Established 1914

The New Light of Myanmar

Volume XIX, Number 307 | 1st Waxing of Taboung 1373 ME | Wednesday, 22 February, 2012

Our Three Main National Causes * Non-disintegration of the Union * Non-disintegration of National Solidarity * Perpetuation of Sovereignty

Seventh day session of Pyithu Hluttaw continues

Seven questions asked, replied, one bill approved

Representatives on arrival at Pyithu Hluttaw.—MNA

Nay Pyi Taw, 21 Feb—The seventh day session of the Pyithu Hluttaw, attended by Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann and 353 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives, continued at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building, here, at 10.20 am today.

Seven questions were replied and one bill approved.

The Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw submitted his message to be sent to the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

U Kyaw Naing Htay of Indaw Constituency asked **whether there is a plan to solve the problem that local people use muddy water in creeks nearby villages all the year round due to gold mining works**. Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htaik replied that Myanma Gems Enterprise of the Ministry of Mines permitted five companies to carry out jade mining along Laytan Creek in Mohnyin Gems Land and supervise their works.

In jade mining works, 1500 feet in the blocks from the confluence, the companies excavate the stone layers with the use of backhoes and screen the stony soils with water. They store muddy water from the production again and use it once more.

The muddy water in the creek may be flowed from spilling the embankment. However, the water may not be muddy due to the fact that the muddy water has been settled in the sediment ponds. As both the mining blocks and farmlands are 15 miles from Laytan Creek, the mining works cannot damage the farmlands according to the survey.

The companies have been explained not to harm the natural environment and to emphasize flow of clean water to the creek by constructing the sediment lakes systematically.

The Ministry of Mines has issued directives to five gems mining companies for their works to cause muddy creek water, for abiding by the prescribed rules and

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Third regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw continued for seventh day

Donations for library put on record, six questions answered, two bills discussed, one proposal discussed and recorded

Nay Pyi Taw, 21 Feb — The third regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw continued for the seventh day at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of the Hluttaw Building here at 10 am today, attended by Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint and 201 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives.

U Than Swe of constituency No.2 in Taninthayi Region contributed 75 books to the library of Amyotha Hluttaw and the meeting put the donation on record.

Amyotha Hluttaw representatives from Taninthayi Region donated cash to the library of Amyotha Hluttaw and the meeting put the donation record.

Afterwards, representatives asked questions and Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Zaw Win answered the questions.

Dr Htay Naing of Ayeyawady Region constituency No 7 asked **to upgrade the earthen road linking Nyaungwaigyi Village and Tagundaing Village in Einme Township and Kangyi Village in Myaungmya Township and asked whether there was a plan to upgrade the earthen road linking Maezali Sarphyusu in Einme Township and Kangyi, Kyonton villages in Myaungmya Township to a gravel one.**

The deputy minister replied that the earthen road linking Nyaungwaigyi Village and Tagundaing Village in Einme Township and Kangyi Village in Myaungmya Township is five miles and seven furlongs long. It was estimated that it would cost about 262.455 million kyats to upgrade the road to the gravel one, he added.

Representatives on arrival at Amyotha Hluttaw.—MNA

Development Affairs Department would spend 11.055 million kyats on upgrading the 2-furlong road section of the road in Myaungmya Township and 20 million kyats on

(See page 9)

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 22 February, 2012

A piece of advice

Basically, repeating a lesson or subject by rote is one of the most fundamental ways to learning any lesson for students. Generally, the method includes reading notes or a textbook again and again, and re-writing them.

Here, time is the most important thing a student has. But unfortunately, some students are wasting it for nothing. In this context, a student should draw a schedule that will guide him best to allocate the available time in the most effective way. It will be a difficult job for him to stick to the schedule. But he should not squander his valuable time. So, it's up to him to follow his own schedule faithfully. Because avoiding study will be the easiest thing for a student.

Time management for study must be based on priority system to get maximum benefit. First, a student should listen carefully to the lectures of his teachers in the classroom and try to identify the important topics so that he can get the best overall view of all his lessons in detail. It's like looking at a map before going on a trip. Because the map is the best help to travel in an unknown territory. Then he will have to wisely choose the topics to be studied first. Normally, he should learn the most important and simple topics first. Next comes the important but time-consuming ones. He should give less priority to the lessons that are difficult and not very important.

We hope that this piece of advice or method may be simple, but it may be helpful both for parents and their children and may also be instrumental to the success of any student pursuing education at any level. Wishing every student success!

Sixth Mandalay Region Working Committee of the Sangha meets

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Feb—Fifth annual meeting of sixth Mandalay Region Working Committee of the Sangha was held at Sasana Newpadetha Masoeyein Monastery in Mahaaungmyay Township in Mandalay yesterday.

The meeting was attended by Chairman of the committee Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Ganthavaçaka Pandita Bhaddanta Viçittabhivamsa of Masoeyein Monastery of the township, member Sayadaws, Region ministers, Region, district and township level officials and guests.

Ovadacariya Sayadaw Bhaddanta Tejinda of Maha Vithutayama Monastery in Myingyan Township and the chairman Sayadaw, who also presided over the meeting, gave sermons.

The Chief Minister of Mandalay Region supplicated on religious affairs and donated offertories. Then, Region ministers and wellwishers donated offertories to members of the Sangha.—*MNA*

Rehabilitation of displaced families in Kachin State discussed

Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Zaw Win addresses work coord meeting on rehabilitation of displaced families in Kachin State.
MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Feb—A coordination meeting on rehabilitation of displaced persons, who moved in Kachin State due to regional security, was held at the hall of Kachin State Government Office on 18 February afternoon.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Zaw Win said that he and his team met some families wishing to resettle in their region and some wishing to establish new villages in better transport areas. Thanks to food, cluthing and accommodation assistance of the State and the respective organizations, the displaced families are now comfortable, and communication difficulties were found at only a few relief camps. At a time when the conflicts were over, it needs to systematically keep necessary accounts for rehabilitations. In undertaking rehabilitation works, it is necessary to consider fulfillment for not only basic requirements but also reserved rights of the families, he said.

Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Phone Swe stressed the need to carry out regional development tasks inclusive of rehabilitation tasks. All are to work in concert for improvement of health and education sectors as necessary infrastructures are built for regional development. The local authorities are to place emphasis on taking out the tasks in conformity with the aspirations of all national races of the region with Union Spirit.

The participants of the meeting submitted on arrangements for rehabilitations and difficulties of the national race families. The deputy ministers attended to the needs. Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Zaw Win said that the Union government will provide more necessary assistance for the requirements. The respective organizations are accelerating the peace-making process for enabling the displaced families to safely do agricultural tasks in their respective regions, he said.

The plan with 11 sectors is being implemented to be able to resettle the displaced families at their native regions of their own accord, to effectively provide assistance for regional development and rehabilitation tasks, improve their livelihoods and take care of the aged, children and women when the conflicts were over in Kachin State.

Also present at the meeting were Kachin State ministers, Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Khet Htein Nan, officials of UN agencies and social organizations.

Those wishing to donate cash and kind to the displaced persons may dial 074-29520 of Kachin State Ministry of Social Affairs, 074-22386 of Kachin State Government Office and 074-24015 of State Department of Relief and Resettlement.

MNA

Myanmar Open Championships 2012 to be held on grand scale at Theinbyu Tennis Court

YANGON, 21 Feb— Under the leadership of Myanmar Tennis Federation, Myanmar Open Cham-pionships 2012 will be held on a grand scale at Theinbyu Tennis Court in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, here, from 1st March to 6th March.

In the event, men's single and double events, women's single and double events, men's single and double 35 aged and above events, men's single and double 45 aged and above events, men's single and double 55 aged and above events, men's single and double 60 aged and above events will be included.

The tennis players need to enroll at the court not later than 12 noon of 29th February and dial 01-372360, 381991 and 381992 – extension (0) for detailed facts.

The court will practise in accordance with International Tennis Federation Rules and Regulations and use only Wilson during the event.

The players also need to pay K 1000 for single event, K 2000 for double event and US$ 5 for foreigner single event and US$ 10 for foreigners' double event in each event.—*MNA*

Dy FM attends 10th BCIM Forum

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Feb—U Maung Myint, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, attended the 10th Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar Forum on Regional Cooperation (10th BCIM Forum) which was held in Kolkata from 18 to 19 February 2012 and arrived back in Myanmar yesterday. The deputy minister was accompanied by U Kyaw Thi Wa, Deputy Director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. At that forum, the four partners countries discussed and exchanged views on cooperation in economic, culture, education and tourism fields.

MNA

Take Fire Preventive Measures

Traffic Rules Enforcement Team supervised Htanchaukbin Junction, Junction of 3rd street of No. 9 Ward, Juction of Hlawga to be smooth traffic and road safety on 20 February.—MNA

Malaysian, Thai leaders discuss border unrest

KUALA LUMPUR, 21 Feb—Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak on Monday pledged full assistance to visiting Thai Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra to help resolve the insurgency raging in southern Thailand.

Najib urged armed groups to renounce violence, as he offered to work with Thailand in seeking ways to defuse the simmering rebellion along their common border as Yingluck arrived for a one-day trip.

"We both agree (the unrest) is a domestic matter for Thailand and people in the south must not seek a separate state. They must reject violence and extremism," Najib said at a joint Press appearance after their talks.

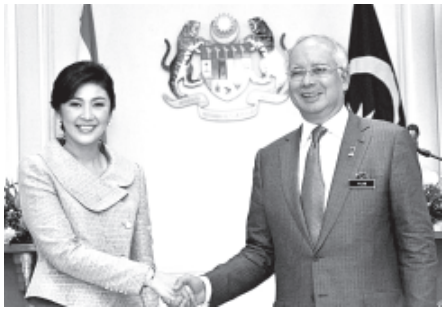
Yingluck, who took office in August, is finishing up a round of visits aimed at introducing herself to her neighbours.

Najib said the pair "discussed the need to find a long-term and durable peaceful solution in the south" of Thailand, where a seven-year insurgency has left thousands dead.

"Prime Minister Yingluck has requested Malaysia to provide whatever assistance and cooperation we can to help Thailand in the process towards a long-term solution in the south," Najib said at a joint Press appearance.

Yingluck, the younger sister of ex-premier Thaksin Shinawatra, had originally been scheduled to visit Malaysia in October but postponed the trip as she grappled with Thailand's worst floods in half a century.

Her visit came as Thai authorities are investigating last week's failed bomb plot in Bangkok, which involves Iranian suspects and allegedly targeted Israeli diplomats. *Internet*



***Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak (R) shakes hands with visiting Thai Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra in Putrajaya city, Malaysia, on 20 Feb, 2012. Yingluck held a one-day official visit to Malaysia on Monday.—*XINHUA**

UK warns Israeli military action against Iran would be 'unwise'

LONDON, 21 Feb—British Foreign Secretary William Hague has warned Israel that military action against Iran would not be a 'wise thing' to do, and insisted that economic sanctions and negotiations must be given 'a real chance' to convince Teheran to abandon its nuclear ambitions.

During an interview with The BBC, Hague repeated his warning that a nuclear-armed Iran would result in another cold war in the Middle East.

"They would either be attacked and there would be a war, or there would be a cold war in which Iran for the long term would be subject to these very intense economic sanctions and they would find that other nations in their region developed nuclear weapons," he said.

Hague urged against military action, although he said it was not ruled out as an option, *The Telegraph* reports.

"I don't think a wise thing at this moment is for Israel to launch a military attack on Iran," the paper quoted him, as saying. "I think Israel like everyone else in the world should be giving a real chance to the approach we have adopted on very serious economic sanctions and economic pressure and the readiness to negotiate with Iran. That's what we need to make a success of," he added.—*Internet*

Militants kill four civilians on spying charges in S Afghanistan

LASHKAR GAH, 21 Feb—Taleban militants killed four civilians for allegedly spying for the government in southern Afghan Province of Helmand, a spokesman for provincial government said on Tuesday.

"Four innocent civilians were beheaded by militants in Washer District on Sunday night," Daud Ahmadi told *Xinhua*.

He said the victims had no connection with the government or foreign forces in Helmand.—*Xinhua*

***An Afghan wounded boy receives treatment after a car bomb blast in Kandahar Province on 20 February, 2012.* INTERNET**

Four killed, two injured in Iraq's Anbar Province

RAMADI, 21 Feb—Four people were killed and two others wounded in separate gunfire and bomb attack in Iraq's western province of Anbar, a provincial police source said on Monday.

Gunmen using assault rifles stormed the house of Sheikh Ketab al-Issawi, chieftain of a local tribe in southern city of Fallujah, some 50 km west of Baghdad, and dragged him out of his house before they shot him dead, the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

The attackers also wounded Issawi's son during their breaking into the house, the source said.

In a separate incident, a sticky bomb attached to a car carrying three police officers detonated late on Sunday night in central of the provincial capital city of Ramadi, some 110 km west of Baghdad, killing two officers and wounding the third, the source said.

Also in the province, the body of Osama Abdul-Razzaq al-Kubaisy, a judge of the local criminal court in the city of al-Qaim, was found inside his house in the western outskirts of the city, some 230 km west of Ramadi, the source added.

Kubaisy's body was badly charred after being repeatedly stabbed with sharp object, he said, adding that the victim's family was not at the house when the attack occurred late on Sunday. Armed group attacks continue in the once volatile Sunni Arab area west of Baghdad that stretches through the province to Iraq's western borders with Syria, Jordan and Saudi Arabia.—*Xinhua*

Thai police charge bomb suspect involved in Bangkok blasts

BANGKOK, 21 Feb—Thai police on Monday took the second bomb suspect, Mohammad Hazaei, to the Metropolitan Police Bureau for the first-time questioning and formally charged him of involvement in the Bangkok blasts on 14 Feb.

Hazaei, 42 year old, was detained at the country's main international airport last Tuesday while attempting to board a plane bound for neighbouring Malaysia.

Deputy Metropolitan Police Chief Pol Gen Pansiri Prapawat, head of the investigation team, formally charged Hazaei together with other suspects three offences — illegally assembling bombs, illegally having explosives in possession, and causing explosions that hurt other people.

Hazaei, however, denied all the charges against him.

According to Deputy National Police Chief Pol Lt Gen Jarumporn Suramanee, the DNA test matched Hazaei with bloods found in the rented house where the first bomb went off. However, the DNA test to find connection with another suspect 28-year-old Saeid Moradi, who lost both legs by accident from his own explosive device and is still hospitalized, has not yet been conducted, he added. *Xinhua*

***Iranian bomb suspect Mohammad Hazaei (R) talks to Thai police officers during an investigation at his rented house in Bangkok.—*INTERNET**

Darfur rebels claim holding 52 peacekeepers

KHARTOUM, 21 Feb—A major armed rebel group in Sudan's Darfur region claimed on Monday that it was holding 52 international peacekeepers of the United Nations-African Union peacekeeping mission UNAMID.

