

President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of Qatari Ambassador to Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan—Mr Jabr Ali Hussain Al-Hawashla Al-Dosari, the newly-accredited Ambassador of Qatar to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, presented his credentials to U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the Presidential Palace, here at 10.30 am today. Present on the occasion were Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister at the President Office U Thein Nyunt and Director-General U Thurein Thant Zin of the Protocol Department.—MNA

President U Thein Sein poses for documentary photo together with Mr Jabr Ali Hussain Al-Hawashla Al-Dosari, the newly-accredited Ambassador of Qatar.—MNA



President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of Irish Ambassador to Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan—Mr Damien Cole, the newly-accredited Ambassador of Ireland to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, presented his credentials to U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the Presidential Palace, here at 11.00 am today. Present on the occasion were Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister at the President Office U Thein Nyunt and Director-General U Thurein Thant Zin of the Protocol Department. MNA

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein receives Mr Damien Cole, the newly-accredited Ambassador of Ireland to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

MNA



Ministry of Finance and Revenue

Press Release on Myanmar's debts owed to the World Bank

Since 1973, Myanmar had taken out loans from the World Bank to fund development programmes in the country. At present, the government is taking steps to settle the remaining debt in coordination with the World Bank and Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC). In doing so, Myanmar has taken out USD 430 million from Japan Bank for International Cooperation on 25 January, 2013 and paid back the World Bank. Myanmar could then

finally settle the debt by paying off the bridge loan to JBIC on the same day it obtained a loan of USD 430 million from the World Bank.

As Myanmar could clear the debt, it would be recognized as a responsible nation in international community. Besides, it would have access to more low-interest-rate development loan programmes.

The World Bank will support Myanmar with USD 80 million in carrying out National Community-Driven Development Project for infrastructural development in agricultural sector, roads, health centers and schools of 640 villages across the country. In addition, the World Bank will resume social and economic assistance to help Myanmar build strong foundation for her poverty alleviation scheme and positive reform process.

Untimely rainfall warning

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan— According to the observations at (12:30) hrs MST today, under the influence of moving from Easterly Wave, rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated to scattered in Mandalay, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady, Taninthayi Regions and Shan, Kayah, Kayin and Mon States due to the whirlwinds speeding up in the east within next 3 days commencing evening today, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department. MNA



NyaungU celebrates Ananda Pagoda festival

NYAUNGU, 28 Jan — The Buddha Pujaniya Festival of Ananda Pagoda is annually held on a grand scale for about one month in NyaungU Township of Mandalay Region. Ananda Pagoda is a unique to Bagan Ancient Cultural Region where there

are religious edifices of Bagan era.

Alm-offering ceremony was held on the Fullmoon Day of Pyatho. Local people from the surrounding villages of the township arrived at the pagoda by bullock cart on 13th and 14th Waxing of Pyatho to offer alm

to the Pagoda. Ananda Pagoda built by King Kyansittha is a kind of temple with a hallow vaulted base. It is a popular tourist destination in Bagan because foreign visitors come in flocks to see art works of Bagan era there.

Kyemon

YANGON, 28 Jan — Jointly-organized by Yangon City Development Committee and First Myanmar Investment Co., Ltd, the first International Marathon Contest kicked off, here, yesterday morning.

The race started with the opening whistle of Yangon Region Development Affairs Minister Mayor U Hla Myint and FMI responsible persons. Altogether 1050 runners from 20 countries including Myanmar took part in the marathon. Kenyan marathon runner Markarivkl Gitau



stood first in 42 kilo men's event, followed by Mr. Kiriuki of Kenya, Thuang

16 Myanmar runners seal victories in first Yangon International Marathon



Aye, Wai Lwin Tun and Soe Hlaing of Myanmar. The first prize went to Myint Myint Aye of Myanmar in 42 kilo women's event and Pa Pa, Nilar San, Thida Cho and Yin Yin Htwe stood second, third, fourth and fifth respectively. Markarivkl Gitau, first prize winner of 42 kilo men's event, held the record of 2 hours, 19 minutes and 13 seconds and 42 kilo women's

event winner Myint Myint Aye crossed the finishing line timing 2 hours, 46 minutes and seven seconds.

At 10 kilo men's event, Mr. Kiplkorir of Kenya won first prize, Thein Hlaing Oo second, Maung Kauk third, Pyi Min Soe fourth and Ye Win Naing fifth respectively. Pyu Moe Thet stood first at 10 kilo women's event, followed



More traffic police to lessen gridlock in Yangon

YANGON, 28 Jan — Police Major Tha Htay of Traffic Police Corps said that more traffic police members

had been deployed at seven gridlocked areas in Yangon.

The operation started on 22 January with the strength of 248 traffic police members at Chawdwingon and Bayintnaung junction in Mayangon Township, Shwegondine intersection and UHtaung Boroundabout in Bahan Township, Hledan junction and Hanthawady traffic circle in Kamayut Township and Myenigon

in Sangyoung Township.

Moreover, plans are underway to reconstitute the organizational setup of traffic police corps as one squad for one township in 31 townships in municipal area and one squad for two townships in 14 townships. The traffic police corps will be reconstituted with 717 officers and 2576 other ranks, totaling 3414.

Kyemon

Underground drains built in Dagon Myothit (North)

YANGON, 28 Jan — Unusual high tide and heavy rainfall had caused floods in remote parts of Yangon region last year. Flood water swamped the roads and farmlands and houses and school buildings were inundated in satellite townships of the region.

In order to avoid similar incidents in upcoming rainy season, dredging of drains and creeks for proper flow of water was carried out by assistant head of Yangon East District Engineering Department (road/bridge) U Zaw Maung Htwe and staff at the junction between Panlaung and Bayintnaung

roads in Dagon Myothit (North) Township on 20 January.

"Flood water inundates the low-lying area, especially in the compound of BEHS No (3), as the main flow of water from the Bayintnaung Road diverts to the wards. After winding its way through the wards, the water flow into the river. So we are building underground drains for the proper flow of water from the road into the river", he continued. Upon completion, No (32), (35) and (36) wards and BEHS No (3) could be free from inundations, he said.

Kyemon

Regional development undertakings of Kawthoung Township inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan — Taninthayi Region Chief Minister U Myat Ko met with departmental personnel and entrepreneurs at Hantha-wady Hall of General Administration Department in Kawthoung on 20 January and inspected road works of Kawthoung-Champham road.

After meeting

with local people and departmental personnel at Champham village primary school, the chief minister left instructions on matters related to student/teacher and student/classroom ratios.

Next, he fulfilled the requirements of health staff at village dispensary.

MNA

Literary talks, gala concert of Baukhtaw Pyithaya in Yankin Township

YANGON, 28 Jan — Baukhtaw Pyithaya family of Yankin Township will organize a gala concert and literary talks in front of Baukhtaw market on Butayon street at 6 pm on 2 February (Saturday).

U Win Pe, writer-cum-director, will give talks together with Ma San San Nwe (Thayawady) and Lin Theik

Nyunt (Myanma Myay) at the Saturday's night literary talks. Movie stars Yan Aung, Ye Aung, Cho Pyone, May Than Nu and Khin Zarchi Kyaw and singer Khine Htoo, Myat Min, May Khala and Kawni will entertain the audience with songs and their artistic skills at the gala concert on 3 February (Sunday).

Kyemon



WORLD

Obama says struggling over whether to intervene in Syria



US President Barack Obama speaks in the State Dining Room of the White House in Washington, on 24 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 28 Jan—President Barack Obama said he has been wrestling with the question whether a US military intervention in Syria's 22-month-old civil war would help resolve the bloody conflict or make things worse. In a pair of interviews, Obama responded to critics who say the United States has not been involved enough in Syria, where thousands of people have been killed and

millions displaced according to UN officials. Transcripts of both interviews were released on Sunday.

The United States has called on Syrian President Bashar al-Assad to step down, and has recognized an opposition coalition—but has stopped short of authorizing US arming of rebels to overthrow Assad.

"In a situation like Syria, I have to ask: can we make a difference in that

situation?" Obama said in an interview with *The New Republic* published on the magazine's website.

Obama said he has to weigh the benefit of a military intervention with the ability of the Pentagon to support troops still in Afghanistan, where the United States is withdrawing combat forces after a dozen years of war.

"Could it trigger even worse violence or the use of chemical weapons? What offers the best prospect of a stable post-Assad regime?"

"And how do I weigh tens of thousands who've been killed in Syria versus the tens of thousands who are currently being killed in the Congo?" he said. Obama's comments come as world leaders gathered in Davos, Switzerland, said they wished the United States were more engaged in geopolitical issues such as the conflicts in Syria and Mali, where France is attacking al-Qaeda-affiliated militants.—Reuters

Maliens celebrate, French-led forces clear Timbuktu

GAO/SEVARE, 28 Jan—Residents of Mali's northern town of Gao, captured from sharia-observing Islamist rebels by French and Malian troops, danced in the streets to drums and music on Sunday as the French-led offensive also drove the rebels from Timbuktu.

The weekend gains made at Gao and Timbuktu by the French and Malian troops capped a two-week whirlwind intervention by France in its former Sahel colony, which has driven al-Qaeda-allied militant fighters northwards into the desert and mountains.

In Gao, the largest town in the north where the Islamist insurgents had banned music and smoking, cut off the hands of thieves and ordered women to wear veils, thousands cheered the liberating troops with shouts of "Mali, Mali, France, France".

French special forces backed by *Rafale* fighter jets and *Tiger* helicopters had helped capture the town

on early Saturday.

Among the celebrating Gao crowds, many smoked cigarettes, women went unveiled and some men wore shorts to flout the severe sharia Islamic law the rebels had imposed for months. Youths on motorcycles flew the flags of Mali, France and Niger, whose troops also helped secure the ancient town on the Niger River.

"Now we can breathe freely," said Hawa Toure, 25, wearing a colourful

traditional African robe banned under sharia for being too revealing. "We are as free as the wind today. We thank all of our friends around the world who helped us," she said.

French and Malian troops also arrived at the weekend at the fabled Saharan trading town of Timbuktu, more than 300 km (190 miles) to the west of Gao, and were working to restore government control over the UNESCO World Heritage Site.—Reuters



A Malian soldier gestures at a check point at Thy, 15km away from Sevare, on 27 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

Leading Senate liberal Harkin of Iowa to retire

DES MOINES, 28 Jan—Senator Tom Harkin, a veteran Iowa Democrat and one of the most liberal senators, said on Saturday he will not seek re-election in 2014, putting at risk what was considered a safe Democratic seat.

Harkin, 73, who has focused much of his nearly 40-year congressional career on farm policy, education and expanding rights for people with disabilities, is the third senator facing re-election next year who has announced his retirement, following Democrat Jay Rockefeller of West Virginia

and Republican Saxby Chambliss of Georgia.

"It's somebody else's turn. It's time for me to step aside ... I think that's not only good for our party, it's good for our state and for our nation," Harkin said in an interview with *Reuters*.

He said he had no health problems but had promised his wife that he would quit before it was too late to enjoy other things in life.

Iowa, site of the country's first presidential nominating contest, is considered a political swing state. Republican Charles Grassley is Iowa's other US



Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA) speaks to reporters after a vote on Capitol Hill in Washington on 17 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

senator.

In remarks to the Iowa Democratic Party central committee after his announcement, Harkin said he would stay politically active.

"I'm not quitting today.

This is not a time for legacy talks or anything like this," said Harkin, who has served in Congress since 1974.

Several committee members had tears running down their cheeks as he spoke.—Reuters

Egypt's leader declares emergency after clashes kill dozens

CAIRO, 28 Jan—Egyptian President Mohamed Mursi declared a month-long state of emergency in three cities

along the Suez Canal where dozens of people have been killed over the past four days in protests that his allies say are designed to overthrow

him.

Seven people were shot dead and hundreds were injured in Port Said on Sunday during the funerals of 33 people killed there when locals angered by a court decision went on the rampage as anti-government protests spread around the country.

A total of 49 people have been killed since Thursday and Mursi's opponents, who accuse his Islamist Muslim Brotherhood of betraying the revolution that ousted long-time ruler Hosni Mubarak, have called for more demonstrations on Monday.

