

Investment in education, the most profitable for the nation: President U Thein Sein



education and health in the time of incumbent government, saying that investment in education is the most profitable investment for the nation.

He recognized the lack of capital, technology and human resources

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein meets rector and faculty members from Kalay University at Kabaw Hall.—MNA

against the abundant natural resources and the strategic position of the country as a bridge between South Asia and South-East Asia. He sketched out the list of priorities as follows as regards the drive for economic growth: the first on the agenda is to establish labor-intensive factories and workshops not only in major towns but also in townships; the second is establishment of small and medium enterprises for production

of value-added goods; the third is to set up heavy industry utilizing own natural resources; and the fourth is information technology development.

He called for establishment of training schools to nurture skilled labours to do above-mentioned works, saying the sole responsibility of teachers is to accumulate human capital. He stressed the need for English proficiency to be on a par with global countries, demanding mastery

civilized citizens.

In this academic year, a total of 4697 day students and 3409 distance education students, totaling 8106 are learning at Kalay University.

The President and party then went to Kalay District General Hospital where they comforted patients and met medics and nurses.

He called on them to not only give medical treatment but also disseminating health

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Feb—"Myanmar universities are networking with prestigious seats of education from South Korea, Japan and so on including John Hopkins University," said the President U Thein Sein as he visited Kalay University this morning.

He mentioned the increased budget on

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein gives encouragements to a patient at Kalay District General Hospital.—MNA



of instructors in their specialized subjects.

The President then met undergraduates there and urged them to turn themselves educated,

knowledge to the public for disease prevention, calling for organizing wider educative talks in towns, wards and village.

MNA

Indian parliamentary delegation concludes visit

YANGON, 15 Feb—The Indian parliamentary delegation led by Speaker of Lok Sabha Honourable Smt. Meira Kumar concluded the visit and left here this evening.

They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker U Sein Tin

Win, Deputy Speaker U Tin Aung, Secretary of Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee U Ko Ko Tun, region Hluttaw representatives, Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Dr Villur Sundararajan Seshadri and departmental personnel.

MNA

LOCAL NEWS

Arrival of new aircraft for AIR KBZ



YANGON, 15 Feb — Of two ATR 72-600 passenger aircrafts bought by AIR KBZ from France, the first aircraft arrived at Yangon International Airport on 11 February. The second aircraft will arrive in Yangon

in June. Starting from the middle of the year 2013, AIR KBZ will provide extending its domestic flights to Nay Pyi Taw, Monywa, Homalin, Bhamo, Putao and Kyaukpyu, apart from its ongoing flights to Yangon,

Mandalay, NyaungU, Heho, Lashio, Tachilek, Kengtung, Kalay, Myitkyina, Thandwe, Sittway, Dawei, Myeik and Kawthoung with four ATR 72-500 and two ATR 72-600 passenger aircraft.

Kyemon

Thaton District IPRD organizes reading skill contest

THATON, 15 Feb — “Such kind of competition should be organized on a wider scale as it enables our children to broaden their horizons and to be good and able citizens”, a townselder said at the ceremony to award the winners of reading skill contest at Kumudra

Library in Kyarpan Village of Thaton Township on 11 February.

Thaton District Information and Public Relations Department organized the competition in which 33 students from Kyarpan Basic Education High School took part.

At the prize-giving ceremony, district IPRD staff officer Daw Khin Saw Lin gave talks on promotion of reading habit and village library. Next, responsible persons presented prizes to winners of the reading skill contest.

Kyemon

General Store fire in Kengtung

KENG TUNG, 15 Feb — A fire broke out at a general store which was being kept open on the ground floor of a three-storey building on Kengngam 2nd Street in Kengtung at about 3 am on 11 February.

As a duty-conscious person from the opposite house informed the fire service department of the fire gutting the store, fire crews accompanied by seven fire engines rushed there. They managed to bring the flames under control at about



4.15 am and put out the fire in cooperation with local people at about 5.30 am.

Kyemon

Police arrest suspect of home burglary in Sangyoung Township

YANGON, 15 Feb — Police Sub-inspector Naing Thein (Nay Pyi Taw Police Force Commander's Office) and a combined force on 8 February interrogated suspect Htein Lin Aung (a) Zaw Naing of Seikpyu Township, 20, who was in custody, charged with a case at Htonebo Police Station in Zabuthiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw.

Investigation revealed that Htein Lin Aung (truck

driver) broke into a house in South Sangyoung ward in Sangyoung Township in Yangon and stole cash and kind and a motorbike.

Police Sub-inspector Naing Thein filed a theft case against him and transferred the case to Sangyoung Township Police Station where he is under interrogation by Investigation Officer Police Sub-inspector Zaw Myo Tun.

Kyemon

Ohndaw Village BEHS gets new school buildings, assembly hall in Sagaing Township

SAGAING, 15 Feb — The opening of new school buildings and assembly hall for Ohndaw Village Basic Education High School was held at the village in Sagaing Township on 8 February.

Sagaing Region Minister for Forest and Mines U Than Htaik, Region Hluttaw representative U Kyaw Win and Sagaing Region education officer assistant director U Aung Kyaw Soe formally opened the May Yu Hall and Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye unveiled the signboard of the new school buildings.

After the Region chief minister addressed the opening ceremony, the

ceremony to hand over documents related to the new assembly hall and school buildings followed. The organizing committee chairman U Maw handed over documents to the region education officer.

The newly-opened May Yu Hall is 90 feet long and 27 feet wide and the one-storey building cost K 15 million.

The newly-opened Malikha school building is 120 foot long, 34 feet wide and 13 feet high and it cost K 37.5 million. The two-storey Shwe Pyi Aye school building is 200 feet long and 32 feet wide and it cost K 39 million. —Kyemon

Farmland registration process in progress in Mandalay Region

MANDALAY, 15 Feb — Mandalay Region Land Records Department has been carrying out farmland registration process at respective townships since

the early February.

Under the supervision of the Mandalay Region farmland management committee, farmland registration process is in

progress for 1,717,108 acres of farmlands in 25 townships of seven districts in the region in accord with the farmland law and bylaws.

Kyemon

the coaching certificate to MBBF Executive U Aung Naing and MD Daw Khin

Marlar of Nat Ray awarded winners of Model Physique.

