

President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of Ambassador of the Republic of Cuba



NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan—Mr. Victor Daniel Ramirez Pena, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Republic of Cuba 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 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 President Office U Soe Maung and Director-General U Thurain Thant Zin of the Protocol Department.

MNA

President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of Mr. Victor Daniel Ramirez Pena, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Republic of Cuba to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.—MNA

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

President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of Ambassador of the Czech Republic



NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan—Mr Vitezslav Grepl, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Czech Republic 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 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 President Office U Soe Maung and Director-General U Thurain Thant Zin of the Protocol Department.

MNA

President U Thein Sein poses for documentary photo together with Mr Vitezslav Grepl, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Czech Republic to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.—MNA

Secretary-General of United Nations sends felicitations to President U Thein Sein

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan—The following is message of felicitations from the Secretary-General of the United Nations 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.

Your Excellency,

It is my great pleasure to extend to you and to the Government and people of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar my warmest congratulations on the occasion of the Independence Day.

As each country celebrates its individual culture, history and achievements, it is important to acknowledge the ties that bind us in our increasingly interconnected world. All Member States—regardless of size or wealth—have an essential role to play in forging a better tomorrow for people and the planet.

The United Nations is the principal arena for creating a more secure and sustainable future. We have achieved much in recent years, including the global mobilization in support of the Millennium Development Goals. Yet much needs to be done to meet the 2015 deadline, and much work will remain in the period after as we pursue a new set of sustainable development goals and a post-2015 development agenda.

Your country's active engagement in the work of the Organization is crucial in advancing our common goals of peace, development and human rights for all.

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

Significant night temperatures (29-1-2013)

Haka	0°C
Loilem	1°C
Putao	4°C

LOCAL NEWS

Training Course for Executive Management of Myanmar Civil Service 2013 opened

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan— Training Course for Executive Management of Myanmar Civil Service – 2013 organized by the Union Civil Services Board (UCSB) in collaboration with the Sasakawa Peace Foundation of Japan (SPF) was officially opened at Yadana Theingha Hotel yesterday morning, with

an address by Chairman of UCSB U Kyaw Thu.

The ceremony was attended by Members of UCSB U Khin Maung Aye, Dr Win Myint, Dr Kyaw Kyaw Htay and U Soe Oo, directors-general, resource persons and participants from union level organizations and ministries.

A total of 15 participants

from various union level organizations and ministries are currently attending the five-day training course where three main themes focusing on Organizational Management, Leadership, Economic Development and Overview of Globalization in Foreign Direct Investment will be discussed.—MNA

Research for arsenic levels in water resources discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan— Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung met Professor Dr Alexander Van Green of Columbia University from United States of America, Director-General U Kyi Htut Win of Water Resources Utilization Department and party at region government office in Patheingyi Ayeyawady Region

on 24 January morning.

They discussed matters related to research works on determination of arsenic levels in water resources in some townships of the region.

The region chief minister made a speech at the work coordination meeting on informal primary school education the following day

and an official reported the programmes for informal primary school education.

Those present clarified long-term plans for implementing the task and Region Social Affairs Minister U Tin Soe and Region Planning and Economic Minister U Hla Khaing participated in the discussions.—MNA

Shwe Karuna Cetana Clinic gives free health care to people



SITTWAY, 29 Jan— Under the mobile health care programme of Shwe Karuna Cetana Clinic in Sittway, a medical team comprising

10 specialists, 10 assistant surgeons and 20 nurses led by Medical Superintendent Dr Myo Thant of Sittway General Hospital together

with 11 members of Clinic Supervisory Committee and 19 volunteers made a trip of medical treatment providing free of charge to Amyitkyun village and surrounding villages in Sittway Township from 9 am to 3 pm on 20 January.

The medical team could give treatment to 630 patients, refer the emergency patients to Sittway General Hospital and lecture health knowledge to the local people.—Myanma Alinn

Midwifery course wraps up in Magway

PAKOKKU, 29 Jan— With the assistance of Magway Region Government, the District and Township General Administration Departments jointly organized the midwifery course (first batch) at the Pakokku General Hospital on 9 January morning. The deputy commissioner of the district and the medical superintendent made speeches. The deputy commissioner, Magway

Region Hluttaw representative U Zaw Moe Thein and Township Administrator U Kyaw Soe Htin awarded the first, second and third prize winners.

Medical Superintendent Dr Thin Thin Aye presented completion certificates to trainees and Matron Daw Tin Tin Hlaing medical equipment to a trainee. The Region Government spent K 7.5 million on the training course.

Myanma Alinn

Football referee course opened in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 29 Jan— Organized by Mandalay Region Football Federation, the football referee course No 1/2013 was kicked off at its office on 22 January, attended by 12 new generation youths.

U Paw Saw and U Tun

Hla Aung of the referee committee explained the purpose of opening the course.

FIFA referee U Tin Thein gave lecture and training to the trainees in the five-day course

Myanma Alinn

Sanitation carried out at Meiktila Lake

MEIKTILA, 29 Jan— Under the supervision of Meiktila District Deputy Commissioner U Tin Maung Soe, Assistant Director U Khin Zaw of Irrigation Department, Executive Officer U Thyant Zin of Township Development Affairs Committee and officials and staff of Myanmar Correctional Department carried out sanitation at Meiktila Lake on 20 January.

They cleared debris from the lake and carried out weeding works. Local people participated in the sanitation tasks near the



Myanmar, Japan discuss economic development

YANGON, 29 Jan— Mr Masaharu NAKAGAWA, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan and Former Minister of State for Disaster Management and Mr Michihiro ISHIBASHI, House of Councilors of Japan met President U Win Aung and the Vice-President, the General Secretary of the Republic

of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry at the Federation, here, on 23 January.

Both sides mainly focused on cooperation in economic development of Myanmar, Japanese investment opportunities in SMEs of Myanmar, drawing of rules and regulations

for foreign investment law, development of special economic zones, talks on mutual interest between employer and employees and participation of UMFCI in peace-making process of the Government in order to develop businesses and uplift living standards of the people.

MNA

Myanmar athletes leave for Thailand

YANGON, 29 Jan— The Myanmar Taekwondo team led by Joint Secretary of Myanmar Taekwondo Federation U Phyo Zaw (Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry) left here by air on 24 January morning to take part in the first Phuket International Taekwondo Championship to be held in Thailand on 26 and 27 January.

They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by officials of the federation and relatives.

The Taekwondo team comprised Chief Coach Mr YU Ung Cho (Korea), Coach Daw Soe Soe Thain (Engineering Department of Road and Bridge, Yangon City Development Committee), players Saw Tet Lu, Min Hein Khant, Lin

Le Shwe Yi, Aye Chan Myat Phyo and Naw April Shee.

The Chief Coach of the team left for Phuket in advance to make preparations for the competition.

Myanma Alinn

Turkish Red Crescent Society donates US\$ 60,000 to quake-hit areas

MANDALAY, 29 Jan— Turkish Red Crescent Society donated cash to quake-hit areas of Mandalay Region through Mandalay Region Red Cross Supervisory Committee at the Mandalay Region Health Department on 23 January afternoon.

Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Win Hlaing made a speech.

Leader of the Turkish Red Crescent Society explained the purpose of donation and donated US\$ 60,000 to the Chairman of Mandalay Region Red Cross Supervisory Committee who returned the certificate of honour to donor.

Myanma Alinn

Thagaungti River Water Pumping Station irrigates croplands

NYAUNGU, 29 Jan— Thagaungti River Water Pumping Station is located eight miles east of Nyaung U of Mandalay Region.

The station benefits over



sides of Nandawgon Ward, four Myoma wards and East Market ward. A plan is set to carry out sanitation at the

lake with the participation of departmental staff every Saturday and Sunday.

Myanma Alinn

500 acres of farmlands.

The station pumps water into eight ponds to be able to supply water to farmlands of the area.

Thanks to the station,

the local people grow double cropping and vegetables as mixed cropping including 180 acres of cold season beans and pulses.

Myanma Alinn

WORLD



Netherlands' Queen Beatrix (R) and her son Crown Prince Willem-Alexander are seen waving to well-wishers from the balcony of the Royal Noordeinde Palace after opening the new parliamentary year in The Hague on this 15 April, 2011 file photo.—REUTERS

Dutch Queen abdicates, Willem-Alexander to succeed

AMSTERDAM, 29 Jan — Dutch Queen Beatrix, who turns 75 on Thursday, announced she was abdicating in favour of her son, Prince Willem-Alexander, telling her country it was time to hand the crown to the next generation after more than three decades on the throne.

Willem-Alexander, 45, who will be sworn in as king on 30 April, is married to Princess Maxima, who comes from Argentina, and has three young children.

Decades of grooming for the throne involved shaking off his image as a beer-drinking fraternity boy whose blunt comments upset the press and politicians and did not fit the image of the Netherlands' low-key "bicycling monarchy".

Speaking calmly in a television broadcast, Beatrix,

who once faced scandal over her father's involvement in a bribery case and whose middle son lies in a coma after a skiing accident, said she was stepping down because she felt Willem-Alexander was now ready to take her place on the throne.

"I am not stepping down because the tasks of the function are too great, but out of the conviction that the responsibilities of our country should be passed on to a new generation," she said.

"It is with the greatest confidence that on 30 April of this year I will pass on the kingship to my son, the Prince of Orange. He and Princess Maxima are entirely ready for their future tasks."

The decision appeared popular with ordinary Dutch people.

Reuters

Russia to deploy new Su-34 bombers

Moscow, 29 Jan—Five Su-34 frontline bombers will be deployed in an air base near the city of Voronezh in southwest Russia, a spokesperson with the Russian Western Military District said on Tuesday.

"Five Su-34 multi-purpose frontline bombers have left Novosibirsk aircraft building plant to Voronezh, a distance of over 3,000 km," Andrei Bobrun told reporters.

This will be the second squadron composed of Su-34s. The first one has been established in 2011.

According to the authorities, Novosibirsk plant in southern Russia will deliver ten aircraft in total to Voronezh.

Su-34 bomber is a warplane of a four-

plus generation, with the operational range of 4,000 km and the maximum speed of 1,900 km per hour.

The Russian Defence Ministry said early this year that Sukhoi, Russia's leading aircraft builder would build 92 frontline bombers for the Russian

forces under a newly signed contract.

By 2020, the Su-34s will replace Su-24s that are currently in service in a deal expected to amount to 100 billion rubles (3.3 billion US dollars), according to the ministry.

Xinhua



Five Su-34 frontline bombers will be deployed in an air base near the city of Voronezh in southwest Russia.

XINHUA

Heilongjiang train-bus crash kills nine, injures 36

HARBIN, 29 Jan—A freight train collided with an overloaded passenger bus in northeast China's Heilongjiang Province early on Monday, killing nine people and injuring 36 others, one of them badly, according to the local government.

The collision occurred at 7:36 am at a railway crossing in Heihe City, the emergency response office of the Heihe municipal government said.

Five people died at the scene and another on the way to hospital. Three more died in hospital, sources with Heihe's work safety watchdog said.

A previous report said 10 people died in the collision and 11 were injured.

An investigation showed that the crossing has a supervisor but was unguarded when the accident happened, according to local railway sources.

The supervisor, being informed too late, failed to reach the area in time to warn vehicles of the approaching train, a senior railway official in Heihe told Xinhua.

The railway safety administration authorities of Harbin, the provincial capital, have dispatched a team to investigate the

accident.

All of the victims were on board the bus, which belonged to a local public transport company, Wudalianchi Passenger Transport Company.

It is not immediately known whether the bus driver was killed or injured.

The bus had a capacity of 35 people, but was apparently overloaded, judging from the casualties.

Further investigation is under way to determine how many passengers were on the bus at the time of the collision.

Xinhua

Egyptian protesters defy curfew, attack police stations



Protesters opposing Egyptian President Mohamed Mursi throw a Molotov cocktail towards riot police during clashes along Qasr Al Nil bridge leading to Tahrir Square in Cairo on 28 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

CAIRO/ISMAILIA, 29 Jan —Egyptian protesters defied a nighttime curfew in restive towns along the Suez Canal, attacking police stations and ignoring emergency rule imposed by Islamist President Mohamed Mursi to end days of clashes that have killed at least 52 people.

At least two men died in overnight fighting in the canal city of Port Said in the

latest outbreak of violence unleashed last week on the eve of the anniversary of the 2011 revolt that brought down autocrat Hosni Mubarak.