"Down, down Mursi, down down the regime that killed and tortured us!" people in Port Said chanted as the coffins of those killed on Saturday were carried through the streets.

Mursi, who was elected in June, is trying to fix a beleaguered economy and cool tempers before a parliamentary poll in the next few months which is supposed to cement Egypt's transition to democracy. Repeated eruptions of violence have weighed heavily on the Egyptian pound.

Reuters



Protesters opposing Egyptian President Mursi are seen through tear gas fired by riot police during clashes along Qasr Al Nil bridge, which leads to Tahrir Square in Cairo on 27 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

Incumbent Furuta wins 3rd term as Gifu governor

GIFU, 28 Jan—Gifu Gov Hajime Furuta won a third four-year term in Sunday's gubernatorial election, defeating a Communist rival, according to final returns.

Furuta, a 65-year-old independent, was backed by the Liberal Democratic Party, the New Komeito party and the Democratic Party of Japan as well as a local chapter of the Japan Restoration Party, while his challenger, Masanori Suzuki, 49, was endorsed by the Japanese Communist Party.

Furuta said after winning the election that he has created a footing for growth for the prefecture and hopes to make his next term "four years of progress."

Furuta garnered

474,731 votes while Suzuki got 83,859 votes, according to the final returns.

Voter turnout stood at a record low 33.92 percent, down 4.52 percentage points from the previous gubernatorial election in 2009, according to the prefectural election board.

During the election campaign, Furuta highlighted his achievements during his two previous terms, such as administrative reforms, while pledging to enhance the prefecture's countermeasures against natural and nuclear disasters.

Suzuki sought the termination of large-scale public work projects, while calling for increased welfare spending.—Kyodo News

Armed men fire mortar at gov't establishment in Syrian capital

DAMASCUS, 28 Jan—A mortar shell fired by armed men on Sunday landed at Syrian General Publication Establishment in the capital Damascus, injuring a number of workers and leaving material damages, the state-run SANA news agency said.

The attack set parts of the establishment alight and caused big damages to the printing machines as well as trucks used to freight and

distribute school books, SANA said.

The attack is the latest in the recently intensified violence that has engulfed most Syrian cities, including the capital and Aleppo, Syria's largest city and economic hub. Most of Aleppo's factories and governmental establishments have been looted and destroyed, local and foreign reports said.—Xinhua

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



Panasonic chief Kazuhiro Tsuga introduces the company's new 4K OLED 56 television during the Panasonic opening day keynote at the Consumer Electronics Show (CES) in Las Vegas on 8 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

Japan to start 4K TV broadcast in July 2014

TOKYO, 28 Jan— The Japanese government is set to launch the world's first 4K TV broadcast in July 2014, roughly two years ahead of schedule, to help stir demand for ultra high-definition televisions, the *Asahi* newspaper reported on Sunday without citing sources. The service will begin from communications satellites, followed by satellite broadcasting and ground digital broadcasting, the report said.

The 4K TVs, which boast four times the resolution of current high-definition TVs, are now on sale by Japanese makers including Sony Corp (6758.T), Panasonic (6752.T) and

Sharp Corp (6753.T). Other manufacturers include South Korea's LG Electronics (066570.KS).

Japan's Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications had aimed to kick-start the 4K TV service in 2016. That has been brought forward to July 2014, when the final match of the 2014 football World Cup is set to take place in Brazil, the *Asahi* report said.

In Japan, the development of super high-definition 8K TVs is in progress, and the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications plans to launch the test 8K TV broadcast in 2016, two years ahead of schedule, it said.—Reuters

Neanderthal cloning chatter highlights scientific illiteracy



Harvard geneticist George Church speaks to Reuters reporters about cloning during an interview in Boston, Massachusetts on 23 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

BOSTON, 28 Jan — After spending the weekend reading blog posts claiming that he was seeking an “extremely adventurous female human” to bear a cloned Neanderthal baby — which was news to him — Harvard geneticist George Church said it may be time for society to give some thought to scientific literacy. Church became the subject of dozens of posts and tabloid newspaper articles calling him a “mad scientist” after giving an interview to the German magazine *Der Spiegel*.

In the interview, Church discussed the technical challenges scientists would face

if they tried to clone a Neanderthal, though neither he nor the *Der Spiegel* article, which was presented as a question and answer exchange, said he intended to do so. “Harvard professor seeks mother for cloned cave baby,” read one headline, on the website of London's *Daily Mail*. But Church explained on Wednesday that he was simply theorizing.

Still, the readiness of bloggers, journalists and readers to believe he was preparing an attempt to clone a Neanderthal, a species closely related to modern humans that went extinct some 30,000 years ago, led Church to ponder scientific literacy. “The public should be able to detect cases where things seem implausible,” Church said in an interview at his office at Harvard Medical School in Boston. “Everybody's fib detector should have been going off. They should have said, ‘What? Who would believe this?’ ... This really indicates that we should have scientific literacy.”—Reuters

In Asia's trend-setting cities, iPhone fatigue sets in

SINGAPORE, 28 Jan — Apple Inc's iconic iPhone is losing some of its luster among Asia's well-heeled consumers in Singapore and Hong Kong, a victim of changing mobile habits and its own runaway success.

Driven by a combination of iPhone fatigue, a desire to be different and a plethora of competing devices, users are turning to other brands, notably those from Samsung Electronics Co Ltd, eating into Apple's market share.

In Singapore, Apple's products were so dominant in 2010 that more devices here ran its iOS operating system per capita than anywhere else in the world.

But StatCounter gs.statcounter.com, which measures traffic collected across a network of 3 million websites, calculates that Ap-

ple's share of mobile devices in Singapore — iPad and iPhone — declined sharply last year. From a peak of 72 percent in January 2012, its share fell to 50 percent this month, while Android devices now account for 43 percent of the market, up from 20 percent in the same month last year.

In Hong Kong, devices running Apple's iOS now account for about 30 percent of the total, down from about 45 percent a year ago. Android accounts for nearly two-thirds.

“Apple is still viewed as a prestigious brand, but there are just so many other cool smartphones out there now that the competition is just much stiffer,” said Tom Clayton, chief executive of Singapore-based Bubble Motion www.bubblemotion.com, which develops a

popular regional social media app called Bubbly.

Where Hong Kong and



Aileen Sim, one of the developers of Billpin, a cross platform smartphone application that helps users split group expenses and track what they owe each other, gives a demonstration of the software in their office in Singapore, on 26 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

Singapore lead, other key markets across fast-growing Asia usually follow.

“Singapore and Hong Kong tend to be, from an electronics perspective, leading indicators on what is going to be hot in Western Europe and North America, as well as what is going to take off in the region,” said Jim Wagstaff, who runs a Singapore-based company called Jam Factory www.jamfactoryonline.com developing mobile apps for enterprises.

Southeast Asia is adopting smartphones fast — consumers spent 78 percent more on smartphones in the 12 months up to September 2012 than they did the year before, according to research company GfK www.gfkrt.com.

Reuters

China's BeiDou system is not a threat to Russia's GLONASS: expert

MOSCOW, 28 Jan — China's rapid-developing Beidou navigation system is not a threat to Russia's GLONASS, but a potential ally to it, the *Interfax* news agency quoted a Russian expert as saying on Sunday.

“The world is moving to multisystem navigation equipment both on the market of professional equipment and on the consumer market,” technical director of M2M Telematics holding group Alexei Kutsenko said, adding consumers do not care how many navigation systems their navigation devices support.

“The more systems that their equipment support, regardless of the producing place, the more all interested participants will gain,” Kutsenko said. M2M Telematics is a major holding group in Russia comprising developers, manufacturers,

system integrators and turn-key solution vendors in the market of vehicle telematics and satellite navigation based on GLONASS and GPS technologies.

Kutsenko said navigation receivers appearing in global market in the near



future will support all navigation systems. Speaking of BeiDou's prospects, the expert said the system should become operational on a global scale by 2020, adding the goal would be reached earlier considering the growing economic capabilities of China.—Xinhua



China tests jumbo air freighter

BEIJING, 28 Jan — China says it has conducted a successful test flight of its first jumbo air freighter.

The country's state-run media says the Yun-20 made the test flight in Xian, Shaanxi Province, on Saturday.

The 47-metre-long plane can fly nonstop for 7,800 kilometres with a payload capacity of over 60 tons. The reports say the aircraft performs better than the Russian-made Ilyushin-76 and is equal to a US military transport aircraft, the C-17 Globemaster.

China is the 4th nation to develop a jumbo cargo plane after the United States, Russia and Ukraine. The Russian and Ukrainian planes used technology from the Soviet era.

China is strengthening its ability to mobilize troops and military supplies in an attempt to build up its maritime rights and interests to support its economic development.

Chinese media reports say the successful test flight is a significant step in the modernization of the country's military capability.—NHK

Andean glaciers melting at “unprecedented” rates

LIMA, 28 Jan — Climate change has shrunk Andean glaciers between 30 and 50 percent since the 1970s and could melt many of them away altogether in coming years, according to a study published on Tuesday in the journal *The Cryosphere*. Andean glaciers, a vital source of fresh water for tens of millions of South Americans, are retreating at their fastest rates in more than 300 years, according to the most comprehensive review of Andean ice loss

so far.

The study included data on about half of all Andean glaciers in South America, and blamed the

ice loss on an average temperature spike of 0.7 degree Celsius (1.26 degrees Fahrenheit) over the past 70 years. “Glacier retreat in



the tropical Andes over the last three decades is unprecedented,” said Antoine Rabatel, the lead author of the study and a scientist with the Laboratory for Glaciology and Environmental Geophysics in Grenoble, France.

The researchers also warned that future warming could totally wipe out the smaller glaciers found at lower altitudes that store and release fresh water for downstream communities.

Reuters

BUSINESS & HEALTH

High doses of folic acid don't raise cancer risk: study



NEW YORK, 28 Jan—People taking high doses of the B vitamin folic acid are not at an increased risk of cancer, according to an international analysis —

easing some concern about the possible side effects of national programmes aimed to raise intake of the vitamin.

The United States and Canada have required flour to be fortified with folic acid since 1998, after deficiencies of it in pregnant women were tied to brain and spinal cord birth defects in their babies.

But fortification isn't required in Western Europe, for example, partly out of concern that the extra folic

acid might slightly increase people's risk of cancer due to its role in cell growth. Cells, including cancer cells, need folate — the natural form of folic acid — to grow and divide.

"Folic acid supplementation does not substantially increase or decrease incident of site-specific cancer during the first 5 years of treatment," researchers wrote in *The Lancet*.

"Fortification of flour and other cereal products involves doses

of folic acid that are, on average, an order of magnitude smaller than the doses used in these trials.

For the analysis, the researchers combined data from 13 separate trials that randomly assigned participants to daily folic acid or a vitamin-free placebo and recorded who went on to develop cancer. The studies included a total of close to 50,000 volunteers who were followed for just over five years, on average.—Xinhua

Car commuters gain more weight

NEW YORK, 28 Jan—People driving to work every day are packing on more pounds than their colleagues on trains, buses and bikes, according to a new study from Australia.

"Even if you are efficiently active during leisure time, if you use a car for commuting daily then that has an impact on weight gain," lead author Takemi Sugiyama of the Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute in Melbourne told *Reuters Health*.



Among people in the study who got at least two and a half hours of weekly exercise, car commuters gained an average of four pounds over four years — one pound more than people who got to work another way or worked from home. Of 822 study participants, only those who got enough weekly exercise and never drove to work managed to stave off any weight gain over the course of the study.

Participants who didn't get enough weekly exercise also gained weight, but how much they gained wasn't tied to their mode of getting to work, according to results published in the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*. "Simply achieving the amount of moderate physical activity otherwise recommended won't provide enough compensation to overcome the effect of commuting for a long period of time," said Lawrence Frank of the School of Community and Regional Planning at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada.—Reuters

Nexen, CNOOC extend closing date by 30 days

TORONTO, 28 Jan—Nexen Inc (NXY.TO) and China's CNOOC Ltd (0883.HK) said they have mutually agreed to extend the closing date of CNOOC's takeover of the Canadian oil and gas producer by 30 days to 2 March, 2013.

