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Saturday, 25 February, 2012

Our Three Main National Causes

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

President U Thein Sein sends message of felicitations to Emir of the State of Kuwait

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Emir of the State of Kuwait, on the occasion of the National Day of the State of Kuwait which falls on 25 February 2012.—MNA

President U Thein Sein sends message of felicitations to Prime Minister of the State of Kuwait

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Feb—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, Prime Minister of the State of Kuwait, on the occasion of the National Day of the State of Kuwait which falls on 25 February 2012.—MNA

First day 16th plenary session of sixth 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee convened

YANGON, 24 Feb—The first day 16th plenary session of the sixth 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee took place at Wizaya Mingala Dhamma Thabin Hall on Thirimingala Kaba Aye Hill here this morning. Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Mandalay Bharmo Monastery Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Ratthaguru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Dr Bhaddanta Kumara Bhivamsa presided over the meeting and Joint Secretary Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Vayama acted as master of ceremonies.

First, the Bharmo Sayadaw delivered Saraniya Ovada Katha. Next, Joint Secretary Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita (See page 8)



16th plenary session of the sixth 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee in progress.—MNA

Cooperation of businessmen important in making microfinance works successful for rural development and poverty alleviation



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham speaks to departmental personnel, members of social organizations, ward and village-tract administrators and senior citizens at Tangyan Township Hall.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Feb—Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham on his tour of Lashio in Shan State, met businessmen from Muse and Lashio in Shweli Hall of Lashio yesterday.

Two local traders from Muse and Lashio explained participation in rural development and poverty alleviation scheme of the government. Next, Deputy Ministers U Win Than and Dr Kan Zaw and Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat reported to the Vice-President on formation of rural development and poverty alleviation central committee, formation of credit unions in agriculture, meat and fish, and small industries sector in districts and townships in line with the private microfinance law, and measures to loan money to urban and rural residents including hawkers at low interest rates.

Next, chairmen of Shwe Thanlwin Co and New Star Light Co elaborated on formation of credit unions in cooperation with local traders and raising funds for them.

Speaking to the businessmen, the Vice-President said the meeting was intended to urge them to play a part in rural development and poverty alleviation scheme of the government. Credit unions would bear expected results with cooperation of locals in addition to efforts of the government. Credit unions were founded at region, state, (See page 8)

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 25 February, 2012

Infant and young child feeding

Human resources development has reached the centre stage for a country's development as the world today is relying more and more on technology and science that man has created for his own good.

As human resources are renewable, the more important thing is the inexhaustible supply of skilled workforce and intellectuals and intelligentsia that can shape a better future and bring prosperity.

Here, we need to develop the human resources from the very start or in other words from the childhood so that we will have an inexhaustible source. We cannot educate an infant or a baby, but we can make him healthy and smart through nutritious food.

It's simple that infants and young children need wholesome food to develop everything from their bones and muscles to brains. In fact, infant and young child feeding are a cornerstone of care for childhood development.

Generally, infants and young children are under the full care and protection of their parents, especially mothers. Accordingly, parents have the duty to make their children fit and healthy and develop their brains through proper feeding.

But rather than letting the job done by parents alone, there should be a comprehensive strategy jointly realized by a wide sector of participants for producing tangible results.

One of the effective ways is to educate these persons on the proper infant and young child feeding practices as even the well-educated and well-informed people sometimes lack knowledge on this issue.

As this strategy calls for the participation of a wide range of sectors, the government departments, private businesses, local communities, domestic and international NGOs and UN agencies can fulfill this requirement.

With such a comprehensive force, we can surely facilitate the work of disseminating infant and young child feeding knowledge and practices to reach every grassroots and every doorstep even in remote areas.

MRTV programmes go UHF in Patheingyi retransmission station

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Feb—Patheingyi TV retransmission station in Ayeyawady Region has switched over from 3 KW (VHF Channel 4) to 3 KW (UHF J-17) in transmitting MRTV programmes since 19 this month to extend the coverage with clearer pictures. Patheingyi, Ngapudaw and Myaungmya townships have access to MTTV programmes through 3 KW UHF system. Village-tracts in the south of Ngapudaw and Myaungmya within 30 miles radius of Patheingyi can enjoy vivid pictures with the help of UHF outdoor antenna (11-bar) with booster.

Patheingyi TV retransmission station will still be broadcasting through VHF Channel 4 and UHF Channel J-17 till 29 this month and shift to 3 KW UHF (Channel J-17) beginning 1 March, 2012.

MNA

Myanmar, China to cooperate in flourishing of Buddha Sasana

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Feb—Union Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung received Vice-President of Chinese Buddhist Association Ven. Shi Mingsheng and party at his office at noon today.

They cordially discussed strengthening friendly ties between the two countries and cooperation in the flourishing of the Buddha Sasana. Deputy Minister Dr Maung Maung Htay and officials were also present on the occasion.—MNA

Thai guests calls on Union Health Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Feb—Deputy Director Technical Director-Professor Sumana Khomvilai of Queen Saovabha Memorial Institute of Thai Red Cross Institute and Professor Visith Sitprijia of Chulalongkorn University of Medical School from Thailand paid a call on Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin at the ministry and discussed with the latter on current production of anti-venom and anti-rabies serum in Myanmar, sharing of production technology and cooperation.

Also present at the call

were Director-General Dr Tun Naing Oo of the Health Department, Director-



General of Medical Science | Zaw Myint and Department Dr Than personnel.—MNA

Union Hotels and Tourism Minister calls for development of hospitality industry

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Feb—Hotel Services Courses No. 4/2012 conducted by Nay Pyi Taw Hoteliers Association under the Hotels and Tourism Ministry was concluded at the ministry here this morning, with an address by Union Minister U Tint Hsan.

Speaking on the occasion, the Union Minister said Myanmar stood number 6 in the world's seven best places for travel in 2012 according to the international news agencies.

Myanmar is back on the radar following the changing political, economic and social conditions of the country with an increase in international inbound tourists.

The Union Minister then awarded the outstanding trainees. The course was aimed to improve the competency of hotel staff from Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone to offer better services to the guests.

MNA

Lab equipment donated for institutions of the Ministry of Science and Technology

YANGON, 24 Feb — Fuyo Group donated laboratory equipment for institutions of the Ministry of Science and Technology at Yangon Technological University here this morning.

Deputy Minister Dr Ko Ko Oo, Japanese Ambassador Mr Takashi Saito and Vice-Chairman

Mr Takayoshi Nakao of the Representative of Fuyo Fund Management Committee made speeches.

Then, Resident Re-

presentative of Fuyo Fund Management Committee Mr Hiroshi Suehiro presented lab equipment worth K 30970000.

MNA



Deputy Minister Dr Ko Ko Oo speaks at the donation ceremony.

MNA

Veterinary care provided in Pinlebu, Bamauk, Indaw

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Feb—Deputy Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Khin Maung Aye, on his tour of Pinlebu, Bamauk and Indaw townships in Sagaing Region from 20 to 22 February, coordinated with personnel concerned to fulfill the requirements of the region and donated K 2.1

million in Pinlebu, 0.1 million in Masilay Village and K 0.3 million in Bamauk Township for regional development.

He met with officials and veterinary staff of Livestock and Veterinary Departments in Sgaiaing Region in Thetkha Village of Indaw Township and instructed on quarantine regulations against animal diseases. He also viewed vaccination works jointly done by veterinary staff from Pinlebu, Bamauk and Indaw townships and rural veterinary staff.

MNA

Putin vows 'victory' in battle for Russia's future

Moscow, 24 Feb—Prime Minister Vladimir Putin on Thursday vowed he would not allow foreign powers to interfere in Russia's internal affairs and predicted victory in an ongoing battle for its future.

"We will not allow anyone interfere in our internal affairs," Putin said in a speech to more than 100,000 people packed into the stadium and its grounds at Moscow's Luzhniki stadium ahead of 4 March presidential elections.

"We will not allow anyone to impose their will on us. We have our own will and this has always helped us be victorious. We are a victorious nation. This is in our genes. This is in our genetic code."

In a fiery, nationalist-tinged speech that had not been announced in advance, Putin thanked voters who would support him in the elections and repeatedly invoked past battles for Russia.

"We will be victorious," declaimed Putin. He then turned to the crowd and asked: "And I want to ask you. Will we be victorious?" The tens of thousands in the crowd roared back "Yes!"

"The battle for Russia continues. Victory will be ours,"



People dressed in traditional costumes sing and dance to celebrate the Defenders of the Fatherland Day in Moscow, capital of Russia, on 23 Feb, 2012.—XINHUA

Indian PM accuses US NGOs for fuelling stir at nuclear plant, opposing biotechnology

NEW DELHI, 24 Feb—Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh has accused America-based non-government organizations for fuelling protests at the Russia-aided Kudankulam nuclear power station in the southern State of Tamil Nadu.

"What's happening in Kudankulam... the atomic energy programme has got into difficulties because these NGOs, mostly I think based in the United States, don't appreciate the need for our country to increase the energy supply," the local media Friday quoted prime minister as saying in an interview to US journal *Science*. The prime minister has also blamed these NGOs for opposing genetically modified foods and use of biotechnology to increase food production in the country.

"Biotechnology has enormous potential and in due course of time we must make use of genetic engineering technologies to increase the productivity of our agriculture. But there are controversies," he said.

"There are NGOs, often funded from the United States and the Scandinavian countries, which are not fully



Prime Minister Manmohan Singh

appreciative of the development challenges that our country faces," Singh added. The 130 billion rupee (2.6 billion US dollars) Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant, being built with Russian collaboration in Tamil Nadu, is expected to provide respite from the power shortage problem in the state.

But activists and locals have stalled the Indo-Russian joint venture, staging massive protests citing safety concerns in the wake of the Fukushima disaster in Japan last year. As a result of these frequent protests, the commissioning of two 1,000 megawatt nuclear reactors at the plant has been stalled. Several rounds of talks between a government panel and representatives of villagers opposing the plant have failed to resolve the stand-off.—Xinhua

An Iraqi firefighter douses a car as security forces inspect the site of a blast in the northern city of Kirkuk on 23 Feb, 2012.—INTERNET



Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin speaks as he attends a massive rally in his support at Luzhniki stadium in Moscow. INTERNET

he said.

He added: "We came today to say that we love Russia and to say it so that the whole country hears us," he said. "My question is do we love Russia?" he asked, as the participants again yelled in return "Yes!"

In his only clear reference to the approaching elections, he added: "I cannot embrace each one of you and shake each one of your hands. But I see everything and thank you for the support, for the moral assistance."

"I thank you for each one of your votes," he said.

Possibly addressing those not in the stadium who have staged mass protests against his rule, he added: "I would like to tell you that we are not pushing anyone away, we are not defaming anyone or grabbing anyone."

"Just the opposite—we call on everyone to unite around our country, those who see Russia as their own motherland, who are ready to protect her, cherish her and believe in her."

Internet

US-Pakistan ties too important to turn back

LONDON, 24 Feb—US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton on Thursday said relations between the US and Pakistan were "too important" for both countries to turn their back on. Speaking after a meeting with Pakistani Foreign Minister Hina Rabbani Khar on the sidelines of a one-day Somalia Conference held in London, Hillary said the US-Pakistan ties were "simply too important to turn our back on it for both nations, and we



US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton INTERNET

both remain committed to working to improve understanding and cooperation."

Clinton admitted that relations between the US and

Pakistan were "in difficult times," but said on Thursday's talks with Khar were constructive and covered common concerns such as violent extremism, supporting Afghan-led reconciliation, and improving bilateral relations.

The US relations with Pakistan cooled after 24 Pakistani soldiers were killed by US forces last November, fuelling anti-US sentiments across the country.

Xinhua

Defence spokesman: China ready to advance military ties with US

BEIJING, 24 Feb—China is ready to work with the United States to advance military-to-military links in a healthy and stable way, Defence Ministry Spokesman Geng Yansheng said on Thursday.

Geng told a monthly Press briefing that during Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping's official visit to the United States last week, Xi had in-depth exchanges of views with US leaders and military officials on bilateral and military-to-military ties.

