge is 8989 feet including the approach structure.
- * The length of main structure of the bridge is 6969 feet.
- * It has 28 foot-wide motorway flanked by two six foot-wide pedestrian lanes.
- * It is of steel beam bridge with RC piers.
- * It can withstand 60 tons of loads.

Translation: MT

Archive: Maung Nyein Aye



Fire breaks out at fuel station in Zabuthiri Township



Firefighters put out fire burning fuel tanker at fuel filling station No. 0354 in Zabuthiri Township.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Feb—A fire broke out at a fuel station in Zabuthiri Township this afternoon, losing wheels of a fuel tanker, one workers’ recreation centre and a few amount of fuel. An official of the fuel station was injured with a few burning.

While filling fuel into the oil tank by 1600-gallon-capacity tanker, the fire broke out at Fuel Station No. 0354 of Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise in Zabuthiri Township at about 1 pm due to over heat. The fire destroyed four rear wheels and one spare wheel of the tanker, one front windscreen and one recreation centre for workers. Deputy Manager of the station U Myint Aung suffered from some injure in the fire and he is receiving treatment at Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital (1000-bed). A total of 32 fire engines from 11 fire stations from Nay Pyi Taw Council Area and 13 Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee-owned and private-owned water bowsers rushed to the scene, and the fire was put out at 1.40 pm.—MNA

Special Adviser to UNSG arrives

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Feb — Special Adviser to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and Under-Secretary-General Mr Vijay Nambiar and party arrived Yangon by air today.

They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Deputy Director-General of Protocol Department and officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and responsible officials from United Nations Office.

Then, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and Under-Secretary-General Mr Vijay Nambiar and party left Yangon for Nay Pyi Taw.

MNA

US approves first nuclear plant in decades

WASHINGTON, 11 Feb—The US approved its first new nuclear power reactors in decades on Thursday, despite objections from the country's top regulator that safety issues raised by last year's Fukushima meltdown were not fully addressed.

Commissioners of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission voted 4-1 to approve the construction of two 1,100 megawatt

Westinghouse-Toshiba AP1000 at power generator Southern Co's existing nuclear facility in Vogtle, Georgia.

The dissenter was the NRC chairman, Gregory Jaczko, who argued for the need for "binding commitments" that the builders would implement design fixes to fully address risks exposed by the crisis at Japan's Fukushima nuclear

plant after the 11 March earthquake-tsunami disaster.

"I cannot support issuing this license as if Fukushima has never happened... In my view that is what we are doing," he said.

But other commissioners said such a commitment was not necessary and that the safety concerns Jaczko had would be addressed.

The approval gave the go-ahead for the \$14 billion project near Waynesboro, Georgia, seven years after Southern Co first applied for permission.

Construction at the site is well under way, and Southern said the first reactor could be running by 2016 and the second a year later.

"Today is an historic day," Southern Co's president Thomas Fanning said after the decision.

"These two new units will set the standard for safety and efficiency in the nuclear industry."—Internet



The Nuclear Regulatory Commission approved the construction of two new reactors at Georgia's Vogtle plant. It's the first new construction license for a reactor granted in over 30 years.—INTERNET

Smuggled dinosaur nest may be a fake

BEIJING, 11 Feb—A well-preserved nest of fossilized dinosaur eggs that was smuggled to the United States but returned to China may not be as valuable as first believed.

The 22 eggs are expected to clear customs at Beijing Capital International Airport this week and will be put on display at the Geological Museum of China.

According to a report in the *Los Angeles Times*, the dinosaur eggs, believed to be at least 65 million years old, were unearthed in Guangdong Province in 1984 and purchased by an American collector in 2003 from a source in Taipei.

They entered the US through Florida.

However, Chinese experts now question their value. Zhao Zikui, leading dinosaur expert at the Chinese Academy of Sciences' Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology



Twenty-two dinosaur eggs were returned to China in December. The nest, dated 65 million years old, is believed to have been smuggled to the United States. INTERNET

and Paleoanthropology, believed the nest was probably faked and then sold outside China.

"Since the 1990s, a fascination for dinosaurs has swept across both China and the West, so dinosaur fossils, especially eggs, rose sharply in value," Zhao said.

"And making fake fossil eggs is simple, just using soil and fossilized eggshell fragments."

In 2000, he said he saw farmers selling fossilized eggshell for between 100 and 120 yuan (\$16 - 19) a kilogramme.

According to Zhao, the farmers have been digging up actual fossil eggs and selling them for less than 10 yuan. The price rises to around 100 yuan when they reach Guangdong Province or the place where they leave the country.

After reaching Western countries, the price can increase tenfold.

"The most expensive fossil egg I have heard of was auctioned for more than \$1 million, and is stored in a museum in the US," Zhao said.

Xinhua

'Dr Death' appeals Australia jail sentence

SYDNEY, 11 Feb—An Indian-born doctor jailed in Australia over fatally bungled surgeries was Friday granted special leave to appeal his conviction in the nation's highest court.

Dubbed "Doctor Death" by the local press, Jayant Patel was imprisoned for seven years in 2010 after a jury found him guilty of criminal negligence resulting in the deaths of three patients and injuring a fourth.

Patel had been convicted of gross negligence in the United States prior to working in Australia but failed to disclose the finding to his employers. He lost an appeal last year against his conviction and sentence by Queensland's Supreme

Court, but a High Court spokeswoman confirmed Friday he had been granted special leave to test his case in Canberra.

No date had yet been set but two days would be put aside for the hearing before a full bench, she told AFP.

The spokeswoman said leave was granted on a hearing on whether a section of Queensland's Criminal Code was incorrectly applied to Patel's case. The charges on which Patel was found guilty stem from his employment as a surgeon at Queensland's Bundaberg Hospital between May 2003 and December 2004 and he was convicted on the basis that his decision to operate was criminal.