Nexen said in a statement it would also postpone the release of its 2012 fourth quarter financial results. It did not give a date for the release of the results.

CNOOC Ltd said in late December that it expects its \$15.1 billion takeover of Nexen to close



A man walks into the Nexen building in downtown Calgary, Alberta, on 23 July, 2012.—REUTERS

in the first quarter of 2013 at the earliest, a move that could be related to giving US regulators more time to approve a sensitive aspect of the deal.

The company is still awaiting US approval over its purchase of Nexen assets in the Gulf of Mexico after Canadian officials approved the deal last year.—Reuters

France investigates Diane-35 acne drug after deaths

PARIS, 28 Jan—France's health regulator has opened an inquiry into acne drug Diane-35, which is also used as a contraceptive, after four deaths linked to the drug in the past 25 years.

Health regulator ANSM said on Sunday that Diane-35, produced by German drugmaker Bayer, is authorized in 135 countries and sold in more than 116.

Last year about 325,000 women in France used the drug, ANSM said, adding it would publish its report next week.

ANSM said the four deaths were due to thrombosis linked to the use of Diane-35. Three other

deaths possibly connected to the drug, reported by the media, were linked to other health issues, the agency said.

Diane-35, also sold as Dianette in some countries, reduces acne for women by regulating hormones, according to several medical websites. The drug is also used as a contraceptive.

Earlier this month, ANSM said it was studying the possibility of limiting the use of third- and fourth-generation contraceptive pills after a woman sued Bayer over alleged side-effects such as embolism, or blood clots.

Reuters



Diane-35 acne drugs, produced by German drugmaker Bayer.—REUTERS



A woman walks past as customers use ATMs at a Bank of America banking centre in New York's financial district on 17 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

Bank of America begins moving \$50 billion of derivatives to UK: FT

LONDON, 28 Jan—Bank of America (BAC.N) has begun moving \$50 billion of derivatives out of its Irish-based operations into its British subsidiary, The *Financial Times* reported on its website on Sunday, citing people close to the operation.

The move will allow the world's number 10 bank by assets to benefit from tax breaks stemming from accumulated losses in its UK business, the *FT* said. According to the *Financial Times*, bankers said Irish officials were uncomfortable with the

scale of the business which posed a theoretical risk to Irish taxpayers.

UK regulators were also keen to have closer control of the European operations of the bank which has its operational management based in London, said the *FT*. A large chunk of Bank of America's European business, including cash management, corporate lending and derivatives, is traditionally routed through the Dublin subsidiary, said the *FT*. Bank of America was unavailable for immediate comment.

Reuters

Lauvergeon takes centre-stage in EADS board shake-up



Visitors talk near the welcome desk of the EADS booth at the ILA Berlin Air Show in Selchow near Schoenefeld south of Berlin on 13 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

PARIS, 28 Jan—French officials threw support behind former nuclear boss Anne Lauvergeon to be the first chairwoman of EADS (EAD.PA) on Sunday in a move likely to test efforts to wrest the European aerospace group away from political influence. An adviser to French Prime Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault said the Socialist government strongly supported Lauvergeon, a former aide of late President Francois Mitterrand and France's most high-profile female business leader. EADS is carrying out the biggest reorganization in its

12-year history after France and Germany agreed on a new shareholder structure designed to secure their vital interests while freeing the company from day-to-day interference.

Company watchers say the composition of the board will test the spirit of the accords and determine whether Chief Executive Tom Enders is free to run the company as independently as he claims, or will be forced to rely on building alliances. EADS shares are up 18 percent this year on hopes of a fresh start after years of political infighting. "The government

is very supportive (of Lauvergeon)," the French prime minister's adviser said. "As shareholder, we think she has all the qualities required to be the non-executive chairwoman of EADS."

EADS declined comment. Under a new ownership structure agreed late last year, France and Germany will own 12 percent each of EADS (EAD.PA), the parent company of Toulouse-based planemaker Airbus, but their powers to veto nomination and strategy are curtailed. Lauvergeon, ex-head of reactor maker Areva is one of two personalities lined up to represent France's interests at the Airbus parent group alongside ex-central banker Jean-Claude Trichet, but the choice of chairman is meant to be independent.

Echoing a newspaper report, another French government source said German Chancellor Angela Merkel had backed Lauvergeon in a meeting with French President Francois Hollande last week.—Reuters

Foreign Heads of State/Government send felicitations to President U Thein Sein

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan—*The following are messages of felicitations from foreign Heads of State Government sent to President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein, on the occasion of the 65th Anniversary Independence Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.*

From Mr Janez Jansa

Prime Minister of the Republic of Slovenia

Dear President,

December is a month full of joy for the people of Myanmar. Firstly the celebration on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and secondly the festivities following the arrival of the new year.

I would like to avail my self of this opportunity to reiterate Slovenia's support for ongoing democratization and reform efforts of the Government of Myanmar, and our determination to strengthen the relations and cooperation

between our two countries.

It is my great pleasure to extend to you Season's Greetings and my warm and sincere wishes for your health and happiness in the new year of 2013, as well as we prosperity and progress to your country and your people.

Please accept, Dear President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

From Dr Mohamed Waheed

President of the Republic of Maldives

Your Excellency,

On behalf of the Government and the people of the Maldives and on my own behalf, I wish to extend warm greetings and sincere good wishes to Your Excellency, the Government and the people of Myanmar, on the happy occasion of the Independence Day of Myanmar.

Please also accept my best wishes for the progress, welfare

and harmony of the people of Myanmar.

From Mr Abdelaziz BOUTEFLIKA

President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
Excellency,

On the occasion of the National Day celebration of your country, I am pleased to address to you, on behalf of the Algerian people and Government and on my own name, my warm congratulations as well as my sincere wishes of health and happiness to you and of progress and prosperity to your friendly people.

I seize this occasion to reiterate to you my commitment to the development of the friendship and cooperation relations between our two countries to the mutual benefit of our two peoples.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

If doctors want to serve interest of own region and local people, it is possible even a GP to serve interest of community, region and society with goodwill while sitting examination of UCSB

Questions of two Amyotha Hluttaw representatives raised at the fourth day of the sixth regular session of the First Amyotha Hluttaw held on 21 January and answers of Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin are as follows:-

(Continued from yesterday)

The second question is from U Ha Shein Bwe from Chin State Constituency No (8). He said national people in remote regions of the country are experiencing insufficient and inefficient health care service as SaMa license holder local youths graduated in medicine from remote regions of poor transportation fail several times the exam of Union Civil Service Board, the former Civil Servants Selection and Training Board and asked the plans to address this problem.

The Section 7 (a) of UCSB Bylaw states the appointment of outsiders to official positions in respective civil service organizations if there is of vacant position is subject to the Union Civil Service Board. The Section 8 also prescribes civil service organizations if require to appoint outsiders to official positions are to propose to the Union Civil Service Board describing the specific position and specific number of appointees. So, except Ministry of Defence, any ministry including Health Ministry has to propose to the UCSB for appointment of official positions.

When the organizational structures were expanded dramatically in the years after 1988, vacancies for medics have increased enormously and it had become compulsory that those graduated in medicine are to work as public servants in people's hospitals for three years. And there was a specific period of time during which we could appoint the entire batch who pass the final year exam. So we coordinated with the UCSB not to organize the

selection exam. We took application forms from it and filled it up at Health Ministry and sent them to the UCSB. UCSB then approved and appointed all of them. We did not directly appoint medics but on behalf of the UCSB.

In fact, it is legal that appointment of official positions is subject to the UCSB. We appointed the entire batch during three or four years prior to 2009. But then, we were not able to appoint the entire batch as the organizational structure expansion was ceased. As we were not in a position to appoint the entire batch, we submitted the UCSB the number of intended appointees depending on our received budget. Then we begun appointing only those who pass the exam of UCSB.

The UCSB is making sure its justice and fairness in selection process according to Section 352 of the Constitution which states.

Those from remote regions, if pass the written test, are given somewhat favour in viva in selection process. We appointed 50 last year and 1500 this year.

As the government ended the 2/3 policy for the Ministry of Health, we have been planning to appoint the number of medics as we need. About 3000 candidates applied and sat the examination for the position. More than 1900 candidates were eligible to take the viva. It needs to take much time to organize interviews for the said number. As there are only five members who are responsible to conduct interviews at the UCSB, each member could only interview 15 candidates a day.

So directors-general and

deputy directors-general of the ministry and rectors and proctors from the academic side were assigned duties together with members of the UCSB to interview the candidates. The written test was organized by the UCSB that conduct interviews in cooperation with the ministry. MBBS degrees are being conferred on those who had passed the final part-2 exam and completed house surgeon service and SaMa cards are also granted to them, instead of completion of three-year period in service.

To say the second point, competition is required in accord with democratic practices. Quality is prioritized. Now is the time that calls for quality drive and international standard. So ensuring self-fulfillment is up to candidates. Who dare take responsible for the health threat to local people caused by a disqualified medic who was appointed without being scrutinized? The Ministry of Health will be in trouble to resolve this problem meeting the satisfaction of the victims.

So, as regards the health security for local people, no system is perfect. Measures for minimizing the occurrence of disadvantages are under consideration, spending much time and efforts. As the MP says, SaMa holders are showing their willingness to work. I am very pleased to see the youths who are serving their own country.

When I was working as a doctor, all my friends left for the US when they got a degree in medicines. I welcome Chin national

doctors if they want to serve the interest of their own region as the country has changed. No country makes fully appointment of all medical graduates in their service organizations is another point. Some graduates have to work at private sector in which health care organizations run by INGOs.

In our country, there are private clinics and hospitals and INGO- and NGO-run health care organizations. If they want to serve the interest of their own region and local people, it is possible even a General Practitioner to serve the interest of his community, region and society with goodwill while sitting examination of the UCSB.

When I was young and when we were taking medical course, only 50 candidates were appointed every three year. The majority had to serve their own region as private medics and now they are among the MPs. The government used to appoint small number of candidates. At present, we will appoint more as necessary to attend to the needs of the people.

As regards the question of the MP how we will address the problem in coming budget, we have a backlog. We appointed 500 candidates last year and 1500 this year with the aim of ensuring no backlog within two or three years. Plans are underway to appoint those who graduated in medicine recently. On the other hand, we are nurturing 2000 graduates each year.

As regards the numbers of graduates, there are a number of criticisms that number of graduates is larger

than the job vacancies and there are unbalanced student/school and student/teacher ratios. Under the current programme, only 1200 students were allowed to take the course in medicine. It is not for long term. In fact, we need to allow 2000 students in order to improve the country's doctor/patient ratio like ASEAN countries. If we could produce 2000 graduates from 10 universities, if necessary, from 20, it would be enough to meet the proper ratio.

Looking at the international universities and medical universities, they produce 100 or 120 per year and 200 in maximum while we accept 2400 students and produce 600 graduates from four universities. As a result, there arise unbalanced teacher/students ratio and student/classroom ratios. Although it is possible to more appoint teachers to improve the teacher/students ratio, it is hard to make a proper doctor/patient ratio. It is difficult to urge patient to be admitted to the hospital. Although we reduced the number of students who are eligible to take medical course under the present programme, new universities will be opened beginning the year ahead. As the Speaker knows, The University of Medicine will be built in Taunggyi, followed by Mawlamyine and Magway. It would be okay if we appointed all graduates as the government has relaxed the 2/3 policy. I would like to request the favour of the MP and parliamentarians of fur-flung areas on behalf of the medical staff that transportation

is poor, life is difficult and language is a barrier. These situations make them difficult to survive.

It is apparent that they would face similar difficulties as even locals face. If locals could not take care of them, they, as usual, would left there. So I would like to urge the locals through the MPs that they should take care of and provide them as much as they can.

We used to fire those who refuse to go there after taking actions against them under DE and PE and confiscate their SaMa licenses. The real sufferers were those medics and their family members and local people. It was the loss of the ministry and loss of the country. As our carrot and stick approach was unfruitful and did not make a win-win situation, we reported it to the President and first asked for triple increase in their incomes as incentive. If the ministry, the Na-Ta-La and local region bear the cost on equal basis for them, it will be possible for them to work there.

