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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.

President U Thein Sein receives Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister and party

NAY PYI TAW, 8 March—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein received a goodwill delegation led by Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Mr. John Baird at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace at 10 am today.

Also present at the call together with President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein were Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan and departmental heads.

The visiting delegation led by Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Mr. John Baird was accompanied by Charge d' Affaires ai of Canadian Embassy Ms Jennifer May.

At the meeting, they cordially discussed matters related to further strengthening friendly ties between the two countries, economic cooperation and investment.

MNA

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein poses for documentary photo with Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Mr. John Baird.

MNA



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein receives goodwill delegation led by Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Mr. John Baird at Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace.—MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 9 March, 2012

The land of smiling people

Because of their openness, morality and helpfulness Myanmar people are renowned for their sincere smiles. Moreover, they under the teachings of their faith have strong humanitarian spirit and sense of generosity the main driving force in establishing civil society organizations or CSOs the country needs for its democratization process.

Despite having the sincere smiles and philanthropic spirit, our people still need to change their mindsets and behaviour as old thoughts, ideas and actions are no more acceptable to our current efforts to step forward into globalization and implement democratic transition with might and main. If we all want to make our democratic reforms stronger and faster and our country become more adaptable to globalization, we all must leave behind all the old habits such as laziness, perfunctoriness, incompetence, corruption, bribery and selfishness and move forward with new habits including perseverance, obligation, efficiency, honesty, morality and altruism till reaching the goal. In fact, we need the forces that push our country forward to fulfill the people's aspirations.

But this is easier said than done as in certain cases old habits die hard and some people find it difficult to adapt to the changes. And there may be some persons sticking to their old ways of shortsightedness worrying that changes might ruin their situation. But we all must understand that these old habits that had delayed the national economic development for a long time must be stopped at the earliest possible time. We must launch educative campaigns that help people discard such bad habits and thoughts and accept changes and new habits and visions that will bring benefits to the country and community. The enforcement of the rule of law is another effective means to curb all kinds of misconducts and improve public behaviour.

So let us try to replace old habits, mindsets and behaviors with new ways of thinking and working so there will be beautiful smiles that are really pleasant in the land of smiling people.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann meets Canadian Foreign Minister and guests

NAY PYI TAW, 8 March—Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann held a meeting with Canadian delegation led by Foreign Affairs Minister Mr. John Baird, at Zabuthiri Hall of Pyithu Hluttaw of the Hluttaw Building here at 11:45 am today.

Also present at the call with Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann were Pyithu Hluttaw Committee Chairmen and members. Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister was accompanied by Charge d'affaires of Canadian Embassy to Myanmar based in Bangkok Ms. Jennifer May and officials concerned.

Both sides discussed matters relating to developments in Myanmar, preparation tasks to hold



Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann shaking hands with Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Mr John Baird.
MNA

free and fair by-elections on 1st April and affairs concerning with Pyithu

Hluttaw, and concentrated on further relationships between Myanmar and

Canada and bilateral cooperation tasks.

MNA

Canadian Foreign Minister calls on Union Foreign Minister



Union Foreign Affairs Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin receives visiting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Canada Mr John Baird.
MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 8 March—Visiting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Canada Mr John Baird paid a call on Union Foreign Affairs Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin at his

office here this morning.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed promotion of bilateral ties and mutual understanding. Mr Christopher Day, Director of Communication, the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada and Deputy Director Mr David Nelson accompanied the Canadian Foreign Minister during the talk.—MNA

Union A&I Minister views thriving Palethwe hybrid paddy, musk melon plantations



Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing inspects Wakkamu Rubber Diversion Weir built through Rubber Dam Technology for the first time in Myanmar on the Nyobin Creek near Wakkamu Village of Lewe Township.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 8 March—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing, together with Vietnamese agriculturists, inspected thriving 11-Vietnamese-strain 120-day Palethwe hybrid paddy plantation near Chaing Village of Dekkhinathiri Township this morning.

He also viewed fruits of three musk melon strains and gave instructions to local farmers.

He looked into Wakkamu Rubber Diversion Weir built through Rubber Dam Technology for the first time in Myanmar on Nyobin Creek near Wakkamu Village of Lewe Township.

The diversion weir is 56 feet long, 65 feet and seven inches wide and 8 feet high benefiting 1471 acres of farmlands.

At the 100-acer advanced paddy farm irrigated by Ngalaik Dam near Kyaku Village, the Union Minister viewed nurturing of Palethwe paddy strain and paddy transplanting works. Director-General U Kyaw Myint Hlaing of Irrigation Department presented uniforms to the female farming workers and the Union Minister, foods to them.—MNA

Clinton says ready to work with Putin

WASHINGTON, 8 March—US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said on Wednesday that the United States is ready to work with Russian President-elect Vladimir Putin, but Russia has no veto over NATO's planned missile defence system.

The top US diplomat stated that there were a number of concerns about Russia's presidential election that should be "investigated and addressed."

"And we also remain concerned about the arrests of peaceful protesters, which occurred again on Monday," she told reporters after meeting with Polish Foreign Minister Radoslaw Sikorski at the State Department.

"But the election had a clear winner and we are ready to work with President-elect Putin as he is sworn in and assumes the responsibilities of the presidency," she remarked.

She said Washington will look for ways to enhance cooperation with Russia "on a range of difficult issues".

Noting that she talked to her Russia counterpart Sergei Lavrov on Tuesday and will meet him again in New York next Monday, the secretary stated that "We continue to believe that Russia should join the international community and

play a positive role in trying to end the bloodshed and help create the conditions for a peaceful democratic transition."

Stating that Washington and its NATO allies will continue talks with Russia for an agreement "at some point" over the deployment of missile defense system in Europe, Clinton stressed as well that "Russia has no veto over what we do in NATO."

"Our commitment is to our NATO allies, to our Article 5 collective security obligations, and missile defence is an integral part of that," she said.

Moscow has failed to obtain written and legal guarantees that the US missile shield in Europe will not target Russia. Disputes over the missile system prompted Russian President Dmitry Medvedev to threaten in November to take strong countermeasures, including the deployment of contemporary missile systems in the western and southern sections of Russia.

The missile defence shield, which will be deployed in stages from 2011 until 2020 and involves the deployment of US interceptor missiles and radar in Europe, will be capable of intercepting long-range and intercontinental ballistic missiles.—Xinhua



A sheriff deputy is transported after being shot at the County Courthouse on 7 March, 2012 in Tulsa, Okla. A sheriff's deputy and two other people were wounded Wednesday afternoon during an exchange of gunfire outside a courthouse plaza in Tulsa, police said.

INTERNET

Deputy, 2 others shot outside Okla courthouse

TULSA, 8 March—A sheriff's deputy, a suspected gunman and a bystander were wounded Wednesday afternoon during an exchange of gunfire outside a Tulsa courthouse, sending people scattering from a crowded plaza as an employee at a nearby library used his camera to chronicle the events.

Police spokesman Leland Ashley said authorities responded to a report of a person firing into the air between the Tulsa County Courthouse and the library. Deputies, including the one who was wounded, exchanged gunfire with the shooter, Ashley said.

John Fancher, a communications coordinator with the library, told *The Associated Press* that he heard gunshots, then grabbed his camera and stood at his office window to take pictures.

"I see a guy barefoot nonchalantly just waving a gun in the air," Fancher said. "I'm thinking this is not the downtown I remember working in. I start snapping off some shots and he sits down, just casually sits down, gun in his hand and three sheriff's come out of the courthouse and I can't hear what they're saying."

Fancher said the man turned around and stood up with his gun.

"That's when (the deputies) did what they had to do," he said.—Internet



The hackers posted one of Lulzsec's old videos to Panda Lab's webpage as part of the attack.—INTERNET

Hackers attack Panda Labs site after Anonymous arrests

NEW YORK, 8 March—Hackers identifying themselves with Antiscac have attacked the website of Panda Labs' anti-malware products.

It follows yesterday's arrest of an alleged member of the movement alongside others linked to the Lulzsec hacking collective.

The site's front page was replaced with a message saying "Love to Lulzsec/Antiscac fallen friends".

It accused the firm of having helped police arrest other hackers last month. The company denies the claim.

The group Lulzsec and hackers involved with "Operation Antiscac" all identify themselves under the wider Anonymous heading.

Panda Lab's Spanish parent company, Panda Security, said it was investigating the intrusion but said it could assure its customers that none of their information had been compromised. It added that an external server hosting some of Panda Labs' content had been targeted. Visitors to the site no longer see the hackers' posting.—Internet

Double bombing kills 14 in northern Iraq

BAGHDAD, 8 March—Two bombs that exploded in swift succession killed 14

Iraqi security forces inspect the scene of a car bomb attack in the Mansour neighbourhood of Baghdad, Iraq, on 7 March, 2012. Iraqi officials say a car bomb has killed and wounded several people in a commercial area full of shops and clinics in western Baghdad.

INTERNET



Factbox—Military deaths in Afghanistan

LONDON, 8 March—Six British soldiers were killed on Tuesday when their armoured vehicle was hit by an explosion while they were on patrol in Helmand Province in southern Afghanistan, a British military official said on Wednesday.

Here are figures for foreign military deaths in Afghanistan caused by violence or accidents since the US-led military intervention began in 2001:

NATO/US-led coalition forces

United States	1,909
Britain	404
Canada	158
France	82
Germany	52
Italy	49
Denmark	42
Poland	36
Spain	34
Australia	32
Netherlands	25
Other nations	91
TOTAL	2,914

Reuters

people Wednesday near a crowded restaurant in a mid-sized city in Iraq's north, officials said.

Officials said the blasts may indicate that the town of Tal Afar, a hotbed of insurgency during the years that Iraq teetered on the edge of civil war, may again be experiencing an influx of militants due to the uprising in neighbouring Syria.

Foreign volunteers coming to join the Iraqi insurgency once passed through the town en route

from Syria to the northern Iraqi crossroads city of Mosul. Now, Iraqi fighters are thought to be heading in the other direction, traveling to aid Syria's largely Sunni insurgents in their battle against a regime in Damascus dominated by a Shiite

offshoot sect.

Tal Afar Mayor Abdul Aal Abbas al-Obedi said a car parked outside a popular downtown restaurant exploded in the early afternoon. As people rushed to the scene to help, a suicide bomber in the crowd detonated his explosives belt, al-Obedi said.—Internet

50 North Korean orphans flee to China: legislator

SEOUL, 8 March—Some 50 North Korean orphans are hiding in China after fleeing their impoverished homeland, a South Korean legislator involved in a high-profile campaign to help such refugees said Thursday. The children from an orphanage in the northeastern border city of Hyesan crossed the border on 29 February, Park Sun-Young from the conservative opposition Liberty Forward Party told *Yonhap* news agency. "Fortunately, I haven't heard that they were caught," she said. Park began a hunger strike last month outside China's embassy to denounce Beijing's repatriation of North Korean refugees. She ended her protest last Friday when she collapsed on the 11th day of her fast.

Of 30 children who fled the same orphanage in December, 20 were caught by North Korean border guards and severely beaten while the rest of them have yet to return to the North, she said. Park said 48 North Koreans have been detained in China awaiting repatriation to the North. They face harsh punishment — even a death sentence — in their homeland, according to activists. Seoul has repeatedly urged Beijing to treat fugitives from the North as refugees and not to repatriate them. China says they are economic migrants and not refugees deserving protection. Amnesty International has also urged Beijing not to send North Korean escapees back, adding returnees are sent to labour camps where they are subjected to torture. More than 21,700 North Koreans have fled their homeland since the 1950-1953 Korean War, the vast majority in recent years. They typically escape on foot to China, hide out and then travel to a third country to seek resettlement in the South.—Internet



A warning sign is seen on a barbed wire fence dividing China and North Korea on the outskirts of Dandong.—INTERNET

Estrogen lowers breast cancer risk in some women

LONDON, 8 March — Women who take estrogen after menopause appear to have a lower risk of breast cancer even years after they quit taking the hormone, according to a new analysis of a landmark study. The results are reassuring news for women who have had hysterectomies and use the pills to relieve hot flashes and other symptoms of menopause, the researchers and other doctors say. Previous observational

studies have suggested a possible connection between estrogen and breast cancer.