Patel's lawyers had also

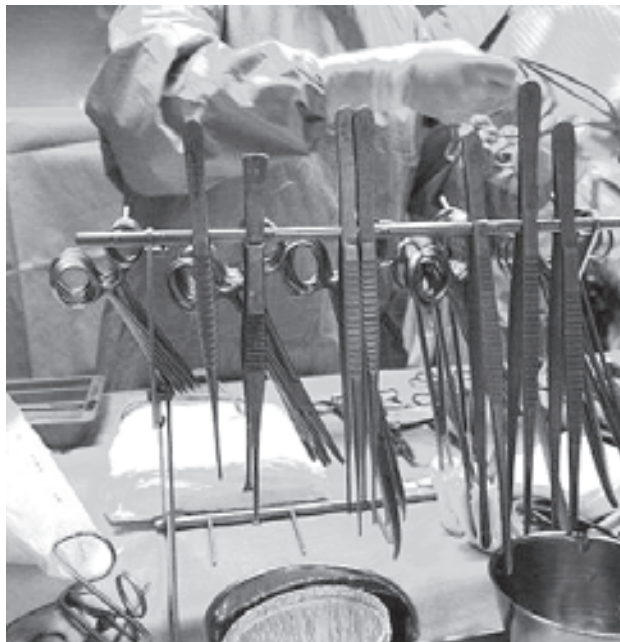


Photo illustration of a surgery-in-progress.

INTERNET

argued leave to appeal on the ground of alleged miscarriage of justice but this was not granted by the High Court,

which referred it to the full bench hearing, the court spokeswoman said.

Internet

Mount Lokon in Indonesia erupts, no casualty

JAKARTA, 11 Feb—Mount Lokon in Indonesia's North Sulawesi Province erupted at 08:20 local time (0020 GMT). According to reports by the Centre of Volcanology and Geological Danger Mitigation (PVMBG) of Geological Agency at the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, the eruption was followed by roaring noise and thick and grey ashes emitted to 2,000 meters above the volcano's Tompaluan crater heading southeast.

Sutopo Purwo Nugroho, head of the Centre of Data Information and Public Relation at the National Agency for Disaster Management (BNPB), said in a statement his office has recommended that there should be no public activity within 2.5 kilometres below the crater. He urged people to keep alert and prepare for Mount Lokon's further activities that might happen.

Hayke, head of the Regional Agency for Disaster Management (BDPB) of North Sulawesi province, told Xinhua by phone that public activity is still normal. "There is no need for evacuation right now. However, we keep monitoring the situation and coordinating with related institutions, local governments and people, including to prepare steps whenever we need to evacuate people," said Hayke. He added that the danger status of the volcano stays at level III.—Xinhua

40 firefighters tackle fire at Riverside Road factory



Firefighters took an hour to put out the fire.

INTERNET

SINGAPORE, 11 Feb—It took four fire engines and 40 firefighters to put out a fire which broke out at a factory at 28 Riverside Road in Marsiling industrial estate at noon on Thursday.

Firefighters arrived at the

scene at 12.10pm, nine minutes after they received a call about the incident.

By then, staff working in the building had already evacuated. Chin Din Guan, one of the affected workers, said: "My friends banged the door asking me to go and we just take our laptop and go down."

After we came down, we saw it was quite serious and we started to panic." No one was injured in the incident. Firefighters took an hour to put out the fire which engulfed an area the size of half a football field. Captain Lee Kian Fatt, Commander of

Woodlands Fire Station, said: "We immediately set up seven water jets to surround the fire, surround the building and attack the fire."

Due to the complexity of the area, where they store timber, acrylic and spray painting equipment, we have to be extremely careful with our strategy.

"We can only do defensive firefighting from the outside. Once the fire is reduced, we put our men into the area to extinguish the fire. That's why it required one hour to extinguish the fire." The cause of the fire is being investigated.—Internet

Drugs worth 27 mln USD seized in Sydney

SYDNEY, 11 Feb—Illegal drugs worth more than 25 million AU dollars (26.92 million US dollars) have been seized in Sydney's north and a man believed to be a principal of a major drug distribution network has been arrested, New South Wales (NSW) police said on Friday. Police said they raided a storage unit at Artarmon in Sydney's north, seizing a large quantity of heroin and drug ice hidden inside juice boxes earlier this week. The first batch of drugs were found in a raid on Tuesday. Police arrested a 43-year-old man when he attended the storage units on Thursday.

Following the arrest,

police searched further storage units and a number of homes, banks and a food importation business venue at Glendenning in Sydney's west.

Police officers then seized the remainder of the drugs. "All the drugs seized to date, totaling almost 70 kg, will undergo drug analysis," NSW Police said in a statement on Friday. "Additionally, more than 300,000 AU dollars cash (323,040 US dollars), an extensive range of jewelry and valuable securities were seized."

Detective Chief Superintendent Mal Lanyon said this was a major win for the

NSW Police Force in its continued efforts to target illicit drugs. "The drugs seized by Strike Force Taipan officers to date have an estimated potential street value of more than 25 million AU dollars (26.92 million US dollars)," Lanyon said. "The person that we're putting before the court today is a principal of the syndicate and I expect that there will be further arrests forthcoming," Lanyon told reporters on Friday. "We believe the drugs had been imported from Iran and we continue to work with our partner agencies to identify the source of those drugs," he said.—Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV PHILIP VOY NO (003)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PHILIP VOY NO (003) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.2.2012 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

Four buried in SW China scaffold collapse

GUIYANG, 11 Feb—Four people were buried when a scaffold toppled at a construction site in southwest China's Guizhou Province Saturday, the local government said.

The accident happened around 10 am in the city of Qingzhen, located about 22

km from the provincial capital of Guiyang, the Qingzhen municipal government said in a Press release. Rescuers are searching for signs of life in the debris and medical workers are standing by to provide first aid. The cause of the accident is under investigation.—Xinhua



Models display creations during the Parkchoonmoo show at the Lincoln Centre during the Fall 2012 Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week in New York, the United States, on 10 February. — XINHUA

FBI releases file on Steve Jobs

WASHINGTON, 11 Feb—The late Steve Jobs, co-founder of the US computer giant Apple, had faults in his personal life but was a business visionary, associates told the FBI. The 191 pages of information (<http://vault.fbi.gov/steve-jobs>) the FBI collected on Jobs was made public Thursday.