Political opponents spurred a call by Mursi for talks on Monday to try to end the violence.

Instead, huge crowds of protesters took to the streets in Cairo, Alexandria and in

Obama congratulates Israeli PM on election results

WASHINGTON, 29 Jan — US President Barack Obama on Monday called Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, congratulating him on his party's narrow winning in the elections, White House said in a statement.

Obama spoke with Netanyahu to congratulate him "on his party's success in winning a plurality of Knesset seats in Israel's recent election," said the White House, adding the US president "indicated" that Washington looks forward to working with the next Israeli government.

Obama also reiterated his commitment to the "deep and enduring bonds" between the two countries, and pledged to work with Israel to pursue peace in the Middle East, said the White House.

The telephone call came days after Israel's right-wing Likud-Beitenu union led by Netanyahu narrowly won the parliamentary elections. The winning has made Netanyahu the most likely person to build a ruling coalition in the new government.

The rather hawkish Netanyahu has been threatening to use preemptive strikes to destroy Iran's nuclear facilities.

Xinhua

Bomb explodes in southern district of Lebanese capital

BEIRUT, 29 Jan—A bomb planted under a car exploded in a southern suburb of Beirut late on Monday, a Lebanese security source said, rocking a Shi'ite Muslim area that is

a stronghold of the militant group Hezbollah.

The bomb destroyed the car and damaged buildings in the residential area of Hay al-Sellom but there were no casualties, the

source said.

It was not immediately clear what the target of the bomb was but the car was parked near a office for Shi'ite Hezbollah-aligned Amal political group.

Lebanon is still recovering from an October car bomb which killed Wissam al-Hassan, a security official who was leading an investigation that implicated Syria and Hezbollah in the 2005 assassination of former Prime Minister Rafik al-Hariri, a Sunni.

During the country's 15-year civil war which ended in 1990, tit-for-tat assassinations of prominent political figures were common and many fear sensitivities around the war in neighbouring Syria could lead to further instability in Lebanon.—Reuters



Security policemen inspect a damaged car in the suburbs of Beirut on 28 January, 2013.—REUTERS

the three Suez Canal cities—Port Said, Ismailia and Suez—where Mursi imposed emergency rule and a curfew on Sunday.

"Down, down with Mohamed Mursi! Down, down with the state of emergency!" crowds shouted in Ismailia. In Cairo, flames lit up the night sky as protesters set police vehicles ablaze.

In Port Said, men attacked police stations after dark. A security source said some police and troops were injured. A medical source said two men were killed and 12 injured in the clashes, including 10 with gunshot wounds.

"The people want to bring down the regime," crowds chanted in Alexandria. "Leave means go, and don't say no!"

Reuters

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Iran launches monkey into space, showing missile progress

DUBAI, 29 Jan — Iran said on Monday it had launched a live monkey into space, seeking to show off missile systems that have alarmed the West because the technology could potentially be used to deliver a nuclear warhead.

The Defence Ministry announced the launch as world powers sought to agree a date and venue with Iran for resuming talks to resolve a standoff with the West over Teheran's contested nuclear program before it degen-

erates into a new Middle East war.

Efforts to nail down a new meeting have failed repeatedly and the powers fear Iran is exploiting the diplomatic vacuum to hone the means to produce nuclear weapons.

The Islamic Republic denies seeking weapons capability and says it seeks only electricity from its uranium enrichment so it can export more of its considerable oil wealth.

The powers have proposed new talks in Febru-

ary, a spokesman for the European Union's foreign policy chief said on Monday, hours after Russia urged all concerned to "stop behaving like children" and commit to a meeting.

Iran earlier in the day denied media reports of a major explosion at one of its most sensitive, underground enrichment plants, describing them as Western propaganda designed to influence the nuclear talks.

The Defence Ministry said the space launch of the monkey coincided "with the days of" the Prophet Mohammad's birthday, which was last week, but gave no date, according to a statement carried by the official news agency IRNA.

The launch was "another giant step" in space technology and biological research "which is the monopoly of a few countries", the statement said.

Reuters



A still image from an undated video footage released on 28 Jan, 2013 by Iran's state-run English language Press TV shows a monkey that was launched into space.—REUTERS



Models present Pantech's new LTE smart phone "VEGA No 6 Full HD" during the launching event in Seoul, South Korea, on 28 Jan, 2013. XINHUA

US coasts highly vulnerable to effects of climate change: report

WASHINGTON, 29 Jan—All US coasts are highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change such as sea-level rise, erosion storms and flooding, according to a new report released on Monday. The report, Coastal Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerabilities, says that the most affected are the more populated low-lying parts of the US coast along the Gulf of Mexico, Mid-Atlantic,

northern Alaska, Hawaii, and island territories. And the financial risks associated with both private and public hazard insurance are expected to increase dramatically.

The report, authored by leading scientists and experts, emphasizes the need for increased coordination and planning to ensure US coastal communities are resilient against the effects of climate change. "An in-

crease in the intensity of extreme weather events such as storms like Sandy and Katrina, coupled with sea-level rise and the effects of increased human development along the coasts, could affect the sustainability of many existing coastal communities and natural resources," said Virginia Burkett of the US Geological Survey and co-lead author of the report.—Xinhua

RIM names multiple BlackBerry 10 music, video partners

NEW YORK, 29 Jan — Research In Motion Ltd has gathered a number of big-name music and video partners for its BlackBerry 10 storefront, ranging from Walt Disney Studios and Sony Pictures to Universal Music Group and Warner Music Group. RIM announced the partners on Monday, ahead of Wednesday's launch of its first phones based on its much-delayed BlackBerry 10 smartphone platform, which may be the company's last chance to regain ground it has lost to Apple Inc's iPhone.

Content partnerships

are a crucial part of this effort as analysts have largely attributed the success of iPhone and devices running Google Inc's Android software to the selection of applications and media content they offer. However, the company's shares were down more than 4 percent in morning trading. Canaccord Genuity analyst Michael Walkley said the partnerships were not a surprise and that RIM shareholders were probably selling to take a profit ahead of the phone launch.

"Until we start to see the devices sell to consumers, the stock will remain



Research In Motion CEO Thorsten Heins displays features of the BlackBerry 10 during his keynote address at the BlackBerry Jam Americas in San Jose, California on 25 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

quite volatile," Walkley said. RIM said its BlackBerry World content store would include an extensive catalog of songs, movies and television shows. Most movies will be available the same day they are released on DVD, with next-

day availability for many TV series. RIM's offerings will also include Matador Records, Rough Trade Records and Sony Music Entertainment music that will be initially be available in 18 countries.

Reuters

Google pledges fight over government access to users' email

WASHINGTON, 29 Jan —Google will lobby Washington in 2013 to make it harder for law enforcement authorities to gain access to emails and other digital messages. In a blog post on Monday, linked to Data Privacy Day, Google's chief legal officer, David Drummond, said the tech giant, in coalition with many other powerful tech companies, will try to convince Congress to update a 1986 privacy protection law. He cited data showing that government requests for Google's user data increased more than 70 percent since 2009.

In 2012, Google said, it received 16,407 requests for user data affecting 31,072 users or accounts, more than half of them accompanied by a subpoena. "We're a law-abiding com-

pany, and we don't want our services to be used in harmful ways. But it's just as important that laws protect you against overly broad requests for your personal information," Drummond said in the post. The US Electronic Communications Privacy Act, passed in the early days of the Internet, does not require government investigators to have a search warrant when requesting access to old emails and messages that are stored online, providing less protection for them than, say, letters stored in a desk drawer or even messages saved on a computer's hard drive. The current system also makes complex distinctions, many disputed in courts, between emails saved as drafts online, in transit, unopened or opened.—Reuters

As world of gadgets grows, online industry tunes into video ads

SAN FRANCISCO, 29 Jan — Internet video ads, long a sideshow in the online advertising market, are gaining in importance to marketers and Web publishers as they look to capitalize on consumers' changing viewing habits and tap a \$70 billion (44.5 billion pounds) television market. The ever-expanding array of gadgets that display online video, from tablets to Internet-connected TVs and DVD players, along with technology such as social

media that facilitates distribution, has spurred new interest.

The growing trend means websites like Google Inc's YouTube, Yahoo, AOL and Hulu have a better shot at tapping the mother lode of television advertising budgets, though video ads have a long way to go before they become as dominant a part of the marketing landscape as TV ads. Research firm eMarketer says video is the fastest growing form of online

advertising, with spending increasing 46 percent last year, and outpacing popular formats such as search ads and display ads.

Google does not break out financial results for its YouTube business, but Chief Business Officer Nikesh Arora said on Tuesday that spending among YouTube's top 100 advertisers increased by more than 50 percent in 2012 compared with the year before. There have been media reports that Facebook is developing

a video ad service, and analysts will likely be looking for answers on that avenue when the social networking giant delivers its quarterly results on Wednesday.

At Yahoo, "one of our highest priorities was to create more online video experiences, because that's where the demand is for advertising," said Tim Morse, the former Yahoo finance chief who became CFO of video advertising technology company Adap. TV this month.—Reuters



A neon Google logo is seen as employees work at the new Google office in Toronto, on 13 Nov, 2012. REUTERS

BUSINESS & HEALTH

China's demographic dividend disappearing: expert

BEIJING, 29 Jan—China's demographic dividend has been disappearing since 2012, which will have significant impact on economic growth, the *People's Daily* quoted an expert as saying in a Monday report. "We should be psychologically and politically prepared for the situation," said Professor Cai Fang, a demographer and director of the Institute of Population and Labour Economics of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, in an interview with the *People's Daily*, the flagship newspaper of the Communist Party of China (CPC).

His remarks came following the first decrease in the size of China's labor force since the country's reform and opening-up drive began in the late 1970s. Data released by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) on 18 Jan showed that the number of labourers between the ages of 15 and 59 decreased by 3.45 million year on year in

2012, marking the first "absolute decrease" in China's labour force. Ma Jiantang, director of the NBS, said at a recent press conference that the situation calls for much attention.

The demographic dividend is a window of opportunity in the development of a society or a nation that opens up as fertility rates decline, with faster rates of economic growth and human development becoming possible when combined with effective



policies and markets. A report from the China Development Research Foundation also stated that the country's labor force will decrease by about 29 million over the current decade.

Reuters

IMF suggests Hungary to change economic policy

BUDAPEST, 29 Jan—The International Monetary Fund (IMF) on Monday urged Hungary to adopt a "new policy course" on economy to boost the country's economic growth.

The IMF officials made a series of suggestions on Monday in a concluding statement after spending two weeks in Hungary as part of regular Article IV consultations.

"A new policy course is needed to deliver the required medium-term fiscal adjustment in a sustainable way to support growth and confidence, repair the financial sector, and promote structural reforms to boost the potential of the Hungarian economy," according to the statement.

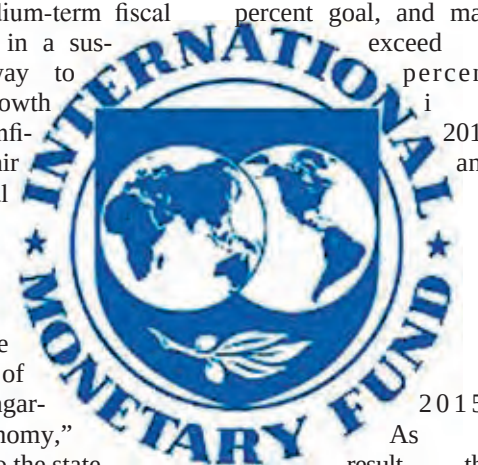
The statement said that Hungary was in its second recession in four years and that the outlook was difficult driven by falling con-

sumption and investment as well as stubbornly high unemployment.

Frequent and unpredictable tax policy changes, minimum wage hikes, mortgage relief schemes and utility tariff cuts, weak investment was also to blame.

The IMF predicted the general government deficit could reach 3.25 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) in 2013, compared with the government's 2.7 percent goal, and may exceed 3 percent in 2014 and 2015.

As a result, the country's public debt would continue to stay around 78 percent of GDP, 10 percentage points higher than the pre-crisis level, said the statement.—Xinhua



US study finds cardiac disease linked to higher risk of mental impairment



WASHINGTON, 29 Jan—Cardiac disease is associated with increased risk of mild cognitive impairment such as problems with language, thinking and judgment—particularly among women with heart disease,

according to a study published online Monday in *JAMA Neurology*.

