

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Monday, 20 February, 2012

## Our Three Main National Causes

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

## President U Thein Sein attends concluding of summer paddy cultivation on 369-acre farmland in Pyinmana Township

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Feb—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein attended the concluding of summer paddy cultivation on 369-acre farmland in Alyinlo Village, Pyinmana Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area this morning.

It was also attended by Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan, Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing, Union Minister for Cooperatives and for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint, Deputy Minister for Commerce Dr Pwint Hsan, Nay Pyi Taw Council Member U Myint Shwe, Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives, departmental heads, President U Win Aung of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Vice-President of the federation U Hla Maung Shwe, Chairman U Chit Khaing of Myanmar Rice Industry Association, vice-chairmen and executives of the association, Chairman of Central Cooperatives Association U Khin Maung Aye, CEOs of rice dealing companies, farmers and locals.

Union Minister U Myint Hlaing explained cultivation of Palehwe hybrid rice plants on 369-acre farmland owned by farmers of

Alyinlo Village. General Secretary of Myanmar Rice Industry Association Director of Ayeya Hintha Co explained strong market potential of Palehwe hybrid paddy, and prepaid purchase of rice from farmers and construction of modern rice mill in Nay Pyi Taw. Two local farmers reported on assistance of the government for agricultural development.

The President said it is encouraging to see active contribution of Agriculture and Irrigation Ministry, related ministries, Myanmar Rice Industry Association and rice dealing companies for agricultural development of the country. Myanmar is still an agro-based nation. Although industrialization alone can ensure modernization, the nation still has to rely on agriculture for the meantime. Changes are needed for development of agricultural sector as the old conventional methods would not produce the better results.

The President emphasized that it needs to change our mind first and better changes will occur in consequence. In the past, Myanmar was the biggest rice exporter in Asia but now it exports a small volume. Thailand and Vietnam which are smaller than our country in size are exporting sheer



**President U Thein Sein views paddy nurseries for the 100-acre advanced mechanized farm in Tegyigon Region in Zabuthiri Township.—MNA**

quantity of rice which is gaining popularity in international market thanks to their superior quality. Our country has moderate climate, blessed with water resources and fertile soil. It needs to take actions for exportation of rice apart from

food sufficiency.

Sufficiency of food, clothing and shelter are important for the life of an individual. Clothing and shelter are not matters of daily concern but food is. Now, the world population has hit 7000 million, but the size of the world remains unchanged, calling for two to three times increased production of food for growing population.

He stressed the need of material change in addition to spiritual change. It is difficult to measure the exact area of farmland across the nation because of their different shapes. It needs actions for farmland reforms for agricultural development. In so doing, it needs to pave production road and irrigation canals are to be dug on both sides of the production road so that irrigation water can be provided to the farmlands. Only standardized farmlands are reclaimed beside the production road, can the measurement of farmland be accurate and cultivation can be made easily with farming equipment.

To remedy scarcity of farm

workers, it is needed to transform into mechanized farming, the President said. Conventional cultivation and harvesting by man power cost much with relatively greater wastage, he said. With the wastage of six baskets per acre, it is a great deal for 17 million acres of the entire country, he pointed out. Cultivation and harvesting by machines reduce the cost by half and give pure paddy with less wastage, he went on.

The President underscored the need to sow quality paddy strains. While some countries are yielding 200 baskets per acre, the nation still have to content with the yield of about 60 or 70 baskets per acre on average, he said. He highlighted the importance of growing hybrid paddy, with higher yield, better taste and wider foreign market. Only with the change in attitude, land reform, transformation to mechanized farming and growing high-yield quality strains, will the agricultural sector be developed, he said.

(See page 8)



**The concluding of summer paddy cultivation on 369-acre farmland in Alyinlo Village, Pyinmana Township in progress.—MNA**

## PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 20 February, 2012

### A simple and perfect exercise

Normally, jogging is running slowly which is beneficial especially to older people as running for long hours may hurt their joints. Jogging, in fact, is an exercise whose benefits are far more than the financial cost.

Another advantage for senior citizens is that jogging needs lesser efforts when compared with running. It is really simple and most suitable for many especially the deskbound people.

Regular jogging can make the heart stronger, control body weight, build stamina, decrease stress, and decelerate aging. Although it uses energy and needs efforts, jogging can make people feel physically vigilant and can keep their spirit up in their daily work.

As muscles are using more oxygen while running slowly and steadily, jogging improves strength or endurance. Better endurance is attained when the lungs are able to take in more oxygen for the blood to pump.

Apart from keeping mental problems including anxiety, depression and stress at bay, jogging can also prevent dreadful syndromes as

diabetes, hypertension and heart attack and also obesity which actually is their source.

A comprehensive knowledge of jogging is that it has the power of significantly reducing stress and clearing worries. As jogging or running relieves stress which is one of the causes of cancers, some research report even say that it can prevent cancer risks mainly breast cancer. Other cancer risks like lung cancer, ovarian cancer and prostate cancer can also be reduced through jogging.

So, nothing in this world will be more beneficial for us than refreshing ourselves with a revitalizing jogging in the morning or evening.

## Union Information and Culture Minister addresses 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of IPRD and awards outstanding staff



*Union Information and Culture Minister U Kyaw Hsan delivering an address at 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the Information and Public Relations Department.*

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Feb—Information and Public Relations Department of the Ministry of Information celebrated its 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary at the auditorium of the Ministry of Information here today, with an address by Union Information and Culture Minister U Kyaw Hsan.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Information Minister U Soe Win, Deputy Culture Minister Daw Sanda Khin, directors-general, managing directors and officials of the two ministries, deputy directors and assistant directors from region and state Information and Public Relations Departments, award winners of Dohkyaeywa Journal short stories contest and staff.

Speaking on the occasion, Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan urged the staff to serve the interests of the nation, department concerned with a refreshed mind and renewed energy. He said staff are to review the weakness and strength of the old year, to stimulate the strengths and to reduce the weaknesses. They are to seek both for self-improvement and development of the department through fair competition.

He added that it was encouraging that intra-department competitions were held last year. He cheered up the award winners and called for further efforts in the years to come. He said that the ministry would also encourage the improvement-seeking competition in connection with the works of the ministry.

He continued that the government now is building new democratic nation and striving for national development as aspired the people, socio-economic development of each and every family, lawful and free livelihood of the public and stability of all the regions across the nation.

However, he went on that the road to these goals is not paved with flowers but with a lot of thorns left by internal and external elements. So, all the staff are to actively cooperate with nationalistic will to realize the objectives of the government, serving the interests of the entire people.

The overall analysis of the works of the Information and Public Relations Department in 2011-2012 fiscal year showed satisfactory results as the department had tried its

organizations, and staff of the Information and Public Relations Department. He called for improvement in both form and essence of Dohkyaeywa Journal.

He repeated the objectives of the IPRD for 2012 year, which are, to safeguard the constitution with the help of media; to strive utmost for establishment of modern, developed, discipline-flourishing democratic nation with the use of media; to cooperate with Myanmar Libraries foundation for sustainable development of self-reliant rural libraries; to disseminate political, economic, education, health, and agricultural knowledge to rural folks through far-and-wide distribution of Dohkyaeywa Journal; to assist every village to have access to newspaper, MRTV and radio programmes; district and township IPRDs are to inform policies and measures of the government and report the feedback of the public; to enhance administrative, coordination and public relations skills of the staff; to help rural socio-economic development scheme succeed; to focus on agricultural and livestock farming for welfare of the staff.

In conclusion, he urged the staff to keep on working hard for the accomplishment of objectives of the department and State. He then presented prizes to outstanding civil servant award winner staff officer Daw Myint Than Oo from Loikaw District of Kayah State, Mawlamyine District IPRD which won model district IPRD award, and Pinlebu Township IPRD which won model township IPRD award.

Next, Deputy Ministers U Soe Win and Daw Sanda Khin awarded winners in Dohkyaeywa Journal short stories contest and outstanding staff. Director-General of Information and Public Relations Department U Ye Htut presented cash assistance to staff of the department, followed by prize-presentation to outstanding staff, trainees and award winners in photo contest.

After the ceremony, Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan cordially greeted the literati and staff and viewed the documentary photos and prize-winning photos on display.

MNA



*Union Information and Culture Minister U Kyaw Hsan awards Staff Officer Daw Aye Mya Mon of Information and Public Relations Department of the Ministry of Information.*

MNA

utmost to safeguard the constitution with the help of media, mobilize the public with the use of media for establishment of modern, developed, discipline-flourishing democratic nation and for sustainable development of self-reliant rural libraries, said the Union Minister.

He continued that, of above 50,000 libraries have been opened till the December, 2011, 32582 meet five-point standard and have been successful. He called for development of the remaining libraries in 2012-2013 year. He called for cultivation of reading habit, adding that regions and states would see 42 reading habit promotion activities and book donations in 2012.

He went on that measures for long lifespan of rural libraries are taken with strength of regional departments concerned, locals, wellwishers and

### Muse gets new library

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Feb—Pinnya Beikman Library was opened in Namoum village of Muse Township in Muse District in Shan State (North) on 12 February.

The deputy commissioner of Muse District, the staff officer of Muse District Information and Public Relations Department and the administrator of Namoum village formally opened the library.

An official presented K 1 million funded by the government to the library and wellwishers donated cash to the library which was built with the fund of above 2.9 million.—MNA

## Iranian warships enter Mediterranean

TEHERAN, 19 Feb—Two Iranian warships sailed through the Suez Canal Saturday into the Mediterranean Sea, Iranian naval officials said. CNN said it is not clear where the destroyer and supply ship are headed.

Iranian navy Rear Adm Habibollah Sayyari was quoted by Iran's semiofficial Mehr news agency as saying

"the navy's 18th fleet will in the best way carry the message of peace and friendship to regional countries, and display the might of the country and the sacred system of the Islamic Republic of Iran."

Egypt, which has sovereignty over the Suez Canal, is bound by the 1978 Camp David Accords, which

guarantee the right of free passage by ships belonging to Israel and all other nations on the basis of the Constantinople Convention of 1888, CNN said.

Tensions between Israel and Iran are high amid speculation Israel could stage a pre-emptive against Iran's suspected nuclear weapons programme.—Internet



India's National Security Guards (NSG) soldiers participate in a drill during the inauguration of an NSG Hub in Kolkata, India, on 18 Feb, 2012. The Indian government has taken initiative to set up regional hubs for Indian National Security Guards, the elite commando force, at Mumbai, Hyderabad, Chennai and Kolkata after the terrorist attack on Mumbai in 2008.

INTERNET

Israel's Chief of the IDF General Staff Benny Gantz.  
INTERNET



JERUSALEM, 19 Feb—Israel will ultimately decree on an Iranian strike on its own, its military chief of staff said in an interview broadcast on Saturday, as a senior US official arrived for talks on the Islamic Republic.

## Israel will make own decision on Iran, says army chief

"Israel is the central guarantor of its own security; this is our role as army, the State of Israel should defend itself," Lieutenant General Benny Gantz told state-owned Channel One TV. "We must follow the developments in Iran and its nuclear project, but in a very broad manner, taking into account what the world is doing, what Iran decided, what we will do or not do," he said.

In recent weeks, there has been feverish speculation that Israel was getting closer to mounting a pre-emptive strike on Iran's nuclear programme, though Israel has denied reaching such a decision. Tensions between Iran and Israel have been simmering with Iranian warships entering the Mediterranean through the Suez Canal in a show of "might", a move Israel said it would closely monitor.

On Wednesday, Iran said it had installed another 3,000 centrifuges to increase its uranium enrichment abilities and was stepping up exploration and processing of uranium yellowcake. And Israel blamed a recent wave of attacks targeting Israeli diplomats on agents of Teheran, allegations Iran denies.

Internet

## Warrant issued for fifth Bangkok bombing suspect

BANGKOK, 19 Feb—The South Bangkok Criminal Court Saturday night approved a police request to issue an arrest warrant of a Middle East man believed to have been involved in the three bomb explosions in a business district of Bangkok on 17 February, local media INN reported on Sunday.

According to Pol Col Sunthorn Khemaprapa, deputy chief of Metropolitan Police Division 5, the suspect, who was not yet identified, was charged with illegally assembling bombs, illegally having explosives in possession, and causing explosions that hurt other people.

Pol Col Sunthorn said there had not been enough evidence to confirm whether the fifth suspect was identified as Nikkhahfard Javad, who reportedly left the country on 14 February.