"This visit was of great significance to guiding the

development of relations between the two countries and the two militaries," Geng said.

He said China has always placed importance on expanding military-to-military links with the United States, which he said remains one of the most important bilateral links in the world.

In recent years, the two militaries have carried out sound cooperation in the areas of high-level contact, dialogues, military records, humanitarian relief and disaster reduction, Geng said. But he said the military ties

still faced certain difficulties and obstacles.

"We are ready to work with the US side, by observing the principles of mutual respect, trust, equality and

mutual benefits, to respect and take care of each other's core interests and major concerns, properly handle differences and controversial issues, cultivate strategic mutual trust and push forward China-US military links in a healthy and stable way," Geng said.

Xinhua

Four soldiers wounded in bomb explosion in restive S Thailand

BANGKOK, 24 Feb—Four soldiers were wounded when three bombs exploded at a shelter inside a school's grounds in Thailand's restive southern province of Yala, Bangkok Post online reported on Thursday.

According to police, six soldiers from Yala Task Force 14 who were on a security patrol went into the shelter inside the grounds of Samakkhi School in Yala's Yaha District to take a rest. Three bombs which had been planted there were detonated simultaneously at about 9.30 am local time on Thursday. The explosions wounded four soldiers and wrecked the shelter. The schoolchildren were all in their classrooms about 200 metres away at the time.

The improvised bombs, made of gas cylinders, weighed about 10 kg in total, police said. They blamed separatist militants for the blast. Since the resurgence of insurgency in 2004, around 11,000 violent incidents instigated by secessionists in the southernmost provinces of Yala, Pattani and Narathiwat happened with almost 5,000 people killed and nearly 8,000 injured.—Xinhua



Melanoma drug nearly doubles survival time

LOS ANGELES, 24 Feb — A new drug to treat advanced skin cancer, or metastatic melanoma, has been shown to nearly double average survival time in a study of more than 130 patients, researchers said on Wednesday.

Made by Genentech, a US subsidiary of the Swiss pharmaceutical giant Roche, the drug, Zelboraf, was approved by the US Food and Drug Administration in August 2011, making it the first new treatment for melanoma in 13 years.

The latest study, an intermediate phase II trial

whose results are published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, followed 132 patients at 13 medical sites in the United States and Australia. Study subjects survived an average of 15.9 months, when typical survival among people whose melanoma has spread to other organs is about nine months, it said.

"We knew this drug would make the melanomas shrink in a large proportion of patients and that it worked better than chemotherapy," said senior author Antoni Ribas, a professor of hematology and oncology and researcher at University of California Los Angeles's

Jonsson Cancer Centre.

"We did not know that patients taking Zelboraf were living longer until now."

The drug can be used to treat about half of all patients with metastatic melanoma, or about 4,000 patients in the United States each year, the researchers said. Zelboraf, a twice-a-day pill, works by blocking a protein that is involved with cell growth in patients with advanced melanoma whose tumors express a gene mutation called BRAF V600E.

About 53 percent of patients with that mutation see their tumors shrink by more than 30 percent, while an additional 30 percent of patients see tumors get smaller but not quite as much. The drug failed to elicit a response in 14 percent of patients.

Internet



A doctor examines a patient for symptoms of skin cancer in Florida in 2011. A new drug to treat advanced skin cancer, or metastatic melanoma, has been shown to nearly double average survival time in a study of more than 130 patients, researchers said on Wednesday. — INTERNET



Heart attack symptoms 'differ in women'



Women are more likely to die from a heart attack. INTERNET

LONDON, 24 Feb — Fewer women than men suffering from a heart attack appear to experience chest pain symptoms, according to a study of more than one million people in the US. Overall men have significantly more heart attacks, but under the age of 55 women are more likely to die from one.

Without displaying the classic chest pain symptoms of a heart attack, researchers

say some women may not be getting the right kind of treatment. The study looked at patients seen at more than 1,000 hospitals. The research found that among younger women — those aged under 55 — the differences in symptoms with men of the same age were striking.

Overall, 42% of women did not experience chest pain compared with 30% of men. And once admitted, the study

found that women were more likely to die than men from the same age group. Some 14% of women died compared with 10% of men.

The study adds to evidence that women can experience quite different symptoms to men. The authors, writing in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, said: "Optimal recognition and timely management of myocardial infarction (MI), especially for reducing patient delay in seeking acute medical care, is critical."

"The presence of chest pain/discomfort is the hallmark symptom of MI."

Internet

US health experts give nod to new obesity drug

WASHINGTON, 24 Feb — An advisory panel to the US Food and Drug Administration on Wednesday urged approval of a new obesity drug, Qnexa, after warning against its approval in 2010 due to safety concerns. The panel voted 20-2 that the FDA should allow Qnexa on the market, saying the latest overall benefit-risk assessment supported its approval.

The drug, made by California-based biotech firm Vivus, is the first obesity drug submitted to the FDA in more than a decade. Qnexa combines two existing drugs, the appetite suppressant phentermine and topiramate, an anti-convulsant that can be used in conjunction with other drugs for weight loss. The FDA does not have to follow the advice of the advisory panel, though it usually does. A



An advisory panel to the US Food and Drug Administration on Wednesday urged approval of a new obesity drug, Qnexa, after warning against its approval in 2010 due to safety concerns. — INTERNET

final decision is expected by 17 April. Internet

Mazda shares dive on plan to raise \$2 billion

TOKYO, 24 Feb — Mazda stock dived nearly 7 percent on Thursday after the struggling car maker said it will raise about \$2 billion from selling new shares to invest in assembly plants and developing new vehicle technologies.

The Japanese company, which makes the Miata sports car, said in a statement it aims to have half of its vehicle production based overseas by early 2016 as part of plans to make its business more competitive.

Mazda's earnings have been hurt by the yen's sharp rise, the tsunami disaster last year in Japan, flooding in Thailand and the European debt crisis. Its shares were down 6.8 percent at 37 yen in Tokyo. Of the 163 billion yen (\$2 billion) it hopes to raise from the share sale, some 93 billion yen will be allocated to developing auto technologies focused on fuel efficiency and



Mazda Motor Corp President and Chief Executive Takashi Yamanouchi. Mazda stock dived nearly 7 percent on 23 Feb, 2012, after the struggling car maker said it will raise about \$2 billion from selling new shares to invest in assembly plants and developing new vehicle technologies. — INTERNET

safety. The rest will go toward building new car and engine assembly factories in Mexico and upgrading existing assembly lines in Russia, China, Japan and Southeast Asia.

The automaker plans to introduce eight new vehicles by early 2016 using its "Skyactiv" technology that improves fuel efficiency by 20 percent to 30 percent compared with older models. It said it continues to seek alliances with other

automakers overseas. Mazda, which has lost money for the last three fiscal

years, is struggling to assert its brand as the relationship with longtime partner Ford Motor Co withers.

Dearborn-based Ford bought 25 percent of Mazda in 1979, raising it to 33.4 percent in 1996.

But Ford began cutting ties in 2008, and in 2010 lowered its ownership to 3.5 percent. Mazda does not have flashy green technologies in its lineup that its bigger Japanese rivals do — such as the hybrids at Toyota Motor Corp or electric vehicles at Nissan Motor Co. Apart from the share sale, Mazda is planning to borrow 70 billion yen to repay existing loans. — Internet



A logo of HP is seen outside Hewlett-Packard Belgian headquarters in Diegem, near Brussels. INTERNET

HP profit plummets, CEO urges patience

SAN FRANCISCO, 24 Feb — Hewlett-Packard Co's earnings fell nearly 44 percent and the world's No. 1 computer maker forecast a second-quarter profit below Wall Street estimates as it struggles with weak sales of PCs and printers.

The storied Silicon Valley company, which has been trying to move past the internal upheaval that marked 2011, posted

quarterly sales declines in three of its key units: personal computers, printers and enterprise equipment. Chief Executive Meg Whitman, a veteran Silicon Valley executive who took the top job last September after the firing of Leo Apotheker, has been trying to turn around HP's sprawling businesses. On Wednesday, she pleaded for a little patience.

"If you look at business history and you look at companies which have gone through the kind of turnaround that we're leading HP through right now, these things are not quick," she said, adding it could anywhere from two to five years. "It took us a while to get into the situation in which we find ourselves. It's going to take us a little while to get out." Internet



Air Asia is one of Asia's biggest low-cost airlines. — INTERNET

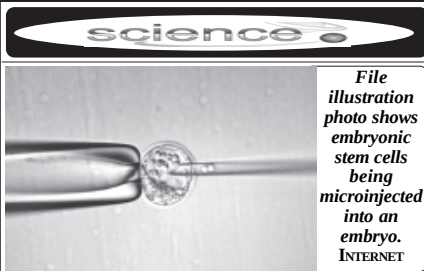
Air Asia is run by chief executive Tony Fernandes, who took over English Premier League football club Queens Park Rangers earlier this year. — Internet

Air Asia hit by high fuel costs

KUALA LUMPUR, 24 Feb — Malaysian budget airline Air Asia has reported a 56% fall in fourth-quarter profit, hurt by higher fuel costs. Net profit for the last three months of 2011 fell to 135.7m ringgit (\$44.8m; £28.6m) from 311.1m ringgit in the same period a year earlier. However, revenue for the quarter rose 9.3% to 1.27bn ringgit, thanks to more passengers and higher average fares.

Last month, Air Asia said it was ending its flights to Europe and India because of high fuel prices and weak demand. For the full year, revenue rose 13% to 4.47bn ringgit, while net profit fell 46.8% to 564.1m ringgit.

Business



File illustration photo shows embryonic stem cells being microinjected into an embryo.
INTERNET

Stem cell implants boost monkeys with Parkinson's

KYOTO, 24 Feb — Monkeys suffering from Parkinson's disease show a marked improvement when human embryonic stem cells are implanted in their brains, in what a Japanese researcher said on Wednesday was a world first. A team of scientists transplanted the stem cells into four primates that were suffering from the debilitating disease.

The monkeys all had violent shaking in their limbs — a classic symptom of Parkinson's disease — and were unable to control their bodies, but began to show improvements in their motor control after about three months, Kyoto University associate professor Jun Takahashi told AFP.

About six months after the transplant, the creatures were able to walk around their cages, he said. "Clear improvements were confirmed in their movement," he said. Parkinson's disease is a progressive neurological illness linked to a decrease in dopamine production in the brain. There is currently no medical solution to this drop off in a key neurotransmitter.

The condition, which generally affects older people, gained wider public recognition when Hollywood actor Michael J. Fox revealed he was a sufferer. — *Internet*

Italian engineer invents floating solar panels

ROME, 24 Feb — Rays of the winter sun bounce off gleaming mirrors on the tiny lake of Colignola in Italy, where engineers have built a cost-effective prototype for floating, rotating solar panels. "You are standing on a photovoltaic floating plant which tracks the sun, it's the first platform of its kind in the world!" said Marco Rosa-Clot, a professor at Florence University, proudly showing off his new project. Rosa-Clot and his team say they are revolutionising solar power and that their floating flower-

petal-like panels soaking up the Tuscan sun have already attracted a lot of interest from international buyers. Standard solar panels on buildings or in fields have been criticised for taking up valuable agricultural land, being unsightly and losing energy through overheating — issues the floating plants would resolve. The Floating Tracking Cooling Concentrator (FTCC) system is designed to exploit unused areas of artificial reservoirs or disused quarries.

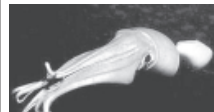
While the water keeps the panels at low temperatures,

reflectors are positioned to maximise solar capture at different times of day, making it more efficient than a traditional installation, Rosa-Clot said. — *Internet*

Marco Rosa-Clot (right) and Paolo Rosa-Clot (centre) and Raniero Cazzaniga stand on a photovoltaic floating plant on the lake of Colignola in Tuscany on 11 January. — *INTERNET*



Humboldt squid's impressive dives



Humboldt squid have been making forays into California waters in recent years.
INTERNET

WASHINGTON, 24 Feb — The energetic world of Humboldt squid has been detailed in new tracking studies that follow the creatures as they dive and climb through the ocean. The

animals are found in warmer waters of the eastern Pacific and live an up-and-down existence as they follow prey. Julia Stewart from Stanford University fitted tags to the cephalopods, and found them to be spending many hours in very oxygen-poor California waters.