Known as non-amnesic because it doesn't include memory loss, this type of mild cognitive impairment may be a precursor to vascular and other non-Alzheimer's dementias, says researchers at Mayo Clinic in Minnesota.

They evaluated 2,719 people ages 70 to 89 at

the beginning of the study and every 15 months after. Of the 1,450 without mild cognitive impairment at the beginning, 669 had heart disease and 59 (8.8 percent) developed nonamnesic mild cognitive impairment; in comparison 34 (4.4 percent) of 781 who did not have heart disease developed nonamnesic mild cognitive impairment.

The association varied by sex; cardiac disease and mild cognitive impairment

appeared together more often among women than in men.

Mild cognitive impairment is an important stage for early detection and intervention in dementia, says lead author Rosebud Roberts, a health sciences researcher at Mayo Clinic, adding that "prevention and management of cardiac disease and vascular risk factors are likely to reduce the risk."

Xinhua

PepsiCo replacing Gatorade ingredient after online petition

NEW YORK, 29 Jan—PepsiCo Inc is removing a controversial chemical from its Gatorade drinks following concerns from consumers and an online petition by a Mississippi teenager. Gatorade said the change was not a response to the petition, although the 15-year-old girl claimed victory.

The ingredient, brominated vegetable oil (BVO), is a chemical containing bromine, which is found in fire retardants. Small quantities of BVO are used legally in some citrus-flavored drinks in the United States to keep the flavor evenly distributed.

the 15-year-old girl from Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

Kavanagh started a petition on Change.org, an online petition platform, to ask PepsiCo to remove BVO from Gatorade. It received more than 200,000 signatures, and on Friday, the teenager declared victory. "When I went to Change.org to start my petition, I thought it might get a lot of support because no one wants to gulp down flame retardant, especially from a drink they associate with being healthy," the girl said via a statement on Change.org. "But with Gatorade being as



It was present in Gatorade Orange and Lemonade and other smaller flavours. Molly Carter, a spokeswoman for Gatorade, said BVO-free versions of those drinks will roll out across the United States in the next couple of months. She said the move to replace BVO has been in the works for some time, and was not a response to the petition by Sarah Kavanagh,

big as they are, sometimes it was hard to know if we'd ever win."

"This is so, so awesome," she said. According to the Center for Science in the Public Interest, a food safety watchdog group, BVO is a "poorly tested and possibly dangerous food additive and there's no reason to use it in Gatorade or other drinks."

Reuters

Yahoo sees revenue climb this year, but long road ahead



The headquarters of Yahoo Inc. is pictured in Sunnyvale, California in this file photo taken on 5 May, 2008.—REUTERS

NEW YORK, 29 Jan—Yahoo Inc forecast a modest uptick in revenue for the current year as it revamps its family of websites but Chief Executive Marissa

Mayer warned it would be a long journey to revive the Internet company's fortunes. In Yahoo's first financial outlook since Mayer became CEO in

July, the company outlined a plan to trigger a "chain reaction of growth" by overhauling a dozen of its online services to increase the amount of time users spent on its websites. It also pointed to strength in its search advertising business and progress made in improving its internal operations.

Yahoo's shares were 3 percent higher in after hours trade after the revenue projection was disclosed during an analysts conference call, shedding some ground after earlier rising as much as 4.5 percent. But weakness in Yahoo's display ad business,

which accounts for roughly 40 percent of the company's total revenue, caught some analysts by surprise. "While the road to growth is certain, it will not be immediate," said Mayer, a former Google Inc executive and Yahoo's third full-time CEO since September 2011. Yahoo said that revenue, excluding fees it pays to partner websites, will range between \$4.5 billion and \$4.6 billion in 2013, implying an annual growth rate of 0.7 percent to 3 percent.

Finance Chief Ken Goldman also warned investors to expect "an investment phase" in the first half of the year, which he said would impact profit margins. "What was clear from the call is that this is a long-term turnaround story," said Macquarie Research analyst Ben Schachter. "We shouldn't expect anything to just snap back and correct itself." During the fourth quarter, Yahoo's net revenue increased 4 percent year-on-year to \$1.22 billion, as search advertising sales offset a 10 percent decline in the number of display ads sold on Yahoo's core properties.—Reuters

Researchers find genes behind aggressive endometrial cancer

WASHINGTON, 29 Jan—A team of US researchers have identified a number of new genes that are frequently mutated in uterine serous carcinoma (USC) — a chemo-resistant, aggressive form of endometrial cancer, according to a study published online on Monday in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

The team collected tumors from 57 women affected with USC to try to

determine the molecular basis of the tumor's aggressive behavior. They sequenced all the genes from the tumors and identified mutations that are crucial for these tumors to grow. The team also studied the copy number variations — genes that are not mutated but are amplified in the tumors to give them a growth advantage over normal tissues.

The newly-identified cancer-related genes in-

cluded two — CHD4 and MBD3 — that are found in the same protein complex and play a role in remodeling the genome to allow certain regions to be turned on and off. The discovery of a third gene, TAF1, was a surprise to researchers because it is a core component of the machinery responsible for transcribing a large fraction of the protein coding genes in the human genome.

Reuters

WORLD

Nightclub fire kills at least 231 in Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, 29 Jan — A major fire in a crowded nightclub in southern Brazil killed at least 231 people and injured more than 200 others on early Sunday, local television reports said.

Reports quoted police sources as saying the death toll from the “Kiss” nightclub fire in Santa Maria could rise as an investigation of the blaze continues. Police believe there are about 20 bodies still inside the club.

Xinhua



Rescue workers gather at the fire site in Santa Maria, southern Brazil, on 27 Jan 2013. A fire in a crowded nightclub in Santa Maria killed at least 245 people and injured more than 200 others on early Sunday, local television reports said. —XINHUA

Nine films on death penalty to be screened in Tokyo

TOKYO, 29 Jan—Nine films from Japan and abroad on the theme of capital punishment will be screened consecutively at a movie theater in Tokyo's Shibuya district over a one-week period from 2 February, with a series of talks also scheduled.

Movies shown at Eurospace for its “Death Penalty

Movie Week” include the screening of “Serial Killer,” a 1969 documentary film on Norio Nagayama, who was hanged in 1997 for fatally shooting four people when he was a teenager, and the 1958 French movie “Elevator to the Gallows.”

Movies from Bolivia, China and South Korea will also be shown.



Films on death penalty to be screened in Tokyo. Supplied photo shows a clip from the 1969 documentary film “Serial Killer,” which will be screened in “Death Penalty Movie Week” in Tokyo from Feb. 2, 2013.

KYODO NEWS

The screenings, of three to four movies a day, will be accompanied by talk sessions with guest speakers including Yoshihiro Yasuda, a Tokyo-based lawyer leading the anti-death penalty campaign in Japan, and Shoji Sakurai, who was falsely accused in a high-profile 1967 murder case and acquitted more than 40 years later.

The event is organized by Forum 90, which has campaigned for terminating capital punishment since 1990, under the main title of “Crime, Punishment and Forgiveness.”

“Most people in Japan support the death penalty without knowing its realities, as information about capital punishment has not been fully disclosed in this country,” said Masakuni Ota, a member of Forum 90. “We expect this film festival to provide an opportunity to understand parts of the secret system.”

Kyodo News

Brazil detains band, club owners after deadly nightclub fire

SANTA MARIA, 29 Jan — Brazilian police investigating a nightclub fire that killed 231 people detained on Monday the owners of the club and two band members whose pyrotechnics show authorities say triggered the blaze.

No charges were filed against the four men, but prosecutors said they could be held for up to five days as police press them for clues as to how the fire on early Sunday morning could have caused so many deaths.

Stunned residents in

the southern city of Santa Maria attended a marathon of funerals beginning in the pre-dawn hours. After sunset, thousands joined a procession through the streets of the city, dressed in white and wearing black arm bands.

Some mourners demanded answers about the safety measures at the nightclub, where hundreds were trapped after the ceiling became engulfed in flames.

“Why the regulations? Why pay taxes? What is the government doing?” read a banner carried by

university students who had lost friends in the fire.

The tragedy comes as Brazil prepares to host the 2014 World Cup soccer tournament and 2016 Olympics, putting its safety standards and emergency response capabilities in the international spotlight.

President Dilma Rousseff, who cut short a visit to Chile to fly to the scene of the disaster on Sunday, called for a minute of silence before addressing a meeting of newly elected mayors in the capital, Brasilia.

Reuters

People march in tribute to the victims of the Kiss nightclub fire in the southern city of Santa Maria, 187 miles (301 km) west of the state capital Porto Alegre, on 28 Jan, 2013.

REUTERS



Nine killed by gunmen in the Philippines

MANILA, 29 Jan—A police vehicle was attacked by an armed group and 9 people were killed on Negros Island in the Philippines on Sunday.

Police say the truck was ambushed by the armed group in La Castellana in Negros Occidental Province on early Sunday morning.

The vehicle was carrying police officers and

private security guards who had worked at a festival held in a nearby village on Saturday.

Nine people were killed, and 2 others were wounded in the attack.

Police are carrying out an investigation with the military.

Police suspect the New

People's Army may have carried out the attack, based on the survivors' testimony and the fact that it happened in the communist group's area of activity.

The group is at odds with the government over land reform and other issues.

NHK

Fire erupts in chemical factory in NW Turkey

ANKARA, 29 Jan—A fire erupted in an acrylic fiber factory on Sunday morning in Turkey's northwestern Yalova Province, local media said.

The fire reportedly started in the depot which was filled with fiber materials.

Firefighters from adjacent districts are still exerting all efforts to put down the fire.

No casualty was reported yet.

The burning factory belongs to AKSA Acrylic Chemical Industry, which has a capacity of 308 kt of acrylic fiber.—Xinhua

Shots fired at Israeli bus in West Bank

JERUSALEM, 29 Jan—Gunmen opened fire on Sunday evening at an Israeli civilian bus traveling near Anatot in the West Bank, the Israeli army said in a statement.

The IDF spokes-

man told Xinhua that the shooting caused no casualties, but the vehicle was damaged.

Soldiers were searching the area, in east of Jerusalem, for the assailants, the statement said.

Earlier Sunday, security forces arrested two Palestinians suspected of plotting to carry out a terror attack.

The men, detained at a checkpoint near the

West Bank city of Nabulus, were armed with improvised grenades, petrol bombs and knives. They carried a letter that said they intended to commit suicide.

Xinhua

Seven dead in NE China train-bus collision

HARBIN, 29 Jan—Seven people died after a cargo train and a passenger bus collided on Monday morning in northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, local government sources said.

The collision happened at 7:36 am in the city of Heihe. Six people died at

the scene and another died on the way to hospital. All of the victims were passengers on the bus. The injured have been rushed to local hospitals. The train was operated by a local railway company in Heihe. The cause of the collision is being investigated.

Xinhua



A participant competes during the third International dog sled race held at the suburbs of Minsk, Belarus, on 27 Jan 2013. About 150 participants from Belarus and neighbouring Russia, Latvia and Lithuania took part in the competition.

XINHUA

WORLD

Top Chinese, Russian legislators vow to strengthen bilateral ties



Wu Bangguo (L), chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of China, is presented the medal "Order of Friendship" by Valentina Matvienko, chairwoman of Russia's Federation Council, on behalf of Russia's President Vladimir Putin, in Vladivostok, Russia, on 28 Jan, 2013. —XINHUA

VLADIVOSTOK, 29 Jan— Top Chinese legislator Wu Bangguo and senior Russian parliamentarian Valentina Matvienko pledged to

strengthen bilateral ties during a meeting on Monday.

Wu, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress

of China, met Matvienko, chairperson of Russia's Federation Council, or upper house of parliament, during the 21st annual meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF) in the Russian Far Eastern city of Vladivostok.

To forge the China-Russia comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination is a "strategic decision" made by the leaders of the two countries, Wu said.

The bilateral ties, featuring equality and trust, mutual support and common prosperity with long-standing friendship, are in accordance with the fundamental interests of the two countries and the developing trend of the times, he said.

Wu added that the current partnership is stable and mature with a high lev-

el of strategic coordination and rich connotation.

The new Chinese leadership attaches great importance to China-Russia relations and has made it a priority of China's diplomacy, he said, adding that his country is willing to deepen the pragmatic cooperation in various fields.

China-Russia relations will develop in the direction of strategic coordination, mutual benefit, win-win outcomes and good-neighbourly friendship, Wu said.