The camera captured images of the fifth suspect walking from the rented house at Sukhumvit 71's Soi Pridi Panomyong 31 where the first bomb exploded.

Thailand's Criminal Court on last Thursday issued arrest warrants for four Iranians on various charges related to Tuesday's Bangkok bomb incidents.—Xinhua

## NATO helicopter allegedly crashes in Afghanistan

KABUL, 19 Feb—A NATO helicopter might have fallen down in the eastern part of Afghanistan on Saturday, said a statement mailed to Xinhua by the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF).

"We are aware of the claims that a helicopter crashed somewhere along the border region between Kabul and Laghman provinces today. ISAF officials are

looking into those claims at this time, however we have no operational reports to indicate that any ISAF aircraft have been lost," the ISAF Joint Command (JIC) said in the statement.

Meanwhile, an official with the Press department of Afghan Interior Ministry told Xinhua that "A unit of our police reported that a military helicopter crashed in eastern Laghman Province on

Saturday but at this moment of time I cannot provide more details." He said more information will be released to media when appropriate.

Six American soldiers with the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) were killed when a military helicopter went down in southern Helmand Province on 19 January.

Xinhua

Taliban fighters attend a surrendering ceremony in western Afghan province of Herat, on 18 Feb, 2012. A total 20 Taliban fighters surrendered here on Saturday, a provincial police source said.—XINHUA



## Turkey: NATO radar data not shared

ANKARA, 19 Feb—Turkey says it will not share information from a NATO radar installation aimed at Iran with countries that do not belong to the alliance.

Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu made the statement after a meeting on Friday with Anders Fogh Rasmussen, the secretary general of NATO, Voice of America reported. Turkish news media had reported that the United States allegedly shared information obtained from the radar installation with Israel, which does not belong to NATO.

Turkey "will never allow any third country to use any NATO facility," Davutoglu said. Rasmussen said all NATO installations are primarily intended to protect members.

Rasmussen was in Ankara to mark the 60th anniversary of Turkey's membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The two men also discussed Syria and an upcoming NATO summit on Afghanistan scheduled to be held in May in Chicago.—Internet



Afghan children carry goods while walking in snow covered streets in Kabul, capital of Afghanistan on 18 Feb, 2012. Continued freezing weather, snowfall and cold-related diseases have claimed the lives of 10 children in Badakhshan Province, 315 km northeast of Kabul over the past two days, a local official said on Friday.—XINHUA

## 15 killed, 21 wounded in suicide bomb attack in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 19 Feb—At least 15 people were killed and 21 others wounded in a suicide bomb attack on a police academy in eastern Baghdad on Sunday, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua.

The attack took place in the afternoon when a suicide bomber blew up his explosive vest at the entrance of the police academy in Palestine Street in eastern Baghdad, the source said on condition of anonymity.

The powerful blast destroyed several police and civilian vehicles at the scene, the source said.

The toll could rise as ambulances, police and civilian cars evacuated the casualties to different hospitals and medical centers in Baghdad, the source added.

Violence and sporadic high-profile bomb attacks are still common in Iraqi cities despite the sharp decrease of violence over the past few years.

Xinhua

## Experts delay call on releasing controversial H5N1 work



Research into the H5N1 virus has to be carried out in highly controlled conditions.— INTERNET

LONDON, 19 Feb — Experts have delayed a decision on whether controversial research into the H5N1 bird flu virus should be released. It had been looking at how the work could be released while guarding against its abuse by bioterrorists. But talks at the World Health Organization in Geneva decided more discussions were needed to see if it could be possible to publish in full. One of the two journals which want to publish has already agreed to wait for talks to be complete.

The controversy is centred on two research papers—one of which was submitted

to *Science*, the other to another leading journal, *Nature*, last year. They showed that the H5N1 virus could relatively easily mutate into a form that could spread rapidly among the human population. The studies prompted the US National Security Advisory Board for Biotechnology (NSABB) to ask both journals last November to redact some sensitive parts of the research, which it believed could be used by terrorists to develop such a virus.—*Internet*

## PIP implants: Over 2,800 referred for NHS care

LONDON, 19 Feb — More than 2,800 women with privately fitted PIP breast implants have been referred to the NHS in England, according to government figures.

These are women whose private clinics have either refused to remove the implants, or whose clinic no longer exists. More than 1,100 women have had their implants scanned. Only a small number have decided to have them removed so far.

The NHS is acting as a “last resort” for women with



The implants were manufactured by the French company Poly Implant Prothese (PIP).— INTERNET

privately fitted PIP implants.

If there is a medical need, which includes distress, and the patient cannot receive an operation from their private

company, the NHS will step in to remove, but not replace, the implant. Figures from the Department of Health show that 455 of the 2,860 women referred have decided not to have PIP implants removed by the NHS after meeting a specialist.

Sixty seven have decided to have them removed, and 12 of these operations have taken place so far.

Women who had PIP implants fitted by the NHS will have them removed and replaced by the health service. Figures show 741 women had implants fitted by the NHS, largely for reconstruction after breast cancer.

Doctors have contact 653 of the patients, 17 have decided to have the operation and one had been completed so far.

—*Internet*

## Woman dies after contracting Legionnaires' disease from dentist's office

ROME, 19 Feb — An 82-year-old Italian woman died after she contracted Legionnaires' disease, a severe, pneumonia-like illness, from the water in her dentist's office, according to a case report published in the journal *The Lancet*. Scientists



Doctors on Friday reported the first known case of Legionnaire's disease, a rare infection usually linked to faulty air conditioning and hot-water systems, that was caused by a visit to the dentist.— INTERNET

who determined the source of the woman's illness, which occurred in February 2011, said during the disease's incubation period the woman only left her home twice to visit her dentist. When they tested the water in both places, they discovered the bacteria that causes Legionnaires' in the dentist's water line.

Water lines carry water from the main water supply to certain devices used during patient care. While the authors wrote the most common sources of infection are air conditioning systems, hot water systems, spas and fountains, a recent study found dental water lines to be another major source of contamination with *Legionella* bacteria. *Legionella pneumophila* is the bacterial strain that causes Legionnaires' disease. “However, as far as we are aware, no case of Legionnaires' disease has been associated with this source of infection,” added the authors, led by Maria Luisa Ricci of the Italian National Health Service. While it was not clear what kind of water line standards were in place in Italy, in the US, the American Dental Association (ADA) said infection control standards are very stringent in order to prevent cases like the one in Italy from happening.—*Internet*



## Ex-Google CEO Schmidt to sell up to 2.4m shares

SAN FRANCISCO, 19 Feb — Former Google CEO Eric Schmidt plans to sell up to 2.4 million shares of stock currently worth nearly \$1.5 billion. Schmidt, now Google's executive chairman, intends to stagger the sales of the stock over a one-year period. Google disclosed

Schmidt's plans in a Friday regulatory filing. The company said Schmidt, 56, is trying to raise some money and diversify his investment portfolio.

If all 2.4 million shares of stock are sold, that will reduce Schmidt's stake in Google Inc from 2.8 percent to 2.1 percent. Those sales are scheduled to be completed in 2015.

some of his shares comes 10 months after he ended his 10-year stint as Google's CEO and turned the job over to one of the Internet search leader's co-founders, Larry Page. Page and co-founder Sergey Brin filed plans to sell 5 million Google shares apiece in 2010. Those sales are scheduled to be completed in 2015.

Together, Page, Brin and Schmidt hold the majority of shareholder voting power at Google. They will retain that control even after they reduce their stakes. All three have been billionaires since Google went public in 2004. Google shares fell \$1.88 Friday to close at \$604.64. The company disclosed Schmidt's plans to lower his holdings after the stock market closed. The shares fell 44 cents after hours.—*Internet*

## Iceland debt 'safe to invest' after ratings upgrade

LONDON, 19 Feb — Iceland is safe to invest in again, according to Fitch, which has upgraded its credit rating three years after its economy spectacularly collapsed. Fitch raised Iceland's sovereign rating by one notch, to BBB+ from BB+, meaning that the country's debt is now “investment grade”. Iceland's economy imploded under a mountain of debt in 2008, forcing an International Monetary Fund bailout. Since then, the debts of its neighbours have sparked a crisis in the eurozone.

Fitch said the decision “reflects the progress that has been made in restoring macroeconomic stability, pushing ahead with structural reform and rebuilding sovereign creditworthiness”. In 2008, its three banks failed under their enormous foreign debt, which at one point was larger than the Icelandic economy. The value of the Icelandic krona plunged, which made its exports more competitive. The new government of 2009 was allowed to carry on borrowing and spending for another year before spending cuts kicked in. That is in contrast to the



austerity measures that have been imposed on Greece, Portugal and the Irish Republic since their respective bailouts. All those countries share the euro and so cannot devalue their currencies. Last month, Fitch downgraded five eurozone countries, including Italy and Spain, citing

Fishing products make up 70% of Iceland's exports.—INTERNET

financial weakness during the debt crisis. Standard & Poor's agency had downgraded nine eurozone economies, including France. And Moody's this week put the UK on “negative outlook”, implying a 30% chance of losing its AAA credit rating within 18 months.—*Internet*

## London Metal Exchange gets “good number” of first-round bids



Men walk past the London Metal Exchange (LME) in London.—INTERNET

## London Metal Exchange gets “good number” of first-round bids

LONDON, 19 Feb — The London Metal Exchange (LME) has received a good number of first-round bids for the 130-year-old bourse, the world's largest metals market place, an LME spokesman said on Friday. Separate sources familiar with the situation said the list includes NYSE/Euronext. Around half of the 15 or so parties that had shown interest in the LME had made initial offers. “Everything is on track with a good number of bids for the board to consider next week,” an LME spokesman said.

The LME board meets on 23 February. *The Financial Times* newspaper reported that the CME Group had also made an offer. The CME declined to comment. Sources said potential suitor Deutsche Boerse had decided not to bid and that the London Stock Exchange was also unlikely to make an offer. NYSE Euronext, Deutsche Boerse and the LSE declined to comment. European antitrust regulators scotched an attempt by Deutsche Boerse to buy NYSE Euronext earlier this month on concern it would create a dominant player in European listed derivatives.—*Internet*

## Violent videogame boosts vision in some adults

VANCOUVER, 19 Feb — Playing a videogame that involves shooting enemies on a battlefield has helped some adults who were born with a rare eye disorder improve their vision later in life, scientists said on Friday. The research shows that some sensory abilities that may seem permanently impaired can be improved in adulthood, according to lead investigator Daphne Maurer of McMaster University in Canada. Maurer and colleagues

followed children born with a rare cataract disorder in both eyes that required surgery and corrective contacts. All were deprived of normal vision as infants between three and 10 months.

As these children grew to adults, their vision improved but never reached 20/20, and they showed some deficits in face perception, sharpness, direction of motion, peripheral and binocular vision. Since previous research on people with certain eye disorders had

shown improvements after playing a type of videogame known as a first-person shooter, in which the player wields a gun and blows up foes, Maurer decided to try it on her subjects.

Six patients between the ages of 19 and 31 were tracked for a period of one month, in which they played the Electronic Arts (EA) videogame "Medal of Honor" for a total of 40 hours — no more than two hours a day, five days a week.

Internet



Electronic Arts (EA) employee's demonstrate the "Medal of Honor" game at an expo in 2010.

INTERNET



## Tiny shrimp leave giant carbon footprint: scientist

WASHINGTON, 19 Feb — Measured by environmental impact, a humble shrimp cocktail could be the most costly part of a typical restaurant meal, scientists said on Friday. If the seafood is produced on a typical Asian fish farm, a 100-gram (3.5 ounce) serving "has an ecosystem carbon footprint of an astounding 198 kilograms (436 pounds) of CO<sub>2</sub>," biologist J Boone Kauffman said. A one-pound (454-gram) bag of frozen shrimp produces one ton of carbon dioxide, said Kauffman, who is based at Oregon State University and conducts research in Indonesia.

He told a meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science that he developed the comparison to help the public understand the environmental impact of land use decisions. Kauffman said 50 to 60 percent of shrimp

## Tasmanian devils' killer disease genome mapped

LONDON, 19 Feb — Researchers have sequenced the genome of the killer disease that is driving the remaining wild populations of Tasmanian devils towards extinction. They hope the genetic data will offer clues on how to suppress the spread of Devil Facial Tumour Disease (DFTD), which is transmitted via biting. Since DFTD was first recorded in 1996, populations in some areas are estimated to have declined by up to 90%. Details of the research have been published in the journal *Cell*.