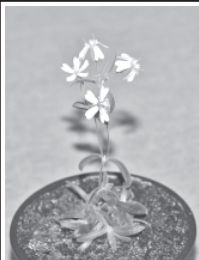
Ms Stewart spoke about her work at the biennial Ocean Sciences meeting. The tagging study followed the creatures as they dove hundreds of metres into the

deep during the day, only to return to surface waters at night. "We've seen them make really impressive dives up to a kilometre and a half deep, swimming straight through a zone where there's really low oxygen," the Hopkins Marine Station researchers said. "They're able to spend several hours at this kilometre-and-a-half-deep, and then they go back up and continue their normal daily swimming behaviour. It's just a really impressive, really fast,

deep dive through what is quite a harsh environment."

Humboldt are found predominantly in waters off Mexico and further south, but in recent years have been extending their range, on and off, into the California current. There have even been sightings as far north as Alaska. The squid are voracious. They capture their prey with their tentacles and suckers and rip it apart with their powerful beaks. — *Internet*

Russians revive Ice Age flower from frozen burrow



This undated photo provided by the Institute of Cell Biophysics of the Russian Academy of Sciences shows a *Silene stenophylla* plant regenerated from tissue of fossil fruit.
INTERNET

MOSCOW, 24 Feb — It was an Ice Age squirrel's treasure chamber, a burrow containing fruit and seeds that had been stuck in the Siberian permafrost for over 30,000 years. From the fruit tissues, a team of Russian scientists managed to resurrect an entire plant in a pioneering experiment that paves the way for the revival of other species. The *Silene stenophylla* is the oldest plant ever to be regenerated, the researchers said, and it is fertile, producing white flowers and viable

seeds.

The experiment proves that permafrost serves as a natural depository for ancient life forms, said the Russian researchers, who published their findings in Tuesday's issue of "Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences" of the United States.

"We consider it essential to continue permafrost studies in search of an ancient genetic pool, that of pre-existing life, which hypothetically has long since

vanished from the earth's surface," the scientists said in the article. Canadian researchers had earlier regenerated some significantly younger plants from seeds found in burrows.

Svetlana Yashina of the Institute of Cell Biophysics of the Russian Academy of Sciences, who led the regeneration effort, said the revived plant looked very similar to its modern version, which still grows in the same area in northeastern Siberia.

— *Internet*



A box from Amazon.com is pictured on the porch of a house in Golden, Colorado.
INTERNET

Apple, Google, Amazon, smartphone makers sign privacy accord

SAN FRANCISCO, 24 Feb — Six of the world's top consumer technology firms have agreed to provide greater privacy disclosures before users download applications in order to protect the personal data of millions of consumers, California's attorney general said on Wednesday. The agreement binds Amazon, Apple, Google, Microsoft, Research In Motion, and Hewlett-Packard — and developers on their platforms — to disclose how they use private data before an app may be downloaded, Attorney General Kamala D Harris said.

"Your personal privacy should not be the cost of using mobile apps, but all too often it is," said Harris. Currently 22 of the 30

most downloaded apps do not have privacy notices, said Harris.

Some downloaded apps also download a consumer's contact book. Google said in a statement that under the California agreement, Android users will have "even more ways to make informed decisions when it comes to their privacy."

Apple confirmed the agreement but did not elaborate. Harris was also among US state lawmakers who on Wednesday signed a letter to Google CEO Larry Page to express "serious concerns" over the web giant's recent decision to consolidate its privacy policy.

— *Internet*

Was Einstein wrong — or was the cable loose?

GENEVA, 24 Feb — The world of science was shaken last year when an experiment appeared to show one of Einstein's fundamental theories was wrong — but now the lab behind it says the result could have been caused by a loose cable. Physicists at the CERN research institute near Geneva appeared to contradict Albert Einstein's 1905 Special Theory of Relativity last year when they reported that subatomic particles called neutrinos could travel fractions of a second faster than light.

Einstein's Special Theory of Relativity, which underpins the current view of how the universe works, says that nothing can travel faster than light, and doing so would be like traveling back in time.

James Gillies, a spokesman for European Organization for Nuclear Research, or CERN, said on Wednesday the lab's startling result was now in doubt.

Earlier on Wednesday, ScienceInsider, a website run by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, reported that the surprising result was down to a loose fibre optic cable linking a Global Positioning System satellite receiver to a computer.

Gillies confirmed that a flaw in the GPS system was now



A scientist looks at the first collisions pictures at full power at the Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS) experience control room at the Large European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) in Meyrin, near Geneva on 30 March, 2010. — *INTERNET*

suspected as a possible cause for the surprising reading. Further testing was needed before any definite conclusions could be reached, he added. — *Internet*

YANGON, 24 Feb—An educative talk on nurturing of Palethwe hybrid paddy strain on 11 acres of farmland through good agriculture pattern was given in conjunction with the disbursement of loans in Yintaikkwin Village of Taikkyi Township, Yangon North District, on 4 February morning.

Yangon Region Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Breeding U Soe Min and Region Manager U Tin Aung Win of Myanma

Nurturing of Palethwe hybrid paddy strain talked in Yangon North District

Agriculture Department talked about cultivation of Palethwe hybrid paddy strain through 14-point good agriculture pattern to produce over 200 baskets of paddy per acre so as to increase income of farmers and to contribute towards the uplifting of their living standard.

Seed Manager U Tin

Nyunt of Diamond Star Company explained that the company grants to buy 100 baskets of Palethwe paddy per K 400,000 at harvesting period from the farmers who would grow 11 acres of Palethwe hybrid paddy strain.

He said that at the cultivation period, the company will give K 200,000

each in advance for paddy to farmers to be able to spent money on cultivation cost and purchase of inputs.

Next, he presented K 2.2 million to the farmers.

Later, the demonstration on nurturing of paddy saplings was performed at the farmland through good agriculture pattern.

District IPRD

Fire engine handed over in Pangnai (Kyukok)

MUSE, 24 Feb—A ceremony to hand over a fire engine was held at No. 1 Basic Education Post-Primary School in Pangnai (Kyukok) of Muse District in Shan State (North) on 21 January.

Administrator U Myint Oo Maung of Pangnai (Kyukok) Sub-Township made a speech. On behalf of the wellwishers, U Ah Chi handed over key of the fire engine to the sub-township administrator.

After giving certificates of honour to the wellwishers, the head of Muse Township Fire Services Department decorated members of Pangnai (Kyukok) auxiliary fire brigade with insignia.

The fire engine is worth over K 24 million donated by 73 wellwishers. It is Tungfung brand six-wheeled 1500-gallon-capacity fire engine.

District IPRD

Cash and kind provided to disabled Tatmadawmen



BAGO, 24 Feb—A ceremony to provide cash assistance and walking equipment to disabled Tatmadawmen was held at the hall of Bago Township War Veterans Organization in Bago Region on 11 February morning.

Bago Region Minister

for Security and Border Affairs Col Thet Tun spoke on the occasion.

At the ceremony, cash assistance K 1.7 million and walking equipment worth K 200,000 were presented to 85 disabled Tatmadawmen.

TWVO

Private banks in Mandalay installed ATMs

MANDALAY, 24 Feb—Under the permission of the Central Bank of Myanmar, the private banks in Mandalay such as Asian Greening Development Bank, Cooperative Bank and Kanbawza Bank use automatic teller machines round the clock as of mid-January 2012.

Users cannot pay charge for using the ATM. Those opening the savings can easily take out money from the machines with the use of their ID codes. The users can take out K 1 million in maximum within 24 hours. Moreover, the ATM card holders can remit money among them.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)



Stake driven for construction of No. 3 bridge

YANGON, 24 Feb—A ceremony to drive stake for construction of No. 3 bridge to link Ward 8 and Ward 9 in Shwepyitha Township was held at the site for the bridge on 12 February morning.

Township Administrator U Aung Moe Oo, Ward 8 administrator U Thein Naing, Ward 9 administrator U Tun Wai, townsmen, Chairman of the bridge construction committee U Shwe Soe and wellwishers drove stakes.

The bridge will be of reinforced concrete type with railings. It will have 11 feet wide and 12 feet long, and the facility will withstand two-ton loads. It was estimated that the construction of the bridge would cost K 7.5 million.

Myanma Alin

Driver dead in turnover of truck

MEIKTILA, 24 Feb—A Nissan diesel 18-wheeled truck driven by Kyaw Naing Lin, 30 of Hinthada, leaving Kyaukpadaung for Meiktila at 5 pm on 1 February turned over at mile post No. 17/0 on Meiktila-Kyaukpadaung Road in the area of Shanmange Police Station due to out of control in high speed.

In the incident,

driver Kyaw Naing Lin died on the spot and conductor Myo Min Htet was injured and then he was pulled out from the truck. SIP Myint Win of Shanmange Police Station of Meiktila Township inspected the scene and opened file against the driver at the police station under Section 304 (a)/337 of the law.

Kyemon

LOCAL SPORTS



Inter-Township Physical Culture Contest opened in Insein

YANGON, 24 Feb—Jointly organized by Yangon North District Sports and Physical Education Committee and District Women's Affairs Organization, the Inter-Township Physical Culture Contest of Yangon North District was held at the main workshop (south) in Insein Township on 10 February evening.

Golf tourney held in Shwegyin

SHWEGYIN, 23 Feb—Shwegyin Township General Administration Department of Bago District in Bago Region and Shwe Khit Toetetyay Gold and Minerals Exploration Co jointly organized the golf contest at Shwegyin Golf Course in Shwegyin on 12 February.

Township level departmental officials, entrepreneurs and golf enthusiasts took part in the contest. Officials presented prizes to the respective winners.

Myanma Alin



Chairperson of the District WAO Daw Sein Sein Soe and Assistant Director Daw Mu Mu of District Sports and Physical Education Department opened the contest.

District IPRD

The Chindwin Bridge (Monywa) makes smoothly modes of transportation of Chin State and the regions on the west bank of the Chindwin River

The salient points of the bridge

1. The total length of the bridge is 4730.2 feet with the 2745.6 feet long main bridge and the two 1984.6 feet long approach structures.
2. The upper structure of the bridge is of steel truss and the upper part of the approach structure is of reinforced concrete truss and floor. The lower structure of the bridge is reinforced concrete.
3. It is complete with the 28 feet wide motorway flanked by 6 feet wide pedestrian lanes on each side.
4. The water clearance of the bridge is 305 feet wide and 40 feet high.
5. It can withstand 60 tons of loads.
6. The construction of the bridge started from 9-12-2000 and it was opened on 7-4-2003.



- * The Chindwin Bridge (Monywa) plays pivotal role to provide economic and social development not only Chin State but the regions on the west bank of the Chindwin River in Sagaing Region.
- * As it boosts trade activities with the neighbouring country, the bridge is of vital importance to both Sagaing Region and the entire Union.
- * Villages and towns on the west bank of the Chindwin River lagged behind in development in the past, for rivers and creeks served as a barrier. Those regions are now enjoying the fruitful results of better transport thanks to the bridge.
- * With the facility, the national brethren have been able to make frequent contact and forged friendly ties and cemented the Union Spirit among them.

Translation: TLA

Archive: Maung Nyein Aye



China closes over 7,000 illegal websites

BEIJING, 24 Feb—Authorities in China have shut down a total of 7,846 websites involved in illegal commercial activity, the government said.

The ministry of public security took the step as part of a nationwide campaign against online black markets, *Xinhua* reported.

Illegal activity singled out in the campaign included sale of weapons, ammunition,

explosives, toxic chemicals, personal information and devices used to tap mobile phones.

The campaign also resulted in the arrest of 905 suspects and the elimination of 53 criminal gangs, the ministry said.

The ministry deleted 1.2 million online posts and disciplined 1,075 internet service providers.—*Internet*

No injuries as jet slips off runway

ROCHESTER, 24 Feb—No injuries were reported when a passenger jet carrying about 45 people slid off the runway at the Rochester, NY, airport, officials said.