The new research found women who had a hysterectomy who took estrogen-only pills for about six years were about 20 percent less likely to develop breast cancer than those who didn't take the hormone, and the benefit lasted for at least five years. The study was published online Wednesday in the journal, *Lancet*

Oncology. "If women are suffering from serious menopause symptoms and have had a hysterectomy, then estrogen alone is a reasonable approach," said Garnet Anderson, of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle and the study's lead author.

Doctors have long prescribed hormones for women after menopause to relieve symptoms like hot flashes and night sweats.

Internet

World meets UN safe water goal



A young Sudanese child is helped with a drink of clean water at the Abu Shouk refugee camp near El Fasher, in Darfur in 2004.—INTERNET

GENEVA, 8 March — The world has easily beaten a 2015 deadline to halve the proportion of people drinking unsafe water, the United Nations Children's Fund and the

World Health Organization said on Tuesday. The two UN agencies released a report saying that between 1990 and 2010, two billion people had gained access to improved water, through tools such as water pipes and protected wells. The report, however, found that governments, communities and other entities will likely fall short of a target for three-quarters of the planet to have access to improved sanitation access.

The water milestone is one of the first Millennium Development Goals to be met. The goals, outlined by the UN, comprise eight targets to help the world's

poor, including by improving living conditions and stopping the spread of HIV and AIDS. "For children, this is especially good news," UNICEF Executive Director Anthony Lake said in a statement. "Every day more than 3,000 children die from diarrhoeal diseases. Achieving this goal will go a long way to saving children's lives."—Internet



A woman, suffering from Alzheimer's disease, holds the hand of a relative in a retirement house in Angervilliers, eastern France. INTERNET

Mice study reveals Alzheimer's antibodies

LONDON, 8 March — British scientists have discovered a type of antibody in mice that blocks a hallmark of Alzheimer's disease, offering a potential new route to treatment, according to research published on Tuesday. The antibodies shut down a protein called Dkk1 that in turn stops the formation of amyloid plaque in the brain, a key factor in the progression of Alzheimer's, said the findings in the *Journal of Neuroscience*.

When this plaque builds up, it leads to a loss of connection between neurons, known as synapses, in the part of the brain known as the hippocampus which handles learning and memory. "These novel findings raise the possibility that targeting this secreted Dkk1 protein could offer an effective treatment to protect synapses against the toxic effect of amyloid-B," said lead author Patricia Salinas of the University College London Department of Cell and Developmental Biology. "Importantly, these results raise the hope for a treatment and perhaps the prevention of cognitive decline early in Alzheimer's disease."

The research has only been done in mice and more work is needed to see if it would be relevant in humans. Previous research has shown that the autopsied brains of people with Alzheimer's disease have higher levels of Dkk1 than normal brains, but scientists were unsure why. The latest study on mice showed that animals exposed to antibodies against Dkk1 had more of their synapses survive than other Alzheimer's mice that were not given the treatment.

Internet

Study says brain scans overused on US stroke patients

NEW YORK, 8 March — Most stroke patients undergo both CT and MRI brain scans, an unnecessary duplication that contributes to the rising costs of stroke care in the United States, a new study indicates. University of Michigan researchers analyzed data from more than 600,000 patients diagnosed with stroke between 1999 and 2008 in 11 states, and found that 95 percent of the patients who had MRI scans also had CT brain scans.

"Compared to CT, MRI is a more accurate test for stroke.

But our results showed that MRI is not replacing CT as the primary stroke neuroimaging study — instead, patients are getting both," study author Dr James Burke, a clinical lecturer in the medical school's neurology department, said in a university news release.

Internet

Business

Nissan to build new car in Sunderland



Nissan's Trevor Mann: "Nissan has been growing quite significantly in Europe" INTERNET

LONDON, 8 March — Nissan is to build a new compact model, called the Invitation, at its Sunderland factory. The announcement was made at the Geneva motor show in Switzerland. The Japanese carmaker said that its £125m investment would create 2,000 jobs. The government is supporting the project with a £9.3m grant. Nissan said that 400 of the new jobs would be in its Sunderland plant, and it estimates 1,600 jobs will be created in the supply chain.

"When we've looked at the numbers before, it's usually for every one person employed in the facility there is four in the local supply base," Trevor Mann, senior vice-president of manufacturing for Nissan

Europe, told BBC News. Production of the new compact car is scheduled to start from mid-2013. Nissan plans to build 100,000 of its new Invitation model per year at its plant in Sunderland, where it currently makes about 480,000 of its Qashqai, Juke and Note models per year.

Internet



The Brazilian economy is still booming, despite the global economic slowdown.—INTERNET

Google recasts Android Market with new name

SAN FRANCISCO, 8 March — Google Inc is renaming its online storefront for music, books and digital goods, its latest move to raise its profile in the market for electronic content sales and to better compete with Apple Inc and Amazon.com Inc. The company has retired the Android Market name for its store that sells apps, videos, music and electronic books on the Web and on mobile devices. From Tuesday, the store will be rebranded as the Google Play Store.

The change is designed to make it clearer to consumers that Google offers a broad catalogue of content in addition to the apps programmed for smartphones

and tablets based on its Android operating system. "Some people see the Android icon on their homescreen and they think it's just for apps," said Chris Yerga, engineering director for Android Digital Content, in an interview with Reuters on Monday.

The name is being introduced three and a half years after Google launched its Android Market as a central outlet for consumers to download the mobile apps created for the growing number of Android-based smartphones. Android is the world's No1 smartphone operating system, used in smartphones sold by Motorola, Samsung and

HTC, among others. There are more than 450,000 Android-compatible apps available from third-party software developers versus 550,000 apps available for Apple iOS devices such as the iPhone and iPad.

Internet



Android mascots are lined up in the demonstration area at the Google I/O Developers Conference in the Moscone Centre in San Francisco, California, on 10 May, 2011. INTERNET

Brazil 'overtakes UK's economy'

SÃO PAULO, 8 March — Brazil has become the sixth-biggest economy in the world, the country's finance minister has said.

The Latin American nation's economy grew 2.7% last year, official figures show, more than the UK's 0.8% growth. The National Institute of Economic and Social Research (NIESR) and other economic forecasters also said that Brazil had now overtaken the UK. The Brazilian economy is now worth \$2.5tn (£1.6tn), according to Finance Minister Guido Mantega.

But Mr Mantega was keen to play down the symbolic transition - which comes after China officially overtook Japan as the world's second-biggest economy last year. "It is not important to be the world's sixth-biggest economy, but to be among the most dynamic economies, and with sustainable growth," he said. Brazil is enjoying an economic boom because of high food and oil prices, which has led to rapid growth.

Internet

UN team examines mining threat to Great Barrier Reef

WASHINGTON, 8 March — A UN team has arrived in Australia to investigate possible damage to the Great Barrier Reef by the mining industry. Fears that coal exports and oil and gas exploration would jeopardise the reef prompted the Unesco delegation's visit. Environmentalists have urged the government to suspend mining development until a government review is completed. The reef is home to 400 types of coral and 1,500 species of

fish. The Great Barrier Reef, which holds Unesco World Heritage status, lies off the coast of the state of Queensland, which is the largest producer of coal in the country.

The Unesco team is scheduled to visit the reef for a week before making recommendations to the World Heritage committee. They will also meet members of the government. Environmentalists are concerned that an increase in coal production and the



shipping traffic that would follow could affect the Great Barrier Reef's World Heritage status. They want the government to suspend all

The Great Barrier Reef off the Queensland coast is home to a wealth of marine life.—INTERNET

new developments while a state and federal review of the health of the reef is carried out.

Internet

Sawfish snout senses, swipes and stabs

The exact function of the sawfish's spectacular snout has been unclear, until now.—INTERNET



LONDON, 8 March — The spectacular snouts of sawfish are revealed as complete hunting weapons,

sensing prey and killing them. The saws, which can grow more than a metre long

researchers have filmed the fish impaling prey on the teeth of the saws. They suggest in Current Biology that sawfish are more active hunters than previously thought, which could help in their much-needed conservation.

All seven species are listed as Critically Endangered on the internationally-recognised Red List. The researchers, mainly based in Australia, suggest sawfish may be unique among their peers in possessing a snout, or rostrum, that works both as

a sensory organ and a hunting weapon. "I like to call it an antenna and a weapon, because that's what it is - it helps them to find the prey, but then also to kill it," said Barbara Wuerfing from the University of Queensland, who led the research team. The research was done using captive sawfish.

Australian regulations on the ethics of animal research meant the team was not allowed to film the sawfish hunting live prey.

Internet

Alien invaders threaten Antarctic fringes

LONDON, 8 March — The fringes of Antarctica are being invaded by alien plants and tiny animals, scientists have found. Researchers scoured the clothes and boots of tourists and scientists visiting the continent, and found that most were carrying plant seeds. Alien plants already grow on the fast-warming Antarctic Peninsula. Writing in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS), the team says the plants are likely to spread as the climate warms. "People in the past have been sceptical, saying 'it's largely ice-covered so it's unlikely that plants will establish themselves'," said lead researcher Steven Chown from Stellenbosch University in South Africa.

"[They're] forgetting that probably less than 1%, but still a significant area, is ice-free - some of that's in the peninsula region, and it's been warming very

quickly." The Antarctic Peninsula, which runs up towards the southern tip of South America, has warmed by about 3C over half a century, much faster than the global average. As a result, ice cover is dwindling.

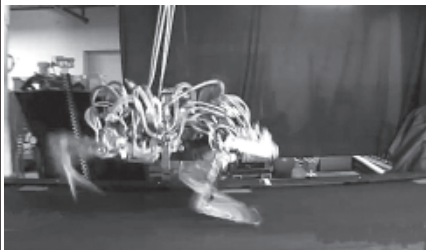


Scientists are inadvertently helping to carry seeds and other bits of plant around Antarctica.—INTERNET

Many islands in the sub-Antarctic region have seen significant ecological changes due to invasive species, that have either arrived accidentally or deliberately.—Internet



Four-legged "Cheetah" robot sets new speed record



A four-legged robot known as the Cheetah lived up to its name on Monday, setting a new land speed record for legged robots by running at 18 mph (29 kph) on a treadmill at a laboratory in Massachusetts, its developer said.—INTERNET

WASHINGTON, 8 March—A four-legged robot known as the Cheetah lived up to its name on Monday, setting a new land speed record for legged robots by running at 18 mph on a treadmill at a laboratory in Massachusetts, its developer said.

The Cheetah, being developed by Boston Dynamics with funding from the military's Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency, is part of a programme aimed at achieving theoretical and experimental advances in the science of robotics. The Cheetah broke a land speed record for legged robots that was set in 1989 when a two-legged robot at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology ran at a speed of just over 13 mph, Boston Dynamics said in a statement.

Dr Alfred Rizzi, chief robotics scientist at Boston Dynamics, said the goal is ultimately to get the Cheetah running much faster and in an outdoors environment. "We designed the treadmill to go over 50 mph but we plan to get off the treadmill and into the field as soon as possible," Rizzi said in a statement. "We really want to understand the limits of what is possible for fast-moving robots."—Internet



Sony Music confirms hack of Michael Jackson tracks

TOKYO, 8 March—Sony says a number of Michael Jackson tracks have been stolen after its website was hacked. The company will not confirm how many tracks or what material was taken in the online attack. In 2010 Sony Music paid \$250 million (£158m) to the late singer's estate for a seven-year deal for the rights to his remaining songs. The first tracks came out with the release of a posthumous

album called Michael in December that year.

