Established 1914

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XIX, Number 315 | 9th Waxing of Taboung 1373 ME | Thursday, 1 March, 2012

True patriotism

* It is very important for every one of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.

* Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

Sixth meeting of Sixth State Sangha Central Working Committee of Sangha concludes

YANGON, 29 Feb—Sixth meeting of Sixth State Central Working Committee of the Sangha of All Ganas continued for the final day at Maha Pasana Cave on Kaba Aye Hill here this afternoon.

Vice-Chairman of the Committee Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Gunesana presided over the meeting and Associate Executive Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Nimala acted as MC.

Associate Executive Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Vayama discussed suggestions on the annual report.

Chair of the committee Sayadaw of Bhamo Monastery in Mandalay Abhidhaja Maha Rahta Guru Agga Maha Saddhama Jotika Dr Bhaddanta Kumarabhivamsa presented Vanisaya certificates and confirmation certificates to new Threvada Missionary Ovadacariya Committee.

15 Ovadacariya Sayadaws, the chair, the executive, representatives signed approval for replacements, resolutions, confirmations and records made in the meeting in the Book of Sasana Historical Record.

The meeting was successfully concluded after the chair Sayadaw gave concluding sermon to those present.

MNA

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
President Office
(Order No. 8/2012)
8th Waxing of Taboung, 1373 ME
29 February, 2012

Appointment of Chief Justice of Kayah State High Court

Judge U Kyaw Linn Maung of Kayah State High Court as agreed by Kayah State Hluttaw was appointed as chief justice of Kayah State High Court in accord with Para (4) of Sub-section (b) of Section 308 of the constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Sub-section (b) of Section 82 of the Union Government Law and Section 50 of Union Judicial Law.

Sd/
Thein Sein
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
President Office
(Order No. 9/2012)
8th Waxing of Taboung, 1373 ME
29 February, 2012

Appointment of judge of Kayah State High Court

U Tin Htay as agreed by Kayah State Hluttaw was appointed as judge of Kayah State Hluttaw in accord with Para (4) of Sub-section (b) of Section 308 of the constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Sub-section (d) of Section 82 of the Union Government Law and Section 50 of Union Judicial Law.

Sd/
Thein Sein
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Rural development and poverty alleviation tasks being carried out under leadership of President

Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo meets departmental personnel, members of social organizations and townselders of Thandwe and Taungup townships

Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo cordially greets locals at the proposed site of Taungup University.
MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo and party met departmental personnel, members of social organizations and senior citizens at Dwayawady Hall in Thandwe of Rakhine State yesterday.

The Thandwe Township administrator, Gwa Township administrator and Thandwe District Deputy Commissioner reported to the Vice-President on requirements of the district and townships. Some senior citizens also reported on requirements of their home places, followed by supplementary report of State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin.

Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint and Deputy Minister for Education U Ba Shwe replied to the reports. The Vice-President then explained education, health, economic and regional development and objectives of the State and donate cash for repair works for Thandwe Bank erosion.

Next, Deputy Home Affairs Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint, Deputy Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Minister U Phone Swe, on behalf of the government and three businessmen donated cash assistance for construction of temporary Thandwe Dwayawady Market. Next, Shwe Thanlwin Co Chairman U Kyaw Win presented four sets of Sky Net receivers to General Administration Departments of Thandwe District, Thandwe and Gwa townships.

(See page 6)

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 1 March, 2012

Going organic

It is common knowledge that Myanmar is a developing country with its economy built on agro-industry. And it has been a long time that everyone is thirsty for industrial development which paves the way for prosperity. But, the other side of the coin is that there is still room for improvement in agricultural economy.

The world's population is giving serious cause for concern over food security as it has just hit 7000 million. While there has been growing concern over obesity rate in industrialized countries, there are still a lot of hungry mouths to feed in the Third World, forcing to pour chemical fertilizers onto fields to increase yields. It has been the only remedy but with adverse side effects and thus the idea of "going organic" has become the alternative solution.

There is a price to be paid for it although it sounds like a great idea. Eco foods usually cost much more than ordinary produce. But, organic farming causes less pollution in the long-run and there is a niche market for organic foods. There is a price gap to speak of between commercial and organic fertilizers—a mixture of animal manure, sewage sludge, compost, grass turf, straw, and other crop residues. However, we can still solve this problem by integrated farming. But, the point is that we are still weak in manufacturing value added products, losing a large sum of money from export earnings.

The transformation to mechanized farming is a must. But, we can also practice organic farming during and after this process. Most of the farmers in Myanmar run farms on a manageable scale and organic farming is most compatible with diversified, small-scale, labour-intensive cultivation. With the help of Cooperatives Ministry, farmers can form cooperative syndicates and export them to overseas market. It is a long way to walk but not impossible.

We can be a responsible nation, providing healthy foods to the world, saving our planet. Organic farming is said to represent only 2% of the total of all farming currently. So a country like ours has a great opportunity to monopolize the organic food market. It is always easier said than done, but it really deserves a try.

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan, Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye comfort patients of free surgery programme

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb—Under guidance of Chairman of Rural Socio-economic Development Subcommittee Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan, supervision of Sagaing Region Government and leadership of Sagaing Region Health Department under the Ministry of Health, specialists' team provided free general surgeries to people of Pale Township of Sagaing Region and its environs at Pale Township People's Hospital from 23 to 27 February.

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan, Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye, Deputy Speaker of Region Hluttaw U Thaung Sein and party visited the hospital, witnessed the operations, comforted the patients and cordially greeted the surgeons.

A total of 467 patients from Kani, Yinmabin, Salingyi and Myaing Townships from 20 to 22 February and 166 patients underwent surgeries by specialists from Yangon, Mandalay, Sagaing, Monywa and Victoria Hospital from 23 to 27 February.

Under healthcare programme to rural people, 4479 eye patients from Pale, Yinmabin, Salingyi, Kani and Myaing Townships were provided with surgeries in 2009.

The programme is third in a series of free surgery programme which provided free surgery to 192 patients in above-mentioned five townships in 2010.—*MNA*

***Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan and Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye inspect process of medical check-up being made by specialists at temporary pavilion of People's Hospital in Pale.*—MNA**

Union Mines Minister receives Indonesian Ambassador, delegation

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb—Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htaik received Indonesian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Sebastianus Sumarsono and a delegation led by Head Geological Agency Indonesia Chairman Mr Sukhyar at the ministry, here, at 10 am yesterday.

At the call, they focused on procedures, rules and regulations for exploration of lead in Myanmar, cooperation programmes, production of lime stones from limestone hills for manufacturing of cement, excursion to some cement plants, investment and environmental conservation.

MNA

HED (Lower Myanmar) DG receives Japanese Professor

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb—Director-General of Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) under the Ministry of Education U Zaw Htay received Professor Mr Yoshihiro Taniguchi of Ritsumeikan University and Chairman of Japanese Government Scholarship Selection Committee at the Ministry of Education here this morning.

They held a discusdion on education matters.

MNA

***Director-General U Zaw Htay receives Japanese Professor Mr Yoshihiro Taniguchi and party.* MNA**

Deputy Hotels and Tourism Minister receives foreign guests

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb—Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung received General Director Mr Gunter Franz and party of Stuttgart-based VIP-Systems Graphische Maschinen Gmbh Co of Germany at the ministry at 10 am today and Managing Director Ms Cherry Trivedi and party of Ayuroma International Pte Ltd, Singapore, which is an associate company of Two Palms Co Ltd at 10.30am today.

They discussed foreign investment law, rules and regulations and procedures for operating hospitality industry.

MNA

China, Indonesia should maintain East Asia stability

*Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao (R) meets with visiting Indonesian Coordinating Minister for Political, Law and Security Affairs Djoko Suyanto, who is here to attend the third meeting of the bilateral dialogue mechanism at deputy prime ministerial level, in Beijing, capital of China, on 28 Feb, 2012. —*XINHUA

BEIJING, 29 Feb— Premier Wen Jiabao said Tuesday afternoon that China and Indonesia should jointly make unremitting efforts to help maintain stability and prosperity in East Asia. Wen made the remark while meeting visiting Indonesian Coordinating Minister for Political, Law and Security Affairs Djoko Suyanto in Beijing.

Suyanto is in Beijing for the third meeting of the bilateral dialogue mechanism at deputy prime ministerial level. On Tuesday morning, Chinese State Councilor Dai Bingguo and Suyanto co-chaired the meeting.

Wen said the meeting had achieved important results by advancing the implementation of consensus reached by leaders of the two countries. He said the meeting had helped lay a solid foundation for further development of bilateral relations.

According to the Foreign Ministry, the meeting is designed for the two sides to exchange views on bilateral ties and international relations as well as regional issues.

Wen said in face of grim challenges that the international financial crisis posed to East Asia, China and Indonesia should strengthen communication and coordination, expand mutually beneficial cooperation and make unremitting efforts to safeguard common interests and maintain stability and prosperity in East Asia.

Suyanto said the two countries enjoy good relations and great potential for bilateral cooperation. He said Indonesia highly appreciates and heeds the important role that China plays in regional and international affairs. He expressed the readiness to deepen all-round cooperation and the strategic partnership between the two countries so as to bring more benefit to the people.

He said Indonesia is willing to work with China to make greater contribution to peace, stability and prosperity in East Asia.

Xinhua

*US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton testifies before the Senate Appropriations Committee about "The FY2013 Budget Request for the Department of State and Foreign Operations" on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC, the United States, on 28 Feb, 2012.—*XINHUA

Romney wins Michigan GOP primary

WASHINGTON, 29 Feb—Republican presidential hopeful Mitt Romney will be the winner of the Michigan primary Tuesday, with Rick Santorum coming in a close second, CNN projected.

With 77 percent of precincts reporting, the former Massachusetts governor won 41 percent of the vote, followed by Santorum, the former Pennsylvania senator, with 37 percent, the US broadcaster projected while the ballots were still being calculated.

Texas congressman Ron Paul finished third with 12 percent of the vote. Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, who mostly skipped the state, came in last at 7 percent.

The victory was critical for Romney, as a defeat — even if by the slightest margin — would have been devastating to his campaign. Michigan was regarded as a stronghold for the former governor, who was born there and whose father was a popular governor of the state.

The victory came shortly after Romney was projected winner in the Arizona primary Tuesday.—*Xinhua*

Three soldiers wounded in bombing attack in Thai restive south

BANGKOK, 29 Feb—Three soldiers were injured as an improvised explosive device (IED) blew up in the southernmost province of Narathiwat's Bacho District Tuesday afternoon while they were heading to downtown.

The explosion left a big hole of about one meter in depth and one metre in diametre at the scene. The police said the IED was stuffed in a 20-kg extinguisher cylinder and detonated by wire.

Six soldiers were travelling to Narathiwat's Muang District on a 6-wheel truck when they were assaulted by a unknown number of assailants.

All three wounded soldiers were taken to a hospital.

The region has seen escalating violence since January 2004, which has so far claimed more than 5,200 lives.

Xinhua

An Afghan policeman inspects a wreckage of a car hit by a car bomb attack in Jalalabad Province on 27 Feb, 2012. A suicide car bomber killed at least nine people in an attack on a military airport in eastern Afghanistan on Monday, officials said.
INTERNET

US making 'strategic bet' on India in Asia, says scholar

WASHINGTON, 29 Feb— India gets a key place in the US pivot toward the Asia-Pacific Region because Washington is making "a strategic bet" that India will promote peace and security in the long term, according to a US scholar.

The unexpected attention given to India in Pentagon's new strategic guidance "raises interesting questions about how India fits into the United States' vision for security in the Asia-Pacific region," said Amer Latif in a commentary.

Noting that Washington and New Delhi have been actively building their defence relations through defence sales, exercises, and high-level military engagements, he said: "Despite the impressive progress in recent years, questions still remain about India's commitment and ability to be a security provider in Asia."

"As the United States implements its pivot toward the Asia-Pacific Region, it will actively seek capable and reliable partners to cooperate on maintaining security and stability in Asia," said Latif, a visiting fellow with the Wadhwani Chair in US-India Policy Studies at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), a Washington, think tank.—*Internet*

Improvised bomb found at Philippine airport

MANILA, 29 Feb— Philippine authorities have found and disarmed a small bomb at a provincial airport that serves the resort island of Boracay, one of the country's main tourist hotspots, police said on Wednesday.

Security staff found the improvised explosive device among cargo being processed at Kalibo International Airport on Tuesday night, national police spokesman Chief Superintendent Agrimero Cruz said.

Police experts brought the device, inside a plastic envelope about the size of a magazine, out of the airport and had it safely detonated, according to Cruz.

He said the device was apparently dropped off at the airport counter of a cargo forwarding company and bore a name and address in the southern island of Mindanao, a hotbed of Islamic militants and guerrillas. However he said authorities did not know who dropped off the package.