The jetliner, traveling from Chicago to Rochester, ran off the runway late Wednesday at the Greater Rochester International Airport, The (Rochester, NY) *Democrat* and *Chronicle* reported. There were no injuries in

the incident, said Angela Veltre, the acting director of aviation for Monroe County.

Veltre said United Airlines flight No 3350 landed at the airport at 11:37 pm during heavy snow fall. The plane ended up 50 to 75 feet off a runway, Veltre said. Other flights landed without incident. Veltre said Federal Aviation Administration officials were investigating the incident.—*Internet*

First day 16th plenary session...

(from page 1)

Bhaddanta Jotika supplicated on the brief report of the sixth State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee (third subcommittee) in the fifth period. Then, member Sayadaws discussed respective matters in the report. At the afternoon session, supplications on religious affairs were discussed.

Cooperation of businessmen important in...

(from page 1)

district and township levels and have been in operation.

Money-lending business needs continuous injection of capital and the more successful the business, the more increase the capital. According to microfinance law, the interest rate for saving is 15 per cent for a year and that for credit is about 30 per cent a year. The interest rate is such a low rate for the poor that the business would contribute a great deal to the needy.

So, the participation of local traders plays a major role. The advantages of microfinance works is that the interest rate is low, that work can be done swiftly, that whoever shares the same aim can found the credit union and assumes responsibility reciprocally, that the procedures are not complex and only need registration, that it can serve as a small bank as the capital has become larger and larger, and that it directly benefits the needy of the own region.

All the financial businesses have the possibility of loss, but it is learnt that microfinance works can be implemented widely in some places with desired results and least loss. The participation of local businessmen is very fundamental as it is a chance they can grasp to develop own region.

The Vice-President then called businessmen and social organizations to devote in development undertakings of own townships and districts by cooperating in agriculture, livestock breeding, cooperatives and social sectors.

The Vice-President stressed that the desire of local traders is the most important in microfinance works, noting that it is a work to be done with philanthropic attitude and patriotic spirit in the interests of the poor and not a profit-making one.

The Vice-President urged them to work in

A ceremony to donate cash for alms for the 16th 47-plenary session of the sixth State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee and the sixth meeting of the sixth State Central Working Committee of the Sangha was held at 9.30 am. Wellwishers made cash donations including K 350,000 by U Kyaw Win-Daw Khin San Wai, K 450,000 each by U Tun Tun Oo-Daw Myint Myint Wai and family of Kyimyindine Ohnpin Street (North), K 500,000 by Thura U Tun Tin (former Prime Minister)-Daw Myint

Myint Thein and U Sein Ya (ex-minister)-Daw Aye Aye Soe and K 500,000 by Lt-Gen Ye Myint (Retd)-Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint.

For the sixth meeting of the sixth State Central Working Committee of the Sangha, wellwishers also made cash donations including K 1 million by Mahasi Buddha Sasana Nongaha Federation, K 1.5 million by U Thein Maung-Daw Pa Pa of Sandi herbal medicine, K 1.8 million by (U Maung Maung Swe Tin)-Dr Daw Mya Thida Swe

Tin (SI Co), K 1.9 million by (General Soe Win)-Daw Than Than Nwe, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe (Retd)-Daw Khin Hnin Wai, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win (Retd)-Daw San San Yi, (Lt-Gen Maung Bo)-Daw Khin Lay Myint, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than (Retd)-Daw Marlar Tint, Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe (Retd)-Daw Nan Khin Hla Win and Lt-Gen Ye Myint (Retd)-Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint.

Later, wellwishers offered a day's meal to the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Sayadaws.

MNA



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham meets businessmen from Muse and Lashio at Shweli Hall in Lashio.—MNA

concert for establishment of industrial zone or special economic zone in Muse, calling them to hold multilateral discussion for it as it calls for collaborative efforts of them.

Next, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife Daw Nan Shwe Hmon accompanied by Union ministers, the state chief minister and departmental personnel left there for Mongyal.

The Vice-President and party met township-level departmental personnel, members of social organizations, ward and village-tract administrators, senior citizens and local national race people at Mongyal Union Hall.

The Vice-President spoke on the occasion. Next, ward and village-tract administrators reported to the Vice-President on requirements of the region. Next, the Mongyal Township administrator reported on further requirements for regional development, realization of the instructions of the Vice-President on his tour of the region on 16-12-2011, and amount of loans needed for purchase of farming equipment for agricultural production development.

Next, Union Minister Lt-Gen Thein Htay, Union Minister Dr Mya Aye and Deputy Minister U Khin Zaw replied to the reports. Union Minister U Khin Yi presented

25 sample solar lanterns to 25 villages through the village administrators.

Kanbawza Bank Ltd, Asia World Co, Co-operatives Bank Co, New Star Light Co and Shwe Thanwin Co presented K 4 million to Shan and Lahu Literature and Cultural Organizations, K 15 million for renovation of Mongyal Township Union Hall.

The chairman of DGH Battery Co from Lashio presented 25 boxes that hold 240 batteries each of R 20 batteries and the chairman of Shwe Hningtaung Co 50 crop sprayers for the villages. The Shwe Thanwin Co chairman presented 5 sets of DTH Sky Net receivers to Shan and Lahu Literature and Cultural Organizations and departments.

The Vice-President, wife and party then went to Pariyatti Sadhamapala Monastic School Saimain in Mongyal and donated K 5 million to the monastery.

The Vice-President, wife and party then proceeded to Tangyan where they met township-level departmental personnel, members of social organizations, ward and village-tract administrators and townselders.

The Vice-President spoke on the occasion and heard reports on requirements of the region presented by the ward administrators. Next, a senior citizen, on

behalf of the local, spoke words of thanks to the government for its development measures for Tangyan.

Next, the Tangyan township administrator explained additional requirements of the region, progress in realization of instructions of the Vice-President on his tour of the region on 16-12-2011 and rural development and poverty alleviation measures. Next, Union ministers, the Shan State chief minister and deputy ministers made replies to the reports.

Next, Union Minister U Ohn Myint presented 49 sample solar lanterns to village-tracts. Next, Kanbawza Bank Ltd, Asia World Co, Co-operatives Bank Co, New Star Light Co and Shwe Thanwin Co presented K 6 million to Shan, Lahu and Wa Literature and Cultural Organizations, the chairman of DTH Battery Co 49 boxes that hold 240 batteries each of R 20 batteries, the chairman of Shwe Hningtaung Co 50 crop sprayers.

Kanbawza Bank Ltd, Asia World Co, Co-operatives Bank Co, New Star Light Co, DTH Battery Co, and Shwe Thanwin Co presented K 35 million for construction of 70 toilets in basic education schools in Nangyan. The Shwe Thanwin Co chairman presented seven sets of DTH Sky Net receivers to Shan, Lahu and Wa Literature and Cultural Organizations.

The Vice-President, wife and party then went to Maha Vihara (Aung Mingala) Monastery. They received five precepts from the abbot and donated robes and offertories to him.

The Union ministers, the Shan State chief minister and deputy ministers also donated offertories to the monks. The Vice-President and party donated K 5 million to the board of trustees. The Vice-President then viewed construction of new monastic school building in the monastery precinct. He donated K 5 million for construction of the school and cordially greeted national race people.

The Vice-President, wife and party flew back to Lashio from Tangyan. The Vice-President while visiting Mansu Plaza in Lashio heard reports on progress in

(See page 9)

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham cordially greets those present at the meeting at Mongyal Union Hall.



MNA

Cooperation of businessmen important in...

(from page 8)

upgrading of Mansu Market and measures for second-phase construction of Mansu market and gave necessary instructions. He then inspected the progress in construction of the market.

On his tour of Mongyal and Tangyan, the Vice-President in his speech to departmental personnel, members of social organizations ward and village-tract administrators, senior citizens and local national races said it was his second visit of Mongyal and Tangyan. On his first visit, he had attended to the requirements of those regions and this time he came to inspect progress in implementation of works and to fulfill the other needs and also for swifter implementation of rural development and poverty alleviation scheme.

The majority of rural folk residing in the country are still leading a hard life and it needs to launch effective campaign for rural development and poverty alleviation nationwide to enhance the socio-economic life of those people.

In agriculture sector, paddy production of traditional farming is about 50-60 basket per acre. For actual production of at least

100 baskets per acre, there needs to make changes in paddy strain, fertilizers, capital, farm equipment and agricultural techniques. The higher the standards of agricultural sector, the higher the rural people's standards.

So as to do livestock breeding on commercial scale, Township Livestock Breeding Departments will provide paddy strain, disseminations of technologies and practical knowledge and supervisions.

Micro credit society will be implanted extensively so as to run foodstuff production and manufacturing of bags and traditional clothes on commercial scale.

Small-scale credit societies would assist more in getting capital and additional capital investment, which is essential for doing big and small businesses and earning their living. Micro credit society can be formed with five or six people and needs to register. Due to the advantages such as increase in capital, low interest rates and small scale, it would bring more benefits to the needy families. Competitions among businesses should be long-term.

Thanks to ASEAN Economic Integration that will emerge in 2015, there will be free trade between the countries. So, our country needs to be ready for the competitiveness.

So, establishments of industrial zones are being carried out in Muse and Lashio townships in order to produce and export

high-cost products and create more job opportunities.

The country can not achieve development and economic growth, based only on agriculture. So, emergence of industries is crucial. There should be close cooperation and participations among local entrepreneurs for the successful running of these industries.

Anticipations and cooperation among local entrepreneurs play an important part. When only there is market demand, they can get good prices. If not, the prices are very low. Exports and sales of logs, uncut gems and jades, fruits and fishes and meats without being value-added have to rely on market demand.

So, the country needs to establish industrial zones for the emergence of small and medium industries. In doing so, it is very important to know local people's needs and suggestions. It needs to be aware of not causing harm to the local people's interests.

Besides, rural people of Mongyal wish to promote tourism industry in their region because of the reason that the place was based by Shan chiefs of former times and there have been ancient buildings in it. Tourists prefer ancient buildings to modernized ones, natural beauty to artificial ones. They like to feel traditional arts, foods, daily life of national races as well as their traditions. In addition, Tangyen is a town that while viewing its regional greening,

one can get lessons from it if one can have ability to see how much rural people felt defects of narcotic drugs in the former time.

The names of towns in that region tell their history. Therefore, it is important to let somebody see those towns as a tourist attraction, by having traditional houses in neat and tidy, purified water and hospitality of the people.

To pay a look on environmental conservation in the region, the region is at the risk of deforestation, which may be caused by slash-and-burn farming. It is needed to transform that farming into terraced one, and it should be known that growing organic crops on a commercial scale gives much help in environmental conservation. And those tasks will have to be done under the programmes of the organizations for rural development and poverty alleviation.

In conclusion, he said Myanmar is now practicing democracy system with transparency. He expressed his hope that the rural people will be pleased as Union Ministers and the Deputy Ministers take action promptly. And the needs that can't be done in a short time will be carried out under the supervision of respective departments as a long-term plan, and he urged the rural people to join hands with the Union government for stability and development of the region.

MNA

Daw Nan Shwe Hmon meets members of MCWAs, WAOs in Mongyal and Tangyan townships

Daw Nan Shwe Hmon, wife of Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, presents cash for renovation of pre-primary school of Mongyal Township MCWA.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Feb—Daw Nan Shwe Hmon, wife of Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, met members of Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Women Affairs Organization at Mongyal Township General Administration Department yesterday morning.

Daw Phyu Phyu Nyunt, wife of the State Chief Minister, made a speech and Township WAO chairperson and Township MCWA secretary reported on functions of the associations.

Daw Nan Shwe Hmon presented K 1 million for repairing the pre-primary school of Mongyal Township MCWA and the wife of the chief minister K 500,000 for micro-credit enterprise.

Daw Nan Shwe Hmon also presented K 100,000 each to Shan national cultural troupe and Lahu national cultural troupe.

