

President U Thein Sein oversees progress of rehabilitation works in quake-hit victims, meets local people

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Jan — President U Thein Sein visited quake-hit regions in Mandalay and Sagaing Regions on 24 and 25 in November and gave necessary instructions on rehabilitation works in the aftermath of 6.8 -Richter Scale Thabeikkyin earthquake on 11 November 2012.

The President accompanied by Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye, Pyithu Hluttaw committees chairmen U Tin Htut, Thura U Aye Myint and U Thein Zaw, Union Ministers U Nyan Tun Aung, U Win Tun and Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin, deputy ministers

and departmental head left here and arrived at Mandalay International Airport this morning in order to oversee progress of rehabilitation works in quake-hit regions.

Next, the President and party together with Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint, Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye and the commander of Central Command proceeded to Thabeikkyin in Pyin Oo Lwin District of Mandalay Region by helicopter. The President visited Kaba Aye Ghetto in Thabeikkyin where Mandalay Region Electric Power and Industry Minister Dr Myint Kyu and Region



President U Thein Sein meets local people in Sampanagoh village in Sagaing Region.—MNA



Chief Minister U Ye Myint reported on work progress and availability of electricity and water supply. The President

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein at Yadana Theinga Bridge Construction Site in Shwebo Township.

MNA

viewed round the low-cost housing and left necessary instructions.

Then the President paid homage to Puangdaw U and Phaungdaw Pat Buddha Images at Aungmyintha monastery and visited quake-stricken monasteries and Aung Sekkya Pagoda. He looked into progress of rebuilding of houses and spoke words of encouragement to local people.

On his arrival at Sampanagoh village in Thabeikkyin Township,

the President observed documentary photos on rehabilitation works at relief camps and called on officials to take measures for availability of electricity in the village through solar system.

Next, the President inspected progress in construction of new school buildings for village BEMS, repair of quake-hit old school building and progress of low-cost housing and village dispensary.

(See page 9)

Patheingyi University organizes gala concert, funfair

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Jan — The opening of gala concert and funfair took place at Patheingyi University on 24 January. Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung and Pro-Rector of Patheingyi University Dr Than Soe formally opened the ceremony and viewed round shops at the festival. At the gala concert, organized by the Arts Association of Patheingyi

University, students and faculty members sang songs and performed dances. Region Social Affairs Minister U Tin Soe presented K 500,000 by the region chief minister and families of the region government and K 100,000 by Myanmar Timber Enterprise for the arts association through Chairperson Dr Myint Myint San of the association.

MNA



e-Pension Card facilitates drawing pensions at bank in Sittway

SITTWAY, 26 Jan — Pensioners have been drawing their pensions through e-Pension Cards at the Myanma Economic Bank in Sittway since January 2013.

There are 3500

pensioners who draw their pensions at the bank in Sittway. Among them, 1500 pensioners were given e-Pension Cards and bank staff are striving for issuing the cards to the remaining pensioners.

Card holders are able to draw their pensions within the short period of time at the bank during the office hours. The e-Pension Card system satisfies the aged and old pensioners.

Kyemon

Traffic rules enforcement carried out in Hsipaw

HSPAW, 26 Jan — Aimed at reducing road accidents in Hsipaw Township of Shan State (North), a combined force led by Police sub-inspector Aung Myo Win of Hsipaw Township Police Station performed traffic rules enforcement on the road near Sibinhaya Market in the township on 15 January under

the arrangement of Hsipaw Township Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee.

Due to reckless driving, drunk driving, violation of traffic rules by road users and overloaded vehicles, road accidents are frequent in the township, causing loss of lives. — Kyemon



Dredging of drains for proper flow of water in Yangon

YANGON, 26 Jan — Yangon Region Minister for Development Affairs Mayor U Hla Myint inspected dredging of drains for proper flow of water near the junction between Pyay Road and Zakawa street in Dagon Township by Yangon City Development Committee on 23 January.

Next, the mayor visited Lanmadaw, Kyauktada, Pazundaung, Bahan, Thingangyun, Dagon Myothit (North) and Mingaladon Townships where YCDC staff performed sanitation works.

MNA

Bakery fire in Mayangon Township

YANGON, 26 Jan — A fire broke out at Mercury bakery in Ward-1 of Mayangon Township, here, at about 1.15 pm on 23 January.

The bakery fire started as a shower of sparks from the inverter battery had spread to the gas cylinder

while the generator was running. The fire swept through the upstairs of the 40 feet long and 20 feet wide house and along the electric wire.

While the house was on fire, 34 fire engines and two administrative vehicles

rushed to the scene and managed to bring the fire under control. Workers Aung Lin, 20, Aung Aung, 20, Soe Min Thu, 20, and Zaw Min Tun, 25, of the bakery were wounded in the incident and they were sent to Insein Hospital. Bayintnaung Police Station filed a lawsuit against Zaw Myo Tun, 34, of the house. — Kyemon

Rules and regulations on use of pesticide and fertilizer clarified

YANGON, 26 Jan — A workshop on clarification of rules and regulations on the use of pesticide and fertilizer was held at the meeting hall of Shwebo District Agriculture Department on 25 January. Assistant Director of the department Sagaing Region farmland utilization in-charge Daw Cho Cho Mar gave talks on rules

and regulations, Sagaing Region crops protection in-charge Daw San San Myint on pesticide law and systematic use of pesticide and Head of Shwebo District Agriculture Department U Win Myint on purpose of organizing the workshop.

Next, those present raised questions and officials concerned made clarifications. — Kyemon

Drunk cart driver run over, killed

YEDASHE, 26 Jan — A man was run over by a buffalo cart and killed in the forest reserve, 40-mile west of Swa in Yedashe Township of Bago Region at about 6 pm on 18 January.

Drunk driver Nyo Naing

Htay, 22, of Thithkharma village fell down on the ground while driving the buffalo cart together with his friends along the path in the forest reserve. He was run over and pronounced dead.

Kyemon



Photo shows a newly-built Dhammayon building in Shwekyarpin ward of Zabuthiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area. It was constructed by Nay Pyi Taw Development Affairs Committee that spent K 82.5 million on construction of the 72 feet long and 32 feet wide one-storey RC building. The building was handed over to the administrator of Shwekyarpin ward on 25 January. — MNA

Punitive action to be taken against illegal gold panning along Kyonpaku creek in Shwegyin Township

SHWEGYIN, 26 Jan — It is learnt that punitive actions will be taken against those who are panning for gold illegally with the use of machinery along the Kyonpaku creek in Kyaikto of Mon State and Shwegyin of Bago Region. The creek rises at the foot of the mountain Hsandawshin Kyaik-hti-yoe Pagoda is situated on it.

As Kyonpaku creek is a torrent, local people depend on the creek for their drinking water and livelihoods, dealing with fishing and gold panning on a managerial scale.

Due to the undisciplined gold panning at the upper and middle part of the creek

since 1995, local people were not able to drink the creek water as the creek had been polluted. Moreover, a mass of earth from gold panning is threatening the creek to be vanished from that place.

Laboratory results for water samples taken from the creek and lake and manual water pump at the villages along and

downstream of the creek revealed that the water is contaminated. So it is possible to make a profound impact on health of local people.

Now necessary measures are being taken to take punitive actions against those who fail to adhere to the restriction on gold panning with the use of machinery. — Kyemon

Bus brake failure kills woman, injures three in North Okkalapa Township

YANGON, 26 Jan — A passenger bus knocked down four pedestrians, killing one woman and fatally injuring two women and one man in North Okkalapa Township on 20 January.

After its brakes failed while driving from Aung Mingala Bus Terminal to Sule, the No.43 passenger bus driven by Min Lwin Oo, 47, hit three women and one man and then

collided head-on with a saloon at the junction between Thudhamma Street and Kanthaya Street in the township at about 11.45 am.

One woman was pronounced dead in the road accident and the injured were sent to North Okkalapa Hospital. Wabagi Police Station filed a lawsuit against driver Min Lwin Oo and investigation into the case is ongoing.

Kyemon

A tourist dies of drowning at Ngapali Beach

THANDWE, 26 Jan — A foreigner was drowned in the water at Ngapali Beach in Thandwe Township of Rakhine State on 23 January.

A Norwegian tourist, 79, was found dead in the water when other visitors, the manager and security members of the hotel checked on him as other

tourists who were swimming together with him at sea became suspicious of his condition and found him floating unconscious in the water.

The man who is believed to have drowned was transported to Thandwe hospital and investigation into the case is ongoing.

Kyemon



Photo shows progress of substitution of nine-metre long concrete lamp-posts for weather-beaten wooden ones by District/township Electrical Engineer U Nyunt Win and staff with the aim of ensuring safety for dwellers from possible danger of electricity and durability of infrastructure for supply of electricity at Wainwaing village in Monghsat Township of Shan State on 19 January. — KYEMON

WORLD

Cleavage comment puts German politics in a fluster

BERLIN, 26 Jan—A female journalist's allegations that a senior member of Chancellor Angela Merkel's coalition made sexist comments about her cleavage in a bar one year ago have stirred a debate about the relationship between reporters and politicians in Germany.

Rainer Brüderle, the 67-year-old parliamentary leader of the Free Democrats (FDP), junior partners in the coalition, was reported by *Stern* magazine this week to have told one of its reporters she could "really fill a dirndl"—the low-cut Bavarian traditional dress.

Brüderle has not made any public comment about the report and his office declined to react to it

on Friday.

But FDP leaders have questioned the magazine's motives for reporting the year-old events days after Brüderle was put in charge of its campaign for a national election in September.

Stern's story about the events in a bar in Stuttgart during an FDP congress last January have made the silver-haired former economy minister the butt of ridicule in some German media while other publications, and some politicians, have defended him.

Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle, a former FDP leader, said it was "deeply unfair" to carry the story a year after the alleged events.



File picture shows faction leader Rainer Brüderle of the liberal Free Democratic Party (FDP) during a two-day extraordinary party convention in Karlsruhe on 22 April, 2012.

REUTERS

The timing of the claims has also led others in the FDP to call it a "set-up" designed to undermine the party in an election year.

The story has been making waves since Wednesday, when a preview of the article was released to media.—Reuters

65 Nigerians deported over immigration offenses arrive in Lagos

LAGOS, 26 Jan—A total of 65 Nigerians on sojourn in four European countries arrived southwest Lagos State on Friday, following deportation over immigration offenses, a senior airport official told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

The repatriated Nigerians including 48 males, 12 females and five children arrived at the cargo section of the Murtala Muhammed International Airport in Lagos on Friday morning, said the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) official. According to the official, the citizens were deported from Romania, Bulgaria, Spain and the United Kingdom

(UK) where they had scores to settle with the immigration officials. "The deportees were arrested and deported in the respective countries for allegedly having expired documents, therefore regarded as illegal migrants," the official told *Xinhua* on phone, adding eight of the deportees, including three women, were repatriated for alleged criminal offenses.

The eight persons who were deported for committing various crimes in the foreign lands were immediately arrested on arrival at the airport by some mufti-wearing policemen, the source said.

Xinhua

Clashes throughout Egypt kill five, injure more than 252



Protesters cut the metro line and burn tires to cut the main roads to the presidential palace during clashes with security forces in front of the presidential palace in Cairo, on 25 Jan, 2013. —XINHUA

CAIRO/ALEXANDRIA, 26 Jan—Clashes between protesters and security forces in a massive demonstration marking the second anniversary of the so-called "revolution" throughout Egypt killed five and injured at least 252 on Friday, arousing fears of more

violence in the country.

"The number of those injured during the demonstration reached 252 as off now. Those with bruises have been treated and left the hospital, while others more severely injured are still under treatment," spokesman of the Egyptian Health

Ministry Ahmed Omar told *Xinhua* on late Friday.

Five protesters were killed during clashes in Suez while 31 policemen and soldiers were wounded nationwide, according to the state TV.

Protesters stormed the governorate building in Suez on Friday night. The confrontations are continuing outside the Suez provincial government and security directorate premises, official news agency MENA reported.

Since on Thursday night, hundreds of thousands of Egyptians had begun rallying in public squares of main cities in Egypt, in a bid to express their anger toward President Mohamed Morsi and the Muslim Brotherhood, whose electoral muscle put Morsi into office.

Xinhua

SEGOU/BAMAKO, 26 Jan—French-backed government forces advanced into northern Mali on Friday towards the Islamist rebel stronghold of Gao, recapturing the town of Hombori, as they followed up on relentless French air strikes against the rebels.

Two weeks after France sent troops and aircraft into its West African former colony to block an offensive south by al-Qaeda-allied Islamists occupying the north, Mali's army was now on the move as Islamist fighters pulled back from towns.

Malian officials, who said an offensive against Gao could take place in the next few days, said government forces entered Hombori, about 160 km (100 miles) from Gao, late on Thursday.

French-backed Mali forces push towards rebel-held Gao

Gao, with the other Saharan desert towns of Timbuktu and Kidal, has been occupied since last year by an Islamist alliance that includes AQIM, the North African franchise of al-Qaeda.