DFTD refers to a fatal condition that is characterised by the appearance of facial tumours. As these develop into large cancerous growths, the animal finds it hard to eat. As it becomes weaker, it is unable to compete with other animals for food. Researchers say that affected animals appear to die within three to five months of the lesions first appearing. —Internet



The contagious cancer has led to the devil population declining by up to 90% in some areas.

INTERNET



Shrimp moves along a production line at a frozen seafood company in 2010.

INTERNET

farms are located in tidal zones in Asian countries, mostly on cleared mangrove forests. "The carbon footprint of the shrimp from this land use is about 10-fold greater than the land use carbon footprint of an equivalent amount of beef produced from a pasture formed from a tropical rainforest," wrote Kauffman in a paper released to AFP, not including emissions from farm development, feeds, supplements, processing, storing and shipping. —Internet

## Google cookies 'bypassed Safari privacy protection'

WASHINGTON, 19 Feb — Google has been accused of bypassing the privacy settings of users of the Safari web-browser. *The Wall Street Journal* said Google and other companies had worked around privacy settings designed to restrict cookies. Cookies are small text files stored by browsers which can record information about online activity, and help some online services work.

However Google says the story "mischaracterises" what happened. Advertisers can use cookies to track online behaviour, helping them to target the commercials they show to internet users. Some think this use of cookies erodes online privacy. In May, European Union laws are due to come into force which will restrict the use of advertising cookies. But cookies are also essential to some web services like those Google offers.

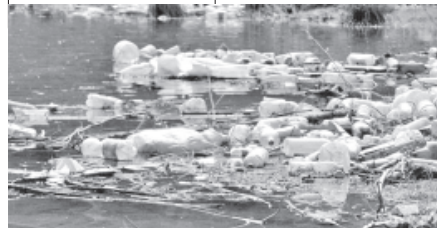
The Safari browser is produced by Apple, and is the browser used by the iPhone. By default Safari only allows cookies to be stored by the web page a user is visiting, not from third parties such as advertisers. However, Stanford University researcher Jonathan Mayer found that advertisers were still able to store cookies on the computers of Internet users browsing with Safari. —Internet



Google says it has now started removing the advertising cookies in question from Safari browsers. —INTERNET



Will the new process save the planet? Or wind up destroying it? —INTERNET



AMSTERDAM, 19 Feb — It should come as no surprise to learn that the world is over reliant on petroleum, from the gas we put in cars to the plastic bags we take groceries home in. We're still trying to figure out how to make electric cars popular, but scientists at

## Dutch researchers invent a process to turn plants into plastics

Utrecht University in the Netherlands may have solved the plastic bag half of the problem, creating an innovative new process that turns plant material to plastic. Being able to convert plants to plastic isn't new, but the ability to make the

conversion cheaply and efficiently is. The new technology uses a new type of iron nanoparticle catalyst to synthesize ethylene and propylene, the basic components of most modern plastics, from plant material.

This means that just about everything we use with plastic in our daily lives, from cars to paint, could one day come from a 100% renewable source. And since the process uses waste products such as branches and grass clippings, this new method of making plastic doesn't need to compete with the food supply for acreage.

The innovation isn't all good news, however — it has its share of environmental critics. Converting biomass to plastic means you're creating a new non-biodegradable product, potentially adding to landfills if people don't recycle. Further, there's concern that companies may be tempted to raze endangered-animal-filled rainforests for the purposes of gathering more biomass and creating new fast-growing grass fields for harvest.

Internet

## Microsoft rolls out a dramatically different logo for Windows 8

NEW YORK, 19 Feb — Announced on Microsoft's The Windows Blog earlier today, the software company has officially announced the redesigned logo for Windows 8 after it was leaked on a Chinese site on Monday. While the colour scheme is different than the leaked version, the design is definitely the same. Designed to emulate the Metro style of Windows 8, the monochromatic logo is much simpler than the Windows 7 logo which was previously

mistaken for a flag according to the blog.

As explained by Samuel Moreau, the User Experience Director at Microsoft, he states "We wanted the new logo to be both modern and classic by echoing the International Typographic Style (or Swiss design) that has been a great influence on our Metro style design philosophy. Using bold flat colours and clean lines and shapes, the new logo has the characteristics of way-finding design systems seen



in airports and subways." Moreau continues "It was important that the new logo carries our Metro principle of being "Authentically Digital". By that, we mean it does not try to emulate faux-industrial design characteristics such as

materiality (glass, wood, plastic, etc.). It has motion — aligning with the fast and fluid style you'll find throughout Windows 8. Our final goal was for the new logo to be humble, yet confident. Welcoming you in with a slight tilt in perspective and when you change your colour, the logo changes to reflect you. It is a "Personal" Computer after all."

The logo most closely resembles the Windows 1.0 logo released in conjunction with the first version of the operating system during 1985.

Internet



## Chinese VP arrives in Ireland

BEIJING, 19 Feb—Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping has arrived in Shannon, a scenic city in Ireland for a three-day visit.

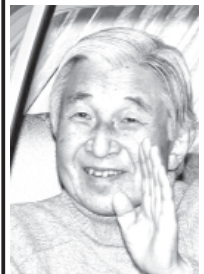
In a written statement delivered at the airport, Xi Jinping said his visit aims to strengthen bilateral relations.

He added that over the past 33 years since China and Ireland established diplomatic ties relations have progressed smoothly on the basis of mutual respect setting an example of friendly co-existence between countries different in size social systems and cultural traditions.

Xi Jinping is scheduled to meet with Irish President Michael Higgins and hold talks with Prime Minister Enda Kenny.—Xinhua

**Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping (L) and Ireland's DPM Eamon Gilmore (C) meets with a bagpiper during a visit to Bunratty Castle, Ireland.—INTERNET**

## Japanese emperor's heart surgery successful



**Japanese Emperor Akihito**

TOKYO, 19 Feb—Japanese Emperor Akihito's heart bypass surgery operated on Saturday was successful, according to the Imperial Household Agency.

The coronary-artery bypass surgery was aimed to improve the life quality for the 78-year-old emperor, according to his doctors.

The surgery was conducted by a team of doctors from the University of Tokyo Hospital and Juntendo University Hospital. The emperor entered the hospital on Friday morning and is expected to be able to leave hospital in two weeks.

The emperor was earlier diagnosed with angina after an angiogram performed last Saturday.

Xinhua

## Former Chinese president's works published in foreign languages

BEIJING, 19 Feb—The second volume of the selected works by former Chinese president Jiang Zemin has been published in five foreign languages by China's Foreign Languages Press.

Versions in English, French, Russian, Spanish and Japanese, translated by the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Compilation and Translation Bureau, are now available. The second volume included Jiang's important works from 12 Sept, 1997, to 1 Feb, 2000. The Chinese version of Jiang's works has already been published by China's People's Publishing House in 2006.

Foreign versions of the first volume of the three-volume works were published in February 2010, and the last volume will be released later.

Xinhua

## Obama: 'Big opportunity' for US economy

EVERETT, 19 Feb—US President Barack Obama said Saturday "we have a big opportunity right now" to build the economy and improve economic security for the middle class.

In his weekly radio and Internet address — taped Friday at the Boeing Coplant in Everett, Wash. — the president called the aviation giant's Dreamliner "a great example of how we can bring jobs and manufacturing back to America."

Obama said job outsourcing and technology that has "made businesses more efficient and productive" has also resulted in the loss of jobs that "provided a decent living" for US families. "And the hard truth is that a lot of those jobs aren't coming back," he said.

"But that doesn't mean we have to settle for a lesser future," the President said.

"I don't accept that idea. In America, there's always something we can do to create new jobs and new manufacturing and new

security for the middle class. In America, we don't give up, we get up."

The President noted US businesses have added 3.7 million new jobs during the past 23 months, "and manufacturers are hiring for the first time since the 1990s."

"It's now getting more expensive to do business in places like China," he said. "Meanwhile, America is

more productive than ever.

"We have a big opportunity right now to build not only an economy that will help us succeed today, but an economy that will help our kids and their kids succeed tomorrow. We know what we need to do. We need to strengthen American manufacturing.

We need to invest in American-made energy and new skills for American

workers.

And above all, we need to renew the values that have always made this country great: Hard work. Fair play. Shared responsibility."

The President repeated his argument for eliminating tax breaks for companies for outsourcing jobs and called for tax breaks for manufacturers "who set up shop here at home."

Internet



**US President Barack Obama speaks to Boeing Co employees in Everett, Wash, on 17 Feb, 2012. INTERNET**

## Sanctions decrease Dubai-Iran trade 'day by day'

DUBAI, 19 Feb—Export volumes from Dubai to Iran, one of the sheikhdom's largest market abroad, face major setback due to the latest UN, US and EU sanctions, the Abu Dhabi-based *The National* reported Saturday.

The daily quotes Hamad Buamim, Director General of the Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry, as saying that exports from Dubai to Iran were shrinking "day by day." Dubai has the largest container port in the Middle East, the Jebel Ali Free port, in the west of the emirates, which is considered the gateway to global goods for Iran.

Buamim added that the UN sanctions against Iran from last June and the latest sanctions imposed by Washington and Brussels are in certain aspects "not very clear," which puts additional uncertainty to export companies.

In the first half 2011, re-exports from the

United Arab Emirates (UAE) to Iran surged by 36 percent from the same period a year earlier to 19.5 billion Dirham (about 5.3 billion US dollars), according to figures provided by the UAE Customs Authority.

A major problem for Iran-oriented trade firms is financing. The UAE Central Bank told local banks in the country to stop financing trade with Teheran, and firms complain letters of credit are not issued any more, even for food and medical goods which are exempted from sanctions.

According to the report, the total value of Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry members' global exports and re-exports increased by 4.7 percent in January 2012 compared to the same month last year. "But the percentage rise is smaller than the 15 percent rise in members' exports for all of last year."—Xinhua

## 5.3-magnitude quake hits Tonga

HONG KONG, 19 Feb—An earthquake measuring 5.3 on the Richter scale jolted Tonga at 19:15:22 GMT on

Saturday, the US Geological Survey said.

The epicenter, with a depth of 34.10km, was initially

determined to be at 20.9759 degrees south latitude and 173.4972 degrees west longitude.—Xinhua

## Cameron, Sarkozy enjoy friendly summit

PARIS, 19 Feb—British Prime Minister David Cameron and French President Nicolas Sarkozy signed a nuclear power agreement Friday at a friendly summit in Paris.

Cameron even gave what appeared to be close to an endorsement of Sarkozy in the upcoming French presidential election, *The Independent* reported. The most recent polls show Sarkozy running behind Socialist Francois Hollande.

"I think that he has done great things for his country," Cameron said at a news conference with a smiling Sarkozy. "I wish my friend well in the battle that lies ahead."

Cameron, however, suggested his support might do Sarkozy more harm than good with French voters. The summit was postponed from

November, when France and Britain were divided by disagreements over European economic policy.

The agreements signed Friday include one involving the French nuclear power company Areva. That pact is expected to create hundreds of British jobs. The leaders also signed a letter of intent

for development of a more advanced military drone and agreed to move more quickly on a joint military command and control centre. Sarkozy and Cameron also said that future defence cooperation will involve nuclear equipment, including joint nuclear submarine patrols.

Internet



**French President Nicolas Sarkozy (L) greets British Prime Minister David Cameron at the Elysee Palace. INTERNET**

## Displaced people in Waingmaw Township get assistance



**Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Zaw Win donates cash to national races families from Waingmaw Township.**  
MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Feb—Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Zaw Win and Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Phone Swe together with Kachin State ministers, Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Tun Tun, Amyotha Hluttaw representatives U San Tun and U Khat Htein Nan, Secretary U Sit Myaing of Myanmar National Human Rights Commission, officials of the UN agencies and social organizations and well-wishers met displaced national races families living in Myoma Baptist Church, Origination Baptist, Lawpaw Baptist and Lawpaw AG transit camps at Myoma Baptist Church in Ward No. 2 in Waingmaw Township, Kachin State on 15 February.

Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Zaw Win said a series of Union level peace talks are being held to have full length of ceasefire and then ensure eternal peace afterwards. Along with negotiation movements, resettlement works will be carried out at the same time by the Union government and Kachin State government in order that national races people enjoy higher living standard more than ever before.