Now they are given necessary marks to be selected for post-graduate course. Moreover, if they complete their tour of duty, they will be allowed to receive postings they wanted. If it is impossible to meet their first choices, it will be okay for their second choices. By using these ways, we attract them to accept the postings to remote areas. Recently, the plan of getting paid double is still successful. They did not get paid the salary from the region due to the situation of the region. Let me conclude here.

Thank you.

LOCAL NEWS

Myanmar to meet with Philippines, Malaysia in U-23 in tune-up matches



YANGON, 28 Jan—In 2014, the AFC Challenge Cup qualifier will be the first international match for Myanmar national team. Myanmar will host the qualifier. As such, Myanmar should grasp the opportunity to take victory in the qualifier.

The group A matches

will be held in Yangon from 2 to 6 March. Myanmar is in the group together with India, China (Taipei) and Guam. Myanmar national team is under training of Korean Coach Mr Pak Hsaung Hwa who is now watching the MNL matches so as to pick out the selected players.

Myanmar Football Federation plans to give opportunity to Myanmar national team to be able to play tune-up matches in the international competitions before the qualifier. On 6 February, Myanmar will meet with the Philippines. On 22 February, Myanmar will play against Malaysian U-23 team at Youth Training Centre in Thuwunna of Yangon.

In recent Suzuki Cup, the Philippines beat Myanmar 2-0. In the AFC Challenge Cup qualifier, Myanmar played a 1-1 draw with the Philippines. As Malaysian youth team is making preparation for the SEA Games, the tune-up match will be beneficial to Myanmar.—*Myanma Alinn*

National Objectives of 66th Anniversary Union Day

- For all the national races to perpetuate the Union and to cultivate the Union Spirit
- For all the national races to live in unity and harmony
- For all the national races to build up the prevailing national reconciliation
- For all citizens to participate in tasks for tranquility and the rule of law
- For all the national races to join efforts for modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation

Two literati, two academy award winners honoured

MANDALAY, 28 Jan—Under the arrangement of Mandalay literati, the ceremony to honour those

who secured National Literary Awards and Academy Awards was held at Oriental House at the

corner of 27th Street and 64th Street on 21 January.

Chairman of the organizing committee Thaik Tun Thet made a speech.

After that, U Kyaw Yin Myint and U Soe Naing (Mandalay University) gave advices.

Next, Nyi Say Min presented gifts to National Literary Award winner Natmauk Tun Shein and Soe Naing (Mandalay University) to National Literary Award winner Nay Win Myint.

Hsu Hnget awarded Naung Naung who secured the Academy Award and Dr Aung Myint, U Zaw Myint who won the Academy Award. The literary and academy award winners spoke words of thanks.

Myanma Alinn

Pyinnya Parami Association emerges in Hsipaw

HSIPAW, 28 Jan—A ceremony to set up Pyinnya Parami Association was held in Namlan Village-tract of Hsipaw Township in Shan State (North) on 20 January.

It was attended by Specialist Dr Shwe Nyan of Township Health Department, Chairman of Township Writers Association U Hla Maung Latt (Hsipaw Ko Latt), Namlan Village-tract Administrator U Sai Thein Win, members of social organizations, village elders and local people.

At first, Chairman of the association U Sai Aung Kyar explained the purpose

of association for providing assistance to needy students.

Secretary of the association U Sai Lu Mon read the list of donors who contributed much to the association for its establishment.

Headmistress Daw Phyu Phyu Aye of Namlan Basic Education High School and those present gave suggestions.

The ceremony approved to collect the list of needy children for attending the school.

Myanma Alinn

Specialists in field trip of health care services

THONGWA, 28 Jan—Under the supervision of Yangon Region Health Committee, a medical team comprising 32 specialists in various subjects from

PATHEIN, 28 Jan—Dhamma Yadana social association in Pathein of Ayeyawady Region held a ceremony to donate medicines to the patients with diabetes and hypertension with the assistance of Servier Company on Maha Zedi Road in Ward 5 of Pathein on 20 January.

Dr Sit Tin and five doctors of Ward 5 gave health care services to the patients and donated medicines to them free of charge.

Dhamma Yadana social association gives funeral services to the needy persons, provides health care



services free of charge and opens libraries in its future plans, said Secretary of the association U Thaung Myint.

There are 31 social organizations in Pathein participating in the funeral

service and blood donation.

On 12 December last year, Ayeyawady Region Government donated K 50,000 each to all associations in the region.

Myanma Alinn

English proficiency course kicks off

YANGON, 28 Jan—With the aim of uplifting capability of the government service and raising English language skills, Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation opened the English proficiency course No. 1/2013 at the training hall of the bank head office on Pansodan Street, here, on 23 January afternoon.

General Manager U Win Han of the bank spoke on the occasion.

Altogether 27 officers and 14 staff are attending the six-week course.

Myanma Alinn

Action taken against reckless driver for car crush in Toungoo

TOUNGGOO, 28 Jan—A Canter driven by Saw Myo Naing, 23 together with Ma Hnin Nu Htwe, 28 from the north to the south along Yangon-Mandalay Highway hit Ma Mee Nge, 25 and her sister Ma Pan Ei Phyu, 16 who sold tea and betel at Yati Tea Shop, east of the road, between mile posts 184 and 174 in Ward 22 of Toungoo at 11.30 pm on 19 January due to out of control.

After hitting the two sisters, the car bumped with the wall of Dekkhinayama monastery.

In the incident, Ma Mee Nge was injured near right eye, lower lip and right shoulder and Ma Pan Ei Phyu at forehead and upper lip. The younger sister is

under treatment at Toungoo Hospital. Toungoo Police Station No. 1 opened a file of lawsuit against reckless driver Saw Myo Naing.

Myanma Alinn



Self-reliant power supply launched in Wuntho Township

WUNTHO, 28 Jan—A ceremony to launch supply of electricity was held in Paygon-Aungchantha Village in Paygon Village-tract of Wuntho Township in Sagaing Region on 16 January morning.

District Electrical Engineer U Kyaw Kyaw

Aung and Chairman of the Power Supply Committee U Hla Win cut the ribbon to launch the ceremony.

A total of 115 households of 134 from Paygon-Aungchantha Village-tract contributed K 55 million to supply of electricity on a self-reliant basis.—*Myanma Alinn*

Stimulant tablets seized in Loilem

LOILEM, 28 Jan—Recently, 88 WY brand orange stimulant tablets were seized from Aik Kham, 30, on Yepu Road in Ward 5 of Mongpun, Loilem Township.

According to the information that Aik Kham on Yepu Road in Ward 5 of Mongpun himself abused stimulant tablets and sold them to other users, a combined team comprising IP Tin Soe

of Loilem Police Station, SIP Than Soe of Mongpun Police Station and local authorities searched the house of Aik Kham.

They seized 88 stimulant tablets weighing 8.5 grams worth K 176,000 and K 35000 assumed to be proceeds.

Mongpun Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against Aik Kham under the law.

Myanma Alinn

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 29 January, 2013

Education promotion

Promotion of education is like making investments for the future. But the education system we are promoting must support the new economic system the State has adopted. The new system depends on technology and not on raw materials as in the past.

Currently, we are in the process of reforming the higher education sector while carrying out the task of education promotion for the practical utilization of vocational subjects. At the same time we have introduced student-centred approach for transforming the basic education sector comprehensively through inclusive negotiations. Legal changes have been made in the opening of many private schools in the country as a way of encouraging the participation of the private sector in education industry. Prospects are now brighter than ever for all children to complete primary education.

A new political culture has been introduced for sustainable development, ensuring justice and democracy. However, we still need to train our people to have higher capability so that these practices will become traditions and customs.

However, current situation shows that capacity building is a requisite in every sector of the country. Nation building and capacity building should be in harmony as improvements need to be made in different sectors such as the media, economic system, market-oriented mechanisms and civic organizations apart from the three main pillars — legislations, executive and judiciary.

Together with political, economic and social reforms, the efficiency of the people and international aids play a vital role in carrying out task for national integration and development. So, the objectives of education promotion campaign must meet the needs of national development plans. And the role and future of younger generation of national races in the process of national integration must also be taken into account.

NATIONAL

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
President Office
Order No. 3/2013
2nd Waning of Pyatho, 1374 ME
(28th January, 2013)
Abolishment of Order No. 2/88

The Order No. 2/88 dated 18 September, 1988 was abolished as it goes against the Article 447 of the Constitution.

Sd/Thein Sein
President

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Making field trips, listening to public voices contribute to greater coordination



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann meets visiting group led by Pro Rector Dr Nu Nu Yi of Mandalay University.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan — Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann met with trainees of Diploma in International Law (1/2012) led by Pro Rector Dr Nu Nu Yi of Mandalay University who visited Hluttaw building to observe the Pyithu Hluttaw session today.

In meeting with local people at Pariyatti Sasana Beikman in Pyu Township

regions in accord with the laws as the public will be enraged at the injustice and unfairness.

He said that it was required not only for the people but also for law enforcement organizations to adhere and safeguard the existing laws. As the rule of law could not be achieved by the government alone, mass participation was required.

After hearing reports and clarifications presented by local people and officials concerned, the Speaker vowed to coordinate the matters with the ministries concerned, concluding his remarks that the onus was on Hluttaw representatives,



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann meets local people in Pyu.

MNA

of Toungoo District in Bago Region yesterday, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann called on elected representatives to strive for development of the nation and their own regions, making field trips and listening to the voices

of the people, so that public interest and rights will be protected.

He highlighted the importance of the role of ward/village administrators who are dealing with the public, urging them to serve the interest of their own

officials concerned, the region chief minister and local people to make great strides in translating the regional development undertakings into a success as the region is lagged behind in development.

MNA

Union FM receives Ambassadors of Qatar, Ireland

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan — Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin received Mr. Jabr

Ali Hussain Al-Hawashla Al-Dosari, Ambassador of State of Qatar to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

and Mr. Damien Cole, Ambassador of Ireland at 12:00 hr at his office, here today separately.—MNA

What's going wrong here?



Thabyay

NATIONAL

Zeyathiri Tatmadaw Stadium inaugurated as Tatmadaw sports competition kicks off



Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing addresses opening of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy, Air) sports competition 2013.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan—Tatmadaw (Army, Navy, Air) sports competition 2013 kicked off along with inauguration of Zeyathiri Tatmadaw Stadium this evening, attended by Commander-in-Chief of

Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing. Also present on the occasion were Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint, the wife of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Soe Win and wife, Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy, Air) General Hla Htay Win and wife, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) and wife, Commander-in-Chief (Air) and wife, Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Mya Nyein, Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Sports, Culture and Public Relations Development Committee Thura U Aye Myint, senior military officers from Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office, Nay Pyi Taw Council members, invited guests and athletes.

Athletes of different

sports demonstrated their skills to the accompaniment of military bands.

The Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services said success in sports reflects the development level of a nation and the dignity of the people. He praised the Tatmadawmen who sacrificed their limbs in fights yet still showed their ability despite their disabilities by clinching many medals in international parasports events.

He added that strategic plans have been implemented to organize the XXVII SEA Games as a green, clean and friendly one. Zeyathiri Tatmadaw Stadium is situated near Defence Services Museum in Zeyathiri Township. Apart from football, the stadium can also host track

and field events.

Tatmadaw (Army, Navy, Air) sports competition will be held

from 28 January to 6 February on a grand scale with 15 sports categories.

MNA



Press Release

(from page 16)

6. Additionally, the KIA attacked civilian targets such as roads, bridges, towers and government buildings as well as government departments and police who are engaged in ensuring rule and law and abducted and killed local people.
7. The KIA destroyed line of communication the public mainly rely on in Kachin State. The interrupted transport led to scarcity of food, rising commodity prices and shortage of medicines for local people.
8. The KIA blocked Myitkyina-Bhamo Union high way which is the life blood of local people. Meanwhile, they besieged the Tatmadaw camp in Lajanyan region since March 2012 and ambushed the Tatmadaw columns engaged in logistics.
9. Due to the terrorist attacks of KIA, the Tatmadaw inevitably cleared and attacked the KIA stronghold in Lajanyan region including Point 771 hill starting from 27 December 2012. Such military operations

are to ensure smooth and secure transport and to react with limitation on KIA that are destroying lives and property and save the Tatmadawmen who are short of supplies for being besieged.