"Our troops supported

by French forces entered Hombori on yesterday evening without any combat. The Islamists had already deserted the town," a Malian military officer, who asked not to be named, told *Reuters*.

Reuters



Malian military soldiers paint vehicles seized from Islamist rebels at a military camp in Sevare, about 600 km (400 miles) northeast of the capital Bamako, on 25 Jan, 2013. —REUTERS

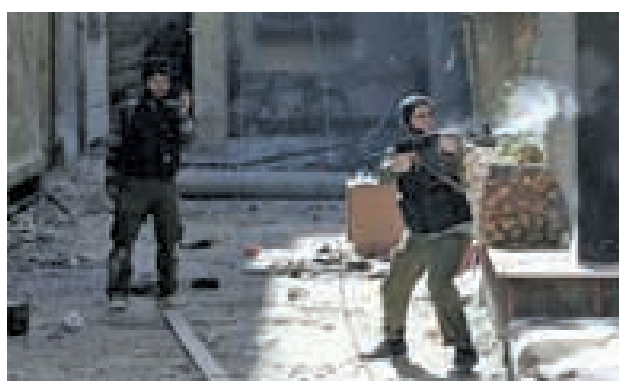
Syrian troops and militia push to take Sunni Homs areas

AMMAN, 26 Jan—The Syrian army has stepped up an offensive on opposition Sunni Muslim strongholds in the central city of Homs, bringing in ground forces and loyalist militia to try to secure a major road junction, opposition sources said on Friday.

Around 15,000 Sunni civilians are trapped on the southern and western edge of the city near the intersection of Syria's main north-south and east-west arteries, crucial to let the army travel between Damascus and the Mediterranean coast, opposition campaigners in Homs said.

Rebels said they had moved into new areas of Homs this month to grab more territory, which could explain the offensive. Activists said that rebels had asked them not to report on the advances because it could provoke retaliatory strikes. But activists in Homs said a barrage of army rocket, artillery and aerial bombardment had killed at least 120 civilians and 30 opposition fighters since Sunday.

In the south, eight members of Syria's military intelligence were killed by an Islamist militant car bomb on Thursday night near the frontier



A Free Syrian Army fighter fires his rifle during heavy fighting in Mleha suburb of Damascus on 25 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

with the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights, opposition activists and a violence monitoring group said on Friday. The Syrian Observatory for Human

Rights said the bomb was planted by Al-Nusra Front, a rebel unit fighting to oust Assad that the United States has labeled a terrorist group.—Reuters

Russia regrets US withdrawal from bilateral group on civil society issues

Moscow, 26 Jan—Moscow regrets the US decision to withdraw from a working group of the bilateral presidential commission, a Kremlin spokesman said on Friday.

"We regret whenever a bilateral format is cancelled without an appropriate substitute," the *Interfax* news agency quoted spokesman Dmitry Peskov as saying.

Peskov added that there had been a lull in the work of the group for some time. "Perhaps, some reformation

will be needed," he said.

Thomas Melia, a US deputy assistant secretary of state, told *Interfax* that the US had decided to withdraw from the working group as a response to Moscow's recent moves to restrict freedom in Russia.

Russia repeatedly offered that the US conduct a meeting of the working group in 2012, Konstantin Dolgov, the Foreign Ministry's envoy for human rights, democracy and supremacy of law, told reporters.—*Xinhua*

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

UN Secretary-General's message on the International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust

27 January, 2013

During the Second World War, millions of people who did not conform to Adolf Hitler's perverted ideology of Aryan perfection – Jews, Roma and Sinti, homosexuals, communists, the mentally ill and others – were systematically persecuted, rounded up and transported to death camps. Some were murdered immediately; others cruelly worked to death. Every year on the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau we observe the International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust so as never to forget these crimes.

This year's theme – "Rescue During the Holocaust: the Courage to Care" – pays tribute to those who risked their lives and their families to save Jews and others from almost certain death under Nazi rule. The stories of the rescuers vary. Some sheltered the intended victims in their homes; others led families to safety or helped them to obtain the necessary documents to escape. Yet each shares a common thread: courage, compassion and moral leadership.

A number of these accounts have achieved iconic prominence – such as the story of Raoul Wallenberg, a Swedish diplomat who helped save tens of thousands of Jews in Budapest. But the stories of many of the rescuers are known only to those who benefited from their brave acts. This year's observance is meant to augment the historical record, and give those unsung heroes the regard they deserve.

The Holocaust and the United Nations Outreach Programme has produced an educational package on these rescuers. Although acts of genocide illustrate the depths of evil to which individuals and whole societies can descend, the examples of these brave men and women also demonstrate the capacity of humankind for remarkable good, even during the darkest of days.

On this International Day, let us remember all the innocent people who lost their lives during the Holocaust. And let us be inspired by those who had the courage to care – the ordinary people who took extraordinary steps to defend human dignity. Their example can help us build a better world today.

UNIC/Yangon

Ancient Chinese bronze arrowhead unearthed in Japan's Okayama

OSAKA, 26 Jan—A team of Japanese archaeologists has found a bronze arrowhead dating back to the Warring States period of ancient Chinese history (475 BC to 221 BC) in Okayama City, western Japan, local press reported

on Thursday. The object is believed to be the first of its kind discovered in Japan, according to reports.

The Chinese arrowhead called "double-winged bronze arrowhead" was unearthed by the team at the Minamigata ruins located



Ancient Chinese bronze arrowhead unearthed in Japan's Okayama.

in the city centre of Okayama, said the country's public broadcaster Nippon Hoso Kyokai (NHK). The report said the team has uncovered an area of about 2,500 square metres in the ruins since April 2012 and recently found the artifact within the ditch together with other pottery fragments and pieces of stone-ware, which date back to the Middle Yayoi period (about 300 BC to 100 BC), adding that the bizarre arrowhead is 3.7 cm long, 1.4 cm wide and about 2 mm thick.

This is the first time a bronze arrowhead of this type made in ancient China has been unearthed from ruins in Japan. Minoru Norioka, Director for the city's

properties division, said to *Xinhua* that since they could identify the double-winged shape of the arrowhead as the unique manufacturing style from the era of ancient China, they understood the object was imported by an influential group with care from the continent to western Japan.

"Considering that there is a considerable time gap between its original production in China and the actual usage in Japan, the thin bronze arrowhead must have been used as a ritual item or burial good rather than a weapon," the director said. The city will continue its field investigations to find more facts describing the old relationship and communication between Japan and China.—*Xinhua*

Russia, Kazakhstan deny reports on discords over Baikonur

Moscow, 26 Jan—Russia and Kazakhstan will upgrade their relations to a new level of cooperation, foreign ministers of the two countries said on Friday, denying reports of discords over a space center in Kazakhstan. Astana and Moscow have been preparing a new friendship treaty which would move the bilateral relations to a higher level "in all directions," the *Interfax* news agency quoted the visiting Kazakh Foreign Minister Erlan Idrisov as saying.

Idrisov and his host Sergei Lavrov also denied



recent Russian media reports that the two countries have been at odds over the Baikonur space centre which Russia rents from Kazakhstan. Astana earlier formally informed Moscow that it has to decrease

launches of Proton rockets from Baikonur from 17 to 12 times this year, citing environmental concerns. Lavrov urged the media "not to make a mountain out of mole hill" and said he was not aware of how

that information has leaked into mass media.

"I would not talk about any disagreements. This is a working situation, our presidents understand a necessity to sort out all similar situations," the minister told the reporters.

He added that Russia did all its best to improve the Proton's ecological safety. In October 2012, Russian Federal Space Agency Roscosmos said it plans to upgrade Proton rocket carrier and Breeze booster for the upcoming launches.

Xinhua

Japan's oldest bronze comma-shaped bead unearthed in Tottori

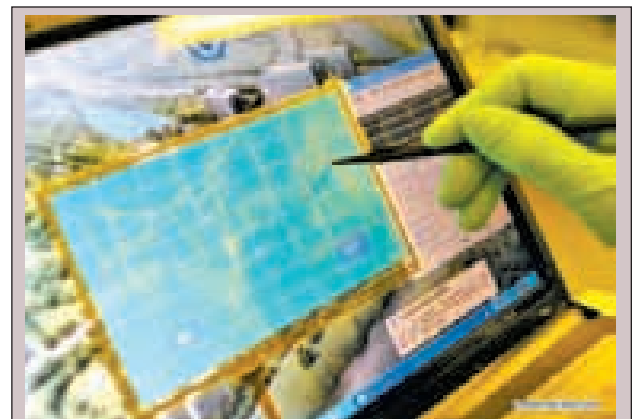
OSAKA, 26 Jan—A team of Japanese archaeologists has found a bronze comma-shaped bead, which is believed to be the oldest of its kind in the country's history, in the western Japanese city of Tottori, local Press reported on Thursday. The metal curved bead, dating back to the early sixth century, was excavated from one of the tombs built in the early sixth century at the Matsubara No 10 Mound in the city according to the daily *Mainichi Shimbun*.

The city said the team has uncovered an area of about 1,100 square metres in the site since May 2012, adding that its members discovered the greenish colored artifact, which weighs 1.6 grams and is 1.71 centimetres long and 0.6 centimeters wide, together with about

20 glass beads during the excavation work for the tomb.

After the discovery, the research institute for cultural properties in Nara Prefecture confirmed that the bronze comma-shaped bead at the tomb was made decades earlier than the one hitherto had found in western Japan.

Kunihiko Sakata, a spokesperson for the city's cultural assets division said to *Xinhua* that since we can estimate the metal artifact found from one of the remains in Tottori is the oldest in Japan, we think there must be influential groups or peoples around the region in ancient times. "We need more continue field investigations to reveal the whole history," Sakata added. The bead will be displayed in the city museum next month.—*Xinhua*



A researcher makes a writing test on a touch-screen product made from the 15-inch single-layer graphene in the Chongqing Institute of Green and Intelligent Technology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, in southwest China's Chongqing, on 24 Jan, 2013. Chongqing Institute recently announced that it successfully made the first single-layer graphene of 15 inches thick which has marked the highest domestic standard so far in China. This graphene will contribute to the improvement of touch screens on mobile phones and PC.

XINHUA

Dung beetles look to the stars

JOHANNESBURG, 26 Jan—A species of South African dung beetle has been shown to use the Milky Way to navigate, making it the only known animal that turns to the galactic spray of stars across the night sky for direction.

Researchers have known for several years that the inch-long insects use the sun or moon as fixed points to ensure they keep rolling dung balls in a straight line—the quickest way of getting away from other beetles at the dung heap.

But scientists have puzzled over how the beetles, which perform an orientation dance on top of their dung balls before setting off, achieve a straight line on moonless nights. To prove the Milky Way theory, scientists at Johannesburg's Wits

University took beetles into the university planetarium to see how they fared with a normal night sky, and then one devoid of the Milky Way.

"The dung beetles don't care which direction they're going in. They just need to get away from the bun fight at the poo pile," Wits professor Marcus Byrne said. "But when we turned off the Milky Way, the beetles got lost." And on cloudy nights without a moon or stars? "They probably just stay at home," Byrne said.—*Reuters*



A species of South African dung beetle is seen in this undated handout photo from University of the Witwatersrand released on 25 Jan, 2013.

REUTERS

BUSINESS & HEALTH

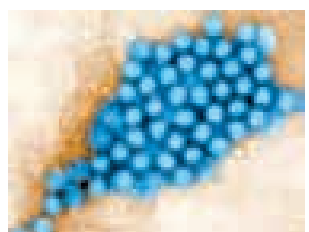
Skin whitening vegetables

Pea
White Rabish
Carrot
Sweet Potato
Mushroom
Owel Gourd
Cucumber
White Gourd
Tomato

New strain of norovirus circulating in US: CDC

WASHINGTON, 26 Jan —A new strain of norovirus called GII.4 Sydney was the leading cause of norovirus outbreaks in the United States from September to December 2012, the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said on Friday in its *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*.

The new strain was detected in Australia in March 2012, and caused outbreaks in that country and several other countries. CDC researchers analyzed 2012 data collected through CaliciNet on norovirus strains associated with



outbreaks in the US.

They found that of the 266 norovirus outbreaks reported during the last four months of 2012, 141 were caused by the GII.4 Sydney strain.

Xinhua

Quit smoking before age 40 greatly reduces death risk: study



VANCOUVER, 26 Jan—A study published on Thursday found smokers who quit when they are young adults can significantly reduce their risks of dying sooner. “Quitting smoking before age 40, and preferably well before 40, gives back almost all of the decade of lost life from continued

smoking,” said the study’s lead author Dr Prabhat Jha.

However, Dr Jha, who is also the head of the Centre for Global Health Research at St Michael’s Hospital in Canada, said that does not mean it is safe to smoke until one turns 40 and then stop. “Former smokers still have a greater risk of dying

sooner than people who never smoked. But the risk is small compared to the huge risk for those who continue to smoke,” he said.