Deputy Minister U Phone Swe noted

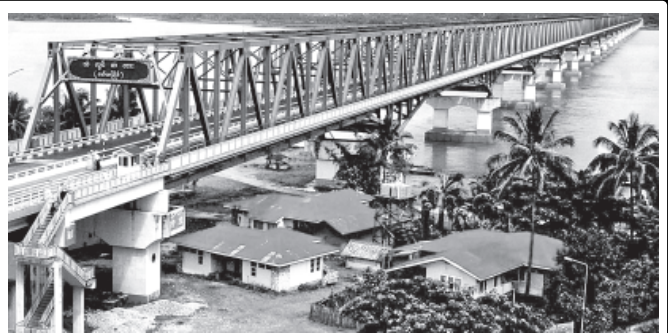
that the State government along with officials concerned and donors would reach out to those in need of socioeconomic life due to conflicts when both sides exchange olive branch.

The officials set out help programmes and measures necessary for perpetual peace of the state. The national people poured out difficulties they faced and desires.

The deputy ministers and officials presented Sky Net DTH TVs and accessories provided by the President, cash assistance by Border Affairs Ministry, SWRR Ministry and Myanmar Gems Entrepreneurs Association and ration for one month by WFP to the locals.

The deputy ministers and party viewed issuing of citizenship scrutiny cards and household registration certificates (copy) to displaced people by the Immigration and Population Ministry.

On arrival at the transit camps in Waingmaw Township, the deputy ministers and party presented Sky Net DTH TVs and accessories provided by the President, cash assistance by Border Affairs Ministry, SWRR Ministry and Myanmar Gems Entrepreneurs Association and ration for one month by WFP to the locals.—MNA



## Thanlwin River-spanning Bridge (Mawlamyine) makes the entire nation accessible to southern-most part of Myanmar

### Facts about the bridge

1. The main bridge is 7699 feet long, the approach bridge on Mawlamyine bank is 1624 feet long and on Mottama bank is 2252 feet long. The motor road is 11575 feet long in total.
2. The bridge is rail-cum-road facility and the two-lane motor road is built on rail track.
3. The bridge superstructure is made of steel truss and reinforced concrete and the foundations are of reinforced concrete bored piles.
4. It has 328 feet wide and 46 feet high clearance.
5. Construction of the bridge began on 18 March, 2000 and finished on 7, December, 2004. The bridge was commissioned into service on 5 February, 2005.



**Archive: Maung Nyein Aye**

- \* Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) is situated on Yangon-Mawlamyine-Kawthoung road.
- \* It lies between Mawlamyine, major town of Mon State and Mottama. It is built near Khausangyay Island where the river flows in torrents causing giant whirlpools.
- \* It is one of the longest bridges in Myanmar and also the first bridge in Myanmar whose bored piles are constructed with caisson type foundation method.
- \* Via Mawlamyine Bridge, one can travel from Kawthoung of Taninthayi Region in the southern-most part of the country to regions and states by car. The bridge has linked the regions and states, aiding the economic and social development of the nation.

**Translation: TKK**





**President U Thein Sein inspects 369-acre farmland in Alyinlo Village, Pyinmana Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.**

MNA

## President U Thein Sein attends concluding...

(from page 1)

Yearly rice export of the country has yet to reach one million tons, he went on with figures. He underscored the need to feed future population, saying the world is concerning about food sufficiency for increasing population and all the nations are taking measures for food security. Thus, the country should not be content with conventional agriculture and should initiate reforms, he said.

As the agricultural development gains momentum, the profits from the sector will be used in the national industrialization, he said. It means building industrial sector with agricultural sector as the base, he said. He revealed his appreciation for concerted efforts for development of agricultural sector and urged the farmers to achieve development through new ideologies, mindset and procedures.

President U Thein Sein, Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan and officials presented Palethwe hybrid paddy strains to farmers from Yangon and Bago Regions who are on the excursion.

The President and party attended concluding of Palethwe hybrid paddy cultivation at 369-acre plantation of Alyinlo village. The President and Union Minister U Myint Hlaing presented uniforms to agricultural staff and transplanters.

The President also visited 288-acre modern farm in Aungchantha village in Zabuthiri Township and viewed land reclamation and cultivation of Palethwe hybrid paddy.



**President U Thein Sein greeting local farmers at 288-acre advanced plantation in Aungchantha Village, Zabuthiri Township.—MNA**

Advanced Agriculture Engineering Co Ltd Managing Director U Kyi Sein and Myanmar Agriculture Service Managing Director U Kyaw Win reported the President on progress of land reclamation and prevention against pests.

The President attended to the needs and greeted the local farmers.

The President proceeded to mechanized advanced

100-acre plantation in Tegyigon region of Zabuthiri Township and viewed nursery, advanced agricultural machinery and cultivation of four kinds of Palethwe hybrid paddy.

The President met officials of Myanmar Rice Industry Association and agricultural specialized companies and discussed matters related to agricultural development and penetration to foreign markets.—MNA



**President U Thein Sein views land reclamation at 288-acre modern farm in Aungchantha Village, Zabuthiri Township.**

MNA

## Union Construction Minister inspects arrival of heavy machinery

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Feb—Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint met officials at Works Section of Public Works today. He called for making list of machines, vehicles and machinery in a systematic order, maintenance, fire preventive measures and systematic use of them.

The Union minister inspected arrival of a Kobelco BMS 800 crawler crane (80 tons), 25- and 12-ton road rollers, 14-ton road rollers with vibrator and bulldozers, totaling 62 heavy machinery.—MNA

## Special Refresher Course No. 45 for basic education teachers concludes at Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar)

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Feb—Special Refresher Course for basic education teachers No.45 was concluded at Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar) yesterday morning, with an address by Chairman of Union Civil Service Board U Kyaw Thu.

It was also attended by Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyu, Member of Union Civil Service Board U Soe Oo and personnel, and 1512 trainees.

Speaking on the occasion, UCSB Chairman U Kyaw Thu called for application of student-centred approach, stressing the need of English. He urged teachers to teach

their students to become morally good ones and to inculcate them with health and environmental conservation awareness. He called them to monitor the matriculation exam to be fair and disciplined without cheating and to strive to overtake the expected 95.5-percent basic literacy rate of the entire nation in 2015. He also urged them to actively participate in basic literacy campaigns for 2012.

The UCSB Chairman awarded outstanding trainees, presented certificates to trainees and cordially greeted the trainees.

MNA



**President U Thein Sein inspects Palethwe hybrid paddy strains at 369-acre farmland in Alyinlo village of Pyinmana Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area. (News on page 1)**  
MNA

## Union Commerce Minister meets businessmen in Myeik

YANGON, 19 Feb—Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint met merchants, entrepreneurs, officials and townsenders in Myeik yesterday.

The Union minister said the government is taking steps for trade facilitation and liberalization and granting tax exemption on export of six major crops. Imports of new vehicles are also allowed to fine-tune dollar exchange rates and export earnings, he said.

Export licenses are issued online in Yangon, the union minister went on. He also urged the entrepreneurs to attempt to acquire FDA certificates for their products. According to the minister, unnecessary inspection stations were shut down.

He revealed the ministry's plan to open Mawtaung Border Trade Station in Taninthayi Region which will be upgraded to Mawtaung Trade Zone in the future.

Taninthayi Region Chief Minister U Myat Ko urged the businessmen to lend a helping hand to each others in tackling challenges.

Entrepreneurs and officials discussed economic development and Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Aung Win expressed his thanks for opening Mawtaung Border Trade Station.

The Union minister visited poultry farms, Myeik archipelago and met with local merchants.—MNA

## Magway Region Chief Minister inspects regional development tasks

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Feb—Magway Region Chief Minister U Phone Maw Shwe on 15 February inspected construction of new school building and rural dispensary in Ngaphe Township.

He inspected development tasks along Ngaphe-Sedoktara-Laungshwe-Hsaw district-to-district road, encouraged students learning at basic education primary school in Donechaung Village, Sedoktara Township and fulfilled requirements of locals.

On 16 February, the region chief minister met Gangaw District deputy commissioner and officials concerned at Hsaw Township General Administration Department in Gangaw District.

He oversaw repair of the creek bridge in Hsaw Township, People's Hospital in Kyaukhtu Sub-township, bridge construction in Htilin Township and Thanthay creek bridge on Pakokku-Pauk-Htilin-Gangaw Road and Minywa Station Hospital in Gangaw Township.

He looked into repair of 700-ft-long suspension bridge that connects east and west of Gangaw and construction of two-story annex in district people's hospital, and met departmental officials and locals at Gangaw District General Administration Department.—MNA

## Channel-7 new TV programme and 4 Digital TV programmes introduced

YANGON, 19 Feb—Forever Group Co Ltd introduced Channel-7 and 4 digital new MRTV programmes at National Museum on Myoma School Road, Dagon Township here this evening, in the presence of officials concerned of Forever Group Co Ltd, officials of journalism field, artists and distinguished persons.

CEO U Win Maw of Forever Group explained the purpose to those present, and Forever Co Ltd, Signature Myanmar Co Ltd, Media Kabar Co Ltd and Forever BEC-Tero gave details about the programmes to be broadcast in the near future.

With the aim of being able to produce quality MRTV programmes in Myanmar, Forever Group cooperates with EBS of the ROK, BEC Tero of Thailand, CCTV of China, DW of Germany, Arirang of the ROK, ABU (Asia Broadcast Union), AIBD (Asia-Pacific Institute of Broadcasting Development).

MNA

## Dy Ministers Maj-Gen Zaw Win, U Phone Swe console displaced families in Bhamo



**Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Zaw Win donates Sky Net DTH receivers and related accessories, presented by the President, to displaced national races from Mansi, Momauk, Dawphonyan and Waingmaw Townships.—MNA**

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Feb—Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Zaw Win, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Phone Swe, Kachin State ministers, Pyithu Hluttaw Representatives U San Tun and U Khat Hein Nan, Secretary of Myanmar National Human Rights Commission U Sit Myaing, officials of UN

agencies and social organizations, and wellwishers met national people, who fled from Mansi, Momauk, Dawphonyan and Waingmaw Townships due to regional instability, at Nyaungbin ward in Bhamo of Kachin State on 16 February evening.

Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Zaw Win said they were there to add on assistance to that of the State government and NGOs provided to

displaced families. Following ceasefire negotiations, stability prevails in the region, he pointed out. The deputy border affairs minister underscored the government's pragmatic measures for making eternal peace in the region, bringing armed conflicts to an end in no time. He also guaranteed the nationality families that the Union and state governments will help them rebuild their

lives.

Deputy Minister U Phone Swe said the government will help recover the national races families from socio-economic losses amid the conflicts and promised to deploy responsible personnel of his ministry to take care of children and disseminate vocation education to women as long as they took refuge in the camp.

The Hluttaw representatives, the MNHRC secretary, and officials discussed schemes for providing aids to the relocated families and stability of the state. Sky Net DTH receivers and related accessories presented by the President, cash donated by the two ministries and Myanmar Gems Entrepreneurs Association and food provided by World Food Programme (WFP) were presented to national races families.

They viewed the accommodation of the families at the camp and consoled the families.

The Ministry of Immigration and Population is issuing citizenship scrutiny cards and household registration cards (copy) to the families.—MNA

**Thanlyin Township Fire Prevention Committee demonstrated a fire drill at Myoma Market in Thanlyin on 16 February. The township administrator and the executive officer of township Development Affairs Committee attended the event. Members of Township Fire Brigade demonstrated fire preventive and extinguishing measures.**

MNA



## Four arrested for eating endangered tortoises

BIKITA, (Zimbabwe), 19 Feb—Four Chinese nationals were arrested in Bikita, Zimbabwe, for capturing and killing 40 endangered tortoises for consumption, officials said.

In a joint raid by police, the National Parks and Wildlife Management Authority and The Save Valley Conservancy Anti-Poaching Unit, 13 live tortoises were found in the home, kept in steel drums with no water or food.

The BBC reported officials also found tortoise meat and the skeletal remains of 40 tortoises.

The acts are in clear violation of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act. The four men, who were found to be illegally employed in the country, are being held awaiting deportation, the *Zimbabwe Herald* reported.

They admitted to authorities they boiled the tortoises alive to separate the meat from the shells.—Internet



Photo taken on 17 Feb, 2012 shows the small boat "Huanghe" approaching its mother ship, China's icebreaker Xuelong, in the icy waters of Antarctica. Through three days' effort, Xuelong finally poked a waterway for its small boat "Huanghe", which was trapped in thick ice after its transportation mission to China's Zhongshan Station. The small boat got back to Xuelong safe and sound.—XINHUA

## Students hack school website to skip class

LONDON, 19 Feb —A group of students hacked their school website so their parents could not find out a message assuring parents that it will remain open despite snowfall.