Kyemon

Union Government's Cup Men's and Women's Bodybuilding and Model Physique Contest held

YANGON, 15 Feb — The final-day event of the Union Government's Cup Men's and Women's Bodybuilding and Model Physique Contest was held in conjunction with prize-giving ceremony at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road, here, on 12 February, with the participation of 46 male and 23 female contestants.

After preliminary selections of bodybuilders in 55 kilos, 60 kilos, 70 kilos, 80 kilos and 90 kilos events and women with under and above 5 feet and three inches for model physique, final matches followed.

At the prize-giving ceremony, Deputy Minister for Sports U Thaung Htaik,

President of Myanmar Bodybuilding Federation Wunna Kyawhtin U Hla Myint Swe, General Secretary of World Bodybuilding and Physique Sports Federation and Asian Bodybuilding and Physique Sports Federation Mr. Paul Chua and officials presented prizes to winners.

Next, Mr. & Ms. Nat Ray Sports Champion of the Champions, jointly-organized by Myanmar Bodybuilding Sports Federation and Nat Ray Sports & Fitness, followed with the participation of 12 male and five female contestants.

Next, the deputy minister presented prizes to winners of Bodybuilder contest. General Secretary Mr. Paul Chua presented



Seizure of pseudoephedrine tablets worth K 13.5 million in Tiddim

MANDALAY, 15 Feb — Under the supervision of Police Captain Hla Ko Ko of Kalay special anti-drug squad, a combined force led by Police Inspector Toe Naing Oo and Police Sub-inspector Win Naing of Tiddim Police Station seized 135,000 tablets that weigh

13.5 kilos while conducting a search of a motorbike driven by Kyint Swin Khaing together with Hauk Doh Paul who were heading for Kalay in Sagaing Region from Tongzong at mile post No (24/3) on Tiddim-Kalay road on 5 February. The seized pseudoephedrine

tablets are worth K 13.5 million.

The seized narcotic drugs were transported from Taimkham village in Mizoram State of the neighbouring country to Kalay in Sagaing Region via Tongzong and Tiddim Townships in Chin State.

On 6 February, the combined force searched a motorbike and seized 73000 pseudoephedrine tablets (7.3 kilos) carrying in fuel tank of the motorbike.

Kyemon



WORLD

UN nuclear talks with Iran fail, no new meeting set

VIENNA, 15 Feb— UN inspectors returned on Thursday from talks in Teheran with no deal on reviving a nuclear investigation and no date for a new meeting, failing to produce even a small signal of hope for big power diplomacy aimed at averting a war.

“Despite its many commitments to do so, Iran has not negotiated in good faith,” said a Western diplomat accredited to the United Nations’ International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna who was not at the talks. “It appears that we now have to ask ourselves if this is still the

right tactic.”

The deadlock is a chilling signal for a wider effort by six world powers to get Iran to curb activity that they believe could give it the capacity to build nuclear bombs—something Israel has suggested it will prevent by force if necessary.

Further alarming its foes, Iran said this week it was installing advanced machines to refine uranium—a step that could significantly speed up its accumulation of material that the West fears could be used to develop a nuclear weapon.

A diplomatic source confirmed on Thursday that the IAEA, which



Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad speaks during a media conference at Iran's embassy after he attended the Developing-8 summit in Islamabad on 22 Nov, 2012.

REUTERS

regularly inspects Iranian nuclear facilities, had seen a small number of new-style centrifuges at Iran's main enrichment plant at Natanz, positioned to be installed.

The UN watchdog has been trying since January

last year to negotiate a framework with Iran that would let inspectors resume a long-stalled inquiry into suspected atom bomb research by the Islamic Republic.

Reuters

Eight killed in attacks in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 15 Feb— Eight people were killed and ten wounded in attacks mainly targeting Iraqi security forces in north of the Iraqi capital of Baghdad on Thursday, the police said.

In Iraq's northern Province of Nineveh, a bodyguard of the Iraqi parliament speaker Osama al-Nujaifi, and his brother, a policeman, were shot dead at dawn when gunmen stormed their house in a village near the town of Hammam al-Alil in south of the provincial capital city of Mosul, 400 km north of Baghdad, a provincial police source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

Also in the province, two policemen were killed and a third wounded when three roadside bombs exploded simultaneously near their patrol in the town of Shora, some 50 km south of Mosul, the source said.

The Sunni dominated Province of Nineveh has been a stronghold for insurgent groups, including al-Qaeda militants, since the US led invasion of the country in 2003. In a separate incident, gunmen in a car attacked a security checkpoint manned by Awakening Council group members at the town of Yathrib, some 80 km north of Baghdad, and clashed with them, a police source from Salahudin Province, where the town located, anonymously told *Xinhua*.

The clash resulted in the killing of two of the group members, while one of the attackers was killed and two wounded, the source added.

Xinhua

Seven killed in suicide attack on army check post in NW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 15 Feb—At least seven people were killed and 15 others injured when a suicide bomber attacked a security check post in Pakistan's northwest District of Hangu on Thursday evening, police said.

Mian Saeed, Deputy Police Officer said that the incident happened at about 5:30 pm local time when a suicide bomber rammed his explosive laden vehicle in to a check post in Tal area of Hangu, a main district in the country's northwest Province

of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The dead included two paramilitary troops, two policemen and three civilians who were passing by the site when the blast happened, said Saeed.

The check post, jointly owned by police and paramilitary troops, was destroyed in the attack.

Two army vehicles parked near the check post were also destroyed.

The injured were shifted to a nearby military hospital where several of them were

in critical condition.

No group claimed responsibility for the attack yet. Police cordoned off the area and an investigation into the incident has been kicked off.

This is the second major attack in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Thursday. Earlier in the morning, six suicide bombers were shot dead and two policemen got injured when a police station was attacked in Bannu District of the province.

Xinhua



Cars move on a flyover in the fog in Nanning City, capital of south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on 14 Feb, 2013.—XINHUA

Russia ready to study US proposal on nuclear disarmament

MOSCOW, 15 Feb— Moscow is ready to study the US initiative on further cutting nuclear arsenals when it formally receives a proposal from Washington, Russian Foreign Ministry said on Thursday.

“We haven't received so far the particular proposals on further reductions of our strategic nuclear arsenals. If such proposals come, we will certainly study them carefully,” the ministry's spokesman Alexander Lukashevich said in an online comment. For Russia, the priority has been full

implementation of the US-Russia new Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START), he reminded. “After the Treaty implementation we would be ready for possible further steps toward nuclear disarmament,” he added.