Gibril Ibrahim, spokesman of the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), said that "The held members of UNAMID include 46 Senegalese, one Yemeni officer, one from Rwanda, and one from Ghana, besides three Sudanese. We believe they work for the Sudanese intelligence and security service."

Ibrahim told *Xinhua* on phone that the peacekeepers were not abducted, but "only being held" by the group.

"We are holding the UNAMID soldiers because they entered our territory without our permission," the spokesman said.

The rebel spokesman said all the held peacekeepers were fine and at a safe place. "They have been held at a safe place and they are fine. We are waiting for a justification from the mission on why this force moved into the movement's areas," he said.

He added that the group also suspected the Sudanese soldiers accompanying the peacekeepers were working for the Sudanese security services.

The UNAMID could not be reached for a comment on the event at the moment.

"This event came only few days after the movement asked for signing an agreement between it and the UNAMID to facilitate the work of the mission in Darfur, but Ibrahim Gambari, the chief of UNAMID, refused the signing of this agreement," he noted.

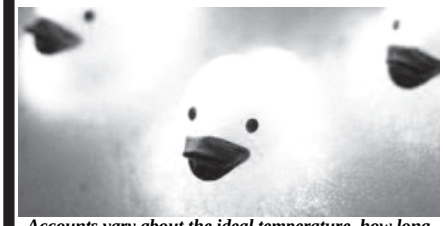
He further criticized the UNAMID chief for not being "neutral" in the mission, saying that "yes, we have a big difference with Gambari. He has become a persona non grata in Darfur. We demand him to resign."

"We believe that the force we are holding was on a mission to bring information for the interest of Khartoum. This is a clear violation for the UNAMID task in Darfur," the spokesman said.UNAMID, which was deployed 2008 in Darfur as a peacekeeping mission, has encountered repeated attacks by unidentified gunmen in the region, which led to the death of more than 34 peacekeepers.

Xinhua

***Security forces prepare to tow away a destroyed car after a car bomb attack outside the fortified academy near the Interior Ministry headquarters in Baghdad, Iraq, on 19 Feb, 2012. A suicide bomber detonated his car as a group of police recruits left their academy in Baghdad, killing and wounding scores of people, police said.* INTERNET**

Cold baths 'ease aching muscles, but may be risky'



Accounts vary about the ideal temperature, how long to be immersed and how often to do them.— INTERNET

LONDON , 21 Feb — Taking a cold bath after exercise can soothe sore muscles but it is unclear whether this is safe, say experts. Plunging into chilly water can provide a shock to the system and may even be harmful, researchers at the UK Cochrane Centre warn.

After looking at available trial evidence—17 small studies involving 366 people—they say there is not enough evidence to back the technique. There may well be other better ways to ease muscular aches, they suggest.

This might include a spot of light jogging or a dip in a warm bath, they say. The idea behind submerging the muscles in icy water, sometimes referred to as cryotherapy, is to reduce swelling and the associated stiffness and soreness that comes with working the muscles hard.

The trend started in elite level sport, but it is becoming increasingly popular amongst amateur athletes too. Comedian Eddie Izzard, who last year ran 43 marathons in 51 days to raise money for charity, said his daily ice baths were a necessary evil to stop his "legs inflating to twice the size of an elephant".

In the studies that the Cochrane team looked at, participants were asked to get into a bath or container of cold water after running, cycling or resistance training. In most trials, participants spent between five and 24 minutes in water that was 10-15C, although in some cases much lower temperatures were used or participants were asked to get in and out of the water a number of times.

Internet

First test-tube hamburger ready this fall: researchers

AMSTERDAM , 21 Feb — The world's first "test-tube" meat, a hamburger made from a cow's stem cells, will be produced this fall, Dutch scientist Mark Post told a major science conference on Sunday. Post's aim is to invent an efficient way to produce skeletal muscle tissue in a laboratory that exactly mimics meat, and eventually replace the entire meat-animal industry. The ingredients for his first burger are "still in a laboratory phase," he said, but by fall "we have committed ourselves to make a couple of thousand of small tissues, and then assemble them into a hamburger."

The world's first "test-tube" meat, a hamburger made from a cow's stem cells, will be produced this fall, Dutch scientist Mark Post told a major science conference on Sunday.— INTERNET

Post, chair of physiology at Maastricht University in the Netherlands, said his project is funded with 250,000 euros from an anonymous private investor motivated by "care for the environment, food for the world, and interest in life-transforming technologies."Post spoke at a symposium titled "The Next Agricultural Revolution" at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Vancouver.

Speakers said they aim to develop such "meat" products for mass consumption to reduce the environmental and health costs of conventional food production. Conventional meat and dairy production requires more land, water, plants and disposal of waste products than almost all other human foods, they said. The global demand for meat is expected to rise by 60 percent by 2050, said American scientist Nicholas Genovese, who organized the symposium.— *Internet*

New approach urged for late-talking bilingual babies

WASHINGTON , 21 Feb — Babies who are raised in homes where two or more languages are spoken may appear to talk later than those learning just one language, leaving parents puzzled and concerned as to the reasons why. Conventional wisdom often suggests that such children are confused and so they take longer to talk. Or, parents may hear that any apparent delay is just an illusion because kids are little geniuses who can learn many languages quickly and easily.

"Both of these views are wrong," US psychologist Erika Hoff told the American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting in Vancouver this weekend. "It is not the case that hearing two languages confuses the child and impairs their ability to acquire anything. But it is also not the case that children can magically acquire two languages as quickly as one." Instead, psychologists should take a different approach to testing young children, one that measures their proficiency in both languages instead of just one.

When that is done, researchers typically find that the two tests add up to about the same level of proficiency as would be seen in a baby who is learning a single language. "Children who are exposed to two languages... must hear less of each language than a child who hears only one and so it takes them longer to get the same amount of experience with each language," added Hoff, whose research has focused on highly educated bilingual Spanish-English families in south Florida.

Two kinds of tests have existed for decades — the Language Development Survey and the MacArthur Bates Communicative Development Inventory — in which parents answer questions about which words their child knows and how many word combinations the child has at around age two.—*Internet*

Japan trade deficit balloons as fuel imports surge

TOKYO, 21 Feb—Japan posted a record high trade deficit in January after its nuclear crisis shut down nearly all the nation's reactors for tougher checks, sending fuel imports surging. Exports were hurt by a strong yen and weak demand. The 1.48 trillion yen ($18.7 billion) deficit reported on Monday highlights Japan's increased dependence on imported fuel after the 11 March earthquake and tsunami sent the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear plant into multiple meltdowns.

In this photo taken on 13 Feb, 2012, trucks carrying containers leave a port in Tokyo. Japan reported on 20 Feb, a record high trade deficit in January after its nuclear crisis shut down nearly all the nation's reactors for tougher checks, sending fuel imports surging.
INTERNET

As public worries grew, nearly all the 54 nuclear reactors in Japan were stopped for inspections. The government wants to restart at least some of the reactors, after checking for better tsunami and quake protection. Resource-poor Japan imports almost all its oil. Until the Fukushima disaster, the country had trumpeted nuclear technology as a safe and cheap answer to its energy needs. Now, Japan is importing more natural gas and oil as utilities boost non-nuclear power generation. Imports of natural gas in January vaulted 74 percent from a year earlier and imports of petroleum jumped nearly 13 percent.

Internet

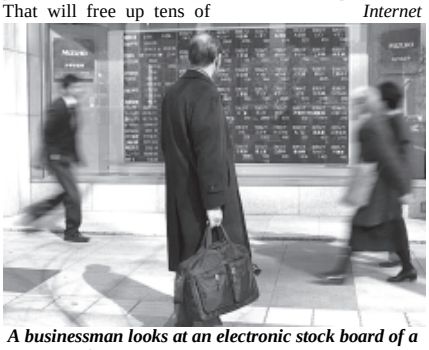
Asia stocks rise as China moves to boost economy

BANGKOK, 21 Feb—Asian stock markets climbed Monday after China moved to boost its economy by freeing up bank lending and hopes grew that Greece will clinch the aid it needs to avoid bankruptcy. Oil prices jumped to a nine-month high near $105 a barrel after Iran said it halted crude exports to Britain and France in an escalation of a dispute over the Middle Eastern country's nuclear programme. The dollar weakened against the euro but gained against the yen.

Japan's Nikkei 225 index added 1 percent to 9,480.55. Hong Kong's Hang Seng rose 0.7 percent to 21,683.05 and China's Shanghai Composite Index was up 0.9 percent at 2,377.96. South Korea's Kospi added 0.2 percent to 2,027.63. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 gained 1.3 percent to 4,249.40. Benchmarks in Singapore, Taipei and the Philippines also rose. Indonesia fell.

China's central bank said over the weekend it will lower the ratio of funds that banks must hold as reserves to 20.5 percent from 21 percent, effective Friday. That will free up tens of billions of dollars for loans at a time when the growth rate is expected to drop from last quarter's 8.9 percent to closer to 8 percent. The cut is the second in two months. Investors hoping for more lending in the real estate sector pushed up Chinese property shares. Hong Kong-listed China Resources Land Ltd surged 3.8 percent and China Overseas Land & Investment Ltd. added 3.4 percent.

Internet



A businessman looks at an electronic stock board of a securities firm in Tokyo, on 20 Feb, 2012. — INTERNET

Wal-Mart increases stake in Chinese e-commerce firm

SHANGHAI, 21 Feb—Wal-Mart Stores Inc said on Monday it has reached an agreement to raise its stake in a Chinese e-commerce firm, Yihaodian, to around 51 percent as the world's largest retailer aims to boost its presence in China's fast growing consumer market. Walmart announced in May last year it planned to buy a minority stake in Yihaodian, a Chinese website selling consumer items and groceries.

Walmart said in a news release that the fresh investment into Yihaodian will take its stake to around 51 percent and will be subject to government regulatory approval. Walmart did not provide any financial details to the deal.

"Our further investment in Yihaodian demonstrates that we are committed to investing in China in a key growth industry and developing all that goes with it: logistics, infrastructure, innovative talent and new technologies...," Neil Ashe, President and CEO of Walmart Global eCommerce, said in the statement.

Yihaodian, with 5,400 staff, operates a logistics network based in Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou, Wuhan and Chengdu. It serves a growing customer base with same-day and next-day delivery of essential daily items at competitive prices.—*Internet*

Business

'Jacuzzi vents' model CO2 future

LONDON , 21 Feb — A UK scientist studying volcanic vents in the ocean says they hold a grave warning for future marine ecosystems. These vents have naturally acidified waters that hint at how our seas might change if atmospheric carbon dioxide levels continue to rise. They are conditions that would make it harder for corals and similar organisms to make the hard parts in their bodies. Dr Jason Hall-Spencer's work suggests our oceans could lose perhaps 30% of their biodiversity this century.

The Plymouth University researcher has been presenting his latest findings to a major conference in Vancouver, Canada. "I am investigating underwater volcanoes where carbon dioxide bubbles up like a Jacuzzi, acidifying large areas of the seabed, and we can see at these vents which types of organisms are able to thrive and which ones are most vulnerable," he told the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

Dr Hall-Spencer treats the vents like a time machine. As he swims towards them, the pH level of the water falls and he can use particular locations to simulate what the open ocean will be like in the decades ahead if emissions of atmospheric CO2 go unchecked and much of the that gas is absorbed into sea. "What we see as you swim along a gradient of carbon dioxide, up to levels we expect for the end of this century, is diversity loss.

"As you go along that gradient, species drop out of the system," he told BBC News. "It's not all calcified species - ones with hard shells or skeletons - which drop out; there are other organisms with soft bodies which drop out as well. "This CO2 is a stressor. Some organisms can adapt but there're only a few species that can handle it. If I extend the gradient up to the year 2100 — that represents a 30% loss in biodiversity."— *Internet*

At these volcanic vent sites, carbon dioxide bubbles up like a Jacuzzi.— INTERNET

Japanese scientists confirm fat-burning protein

OSAKA, 21 Feb — A team of researchers of Japan's Kyoto University has found a protein that helps the body burn fat following an intake of fatty meals, Japanese public broadcaster NHK reported on Monday. The researchers at the Kyoto University's Institute of Chemical Research compared mice with protein called GPR120 with those that do not have the protein, and provided them with high-fat feeds, the report said.

They confirmed that the mice without the protein were heavier than those who had it by an average of 15 percent, and accumulated twice as much fat in their bodies, it said. The Japanese scientists also analyzed the genetic sequence of about 20,000 people in Europe, including the French and the British, and found that people with mutant GPR120 genes were 1.6 times more likely to be obese.

Based on the result of the research, the Japanese scientists concluded the protein is capable of detecting fat, and also plays a role in prompting the body to burn the fat.Professor Gozo Tsujimoto, head of the researcher team, was quoted by NHK as saying that the development of drugs that activate the protein will help prevent obesity.— *Xinhua*

'Abyss Box' to keep deep animals

PARIS, 21 Feb — The public are going to get the chance to see live creatures pulled up from the deep ocean in a permanent display. Normally when organisms are raised from kilometres below the sea surface, they quickly die because of the huge change in pressure. But scientists have now developed the Abyss Box, which can maintain animals in the extreme environment they need. The vessel, containing deep-sea crab and shrimp, will go on show at the Oceanopolis aquarium in Brest, France.

The volume of the box is quite small (16 litres) but researchers believe the technology could eventually be scaled up to house larger animals, such as fish. It is hoped such vessels will enable scientists to study bottom-dwelling creatures over long periods of time — something that is just not possible at the moment."

We want such basic information as the length of life of a deep-sea animal," explained Dr Bruce Shillito, a marine biologist at the Universite Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris.—*Internet*

The Abyss Box will contain deep-sea crab and shrimp —and sustain them over the long term.— INTERNET

science

Samsung shifts to new TV technology with LCD spin off

An employee of Samsung Electronics explains as a monitor shows the company's main factory at its showroom in Asan, south of Seoul.— INTERNET

SEOUL, 21 Feb — South Korea's Samsung Electronics Co, the world's biggest maker of televisions, is shifting its focus towards new generation OLED display technology, and said it will spin off its loss-making LCD flat-screen business into an affiliate.

The outlook for liquid crystal display TVs has dimmed as shoppers in developed markets have traded in their bulky cathode-ray tube TVs for flat screens, and competition has intensified from low-cost Chinese manufacturers.