D Jha’s team obtained smoking and smoking-cessation histories from more than 200,000 people who were interviewed between 1997 and 2004 in the US National Health Interview Survey, and related these data to the causes of deaths that occurred by the end of 2006. They found people who quit smoking between ages 35 and 44 gained about nine years and those who quit between ages 45-54 and 55-64 gained six and four years of life, respectively.—Xinhua

Credit Suisse could owe \$2 billion in National Century fraud

NEW YORK, 26 Jan—Credit Suisse Group Inc faces a potential \$2 billion of exposure over fraud that occurred a decade ago at National Century Financial Enterprises, a result of a federal judge’s determination on how to apportion responsibility.

Friday’s decision by US District Judge James Graham could expose the Swiss bank to hundreds of millions of dollars of added liability over the activities of Lance Poulsen, who co-founded National Century in 1990 and was its chief executive. He is now serving a 30-year prison term and is presumed insolvent.

The decision is also a victory for bondholders

including the state of Arizona, AllianceBernstein Holding LP, Lloyds TSB Bank Plc, MetLife Inc, Allianz SE’s Pimco unit that accused Credit Suisse of deceiving it about the company and missing its estimated \$2.9 billion fraud. “Credit Suisse and

Mr Poulsen are the last remaining defendants in this very serious case, and we are confident that our clients will prevail at trial,” Kathy Patrick, a lawyer for some of the bondholders, said in a telephone interview.

Xinhua



A logo of Swiss bank Credit Suisse is seen on a building in Zurich, on 15 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

Wall Street Week Ahead: Bears hibernate as stocks near record highs

NEW YORK, 26 Jan—Stocks have been on a tear in January, moving major indexes within striking distance of all-time highs. The bearish case is a difficult one to make right now. Earnings have exceeded expectations, the housing and labour markets have strengthened, lawmakers in Washington no longer seem to be the roadblock that they were for most of 2012, and money has returned to stock funds again.

The Standard & Poor’s 500 Index .SPX has gained 5.4 percent this year and closed above 1,500 -climbing to the spot where Wall Street strategists expected it to be by mid-year. The Dow

Jones industrial average .DJI is 2.2 percent away from all-time highs reached in October 2007. The Dow ended on Friday’s session at 13,895.98, its highest close since 31 Oct, 2007. The S&P has risen for four straight

weeks and eight consecutive sessions, the longest streak of days since 2004. On Friday, the benchmark S&P 500 ended at 1,502.96—its first close above 1,500 in more than five years.

“Once we break above

a resistance level at 1,510, we dramatically increase the probability that we break the highs of 2007,” said Walter Zimmermann, technical analyst at United-ICAP, in Jersey City, New Jersey. “That may be the start of a rise that could take equities near 1,800 within the next few years.” The most recent Reuters poll of Wall Street strategists estimated the benchmark index would rise to 1,550 by year-end, a target that is 3.1 percent away from current levels.

That would put the S&P 500 a stone’s throw from the index’s all-time intraday high of 1,576.09 reached on 11 October, 2007.—Xinhua



Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, on 23 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

Exxon Mobil regains crown from Apple as most valuable listed company

NEW YORK, 26 Jan — Oil giant Exxon Mobil on Friday regained crown from Apple as the most valuable listed company after losing it to the tech giant a year ago. By the closing on Friday, Apple’s shares slid 2.36 percent to 439.88 dollars per share for a market value of around 413 billion US

and sales in the first quarter of its 2013 fiscal year. In the quarter ending 29 December, Apple made a record-high profit of 13.1 billion US dollars on a revenue of 54.5 billion dollars, but the figures still fell short of analysts expectations.

The company also



dollars. Exxon’s shares gained 0.42 percent to 91.73 dollars per share for a market value of some 418.2 billion dollars. Compared with its historical intraday high of 705.07 dollars per share set on 21 Sept, 2012, Apple’s share price has retreated 38 percent. Apple’s shares made a free fall during Thursday’s trading after the tech giant reported lackluster earnings

reported record-high sales of 47.8 million iPhones and 22.9 million iPads but failed to beat analysts forecast. Apple’s share price first surpassed Exxon’s in the summer of 2011 and since then the two companies had been vying for the title. In January 2012, Apple beat Exxon by an overwhelming margin and has been holding on to it until Friday.

Reuters

Toyota SUV assembly to start in Vladivostok in February

VLADIVOSTOK, 26 Jan—Toyota Motor Corp said on Friday a joint venture between a Russian automaker and a Japanese trading house will start full-fledged assembly of a Toyota sport utility vehicle in Vladivostok in mid-February.

The 50-50 venture between second-largest Russian automaker Sollers and Mitsui & Co, OOO

Sollers-Bussan, plans to assemble 1,000 units a month of the Land Cruiser Prado SUV, a model popular in Russia, Toyota said.

A ceremony to mark the start of assembly on a trial basis was held in Vladivostok on Friday, with Russian First Deputy Prime Minister Igor Shuvalov delivering a speech.

kyodo News



Russia’s First Deputy Prime Minister Igor Shuvalov (far R) views the assembly process for Land Cruiser Prado sport utility vehicles at a plant of Japanese automaker Toyota Motor Corp in Vladivostok in the Russian Far East on 25 Jan, 2013. Toyota said it will commence full-fledged production of SUVs at the plant in February.—KYODO NEWS

WORLD

At least Five killed in clashes with Iraqi army in Fullujah

BAGHDAD, 26 Jan— At least five people were killed and 45 others wounded when Iraqi troops opened fire during clashes with Sunni protesters rallying against the Shiite-led government in Fullujah city on Friday, local police and medical sources said. The main city hospital in Fullujah has received at least five dead bodies and 45

injured people, all of whom are protesters, said a hospital source who earlier put the toll at two killed and 10 injured.

The clashes broke out when Iraqi army forces tried to prevent protesters from heading to a city square after the Friday prayers, a local police source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity, adding that the security

forces fired shots on angry protesters who threw stones at them and tried to set fire on military vehicles.

Sunnis in Iraq have been protesting for a month, asking Prime Minister Nouri Maliki to quit, after Sunni Finance Minister Rafia al-Issawi's security chief and bodyguards were arrested on terror charges.

The Sunni stronghold Fullujah, hometown of al-Issawi, has seen some major demonstrations against Maliki's government over the past month. Sunni Arabs in Iraq, who used to rule the country in pre-war regimes, now complain of being sidelined by the Shiite-led government and demand more powers. —*Xinhua*

Number of Syrian refugees in Turkey exceeds 162,000

ANKARA, 26 Jan— A total of 162,329 Syrian refugees are currently taking shelter in Turkey, Turkey's Disaster and Emergency Management Directorate (AFAD) announced on Friday.

According to the AFAD, Turkey has set up five tent cities in Hatay, two in Sanliurfa, three in Gaziantep, and one each in Kahramanmaraş, Osmaniye and Adiyaman, as well as two container sites in Kilis and Sanliurfa. The Syrian refugees were provided with all the humanitarian aids including health care, security, education, worship, communication and banking services, said the AFAD.

A total of 230,724 Syrians have entered Turkey so far after the eruption of unrest in their country two years ago, and 68,395 of them later returned to Syria. —*Xinhua*

Dutch SNS Reaal in talks with capital investors

THE HAGUE, 26 Jan — Troubled Dutch banking and insurance group SNS Reaal is in talks with potential capital investors, *Financial Daily* reported on Friday.

According to sources in the financial sector, SNS Reaal needs between 2 and 2.5

billion euros (between 2.7 and 3.4 billion US dollars) to solve problems at its property unit. A number of Dutch and foreign investors would be prepared to put between 1 and 1.5 billion euros (1.3 and 2 billion US dollars) in the troubled bank.

SNS Reaal, which

received Dutch state aid in 2008, is widely expected to require a second bailout because of problems at its property unit and is due to come up with a restructuring plan when it reports its earnings next month.

Xinhua



Officials of the Japanese government and JGC Corp head to place flowers on the coffins of victims of a hostage crisis in Algeria, at Tokyo's Haneda airport on the morning of 25 Jan, 2013. A government plane brought home seven Japanese survivors and the bodies of nine Japanese victims of the hostage standoff.

KYODO NEWS

Customers select vegetables at a supermarket in Lanzhou, capital of northwest China's Gansu Province, on 25 Jan, 2013. A total of 53,900 tons of vegetables reserved by the government for winter and spring started to meet with customers in Gansu as the Spring Festival draws near.

XINHUA



AU to honour former Zambian President Kaunda

LUSAKA, 26 Jan — The African Union (AU) is expected to honour Zambia's first President Kenneth Kaunda during its 50th anniversary for the role he played in the liberation struggles in the southern African region, the *Times of Zambia* reported on Friday.

The African regional body is scheduled to hold its 50th anniversary in May this year at its headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

"I am happy to inform you that Dr Kaunda will be honoured this year here at the AU for his role he played in the liberation of southern Africa. You know,

Zambia sacrificed so much of its resources including manpower to liberate the southern African region," Francis Simenda, Zambia's Ambassador to Ethiopia, said ahead of the 20th Ordinary Session of the Summit of AU which starts on Sunday.

The Zambian envoy said Kaunda, who will turn 89 on 24 April this year, was among the great African leaders who immensely contributed to the liberation struggles in most African countries, adding that it was surprising that even after the immense contribution he made, the former Zambian leader was barely noticed.

Kaunda ruled Zambia from 1964 when the country gained independence from Britain to 1991 when he was defeated in an election after the reintroduction of multiparty politics. During his reign, he helped other countries get their liberation and Zambia hosted several freedom fighters from neighbouring countries.

After retiring from active politics, the former Zambian leader has been involved in the fight against HIV/AIDS through his Kenneth Kaunda Children of Africa Foundation.

Xinhua

Japan to craft new defence programmes by year-end

TOKYO, 26 Jan — The Cabinet of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe decided on Friday to craft a new national defence programme by year-end, freezing the existing one penned by the previous government, to boost the nation's defence capabilities amid an "increasingly severe" regional security environment.

The government cited the recent rocket launch by North Korea and China's repeated intrusions into Japanese territorial waters and airspace near the Japan-controlled Senkaku Islands in the East China Sea, as factors requiring the review of the current National Defence Programme Guidelines compiled by

the Democratic Party of Japan in 2010.

The Abe Cabinet also decided to scrap the current Mid-Term Defence Programme compiled by the DPJ-led government, which pertains to the Self-Defence Forces' size and equipment, and aim to work out a new one by the end of this year.

The original midterm defence buildup programme adopted in 2010 was meant to cover a five-year period through the end of March 2016.

At the same time, the government adopted a provisional defence policy in the Cabinet meeting on Friday, which will be reflected in the current works to draft a budget for the next fiscal year starting

April. The government plans in fiscal 2013 to increase defence spending for the first time in 11 years.

The provisional policy stipulates that Japan will beef up its defence capabilities to protect the nation's territory and strengthen the Japan-US security alliance, given that North Korea remains an "uncertain factor" in the region and due to "increased activity" of China in airspace and waters near Japan. "The security environment around our country has become increasingly severe," Defence Ministry Itsunori Onodera told a Press conference, pledging to establish a "proper (defence) posture in terms of both quality and quantity."

Kyodo News



A working staff (C) guides the passengers to board trains at the Beijing Railway Station in Beijing, capital of China, on 25 Jan, 2013. The 40-day Spring Festival travel rush will start on 26 January. —XINHUA

1995 Zhejiang serial murder case reopened

HANGZHOU, 26 Jan— A court in east China's Zhejiang Province has announced a review of a serial murder case from 1995, 18 years after five people were given reprieved death sentences over the crime.

The Supreme People's Court in Zhejiang said in a notice that it has restarted investigation of the robbery and murder of two taxi drivers that happened in Xiaoshan District of Hangzhou City on 20 March and 12 August, 1995, respectively.

The move came after police captured a suspect in late December last year whose finger prints matched those collected by police at the scene of the March murder. Police have no new evidence on the second murder. The supreme court said during the reinvestigation, "If there was a mistake, it will have to be corrected." The fingerprints of none of the five jailed people matched any of those collected

at the crime scenes. *Xinhua's* sources with the court said the verdicts were given based on "oral testimonies" from police. All of the then 20-something men appealed for a second trial after three were given death sentences, one was given a death sentence with a reprieve and another life imprisonment for robbery, murder and theft at the first trial in 1997.

None of them admitted they had been involved in the robbery and murder at the second trial by the Hangzhou Intermediate People's Court, which only granted a reprieve on each of the three death sentences and sustained the first trial sentences of the other two. Among the five, Tian Weidong was freed from jail on 11 January this year after receiving several mitigations of punishment in prison.

Tian declined media interviews, saying he would rather wait for the court to deliver its result of the reinvestigation. —*Xinhua*

LOCAL NEWS

MoU signed between Small Scale Industries Department, Pact Global Microfinance Fund



NAY PYI TAW, 26 Jan—Union Minister for Cooperatives U Kyaw Hsan attended the signing of MoU for implementation of microfinance services between Small Scale Industries Department and Pact (INGO) Pact Global Microfinance Fund (PGMF) at Zabuthiri Hotel here yesterday morning.