The Jewish Free School posted the message on its website after snowfall began in Harrow, in northwest London, on 4 Feb, *Daily Mail*

reported on Saturday.

Just to make sure they wouldn't get sent to school, the hackers are then said to have sent a fake email purporting to come from the school and telling parents that the school would be closed because of the heavy snow.

The email even provided a link to a cloned version of the school's website.

According to the *Jewish Chronicle* many older pupils stayed away from the school on the following Monday, owing to the success of the hack and the spreading of the fake email. The school has identified a number of pupils it believes are behind the website's hacking and at least one pupil has been suspended.—Internet

## Bear bile maker website hacked

BEIJING, 19 Feb—A Chinese bear bile products manufacturer's website was hacked on Saturday night, after the company invited the public to visit its farm.

The website of Guizhentang Pharmaceutical Co Ltd was hacked at 9:30 pm Saturday, one hour after the company posted a message online welcoming the public to visit its bear farm on Wednesday and Friday, according to a statement by the company on Sunday.

Technical repairs had been carried out on its website and it was functioning as normal Sunday morning. The company had reported the hacking to the police, the statement said.

The incident came after animal welfare groups and members of the public protested against an IPO (initial public offering) plan by the company, which manufactures medicine using

bile extracted from live bears.

The China Association of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) defended the company at a Press conference on Thursday afternoon, comparing bile extraction operations to "turning on a tap."

Internet users have discovered that the company is a member of the association. The annual membership fee is 5,000 yuan (794 US dollars). The association has since admitted that the company is a paid-up member.

A day prior to the online attack against the bear bile company, the TCM association website was hacked.

Bear bile, a popular ingredient in traditional Chinese medicine, is believed to cure liver and eye ailments, remove toxins and eliminate fevers.

Xinhua



Li Qiang, a kirigami artist, shows his paper-cutting work with the theme of western-style houses in Tianjin Municipality, north China, on 17 Feb, 2012. A series of paper-cutting craftworks with the theme of western-style houses were created by local artists recently, to display the history and culture of the city.—XINHUA

## Police seize \$100 million in PCP

LOS ANGELES, 19 Feb—About \$100 million worth of PCP was seized in Los Angeles and Culver City, Calif, in a major drug sweep, police said.

Authorities uncovered roughly 10 million individual doses of PCP at two storage facilities and other locations, as well as almost \$400,000 in cash.

Two suspects being trailed by the police for months, Darryl Dwayne Burton and Lagina Bell Huckaby, were arrested Wednesday in a UPS store in

Culver City for allegedly trying to ship narcotics.

Burton and Huckaby pleaded not guilty Friday to felony drug charges, the *Los Angeles Times* reported.

Police say they believe Burton is associated with the Bounty Hunter Bloods, a Los Angeles street gang. While investigators have described him as a "major player" in the trafficking operation, they are still trying to determine whether a relationship exists between the gang and the drug operation, the newspaper said.—Internet

## Nepalese woman accused of witchcraft and burned alive

KATHMANDU, 19 Feb—A 40-year-old mother of two was burned alive in central Nepal after she was accused of being a witch, police said on Saturday.

Dhegani Mahato was attacked and set on fire by family members and others after a shaman allegedly accused her of casting a spell to make one of her relatives sick, Police Officer Hira Mani Baral said.

The attack occurred Friday in Bagaudain Chitwan district, about 80 kilometres (50 miles) southwest of the Nepalese capital, Kathmandu, Baral said by telephone.

Police arrested 10 people, including two shamans, five women and an 8-year-old boy, in connection with the burning.

"Those arrested have confessed to their crime and

will be charged with murder," Baral said.

Mahato had just finished cleaning a cowshed early in the morning when she was attacked, Baral said.

She was beaten with sticks and rocks before being doused with kerosene and set a fire, an attack witnessed by her 9-year-old daughter, according to the local police report.

Neighbours told police they were alerted to the attack but by then it was too late to save her.

Prime Minister Baburam Bhattarai appealed to the people not to heed to shamans and faith healers.

The government announced 1 million Nepalese rupees (about \$14,000) in compensation for Mahato's two children.

Internet

## Italian oil tanker to hand over two marines who shoot dead fishermen: Indian police

NEW DELHI, 19 Feb—The authorities of the Italian oil tanker *Enrica Lexie Napolie*, whose security guards shot dead two Indian

fishermen on Wednesday, agreed in the early hours of Sunday to hand over by 08:00 am local time two of the marines on board the

vessel, reported *Press Trust of India*.

Kochi Police Commissioner MR Ajith Kumar made the announcement after visiting the ship Saturday night and spoke to the Captain and crew, said the report.

After its security guards shot dead two Indian fishermen off the coast of the southern Indian state Kerala, allegedly mistaking them for pirates, the tanker has been detained by Indian police at the southern port city of Kochi for three days.

A case of murder was registered by police two days ago and the two marines, on their surrender, would be questioned first before further action was taken, said the report quoting police sources. A diplomatic row broke out between India and Italy after the incident took place.—Xinhua



An exhibitor shows a volleyball decorated with crystals at the Asia's Fashion Jewellery and Accessories Fair in Hong Kong, south China, on 18 Feb, 2012. Nearly 400 exhibitors from 17 countries and regions attended the four-day fair, which opened here on Saturday.—XINHUA



Two visitors appreciate a painting at a solo ink painting exhibition of Taipei painter Huang Tsai-sung, at Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall in Taipei, southeast China's Taiwan, on 18 Feb, 2012. The exhibition, with the theme of rural landscape and geography, kicked off here Saturday.

XINHUA



*France's President and Candidate for the Presidential Election 2012, Nicolas Sarkozy (R) looks on Emmentale cheese during a visit of a cheese factory in Vallières, French Alps, as he starts his campaign for his re-election as the UMP political party candidate for the 2012 French presidential election.*  
INTERNET

## Two men investigated for making false robbery reports

SINGAPORE, 19 Feb—Two men are being investigated for making false police reports that they had been robbed.

Police from the Clementi Police Division said the two men in their twenties claimed to have been robbed along Penjuru Road by six unknown males.

They said the robbery took place on 21 January at around 3am.

They alleged that one of the suspects threatened them with a knife while the other suspects surrounded and robbed them of their wallets and mobile phones.

The total value of the items stolen was about S\$300.

After extensive enquiries and follow-up investigations, the two men were found to have made a false report.

If found guilty, the two

men face a jail term which may extend to one year, or be fined a maximum of S\$5000, or be jailed and fined.

INTERNET



*Zhou Ruixuan, a young boy who lost his parents in a traffic accident, is taken care of by a medical worker in hospital at Chuxiong Yi autonomous prefecture, southwest China's Yunnan Province, on 19 Feb, 2012.—XINHUA*

## Nine killed, 24 injured in SW China road accident

KUNMING, 19 Feb—At least nine people were killed and another 24 injured after a 47-seater coach overturned on an expressway in Nanhua county of Yunnan province late Saturday, local authorities said Sunday. Among the injured, one was in serious condition, according to a written statement by the Chuxiong Yi autonomous prefecture government.

The accident happened at 11:25 p.m. Saturday when the coach with 37 passengers aboard was heading towards Dali from Chuxiong. All the injured are receiving treatment in local hospitals. Among them, two are Chinese French and one is Chinese Indonesian. The three were slightly injured, it said. The cause of the accident remains unknown.

Xinhua



*A display for Rolls Royce Trent engines is pictured at the Singapore Airshow in Singapore on 14 Feb, 2012. Some 900 exhibiting companies from over 50 countries including 60 of the top 100 global aerospace companies participated in the event.—INTERNET*

## Airport police to deploy T3 electric vehicles by April

SINGAPORE, 19 Feb—The police will soon have a new tool to help them maintain security and law enforcement at the airport.

The Airport Police Division is scheduled to deploy T3 Electric Stand-up Vehicles by April this year.

Costing S\$213,000, the 11 clean energy vehicles will be used by airport police officers to patrol the transit area of the terminal buildings.

The Airport Police Division said with the vehicles, officers can travel across larger areas in shorter time which will allow room for faster response

and flexibility in deployment.

No special training is required as the vehicle is easy to manoeuvre. More than 3,000

T3 Series vehicles have been deployed in over 30 countries worldwide.

INTERNET



*T3 electric vehicles.—INTERNET*

## Woman dies in freak snowboarding accident

HAMPSHIRE, 19 Feb—A 59-year-old British woman died following a snowboarding accident at an Austrian ski resort, officials said.

Sandra Thompson was celebrating her 59th birthday with her family on a snowboarding trip in Austria when she fell, *The Daily Telegraph* reported Saturday.

Although she was wearing a helmet during the incident 6 Feb, Thompson suffered severe brain swelling.

"My youngest son, Christopher, was snowboarding with her and she just went up a small rise and toppled backwards and hit her head on the snow," said Thompson's husband, David. "She was wearing a helmet and my son was with her within 10 seconds, but she was already unconscious."

Thompson said by the time he reached his wife and son, an air ambulance had already been called.

"They spent about half an hour with her on the slope, putting adrenalin and oxygen into her, but we could tell it wasn't good. It was horrible," he said.

Sandra Thompson, a mother of two sons, was airlifted to a hospital where she was on life support for almost 48 hours, until family members decided to take her off. "One minute everything is fine, you're all enjoying yourselves, laughing and

joking," David Thompson said. "The next minute Sandra was unconscious and never came around. I'm absolutely stunned, we all are. We're struggling to understand how it happened because it was an innocuous little fall, which makes it so hard to comprehend."

"She was always there for myself and the boys. The house feels so empty without her," David Thompson said.

INTERNET



*Jockeys compete in traditional camel race during the Sheikh Sultan Bin Zayed Al-Nahyan Camel Festival, held at the Shweihan racecourse, in the outskirts of Abu Dhabi on 16 February, 2012.—INTERNET*

## Horses seized from lottery winner

FRESNO, 19 Feb—Fresno County sheriffs said they found eight malnourished horses on land owned by a couple who won a \$40 million California Lottery jackpot.

The owner of the horses, Jose Francisco Romo, was arrested Wednesday on felony animal cruelty charges, *The Fresno Bee* reported.

Authorities found 11 horses on the property in total.

Romo signed over ownership of all of them to the Central California Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, said Beth Caffrey, the SPCA's human

education administrator.

Melanie Skadden, a neighbour of Romo's, called the SPCA after seeing several underfed-looking horses on the property.

She said Romo and his wife, Trudy, moved to the home shortly after winning the lottery in 2001.

Caffrey said the poor economy was a reason for people mistreating horses, adding the SPCA seized 30 that were malnourished or mistreated from farms and ranches in California in December.

"It's probably going to get worse," she said. "That's what we're terrified of."

INTERNET

## Drunk pilot replaced on Omaha flight

OMAHA, 19 Feb—A flight from Omaha to Milwaukee was delayed Thursday when the pilot, who appeared to be drunk, had to be replaced, airline officials said.

The Frontier Airlines flight, operated by Chautauqua Airlines, was scheduled to leave Omaha at 6 am, but did not leave Eppley Airfield until just before 8 am, *KETV-TV*, Omaha, reported.

Frontier Airlines has a zero-tolerance policy on drug and alcohol use by employees and had another pilot brought in to fly the plane, the airline said in a statement.

The flight, which carried 29 passengers and three crew members, arrived safely in Milwaukee at 9:29 am.

Frontier and Chautauqua airlines, along with the Federal Aviation Administration, are investigating the incident, *KETV* said.

INTERNET

## Fake Facebook page leads to arrest

HOUSTON, 19 Feb—A Houston-area man was charged with a felony after creating a fake and degrading Facebook page for his ex-girlfriend, officials said.

Cesar Saldana, 19, was charged by the Harris County District Attorney's Office with online impersonation after his former girlfriend discovered a Facebook page that included her name, a topless photograph of her and what officials described as a

"lewd user name."

The complaint states the girl, a high school student, told police she recently ended her relationship with Saldana, did not create the Facebook page and has been receiving threats from him via text message.

The complaint, filed Tuesday, also states Saldana admitted to police he created the Facebook page and placed the photograph on it.

INTERNET

## US, EU optimistic Iran will return to nuclear talks

BEIJING, 19 Feb—The United States and the European Union expressed cautious optimism on Friday over prospects that Iran may be willing to engage with major powers in new talks.