Annual global sales of LCD TVs will contract by 8 percent to $92 billion by 2015, flat panel industry research company Display Search has forecast, while the OLED display market could top $20 billion by 2018, accounting for 16 percent of the total display industry, up from a current 4 percent. Japans' Sony Corp agreed to exit its LCD joint venture with Samsung in December, while Sharp Corp said it would halve LCD output for January-March at a plant in western Japan.

Together, Panasonic, Sony and Sharp expect to lose $17 billion this year, highlighting the savaging of Japan's electronics industry, and TV makers in particular, by foreign rivals such as Samsung, weak demand and a strong yen. Samsung's LCD division made an operating loss of 750 billion won ($666 million) last year. With TVs becoming smart—linked to other devices like tablets and smartphones—an inability to win in the TV market risks hobbling sales across the Japanese groups' wider consumer electronics line-ups.— *Internet*

British firm develops 'cheapest wireless tablet'

LONDON , 21 Feb — A British technology company claims to have developed the world's least expensive computer tablet for wireless Internet access. At a cost of as little as $35 (£22) apiece, Datawind Ltd hopes to supply a market of billions of customers, many in underdeveloped countries. The student tablet released in October costs $35, but Datawind released an updated version of the Aakash computer tablet this month for the commercial market that costs $50. It comes with more features. Aakash is the Hindi word for "heaven."

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The Aakash tablets reached their first users last fall under an information technology programme sponsored by the Indian government. The company provided 100,000 of the tablets, which were designed at its Montreal facility, to Indian students. Customers have been contacting Datawind with "in the range of about 30,000 orders every day," said Suneet Singh Tuli, Datawind's chief executive officer, during a telephone interview with *AFP*. "It is huge. We have already received over three million individual hand users pre-booking on this." Datawind's market research shows sales are likely to continue rising.

In the late 1990s, there were 750 million people connected to the Internet and many others using mobile phones, Singh said. Since then, "the number of mobile phone user subscribers has ballooned to almost six billion while the number of Internet subscribers was at two billion," he said.

Internet

Single-atom transistor busts the records

CANBERRA , 21 Feb — Researchers in Australia said on Sunday they had made with pinpoint accuracy a working transistor consisting of a single atom, marking a major stride towards next-generation computing. The device comprises a single phosphorus atom, etched into a silicon bed, with "gates" to control electrical flow and metallic contacts that are also on the atomic scale. "Our group has proved that it is really possible to position one phosphorus atom in a silicon environment, exactly as we need it, with near-atomic precision, and at the same time (incorporate) gates," said lead scientist Martin Fuechsle.

Transistors, which switch or amplify electrical flow, are the building blocks of computer chips. For more than 50 years, the semi-conductor industry has been upholding Moore's Law, the celebrated prediction by Intel Corp pioneer Gordon Moore that the number of transistors on a chip would double every 18 months or so. But the astonishing run of success could hit a wall by the end of this decade without a breakthrough in miniaturising transistors.—*Internet*

***Prof Michelle Simmons (2nd R) leads the research team of Dr Floris Zwanenburg (L), Martin Fuechsle (2nd L) and Dr Suddhasatta Mahapatra (R) from the Centre for Quantum Computer Technology to develop the world's smallest transistor at the University of New South Wales in 2010.*—INTERNET**

TECHNOLOGY

Obama to meet Netanyahu at White House on 5 March

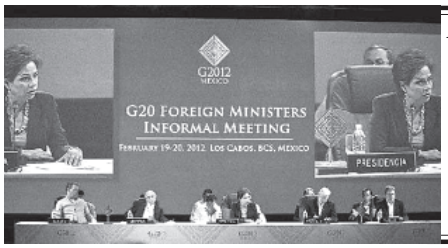
WASHINGTON, 21 Feb—US President Barack Obama will meet Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at the White House on 5 March, as a potential Israeli strike on Iranian nuclear sites has become a hot topic in Washington, the White House said on Monday.

Tom Donilon, the president's national security advisor who just concluded a three-day visit to Israel, relayed to Netanyahu that Obama "looks forward to meeting with him," the White House said.

In his consultations with senior Israeli officials including Netanyahu, Defence Minister Ehud Barak, Chief of the General Staff Benny Gantz and National Security Advisor Yaakov Amidror, Donilon addressed the "full range of security issues of mutual concern," the White House said in a statement. Donilon's visit is referred as part of the "continuous and intensive dialogue" between the two countries which reflects unshakable US commitment to Israel's security. Late last month, Martin Dempsey, chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, travelled to Israel.

Last Thursday, Netanyahu called Iran "the most irresponsible" country in the world, saying sanctions against Teheran over its controversial nuclear programme "haven't worked". Israel also accused Iran of being behind the recent bomb attacks on its embassy personnel in India, Georgia and Thailand. US Defence Secretary Leon Panetta was quoted as saying early this month that Israel could attack Iran as soon as this spring.—*Xinhua*

***US President Barack Obama (R) meets Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at the United Nations in New York.*—INTERNET**



Mexican Foreign Minister Patricia Espinosa Cantellano (C Front) speaks during the opening of the G20 Foreign Ministers Informal Meeting in Los Cabos, Baja California Sur State, Mexico, on 19 Feb, 2012.
XINHUA

Vietnam, Argentina promote scientific, technological cooperation

HANOI, 21 Feb—The Vietnam Ministry of Science and Technology (MST) and the Embassy of Argentina to Vietnam co-organized a seminar here on Monday, under the theme,"First Vietnam-Argentina forum on connectivity and renewal of technologies".

The event attracted representatives of businesses from both countries, and members of the visiting high-ranking delegation of the Argentine National Scientific and Technological Research Council.

Vietnam and Argentina have signed an cooperative agreement on using atomic power for peaceful purpose, and exchange visits of different levels in the areas of atomic power, bio-technology and agriculture, addressed MST Deputy Minister Nghiem Vu Khai.

The seminar will provide businesses from both sides with opportunities for cooperation, which will help boosting cooperation in science and technology between the two countries, Khai said.

Argentina's Ambassador to Vietnam Alberto Jaime Kaminker highly evaluated the organization of the seminar, saying that it will promote the bilateral scientific and technological cooperation in areas that the two sides are interested in.

Participants exchanged experience in scientific research and transfer, as well as explored opportunities for further cooperation in the fields.—*Internet*

China hopes Iran, Britain, France resume oil talks

BEIJING, 21 Feb—China hopes relevant parties will resume dialogues amid Iran's cuts on oil exports to British and French companies, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said on Monday.

China has consistently advocated settling international disputes through dialogue and consultation and does not support resolving such issues through pressure and confrontation, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei said.

Iran's oil ministry announced on Sunday that Iran has stopped oil sales to British and French companies, just months before the European Union's embargo on Iranian oil will take effect.

Xinhua

Chinese vice president arrives in Turkish capital for official visit

ANKARA, 21 Feb—Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping arrived here on Monday evening for an official visit to Turkey at the invitation of Turkish President Abdullah Gul.

"The main purpose of my visit is to deepen mutual understanding and the traditional friendship between our two peoples, and boost the friendly and mutually beneficial cooperation between China and Turkey in a variety of fields so as to better benefit the two countries and the two peoples," Xi said in a written speech upon his arrival at the Esenboga Airport in Ankara.

"Turkey, like China, has a long history and colourful cultures. Friendly exchanges between China and Turkey date back to ancient times," Xi said.

"We are pleased to see the continuous development in bilateral cooperation in the political, economic, cultural and other fields since China and Turkey established diplomatic relations in 1971," the Chinese leader noted.

"As two important developing nations, China and Turkey share extensive common interests in safeguarding world peace, promoting common development and meeting global challenges," Xi said, adding that China is willing to strengthen its ties with Turkey in a bid to further push forward their strategic partnership.

During his stay, Xi will meet separately with Turkish President Abdullah Gul, Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Parliament Speaker Cemil Cicek.

Turkey is the last leg of Xi's three-nation tour, which has already taken him to the United States and Ireland.

Xinhua

Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping (C) waves to the crowd as he arrives in Ankara, Turkey, on 20 Feb, 2012. Xi Jinping arrived in Ankara on Monday evening for an official visit to Turkey.
XINHUA

Last nuclear reactor in western Japan shuts down for checkup

OSAKA, 21 Feb—The last nuclear reactor in western Japan operated by Kansai Electric Power Company has shut down for a regular checkup, leaving only two out of Japan's total 54 commercial reactors operating, local Press reported. Kansai Electric Power Company said it completed the shut down procedures for the No 3 reactor at the Takahama nuclear power plant in Fukui Prefecture early on Tuesday.

Kansai Electric has 11 reactors and had produced half of its electricity by nuclear power before the quake-triggered disaster in northeastern Japan. With the shutdown of the last reactor, the company forecasts its supply capacity could fall short of peak demand by 8.8 percent by mid-March under one scenario.

Makoto Yagi, president of Kansai Electric, expressed at a press conference in Osaka on Monday his regret over the current severe situation and said his company would make efforts to resume nuclear power generation.

"We will strive to restore trust by taking all possible measures to ensure the safety of nuclear power generation," he said. Now, only two of Japan's 54 nuclear reactors are running. But those two in the central prefecture of Niigata and in the northern prefecture of Hokkaido will also be shut down by late April for checkups. As no reactors have resumed operation after going through regular checkups since the Fukushima complex disaster last March, it is highly likely that Japan will have no operating nuclear reactors this spring. The Japanese government will ultimately decide on whether to resume the reactors which are being checked, but it also needs the approval of the local governments where the reactors are located. The local governments are urging the central government to set new safety standards based on lessons learned from the Fukushima disaster.—*Xinhua*

***Members of the media wearing protective suits and masks inspect as they are escorted by TEPCO employees at Tokyo Electric Power Co (TEPCO)'s tsunami-crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant in Fukushima prefecture, Japan, on 20 Feb, 2012. Members of the media were allowed into the plant on Monday ahead of the first anniversary of the 11 March tsunami and earthquake. It has been the second permitted media visit to the site since the disaster.*—XINHUA**

Cuba condemns Spanish "interference" in domestic affairs

HAVANA, 21 Feb—Cuba on Monday condemned Spanish foreign minister Jose Manuel Garcia-Margallo's criticism on its human rights situation, calling it "disrespectful interference in Cuban internal affairs."

"We express our strong opposition to these statements constituting a new interference in Cuban internal affairs," Cuban Deputy Foreign Minister Dagoberto Rodriguez Barrera said in an official release Monday afternoon.

In an interview with Spanish daily *El Mundo* published on Sunday, Garcia-Margallo said that "as long as Cuba does not take steps toward democracy ... and full recognition of rights and freedoms, his country would not support any change of the so-called 'Common Position' of the European Union (EU) toward Havana."

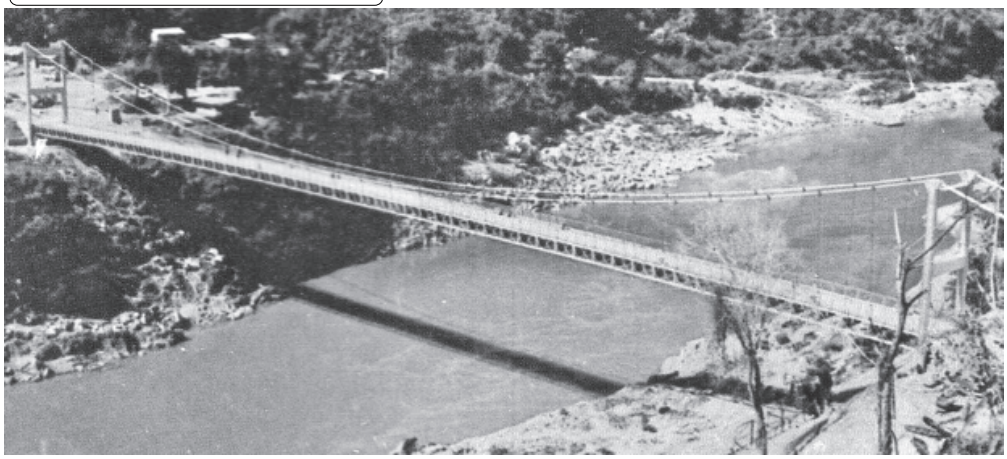
The "Common Position," adopted in 1996, conditions the EU relations with Cuba to the "improvement of the respect to human rights and freedom on the island." Havana rejects the EU measure and considers it as a "violation to its sovereignty and interference in its domestic affairs."

"The Spanish foreign minister should remember that Cuba is no longer a Spanish colony" and "does not accept questions from anyone, especially those trying to give lessons, when they actually have a roof of glass," Rodriguez stressed. Rodriguez stated that instead of interfering in Cuban internal affairs, the Spanish government should try to solve its own economic and human rights problem.—*Xinhua*

Thanlwin River Crossing Bridge (Tarkawatt) in Tangyan, Shan State; smooth transport from west to east of Thanlwin River

* Located in Tangyan Township in Shan State (North), the Thanlwin River Crossing Bridge (Tarkawatt) was put into service on the occasion of the 50th golden jubilee of the Union Day to become a show piece for national unity. Thanks to the bridge, there has been enormously increased in rural development of border areas and national races.
* National people who faced uneasy access to the west from the east of Thanlwin River, where could be reached only by a ferry ride at the time when the place was lack of stability, are now enjoying the fruit of emerging the bridge.

Translation: AKK



Notable facts of Thanlwin River Crossing Bridge

1. The Thanlwin River Crossing Bridge (Tarkawatt) is situated on Tangyan-Pansan motor road in Shan State.
2. It is 600 feet in length and 16 feet and 5 inches in width.
3. It's of RC type and it's a bailey suspension bridge.
4. The construction of the bridge was started on April 1, 1995, and it was commissioned into service on February 12, 1997.

Archive: *Maung Nyein Aye*

Soon, driverless cars will zoom in streets with no stoplights

WASHINGTON, 21 Feb— Traffic red lights will soon be a history, says a computer scientist who is developing virtual intersection systems for fully autonomous vehicles.

According to Peter Stone, a professor of computer science at The University of Texas at Austin, intersections of the future will not need stop lights or stop signs, but will look like a somewhat chaotic flow of driverless, autonomous cars slipping past one another as they are managed by a virtual traffic controller.

"A future where sitting in the backseat of the car reading our newspaper while it drives us effortlessly through city streets and intersections is not that far away," said Stone.