At the ceremony, the Union Minister said that

the ministry has disbursed loans to 373,186 households in 25 townships under microfinance project being implemented by the ministry and UNDP in cooperation with Pact since 1997.

Plans are underway to loan US\$ 6 million more between 2013 and 2015 in cooperation with the department and PGMF, he said.

The Union Minister

pledged that the project will be implemented in 19 townships. A total of 7507 microfinance societies had been formed and 10.63 billion loans had been disbursed, he added. Director-General U Kyaw Ngwe of Small Scale Industries Department and Chief Operating Officer Mr Fahmld Karim Bhuiya from Pact INGO signed the MoU and exchanged the notes.

MNA

Second meeting for executive council of ASEAN-Korea Forest Cooperation held

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Jan—The second meeting for executive council of ASEAN-Korea Forest Cooperation—AFoCo was held at Tongha Puri Hotel here yesterday afternoon, with an opening address by Director-General Dr Nyi Nyi Kyaw of Forest Department.

The agreement on

cooperation in forest sector between ASEAN member countries and the Republic of Korea was signed in Seoul of Korea on 5 August 2012 and the executive council's first meeting followed.

At the meeting, implementation for mitigation of climate change and deforestation was carried

out.

Reviewing on plans and projects, technical exchange, capacity-building for assessment of forest resources and coordination for drawing plans for reduction of climate change in cooperation with local people was discussed at the meeting.—MNA



Blood donors honoured in Nyaunglebin

NYAUNGLEBIN, 26 Jan—Karuna Blood Donors Association honoured blood donors for the first time in Nyaunglebin at the Chinese Temple on 24 January.

The association was established in 2011.

Head of Nyaunglebin Township Health Department Dr Khin Zaw made a speech. Chairman of the Township Writers Association Dr Myint Than (Nyaunglebin) gave talks on youth and blood donation.

Officials presented gifts to the blood donors who had donated blood for 40 times and other blood donors. Those wishing to donate blood may contact Jivitadana Sangha Hospital, Nyaunglebin Township, Tel: 052-50084, Dr



Myint Thein of the association, Tel: 052-50092, U Myo Kyaw Zaw, Tel: 09-5110770, Ri Shin

Co, U Myo Myint, Daw Ohnma Khin, Tel: 09-428173525.

NLM

Ward administrators elected in Kyangin Township

KYANGIN, 26 Jan—A ceremony to appoint administrators for three wards and 30 village-tracts was held at Ayeya Oo Hall in Kyangin Township of Ayeyawady Region on 21 January morning.

Township Administrator U Tin Yi presented certificates of honour to the former ward/village-tract administrators and certificates of appointment to new administrators.

Myanma Alinn

Cash assistance provided to children of courts' staff in Bago Region

BAGO, 26 Jan—A ceremony to provide cash assistance to children of staff from Bago Region High Court, Region Judicial Office, District and Township Courts was held at the hall of Bago Region High Court in Bago

on 8 January morning.

Chief Justice of the Bago Region High Court U Maung Maung Shwe, High Court judges and the head of Region Judicial Office presented cash assistance to the students of staff.

Myanma Alinn



Chinese merchants from the view deck look into quality of musk melon and water melon to be purchased at Muse 105th-mile border trade camp on 20 January. (Musk melon is sold at four to five yuan each. Transport charge for the fruit is K 710,000 from Monywa to Muse by car.)—MYANMA ALINN

Thiri Yadana Hall opened at Shwethanbyu Parahita Monastery in Pathein

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Jan—Chief Minister of Ayeyawady Region U Thein Aung attended the ceremony to open Thiri Yadana Hall at Shwethanbyu Parahita Monastery in Padaukchaung Ward of Ward 10 in Pathein of Ayeyawady Region at 9 am on 20 January morning.

The Abbot of the monastery and wellwisher U Win Naing and wife Daw

San Yin Aye formally opened the new hall.

Next, the merit-sharing ceremony for the hall followed.

After that, Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung and those present at the ceremony offered alms to members of the Sangha.

Later, the Sayadaw of Shwethanbyu Parahita monastery delivered a sermon.

MNA



A member of School Board of Trustees gives prize to Ma May Yupa Aye who secured the outstanding award in the fourth standard for 2011-2012 academic year at the School Family Day and prize presentation ceremony of No. 8 Basic Education High School in Zabuthiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw on 19 January.

MYANMA ALINN

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 27 January, 2013

Scouts reborn

It gives us the great pleasure to welcome the government's recent move to encourage the reintroduction of long-suspended scout movements in the country where the scout programme was banned since almost fifty years ago.

Aimed at boosting morale and morality, physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing of schoolchildren, the Ministry of Education had resumed the formation of the scouts at the schools in each and every region and state across the nation that had a rich five-decade history in scout movements, hoping to nurture the schoolchildren to be equipped with the sense of voluntary service and philanthropy. Before the 50-year ban on the scout movements was lifted, Myanmar used to be described as one of only five of the world's independent countries which do not have scout movements.

Now the scout programme was relaunched nationwide and scouts have been formed with 50 each grade seven boys and girls from the schools of each region and state, totaling 18000 members. Scout movement is a programme of informal education with an emphasis on outdoor activities in which boy and girl scouts are to learn leadership and management skill through the fun ways to become independent self-reliant ones. They are also to be taught to cultivate team spirit and comradeship, to use their initiative and observational skills and to help others. It is aimed to contribute towards the development of future generations in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials as good and able citizens, as conscientious individuals and as duty-conscious and law-abiding members of their communities and the human society.

Following its foundation in the United Kingdom laid down by Robert Baden-Powell in 1907, scouting spread around the globe with its motto "Be Prepared". A total of 190 countries around the world formed the scouts with the membership of 30 million scouts including 10 million girl scouts. Scouting was introduced in Myanmar in 1910 under the programme for British colonies. Myanmar saw the first-ever girl scouts in 1916. The various levels of boy scouts were formed in 1920 and scout movements were terminated in 1963.



(Continued from
20-1-2013)

Examples of some South Asian countries

Issues that regularly trouble developing countries in South Asian countries are decline of capacity and objectiveness in public management and failure to implement project effectively. These causes lead to political instability, terrorism and extremism and decline of public trust in the government. The governments are building trust on the foundation of good governance, inclusiveness, development and security.

As in other developing regions, the governments in South Asian countries suffered the crisis of confidence. According to a research of some scholars in 2005 indicted a decline in trust in political parties and police force. A study of historical background suggests that it is due to the failure to respond local and international pressure with good governance and lack of specific plans to embrace the challenges of the globalization. The Soviet Union's collapse and the globalization paradigm model impact largely on administration process of developed and developing countries. Although developed countries could manage to adjust to the paradigm with fewer difficulties, developing countries had to survive the test of globalization. Countries are identified as

'Partially Failing State', alarming bell ringing state and 'Failed state' or 'Rogue state', according to the gravity of the emerging situations in administrative sectors of developing countries.

In the cold war period, the government could keep many pressing socio-economic, ethnic, regional and religious issues under the carpet. At the end of the cold war, these suppressed issues erupted with severity and in some cases accompanied by violence. As the globalization paradigm also demanded major shift in their orientations, the exhausted developing countries were hard pressed to embrace the new agenda of free-market economy, privatization and deregulation. They had to open up spaces for the civil societies and were also pushed to democratize. Although the new strategy of privatization or private-public partnership or having joint ventures with foreign investors could unburden the governments, the unburdening process did not evolve clearly due to weakness and lack of experience of private sector in most developing countries.

As for the private sector and the civil societies, in infancy, it is hard to cope with the rapid change. The dialectics between the private and public sectors is causing confusion and decline in the credibility of governments. The issue that could escalate crisis is failure to fulfill basic needs. The supply of safe drinking water, food, shelter, electricity and security of the government is inversely proportional to the fast growing demand of the people. The poverty levels have been raised in recent decades, posing the major threat. The above-mentioned issues are the root causes of problems that are common in transition period. The transition will not terminate these issues which will emerge again in many different ways. Looking back the past of

the South Asia, democracy in the region is playing hide and seek. It seems that it is more important that different stakeholders harmonize their interests for the sake of viable democracy.

Administrative practice

Eight characteristics of Good Governance—participatory, consensus oriented, accountable, transparent, responsive, effective and efficient, equitable and inclusive and the rule of law—are shown in a UN report. It produces effective outcomes in which corruption is minimized, the opinions of minorities are to be taken into consideration and the voices of those who are in a very vulnerable position in society are heard.

In the process of realizing these points, the governments have to perform the process simultaneously, not separately and independently, while successfully tackling the issues of current global affairs, media, terrorism, fulfilling the basic needs of the people for their survival and freedom of religion. Addressing these issues effectively is of great benefit to the governments in building trust.

According to a report on human resources development in 2006, problems in administrative mechanism of South Asian countries have occurred and reoccurred in similar patterns. They are lack of adequate resources, ineffective and inefficient goals, a huge degree of political interference for ensuring advantages, a tremendous amount of waste caused by lack of transparency and corruption, capacity inefficiency in administrative departments and poor monitoring and assessment mechanism. The plight of the poor are more suffering than that of the rich while the administrative atmosphere is filled with the aforementioned weaknesses apart from inequalities which are deeply rooted in

public service sector.

Participation

The issue of participation is of vital importance, as it is the link between the people and the political system. The credibility and legitimacy of a certain political system rest on instruments of electoral politics of free and fair elections. There may arise a sense of making a regime change if the government is incompetent when hope and a sense of empowerment occur among the people. The political process operated through electoral activities has firmly existed in India. Although India shares same historical experience with Pakistan, India's political system is obvious contrast to the Pakistan's. In Pakistan, the balance of power is in favour of the president in its hybrid system between the president and parliamentary, after passing through the periods of parliamentary, presidential and military administration. It needs to take more time to attain a stable and mature democracy. Although it encountered a civil war, Sri Lanka with the highest literacy rate of 96 per cent in the region seems to achieve participatory politics as elections were held regularly and parliamentary political system is flourishing in the country. It can be said that Nepal and Bangladesh are stable moving towards a parliamentary political system.

As the matters of participation, development and security are in interaction, there is a trust deficit in governments of South Asian countries to a certain extent. It is not strange that the region which is under challenges and global pressures has not become a model of good governance.

Source: *Building trust in Government in South Asia*, Contributor—Sajjad Naseer

(To be continued every week)

Trs: HKA+YM

Basic fire fighting course kicks off

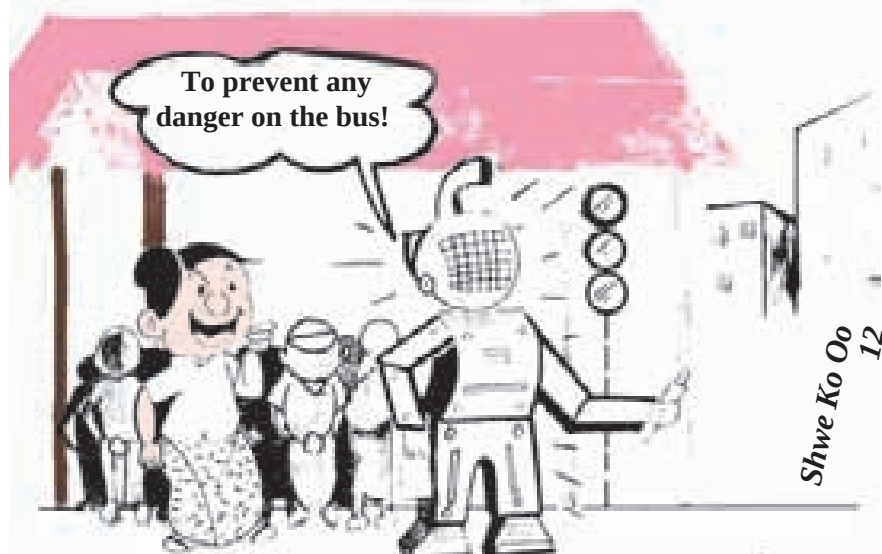
YANGON, 26 Jan—The basic fire fighting course No. 1/2013 was opened for the workers of Saw Mills 3/4/6 and Wataya Raftjetty in Wataya Timber-based Industrial Region of

Shwepyitha Township on 14 January.

After the opening ceremony at No. 3 Saw Mill, officials of Foreign Trade and Saw Mill Division of Myanma

Timber Enterprise viewed fire extinguishers. Later, Head of Township Fire Services Department U Myo Myint Aung and members practised fire drill.

Myanma Alinn



NATIONAL



President U Thein Sein inspects progress in repair of religious buildings in Sampanagoh Village.

MNA



President U Thein Sein oversees progress...

(from page 1)

Afterwards, the President looked into quake-hit historic Anya Thihataw Pagoda in KhinU Township, making a vow to renovate the pagoda by the government and presented provisions to members of the Sangha and made cash donations.