As a crucial part of bilateral ties, frequent exchanges and efficient cooperation between China's National People's Congress and Russia's Federation Council and State Duma have promoted the two countries' strategic partnership, the top Chinese legislator said.

Xinhua

Smallest house in Brussels up for auction

BRUSSELS, 29 Jan— Cosy might be the best word to describe the smallest house in Brussels, which is about to go up for auction.

The centuries-old former furniture workshop and creperie a stone's throw from the Belgian capital's picturesque central square is just 2.75 meters wide and has a ground floor only 1.75

metres (The smallest house in Brussels) written across a faded wooden sign above the entrance.

It is not Europe's narrowest however, which tourist officials in Slovakia believe could be a 1.3 metre wide house in its capital Bratislava. The Brussels house, squeezed between a pizzeria and a souvenir shop, has floors each of



A woman walks past the smallest house in Brussels (C) on a street just off Brussels' main square on 22 Jan, 2013. —REUTERS

metres (5 foot 9 inches) across.

"There's a lot of interest and there are also a lot of tourists who want to see it," said Claude Rotsart de Hertaing, a Brussels pensioner who works part time showing prospective buyers around houses.

The dilapidated five-floor Belgian townhouse, just off the central Grand Place square, has "La plus petite maison de Brux-

elles" (The smallest house in Brussels) written across a faded wooden sign above the entrance.

On one floor it has a potentially inviting fireplace, but you might singe your knees if you sat facing it on an armchair.

The house will be auctioned on 6 February, starting at a price of 146,200 euros (\$194,700).

Reuters



41st international ballet competition held in Switzerland Dancers take part in the 41st international ballet competition in Lausanne, Switzerland, on 28 Jan, 2013. XINHUA

Florida man accused of fraud after name change in 'act of love'

MIAMI, 29 Jan— A newly married South Florida man who opted to take his wife's last name is fighting the state's Department of Motor Vehicles after it suspended his driving license on grounds of fraud.

Real estate investor Lazaro Sopena offered to change his name following his 2011 marriage to Hanh Dinh in order to help his wife's Vietnamese family perpetuate their family surname. Shortly after their marriage, Lazaro Dinh obtained a new passport and Social Security card and changed his bank account and credit cards before applying to update his drivers license. "It was an act of

love. I have no particular emotional ties to my last name," said Dinh, 40, who was born in Cuba and came to the United States at the age of 11 in 1984.

His wife, Hanh Dinh, 32, has four sisters and came to the US in 1990, after a family odyssey involving living in refugee camps and being separated from her father for 7 years.

Lazaro Dinh was initially issued a new license after presenting his marriage certificate at his local DMV office and paying a \$20 fee, just as newly married women are required to do when they adopt their husband's name. "It was easy. When the government issues you a new



Lazaro Sopena poses with Hanh Dinh on their wedding day in Miami Beach, Florida, in this 2 July, 2011 hand-out photo. Sopena opted to take his wife's last name only to be accused of fraud by the state's Department of Motor Vehicles. The South Florida real estate investor lovingly offered to change his name following his 2011 marriage to Hanh Dinh in order to help his wife's family perpetuate their family surname. Dinh, who was born in Vietnam, is from a family of all girls and only one son.—REUTERS

passport you figure you're fine," he said. More than a year later Dinh received a letter from Florida's DMV last December accusing him of "obtaining a driving license

by fraud," and advising him that his license would be suspended at the end of the month. Ironically, it was addressed to Lazaro Dinh.

Reuters

South Africa police join hunt for 10,000 escaped crocodiles

JOHANNESBURG, 29 Jan— South Africa has called out the police to join the hunt for as many as 10,000 crocodiles on the loose after escaping from a farm during floods and being washed into one of southern Africa's biggest rivers, officials said on Friday.

Crocodile farmers, locals and police have trapped thousands of the reptiles, using plastic bands to tie their legs behind their backs and then piling them into pick-up trucks.

The flood gates at the

Rakwena Crocodile Farm close to the Botswana and Zimbabwe borders were opened on Sunday because it was feared that rising flood waters would crush the reptiles, releasing some 15,000 crocodiles into the Limpopo River. "At night time we have more success. It is much easier to see them," Zane Langman, whose in-laws own the farm, told news channel ENCA.

Most of the crocodiles are less than two metres (78 inches) long. The area is

home to several farms that supply crocodile skins to the fashion industry.

"We are working as a team with the stakeholders," police spokesman Brigadier Hangwani Mulaudzi said on Friday. There have been no reports of injuries caused by the escaped reptiles.

Police in Zimbabwe, on the other side of the Limpopo, also issued warnings to people to avoid going into the water because of the crocodile threat.

Reuters

Bodies of missing Mexican band members found in well

MONTERREY, 29 Jan— Police found a dozen bodies inside a well in northern Mexico, some of them members of a band abducted last week by an armed group, a spokesman for the state of Nuevo Leon, Jorge Domene, said on Monday. Authorities have identified four of the bodies, including that of a Colombian national. All were wearing jeans and T-shirts with the logo of the music group — "Poderoso Kombo Colombia." One band member

who managed to escape told police that after he and the others were kidnapped, their armed men captors asked them if they belonged to an organized crime gang. They were shot when they refused to answer.

It was not clear how the surviving band member escaped or whether he was wounded. Domene said he had fled Mexico after reporting the attack.

A total of 18 men, 12 musicians plus staff, were abducted on Thursday at a

party in a bar near the industrial city of Monterrey, Domene said. "Presumably there could be more bodies so we will extend the search as far as conditions allow it," he told a Press conference. Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto has vowed to reduce criminal violence that spiraled after his predecessor, Felipe Calderon, launched an assault on drug cartels in December 2006. Some 70,000 people have been killed in drug-related violence in Mexico since then.— Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 30 January, 2013

Avoid of contact with animals you don't know

Rabies is a deadly viral infection that is mainly spread by infected animals, especially infected dogs. The actual time between infection and when you get sick ranges from ten days to seven years. The average period is 3-12 weeks. This is called incubation period.

Rabies is spread by infected saliva that enters the body through a bite or broken skin. The virus travels from the wound to the brain, where it causes swelling or inflammation. The infection leads to symptoms of the disease. Most rabies deaths occur in children. As bats or raccoons which are seen spontaneously in the houses may carry rabies virus, they are to be treated cautiously.

If an animal bites you, try to gather as much information about the animal as possible. The doctor or nurse will examine you and look at the bite. If rabies is suspected, the animal will be watched for signs of rabies. If there is any risk of rabies, you will be given a series of a preventive vaccine. Immunization or treatment for possible rabies is recommended for at least 14 days. It is possible to prevent rabies if immunization is given early after the bite.

As Myanmar has become renown to the rest of the world, it needs to keep towns and cities clean and pleasant. Towards this end, stray dogs roaming about downtown and chasing young children to maul them are to be culled. It is quite detrimental to health as rabies may spread through the canines. According to WHO, there is an annual average death of about 55,000 globally through the bite of infected dogs.

Meanwhile, the dog owners also need to have their dogs vaccinated to prevent them from being infected while putting leather straps on them. As dog bites are a common cause of rabies in developing countries, avoidance of contact with animals you don't know is the best way to do away with rabies.

NATIONAL
Myanmar, ROK see sectorwise cooperation

President U Thein Sein receives Chairman of National Policy Committee of National Assembly of ROK and Myanmar-Korea Economic Exchange Association Mr Kim Jung-hoon and party.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein received a delegation led by Chairman of National Policy Committee of National Assembly of the Republic of Korea and Myanmar-Korea Economic

Exchange Association Mr Kim Jung-hoon at the Presidential Palace here this evening.

Present on the occasion were Union Ministers U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Myint Hlaing, U Win Myint, U Zeyar Aung and

departmental heads and Korean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Kim Hae-Yong.

The discussion focused on investment and cooperation potential in deepsea ports, rail and air transportation, techno-logical transfer in

power generation, human resource development, shipbuilding, agriculture, tourism and water purification technology, promotion of trade volume by boosting rice and fruits exports and fellowship programmes for Myanmar.—MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives UK and Ausi guests, Qatari Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan—Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received a visiting delegation led by Mr Mark Lowcock, Permanent Secretary of UK Department for International Development and Mr Peter Baxter, Director-General of

the Australian Agency for International Development, at Zabuthiri Hall of Hluttaw Complex, here, at 9 am today.

Present on the occasion were Pyithu Hluttaw Committee Chairs U Hla Myint Oo and U T Khun

Myat, and officials from the Hluttaw Office. The visiting delegation was accompanied by British Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Andrew Richard Heyn and Australian Ambassador to Myanmar Ms Bronte Nadin Moules.

between UK and Australia and Myanmar parliaments and cooperation, reforms process of Myanmar, poverty alleviation and cooperation in health sector.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker also received Mr Jabr Bin Ali Aldosari, Ambassador of Qatar to Myanmar at the same venue, here, at 1.45 pm today and discussed bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

Present on the occasion together with the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker were Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo and responsible persons from the Hluttaw Office.

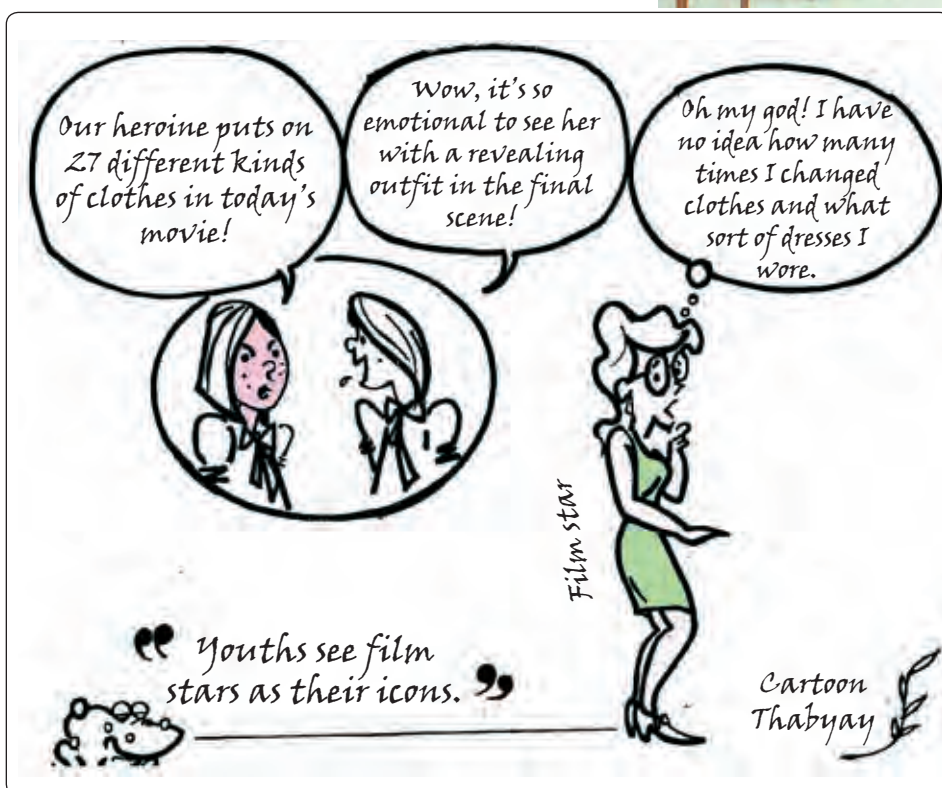
MNA



Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann holds talks with Mr Mark Lowcock, Permanent Secretary of UK Department for International Development and Mr Peter Baxter, Director-General of the Australian Agency for International Development.—MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann poses for documentary photo together with Mr Jabr Bin Ali Aldosari, Ambassador of Qatar to Myanmar.—MNA

At the call, they had a cordial discussion on strengthening friendly ties



NATIONAL

Dy Minister proposes formulation of a legislation to facilitate e-Commerce

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan—U Thein Nyunt of Thingangyun Constituency submitted a bill revoking electronic communication act at today's Pyithu Hluttaw session saying that some of the provisions go against the Constitution. He questioned the necessity of the act, pointing out the fundamental needs for free flow of information in modern age. "The Hluttaw should reconsider whether we would utilize modern technologies in democratization process or deter technological advancement", said the proposer.

The Hluttaw decided to document his proposal and to monitor and cooperate with the focal ministry.