Stone's research focuses on creating artificially intelligent (AI) computing systems, and he is developing some of the systems that are needed to make autonomous driving a reality. For example, Stone and his students created an autonomous car, named Marvin, in cooperation with Austin Robot Technology that competed in the 2007 DARPA Urban Challenge competition.—*Internet*

Open windows could help prevent infections

LONDON, 21 Feb—Air conditioning and the ultra-sterile environment in places like hospitals may actually contribute to infections, say experts.

Friendly bacteria found outdoors could be recruited to fend off the potentially deadly microbes that cause hospital-acquired infections, according to Jack Gilbert of Argonne National Laboratory in Chicago and head of the Earth Microbiome Project, a global database of microbial species, *The Independent* reported on Monday.

He said the idea is supported by a study showing that open windows influence the composition of microbial communities found on handles and surfaces, but did not increase the numbers of dangerous pathogens —the sort of antibiotic-resistant superbugs which infect patients. "Open windows let bacteria in from outside and you will either dilute out the pathogens, or you are not allowing the pathogens to establish themselves because there is too much competition for the nutrients and energy that the bacteria need to survive," Gilbert told the American Association for the Advancement of Science.—*Internet*

Seventh day session of Pyithu Hluttaw...

(from page 1)

regulations and withdraw the permits if they do not follow the rules and regulations. However, the inspection team cannot check their tasks due to regional situation. If the local situations are in good condition, supervision tasks will be undertaken.

Among four mining blocks, the nearest distance between the block and Laytan Creek is 20 miles and the farthest distance, 50 miles. With regard to flow of muddy water and bad quality of water in the creek, the inspection team will be sent to the region for making necessary supervision and some arrangements when the region is in good situation.

Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint replied to two questions on construction sector by two Hluttaw representatives.

U Hla Tun of Hkamti Constituency said that **as Koetan Creek Bridge linking Thetkelkyin and Khatun villages on Monywa-Hkamti strategic road between is damaged due to erosion, the new bridge is under construction spending a large sum of money. Whether there is a plan to rebuild the bridge as a suspension bridge by the State**. The deputy minister replied that 290-foot Koetan Creek Bridge was built temporarily in 2011-2012 fiscal year. Due to heavy rains and 13 feet high torrent water on 12-9-2006, the bridge was damaged. Then, the bridge could not be rebuilt depending on the fund and the temporary bridge was built there in open season annually.

Koetan Creek Bridge on Thetkelkyin-Phaungpyin-Homalin-Hkamti Road was included in the fifth five-year plan and it will commence in 2013-2014 fiscal year.

U Soe Soe of Htigyaing Constituency asked **whether there is a plan to build a culvert on Kwanbaung Creek on Htigyaing-Kyaunggon Road near Kwanton-Kyaukaik Village**. The deputy minister replied that Sagaing Region spends its fund on maintenance and upgrading of the road, construction of retaining wall and conduits.

Htigyaing-Kyaunggon Road is under management of the Region Government. Due to strong current of the creek, it should build a bridge than the culvert. Thus, the fund is being sought from the region government to build 250-foot Kwanbaung Bridge in 2012-2013.

Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung replied to four questions raised by three Hluttaw representatives.

U Win Myint of Pyay Constituency asked **whether Marine Administration Department will have a plan to manage landslides in Pyay Township due to bank erosion that local people lose housings and plantations** and he asked **whether there is a plan to make arrangements for small passenger aircrafts to land at Pyay Airport of Bago Region**. The Union Minister replied that the Ministry of Transport is taking responsibility for waterway and aviation sectors. Its aim depends on raising the funds of the ministry. Thus, the ministry is difficult to take responsibilities for maintenance of bank erosion and landslides along all rivers and the delta region. In conducting survey of buildings and necessary measurements for Myaywa River Water Pumping Project, the area was eroded due to over volume of water. In this regard, the project is being implemented to store necessary volume of water by applying technology. However, the ministry does not have the funds not only for the bank erosion in Pyay but also in all landslides along all rivers of the nation including that of the delta region. Township authorities are to submit matters related to bank erosions to the President Office through respective region/state governments. The President Office will allot the separate budget for the tasks. The ministry will not allot its fund for the bank erosion.

Regarding the second question, Myanmar is practicing market economy, the minister said. Aircrafts once landed Pyay Airport which is under maintenance of Civil Aviation Department now, he said. As there is no passenger, there is no flight grounding Pyay Airport, the minister pointed out. If the representatives wish the airport to operate flights and they can assign an agent there and book passengers for half of the flight, the aircrafts are ready to board them, the Union minister answered.

U Tin Maung of Chanmyathazi Constituency asked **whether there is a plan to upgrade Chanmyathazi Airport in Mandalay Region by the Union government to give a facelift to the city.** The Union minister answered: the airport emerged in parallel with the Independence. Its original length is 4000 ft and width, 75 ft. Its current length is 6500 ft and width, 100 ft. F-28 aircrafts weighing 75 tons and above can land the airport. It is a global fashion constructing new airports in cities if they come to development. TadaU Airport was built to handle international flights Mandalay.

Mandalay Chanmyathazi Airport was extended to 6500 ft in 1996. Since opening of TadaU Airport in September, 2000, it was suspended. 450 aircrafts are crossing Myanmar's aviation territory. Of them, 200 have to report to the airport which plays a significant role in global aviation route. Every computer has the distance of the airport. It is planned to swing the airport into action.

It is planned to open civil aviation training school to nurture qualified pilots for local and international airliners and to open flying club for aviation enthusiasts and amateur pilots. The principal and trainers of Defence Services (Air) Aviation Training School are being recruited for opening the civil aviation training school.

After the flying club is opened, it will be packed with training aircrafts, amateur aircrafts and buildings of the club and will become a glory of Mandalay where aviation education is provided. The airport could also be used a reserve airport of TadaU Airport.

It is planned to keep the airport as compulsory report point on international aviation route, civil aviation training school and flying club.

U Win Myint of Myingyan Constituency asked **whether there is a plan to perform maintenance tasks along Ayeyawady River course in Myingyan Township**. The Union minister answered: The question is similar one raised by U Win Myint of Pyay Constituency. Hsimikhon is a significant site along the Ayeyawady river course. Flowing south to north, the river changes its course from east to west as it passes over Hsimikhon village. Till now, vessels of Inland Water Transport are loading and unloading in Hsimikhon village. If the question is about the plan to contain the erosion, the answer is no as there is no fund allotted to do so. Though, there is a plan to build a terminal in joint venture with private entrepreneurs regarding the construction industrial zone in Hsimikhon region. While building the terminal, the conservation tasks will be carried out simultaneously.

U Hla Tun of Hkamti Constituency shoots queries.

MNA

Bill Committee and two Hluttaw representatives put forward the proposals for amendment to Foreign Currency Bill submitted on 15 February.

Member of Bill Committee U Thein Tun Oo presented proposals for amendments to Paragraph (1), Paragraph (2), Paragraph (3), (a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l), Paragraph (4) (e), Paragraph (5) (b, e, f), Paragraph (6), Paragraph (7) (a, b), Paragraph (11), Paragraph (14) (b), Paragraph (15) (c), Paragraph (16) (a, b), Paragraph (17), Paragraph (22), Paragraph (24), Paragraph (27) (b) and Paragraph (28).

U Ko Gyi of Aungmyethazan Constituency proposed amendments to Paragraph (3) (j), Paragraph (5) (b) and Paragraph (14) (b).

Regarding Paragraph (3) (j), Member of Bill Committee U Khin Maung Shein said the amendment of the committee is more appropriate to keep each parts of the bill in harmony. Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun said he had nothing special to discuss in this regard.

Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint replies to two questions.

MNA

U Ko Gyi accepted the amendment of the committee.

Regarding Paragraph (5) (b), Member of Bill Committee U Aung Mya Than said the original text is more condensed and it should be approved as original. The Union Finance and Revenue Minister passed on the clarification.

Regarding Paragraph (14) (b), Member of Bill Committee U Tin Maung Shwe said U Ko Gyi's amendment is more appropriate and Union Minister U Hla Tun showed his approval.

Dr Sai Kyaw Ohn of Namhkam Constituency proposed amendments of Paragraph (22) and Paragraph (27) (b).

Regarding Paragraph (22), Member of Bill Committee U Aung Mya Than said Dr Sai Kyaw Ohn's amendment is more appropriate and Union Minister U Hla Tun showed his approval.

Regarding Paragraph (27) (b), Member of Bill Committee U Aung Mya Than said the amendment of the committee is more appropriate and Union Minister U Hla Tun said he agreed the amendment of the committee.

In seeking approval for all amended sections and subsections at one stroke, these were approved unanimously.

At Invitation of Chairman of National People's Congress of China, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker and representatives visits China from 22 to 26 February. On the visit, measures will be taken for fostering China-Myanmar friendship tie, cooperation and friendship and cooperation between the Pyithu Hluttaw and Chinese National People's Congress.

Today's session concluded at 1.25 pm and the date for eight day session will be announced later.—*MNA*

Myanmar archers celebrate kissing one gold, two silver

YANGON, 21 Feb—The first Asian Archery Grand Prix 2012 took place in Bangkok of Thailand from 14 to 20 February.

Among archery teams of 29 countries, the 12-member Myanmar archery team stood the fourth in the standing table of the countries by securing one gold and two silver medals.

Aung Hngein bagged one gold in the singles compound knockout event. She also won one silver medal together with Ye Min Swe in the mix team knockout event. The Myanmar gold medalist secured one more silver in the ranking in total point.—*MNA*

In-charge Rector Dr Htay Aung presents Myanmarsar team that stood first in Htamane (sticky rice) preparing competitions sponsored by Buddhist Association of Mawlamyine University on 7 February. And Marine Science team and Philosophy team stood second and third respectively at the competition.—MNA

Third regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw continued...

(from page 1)

upgrading the 3.5-furlong road section of the road in Einme Township in the 2012-2013 fiscal year.

The earthen road linking Mezali Sarphyusu and Kangyi and Kyonton in Einme Township is 23 miles and six furlongs long. The 4-furlong distance of the19-mile road section of the road in Einme Township was upgraded to gravel one in the 2008-2009 fiscal year and two-furlong distance was upgraded in the 2009-2010 fiscal year by Einme Township Development Affairs Department, he added.

Einme Township Development Affairs Committee would spend 80 million kyats on upgrading the two-mile-long section of the road in Myaungmya Township and K 40 million on upgrading the one-mile long section of the road in Einme Tonship in the 2012-2013 fiscal year, he said.

Afterwards, U Aung Nyein of Magway Region constituency No. 2 asked **to help the shortage of drinking water in Gwaybin Model Village in Gwaybin Village-tract in Chauk Township.**

Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Zaw Win replied that the ten-year project on drinking water supply in rural areas was implemented from the 2000-2001 fiscal year to the 2009-2010 fiscal year, benefiting 23225 villages out of 64349 villages in the country and a total of 34858 water supply facilities were built during the ten-year project, he said.

Thirty-six tube wells were drilled and 36 lakes to storage rain water were constructed in Chauk township at the cost of K 257.96 million funded by Chauk Township DAC , donors and the State, benefiting 45 villages.

Gwaybin Model Village has over 260 households and has a population of 1555. There is a tube-well and three lakes built in 1979. Though the township DAC repaired the tube well in the 2008-2009 fiscal year as the water supply from the tube-well had decreased, it did not work again, he added. The deputy minister gave a green light to the township DAC to repair the tube well at the cost of K 36.47 million.

U Kyaw Kyaw of Rakhine State constituency No. 2 asked **whether the ministry had a plan to upgrade Konthedan wooden bridge in MraukU to the bridge with reinforced concrete pillars and wooden floor and to upgrade Bandoola Bridge in MraukU to the iron reinforced one.**

The deputy minister replied that Konthedan Bridge is 120 ft long, 6 ft wide and 18 ft high. The wooden bridge was repaired by MraukU Township DAC in the 2006-2007 fiscal year and in the 2008-2009 fiscal year spending the funds of the township DAC. The local people and MraukU Township DAC also repaired the bridge again as it was damaged by the natural disaster in 21 July, 2011.

MyaukU Township DAC would spend K20 million on the first phase of upgrading the bridge in the 2012-2013 fiscal year and the remaining works would be carried out according to yearly plan, he said.

Funded by the State, Bandoola Bridge was upgraded to the wooden bridge with concrete bases and it was 145 ft long, 14 ft wide and 24 ft high in the 2001-2002 fiscal year at the cost of K23.197 million. The bridge was repaired in the 2008-2009 and in the 2011-2012 fiscal years funded by the township DAC, he added. The bridge would be upgraded to the iron reinforced concrete bridge at the cost of K250 million according to the yearly plans of MraukU township DAC.

U Nyan Lin of Ayeyawady Region constituency No. 3 **asked whether the ministry had a plan to construct Natsinngu-Yenatchaung Bridge for the development of Kyonpyaw, Yekyi and Laymyathnar townships and to complete the gravel road linking Chingon and Ngapiseik in Yekyi Township**.

The deputy minister replied that it was estimate that it would cost around K100 million to construct the 200-foot-in-length Natsinngu-Yenatchaung Bridge and Kyonpyaw Township DAC would spend K30 million to start the work in the 2012-2013 fiscal year and the remaining works would be carried out according to yearly plans.

Chingon-Chaunghpya-Ngapiseik Road is five miles long and one mile and four furlongs road section of the road was paved gravel in the 2006-2007 fiscal year and four furlong was paved with grave in the 2010-2011 fiscal year, he said.

The remaining earthen section of the road would be upgraded in the 2012-2013 fiscal year and one mile distance of the remaining three miles would be upgraded at the cost of K 40 million : K20 million funded by Yekyi Township DAC and K 20 funded by the State, he added.

U Aung Cho Oo of Bago Region constituency No 11 asked **the ministry whether it had a plan to upgrade the road linking Chaukgtinkwin, Kywephyuma, Ywashaung and Wai villages in Okpo Township, the road linking Gonnyindan, Boketho, Didubin and Kanthaya villages and the road linking Kyatsudaw, Htoo Chaung, Kinponchon, Othegon villages to an all-weather road.**

The road linking Chaukgtinkwin, Kywephyuma, Ywashaung and Wai villages in Oakpo Township was constructed by the local people in the 1990-1991 fiscal year and the earthen road was 13 miles long and 10 ft wide. The 5-furlong distance of the road was upgraded to the laterite road at the cost of k 1.2 million in the 2004-2005 fiscal year by the township DAC.

The township DAC spent K11.435 million on upgrading the one mile and 2.6 furlong distance of the road to the laterite road in the 2011-2012 fiscal year and it was estimated that it would cost k130.3 million to upgrade the remaining road section which was 12 miles and three furlongs long. In the 2012-2013 fiscal year, the township DAC would spend K4.4 million on upgrading the three furlong distance of the road section.