In meeting with members of Tangyan Township MCWA and WAO and national race women's groups, Daw Nan Shwe Hmon urged members of MCWA and WAO to give priority to raising living status of the women folk and work earnestly for the wellbeing of local national women and the national people.

Then, the wife of the chief minister who is also patron of Shan State Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee and Women's Affairs Organization and the chairperson of Tangyan Township MCWA reported on the



tasks of the associations. Next, leaders of national race groups of Shan, Wa, Lahu and Kokant

introduced themselves.

Daw Nan Shwe Hmon presented K 500,000 each for

Township MCWA and WAO and K 100,000 each for four national race women's groups.—MNA



Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe being welcomed by Kuwaiti Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Essa Yousef Al Shamali at the reception to mark 51st Anniversary National Day and 21st Liberation Day of Kuwait at Sedona Hotel in Yangon on 24 February.—MNA

State Constitutional Tribunal hears Attorney-General's query

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Feb—The Attorney-General of the Union on behalf of the President has submitted letter No. 1/2012 to the State Constitutional Tribunal, asking the tribunal's resolution about "whether defining of committees, commission and boards formed by respective Hluttaws as Union level organization in the provisions of the laws of the respective Hluttaws is in line with the constitution (or) whether

committees, commissions and boards founded by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw with the rights vested to them in the constitution can be considered as Union level organization." The tribunal heard the proposal submitted according to Article 322 (a) and Article 325 (a) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar at Room No. 1 this morning.—MNA

Traffic rules disseminated

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Feb—Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee held an educative talk under the theme "traffic rules" at the hall of Road Transport Administration Department in Pubbathiri Township yesterday noon. Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Rules Enforcement Office's Head

Police Captain Min Teik Htaik elaborated those present sources of motor car accidents, numbers of death and injured persons, including right and wrong decisions on accidents. A total of 133 motorbike users and 61 car drivers were present in the event.—MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session...

(from page 16)

With the two primary requirements in complete, the department will be able to scrutinize and submit the accounts of income and spending of those organizations. The Union budget accounts for 2011-2012 fiscal year are being checked and plans are under way to submit the report in November or December next fiscal year.

The deputy auditor general went on to say that in inspecting the financial accounts and business transactions with the strength of employees from the Union Auditor-General's Office and auditor offices at various levels, inspection of accounts in every six months started as a trial in the previous fiscal year. In doing so, in comparison with inspection inputs, it was found to be inappropriate due to

the first six month cash flow and accounts situation.

Most of the checked accounts are found to have been drawn unsystematically with incomplete amendments and headings. Therefore, the Union Auditor-General's Office is planning to inspect only necessary departments biannually in the coming fiscal year and to prioritize inspection of business transactions and project undertakings.

All Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives have already known that the result of the examinations is more effective. International Auditor-General Offices place more emphasizes on it. These offices usually submit the reports on annual State Budgets. Union Auditor-General Office and Regional Auditor-General Offices at different levels are to carry out auditing and work examinations with the two third of staff strength. Only then, productive findings would come out. So, the proposal should be withdrawn.

U Thein Win said that he doesn't want to withdraw his proposal and want to take the Hluttaw's decision. The

Hluttaw approved it with "yes" vote. At the proposal-submitting session, U Myo Myint of Mandalay Region Constituency No.6 submitted the proposal on "urging the Union Government to amend the provisions of Public Work Department (PWD Code) and Public Work Account (PWA Code) and publish the amended books."

The Hluttaw approved to discuss it. Those who want to discuss it are to register at the end of the meeting.

At the bill clarification session, Vice-President U San Tun of Joint Bill Committee explained the Committee's observations and comments on Pyithu Hluttaw Bill, and member of the Committee Dr Soe Moe Aung, on Region/State Hluttaw Bill. Those who want to discuss the disagreements between two Hluttaws are to register along with brief descriptions, at the end of the meeting. The meeting came to an end at 12:15 pm and it will go on at 10 am tomorrow.

MNA

Union Energy Minister receives CEO & Vice-President of DIC

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Feb—Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay received Mr Dong-Hee Lee, CEO & Vice-President of Daewoo International Corporation in jointly cooperation with Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise of the Ministry of Energy at the latter's office, here, today.

At the meeting, they discussed matters on implementation of Shwe Natural

Gas plan which have met a deadline according to contract, upgrading the local peoples' socio-economic lives, promoting Korea Company investment in other sectors and energy sectors, as well.

Also present were Deputy Minister U Soe Aung, the director-general of the Energy Planning Department and the managing directors from the enterprises.—MNA

Mandalay Region Hluttaw's 8th day session continues

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Feb—The 8th day third regular session of the first Mandalay Region Hluttaw, attended by Mandalay Region Chief Minister, Speaker of the regional hluttaw and a total of 74 regional representatives, continued at 10:00 am today.

At the session, there were four answers to the queries of four regional representatives, decision of the hluttaw about the bills relating to regional projects in Mandalay Region, discussions of those representatives and assigning dates on which the discussions would be proved,

reading a report of Mandalay Region Hluttaw Bills Committee on an attempt to elaborate upon amended bills on Mandalay City development affairs and on Mandalay development affairs organizations, designing dates on which the related discussions to be made by those representatives, and giving a date on which the discussions about the bills on supplementary budget allocation of Mandalay Region for 2011, which has been tabled to the present Hluttaw, and on budget of Mandalay Region for 2012.

The session came to an end at 11:00 am today.—MNA

Union Mines Minister meets Chinese guests



Union Mines Minister U Thein Htaik receives Chairman Mr Deng Daiyi of Fijian Xing Ding Construction Engineering Co from China and party.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Feb—Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htaik received a Chinese delegation led by Fijian Xing Ding Construction Engineering Company Chairman Mr. Deng Daiyi at 10:00 am, and

a delegation led by General Manager Mr. Jin Shu Xing, Right Investment Limited Hong Kong-based, at the minister's office here this noon.

The meetings all concentrated on tasks to be

carried out for excavation mineral deposits in Myanmar, making plans for bilateral cooperation, investments, as well as joining hands in doing tasks for environmental conservation.—MNA



The eighth day third regular session of the first Mandalay Region Hluttaw in progress.

MNA

Central Bank of Myanmar Governor U Than Nyein receives Managing Executive Officer Mr Takashi Morisaki of the Bank of Tokyo Mitsubishi UFJ, Ltd and party. (News reported)

MNA



Traditional medicine hospital, people's hospitals in Mon State inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Feb — Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin visited Mon State Traditional Medicine Hospital on 21 February morning and left instructions on distribution of traditional medicine kits to faraway villages, growing of indigenous herbal plants and providing of effective health care

with the use of traditional medicine.

Next, the union minister met the head of Kayin State Health Department, medical superintendent, specialists, doctors and nurses at Hpa-an People's Hospital. He then inspected the lecture halls of the nursing and mid-wifery school.

The union minister also met with the health staff at Thaton District People's Hospital and inspected progress in construction of a new ward. In the evening, the union minister met health staff and members of social organizations at Belin People's Hospital and those at Kyaikhto Township People's Hospital.—MNA

**Donate
Blood**

Traditional cane-ball contest held at Buddha Pujaniya of Shwedagon Pagoda



YANGON, 24 Feb—In the 2600th Buddha Pujaniya of Shwedagon Pagoda, the Myanmar traditional cane-ball contest was opened at the car parking near the eastern stairway of Shwedagon Pagoda on 22 February.

Patron of Myanmar Cane-ball Federation U Tun Lin Thau, Vice-President Chairman of the Central Committee for Organizing the Myanmar Traditional Cane-ball Contest U Tun Win and film director Academy Zinyaw Maung

Maung formally opened the contest.

The traditional cane-ball teams demonstrated their brilliant skills.

Executive Director U Thant Zin Thau of Yangon Transformer & Electrical Co Ltd donated K 500,000, Khittaya Association (Yangon) treasurer Daw Ohnma Than K 130,000 and cane-ball enthusiasts cash donations to the Organizing Committee for the Myanmar Traditional Cane-ball Contest.

The contest lasts 15 days from 22 February to 7 March from 4 am to 11 pm daily.

A total of 15 cane-ball teams of 225 are taking part in the contest daily.—mcf

First Women's Pool 8-Ball Contest on 10 March

YANGON, 24 Feb—The Sports and Physical Education Department, Myanmar Billiards and Snooker Federation and Ambur Electronics Co jointly organized the First Women's Pool 8-Ball Contest with the sponsorship of Myanmar Brewery Ltd at the hall of Kokkine swimming club of Yangon Region on 10 March.

First prize winners can secure K 1 million, the second

K 500,000, the third K 300,000, the fourth K 150,000, from the fifth to the 10th K 50,000 and from the 11th to the 25th K 30,000.

Those women athletes may enlist at the Myanmar Billiards and Snooker Federation in Aung San

Stadium and Myoma Club in Mandalay, not later than 5 March.

Co-sponsors will be Yay Pyar Aye Co Ltd, MDG, Kokkine Swimming Club, Citygen Enterprise, Canon and 100 Plus.

Myanma Alin

LOCAL SPORTS

Female athlete set new record of Myanmar in chain shot-put

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Feb—The Myanmar National Sports Committee Chairman's Shield 60th National (Inter-Ministry) Track and Field Championships took place at Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna) from 8 to 12 February.

In the competitions, one athlete set new sports record of Myanmar, one athlete, new youth record and two athletes, new records of ministries.

In the women's chain shot-put event, Ma M Soe Zar (Commerce) set new record with 38.16 metres by breaking 34.79 metres of Myanmar record set by Ma Win Win Maw (Rail Transportation) in 2006.

In the 400-m hurdle race, Han Zaw Tun (Forestry) set new record with 55.96 sec by breaking the old record with 56.70 sec by Zaw Htoo Lwin (Home Affairs) in 2007.

In the women's walking race of the inter-ministry event, Saw Marlar Nwe (Commerce) broke old record of Kay Khaing Myo Tun (Commerce) with 1 hr 42 min 14.8 sec in 2011 and set new

record with 1 hr 41 min 50 sec. In the women's chain shot-put event, Ma Ju Ni (Rail Transportation) set new record with 35.12 metres by breaking the old record of Ma Win Win Maw (Rail Transportation) with 34.79 metres in 2006.

Ma M Soe Zar is a Palaung national from Namkham. She joined the sports world in 2010 with Judo sports profession through Sports and Physical Education Institute (Mandalay).

After making

assessment on qualification, her coaches changed her sports profession to chain shot-put event and urged her to take part in the Champion Challenge Cup Tournament held in Nay Pyi Taw in 2011.

After taking about one week training, she could show off her wonderful sports talent and skills and secured one gold medal in the SPEI level contest. Effectively applying her brilliant talent during the short-term training period, the athlete could set new record of the nation.

MNA



Ma M Soe Zar (Commerce) seen in action for taking part in chain shot-put event.

MNL clubs to meet with Thailand's BEC Tero Sasana FC in tune-up

YANGON, 24 Feb—BEC Tero Sasana FC of Thai Premier League planned to hold tune-up matches with football clubs of Myanmar National League in Myanmar.

BEC Tero Sasana FC will play against Defending League champion Yangon United FC, 2011 MNL first runner-up Ayeyawady United FC and former champion Yadanarbon FC in the tune-up matches.

The Myanmar Football Federation set the dates for the matches. Tero Sasana FC met Ayeyawady United FC at Aung San Stadium on 23 February, will play against Yadanarbon FC at Bahtoo Stadium on 25 February and with Yangon United FC at YUSC

Stadium on 27 February.

Yangon United FC and Ayeyawady United FC are allowed to take part in the AFC Cup 2012. As preparations for the cup, the two Myanmar FCs will play the tune-up matches. Yadanarbon FC is leading the standing table of MNL 2012 after the 7th fixture.

BEC Tero Sasana FC is one of the top positioned clubs in the Thai Premier League and it secured League Cups in 2000 and 2001-2002 seasons. Recently, the Thai club appointed British and Australian citizen chief coach and the club is constituted with one player each of Brazil, England, Ghana, Algeria and France together with Thai players.—Kyemon



Township Administrator's Cup Football Tourney finishes



KYAUKGADA, 24 Feb—The awarding of the Kyaukdaga Township Administrator's Cup Men's Football Tournament took place at the township sports ground in Kyaukdaga on 9 February.