"In 1991, Jobs was considered for an appointed position on the US President's Export Council," the FBI said on its Web site. "This release consists of the FBI's 1991 background investigation of Jobs for that position and a 1985 investigation of a bomb threat against Apple. Jobs died in October after a bout with pancreatic cancer.

The redacted material



File photo of Steve Jobs

indicated former co-workers spoke favorably about Jobs' character, reputation, associates and loyalty, and recommended him for the government position, which the FBI said was a post on the Export Council. However, other former associates and co-workers spoke of Jobs' experimentation with drugs, such as marijuana, LSD and hashish. One interviewee said during the late 1960s and early 1970s, "Mr Jobs may have experimented with illegal drugs, having come from that generation," but couldn't provide further details, the document indicated. Several people characterized Jobs as "a deceptive individual who is not completely forthright and honest," saying that Jobs "will twist the truth and distort reality in order to achieve his goals." Others reported that Jobs fathered a child out of wedlock and at first did not pay child support but years later was more supportive of the mother and child.

Internet



Models display creations during the Concept Korea presentation at Lincoln Centre during the Fall 2012 Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week in New York, on 10 Feb, 2012. — XINHUA

Brit wanted in '93 holdup caught in US

SPRINGFIELD, 11 Feb—A man wanted in a \$1.5 million bank delivery heist in England 19 years ago was charged Thursday on a weapons charge on Missouri, authorities said. KOLR-TV, Springfield, Mo, reported Edward "Fast Eddie" John Maher, 56, was charged with illegal possession of firearms

following his Wednesday arrest in Ozark, Mo, where he had been living under his brother's name.

Maher was charged for possessing two pistols and two rifles, a federal crime for an illegal immigrant, the TV station said. Maher was being held at an immigration facility in Springfield. "We've had

contact with the Suffolk [England] Police Department," FBI spokesman Josh Nixon said. "I spoke with one of their detective chief inspectors who confirmed that he was wanted in England, and confirmed what we knew. They advised me they would start the extradition process tomorrow."—Internet

Kate tours Lucian Freud show on first solo engagement

LONDON, 11 Feb—The Duchess of Cambridge has carried out her first solo public engagement, at a preview of a new Lucian Freud exhibition in central London. Kate met dignitaries and was walked round the show at the National Portrait Gallery, of which she is a patron. St James's Palace has confirmed the duchess has also agreed to pose for a portrait for the gallery. Prince William is currently deployed in the Falkland Islands as an RAF Search and Rescue co-pilot.

The duchess was taken

around the exhibition - part of the countdown to the London 2012 Festival—by gallery director Sandy Nairne and exhibition curator Sarah Howgate. Freud, one of Britain's most distinguished and highly-regarded artists, died last year at the age of 88. Mr Nairne said: "The duchess was extremely attentive and I think really interested in not just the chance to see the full range of Lucian Freud's work but very interested to see the differences in technique. "Because the early work is very fine in particular and then



The duchess has a history of art degree from the University of St Andrew's.— INTERNET

of course the work changes and becomes much more painterly." Kate has a history of art degree from the

University of St Andrews, where she and William met in 2001.

Internet

HBO show Luck attacked over horse deaths

LONDON, 11 Feb—Animal rights group Peta has called for TV and film safety rules to be tightened after two horses were put down during filming for HBO drama Luck. The animals were injured in the making of the show starring Dustin Hoffman. Rights group Peta said it

"repeatedly reached out" to HBO before filming to offer safety advice but was "rebuffed".

HBO, which worked with the American Humane Association, said both were "committed to ensuring all necessary safety procedures" were in place.



Hoffman plays ex-convict Chester Bernstein in Luck. — INTERNET

Luck, conceived by NYPD Blue creator David Milch, is billed as "a provocative look at the world of horse racing - the owners, gamblers, jockeys and diverse gaming industry players".

The first episode—shown in the US on 29 January—will be broadcast in the UK on Sky Atlantic on 18 February. The AHA said in a statement that the fatal accidents had taken place several months apart—one during the filming of a pilot episode and another during the filming of the seventh show. The organization's standard "no animals were harmed" statement was removed from the credits of both episodes.—Internet

Man dumps 1 kg gold bar in charity box

MINSK, 11 Feb—A gold bar weighing one kilogram was dropped into a charity collection box in the Belarussian city of Brest, a media report said Friday.

The gold bar was discovered in a charity box set up in a grocery store to collect money for the Orthodox Church, the ONT

television reported.

The anonymous donor also slipped the \$50,000 gold brick's certificate of authentication into the collection box.

According to the store's security personnel, a middle-aged man dumped the gold brick into the box. The man had apparently earlier

attempted to hand the brick to a local church groundskeeper, however he refused to accept the donation.

A local church official said the donation would be enough to almost completely pay for the construction of a new church.

Internet

339,700 Chinese choose to study abroad in 2011

BEIJING, 11 Feb—A total of 339,700 Chinese left to study abroad in 2011, up 19.3 percent from the previous year, statistics released by the Ministry of Education on Friday show. According to the ministry, 314,800, or about 93 percent of them, were self-supported, while the rest were sponsored by the government or their employers.

In addition, the number of returned students increased by 38.08 percent year-on-year to reach 186,200 in 2011, according to the ministry. More than 90 percent, or 169,200 of the returnees, had been studying abroad at their own expense, said the ministry.

Statistics show that from 1978, when China introduced the reform and opening up, to the end of 2011, the number of Chinese studying abroad was more than 2 million, and that of the returned reached 818,400.

Xinhua

Company tattoos hair onto bald men

A British company said it is opening salons across England dedicated to the tattooing the scalps of bald men to make it look like they have short hair.

Company HIS Hair, or Hair-Ink-Skin, based in Birmingham, said it is opening facilities across England to allow men who have lost their hair to give the appearance of hair growing back using a tattooing technique applying different shades of pigment to the scalp to emulate the look of a buzz cut, *The Sun* reported on Friday.

Founder Ian Watson said he developed alopecia and lost all of his hair in his mid-20s. He said the idea for the procedure came to him when he had his sister-in-law, Ranbir

Rai-Watson, use a fine pen to draw dots on his scalp.

Celebrity stylist Adele said he became one of the firm's first clients. "I was 24 when I started losing my hair. I got behind this product



because I know it looks good," he said. "Going bald didn't particularly bother me but there are guys out there who are literally suicidal about it."