Lukashevich stressed Moscow considered any proposals affecting strategic stability in connection with other US moves in the issues of disarmament.

He mentioned the deployment of the US anti-missile defence shield and lack of progress in the ratification by the US

and 44 more countries of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty. Lukashevich also pointed at Washington's reluctance to rule out the possibility of deployment of weapons in space. The new START that US President Barack Obama signed with Russia in 2010 commits Washington and Moscow to cut their warhead ceilings by 30 percent over the next 10 years from the current 2,200 to 1,550 and limit each side to 700 deployed long-range missiles and heavy bombers.

Xinhua

Huge forest fire approaches Chile's city of Valparaiso

SANTIAGO, 15 Feb— An uncontrolled forest fire on Thursday extended to the border of Chile's coastal city of Valparaiso, forcing the evacuation of 600 people, and the fire may further expand due to strong wind and high temperature, local authorities said on Thursday.

The fire began on Thursday afternoon in San Roque hill, in Valparaiso's suburbs, then it reached Rodelillo hill, where new buildings have been constructed due to the city's growth.

Vina del Mar, in the metropolitan area of Valparaiso, is also under the maximum alert, said the local authorities, while fire fighters, police officers and forestry workers are trying

to control the fire.

According to Chile's National Emergency Office (Onemi), some 600 people have been evacuated in Valparaiso, 30 houses have caught fire, but because the fire is uncontrolled the number of houses might increase.

Valparaiso's Fire Brigade said the fire is uncontrolled due to strong wind and high temperature, as well as the lack of water.

Jorge Castro, Mayor of Valparaiso, said “this is a sector where houses are very closes to each other,” which accelerated the fire's propagation. Onemi's last report said the forest fire in San Roque hill is also getting close to Los Placeres hill, a highly populated area.—*Xinhua*



The photo taken on 14 Feb, 2013 shows the site of the Conference on Cooperation among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development (CEAPAD) in Tokyo, Japan.—XINHUA

UN drones could deploy to Congo as early as June

KINSHASA, 15 Feb— Surveillance drones could be used by peacekeepers in the rugged hills of eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, the first such deployment of unmanned aircraft in a UN mission, as early as June, Congo's prime minister said on Thursday.

The Security Council approved their use last month in Congo's porous and volatile borderlands, where UN experts claim a year-old rebellion has received support from neighbouring Rwanda and Uganda, a charge both countries deny.

“The process of acquiring drones has already been launched. By June or July they should be operational,” Augustin Matata Ponyo Mapon told reporters after returning from New York where he met Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

A spokesman for Congo's UN peacekeeping mission, known as MONUSCO, said he was not aware of a deployment date for the drones.

UN peacekeeping chief Herve Ladsous told the Security Council in January that aerial systems were needed to monitor an area of rugged terrain, thick forests and possessing few roads. But unlike unmanned US

aircraft that have carried out strikes in Pakistan and Yemen, the UN drones will not be armed.

The Council said it would be a trial deployment “to enhance situational awareness ... on a case-by case basis” after concerns from Russia, China and Rwanda over the use of aerial surveillance equipment delayed the decision for weeks.

MONUSCO initially asked for surveillance drones in 2008, but the request was never met.

The M23 rebels began taking large swathes of the mineral-rich east early last year, accusing the government of failing to honour a previous peace deal. They seized and held the eastern city of Goma for 11 days in November, dealing a severe blow to the image of MONUSCO, whose peacekeepers did not intervene to stop the well-equipped force, and reviving interest in the use of drones.—*Reuters*

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



Gorgeous river photos from space.—XINHUA

Tyrannosaurus at centre of custody case going home to Mongolia

NEW YORK, 15 Feb — A nearly complete 70-million-year-old tyrannosaurus bataar skeleton will be returned to Mongolia following the high-profile prosecution of a Florida paleontologist by federal authorities in New York, US authorities said on Thursday. A New York federal judge ordered the skeleton and other fossils forfeited to the US government this week after the paleontologist pled guilty in December to fraud and conspiracy.

Ellen Davis, a spokeswoman for Manhattan US Attorney Preet Bharara said his office would return the 8-foot-tall (2.4 metre), 24-foot-long (7.3 metre), mostly reconstructed cousin of the Tyrannosaurus rex. Mongolian officials demanded the skeleton's return after paleontologist Eric Prokopi sold it at a Manhattan auction last spring for \$1.05 million. Mongolia suspected the skeleton had been smuggled out of its fossil-rich Gobi desert.



US authorities filed charges against Prokopi and seized the skeleton, which is fossilized bones welded to a metal frame. In announcing the seizure, Bharara called Prokopi a "one man black market in prehistoric fossils." Authorities accused Prokopi of having lied on US customs forms when he declared the fossilized bones were worth \$19,000.

In a New York courtroom in September, Prokopi's defence attorney challenged the charge that his client had lied on the forms, saying the reconstruction was not a single creature but bones from multiple dinosaurs. Mongolian authorities and US government paleontological experts believed it was a single creature. A federal judge suggested the skeleton might be a "Frankenstein model of dinosaur parts" and asked a prosecutor why government experts had not recognized that the skeleton was from several sources.—Reuters

US-based inventors lead world in nanotechnology patents

NEW YORK, 15 Feb — Inventors based in the United States led the world in nanotechnology patent applications and grants in 2012, according to a new study by law firm McDermott Will & Emery. Nanotechnology involves manipulating matter that's measured at the tiny "nanometer" length level. The diameter of a human hair is between 40,000 and 60,000 nanometers, said Valerie Moore, a patent

agent and one of the authors of the study.

Nanotechnology patents come into play in everything from aerospace to medicine to energy, the study noted. For example, the technology can be used to incorporate antibacterial material into wound dressings, to increase the strength of car parts while decreasing their weight, and to enhance paint colours. US-based inventors

SAN FRANCISCO, 15 Feb — Shares of companies that sell 3D printers fell on Thursday after Citron Research said they were vastly overvalued and that the technology, highlighted this week by US President Barack Obama, has been hyped. Makers of 3D printers in recent years have turned an evolving technology used by manufacturers for over two decades toward consumers, offering the prospect of producing everything from toys to tools in the home, and sending their share prices soaring.