In the final, Ganet team emerged champion with a 2-0 victory over Hpado team.

The chairman of the

organizing committee and Region Hluttaw representative U Kyaw Hsan Oo presented prizes to the respective winners. Administrator of Township General Administration Department U Htet Aung Phyaw awarded K 300,000 as cash award and trophy to Ganet team.

Township SPED

GTI old students' golf tournament 1 March

YANGON, 24 Feb—Old students of Government Technical Institutes (GTI) will organize the 18th golf tournament at 9th-Mile Golf Course on Pyay Road, here, at 10 am on 1 March.

Those wishing to take part in the tournament may enlist at U Khin Aye (Head of Office), not later than 3.30 pm on 29 February and may dial 01-519863.

The tournament will be sponsored by U Aung Moe (MD), First Glass Industry (FGI) Company.—Kyemon

DISTRICT NEWS

Fire preventive measures taken

TACHILEK, 24 Feb—An educative talk on danger of fire was given in conjunction with the fire drill at the fire station in Tachilek on 13 February morning.

Deputy Commissioner U Thet Lwin made a speech. And Head of Township Fire Services Department U Aung Kyaw Naing talked about fire fighting at fuel stations and systems of putting out fire.

Later, those present participated in demonstration on fire drill.

Myanma Alin

Citizenship scrutiny cards issued in Kyauktan Township

YANGON, 24 Feb—According to Moe Pwint (2) Plan adopted by the Ministry of Immigration and Population, Head of Township Immigration and National Registration Department U Ko Ko Naing and party made a field trip to Meepya model village in Kyauktan Township on 3 February.

They issued citizenship scrutiny cards to the local eligible people.

It was learnt that they planned to make more field trips to other villages for issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards.

Township IPRD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV DAN JIANG VOY NO (059)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DAN JIANG VOY NO (059) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.2.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S INTERASIA LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV SINAR BIMA VOY NO (109)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BIMA VOY NO (109) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.2.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797



File photo of a Philippine soldier (R) aboard an armoured personnel carrier (APC) near a military checkpoint on Mindanao island.—INTERNET

Philippine bandits kill six in revenge raid

ZAMBOANGA, 24 Feb—Six people were shot dead by gunmen who raided a remote Philippine village on Thursday in apparent retaliation for the killing of a bandit leader, the military said.

About 10 gunmen attacked several homes at a farm on the southern island of Mindanao, targeting relatives of a police aide and killing six of them, regional military spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Randolph Cabangbang said.

The attack on Tininghalang village followed the killing nearby on 11 February of bandit leader Samang Andi, who was tracked down by police with the help of police aide Dencio Tabayag.

"The Tininghalang victims are relatives of Tabayag, who helped the police get Samang," the military spokesman told reporters.

A brother of the bandit chief led the attack on the village, Cabangbang added.

Police accuse the Samang gang of being behind a range of lawless activities in the area, Cabangbang said, but did not cite specific crimes.

Armed groups, including former rebels, engage in kidnapping, highway robbery, and extortion across Mindanao as the security forces fight decades-old Muslim and communist insurgencies as well as Islamist militants.—INTERNET

Seven US Marines killed in helicopter collision

WASHINGTON, 24 Feb—Seven US Marines were killed in mid-air collision of two US military helicopters in southern Arizona, CNN reported on Thursday. The crash took place during routine training operations on Wednesday night along the California-Arizona border, the Marine Corps said in a statement.

The collision, which occurred near the Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, involved an AH-1W "Super Cobra" attack helicopter and a UH-1Y "Huey" utility chopper. "The circumstances are being investigated," it said.

Internet

Two avalanches in India kill at least 11



Kashmiri villagers search for their belongings after their huts were buried under snow due to an avalanche at Ramwari some 70 km from summer capital Srinagar on 23 Feb, 2012.—INTERNET

KASHMIR, 24 Feb—Two avalanches killed at least 11 soldiers and left eight others missing at military camps in Indian-controlled Kashmir,

authorities said.

The avalanches swept over a health resort at Sonamarg and Dawar, a town close to the India-Pakistan

border in Kashmir on Wednesday, CNN reported.

"The first avalanche hit the Sonamarg camp, burying several army troopers. We rescued all but three," said Lt Col JS Brar, an Indian defence spokesman. "The bodies of two soldiers and an officer have been recovered."

The second incident at Dawar buried 29 soldiers alive.

"We safely rescued 13 troopers. Bodies of eight soldiers have also been recovered while a search for eight others is continuing," Brar said. A harsher-than-normal winter in the region had led to an avalanche last month, killing seven men who were part of the Indian army and border security forces, CNN said.—INTERNET

Soon, eat your bottles once you've drunk what's inside

LONDON, 24 Feb—People will soon be able to eat their bottles after they have finished their drink—thanks to an avant-garde edible material developed by scientists. The product, a membrane created using a biodegradable plastic combined with food particles, could either be peeled off or potentially eaten as a whole and can taste like the drink inside.

Until now, experts at Harvard University have filled an orange membrane with

orange juice, a tomato-flavoured enclosure with gazpacho and grape packages with wine. They have not yet created a bottle with WikiCells—the edible material—but biomedical engineer Dr David Edwards hopes to craft a prototype soon. "In the near term, we will be encountering WikiCells in restaurant settings" as a novelty item," the *Daily Mail* quoted him as saying.

After that, Prof Edwards plans to expand WikiCells to speciality stores and

supermarkets.

Eventually, he plans to develop a WikiCells machine that would allow individuals to produce their own edible bottles. "The idea was to try to create a bottle which was based on how nature creates bottles," he told the *Harvard Crimson*.

"People in a village in Africa could become plastic bottle-free and make things for themselves. It's really exciting from a humanitarian point of view," he added.

Internet

Chemical explosion occurs at Australia's University of Queensland

BRISBANE, 24 Feb—Australian students and staff at the University of Queensland have been evacuated after a chemical explosion at one of the university's buildings in St Lucia in Brisbane's inner-west, authorities said on Friday.

The chemical, later identified as a toxic corrosive liquid, leaked in the building on Coppers road in St Lucia on Friday morning and the explosion occurred at 9.20 am local time, the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service (QFRS) said.

The nine-story building

was evacuated and QFRS firefighters in splash suits and breathing apparatus went inside. No injuries have been reported. "Crew on scene have completed atmospheric testing and all levels have been deemed safe," the QFRS said in a statement.

Xinhua



Jinshanling, located in the mountainous area in Luanping County, 125 km northeast of Beijing, is a section of the Great Wall. It is connected with the Simatai section to the east, and Mutianyu section to the west. Jinshanling was built from 1570 during the Ming Dynasty, and is 10.5 km long with five passes, 67 towers and 2 beacon towers.

INTERNET

Colombia extradites 17 alleged drug traffickers to US, Europe

BOGOTA, 24 Feb—Colombia's National Police on Thursday extradited 16 Colombians and one Nicaraguan to the United States, Spain and Italy to face prosecutions for drug trafficking crimes in those countries.

Daniilo Bustos, "a strategic partner of Daniel Barrera Barrera, known as 'El Loco Barrera' " and one of the most wanted drug traffickers in Colombia, is among the extradited Colombians, a statement from the police said.

Bustos was arrested in 2009 by Colombian intelligence organizations.

In the last years, he had served as the transportation manager of the chemical substances for manufacturing drugs which

were sent from Colombia to the United States and Europe.

Bustos will appear before the Florida South District Court in the United States to face the accusations of drug trafficking.

Nicaraguan Franklin William Mcfield, who was arrested in Cartagena in northern Colombia for crimes of alleged smuggling of weapons and drugs, will also appear before the same court.

This is the first massive extradition executed by the Colombian authorities in 2012. Last year, Colombia extradited a total of 147 people to the United States.

Xinhua

Police: Woman rammed car in drive-through

A Florida woman accused of ramming another car in a fast-food restaurant's drive-through lane was upset about another woman's slow ordering, police say.

Largo police said Jennifer Lynn Betterly, 24, rammed her Ford Focus into the vehicle in front of her at the KFC/Taco Bell drive-through Saturday because she was angry about how long it was taking the woman in front of her to place an order, *The Tampa*

Bay Times, St Petersburg, reported on Monday.

Betterly was arrested about an hour later and police found she had been driving on a suspended license and was in possession of a single pill of the prescription sleep drug Ambien. She was unable to prove the pill had been prescribed to her, police said.



A working staff measures the height of a pancake stack made by Andy Wrobel (L) from Melbourne's Pancake Parlour during the International Pancake Day celebration in Melbourne, Australia, on 21 Feb, 2012. Andy Wrobel broke the Guinness World Record by building a 76-centimetre-tall stack of pancakes.

Temporary home needed for 30,000 books

A Denver couple preparing to move from their rented home said they are trying to find a temporary abode for the 30,000-book "library" in their basement.

Jeffrey Lee and Ann Martin said they just don't have enough room in their new home right now to keep their collection of books about "the land and people's connection to the land," which they call the Rocky Mountain Land Library.

The couple said they would only need temporary storage for the thousands of books until they can complete their planned restoration of a ranch house in the Buffalo Peaks wilderness, *The Denver Post* reported on Monday. John Calderazzo, who sits on the board for the non-profit Rocky Mountain Land Library, said the books represent "the best nature library I know of anywhere."

"There are so many beautiful books. Piles and piles and piles," he said. "There's a thin line between collecting and hoarding." He pleaded for the public to help the Martins find a temporary home for the books, which fill about 600 boxes. "Help us, please," Calderazzo said. "This is really a wonderful resource. And they're great people."

Crane malfunction leaves steel dangling

Authorities in San Francisco said several downtown streets were closed when a box carrying 6 tons of steel wound up dangling from a disabled crane.

Police said the streets were blocked on Sunday afternoon when the crane atop the former Bank of America building malfunctioned and threatened to send the steel plummeting 600 feet to the ground, the *San Francisco Chronicle* reported on Monday.

The box had to be lowered via hand crank, a process estimated to take up to 6 hours.

The streets were reopened about 7 pm on Sunday.

News Album

'Part of Me' tops US record chart

LOS ANGELES, 24—Katy Perry's "Part of Me" is No 1 on the US record chart, *Billboard.com* reported on Thursday.

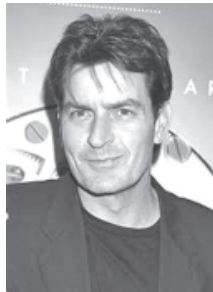
Coming in at No 2 on the *Billboard* Hot 100 is Adele's "Set Fire to the Rain," followed by the late Whitney Houston's "I Will Always Love You" at No 3, Kelly Clarkson's "Stronger (What Doesn't Kill You)" at No 4 and Adele's "Rolling in the Deep" at No 5.

Rounding out the top tier are fun.'s "We Are Young" featuring Janelle Monae at No 6, Adele's "Someone Like You" at No 7, Rihanna's "We Found Love" featuring Calvin Harris at No 8, Nicki Minaj's "Starships" at No 9 and Chris Brown's "Turn Up the Music" at No 10.—*Internet*



Katy Perry

British author JK Rowling attends the World premiere of "Harry Potter And The Deathly Hallows Part 2" in London on 7 July, 2011. INTERNET



Charlie Sheen

Charlie Sheen set for TV comeback

LOS ANGELES, 24 Feb—Charlie Sheen is all set for his official return to the tube. The actor will make a comeback to American TV screens with his new comedy series "Anger Management" in March — a year after he was fired from hit sitcom "Two And A Half Men".

Sheen will lead the cast in "Anger Management" as a former baseball player with rage issues who becomes an unconventional management counsellor, reports *dailystar.co.uk*. Selma Blair will star as his therapist and Shawnee Smith will portray his onscreen ex-wife. Production on the project is yet to begin. But reports indicate the show will be shot on location in Los Angeles' San Fernando Valley ahead of its debut on TV 22 March.