The singer, who died in June 2009 at the age of 50, had recorded unreleased duets with artists ranging from the late Freddie Mercury and Black Eyed Peas singer will.i.am. In April last year Sony's PlayStation Network was hacked and the company admitted that the personal details of more than 70 million people may have been taken. The hack of Michael Jackson

tracks is said to have taken place soon after that but has not been revealed until now.

The Sony Music site also hosts tracks by other artists including the Foo Fighters, Olly Murs and Avril Lavigne although it is still unclear whether they are affected. Two men from the UK have appeared in court to deny computer misuse and copyright offences. James Marks, 26 and from Daventry, and 25-year-old



Sony says a number of Michael Jackson tracks have been stolen after its website was hacked.—INTERNET

James McCormick from Blackpool, were arrested last May and are due to stand trial in January 2013. Internet

Thumb-stretching controller pitched to console makers

VANCOUVER, 8 March—A video games controller which pulls and stretches the skin of its users' thumbs has been unveiled in Canada. Developers said their prototype provided extra feedback about game characters' actions. For example they said the device could mimic the recoil of a gun or the motion of a boat on water better than

what could currently be achieved by vibrating a controller. The device is being pitched to Microsoft among other console makers. Engineers from the University of Utah showed off the device at the Haptics Symposium in Vancouver — a conference organised to highlight the latest research into the sense of touch.

"In the centre of the thumbsticks there's a little contact bud that is similar to what you have on a Thinkpad laptop—a little red dot," Prof William Provancher from the university's department of mechanical engineering told the BBC. "In our case that dot moves, and when it moves it provides touch feedback



The controller's thumbsticks only move if a game's software has been written specifically for it.—INTERNET



Researchers say the thumbsticks can be used to signal what actions should be carried out.—INTERNET

which allows us to enhance sensations such as gunfire. "The feeling is very similar to what you get if you place your finger down on a table top and drag it across - it stretches the skin. In this particular case the tugging on your skin is happening because of the motion-device

mechanism beneath the thumbsticks."

So far the researchers said they had built a library of five tactile effects: bounce, pulse, a circular movement, a wave effect and the feeling of crawling along the ground.

Internet

49th Myanmar Gems Emporium to put colourful jade, gems, pearl lots on sale

Article: *Nyi Nyi Tun;*
Photos: *Myo Maung Maung*



Photo shows bracelets in lots of gems at 49th Myanmar Gems Emporium.

The 49th Myanmar Gems Emporium will be held at Mani Yadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw soon. Gem merchants who will sell jade, gems and pearl at the emporium and local and foreign gem merchants have arrived at the emporium one after another.

Jade stones are being displayed in a row in the compound of Mani Yadana Jade Hall. With regard to the displays of jade stones, I had an interview with an official of Jade Work Committee. He explained that uncut jade stones were carried from Lonkhi-Phakant region by train and by car beginning 23 January. During the period from 1 to 25 February, jade stones were counted, weighed and inspected at the Mani Yadana Jade Hall. Moreover, the floor prices were fixed for the jade stones, and displays of jade stones were carried out. After that, concerted efforts were made to publish price catalogue for jade lots from 26 February to 3 March, he said.

It was learnt that a total of 16492 lots of uncut jade lots, 62 lots of bracelets, beads and other ornaments, six lots of Ingyin stone, 137 lots of other minerals such as Albite and Quartzite, totalling 16697 lots will be displayed at the emporium. Of them, a total of 16452 lots of jade and other minerals will be sold through tender and 245 lots through competitive bidding system.

After visiting the compound of Mani Yadana Jade Hall, I viewed round the hall. Arrangements were being made to allow jewellery ornamental salesrooms around the hall on the ground floor. Moreover, I saw systematic display of jewellery items on sales on the first floor.

Gems Branch Assistant Manager Daw Khin Tint of Myanmar Gems Enterprise, who was focusing on display of gems, said, "The emporium will display uncut ruby stones produced from Mongshu region in addition to ruby,

sapphire and Mogok colourful stones excavated from Mogok. Moreover, ornamental jewellery made of ruby and sapphire."

She continued that gems lots to be sold will comprise 22 gem lots of 16 companies from Mogok and Mongshu that are undertaking joint venture works with the State, 205 gem lots of private entrepreneurs, totalling 227 through tender and competitive bidding

bought jade only in the past, their purchase rate on jewellery becomes higher and higher.

Furthermore, pearl lots produced from Myanmar sea will be put on sales. Among them, some pieces of pearl are of woolen white colour and some, glittering golden colour. In enquiring the plan to sell pearl, pearl merchants will be allowed to check lots of pearl on 8 March and the products will be sold



A lot of golden Myanmar pearl being displayed at 49th Myanmar Gems Emporium.

system.

Gems were sold at Myanmar Gems Mart in the past. As of 49th Myanmar Gems Emporium, the jewellery and gems will be sold at Mani Yadana Jade Hall. As a result, not only gem merchants but also jade merchants can save time in inspecting and buying gem lots.

It was reported that gem merchants from Thailand, China and Japan and local gem merchants purchase gem lots. Mongshu ruby is favorite for most of gem merchants from Thailand. Although Chinese gem merchants

Oriental Pearl Company three lots, Nino Company two lots and Andaman Company 10 lots, totalling 36 through competitive bidding system. Such lots of pearl consist of over 4000 pieces of pearl, weighing over 2800 momme. In total, a plan is set to sell 367 lots of pearl comprising 44,000 pieces of pearl weighing over 25,000 momme. It was learnt that forty gem merchants from Japan, Hong Kong, India, Singapore and Republic of Korea and 39 local gem merchants, totalling 79 have been invited to the emporium.

"The pieces of pearl to be sold were produced from pearl culture camps of Myanmar Pearl Enterprise and that of local and foreign pearl companies that are undertaking joint-venture works with the State. Myanmar pearl is of South Sea Pearl. In fact, the pearl is famous as Myanmar pearl across the world as it is the best quality among the South Sea Pearl producer countries," Supervisor Daw

Myanmar pearl.

The pearl produced by Myanmar is of South Sea Pearl type. Moreover, pinky pearl of Myanmar can attract pearl merchants across the world.

Pearl can be cultured and bred in the areas of Myeik archipelagos of Taninthayi Region, southern part of Myanmar. Especially, pearl can be bred at the sea areas of from Mali Island to Zadetgyi Island near Kawthoung. Among seawater pearl and fresh water pearl, South Sea Pearl of Myanmar is seawater pearl type. Mother-of-pearls are bred in the seawater. Fresh water pearl can be bred at lakes, creeks and canals with flow of fresh water. Fresh water pearl can fetch low price. I have learnt that Myanmar does not breed fresh water pearl, but it is engaged in breeding seawater pearl called South Sea Pearl that can fetch higher prices.

While viewing jade, gems and pearl lots to be sold, I was thoughtful for



Jade lots systematically kept in boxes displayed at 49th Myanmar Gems Emporium.

through tender and competitive bidding system on 9 and 10 March.

The lots of pearl to be sold through tender comprise 190 lots of pearl from Myanmar Pearl Enterprise, 25 lots of pearl from Oriental Pearl Company, seven lots from Nino Company, 19 lots from Atlantic Company and 90 lots from Andaman Company, totalling 331. Over 40,000 pieces of pearl are weighing over 22,000 momme. Likewise,

Myanmar Pearl Enterprise will sell 21 lots of pearl,

Nyunt Nyunt Than of Myanmar Pearl Enterprise explained.

Myanmar produces two sorts of pearl—white (or) silver colour and golden colour pearl. Arrangements have been made to put both kinds of pearl on sales at the emporium. Priority will be given to sales of golden colour pearl in greater number attracting many buyers. Floor prices of pearl have been set in parallel with that of world pearl market. That is why it is sure that local and foreign gem merchants will prefer sale of

wealthy of Myanmar natural resources. Rare jade, ruby and sapphire are being produced from the land of Myanmar. The Myanmar waters give favorite silver and golden colour South Sea Pearl. Colourful jade, gems and pearl lots can be seen as best quality products. In fact, displays of colourful jewellery items and pearl can attract the merchants and visitors with pleasant sights at the 49th Myanmar Gems Emporium.

Translation: TTA



Photo shows Mali pearl oyster breeding farm in Mali Island.

Union Home Affairs Minister receives Director General of IOM

NAY PYI TAW, 8 March—Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko received a delegation led by Director General Mr William Lacy Swing of Geneva-based International Organization for Migration (IOM) at his office, here, at 3.45 pm today.

They had a cordial discussion on elimination of human trafficking. Also present at the call together with the Union Minister were Chief of Myanmar Police

Force Police Maj-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun, the directors-general and responsible person.
MNA

Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko receives Director General Mr William Lacy Swing of Geneva-based International Organization for Migration (IOM).—MNA



Human Resources Development in Shan State North



Youths in Northern Shan State have opportunity to learn advanced computer technologies in their own region as University of Computer Studies has been opened in Lashio. (Upper)

Local national race youths are pursuing higher education at Lashio University as well.

Night scene of University of Computer Studies (Right) and three-storey Technological University in Lashio. (Lowest)



- * Shan State has a large area of land. To bring about equitable development to every corner of the state, Taunggyi, Lashio, Kengtung and Panglong are designated as four development regions where one university, one technological university and one university of computer studies are each established.
- * Lashio is a town in Northern Shan State with increasing number of well-rounded young workforce nurtured by its universities.

Translation: HKA

Archive: Maung Nyein Aye



Pyithu Hluttaw continues 10th day meeting eight questions replied, one proposal discussed, three new proposals submitted and discussed, one bill introduced

NAY PYI TAW, 8 March—Pyithu Hluttaw continued its 10th day meeting at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall at the Hluttaw Building here today, attended by Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann and 336 representatives.

During the meeting, eight questions were replied, one proposal was discussed, three new proposals were submitted and discussed and one bill was introduced.

Pyithu Hluttaw has invited intellectuals and intelligentsias and the people to give advices to it on amending, adding and abolishing existing laws, rules and procedures, and promulgating new laws and letters can be sent to the Pyithu Hluttaw Office in Nay Pyi Taw and Pyithu Hluttaw Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission at No. 66, Room (B), (209-210), 2nd floor, Yuzana Tower, at the corner of Shwegondine Road and Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon.

U Tin Maung Win of Mingaladon Constituency **asked why decrees of courts of the Union of Myanmar did not take effect and if the Union Government had a plan to help people and pensioners get back their savings while standing by them.**

In response to the question, Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung replied that savers had filed civil law suits against companies in 2002 and 2003 which did not give back their savings and interests to the savers and the courts had given penalties to the defendants as the found the defendants guilty of the offence. And, the courts also gave decrees win to savers who filed the civil law suits against the companies, he said.

The savers had executed civil court's decree against the companies and demanded their savings in accordance with the decrees. In accordance with a civil court's decree of the savers, the courts sold the assets of the companies and gave the money back to them. Therefore, those savers who could show the properties got back their decree money, he said.

However, those savers who could not show the properties of the company where they saved their money did not get back their decree money because the company had no properties and those who received the legal win could not show the properties of the company. In those cases, there was no responsibilities for the courts and it was found that the decrees of the courts took effect on the companies, he said.

He continued to say that the savers did not give income tax to the State nor do registration. When there happened disputes between the illegal savers and companies who carried out financial services illegally, the courts settled the cases by selling the properties of the companies to share the money to those who received legal wins. However, it was found that some companies did not own properties nor buildings and plots. Therefore, the courts had obligation to take effect the court's decree impartially and without bias to help the legal winners if they applied the courts to resume the decree when they found the evidences that the companies owned properties, buildings and plots within 12 years after the court's decree, he said.

U Soe Win of Kyauktada Constituency **asked whether there was a plan to appoint juries for legal trials.**

Judge of the Supreme Court of the Union U Soe Nyunt replied that the existing judiciary system was effective as experienced and trained mature judges heard and handled the legal trials though juries had not been assigned to courts to hear the criminal cases since 1946, he said. It was not necessary to transform the judiciary system to the jury system. Therefore, there was no plan to assign juries to courts for legal trials.

Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun replied the two questions related to tax raised by two representatives.

U Khin Maung Yi (a) U Khaing Maung Yi of Ahlon Township Constituency **asked whether there was a plan to exempt or relax the income tax from screening at cinemas and from theatres and from artistes in the movie and theatre industries.**

The Union Minister replied that the Section 389 of the Constitution said that "Every citizen has the duty to pay taxes to be levied according to the law." The Union Government collected the tax from citizens in accordance with the rules and regulations and spent the tax on development of the country. Except legal exemption, individual and organizations from the state-owned, cooperatives and private sectors who get taxable income and earning had duty to pay tax to the government.

According to the Trade Tax Law, 30 % of the income from film or video screening and 15 % of the income from other entertainments including plays at theatres shall be paid to the government as a tax, he said. Such kind of tax did not burden to those who staged the entertainment because the fees for

tickets to the cinemas or theatres was plus tax.

It was found that most artistes in the film and theatre industries had not yet been designated as tax payers as they were considered by the State as artistes who were contributing their carrier to the national building tasks. Therefore, measures had not yet been taken to exempt or relax the income tax from screening at cinemas from theatres and from artistes in the movie and theatre industries. The

directives on taxes and tax educative articles twice a month, and these subjects are also presented in Revenue Journal for tax payers and posted on www.irdmyanmar.gov.mm.

A section is established as enquiry on taxation under control of Internal Revenue Department. Anyone may enquire matters related to tax at the Public Relations Section of various township Internal Revenue Departments. Thus, IRD is implementing the plan

in 2011-2012 academic year, compared with 1553 students at 27 BEPSs and one BEMS in the past.

Those who passed the matriculation examination are allowed to attend the two-year teachership diploma course, and the course completed trainees are appointed as teachers in the state. From 1998 to 2011, a total of 234 male teachers and 2631 female teachers, totalling 2865 have been appointed at the schools. Moreover, the graduates are



Pyithu Hluttaw representatives sign attendance book.—MNA

ministry would coordinate with other related departments to carry out the taxation in organizations and the task to tax those who should pay their income tax to the government.

Arrangements are being made to levy low rate of tax from the payers in conformity with the present situation.

He urged Pyithu Hluttaw representatives and artistes to actively participate in the tasks of giving tax educative programmes that plays a key role in taxation for the State fund while building a modern, developed and democratic new nation.

U Ye Htut Tin of Pasawng Constituency **asked whether there is a plan to enable the people to easily know tax laws, bylaws, orders and directives.** The Union Minister replied that in implementing the tax educative plan, the tax educative talks were held in townships of regions and states at least twice a fiscal year, clarifications on taxation made for similar tax payers and departmental personnel and reforms on taxation and tax exemption presented in the dailies.

Internal Revenue Department publishes laws, bylaws, orders and

on tax educative works for enabling the citizens to know laws, bylaws, orders and directives on taxes.

Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Thein Htay replied to four questions raised by four Hluttaw representatives.

U C Khan Ram of Khaunglanphu Constituency **asked that he would like to know the plan to uplift education and health sectors of border areas and remote areas.** The Union Minister replied that a total of 29 border region national race youths development schools are being opened in regions and states for enabling the national race youths of border regions to pursue education free of charge.

The male students who passed matriculation examination are admitted at Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree Colleges in Yangon and Mandalay to be able to learn higher education, and female students are allowed as special chance to attend University for Development of National Races, Education College, nursing training schools and midwifery schools.

In the education sector, a total of 217,279 students are attending 888 Basic Education Primary Schools, 92 BEMSs and 94 BEHSs

allowed to attend the on-job teachership diploma one-year course and those who passed the course are appointed as junior assistant teachers. From 2004 to 2010, a total of 35 male and 1210 female JATs, totalling 1245 have been turned out.

The Ministry of Health allows those who passed the matriculation examination from regions and states to attend the nursing and midwifery courses at the respective training schools. However, if necessary, 10 per cent of the admitted numbers can be selected to attend the course. Beginning 2004-2005 fiscal year, nursing and midwifery training schools are being opened in Myitkyina and Bhamo, and the schools has turned out 36 male nurses and 650 female nurses, totalling 686, and they were appointed in Kachin State.

Thus, it can be seen that the State is focusing on improvement of education and health sectors of border areas as special issue. Peace and stability of the region, better transport and participation of local national races play an important role in undertaking equitable development of border areas at the same time.

(See page 9)

Pyithu Hluttaw continues 10th day...

(from page 8)

U Maung Nyo of Sittway Constituency asked **whether there is a plan to build a bridge across Hsatyokeya Creek in Sittway.** The Union minister replied that the proposed area for bridge to link Sittway to Hsatyokeya at the creek is about 300 feet wide. The 36 feet high watercrafts from Inland Water Transport pass there. Thus, it is necessary to build a bridge with high clearance. In so doing, the bridge will be about 1000 feet long including the length of approach road. Therefore, the construction of the bridge will cost about K 2500 million. In addition, some residences of Lanmadaw North Ward in Sittway will be moved to some areas.

If the bridge is built in a place, west of new reclaimed land near industrial ward in Sittway, the clearance of the bridge does not need to be high in clearance due to about 200 feet wide of creek. Thus, the length of the bridge will be about 250 feet.

U Saw Hla Tun of ChaungU Constituency said **whether the Union government has a plan to upgrade ChaungU-Amyint Road to the concrete facility in ChaungU Township.** The Union minister replied that a plan has been adopted to spend K 2.91 million of the fund of Township Development Affairs Committee on construction of a wooden bridge with brick foundation on ChaungU-Amyint Road in 2012-2013 fiscal year.

Placing of 10 feet wide and 8 inches thick concrete layer on 8 miles long ChaungU-Amyint Road will cost K 792 million. As there is no plan to place concrete on inter-village roads, the remaining 0/6 mile section of the road will be constructed as gravel facility and the remaining 7/2 miles long gravel-filled section will be maintained by spending K 30 million. Upgrading of the whole road will depend on allotted fund.

Regarding the question of U

Thein Swe from An Constituency about **"if there is any plan to reconstruct the six-mile long inter-district road linking Shaochan Village of An Township with Ganhtaunggyi Village of Myebon Township"**, the Union minister replied that An Township Development Affairs Committee did not have enough fund to reconstruct that inter-district on An-Kazukaing motor road but would repair and construct four conduits with K 0.1 million cash assistance in 2011-2012 fiscal year. It was projected to upgrade the road into gravel one within two years beginning 2012-2013 fiscal year.

U Than Tun of Depayin Constituency seconded the proposal to amend The Arbitration (Protocol and Convention) Act (Act No. VI, 1937) (19th January, 1939) and The Arbitration Act 1944 (Act No. IV, 1944) (1st March, 1946) submitted by Judicial and Legal Affairs Committee on 29 February, citing those laws were enacted before independence calling for amendments to them so as to be agreeable with internationally-practiced provisions.

Deputy Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo replied that arbitration is a method used to settle the arguments between the partners of business deals. Unlike litigation, it is a way of settling the dispute with the help of arbitrators chosen by the both arguing sides. It is found that arbitration has been used since the time of Myanmar monarchs. Nowadays, there are three ways to go arbitration—free arbitration, court-supported arbitration, and allowing the arguing sides to chose registered arbitrators from arbitration centres.

The Arbitration Act 1944 was promulgated to assign arbitrators to settle the disputes between two sides either person or company off the court, matters related to death of a party and official representation of him, authority of

arbitrators, dismissal of arbitrators, confirmation of the verdict of the arbitrators, change to the verdict, validation of the verdict at the related court in case of failure to follow the arbitrators' verdict, and appeals.

Of those two existing laws, The Arbitration Act 1944 is no more compatible with developments of the current global commercial laws but is still a domestic laws applicable for disputes between national investors. That the arguing sides can go arbitration as they both desire is the basic of the arbitration and thus The Arbitration Act 1944 should not be rewritten but should be remained as valid one with necessary amendments to it.

Following the decision of the legal advisors group constituted with the Attorney-General of the Union as the chairman at its meeting No 1/2012, the Union Attorney-General's Office sought the remarks of the 29 Union ministries on introduction of UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules and official participation in the New York Convention. The Union ministries made the same affirmative response.

So it is concluded to amend The Arbitration Act 1944 as necessary and leave it remain as domestic arbitration, adopt UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules, to officially join the New York Convention which is mere the enforcement mechanism, to continue practicing Arbitration and Convention Act (Act No. VI/1937) so that disputes between a Geneva Convention member and Myanmar can be settled in accordance with the Geneva Convention.

The deputy attorney-general seconded the proposal to keep The Arbitration Act 1944 in force after making necessary amendments and to join the New York Convention. The proposal submitted by the Pyithu Hluttaw Judicial and Legal Affairs Committee was approved as no representatives made objection.

Dr Kyaw Myint of

Chanayethazan Constituency proposed **"the Health Ministry to draw essential plans to turn out badly-needed assistant nurses and to implement soonest time."** Dr Nay Lin of Seikkan Constituency seconded the proposal, stressing that nursing training courses were necessary for production of nurses and also a major need in nurturing human resources.

Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin replied that health care professionals competency ranking committee of the Health Ministry was projecting to conduct assistant nursing courses, examine competency and issue certificates in line with the Myanmar Medical and Allied Degrees, Diploma Certificate Act, which was the currently-amended version of Burmar Medical Degrees Act (1916) and taking measures in cooperation with Labour Ministry to make sure assistant nurses work in line with national skill framework and employment and skill development law. So, the Ministry of Health would systematically plan to conduct assistant nursing courses at people's hospitals in regions and states. The proposal was approved without objection.

U Aye Mauk of Mahlaing Constituency proposed **"to invite letter of suggestions from intellectuals and intelligentsia and experienced personalities so as to amend, supplement, revoke the existing laws, rules and regulations and promulgate the new ones"**, seconded by Daw Nan Wanu of Kunheing Constituency who said the proposal was advisable for emergence of flawless, comprehensive and right law.

The deputy attorney-general seconded the proposal replying that collection of suggestions from scholars, those in practical fields, and those with experiences would contribute to more comprehensiveness of data. Union ministries and union level organizations concerned should invite suggestions from the public through print and electronic media

in writing and amending related laws, which was followed by the approval of the Hluttaw.

Next, U Ye Htut Tin of Paswang Constituency proposed the government to **"open new border trade camp in Kayah State as priority for regional development."** Deputy Minister for Commerce Dr Pwint Hsan replied that it was learnt that there was enough area of land to construct buildings although there were no adequate basic infrastructure. Kayah State was closely situated with the central Myanmar and border trade activities if possible would contribute much to development of Kayah State. The ministry was arranging to open new border trade camps in response to the regional needs with the aim of boosting trade, regional development and preventing against illegal trading.

The Ministry had sent land survey teams to Mawtaung region of Taninthayi Region to boost trade with Thailand to observe feasible development scheme for Mawtaung and the feasibility report would be submitted to the Union government.

The ministry would also dispatch observation teams to Meisei and Meisenan regions in coordination with related ministries and Kayah State government and submit the assessment report to the Union government for further actions. The deputy minister seconded the proposal, emphasizing it was worth realization, after which was the ovation of the entire Hluttaw.

Secretary U Khin Maung Oo of Economic and Trading Development Committee submitted import, export bill and bill committee member U Soe Yal explained the report of the committee.

The date for discussion of the bill would be announced later and those wishing to discuss are to enlist by 10 March, it is learnt. The session adjourned at 4 pm and the 11th day session continues at 10 am tomorrow.—MNA

Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Nyan Tun and party leave for China

NAY PYI TAW, 8 March—A Myanmar Tatmadaw goodwill delegation led by Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Nyan Tun left here by air this morning to pay a goodwill visit to Guangzhou of the People's Republic of China from 8 to 14 March at the invitation of Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Wu Shengli of the People's Liberation Army of China.