Citron Research, run by California-based investor and notable short-seller Andrew Left, issued a report on Thursday accusing 3D Systems' Chief Executive Abe Reichental of ex-

aggerating advances in 3D printing and contributing to a bubble in the shares of 3D printing companies. "Appearances have become completely unhinged from reality when it comes to the mania created in so-called '3D Printing' stocks, and 3D Systems in particular," Citron Research said. "Behind every good bubble there is a good promoter, in this case we have the best in Abe Reichental."

Shares of 3D Systems Corporation, the biggest listed US 3D printer maker, fell. So did shares of Stratasys and ExOne. Citron Research focuses on stocks it believes have been fraudulently and intentionally overvalued. It said 3D Systems has made no significant advances in 3D printing technology in

the past five years and that it has recently rehashed consumer products with little change. Rock Hill, South Carolina-based 3D Systems and Stratasys declined to comment.

Also known as additive manufacturing, 3D printing

creates solid objects from a digital model by laying down successive thin layers of material. Under the traditional "subtractive" approach, objects are created by cutting them out of a solid chunk of metal or plastic.

Reuters



More cyber extortion cases in Singapore last year



SINGAPORE, 15 Feb — The number of sexually-related cyber extortion cases in Singapore involving foreign female suspects has more than quadrupled to about 50 cases last year, local media reported on Thursday. There were only 11 such cases in 2011, the police said. The victims are often men, typically students, full-time national servicemen or working adults who meet the women on social networking sites such as Tagged.com and Facebook, and add them as friends. They are then persuaded by the women to strip and masturbate when they see the women naked or

dancing.

Once the men are naked, usually while on a video call with the women "friends," the women end the session abruptly, claiming someone is at their door, the Straits Times said. The men later receive a message from the women, informing them that video footage had been taken of them in sex acts. The women then demand money and set deadlines for payment. Sometimes the men are given a link to a YouTube clip of their "performance". It is not known how long these videos stay "live" in each case.—Xinhua

Flextronics woos startups with Silicon Valley tech centre

MILPITAS, 15 Feb — Moving ideas from sketches on napkins to factory floors is often the toughest stage for a startup entrepreneur. Flextronics International Ltd thinks it can help with that. The contract manufacturer, which produces the Xbox game console for Microsoft Corp and smartphones for Google Inc, as well as networking equipment and other electronics gear, has upgraded its campus in Milpitas, California, with equipment aimed at creating product prototypes for customers in a hurry.

China has become the world's factory floor over the past decade as incentives, low wages and entry into the World Trade Organization made it a highly efficient workshop for everything from shoes to electronics. But Silicon Valley companies as small as startups and as large as Google are increasingly looking to local contract manufacturers for help with design and early production

of new electronics products, experts say. This reflects a nascent trend of "reshoring" manufacturing operations to the United States.

Flextronics and rival contract manufacturers like Foxconn and Jabil Circuit Inc already offer customers "value-added" help designing their products, advice on what components to use and whom to buy them from, and other value-added services. Singapore-based Flextronics said it spent \$12 million on the Milpitas upgrade, with plans to spend another \$20 million in coming months. The idea is to meet growing demand from companies in Silicon Valley that want to get products to market faster, site manager Zahid Husain told Reuters this week.

"Technology is changing. Time to market is critical right now," Husain said. "We're providing turnaround time. We're providing end-to-end solutions."—Reuters



A technician configures a "Pick and Place" electronics manufacturing machine on 11 Feb, 2013 at Flextronics International's Milpitas, California campus. —REUTERS

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Chrysler recalls 370,297 trucks for fastener issue

CHICAGO, 15 Feb—Chrysler Group LLC said on Thursday it was recalling 370,297 pickup trucks and sport utility vehicles (SUV) because a loose fastener could cause the rear axle to lock up and make a driver lose control. The recall has implications for 370,297 vehicles globally. Affected are 2009 Dodge Durango and Chrysler Aspen SUVs, 2009-2011 Dodge Dakota pickups and 2009-2012 Ram 1500 pickups, according to a news release on the company's official

website.

Some rear axles were assembled with a fastener that can loosen and lead to failure. Chrysler Group dealers will install a retainer, at no cost to customers, which secures the fastener. Chrysler Group is unaware of any associated injuries. Customers will be notified directly if their vehicles are subject to recall. The recall is expected to begin in March.

This expands on an initial recall of over 44,000

pickups for the same issue last September. Chrysler recalled more than 44,000 Dakotas and Ram 1500 pickups for the same problem. Further review of customer complaints and field reports showed



the problem also existed for vehicles not covered by the first recall, according to documents filed with the US National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Xinhua

“High-glycemic” foods tied to diabetes risk

NEW YORK, 15 Feb—People who eat a lot of low-fiber and processed foods that quickly spike blood sugars may, not surprisingly, have a significantly higher risk of the most common form of diabetes, according to a new study. “By raising blood sugar and demanding that the pancreas keep pumping more insulin, meal after meal, day after day, a high-glycemic diet can put people at risk over the edge,” said Dr David Ludwig, who studies obesity at Boston Children’s Hospital but was not involved in the work.

The report analyzes 24 studies published since 1997 that tracked what 125,000 adults ate. The new study confirms links prior researchers made between those so-called high-

139 grams of sugar or its equivalent.

According to the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, about 8 percent of Americans have diabetes. More than 90 percent of those cases are type 2 diabetes, which prevents the body from properly using or producing the blood sugar-regulating hormone insulin. The analysis did not pinpoint precisely how many of the 125,000 participants actually developed the disease, but for every additional 100 grams of sugar per 2,000 daily calories, people had a 45 percent higher risk of type 2 diabetes.

“It’s easy to get more than 100 grams, especially if you’re not being careful to choose the right kinds of



A cook prepares fries in a cafe in a cafe in Bruges on 27 Sept, 2011.—REUTERS

glycemic foods—including white bread and potatoes — and diabetes. Published in *the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, the new report from researchers at the University of California, Los Angeles, Oxford University in the UK and others found that the 125,000 studied adults daily ate an average of

foods,” research dietician Heidi Silver, of Vanderbilt University Medical Centre in Nashville, who was not involved in the new study, told *Reuters Health*. Low-glycemic foods include fish, meat, high-fiber fruits and vegetables, nuts, cheeses and other dairy products, brown rice and other unrefined grains.—Reuters

The matchmakers behind the AMR-US Airways marriage

NEW YORK, 15 Feb—After sitting out the industry’s last round of mega-mergers, airline giants AMR Corp (AAMRQ.PK), parent of American Airlines, and US Airways Group (LCC.N) are finally tying the knot. Meet the matchmakers: the financial and legal advisers for AMR’s unsecured creditors’ committee in bankruptcy.