Gonnyindan-Kanthaya Road is 5 miles long and 10 ft wide. Though two miles and six furlong distance of the road had been paved with laterite, the road was the earthen road today. The 0.83 furlong distance of the road was paved with laterite in the 1998-1999 fiscal year funded by the township DAC, 1.15 furlong in the 1999-2000 fiscal year and road works was carried out on the 6000 sq ft on the road in the 2011-2012 fiscal year.

The road was being upgraded in the 2011-2012 fiscal year funded by Okpo Township DAC and one mile and 2.6 furlong road section had been paved with laterite. It was estimated that it would cost K 51 million to pave the five-mile distance of the road in an attempt to upgrade the road to an all-weather road and the four-furlong distance would be upgraded at the cost of K 5 million in the 2012-2013 fiscal year. The upgrading of the road would be carried out according the yearly budget of the township DAC.

Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Zaw Myint Pe of Mandalay Region Constituency No.5 holds discussion.
MNA

Kyatsudaw-Htoochaung-Kinponchon-Othegon village-to-village linking road was seven miles long and 10 ft wide and was constructed by the local people in the 1990-1991 fiscal year. The one-mile section of the road was upgraded to the laterite one at the cost of K12.9 million funded by the township DAC.

The one miles and 2.6 furlongs section of the road was being upgraded at the cost of K11.435 million funded by Okpo Township DAC in the 2011-2012 fiscal year. It was estimated that it would cost K87.2 million to upgrade the remaining 6-mile long earthen section and to construct a wooden bridge across the Gamone Creek. Therefore, the township DAC would spend K5 million on paving the four furlong distance of the road in the 2012-2013 fiscal year as a first phase.

Regarding the question of U Nain Khin Paung of Chin State Constituency No.7 on " Plan to continue the construction of road that links Khampat Sub-Township and Keekha Sub-township and Manipura river-crossing bridge," the deputy minister said: The road that links Keekha Sub-township of Chin State and Khampat Sub-township of Sagaing Region, is 65 miles long.

Under border area development programme, Field Engineering Battalion has constructed earthen road. The site for construction of Manipura river-crossing bridge is far about 20 miles of Keekha Township. So, it needs to construct about 300 -ft-long suspension bridge on the 250-ft-wide river. Construction of road will go on and matter on construction of Manipura river-crossing bridge would be submitted to the Central Committee for implementation of border areas and national races development, based on Chin State Government's findings and feasibility in order to get assistances from the government.

Regarding the amended Vacant Land, Fallow Land and Virgin Land Management Bill of Pyithu Hluttaw which has approved by Amyotha Hluttaw, U Saw Aung Kyaw Naing (a) Sharbuphaw of Kayin State Constituency No.1 discussed Chapter (4), Section 10 (a), Sub-section 4, Chapter (6), Section 16 (b) and (c), Chapter (7), Section 21 and Section (10) Sub-section 33.

The Hluttaw decided to make discussions by Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee. Regarding the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Foreign Investment Bill, member of Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee U Myint Tun read out the Bill Committee's report.

Dr Khin Shwe of Yangon Region Constituency No.9, U Saw Tun Mya Aung of Kayin State Constituency No.5, U San Pyae of Kachin State Constituency No.7, U Htay Win (a) U Zar Rat Yawman of Rakhine State Constituency No.7 and U Zaw Myint Pe of Mandalay Region Constituency No.5 discussed that bill.

Their discussion was that the country

Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Saw Tun Mya Aung of Kayin State Constituency No.5 holds discussion.
MNA

needs to have not only proper Investment Law but also good legal system. Myanmar Foreign Investment Laws do not conform with the current conditions, which have existed since many years ago. Foreign Investment Law (bill) with 19 chapters and 47 sections has been complied with a view to ensuring the development of foreign investment. Many countries show interest in making investment in Myanmar. In doing so, there might be those who want to invest in a legal way as well as opportunists. They suggested that monitoring measure for the foreign investors should be added to Commission's duty.

The Hluttaw decided to discuss it by Bill Committee of Amyotha Hluttaw. Dr Khin Shwe of Yangon Region Constituency No.9, U Saw Tun Mya Aung of Kayin State Constituency No.5, Dr Banya Aung Moe of Mon State Constituency No.7 and U Nu of Yangon Region Constituency No.10 discussed the proposal on U Hla Swe of Magway Region Constituency No.12 on "**Urging the Union Government to camp and turn out youth athletes for the 2013 SEA Games to be held as a host country after holding Inter-Basic and Higher Education Schools sport competitions, Inter-region/ state sport competitions, inter-ministry sport competitions including Ministry of Defence across the country**".

Their discussion is that holding of inter-basic education, higher education schools sport competitions across the country for the 2013 SEA Games. Inter-ministry sport competitions including Ministry of Defence needs to be held for selection of athletes; selections are to be carried out without giving favors; Encourages are to be given to school-aged children so as to do sport according to their hobbies; and measures to turn out outstanding athletes in all kinds of sports and camp them as a national duty.

Deputy Minister for Sports U Aye Myint Kyu said that, in his response to the query, the ministry is making efforts to achieve success in the XXVII SEA Games to be held as a host country in 2013, in line with the five pillars laid down by the ministry; the first is to train nominated athletes who are selected from the respective sports federation in the country in a training camp; the second is to give a camp training to the athletes selected from the first Champion Challenge Cup and State/Region Sports competitions, the third is to teach the selected athletes basic and modernized sports techniques, lessons, computer, language lab and ethics lessons; the fourth is to select young athletes from

(See page 10)

Third regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw continued...

(from page 9)

basic education inter-school sports competitions, universities (Upper Myanmar and Lower Myanmar) and colleges sports competitions, and the fifth is to choose athletes from Tatmadaw (Army, Navy, Air) Sports competition, which is now being held.

The athletes are being given training camps of the sports federations in Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw, and a Synthetic Track and gymnasiums are under construction in Lewe Township, while implementing gymnasiums for fuse, badminton, boxing, traditional (Mway), track and field, archery in Zabuthiri Sports zone and mountain bike, BMX, Down Hill bike fields near Mount Pleasant Hotel, and Ngalike Dam is for rowing.

Besides, the athletes in the training camps are being trained with modernized sports aids and supported with refreshment, medicines, sports wears and cash assistance.

The ministry is creating opportunities for the athletes to get a practice with athletes from foreign countries by holding friendly sports competitions and allowing them partake in sports competitions abroad.

In addition, the ministry has arranged prizes for the athletes so as to up their ability.

As for the ministry, it is carrying out tasks mentioned above, forming the leading committee for holding the XXVII SEA Games and the sub-committees.

Tests for referees and juries are being held to serve in the SEA Games, and assessments for experienced volunteers are being carefully done. The deputy minister discussed the proposal to be put on record for it is targeting at the tasks being done by the ministry.

The Hluttaw announced that it is recorded as the proposal.

After that, the sixth day of third regular session of the first Amyotha Hluttaw ended at 4:00 pm today.

At the today's session, the donation of 75 books by U Than Swe of No. 2 Constituency of Thaninthayi Region was put on record, the cash-donation for the library by Amyotha Hluttaw representative of Thaninthayi Region was put on record, six questions were answered, two bills were discussed and one proposal discussed and recorded.

MNA

Myanmar, Philippines to cooperate mines exploration

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Feb—Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htaik met the Philippines Ambassador to Myanmar Ms Maria Hellen M Barber and Philipino entrepreneurs, at the Minister's office, yesterday afternoon.

The minister explained the facts that copper and gold resource, Myanmar's welcome for exploration and investment, step-by-step cooperation in accord with Mines Laws and Bylaws and site visit of technical team. Executive Director Mr Edward A Tortorici and party of First Pacific Company Ltd of the Philippines cordially discussed matters sending of technical team and cooperation. Also present on the occasion were Managing Directors and Directors-General of the Ministry.

MNA

Union FM meets Director of Japan-Myanmar Association

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Feb— Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Wunna Maung Lwin received Director of Japan-Myanmar Association and Former Ambassador of Japan to Myanmar, Mr Takashi Tajima, at the Ministry here at 4 pm today. During the meeting, they cordially discussed promoting of bilateral relations and mutual interests.

MNA

Myanmar tourism delegation leaves for Thailand

YANGON, 21 Feb—At the invitation of the Foundation for International Human Resource Development of Thailand, professors led by Prof Dr Daw Khin Swe Myint who are giving lectures on tourism education at Yangon University and Mandalay University and Secretary of Myanmar Tourism Board U Tin Tun Aung and party left here by air to study academic matters of tourism education at universities in Thailand.

They will pay a three-day visit to Thai universities with a view to conducting tourism study major at Yangon and Mandalay universities in 2012-2013 academic year.

The diploma courses in tourism and management are being conducted at Yangon University and Mandalay University.

MNA

Refresher course for assistant directors and district auditing officers commences

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Feb—Today's auditing is aimed at scrutinizing undertakings of work organizations and effects on the State and the people; and while work organizations are carrying out their respective tasks for raising the public interest, the auditors are to control these organizations with positive attitude not to derail their policies and aims by contributing to smoother process of tasks, said Union Auditor-General U Lun Maung at the refresher course for assistant directors of the office of the Union Auditor-General and district auditing officers at the office of the Union Auditor-General, here, this morning.

Especially, he stressed the need for auditing officers to encouraging enhancement of internal control system and internal audit of respective departments. Emphasis is to be placed on higher proficiency of respective departments and on achieving success in the works.

In conclusion, he urged them to work hard for serving the interest of the State and the people, to be loyalty to the State, abide by codes of civil service and carry out the tasks honestly.

MNA

UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova, delivers a speech during the inauguration ceremony of the Intangible Cultrual Heritage Centre in Sofia, Bulgaria, on 20 Feb, 2012. The centre under the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is one of six around the world and the only one in Europe. XINHUA

Woman loves her 38KKK record setting boobs 'like her kids'

MELBOURNE, 21 Feb—A woman who has claimed that her record setting 38KKK breasts saved her life, by acting as air bags during a car accident, has revealed the struggles she faces with her chest and the operations she underwent to get it.

Sheyla Hershey had eventually started out as a B-cup, but 13 years and 22 operations; worth 250,000 dollars and five litres of saline later she has become a whopping KKK.

Despite not being able to find clothes that fit, tie her shoelaces or jog, she says she still loves her breasts "like they are my kids". "They are the most good thing in my life," *Herald Sun* quoted her as telling on a TV programme 'My Strange Addiction'.

Hershey said that she went under the knife in Brazil because Texas law limits the amount of silicone that can be injected into breast implants.

Hershey has 2.51 litres of silicone in each breast. —*Internet*

WWII grenades found, detonated

DAYTON, 21 Feb—The Dayton, Ohio, Bomb Squad exploded two World War II-era Japanese hand grenades after they were discovered at an estate sale, police said. A few attendees at Sunday's sale took one look at them and became concerned enough to call police in Kettering, a suburb of Ohio, WHIO-TV, Dayton, reported.

"Instead of having a pin like American [grenades] have, they had string," said Larry Hyatt, conductor of Sunday's estate sale. "And it was really rotten-looking string." Because old explosive devices can be sensitive to radio frequencies, Kettering police stopped using their radios and advised those close to the sale's locale not to use their cellphones.

Internet

Hitler had eye on UK mansion for headquarters

LONDON, 21 Feb—Hitler would have set up his headquarters in a sleepy Midlands market town in Britain if he had succeeded in invading the country.

Historians believe the dictator had selected Apley Hall, near Norton, in the heart of the Shropshire countryside, and it would have been the nerve-centre of his operations.

A bundle of 1940s papers recovered in a bunker in Belgium at the end of the war contained maps highlighting strategic sites for attack by the Germans, including railway stations, power plants and bridges. An enormous amount of attention was focused on Bridgnorth.

The stately, Grade II listed Apley Hall, just seven miles from the tourist town of Bridgnorth, was once a retreat for rich guests wanting to escape the city.

But, historians believe Hitler's interest in the area was due to it being geographically in the middle of England.

It was also away from the urbanised West Midlands and had a handy airbase nearby. "As far-fetched as it may sound, the papers, which were marked 'top secret', earmarked a place in the middle of nowhere where Hitler hoped to set up camp during his planned invasion," the *Daily Mail* quoted Richard Westwood-Brookes, who studies historical documents, as saying.—*Internet*

Italy to try accused Somali pirates

ROME, 21 Feb—Nine Somalis will be tried in Italy's first international piracy trial on charges they attacked an Italian cargo vessel off Somalia, a court ordered on Monday.

Four minors and five adults will stand trial March 23 on charges of piracy, weapons possession and damages incurred when they allegedly laid siege to the Italian cargo vessel, Montecristo off Somalia in October, the Italian news agency *ANSA* reported.

The accused surrendered to US and British troops working under NATO's Ocean Shield, CNN reported.

The multinational crew had thrown overboard a message in a bottle and put up a cardboard sign letting potential rescuers know they were hiding in the engine room awaiting help.

Lt Gwenn Laine of NATO said the *USS De Wert* kept an eye on the hijacked vessel until the British ship *HMS Fort Victoria* arrived with a boarding team, CNN said at the time of the October incident.

The minors are being detained in a juvenile facility while the adults are being held in Rome's Rebibbia and Regina Coeli prisons, *ANSA* said. If convicted, the accused face 20 years in prison.

Internet

A float goes past spectators during a parade of the Carnival of Mazatlan, in Mexico, on 19 Feb, 2012.— XINHUA

Queen Beatrix (L) of the Netherlands and her daughter-in-law Princess Mabel leave a hospital in Innsbruck, western Austria, two days after the Queen's second son Prince Johan Friso was rushed to Innsbruck's main hospital after he was buried by an avalanche.
INTERNET

Sharks target sea otters more than ever

MONTEREY, 21 Feb—Scientists say the number of sea otters found dead along the California coast due to shark bites has risen sharply in recent years.

Last year, 70 sea otters washed ashore between San Mateo County and Santa Barbara showing signs of shark attacks. Today, 30 percent of sea otters found dead along the California coast have been killed by sharks. In the mid-1990s, it was only 10 percent.

Scientists are at a loss to explain what is causing the sudden increase in shark attacks. Mike Murray, staff veterinarian at the Monterey Bay Aquarium told *Mercury News*:

"Is it because the sharks are changing their behaviour, or is there a change in the number of sharks? Or is there something wrong with the otters?" he said. "Are these otters sick and maybe doing something at the surface of the water that attracts a predator? Or are they unable to avoid predators?"

The federally designated threatened animal still struggles to recover its numbers, and the recent spike in shark attacks is now one of the most significant hurdles.