In his inspection tour of worksite of Yadana Theinga bridge project in Shwebo



Photo shows progress in construction of affordable houses.—MNA

Township, the President stressed the need to take care of the family members of service personnel who lost their lives in service in the earthquake and timely completion of construction works.

The President and party arrived back in Nay Pyi Taw via Mandalay.

In Mandalay Region,

735 houses, 25 buildings, eight schools, six hospitals and clinics, 21 religious edifices and 52 pagodas have been renovated so far. In Sagaing Region, 344 houses, 23 office buildings, 78 schools, 11 hospitals and clinics, 75 religious edifices and 69 pagodas have been reconstructed so far.

MNA

Laotian National Assembly President visits Shwedagon Pagoda

YANGON, 26 Jan—Laotian National Assembly President Madam Pany YATHOTOU and party visited Shwedagon Pagoda this morning.

The Laotian National Assembly President signed in the book of visitors and

offered flowers, water and lights to the Pagoda.

They also visited Myanmar Gems Museum on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road in Yangon before their departure from Myanmar in the evening.

MNA

A glimpse of the nature of rural development

The evolution of national-level reform strategy which had started life in earlier 2011 drove Myanmar's political renaissance and socio-economic development by the end of 2012, getting itself ready to undergo administration and management reforms in its third phase.

There arises a need of community-based reform strategies and public enterprises. Political and economic analysts are well aware of the moment being a high time for the ones who implement the policies as the government is formulating them fast.

The shift from Top Down Policy to Bottom Up Initiative to improve living conditions of rural people in 69417 villages, which constitute 70 percent of the entire population, represents community-based policy and governance that has started life.

Side by side with

good governance, the government is planning to develop rural areas and alleviate poverty. Myanmar Socio-Economic Improvement Workshop in 2011 laid eight rural development work plans: **development of agricultural production, development of livestock breeding and fishery, rural productivity and cottage industries, micro saving and credit enterprises, rural socio-economy, rural energy and environmental conservation.**

It has been long that civil societies has play larger role in political developments. Once, there were some privileged private companies due to weak competitiveness. It is now boosted by the rise of high-standard civil societies in a short period.

Stiff competition exists in border development, urbanization, housing development and rural development which are included

in public management. It was made clear by the fact that 95 companies and two organizations submitted bids worth K 37762.30 million in four areas which cover 28 road and bridge construction projects, 22 rural water supply projects, 126 rural electrification and model housing development projects as the Rural Development Department invited tenders through newspapers. It is heartening to see that local companies and organizations eye development of rural areas.

The open tender represents transparency that encourages competitiveness and combat corruption as the public budget must spent by the approval of the representatives of the people. Obviously, soft power and negotiation have replaced hard power and order which characterized the previous eras. Material advantage is the out-of-date concept since modern technologies serve

as the most significant example of the winning combination of soft power and hard power to produce best performance and best results.

Along with the changing political trend of Myanmar which has attracted considerable international attention, international organizations have begun to extend a helping hand. World Bank has granted 80 millions USD toward community-driven project for development of 15 village-tracts—one each in seven regions and seven states and Nay Pyi Taw Council Area—to be implemented over a period of six years from 2012 to 2019. The village-tract development plan is quite interesting.

The plan through people-centered approach will empower rural communities to choose investments they need most and enable the villagers of both sexes to have equal rights and include at least a project

proposed by the women-folk. For three years, each village-tract will receive USD27,000 per year to meet its basic requirements.

Those villages if acted with a traditional sense of community which values mutual support will be able to make their places better for sure.

As it is targeted to reduce the poverty rate up to 16 percent by 2015 in implementing rural development and poverty alleviation scheme, Union ministries, region and state governments and Nay Pyi Taw Council are working hard on a self-reliance basis.

Rural development scheme must be carried with reciprocal check and balance between overseer departments and companies/organizations to guarantee value for public money and standard quality to the people. Only then, can companies/organiza-

tions build up reputation and grasp an opportunity for their potentials.

To mobilize participation of rural folk, joint committees are to be formed with community elders and village administrators. At the same time, focal departments and subordinate divisions and responsible companies/organizations are to teach and lead the villagers in using properly the utilities for their social-economic improvement and minimizing wastage of power and water and damages to facilities. Finally, those villages are to be linked with communication network providing access to information technology.

I wish the success of community-driven socio-economy, the modernization of the popular traditional community-based socio-economic culture in Myanmar society.

Trs: HKA+TKK

Aung Marga (Yawmyay)

Li Xueyong re-elected governor of Jiangsu Province



Li Xueyong, Governor of Jiangsu Province

NANJING, 26 Jan—Li Xueyong was re-elected governor of east China's Jiangsu Province on Friday during the first session of the 12th provincial People's Congress.

Li, born in 1950, is a native of the city of Shijiazhuang in north China's Hebei Province. He has served as Jiangsu's governor since February 2011.

Li previously served as deputy minister of science and technology from 1998 to 2010. His political career in Jiangsu began in December 2010.

Xinhua

Seventeen Chinese fugitives nabbed in Philippines

MANILA, 26 Jan—Philippine authorities have arrested 17 Chinese nationals wanted for internet fraud and cybercrimes in China, a senior government official said on Friday.

Bureau of Immigration (BI) Commissioner Ricardo David Jr said the alien fugitives, 15 of them women, were arrested in Makati City, Metro Manila last Monday during an operation conducted by elements of the immigration fugitive search unit.

He said the arresting

agents stumbled upon the fugitives inside their condominium units in a day-long operation at the Manhattan Square compound along San Agustin Street, Salcedo Village, Makati City.

"All of them could not present their passports and travel documents, thus we will deport them for being undocumented and overstaying aliens," David said.

Atty Ma Antonette Mangrobang, BI acting intelligence chief, said BI operatives conducted intensive surveillance on the for-

eigners' safehouse for several days before they were arrested.

Mangrobang said the Chinese Embassy has sought the immediate deportation of the fugitives so they could face criminal prosecution in China.

"The aliens were subsequently charged with violating our immigration law and they will be deported after the BI board of commissioners issues the order for their summary deportation," he added.

Xinhua

Russia, US share vision on Iran nuclear problem, differ in details: Kremlin

MOSCOW, 26 Jan—Russia and the United States share a common vision on the Iranian nuclear problem but differ on the specific approach to the issue, a Kremlin spokesman said on Friday.

"We do not want to jeopardize the non-proliferation regime, meanwhile we will accept the rights of the Iranians for peaceful use of nuclear energy," Dmitry Peskov told *The National Interest*, an American magazine.

Russia accepts only diplomatic and political means

in dealing with Teheran, rejecting any sanctions, he said.

"We still have room for diplomatic activity and then we still have to use our joint influence to continue the dialogue with Iran. Diplomacy is preferable," Peskov said.

The official noted Moscow hopes Iran would behave reciprocally. "We are hoping for reciprocal understanding from our Iranian partners, who will definitely take a cooperative attitude."

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov warned

on Wednesday at an annual press conference that attempts to solve the Iranian nuclear problem via military means could be dangerous.

Lavrov urged Iran to be responsive to requests from the IAEA on possible military elements in its nuclear programme.

He pointed at the lingering pauses and slow pace of the talks between the P5+1, comprising Britain, France, Russia, the United States, China, plus Germany, and Iran over the latter's nuclear programme.—Xinhua

Toronto mayor allowed to stay in office

TORONTO, 26 Jan—Toronto's divisive mayor, Rob Ford, won an appeal on Friday against a ruling that was set to remove him from office, ending a showdown that has transfixed Canada's biggest city and allowing him to see out his four-year term.

Ford, a magnet for controversy during the two years he has spent as mayor, was ordered out of office last November after he was found guilty of conflict of interest charges, but he was allowed to stay on the job while he appealed.

The initial court ruling said Ford was in con-



Toronto Mayor Rob Ford walks to his office after winning his conflict of interest appeal in Toronto, Ontario on 25 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

flict when he voted at city council to scrap a C\$3,150

penalty imposed on him for accepting donations

from lobbyists of the same amount to his football foundation.

On Friday, a panel of three judges ruled that "council did not have the jurisdiction to impose such a penalty".

Ford also won a libel case recently in which he was sued for C\$6 million (\$5.98 million) over comments he made about corruption at city hall during his 2010 campaign for mayor.

He still faces an audit of his election campaign. The penalty in the audit case could also include removal from office.—Reuters

Chad's president calls for more vigilance due to rising fundamentalism

N'DJAMENA, 26 Jan—Chad's President Idriss Deby Itno who has taken a decision to send to Mali 2,000 soldiers to "fight for freedom and democracy," on Wednesday appealed to his fellow citizens to remain vigilant given the rising religious fundamentalism in the Sahel region.

"I want to appeal to the residents living in Hadjer

Lamis, Kanem and Barh El Ghazal (in the North-Western region of Chad that borders Niger and Nigeria where Boko Haram Islamist sect operates) to remain vigilant against all forms of religious fundamentalism and to also reject all forms of extremism regardless of the source, "the president said after launching the tarmacking works of roads in

Northern Chad.

He warned that if Chadians tolerate religious fanatics, drug traffickers and terrorists to live among them, then they will be allowing their own self-destruction and committing collective suicide, besides losing secular and republican values that can lead to the disappearance of their country which is considered

as a cradle for humanity.

He said that his country which had suffered for a long time due to dictatorship and a number of foreign aggressions, is proud to contribute to the re-establishment of Mali's territorial integrity. The president reiterated that Chad will strongly oppose any attempts to destabilize the sub-region.—Xinhua



Syrian refugees hold a rally to call on assistance from international society in front of the UN office in Tripoli, northern Lebanon, on 24 Jan, 2013. Since March 2011, the crisis in Syria has left tens of thousands people killed and millions in need of assistance. In addition, large numbers of Syrians have fled their homeland for refuge in neighbouring countries.

XINHUA

54 killed in Venezuela prison riot

CARACAS, 26 Jan—At least 54 people were killed and 88 others injured on Friday in a prison riot in northwest Venezuela, local media reported.

Crossfire broke out in Uribana prison outside Barquisimeto in Lara state after some prisoners resisted a spot check on weapons at the prison.

Explosions were heard near the prison, which currently jails 2,600 inmates, official records show.

Nineteen ambulances arrived at the scene, and a

priest and a soldier were among the dead.

The Venezuelan government has not yet made any comments on the revolt, one of the most violent incidents in the country.

Venezuela is one of the most violent countries in Latin America. More than 21,000 murders were registered in the country in 2012, up 15 percent from the previous year, according to international organizations. National murder rate has reached 73 per 100,000 inhabitants.—Xinhua

India holds 64th Republic Day parade in Delhi

NEW DELHI, 26 Jan—India on Saturday held the 64th Republic Day parade in central Delhi by displaying its cultural heritage and military strength.

The parade was held on an eight-km route from Rajpath, a central axis of the capital city, to the historical Red Fort, the imperial palace of the Mughal Empire.

India's new Agni-V ballistic missile, which is capable of striking targets some 6,000 km away, was mounted on a road mo-

bile launcher and paraded through the Rajpath from the Presidential Palace to the Indian Gate.

Indian President Pranab Mukherjee, visiting Bhutan king Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck, Vice President Hamid Ansari, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, Defence Minister AK Antony, ruling United Progressive Alliance Chairperson Sonia Gandhi, and top political and military brass reviewed the parade.

Xinhua



People bundled up against the cold walk in New York's mid-town Manhattan, on 25 Jan, 2013, as cold continues to grip the northeast US.

XINHUA

REGIONAL

China's Xi meets Japanese ruling party leader

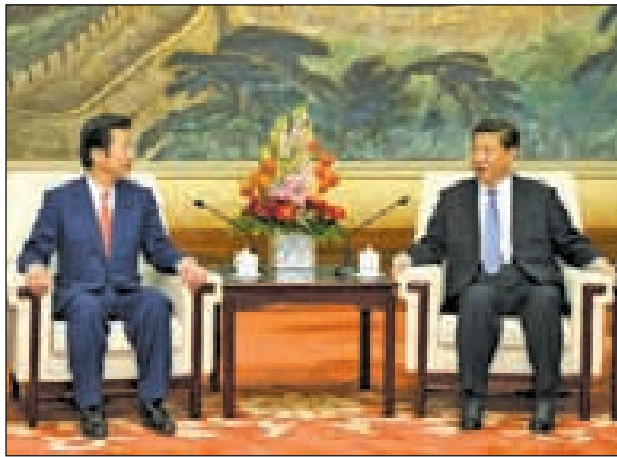
BEIJING, 26 Jan — Xi Jinping, General Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, met with Natsuo Yamaguchi, leader of the New Komeito party on Friday morning in Beijing.

Yamaguchi, who arrived in Beijing on Tuesday, is the first senior member of the

Japanese ruling bloc to travel to China since the Japanese government announced in September the “purchase” of part of the Diaoyu Islands, a move that soured bilateral relations.

The New Komeito party is the smaller one of Japan's two ruling parties.