Jack Butler, the Skadden lawyer representing the creditor panel in AMR’s Chapter 11 bankruptcy case, joined forces with investment bankers Gregg Polle and Bill Derrough from Moelis & Co to make sure AMR management — which was not exactly keen on a merger during the case — would give consolidation a fair shake.

The trio of advisers also served as the go-between whenever the two carriers wouldn’t budge at critical junctures of negotiations, pitching compromise solutions that would work for both sides. When AMR’s three largest unions publicly announced their support for a merger with US Airways on 20 April, the smaller rival also sent its first formal merger proposal to AMR and its creditors, people familiar with the matter said.

That undisclosed initial offer, which proposed AMR creditors and US Airways each own roughly half of the combined company, fell short of the eventual merger terms announced on Thursday and was largely ignored at the time, the people said. They did not want to be named because they were not authorized to speak to the press.—Reuters



The tail sections of a newly designed American Airlines aircraft (L), a US Airways aircraft (C) and a traditional American Airlines aircraft are lined up at Dallas-Ft Worth International Airport on 14 Feb, 2013.—REUTERS

US- wide salt reduction could prevent deaths

NEW YORK, 15 Feb — The United States could prevent up to half a million deaths over the next decade if Americans cut their salt intake to within national guidelines, according to a new study. That finding — which comes the week New York City announced success toward its goals of cutting salt levels by one-quarter by 2014 — is based on computer simulations using data from various studies on the effects of extra sodium on blood pressure and heart risks.

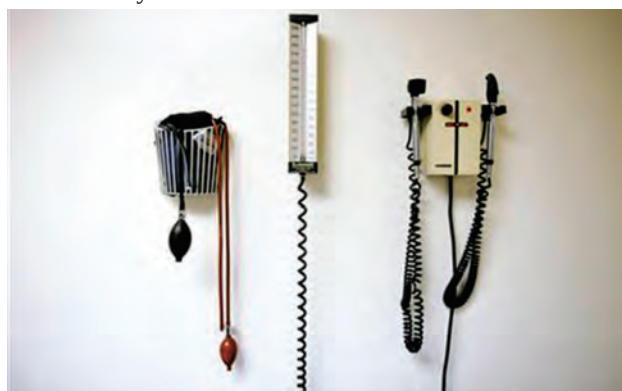
The Institute of Medicine recommends most healthy people get 1,500 milligrams (mg) of sodium per day, with an upper limit of 2,300 mg. But the average American eats more like 3,600 mg each day, largely through

processed food. “Reducing sodium intake is important for everyone, not just a small subset of people who are salt sensitive,” said Pamela Coxson, the study’s lead author from the University of California, San Francisco. Although the health effects of a salt cutback may be small for

the average person, she said, the results show they add up when projected across millions of Americans.

Still, one blood pressure researcher not involved in the new study said the models don’t reflect the full picture of health consequences tied to too little or too much salt.

Reuters



Devices used to take blood pressure, temperature, and examine eyes and ears rest on a wall inside of a doctor’s office in New York on 22 March, 2010.—REUTERS

Hines puts two midtown Manhattan office buildings up for sale

NEW YORK, 15 Feb—Two midtown Manhattan skyscrapers owned by international real estate firm Hines are up for sale, according to a source familiar with the deal, as sales of New York office buildings show signs of heating up. Hines, a privately owned, Houston-based real estate investment manager and developer, is selling 499 Park Avenue, the former headquarters of Bloomberg LP and the current headquarters of financial company Cantor Fitzgerald, said the source, who was not authorized to speak publicly about the sale.

It also is putting up for sale 425 Lexington Avenue, the headquarters of law firm Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, the source said.

Reuters

Perch exposed to human anti-anxiety drugs become isolated, aggressive - study

BOSTON, 15 Feb—Wild perch living in water tainted with a commonly prescribed human anti-anxiety drug aggressively feed, shun other fish and become careless, according to the results of a study presented at a meeting of scientists on Thursday. “We knew there was a pharmaceutical that was present in the environment that had behavioural-changing capabilities in humans, but what could this do to fish?” said chemist Jerker Fick of Umea University in Sweden.

The findings highlighted the potential ecological implications of even trace amounts of psychiatric

pharmaceuticals that are excreted in human urine and survive wastewater treatment plant processes, scientists told a meeting in Boston of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. For the experiment, scientists divided 75 wild European perch into three groups. One group lived in clean water. The second group’s water had low concentrations of Oxazepam, a commonly prescribed medication used to treat anxiety in

humans.

The concentration was similar to what is found in waterways downstream from sewage treatment plants. The third group’s water had 500 times the amount of Oxazepam typically found in waterways.

After a week, the fish were subjected to routine behavioral tests. “Before we exposed the perch to the drug they were all very shy. They were not taking any risks at all basically. After exposure, they were swimming around much more, like they were unconcerned, and they were not as social. They just wanted to swim on their own.

Reuters



WORLD

In Mali town, counter-insurgency task ties down French



French soldiers search people at a checkpoint on the outskirts of Gao, Mali on 14 Feb, 2013.—REUTERS

GAO, (Mali), 15 Feb — By the slow-moving Niger River at Gao, the north Malian town retaken by French troops from Islamist rebels last month, men repair fishing nets beside beached pirogues, women wash pots and children splash naked in the muddy water.

The scene looks tranquil enough but the French soldiers and their allied troops from Niger on the riverbank are alert, fingering their weapons and squinting southwest across the water to the village of Kadji, shrouded by eucalyptus trees.

Locals living along the bank have identified Kadji as

a hotbed of al-Qaeda-allied jihadists who last weekend surprised the French, Malian and Nigerien troops in Gao with two suicide bombings and a daring raid into the heart of the town.

Since Sunday's attack, the French and their African allies have been busy hunting down rebel suspects and dismantling bomb-making factories in the sprawling mud-brick Saharan town in a counter-insurgency operation that is tying them down.

"After Sunday, securing Gao is our priority," said a French officer who, like many involved in the operation, asked not to be

identified. "Once we have done this, we will move out of town to help the Malians neutralise these pockets of Islamists."

The house-to-house searches, sandbagging of fixed defensive positions and reliance on tip-offs from locals already have the hallmarks of an arduous counter-guerrilla operation.