"We can't speculate on who was behind it," Cruz said, adding he also had no details on the potential power of the bomb.

The central Philippine airport handles dozens of flights a day, linking Kalibo with Chinese and South Korean cities as well as those in the Philippines.—*Internet*

*An Iraqi firefighter hoses down a burned bus after a car bomb attack in Kirkuk, 290 kilometres (180 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, on 23 Feb, 2012. A rapid series of attacks spread over a wide swath of Iraqi territory killed and injured dozens of Iraqis on Thursday, targeting mostly security forces.—*INTERNET

Danish Navy frees 16 held by pirates, two hostages killed

COPENHAGEN, 29 Feb—The Danish Navy said on Tuesday it had freed 16 hostages held by pirates off the Somali coast the previous day, but that two more captives were killed in the rescue operation.

"The Danish warship *Absalon* stopped a pirate mother ship on 27 Feb, 2012. During the operation, two hostages were killed," the Navy said in a statement.

The nationalities of the hostages were not immediately known, nor the circumstances leading to the two deaths.

"Two hostages were found seriously injured, but despite swift assistance from Absalon's doctor, their lives could not be saved," the Navy said.

"We cannot exclude that we may have caused the deaths," Danish Navy captain Steen Engelbrecht Pedersen told news agency *Ritzau*.

The Danish military has opened an investigation to shed light on the incident, he said.

The Danish warship is part of a NATO-led counter-piracy mission off Somalia and the east coast of Africa.—*Internet*

An armed Somali pirate stands along the coastline of Hobyo Town in north-eastern Somalia.
INTERNET

Awe-inspiring!

Article: TMT
Photo: *Khin Maung Win (The Mirror)*

The Ranger is ascending steadily and energetically carrying a load-full of pilgrims safely up to the mountain top where a highly-revered pagoda with rich and long history awaits at a place over 3000 feet above the sea level. It is in Mon State in the southeast of Myanmar that these people are on their

pilgrimage to "Kyaikhtiyo" a pagoda with its mystery remains ever unsolved.

The road

Normally, an hour-drive for six-speed or seven-speed medium trucks like Hino Ranger, this tarred mountain road has steep inclines in many parts suitable only to the cars specially designed for this kind of tracks. All along the road are Japanese-made cars like the Ranger itself and its cousins or its major competitors in the global markets such as Mitsubishi Fuso Fighter, Isuzu Forward, and Nissan Condor all doing the same job – safely transporting pilgrims up and down the road daily.

Every day during the open season, thousands of pilgrims flock to this highly-revered Kyaikhtiyo Pagoda. According to the drivers, there are visitors, especially tourists from around the world even in the rainy season and driving in the time needs special care. Before the road was built, pilgrims had to travel through the jungle footpath for the whole day to reach the mountain top. And the return trip also took the same length of time. The journey was wonderful, but time is also an important factor for many people.

Thanks to the road, short and easy trips to the pagoda are now available for elder persons in their waning days or tight-schedule people who cannot spend the whole day just to reach the pagoda. For example, the News and Periodicals Enterprise of the Ministry of Information has been arranging short pilgrimage and recreation trips even for hectic staff of the three dailies and news agencies that rarely take holidays. Pilgrims can now find enough time for doing meditation or vipassana in the main square near the pagoda and for a comprehensive survey of the surrounding areas even with a one-night-stay trip. But some locals insist that at least a four-night stay is required to visit every interesting place as some of the journeys along the mountain footpath to fascinating places take at least two hours! And there are many more interesting places hidden in the nearby forests, mountains and valleys.

History

Amidst layers of forest-covered high ridges stands the mountain accommodating at its peak a boulder whose reliquary is keeping the Sacred Hair Relic of Buddha for over 2000 years and on this huge rock is a stupa small in size but highly sacred in status. History has it that a hermit received the Relic from Buddha during the Lord's visit to the great sovereign state of Suvunnabhommi or Thaton.

According to the wish of the hermit who always placed the Relic in the tuft of his hair it was enshrined in the boulder resembling his own head. Actually, the boulder and the stupa on it are called the Kyaikhtiyo Pagoda.

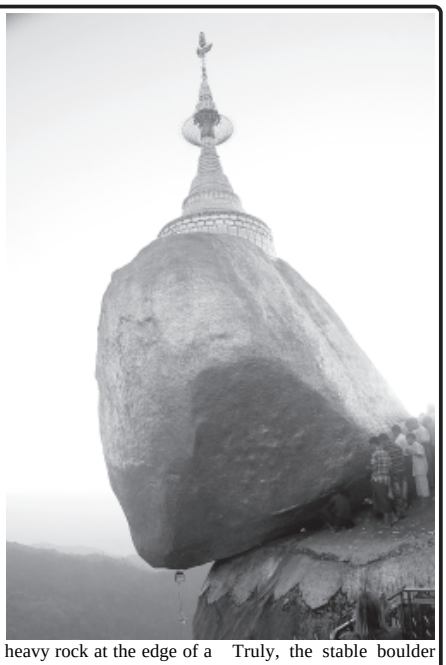
The pagoda itself and many of the places surrounding it have a captivating history that makes them more enthralling. Some of the places have their own story supporting the main pagoda history. The pristine forests and bluish mountain ranges surrounding Kyaikhtiyo are enhancing the value of the interesting places and stories including the stupa and the boulder which are the centre stage of pilgrimage.

Gravity-defying boulder

Both the stupa and the boulder are heavily gilded and nowadays this giant rock looks rather like a large solid mass of gold! What's more, devotees are making donations every day adding more and more gold to the stupa and the boulder. Pilgrims are also donating cash and kind for other purposes including power and clean water supply.

As for most of the global tourists Kyaikhtiyo is renowned as "Golden Rock Pagoda".

Scientifically, a large heavy rock at the edge of a slopping surface will fall down, but that never happens in Kyaikhtiyo. Perhaps the boulder is defying gravity because of the Hair Relic it is holding. Truly, the stable boulder always appears to be on the brink of sliding down into the gorge is a view really awe-inspiring for every visitor from home and abroad.



New rural library put into service

HTANTABIN, 29 Feb—Pyinnya Pankhin Library was put into service in Yedwingon-2 Village of Wataya Village-tract in Htantabin Township of Yangon Region on 22 February. Township level departmental officials cut the ribbon to open the library.

Deputy Head of Township General Administration Department U Kyaw Soe Thein and Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Khin Nyein Nyein explained durability of the library. The village administrator, Chairman of the Library Committee U Kyaw Myint and Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Khin Nyein Nyein accepted K 1 million and 50 corrugated iron sheets provided by Yangon Region, 100 books donated by Myanmar Libraries Foundation and 400 books donated by wellwisher U Tin Win.

Township IPRD

Cultivation of Palethwe hybrid paddy plantation explained in Htantabin

DISTRICT NEWS

YANGON, 29 Feb—The local farmers were conducted round the thriving Palethwe hybrid paddy strain was held on two acres of farmland of farmer U Sein Win Hlaing in Asugyi Village-tract in Htantabin Township of Yangon Region on 21 February.

Deputy Region Manager of Yangon Region Myanma Agriculture Service U Thein Lwin, District Manager U Myint Lwin, Township Administrator U Ngwe Doe and in-charge of the farm U Sein Thin explained cultivation of paddy through good agriculture pattern, use of qualify paddy strain and production of 200 baskets of paddy per acre.

Later, officials and local farmers observed the paddy farms.—*Myanma Alin*

Fingerlings distributed in Pyapon Township

PYAPON, 29 Feb—Under the supervision of the Ayeyawady Region Fisheries Department, Pyapon District Fisheries Department handed over golden Hamilton's Carp pedigree species, demonstrated practical hatching of fingerlings and distributed fingerlings to the local people in Poswa Village of Thaleikgyi Village-tract in Pyapon Township, Ayeyawady Region, on 19 February.

The department carried out its tasks with the aim of contributing to rural development and poverty alleviation.

At the ceremony, departmental officials handed over seven pairs of golden Hamilton's Carp to local breeders. Afterwards, They demonstrated hatching of fingerlings and distributed 10,000 fingerlings to the local farmers.

Thaung Nyunt-Pyapon

Union Border Affairs and MID Minister receives Chairman of International Crisis Group

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb—Union Minister for Border Affairs and for Myanma Industrial Development Lt-Gen Thein Htay received Brussels-based International Crisis Group Chairman Ms Louise Arbour at the ministry, here, at 2 pm today.

They discussed developments of Myanmar's politics, process of national reconsolidation and peace-making process with ethnic armed groups.

MNA

Third day sixth meeting of sixth State Central Working Committee of Sangha in progress. **(News on page 1)**

MNA

Razudaing Bridge No.1 easily accessible to four corners of the country

* Razudaing Bridge No.1, being located on road networks such as Maubin-Yaylaekalay-Shwetaunghmaw-Kyaikpe-Mawlamyinegyun road, Mawlamyinegyun-Hlaingbone-Thitpoke-Kwinpauk-Pyinsalu road and Bogale-Mawlamyinegyun-Kyonemangay-Wakema-Myaungmya road, people can have easy access to the four corners of the country via it.
* It took 12 hours from Mawlamyinegyun to Yangon by motor boat. Thanks to the bridge, it is three-hour drives to Yangon by land.
* Mawlamyinegyun Township is easily accessible by land. So, the four corners of the country can be reachable by road and bridge networks.
* Centered Mawlamyinegyun Township, construction of Bogale-Mawlamyinegyun- Kyonemangay-Myaungmya motor road is going on. People can go to the four corners of the Ayeyawady Region at any time.

Archive: *Maung Nyein Aye*

Facts about the bridge

1. The bridge is of one lane steel truss type.
2. It is 1955 feet long and facilitated with 20 feet wide motor road flanked by two three feet wide pedestrian lanes on either side.
3. Its water clearance is 20 feet in height and it can withstand 60 tons of load.
4. The construction of bridge started on 1 April, 2009 and it was put into services on 22 July 2010.

Translation: MT

Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo speaks to departmental personnel, members of social organizations and senior citizens at Dwayawady Hall of Thandwe.
MNA

Rural Development and Poverty ...

(from page 1)

On behalf of the businessmen, IGE Co Chairman U Nay Aung donated cash assistance for the burnt Minpya Market. The Vice-President and party then cordially greeted those present and proceeded to Thandwe District People's Hospital where the Vice-President inspected the preparation for extension of patient ward and chosen land plot for it.

The Vice-President and party then flew to Taungup from Thandwe. At Nyaungkaday ground, the chosen site for construction of Taungup University, the Vice-President heard reports on layout of the university presented by Deputy Minister U Ba Shwe and personnel concerned and coordinated essentials.

The Vice-President then greeted the locals present there and explained plans for construction of the university. The Vice-President and party looked round Taungup by cars and met departmental personnel, members of social organizations and townselders at Taungup Township Hall.

The Taungup Township administrator reported to the Vice-President on salient points of the region, followed by reports on educational, health and development requirements of the township presented by two senior citizens. Deputy Minister U Win Shein and Deputy Minister U Phone Swe replied to the requirements.

The Vice-President coordinated with personnel to fulfill the requirements of the township, reviewed the regional report and explained policies of the State. He donated cash assistance for preventive measures against bank erosion within Taungup Township due to the low of torrent. Shwe Thanlwin Co presented seven sets of Sky Net receivers to the township.

The Vice-President and party then cordially greeted the attendees and proceeded to Taungup Township People's Hospital where he coordinated essentials for standardization of the hospital.

In his speech to the departmental personnel, members of social organizations and townselders of Thandwe and Taungup townships, the Vice-President said they had come to observe the conditions of the townships in southern Rakhine State and to fulfill the requirements.

As the first priority, the Vice-President said that they would discuss the education and health requirements of the local people and attend to the needs. As the second priority, they would access the reports on the regional economic development requirements presented by the government departments and fulfill them properly in harmony with objectives of the State. The third was to explain current undertakings of the government to the locals.

The Vice-President went on that the budgets on education and health had been increased year by year in the country. Arrangements were being made to extend necessary buildings, upgrade and equip hospital equipment, and fully provide basic medicines for health care.

In education sector, basic education schools were being upgraded and text books and note books were being provided for free to offer free education to ensure all had completed primary education with other educational assistance to ensure continuous learning.

The Vice-President then explained phase-by-phase construction of Taungup University in Taungup within 2012-2013 fiscal year for students in southern Rakhine State to be able to learn arts and science subjects.

The Vice-President explained measures for supply of electricity from the national grid to An, Minpya, MraukU, Ponnagyun, Sittway as the first phase in 2012-2013 fiscal year, initial measures for Taungup, Thandwe, MaI, Kyaukpyu,Yanbye and to remaining townships in 2013-2014 fiscal year as the second phase.