Deputy Minister for Communications and Information Technology U Thaung Tin as regards the bill suggested formulating a

legislation that encourages innovation and creativity of brilliant young Myanmar IT professionals contributing to e-commerce development appropriate to changing era and system and on a par with global countries.

The proposer U Thein Nyunt asked to document



Union Minister for Mines Dr Myint Aung replying to queries.

MNA

the deputy minister's suggestion.

As regards the question about prepared plans for promotion of gems transaction in Myitkyina, the major town of Kachin State, Union Minister for Mines Dr Myint Aung said raw jade from Myitkyina put



U Thein Nyunt of Thingangyun Constituency submitting a proposal.—MNA

on sale at gems emporiums in Nay Pyi Taw were carried to Sagaing and Mandalay to be polished and the finished goods are exported via one-stop service center in Mandalay.

The Union Minister added that as jade and gems market is booming only in



Deputy C & IT Minister U Thaung Tin responds to question.

MNA

Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay and most of gems enterprises open their head offices and branches and workshops in those places, and the transportation costs are high, gems merchants do not usually do business in Myitkyina.

Though the Mines Ministry has issued orders and notifications on transportation of gems in line with gems law, a total of 18 cases of illegal transportation of gems could be exposed and the quantity was as high as over 163 tons.

Under current conditions, jade mining was closed temporarily because of security reasons in Lonekhine, Phakant. The Kachin State government is writing draft on shaping and polishing stones.

The questioner said that he was afraid that gems businessmen associations

established by the State for the local national people would be able to do nothing if they are not allowed to carry gems to Myitkyina and store them there.

The Hluttaw approved the bill amending the Transfer of Property Act and the Custodian of Moveable Property Act (1945) put forward by the Supreme Court of the Union.

The Transfer of Property Act is amended to update the price of property to be transferred.

The Hluttaw transferred U Paw Khin from Natogyi Constituency to Sports, Culture and Public Relations Committee and Daw Sanda Min from Zabuthiri Constituency to Investment and Industrial Development Committee.

The 11th session continues tomorrow.

MNA

Work plans to be implemented in Delta region as national plan with participation of experts at home and abroad, ministries concerned, region government

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan—The 10th day of the sixth regular session of the first Amyotha Hluttaw was held today in line with 10 points of agenda. Three questions were answered, one bill submitted and one proposal discussed and approved at the Hluttaw session.

With regard to the proposal submitted by U Myo Myint of Mandalay Region Constituency No 6 urging the Union government to implement the Rehabilitation and Modernization Project of Flood Protection Embankments, Drainages and Ancillary Structures for Ayeyawady Delta step

by step, Dr Htay Win of Ayeyawady Region Constituency No.5 discussed that Kyangin, Myanaung, Ingapu, Laymyethna, Hinthada and Zalun of Ayeyawady Region, especially in Nyaunggyo, Ingalu and Hteinngu region of Laymyethna Township, eastern and northern parts of Hinthada Township are in dangers of floods annually. Therefore, it is important to repair Myanaung dam, sluice gates and drains in Nyaunggyo region.

Thus, the Irrigation Department should ask the maintenance cost and fund for improving the embankments, drains and

sluice gates in the region for prevention against floods in Ayeyawady

Region.

Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation

U Khin Zaw replied that it is necessary to draw the work plans to be

implemented in Delta region as the national plan with the participation of experts at home and abroad, ministries concerned and the region government and seconded the proposal.

The Hluttaw decided to approve the proposal.

Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint submitted the Bill Amending the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Law, and Dr Khin Maung Lay of Bago Region Constituency No. 6 seconded it. The Hluttaw decided to discuss the bill.

The 11th day session of the Hluttaw continues tomorrow.—MNA



Dr Htay Win of Ayeyawady Region Constituency No.5 participates in discussion.—MNA



Deputy Health Minister Dr Win Myint replies to question.

MNA



Deputy Agriculture and Irrigation Minister U Khin Zaw replies to queries.

MNA

Union Ministers attend World Economic Forum

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan—Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Thane attended Economic Leaders—Energy Architecture in Transition and Defining the Imperatives for 2013 held in Davos on 25 January. The Union Minister met Mr. Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary-General, Danish Prime Minister Ms. Helle Thorning-Schmidt, Norwegian FM Mr. Espen Barth Eide, Energy Minister Mr. Ola Borten Moe and Trade and Industry Minister Mr. Trond Giske, Australian FM Mr. Bob Carr, Special

Envoys of Mongolian President and of Korean President, former British Prime Minister Mr. Tony Blair, President of Open Society Foundation Mr. George Soros separately. In addition, the Union Minister held discussions on potentials for making investments in the country with CEOs of multinational corporations.

On 26 January morning, Deputy Minister U Set Aung and Ms. Marie-Gabrielle Ineichen-Fleisch, State Secretary of Switzerland attended

the signing ceremony on trade, investment, labour and SMEs. The deputy minister discussed with six panels of Co-chair about holding World Economic Forum on East Asia 2013 to be hosted by Myanmar in June, 2013, and with officials concerned from WEF about the work procedures in details.

Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay together with Union Minister U Soe Thane on 25 January morning attended Economic Leaders—Energy Architecture in Transition held at Congress Center. In

the afternoon, the Union Minister together with Director-General U Pe Zin Tun of the Energy Planning Department attended New Energy Architecture: Speeding up the Transition Forums exchanged views on the current reform process and challenges in the energy sector including should-do things with International Energy Ministers, high-ranking officers, CEOs and researchers, and then discussed supports for Myanmar energy sector's reform process.

Union Minister U Than

Htay held separate discussions on possibilities of making investments in Myanmar energy sector with Mr. Jin-Yong Cai, Vice-President & CEO, International Finance Corporation, Drs Harry Hendriks, Global Head, Royal Phillip Electronics, Netherland, Mr. Daniel Yargin, Chairman HIS Cambridge Energy Research Associates, Mr. Paolo Scaroni, CEO, ENI spa Energy Co Ltd, Italy, Mr. Roberto Bocca, Director, WEF Energy Team.

Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung attended the Tourism Industry Forum held at Casanna meeting hall of the Congress

Center on 25 January morning.

In the afternoon, the Union Minister together with Union Minister U Soe Thane took part in meetings six panels of Co-chair that are going to cooperate in holding World Economic Forum on East Asia 2013 and the committee members of organizing the forum.

On 26 January morning, Union Minister U Htay Aung together with Union Minister U Soe Thane gave explanations about undertakings in the country and preparations for holding World Economic Forum on East Asia 2013 at Asia Development Forum.

MNA



UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon (2nd L, front) and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas (3rd L, front) attend the opening ceremony of the 20th African Union (AU) summit in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 27 Jan, 2013. The 20th AU summit opened on Sunday in Addis Ababa, as Africa leaders gathered to discuss prominent issues facing the continent.—XINHUA

Russian fishing vessel overturns, 20 people missing

Moscow, 29 Jan—A Russian fishing vessel flipped over in the Sea of Japan off its far east Primorye Territory on Sunday, leaving 20 crewmembers missing, the Emergency Situations Ministry said.

The vessel *Chance-101* was discovered 50 kilometers east of the town of

Svetloye in the Sea of Japan at 3:20 pm (1120 GMT). "It was carrying a 30-member crew, among them 19 Russian nationals and 11 Indonesians," the *Interfax* news agency quoted the ministry's local branch as saying.

A passing freight discovered a lifeboat carrying 10 crewmembers and

saved them, the authorities said, adding 20 crewmembers, including 13 Russians and seven Indonesians, remained unaccounted for.

Four ships are searching for the missing crewmembers. Helicopters will join the rescue operation on Monday.

Xinhua

CELAC-EU summit calls for guaranteeing legal certainty for investors

SANTIAGO, 29 Jan—The two-day summit of Latin American Community of States (CELAC) and EU ended here Sunday with a final declaration that calls for guaranteeing legal certainty for investors and avoiding protectionism. "We have a good final declaration that spoke about the need to avoid protectionism and guarantee legal certainty for investment," said European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso.

"Only under such conditions will we have the stability needed for the quality investment that creates sustainable growth. It is an important issue because investment needs legal certainty and so do citizens," he said.

Europe remains the largest foreign direct investor in Latin America and the Caribbean, with 43 percent of the total, EU President Herman Van Rompuy told a



Peru's President Ollanta Humala (C) poses for photographs with European Council President Herman Van Rompuy (R) and European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso, during a Press conference marking the first summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) and the European Union (EU) in Santiago, capital of Chile, on 27 Jan, 2013.

XINHUA

Press conference.

Chile's President Sebastian Pinera, also the host of the summit, said the legal certainty investors are seeking is relevant on both continents.

Highlighting of this issue might be considered a rebuke to Argentina, whose government nationalized 51 percent of energy company YPF, which Spain's Repsol

had bought in 1999 for 15 billion euros.

Last year, Latin America's richest man, Carlos Slim, bought a 24 percent stake in Dutch telecoms firm KPN using money from Slim's continent spanning cellphone firm America Movil. He already owned 21 percent of Telekom Austria.

CELAC was formed in December 2010 in Mexican resort city Cancun largely at the urging of Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez, who sought an organization like the Organization of American States (OAS) without the leadership of the United States and Canada.

Chavez hosted CELAC's first summit in December 2011 and had wanted the body to focus on social issues. However, Pinera, a former businessman, has made economic issues this summit's major subject.

Xinhua

Russia set to start posthumous trial of whistleblower Magnitsky

Moscow, 29 Jan—Russia prepared to put whistleblowing lawyer Sergei Magnitsky on trial more than three years after his death, with a preliminary hearing set for Monday in a move relatives and rights groups called politically motivated and a travesty of justice.

Magnitsky's death in a Moscow jail has harmed Russia's image abroad and badly strained relations with the United States.

His mother and her lawyer said they refused to participate. "I think it is inhuman to try a dead man," Magnitsky's mother Natalya told *Reuters* by telephone. "This is not a court case but some kind of farce, and I will not take part in it." Magnitsky was 37 when he died after 358 days in jail on suspicion of tax evasion and fraud, during which he said he was denied treatment as his health declined. The

Kremlin's own human rights council aired suspicions he was beaten to death. Russian authorities said he died of a heart attack, but his former employer, investment fund Hermitage Capital, says he was killed because he was investigating a \$230 million theft by law enforcement and tax officials through

fraudulent tax refunds.

Relatives and former colleagues including Hermitage owner William Browder, who also faces trial in absentia, say Magnitsky was investigated and jailed by some of the same mid-level officials he told authorities had defrauded the state.—*Reuters*



A woman holds a placard with a portrait of Sergei Magnitsky during an unauthorised rally in central Moscow on 15 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

Israel using deadly force on unarmed protesters, watchdog says

RAMALLAH, 29 Jan—Israel is breaking its own rules of engagement by using deadly force to disperse unarmed Palestinian protesters in the occupied West Bank, the Israeli rights group B'Tselem reported on Monday.

Israeli forces have killed 56 people since 2005 in clashes with rock-throwing Palestinians, said B'Tselem, which accused the military of having "extensively and systematically violated" rules barring deadly retaliation for non-lethal assault.

"The Israeli military's standing orders explicitly state that live ammunition may not be fired at stone-throwers," it said.

In the past two weeks, Israeli forces have shot dead two Palestinians in un-

rest that Israeli officials said may foreshadow a third Palestinian uprising. Peace talks have been frozen since 2010 and Palestinian anger is running high against expanding Jewish settlement in the West Bank, captured along with East Jerusalem, Gaza and the Golan Heights in a 1967 war.

The Israeli Defence Force (IDF) said the B'Tselem report "presents a biased narrative, relying primarily on incidents that are either old or still under investigation by the Military Police."

"The IDF does everything in its power to ensure that the use of riot dispersal means is done in accordance with the rules of engagement," the IDF said in a written response sent to *Reuters*.—*Reuters*

Algerian minister defends storming gas plant

ALGIERS, 29 Jan—Algeria's Communication Minister says the Algerian government was right to launch a counter-attack on terrorists at a gas plant in In Amenas earlier this month.

Mohamed Said spoke to *NHK* at an interview on Monday. He said a military team stormed the compound as the militants tried to blow it up. He said the military's prompt action

saved the lives of hundreds of workers. He also said the Islamic militants did not target Japanese workers.

Ten Japanese workers were killed in the hostage crisis and subsequent military operation. It was the highest casualty figure of any nationality.