However, they also stressed that any new negotiations must be sustained and focus on the nuclear issue.

Hillary Clinton, US Secretary of State, said, "We have been reviewing Iran's proposal to resume talks on

its nuclear activities and consulting closely between us and with our other P5+1 partners.

This response from the Iranian government is one we have been waiting for and if we do proceed, it will have to be a sustained effort that can produce results."

Catherine Ashton, EU Foreign Policy Chief, said, "It is extremely significant that we are meeting today because we meet on the back of having received a letter from Dr Jalili

from Iran in response to my letter in October. As you said, we are consulting colleagues and analysing closely what this letter would mean. Let me say that I think it is good to see that the letter has arrived and that there is a potential possibility that Iran may be ready to start talks. We'll continue to discuss and make sure that what we are looking at is substantive, but I am cautious and I'm optimistic at the same time for this."

Xinhua

## Airshow 2012 tickets sold out

SINGAPORE, 19 Feb—Tickets for Singapore Airshow 2012 are completely sold out, including those at the ticketing counter at Changi Exhibition Centre.

The organizers have urged visitors not to make their way to Changi Exhibition Centre if they do not have tickets.

Internet



Crowds at the Singapore Airshow.—INTERNET

## Capcom-themed restaurant opens in Tokyo

TOKYO, 19 Feb — Capcom fans, feast your eyes on the culinary translation of your favourite video games. Last month, an entertainment bar was opened in Tokyo, fully dedicated to the 28-year old Japanese video game developer. The video game-themed bar's grand opening was 25 January and features food inspired by characters and items from Capcom's currently popular franchises, like the Resident Evil and Phoenix Wright series'. Nothing less could be expected from the country that gave us Donkey Kong and the NES.

The game developers' first restaurant is located in Shinjuku, on the first floor of the Pasela Resort. Food prices seem to average at around 580 & yen (\$7), and you can even order video game-themed drinks, which average 780 Yen (\$10). The bar also includes gaming kiosks for those of you that like to dine and game. The bar plans on including an area for Capcom merchandise as well as gaming-related events like competitions or even live shows.

Capcom has been around since 1983 and is the developer behind classics such as Street Fighter, Devil May Cry, Mega Man, Ghosts'n Goblins and Bionic Commando. However, the menu will initially be focusing on many of the company's currently popular series', with limited menu options for newly released games. The games that make the cut include Monster Hunter, Resident Evil, Samurai Kings (Sengoku Basara), Biohazard and Phoenix Wright: Ace Attorney.

Monster Hunter, huge in Japan, seems to be the easiest food-to-game transition; Monster Hunter Tri, for example, lets you cook dishes for stat boosts. Included under the Monster Hunter heading are dishes from the Airou and Yukumo villages as well as the obvious Well Done Steak. Monster Hunter drinks include alcoholic "dragon blood" and soft drinks in potion bottles.—Internet



## Dozens injured by Thai hotel pool chlorine leak



Tourists at the Phuket Orchid Resort and Spa hotel on Karon beach on the Thai resort island of Phuket, after a chlorine leak at one of the hotel's swimming pool.

INTERNET

BANGKOK, 19 Feb—More than 30 people, many of them foreign tourists, were rushed to hospital on Saturday on the Thai resort island of Phuket after a chlorine leak at a hotel swimming pool, local officials said.

The accident occurred shortly after 10:00am (0300 GMT) at the Phuket Orchid Resort and Spa hotel on Karon beach, according to chief investigator Lieutenant Colonel Chavalit Pethsripa.

He said more than 30 people suffered minor injuries, none of them serious, after

they were exposed to an unhealthily high level of chlorine in the pool.

The leak caused skin irritation and sore eyes, according to director Phumin Silapan at the local Patong hospital.

"There are 37 people hospitalised, including 26 foreigners," he told AFP, adding that 12 had already been discharged while 25 were referred to a larger hospital.

One of those referred was a pregnant tourist who had breathing difficulties after inhaling the chemical, he said.

Internet

Revellers participate in the parade during the annual carnival in Lisbon, Portugal, on 18 Feb, 2012.

XINHUA

## Chinese herbals cause kidney diseases

HYDERABAD, 19 Feb—World renowned Nephrologist Dr Brian Pereira today warned that the herbal medicines being marketed by China caused Kidney diseases.

Talking to UNI here, Dr Pereira, who was in the city to participate in Aashayin 2012 being organized by 'Nephroplus' tomorrow, said allopathy is the best medicine for kidney diseases as most of the herbal medicines lead to kidney diseases due to contamination.

Early detention is

curable, the expert said in future may be in 2050 there will be developed 'self' kidney from mesenchymal stem cells and several Research works are going on it in US.

Clinical tests for kidney disease are available at low cost presently at the hospitals,

the expert said.

To a question, Dr Pereira, who is also the President of National Kidney Foundation in US, said Olive oil is the best for health compared to other oils produced by various companies.

Internet

## Iran 'building up nuclear site near Qom'

LONDON, 19 Feb—Iran may be preparing to expand its nuclear programme at an underground plant near the city of Qom, a diplomat has told the BBC, just days ahead of a visit by United Nations nuclear inspectors.

Iran appears to be poised to install thousands of new centrifuges at the underground site in the northern city, a Vienna-based diplomat told the British broadcaster late Saturday.

The BBC said the centrifuges could speed up the production of enriched uranium, which can be used both for generating nuclear power and to manufacture atomic weapons.

Iran said on Wednesday it had installed another 3,000 centrifuges to increase its uranium enrichment abilities, but it was unclear Sunday whether these were the same as those mentioned by the diplomat.

Inspectors from the International Atomic Energy Agency, the UN's nuclear watchdog, are due to visit Teheran this week.

Iran insists that its nuclear drive is peaceful, but Western countries suspect the Islamic Republic of trying to develop an atomic bomb.

Iran has been slapped with four sets of UN sanctions and a raft of unilateral US and European Union measures over its nuclear drive.

There has been feverish speculation in recent weeks that Israel is preparing to mount a pre-emptive strike on the country's nuclear programme, though Israel has denied reaching such a decision.

Britain's Foreign Secretary William Hague warned over the weekend that Iran's nuclear ambitions could spark an atomic arms race in the Middle East.

Internet

## Three trapped miners rescued in Russia's Siberia

MOSCOW, 19 Feb—Rescuers have lifted three miners who were trapped underground after rock collapse in an iron ore mine in Siberia, said local emergency centre on Sunday.

The rock downfall happened at a depth of 100 metres in the Poteryevsky mine in the Altai region Sunday morning.

A total of 96 miners escaped to the surface and were evacuated immediately after the emergency, but three were blocked by rock and remained underground for several hours, reported the Itar-Tass news agency.

According to preliminary data, none of the trapped miners was injured and there is no fire in the mine.

During the rescue operation, visual contact was established with the trapped miners and they received food and drinks, said the local emergency service.

The Poteryevsky ore mine belongs to the Sibir-Polimetally Company.

Xinhua



**Li Hongxiao, 30, successfully holds up 23 benches with his teeth for 11 seconds on 16 February in Chongqing, which broke the previous Guinness World Record of 14 benches. Each bench is one metre long and 45 centimeters high and weight 3 kilograms.**

## British baby born at 12 pounds, 12 ounces

A British mother said her infant daughter, born with a weight of 12 pounds, 12 ounces, may be the heaviest ever born in Britain. Gemma Tevendale, 26, of Swindon, England, said her daughter, Suzie Gzowski, was born naturally and already had two teeth when she was born three weeks ago, *The Sun* reported on Friday.

Tevendale said both she and the girl's father, James Gzowski, 25, were born with a normal weight, but her two previous children were born at 10 pounds, 10 ounces and 11 pounds, 2 ounces.

The mother theorized eating a lot of fish while pregnant may have contributed to the plumping of her newborns.

"I do like my fish four times a week," she said. "I hadn't gone overboard with it, although I probably had more than I should — usually tuna and smoked salmon."

Experts told the parents the previous largest baby in Britain was born weighing 12 pounds, 9 ounces.

The heaviest baby ever born weighed 22 pounds, 8 ounces and was born in Italy in 1955, *The Sun* said.

## Cleaning lady busted for jewelry theft

Authorities in Florida said they arrested a cleaning lady accused of taking more than \$72,000 worth of watches and jewelry from the apartment of her employer.

West Palm Beach Police said John Joseph Arrigo, 47, returned from a vacation 7

February to find cleaning lady Mikaela Altadonna, 26, in his apartment, *The Palm Beach (Fla.) Post* reported on Friday.

Arrigo said he asked Altadonna why she was in his apartment, as it was a Tuesday and not her usual Monday

cleaning day, and she responded that she had been sick and had decided to clean on Tuesday instead.

Arrigo said he later noticed his watches and bracelets, worth more than \$72,000, were missing from his home and video surveillance from his building showed Arrigo had been in his residence on 6 and 7 February.

Altadonna, who allegedly sold three of the gold bracelets at a local store for \$1,000, was charged with dealing in stolen property, false verification of ownership, and grand theft of \$20,000 or more.

## Police: Woman faked blindness for benefits

Italian police said a woman who collected \$309,000 in benefits by claiming to be blind was busted when she was seen window shopping. Investigators said the 66-year-old woman was photographed walking through markets in a town near Turin while crossing streets and window browsing without assistance, *ANSA* reported on Friday.

Police said the woman, who claimed to be totally blind to collect benefits, also signed a receipt without even putting on glasses.

Police said they sequestered the money in the woman's bank account and six properties belonging to her to ensure the government is reimbursed for the fraudulent benefits.

## News Album

## Jennifer Aniston to star in action film

NEW YORK, 19 Feb—Jennifer Aniston, who said that she would love to do an action flick, is getting her wish fulfilled as she is set to star in one. According to *Deadline*, Aniston is currently in talks to star in 'Switch', a screen adaptation of the Elmore

Leonard novel of the same name, the *New York Post* reported.

Aniston is up for the role of Mickey Dawson, the wife of a real estate tycoon who is kidnapped by two ex-cons, to be played by John Hawkes of 'Deadwood' and rapper Mos

Def. When the tycoon refuses to pay his wife's ransom, the ex-cons team up with the wife to swindle him out of his fortune.

Dennis Quaid is reportedly in talks to play Aniston's tycoon husband in the film.—*Internet*



Jennifer Aniston,

## Where was Charlie Chaplin born?

LONDON, 19 Feb—British intelligence officers found no record of Charlie Chaplin's birth when they probed him over over suspected Soviet ties, secret files have revealed.

The mystery of the silent film legend's origins emerged when the US asked Britain to probe his background after his exile from America in 1952 over suspected links to the Communist Party, the *express.co.uk* reported Friday.

Despite checking under his supposed alias, Israel Thornstein, MI5 officers found no documents confirming he was born in Walworth, south London in 1889. They also dismissed claims he was born in France, according to papers released by The National Archives.

But they found no Communist ties and the files said that he held "little security significance" and "we are not satisfied there are reliable grounds for regarding him as a security risk". Chaplin died in 1977.

*Internet*



An undated picture of actor and film director Charlie Chaplin (1889-1977).—INTERNET

## Posh signs up as tourism ambassador of Britain

LONDON, 19 Feb—Victoria Beckham now has a new job aside from being a designer, which is of promoting Britain as the new tourism ambassador.

The former Spice Girl will star in a promotional film for Visit Britain to help attract extra visitors during the Olympic year, the *Mirror* reported.

The drive will also feature one of Victoria's highly rated fashion designs.



Victoria Beckham

PM David Cameron, who first announced the campaign last year, said: "British fashion is a hugely important global industry and our designers have the talent, creativity and skills to rival anywhere in the world."

"We have some incredible British fashion talent to be proud of," Culture Secretary Jeremy Hunt added.

*Internet*

## Monica Bellucci, new face of Dolce & Gabbana make-up

LONDON, 19 Feb—Actress Monica Bellucci has been named the new face of Dolce & Gabbana make-up. She will launch her own limited-edition lipstick range with the brand as part of the association. The 47-year-old, who appeared in Dolce & Gabbana's spring-summer 2012 campaign, will join the likes of Scarlett

Johansson and Felicity Jones in representing the Italian fashion house's cosmetics, reports *femalefirst.co.uk*.

"We love Monica and have worked with her many times over the past 20 years. Her beauty is timeless. She expresses the Dolce & Gabbana woman perfectly," said Domenico Dolce.