They were seen off at Yangon International

Airport by Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hsan Oo and officials, Chinese Military Attaché Sr. Colonel Xiong Shaowei of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar and officials.

The Commander-in-Chief (Navy) was accompanied by Maj-Gen Zar Ni Win of the Commander-in-Chief's Office, Commodore Maung Oo Lwin, Commodore Myint Tun and senior military officers.—MNA



Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Nyan Tun being seen off by officials at Yangon International Airport.
MNA

Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister attends hoisting golden umbrella and consecration of stupas

NAY PYI TAW, 8 March—Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung attended the ceremony of hoisting golden umbrella and consecration of Settaway Stupa at No.3 Ward at 7 am yesterday. And then he attended TatU Stupa hoisting golden umbrella and consecration ceremony in Patheingyi on the same day.—MNA

Third regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw continues for 11th day

Five questions answered, one bill submitted, one proposal discussed, put on record, one proposal approved, one new proposal submitted

NAY PYI TAW, 8 March—Third regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw continued for 11th day at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Complex here at 10 am today.

Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint and 193 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives attended today's session.

At today's session, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Than answered queries related to agriculture raised by five Hluttaw representatives.

U Khin Maung Yi of

riod as of 17-1-2012 as well.

Regarding the savings of farmers, the bank allows to withdraw their savings if the farmers request the bank to do so. From 1-4-2011 to 20-1-2012, 2799 farmers took out K 1105.63 million. The bank closes and empties the account if the farmers ask to do so as they cease to engage in the business. During the same period, 2129 farmers have closed their accounts which accounts for K 130.11 million.

The savings plan leads farmers to save surplus and can be as-

Region. Yezin Agricultural University and its crop-specialized school branches in Hmawbi, Hlegu, Mawlamyine, Pyu, Magway, Kyaukse and Aungban were also opened.

Denizens of Kayah State can access agricultural education at highland crop-specialized training school in Aungban of Shan State (South) which is close to the state.

Agricultural education which will directly benefit the farmers will be added in curricula of basic education primary, middle

Like any other State-owned or private banks, MADB allows savers to withdraw money, leaving some amount in account. From 1-4-2012 to 20-1-2012 in 2011-2012 fiscal year, 2779 farmers withdrew K 1105.63 million.

Regarding the construction of Zinywekyun embankment against saltwater, 5.82-mile-long original embankment was built in 1957 by Land and Rural Development Corporation to prevent saltwater from entering about 4050 acres of farmlands in Zinywe Island between Ywe River and Zinywe Creek southeast of Thabyegon village-tract in Labutta Township in Ayeyawady Region. 34 embankments in five townships of Ayeyawady Region were destroyed by Cyclone Nargis in May, 2008. Zinywe embankment is one among dams the Irrigation Department is repairing. The department is also repairing other damaged embankments by yearly plan. It currently has no plan to upgrade the said embankment.

U Nyan Lin of Ayeyawady Region Constituency No. 3 asked about "manufacturing of agricultural equipment from industrial zones". The deputy minister answered: There are three factories manufacturing agricultural equipment under the Ministry of Industry. They are No. 16 General Heavy Industry (Hsinde), No. 17 Heavy Industry (Malun) and No. 18 Heavy Industry (Innagon).

No. 16 General Heavy Industry (Hsinde) is manufacturing water pumps, power-tillers, trawlergys and seed sowers and related accessories. No. 17 Heavy Industry (Malun) is manufacturing 50 HP, 60 HP, 80 HP and 90 HP tractors, trailers, harvesters, small rice mills, and grain silos. No. 18 Heavy Industry (Innagon) is manufacturing 22 HP Diesel Engine and 48 HP, 70 HP and 80 HP Combine Harvesters. Regarding the manufacturing of industrial zones, Mandalay industrial zone produce power-tillers, trawlergys, water tankers and farm trucks and Monywa industrial zone produces mini tractors.

Agricultural Mechanization Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation manufactured and sold 72148 tractors, 1609 harvesters, 7990 threshers, 650 paddy dryers, 75 paddy husk-fired gas power plants, 281 farm trucks and 1762 engines from 1993-1994 fiscal year

to 2010-2011 fiscal year.

The department sold 3090 tractors out of estimated 4700 tractors, 503 harvesters out of estimated 850 items, 18 transplanters out of test-manufactured 52 transplanters by December, 2011, in 2011-2012 fiscal year. It is also manufacturing and distributing agricultural tools including one-wheel tractor, boat and paddy dryers demanded by the farmers.

The department has set the target to manufacture 4700 tractors, 850 harvesters, 100 transplanters and 50 paddy dryers. Though the government-run factories still need to satisfy demands of the farmers, private agricultural machinery producers Good Brother Co, Shwe Tun Co, Ri Shin Co and so on meet the demand of farmers.

U Nai Tun Ohn of Mon State Constituency No. 5 asked about "distribution of pesticides and fertilizers to farmers" and "whether there is plan to reemploy sacked staff of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation who are made redundant or they will be paid reparation". The deputy minister answered: The ministry distributed Urea fertilizer manufactured by the government-owned factories and fertilizers imported under the scheme of the government to the farmers. It helped agricultural staff to educate and organize farmers. Following spiraling debt the farmers owe to the ministry and misappropriation of some staff, it was suspended since 2002-2003 fiscal year.

The ministry had to compile the list of fertilizer demands for each crops by Regions and States and pass it to the Ministry of Energy. Urea plants under the Ministry of Energy considered its production rate and distributed to the farmers through State and Region Peace and Development Councils. As the Energy Ministry distributed Urea fertilizer to the farmers on credit, the debt of the farmers amounted to K 4.42 billion on 25-1-2012. As States and Regions did not extract their quotas following crippling debt, the Energy Ministry had to gift five bags of Urea to sell every one ton at the price of K 360000 to respective States and Regions as of 21 October, 2009. As of 14 July, 2011, it is being distributed Urea fertilizer at the price of K 288000 per ton and K 14400 per bag.

Now, fertilizers manufactured by the Energy Ministry are being distributed through (See page 11)



Amyotha Hluttaw representatives signing attendance book.—MNA

Ayeyawady Region Constituency No. 6 asked about **extending repayment period of agricultural loans while farmers are fetching lower prices and facing losses by climate change by one month and to keep 10 per cent of the agricultural loan in savings account.** The deputy minister answered that Myanmar Economic Bank does not offer loans directly to farmers and disburses loan only to Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank under resolution of the cabinet meeting. The loan period is from 1 April to 31 March of next year. MADB itself manages its loan disbursement to farmers.

To help farmers address issues of fall in market demand and price of crops including paddy this season, the repayment period of loans for 2011 monsoon paddy has been extended from the end of February 2012 to 31 March, 2012, before the start of new budget year. All township branches of MADB have prolonged the repayment pe-

riod as of 17-1-2012 as well. The deputy minister answered: To enable offspring of farmers to learn modern agricultural techniques in their own regions, seven agricultural institutes were opened in Myaungmya of Ayeyawady Region, Thayawady of Bago Region, Pinyinana and Patheingyi of Mandalay Region, Pwintbyu of Magway Region, Shwebo of Sagaing Region and Thaton of Mon State. Two crop-specialized training schools were opened in Aungban of Shan State (South) and Myeik of Tanintharyi

Region. Yezin Agricultural University and its crop-specialized school branches in Hmawbi, Hlegu, Mawlamyine, Pyu, Magway, Kyaukse and Aungban were also opened. Denizens of Kayah State can access agricultural education at highland crop-specialized training school in Aungban of Shan State (South) which is close to the state. Agricultural education which will directly benefit the farmers will be added in curricula of basic education primary, middle and high schools as of 2012-2013 academic year. Priority system of the government for each sector should be comprehended. The proposed plan will be carried out which the budget allows.

U Hlaing Oo of Ayeyawady Region Constituency No. 12 asked about "savings of farmers at Agricultural Development Bank" and "whether there is plan to Zinywekyun embankment against saltwater". The deputy minister answered: Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank opens savings account to help farmers friendly with banking system and develop the habit of saving as of 1-10-1993. From 1-10-1993 to 20-1-2012, 3037377 farmers credited K 64337.12 million to their accounts.

Accounts of the farmers are managed by the bank and the bank takes necessary measures if they contact the bank to make deposit and to get interests and so do township branches in convenient times.

Third regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw...

(from page 10)

State/Region governments and rice-specialized companies under Myanmar Rice Industry Association directly to farmers by cash on delivery or on six-month credit. The system in which the government departments control distribution of fertilizers causes hindrances and losses due to mismanagement at some extend.

To cope with market economy built by the government and to help private sector develop, it is necessary to invite participation of private sector in distribution of fertilizers. The labs under the Agriculture and Irrigation Ministry are helping the private sector to produce and import quality fertilizers and pesticides.

The ministry submitted the name list of 5438 staff of five enterprises under the ministry to the Ministry of Home Affairs as Planning and Organizational Set-up Scrutinizing Committee asked to submit the list of staff to be reduced on 21-12-2004. It includes 3806 staff of Myanmar Agriculture Service.

The staff were transferred to General Administration Department. Transfer, enjoying pension and resignation were carried out in their own wish.

Those who were transferred to other departments and resigned from other departments are reappointed if there is vacancy and they are willing to rejoin Myanmar Agriculture Service. They are first appointed as daily-paid workers and then promoted to permanent staff if there

is vacancy.

Myanma Agriculture Service reappointed 221 permanent staff, 34 daily-paid staff, totaling 255 out of the staff transferred to the Ministry of Home Affairs.

1984 Civil Servant Rules Excerpt Journal Chapter (14), Paragraph (163), Subparagraph (d) (CSR 426) states that dismissing for any reason means retirement. Staff of Myanmar Agriculture Service were not dismissed, but transferred to GAD at the salary rate they were currently enjoying as of 1-2-2005. They are not qualified to get the compensatory pension under the law.

If they are applied to transfer to and rejoin MAS, they will be reappointed in accord with the transfer procedures and if there is vacancy.

Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint submitted the proposal to discuss **Bill amending 1955 Government Housing (Expelling) Act** and a Hluttaw representative seconded the proposal.

The Hluttaw decided to consider the proposal. U Than Swe of Taninthayi Region Constituency No (2) and U Win Maung of Mandalay Region Constituency No (2) discussed the proposal of Dr Myat Nyana Soe from Yangon Region Constituency No (4) **"asking the Union government to teach more arts specialized subjects in basic and higher education, to create more job opportunities for BA degree holders"**. They said the role of those graduated from vocational universities is important and so is the role of those from graduated

from arts and science universities and thus vocational subjects and arts and sciences should be considered equally as they all contribute the nation and the people more or less.

Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyu said that Myanmar was trying to introduce internationally-practiced student-centred approach into its education system. So, students after matriculated, could apply for subject they desire and could join the desired class if they were qualified. Every university teaching higher education under the Education Ministry was conducting specialized arts and science subjects.

Those matriculated with arts subjects if qualified were eligible for economic universities, universities of education, universities of foreign languages and national management college and could get degrees in arts subjects.

The mark-based entrance system made science students totally outnumbered arts students in entrance to universities of education, the source of teachers. For this, the Education Ministry had set the entrance ratio to turn out arts subject specialized teachers. Teachers trained from those universities were nurtured to be able to teach arts subjects in basic education field. By this way, jobs were created for arts degree holders said the deputy minister calling for putting the proposal on record.

Proposer Dr Myat Nyana Soe urged the Hluttaw to put his proposal on record and so decided the Hluttaw.