Canadian census 'deletes' little village

A village in Canada with a population of 34 is disputing its disappearance as reported in Statistics Canada's census figures released this week.

The hamlet of Atwater, about 100 miles northeast of Saskatchewan's capital of Regina, was classified as abandoned in

census figures released Tuesday by the federal statistics agency.

That raised hackles among some residents who completed census forms, *The National Post* reported. Brenda Rausch and her husband own the only business in Atwater, an automotive garage.

Police: One-legged man hid cocaine in butt

Authorities in Florida said they found cocaine in the buttocks of a one-legged suspect seen hopping away from a car.

Jacksonville sheriff's deputies said they responded to a call about suspected drug activity inside a GMC sport-utility vehicle parked near an

apartment in Jacksonville and a man missing his right leg started hopping away from the vehicle when deputies pulled up behind the SUV, the *South Florida Sun Sentinel* reported Friday. Deputies ordered the man to come back and he hopped over to the deputies, who identified him as Ariosto

Kuryakin Wyman.

The deputies said they found marijuana in Wyman's cargo pocket and he told them he was not carrying any other drugs.

However, a corrections officer at the jail discovered a bag of cocaine stuffed between the cheeks of Wyman's buttocks.

Artist slims down Renaissance paintings

An Italian artist says she is using a computer programme to take Renaissance paintings of women and slim them down to the modern perception of the feminine ideal.

Anna Utopia Giordano said she altered paintings including "Venus and Cupid" by Diego Velazquez, *The*

Daily Telegraph reported Friday. "Art is always in search of the perfect physical form—it has evolved through history, from the classical proportions of ancient Greece, to the prosperous beauty of the Renaissance, to the spindly look of models like Twiggy and the athletic look of our own time," the artist

said. Giordano reduced the paintings to show how the fashion world can digitally manipulate the images of models and create a look that is virtually impossible for most women to attain, the *Telegraph* said.

News Album

Sir Paul McCartney gets star on Hollywood Walk of Fame

WASHINGTON, 11 Feb—Sir Paul McCartney has unveiled a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, almost 20 years after he was first nominated for in the honour.

He is the last solo Beatle to receive the honour, Contactmusic reported. McCartney was first selected for the honour in 1993 but never found the time to set a date for the unveiling, until now.

On Thursday, the singer unveiled the 2,460th star outside the Capitol Records building on Vine Street, where he was rehearsing for a free live iTunes streaming performance of his new album 'Kisses on the Bottom'.

Elvis Costello and McCartney's wife Nancy Shevell joined hundreds

of fans for the brief ceremony, but former Beatles bandmate Ringo Starr couldn't be seen.

And McCartney explained that Starr was "under the weather" and too ill to attend, but he insisted the drummer remains a "really good friend".

Internet



Sir Paul McCartney

Oscar is boring: Dustin Hoffman



Hollywood veteran Dustin Hoffman

LOS ANGELES, 11 Feb—Hollywood veteran Dustin

Hoffman says being at the Oscar ceremony isn't as glamorous as it looks.

"Oscar is boring. It lasts forever. And don't think you're seeing spontaneous behaviour. You see couples who are suddenly smooching, and, well, there's a guy sitting on the ground with the camera at their knees," showbizspy.com quoted the 74-year-old as saying.

"There was one particular time I knew I wasn't going to win, and when they'd train the camera on me as one of the losers, I wanted to be able to rip open my tuxedo shirt and just have stenciled on my chest, 'Oh, (bleep)!' But my wife wouldn't let me do it," he added.—Internet

Vanessa Hudgens finds centipedes 'awful'

LOS ANGELES, 11 Feb—Actress Vanessa Hudgens says she freak out after seeing centipedes.

The 23-year-old, who stars alongside Liam Hemsworth and Michael Caine in her new project, encountered the oversized insects while shooting family movie "The Island in Hawaii" and she still having nightmares about them.

"Those centipedes were awful. They were huge with lots of legs. The way they crawled really freaked me out. I'm not usually scared of anything



Actress Vanessa Hudgens

but those centipedes really got to me," showbizspy.com quoted Hudgens as saying.—Internet

Nicolas Cage says he's not a vampire



Hollywood actor Nicolas Cage

NEW YORK, 11 Feb—Hollywood actor Nicolas Cage insists he is not a vampire, despite the claims of the seller of an 1860s photo of a man who looks a lot like him.

The image made headlines last year when it was sold on eBay by a man who speculated Cage is a "walking undead/vampire"

who "reinvents himself once every 75 years."

"I don't drink blood, and last time I looked in the mirror, I had a reflection," Cage told host David Letterman on Thursday night's edition of "Late Show."

"Let me say that there is a resemblance," Cage said. "But how can I be polite about this. It's a somewhat slowed-down version of me."

Cage is best known for his work in "Peggy Sue Got Married," "Moonstruck," "Leaving Las Vegas," "Gone in 60 Seconds," the "National Treasure" movies and "The Sorcerer's Apprentice."

Internet

Justin Bieber just too humble

LONDON, 11 Feb—Members of British band "The Wanted" rave about their new bandmate Justin Bieber and say that despite being a star he is very humble and do not interfere.

Teen sensation Bieber, 17, joined the British band, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

Singer Max George told MTV: "He's not someone that really gives advice. I think he's too humble for that, in that way. I think he just appreciates what happens to him rather than thinking himself God."

"So, I mean, we don't really talk music. When we speak to him, we talk about football or basketball," he added.—Internet



Justin Bieber

Emma Stone to help distribute Oscars



Actress Emma Stone arrives at the 18th annual Screen Actors Guild Awards in Los Angeles on 29 January, 2012.—INTERNET

BEVERLY HILLS, 11 Feb—Actress Emma Stone is to be a presenter at the 84th Academy Awards ceremony in Los Angeles, telecast producers said on Friday.

This will be her first time as a presenter on the show.

Stone is part of the ensemble for the Best Picture nominee "The Help." Her other film credits include "Crazy, Stupid, Love," "Friends with Benefits," "Easy A" and "Superbad." She will be seen next in "The Amazing Spider-Man" and "Gangster Squad."