After that, farmers were to do framings not only for daily life existence but also on commercial scale. Efforts were to be made for growing industrial crops as much as possible. Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation tasks were being implemented under the leadership of the President. He urged local people to make cooperation with entrepreneurs and local authorities so as to achieve eight rural development tasks he added.

In the afternoon, Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo and party left by helicopters for Thahtay Hydropower Project being implemented by No.6 Hydro Power Implementation Department of the Ministry of Electric Power No.1.

At the briefing hall of the site, Union Minister for Electric Power No.1 U Zaw Min reported on progress in construction of the project and undertakings of each sectors for timely completion. With respect to the reports, the Vice-President instructed officials to make coordination for construction of dam and power station and installation of power grids harmoniously,

(See page 7)

Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo inspects progress in implementation of Thahtay Hydropower Project.—MNA

Instructions of Union Information and Culture Minister clarified

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb—The clarification on instruction of the Union Minister for Information and for Culture at the 21st anniversary ceremony of Information and Public Relations Department was held in conjunction with the cash assistance presentation ceremony at the hall of Kayah State IPRD in Loikaw on 27 February.

Kayah State Minister for Development Affairs U Aung Naing Oo made an opening address. Head of State IPRD U Sai Thein Lwin clarified the instructions of the Union Minister and then presented cash assistance to the personnel from districts.

MNA

Educative talk at UMFCCI on 3 March

YANGON, 29 Feb—Under the headship of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Mr Marco Breu (Masters Degree of Economics) will give an educative talk on "International Business Interest in Myanmar: What investors are looking for to make their decisions?" on the first floor of UMFCCI Office Tower in Lanmadaw Township here on 3 March. Any interested person may attend the talk.

MNA

UEC disseminates electoral process knowledge

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb—Union Election Commission today held an electoral educative workshop at the commission office, attended by 28 in charges of electoral educative process from 17 political parties that will compete in the coming by-election and 10 interested persons.

Member of the UEC U Myint Naing explained the purposed of holding the workshop. The commission secretary and officials elaborated on rules and regulations regarding electoral process. The commission urged the attendees to relay the information on electoral process to voters the same as instructions by the UEC.—*MNA*

MNHRC Chairman receives European Parliament member

YANGON, 29 Feb—Member of European Parliament and Chairman of ASEAN delegation countries Mr Werner Langen and party called on Chairman U Win Mra of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission at the commission today.

At the call, matters relating to promotion and protection of the fundamental human rights enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.—*MNA*

Rural Development and Poverty ...

(from page 6)

ensure technically fail-safe one, to manage digging of tunnel based on its withstands.

after taking samples of soil and stones along water diversion tunnel and to carry out measures for not causing damages to the dam due to the facts that that region gets much rains and heavy rain in some years.

After that, the Vice-President and party inspected the scale model of the project and construction site from the view point of the briefing hall. They also looked into water diversion tunnel No.1 and construction of diversion tunnel and diaphragm wall.

Yesterday evening, the Vice-President and wife and party paid homage to Myathalon Pagoda in Magway and donated cash.—*MNA*

***Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo inspects construction of spillway tunnel of Thahtay Hydropower Project.*—MNA**

Wife of Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo Patron of MWAF and of MMCWA Daw Khin Saw Hnin meets township federation and association members in Thandwe District

***Wife of Vice-President Patron of MWAF and MMCWA Daw Khin Saw Hnin makes cash donations to Thandwe District Women's Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Association.*—MNA**

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb—Wife of the Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Patron of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation and of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Khin Saw Hnin met township federation and association members in Thandwe District yesterday.

The meeting was attended by Wife of the Rakhine State Chief Minister Patron of Rakhine State Women's Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Nu Nu Zan, the chair of Rakhine State Supervisory Committee, the chair of Thandwe District committee and chairs and member of WAOs and supervisory committees of Thandwe, Taungup, Maei and Kyeintali sub-townships in Thandwe District.

The patron of Rakhine State committee explained the regional situation of the state.

The chair of district WAO and the supervisory reported works of the district committee.

Patron Daw Khin Saw Hnin donated K 1 million each to district WAO and the district committee. Secretary of MMCWA donated K 0.5 million to each township WAOs and the township committees and medicines to Myittawady Home for the Aged through officials.

Daw Khin Saw Hnin in her address said: I am heartened by today's frankly meeting which is like the meet of sisters.

We are civilian social services organizations partly funded by the government.

We need to continue preserving Myanmar's traditional customs. I would prefer to continue education, economic and social welfare tasks of MMCWA for women.

I am swelled with pride as member volunteers are doing their bits for development of the country.

She then cordially greeted those present at the meeting.

Daw Khin Saw Hnin and party cordially greeted expectant mothers at labour room of MMCWA and gave away tonics and gifts.

Wife of the Vice-President Patron Daw Khin Saw Hnin gave away tonics and gifts to mothers-to-be.

MNA

Libraries development and enhancement of reading habit among rural people launched

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb—Libraries development and enhancement of reading habit among rural people in Patheingyi Township, Mandalay Region were launched with a ceremony at Ohnchaw Village in the township on 27 February.

The ceremony covers essay competitions (open division) at which Head of Region Information and Public Relations Department U Kyaw Than Tun and officials concerned.

With the aim of ensuring development of rural libraries and enhancing the rading habits among rural people, extempore talks were held at BEPS in Aungchantha Village and at Ohnchaw Village in the township on 28 and 29 February.

MNA

Meth lab busts reach record high in NC

RALEIGH, 29 Feb—The number of methamphetamine lab busts in North Carolina hit a record high last year partly because of cheaper, simpler ways of making the drug, officials say.

The number of meth labs raided in 2011 increased to 344 — up 57 percent since 2006, when state laws restricted the purchase of its key ingredient, pseudoephedrine, *The (Raleigh) News & Observer* reported. While the number of busts have increased, Attorney General Roy Cooper said the laws are working, as the number of large-scale labs is declining. The total number of busts is rising, however, because of the simpler, cheaper method of making it known as the "one-pot" or "shake-and-bake" method.

The method requires fewer ingredients and they're mixed in a 2-liter soda bottle instead of unsealed makeshift beakers. The bottles are still legally considered meth labs and officials say they're dangerous, as explosions aren't as big but are more frequent. The method "has escalated to the point where it accounts for about half of the labs we bust," Cooper said. He pointed out the state's first one-pot lab bust came in 2009.

Cooper said he hopes to see a decline in the number of meth labs as a result of a law enacted this year requiring pharmacies to use an electronic-tracking system to determine whether someone has reached the limit on the number of pseudoephedrine purchases allowed.—*Internet*

***Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing inspects production of quality crop strains through tissue culture technology of Great Wall International Company in Mandalay.* (News reported)—MNA**

Roads, bridges commissioned in Tatkon and Pyinmana

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb—Nawin Creek Bridge and Ywathit Road were opened in Tatkon this morning.

Likewise, Shwechi (9) Bridge and Bo Than Tin asphalt road were also inaugurated in Pyinmana this morning.

Nawin Creek Bridge, 160 feet long and 12 feet wide, was built at a cost of K 27.5 million. Ywathit Road, 3200 feet long and 12 feet wide, was constructed at a cost of K 38.9 million.

Shwechi (9) Bridge, 150 feet long and 12 feet wide, was improved at a cost of K 63 million. 1935 feet long and 12 feet wide Bo Than Tin Road was repaved with asphalt at a cost of K 22.6 million.

Also present on the occasions were Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Maung Oo, member of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Kan Chun, U Myint Shwe and Col Myint Aung Than, members of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee, officials and local people.

MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw session continues…

(from page 16)

enabling the pensioners take out pension easily and whether pension can be transferred to the bank account", the Union Minister replied that it has been instructed to give out pension in ten days before the end of month beginning February, 2012 in the time of the new government. So, the pensioners can take out pensions more easily as the time has been extended. Currently, there have been a total of 7425 pensioners taking out pensions at Myanma Economic Bank (branch) in Dagon Myothit (North) Township, Yangon Region and now they can take out their pensions conveniently.

Since October, 1972 when it started giving out pensions, the Myanmar Economic Bank has offered cash transfer service to those pensioners who open fixed account or current account at their volition. They can transfer their pensions into their accounts. In response to the 70 pensioners, Myanma Economic Bank in Dagon Myothit (North) transfers their pensions into their accounts monthly. The Myanma Economic Bank, being a State-owned bank, is providing services to ensure the smooth functioning of the government banking mechanism.

Regarding the question about **"if there is a plan to launch fast money transfer through fax in Nagmon Township"** asked by U J Phon Sar of Nagmon Constituency, the Union Minister answered that his ministry has coordinated with the Myanma Posts and Telegraphs to launch fax money transfer in the township. The Myanma Economic Bank has fixed a CDMA mobile phone in Nagmon treasury, arrangements will be made for transferring and receiving of money through fax.

But, according to the current conditions of the Nagmon treasury, although it can transfer unlimited amount of money to other Myanma Economic Banks, other banks can only transfer up to K 100,000 to it.

Next, Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko replied to the questions of three Hluttaw representatives.

Regarding the question of U Ko Gyi from Aungmyethazan Constituency about **"if there is plan to put Phonetawtoe Ward within the boundary of Mandalay City Development Affairs Committee",** the Union Minister replied that it is learnt that Tatmyo Development Affairs Committee is carrying out development works for Phonetawtoe Ward of Aungmyethazan Township of Mandalay Region. It is the work of the Mandalay Region government to designate the residential land plots Nos 41, 42 and 43 within the boundary of Tatmyo as the boundary of Mandalay City Development Affairs Committee. The final decision of the Defence Ministry must be asked to do so and upon its agreement, residential land plots except the land owned by the military will be announced as land under the management of the government and the rights to manage the land will be vested to the Mandalay City Development Affairs Committee.

The Ministry of Home Affairs no more handle the land management of Mandalay as the Mandalay City Development Laws was enacted on 14 November, 2002. So, Mandalay region government, Mandalay City development Affairs Committee will have to coordinate with the Defence Ministry to put Phonetawtow Ward under the management of Mandalay City Development Affairs Committee.

Regarding the question of U Ohn Ngwe from Myaungmya Constituency about **"if there is a plan to pass judgment on disputes over alluvial land ownership in accordance with the existing laws and procedures,'** the Union Minister replied that there have been disputes over alluvial land ownership on the Ayeyawady River between Shwe Paukpin Village of Myaung Township in Sagaing Region and Kyigon Village of Ngazun Township in Mandalay Region since 2007, which has even grown into fierce group fight between the farmers of the two villages, calling for the arbitration of the local authorities concerned.

The Settlement and Land Records Department (headquarters) and Land Records Departments at different levels have demarcated the alluvial land, apart from the arbitration of the local authorities concerned and the general administration departments of the two districts and townships to ensure no more disputes over the land between the tow villages. It is up to the farmers to follow the rules to ensure there is no trespassing of the demarcation. If one side trespasses and cultivates over the demarcation line, the other side can file against it at courts at different levels to receive the fair judgment.

Regarding the question of U Zone Taint of Chiphwe Constituency on **"there is any plan to form Administrative Court that can justify disputes, discontents and losses,"** Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko replied: The government is protecting the people's rights. Actions are being taken against bribery, corruptions and abuse of power that usually prevail in administrative mechanism in accord with the prescribed services regulations and existing laws.

If a staff's duty causes a loss to a person or an organization, that person or that organization can complaint about it to his or her departmental officials. The departments have to take actions against that staff if the complaint is true. He or she shall be charged at respective courts if his or her faults are serious or he or she shall be sentenced in line with the laws if the court finds him or her guilty of it.

A citizen can apply for writs if management and judicial undertakings cause a loss to a citizen's right. The Supreme Court of the Union is carrying out the hearings on it. So, there are remedies for these citizens. It can be seen that the formation of Administrative Courts has not been prescribed in the Constitution.

No need to form Administrative Courts as the existing laws and procedures that can justify disputes, discontents and losses among citizens have already included in the executive body. Those citizens who suffer the losses are to complaint about it to respective administrative bodies.

After that, two Hluttaw representatives raised three questions on education. With respects to question of U Than Nwe of Butalin Constituency on **"there is any plan to raise stipends of university students in the 2012-2013 Academic Year and students shall enjoy increased stipends if raised" and " there is any plan to have own websites in universities across the country"** Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye replied:

To turn out the qualified human resources and to grant stipends for university students, the government will conferred honourable prizes on the 28 students who stood first at Regions/State level in science and arts combination matriculation exams and 20 top ten students at the country-level exam—ten from science combination and ten from arts.