Xinhua



Xi Jinping (R), general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, meets with Natsuo Yamaguchi, leader of the New Komeito party, one of Japan's two ruling parties, at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, capital of China, on 25 Jan, 2013.

XINHUA

India to present Dornier aircraft to Seychelles

NEW DELHI, 26 Jan— India is to gift a home-made Dornier-228 maritime reconnaissance aircraft to Seychelles this month, local media reported on Friday.

Indian Defence Minister AK Antony will present Seychelles President James Michel the Dornier-228 maritime reconnaissance aircraft at an event in the national capital, *The Times of India* newspaper reported.

The aim is to help the Indian Ocean country keep its exclusive economic zone under better surveillance as well as guard against terrorism and piracy, the report said.

The Indian Navy has for the last few years been regularly deploying Dorniers and helicopters in Seychelles as well as stepping up the visits of its warships to the region to help in anti-piracy operations.

Xinhua

Cambodia releases list of foreign leaders to attend Sihanouk's cremation



Cambodian soldiers carry ammunition during a test fire in preparations for the funeral march procession for late former King Norodom Sihanouk at the Parachute Battalion on the outskirts of Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 25 Jan, 2013. —XINHUA

PHNOM PENH, 26 Jan— Cambodian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Friday released a list of foreign leaders who will attend the royal cremation ceremony of the late King Father Norodom Sihanouk on 4 February in the Cambodian

capital.

Among them are Jia Qinglin, chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, French Prime Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault, Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan

Dung, Thai Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra, Laos Prime Minister Thongsing Thammavong, Vice President of the Philippines Jejomar C. Binay, and Japan's Prince Akishino, among others.

According to a ministry statement, Jia Qinglin, Jean-Marc Ayrault and Prince Akishino will be received in separate royal audience by Cambodian King Norodom Sihamoni and Queen-Mother Norodom Monineath at the Royal Palace. Sihanouk died of illness at the age of 90 in Beijing on 15 October, last year. Currently, his body is lying in state at the Royal Palace for the public to pay tribute. The body will be moved from the Royal Palace to a custom-built crematorium at the Veal Preah Meru Square next to the Palace on Feb. 1 and kept for another three days at the site before it is cremated on 4 February.—Xinhua

Japan's airlines back Boeing, as battery probes make slow progress

TOKYO, 26 Jan— Japan's leading airlines are firmly behind Boeing Co's 787 Dreamliner, saying they have had no second thoughts on orders for several dozen more of the planes—even as they have \$5 billion worth of the futuristic aircraft sitting idle pending a complex investigation into unexplained battery problems.

All Nippon Airways Co and Japan Airlines Co Ltd have been the biggest customers to date for the technologically advanced 787 jetliner, which has a list price of \$207 million and is about one third made by Japanese companies—from fuselage and engine parts to batteries and toilets.

US safety officials said on Thursday they were nowhere close to completing their probe into a battery fire on a JAL-operated 787 at Boston



An All Nippon Airways (ANA) Boeing 787 Dreamliner is seen after making an emergency landing at Takamatsu airport in western Japan, in this photo taken by Kyodo, on 16 Janu, 2013. The plane made the landing in Takamatsu after smoke appeared in the plane's cockpit, but all 137 passengers and crew members were evacuated safely, Osaka Airport said.

REUTERS

airport almost three weeks ago. [ID:nL1N0AT9JR] And investigators in Japan, looking into a later incident that prompted an ANA 787 to make an emergency landing on a domestic flight, have made little headway

in finding out what caused a lithium-ion battery to overheat, triggering alarms in the plane's cockpit.

All 50 Dreamliners in service were grounded on 17 January.

Reuters

32 killed in armed clashes between militant groups in NW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 26 Jan— At least 32 people were killed and over a dozen others injured on Friday during the ongoing fierce clashes between two militant groups in northwest Pakistan, local media reported.

Local media quoting official sources said that the outlawed Tehrik-i-Taleban Pakistan (TTP) and Ansarul Islam (AI) militant groups were fighting for their control in the Tirah Valley of the Khyber Agency, Pakistan's northwestern tribal region bordering Afghanistan.

The clashes started between TTP and AI militants in Maidan village

of Tirah Valley on Friday morning that continued till the evening. The official sources feared that the death toll was likely to surge as the battle had not ended yet.

The fighters on both sides have been using heavy weapons including grenades, rockets and mortar shells along with automatic guns.

There have been no words from militant groups involved in the skirmishes.

The clashes between different militant groups were also witnessed in the past in the same region, especially, between TTP and local small faction Lashkar-e-Islam (LI).—Xinhua

N Korea has improved missile technology

TOKYO, 26 Jan—Japan Defence Ministry officials say North Korea's December missile launch indicates the country has improved its missile-control technology.

The ministry on Friday released a report based on its analysis of the North's ballistic-missile launch last month. North Korea calls it a satellite-carrying rocket.

Ministry analysts used flight data, part of which was collected by Aegis ships.

Their report analyzes the three-stage rocket's flight course after its launch southward from North Korea's northwestern coast.

The analysts noted that the rocket's third stage appeared to change course westward over the East China Sea, off the South Korean coast.

Observers recorded that an object carried by the rocket then entered orbit. They have since confirmed the object continues in orbit.

Experts say a rocket needs to change course in order to send a satellite into orbit. This is done by adjusting the power of the rocket's propulsion devices.

The ministry says its analysis shows North Korea has developed the necessary

technology to complete this step.

The report also says the rocket's third stage passed about 500 kilometers above the Sakishima Islands in Japan's Okinawa Prefecture. The second stage flew about 430 kilometres above the islands and fell into the sea off the Philippines.

Former Maritime Self-Defence Force admiral Hideaki Kaneda says the North Korean situation must be closely monitored. He warns the nation may develop the technology to effectively launch a long-range ballistic missile.—NHK



ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

YANGON GOLF CLUB
(DANYINGONE)
Annual General Meeting

All Members of Yangon Golf Club are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting to be held as follows:

Date - 17th February 2013
Place - Yangon Golf Club
Time - 10:00 (a.m)

Executive Committee
Yangon Golf Club
(01 635563, 635617, 635842, 09 73254835)

MYANMAR YANG TSE COPPER LIMITED
(OVERSEAS TENDER NOTICE)

TENDER NO. (IFB No. CCS-02-13)

Sale of an estimated (800 metric tons) of Copper Cathode from MYTCL S&K Mine site in Monywa, Myanmar.

CLOSING DATE & TIME: 4th February 2013 at
12:00 pm

Tender document is available at the following address. Any queries can be done between 10 am to 4 pm at MYTCL Yangon office before the Tender Closing Date.

Myanmar Yang Tse Copper Limited

70(I) Bo Chein Street, Pyay Road, Hlaing Township
Yangon, Myanmar (Tel: (95) 1-514194 to 7/
Fax: (95) 1 514208/ Email: yantse@yangtse.com.mm)



Spain's Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy delivers a speech at the Government Palace in Lima, capital of Peru, on 24 Jan, 2013. Rajoy is on an official visit to Peru.
XINHUA

Second suspect charged in Texas college shooting

HOUSTON, 26 Jan—A second suspect has been charged with two counts of aggravated assault in the shooting that left three wounded at a community college in the US state of Texas, authorities said on Thursday.

Trey Foster, 22, who was charged with aggravated assault Thursday morning, appears to have been the actual shooter in the Tuesday afternoon shooting at the North Harris campus of Lone Star College, according to an online report by newspaper *The Houston Chronicle*.

Authorities also have charged the first suspect, 22-year-old Carlton Berry, with two counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, according to the report.

Berry, who is Foster's friend, initially denied knowing anything about

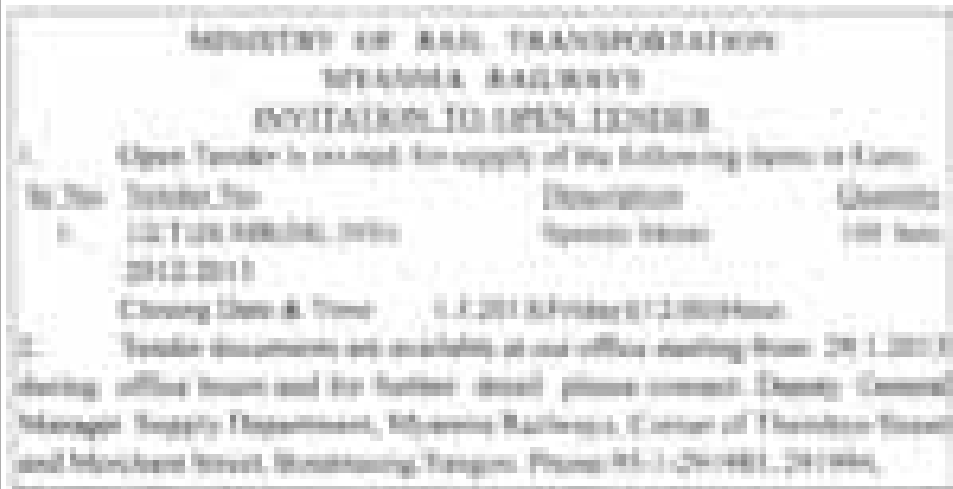
the shooting, but later told investigators that a student had "bumped" into Foster earlier in the day, and it had escalated into an argument.

Berry told authorities that Foster said he was going to fight the man if he saw him again. When he saw the man again, another argument broke out and Foster began shooting, according to court records.

Harris County Sheriff Adrian Garcia said at least 10 shots were fired on Tuesday on the campus. Jody Neal, 25, was hit in the leg and abdomen. It's unclear if Neal was the intended target of the shooting.

An innocent bystander, Bobby Cliburn, a 55-year-old maintenance worker on campus, was also caught in the crossfire and shot in the leg.

Xinhua



Overnight explosions hit suburb of Syrian capital, casualties feared

DAMASCUS, 26 Jan—A blast rocked a suburb of the Syrian capital Damascus on Thursday overnight, leaving an unknown number of casualties, the state-TV said.

The blast rocked Sa'sa suburb of Damascus, said the report, adding that many people were killed or injured.

The state-media has stopped short of giving further details, but an online news website said that two suicide car bombs ripped through a checkpoint and a branch of military security

in that area. It added that the second car was rigged with two tons of explosives.

The twin blasts were followed by hours-long clashes between the army and armed militiamen, the report said.

No party has claimed responsibility for the blast, but previous similar ones had been claimed by the al-Qaeda-linked Nusra Front.

Meanwhile, an explosive device went off in al-Qaimaria area in the old quarter of Damascus late on Thursday, injuring two people, local media said.

Military officer escapes assassination in southeastern Yemen

ADEN, 26 Jan—A senior military officer escaped an assassination attempt in Yemen's southeastern Province of Shabwa on Thursday evening, a government official told *Xinhua*. Two unidentified gunmen riding motorcycles shot at Col Hamid al-Someli, the commander of the 119th Armored Brigade in Shabwa Province, the local official said on condition of anonymity.

"Colonel Hamid was driving his own car on a main road when the masked men on motorcycles intercepted his car and shot at him," the government source said.

Another military intelligence officer told *Xinhua* anonymously that Col. Hamid was returning back to

his residential building from a meeting with army commanders at the 119th Brigade when his two-car convoy was attacked. The Yemeni interior ministry's latest statistics showed that more than 70 high-ranking officers were killed last year in hit-and-run shootings across the country, most of those assassinations were claimed responsibility by al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP).

Yemen has undergone a political transition led by President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi after the step down of former President Ali Abdullah Saleh earlier last year. An offensive was launched in 2012 against al-Qaeda hideouts in the southern Province of Abyan.—*Xinhua*

Flood continues hitting southern Mozambique

MAPUTO, 26 Jan—Flood continues hitting southern Mozambique with Xai-Xai, the provincial capital of Gaza in danger of the deluge.

The National Water Board (DNA) on Thursday said floods surge down the Limpopo River have already overwhelmed the towns of Chokwe and Canicado and now heading downstream to-

wards the provincial capital.

Rute Nhamucho of the National Emergency Operational Centre (CENOE) told reporters that on Friday the Limpopo will rise above flood alert level at Xai-Xai and that the low-lying parts of the Xai-Xai will be seriously flooded on Saturday.

Facing the danger, the authorities are working to

evacuate people from areas at risk. An accommodation center for flood victims has been set up in the city.

The CENOE has positioned three boats for search and rescue operations. At the Sicacate measuring station, which is between Chokwe and Xai-Xai, the Limpopo River was measured on Thursday morning at 10.67

Turkish PM reshuffles cabinet

ANKARA, 26 Jan — Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan reshuffled his cabinet and named four new ministers following a meeting with President Abdullah Gul on Thursday. According to the reshuffle, Interior Minister Idris Naim Sahin left his post to Muammer Guler, former Istanbul Governor, while Justice and Development Party's (AK Party) Deputy Chairman Omer Celik was appointed as the new minister of culture and tourism.

Nabi Avci, who heads the parliamentary Education Commission, was appointed as the new education minister and AK Party's another leader Mehmet Muezzinoglu replaced Recep Akdag as the health minister.