Activists also decry a new piece of legislation introduced into congress this week would allow the Navy to continue testing weaponry on remote Channel Island. Many say this would endanger the area's otter population by exempting the Navy from provisions of the Endangered Species Act and Marine Animal Protection Act.

The bill also includes requirements to ensure the populations of commercially harvested shellfish and endangered abalone.

Steve Shimek, executive director of The Otter Project, told the Santa Cruz Sentinel he thinks the bill should be called "SOS, Sacrifice Otters for Shellfish."—*Internet*

Skydiver killed in accident

PERRIS VALLEY, 21 Feb—A San Diego skydiver took a deadly fall in an accident during a competition at Perris Valley Skydiving Centre.

Sean Carey, 35, was in the midst of a solo maneuver when he hit the ground around 9 am. He was rushed to the hospital where he was pronounced dead at 9:52 am, *The San Diego Union-Tribune* reported.

Carey's death is the 15th at the Perris skydiving facility since 2000, the *Los Angeles Times* reported.—*Internet*

Swedish man stranded in car for 2 months

UMEA, (Sweden), 21 Feb—A Swedish man survived being buried in snow in his car for two months, with only snow and ice to keep him alive, authorities said.

The middle-aged man, whose name was not reported, was found by a pair snowmobiling Friday in Umea, Vasterbottens-Kuriren reported. They believed his car, which was parked at the end of a forest track, to be abandoned.

"Absolutely incredible that he is alive, in part considering that he hasn't had any food, but also bearing in mind that it was really cold for a while there after Christmas," one rescuer told the newspaper. Emergency medical personnel estimated the man had been in the car for about two months, the longest a human can live without food, *The Local* reported Friday. He was seriously emaciated and had very limited ability to speak or move. The man is in intensive care at Umea University Hospital.

Internet

***A middle-aged Swedish man was found alive Saturday after two months trapped in a snowed-in car, above, in the woods north of Umea, northern Sweden.—*INTERNET**

Campaign reports show contribution prowess

WASHINGTON, 21 Feb—A third-party committee supporting Mitt Romney spent $14 million on advertising against his Republican US presidential rivals last month, reports indicate.

Documents filed with the Federal Election Commission indicated Restore Our Future, a super political action committee, also raised nearly $7 million during January and began February with more than $16 million in the bank, *The New York Times* reported on Monday.

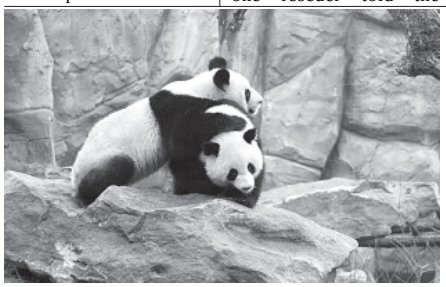
Although Restore Our Future received donations in amounts as small as $5, nearly $5 million raised by the super-PAC came from 25 individuals and corporations that donated $100,000 to $500,000 each, documents indicated.

Rep Ron Paul of Texas pulled in $4.5 million in January, a person close to Paul's campaign told *The Washington Post.*

President Obama's campaign last week said it raised $11.9 million for its campaign and $17.3 million more for the Democratic National Committee in January, the *Post* said. Obama's campaign committee had $75.9 million in cash on hand.

Campaigns had until midnight Monday to file their January fundraising reports with the FEC.

Internet



***The two giant pandas, Huan Huan and Yuan Zai, play at the Beauval Zoo in Saint-Aignan, central France, on 12 Feb, 2012. Two giant pandas from southwest China's Sichuan Province, Yuan Zai and Huan Huan, met the public here on Saturday after about one month's quarantine. The pair will stay in the French zoo for 10 years under a conservation and research agreement between China and France.—*XINHUA**

A seven kg baby is born in China!

BEIJING, 21 Feb—A baby boy weighing 7.4 kilogrammes at birth has set a record for China's heaviest newborn.

Chunchun was born via caesarean section that lasted about 20 minutes on 4 February. Both mother and the baby are doing fine, according to doctors in Henan province's Xinxiang City, the *Global Times* reported.

His 29-year-old mother Wang Yujuan said Chunchun's elder sister was four kilogrammes at birth who is now six years old.

"I clearly felt that my body was more clumsy than when I had been pregnant with my daughter. My belly was bigger than it was then," Wang said.

"I guessed the baby would be four-and-a-half and five kilos. I never expected to hear that he weighs so much."

For the title of China's heaviest newborn, Chunchun edged out three other babies born between 2008 and 2010, all of whom weighed exactly 6.98 kg. In a study researchers have found that the baby's genes, or genes shared between mother and child, certainly contribute to high birth weight. The chance a baby will weigh more at birth is greatly increased if the mother gains excessive weight during pregnancy.

The study, published last year in the scientific journal *The Lancet*, defined high birth weight as four kilogra-mmes or heavier.

The heaviest birth listed by Guinness World Records belongs to a baby boy born in 1879 in Ohio, who weighed 10.77 kg at birth and whose mother was said to be a "giantess". Unfortunately, the baby died 11 hours after birth.

Internet

***A gril visits an exhibition entitled "In Search of Roots" in San Francisco, USA, on 18 Feb, 2012. Sponsored by the Programme Chinese Culture Centre of San Francisco, the exhibition opened on Saturday.* XINHUA**

Stuntman burned in Mountain Dew commercial

LOS ANGELES, 21 Feb—A stuntman is in critical condition at a California hospital after sustaining burns to his face while filming a commercial in Los Angeles, police said. The 28-year-old stuntman, whose name was not released, was swinging from a crane while filming a Mountain Dew commercial on Friday when explosive powder misfired, the *Los Angeles Times* reported.

Another stuntman said the victim was suspended about 60 feet in the air when the blast occurred at Elysian Park near Dodger Stadium, *KCBS-TV*, San Francisco, reported. A device the man was wearing for protection malfunctioned, leading to the severe burns, the *Times* said. The Los Angeles Fire Department and California Occupational Safety and Health Administration are investigating the incident.

Internet

A woman visits the San Francisco International Gift Fair in San Francisco, the United States, on 18 Feb, 2012. The four-day fair kicked off on Saturday.
XINHUA

Bus driver snoozes, bus goes wild

LOS ANGELES, 21 Feb—A Los Angeles City bus driver dozed off, causing the vehicle to careen off of two signs, several trees, a light pole and a bus stop, authorities said.

California Highway Patrol Sgt Scott Hawkins said there were no passengers aboard the bus or at the bus stop, the *Los Angeles Times* reported on Monday.

A crew from Southern California Edison was dispatched to the scene of the 1:30 am PST incident in the unincorporated South Los Angeles community of Willowbrook to power down the area and repair electrical damage done by the fallen light standard, Hawkins said.

The 40-year-old driver, whose name was not released, was taken to Memorial Hospital of Gardena, Calif, to treat cuts on her hands, the *Times* said.—*Internet*

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ALAW VOY NO (14)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ALAW VOY NO (14) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.2.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(3) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S EASTERN CAR LINER LTD

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV AN LONG JIANG VOY NO (187)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV AN LONG JIANG VOY NO (187) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.2.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

***Pupils receive dolls as awards after passing the quiz on fire prevention knowledge at Dunhua Road Primary School in Qingdao, East China's Shandong province, on 15 Feb, 2012. At the beginning of the new term, Qingdao's primary and secondary school students received a special education on fire prevention and escape skills in emergency.—*XINHUA**

Fake lawyer sentenced to two years in prison

MOSCOW , 21 Feb—A Russian court sentenced a man to two years in prison for practicing law without a diploma for 12 years. Vladimir Oreshniko, a well-known lawyer in Moscow, pleaded guilty to fraud for working as a lawyer without a proper diploma, *RIA Novosti* reported on Monday.

The investigation into Oreshniko found he applied for a license to practice law at the Moscow Regional Bar Association with a fake diploma allegedly issued to him in June 1991 by the Belarusian State University. "The lack of higher education may be grounds to review cases in which he participated, as well as the provision of low-quality legal services, which is a violation of the right for defence," said Vladimir Zherebenkov, the chairman of the Bar Association. Oreshniko was sentenced to two years in prison by the Tver District court.—*Internet*

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We, **MIKASA CORPORATION**, (formerly known as **MYOJYO RUBBER INDUSTRY CO., LTD.**), a Corporation organised under the laws of Japan, Manufacturers and Merchants of No.11-2, 3-chome, Kusunoki-cho, Nishi-ku, Hiroshima-shi, Hiroshima-ken, Japan, hereby give notice that we are the Owners and Proprietors of the following Trademark:

MIKASA

The said trademark is used in respect of the description of goods following, that is to say-

"Articles for sports and athletics and sportswear apparel, shoes and bags"

A Declaration of Ownership of the said trademark was registered on the 20th November 1969 under No.863 in Book IV, Volume No.283, page 247.

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use or any other infringement whatsoever of this trademark will be dealt with according to law.

Thein Aung *B.Sc;R.L.D.B.L* Advocate
MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
E-mail: mtpip@mptmail.net.mm
Tel:376318 G.P.O Box:666
Yangon. 22 February 2012

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV FM PROSPERITY VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FM PROSPERITY VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.2.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SEA TRANS SHIPPING CO LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

***Philippine customs officers present counterfeit designer bags in Manila. Illegally imported fake medicines, cellphone batteries, cellphone chargers and counterfeit designer bags worth US$9 million were seized at a port in Manila.—*INTERNET**

Israel holds earthquake drill in schools

JERUSALEM, 21 Feb—Israel's Home Front Command conducted a simultaneous earthquake exercise on Monday in schools all over the country. The drill was a joint exercise held by the Home Front Command along with the Ministry of Education, the Israel Police, Magen David Adom, the Fire and Rescue Services, as well as local authorities.

All schools and kindergartens in Israel participated in the drill, which was intended to raise the alertness of the education system to "an earthquake scenario" and to test the effectiveness of the procedures during and following such an event, according to a statement from the Israel Defence Forces.

The aim of the drill "is to strengthen the cooperation between local authority and the educational establishment along with the Home Front Command, Emergency Services and volunteers from different organizations," the statement said. Last spring, a similar drill throughout schools in Israel was staged by the Home Front, including a missile strike.

Parts of Israel and the West Bank lay on the Syrian-African fault line. The last earthquake to hit Israel was a magnitude 4.2 one in last August.

Xinhua

Suit says Scouts hide widespread abuse

SANTA BARBARA, 21 Feb—A California lawsuit says the Boy Scouts of America's reluctance to call in police in a troop leader's case shows an effort to conceal widespread sex abuse. The suit also targets the organization's secret files of Scouts leader abuse allegations, and a judge has ordered the Scouts to turn over documents covering 20 years. In addition, the civil suit says the Scouts should have known a troop leader put a boy in jeopardy in the 2007 criminal case, the *Los Angeles Times* reported.

The newspaper is withholding the name of the family to protect the boy's identity. When first told of the allegations, the boy's mother said, a Scouts executive hesitated to inform law enforcement.

"He said that wasn't necessary, because the Scouts do their own internal investigation," the woman told the *Times*. "I thought that was really weird. ... I thought it was really important to call the sheriff right away."

The mother called in police herself. Scout leader Al Steven Stein, then 29, was charged with abusing her son and two other boys. He pleaded no contest in 2008 to felony child endangerment.

Stein was put on probation, but when officials later found pictures of nude children on his cellphone data card, he was sent to prison.

Internet

***A battery pack for electric car made by Japan's Mitsubishi Motors is displayed at the 2012 Canadian International Auto Show in Toronto, Canada, on 20 Feb, 2012. An Eco-Drive Showcase was set up at this year's auto show featuring not only conventional and plug-in hybrids, battery power or fuel cells, but also the latest fuel-saving advancements.—*XINHUA**

San Francisco quake survivor, 109, dies

SANTA ROSA, 21 Feb — Rose Cliver, one of the last five known survivors of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, died during the weekend at a Santa Rosa, Calif, residential care home.

Cliver, 109, died Saturday, her son, Don, told the *San Francisco Chronicle.* Cliver, one of 13 siblings and a mother of two, was 3 when the quake and subsequent fire hit San Francisco, killing 1,000 people and destroying more than 28,000 buildings.

Cliver was honored at noon Monday at John's Grill, said Lee Houskeeper, one of the organizers of San Francisco's annual earthquake commemoration.

Houskeeper said this year's 18 April ceremony will be dedicated to Cliver. Funeral arrangements were pending.—*Internet*

Man arrested for bringing gun to airport

CHICAGO, 21 Feb—A Chicago man was arrested for attempting to bring a loaded gun onto an airplane, prosecutors said.

Willie T Thomas was arrested at the Midway Airport Saturday morning when an X-ray scan of his laptop bag showed he was carrying a loaded handgun, the *Chicago Tribune* reported.

Thomas, who was travelling to Atlanta to visit family, said he forgot the gun was in his bag when he went to the airport, said his attorney, Michael Schmiege.

He was charged with attempting to board a plane with a weapon and held on $30,000 bond Sunday. Schmiege said Thomas would not have intentionally brought a loaded gun onto an airplane, because that would be "about the stupidest thing anyone could ever do."—*Internet*

Woman attacks man on eBay

A British mother launched an attack on her ex-husband on an eBay listing for his model train set.

The woman, known only as Angie, told potential buyers about how she and her sons had been burned by her ex in the description of the train set, *The Sun* reported. "He has left me and the boys in modest rented accommodation and taken/sold everything," she said.

But she said she is "infinitely richer" now, adding, "Matrimonial prostitution is an expensive activity, for the woman if not the man." In describing the actual train, Angie said it had been barely used because of her ex's "pathological need for order and tidiness." The listing has gotten her sympathy and even marriage offers. "Sorry guys, once bitten twice shy," she replied.

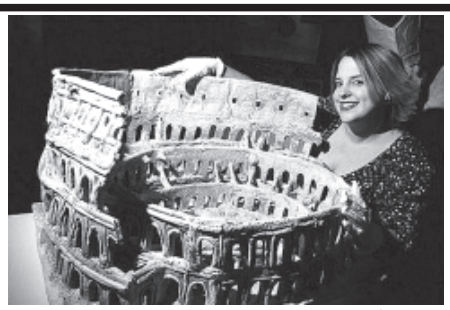


Photo shows an amazing building model made of yummy foods.

Drunk driver crashes into county jail

A 22-year-old Florida man was arrested after allegedly crashing into a set of gates at a county jail, then nearly sideswiping a deputy while driving drunk.