10. As the Tatmadaw has achieved the limited objective of ensuring the security in Lajanyan region and the security of Myitkyina-Bhamo Union high way, it halted the regional clearance operations in Lajanyan region since 6.00 am 19 January 2013. But it had to react for self-defence on KIA who came and attacked the areas where Tatmadaw columns are active.
11. The Tatmadaw is desirous of making eternal peace through ceasefire by reducing the armed conflicts in Kachin State. The stance of the government and the Tatmadaw has been made public time and again. The KIA is required to be desirous of eternal peace in good faith like the Tatmadaw.
12. The Tatmadaw being made up of national races with the aim of ensuring national unity has much more wishes to ensure security of local people in Kachin State.
13. The Tatmadaw had to inevitably react for self-defence

for security of lives and property, smooth and secure transportation and community peace and tranquility. As the Tatmadaw strictly abides by the instructions of the President that call for halting offensive except self-defence, the KIO/KIA needs to respect the offer of ceasefire by the President.

14. The Tatmadaw is in the process of providing necessary aids to local people who were displaced due to lack of security. In the process, it is airlifting supplies for locals in Putao who are facing the shortage of food.
15. With a view to bringing about eternal peace in Kachin State, the Union Peace-making Work Committee made up of Tatmadaw representatives has made several offers to the KIO/KIA.
16. It is the Tatmadaw that will be making efforts together with all the national brethren including KIO/KIA in a bid to foster eternal peace and national unity in Kachin State being initiated by the government.

Ministry of Defence

Nay Pyi Taw

28 January 2013

Agreement on Myanmar's debts owed to Paris Club reaches

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan—A Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Win Shein who was in Paris to clear the debts owed to Paris Club creditor countries attended the plenary session chaired by chairman of the Paris Club Mr. Ramon Fernandez on 24 January.

The Union minister and delegation member Dr Zaw Oo made clarifications and officials of IMF, World Bank and ADB gave account of their views.

After the marathon round of face-to-face negotiation, the agreement had reached, recommending that the creditors delivers an exceptional treatment providing a cancellation of 50 % of the total arrears due

to Paris Club creditors and the remaining amount will be rescheduled over 15 years, including a seven-year grace period. Besides, Norway has granted a full outright cancellation of US\$ 534 million while Japan is carrying out to provide a cancellation of 60% of total debt. The meeting produced a favourable debt relief of around US\$ 6 billion over 60% of total debt.

Myanmar will conduct Staff Monitored Programme (SMP) in cooperation with IMF from January to December 2013. So far debts owed to WB, ADB and Paris Club creditor countries by Myanmar have been cleared.

Union Minister U Win Shein arrived back in Myanmar yesterday.

MNA

KIA group sets fire Yadana Taungdan company in Phakant



NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan—Members of KIA group set fire Yadana Taungdan Company near Pharpyin village of Phakant Township at about 1.30 pm today,

reducing one two-storey staff building to ashes. Local people and security members managed to bring the fire under control at about 3 pm.

MNA

KIA mine blast hurts two civilians

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan—A mine planted by KIA group exploded when a motorbike driving from Saijarbom Village to Phakant stepped on it yesterday morning. The incident left the two motocyclists seriously injured.

The injured are Lonkhin Villager Soe Naing (a) Kan Gyi Maung, 30, son of U Khin Soe and Ma Mone Villager Maung Wunna, 21, son of U Ohn Myint. They were sent to the Phakant People's Hospital for medical treatment.—MNA



WORLD



A passerby hugs with a staff member dressed like a leprosy patient with bandage on the square of the Hefei Railway Station in Hefei, capital of east China's Anhui Province, on 27 Jan, 2013. Staff members from a local centre for disease control and prevention carried out a campaign to promote leprosy prevention here on Sunday, the 60th World Leprosy Day.—XINHUA

British woman dies in Tanzania when riding across Africa

DAR ES SALAAM, 28 Jan—A British female tourist was among three people who died after being hit by a bus in an accident that involved three vehicles and horse riders, a doctor said on Sunday. About 25 others were seriously injured, most of them on-lookers attracted by the British and South African horse riders passing through Isela village in Shinyanga region on Saturday morning.

Frederick Mlekwa, the doctor in charge at Shinyanga Hospital, named the British citizen as Christine Hemchie, 29, and the two Tanzanian victims as Charles Mahugija, 60, and Willy Masanja, 55, both being residents of Samuye village. He said Hemchie died in the accident, which occurred when she was riding horse with her fiancé, William Arthur, 43, a South African national, who was critically wounded.

According to Mlekwa,

Jordan king urges to resume peace talks between Palestinians, Israel

AMMAN, 28 Jan—King Abdullah II of Jordan urged Sunday to resume peace talks between the Palestinians and Israel, the state-run Petra news agency reported.

The Jordanian leader said it is important to intensify efforts to achieve peace in the region, which will lead to the creation of an independent Palestinian state on the basis of the 1967 borders with east Jerusalem as its capital. Abdullah II said the Palestinians' joining the UN as a non-member state is a positive step to achieve peace, calling for all regional and international countries to help revive the peace process.—Xinhua

the tourists were on a tour across the continent that started in Tunisia on the southward bound to South Africa. Before the accident, the couple had already traveled in nine African countries.

The residents killed and severely injured were cheering on the passing team of horse riders from Britain and South Africa who were on an Across-Africa mission on horsebacks. Most of them were absorbed in the riders when the three-vehicle collision occurred and took away the lives of three persons.

Until late Saturday, according to Mlekwa, the body of the tourist was still at Shinyanga Hospital's mortuary waiting for her relatives to decide where and when to conduct burial.

Xinhua



Visitors eat Japanese-style boxed lunches during an event to introduce Japanese food on 24 Jan, 2013 in Davos, Switzerland, where the World Economic Forum was being held. KYODO NEWS

Live in Colour Carnival begins in Venice

VENICE, 28 Jan—Gondolas filled with people wearing ethnic costumes—and others in animal suits—have paraded through central Venice in Italy.

The Carnival of Venice 2013 began on Saturday with the theme of Vivi Colori, or Live in Colour.

Some say this year's theme was chosen to brighten the atmosphere of austerity in Europe.

The Venetian carnival is one of the world's 3 largest carnival events. It originated from a victory

RIO DE JANEIRO, 28 Jan—Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff on Sunday visited an improvised morgue for victims of a nightclub fire in southern Brazil as condolences flow in over the tragic incident.

After the deadly blaze, Rousseff canceled several bilateral meetings scheduled on the sidelines of the first summit between the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) and the European Union (EU) in Santiago, Chile, and was headed to Santa Maria in Southern Brazil where the fire broke out.

Visiting the make-shift morgue improvised from a local sports centre, Rousseff was visibly moved by the sight of the dead bodies

China publishes white papers compilation

BEIJING, 28 Jan—China on Monday published a compilation of government white papers issued last year in both Chinese and English versions.

The five white papers, published by the Information Office of the State Council, are titled "Situation and Policies of China's

Rare Earth Industry," "Diaoyu Dao, an Inherent Territory of China," "Judicial Reform in China," "China's Energy Policy 2012" and "Medical and Health Services in China."

The white papers "comprehensively and accurately" introduced China's policies, stances, prin-

ciples and latest progress on rare earth, the Diaoyu Islands, judicial reform, energy and public health, said a statement from the State Council Information Office.

"They have enhanced the international community's understanding toward China and received positive remarks," it added.—Xinhua

Brazilian president visits improvised morgue for fire victims, condolences flow in



Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff (L) arrives at the municipal sports center where the bodies of the nightclub fire victims are placed, in Santa Maria, state of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, on 27 Jan, 2013.—XINHUA

arranged for identification, and shed tears as she tried to console some of the relatives of the deceased.

She remained at the site for some 15 minutes, accompanied by state Governor Tarso Genro and oth-

er officials, then left without making any statements to the Press.

More than 230 people died in the small hours of Sunday when the fire broke out in the Kiss nightclub in Santa Maria, a major uni-

versity city at the southern tip of Brazil near the borders with Argentina and Uruguay. It was reportedly caused by a band member performing on stage fireworks.

Officials said there were around 500 people then in the nightclub, a popular hanging-out spot among local youths and college students.

The president told Brazilian reporters earlier in Santiago, "I would like to say to the people of our country and of Santa Maria how united we are at this sad time and we will necessarily overcome, preserving the sorrow." The federal government will do everything necessary to aid the families of the victims, she said.—Xinhua

Iron Dome batteries deployed in northern Israel

JERUSALEM, 28 Jan—Israel has recently deployed Iron Dome anti-missile batteries in its northern part, an Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) spokesperson confirmed on Sunday.

The batteries were placed in various cities up north, including the city of Haifa and some areas which have suffered barrages of missiles from Lebanon during the 2006 war.

The deployment was made amid the escalating fighting in neighbouring Syria. However, the IDF spokesman claimed that the action was planned well in advance, denying that there was a connection with the latest regional events.

Lebanese newspaper Al Mustaqbal reported Saturday that the Israeli Air Force was involved in an explosion in one of Hezbollah's arsenals in southern Lebanon recently.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Sunday expressed growing concerns that the chemical

weapons in Syria will end up at the hands of extremist militants.

"Syria is increasingly cracking, and we must be prepared, strong and determined against any possible threat," Netanyahu said at a cabinet meeting.

In November, missile defense system Iron Dome protected Israeli communities from rocket attacks launched from the Gaza Strip in the operation "Pillar of Defence."

Last week, the Israeli

Air Force conducted a successful test of an upgraded Iron Dome rocket system.

"The upgraded system is more accurate and has a wider range, enabling it to more efficiently intercept rockets, including 'Fajr' long-distance rockets," the defence ministry said in a statement following the test, adding that "IDF is also developing methods to deploy Iron Dome against additional threats to Israel."

Xinhua



An Iron Dome battery is deployed in the Haifa area, North Israel, on 27 Jan, 2013. Israel has recently deployed Iron Dome anti-missile batteries in its northern part, an Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) spokesperson confirmed on Sunday. XINHUA

NHK

REGIONAL

Hundreds in HK protest against chief executive Leung



Protesters march in Hong Kong on 27 Jan, 2013, calling for Chief Executive Leung Chun-ying to step down and criticizing his maiden policy address for failing to tackle poverty and housing problems.

KYODO NEWS

HONG KONG, 28 Jan—About 800 people in Hong Kong marched on Sunday to protest against Beijing-backed leader Leung Chun-

ying's maiden policy address, calling for him to step down.

"Leung Chun-ying! Step down!" the protesters

chanted, referring the Chief Executive Leung as a cheat. "No to 'Cheat' Executive! Universal suffrage now!"

Branding Leung a liar without credibility, the group, organized by a dozen community organizations and pro-democracy political parties, marched with placards and banners and later rallied outside the government headquarters.

The protesters criticized Leung's 16 January policy address for lacking policies needed to tackle pressing social problems such as poverty, the shortage of public housing and the high cost of rental housing. "People are disappointed at the way he drags on with all the problems," said protester Raymond Ho, a 57-year-old retired teacher.

Kyodo News

Japan, US mull summit on 21 or 22 February

TOKYO, 28 Jan—Japan and the United States are closer to agreeing to hold a summit between Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and President Barack Obama on 21 or 22 February, Japanese government sources said on Monday.

Abe, who took office in December and has expressed a strong intention to strengthen ties with the US government, is now expected to leave for Washington

on 19 February.

They are likely to discuss issues including a plan for relocating a US military base within Okinawa Prefecture amid fierce local protests as well as Japan's potential participation in US-led free trade talks for the Trans-Pacific Partnership, which is drawing opposition from Japanese farmers.

Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida vis-

ited Washington earlier this month for talks with Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. They agreed to hold a summit in the week starting 17 February, according to the sources.

Tokyo had initially tried to arrange Abe's visit in January but gave up on it given the tight schedule of Obama, who was inaugurated for his second term this month.