The reshuffle took place as the new peace talks between the Turkish government and Abdullah Ocalan, the imprisoned leader of the outlawed Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK) has just been initiated.

Also, the reshuffle shows that Erdogan intended to gather his best men to be well prepared for the upcoming elections.—*Xinhua*

Xinhua



Syrian refugees hold a rally to call on assistance from international society in front of the UN office in Tripoli, northern Lebanon, on 24 Jan, 2013. Since March 2011, the crisis in Syria has left tens of thousands people killed and millions in need of assistance. In addition, large numbers of Syrians have fled their homeland for refuge in neighbouring countries.—XINHUA

metres, said Nhamucho.

This is 5.67 metres above flood alert level. The people living in villages on the lower Limpopo in Xai-Xai district are being urged to move to higher places to take any goods away from the banks of the river and to avoid any attempt to cross the Limpopo River.

Xinhua

ENTERTAINMENT

Mila Kunis' stalker was arrested after showing up at her gym three days in a row.
PTI



Mila Kunis' stalker ordered to stay away from her for 10 years

NEW DELHI, 26 Jan—Mila Kunis' stalker has been ordered to stay away from her for 10 years.

Stuart Lynn Dunn pleaded no contest to charges of harassing the Friends with Benefits actress in Los Angeles Superior Court on 22 January, and Judge George Lomeli also ordered him to complete six months of residential rehab and placed him on five years of felony probation.

Judge Lomeli also gave Dunn—who has been ordered to stay away from Mila's agents, managers and assistants—credit for 528 days he spent in jail.

Dunn had been in custody since last May after he was arrested for showing up at Mila's Beverly Hills gym three days in a row.

As he tried to approach her at the gym, Mila alerted authorities as he already had a restraining, stemming from when he pleaded no contest to breaking into an at-the-time-unoccupied condo owned by the 27-year-old beauty.

Last June, LAPD Detective John Gregozek testified at a hearing to say Mila had stated to authorities that she was "in fear for her safety".

PTI

First Steve Jobs movie gets red carpet premiere

PARK CITY, 26 Jan—The first movie about Apple's legendary co-founder got its world premiere on Friday, just 15 months after Steve Jobs' death.

"jOBS," starring "Two and a Half Men" actor Ashton Kutcher as the tech and computer entrepreneur who revolutionized the way people listen to music and built Apple Inc into an international powerhouse, got a red carpet roll-out at the Sundance Film Festival ahead of a US national release in April.

"jOBS" chronicles 30 defining years of the late Apple chairman, from an experimental youth to the man in charge of one of the world's most recognized brands. It is the first of two US feature films about Jobs, who died in 2011 at age 56.

"Everybody has their own opinion about Steve Jobs, and they have something invested in a different part of his story. So the challenge is to decide what part of his story to tell, and not disenfranchise anybody," director Josh Stern told Reuters ahead of the screening.



"Hazarding a guess and venturing into too much speculation is always dangerous, especially with a character who is so well-known..." Stern added.

Kutcher, 34, said on Friday he was honored to play Jobs but also terrified because of the former Apple chairman's iconic status.

"To be playing a guy who so freshly is in people's minds, where everywhere you go you can run into people who met him or knew him or had seen a video of him ... that's terrifying because everyone is an appropriate critic," Kutcher told Reuters.

"Everyone can tear you apart. Everyone can look at any detail, a piece of clothing or a speech pattern and go 'No, no, this is not what it was,' and that's really scary," the actor said.

Reuters

Katie Holmes' 'slimy' beauty secret

NEW DELHI, 26 Jan—Katie Holmes is improving her complexion with snail slime.

The 34-year-old actress—who split from husband Tom Cruise last July—was reportedly recommended to use creams containing mucin, snail extract which is found in some South American and South Korean products, and is already impressed by the results.

A source said: "Last

year was hard for Katie. She knows she's got a lot of catching up to do in terms of her career and is trying anything she can to stay looking her best.

"A friend recommended she used snail gel and she's really happy with how smooth her skin looks."

Katie—whose Broadway play Dead Accounts was axed seven weeks early due to poor ticket sales—is making an effort to look her best in a bid to boost both

her career and personal life.

The source added to LOOK magazine: "Katie's going all out to look amazing for

auditions to land a dream film role.

"She knows it's time to relaunch herself completely." Since splitting from Tom, Katie has relocated to New York City, where she



Katie Holmes

lives with the couple's six-year-old daughter, Suri.

PTI

Daniel Craig gaining weight after James Bond?

LONDON, 26 Jan—Actor Daniel Craig has reportedly gained weight ever since he stopped filming for James Bond franchise.

Craig, 44, who appeared in three Bond movies consecutively, has been advised by his friends to hit the gym again, reports dailystar.co.uk.

"He spent months beefing up for Bond.

He needs to get

back in the gym and start a nutritional plan to regain his Bond-esque muscles," a source said.

"Having a flabby stomach is not really his style," the source added.

Craig has played role of James Bond in 2006 release Casino Royale, 2008 release Quantum Of Solace and Skyfall, which released in 2012.

PTI



Daniel Craig

US TV channels to air 'Legend of Zhen Huan'

BEIJING, 26 Jan — Zheng, also a member of Beijing Municipality's Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference—the local advisory body, said he has so far signed a draft contract with a US company, who will later re-cut the series into six mini-films to be broadcasted by the mainstream US TV stations. Zheng said the unnamed US company plans to re-edit the entire series, while at the same time adding some scenes and changing its soundtrack. He said the original Chinese producers will completely stay out of the remake, because they are not up-to-date about what would appeal to the American viewer.

Additionally, the company believes the show can attract a large audience on the English speaking market, according to Zheng, who added that the show's popularity in China is based on the positive values it tries to convey. The show has reportedly been aired in its original language on several Chinese TV stations in the States. Of course this language barrier limited

its audience to one strictly consisting of ethnic Chinese based in the US. But the remake of the "Legend of Zhen Huan" will enable it to reach a broader public. "This is a real going-abroad," the director said.

Despite the excitement surrounding the new project, China's online community has expressed some concern. One netizen named @Zhang Xinyu wasn't sure whether or not the Americans would understand the drama's cultural implica-

tions. But she showed optimism about the show's ability to expand cultural influence. A Californian student who has been living in China for five years said he had watched the show in its original version. The student, named Shang De in Chinese, was doubtful about the remake. "Most of my friends from the US and Europe are more interested in blind dating shows such as 'If You Are the One'," he said.

In his opinion, the cul-

tural difference forms the main obstacle for obtaining good ratings. On the one hand, the plot seems too slow to be exciting, unlike the average Hollywood or HBO show. On the other hand, the American audience still has difficulties to comprehend any Chinese costume drama set in long foregone times. Shang added that Jackie Chan and Zhang Yimou's films cater better to the average American taste.

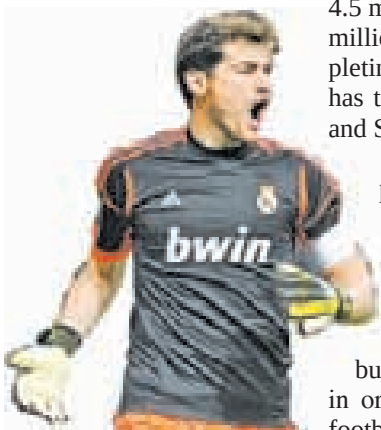
Xinhua



A popular Chinese costume drama, "Legend of Zhen Huan," is likely to be introduced in the United States, said the series' director Zheng Xiaolong.—XINHUA

SPORTS

Real Madrid re-sign Diego Lopez to cover for the injured Casillas



Iker Casillas

MADRID, 26 Jan—Real Madrid this Friday announced the signing of Sevilla goalkeeper Diego Lopez to cover the loss of Iker Casillas, who will be out of action for almost three months after breaking a bone in his left hand. Lopez, who is a product of the Real Madrid youth system, returns to the club for

4.5 million Euros (around 6 million US dollars), completing a round trip which has taken him to Villarreal and Sevilla.

The 31-year-old played for the Real Madrid C and B teams before being promoted to the first team squad as substitute to Casillas, but left the club in 2007 in order to play first team football. He left Villarreal after five seasons following the club's relegation to the second division at the end of last season, but his move to Sevilla was not a success given that he has only made eight league starts and had lost his place in the side to veteran Andres Palop.

One reason for Madrid's decision to sign a keeper is that although Casillas underwent a successful operation on the

hand he broke in the Copa del Rey on Wednesday night, his recovery time has been extended from two to three months, meaning he will not be available again until the end of April. He will miss the club's Copa del Rey semi-final against FC Barcelona, the last 16 Champions League tie against Manchester United and around 12 BBVA Primera Liga matches.

Given the length of Casillas' absence the club have decided to bring in an experienced player to compete for a first team spot with Antonio Adan, who has only a handful of appearances to his name. Lopez could make what will be his third league appearance for Madrid at home to Getafe on Sunday and it will be interesting to

see if coach Jose Mourinho puts his faith in his new signing or in Adan, a keeper who he picked ahead of Casillas in two matches earlier this month, arguing he was in better condition than the now injured Spain international.

Xinhua



Diego Lopez



Sumo: Harumafuji on brink of New Year championship win

TOKYO, 26 Jan—His difficult yokozuna debut at the Kyushu basho now a distant memory, Harumafuji outfoxed ozeki Kisenosato on Friday to move within one win of his third championship title in four meets at the New Year Grand Sumo Tournament.

The Mongolian firebrand was quick on his feet after the tachi-ai charge and

dodged Kisenosato (10-3) before knocking him out of the dohyo and out of title contention to improve to 13-0.

Harumafuji, who has risen from the ashes of a horrible grand champion debut and left his critics choking on their words, can wrap up the title with victory over Kakuryu on Saturday.—Kyodo News

Bruins rebound from Rangers loss to beat Islanders

BOSTON, 26 Jan—The Boston Bruins rebounded from their overtime loss to the New York Rangers two nights earlier to beat the Islanders 4-2 on Friday.

Tied 2-2 going into the third period, Boston went ahead through defenseman Zdeno Chara, who began his NHL career with the

Islanders, before center Patrice Bergeron scored his first goal of the season on a breakaway to seal the win.

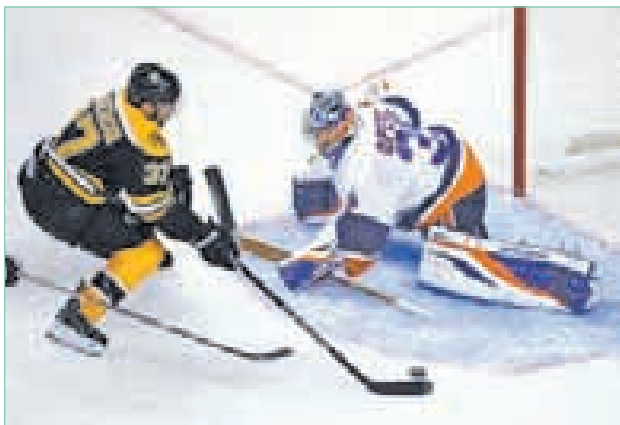
Right wing Shawn Thornton and center Gregory Campbell also scored for the Bruins, who have produced nine different goal scorers from their first four games of the short-

ened season, that began last weekend after the lockout ended.

The Bruins, Stanley Cup champions two seasons ago, have made a flying start, winning three of their first four games with the only loss being in overtime to the Rangers. The New York Islanders, who have split their first games 2-2, got both their goals from veteran center Keith Aucoin, one in each of the first two periods.—Reuters

Boston Bruins' center Patrice Bergeron (L) scores a goal against New York Islanders' goaltender Rick DiPietro in the third period of their NHL hockey game in Boston, Massachusetts on 25 Jan, 2013.

REUTERS



France back Dulin out of Six Nations squad with injury

PARIS, 26 Jan—France fullback Brice Dulin will be out of action for several weeks because of a hamstring injury and is set to miss most of the Six Nations championship, the French federation (FFR) said on Friday.

Fullback Maxime Medard has been called up as a replacement in the 33-man preliminary squad which will gather on Saturday to prepare for the competition, the FFR said in a statement. Winger Vincent Clerc also picked up a minor injury on Friday while

playing with his club side Toulouse and is doubtful.

The 22-year-old Dulin, who started France's last five games, picked up the injury during a French league game with his French club Castres on Thursday. "With league games so close to the start of our competition, we have to expect this kind of news," France manager Philippe Saint-Andre was quoted as saying in the statement.

Medard, 26, returned last November after a knee injury he suffered during

France's win over Scotland last year in the Six Nations ruled him out for eight months. The Toulouse fullback, who was the first choice in the position dur-

ing the 2011 World Cup, has 31 caps. France's squad for their opening game in Italy on February 3 will be named on Monday.

Reuters



Azarenka eyes second straight Australian Open crown

MELBOURNE, 26 Jan—Defending champion Victoria Azarenka will bid for back-to-back titles at Melbourne Park on Saturday when she takes on China's late-blooming Li Na in the final of the Australian Open. The 23-year-old Belarusian holds a 5-4 career record against former French Open champion Li, including the last four of their encounters.