Stefano Gabbana added: "She is ravishing — a true Italian icon." Bellucci's limited-edition range with the brand will be called Monica Lipstick Collection. She is ecstatic.

"I'm delighted to be collaborating with Domenico and Stefano on Dolce & Gabbana The Make Up. I have always adored the aesthetic of Dolce & Gabbana and it's so exciting to be involved with their creative process," she said.—*Internet*



Actress Monica Bellucci

## Nicolas Cage walked around in 'voodoo mask' on Ghost Rider set

LONDON, 19 Feb—Nicolas Cage wore a voodoo style mask to stay in character on set filming 'Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance'.

He said he got the idea after discussing it with director Brian Taylor.

"I said to him 'Well look, if I do this can I wear a mask?' Because I was concerned about feeling ridiculous on the set," the BBC quoted him as saying.

The 48-year-old went further, wearing black contact lenses and locating mystical objects to carry around with him.

"I would gather things together to wear in my wardrobe, like a bit of Egyptian artefacts from a pyramid," he said.

"And I would sew them in, or get some rocks together that had a frequency in the new age community," he added.

'Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance' is the first time Cage has played the menacing alter-ego of stunt rider Johnny Blaze, despite this being the second time he's starred in a 'Ghost Rider' film.

"In the Mark Steven Johnson movie [Ghost Rider, 2007], I was not Ghost Rider,



Nicolas Cage

there was a stunt man doing that," he said.

Cage sees the follow up "as its own entity", and so he took embodying the role seriously. 'Ghost Rider Spirit of Vengeance' in 3D is in cinemas from 17 February 2012.

*Internet*



Gary Lineker and Danielle Lineker

## Danielle Lineker wants working class role

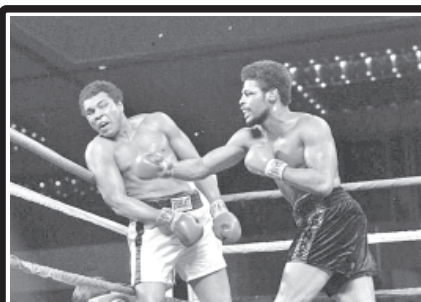
LONDON, 19 Feb—Gary Lineker's wife Danielle has revealed that she wants to swap her luxurious life for one which is less glamorous.

The wife of the former football star said that she would love to get her teeth into a working class, chavvy TV role.

"I'd love to land a role in some thing gritty and totally different like *Shameless*," the *Daily Star* quoted her as saying.

"I would be over the moon to play a really unglamorous character, something people would never expect from me.

"*Shameless* would be really challenging," she added.—*Internet*



Leon Spinks connects with a right hook to Muhammad Ali, in this 16 Feb, 1978 file photo taken during the late rounds of their championship fight in Las Vegas, Nev. The 24-year-old Spinks won the bout in a 15-round decision. Muhammad Ali lost just twice in his seven prizefights in Las Vegas over 19 years. — INTERNET

## Celebrities honour Ali's life at Vegas gala

LAS VEGAS, 19 Feb—Muhammad Ali had seven prizefights in Las Vegas, with his two losses there coming in the twilight of his legendary career. Now, dozens of heavyweight celebrities are back in Sin City to laud a lifetime in the spotlight and join the icon known as “The Greatest” in fighting neurological diseases. Roughly 2,000 people were expected to attend a swanky gala to celebrate Ali’s 70th birthday on Saturday night at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas, the site of most of boxing’s major fights the past 20 years.

Ali turned 70 last month, and had another celebration and fundraiser then in his home state of Kentucky. Guests arriving on the red carpet included football great Jim Brown. “America started with slavery and ended up with a black president,” Brown said. “Muhammad Ali was a part of that ... a big part.” One of Ali’s daughters, Rasheda Ali, says the gala is a chance for friends, family and A-listers who look up to her father to show their respect for his life and legacy as a humanitarian. In return, she says he’ll be honored to see them there. “He has not left that need to help others,” Rasheda Ali told The Associated Press. “That’s one of his core values — his charity and his giving.”

The gala starting at \$1,500 per plate was expected to draw some of the biggest names in entertainment and sports — including David Beckham, Anthony Hopkins, Samuel L. Jackson and Stevie Wonder, among others. They’re planning performances and tributes to a fighter who went 56-5 in the ring with 37 knockouts and became perhaps the most famous athlete ever because of his personality and willingness to publicly stand up for his beliefs. Ali has lived with Parkinson’s disease for nearly 30 years, a degenerative brain condition that some doctors say can be brought on by punches to the head. — Internet

## Hirscher wins World Cup GS after Ligety mistake

BANSKO, 19 Feb—Marchel Hirscher took advantage of a mistake by rival Ted Ligety to win a World Cup giant slalom Saturday and overtake the American for first place in the discipline standings. Ligety led after the first run but dropped out of contention in the second run with a mistake in the upper part of the slope and placed last of the 27 finishers.

Hirscher, who began the second run trailing Ligety by 0.16 seconds, clinched the victory with a combined time of 2 minutes, 25.35 seconds. Hirscher called his performance “one of my very best giant slalom runs.” “I have reasons to believe that I could win the World Cup, but I take it one race at a time,” Hirscher said, adding that he prefers to “play it safe.”

Italy’s Massimiliano Bardon came in second with a combined time of 2:26.74, ahead of Austria’s Marcel Mathis, 0.86 off the lead. The 20-year-old Mathis put in a sensational performance on his second run to advance from 26th to third place and earn his first World Cup podium place. — Internet



Ted Ligety, of the United States, passes a gate during the first run of an alpine ski, men’s World Cup giant slalom, in Bansko, Bulgaria, on 18 Feb, 2012. — INTERNET

## Klitschko unanimously outpoints Chisora

MUNICH, 19 Feb—Vitali Klitschko’s 10th successful defence of his WBC heavyweight title ended in chaos Saturday night when challenger Dereck Chisora brawled with former WBA champion David Haye during the post-match news conference. Chisora taunted Haye about losing the WBA belt to Klitschko’s younger brother, Wladimir, last July, leading to a heated exchange before Chisora knocked a bottle out of Haye’s hand and they came to blows.

Haye also fought with members of Chisora’s entourage, and his coach, Adam Booth, was left bleeding from a cut on his head. Camera equipment went

flying and reporters fled before security eventually managed to separate the men and police arrived at the scene. “You’ve really lost it this time,” Chisora told Haye. The 40-year-old Klitschko beat Chisora in a bruising bout in which the Ukrainian claimed to have fought from the fourth round with only his right fist after hurting his left hand.

“I think we all heard excuses about a broken toe,” Chisora later retorted, referring to Haye’s loss to Wladimir Klitschko in Germany last July. Chisora found very little support from the sellout crowd of 12,500 after slapping Vitali Klitschko’s face at the weigh-in on Friday, and ensured the ill feelings continued when he

spit water in Wladimir’s face as his brother’s record was being called out before their bout. “I wanted to knock him out, to be honest,” Vitali Klitschko said. “Such a cheek.” — Internet



WBC heavyweight Champion Vitali Klitschko of Ukraine, right, fights with boxer Dereck Chisora of Britain during their WBC heavyweight title bout at the Olympic hall in Munich, Germany, on 19 Feb, 2012. — INTERNET

## Real Madrid go 13 points clear



Real Madrid’s forward Cristiano Ronaldo (L) falls over Racing Santander’s goalkeeper Tono Rodriguez during their Spanish league football match at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid. Real Madrid won 4-0 — INTERNET

MADRID, 19 Feb—Real Madrid went 13 points clear of Barcelona in La Liga on Saturday as Karim Benzema grabbed a double in a 4-0 win over 10-man Racing Santander. Jose Mourinho’s men have given Barca little margin for error having now won 18 of the last 19 games since they drew 0-0 at Santander at the end of September. On Saturday, they weren’t so forgiving towards Racing as they stayed

on track for their first league title since 2008. “It was not a brilliant performance but we won without too much effort and it was a good result,” said Mourinho.

A Cristiano Ronaldo header hit the post as Real came out all guns blazing and after six minutes they were a goal up with Kaka crossing for Ronaldo to head in from less than a yard out for his 28th league strike of the season. Real were given a further boost by the harsh dismissal of Domingo Cisma after 38 minutes when he was adjudged to have handled the ball. On the stroke of half-time Benzema doubled the lead when he clipped the ball in from an acute angle and after the break Real remained firmly in control.

Xabi Alonso had a shot from the edge of the area which went narrowly past the post before substitute Angel Di Maria, returning from injury, hit a shot into the back of the net although goalkeeper Antonio Rodriguez perhaps should have done better. Benzema completed the rout with a deflected strike a minute from the end. Mourinho said he was happy to see Di Maria as well as Sami Khedira return to the side particularly with Champions League matches on the horizon. — Internet

## Serena pulls out of Monterrey Open



Serena Williams

MEXICO CITY, 19 Feb—Serena Williams has pulled out of next week’s Monterrey Open because of an ankle injury. Tournament organizers said Saturday they were told of the withdrawal by the WTA. They said Williams turned down a wildcard invitation because she hurt her ankle during a recent practice.

Williams played the Fed Cup this month and won two matches when the United States defeated Belarus. Williams withdrew from the Brisbane International in early January with an injured left ankle, but went on to reach the round of 16 at the Australian Open. — Internet

## Juve back on top after Catania victory

TURIN, 19 Feb — Juventus hit back to beat 10-man Catania 3-1 in Turin on Saturday and move back to the top of Serie A ahead of AC Milan’s trip to Cesena on Sunday. Pablo Barrientos gave the Sicilians, who had Marco Motta dismissed in the second half, a shock early lead but goals from Andrea Pirlo, Giorgio Chiellini and Fabio Quagliarella secured the three points.

Juve now lead Milan by two points having played the same number of games ahead of their meeting at the San Siro next weekend. “It will be emotional returning to the San Siro but the game is vital for our season so I’m calm,” said Pirlo, who scored his first goal for the Old Lady of Turin since a summer move from Milan, where he spent a decade.

“It was an important goal tonight because it got us back on level terms.” The win ended a run of two straight 0-0 draws for Antonio Conte’s men.

Internet



Juventus’ midfielder Claudio Marchisio (top) jumps for the ball with Catania’s midfielder Pablo Barrientos during their Italian Serie A football match in Turin. Juventus won 3-1. — INTERNET

## International Sports

## Mickelson shares lead in Northern Trust Open golf

LOS ANGELES, 19 Feb — Phil Mickelson was delighted to emerge from an erratic round with a share of the third-round lead in the Northern Trust Open, alongside 2011 US PGA Tour Rookie of the Year Keegan Bradley. Mickelson, a two-time winner at Riviera Country Club and seeking a second title in as many weeks after his victory at Pebble Beach last Sunday, wrestled his way to a one-under par 70 to keep a share of the lead he’s held since Thursday on seven-under 206.



Phil Mickelson during the third round of the Northern Trust Open on 18 February. — INTERNET

“This was a great round for me because I did not play well,” Mickelson said. “And I shot one-under par and I’m atop the leaderboard.” Mickelson managed just two birdies — at the par-five first and par-five 11th, against one bogey — but was proud of all the hard-earned pars. “The one thing I did is that on all those misses, I missed it on the side I had to miss it on,” Mickelson said. “I was able to miss it on the correct side that allowed me to always have a chance at making par.”

Meanwhile Bradley, whose outstanding 2011 campaign included a major title with his playoff victory in the PGA Championship, had six birdies in his five-under par 66, which matched the low round of the day. — Internet

## DISTRICT NEWS

### Road opened to hail Union Day

KAWKAREIK, 19 Feb—In honour of the 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Union Day, Kawkareik Township Development Affairs Committee spent its fund on repaving of Theikpan Street in Kawkareik on 4 February.

The road, 1180 feet long, 14 feet wide and seven inches thick, was built at a cost of K 12,566,000 by the township DAC.

Local authorities cut the ribbon to open the road.