Joseph Carrara of Port Orange allegedly rammed his car into the northern gate of the Volusia County Jail at 3:30 am on Saturday, then sped away off, *The Daytona Beach News-Journal* reported.

Sheriff's deputies combed the area in search of Carrara with little success.

Then, at 4:20 am, Carrara allegedly almost ran into a deputy's patrol car in DeLand while speeding.

Sheriff's deputy Scott Gering pulled Carrara over. Carrara admitted to being drunk and that he had driven onto jail property, but denied he slammed into the jail's northern perimeter gates, the arrest report states.

Carrara was charged with criminal mischief with damage to property, trespassing, driving while intoxicated and reckless driving and taken back to the county jail.

Austin, Texas, to build largest fur ball

An Austin, Texas, organization said it is working to build the world's largest ball of dog fur and has asked for donations.

Texas Hearing & Service Dogs is building a ball of dog fur, named Fur-O-Sphere, that is larger than 67 pounds, *The Austin (Texas) AmericanStatesman* reported on Saturday.

"It's a fun concept because it's simple and visual and disgusting and people like that," said Sheri Soltes, founder and president of Texas Hearing & Service Dogs.

Soltes said the Fur-O-Sphere will be a 5-foot-wide and 5-foot-tall clear ball in which dog owners will deposit their dogs' hair clippings. It will be presented to the public at the 14th annual Mighty Texas Dog Walk on 7 April. "I'm very proud of this ball," said Bobbi Leverich, development specialist for the service dog group. "It's clear plastic so you can see the hair. It's very special. We're very excited to have it come."

News Album

Naomie Harris' 'Skyfall' character sees herself as 'female Bond'

WASHINGTON, 21 Feb— Naomie Harris says that her character, Eve, in the forthcoming 007 movie is a match for James Bond himself.

'Skyfall'—which sees Daniel Craig play the iconic spy for the third time—will be released in cinemas in October.

"My character would like to see herself as a female Bond but I don't think anyone's really a match for Bond," Contactmusic quoted her as saying.

Harris refused to give much away about her character but she has been heavily involved in action training and using guns.

"I kickbox and do a lot with guns. I started off terrified by the sound of a gun let alone having any idea how to hold one but now I really enjoy it," she said.

"I started off yoga and running and I've also been doing stunt training and gyrotonics three times a week," she added.

Internet

Naomie Harris

Britney willing to pay beauty company to settle $10m perfume lawsuit

WASHINGTON, 21 Feb— Britney Spears has agreed to pay a beauty company to end the 10 million-dollar lawsuit over a perfume deal.

Spears, 30, was sued by Brand Sense Partners—a beauty company that hooked her up with Elizabeth Arden to front her Radiance perfume.

Under the deal, Brand Sense was supposed to get 35 percent of the popstar's profit.

But according to the suit, Spears and her dad Jamie entered into a secret deal with Elizabeth Arden and cut Brand Sense out of the deal, TMZ.com reported.

The financial terms of the settlement are redacted, but the documents make it clear.

While it is not clear how much the singer has agreed to be, it is believed that she will pay the company a lump sum, as well as commissions over a period of years.

Internet

Britney Spears

'Colbert Report' to resume tapings

NEW YORK, 21 Feb— Tapings of the mock political programme "The Colbert Report" were to resume in New York after a brief hiatus, show sources told *The Hollywood Reporter*.

Comedy Central announced the tapings set for 15 to 16 Feb had been abruptly canceled, but the cable network did not explain why, stating only it was due to "unforeseen circumstances." The tapings were to resume on Monday.

As media reports circulated saying Stephen Colbert took a break because of his 91-year-old mother's failing health, he took to Twitter to thank his fans, on behalf of his family, for their support.

Internet

Stephen Colbert, host of "The Colbert Report" on Comedy Central, is shown in Washington on 24 Sept, 2010.—INTERNET

French actor Jean Dujardin appears backstage with the outstanding performance by a male actor in a leading role award for "The Artist" during the 18th Annual Screen Actors Guild Awards at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles on 29 Jan, 2012.—INTERNET

Uggie won't attend Oscars

LOS ANGELES, 21 Feb— Uggie, the scene-stealing canine star of "The Artist," will not attend the Academy Awards ceremony in Los Angeles, The Weinstein Co said.

The studio told the BBC the 10-year-old Jack Russell terrier had "not been asked to participate or appear at the Oscars" on Sunday.

TWC's statement contradicts rumors claiming Uggie would appear on stage with Academy Awards show host Billy Crystal, the BBC said.

Uggie's trainer from the Animal Savvy animal actor agency in Los Angeles recently announced the animal is being retired from feature films, but will continue to appear in short films and commercials.

Uggie took the stage with his co-stars when "The Artist" won Best Musical or Comedy Feature at the Golden Globe Awards last month.

The French-made, black-and-white valentine to cinema's silent era is nominated for 10 Oscars, including Best Picture.

Internet

Lohan to host 'SNL' next month

NEW YORK, 21 Feb— Troubled actress Lindsay Lohan announced via Twitter she is to serve as a guest host on "Saturday Night Live" in New York next month.

Lohan will star in the 3 March episode of the sketch comedy series.

Jack White is to be the musical guest for the night.

Lohan's film credits include "The Parent Trap," "Freaky Friday," "Mean Girls" and "A Prairie Home Companion."

Her once-bright career has been eclipsed in recent years by her addictions to drugs and alcohol, and related legal woes. She started out on the comeback trail last year, appearing in Playboy magazine and booking a role in an upcoming John Gotti bio-picture starring John Travolta.—*Internet*

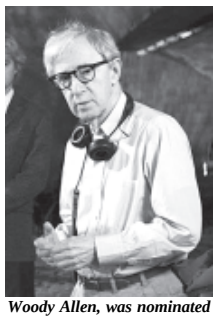
Lindsay Lohan arrives for the amfAR's annual Fashion Week New York Gala at Cipriani Wall Street in New York on 8 Feb, 2012. INTERNET

'Descendants,' 'Paris' win writing honours

LOS ANGELES, 21 Feb— The Writers Guild of America honoured "Midnight in Paris" and "The Descendants" with awards for Best Original Screenplay and Adapted Screenplay, respectively.

"Better This World," written by Katie Galloway and Kelly Duane de la Vega, won the prize for Best Documentary Screenplay.

The guild also recognized TV's "Breaking Bad," "Modern Family," "Homeland," "The Colbert Report" and "General Hospital" for outstanding writing.—*Internet*



Woody Allen, was nominated for best director for "Midnight in Paris" for the 84th annual Academy Awards in Beverly Hills, California on 24 Jan, 2012.—INTERNET

Clubs learn FA Cup quarter-final draw

Everton host Sunderland and Liverpool are at home to Stoke in last eight

LONDON, 21 Feb — Merseyside rivals Everton and Liverpool were handed home ties in the sixth round of the FA Cup draw.

Everton will host Sunderland, who knocked out Arsenal in the fifth round, while Liverpool will face Stoke at Anfield in the other all-Premier League tie.

Tottenham will be at home to Bolton if they can come through their replay against League One side Stevenage at White Hart Lane.

Should Chelsea win their replay at Birmingham they will play host to another Championship side in Leicester.

Full sixth-round draw:

Liverpool v Stoke

Chelsea/Birmingham v Leicester

Stevenage/Tottenham v Bolton

Everton v Sunderland

Ties will be played on the weekend of 17-18 March.

Internet

***Everton will host Sunderland in the sixth round of the FA Cup.*— INTERNET**

Hard task for "Big Easy" Els at Match Play

MARANA, 21 Feb — Ernie Els never expected it to be easy after being gifted a spot in this week's WGC-Accenture Match Play Championship when Phil Mickelson withdrew from the event to spend time with his family. As the lowest-ranked player in the elite field of 64, South African Els has the daunting task of taking on British world number one and defending champion Luke Donald in Wednesday's opening round.

"I'm really fortunate to be here," triple major winner Els told reporters at Dove Mountain's Ritz-Carlton Golf Club on Monday. "Being the last guy in, I've got to play the first seed, Luke Donald, and it's a tough match, like all matches here. "It's interesting that I find myself in this position. In the past, it hasn't been quite my favorite event and I've skipped it a couple of times."

While former world number one Els has clinched the European Tour's World Match Play Championship a record seven times, he has struggled to make an impact in the PGA Tour's equivalent.

In 11 appearances, he has been knocked out in the opening round five times, most recently by American Jonathan Byrd in 2008. His best performance came in 2001 when the event was held in Australia for the first time and he reached the semi-finals, losing to Swede Pierre Fulke 2&1.

Internet

***Ernie Els of South Africa hits from a fairway sand trap on the fourth hole of the south course during first round play at the Farmers Invitational PGA golf tournament in San Diego.*— INTERNET**

Xavi expects Guardiola to stay at Barcelona

***Barcelona coach Pep Guardiola.*—INTERNET**

BARCELONA , 21 Feb — Barcelona playmaker Xavi is confident that coach Pep Guardiola will sign a new deal with the club. Guardiola's existing contract with the Catalans expires at the end of the current campaign and the former Spain international has yet to give any indication as to whether he will sign an extension. Though Xavi is reluctant to second-guess his coach, the veteran midfielder remains optimistic that Guardiola will still be at Camp Nou next season.

"The coach has given us a great security," the World Cup winner told reporters at a Caixa promotional event on Monday. "He is the key. We'd love him to renew because we are very happy with him. We have to wait because, after all, it is he who must decide. But he will renew." Barcelona have taken some stick in recent weeks for falling 10 points behind Real Madrid in La Liga and Xavi admitted that Sunday's 5-1 rout of Valencia has lifted the players' spirits.

"The feelings were very good [after the game] and it gives us great confidence going into the [remaining] fixtures," he said. "[But] we have won three titles, are in the cup final and we will continue fighting to reduce the gap with Real Madrid in the league." Xavi was only used as a substitute against Valencia on Sunday because of a minor calf problem but the 32-year-old insists that he will be fit to start against Atletico Madrid next weekend. "I'm fine," he claimed. "I felt good against Valencia and will hopefully in top [condition] on Sunday [at the Vicente Calderon]." Xavi, a product of the Barcelona youth team, is now approaching 500 La Liga appearances for the club.

Internet

***Barcelona playmaker Xavi.*—INTERNET**

Chelsea hierarchy must back me, says manager Andre Villas-Boas

LONDON, 21 Feb — Chelsea manager Andre Villas-Boas has said the club's hierarchy should make it clear that they back his vision for the Blues' long-term future. Speaking on the day before the club meets Napoli in the Champions League, Villas-Boas insists he is restructuring the club to "sustain" their success. Villas-Boas maintains that he has the full backing of owner Roman Abramovich.

But the Blues boss said: "These words would be more valuable coming from the top. I cannot keep saying them." Villas-Boas has presided over the club's least successful period since Russian billionaire Abramovich took control of the club in 2003, having not won a Premier League game since 14 January. The West London side currently lie fifth in the top tier, out of the League Cup and facing an FA Cup fifth round replay at St Andrew's after being held 1-1 by Championship side Birmingham City at Stamford Bridge on Saturday.

But, despite having enjoyed just one win in six matches, Villas-Boas has issued a reminder that he is on a 'three-year project' at Stamford Bridge. "In terms of the results this year," added Villas-Boas. "The speculation is normal given the cultural past of this football club, but you have to understand that there's a different perspective now. We had a three-year project to change not only the team, but the culture and structure of the club. " — *Internet*

Chelsea manager Andre Villas-Boas has said the club's hierarchy should make it clear that they back his vision for the Blues' long-term future.
INTERNET

International Sports

Sir Alex Ferguson rejected the chance to sign Joe Hart

LONDON, 21 Feb — Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson has revealed his regret at passing up the chance to sign Joe Hart for £100,000 earlier in his career. Hart, 24, joined Manchester City from Shrewsbury in 2006 and has become England's first-choice goalkeeper. But Ferguson told BBC Radio 5 live: "I could have bought Joe Hart for £100,000 so we all make mistakes." The Scot also said he would like an ambassadorial role at United after another "two or three years" as boss.

In a wide-ranging interview, the United manager claims Hart will be an England regular for at least another decade and is the best goalkeeper the country has produced for the last 20 years. After struggling to replace Peter Schmeichel, who left Old Trafford in 1999, Ferguson eventually signed Edwin van der Sar from Fulham in 2005. Van der Sar retired last summer and although Ferguson has defended the purchase of David de Gea, many United fans will be frustrated to hear that Hart could have been their player.

The United manager claims he could have picked the youngster up from Shrewsbury before he eventually moved to rivals City for an initial fee of £600,000 in 2006. Ferguson said: I've no doubt [that Hart will be England goalkeeper for the next 10 years].

Internet

***Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson has revealed his regret at passing up the chance to sign Joe Hart for £100,000 earlier in his career.*— INTERNET**

Azarenka downplays racket over noise levels

DOHA, 21 Feb — Victoria Azarenka isn't about to stop her hooting and believes the ruckus about the noises players make during matches is a big fuss about nothing. The top-ranked Belarusian drew attention during her run to the Australian Open title for the high-pitched sound she makes when she hits the ball, with some fans at Rod Laver Arena even mimicking the noise that sounds like a hooting owl.

"It will be with me for my entire career. But let me put it this way: do you snore?" Azarenka asked one reporter on Sunday after winning the Qatar Open. "Can you control that? … There are ways but you still snore. Right? So it's natural to you, right? So that's natural to me, too. The way I play tennis. That's it." The issue has attracted the attention of the WTA. The governing body of women's tennis plans to look at ways of reducing the noise levels made by players, an issue it says has become "bothersome" for supporters.

Currently, the umpire can penalize a player for "a deliberate act" of hindrance, but the rule is rarely enforced for grunting. In the midst of a 17-game winning streak, Azarenka said the noise she makes started as a way to give her extra power. The woman she beat to win the Australian Open, Maria Sharapova, grunts loudly when hitting the ball. —*Internet*

Belarus' Victoria Azarenka reacts during her match Australia's Samantha Stosur during their women's singles final match at the Qatar tennis open tournament in Doha, on 19 Feb, 2012.
INTERNET

DISTRICT NEWS

Micro-credit cooperative society set up

YANGON, 21 Feb—A ceremony to set up Ngwethazin micro-credit cooperative Ltd was held at Township Cooperative Department in Hlinethaya Township on 3 February.

Assistant Director of Yangon Region Cooperative Department U Aung Min made a speech, and Staff Officer of the township department U Thein Win formed the cooperative limited with Chairman U Nyo Zin, Managing Director U Sein Win, five directors and two auditors with 50 members. The society was set up with K 1 million capital.