Kyodo News



A little boy views the cards with people's New Year wishes written on them under a wishing tree at a shopping mall in Wang-fujing, a commercial area in Beijing, capital of China, on 26 Jan, 2013.—XINHUA

Japan voters split on revising pacifist constitution: poll

TOKYO, 28 Jan—Japanese voters are divided over Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's goal of revising the post-World War Two pacifist constitution to ease limits on the military, although nearly 90 percent of lower house lawmakers back the change, an opinion poll showed.

Abe, who returned to the premiership after his conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) won a huge election victory last month, has made clear he wants to loosen the constitutional limits on the military. The constitution has never been formally altered since it was drafted by US

Occupation forces in 1947.

The survey by the Asahi newspaper and a University of Tokyo research team showed that 50 percent of

voters were in favor of revising the constitution, up from 41 percent in 2009 but far below the 89 percent of members of parliament

elected in December's lower house election who want to alter the charter.

Forty-five percent of voters were in favor of allowing Japan to exercise its right to collective self-defense, or coming to the aid of an ally under attack. That was up from 37 percent in 2009, but well below the 79 percent of MPs who back the change in interpretation of the constitution.

Poll questions were mailed to 3,000 voters last month, of whom 1,889 responded.

The lawmakers were surveyed before December's election.

Reuters



Commuters ride escalators at a subway station in Tokyo on 12 Aug, 2009.—REUTERS

China carries out land-based mid-course missile interception test

BEIJING, 28 Jan—China again carried out a land-based mid-course missile interception test within its territory on Sunday.

Xinhua learned the news from the Information Bureau of China's Defence Ministry.

"The test has reached the preset goal," an official with the bureau said. "The test is defensive in nature and targets no other country," he said. It has been the second time that China announced such kind of missile test.—Xinhua

Philippines wants to probe on US Navy personnel of stuck minesweeper in Tubbataha Reef

MANILA, 28 Jan—The Philippine government will ask the United States to allow Filipino authorities to have access to the duty personnel of the stuck *USS Guardian* to determine why the vessel ran aground in Tubbataha Reef in Sulu Sea, a senior government official said on Sunday.

Transportation and Communications Secretary Joseph Emilio Abaya said that his office is coordinating closely with the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) on how Filipino investigators could talk with the US Navy personnel manning the stranded minesweeper.

"We are conducting

our investigation. It has been done since Day 1 and, necessarily, to have a thorough and complete investigation if we should have access to the duty personnel, the duty officer, and even the commanding officer to at least get a chance to hear them out on what actually happened," he told reporters at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal II while waiting for President Benigno S Aquino III's arrival from Davos, Switzerland.

Abaya said that the government could not just go directly with the US Navy personnel and get every statement.

"We're coordinating

closely with the DFA and I have mentioned again to Secretary (Albert) del Rosario that is an essential ingredient of the investigation," he added.

Abaya said that defueling of the *USS Guardian* has been accomplished already in preparation for lifting of the ship out from the World Heritage-listed coral.

"The decision in order to minimize damage to the reef is really to lift the vessel and eventually board this on another vessel," the official said. Two Singaporean ships will arrive by Wednesday for the salvage operations of the stuck vessel.—Xinhua

Pakistan to announce election schedule in 10 days: minister

ISLAMABAD, 28 Jan—Pakistan will announce dates for elections and dissolution of assemblies within ten days, Information Minister Qamar Zaman Kaira said on Sunday.

The announcement came after a government delegation held talks with a religious leader, Dr. Tahir-ul-Qadri in Lahore on Sunday. Qadri led a long-march on Islamabad and later stated a sit-in in Islamabad earlier this month to press the government for electoral reforms. The meeting in Lahore was part of a deal reached with Qadri to persuade him to call off his sit-in outside parliament that paralysed the centre of Islamabad two weeks ago.

"We will try our best to announce a date for dissolution of national and provin-

cial assemblies and holding of elections within 7-10 days," Information Minister Qamar Zaman Kaira told a joint Press conference with Qadri.

Kaira said a consensus would be developed between the coalition government and Dr Qadri's party 'Awami Tehrik' or peoples movement on names of the caretaker prime minister and chief ministers. However, consensus on the issue of dissolution of the Election Commission could not be evolved in the dialogue.

Qadri had ended his protest after four days when a government team assured him that the elections will be held on time and that scrutiny of all candidates will be carried out to stop corrupt elements reaching the parliament.—Xinhua



Customers select craftworks for the upcoming Spring Festival at a shopping mall in Beijing, capital of China, on 27 Jan, 2013. Retailers all around the country take many kinds of sales boosting measures to attract shoppers as Chinese Spring Festival approaches.

XINHUA

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA RATNA VOY NO (873)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RATNA VOY NO (873) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.1.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
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Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV PLATINUM JADE VOY NO (PJ/V01/13)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PLATINUM JADE VOY NO (PJ/V01/13) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.1.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(3) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S HUB SHIPPING SDN-BHD
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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BLPL BLESSING VOY NO (1207)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BLPL BLESSING VOY NO (1207) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.1.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ORIENT EXPRESS LINES PTE LTD.

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MERKUR BRIDGE VOY NO (028)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MERKUR BRIDGE VOY NO (028) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.1.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MOL (S'PORE) PTE LTD.
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV OSSIAN VOY NO (13002N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV OSSIAN VOY NO (13002N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.1.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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Building fire claims nine lives in Moscow



Rescue team members are seen outside the building caught on fire in Moscow, Russia, on 26 Jan, 2013. A major fire in a building in southwestern Moscow has claimed nine lives, the Emergency Situations Ministry said Saturday, adding that inappropriate use of electrical facilities might have caused the incident.—XINHUA

Moscow, 28 Jan—A major fire in a building in southwestern Moscow has claimed nine lives, the Emergency Situations Ministry said on Saturday, adding that inappropriate use of electrical facilities might have caused the incident.

ministry added. The building, completed in July, 2012, was undergoing decoration on the first floor, where electric welding was needed. Burning cigarette ends or inappropriate use of electrical equipment might have been the cause of the incident, the ministry added.

The security staff at the building under decoration noticed the fire at 13:08 Moscow time (0908 GMT), which covered an area of 500 square meters, the Interfax news agency quoted the city's police department as saying. All the victims are construction workers living temporarily in the building, Itar-Tass quoted the Russian Interior Ministry's Moscow Bureau as saying.—Xinhua

Syrian opposition to start investigations into war crimes in Syria

ISTANBUL, 28 Jan—A group of senior Syrian opposition figures and international human rights activists said here on Saturday they would start investigations into war crimes committed inside Syria.

The two-day gathering aimed to pave the way for seeking justice on behalf of the victims of the Syrian unrest. "It is, of course, a main priority to open an investigation and hold ac-

countable those who committed war crimes and crimes against humanity," said Radwan Zaideh, Director of the Transitional Justice in the Arab World Mission. Xinhua

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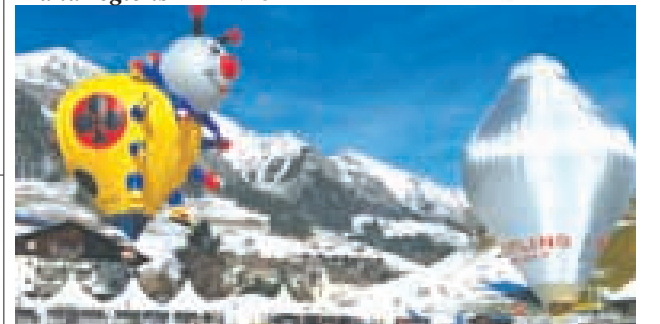
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Drive
Safely

Cartoon balloons take off at the 35th International Balloon Festival in Chateau-d'Oex, Switzerland, on 26 Jan, 2013. The 9-day balloon festival kicked off here on Saturday with the participation of over 80 balloons from 15 countries and regions.—XINHUA



ENTERTAINMENT

Jeremy Renner starrer "Hansel and Gretel: Witch Hunters" opens as No 1 in North America

LOS ANGELES, 28 Jan — Actor Jeremy Renner has proven that his star power is still a draw to the moviegoers in North America, despite the fact that a big snowstorm that hit a major part of the United States has kept droves of fans from venturing out when "Hansel and Gretel: Witch Hunters" debuted on Friday night.

The Paramount and MGM's R-rated 3-D action-horror pic, also featuring "Quantum of Solace" and "Prince of

Persia: The Sands of Time" star Gemma Arterton, finished as the top grossing film over the weekend, as it is projected to rake up 19 million US dollars in ticket sales, less than what the executives in distributor Paramount had expected — about 25 million dollars. The debut is far from exciting, especially considering much of the ticket price was made up of 3-D premium.

Opening on Friday in 3,372 locations in the US and Canada, the fairy tale film grossed 6.03 million

dollars as a major snowstorm swept the Northeast, which had a negative impact on the business. From Saturday on, the Jeremy Renner vehicle picked up steam, and led the chart during the Friday-Sunday period. The film, which costs 50 million dollars to make, is an adaptation of the German folk fairy tale "Hansel and Gretel" which follows a brother-and-sister duo of witch hunters who are bent to seek out and kill a deadly leader of evil witches.—Xinhua



Actor Jeremy Renner

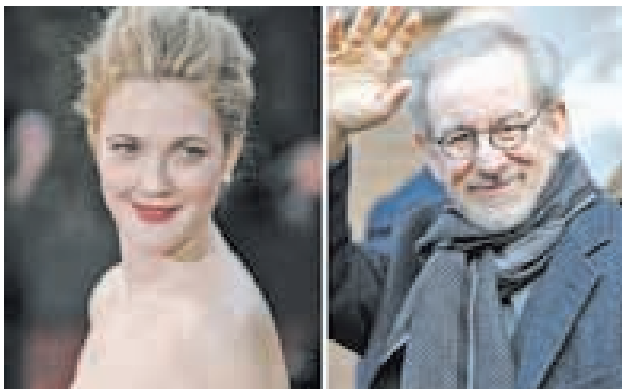
Dutch dance duo Bingo Players hit jackpot at top of UK pop chart

LONDON, 28 Jan — Dutch dance duo Bingo Players secured their first British No 1 single on Sunday with the club hit "Get Up (Rattle)", a collaboration with hip-hop group Far East Movement. They edged last week's No 1 "Scream & Shout", by US rapper and producer will.i.am and singer Britney Spears, into second place, the Official Charts Company said. The



dance act's previous biggest British hit was "Cry (Just a Little)", a track which used bits of Brenda Russell's "Piano in the Dark" and reached only No 44 in the charts. Climbing one position to third was American singer-songwriter Taylor Swift with "I Knew You Were Trouble".—Reuters

Drew Barrymore took advice of Steven Spielberg?



Drew Barrymore (L) and director Steven Spielberg (R).

NEW DELHI, 28 Jan — Drew Barrymore turned to Steven Spielberg for advice to protect her daughter from the paparazzi. The 37-year-old actress—who gave birth to her first child Olive last September — is struggling to deal with the attention she has had since becoming a mum and she said her famous movie director godfather and husband Will Kopelman have given her excellent advice to deal

with photographers.

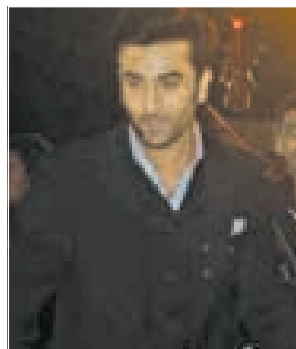
She said: "Unless I was to move underground with no windows, there's no way to avoid this, so I thought about the people that I look up to... People who have grace and they seem happy and they give us an example of how to behave. "I talked to my husband... He's someone I think about when I think about that kind of person; I talk to his family, who I love. I talk to my

godfather Steven Spielberg."

The star — who has been in the spotlight since appearing in 'E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial' when she was just seven-years-old — believes there should be stricter laws about photographing children and she said she's determined to protect her daughter from the attention she endured as a kid. She told US chat show The View: "[I've been] crying for two months about having to take my daughter outside into this very tumultuous world that has no protection for people. I agree with other countries when they won't allow the kids to be photographed.