Academy Awards for outstanding film achievements of 2011 are to be presented on 26 Feb at the Kodak Theatre at Hollywood & Highland Centre. The show will be televised live on ABC.—Internet

McLeish praises Man City work ethic

Ahead of Sunday’s match, Aston Villa boss says City combine style with battling spirit



Alex McLeish wants his side to perform against Man City as they did against Arsenal.— INTERNET

LONDON, 11 Feb— Aston Villa manager Alex McLeish has paid tribute to Manchester City’s work rate ahead of the Barclays Premier League meeting between the two sides on Sunday. City currently have a two-point lead at the top of the League table and McLeish says their impressive campaign can be credited to their willingness to dig deep as well as their attacking prowess.

“City are supremely gifted, they move it about really well,” he said. “But not only are little guys like [David] Silva exceptional on the ball they get through a lot of graft as well. “That is the big part of the team that [Roberto] Mancini has created. He has got the creative players to graft and work. They have a great work ethic as well as tremendous skill.” Villa currently lie in 13th place and go into the match searching for their first home victory in the Barclays Premier League since 5th November. “We haven’t collected the three points at Villa Park for a while now,” added McLeish. “Everton had a great result against Manchester City at Goodison Park the other week so it shows they are not unbeatable. “We have yet to take a point let alone beat any of the top six on our own patch this season so it is up to the players to go out there and change that statistic.” And McLeish believes his players should take heart from the way they performed in the 2-1 defeat by Arsenal on 21st December.—Internet

Dortmund, Bayern Munich both win in Bundesliga



Bayern Munich’s Franck Ribery (L) and Philipp Lahm fight for the ball with 1. FC Kaiserslautern’s Olcay Sahar (R) during their German Bundesliga first division soccer match in Munich on 11 Feb, 2012.—INTERNET

BERLIN, 11 Feb—Shinji Kagawa fired Borussia Dortmund to a 1-0 win over Bayer Leverkusen to maintain his side’s 15-game unbeaten run Saturday, and Bayern Munich beat Kaiserslautern 2-0 to keep the pressure on the Bundesliga leader. Kagawa’s moment of magic in the 45th minute was enough in Dortmund for the defending champions, who remain two points ahead of second-place Bayern.

Mario Gomez opened the scoring in Munich with his league-leading 18th goal of the season in the sixth minute, with Thomas Mueller making it 2-0 in the 30th. Stuttgart beat hapless Hertha Berlin 5-0, Werder Bremen drew 1-1 with Hoffenheim and Mainz and Hoffenheim also played a 1-1 draw. Third placed Schalke visits fourth placed Borussia Moenchengladbach later Saturday.—Internet



German Angelique Kerber celebrates after defeating Russian Maria Sharapova 6-4, 6-4 in their quarter-final match during the Paris’ WTA tournament at Pierre de Coubertin stadium in Paris. INTERNET

Kerber stuns Sharapova to reach Paris semifinals

PARIS, 11 Feb — Top-seeded Maria Sharapova was ousted from the quarterfinals of Open GDF Suez on Friday, beaten by Angelique Kerber of Germany 6-4, 6-4. Kerber, a US Open semifinalist, will next play Yanina Wickmayer of Belgium, who defeated Mona Barthel of Germany 6-4, 6-7(3), 6-3.

Klara Zakopalova of the Czech Republic also advanced, rallying past sixth-seeded Julia Goerges of Germany 3-6, 7-5, 6-1. Zakopalova will face second-seeded Marion Bartoli of France, who downed Roberta Vinci of Italy 4-6, 6-4, 7-6 (2). “I had to dig deep to raise my game and keep believing in the victory,”

Bartoli said. “My strength was to never give in. Even though I sometimes made tactical mistakes, I always tried to find a solution.”

Kerber broke serve three times in the first set and rallied from 3-1 down in the second, clinching the victory when the Russian hit a forehand long for her 33rd unforced error. “It’s amazing, it’s my first top-five win,” Kerber said. “I knew before the match that I have nothing to lose. So I was going out there and really tried to play from the first point, my best tennis. I’m very happy that I beat her and I’m now in semis.” Sharapova converted only three of 11 break points while Kerber capitalized on all five break chances.— Internet

Isner shocks Federer in Davis Cup; US leads 2-0

FRIBOURG, 11 Feb — First, Mardy Fish put together a compelling rally to get the United States off to a fast start. Then John Isner bashed his way to a big upset. Now Roger Federer and company are on the ropes. Isner jolted Federer with his big serve and booming groundstrokes Friday, winning 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 (4), 6-2 to give the US a 2-0 lead against Switzerland in the first round of the Davis Cup.

Isner challenged the 16-time Grand Slam champion in long rallies on the indoor clay court, sending Federer to his first loss in Davis Cup singles in eight years and silencing a Swiss crowd unaccustomed to such outcomes. “I thought he played great,” Federer said. “He played it tough and served great when he had to. I just missed a couple more opportunities than he did and that’s what cost me the match.” The 26-year-old Isner called it the “biggest win of my career thus far.” “I’m very proud of it,” he said. “I played those break points down very well. It turned the match a little for me.”— Internet



US Davis Cup tennis player John Isner returns a ball to Swiss Davis Cup tennis player Roger Federer during a Davis Cup World Group first round second match between Switzerland and the US in the Forum Arena in Fribourg, Switzerland, on 10 Feb, 2012.— INTERNET

Man United beats Liverpool 2-1 in Premier League

MANCHESTER, 11 Feb— Wayne Rooney scored twice as Manchester United beat Liverpool 2-1 in an ill-tempered match Saturday to provisionally move to the top of the Premier League.

Players from both teams had to be separated in the tunnel at halftime after Liverpool’s Luis Suarez refused to shake the hand of United’s Patrice Evra before kickoff. Suarez was making his first start since serving an eight-match ban for racially abusing Evra in October.

Police and stewards had to shepherd the players into their dressing rooms at halftime after an altercation ensued when Evra tried to confront Suarez.