The need to secure Gao, hundreds of kilometres behind the French forward lines where commandos are hunting for French hostages believed to be held in rebel mountain hideouts, is robbing momentum from France's five-week-old campaign.

France's military operation which started in Bamako, the southern capital, and drove 1,700 km (1,050 miles) northwards to Tessalit near the Algerian border, initially forced the bulk of the Islamist forces from the main northern towns of Gao and Timbuktu, earning global plaudits for French President Francois Hollande.—Reuters

Children of Europe's debtor countries pushed into poverty

BRUSSELS, 15 Feb — Almost a third of children in Greece, Ireland, Portugal, Italy and Spain have been pushed to the brink of poverty by austerity designed to bring down public debt, the global charity Caritas said on Thursday.

Italy and euro zone countries that have received international loans are creating a generation of poorly-fed young people with low morale and few job

prospects as the number of children at risk of poverty continues to rise, the charity said, citing EU statistics.

"This could be a recipe not just for one lost generation in Europe but for several lost generations," Caritas said. Since 2010 Greece, Ireland, Portugal and Spain have received tens of billions in loans from the European Union and the International Monetary Fund in return for spending cut-

backs and tax rises. Indebted Italy has not received an international loan.

In all five of these countries the increasing rate of children close to poverty coincides with the height of the crisis in 2008 and rises year-on-year to 2011. Statistics for 2012 are not yet available.

The charity blames children's growing impoverishment on family-unfriendly cuts to welfare,

unemployment benefits, rising value-added tax and increased fuel duties.

"It has become an established fact that children are more at risk of poverty than any other demographic," Deirdre de Burca from Caritas said. Figures from the European Commission show that in 2011 over 30 percent of children in Spain and Greece were at risk of poverty or exclusion, a four percentage point rise since 2005. In Portugal that figure is just below a third at 28.6 percent.

The 2011 figures for Ireland and Italy were not available. In 2010 37.6 percent of children were at risk of poverty or exclusion in Ireland and 28.9 percent in Italy.—Reuters

Reuters

French firm suspected as culprit in horsemeat scandal

PARIS, 15 Feb — An investigation has identified a French meat-processing firm as a likely culprit in the horsemeat scandal that has enraged consumers across Europe and implicated traders and abattoirs from Cyprus to Romania.

Separately, British police investigating alleged mislabelling of beef products arrested three people on Thursday at facilities in Wales and Yorkshire which had handled horsemeat and were raided by police earlier, British media reported.

No further details on the British arrests were immediately available.

The French probe into how horsemeat found its

way into ready meals sold across Europe found that the Spanghero firm labeled meat as beef when it knew what it was processing may have been horse, the government said on Thursday.

Spanghero, based in the town of Castelnaudary

near Toulouse in southwest France, could have its operating license revoked and will face legal action if the suspicions are confirmed, France's consumer affairs and farm ministers told a news conference.



A sign with the Spanghero logo is seen at their head office in Castelnaudary, Southwestern France, on 14 Feb, 2013.—REUTERS

Suicide bomber kills three police in Russian Caucasus

MOSCOW, 15 Feb — A suicide bomber killed three policemen and wounded another six in Russia's North Caucasus on Thursday, hours before President Vladimir Putin was to meet with officials to discuss security ahead of next year's Winter Olympics.

The Kremlin is fighting to staunch an insurgency that aims to carve an Islamic state out of the Caucasus region, which borders Sochi, Russia's planned site

for the 2014 Games.

The suicide bomber detonated explosives at a security checkpoint as police stopped his car for a routine document check on its way into the city of Khasavyurt in Dagestan Province, the Interior Ministry said.

"Police officers stopped the...car for a (routine) check. Behind the wheel was a terrorist suicide bomber," the ministry statement said. "When po-

lice officers walked up to the car, he detonated the explosive device."

One person remained unaccounted for and six police were taken to hospital, officials said.

Dagestan, on the eastern edge of the Caucasus mountain chain, has emerged as the epicentre of violence. It was unclear how many people were in the car, but the Interior Ministry said that the original target was likely in Khasavyurt.

Russian police are under orders to clamp down on insurgent violence across the North Caucasus ahead of the Sochi 2014 Winter Olympics. Putin told security officers last year to prevent attacks on the major events that Russia will host in coming years, including the 2018 World Cup.

Putin was to meet senior officials from the Federal Security Service, the domestic intelligence agency, on Thursday to outline their priorities for the year.

Reuters



A police car is seen damaged by an explosion near a security checkpoint in the city of Khasavyurt, in the Province of Dagestan, on 14 Feb, 2013.

REUTERS

Two Tunisian radicals killed in Syria's Aleppo airport attack

TUNIS, 15 Feb — Two Tunisian radicals were killed during the attack that took place on Tuesday against Aleppo's international airport in Syria, the Tunisian Shems FM radio station reported on Thursday.

The pair, identified as Abdelkamel el-Hani, 29, and Tarek Jellali, 40, joined the ranks of the Salafist Jihadist organization, Al Nusra Front, which are engaged in fighting against the Syrian administration, the report said. Hani was sentenced to 15 years in jail for belonging to the Soliman Islamic militant group which was dismantled in 2007, but was released following a gen-

eral amnesty decree issued by Tunisia's transitional authorities after the ouster of former Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, according to one of his relatives.

Recently, Abou Iyadh, a Tunisian Salafist leader currently wanted by the Tunisian authorities, asked some 12,000 Tunisian Islamic radicals fighting in Iraq, Syria, Yemen and Mali to return home, Tunisia's Ansar El Shariia website said. Eleven Tunisians were among the Islamist radical group that attacked the Algerian gas plant at In Amenas last month, in which at least 38 hostages were killed.—Xinhua

1.5 m USD demanded for each victim of Brazil's nightclub fire

RIO DE JANEIRO, 15 Feb — A private consumer protection agency on Thursday filed a claim of 3 million Brazilian reais (1.5 million US dollars) for each family of the 239 victims killed in Brazil's recent nightclub fire.

The National Association for the Fulfillment of Legal Obligations (Anecol) also filed a 300,000-real (150,000-dollar) claim for

each of the nearly 100 people injured in the late January blaze, Brazil's worst fire in 50 years.

The claims were filed against the local government of Santa Marta, where the "Kiss" nightclub was located, and against the club's owners and the band that was performing in the club, Anecol lawyer Walter Euler Martins told reporters.