Starting the 2012-2013 Academic Year, scholarships to be conferred on the university/colleges students for ten months in a year are as follows: monthly cash assistance of K 0.1 million for students of University of Medicine or University of Dental Medicine under the Ministry of Health; monthly assistance of K 80,000 for students of university/college under the Ministry of Transport, monthly assistance of K 70,000 for students of universities and colleges under the Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and the rest universities except University of Medicine or University of Dental Medicine; monthly assistance of K 50,000 for students of universities and colleges under the Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Border Affairs, Ministry of Cooperatives, Ministry of Culture and Union Civil Services Board. At the start of the academic year, cash assistance of K 0.1 million will be granted to the students for their preparatory expenses.

Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Thein Tun Oo of Amarapura Constituency raising question.—MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Than Nwe of Butalin Constituency asking question.—MNA

With respect to the second question, the Minister replied: Ministry of Education has no any plan to have own websites in universities at present. But, all of these universities have been equipped with internet access.

Respecting the question of U Sai Ngaung Hsaing Hein of Maukmai Constituency on **"Continued measures for analysis of education indexes in the time of the new government,"** the Minister replied: Ministry of Education has started implementing 30-year national education promotion programme since the 2001-2012 academic year. Checking of basic education schools in basic education sector and of universities and colleges in higher education sector, plays an important part in successful implementation of short-and long-term plans.

Education indexes are being used based on 12 benchmarks for basic education schools—seven for quality and five for appearance, 12 benchmarks for education colleges—seven for quality and five for appearance and 12 benchmarks for universities and degree colleges—eight for quality and four for management.

At proposal-submitting session, Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Economic and Trade Development Committee U Maung Maung Thein submitted the proposal on **"Urging to cease procedures asking for temporary vehicles registration fees of authorized vehicle import companies and organizations including Directorate of Road Administration like unlicensed vehicles' fines and to review it in accord with the law and Pyithu Hluttaw Judicial and Legal Affairs Committee Chairman Thura U Aung Ko, on "to amend The Arbitration (Protocol and Convention) Act (Act No.VI, 1937) (19th January, 1937)."**

With respect to U Maung Maung Thein's proposal, the Hluttaw decided that before submitting it to the Hluttaw directly, Pyithu Hluttaw Committee were to continue to coordinate respective ministry and organizations.

The date will be announced later for discussion on Thura U Aung Ko's proposal. The representatives who want to discuss it are to register their names this evening. The meeting came to an end at 12.55 pm and the nine day session will be announced.—*MNA*

Eighth day third regular session…

(from page 16)

across the nation are being extracted from Bago Region. It exceeds the annual forest production based on forest management system. Beginning 2012-2013, emphasis is being placed on drawing the plans to reduce timber extraction by stopping production at some forests and nurturing some forests. In this regard, Bago mountain range will be first prioritized.

In asking that **whether there is a plan to reduce teak and hardwood extraction from Bago Region and increase timber extraction in other regions and systems**, the Union Minister replied that a plan is underway to reduce timber extraction not only in Bago Region but also in other regions and states and control plenty of timber extraction from single area.

At present, a total of 582.5 acres of lands have been allotted to six groups from six villages for establishment of public-owned forest plantations in Bago Region. Efforts will be doubled in organizing the local people to establish public-owned forest plantations. Directives for public-owned forest plantations are being upgraded as bylaw and it has been submitted to the Office of the Union Attorney-General. After coordinating with ministries concerned, easier and effective process will be created for the local people to carry out the tasks of public-owned forest plantations.

Likewise, the timber extraction will be scrutinized in other regions and states and emphasis will be placed on production of timber to satisfy the local demand.

Dr Myint Kyi of Yangon Region Constituency No. 8 asked **whether there is a plan to constantly check contents of carbon dioxide in the air**. The Union Minister replied that with regard to conservation of air pollution in Myanmar, members of the Vienna Convention for the

(See page 9)

Eighth day third regular session…

(from page 8)

Protection of the Ozone Layer member countries must stop use of chlorofluorocarbon at refrigerator, automobile, air-conditioners and cold storage in 2010. Thus, Myanmar has stopped use of chlorofluorocarbon as of 2006.

The surveillance plan on implementation of cold storage materials management project and the recycling plan of chlorofluorocarbon from refrigerator have been implemented in Myanmar. At present, the programme for reduction of Ozone layer harming materials and the plan on establishment of national Ozone unit and cold storage management plan are under implementation.

The Ozone Regulation Bill and the Hydrochlorofluorocarbon reduction bill have been drawn. Air quality was measured in Yangon, Mandalay, PyinOoLwin, Nay Pyi Taw and Tachilek with the use of air pollution measuring device as of 2008. Ministry of Health and Yangon City Development Committee jointly designated trading area, residential area and industrial zone area at a time when they measured air quality for the first time. They could set records on contents of dusts, the dusts less than 10 microns, sulpha dioxide and nitrogen oxide in the air.

Myanmar signed the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in 1994 and Tokyo Protocol in 2003 and then it implemented the projects as member of the convention. With the assistance of the Asian Development Bank, Myanmar together with 12 Asian countries realized the Asian Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategy and designated 1990 as the basic year for measurement of greenhouse gas in energy sector, reform of land utilization, forest sector and agriculture sector. Myanmar annually emits 41.5 million ton of greenhouse gas and it is expected to hit 62 million tons in 2005. According to the data in 1990, emission ration of carbon dioxide to person was less than one ton yearly and such amount was less than that of Mekong Sub-Region countries.

With the assistance of the UN Environmental Programme and the World Environmental Programme, the ministry designated the year of 2000 as the basic year after collecting greenhouse gas measurement data of the initial national report compilation project that started in 2008 on climate change in energy, industrial, agriculture and livestock breeding sectors, change of land utilization and forest sector and waste materials sector. According to the statistics, it was reported that energy sector would increase emission of greenhouse gas to 8.12 million tons from 7.86 million tons in 2005 and the industrial sector to 0.51 million ton from 0.46 million ton. In the year 2000, a total of 74.358 million tons of greenhouse gas was absorbed in Myanmar in 2000 and forests absorbed 142.221 million tons of greenhouse gas. Thus, Myanmar stood as the top country in greater absorption of greenhouse gas at that time.

As the developing countries are facing technological difficulties and plenty of expense in collection of greenhouse gas measurement, they cannot submit the annual report on the amount of greenhouse gas emission. Depending on technology assistance and allotment of fund, Myanmar like other developing countries will carry out measurement of greenhouse gas emission in some years.

Deputy Minister for Health Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin replied to questions on health sector raised by six Hluttaw representatives.

U Hlaing Oo of Ayeyawady Region Constituency No. 12 asked **whether there is a plan to appoint necessary dentist, assistant doctors, nurses and health staff at Labutta General Hospital (200-bed) to some extent and provide hospital equipment to there**. The deputy minister replied that a total of seven doctors—three assistant specialist surgeons and four assistant surgeons are discharging duties at the Labutta General Hospital. Arrangements are being made to appoint the one dentist after fresher doctors would have completed the basic officer course at the training institute. Moreover, nurses will be appointed there and senior nurses will be added to the hospital. If it gets more appointments, the recruitment will be assigned to the hospital. So far, 105 beds, 105 mattresses, two patient test beds, two slides, two instrument trolleys, five medicine trolleys and one set of dental chair have been provided to the hospital.

The Ministry of Health is fulfilling the hospital equipment to hospital on priority. If necessary, the hospitals are to submit applications for the demands to heads of Township Health Department with recommendations of the heads of Region/State Health Departments to be able to seek the assistance.

U Ha Shein Bwe of Chin State Constituency No. 8 asked **whether there is a plan to build a two-storey patient ward instead of overage medical wards from Mindat General Hospital (100-bed)**. The deputy minister replied that there is no plan to build one two-storey patient ward at that hospital, and the ministry is building and maintaining the structures depending on the allotted funds.

U Hla Swe of Magway Region Constituency No. 12 asked **whether there is a plan to upgrade rural health centre of North Khinyan Village in Gangaw Township to 16-bed station hospital**. The deputy minister replied that Gangaw Township of Magway Region has opened one 100-bed district hospital, one 16-bed Kan Village Station Hospital, one station hospital in Kyaw Village, one station hospital in Min Village, three station hospitals, seven rural health centres and 28 rural health branches.

U Zon Hle Htan of Chin State Constituency No. 2 asked whether there is a plan to construct staff quarters and to repair laboratory hall at Falam Township People's Hospital. U Aung Cho Oo of Bago Region Constituency No. 11 asked whether there is a plan to construct the building of rural health centre in Seinkantlant Village in Letset Village-tract of Minhla Township. The deputy minister replied that there is no plan to maintain and construct the buildings at present, and the buildings of hospitals, rural health centres and branches of the Ministry of Health will be built depending on the funds allotted by the State.

Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency No. 4 asked **whether there is a plan to draw health care insurance law instead of cost-sharing health care system, and if not, why didn't implement for the law, and if it is, when the bill will be submitted to the Hluttaw.** The deputy minister replied that with regard to the question, there need fundamental requirements for exercising health care insurance system before promulgation of the health care insurance law. The health insurance must have coverage over the entire people regardless of the rich and poor. Worthy persons can practise the system with insurance fee by setting up the private health care insurance system. It must be compulsory as social health insurance system for the majority of the people.

To establish a socio health care insurance system, things that should be taken into account were economy of the State, management and administration skills, funds for the system, jobs and income in the country and providing health care for the people, she said.

Ministry of Health and UNICEF jointly carried out a survey in 2011 in DaikU and Kyauktaga townships in Bago Region to assess whether a health cover costs was possible and plans had been making to carry out a "township based health cover costs programme" in DaikU based on the results of the survey, she said.

A survey on a maternal and child health care voucher system was carried out in Yedashe Township and Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Township in 2010 and 2011 and the survey showed that the system would help to meet the UN's millennium development goals and help providing health care to mothers and children in poverty, she said. Preparations were being made to carry out the maternal and child health care voucher system as a pilot project in Yedashe Township, Bago Region, she added.

As part of the township health care system development programme, Ministry of Health and World Health Organization (WHO) had planned to set up a funds for providing health care for mothers and children living in poverty in 20 townships as a first step as from March, 2012. Experts and health care staff in the fields had held meetings to exchange views and to assess background and present situations related to health insurance and health care costs, she said.

Measures were being taken to review the health care programmes of the Ministry of Health and other organizations and based on the outcomes of the survey, infrastructures for the health care system would be set up step by step to pave the way for the better system, she said.

To promulgate the "Health Care Insurance Law" instead of "health care costs sharing system", basis needs for the people were sine qua non for the socio health insurance system. Only after the basic needs for the people were fulfilled, measures for promulgation of the law should be taken within a certain period. Therefore, the Ministry of Health had not yet drawn a health care insurance law currently, she said.

U Saw Ohn of Mon State constituency No. 9 seconded the report of the Amyotha Hluttaw's Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee, saying that he seconded the questions and proposals raised and submitted by the committee during the second regular session of the First Amyotha Hluttaw. There were 320 questions were raised and 31 proposals which had been approved during the second regular session which was held from 22, August, 2011 to 16, November, 2011, he said.

***Amyotha Hluttaw Representative Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency No (4) submits proposal.*—MNA**

Member of Labour Disputes Settlement Bill Committee U Sun Dot Tian submits proposal.
MNA

Out of the questions, 48 were raised to Ministry of Construction and 43 to Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, showing that the two ministries were major ministries to fulfill the requirements of the people, he said. According to the review of answers of the responsible personnel of the union ministries, they satisfied the answers of Ministry of Border Affairs, Ministry of Transport and Ministry of Health as the answers reflected the plans to be implemented by the ministries, he said.

During the second regular session, he raised two questions: asking **the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation whether the ministry had made arrangements for the silted down-stream outlet channels of the Mayangon Sluice Gate and Seikkyun Sluice Gate in Thaton Township, Mon State.** The deputy minister for Agriculture and Irrigation replied that the ministry would carry out the task depending on the budget allocation for the ministry. The questioner, the people and the farmers did not like the answer. He submitted the proposal related to the gambling on 13, September, 2011, during the second regular session, suggesting to do campaigns to root out all forms of gambling which harmed the micro credit schemes for poverty reduction, he said.

He suggested the Amyotha Hluttaw's Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee to compile the answers of the Union-level personnel, to get reports within the first week of a next regular session from questioners on measures taken for questions and proposals and to review and assess the government's guarantees, pledges and undertakings regarding the questions and proposals and to coordinate with the Union Government. He urged the committee to carry out its tasks earnestly to conserve the dignity of Amyotha Hluttaw as it was the responsibility of the committee to carry out the main tasks of the Hluttaw.