"I think there has to be a limit and we teach our children boundaries, and yet the world doesn't have any boundaries to our children and that is an anomaly that I do not support."—PTI

Yale invites Ranbir Kapoor to speak, one year after Shah Rukh Khan



Ranbir Kapoor has been invited by Yale to be guest lecturer in April.—PTI

NEW DELHI, 28 Jan — Ranbir Kapoor will be the second Bollywood actor to speak at Yale University in the US, a year after Shah Rukh Khan addressed a packed house at the prestigious Ivy League school.

Ranbir, who is shooting for Abhinav Kashyap's Besharam currently, has been invited by Yale to be guest lecturer in April and is juggling his dates and

shoot schedule to fit in the trip. Ranbir, considered one of Bollywood's finest young actors, has had praise and awards heaped on him for his last two film performances in Rockstar and Barfi!

Last year, Shah Rukh Khan was named a Chubb Fellow by Yale but his visit to the US began on a controversial note when he was detained and questioned for an hour and a half by immigration authorities at a New York airport.—PTI

Chinese audiences chew on China-flavored Bond movie



BEIJING, 28 Jan — At the sight of neon-lit skyscrapers in Shanghai and red lanterns inked with Chinese characters in Macao, Ma Ning feels these Chinese elements in the new James Bond film "Skyfall" have "brought her closer than ever" to the series she has loved since childhood. "The

movie could have been set in any other country, but I am glad the director chose China. It made me feel close to Bond," said the 20-year-old college girl. "Skyfall" hit cinemas in the Chinese mainland on 21 January. This Hollywood blockbuster, the first in its series to be cooked with some real China flavor, has won cheer from movie-goers.

"It is a rare thing for an international action movie to depict China in a fashionable way," a 27-year-old media worker surnamed Huang said. "Skyfall" shows a magnificent side of Shanghai that even the natives may never have seen." Wu Qi from east China's Shandong Province considered "Skyfall" "largely an under-performance in comparison with the previous Bond movies."—Xinhua

NRJ Music awards: PSY, One Direction big winners

NEW DELHI, 28 Jan — PSY and One Direction were among the big winners at the NRJ Music Awards on Saturday night (26.01.13). The Korean chart sensation took home two awards for his song Gangnam Style, picking up International Song of the Year and Music Video of the Year. Meanwhile, the British boy band — who performed their hit Kiss You at the star-studded ceremony in the Palais des Festivals, Cannes, France — won the award for Best International Group.

Tweeting after taking to the stage, member Harry Styles wrote: "Thank you



PSY took home two awards for his song Gangnam Style, One Direction won the award for Best International Group.—PTI

so much to @NRJhitmusiconly and our fans for the award!! See you later .xx."His bandmate Niall

Horan also tweeted his delight, saying: "Cannes thank you for today! We had a lot of fun! French fans thanks alot for the award! gona sit lovely beside the TV. (sic)" The group arrived at the bash shortly after Harry's ex-girlfriend Taylor Swift, who was reportedly staying in the same hotel.

The We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together — who presented an award to the best French female artist — looked stunning in a short sparkly mini-dress, amid rumours she is desperate to rekindle her relationship with the Little Things heartthrob.

PTI

SPORTS

Brazil's President Dilma Rousseff (in red) listens to a message from FIFA President Sepp Blatter (top, on giant screen) during the inauguration of the Arena Castelao in Fortaleza in this file photo taken on 16 Dec, 2012. — REUTERS



Brazil's first 2014 World Cup stadium holds matches

RIO DE JANEIRO, 28 Jan —The Arena Castelao, the first of Brazil's 2014 World Cup stadiums to be completed, held its first matches on Sunday—a doubleheader in the northeastern Copa do Nordeste.

But despite the inspiration of having World Cup record goalscorer Ronaldo in the stands of the stadium opened by President Dilma Rousseff last month the teams managed only one goal to mark the occasion.

Fortaleza and Sport drew 0-0 before Bahia beat Ceara 1-0 with a goal from

former Brazil and Manchester United midfielder Kleberson.

The matches were preceded by a ceremony attended by Ronaldo, Brazil's sports Minister Aldo Rebelo, FIFA general secretary Jerome Valcke and Jose Maria Marin, president of the Brazilian Football Confederation. Sunday's matches in the Gaucha championship in the southern state of Rio Grande do Sul were canceled after the tragic deaths of more than 200 people in a fire at a night club in the city of

Santa Maria.

The state's top clubs Internacional and Gremio posted messages on their websites declaring three days of mourning and put their flags at half mast in their stadiums. The main attraction was to have been former Brazil coach Dunga's first game in charge of Internacional at Caxias.

Brazilian champions Fluminense drew 1-1 with Botafogo in the season's first major "classico" in the Carioca (Rio) championship.

Reuters

Markov's OT goal lifts streaking Canadiens over Devils

LOS ANGELES, 28 Jan—The Montreal Canadiens handed the New Jersey Devils their first loss of the season when a red-hot Andrei Markov scored late in overtime to secure a 4-3 win on Sunday.

Montreal squandered a 3-1 third period lead but Markov, who has a team-leading four goals, scored with 38 seconds left in overtime as the host Canadiens (3-1-0) extended their win streak to three games.

For New Jersey (3-0-1), who made an inspired late run and got 28 saves from goalie Martin Brodeur, the loss was the first blemish to their record after opening the National Hockey League season with three consecutive wins.

Ryan White and Brendan Gallagher put Montreal ahead 2-0 in the first before Brandon Prust made it 3-1 early in the third. New Jersey rallied

behind third-period goals from David Clarkson and Dainius Zubrus before being stung just before they could force a shootout.

Reuters



Montreal Canadiens' Andrei Markov (L) celebrates his game-winning goal with teammate Erik Cole (72) during overtime NHL hockey action against New Jersey Devils in Montreal, on 27 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

Four for Messi as Barca's lead opens to 11 points once again

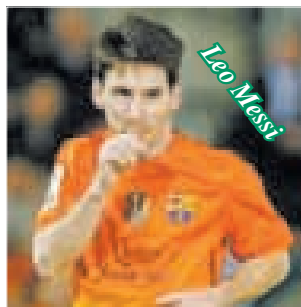
MADRID, 28 Jan—Leo Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo continued their particular head-to-head rivalry in the Spanish BBVA Primera Liga just three days before their respective sides meet in the first leg of the Spanish Copa del Rey on Wednesday night. Messi scored four goals as Barcelona returned to winning ways in the league thanks to a 5-1 win at home to Osasuna on Sunday night.

Pedro Rodriguez scored Barca's remaining goal against a rival who had to play for just over an hour with a player less after Alejandro Arribas was shown two yellow cards in the first 27 minutes. Barca's lead at the top of the table reopened to 11 points as second place Atletico Madrid crashed to a 3-0 defeat away to Athletic Club Bilbao, who look to be finding form after a poor first half to the season.

All the goals came in the second half of an entertaining game with Mikel San Jose putting Athletic ahead with a header from a corner, before Markel Susaeta latched onto a through ball to beat Atletico's excellent goalkeeper, Thibaut Courtois, with a low shot, and Oscar de Marcos ended the scoring with a volley five minutes from time.

Cristiano Ronaldo scored a hat-trick as Real Madrid defeated local rivals Getafe 4-0 in Sunday's midday kick off.

Reuters



Bayern and Hamburg triumphant at German Bundesliga

BERLIN, 28 Jan — Bayern Munich increased their point gap atop the standings owing to their 2-0 win over Stuttgart at the Southern derby while Hamburg came from behind to seal a 3-2 victory against Bremen at the Northern derby to close 19th round on Sunday.

Front-runners Bayern Munich tighten first position as they increase their point cushion to 11 points thanks to the goals by Mario Mandzukic and Thomas Mueller at Stuttgart. The German record champions nearly broke the deadlock with 12 minutes played as Dante pulled his header just wide. The hosts also had the opportunity to open the scoring but Shinji Okazaki failed to finish a counter attack properly at the 27th minute. Stuttgart's Martin Harnik approached Bayern Munich's net dangerously when his shot rattled the goal from a sharp angle.

However, it was the league leaders that broke the



BUNDESLIGA

deadlock five minutes into the second half as Mario Mandzukic intercepted Christian Molinaro's back-pass to beat Stuttgart's goalkeeper Sven Ulreich from close distance. The Bavarians were not done with the scoring as Thomas Mueller found Mandzukic's cross to seal the deal at the 72nd minute. Stuttgart finished the encounter with ten men as Martin Harnik was sent

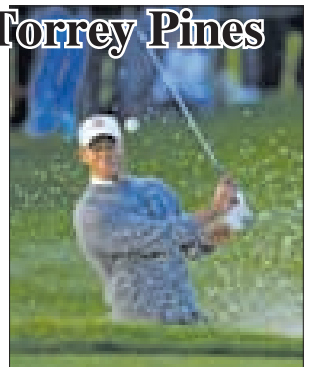
off for his second bookable offence. Stuttgart plummeted to 11th place with 25 points when Bayern wrapped up their 15th win to remain on first position with 48 points.

At the Northern derby Hamburg defeated nine men Werder Bremen 3-2 following a comeback. Bremen's Assani Lukimya gave his side the lead with only nine minutes on the clock when he headed home a long cross

inside the penalty area. Hamburg responded with the equalizer at the 22nd minute as Heung Ming Son dribbled his way into the box to beat Bremen's helpless goalkeeper Sebastian Mielitz, who seemed surprised by Son's precision. After the break Hamburg turned things around when Dennis Aogos had set up into the path of Artjoms Rudnevs, who had no problems to slot home from goal area.

Bremen was only able to reduce the lead by Hamburg to 3-2 as Sokratis Pastathopoulos effort found the back of the net following an assist by Theo Gebre Selassie at the 54th minute. Bremen had to finish the match with nine men as Clemens Fritz and Marko Arnautovic were sent off due their second yellow card. Hamburg stay on ninth position with 28 points meanwhile Bremen remain on 12th position with 22 points.

Xinhua



US golfer Tiger Woods hits from a sand trap on the fifth hole during the weather-delayed fourth round play at the Farmers Insurance Open in San Diego, California on 27 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

are well aware of his stellar overall track record on the US circuit where he has gone on to win 49 times out of 53 when holding at least a share of the 54-hole lead, including 14 of 15 in the majors.—Reuters

GENERAL

New transformer satisfies demand of electricity consumption

MAWLAMYINE, 28 Jan — Skilled workers and electricians of Mawlamyine Township have installed a 11/0-4 KV 315 KVA transformer at the corner of Myaingthaya Street and Phettan Street in Mawlamyine. The transformer is in operation to supply electricity to local people as of 6.30 pm on 23 January.

Thanks to newly-installed transformer,



the local people on Phettan, Myaingthaya and Shin Saw Pu are now

using electricity at full capacity.

Myanma Alinn

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(29-1-13 09:30 am ~ 30-1-13 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * Commemorative Ceremony of Martyrs and 115th Anniversary of U Razak
- * Hintha Kahan Phar Si Than
- * News
- * Music
- * Miracle Post Media Production House
- * News
- * Better Water System for better City
- * Bar Camp Yangon 2013
- * News
- * Art 13 Myanmar (Part-1)
- * Diamond Valley Rise Business Centre
- * Topic on Journal "Medicinal Tea Plant"
- * Living with the Love of the Nature
- * News
- * Inlay
- * Zeykabar Myanmar Open 2013 (Press Conference)
- * News
- * Myanmar Movies Impact "Chit Pan Wai"
- * News
- * Youth & Volunteer Service
- * Myanmar Movies "A Glance at Love"

MYANMAR TV

(29-1-2013, Tuesday)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 7:00 am | Entrance Examination (History) |
| 1. Metta Bhavana by Mingun Sayadaw -Uppatasanti Paritta | 5:05 pm |
| 7:25 am | 14. Songs For Upholding National Spirit |
| 2. To Be Healthy Exercise | 5:15 pm |
| 7:30 am | 15. The Mirror Images of The Musical Oldies |
| 3. Morning News | 5:25 pm |
| 7:40 am | 16. Teleplay (Health) |
| 4. Dhamma Puja Song | 6:00 pm |
| 8:00 am | 17. Evening News |
| 5. Health Programme | 6:15 pm |
| 8:15 am | 18. Weather Report |
| 6. Songs of Yester Year | 6:20 pm |
| 8:30 am | 19. Sing A Song |
| 7. Song of National Races | 6:50 pm |
| 8:40 am | 20. TV Drama Series |
| 8. International News | 8:00 pm |
| 9. Martial Song | 21. News |
| 4:10 pm | 22. International News |
| 10. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions | 23. Bakery World |
| 4:25 pm | 24. Teleplay |
| 12. Musical Programme | 10:00 pm |
| 4:35 pm | 25. News |
| 13. 2013 University | 26. India Drama Series |

Migrant workers honoured for rescue work in Beijing storm

BEIJING, 28 Jan—A group of migrant workers were awarded the title of "righteous people of 2012," according to a selection result released on Sunday.