He said the perpetrators aimed at any foreign nationals. The minister said he learned from former

plant employees that the militants began preparing 2 months ago and gathered lots of information about the plant. But he remained cautious about speculation that the militants timed the attack to coincide with a scheduled visit to the plant by top company officials.

He said the government is continuing its investigation into possible leaks by insiders.—*NHK*

85 medical research findings awarded in China

BEIJING, 29 Jan—A total of 85 Chinese research findings in medical and health field have received the country's most authoritative scientific awards for their inventions in the field, Chinese Medical Association (CMA) announced on Sunday.

The Chinese Medical and Technology Award,

approved by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Science and Technology in 2001 and set up by the CMA, was the highest annual award in the medical and health field.

Among the eight first prize winners was a minimally invasive treatment research and its clinical application for fracture, which will be

qualified to pursue higher prizes such as the national awards for natural science or technological invention.

Twenty-five findings including the application of proteome in the treatment of some critical illness packaged the second prize, with the rest being awarded the third prize.

Xinhua

REGIONAL

Beijing probes restaurants in ancient temples

BEIJING, 29 Jan—Beijing authorities said on Tuesday they are investigating the legality of two high-class restaurants operating in two ancient temples in the capital.

The restaurants are houses in the Zhizhu and Songzhu temples of Beijing's Dongcheng District. They have a history of 600 years and 300 years,

respectively.

Zhao Jianming, a law enforcement official with the Beijing Municipal Cultural Heritage Bureau, said investigations are ongoing into whether the commercial catering activities have been approved or not.

The two temples were included in Beijing's list of cultural heritage

protection sites in 1984. Under Chinese laws, such sites can not be used for businesses except with special approvals.

The bureau said recently that it plans to encourage non-government investment in the protection and restoration of the city's historical architecture this year.

Xinhua

Nobel laureate Yamanaka gets Abe's letter of appreciation for iPS research

TOKYO, 29 Jan — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe presented a letter of appreciation on Monday to Nobel laureate Shinya Yamanaka for his research on induced pluripotent stem cells, which has the potential to grow into any type of body tissue.

Handing the letter to Yamanaka, a Kyoto University professor and co-recipient of the 2012 Nobel Prize in medicine, at the premier's office, Abe praised the scientist's achievement as "national pride."

The letter states that Yamanaka's receiving the Nobel Prize is a great contribution to the development of science. It was issued after the government unveiled earlier this month a plan to spend 110 billion yen over the next decade to promote regenerative medicine using iPS cell technology. "It's now our duty as researchers to (seriously) take this assistance and truly move forward (in iPS-related research)," Yamanaka told reporters after meeting the premier.



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (R) holds the medal for the 2012 Nobel Prize in medicine won by Shinya Yamanaka (L) at the premier's office in Tokyo on 13 Jan, 2013.—KYODO NEWS

Prior to that, Yamanaka visited Shigeru Ishiba, secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, and other party executives at LDP headquarters and asked for the government's continued assistance in basic research for various fields of science.

"I had a wonderful experience as a scientist but Japan only has 19 (Nobel) medals," Yamanaka said.

Ishiba responded, "We will do whatever we can," during their meeting, which was partially open to the press.

Yamanaka received the 2012 Nobel Prize in medicine with Britain's John Gurdon for discovering that mature cells can be reprogrammed into immature cells capable of turning into any kind of tissue of the body.—Kyodo News

Japan Airlines to start joint operations with Russia's S7 Airlines



Japan Airlines

VLADIVOSTOK, 29 Jan — Russia, on 29 January Japan Airlines Co and Russia's S7 Airlines will shortly start joint flight op-

erations on routes linking Tokyo and two eastern Russian cities of Vladivostok and Khabarovsk, Russian sources said on Monday.

JAL will be selling seats on S7-operated flights on the routes operated from Wednesday, while S7 will be selling seats on five JAL-operated domestic flights from Narita International Airport, from 15 February. S7 uses Narita airport for its Tokyo services.

The two airlines are also planning "code-sharing" on JAL's Tokyo-Moscow services as well as S7's some other domestic flights in Russia, where the airlines sell seats on each other's flights as their own by adding their own flight numbers.—Kyodo News



Vehicles queue outside an entrance of a highway in Jinan, capital of east China's Shandong Province, on 29 Jan, 2013. The province closed 186 highway entrances due to poor visibility as a result of foggy weather.—XINHUA

Pakistan finds ancient Buddhist stupa in Khyber

ISLAMABAD, 29 Jan—Pakistani researchers have discovered a Buddhist stupa surrounded by statues in Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa Province dating back to the Gandhara civilization of 2,500 years ago, the provincial Department of Archeology and Museums in Peshawar said on late Monday.

It said the stupa was discovered during excavations at Aziz Dheri about 80 kilometres north of Islamabad which is already known as a

major remnant of the Gandhara civilization that flourished along the Indus River. The site has been excavated intermittently since 1973, but only about 10 percent of the area has been worked on to date. The archeology department announced earlier this month that 400 statues of Buddha and around 2,000 coins from the Kushan period from 130 BC and the Greek period from about 336 BC have already been found at the site.

Kyodo News

Special equipment accidents kill 292 in 2012

BEIJING, 29 Jan—Accidents involving special equipment, such as elevators and boilers, claimed 292 lives and injured 354 people in China last year, a government official said on Monday.

The death toll was down 2.67 percent from 2011, Fu Wenbiao, Deputy Director of the General Office of the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ), said at a news briefing.

Xinhua

The country reported 228 cases of special equipment accidents last year, down 17.09 percent from 2011, Fu said. He attributed the causes to a lack of safety awareness, unspecified safety management responsibilities and illegal operation. Fu added that AQSIQ has asked local authorities to strengthen checks over special equipment, including elevators, cable cars and entertainment facilities, to ensure public safety.

S Korean President Lee grants pardons to friend, close associates



President Lee Myung Bak

SEOUL, 29 Jan — President Lee Myung Bak, whose term ends next month, granted special pardons on Tuesday to a long-time friend, close associates and others.

Among the 55 pardoned are Lee's long-time friend Chun Shin Il and close political ally Choi See Joong, both of them convicted of bribery.

President-elect Park Geun Hye raised objection to the pardons, saying through her spokesperson she is "negative about pardons at the end of the administration" and she is "strongly concerned" about pardoning those imprisoned for corruption.

Lee, who steps down after a five-year term, approved the pardons at a Cabinet meeting.

Park won last month's presidential election and will become the country's first female president.

Kyodo News

Abe to visit Okinawa possibly on Saturday for talks with Gov Nakaima

TOKYO, 29 Jan—Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is planning to visit Okinawa possibly on Saturday for talks with Gov Hirokazu Nakaima on issues such as the stalled Japan-US plan to relocate a US Marine base within the southern island prefecture, government sources said on Tuesday.

If realized, the Okinawa trip will be the first by Abe since he became Japan's Prime Minister for the second time last December.

He will seek to achieve

progress on the stalled transfer of the US Marine Corps' Futenma Air Station within Okinawa before he travels to the United States in late February, the sources said.

The central government is considering applying for land reclamation in a coastal area in Okinawa Prefecture where the Futenma airfield is supposed to be relocated ahead of Abe's US trip, now being arranged for 21 or 22 February, according to the sources.

However, Nakaima, whose permission is needed for reclamation in publicly owned waters in the prefecture, remains cautious about giving his approval amid fierce antibase sentiment among the people of Okinawa.

Abe and the governor are also expected to discuss the deployment of MV-22 Osprey transport aircraft at the Futenma base last October, which has sparked fresh opposition from local people due to its record of crashes.—Kyodo News

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No Smoking

Request for Expression of Interest (REOI)

WHO Office in Myanmar will shortly conduct a tender for procurement of 206 motorcycles to be used in various parts of Myanmar. Duly authorized and qualified companies are invited to submit their Expression of Interest for supply of motorcycles with the following generic specifications:

1. Engine Type - Four Stroke/air cooled/Single Cylinder
2. 100 - 150cc of engine
3. Low cut design for easy seating of both female and male riders with sarong
4. Electric Start
5. Fuel Tank Capacity,
6. Max Loading (Kg)
7. Max Speed
8. Brakes - Drum/Disc
9. Minimum Fuel Consumption L/100Km

The Expression of Interest should specify the subject, the relevant information about the company, including the company's name and registration certificates; complete address including phone, fax numbers and e-mail; name and title of the contact person; information concerning the capacity (i.e. financial strength and resources) and experience of the company; company profile, service centers throughout Myanmar, ease of availability of spare parts, previous relevant experience gained during the last three years in contracts for provision of similar services of similar scope, magnitude in a similar environment. This Request for Expression of Interest does not constitute a solicitation.

WHO reserves the right to change or cancel these requirements at any time in the REOI and/or solicitation process. WHO considers a firm's qualifications and experience in the service area, and previous performance, when preparing a list of invitees. Thus, submitting an EOI does not automatically guarantee a firm will be considered for receipt of the solicitation when issued. Due to the high volume of communications, WHO is not in a position to issue confirmation of receipt of EOIs. WHO reserves the right to reject EOIs received after the deadline below. The expressions of interest may be submitted by mail, email or facsimile or hand delivery in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the inscription "Expression of Interest for Motorcycles to WHO (MMR) and addressed as follows to be received not later than Friday, 08 February, 2013 at 16.00 hours Yangon Time. ALL INFORMATION SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IN ENGLISH.

World Health Organization Country office for Myanmar

12 A Floor, Traders Hotel, 223 Sule Pagoda Road, Kyauktada Township, Yangon-11182, Myanmar

Tel: +91 (1) 250 583, 250584 ; Fax: +95 (1) 241 836, 250 273

e-mail : mtaye@searo.who.int; nnshein@searo.who.int

LDP to send junior lawmaker to "Takeshima Day" ceremony

TOKYO, 29 Jan—The ruling Liberal Democratic Party plans to send a junior lawmaker to attend a ceremony next month commemorating the day the islands at the center of dispute with South Korea were incorporated as Japanese territory, an LDP executive said on Monday.

The South Korean-controlled pair of islets in the Sea of Japan are known as Dokdo in South Korea and claimed by Japan, which calls them Takeshima.

Shinjiro Koizumi, who is director of the LDP's Youth Division, had also attended last year the event known as "Takeshima Day" on 22 February in the Shimane Prefecture city of Matsue.

Hiroyuki Hosoda, executive acting secretary general of the LDP who was elected from the Shimane No 1 constituency, is also considering attending the ceremony marking the incorporation of the rocky islands in the Sea of Japan on 22 February, 1905, the executive said. Japan claims Shimane has control over the islands.

The LDP, headed by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, promised in its campaign for the general election in December that the national government would host such a ceremony.—Kyodo News

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV SPRING WIND VOY NO (6)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SPRING WIND VOY NO (6) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30.1.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
 MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
 AGENT FOR: FORTUNE SHIPPING & AGENCY
 PTE LTD.**

Phone No: 256924/256914

Execution of woman murderer to be first in US since 2010

HOUSTON, 29 Jan—A Texas woman convicted of killing and robbing her neighbor will be executed by lethal injection on Tuesday, the first woman to be put to death in the United States since 2010, local media reported on Monday.

A jury in Dallas, Texas, had found former nursing home therapist Kimberly McCarthy guilty of the gruesome killing of her 71-year-old neighbor, Dorothy Booth, on 21 July, 1997, according to the *Houston Chronicle*.

McCarthy, 51, allegedly entered Booth's home in Lancaster, Texas, under the pretense of borrowing some sugar. She stabbed Booth five times, according to the Texas attorney general's summary of the case.

She also reportedly cut off Booth's left ring finger in order to take her diamond ring, which was later pawned.

McCarthy was also believed to be responsible for two similar murders a decade earlier. In one murder, she used a meat tenderizer as a weapon and another used a claw hammer, according to the Attorney General's summary.

McCarthy's execution would be the first since a Virginia inmate, Teresa Lewis, became the nation's 12th woman put to death since capital punishment was reinstated by the Supreme Court in 1976. During the same period, 1,309 men have been executed, according to the report.

Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV BANGSRIMUANG VOY NO (113)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGSRIMUANG VOY NO (113) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30.1.2013 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.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
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 AGENT FOR: M/S WONGSAMUT OCEAN
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Phone No: 256916/256919

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV GIANG HAI II VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GIANG HAI II VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30.1.2013 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.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
 MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
 AGENT FOR: M/S RK SHIPPING & TRADING
 PTE LTD.**

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV MODERN PEAK VOY NO (24)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MODERN PEAK VOY NO (24) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30.1.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L 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: NYK LINE**

Phone No: 256924/256914



Photo shows the base of a crane facility (R) under construction at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station that will be used to remove spent fuel from the pool of the No 4 reactor building (L) in Fukushima Prefecture on 28 Jan, 2013.—KYODO NEWS

ENTERTAINMENT

Kung fu more than fighting: Tony Leung



BEIJING, 29 Jan—Hong Kong actor Tony Leung Chiu-Wai has told of his epiphany while preparing for his role in high-kicking new film “The Grandmaster” that kung fu is “more spiritual practice and way of life” than pure fighting. In the latest interview with *Xinhua*, Cannes award-winning Leung said he learned a lot about the spirit of kung fu and how to become a master of the martial art

during years of preparation for this cinematic tale of Bruce Lee’s master, Yip Man.

“The greatest master is the one who understands life and who, after everything, stands here, still wearing a nice smile,” said Leung, who plays Yip, master of the martial art of Wing Chun. The movie, which debuted on the Chinese screen in early January, was directed by Hong

Kong art-house director Wong Kar Wai, also Leung’s long-time collaborator. “As a child, I used to think that only the police and evildoers learned martial arts. But when we really get to know it, it is an attitude and spirit that can guide us in dealing with people and affairs,” Leung said.

To ensure he got the best performance possible from his star, Wong

Kar Wai invited Yip Man’s disciple Duncan Leung Siu Hung to not only train Tony Leung in Wing Chun but also tell him Yip Man’s stories. It requires more than reading the script to feel a master’s changing notions about martial arts, according to Leung — “It is important to practice kung fu myself to really become the character I am playing.”

Xinhua

Akshay Kumar to perform at Delhi-Punjab hockey match

NEW DELHI, 29 Jan — Bollywood superstar Akshay Kumar will be present in the stands to watch Delhi Waveriders take on Jaypee Punjab Warriors in their Hockey India League game at the Major Dhyan Chand Stadium.

According to sources, Akshay, who has already landed his support to the inaugural HIL, is likely to perform a small jig during the half time. Confirming the development, Hockey India secretary general and HIL chairman Narinder Batra said, “It is good that eminent personalities from varied fields are visiting stadiums across cities to watch the league in action”.

“The hockey has been sensational and informed Indian audiences have reacted positively. We have seen an upswing in stadium attendance across all five cities. We welcome Akshay Kumar with open arms. I am sure Delhites will love to see him in action,” he said.

Akshay, an avid sport follower, is the latest celebrity to back the ongoing HIL, saying that the event has the potential to change the face of the sport. “I am a sportsperson by heart and it is good to see world class hockey action across cities in the country. I have seen some of the matches and loved what I saw,” he had



Akshay Kumar will next be seen in Special Chabbs.

said.

“This league has the potential to change the face of hockey in the country. I will follow as many matches as I can and I think we have here a recipe for a

very successful property for years to come,” the actor added.

Meanwhile, according to information shared last week by official broadcaster STAR Sports, 1.46 crores viewers had tuned-in to watch first six matches of the five-team franchise-based event, making it the most successful league in hockey in the country till date. STAR Sports had already announced a promotional tie-up with Akshay for the first edition of HIL.

PTI

Katie Holmes heading to law school?

LONDON, 29 Jan—Actress Katie Holmes reportedly wants to go to law school. The 34-year-old mother of one, who divorced husband Tom Cruise last year, is planning a career change away from acting, reportedly Showbiz spy.

“Katie started acting when she was a teenager, and she’s grown tired of that world. She expressed a keen interest in law while splitting from Tom Cruise, and now that the divorce is finalized, she has the time, the money and the opportunity to go to school.

“More importantly, she wants to be a strong female role model for her daughter

Suri. Katie’s father always wanted her to be a doctor, but he’s thrilled she’s decided to follow in his footsteps. They’re even considering going into practice together,” a source said. —PTI

Katie Holmes expressed an interest in law while divorcing Tom Cruise last year. PTI



“Argo” boosts Oscar chances with two weekend award



Director and actor Ben Affleck holds the award for outstanding performance by a cast in a motion picture for “Argo” at the 19th annual Screen Actors Guild Awards in Los Angeles, California on 27 Jan, 2013. In the background are Tate Donovan and Christopher Denham (R). REUTERS

LOS ANGELES, 29 Jan—Iran hostage drama “Argo” won its second big award in two days on Sunday, boosting its chances of winning a best picture Oscar next month in a race that had been considered wide open.

“Argo” won best cast ensemble, the top prize, at the Screen Actors Guild Awards, while Daniel Day-Lewis and Jennifer Law-

rence took lead acting honours. On Saturday, “Argo” won the Producers Guild Award — a key measure of Hollywood sentiment — beating “Lincoln,” “Les Misérables,” and “Silver Linings Playbook,” which are all Academy Award best picture contenders.

“There was absolutely no way I thought we would win this award,” the film’s director and star, Ben Af-

fleck, told reporters backstage after the SAG win.

“Argo” is the true story of the rescue of US diplomats stranded in Teheran after the 1979 Islamic Revolution. Asked about his movie’s Oscar chances, Affleck said he was not in the business of “handicapping or trying to divine what’s going to happen down the road.”

“I don’t know what’s going to happen, nothing may happen, but it’s a wonderful opportunity to be on the ride,” Affleck added.

The Screen Actors Guild (SAG) ceremony is among the most-watched during Hollywood’s awards season because actors make up the largest voting group in the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which chooses the Oscar winners.

The SAG honors are selected by about 100,000 actors working in the United States. SAG prizes acting over directing, screenplay writing and other skills that usually factor into the Oscar best picture choice.

Reuters

Race 2 collects Rs 51.35 crore over first weekend

NEW DELHI, 29 Jan—Abbas-Mustan’s *Race 2* might have opened to mixed reviews, but the film

Race 2 is a sequel to the 2008 film Race. PTI



seems to be minting money at the box office. The action thriller has managed to earn Rs 51.35 crore in its open-

ing weekend. Made at Rs 60 crore, the film released across 3,200 screens. It went on to earn Rs 15.12 crore on Friday (25 Jan, 2013), Rs 20.72 crore on Saturday (26 Jan, 2013) and Rs.15.51 crore on Sunday (27 Jan, 2013).

The movie is a sequel to the 2008 film *Race*. While Saif Ali Khan and Anil Kapoor reprise their roles, the the new additions to the franchise are John Abraham, Deepika Padukone, Jacqueline Fernandez and Amee sha Patel.

PTI

SPORTS

Messi and Ronaldo warm up for Wednesday's Cup Clasico

MADRID, 29 Jan —Both FC Barcelona's Leo Messi and Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo prepared for the Clasico en the Copa del Rey in the best possible style this weekend. Spain's two historic rivals will play the first leg of their cup semi-final on Wednesday night in Madrid's home ground. Ronaldo kicked off preparations on Sunday with a hat-trick as his side defeated Getafe 4-0 in the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium, while later in the day Messi went one better as he netted four goals in Barca's 5-1 triumph at home to Osasuna.

Barca and Madrid have already met three times this season, with Madrid winning the Supercup on away goals after losing 3-2 in the Camp Nou and winning 2-1 in the Bernabeu, while the side's drew 2-2 in the Camp Nou earlier this season in the BBVA Primera Liga. Last season saw Barca knock Madrid out of the Cup and Ronaldo is clearly keen to beat Madrid's bitter rivals. "It is a very impor-

tant game for us and it is going to be very difficult," he said in Monday's edition of sports paper, Marca. "We are going to play against one of the toughest teams in the world, so it is going to be a great night. We are at home and we have a very good chance of winning, although we will have to play well, because we know Barca are a fantastic side."

"I hope it will be a great night for us and we are all looking forward to playing our best," he said. Expectation for the game is high among Real Madrid fans and with just 11,000 tickets remaining, the match will be a 78,000 sell out. Meanwhile Messi set a new record as he scored in his 11th consecutive league game: something nobody has done in Spain before. It is another record for the man who last



year set a new record total of 91 goals in a calendar year, but Messi insists re-writing the re-

cord books is not his primary aim.

Xinhua

Woods triumphs by four shots at Torrey Pines

SAN DIEGO, 29 Jan — Tiger Woods withstood a late bogey, double-bogey, par, bogey wobble in strengthening winds to end a week of dominant golf by clinching his 75th PGA Tour title by four shots at the Farmers Insurance Open on Monday. Six strokes in front overnight at 17 under with 11 holes to play in the fog-delayed final round, Woods kept his closest challengers at bay as he signed off with a level-par 72 on a cold, sun-splashed afternoon at Torrey Pines.

The 14-times major champion briefly moved eight ahead before his unexpected stumble in increasingly difficult conditions over the four-hole stretch from the 14th but he parred the last to post a 14-under total of 274. Defending champion Brandt Snedeker dropped one shot in the five holes



US golfer Tiger Woods poses with a surfboard as one of his prizes after winning the Farmers Insurance Open in San Diego, California on 28 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

he had to complete on Monday, carding a 69 to tie for second with fellow American Josh Teater (69). "It got a little ugly toward the end," Woods said greenside after removing his cap and raising both arms skywards to celebrate his seventh victory at the event.—Reuters

FIFA warns Brazil against delays in World Cup preparations



FIFA Secretary General Jerome Valcke (L) and Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) President Jose Maria Marin visit the construction site of the National Stadium, which will host the 2014 World Cup, in Brasilia on 28 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

BRASILIA, 29 Jan — With just 500 days to go until the 2014 World Cup kicks off in Brazil, soccer's world governing body FIFA warned that the hosts cannot afford any further delays in getting their venues ready. The global soccer tournament, followed by the Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro two years later, will test Brazil's aspiration to become a developed nation. But delays in building stadiums and preparing hotels and airports to receive more than half a million soccer fans could turn the event into an embarrassment. In June

Brazil will host the eight-nation Confederations Cup, a dress rehearsal for the World Cup.

FIFA has twice agreed to push back the handover deadline of four of the six stadiums to be used in the Confederations Cup and FIFA general secretary Jerome Valcke warned on Monday that there will be no further extension beyond the 15 April delivery date. "We cannot go beyond this date. There cannot be any further delays. All the stadiums must be ready by then," Valcke said after inspecting work on the new Mané Garrincha stadium in Brasilia,

where Japan play Brazil on 15 June in the opening game of the Confederations Cup.

Despite the warning, the giant Maracana stadium which will host the finals of both the Confederations Cup and the World Cup will not meet FIFA's deadline as its owner, the state government of Rio, has already said it will not be ready until the end of May.

The Mané Garrincha stadium in Brasilia is 87 percent complete and builders are working round the clock to erect steel trestles that will hold up the roof covering 70,000 seats at the second largest of the 12 stadiums to be used in the World Cup.

Reuters

49ers name Aldon Smith team's most valuable player

NEW ORLEANS, 29 Jan —San Francisco quarterback Colin Kaepernick has dominated the headlines for getting his team to the Super Bowl but the 49ers chose outside linebacker Aldon Smith as their most valuable player. Head coach Jim Harbaugh revealed on Monday that second year Smith, who was second in the National Football League during the regular season with 19.5 sacks, was named most valuable player after a vote by the team's players and coaches.

"There are so many great players on this team it really is an honour to get this award. To come here in my second year and get MVP, it means a lot to me," Smith told reporters. Al-



San Francisco 49ers Aldon Smith arrives for the Inaugural National Football League Honours at Super Bowl XLVI in Indianapolis, Indiana, on 4 Feb, 2012.—REUTERS

though Smith has not managed a sack in the last five games, Harbaugh said he remained a potent part of the team's defense in many other ways. "Not having the sacks there — that low-hanging fruit that people see, they don't always see the things Aldon's doing so well. That's why they voted him the most valuable player," he said.

Harbaugh highlighted Smith's role in the comeback victory over the Atlanta Falcons in the NFC championship game as an example of his less noticeable work. "He got a game ball for his performance in the Falcons game, because he had a lot of pressures and hurries," said Harbaugh.

Reuters

Man Utd world's first team to top \$3 billion in value: Forbes

LONDON, 29 Jan — English Premier League soccer club Manchester United are the world's first professional sports team to be valued at more than \$3 billion, according to *Forbes Magazine*.

A recent surge in the club's shares after a poor start when they were offered on the New York Stock Exchange last year has boosted Manchester United's value to \$3.3 billion, a report on *Forbes's* website said on Monday.