U Nay Win Tun of Shan State Constituency No (9), U Saw Tun Mya Aung of Kayin State Constitu-

ency No (5), U Htay Maung of Mandalay Region Constituency No (12), U San Pyae of Kachin State Constituency No (7), U Hla Maung of Kayah State Constituency No (11), U Hnin Wai of Kayah State Constituency No (12), U Zaw Naing Oo of Mon State Constituency No (12), U Khin Maung (a) U Aung Kyaw Oo of Rakhine State Constituency No (3) and Daw Khin Waing Kyi of Yangon Region Constituency No (1) discussed the proposal of U Bo Yel from Constituency No (3) of Kayah State **"asking the Union government to open new border trade camp in Kayah State as priority for regional development as soon as there is regional stability."**

They said there was no border trade camp in Kayah State which is sharing border with Thailand. Kayah State saw less development suffering from poor transportation. At a time when the government was introducing market economy under democracy system, encouraging the people to run businesses, Kayah State should have at least a border trade camp in consideration of its economic development and to enable Kayah nationals enjoy the same status like the others, as Mesei met fundamental requirements to handle a border trade camp, as there recovered regional security after the ceasefire peace agreement with Kayinni National Progressive Party, as the road could be used in all seasons, as the state can make trade activities with other regions and states because of its geographic position, and as Thailand was proposing to open trade border camp.

Deputy Minister for Commerce Dr Pwint Hsan said that the security

in the region after the negotiations with Kayah State government was considered low but as the peace talks had gathered momentum, the regional security was hoped to recover after the peace negotiations.

The Commerce Ministry was realizing four objectives—to activate trade policies in accord with the market economy, to boost export of home-made products to hit increased export volume, to promote border trade apart from maritime trade, and to grease the wheel of import/ export procedures. In so doing, the ministry was arranging to open new border trade camps with a view to boosting trade, developing the region and deterring illegal trading. The ministry in cooperation with related ministries and Kayah State government would dispatch study teams Mesei and Msenan regions to observe requirements for opening of regional trade camp and would submit the assessment report to the Union government for further actions. The Hluttaw approved the proposal.

U Myo Myint of Mandalay Region Constituency No (6) proposed **"the Union government to effectively irrigate for agricultural development"**, seconded by a MP. The Hluttaw decided to discuss the proposal and announced for registration to discuss it.

The 11th day session of Amyotha Hluttaw came to an end at 3.30 pm and the 12th day session continues at 10 am tomorrow. Five questions were asked and answered, one bill submitted, one proposal discussed, put on record and one proposal approved and one new proposal submitted during today's session.

MNA

State level peace-making group, KNPP peace-making group sign initial agreement

NAY PYI TAW, 8 March—According to the offer for peace of the government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Kayinni National Progressive Party (KNPP) arrived in Loikaw of Kayah State on 6 March to hold the Kayah State level peace talks with Kayah State government and to sign the initial agreement.

They were welcomed at Loikaw Airport by Union Minister for Rail Transportation U Aung Min of the Union level peace-making group, Union Minister for Industry U Soe Thein, Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung, Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay, Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi, Union Minister for Electric Power No. 2 U Khin Maung Soe, Chief Minister of Kayah State U Khin Maung Oo, departmental officials, local people and social organizations.

At the office of Kayah State government, a group led by Secretary-1 Khu U Yel of Kayinni National Progressive Party (KNPP) peace-making group held a preliminary meeting.

In the evening, the Kayah State government hosted a dinner to Kayinni National Progressive Party (KNPP) peace-making group at the city hall in Loikaw for ensuring eternal peace. At the dinner, Kayah national races presented traditional dances. After that, Union Minister U Aung Min of the Union Level peace-making group, Secretary-1 Khu U Yel of KNPP peace-making group and Maj-Gen Bi Htoo of Kayinni State Armed Force presented flower baskets to the Kayah national race cultural troupe.

On 7 March, a ceremony to sign the initial agreement



was held at the office of the state government in Loikaw of Kayah State, attended by Union Minister U Aung Min of the Union level peace-making group, Union ministers U Soe Thein, U Nyan Tun Aung, U Than Htay, U Khin Yi, U Khin Maung Soe, Kayah State Chief Minister U Khin Maung Oo, State Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Tin Soe, the General Staff Officer (Grade-I) of the Regional Control Command (Loikaw), the Advocate-General of Kayah State and officials, Secretary-1 Khu U Yel of KNPP peace-making group and party and peace negotiators.

Union ministers of Union level peace-making group and members of peace-making group led by Secretary-1 Khu U Yel of Kayinni National Progressive Party (KNPP) cordially greet each other after signing the initial agreement.—MNA

A five-member team led by Col Tin Soe of State level peace-making group formed by the State government and a four-member team led by Party Central Committee member Adjutant-General of Kayinni State Armed Force Col Phone Naing of KNPP peace-making group signed the three-point initial agreement in the presence of the both side team leaders to present the 20-point paper submitted by KNPP to the Union government and to discuss the paper in the forthcoming Union level meeting. These three points initial agreement is:-

(See page 12)

Entire women folk urged to take part...

(from page 16)

Therefore, the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs was formed on 3rd July 1996 as national mechanism with a view to striving for the advancement of Myanmar women. Moreover, the MWAFA was also formed in 2003 to widely implement activities all over the country up to rural areas for the development of women's life and advancement of women's capability, joining hand in hand with MMCWA.

The MWAFA has laid down national principles, ethnic principles, religious principles, social principles and women's affairs principles. In line with these principles, the Federation has been fulfilling the women's economic, education, health and social needs up to the grassroots level for over eight years. During these periods, there are altogether 5.4 million members nation-wide and now the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation strongly stands up as national task force.

Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association is collaborating and cooperating with the concerned departments in health sector, providing health education, prevention of diseases, medical treatment, environmental sanitation, prevention and elimination of HIV/AIDS, malaria and TB diseases.

Moreover, Myanmar Women's Entrepreneurs' Association has formulated a programme for sustainable development of the income generating enterprises of women at the grassroots level. The Association establishes local and foreign contacts. It also provides capacity building, business skill and management skills of women. I would like to express my great pleasure and honour to other women NGOs for providing and assisting Myanmar women's health, economic and social development. I would like to urge that such good practices are to be sustainable and accelerated.

As international relation and cooperation, Myanmar acceded to the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (UNCEDAW) in 1997. In addition, Myanmar is a member of the ASEAN

Women Committee, the ASEAN Commission on Protection and Promotion of Women and Child Rights and cooperate the activities within the ASEAN Region. Therefore, there is a need to successfully implement not only international plans of action but also 12 areas of Beijing Platform for Action and Millennium Development Goals to be able to meet the targets.

According to the Section 120 of the Constitution, women are entitled to be elected as Pyithu Hluttaw representatives. Section 348 states that the Union shall not discriminate any citizen of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, based on race, birth, religion, official position, status, culture, sex and wealth. The State provides women protection in line with the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar 2008. Accordingly, Government Organizations and Social Organizations, which are working in women sector, need to abide by the Constitution in the implementation of advancement of women.

I would like to mention that the entire women folk are to take an active part in rural development tasks, environmental preservation, environmental management and natural disaster preparedness measures under the guidance and leadership of the State. Now, Micro-credit loans are being provided to upgrade Myanmar women's living standard and to reduce poverty. Therefore, there is a need to make more efforts to meet the targets.

It is obvious that women's capability and gender equality are critical roles for the comprehensive development of the nation. Therefore, in laying down policies and action plans for fully utilizing women's powers in the family, community and society, it is emphasized that basic health care, nutrition, education, justice and access to economic resources, elimination of exploitation and elimination of all forms of discrimination against women must be undertaken, including minors. I would like to urge that not only government organizations but also non-governmental organizations are to collaborate and cooperate in the successful implementation of these tasks.

Moreover, protection and promotion of women's rights, access to information and technology and uplift of education standard are important ways and means. To get



**Resident Coordinator of UN to Myanmar
Mr Ashok Nigam reads message sent by the UN
Secretary-General.—MNA**

these opportunities, there is a need to provide literacy and qualified basic education to women.

In conclusion, Myanmar women have specific ethic such as honesty, cleverness, dignity and diligence and they are the main pillar of the family. I would like to urge that Myanmar women, who have equal rights with men traditionally to fully collaborate and cooperate with respective organizations to carry out development activities for the betterment of our society.

Next, UN Resident Representative to Myanmar Mr Ashok Nigam read the message sent by the UN Secretary-General and President of MWAFA Dr Daw Thet Thet Zin clarified the future work programmes of MWAFA.

Afterwards, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham cordially greeted those present on the occasion and viewed documentary photos on activities of MWAFA and MMCWA (Central) and booths of international NGOs.

The motto of International Women's Day being held today is "Connecting Girls, Inspiring Futures".—MNA

Political parties apply to UEC

NAY PYI TAW, 8 March—Those wishing to form political parties have been applying the Union Election Commission for setting up a political party. A 17-member group including Ngol Khand Dal applied to the Union Election Commission for setting up Zomi National Congress

Party today. Regarding their application, the Union Election Commission (UEC) has made coordination with respective ministries in order that they are scrutinized in accord with Political Parties Registration Law's section Nos. 4 and 6.

MNA

State level peace-making group, KNPP...

(from page 11)

- to cease fire of both sides
- to open liaison camp at the suitable place (without arms) agreed by both sides
- to officially form the representative teams for holding the Union level peace talk and coordinate date, time and place for the talk.

Col Tin Soe of state level peace-making group and Col Phone Naing of KNPP peace-making group exchanged notes of initial agreement and they posed for documentary photo together with Union ministers.

In the evening, the Kayah State

government hosted a dinner to KNPP peace-making group for eternal peace at the city hall of Loikaw. Union Minister U Soe Thein handed over 15 sets of Sky Nets presented as eternal peace gifts by the President to Secretary-1 Khu U Yel of KNPP peace-making group. Union Minister U Aung Min presented gifts to Chief of Staff Maj-Gen Bi Htoo of Kayinni State Armed Force, and Union Minister U Than Htay, gifts to Adjutant-General Col Phone Naing of Kayinni State Armed Force. Union Minister U Soe Thein handed over K 3 million and flower basket presented by the union ministers to Kayah State cultural troupe. Secretary-1 Khu U Yel of KNOO and Chief of Staff Maj-Gen Bi Htoo of Kayinni State Armed Force presented a flower basket to Kayah State cultural troupe.—MNA

Namkham IPRD organizes reading skill contest

NAMKHAM, 9 March—The reading skill contest was held in Ward 13 of Namkham in Muse District of Shan State on 7 February afternoon.

Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Nay Chi Thway explained the purpose of holding the contest to enable the students to have good habit of reading and realize advantages of literature.

Township electrical engineer U Kyaw Naing, Ward administrator U Toe Hla and the head of Township IPRD awarded the winners.—Township IPRD

Crime reduction talked in DaikU

DAIKU, 9 March—The Crime Free Month was designated from 27 January to 29 February in the area of Ayethukha Police Station of DaikU Township police force in Bago Region. On 27 February morning, a talk on Crime reduction was held at Ayethukha Myothit Administrator's Office. First Ayethukha Myothit administrator U Soe Win explained purpose of talk. Commander of DaikU Township Police Force Police Captain Tin Ohn gave talks on Crime reduction, IP Maung Maung Win of Bago Region Anti-Human Trafficking Special Squad on facts about Trafficking in Person and SIP San Yu of Bago Region Traffic Police Force on Traffic Rules.—Myanma Alin

Public notice for remonstrance

- Tai Lai (Red Shan) National Development Party (TNDP), headquartered at No. Dha-1/70-B on Gangaw Street between 67th and 68th streets in 40x41 of Maha Myaing Ward 1 in Mahaangmye Township of Mandalay Region, applied for registration as political party on 8-3-2012 in accord with Section 5 of the Political Parties Registration Law. In

applying for its registration, the party has submitted its name, flag and logo to be used as mentioned under.

- It is hereby announced in accord with Political Parties Registration Rule 14 (d) that those who wish to remonstrate with the Union Election Commission about the party name, flag and logo may do so with firm evidence within seven days from the date of this announcement.