Survivors from the

blaze recounted that players of the band lit the flares that ignited the ceiling's highly flammable sound-proof foam, which in turn released toxic smoke.

"The local authorities had the obligation of inspecting the nightclub's operation, the band may have caused the fire and the owners of the club had allowed overcrowding," Martins said.—Xinhua

LOCAL NEWS

Power back to Myitkyina, Waingmaw

MYITKYINA, 15 Feb—Electricity cut out at 66 KV power line that supplies electricity to Myitkyina and Waingmaw through Mali Hydropower Plant as of 24 December 2012.

Although electricians from Buga Electricity Supply

Co tried to repair the power lines, mission failed due to lack of stability and peace of the region.

Now, peace and stability has been restored in the region.

Therefore, a total of 50 electricians and skilled

workers led by Supervisor U Hla Aung of Buga Electricity Co carried out repairing works. On 3 February, the power line turned into normalcy for supply of electricity to Myitkyina and Waingmaw Townships.

Myanma Alinn

Billboard erected to combat trafficking in person in Myeik

MYEIK, 15 Feb—A ceremony to unveil the billboard for anti-human trafficking was held in front of Pale Yadana Hall in Myeik on 4 February morning.

Deputy Commissioner U Lwin Ko Oo of Myeik District, Commander of Myeik District Police Force Lt-Col Shwe Nyar Maung and Project Manager U Zaw Min of

World Vision-Myeik formally unveiled the signboard. After that, pamphlets on prevention against trafficking in person were distributed to those present.—*Myanma Alinn*

Buddha Pujaniya for Thadukan Pagoda in Shwepyitha Township

YANGON, 15 Feb—The Buddha Pujaniya of Thadukan Hsandawshin Pagoda will be held on a grand scale in Thadukan Village of Shwepyitha Township in Yangon Region from 23 February to 3 March.

The Pujaniya will include offering of alms to the Buddha image, the consecration of Buddha image, offering of rice to members of the Sangha, making Htamane meal and offering of Satudisa refreshment to members of the Sangha and congregation.

A plan has been arranged for the festivities comprising sales of domestic foods and snacks, entertainments of



theoretical drama troupes, competitions of Myanmar traditional cane-ball and plays of children. Shops will

be allotted to shopkeepers two weeks ahead of the Pujaniya.

Myanma Alinn

Stake driven for village library in Ponnagyun

PONNAGYUN, 15 Feb—A ceremony to drive stake for construction of Shwe Nat Pyi library to be built with K 1 million contribution of the Union government

was held in Padetha Village of Ponnagyun Township in Rakhine State on 2 February.

On the occasion, Township Administrator U Nyi Nyi Aung and officials drove stakes. Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department U Hla Baw Thu

explained the plans of the library. Village administrator U Hla Sein Aung and Library committee U Hla Kyaw Pru accepted cash donations from Head of Township Immigration and National Registration Department U Chit Tun and wellwishers.

Myanma Alinn

Loans disbursed to sculptors in Hlegu Township

HLEGU, 15 Feb—As part of effort for alleviation of poverty in rural areas, a ceremony to disburse loans to 47 sculptors of South Dabain Village in Hlegu Township was held on 25 January.

Under the supervision of Yangon Region Government and with the assistance of the Region Rural Region Small-scale

Industries Development Subcommittee, Region Minister for Planning and Economic U Than Myint and Region Minister for Finance and Revenue Daw San San Nwe presented K 15 million to the sculptors and viewed their works. The ceremony was attended by the township administrators, township level officials and local people.—*Myanma Alinn*

Cash donated to fund for water supply

YANGON, 15 Feb—Wellwishers donate cash to the fund for supply of water to members of the Sangha and devotees at Kyinthei Monastery in Hsipaw Township of Shan State (North).

On 30 January, U Hsan Win-Daw Kyi Kyi Win of Myanmar Alinn Daily at No 53 on 1st Natmauk Street in Bahan Township in memory

of parents donated K 100,000 to the fund of the monastery through Sayadaw Bhaddanta Ajeya.—*Myanma Alinn*

Two poppy plantations destroyed

KALAW, 15 Feb—Members of a combined team destroyed two acres of poppy plantations, five miles to southwest of Myaukchaung Village in Taungkwe Village-tract in Kalaw Township of Shan State on 4 February.

The combined team members also destroyed one more acre of poppy plantation, five miles and three furlongs to southwest of Myaukchaung Village.

Myanma Alinn

waterways. Myanmar tourism industry has best potential for development so it will fetch increased foreign exchange for the State in the near future.—*Myanma Alinn*

Denmark's Haldor Topsoe eyes fertilizer investment in Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Feb—Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint called for greater cooperation between Myanmar and Denmark to boost the bilateral trade volume at the meeting with a delegation led by Vice-President Ulrik Federspiel of Haldor Topsoe of Denmark and Commercial Counsellor Mr Bo B. Rasmussen of Thailand-based Embassy of Denmark held at the meeting hall of the ministry, here, on 13 February.

The Union Minister welcomed the delegation's

study visit for establishment of Chemical Fertilizer Plant in Myanmar, saying that Myanmar as an agro-based country needs fertilizers and pesticides.

The visiting Haldor Topsoe vice-president and the commercial counsellor gave an account of their study tour of Myanmar, seeking economic prospects and confirming Denmark's recognition of reform processes in Myanmar. They said that Topsoe Ltd was a leading company with 60 per cent share in world fertilizer market.—*MNA*

Driving course conducted in Magway

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Feb—The basic driving course No 1/2013 was opened at the Cargo Branch (Magway) of Road Transport under the Ministry of Rail Transportation in Magway of Magway Region on 31 January.

Magway Region Minister for Transport U Win Pe made a speech on the occasion.

A total of 45 trainees attended the course.

Myanma Alinn

**Tourism industry earns more FE for State**

Globetrotters are mostly interested in tourism services of Myanmar. As a result, arrival of tourists was on increase in January 2013 more than that of last months.

Tourists from Asia, West Europe, North America, Oceania countries, Middle East countries, Africa and other countries visited Myanmar.

In 2012, those from Thailand hit 94342 which

were the highest in number of tourists who came from Asian countries. Chinese tourists who stood the second position reached 70805.

Among European countries, there was arrival of 30064 French tourists in Myanmar, 24296 of Britain and 23063 of Germany in first, second and third positions.