Sheen will be seen on TV a year after months of excessive drug taking and erratic behaviour and was subsequently replaced by Ashton Kutcher. *Internet*

Lauper, Fierstein create 'Kinky Boots' musical

NEW YORK, 24 Feb—A stage musical based on the British film "Kinky Boots," with a book by Harvey Fierstein, and music and lyrics by Cyndi Lauper, is to premiere in Chicago.

The show's producers Daryl Roth and Hal Luftig said the Windy City engagement in October will precede an anticipated Broadway run.

"'Kinky Boots' is the kind of joyous, inspirational musical that we love and are excited to share with audiences," Roth and Luftig said in a statement on Wednesday. The musical is being directed and choreographed by Jerry Mitchell.

Based on a true story, the show follows Charlie Price, who is forced to step in and save his family's shoe factory in Northern England, following the sudden death of his father. He meets a fabulous drag performer named Lola and, together, they not only revitalize the nearly bankrupt business, but also help one another grow into the men their fathers always dreamed their sons would become, a synopsis said. *Internet*



Cyndi Lauper arrives at the 54th annual Grammy Awards at the Staples Centre in Los Angeles on 12 Feb, 2012. INTERNET

JK Rowling's next book will be for adults

NEW YORK, 24 Feb—Little, Brown and Co says it has signed a deal to publish a book for adults penned by Britain's JK Rowling, creator of the Harry Potter franchise.

"Although I've enjoyed writing it every bit as much, my next book will be very different to the Harry Potter series," Rowling said in a statement. "The freedom to explore new territory is a gift that Harry's success has brought me, and with that new territory it seemed a logical progression to have a new

publisher. I am delighted to have a second publishing home in Little, Brown, and a publishing team that will be a great partner in this new phase of my writing life."

The Hollywood Reporter said the US publishing company did not divulge the book's title, subject or publication date.

This will mark Rowling's first book since the Potter spinoff "Tales of Beedle the Bard" was released in 2008. "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows," the final installment in the seven-book series about the boy wizard, was published in 2007.

The Potter books were published by Bloomsbury in the United Kingdom and Scholastic in the United States.—*Internet*



Left to right, Best Supporting Actor Christian Bale, Best Actress Natalie Portman, Best Supporting Actress Melissa Leo and Best Actor Colin Firth pose backstage at the 83rd annual Academy Awards in Hollywood on 27 Feb, 2011.—INTERNET

Josh Duhamel to star in 'Scenic Route'



Actor Josh Duhamel

LONDON, 24 Feb—Actor Josh Duhamel will star in road trip movie "Scenic Route".

The 39-year-old is set to team up with Dan Fogler in the movie, which is a story about two former college friends who be-come stranded in the desert while on a road trip.

According to contact-music.com, the movie has been written by Kyle Killen while Kevin and Michael Goetz will direct the project.—*Internet*

Last year's winners to be Oscar presenters

BEVERLY HILLS, 24 Feb—Christian Bale, Colin Firth, Melissa Leo and Natalie Portman are to be presenters at Sunday's 84th Academy Awards show in Los Angeles, telecast producers said.

Both Bale and Leo earned Oscars for their supporting roles in "The Fighter" last year.

Firth and Portman took home Academy Awards for their lead performances in "The King's Speech" and "Black Swan," respectively, at the 83rd edition of the prize presentation.

Previously announced Oscar presenters include Halle Berry, Rose Byrne, Bradley Cooper, Tom Cruise, Penelope Cruz, Cameron Diaz, Michael Douglas, Will Ferrell, Tina Fey, Zach Galifianakis, Tom Hanks, Angelina Jolie, Milla Jovovich, Ellie Kemper, Jennifer Lopez, Melissa McCarthy, Wendi McLendon-Covey, Maya Rudolph, Emma Stone, Meryl Streep and Kristen Wiig. *Internet*



Man Utd survive scare to progress

Ajax win at Old Trafford but United book place in last 16 of Europa League

LONDON, 24 Feb — Manchester United 1-2 Ajax (agg 3-2). Manchester United made it into the last 16 of the Europa League after surviving a big scare in their second-leg clash against Ajax at Old Trafford. Leading 2-0 after the first leg in the Netherlands, United looked to be on their way to a comfortable aggregate victory when Javier Hernandez fired home on six

minutes. But Ajax got a goal back through Aras Ozbiliz and after United's Nani clipped the bar in the second half, Toby Alderweireld set up a nervy finish by heading in for the visitors from close range with three minutes to go. Ajax, though, could not find the third goal that would have sent them through leaving United to prepare for a last-16 tie against Athletic Bilbao.

Internet



Manchester United did not have things their own way against Ajax at Old Trafford.
INTERNET

Tiger Woods eliminated by Nick Watney

MARANA, 24 Feb — The roar resonated across Dove Mountain from fans packed around the 18th green as Tiger Woods,



Tiger Woods tees off on four while playing Nick Watney during the Match Play Championship golf tournament, on 23 Feb, 2012, in Marana, Ariz.
INTERNET

needing a birdie on the last hole to stay in his match, hit a shot that dropped out of the Arizona sky and landed 5 feet from the hole. That was followed by silence. Woods missed the putt so badly that it never even touched the hole.

No one was more surprised than Nick Watney, who removed his cap to shake hands with Woods after a 1-up victory Thursday in the Match Play Championship.

It was the third straight time in this fickle event that Woods failed to get out of the second round, and it raised more questions about his ability to make key putts that

once seemed so automatic.

"I was fighting the blocks all day with my putter," said Woods, who missed three putts inside 10 feet on the last six holes. "Left-to-right putt, I took it slightly shut right there, and I knew it — and blocked it open."

Watney was so sure that Woods would square the match that he already had his yardage book out, checking the hole location on the first green (the 19th hole of their match), trying to decide if 3-wood was the right club off the tee.

Internet

Claxton leads PGA Mayakoba Classic

PHOENIX, 24 Feb — Will Claxton fired a five-under par 66 on to top a log-jammed leaderboard after the first round of the US PGA Tour's Mayakoba Golf Classic. Claxton on Thursday played the Greg Norman-designed El Camaleon course without a bogey. He teed off on 10 and four of his five birdies came in a burst from the second through the fifth holes.

Claxton, whose 66 matched the 66 he shot in the first round of the Sony Open, has the overnight lead for the first time in a PGA Tour event. His best finish was at Torrey Pines last month, where he was tied for 23rd. The 30-year-old had a one-shot lead over a group of seven players — Mark Anderson, Spain's Alejandro Canizares, Matt Every, Charles Howell, John Huh, England's Greg



Will Claxton on Thursday fired a five-under par 66 to top a log-jammed leaderboard after the first round of the US PGA Tour's Mayakoba Golf Classic. — INTERNET

Owen and Marc Turnesa. Turnesa joined Claxton as the only players without a bogey. — Internet

Isinbayeva sets new indoor pole vault world mark



Russian pole vault athlete Yelena Isinbayeva poses next to her new indoor world-record 5.01 after the women's pole vault event during the XL Galan Stockholm Indoor meeting in Stockholm. — INTERNET

STOCKHOLM, 24 Feb — Russia's Olympic champion Yelena Isinbayeva set a new indoor pole vault world record on Thursday with a clearance of 5.01m.

The 29-year-old had held the previous best of five metres set in Donetsk in February 2009. Isinbayeva, who also holds the outdoor world record of 5.06m set in Zurich in August 2009, has now set 28 world records in her career.

"I'm so happy to come

back at this level, I've been dreaming about this," she told TV4 news after setting the record on her second attempt.

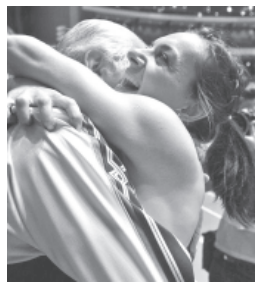
Double Olympic champion Isinbayeva had already clinched first place at 4.92m, ahead of Britain's fast-improving Holly Bleasdale and Cuba's Yarisley Silva who both finished at 4.72m. Isinbayeva's latest world record comes just over two weeks out from the world indoor championships in Istanbul.

It was also her third win of the year to follow victories

indoors at Volgograd, Bydgoszcz and Lievin, although until Thursday, she hadn't got beyond the five-metre mark.

Bleasdale enjoyed first-time clearances at 4.52m and 4.72m before Isinbayeva, starting at the latter height, entered the event, succeeding on her second attempt.

At 4.82m, Isinbayeva went clear first time but Bleasdale failed three times. The Russian then cleared 4.92m before succeeding at 5.01m on her second attempt. — Internet



Russian pole vault athlete Yelena is congratulated by her coach after the women's pole vault competition at the XL Galan Stockholm Indoor meeting, in Stockholm, Sweden, on 23 Feb, 2012.
XINHUA



Argentine-born midfielder Damian Alvarez

Mexico call up Argentine-born midfielder Alvarez

MEXICO CITY, 24 Feb — Argentine-born midfielder Damian Alvarez was called up to the Mexico side for the first time at the age of 32 on Thursday ahead of next week's friendly against Colombia in Miami.

The former River Plate player, who helped Tigres UANL win the Apertura championship in December, has carried his good form into the Clausura where his team are joint leaders.

Coach Jose Manuel de la Torre named the following squad for Wednesday's game at the Sun Life stadium which marks Argentine Nestor Pekerman's debut as Colombia coach. Squad:

Goalkeepers: Jesus Corona (Cruz Azul), Guillermo Ochoa (Ajaccio) Defenders: Enrique Perez (Morelia), Efrain Juarez (Celtic), Rafael Marquez (New Red Bulls), Francisco Rodriguez (VfB Stuttgart), Hector Moreno (Espanyol), Hugo Ayala, Carlos Salcido and Jorge Torres Nilo (all Tigres UANL)

Midfielders: Jonathan Dos Santos (Barcelona), Jesus Zavala (Monterrey), Gerardo Lugo (Morelia), Pablo Barrera (Real Zaragoza), Andres Guardado (Deportivo Coruna), Damian Alvarez (Tigres UANL) Forwards: Giovanni Dos Santos (Tottenham Hotspur), Oribe Peralta (Santos Laguna), Javier Hernandez (Manchester United), Miguel Sabah (Morelia)

Internet

Pacquiao feels pressure at home to fight Mayweather

NEW YORK, 24 Feb — Besides the urgings of boxing fans around the world eager for Manny Pacquiao to fight Floyd Mayweather Jr, Pacman said on Thursday he was

The much-discussed mega fight will have to wait until at least November, as Pacquiao first has a date in the ring with undefeated junior welterweight champion



Undefeated junior welterweight champion Manny "Pacman" Pacquiao of the Philippines attends a news conference in New York on 23 Feb, 2012. — INTERNET

feeling pressure closer to home to settle the argument over who is the world's best pound-for-pound boxer.

"My oldest kid (Emmanuel Jr.) is 11 years old and he said, 'Daddy, I want you to retire, but before you retire I have one request. You fight Mayweather, you beat him and then you retire,'" the WBO welterweight champion told a news conference. "I want that fight to happen," admitted Pacquiao.

Timothy Bradley on June 9 in Las Vegas, and Mayweather is fighting Miguel Cotto there on 5 May.

Pacquiao, who has won titles in eight different weight divisions, said satisfying his son's wish was still possible but that time was running out. "I have maybe two, three more fights," the 33-year-old Pacquiao said about his boxing future. "Hopefully he will fight before I retire. I'm hoping for a November fight." — Internet



Venus Williams

Venus Williams receives Key Biscayne wild card

KEY BISCAYNE, 24 Feb — Venus Williams has received a wild card to play her first tournament since August at the Sony Ericsson Open next month.

Williams hasn't played singles since withdrawing after the opening round of the US Open because of an autoimmune disease. She returned to competitive tennis earlier this month when she teamed with Liezel Huber for a doubles victory that capped a Fed Cup shutout for the United States against Belarus.

Williams won the Key Biscayne title in 1998, 1999 and 2001. She was a finalist in 2010 and missed the tournament last year. Fernando Gonzalez and David Nalbandian received men's wild cards, officials said on Thursday. The event begins 20 March. — Internet.