**The seal of Tai Lai (Red Shan)
National Development Party-TNDP**

**The flag of Tai Lai (Red Shan)
National Development Party-TNDP**



Union Election Commission

DISTRICT NEWS

Field trips made for issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards

KAWKAREIK, 9 March—In implementing Moe Pwint-2 Plan, Director of Immigration and National Registration Department U Thaug Zaw and Head of Township INRD U Nyo Nyo Than met local people at Sasana Beikman of the monastery in Dawedan Village of Nabudaduntai Village tract in Kawkaik Township on 3 March.

They explained issuance of household registration and citizenship scrutiny cards to the eligible citizens and responsibility of the people to give a helping hand to the department.

After replying to queries raised by local people, they issued 320 citizenship scrutiny cards to eligible citizens.

Myanma Alin

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV DELIGHT VOY NO (156)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DELIGHT VOY NO (156) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.3.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-5 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV PHILIP VOY NO (007)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PHILIP VOY NO (007) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.3.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV OEL BLESSING VOY NO (155)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV OEL BLESSING VOY NO (155) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.3.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S BLPL LOGISTIC

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797



A dressed-up elephant enters the Rambagh Polo Ground in Jaipur, capital of the north India state Rajasthan, during the Elephant Festival on 7 March, 2012.

XINHUA

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV AN YUE JIANG VOY NO (176)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV AN YUE JIANG VOY NO (176) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.3.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-3 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV PHUONG NAM-69 VOY NO (03/12)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PHUONG NAM-69 VOY NO (03/12) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.3.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-2 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: RK SHIPPING & TRADING
CO LTD

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV PATTANA M-1 VOYNO (8)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PATTANA M-1 VOYNO (8) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.3.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-4 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: E.C.L (S'PORE) PTE LTD

Phone No: 256924/256914

Mexican judge seeks to free jailed French woman

MEXICO CITY, 8 March—A Mexican Supreme Court judge has proposed freeing a French woman serving a 60-year prison sentence for kidnapping, though his motion needs the backing of at least two others on a five-member panel determining her fate.

Judge Arturo Zaldivar said in his motion that Florence Cassez, 37, was denied her rights, not given a fair trial, and that witness statements used to convict her of kidnapping and other crimes in 2008 were unreliable. The case has caused tension between France and Mexico.

Zaldivar's motion centers on a filmed recreation showing police freeing kidnapping victims and arresting Cassez and others who were portrayed as members of a gang called the Zodiacs. The video was shot after her arrest in Mexico City in late 2005 and aired on television as a real raid. Federal police said the Zodiacs were led by Cassez's Mexican boyfriend at the time and that she was a member of the gang.—Reuters

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

Thein Aung B.Sc./R.L.D.B.L Advocate
MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
E-mail: mtpip@mptmail.net.mm
Tel: 376318 G.P.O Box: 666
Yangon. 9th March 2012

Australian man pleads guilty over collar-bomb hoax

SYDNEY, 8 March—An Australian man arrested in the United States and accused of clamping a fake bomb around the neck of a Sydney teenager pleaded guilty to the charges on Thursday, in a surprise conclusion to a case that has dominated Australian media. The case sparked an



TRADEMARK CAUTION

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15 November 2000

in respect of "Trunks and travelling bags, suitcases, briefcases, purses, handbags, sport bags, knapsacks, ruck-sacks, schoolbags, pouches, wallets, umbrellas, parasols in Class 18";

"Articles of clothing and sportswear, namely, jackets, winter jackets, wind jackets, coats, overcoats, raincoats; sweaters, vests, cardigans, shirts, sweat shirts, plush shirts, polo shirts, T-shirts, trousers, pants, dresses, gowns, shorts and underwear; gloves, hats and caps; head bands, wrist bands; belts; ties; training and track suits; bath robes; shoes, boots, sandals, slippers, sporting shoes such as tennis shoes and football/soccer shoes, climbing shoes in Class 25"; and

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For Basic Trademark S.A.
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Unit 1509, Sakura Tower,
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utm@kcyangon.com
Dated 9 March 2012

File photo from a US jail of Australian investment banker Paul Peters, who was arrested and extradited from the United States in September over a bid to extort money by using a fake bomb.

INTERNET

international man-hunt and led to a tense 10 hours for teenager Madeleine Pulver after a man broke into her family's luxury Sydney home last August and strapped what he said was a bomb around her neck, leaving a note demanding money.

The collar bomb was later found to be fake. Police in the United States arrested Paul Douglas Peters, 50, in a suburb of Louisville, Kentucky, about two weeks after the incident, after he was tracked down through email accounts.

At a court hearing in

Sydney, lawyers for Peters said he pleaded guilty to the charge of aggravated break and enter, committing serious indictable offence, bringing relief to Pulver and her family.

Reuters

Wenger: Arsenal must build on Milan display

Gunners boss describes 3-0 second-leg victory as a 'faultless performance'

LONDON, 8 March — Arsenal boss Arsene Wenger has called on his side to use the character showed in Tuesday's impressive 3-0 victory over AC Milan to seal a place in the top four of the Barclays Premier League. The Gunners, who were trailing 4-0 after the first leg of their Champions League last 16 tie, almost pulled off a stunning comeback in the second leg against Milan at the Emirates Stadium.

First-half goals from Laurent Koscielny, Tomas Rosicky and Robin van Persie gave Arsenal hope but AC Milan hung on to book their place in the quarter-finals. Despite the 4-3 aggregate



**Arsenal boss
Arsene Wenger**

defeat, Wenger believes the second-leg performance against Milan, together with the recent League victories over Tottenham and Liverpool, has given his side real momentum ahead of the season run-in. "We are on a good run in the league and we know it will be difficult [to lift the players] because it is a big disappointment," said Wenger, whose side are currently in fourth, four points

behind third-placed Tottenham. "But the team has grown well together, and hopefully from here we can finish the season strongly because there is no room for disappointment at the moment in the league.— *Internet*

**Tottenham
striker
Jermain
Defoe scores
the first of
his two
goals
against
Stevenage.**
INTERNET



Spurs secure FA Cup quarter-final spot

Jermain Defoe scores twice as Harry Redknapp's men see off Stevenage

LONDON, 8 March — Tottenham 3-1 Stevenage. Tottenham Hotspur booked their place in the quarter-finals of the FA Cup courtesy of a fifth-round replay victory over League One side Stevenage at White Hart Lane. The visitors stunned Spurs by taking an early lead when Ryan Nelsen gave away a penalty and Joel Byrom tucked it into the net.

But Tottenham recovered and Jermain Defoe controlled Gareth Bale's long pass before hammering in, before Bale was brought down in the box and Emmanuel Adebayor slotted in to make it 2-1. Defoe wrapped it up when he collected a Bale throw, surged into the box and curled a superb shot into the corner, and Spurs will now play Bolton Wanderers at home on Saturday 17 March in the last eight.— *Internet*

Referees' chief praises Everton fans meeting

PGMOL's Mike Riley says pilot event could be repeated around the country



**PGMOL chief Mike Riley
had a 13-year career as a
referee in the Premier
League.— *INTERNET***

of Professional Game Match Officials Limited (PGMOL), met with members of Everton's Fans' Forum at Goodison Park in the first meeting of its kind. He gave an in-depth presentation about the work of PGMOL and advances in officiating in recent years, and engaged in a debate on a variety of refereeing issues with the supporters.

At the meeting, Riley was able to discuss incidents such as the sending off of Everton midfielder Jack Rodwell against Liverpool earlier on this season as well as explaining, using ProZone technology and 3D modelling, why referee Martin Atkinson made the decision.

Riley also talked the fans through what PGMOL was able to learn from the incident. "From our perspective, it was a fantastic evening," said

Riley after the event, which was also attended by representatives from the Premier League and Everton Football Club.

"Very rarely do we get the opportunity as either referees or as my organisation, the PGMOL, to sit down and have time to talk about refereeing, about football, about the issues that are important to fans. We did two-and-a-half hours of that and it was really good. "We're very proud of the standards that both the referees and assistants achieve week in, week out in what is undoubtedly the hardest league, the fastest and most exciting league in the world. It demands high standards of referees. Having a forum like this allows you to explore some of that detail.

"We could actually show just how well the referees and officials perform in Premier League matches each week."

The meeting is an approach the PGMOL and Premier League could replicate with other fan groups – and Riley believes that these events would be beneficial to both fans and officials alike.— *Internet*



Midfielder Tomas Rosicky produced another impressive display for Arsenal on Tuesday night.— *INTERNET*

Sharapova happy to be closing in on sport's summit

INDIAN WELLS, 8 March — Losing two grand slam finals in the past nine months has been bitter-sweet for Maria Sharapova as she continues her bid to return to the game's pinnacle from injury. The former world number one has not won any of the sport's blue riband



**Maria Sharapova of
Russia dances with a fan
from the stands during her
match against Caroline
Wozniacki of Denmark in
the BNP Paribas
Showdown at Madison
Square Garden in New
York, on 5 March, 2012.**
INTERNET

events since being sidelined for seven months after a shoulder injury in 2008, yet she has been delighted with her progress so far. "It's definitely great to be in those stages again, putting yourself in a position where you are a match away from winning a grand slam," Russian

Sharapova told reporters at Indian Wells Tennis Garden on Wednesday. "Obviously the next stage is to get those grand slams, and that's my goal. Looking back even a year ago when I was sitting in this (interview) chair, I can say I am now in a much better position. "To get to two grand slam finals within that year has been challenging but extremely great. Losing in the finals is never fun but to put yourself in that position ... gives you a great amount of confidence for the future." Sharapova burst into the spotlight as a 17-year-old when she won Wimbledon in 2004 and she added the 2006 US Open and 2008 Australian Open crowns before her 21st birthday.

However she then missed the 2008 Beijing Olympics and that year's US Open and was unable to defend her Australian Open crown the following January because of her shoulder injury. Her world ranking dropped to 18th by the end of 2010 but she has since risen to number two after losing last year's Wimbledon final to Petra Kvitová and the Australian Open final in January to Victoria Azarenka.— *Internet*

Messi 1st player with 5 goals in Champion League

BARCELONA, 8 March — For all the astonishing feats in his young career, Lionel Messi had never scored five goals in a professional game. And no one had ever scored five times in a Champions League match. Well, check both of those off. With another mesmerizing performance, Messi helped defending champion Barcelona crush Bayer Leverkusen 7-1 on Wednesday night to advance to the quarterfinals with a 10-2 aggregate win. "Without Messi, Barca is the best team," Leverkusen coach Robin Dutt said. "And with him, they are in another galaxy."

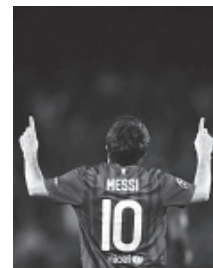
The three-time FIFA player of the year scored in the 25th, 42nd and 49th

minutes for a 3-0 lead and his 17th career hat trick for Barcelona, then added goals in the 58th and 84th minutes for the first five-goal game of his professional career. "We'll never see a player like him again," Barcelona coach Pep Guardiola said. "He is one of a kind." The last time a player scored five goals in European soccer's top club competition had been when Ajax's Soren Lerby did it against Omonia in the old Champion Clubs' Cup in 1979-80. "Messi is a joke. For me the best ever," Manchester United striker Wayne Rooney wrote on Twitter.

Messi scored his first goal when Xavi Hernandez's long pass sent him in alone, he took a touch and chipped

goalkeeper Bernd Leno with his left foot from 12 yards. On the second he cut across from the right after a pass from Andres Iniesta and sent a left-footed shot in from 14 yards through a crowd of defenders. He scored the third with a chip from 9 yards off his weaker right foot. Cesc Fabregas made a pass from just past midfield and Messi held off defender Daniel Schwaab as he took three touches.