In a massive downpour that battered Beijing on 21 July last year, about 150 migrant workers used life buoys and hemp ropes to conduct emergent rescues

for endangered people who were stranded in a flooded highway in the northwest city.

The torrential rain left at least 79 people dead and caused significant damage.

Late bus driver Wu bin, who sacrificed his own life to save 24 of his passengers and middle school teacher Zhang Lili, who lost her

legs in the act of saving two students from an onrushing bus, also received the honour.

The selection of "righteous people" started in 2009, and was organized by news medias including *Procuratorial Daily*, which is under the operation of the Supreme People's Procuratorate.—Xinhua

Cambodian court charges 6 bank thieves with aggravating violence

PHNOM PENH, 28 Jan—Kampong Cham Provincial Court on Sunday charged six suspects in a local Aceda Bank robbery with aggravating circumstances (violence), which could face up to 10 years in prison, a court's deputy prosecutor Riel Sophin said.

The suspects including five bank staff and an outsider were arrested on Wednesday night in a robbery at Aceda Bank's branch in Stung Trang district of eastern Kampong Cham province after 16-hour operations.

During the robbery, the alleged robbers had fabricated the hostage situation by arranging some of them to act as drug-addicted kidnappers armed

with a pistol and some as hostages. "After 3-day inquiries on the suspects, Investigating Judge Oum Chanthul decided to charge them with aggravating violence and issued a detention verdict this Sunday afternoon," Riel Sophin said by telephone on Sunday. He said one of the suspects ex-bank cashier Sin Kimthat, who masterminded the robbery plot, was additionally charged with organizing an armed group. The hearing date for the case is unknown yet. In Channy, President and Chief Executive Officer of Aceda Bank, which is the kingdom's largest bank, said on Sunday that the bank lost 55,000 US dollars in the robbery.—Xinhua

Commander Khin Aung (Retd) BN-1046 (Dartmouth 2nd Batch) Aged (83) years

Commander Khin Aung (Retd) BN 1046, son of (U Ohn Kyi and Daw Sein Yin), beloved husband of Shirley Khin (Khin Mar Nwe), father of Capt Kyaw Thet Aung-Win Min Than, Capt Tun Tun Aung-Kay Thwe Khine, grandfather of Khin Yu Ya Aung (Pinky), Kyaw Zaw Thu (Kevin Aung Jr), Win Lei Lei Win (Hillary Aung), Moe Thansin (Isabella Aung), Karolline passed away peacefully at St. Francis General Hospital, federal way, Washington, USA on 24-01-2013 at 12:22 pm. Cremation took place on 28.01.2013 at federal way, seattle, USA.

Bereaved Family



Yokozuna Harumafuji (L) receives a trophy from Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at Tokyo's Ryogoku Kokugikan hall after winning the New Year Grand Sumo Tournament on 27 Jan, 2013. Harumafuji won his first title at sumo's highest rank, finishing unbeaten.—KYODO NEWS

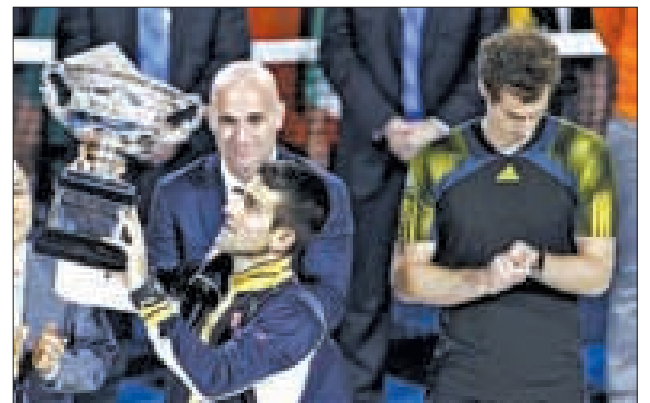
All stars defend Pro Bowl credibility after NFC thrash AFC

LOS ANGELES, 28 Jan —Despite the players' best efforts to give the event a more competitive edge, the NFC cruised to a Pro Bowl record 62-35 victory over the AFC in Honolulu on Sunday. The season-ending game that features the league's best players not involved in next Sunday's Super Bowl had come under fire for being a glorified exhibition and with its future said to be in doubt, those taking part rallied to raise its profile.

NFC tight end Kyle Rudolph rose to the occasion with 122 receiving yards and a touchdown to grab MVP honours, while

rookie quarterback Russell Wilson tossed three scoring passes in a performance he hopes will help secure the game's future. "I think everyone played really hard," Wilson told reporters. "Just being around (quarterbacks) Drew Brees, and the Eli and Peyton Mannings of the world is (once in a lifetime). That's why I hope they keep the Pro Bowl. It's special and means something."

The Pro Bowl offers a welcome trip to Hawaii after a gruelling season but the players were clearly concerned with its reputation and tenuous status. AFC defensive tackle J.J.—Reuters



Novak Djokovic of Serbia (L) poses with the Norman Brookes Challenge Cup next to former tennis player Andre Agassi of the US and runner-up Andy Murray of Britain (R) after the men's singles final match at the Australian Open tennis tournament in Melbourne, on 27 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

Djokovic pounces to claim Melbourne three-peat

MELBOURNE, 28 Jan—Novak Djokovic came up with his best tennis when it mattered most to reassert his grand slam dominance over Andy Murray on Sunday and become the first man to win three successive Australian Open titles in the professional era.

The Serbian world number one played 171 minutes of cat and mouse with his British rival before pouncing when the US Open champion blinked and racing away to a 6-7, 7-6, 6-3, 6-2 victory.

There was no ripping off of the shirt and no victory roar like Rod Laver Arena witnessed last year, but there was no disguis-

ing Djokovic's delight at claiming a fourth title at Melbourne Park. His three successive titles were a first since Roy Emerson won his fifth straight in 1967, while a quartet of crowns matches Roger Federer and Andre Agassi, the latter being on hand to present him with the Norman Brookes Challenge Cup.

"What a joy, it's an incredible feeling to win this trophy again. This is definitely my favorite grand slam. I love this tournament. I love this court," said Djokovic, who lost to Murray at Flushing Meadows in September.

Reuters

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan—The Pyithu Hluttaw passed the Contempt of Court Bill at today's session to ensure freedom of jurisdiction, and public trust in judicature.

Daw Khin Than Myint of Ngaputaw Constituency as regards the bill suggested that legislations which should be known by the general public should be explained widely to the public in simple and comprehensible terms.

As regards the question about if there is any plan to retire the government staff members who have reached 60 so as to give promotion to experienced and skilled staff in respective government institutions, Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung replied that some those who have reached 60 were assigned as advisors according to work requirements. If there are government staff members to be assigned as advisors, it is required to submit to the President Office and the approval is subject to decision of cabinet meeting. Some of the major reasons behind such appointment are incompetency of the

potential substitute and the superior's lack of confidence in potential substitute's performance.

In some ministries, a government official is trained to take the duties of higher positions, two levels higher in echelon as well as lower positions, two levels lower in echelon. He suggested that every staff member is to continuously try to perform the assigned duties efficiently.

Quality determines the position, especially those to be promoted to higher positions in technical field are to always try to meet the demands. There will be places for deserving young blood. In the future, those who have reached 60 would not be appointed as advisor but technician, concluded the Union Minister. The questioner U Aye Mauk said if they are appointed as technician and not as advisor, there would be vacancies for the qualified ones, calling for legislation of it if necessary.

U Thein Nyunt of Thingangyun Constituency submitted a proposal urging the Union government to

Contempt of Court Bill passed for freedom of jurisdiction and public trust in judicature



Representatives at Pyithu Hluttaw session in progress.—MNA

consider the existing rates of court fee and stamp fee adjusted depending on Notification Nos. 122/2012 and 123/2012 of the Finance and Revenue Ministry on

adjustment of court fee and stamp fee rates and Legislation Nos. 3 and 5 of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw which amend the court fee and tax fee laws.

Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Dr Lin Aung replied that the rates were adjusted in line with the changing conditions and asked to document

the proposal. The proposer agreed his suggestion and the Hluttaw decided to document the proposal. The tenth day session continues tomorrow.—MNA

Plan underway to sell mobile phones at cheaper price soon

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Jan—Ninth day of the sixth regular session of the First Amyotha Hluttaw was today held with nine agendas and four questions.

Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency No 4 asked whether **there is a plan to reduce price of mobile phones to the rural people through installment system.** Deputy Minister for Communication and Information Technology U Win Than replied that the plan is underway to sell mobile phones at cheaper price and the system for rural people will be announced soon after fixing the sale price.

U Saw Maw Tun of Bago Region Constituency No 1 asked whether there is a plan to ease/change rules and regulations for senior officers and staff (except director-general level) under scrutiny of respective ministries

to attend meetings and seminars abroad.

Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Zin Yaw replied that the government



Brig-Gen Kyaw Oo Lwin reads report of Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee.—MNA

issues orders for sending senior officers and staff to attend meetings and seminars abroad after seeking approval from the Foreign Affairs Policy Committee. Only when the Cabinet

meeting has approved the foreign trips of Government service personnel can respective ministries spend foreign exchange.



U Saw Maw Tun of Bago Region Constituency No. 1 raising question.—MNA

The Union government allows deputation orders and order of spending foreign exchange for the government delegations who have sought approval of the Foreign Affairs Policy Committee

without delay.

Member of Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee Defence Services Personnel Representative Brig-Gen Kyaw Oo Lwin read the report of the committee on population and housing census bill.

Dr Banya Aung Moe of Mon State Constituency No 7 discussed the important role of census for the State.

Four representatives participated in the discussions urging the Union government to provide assistance for meetings on uplifting capability of basic education teachers submitted by U Nein Khin Paung of Chin State Constituency No 7, and Deputy Minister for Education Dr Ba Shwe dealt with the discussions.

The Hluttaw approved the proposal. The 10th day session of the Amyotha Hluttaw continues tomorrow.

MNA

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Ministry of Defence Press Release

1. Some internal and external organizations, embassies and media issued fabricated news as to armed conflicts in Kachin State that cause misunderstanding of people over the government and the Tatmadaw.
2. The announcements stated that the Myanmar Tatmadaw launched offensive operations in the vicinity of Laiza which is the KIA headquarters. Although the official media stated the atrocities of KIA including destroying of lives and property of innocent people, abduction, striking a series of civilian targets such as roads and bridges, those organizations turned a blind eye to the actual events and issued fabricated news. Such biased news could cause misunderstanding in the public and international community.
3. The government is constantly endeavouring in good faith to achieve ceasefire and peace agreement with all ethnic armed groups with the aim of forging national reconciliation and national unity. As a result, peace agreements have been reached at various stages with all ethnic armed groups except KIO/KIA. It is the Tatmadaw that is taking every possible step together with the government to ensure peace.
4. It is the KIA that started creating problems by ambushing a team led by local tactical operation commander who were going to address the issues over the seizure of two Tatmadaw officers and one private who discharged security duty at Tapein Hydropower Project by KIA.
5. The Tatmadaw strictly followed the instructions of the President Office that called for halting offensive operations except self-defence. KIA taking an advantage of the self-defence exercised by Tatmadaw is attacking the Tatmadaw camps and ambushing Tatmadaw columns with mines, leaving many officers and other ranks dead or injured.

(See page 9)

Corrigendum

Please read 'duly addressed' instead of 'dully addressed' in Para 8 of Press Release on Page 16 issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that appeared in this newspaper on 26-1-2013.—NLM

Significant night temperatures (28-1-2013)

Haka	0°C
Loilem	0°C
Namhsam	1°C