When the second half started, Rooney scored twice in the opening four minutes to place United firmly in control. Suarez scored a consolation goal in the 80th minute.—Internet



Manchester United’s Wayne Rooney celebrates after scoring his second goal against Liverpool during their English Premier League soccer match at Old Trafford Stadium, Manchester, England, Saturday, 11 Feb, 2012.—INTERNET

Ruthless Rangers keep pressure on Celtic

GLASGOW, 11 Feb—Rangers swept to a 4-1 win over Dunfermline on Saturday as the Scottish champions kept the pressure on leaders Celtic.

Ally McCoist’s team desperately needed a victory at East End Park to remain in touch with Celtic, who host Inverness later on Saturday, and they survived a slow start to move within one point of their Glasgow rivals. Andy Kirk had given Dunfermline a shock lead in the first half but David Healy equalised soon after and goals from Lee McCulloch, Sone Aluko and Salim Kerker sealed the points.

Dunfermline made a strong start and could have taken the lead when David Graham burst through on goal only to see his shot crash off the post, before Liam Buchanan’s rebound effort was blocked by goalkeeper Allan McGregor.

The hosts were celebrating with 16 minutes gone when Paddy Boyle’s deep cross from the left found Kirk at the back post and he slotted home. Rangers equalised eight minutes later when Maurice Edu saw his shot blocked by the goalkeeper after a one-two with McCulloch, and Healy pounced to rifle the loose ball into the back of the net. McCoist’s men threatened again when a Steven Davis shot bounced onto the crossbar and over.

The pressure paid off after 39 minutes as Davis sent over a free-kick that found Carlos Bocanegra and he teed up McCulloch to lash home his first goal of the season. McCulloch could have added to his tally shortly after the restart when he met a Healy cross and nodded just over.—Internet



Glasgow Rangers’ midfielder Lee McCulloch celebrates a goal. Rangers have swept to a 4-1 win over Dunfermline as the Scottish champions kept the pressure on leaders Celtic.—INTERNET

England - Premier League Results			
Blackburn	3 - 2	Queens Park Rangers	
Bolton	1 - 2	Wigan	
Everton	2 - 0	Chelsea	
Fulham	2 - 1	Stoke	
Sunderland	1 - 2	Arsenal	
Swansea	2 - 3	Norwich	

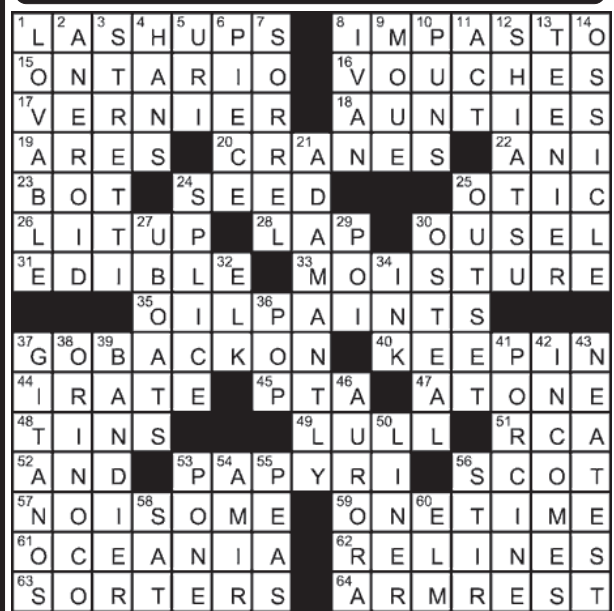
NLM-ner Joke**Low self-esteem**

A guy had been feeling down for so long that he finally decided to seek the aid of a psychiatrist.

He went there, lay on the couch, spilled his guts then waited for the profound wisdom of the psychiatrist to make him feel better.

The psychiatrist asked me a few questions, took some notes then sat thinking in silence for a few minutes with a puzzled look on his face.

Suddenly, he looked up with an expression of delight and said, "Um, I think your problem is low self-esteem. It is very common among losers."

Answer for Yesterday's Crossword Puzzle**Asada leads at Four Continents figure skating event**

COLORADO SPRINGS, 11 Feb—Two-time world champion Mao Asada of Japan seized the lead at figure skating's Four Continents Championship with the top performance of the women's short programme. Asada, the 2010 Olympic silver medalist, garnered 64.25 points for her short routine, with US national champion Ashley Wagner second on 64.07. Japan's Kanako Murakami, the 2010 junior world champion, was third with 63.45 points after the first phase of competition, with the title to be decided by Saturday's free skate.

Asada's only error came on her first jump, her trademark triple axel. She didn't quite land it cleanly. "My performance was good, except the triple axel in the beginning," said Asada, who won the Four Continents in 2008 and 2010. "I want to take this as a learning experience and skate well tomorrow. "My biggest goal of this competition is including the triple axel, and at least I tried it. It wasn't perfect, but I'm pretty happy to land the triple axel," she said.— *Internet*



Mao Asada of Japan competes in the Ladies Short Program during the ISU Four Continents Figure Skating Championships at World Arena, on 10 February, in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Two-time world champion seized the lead with the top performance of the short programme.—INTERNET

Latvala leads in Rally of Sweden, Loeb hits snow trouble

KARLSTAD, 11 Feb—Jari-Matti Latvala of Finland led the way in the Rally of Sweden, the second leg of the World Rally Championship, as defending champion Sebastian Loeb hit trouble in the testing, snowy conditions. Ford driver Latvala opened a 16.8sec lead over Mikko Hirvonen the Finnish Citroen driver who has won the last two editions.