U Nyan Lin of the committee submitted a proposal to accept the report of the Amyotha Hluttaw's Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee and the hluttaw approved it.

(See page 10)

Eighth day third regular session…

(from page 9)

Member of Bill Committee U Sun Dot Tian put forward the proposal to consider Labour Dispute Settlement Bill sent by Pyithu Hluttaw with amendments by Amyotha Hluttaw, together with the report of the committee.

Hluttaw representatives who want to discuss the bill could submit their name lists.

Member of Bill Committee U Kyaw Kyaw read out and explained the report of the committee on suggestion of the Amyotha Hluttaw representative on Vacant Land, Fallow Land and Virgin Land Management Bill.

In seeking approval for Vacant Land, Fallow Land and Virgin Land Management Bill which had been approved by Amyotha Hluttaw and sent back by Pyithu Hluttaw with amendments, the bill was approved as amended by Amyotha Hluttaw as there was no vote.

Dr Myat Nyana Soe submitted the proposal to promptly submit the differences between the approval of Amyotha Hluttaw and that of Pyithu Hluttaw to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and seek its decision. Amyotha Hluttaw decided to submit the bill to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Member of Bill Committee Dr Myat Nyana Soe read out report of the committee on suggestions of Amyotha Hluttaw representatives on Environmental Conservation Bill sent with amendments by Pyithu Hluttaw.

In seeking approval for Environmental Conservation Bill which had been approved by Amyotha Hluttaw and sent back by Pyithu Hluttaw with amendments, the bill was approved as amended by Amyotha Hluttaw as there was no vote.

U Tin Yu of Yangon Region Constituency (11) submitted the proposal to promptly submit the differences between the approval of Amyotha Hluttaw and that of Pyithu Hluttaw to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and seek its decision. Amyotha Hluttaw decided to submit the bill to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Member of Bill Committee Defence Services Personnel Hluttaw Representative Col Hla Tun read out out report of the committee on suggestions of Hluttaw representatives on Social Welfare Bill.

Union Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi submitted the proposal to discuss Social Welfare Bill.

The suggestions of Hluttaw representatives on the bill were approved paragraph-wise.

Union Minister U Aung Kyi submitted the proposal to approve the bill and Dr Myat Nyana Soe seconded the proposal.

In seeking approval of Amyotha Hluttaw for Social Welfare Bill, the bill was approved as amended by Amyotha Hluttaw as there was no vote.

U Nyan Lin of Ayeyawady Region Constituency (3) submitted the proposal that "**the Union government is urged to add political science as additional subject in universities under management of respective Union ministries**" and a Hluttaw representative seconded the proposal.

As the Hluttaw agreed to discuss the bill, Hluttaw representatives willing to discuss the proposal could submit their name lists.

Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency (4) submitted the proposal that "**the Union government is urged to extensively teach art subjects in basic and higher education levels create more job opportunities for graduates in Arts**" and a Hluttaw representative seconded the proposal.

As the Hluttaw agreed to discuss the bill, Hluttaw representatives willing to discuss the proposal could submit their name lists.

U Khin Maung Yi of Ayeyawady Region Constituency (6) submitted the proposal that "**the Union government is urged to improve education standard**" and a Hluttaw representative seconded the proposal.

As the Hluttaw agreed to discuss the bill, Hluttaw representatives willing to discuss the proposal could submit their name lists.

Today's Amyotha Hluttaw regular session concluded at 4.20 pm.

At today's session, cash donation of Amyotha Hluttaw Library was put on record, eight questions were raised and answered, one report was submitted and approval was sought for it, four bills were discussed and three new proposals were submitted.

MNA

Third regular session of first Shan State Hluttaw continues

***Second day third regular session of first Shan State Hluttaw in progress.*—MNA**

NAY PYI TAW, 29—The third regular session of the first Shan State Hluttaw continued for second day at 10 am on 28 February, with the attendance of State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat, Speaker of State Hluttaw U Sai Lone Saing and 135 representatives.

At today's session, 20 questions were answered, additional budget allocation bill of Shan State for 2012 and the budget bill of Shan State for 2012 submitted, three proposals presented yesterday by four Hluttaw representatives discussed, two proposals withdrawn, one proposal put on record, and three new proposals submitted.

Today's session concluded at 3.45 pm.

MNA

Third regular session of first Rakhine State Hluttaw continues

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb—With the attendance of Rakhine State Hluttaw Speaker U Htein Lin and 39 representatives, the third regular session of first Rakhine State Hluttaw continued for fifth day at 10 am yesterday.

At today's session, 25 questions were answered and one proposal and Rakhine State budget bill for 2012 discussed.

The session concluded at 3.30 pm.—*MNA*

Third regular session of first Kachin State Hluttaw continues

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb—The third regular session of first Kachin State Hluttaw continued for third day at 10 am today, with the attendance of Kachin State Chief Minister U La John Ngan Hsai, Speaker of State Hluttaw U Rawanjone and 49 representatives.

Fourteen questions were answered, Kachin State budget bill for 2012 approved by the Hluttaw at today's session; three proposals presented yesterday discussed, three new proposals submitted.

Today's session concluded at 12.30 pm.—*MNA*

Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung inspected functions of Sule Jetty under Myanma Port Authority, the Ministry of Transport, on 27 February.
MNA

Nay Pyi Taw Council members encourages eye patients

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb—Nay Pyi Taw Council Members Dr Paing Soe and Dr Than Aung encouraged 17 glaucoma patients who underwent successful eye operations at Nay Pyi Taw People's Hospital (200-bed) yesterday evening.

The free-of-charge programme is second one jointly organized by the Health Ministry and Nay Pyi Taw Council. The two members presented glasses and cash assistance to them. 21 eye patients to recover normal sight in the first programme.—*MNA*

Summer sports classes in the offing

YANGON, 29 Feb—In view to ensuring new generations in selected Myanmar sport teams, summer sports classes are going to be open in Nay Pyi Taw, and other regions and states from 12 March to 6 April.

The classes will involve tracks and fields, swimming, golf, volleyball, football, weightlifting, boxing, judo, table tennis, tennis, basketball, Myanmar martial arts (*Thaing*), Myanmar traditional caneball (*Chinlone*), karatedo, taekwondo, gymnastics, wushu, Sepak Takaraw, badminton, cycling, chess, rowing, bodybuilding and physical beauty, yachting, hockey, archery, baseball, cricket, shooting, billiard & snooker, bowling and aerobic games. Youths may contact related sport federations for enroment.—*MNA*

Eleventh day third regular session of first Mandalay Region Hluttaw held

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb—The eleventh day the third regular session of first Mandalay Region Hluttaw was held at 10 am today, attended by Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint, Speaker of Region Hluttaw U Win Maung and 73 representatives.

Six questions were answered; Mandalay Region budget bill for 2012 approved by the Hluttaw, date set for approval of Mandalay Region budget bill for 2012.

The meeting concluded at 11.10 am today.

MNA

CBM Governor receives WB official

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb—Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein received Lead Economist Mr Mathew Verghis and party of the World Bank at his office, here, yesterday morning.

They cordially discussed technical assistances to be provided by the World Bank for drafting monetary policies and financial policies of Myanmar.

Also present at the call were the vice-governor and heads of divisions of CBM.—*MNA*

Extended right North Yama canal project kicking into high gear

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan, Union Minister U Myint Hlaing and Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye pouring cements for construction of extended North Yama canal.
MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb—The extended right North Yama canal was launched with a ceremony at the pavilion near North Yama Dam in Pale Township, Monywa District, Sagaing Region yesterday morning.

Present at the launch were Chairman of Rural Socio-Economic Development Sub-committee Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan, Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing, Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye, Deputy Speaker of Sagaing Region Hluttaw U Thaung Sein, Region Hluttaw representatives, Region Agriculture and Livestock Minister U Sein Win, heads of departments, local people and farmers.

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan made a speech on the occasion. He said that local people in the past had to rely only on rain water for agriculture, adding that with the emergence of South Yama Dam and North Yama Dam in the time of the Tatmadaw government, villages in Yinmabin and Salingyi Townships were accessible to irrigated water and had been able to extensively engage in double and triple cropping patterns. This largely contributed to development of socio-economic status of rural people, he said.

At present, an extended right North Yama canal is being built along with North Yama Dam feeder tank, and upon the completion of the project, it will be able to irrigate 9000 acres of farmlands. And the project will bring about more development of socio-economic status of local people, he noted.

He said that the more paddy can be produced the more benefit the State and the people can enjoy, for half of the global population consume rice.

In the time of the Tatmadaw Government, altogether 8230 underground water tapping undertakings, 327 river water pumping stations and 371 dams and reservoirs were constructed for agricultural purpose. And now at the time of the new government, steps are being taken based on sound infrastructures already in place.

As the new government is an administration chosen by the people, it is undertaking a series of activities for national development, development of socio-economic status of each citizen, for each citizen to be able to live a life of freedom in accord with the law and prevalence of peace and stability.

Meanwhile, it is in the process of creating jobs, inviting foreign investment for development of socio-economic status of people. With this end in view, Kyaukpyu Deep Sea Port is being implemented while introducing the investment law and laws as to Dawei Special Economic Zone and Thilawa Special Economic Zone. And as to trade sector, it has embarked on a spate of reforms.

Besides, people should feel duty bound to help in the tasks being implemented by the new government for flourishing of democracy and human rights and development of socio-economic of status of people as the new government is putting the eight tasks of rural development and poverty alleviation into operation.

Then, Union Minister U Myint Hlaing said that Sagaing Region is the third granary in Myanmar and the region is more accessible to grow mix and double crops in all seasons now than before, thanks to other dams including Thaphanseik Dam.

The Region Chief Minister expressed wonders that extra paddy is arranged to be exported, and stressed that North Yama Reservoir would be a great facility to give more benefits to distributing irrigation water into acre of farmlands because of its large irrigation system.

Chief Minister U Tha Aye said that rural people are enjoying fruits, thanks to dams— North Yama, Taungyama Dams, Myuaukyama supporting dam and Hlaingchaung dam and Kantdaung dam— facilitated in the township. Besides, using irrigation water of North Yama Reservoir being implemented, rural people could grow summer paddy and double and mix crops.

After that, townselder U Myint Win of Kyaungthan Village expressed words of thanks on behalf of the locals.

Union Ministers U Kyaw Hsan and U Myint Hlaing, Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye gave Palethwe hybrid seeds, packed Palethwe rice, and model rice to the rural farmers.

The Union Ministers and the Chief Minister poured cements to the place for the water outlet and paid a view to storage of water in North Yama Dam in a motorcade.

It is known that, the extended right North Yama's main canal, installed with a total of 171 canal building, is 17. 25 miles long its tributary canals are 43. 72 miles long in total, and upon completion, the facility would distribute irrigation water to about 9000 acres of farmland.

The project is being carried out with the use of 30 units machinery so as to provide irrigation water in coming summer season.—*MNA*

MWD free channels on test

MANDALAY, 29 Feb—Myawady TV is running on test in broadcasting seven free channels, namely MWD Variety, MWD Movies, MWD Series, MWD, MWD Music, MWD Documentary and MWD Shopping in two sections from 7 am to 8.30 am and from 4 pm to 10 pm daily as of 13 February.

The TV lovers may enjoy the programmes without receivers through MPEF-4 system.

Digital transmitters have been installed on the Sagaing Hill for re-transmitting the programmes to Mandalay and its surrounding areas.

The local people can enjoy the programmes from the channels with the use of UHF antenna, MPEG-4 receivers, Conditional Access Cards.

These equipment are available one set per K 29500 at electronics shops in Mandalay.

Kyemon

Rural library opened in Mindon Township

MINDON, 29 Feb—A ceremony to open new building of Moe Thauk Pan Library was held in Pyaungpya Village of Mindon Township, Thayet District, Magway Region, on 12 February morning.

Departmental officials formally opened the new building.

Magway Region Hluttaw representative U Thein Zaw donated K 20,000 and books and publications, Township Administrator U Saw Tun Oo, Township Women's Affairs Organization and Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association K 10,000 each and books, U Kyaw Soe Wai-Daw Khin Soe Moe TV and video player, Information and Public Relations Department and other departments 597 books and publications to the library.

The building was constructed at a cost of K 1 million provided by the State and K 1.5 million by local people.

Township IPRD

MLF invites wellwishers to donate cash, books

Myanmar Libraries Foundation is giving encouragement to broadening the horizon of the people and developing self-reliant libraries across the nation.

Those wishing to donate cash and books to the libraries may contact Myanmar Libraries Foundation at No. 228 on Theinbyu Street in Botahtaung Township, Yangon, Tel: 01-371342, 01-201936 and 01-398756.