The increase has United, English champions a record 19 times, comfortably ahead of the world's second-most valuable sports team, the National Football League's Dallas Cowboys, worth \$2.1 billion.

Forbes put the surge in United shares down to brighter earnings prospects from new sponsorship deals and said the demand could continue given the team's potential for lucrative payouts in the EPL and Champions League.—Reuters



GENERAL

Illegal pieces of teak seized in Bago

BAGO, 29 Jan—A team led by the Head of Township Forest Department, acting on tip-off, seized three trucks without number plates with the load of illegal square pieces of teak near mile post 49 near Wagadok on Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw Expressway in the area of Bawnatgyi Police Station in Bago Township at about 7 pm on 25 January.

Drivers and those



onboard the trucks escaped from the scene. Bawnatgyi Police Station opened files

of lawsuit against illegal timber traffickers.

Myanma Alinn

Twin car bombs kill 11 soldiers in south Yemen: officials

SANAA, 29 Jan—At least 11 Yemeni soldiers were killed on Monday in two successive suicide car bomb attacks on the army in the southern city of Radda, local police officials said.

The suicide attacks came amid preparations by the Yemeni army to embark on a large ground offensive against a number of al-Qaeda strongholds in Radda city and neighbouring towns in the southeastern province of al-Bayda.

“The first suicide

bomber rammed his explosive-laden car into a military checkpoint near Ahram military camp, killing at least five soldiers and injuring seven others,” according to an officer at al-Bayda’s security control operation room who spoke to *Xinhua* by phone on condition of anonymity.

“The second attack occurred a few minutes later and targeted another military checkpoint in the area of Dar Najd in Radda city, killing at least six

soldiers and wounding nine others,” he said.

He also said that the attacks were carried out by “operatives of the al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP)... The death toll could rise as many injured soldiers are in critical conditions and are receiving treatment now,” he said.

Xinhua

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(30-1-13 09:30 am ~ 31-1-13 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * 1st Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum
- * News
- * Music
- * Heartthrob Singer Mar Mar Aye's Visit to MRTV
- * News
- * Easily Cooked & Tasty Dishes "Thai Style Fried Rice"
- * Grow Noni; Become a Millionaire
- * In All the Ananda's Glory
- * Myanmar Regatta to International Boat Race
- * News
- * 4st Myanmar Health Research Congress
- * "Lat's Study the Words "The Ant & the Grasshopper"
- * Mythun (Counterpart of Cattle)
- * News
- * Ngapali, Unique Spot To Relax
- * News
- * "Mynamar Orchestra" The Magic of Melodious Music (Episode-3)
- * Myanmar Movies "Miss Arrogant"

MYANMAR TV

(30-1-2013, Wednesday)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 7:00 am | Entrance Examination (Geography) |
| 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw -Uppatasanti Paritta | 5:05 pm |
| 7:25 am | 14. Songs For Upholding National Spirit |
| 2. To Be Healthy Exercise | 5:10 pm |
| 7:30 am | 15. Classical Song |
| 3. Morning News | 5:20 pm |
| 7:40 am | 16. "Road to 27th SEA GAMES" |
| 4. Dhamma Puja Song | (Gymnastics) |
| 8:00 am | 5:30 pm |
| 5. Health Programme | 17. ASEAN |
| 8:05 am | "Programmes" |
| 6. Cultural Dances | 6:15 pm |
| 8:15 am | 18. Weather Report |
| 7. Documentary | 6:20 pm |
| 8:30 am | 19. Sweet Song For You |
| 8. Musicl Programme | 6:35 pm |
| 4:00 pm | 20. Shwe Yin Chone Than |
| 9. Martial Song | 8:00 pm |
| 4:05 pm | 21. News |
| 10. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions | 22. International News |
| 4:25 pm | 23. Weather Report |
| 4:35 pm | 24. Documentary |
| 12. Musical Programme | 10:00 pm |
| 4:35 pm | 25. News |
| 13. 2013 University | 26. Myanmar Movies |

6.6-magnitude quake strikes eastern Kazakhstan

ASTANA, 29 Jan—A 6.6-magnitude earthquake hit the southeastern region of Kazakhstan at 22:38 on Monday evening local time (16:38:53 GMT), according to the earthquake experimental group of the Scientific Committee of the country's Education and Science Ministry.

There has been no report of casualties at press time. The epicentre was located 230 kilometres south-east of Kazakhstan's largest

city Almaty, with a depth of about 10 km. Residents in Almaty could feel buildings and windows shaking. Some ran out to escape to the open area. After the first strong quake, there have been several smaller aftershocks. No casualties have been reported.

Earlier, the US Geological Survey measured the quake at 6.0 on the Richter scale. Almaty is located in a seismically active zone.—*Xinhua*



Former Japanese Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama (front L), former Chinese State Councilor Tang Jiaxuan (front C) and Koichi Kato (front R), former secretary general of Japan's Liberal Democratic Party, attend a photo session in Beijing on 28 Jan, 2013.—KYODO NEWS

Afghan delegation discuss army training programme with Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 29 Jan—A six-member Afghan delegation led by Afghan Defence Minister Bismillah Khan Mohammadi met on Monday Pakistani Chief of Army Staff Gen Ashfaq Pervez Kayani and discussed training of the Afghan National Army by Pakistan and other matters, a Press release by the Defence Ministry said.

“The two sides discussed matters of professional interest, with particular focus on enhancing mutual defence cooperation and measures that the Afghan army and the Pakistan

army intend initiating for an enduring training relationship,” it said.

The Defence Ministry statement said that two sides also discussed a recently concluded border standing operation procedures aimed at improving existing security cooperation and intelligence sharing on both sides of the border. Pakistan had offered training to the Afghan army. However, the Afghan government had been reluctant to accept the offer because of Islamabad's perceived close ties with Taleban.—*Kyodo News*

Hundreds stranded and three dead in Australia floods

CANBERRA, 29 Jan—Hundreds of people are stranded and at least 3 dead from floods in Australia's northeastern state of Queensland.

A 27-year-old man was one of the fatalities. He was in his car when it was washed away.

Residents in the town of Bundaberg found more than 2,000 houses and buildings submerged. Firefighters in boats and helicopters rescued many people from rooftops.

Over 200,000 households and offices lost power. The state's inhabitants experienced a cyclone

bringing more than 500 millimeters of rainfall in the 24 hours leading up to Monday morning.

Rivers remain swelled from the heavy rain, raising concern about further flood damage.

Meteorologists have downgraded the south-moving cyclone to low-pressure status.

Australians are suffering drastic climate changes this summer. A record heat wave this month brought temperatures of over 40 degrees Celsius. Wildfires broke out across the country in more than 100 locations.—*NHK*



An Israeli army bulldozer uproots trees in the eastern Jerusalem's Arab neighbourhood of Silwan on 28 Jan, 2013. Nine people were injured and seven arrested in Silwan after clashes broke out as Israeli forces demolished several structures on Monday.

XINHUA



Photo taken on 28 Jan, 2013, shows the JT60SA, an experimental nuclear fusion device which the Japan Atomic Energy Agency and the European Union started assembling the same day, aiming at starting operation in 2019, at the agency's research facility in Naka, Ibaraki Prefecture. KYODO NEWS

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham receives Thai NESAC Chairman

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan— Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham received Chairman of National Economic and Social Advisory Council of Thailand Mr Okas Teparakul and party at Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace here this afternoon.

They frankly discussed strengthening of the existing friendship between the two countries, promotion of border trade and sharing of experiences and technologies from Thailand for tourism industry development of

Myanmar.

Present on the occasion were Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw, Deputy Ministers U Thant Kyaw, Dr Ba Shwe, Dr Win Myint, U Myint Thein and departmental heads.—MNA

**Vice-President
Dr Sai Mauk Kham
receives Chairman
of National
Economic and Social
Advisory Council of
Thailand Mr Okas
Teparakul.**—MNA



Union Industry Minister visits manufacturing plant projects in Myingyan

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan— Union Minister for Industry U Aye Myint visited No. 1 Steel Plant (Myingyan) near Sakha Village in Myingyan Township, Mandalay Region on 27 January.

The plant is being equipped to manufacture steel billets and slabs, H beams and I beams, steel

sheets ERW pipes, rails, angles and channels and galvanizing towers.

The Union minister then visited the construction site of Truck Axle Manufacturing Plant near Kokke Village in Myingyan Township. The project being implemented by Heavy Industry No.

1 will provide different sizes of axles for all transportation vehicles with production capacity of 5000 sets of axles per year. The Union minister also visited Industrial Training Center (Myingyan) under construction with the assistance of India also near Kokke Village. The

training center accepts 200 trainees a year, offering eight engineering subjects.

Currently Industry Ministry has opened industrial training schools in Sinte, Mandalay, Thagara, Magway and Pakokku with the assistance of Germany, China, Korea, and India.—MNA

Bago Region Hluttaw speaker and party observe Hluttaw sessions

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan— The 45-member region Hluttaw representatives led by Bago Region Hluttaw speaker and region deputy Hluttaw speaker this morning

observed the progress of six regular sessions of first Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw and looked round the Hluttaw buildings.

MNA

IBTC Open Golf Championship kicks off

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan— Organized by Myanmar Golfers Federation and Myanmar PGA, the Myanmar Golf Tour-2013 IBTC Open Golf Championship, with sponsorship of IBTC Group of Companies was kicked off at Royal Mingaladon Golf & Country Club in Mingaladon Township today.

Patron of MGF Maj-Gen Win Hlaing (Rtd), Vice-President U Aung Kyi of MGF, Vice-Chairman of Myanmar PGA U Ko Ko Lay and Executive Director U Tint Oo of IBTC Group of Companies teed off the championship.

After the first round,

Bo Bo (Srixon), Yin Aung Latt (Srixon) and Aung Win (Srixon) were leading in the professional golfers division, with 69 each, followed by Kyaw Thiha (KM Golf Centre), Yan Myo Aye, Soe Kyaw Naing (Srixon) and Aung San Win (I Win Golf Academy) with 70 each, Naing Naing Lin (Srixon), Nay Bala Win Myint (Srixon), Hla Myo (I Win Golf Academy) and Zaw Paing Oo (Taylormade) in the third position with 71 each. In the amateur division, Myo Win Aung stood first with 68, Chit Min Hsan second with 69 and Zin Min Thu third with 70.—NLM

Inlay Lake, candidate for World Heritage Parks

Natural scenic beauties are located in the waters and on the land of Myanmar. Inlay Lake is one of the plentiful natural beauties of the nation. As Inlay Lake is one of tourist destinations across the nation, conservation is being undertaken for natural beauties and environment. At present, efforts are being made to put the Inlay Lake in the list of World Heritage Parks.

“We are trying to put

Inlay Lake in the list of World Heritage Parks. So, we are making arrangements to coordinate with the UNESCO so as to carry out technological works. We plan to achieve success in enlisting the lake,” said an official of the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry recently.

A plan is underway to coordinate technological requirements with UNESCO and Norway-

based Nordic World Heritage Foundation to be able to put the Inlay Lake in the list.

In addition, Forest Department and UN HABITAT prepare a plan for long-term existence of Inlay Lake. The Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry adopted a plan to extend the term of conserving the lake in cooperation with UNDP.

Inlay Lake is situated at an altitude of above

By Ayon Oo

2900 feet, in Nyaungshwe Township of Taunggyi District in Shan State. The lake is 44.9 square miles and is the second largest in Myanmar. In summer, the lake has about seven feet deep on average and 12 feet deep in maximum. In the rainy season, the deepest area of the lake is 17 feet.

Especially, the lake is home to various species of biodiversities, over 20 species of snakes and nine endangered species of fish. Therefore, environmental conservation is being undertaken at the lake and its surrounding areas as rare species of plants grow there. As of 2000 year, a five year plan is being implemented for conservation of forests, water, soil and birds in 20-mile radius of Inlay Lake.

Myanma Alinn:

28-1-2013

Trs: TTA



A leg-rower in search of Fish at Inlay Lake in Shan State.

Myanmar, American practitioners to meet on 31 January

YANGON, 29 Jan— Myanmar generalists and visiting American practitioners will hold talks over terminally ill patient and family.

Practice in USA at the Myanmar Medical Associa-

tion (MMA) at 12.30 pm on 31, Jan, 2013.

The MMA has invited those who are interested in the topics to attend the talks.

The talks is organized by the General Practitioners' Society of the MMA.—NLM