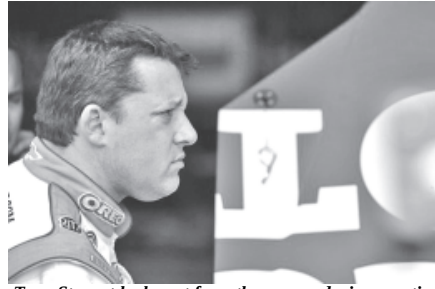


Stewart and Kenseth win Daytona qualifying races

DAYTONABEACH, 24 Feb—Roush Fenway Racing will have three cars at the front of the season-opening Daytona 500. Matt Kenseth won the second of the twin 150-mile qualifying races Thursday with a bold pass of teammate Greg Biffle. The victory gave Kenseth a spot on the second row for Sunday's race — right behind teammates Carl Edwards and Biffle.

Tony Stewart, the defending NASCAR champion, won the first race and will line up next to Kenseth at Daytona International Speedway. Biffle was leading headed into the final lap, but he tried to block Kenseth, who dove to the inside and used a push from Jimmie Johnson to take the lead.

"Well, we were going so much faster that we were going to go by him regardless," Kenseth said. "I think that was his only hope, is to try to get up the track, try to line my front bumper up where I had to push him. The problem was, I was going too fast. Even if I wanted to slow down, which I didn't



Tony Stewart looks out from the garage during practice for Sunday's NASCAR Daytona 500 auto race in Daytona Beach, Fla.—INTERNET

want to on the last lap, I couldn't have."

Robby Gordon and Michael McDowell earned the two spots up for grabs in the first race, while Joe Nemecek and Dave Blaney each raced their way into the 500 in the second qualifying race.—Internet

Shipwreck treasure: Trans-Atlantic voyage near end

TAMPA, 24 Feb—A 17-ton trove of silver coins recovered from a Spanish galleon sunk by British warships on a voyage home from South America in 1804 was set to be flown Friday from the US to Spain, concluding a nearly five-year legal struggle with the Florida deep-sea explorers who found and recovered it.

Spain's ambassador to the United States, Jorge Dezcallar de Mazar, was expected to watch when the two Spanish military C-130s take off from MacDill Air Force Base with 594,000 silver coins and other artifacts aboard, packed into the same white plastic buckets in which they were brought to the US by Tampa, Fla.-based Odyssey Marine Exploration in May 2007.—Internet



In this undated photo made available by the Spain's Culture Ministry, a member of the Ministry technical crew displays two of the 594,000 coins and other artifacts found in the Nuestra Señora de las Mercedes, a Spanish galleon sunk by British warships in the Atlantic while sailing back from South America in 1804, in a warehouse in Tampa, Fla.—INTERNET

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(25-2-12 09:30 am ~ 26-2-12 09:30 am) MST

Overseas Transmission

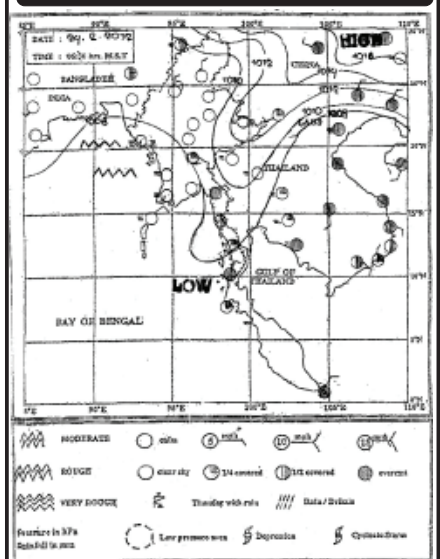
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- * Easily Cooked & Tasty Dishes "Sour Fish Soup with Drumstick"
- * News
- * The Light of World Peace
- * Myanmar Movies "The True Love"
- * Live Show "10th ASEAN Bodybuilding Competition"

MYANMAR TV

(25-2-2012) (Saturday)

- 7:00 am
- 1. Parit By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
- 7:25 am
- 2. To Be Healthy Exercise
- 7:40 am
- 3. Nice & Sweet Song
- 8:15 am
- 4. Poem Garden
- 11:25 am
- 5. Game For Children
- 11:50 am
- 6. Round Up Of The Week's TV Local News
- 1:20 pm
- 7. Delicious Dishes
- 2:20 pm
- 8. Solo Favourites
- 3:45 pm
- 9. BEC- Tero Sasana & Yadanabon Club (Myanmar National League) (Live)
- 6:00 pm
- 10. Evening News
- 6:15 pm
- 11. Weather Report
- 6:20 pm
- 12. Song Programme
- 6:40 pm
- 13. TV Drama Series
- 8:00 pm
- 14. News
- 15. Cartoon Series
- 16. TV Drama Series
- 17. Gitaadagale Phwintbaohn

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 25th February, 2012

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/°F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	28/82	17/63	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	60(%)
2	Kayah	33/91	10/50	Generally fair weather	
3	Kayah	38/100	15/59	Generally fair weather	
4	Chin	22/72	10/50	Partly cloudy	
5	Upper Sagaing	28/84	15/59	Partly cloudy	
6	Lower Sagaing	38/100	15/59	Generally fair weather	
7	Tanintharyi	36/97	17/63	Partly cloudy	
8	Bago	35/95	20/68	Generally fair weather	
9	Magway	38/100	18/64	Generally fair weather	
10	Mandalay	37/99	17/63	Generally fair weather	
11	Mon	37/99	17/63	Partly cloudy	
12	Yangon	37/99	19/66	Generally fair weather	
13	Rakhine	32/90	16/61	Partly cloudy	
14	Southern Shan	27/81	12/54	Generally fair weather	
15	Northern Shan	29/84	08/46	Generally fair weather	
16	Eastern Shan	31/88	11/52	Generally fair weather	
17	Ayeyawady	36/97	19/66	Generally fair weather	
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	37/99	19/66	Generally fair weather	
19	Neighbouring Yangon	37/99	19/66	Generally fair weather	
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	37/99	17/63	Generally fair weather	

During the past (24) hours, weather have been partly cloudy in Tanintharyi Region, 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 Tanintharyi Region, Kayah and Mon States, (3°C) to (4°C) above February average temperatures Upper Sagaing and Magway Regions, Kachin and Chin States, (5°C) above February average temperatures in Rakhine State and about February average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant night temperatures were Namhsan (4°C), Pindlaung (6°C) Lashio, Heho and Mogoke (7°C) each.

Bay Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Southwest 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 Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers in the extreme Southern Myanmar areas.

'Third of UK postcodes' have slow broadband speeds

LONDON, 24 Feb — A third of homes in the UK have broadband speeds well below the national average, according to research from price comparison site uSwitch. While half of addresses get broadband speeds of 6.7Mbps or above, a third struggle to get speeds above 5Mbps, 1.7m speed tests found. The East Sussex village of Winchelsea was the slowest, with an average speed of 1.1Mbps, according to uSwitch. Hereford was the slowest city, with average speeds of 3.1Mbps.

The government wants to see super-fast broadband as the gold standard in most UK homes, and has pledged to make the UK the fastest broadband nation in Europe by 2015. By that time, it also promises to make sure that all homes have speeds of at least 2Mbps. The uSwitch data - based on 1.68 million speed tests carried out over the last six months - suggests that there could still be some way to go.

"Britain might be riding the wave of a super-fast broadband revolution, but for 49% who get less than the national average broadband speed, the wave isn't causing so much a splash as a



For some UK homes, superfast broadband is still a distant dream.—INTERNET

ripple," said Julia Stent, director of telecoms at uSwitch. "And what's really surprising is the number of cities and towns such as Hereford and Carlisle that are suffering from slow broadband speeds, dispelling the view that it's just rural areas and small towns that have issues with their broadband," she added. Other towns and cities to offer average broadband speeds of below 5Mbps include Kilmarnock (3.2Mbps), Dumfries (3.6Mbps), Canterbury (4Mbps) and Shrewsbury (4Mbps).

Internet

Theyet gets new building of village library

THAYET, 24 Feb—Thuta Bank library was opened in Baw Village of Thayet Township on 11 February.

Deputy Commissioner of Thayet District U Mya Aye, Staff Officer of Thayet District Information and Public Relations Department U Aye Pe and Magway Region Hluttaw representative



Daw Yin Yin Hla formally opened the library.

The deputy commissioner made a speech, and the IPRD Staff Officer U Aye Pe explained the perpetuation of the library.

Next, local people donated cash and books to the library. The building was constructed at a cost of K 4 million by the State and the local people.—District IPRD

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session continues for 15th day

One amended proposal submitted and discussed, one new proposal submitted, two bills explained and submitted



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives on their arrival at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Feb.—The 15th day Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session continued today at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Hall in Hluttaw Complex here, attended by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint and 531 representatives.

At the session, one amended proposal was submitted and discussed, one new proposal submitted and two bills explained and submitted.

Regarding the proposal submitted yesterday, U Thein Win of Sagaing Region Constituency

(9) said in considering annually additional budgetary allocation bill of the Union, it is necessary to exactly know the actual income and expenditure of organizations included in the Union budget fund plan. In considering the Union budget bill, it must be based on the

budget law of the previous fiscal year. So, he submitted an amended proposal urging the Union Government to inspect the income and expenditure prescribed in accord with the law every six months and to submit other audit reports in time asked by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. The Hluttaw approved the proposal.

Three MPs discussed the amended proposal. Daw Tin Nwe Oo of Dagon Myothit (North) Constituency said timeframe is necessary and audit report needs to be submitted in time. Ministries have to scrutinize accounts step by step and send them to the Auditor-General's Office, which then has to assess systematically and submit audit report. So, she said she seconded the amended proposal as it was really necessary.

U Zon Hle Htan of Chin State Constituency (2) also seconded the proposal saying that the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw needs to thoroughly assess the audit report so that the government's management and spending can be

systematic. U Sai Paung Nat of Shan State Constituency (12) discussed that the proposal is appropriate as it reflects the nature of work of all Union level organizations and Union ministries on a practical basis.

In response to the proposal, Deputy Auditor-General U Myo Myint of Union Auditor-General's Office said that the Union Auditor-General's Office is implementing its tasks with the workforce, which accounts for two thirds of organizational employment. The tasks include inspection of financial accounts and of business transactions. There are two primary requirements for the Union Auditor-General's Office to check whether or not the organizations included in the Union budget fund program have actual income and spend money systematically. They are for government organizations to complete accounts drawings in a prescribed period and for the Budget Department (Headquarters) to compile a grand total.

(See page 10)

Union A & I Minister inspects production of hybrid cucumber seeds, palethwe hybrid quality paddy strain

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Feb.—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing looked into 100-day palethwe farmland at eleven species competitive palethwe hybrid paddy strain farmland planted by joining cooperation of Myanmar-Vietnam agriculturists near Chaing Village of Dekkhinathiri Township today. The union minister urged the officials to compile detailed records of per acre yields of each paddy strain, life span, resistance to insects and weather, expenses and profit.

Next, an agriculturist from the agriculture department demonstrated production of hybrid cucumber seeds. The union minister instructed them to disseminate knowledges to farmers and distribute it to farmers at affordable price.

Afterwards, the union minister

inspected palethwe hybrid paddy strain farmland at integrated mechanized farming (100-acre) at Taegyigon, in Zabuthiri Township and yezin-1 hybrid sunflower plantation (5-acre) in Dekkhinathiri Township.

The ordinary sunflower seeds can yield 2 viss of oil, but yezin-1 hybrid, 4 viss of oil. In addition, its yield would be 50 baskets per acre. Plans are under way to distribute enough sunflower strains to farmers as they take more interests in it.—MNA

Union Agriculture and Irrigation Minister U Myint Hlaing inspects 100-day-old Palethwe paddy farm near Chaing Village in Dekkhinathiri Township.—MNA



Myanmar, China to cooperate in flourishing of Buddha Sasana

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Union Mines Minister meets Chinese guests

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The Chindwin Bridge (Monywa) makes smoothly modes of transportation of Chin State and the regions on the west bank of the Chindwin River

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