DISTRICT NEWS

TV set donated to library

YANGON, 29 Feb—With a view to broadening horizon of the local people, the donation of a 21-inch TV and related equipment for Soe Yazar Library in Ward 7 of Shwepyitha Township was held at the library on 18 February.

Wellwishers Ward 7 administrator U Mya Soe-Daw Khin Mar Cho, son Captain Nay Soe and daughter Ma Yamin Myat Soe presented donations to Head of Township IPRD Daw Ohn Nyunt.

Myanma Alin

Cash donated to medical fund

THABAUNG, 29 Feb—The cash donation to the medical fund of Thabaung Township People's Hospital was held at the hall of Township General Administration Department on 16 February afternoon.

Township Administrator U Tin Aung extended greetings. Wellwisher U Maung Maung Soe explained the purpose of donations. Township Medical Officer Dr Thant Lwin accepted K 3 million donated by wellwisher U Maung Maung Soe.—*Township IPRD*

TRADEMARK CAUTION

SABIC Holding Europe B.V, a company incorporated in Netherlands, and having its registered office at Europa Boulevard 1, Sittard NL-6135LD, The Netherlands is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademark:

CHEMISTRY THAT MATTERS

Reg. No. 4/12202/2011
(2 December 2011)

In respect of "**Class 1**: Chemicals used in industry, science and photography, as well as in agriculture, horticulture and forestry; unprocessed artificial resins, unprocessed plastics; manures; fire extinguishing compositions; tempering and soldering preparations; chemical substances for preserving foodstuffs; tanning substances; adhesives used in industry; Plastics included in this class, namely, rough artificial resins; unprocessed plastics; engineered plastics, namely, plastic moulding compounds for use in the manufacture of moulded plastic articles; synthetic resins; unprocessed plastics, namely, recombined plastics, mixtures, compositions and dispersions of plastics, all for use in the further manufacture of plastics".

"**Class 6**: Common metals and their alloys; metal building materials, metal billets and slabs, hot rolled products, namely, pre-fabricated steel buildings, ship building, pipes and tubes, transportable buildings of metal; materials of metal for railway tracks; non-electric cables and wire of common metal; ironmongery and small items of metal hardware, namely wire rods and metal bars; pipes and tubes of metal; metal safes; metal ores".

"**Class 17**: Plastic in extruded form for use in manufacture; packing and insulating materials".

"**Class 23**: Yarns and threads, for textile use".

"**Class 40**: Custom treatment of products and materials, namely chemicals used in industry, science and photography, as well as in agriculture, horticulture and forestry, unprocessed artificial resins, unprocessed plastics, manures, fire extinguishing compositions, tempering and soldering preparations, chemical substances for preserving foodstuffs; tanning substances, adhesives used in industry, common metal and heir alloys, metal building materials, billets and slabs, hot rolled products, like pre-engineered steel building, ship building, pipes and tubes, transportable building of metal, materials of metal for railway tracks, non-electric cables and wires of common metal, ironmongery and small items of metal hardware, namely wire rods and metal bars, pipes and tubes of metal, metal safes, metal ores".

"**Class 42**: Technical consulting services in the use of chemical products and synthetic materials; design for others of factories and installations; engineering and consulting services with regard to the design and building of factories and installations; simulation of chemical and scientific processes; scientific research and technological consultation and research in the field of chemistry, biology, physics, microbiology, bacteriology and genetics; industrial analysis and research services".

Fraudulent or unauthorized use, or actual or colorable imitation of the said Trademark shall be dealt with according to law.

U Than Maung, *Advocate*
For **SABIC Holding Europe B.V**
C/o **Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.,**
Unit 1509, 15th Floor, Sakura Tower,
339, Bogyoke Aung San Road,
Kyauktada Township,
Yangon, Republic of the Union of Myanmar
utm@kcyangon.com

Dated 1 March 2012

People hold a super sized Argentine national flag during a ceremony to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the first hoisting of the Argentine flag, in Rosario, in Santa Fe Province, on 27 Feb, 2012.
XINHUA

***A Shaolin monk performs Kongfu in New York City's Grand Central Station on 28 Feb, 2012. Invited by the Ringling Bros. Circus, Shaolin Temple Wushu Training Centre presents a show in New York to demonstrate China's martial arts.—*INTERNET**

Two banks firebombed in Chile

SANTIAGO, 29 Feb—Two masked people set off fire bombs on Monday at two bank branches in Santiago, causing damage but no injuries, Chilean police said.

A Banco Santander office and a Bancostado branch in Ñuñoa, a Santiago suburb, were attacked.

Security cameras captured images of two masked individuals planting a bomb at the Banco Santander ATM, which was completely destroyed, Carabineros militarized police force Capt. Cristian Acevedo told reporters.

"A search of the sector was conducted and no pamphlets or situations pointing to a specific group have been found," Acevedo said.

The Bancostado branch sustained "great damage to the main inner door, the structure of the ceiling and the building's windows", Acevedo said.

More than two dozen bombings have been staged in Chile since 2006, targeting banks, large corporations, churches and public buildings. In November, the trial of half a dozen suspects accused of setting off 20 bombs between 2006 and 2010 started at the Justice Centre in Santiago.

Responsibility for the blasts is usually claimed by anarchists or anti-globalization groups.—*Internet*

China launches national drug complaints centre

BEIJING, 29 Feb—China opened a national centre to receive complaints on pharmaceuticals, health food products, cosmetics and catering. The centre handles reports of wrong-doings during research, development, production, distribution and utilization, reported *Xinhua*.

It is also responsible for coordinating efforts to inspect the enterprises and individuals concerned, forming analysis reports and publicizing investigation reports.

China has seen recurring drug and food safety scandals in recent years and the government over the months has introduced a series of measures to boost food and drug safety.—*Internet*

***A man looks at his mobile phone during the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona on 27 Feb, 2012. The 2012 Mobile World Congress, the world's biggest mobile fair, will be held from 27 February to 1 March in Barcelona.—*INTERNET**

New flu virus found in Guatemalan bats

BEIJING, 29 Feb— A new type of fluenza virus has been found in fruit-eating bats in Guatemala, according to msnbc's report. The finding was published Monday in the American medical journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.*

The virus, identified belonging to a family of flu viruses called Influenza A, was isolated by a team of American and Guatemalan researchers from the bats captured in Guatemala.

There is still no evidence that the virus can cause illness among people, the researchers said.

"Fortunately, initial laboratory testing suggests the new virus would need to undergo significant changes to become capable of infecting and spreading easily among humans," said Ruben Donis, a researcher from the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) of the United States.

Bats so far haven't been known to contribute to human flu, but they have been found carrying a number of diseases that can affect people, including Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), according to the study.—*Xinhua*

India ready to help fight piracy in Africa

UNITED NATIONS, 29 Feb —India has expressed readiness to contribute to international efforts to tackle the threat of piracy in the Gulf of Guinea. "India stands ready to contribute to international efforts aimed at increasing effective cooperation among States in the region to tackle the threat of piracy and armed robbery at sea," India's Permanent Representative Hardeep Singh Puri told the UN Security Council on Monday.

Piracy off both coasts of Africa shows the instability prevalent in the regions and the reach of organized terrorist and criminal groups, he said noting pirate attacks are adversely affecting the emerging oil industry of the region as well as the commercial shipping and mariners.

India has been at the forefront of highlighting the menace of piracy off the coast of Somalia and stressing the urgent need for the international community to work towards a comprehensive counter-piracy strategy, Puri said. India is also concerned about the surge in piracy in the Gulf of Guinea, including its economic and social cost," he said.

"While the two situations are quite different in proportion at this stage, it is quite possible that the failure of the international community to act decisively against piracy off the coast of Somalia could have spawned a new surge in piracy in the Gulf of Guinea," Puri said.

"Time has now come for the Council to translate the attention it has been paying to the problem into a concrete plan of action."

The Indian envoy also stressed that this being a regional problem, it is necessary that action should involve full cooperation of the international community, led by the United Nations, with the countries of West Africa and regional and sub-regional organizations.

Internet

Russian fighter crashes in test flight, pilot injured

VLADIVOSTOK, 29 Feb— A Russian *Su-30* jet fighter crashed on Tuesday in the Far East region during a test flight, slightly injuring one of the two pilots, the *RIA Novosti* news agency reported.

The accident occurred at 10:20 am Moscow time (0620 GMT) some 130 km northeast of Komsomolsk-on-Amur city, Khabarovsk Krai, according to the report.

"Both crew members ejected safely but one was hurt on landing," a regional administration source as quoted as saying.

The aircraft belonged to the Komsomolsk-on-Amur Production Corporation, according to the report.

Xinhua

News Album

Hospital evacuated due to bats

A North Carolina hospital says it has temporarily evacuated patients while it clears out a bat infestation.

Administrators at Richmond Memorial Hospital in Rockingham, NC, said they evacuated patients during the weekend, about five weeks after the first reports of bats in patient rooms, and closed down all of the building's facilities except for the emergency room, WSOC-TV, Charlotte, NC, reported on Tuesday.

"We've actually sent staff out to retrieve some of the bats to our state lab for testing of rabies," Richmond County health director Tommy Jarrell said.

Jarrell said patients have been vaccinated and thus far no bats have tested positive for rabies.

"This is the first time we've had to deal with this type of issue," Jarrell said. A bat removal company, Get Bats Out, has been hired to take care of the problem.

A worker holds the special edition of the Terra Nostra newspaper printed in Ponta Delgada on the Azores islands on 16 February, 2012. The special edition of the Terra Nostra was printed at Nova Grafica printing house and considered by Guinness World Records as the smallest newspaper in the world. Picture taken on 16 Feb, 2012.

Man in wheelchair robs store

Police in Florida said they arrested a wheelchair-bound suspect accused of robbing a convenience store when his motorized wheelchair got stuck in the sand.

Chiefland police said the clerk at a Chevron on South Main Street said the man in the motorized wheelchair came into the store around 9:45 pm on Wednesday and brandished a pocket knife, *The Gainesville (Fla) Sun* reported on Monday. The clerk said she struggled with the suspect and stabbed him three times in the leg before he overpowered her and left with a 12-pack of beer and a roll of electrical tape.

Police said John Christopher Champion, 22, of Chiefland was found only a few minutes later with his wheelchair stuck in the sand near the store. Police said Champion was treated for stab wounds and jailed on charges of armed robbery and aggravated battery.

Light bulb-wielding robber foiled

Police in San Diego said a would-be robber who armed himself with a fluorescent light bulb was foiled when a clerk refused to hand over any cash. Investigators said the man walked into the Washington Street Shell Station just prior to 11 pm Monday, brandished the light bulb and smashed it on the desk, *The San Diego Union-Tribune* reported on Tuesday. Police said the man demanded money but walked away empty-handed when the clerk refused to turn over any money. Officers said they were searching for the suspect, described as a Latino man, about 30 years old and about 5 feet, 10 inches tall.

James Bond goes IMAX

LONDON, 29 Feb—James Bond fans will get full sensory overload when the newest film, "Skyfall," comes out in the IMAX format in US theaters this fall, Sony Pictures said.

"Skyfall," directed by Sam Mendes and currently wrapping up in London, will be released to IMAX movie houses and international theaters simultaneously 26 October. It will then be released domestically 9 November, Variety said this week.

The IMAX format, developed in Canada, offers images of far greater size and resolution than average film systems. It does not have an embedded soundtrack as normal film does. Instead, it offers separate six-channel, 35mm magnetic film, which is synchronized to the film for greater impact.

***Daniel Craig arrives for "The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo" premiere at the Ziegfeld Theatre in New York on 14 Dec, 2011.—*INTERNET**

The 23rd James Bond film, starring Javier Bardhem opposite Daniel Craig as the British spy 007 created by the novelist Ian Fleming, provides insight into M's (Dame Judy Dench) past and Bond's loyal attempt to help her deal with problems that come back to haunt her.—*Internet*

Halle Berry missed Oscar ceremony due to injured leg

LOS ANGELES, 29 Feb—Actress Halle Berry pulled out of the Oscars ceremony due to her broken foot.

The 45-year-old was set to present alongside actor Tom Hanks at the 84th Annual Academy Awards in Hollywood on Sunday but cancelled her appearance because of the injury, reports thesun.co.uk

Halle suffered the injury back in September whilst filming "Cloud Atlas" in Spain.

Actress Halle Berry

The accident occurred while she was walking in Majorca on a day off from filming, said a statement from Warner Bros.

Even after six months, Halle, who is rumoured to be planning to move to France to be with boyfriend French actor Olivier Martinez, was pictured wearing a brace boot on her right leg just last week, reports *The Hollywood Reporter*.

It is not the first time that she has hurt herself on set.