He became the first player to score four goals twice in the Champions League — he accomplished the feat against Arsenal two years ago — when Leno batted a ball knocked toward the goal by a defender right to Messi, who poked the ball in with his left foot from an angle.— *Internet*



**FC Barcelona's Lionel
Messi, from Argentina,
reacts after scoring his
third goal against Bayer
04 Leverkusen during a
Champions League round
of sixteen, second leg,
soccer match at the Nou
Camp, in Barcelona on
Wednesday.**
INTERNET

Mario Balotelli fined week's wages by Manchester City



Mario Balotelli

MANCHESTER, 8 March — Manchester City boss Roberto Mancini has confirmed Mario Balotelli has been fined a week's wages, believed to be

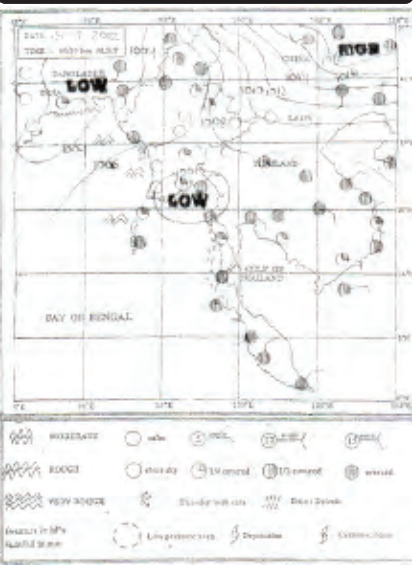
around £120,000. Striker Balotelli broke a club curfew before Saturday's win over Bolton. In an interview with Italian newspaper *Gazzetta dello Sport*, Balotelli accepted he was wrong to go to a strip club because it upset his girlfriend. "That was my first mistake. The second was to go two days before a game," added the 21-year-old Italy forward.

Mancini said: "I spoke with Mario and gave him a fine of one week's wages for what he did. "This is normal because every player should have good behaviour before the game." When asked if Balotelli had accepted the fine, Mancini said: "Yes." It is the second

time that Balotelli, who scored in the Premier League leaders' 2-0 defeat of the Trotters at the weekend, has broken a curfew this season, and he has also been involved in a number of other high-profile incidents since arriving at City in 2010. *Internet*

International Sports

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

Weather forecast for
9th March, 2012

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/F)		Forecast	Percent
		Maximum	Minimum		
1	Kachin	25/77	17/63	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	60(%)
2	Kayah	33/91	12/54	Generally fair weather	
3	Kayah	39/102	18/64	Partly cloudy	
4	Chin	23/73	12/54	Partly cloudy	
5	Upper Sagaing	26/82	16/61	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	60(%)
6	Lower Sagaing	37/99	17/63	Partly cloudy	
7	Tamüthay	37/99	22/72	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	60(%)
8	Bago	37/99	22/72	Partly cloudy	
9	Magway	40/104	20/68	Partly cloudy	
10	Mandalay	38/100	21/70	Partly cloudy	
11	Mien	38/100	23/72	Partly cloudy	60(%)
12	Yangon	38/100	22/72	Partly cloudy	
13	Bahmaw	31/88	20/68	Partly cloudy	
14	Southern Shan	29/84	12/54	Generally fair weather	
15	Northern Shan	32/90	12/54	Partly cloudy	
16	Eastern Shan	32/90	12/54	Generally fair weather	
17	Ayeyarwady	37/99	22/72	Partly cloudy	
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	39/102	18/64	Partly cloudy	
19	Neighbouring Yangon	38/100	22/72	Partly cloudy	
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	38/100	21/70	Partly cloudy	

During the past (24) hours, light rain have been scattered in Kachin State, isolated in Upper Sagaing and Tamüthay Regions, weather has been partly cloudy in Chin and Bahmaw States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Day temperatures was (°F) above March average temperatures in Kayah and Mon States, (°F) below March average temperatures in Upper Sagaing Region, (°F) below March average temperatures in Kachin State and about March average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant day temperature were Chind, Mien, Magway, Aungmye and Thabeikkyin (40°C) each. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Kawthalein (0.20) inch.

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

Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Continuation of likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers in the extreme Southern Myanmar areas.

APOEL shock Lyon
in Champions League

NICISIA, 8 March — APOEL became the first Cypriot side to reach the Champions League quarter-finals on Wednesday when they beat Lyon 4-3 on penalties after their last 16 tie was level 1-1 on aggregate following extra time. Goalkeeper Dionisis Chiotis was the hero of the night after saving penalties from Alexandre Lacazette and Michel Bastos. "Without doubt, this is a very big night for APOEL and Cypriot football, it's something fantastic," said APOEL's Serb coach Ivan Jovanovic, whose team had triumphed 1-0 on the night after losing by the same score in France.

He added that when starting out in the competition last summer "we didn't dream of coming this far" and attributed the victory to "incredible effort, decisiveness and organisation" while the team "played a 'perfect game'". Lyon coach Remi Garde said there were "no excuses" but avoided criticising his penalty flops. "We win as a team and lose as a team," he told reporters. "This is a big disappointment, we didn't have control of the game, we had some good chances but that's how it goes." — Internet



APOEL's Ailton (R) challenges Lyon's Bakary Kone during the Champions League match between APOEL Nicosia and Lyon. APOEL went through 4-3 on penalties after tense extra-time. — INTERNET

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(9-3-12 09:30 am ~ 10-3-12 09:30 am) MST

- ▲ Opening
- ▲ News
- ▲ Early Myanmar & Its Global Connections (Part - II)
- ▲ News
- ▲ Launching of Right North Yama Canal
- ▲ News
- ▲ Music Gallery
- ▲ News
- ▲ Large Parasol "A Souvenir of Patheine"
- ▲ ILBC Pre School Annual Concert
- ▲ News
- ▲ Travel To The Southern Part of Shan State "Ka Law"
- ▲ News
- ▲ Myanmar Mega Factories" Industrial Training Center (THAGAYA)
- ▲ News
- ▲ Myanmar-Thai Business Forum
- ▲ Demo's Birthday
- ▲ Myanmar Movie "That's why we're"

MYANMAR TV

(9-3-2012) (Friday)

- 7:00 am
- 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
- 7:30 am
- 2. Morning News
- 7:50 am
- 3. Nice & Sweet Song
- 8:30 am
- 4. Songs in honour of (67th) Anniversary Armed Forces Day
- 4:00 pm
- 5. Martial Song
- 4:20 pm
- 6. Dance Of National Races
- 5:00 pm
- 7. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
- 5:05 pm
- 8. Myanmar Language
- 5:25 pm
- 9. Documentary
- 5:40 pm
- 10. Sports Highlight
- 6:00 pm
- 11. Evening News
- 6:20 pm
- 12. Documentary
- 7:45 pm
- 13. How to Cast Vote (Myanmar Motion Picture Asiatone)
- 8:00 pm
- 14. News
- 15. Talk Of The Political Parties
- 16. Just For Laughs (Gags Asia)
- 17. TV Drama Series

Injured hurdler Robles to resume training next week

HAVANA, 8 March — Olympic high hurdles champion Dayron Robles, who pulled out of the world indoor championships with a pulled back muscle, will resume training for the London Games next week, the Cuban said on Wednesday.

The injury, caused by a knock to his right leg, will keep 110 hurdles world record holder Robles from defending his indoor 60 meters title in Istanbul this weekend. "I had some problems in my (right) leg but I'm getting treatment and I think I'll be okay to resume training next week," Robles, who ran three indoor races in February before his injury, said on Radio Habana Cuba (www.radiohc.cu).

"We wanted to give (Istanbul) a try but unfortunately things didn't flow properly and we had to come back (to Cuba)." The 25-year-old's trainer, Santiago Antunez said: "What Robles can't do is high intensity competition but we're already preparing for the Olympic Games." The Olympic Games in London are from 27 July to 12 August. — Internet



Dayron Robles of Cuba competes in the 60 meter hurdles event at the XL Galan indoor athletics meeting in Stockholm on 23 Feb, 2012. INTERNET

Woods, McIlroy try to build on momentum



Rory McIlroy, left, and Graeme McDowell, both of Northern Ireland, chat as they walk to the ninth hole during a practice round for the World Golf Championships, on 7 March, 2012 in Doral, Florida. — INTERNET

DORAL, 8 March — Rory McIlroy and Tiger Woods are at Doral to build momentum in different ways. McIlroy is the new No. 1 in golf after winning the Honda Classic. He is not concerned with how long he can stay there as much as he is winning the Cadillac Championship

in his last tournament before Augusta National. "This is a World Golf Championship, and it's my last event before the Masters," McIlroy said. "I'd love to give myself a chance to win here again this week, and go into that three-week break with a lot of confidence." Woods is coming off a 62, the lowest final round of his career, hopeful that it's the strongest sign yet that he is close to a full return to form that made him No. 1 longer than anyone. For both, last week is nothing but a memory, albeit a happy one. "Doesn't count," Woods said Wednesday before going out for a practice round on the TPC Blue Monster at Doral. "That tournament is over with, whether you missed the cut or won the tournament. It's over. Now we're on to a new week, a new golf course, and have to learn it and be ready by Thursday."

What remains to be seen is which moment is more meaningful going forward. Not only was it the best score for Woods in more than two years, it was nearly nine shots better than the average score in the final round at windswept PGA National. — Internet



FISH RELEASED: Organized by Yangon Region Fisheries Department and 11 cooperative societies in South Okkalapa Township, Deputy Director U Win and party of Yangon Region Cooperative Department released Tilapia fingerlings into fish pond of Aungmyadana Trading Cooperative Society in Ward 13 of South Okkalapa Township on 1 March.

MYANMA ALIN

District News

School building handed over

HSENWI, 8 March — The Progress of Border Areas and National Races Department and Nippon Foundation of Japan handed over completed school building to Ministry of Education in Namsalat Village of Hsenwi Township on 11 February morning.

The prize presentation ceremony for 2010-2011 academic year was held in conjunction with the completion certificate presentation for 2011-2012 academic year at the school.

Officials presented prizes to the outstanding students.

Myanma Alin

Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo receives Foreign Secretary of Republic of India

NAY PYI TAW, 8 March—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo received a delegation led by Foreign Secretary of the Republic of India Mr Ranjan Mathai at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, at 5 pm today.

Present at the call together with Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo were Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue U Win Than, Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw and heads of department.

The visiting Indian delegation was accompanied by Indian Ambassador to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Villur Sundararajan Seshadri.

They held discussions on cooperation in bilateral relations and development between the two nations.—MNA

Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo receives Foreign Secretary of Republic of India Mr Ranjan Mathai at Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace.—MNA



Entire women folk urged to take part in rural development tasks, environmental preservation, environmental management and natural disaster preparedness measures under guidance and leadership of State



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham delivers an address at the ceremony to mark International Women's Day.
MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 8 March—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham attended a ceremony to mark the International Women's Day held at Thiriyadana Hall of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation in Dekkhinathiri Township here at 10 am today and made a speech on the occasion.

Also present on the occasion were Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of President U Thein Sein, Daw Khin Saw Hnin, wife of Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo and Daw Nan Shwe Hmon, wife of Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Union ministers, deputy ministers, members of Nay Pyi Taw

Council, patrons of MWAFF and Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, presidents and members, heads of department, chairmen of the Hluttaw Committees, secretaries and members, those from foreign embassies in Yangon, resident representatives of UN agencies, those from NGOs and international NGOs and others.

In his address, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham said that it is honourably marked that 8th March of every year is the International Women's Day globally. It is a great pleasure and honour for us to grandly celebrate the International Women's Day in Myanmar like other countries all over the world. It is

obvious that celebrating the International Women's Day auspiciously like this indicates the vital role of women, who are over half of the total population is recognized and emphasized in the national development tasks.

In 1995, the fourth world conference on women was held in Beijing, China. There were two major tasks adopted by the fourth world conference. The first one was to establish national mechanism on the implementation of women's development activities and the second was to formulate the Plan of Action on women's development.

(See page 12)

Pyithu Hluttaw continues 10th day meeting

PAGE 8

Third regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw continues for 11th day

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Human Resources Development in Shan State North

PAGE 7