Li, however, has prevailed in both their grand slam clashes, including her run to the 2011 final at Melbourne Park where she was overhauled by Belgian Kim Clijsters in three sets. Both players are bidding for their second grand slam crown.

Top seed Azarenka has endured a turbulent leadup to the final, fending off accusations of

gamesmanship in her 6-1, 6-4 semi-final win over Sloane Stephens in which she took a near-10 minute

medical time-out after blowing five match points.

Belarus's first grand slam singles champion denied the charge, however, saying she needed treatment for a rib injury that was affecting her breathing during the tense phase of the match.

Li has enjoyed a far smoother lead-in and will enter Rod Laver Arena brimful of confidence after demolishing Maria Sharapova 6-2, 6-2 in their last-four clash. Defeat for Azarenka would mean surrendering her world number one ranking to Serena Williams, while victory for Li would make the Chinese the oldest woman to win the singles trophy at Melbourne Park.—Reuters



Victoria Azarenka of Belarus hits a return during a practice session watched by her coach Sam Sumyk at the Australian Open tennis tournament in Melbourne on 25 Jan, 2013.

REUTERS

ICC confirms Cuttack as venue for Women World Cup

MUMBAI, 26 Jan—The ICC today confirmed that some of the Women cricket World Cup matches have been being relocated to the Odisha city of Cuttack but the summit clash of the mega event will be played in Mumbai as scheduled.

In the wake of protest threats by Hindu Hardliner Shiv Sena, the organisers



were forced to move the Group B matches, involving Pakistan team out of the Mumbai city.—PTI

GENERAL

Lady doctors meet in AGM 2012

YANGON, 26 Jan—The Women's Chapter of Myanmar Medical Association (Yangon Region) held the Annual General Meeting 2012 at the auditorium of Myanmar Medical Association on Theinbyu Street in Mingala Taungnyunt on 20 January.

Chairperson of the chapter Dr Daw Khin Mar Aye presided over the meeting.

Secretary Dr Daw Myat Lay read the annual report and Dr Daw Nyunt



Nyunt Than, the financial report. Members of the chapter participated in the discussion.

The meeting focused on increasing number of

more members of the association and making field trips to grass-root level to provide health care services to the people.

Myanma Alinn

Murray outmuscles Federer to reach Melbourne final

MELBOURNE, 26 Jan — Andy Murray won a knock-down-drag-out thriller of a scrap with Roger Federer on Friday to set up an Australian Open final against Novak Djokovic and finally beat the Swiss for the first time at a

grand slam.

Charged with confidence after claiming his first grand slam title at last year's US Open and beating Federer in the Olympic final, Murray met the Swiss as a peer and prevailed 6-4, 6-7,

6-3, 6-7, 6-2 after four hours of top quality tennis.

The 25-year-old Briton blasted 21 aces and won the winner count 62-43 but it was only in the fifth set that he was able to pull away from the 17-times grand slam champion to reach his third Melbourne Park final.

Reuters

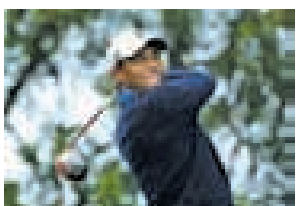


Andy Murray of Britain (R) shakes hands with Roger Federer of Switzerland after defeating him in their men's singles semi-final match at the Australian Open tennis tournament in Melbourne, on 25 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

Tiger takes control at rainy Torrey Pines

SAN DIEGO, 26 Jan—It was just like old times for Tiger Woods at a rain-sodden Torrey Pines on Friday as the former world number one surged into a two-shot lead in the second round of the Farmers Insurance Open.

Six-times champion Woods eagled the par-five 18th, his ninth hole of the day, en route to a seven-under-par 65 on the easier North Course, one of two layouts hosting the fourth



US golfer Tiger Woods hits off the 16th tee of the north course at Torrey Pines during second round play at the Farmers Insurance Open in San Diego, California, on 25 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

PGA Tour event of the season.

Back at a venue where he has always felt extremely comfortable, the 37-year-old American took advantage of the four reachable par-fives as he also carded six birdies and a lone bogey to finish at 11-under 133.

"I played well today. I drove the ball great and took advantage of the par-fives," Woods told reporters after covering the par-five holes in a combined five under. "That's basically where the round could be had. "But it's tough out there," he added after playing his final hole in a heavy downpour.

"The greens became pretty soft, and they became pretty bumpy. "I tried to hit every putt where it was just falling in and not having any putts coming back because they're a little testy from about two feet."

Reuters

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(27-1-13 09:30 am ~ 28-1-13 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * Media Campaign for Early Childhood Care and Development
- * Music
- * Aquarium Nay Pyi Taw: A Pleasant Underwater Heaven
- * Journey to Unimaginable Spots (Episode-4)
- * Topic On Journal "HIV/AIDS Discussion"
- * A World-class recreation Centre
- * Conference on Promotion of Construction Industry in Housing Delivery
- * MI People's Celebrities "Delicious Dishes by Khin Phone & Mg Thet"
- * Western Union Bringing The World To Myanmar
- * Irrawaddy Literary Festival Press Conference
- * "Product of Myanmar" Seashells Products
- * Paragu Shantiniketan Library
- * Signing Ceremony between UMFCI and Sphere Conference
- * Myanmar Movies "Forgive and Forget"

MYANMAR TV

(27-1-2013, Sunday)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 7:00 am | 2:40 pm |
| 1. Metta Bhavana By Mingun Sayadaw Phayagyi -Uppatasanti Paritta | 14. International News |
| 7:25 am | 2:50 pm |
| 2. To Be Healthy Exercise | 15. MFF BEACH SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP 2013 (Live) |
| 7:40 am | 3:50 pm |
| 3. Dhamma Puja Song | 16. MFF BEACH SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP 2013 (Live) (Final Match) |
| 7:50 am | 4:50 pm |
| 4. Nice & Sweet Song | 17. Musical Programme |
| 8:00 am | 5:05 pm |
| 5. Health Programme | 18. Instrumental Music |
| 8:15 am | 5:10 pm |
| 6. (38) Phyar Mingalars | 19. Song of National Races |
| 8:25 am | 5:15 pm |
| 7. Teleplay (Health) | 20. Sing & Enjoy |
| 8:45 am | 6:00 pm |
| 8. Musical Programme | 21. Evening News |
| 11:00 am | 6:15 pm |
| 9. Martial Song | 22. Weather Report |
| 11:20 am | 6:20 pm |
| 10. Round Up Of The Week's TV International News | 23. Cartoon Series |
| 11:30 am | 7:00 pm |
| 11. Myanmar Video | 24. News |
| 1:30 pm | 25. TV Drama Series |
| 12. Documentary | 10:00 pm |
| 1:45 pm | 26. New Melody |
| 13. Dimond Jubilee Concert by Mamdaly Myoma Music Troupe | |

Ceremony in Vietnam marks war-end anniversary

TOKYO, 26 Jan —A ceremony was held in Hanoi on Friday, 2 days ahead of the 40th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War.

On 27th January 1973, an agreement was signed in Paris by the United States, North and South Vietnam that ended direct US involvement in the war.

Friday's ceremony was attended by 1,500 officials and veterans, including

of the Communist Party.

He justified Communist Party rule and stressed the historical significance of their resistance that forced US troops out of the country.

Truong also said he will do all he can to preserve the nation's independence, sovereignty and territory by taking advantage of lessons learned from history.

The Vietnamese



former Vice President Nguyen Thi Binh.

In his speech, President Truong Tan Sang said the country won a landmark victory under the leadership

government is increasingly wary of the growing maritime presence of China, with their competing claims over islands in the South China Sea.—NHK

No Smoking

World For World

"It is our job to figure out what happened and do everything we can to prevent it from ever happening again."

The angry secretary of state said it at the postponed Senate hearing before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee—her last appearance as the secretary of state—on Benghazi attack as she defends her handling of the deadly attack that killed some Americans including the US Ambassador to Libya.

Hillary Clinton
Outgoing US Secretary of State

"The most challenged country in the world must not be divided."

Before the election, Netanyahu said the country with as many enemies as Israeli cannot afford a week ruling party in his last-ditch effort to lure citizens to vote for his party. His party won the parliamentary election.

Benjamin Netanyahu
Israeli Prime Minister

"I'm grateful to the thousands of activists and volunteers who helped us get to where we are."

The political newcomer who led the second largest Yesh Atid party in Israeli election acknowledged victory of Netanyahu and declined the rumours of possible coalition with center-left parties in a brief statement outside his residence in Tel Aviv.

Yair Lapid
Israeli politician

- NLM -

Sources: Reuters and Xinhua

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham attends reception to mark India's 64th Anniversary Republic Day

YANGON, 26 Jan—Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife Daw Nan Shwe Hmon attended a reception to mark 64th Anniversary Republic Day of India at the Indian ambassador's residence here this evening.

It was also attended by Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing and wife, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe and wife, Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Hsan Oo and wife, Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister U Zin Yaw and senior military officers, departmental heads, officials of foreign missions in Myanmar.

Indian Ambassador Dr Villur Sundararajan Seshadri and wife welcomed the Vice-President and wife on their

arrival at the residence in the evening.

The band played national anthems of Myanmar and India.

The Vice-President and wife posed for documentary photo with the Indian Ambassador and wife and guests.

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife Daw Nan Shwe Hmon then had dinner together with the guests.—MNA

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and those present pose for documentary photo at reception to mark 64th Anniversary Republic Day of the Republic of India.

MNA



More traffic police will lessen traffic woes in Yangon

Byline: Akar Hein

It is usual to see daily traffic woes in Yangon, the business hub of Myanmar, especially Hledan, Myenigon, Chawdwingon and Hanthawaddy are always clogged with traffic. So more traffic police are deployed at these seven intersections with heavy traffic.

“There are deployment of more traffic police there. Traffic police squads are formed with eight officers and 28 other ranks, totaling 38 in each township”, member of

Public Transport Authority U Aung Myint said.

As 80 per cent of the total population of Yangon dwellers heavily rely on road transport, delays caused by traffic congestions, road accidents and violation of traffic rules are frequent in Yangon. In order to relieve traffic stress, more deployment of traffic police at intersections and traffic lights is underway.

Arrangements are being made to form traffic squads in all 31 townships in Yangon where nine areas see traffic squads. It is

planned to form new traffic squad with the membership that range from 10 to 30 police members including one police captain.

Formation of traffic squads at Hlegu, Thanlyan and Kyauktan Townships is included in the scheme. As traffic police corps reconstitutes itself as special squad, it will contribute to reduction in traffic delays and congestions, road accidents and violation of traffic rules.

Myanma Alinn
24-1-2013
Trs: YM



Photo shows pedestrians waiting to cross over a busy road in Yangon.

Kinpunchon Sluice Gate commissioned into service

YANGON, 26 Jan—Kinpunchon Sluice Gate was commissioned into service in Kayan Township, Yangon Region this morning, attended by Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing, Yangon Region Chief Minister U

Myint Swe and Hluttaw Committee Chair U Maung Maung Thein.

The Union Minister and party visited Ohnbin Village Basic Education Primary School and contributed K 1 million for the school. The Union Minister provided

Palethwe hybrid paddy strain, seeds and fertilizers to farmers in Thetkelgon Village. The Union Minister then visited Kayan Sluice Gate where he called for cooperation of farmers for agricultural development.

MNA

Talks on value and benefits of world's cultural heritages organized

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Jan—As Myanmar is rich in cultural heritages, preservation and promotion of her traditional cultural heritages is vital for the nation and the job is not only concerned with government and Ministry of Culture but with entire national people and their cooperation is

crucial.

The Ministry of Culture is applying UNESCO world's cultural heritage status for three ancient cities of Pyu Era—Vishnu in Taungdwingyi Township in Magway Region, Srekestra in Pyay Township, Bago Region and Hanlin in Shwebo Township, Sagaing

Region. Chairperson of Pyu Ancient Cities Coordination Committee Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sanda Khin, experts from UNESCO, and officials gave talks on benefits of world's cultural heritage sites and required cooperation of locals.—MNA

Corrigendum

Please read Para 7 of the press release issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs appeared in this newspaper on 26-1-2013 as follows:-

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Ministry of Foreign Affairs Press Release

7. Although the Government has been exerting such efforts for the national unity and peace, the US Embassy press release has mentioned the continuation of Myanmar Tatmadaw's military offensive in the vicinity of KIA's Headquarters and its strong opposition quoting sources from some media and NGOs. The press release could cause misunderstanding in the international community as it did not mention anything about terrorist actions and atrocities committed by the KIA against the innocent people, destruction of life and property and abduction, but on the other hand, elaborating the events as if only the Myanmar Government and the Tatmadaw launched the offensive. Myanmar strongly objects and rejects such statement.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Nay Pyi Taw

25 January 2013