She broke her arm whilst making "Gothika" in 2003, during a 'physical scene', and she is also believed to have been hit by a boom on the set of 2004's "Catwoman", said a spokesperson from Warner Bros. Halle won the Oscar for the best actress in 2002 for her work in "Monster's Ball".

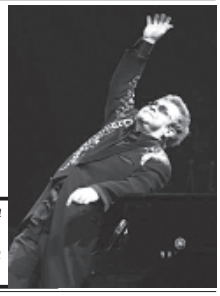
Internet

Elton's Oscar party raises $5.25m for AIDS charity

LOS ANGELES, 29 Feb—The 20th annual Elton John AIDS Foundation Academy Awards Viewing Party raised $5.25 million for the fight against HIV/AIDS, organizers said on Monday.

John and his husband David Furnish served as hosts of Sunday's gala at West Hollywood Park in Los Angeles.

The list of stars who turned out for the dinner, cocktails and auction was headed by Academy Award-winning Best Actor Jean Dujardin. The pop band Foster the People performed their hits "Pumped Up Kicks," "Helena Beat" and "Don't Stop (Colour on the Walls)" at the event.—*Internet*



***British singer/pianist Elton John perfoms at the Royal Opera House in London on 28 Jan, 2011.—*INTERNET**

Sean Young arrested outside Oscar bash

LOS ANGELES, 29 Feb—Actress Sean Young was arrested after allegedly slapping a security guard who asked her repeatedly to leave the entrance of a Hollywood Oscar party, TMZ said.

The "Ace Ventura: Pet Detective," "A Kiss Before Dying" and "Blade Runner" star didn't have a ticket to the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences' Governors Ball, but was taking photos with celebrity friends such as Sandra Bullock, Michelle Williams, Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt outside the event when security officers asked her to leave, the entertainment news Web site said.

Actress Sean Young

Young was booked on a misdemeanor battery charge and released from police custody early Monday. She is accused of hitting a security guard who allegedly put his hand on her arm as he told her it was time to go, TMZ said.

The actress has a history of substance abuse and erratic behavior. She has spent several stints in treatment centers and appeared on TV's "Celebrity Rehab with Dr Drew."

Internet

'Valor' conquers US box office

LOS ANGELES, 29 Feb—"Act of Valor," with real Navy SEALs on screen, took the top spot at the box office for Oscar weekend with $24.7 million in gross US receipts.

"Tyler Perry's Good Deeds," written and directed by Tyler Perry and starring, well, Tyler Perry, was second with $16 million.

All studio estimates of gross US box office receipts are via Box Office Mojo.

"Journey 2: The Mysterious Island" was third with more than $13.47 million; "Safe House" fourth with $11.4 million; "The Vow" fifth with $10 million;

"Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance" sixth with $8.8 million; "This Means War" seventh with $8.5 million; "Wanderlust" eighth with $6.6 million; "Gone" ninth with $5 million.

"The Secret World of Arrietty" rounded out the Top 10 with more than $4.5 million.

Internet

***Tyler Perry arrives on the red carpet at the 82nd Academy Awards in Hollywood on 7 March, 2010.—*INTERNET**

Celine Dion cancels act: laryngitis

LAS VEGAS, 29 Feb—Doctors say illness in her vocal chords caused singer Celine Dion to cancel four more shows after missing her Las Vegas return engagement debut last week.

The Canadian singer had to skip her return on Wednesday at the Colosseum in Caesars Palace at the last minute when doctors advised her not to perform because of laryngitis, *the Las Vegas Sun* reported on Sunday.

Fellow Canadian superstar Shania Twain filled in for Dion on Wednesday.

Dion's doctors have ordered her to rest for seven days to ensure a full recovery from the virus that has caused inflammation of her vocal chords. With four shows canceled, fans are hoping she can return by 3 March.

Dion said she was upset about the cancellations.

"I feel terrible about not being able to do these shows. I feel so bad for the fans. I don't like to let people down.

It's the thing that bothers me more than anything," she said. "I really hope everyone understands how sorry I am."

Refunds will be given on all tickets for the canceled shows, the *Sun* reported.—*Internet*

Singer Celine Dion

Top-seeded Isner advances at Florida tennis

DELRAY BEACH , 29 Feb — Top seed John Isner eased through his Delray Beach opener, but second and third seeds Marin Cilic and Viktor Troicki exited after losing their matches in three sets. World number 11 Isner needed a 32-point second set tie-break to oust American wild card Jesse Levine 6-4, 7-6 (17/15) at the $442,500 Delray Beach International Championships.

Jurgen Melzer, who won the Memphis Open title last week, was also eliminated in his opening match on Tuesday. It was the first Delray Beach match win for Isner who lost in the first round of the hardcourt tournament to Teymuraz Gabashvili in his only other appearance last year. Isner, who is chasing his fourth career ATP Tour title, saved five set points and boosted his tie-break record this season to an impressive 9 -1.— *Internet*

***Top seed John Isner, eased through his Delray Beach opener. It was the first Delray Beach match win for Isner who lost in the first round of the hardcourt tournament to Teymuraz Gabashvili in his only other appearance last year.*— INTERNET**

***Poland's head coach Franciszek Smuda. As they brace to face Portugal in what looks likely to be one of their toughest encounters in the buildup to Euro 2012, co-hosts Poland say their squad for June's tournament is all but ready, but experts have big doubts.*—INTERNET**

Doubts linger over Poland Euro 2012 squad

WARSAW, 29 Feb — As they brace to face Portugal in what looks likely to be one of their toughest encounters in the buildup to Euro 2012, co-hosts Poland say their squad for June's tournament is all but ready, but experts have big doubts. With just 100 days left until the European championships, the Poles on Wednesday take on tournament qualifiers Portugal in a match that also marks the opening game in Warsaw's brand-new National Stadium.

Like fellow hosts Ukraine, Poland have an automatic berth at the 16-nation championships and have had to rely on friendlies to get ready. Having flunked their qualifying campaign for the 2010 World Cup, they will not have played a competitive match since the end of 2009 by the time they kick off Euro 2012 against Greece in Warsaw on 8 June. Their friendlies since then have been patchy, upping the ante for manager Franciszek Smuda, a gruff Pole who was put in charge after Dutchman Leo Beenhakker failed to steer the squad to the World Cup.

The often-criticized Smuda reckons his Euro 2012 squad is now in shape. "The basic 11 is ready. And for the full squad, I'm at about 90 to 95 percent," he said. The weight of history is heavy, as home fans pine for Polish football's long-lost glory days of Olympic gold in 1972, third place in the 1974 World Cup, Olympic silver in 1976 and a further World Cup third in 1982. In a sign of how far Poland have fallen since that era, they now lie 70th in the global rankings of world football's governing body FIFA, compared to Portugal's sixth.— *Internet*

Woods' agent criticizes book by former swing coach

PALM BEACH GARDENS, 29 Feb—Tiger Woods' agent lashed out Tuesday against Hank Haney's book, saying his "armchair psychology" about Woods was "ridiculous" and that it was clear the former swing coach only cares about self-promotion. Haney's book about his six years as Woods' coach is titled, "The Big Miss." It is to go on sale 27 March, a week before the Masters.

Golf Digest began releasing small excerpts Tuesday on its tablet applications and on its website. Haney's book was written with help from Jaime Diaz, a senior writer at the magazine who has covered Woods more extensively than anyone over the years. In one of the excerpts, Haney, a McKinney, Texas, golf guru, said his job became more difficult in 2007, when Woods had 12 majors and was getting closer to the record 18 won by Jack Nicklaus.

"There was more urgency and less fun. ... He never mentioned Nicklaus' record, but it started to weigh more heavily at every major," the excerpt said. "And Tiger's actions indicated he believed he had less time to do it than everyone thought."

Haney said the objective of revamping his swing was to preserve his left knee. He also said Woods was seriously considering becoming a Navy SEAL. Woods' father, Earl, was a green beret in the Army who did two tours during the Vietnam War.— *Internet*

Parker voted top England player

LONDON, 29 Feb — Tottenham midfielder Scott Parker has been named England's player of the year for 2011. The 31-year-old came top in an online poll on the Football Association's website after playing in seven of England's nine matches during the year — including a strong performance in the 1-0 victory over world and European champions Spain in November. Parker grabbed 17% of the 15,000 votes cast in the poll, while Manchester City keeper Joe Hart was second and Manchester United winger Ashley Young third.

Parker said: "I don't think I ever lost hope that I could make it at international level. I crammed a lot in one year. I realized time was ticking. "The Denmark game [in February 2011] was pivotal. I came on for 45 minutes and then I got a start against Wales in a big game [in March] and that was massive for me. "I played in midfield with Jack Wilshere and Frank Lampard and we got a great result. It ended up being a great game for me.

"From there I played a lot more games. It was a very exciting year for me internationally and I'm looking forward to more action. "It's a proud moment every time I pull on the England shirt. It's something I've always wanted to do, whenever I was playing outside, whenever I was playing at the park with my mates it was always England you try to emulate and try to be." Parker won only three caps in seven years prior to making the breakthrough in 2011.—*Internet*

***Scott Parker has played a key role in Spurs' successful season to date.*— INTERNET**

***France national football team captain Hugo Lloris stops the ball during a training session in Bremen, northern Germany.* INTERNET**

Lloris named France captain for Euro 2012

PARIS , 29 Feb — Lyon goalkeeper Hugo Lloris will captain France at Euro 2012, national coach Laurent Blanc announced here on Tuesday. The France squad are in Bremen for a friendly game with Germany on Wednesday evening and at his pre-game Press conference, Blanc was asked whether Lloris would lead his side in this summer's tournament in Poland and Ukraine. "You can think that, yes," he replied. Lloris made his international debut in a friendly game with Uruguay in November 2008 and has since won 30 caps. "I think that Hugo offers the most guarantees in this role," explained Blanc.

"He'll wear the armband, but don't forget that he's not the only important one in the squad. He seems to have the control and the clarity that you need for the role. "It's a real choice, not a default choice." Blanc had revealed last week that Lloris, 25, was on a three-man shortlist to wear the armband, alongside AC Milan centre-back Philippe Mexes and Barcelona left-back Eric Abidal. A member of the France team eliminated from the 2010 World Cup in South Africa at the group phase, Lloris joined Lyon from home-town club Nice in 2008 and was named Ligue 1 goalkeeper of the year in 2009 and 2010.

Internet

Brazil down Bosnia in friendly after own goal

ST-GALLEN , 29 Feb — Brazil, thanks to a last gasp own goal, beat gallant Bosnia 2-1 in an international friendly here on Tuesday in the five time world champions' first run out of the year. The 2014 World Cup hosts took a fourth minute lead when Marcelo burst forward to latch onto Dani Alves' pass, the Real Madrid back then finishing off the move in style, drilling the ball low into the far corner of Asmir Begovic's goal. Bosnia though were back level nine minutes later. Brazil were largely at fault when the error-prone Chelsea defender David Luiz gave the ball away, striker Vedad Ibisevic seizing his chance with Brazil keeper Julio Cesar unable to stop his rather weak effort.

Begovic, who plays his club football in England with Stoke, was instrumental in preventing the South American giants reclaiming the advantage in the 17th minute when he saved Leandro Damiao's attempt, with Bosnia defender Emir Spahic clearing the loose ball away to safety. Despite enjoying much of the possession in an open-sided first half Brazil, with Ronaldinho and Neymar in their ranks but no Kaka, went into the break on level terms against the team that only just missed out on qualifying for Euro 2012.— *Internet*

***Brazil's defender Thiago Silva (R) vies for the ball with Bosnia's midfielder Haris Medunjanin during a friendly football match between Bosnia-Herzegovina and Brazil in St-Gallen. Brazil, thanks to a last gasp own goal, beat gallant Bosnia 2-1 in an international friendly here on Tuesday in the five time world champions' first run out of the year.*— INTERNET**

International Sports

WBC suspends Chisora indefinitely after brawl

LONDON, 29 Feb—The WBC suspended British boxer Dereck Chisora indefinitely on Tuesday following his brawl with former WBA champion David Haye after a title fight against Vitali Klitschko in Germany. The WBC issued a statement announcing the ban and harshly criticized Chisora's conduct before and after the 18 Feb fight, saying it "is considered one of the worst behaviors ever by a professional boxer."

Chisora slapped Klitschko in the face during the weigh-in for the WBC heavyweight bout, then spat water in his brother Wladimir's face before the fight started. After he lost a unanimous decision, he responded to Haye's taunts during his news conference by walking through the crowd and starting a brawl with his fellow British boxer. The WBC said it is also giving Chisora a "serious fine," but that the amount will be determined after a hearing.Chisora will be taken off the WBC rankings and is banned from fighting for its title. However, it does not prevent him from fighting for titles sanctioned by the WBA or IBF.