But eight-time world champion, and current series leader, Loeb, whose one and only win in Sweden came in 2004, lost two minutes on the seventh stage when he buried his Citroen in a snow bank. The Frenchman surged back from 11th to seventh by the end of the day, but he is 2min 08.9sec off the lead. "It's very tricky," said Loeb, who needed the help of supporters to push his car back on to the course.— *Internet*

Focus Myanmar TV Programme**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL**

(12-2-12 09:30 am ~ 13-2-12 09:30 am) MST

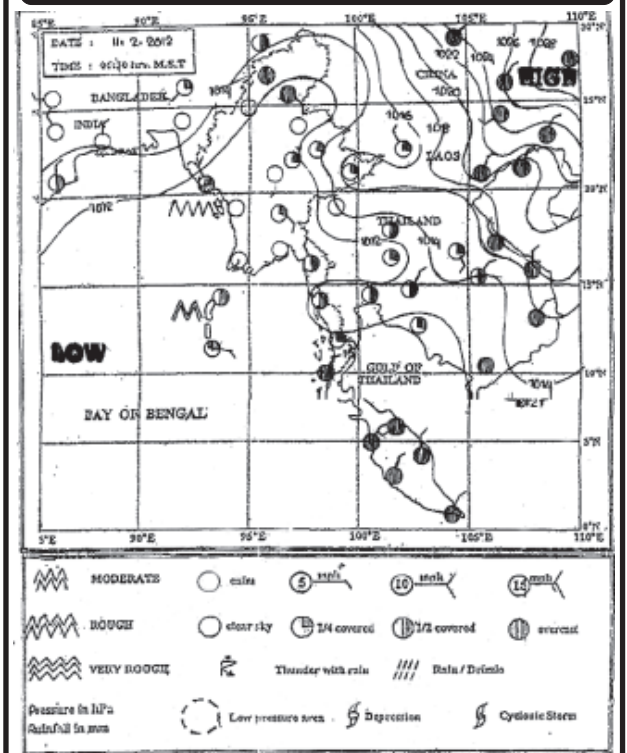
Oversea Transmission

- * News
- * A New Nation With New Strength (Progressive Images) (Regions) (Part - I)
- * News
- * A New Nation With New Strength (Progressive Images) (Regions) (Part - II)
- * News
- * Eternal Beauties of the Union
- * News
- * Sky Net and DFL Bundesliga Football Event
- * News
- * MI People's Celebrities "Eating in Style"
- * A Journey to Shan Plateau
- * News
- * Music Gallery
- * The Beauty of Zwegabin and Livelihood of Kayin National
- * News
- * A Trip to the City of Rakkhita, Rakhine
- * News
- * Kayah Traditional Museum
- * Myanmar Movies "Servant of Love"

MYANMAR TV

(12-2-2012) (Sunday)

- 6:45 am
- 1. 65th Anniversary Union Day Ceremony (Live Broadcast)
- 7:55 am
- 2. Teleplay
- 8:50 am
- 3. International News
- 11:20 am
- 4. Round Up Of The Week's International News
- 11:30 pm
- 5. TV Drama Series
- 12:30 am
- 6. Myanmar Movies
- 2:40 pm
- 7. Musical Programme
- 4:05 pm
- 8. Musical Programme
- 4:30 pm
- 9. 2012 University Entrance Examination (Myanmar)
- 5:10 pm
- 10. 65th Anniversary Union Day Programme
- 5:20 pm
- 11. Sing & Enjoy
- 6:00 pm
- 12. Evening News
- 8:00 pm
- 13. News
- 14. Cartoon Series
- 15. TV Drama Series

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas**Weather forecast for 12th February, 2012**

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/°F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	29/84	15/59	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
2	Kayah	31/88	11/52	Generally fair weather	
3	Kayin	37/99	19/66	Generally fair weather	
4	Chin	20/68	07/45	Generally fair weather	
5	Upper Sagaing	31/88	11/52	Partly Cloudy	
6	Lower Sagaing	35/95	16/61	Generally fair weather	
7	Taninthayi	34/93	23/73	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
8	Bago	35/95	18/64	Generally fair weather	
9	Magway	37/99	16/61	Generally fair weather	
10	Mandalay	36/97	17/63	Partly Cloudy	
11	Mon	37/99	22/72	Generally fair weather	
12	Yangon	36/97	19/66	Partly Cloudy	
13	Rakhine	31/88	18/64	Partly Cloudy	
14	Southern Shan	28/82	11/52	Generally fair weather	
15	Northern Shan	30/86	05/41	Generally fair weather	
16	Eastern Shan	31/88	09/48	Generally fair weather	
17	Ayeyawady	35/93	21/70	Partly Cloudy	
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	36/97	17/63	Partly Cloudy	
19	Neighbouring Yangon	36/97	19/66	Partly Cloudy	
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	36/97	17/63	Partly Cloudy	
Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today		During the past (24) hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Taninthayi Region and Kachin State and weather have been partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above February average temperatures in Mandalay Region, Kachin, Southern Shan and Rakhine States and about February average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant night temperatures were Namhsan (3°C), Heho (5°C), Lashio and Pindlaung (6°C) each. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Myeik (0.59) inch.			
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		Generally fair in the whole country.			

DISTRICT NEWS**Fire prevention taken in PyinOoLwin**

of inspecting private fuel stations, giving talks on danger of fire and demonstrating fire drill.

Head of Township Fire Services Department U Tun Tun Soe and officials inspected Ma Cho-Mee Mee fuel station in Ward 6 of the township on 20 January.

Kyemon

Agricultural loans disbursed

PYAPON, 11 Feb—Ayeyawady Green Land Development Co Ltd disbursed loans to Aung Hsu Paing Agricultural Production Society for the second time in Pyapon Township at the office of Township Rice Industry Association on 6 February.

Officials presented gifts to three farmers who soonest repaid loans to the company.

The company presented K 50,000 each to 48 farmers of Kyonta Village for 178 acres of farmlands in total and K 200,000 each in advance to the farmers who will grow Palethwe hybrid paddy for purchase of 100 baskets per K 400,000.—*District IPRD*



Successful establishment of modern, developed democratic new nation calls for combination of democracy with good governance

New government, therefore, is focusing on good governance and clean government

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Feb—The following is the translation of the message of Agga Maha Thayay Sithu, Agga Maha Thiri Thudhamma U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on the occasion of the 65th Anniversary Union Day.

Esteemed national brethren,

Today is the 65th Anniversary Union Day, a day of significance engraved in the hearts of national brethren born in the Union. Now is the time of consolidation of national solidarity for perpetuity and lasting peace and prosperity of the Union. This year's Union Day is noteworthy as it is the first celebration in the time of the new Union government, an administrative hierarchy formed by the national brethren. On this auspicious occasion, I wish all the national brethren a life of ease with eternal pleasure, free from dangers and fame and fortune.