District IPRD

### Children's Day observed

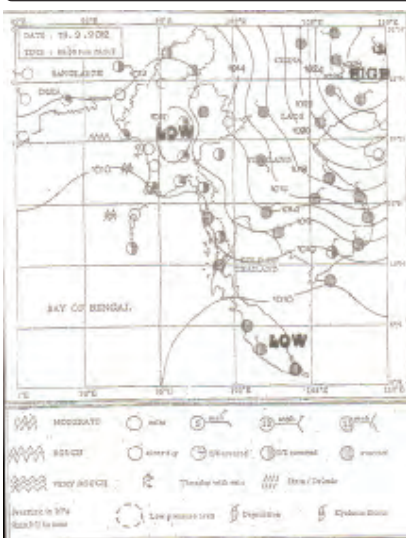
YANGON, 19 Feb—Yangon Region Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee and Yangon North District MCW-SC jointly observed the children's day at Myitta Sanyay modern pre-primary school of Township MCWA in Hlegu Township on 13 February.

Children of the school performed entertainment. Responsible persons presented gifts and refreshment to the children.

Township IPRD



### Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



### Weather forecast for 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2012

| Sr. No. | Regions/States           | Temperature (°C/F) |         | Forecast                                            |         |
|---------|--------------------------|--------------------|---------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------|
|         |                          | Maximum            | Minimum | Forecast                                            | Percent |
| 1       | Kachin                   | 31/88              | 15/59   | Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers | 60(%)   |
| 2       | Kayah                    | 32/90              | 18/50   | Generally fair weather                              |         |
| 3       | Kayin                    | 36/97              | 21/70   | Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers | 60(%)   |
| 4       | Chin                     | 25/77              | 03/37   | Generally fair weather                              |         |
| 5       | Upper Sagaing            | 32/90              | 15/59   | Partly cloudy                                       |         |
| 6       | Lower Sagaing            | 37/99              | 16/61   | Generally fair weather                              |         |
| 7       | Tanintharyi              | 36/97              | 24/75   | Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers | 60(%)   |
| 8       | Bago                     | 35/95              | 29/73   | Partly cloudy                                       |         |
| 9       | Magway                   | 38/100             | 17/63   | Generally fair weather                              |         |
| 10      | Mandalay                 | 37/99              | 16/61   | Generally fair weather                              |         |
| 11      | Mun                      | 36/97              | 24/75   | Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers | 60(%)   |
| 12      | Yangon                   | 36/97              | 21/70   | Partly cloudy                                       |         |
| 13      | Rakhine                  | 33/91              | 19/66   | Generally fair weather                              |         |
| 14      | Southern Shan            | 28/82              | 10/50   | Generally fair weather                              |         |
| 15      | Northern Shan            | 31/88              | 06/43   | Generally fair weather                              |         |
| 16      | Eastern Shan             | 32/90              | 12/54   | Generally fair weather                              |         |
| 17      | Ayeyawady                | 36/97              | 21/70   | Partly cloudy                                       |         |
| 18      | Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw | 38/100             | 17/63   | Generally fair weather                              |         |
| 19      | Neighbouring Yangon      | 36/97              | 21/70   | Partly cloudy                                       |         |
| 20      | Neighbouring Mandalay    | 37/99              | 16/61   | Generally fair weather                              |         |

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today

During the past (24) hours, rain has been scattered in Tanintharyi Region and weather has been partly cloudy in Yangon Region, Kachin and Mon States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Night temperatures were (°C) to (°F) above February average temperature in Bago and Tanintharyi Regions, Rakhine and Mon States and about February average temperature in the remaining Regions and States. The significant night temperatures were Haka (2°C), Pindag (3°C), Heho and Lom (4°C) each and Nantun (5°C). The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Myittha (1.18) inches and Kawthoon (0.31) inch.

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

State of the Sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight increase of night temperatures in Southern Myanmar areas.

### Neil Warnock appointed Leeds United manager



LONDON, 19 Feb—Neil Warnock has been appointed manager of Leeds United, promising fans he has "one big challenge left in me". Leeds have been without a manager since Simon Grayson was sacked on 1 February. The former QPR boss, 63, said: "I feel I have one big challenge left in me and believe Leeds is a club that should be in the Premier League."

"I want to be the man who is able to deliver this for a set of fans who never cease to amaze me with their

numbers and loyalty."

Warnock, who was sacked as Queens Park Rangers manager in January after a run of eight Premier League games without a win, has signed a deal until the end of the 2012-13 season. Leeds chairman Ken Bates said: "We believe the appointment is arguably the most important we have made. "The objective was to appoint a manager who had a proven track record of getting teams promoted and in Neil we have a man whose record is second to none.—Internet

### Focus Myanmar TV Programme

#### MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(20-2-12 09:30 am ~ 21-2-12 09:30 am) MST  
Oversea Transmission  
\* News  
\* Wiping Tear with Helping Hands  
\* News  
\* Booming Business of Rakhine Coastal Region  
\* News  
\* A Special Gathering Revealing Unity and Harmony  
\* News  
\* Super Myanmar Traditional Stick Form (Episode- 2)  
\* News  
\* Myanmar Overseas Seafarer Association 9th Annual General Meeting  
\* News  
\* Classical Songs in Myanmar History "The Song about Myinzuthaka, the divine flower"  
\* News  
\* I love Myanmar  
\* News  
\* Sightseeing Around Mandalay and Sagaing (Amarapura, Inn Wa, Sagaing, Mingun)  
\* Myanmar Movies  
\* "Never Lie To Your Heart"

#### MYANMAR TV (20-2-2012) (Monday)

7:00 am  
1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw  
7:25 am  
2. To Be Healthy Exercise  
7:50 am  
3. Nice & Sweet Song  
8:10 am  
4. Song Of National Races  
8:45 am  
5. Musical Programme  
4:05 pm  
6. Musical Programme  
4:15 pm  
7. Dance Variety  
4:20 pm  
8. Musical Programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)  
4:30 pm  
9. 2012 University Entrance Examination (English)  
5:05 pm  
10. Songs For Upholding National Spirit  
5:25 pm  
11. Myanmar Idol  
6:20 pm  
12. Sing & Enjoy  
7:00 pm  
13. TV Drama Series  
8:00 pm  
14. News  
15. TV Drama Series  
16. India Drama Series

### Muntari scores as AC Milan beats Cesena 3-1

MILAN, 19 Feb—New signing Sulley Muntari scored on his AC Milan debut to help send his new team to a 3-1 victory at struggling Cesena on Sunday, and back to the top of Serie A.

Muntari opened the scoring in the 29th minute and Urby Emanuelson doubled Milan's lead two minutes later. Robinho added a third 10 minutes into the second half.

Daniel Pudil grabbed a consolation for Cesena, which remains seven points

adrift of safety after Siena lost 4-1 to Lecce in a relegation battle.

Milan is a point above Juventus, which has a game in hand.

Elsewhere, Roma captain Francesco Totti played his 700th game for the club to help it edge Parma 1-0, with Fabio Borini scoring the only goal.—Internet



AC Milan's Argentinian Maxi Lopez (C) vies with Cesena's Gianluca Comotto (L) during their Italian Serie A football match in Cesena on 19 Feb, 2012. AC Milan won the match 3-1.

INTERNET

### Fire sweeps three street markets in Honduras' capital

TEGUCIGALPA, 19 Feb—A fire has swept through street markets in the capital of Honduras, a nation traumatized just five days ago by a fire that killed 358 people at a prison.

Authorities say 11 people were injured and about 1,800 stalls burned, but there were no deaths.

Saturday's fire burned through several blocks of three markets and sent thick plumes of black smoke wafting over Tegucigalpa, the capital. The fire appeared to have hit stands selling mainly clothes and sneakers.

Mayor Ricardo Alvarez said says two women were rescued, one



A man helps a firefighter with a hose during a blaze at a street market in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, Saturday 19 Feb, 2012.—INTERNET

with a head injury and another with symptoms of asphyxiation.

The blaze Tuesday night that killed 358 people

was the worst prison fire in a century. It happened in Comayagua, about 55 miles (90 kilometers) north of Tegucigalpa.—Internet

## Work coord meeting on rural development and poverty alleviation held in Rakhine

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Feb—The work coordination meeting on rural development and poverty alleviation in Rakhine State was held at the Rakhine State government office on 17 February, attended by Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin.

The township administrators reported on region-wise undertakings. Next, the officials of the subcommittee improvements of tasks assigned.

The meeting ended with concluding remark by the state chief minister.—MNA

## MMCWA's mobile team provide healthcare to villagers in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Feb—Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association reached out to villagers of Aung Thiri village in Thabyesan village-tract in Pobbathiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area yesterday.

The community-based (mobile) health team provided healthcare and counseling services, gave educative talks, and referred some patients to the hospital.

Altogether 175 villagers of Thabyesan and Aung Thiri villages received healthcare and counsel.—MNA

## Liverpool 6 Brighton 1: Suarez on target as Seagulls score Three own goals at Anfield

LIVERPOOL, 19 Feb—Skrテル nodded in after just six minutes from Steven Gerrard's corner. Brighton scored three own goals to help send Liverpool into an FA Cup quarter-final against Stoke.

The home side got off to the perfect start as Martin

But Championship side Brighton hit back within 10 minutes as Kazenga LuaLua fired a stunning free kick low



Marching on: Liverpool celebrate as they book their place in the FA Cup quarter-finals.—INTERNET

## Spurs forced into replay as Stoke go through

LONDON, 19 Feb—This season's FA Cup favourites Tottenham Hotspur were held to a 0-0 draw at third tier Stevenage on Sunday while last term's runners-up Stoke City reached the quarter-finals after prevailing 2-0 in another tricky-looking game at Crawley Town.

Spurs, third in the Premier League and with coach Harry Redknapp tipped to take over England, produced a lethargic display with a new five-man defence and had to settle for a replay at White Hart Lane next month.

Louis Saha had the ball in the net but his shot clipped an offside Scott Parker on the line to sum up a bad day for Spurs, the best-ranked team left in the Cup after holders Manchester City lost in an earlier round like Manchester United.

London's three big clubs have all struggled in the fifth round with beleaguered Arsenal being eliminated by Sunderland and Chelsea scraping a 1-1 home draw with second tier Birmingham City on Saturday.

Stoke had a man harshly sent off but then scored a controversial penalty as they saw off fourth division Crawley.

Jonathan Walters converted the 42nd-minute spotkick, after Ryan Shawcross had gone to ground having barely been touched by Kyle McFadzean, before Peter Crouch headed a second after halftime to end a personal goal drought.

Rory Delap was sent off in the 16th minute for a studs-up challenge, the kind of tackle which has prompted much

past Pepe Reina.

Just as the visitors looked set to go in level at half-time however, Liverpool struck again. Luis Suarez saw his shot blocked and Glen Johnson's follow-up was inadvertently turned in to his own net by Brighton's Liam Bridcutt.

And Carroll made sure of Liverpool's place in the last eight as he collected Stewart Downing's pass, slipped his man and rifled home in the second half before Bridcutt scored a second own goal as he turned in Gerrard's cross.

The Seagulls saved the best till last however as Lewis Dunk controlled the ball with his chest before chesting the ball into the net.

Luis Suarez then had the chance to add a sixth from the spot but his poor effort was saved only for the striker to make amends minutes later when he headed in Carroll's cross to make it six.

Internet

## Babies Know What's Fair



PENNSYLVANIA, 19 Feb—"That's not fair!" It's a common playground complaint. But how early do children acquire this sense of fairness? Before they're 2, says a new study. "We found that 19- and 21-month-old infants have a general expectation of fairness, and they can apply it appropriately to different situations," says University of Illinois psychology graduate student Stephanie Sloane, who conducted the

study with UI's Renée Baillargeon and David Premack of the University of Pennsylvania.

The findings appear in Psychological Science, a journal published by the Association for Psychological Science.

In each of two experiments, babies watched live scenarios unfold. In the first, 19-month-olds saw two giraffe puppets dance around at the back of a stage. An

experimenter arrived with two toys on a tray and said, "I have toys!" "Yay!" said the giraffes. Then the experimenter gave one toy to each giraffe or both to one of them. The infants were timed gazing at the scene until they lost interest. Longer looking times indicated that something was odd—unexpected—to the baby. In this experiment, three-quarters of the infants looked longer when one giraffe got both toys.

In the second experiment, two women faced each other with a pile of small toys between them and an empty plastic box in front of each of them. An experimenter said, "Wow! Look at all these toys. It's time to clean them up." In one scenario, one woman dutifully put the toys away, while the other kept playing—but the experimenter gave a reward to both the worker and the slacker.—Internet

## Dy Ministers Maj-Gen Zaw Win, U Phone Swe console displaced families in Bhamo

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## Displaced people in Waingmaw Township get assistance

PAGE 7



## Thanlwin River-spanning Bridge (Mawlamyine) makes the entire nation accessible to southern-most part of Myanmar

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