The WBC added that it is demanding that Chisora seeks treatment for anger management, "after which his suspension will be reconsidered." "Boxers are gentlemen and show to the world an example of honor and fair play when after a tremendous battle, they go to the centre of the ring to pay respect to each other," the WBC statement said.

Internet

British boxer Dereck Chisora , waits to watch the WBA heavyweight championships fight between Russian champion Alexander Povetkin and German Marco Huck in Stuttgart, southern Germany, on 25 Feb, 2012.— INTERNET

Murray advances to Dubai quarters

DUBAI, 29 Feb —Andy Murray's bid to push on from one of the best performances of his career carried him into the quarter-finals of the Dubai Open with a solid win here Wednesday.

The world number four from Scotland overcame Marco Chiudinelli, the third best Swiss player, by 6-3, 6-4, taking him to within one win of a possible rematch with Novak Djokovic.

Last month Murray was close to halting the world number one in the semi-finals of the Australian Open. Now in his first tournament since then, he suggested he may be re-building momentum.

"I played well throughout today," he said. "I played a little bit better, so that's progress. Now I just need to keep that going."

Murray established an early break of serve against Chiudinelli to reach 3-1 and consolidated the lead well, serving well and moving better than he had the day before against Michael Berrer.

Then the three-time Grand Slam finalist had complained of feeling unwell, and had gone 3-4 down in the second set against the German. But this time against an opponent ranked outside the top 100, Murray was never in trouble.

He almost broke serve again in the first game of the second set, and earned another break point in the seventh game, only for Chiudinelli to play those points well.

Internet

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(1-3-12 09:30 am ~ 2-3-12 09:30 am) MST

Oversea Transmission

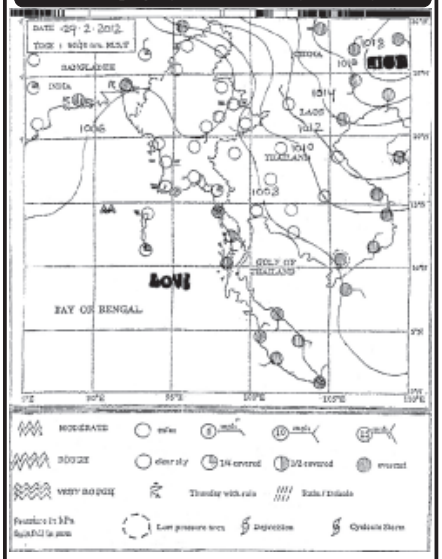
* News
* Great Shwedagon "The Historic Bell on the Platform of Shwedagon Pagoda"
* News
* Fortune of Human Correlated with Astro Science (12 Sign of ascendants in March 2012)
* News
* Easily Cooked & Tasty Dishes "Fried Fish Fingers"
* The Venerable Baw Kyo Pagoda
* News
* Strengthening Civil Society for Democratization in Myanmar
* News
* Myanma Orchestra "The Magic of Melodious Music (Episode-1)"
* News
* Silk-Ware from Amarapura
* Travelling on the Chin Mountain Ranges1
* News
* Shan Dance of Plucking Tea Leaves
* News
* Myanmar Movies "The Moon Born from the Sun"

MYANMAR TV

(1-3-2012) (Thursday)

7:00 am 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
7:25 am 2. To Be Healthy Exercise
7:50 am 3. Nice & Sweet Song
8:10 am 4. Dance of National Races
8:30 am 5. Songs in honour of (67th) Anniversary Armed Forces Day
10:00 am 6. The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein's Address at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw
4:30 pm 7. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performings Arts Competitions
4:40 pm 8. University of Distance Education (TV lectures) First years (Oriental Studies)
5:05 pm 9. Teleplay (Forest)
5:20 pm 10. Song Programme
5:35 pm 11. Songs in honour of (67th) Anniversary Armed Forces Day
6:20 pm 12. Approaching Science Discovery World
8:00 pm 13. News
14. TV Drama Series

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 1st March, 2012

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/°F) Maximum	Minimum	For Tomorrow Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	30/86	16/61	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	60(%)
2	Kayah	32/90	13/55	Generally fair weather	
3	Kayin	37/99	17/63	Partly cloudy	
4	Chin	20/68	11/52	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	60(%)
5	Upper Sagaing	32/90	12/54	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	60(%)
6	Lower Sagaing	37/99	16/61	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	60(%)
7	Tanintharyi	35/95	18/64	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	60(%)
8	Bago	37/99	18/64	Generally fair weather	
9	Magway	39/102	19/66	Generally fair weather	
10	Mandalay	38/100	21/70	Partly cloudy	
11	Mon	36/97	19/66	Partly cloudy	
12	Yangon	37/99	19/66	Partly cloudy	
13	Rakhine	30/86	20/68	Partly cloudy	
14	Southern Shan	26/79	11/52	Generally fair weather	
15	Northern Shan	29/84	06/43	Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers	60(%)
16	Eastern Shan	31/88	12/54	Generally fair weather	
17	Ayeyawady	36/97	19/66	Generally fair weather	
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	37/99	19/66	Partly cloudy	
19	Neighbouring Yangon	37/99	19/66	Partly cloudy	
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	38/100	21/70	Partly cloudy	
Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today		During the past (24) hours, light rain or thundershower has been isolated in Kachin State, weather have been partly cloudy Tanintharyi Region and Mon State and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Night temperatures were (6°C) below February average temperatures in Upper Sagaing Region, (3°C) below February average temperatures in Tanintharyi Region and Kayin State, (2°C) to (4°C) above February average temperatures in Mandalay and Magway Regions, Kachin, Chin and Rakhine States and about February average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant night temperatures were Namhsan (6°C).			
Bay Inference		Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and partly cloudy in the elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.			
State of the Sea		Seas will be slight to moderate in the Myanmar waters.			
Outlook for sub-sequent two days		Continuation of likelihood of rain or thundershowers in Northern Myanmar areas.			

Mayweather says Pacquiao 'not one of the sharpest'

NEW YORK, 29 Feb — A trumpet blared a fanfare to introduce Floyd Mayweather Jr and Miguel Cotto as fans at the Apollo Theater cheered the start of Tuesday's news conference to promote their 5 May fight in Las Vegas. Still, there appeared to be far more interest in the fight that's not happening — a matchup between Mayweather and Manny Pacquiao. Mayweather made clear that whether they meet in the ring is about the money — breaking down the shares in what could be boxing's richest fight ever.

"Just by speaking to Pacquiao on the phone, I mean, he's not one of the sharpest knives in the drawer," Mayweather said. "He faces Floyd Mayweather, he's not getting 50-50. Not at all. No one is getting 50-50." While Mayweather urged Pacquiao should "take the test," a reference to his demand for random drug testing, payout appears to be the real sore point between Mayweather on one side, and Pacquiao and Top Rank promoter Bob Arum on the other. Arum has said testing is not an issue.—*Internet*

Boxers Floyd Mayweather, left, and Miguel Cotto face-off during a news conference in New York, on 28 Feb, 2012. Cotto and Mayweather will fight in Las Vegas on 5 May, 2012 for Cotto's WBA World super welterweight title.— INTERNET

Village library under construction in Hlaingbwe Township

HLAINGBWE, 29 Feb—Construction of the building of Moelin Kyesin village library commenced in Lower Yepu Village of Hlaingbwe Township in November 2011.

A plan is underway to build the structure for its completion in May 2012.

Expenditure in building the structure is being contributed with K 1 million by the State and more contribution by the people.

Kyemon

Tamway Township Women's Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Association of Yangon East District in Yangon Region organized the traditional food special sales in Byaing Ye-ohsin Ywama Ward on 12 February. Chairperson of Township WAO Daw Thi Thi Shein and Secretary of Township MCWA Dr Mi Mi Tin cut the ribbon to open the special sales.
MYANMA ALIN

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

p15(1).pmd 15 3/1/2012, 9:47 AM

Pyithu Hluttaw session continues for eighth day

Myanmar delegation's visit to China put on record, eight questions answered, two new proposals submitted

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb—The Pyithu Hluttaw session continued for the eighth day at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall in Hluttaw Complex here today, attended by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and 351 MPs. The actions of the Hluttaw were put on record, eight questions asked and answered and two new proposals submitted at today's session.

The Hluttaw put the official goodwill visit of Myanmar delegation led by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann to the People's Republic of China from 22 February, 2012 to 26 February, 2012 at the invitation of Chairman Mr Wu Bangguo of the National People's Congress of China.

The 11-member delegation led by the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker, at the invitation of Chairman Mr Wu Bangguo of the National People's Congress of China, paid a goodwill visit to People's Republic of China from 22 February, 2012 to 26 February, 2012. On their tour, the Myanmar delegation held talks with Chairman Mr Wu Bangguo of the National People's Congress, Mr Jia Qinglin, member of Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of Chinese Communist Party Central Committee and Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Vice-Chairman Mr Lu Kongxiang of National People's Congress, Mr Li Yuanchao, member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, Chief of the General Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army General Chen Bingde. The tour was a complete success and the talks could bear fruit results, fostering the friendly ties and cooperation between the influential organization NPC and the Pyithu Hluttaw, strengthening the amicable relationship and cooperation between the people of China and Myanmar. The Myanmar delegation invited Mr Wu Bangguo, Chairman of the National People's Congress to pay a visit to Myanmar.

Next, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker said that each and every citizen has to abide by the existing laws enacted by the government including the constitution. Time has changed and so has the system. Efforts out of sound judgment are needed for the real system change, which means respecting the 2008 Constitution ratified by the majority of the people. Especially, Pyithu Hluttaw representatives need to respect and abide by more. In addition, Pyithu Hluttaw representatives need to make sure each other Pyithu Hluttaw representatives and related organizations abide by the constitution properly and appropriately. Pyithu Hluttaw representatives have to appreciate their duty-bound legal actions and make mutual cooperation and reciprocal monitoring. The Hluttaw will put the actions of the MPs correctly practicing this concept on record.

Next, the Hluttaw put Hluttaw representatives correctly discharging their duties through mutual cooperation and reciprocal monitoring in line with the existing laws on the record.

Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun replied to the queries raised by two Hluttaw representatives.

Regarding the question asked by Daw Tin Nwe Oo of Dagon Myothit (North) constituency constituency about "if there is any ,effective work programmes

Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye answers queries.—MNA

(See page 8)

Eighth day third regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw continues

Donation to Amyotha Hluttaw Library recorded, eight questions answered, one report approved, four bills discussed, three new proposals submitted

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Feb—The eighth day third regular session of the first Amyotha Hluttaw continued at the Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of the Hluttaw Complex, here, at 10 am today.

It was attended by Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint and 204 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives.

The Amyotha Hluttaw announced that the cash donation of Amyotha Hluttaw representatives for the library of Amyotha Hluttaw was put on record.

As two Hluttaw representatives asked questions on environmental conservation and forestry sector, Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun replied to the questions.

With regard to **irrigated cultivation, hydropower generation and protection of forest-covered areas that conserves above and underground water resources** asked by U Myo Myint of Mandalay Region Constituency No. 6, the Union Minister replied that the period from 2004-2005 to 2009-2010 was termed as a five-year plan for declining of erosion, landslides and silting at dams and watershed areas and greening Bago mountain ranges so as to conserve origins of quality teak plantations and maintain the dams and reservoirs that contribute to economic development of the State in agriculture sector. Moreover, the second five-year plan is being implemented from 2010-2011 to 2014-2015.

Up to now, ten main tasks such as conservation of natural forests, natural plant propagation, establishment of forest plantations, upgrading natural forests, seizure of illegal timbers, establishment of local people-owned forests and model forest villages, extension of educative works, use of firewood-substitute fuel, availability of water, designation of natural teak reserves and research works. Moreover, a total of 79280 acres of watershed areas are being nurtured on watershed areas of 63 important dams in Bago Region.

Deputy Minister for Health Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin answers queries.—MNA

With the technological assistance and cooperation of international organizations, the ministry is carrying out control and reduction of carbon emission and gas emission from deforestation harming the climate change and causing natural disasters in Bago mountain ranges. Joining hands with Forest Management Division of Korea and International Tropical Timber Organization, the ministry is undertaking the tasks of conducting the human resources development trainings and workshops and seeking technological assistance from foreign countries. Moreover, the ministry is drawing the pilot plans in cooperation with UN-REDD Programme.

Regarding the second question on extraction of teak and hardwood in Bago Region exceeding that of other regions and states, the Union minister replied that about 25 per cent on average of timber

(See page 8)

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan, Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye comfort patients of free surgery programme

PAGE 2

Third regular session of the first Shan State Hluttaw continues

PAGE 10

Razudaing Bridge No.1 easily accessible to four corners of the country

PAGE 5