Myanma Alin

Palethwe grown to meet target production

YANGON, 21 Feb—High yield Palethwe hybrid paddy strain is grown in Twantay, Kawhmu and Kungyangon Townships of Yangon South District.

On 8 February, Deputy Region Manager U Thein Lwin and officials explained future tasks for cultivation of paddy to meet the target production.—*MAS*

Gyan says psychologically shattered after penalty misses

Ghana's Asamoah Gyan.

CAPE TOWN, 21 Feb — Missing key penalties for Ghana in successive tournaments has left Asamoah Gyan "psychologically down" and wanting a break from the national team, the striker said on Twitter on Monday. Gyan, who missed penalties during the 2010 World Cup quarter-finals and this year's African Nations Cup semi, used the social network to explain his decision to suspend his international career but said he would be keen to play in the future.

"Psychologically I'm down. As you can imagine it's been very hard for me mentally to miss important successive penalties for my country," the former Sunderland striker said on his account @asamoah_gyan. "And because of this, a break to recoup my thoughts and emotions will aid me to come back bigger and mentally stronger. I have never fully recovered from (the) 2010 World Cup and now 2012 Afcon (Nations Cup).

"I would like to ask for prayers and support from Ghanaians to help me come back with renewed strength to continue serving my country," he Tweeted.Gyan hit the crossbar with a last-minute penalty against Uruguay in the World Cup quarter-final in Johannesburg, that had he converted would have meant Ghana becoming the first African country to reach the last four.—*Internet*

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(22-2-12 09:30 am ~ 23-2-12 09:30 am) MST

Oversea Transmission

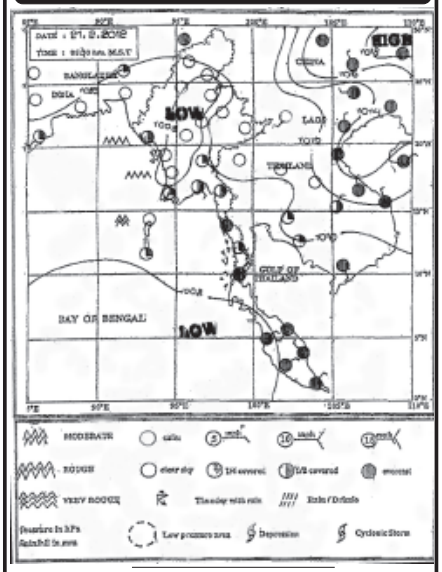
* News
* Kaladan Multi Model Transit Transport Project
* News
* Shan Dance of Plucking Tea Leaves
* News
* Easily Cooked & Tasty Dishes "Hong Kong Style Steamed Fish"
* Tiger Population Counting
* News
* A Visit to A Laungdaw Kassapa in Modern Days
* Products made from Myanma Water Hyacinth
* News
* Joint Press Conference by DFL Bundesliga & Skynet
* News
* Music Gallery
* Myanmar Toys …For Your Eye-catching
* News
* Let's visit Flower City by Coach
* News
* Oxen Brothers
* All about Orchids
* Myanmar Movies ''Essence of Devotion''

MYANMAR TV

(22-2-2012) (Wednesday)

7:00 am 1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
7:25 am 2. To Be Healthy Exercise
7:40 am 3. Nice & Sweet Song
8:00 am 4. Cultural Dances
8:40 am 5. International News
4:05 pm 6. Song Of National Races
4:10 pm 7. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performings Arts Competitions
4:30 pm 8. 2012 University Entrance Examination (Myanmar)
5:15 pm 9. Teleplay (Health)
5:45 pm 10. "ASEAN" Programmes
6:20 pm 11. Traditional Boxing
6:35 pm 12. Shwe Yin Chone Than
7:35 pm 13. Alinka Wut Yi Music Troupe
8:00 pm 14. News
15. Korea NG Award
16. TV Drama Series
17. Myanmar Video

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 22nd February, 2012

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/°F) Maximum	Minimum	For Tomorrow Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	30/86	14/57	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	60(%)
2	Kayah	30/86	11/52	Generally fair weather	
3	Kayin	35/95	15/59	Partly cloudy	
4	Chin	22/72	04/39	Generally fair weather	
5	Upper Sagaing	32/90	13/55	Partly cloudy	
6	Lower Sagaing	35/95	15/59	Generally fair weather	
7	Tanintharyi	35/95	20/68	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	60(%)
8	Bago	36/97	17/63	Generally fair weather	
9	Magway	35/95	15/59	Generally fair weather	
10	Mandalay	34/93	18/64	Generally fair weather	
11	Mon	34/93	19/66	Partly cloudy	
12	Yangon	36/97	17/63	Generally fair weather	
13	Rakhine	31/88	14/57	Generally fair weather	
14	Southern Shan	27/81	11/52	Partly cloudy	
15	Northern Shan	30/86	09/48	Partly cloudy	
16	Eastern Shan	28/82	14/57	Partly cloudy	
17	Ayeyawady	32/90	18/64	Generally fair weather	
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	36/97	18/64	Generally fair weather	
19	Neighbouring Yangon	36/97	17/63	Generally fair weather	
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	34/93	18/64	Generally fair weather	

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today	During the past (24) hours, weather have been partly cloudy in Mandalay, Ayeyawady and Tanintharyi Regions, Kachin, Chin, Rakhine and Mon States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below February average temperatures in Upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Tanintharyi Regions, Chin and Kayin States, (4°C) above February average temperatures in Rakhine State and about February average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant night temperatures were Pinlaung (3°C), Namhsan and Haka (4°C) each.
Bay Inference	Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the South Bay and partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere Bay of Bengal.
State of the Sea	Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.
Outlook for subsequent two days	Generally fair in the whole Country.

Learn from United's Basel slip, warns Bayern boss

MUNICH , 21 Feb—Bayern Munich boss Karl-Heinz Rummenigge insists his team must learn from Manchester United's lesson and avoid a slip-up in Basel on Wednesday in the Champions League Round of 16 first-leg tie. Bayern will face FC Basel at their St Jakob Stadium and chief executive officer Rummenigge has said the Bavarians must be on their guard to avoid suffering a similar fate to the English Premier League champions.

Alex Ferguson's United were beaten 2-1 at Basel last December in the group stages, which knocked them out of the Champions League. But Rummenigge says his team must learn from United's mistakes. "If we play like Man United did, we will also have problems," he told German magazine *Kicker*.Bayern produced a below-par performance in Saturday's goalless draw at Freiburg, which left them third in the German league, and Rummenigge says they can ill-afford another poor display.

"It's not permitted (in the Champions League)," he was quoted as saying. "The knock-out system does not forgive performances like that, or you're gone."Rummenigge says Bayern have a "duty" to their fans to reach the Champions League final on 19 May at their own stadium, but it has been 15 years since a team won the title in their own country.

Internet

Wozniacki hits out at Navratilova

DOHA, 21 Feb—Former world number one Caroline Wozniacki hit back at Martina Navratilova on Monday for claiming that the Dane had never deserved to be top of the world rankings. Wozniacki also suggested she has lost respect for Navratilova, regarded by many as the greatest woman player ever, implying that her TV commentating sought to stir things up and that it would be better to "think a little bit."

"I would never say Martina was number one when there was no-one playing," Wozniacki said, "or that she was the best when no-one was playing. That would be disrespectful." Her comment was an echo of Navratilova's remarks at an Australian Open Press conference, in which the 55-year-old legend said: "Clearly nobody feels Wozniacki is a true number one." Navratilova, whose 18 Grand Slam singles titles were achieved when the women's game had less depth, also criticized the modern ranking system which placed Wozniacki at the top for 68 weeks.

This places too much emphasis on the quantity of wins rather than their quality, Navratilova alleged, suggesting fellow Czech Petra Kvitova, Wimbledon champion and winner of five other titles last year, should have become number one instead. When Wozniacki was asked if she had lost respect as a result of some of the remarks made about her on television, she reacted immediately.— *Internet*

***Former world number one Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark smiles on the first day of the Dubai WTA Open in the Gulf emirate.*—INTERNET**

R/489 Printed and published by the New Light of Myanmar press in Nay Pyi Taw, the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information.

Roundtable discussion on improving status of realization of ASEAN community and preparations for ASEAN chairmanship role to be taken by Myanmar in 2014 held

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Feb—The roundtable discussion on improving status of implementation of ASEAN community and preparations for ASEAN chairmanship role to be taken by Myanmar in 2014 was held at Satu Ringabala Hall of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs here this morning, attended by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin.

Deputy Minister Dr Myo Myint, directors-general from the ministries that are setting up ASEAN political, security, economic, social and cultural communities and officials of related ministries also took part in the discussion.

The first session of the discussion started with an opening speech by the deputy minister. Director-General U Aung Linn of ASEAN Affairs Department, Director-General Daw Myat Myat Soe of Foreign Economic Relations Department and Director-General Daw Nanda Hmon of Historical Research Department expounded on realization of ASEAN political, security, economic, social and cultural communities, and section-wise preparations for year 2014.

In the second session, Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin made an opening speech. Visiting ASEAN Secretary General Dr Surin Pitsuwan discussed possible opportunities and challenges with respect to taking chairmanship role of Myanmar, and replied to questions raised by the attendees.

MNA

Workshop on Responsible Tourism opened

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Feb—With the aim of ensuring systematic development of Myanmar's tourism industry, the Myanmar Tourism Board and Germany-based Hanns Deidel Foundation and International Centre for Responsible Tourism, supervised by Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, jointly organized the Workshop on Responsible Tourism kicked off at Myanmar International Convention Centre, here, this morning.

Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung made an opening address. Officials of the Hanns Deidel Foundation and International Centre for Responsible Tourism explained matters related the responsible tourism.

Scholars and officials discussed development of responsible tourism in future's Myanmar based on their experiences.

The participants will focus on role of private sector and management in the hotels and tourism industry tomorrow and will hold a conference on responsible tourism based on results of government and private sectors.

MNA

Lady luck isn't smiling on Barca, laments Xavi

BARCELONA, 21 Feb—Barcelona midfielder Xavi Hernandez on Tuesday lamented his side's lack of luck at key times this season as the Catalan giants sit ten points adrift of leaders Real Madrid.

"This ten-point difference comes down to details. At key moments when it was double or quits luck wasn't on our side," said the Spanish international.

"But we're going to battle until the end, La Liga is still not lost."The midfielder acknowledged that "unconsciously" Barca had "perhaps taken their foot off the pedal" slightly. "We're always competitive but unconsciously the team may not have realised it and slackened off," he said.

Barca have failed to win seven away fixtures, a weakness not shown in previous seasons. Uncertainty also surrounds the future of coach Pep Guardiola, whose contract expires at the end of the season, with Xavi insisting that he wants him to remain at the Catalan side.

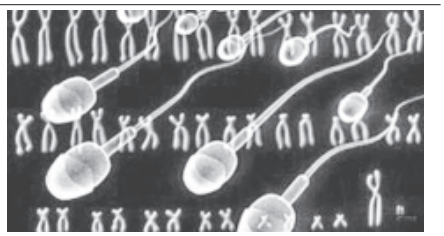
"I'd love Pep to renew his contract, he's the key element to this machine and hopefully he will sign an extension."

Xavi dismissed speculation linking himself to a coaching role with Barca. "Leave me alone, let me play. I'm not thinking about anything else but playing football. And besides, I don't even have a coaching diploma," he added.—*Internet*

Men can inherit a form of heart disease from father via Y chromosome

LONDON, 21 Feb — Men can inherit heart disease from their father say scientists who have tracked the condition to the Y chromosome that dads pass to sons. By studying the DNA of over 3,000 men they found a particular version of the sex chromosome increases the risk of coronary artery disease by 50%. As many as one in five British men carry this version of Y. And the risk it confers is in addition to other heart risk factors like cholesterol, *The Lancet* reports.

Experts already know that men develop heart disease a decade earlier than women, on average. By the age of 40, the lifetime risk of heart disease is one in two for men and one in three for women. Lifestyle factors like smoking and blood pressure are important contributors. This latest work suggests the male Y chromosome can also play a role in coronary artery disease — a common form of heart disease that kills thousands each year in the UK. Dr Maciej Tomas-zewski, from the University of Leicester, and colleagues studied 3,233 biologically unrelated British men who were already enrolled in other medical studies investigating heart disease risk. When they carried out genetic tests on the men they found that 90% possessed one of two common versions of Y chromosome—named haplogroup I and hap-logroup R1b1b2.



***The Y chromosome determines that a baby will be a boy.*— INTERNET**

And the risk of coronary artery disease among the men carrying the haplogroup I version was 50% higher than in other men. The scientists say they now need to pinpoint precisely which genes on the Y chromosome are responsible. But they believe they already know how they exert their effect - by upsetting a man's immune system.

Internet

Terry out for two months

LONDON, 21 Feb—Chelsea captain John Terry has been ruled out for up to two months after aggravating his knee injury.

Terry is due to undergo what is understood to be a small procedure on the right knee that has been troubling him ever since he collided with a post in last month's FA Cup clash with *Portsmouth.*

Blues boss *Andre Villas-Boas* had been hoping the 31-year-old would recover in time for Tuesday night's Champions League clash at *Napoli.*

But, despite taking part in training on Monday night, the England centre-back woke up in considerable pain at *Chelsea's* team hotel on Tuesday morning and will now miss the game at the Stadio San Paulo as well as next week's international friendly against Holland.

The news is a major blow for Chelsea who have struggled in recent weeks and dropped out of the top four in the Premier League to increase the pressure on Villas-Boas.

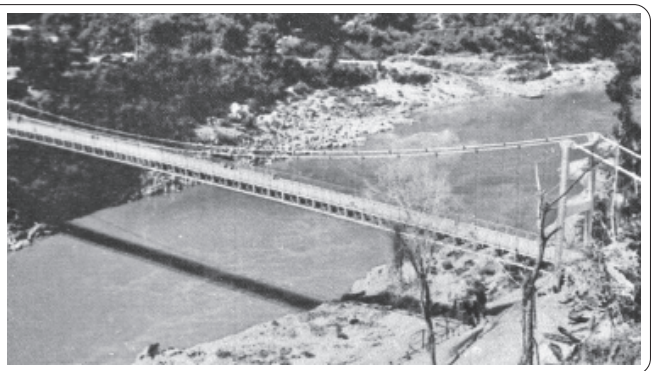
Internet

Myanmar, Philippines to cooperate mines exploration

PAGE 10

Rehabilitation of displaced families in Kachin State discussed

PAGE 2

Thanlwin River Crossing Bridge (Tarkawatt) in Tangyan, Shan State; smooth transport from west to east of Thanlwin River

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