Myanmar is a Union where diverse national races have been residing in unity and amity from time immemorial. However, poor transportation resulting from topographical features of Myanmar had created barriers to connectedness among national brethren. When Myanmar fell under colonial yoke, the imperialists sowed discord among national brethren ruling highlands and mainland separately. National brethren living through thick and thin were subjected for many years to systematic divide-and-rule policy of colonialism.

Esteemed national brethren,

General Aung San and national race leaders had to exert all-out efforts during independence struggle to claim back independence both for the hilly and plain regions for lack of trust among national brethren stemming from the seeds of enmity planted by the colonialists. As national solidarity was the key requirement for independence, General Aung San with national race leaders held a conference in Panglong on 12 February, 1947 and signed Panglong Agreement.

Within one year after signing Panglong Agreement, the Union of Myanmar managed to restore the status of independent and sovereign nation on 4, January, 1948. In honour of Panglong Agreement, 12 February, 1947 was designated as Union Day and since then Union Day celebrations had been held nationwide on a grand scale annually, reaching to 65th anniversary this year.

Esteemed national brethren,

The entire national brethren showed a strong sense of comradeship but had to sacrifice lots of lives, blood and sweat on the path to independence, freeing themselves from the colonial rule. National solidarity is fundamental to safeguard the independence regained and perpetual existence of the Union. The nation will split up if national solidarity breaks up. The new government which is building new democratic nation aspired by the entire national people of the Union, attaches great importance to national consolidation and is focusing on further solidification.

The government is building motor roads, railroads and bridges to connect the inaccessible regions of national races because of difficult terrain. It is promoting education, health and socio-economic standards of national races. With frequent contacts between one and another places

and improvement in socio-economic life of national races, amicable relationship between national brethren will deepen into dynamism of Union Spirit.

Nowadays, the entire world is facing the threat of alien cultural influence and thus it is desperately needed to safeguard such national characteristics as tradition, language, literature, music and arts of our national races. To do so, national races should cherish and value each others' customs and safeguard with mutual support.

This would aid cultural development of national brethren, fostering amity, thus resulting in consolidation of Union Spirit enabling the Union stand steady in perpetuity.

It needs to build the national defence power to be strong and powerful generation after generation for liberty and territorial integrity of the State. If defence power of the nation is weak, national people will face the jungle law of superpowers. So, the entire national people need to join hands in building powerful, competent, patriotic modern armed forces.

Esteemed national brethren,

National brethren of the Union are to make joint-efforts for modernization of the nation and socio-economic improvement of its people, utilizing invaluable natural resources of Myanmar.

As for national economy, the government is working hard to transform the nation into industrialized one while increasing the development momentum of agricultural sector. It is also taking measures to promote education and health standards into international level for human resources development instrumental for industrialization.

It has allowed foreign investments to create new jobs, import technical skills and accumulate capitals while encouraging production industries of local national entrepreneurs. It is taking steps to introduce pure market economy and speeding up its strides for future socio-economic development of the nation and its people and poverty alleviation.

Esteemed national brethren,

In building the democratic nation, three main pillars—legislative, executive and judicial powers are to be practiced democratically in compliance with the constitution. So, people's representatives elected by the people are amending, supplementing and revoking old laws and formulating and enacting new ones.

Successful establishment of modern, developed democratic new nation calls for combination of democracy with good governance and the new government, therefore, is focusing on good governance and clean government.

The rule of law is of crucial importance to establishment of democratic nation. All the citizens including those personalities, organizations and staff enforcing rule of law are to abide by law. As for the rule of law, the government is protecting every citizen to be able to enjoy equal rights while strengthening the judicial pillar.

Democracy means recognition of the importance of each individual, and reciprocal respect and appreciation

of each other national races conveys the essence of democracy. There may be uniqueness of intelligence and psychological characteristics in the individual, but democracy brings about greatly fruitful results out of those different concepts and opinions. National brethren are to strive for conceptual and intellectual maturity and participate in democratization process for the success of democracy.

Esteemed national brethren,

The new government is holding peace talks with armed groups with great devotion to secure eternal peace. Participation of the entire national people is sorely needed to bring internal armed conflicts to an end and build lasting peace and in nation-building endeavours.

There may be different points of view in practicing democracy, but all are to cooperatively work for matters of common concern in the interests of the nation. The entire national people will be overjoyed to see democratic contest in elections and equal participation in State's affairs. The new Union government has opened the door of peace, holding out the olive branch.

Esteemed national brethren,

Since its holding of the office, the new government has granted amnesty to prisoners of different prisons for four times with the aim of ensuring stability of the State and building eternal peace, enabling all to participate in political process, considering humanitarianism, and making them understand benevolence and goodwill of the government and turn over a new leaf playing a part in building the new nation. It can be seen that the new government is showing respects to people's voices and fulfilling their aspirations.

Esteemed national brethren,

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar as a modern, developed, new democratic nation will be standing tall as a responsible member of the global family, actively cooperating with international and regional organizations including the United Nations.

In response to the aspiration of the entire national people, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar is introducing democracy with notable success. Democracy will grow stronger and stronger depending on maturity, time and participation of the national people. We are determined to keep on promoting democracy peacefully.

Therefore, all the national people of the Union, beginning 65th Anniversary Union Day, have to love own nationality and country more than ever. We need to cultivate harmonious relationship with every members of the global family. Moreover, we have to eliminate reliance-on-foreign countries attitude and build the nation stronger and stronger with faith in internal strength. I, in all seriousness, would like to urge the entire national people to join hands with genuine Union Spirit in harmony for everlasting existence of peaceful and prosperous democratic new nation in accordance with the objectives of this year's Union Day.

Beauty of Union



KO MYANMAR

Honouring the 65th Anniversary Union Day

POEM

A chorus of amity and unity

- * Cold season in the silver mists
Colourful blooms of Myanmar
In the hearts of people
Ever flourishing Panglong spirit
A springboard to national unity
- * Anywhere in Union
Prevailing the sense of amity

PAGES 8+9 MYINMU MAUNG NAING MOE (TRS)

Ayeyawady Bridge (Magway) linking east bank and west bank of Ayeyawady River



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Isner shocks Federer in Davis Cup; US leads 2-0



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