The visitors came Myanmar through Yangon International Airport,

Mandalay International Airport, border gates and

**Inter-village bridge inaugurated**

KALAY, 15 Feb—A ceremony to open Natdaga Creek Bridge near mile post 14/4 on Kalay-Yazagyo road, northwest of Kalay, was held on 30 January, attended by Chief Minister of Sagaing Region U Tha Aye.

The bridge is 197.5 feet long and 16 feet wide steel beam and RC type floor. Its clearance is 16

feet high.

The bridge was built at a cost of K 218.65 million.

The facility plays an important role in smooth and better transportation for rural people in Kalay Township.

The local people are delighted at construction of the bridge, seeing their glitter future in smooth transportation.

Myanma Alinn

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 16 February, 2013

Let's work together to save mighty Ayeyawady

It is in some countries which buy water from other countries to make artificial rivers in their country.

In Myanmar, long rivers, such as the Ayeyawady, the Chindwin and the Thanlwin are flowing across the country from north to south, to the sea. If the fresh water which flow into the sea are stored systematically, it would benefit the agricultural, hydropower, environmental conservation, forestry and inland water transportation sectors in the country.

Today, some rivers including the Ayeyawady, the country's largest and most important waterway, is facing environmental problems.

Among the issues that should be addressed are the impacts of deforestation, mining and the construction of dams and bridges.

The Ayeyawady, which drains much of Myanmar, is very high in sediment. The excess sediment in the river is caused by deforestation and agricultural growth in the Ayeyawady River basin.

Today, there are 37 defiles of the river in the summer and they are caused by the environmental degradation and by actions of human. The defiles of the river are hindrances to the navigation, leading to some delays in water transportation services.

To solve the challenges to the water transportation services, the Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems has been taking measures based on the River Bed Regulation to improve the river system.

Meanwhile, the directorate signed an MoU with SBE nv Engineering Co Ltd to study possibilities for improvement and all-round development of the River Ayeyawady recently.

All in all, the peoples are urged to participate in saving the mighty river by minimizing the impact of development and resource extraction on waterways.



President U Thein Sein cordially converses with students from Kalay University.

(News on page 1)—MNA

Forest reserves tipped to bring about economic growth

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Feb—Forest reserves act as a catalyst for safeguarding the biodiversity contributing towards the economic development of the local people, Union Minister U Win Tun said in his speech at the national level workshop on Man and Biosphere at the ministry

yesterday morning.

The designation of biosphere would ensure the sustainable development of the locals, he added.

Director of UNESCO Man and Biosphere Programme Mr Thomos Schaaf, EU Programme Officer Mrs Brissonneau Denphine and Country

Director of Fauna & Flora International (FFI) Mr Frank Momberg also attended the workshop.

There are currently 610 biospheres in 117 countries around the world while Myanmar has 36 natural forest reserves that cover 5.6 percent of the whole country where eight more

ones are intended to be set up.

The meeting held through today featured round of discussions on conservation of Indawgyi Lake, Inlay Lake, Mainmahla Island and other forest reserves by local and international scholars.—MNA

9th anniversary joint cooperation between MRTV and CRI held

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Feb—“With the rapid changes, staff are to make efforts to serve as public service providers, always stand by people and win the trust of people,” said Deputy Minister for Information U Ye Htut, at the ceremony to

mark the 67th Anniversary of Myanma Radio and Television (MRTV), at MRTV, here, today.

In the past, MRTV was called Bamar Athan established 67 years ago. At the ceremony, the deputy minister presented awards

to outstanding staff. The Director-General and officials presented cash assistance for uniforms and stipends. In the evening, 9th anniversary joint cooperation between MRTV and China Radio International (CRI) was held at Auditorium hall of

MRTV. After that, Deputy Minister for Information U Pike Htway and Counsellor Mr Lu Zhi of Chinese Embassy extended the New Year greetings. Vocalists entertained with Myanmar and Chinese songs and poems.—MNA

Loikaw District gets new court

LOIKAW, 15 Feb—Kayah State government commissioned its 70-million-kyat new office building

of Loikaw District Court yesterday.

After unveiling the signboard, State Chief

Minister U Khin Maung Oo accompanied by Chief Justice of State High Court U Kyaw Lin Maung, State ministers, State advocate-general and the state auditor-general looked around the new court built with the funds allotted by Kayah State government.

The State Chief Justice, State Transport Minister U Chit Hla and State Chief Judicial Officer U Ko Ko Oo formally opened it.

The principle town of the district, Loikaw is also the capital of Kayah State.



Kayah State Chief Minister U Khin Maung Oo inspects newly-opened Loikaw District Court.

NLM

NLM

We can recover from economic or health damages!

But it won't be the same with morality!

Shwe Ko Oo
12

NATIONAL

Objectives of the 68th Anniversary Armed Forces Day 2013

1. To uphold the national policy namely non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity, and perpetuation of sovereignty;
2. To play the leading role in the national politics by the Tatmadaw joining hands with all national races with Union Spirit and the true patriotism in line with the Constitution
3. To crush all destructive elements at home and abroad through the strength of State, People and Tatmadaw
4. To build up a strong, competent, modern, patriotic Tatmadaw to safeguard the security and sovereignty of the nation

Union Foreign Affairs Minister tours UK, France

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Feb—U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs paid an official visit to the EU countries of Belgium, Luxembourg, the United Kingdom and France from 4 to 13 February 2013 at the invitation of Ms Catherine Ashton, the EU High Representative for Foreign and Security Policy, and respective foreign ministers of Belgium, Luxembourg, United Kingdom and France.

At 11.30 hrs, on 11 February 2013, the Union



Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin greets Mr Laurent Fabius, Foreign Minister of France.—MNA

Minister called on the Speaker of the House of Commons, Rt. Hon. John Bercow. At 12.30 hrs, the Union Minister attended working luncheon hosted by the Rt. Hon. William Hague, First Secretary of State and Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom. At 2.30 hrs, he held discussion with the Rt. Hon. Alan Duncan, Minister of State for International Development. At the meetings, the Union Minister briefed about the challenges faced in the process of democratization in Myanmar, peace endeavour with the ethnic armed groups, humanitarian assistance extending in the Kachin and the Rakhine States, the release of prisoners, amendment of laws that are not relevant to the present conditions and on certain provisions of the Constitution.

Furthermore, he also urged the United Kingdom for total lifting of the EU sanctions against Myanmar to reinstate the GSP, to stop tabling of draft resolution on Human Rights situation in Myanmar at the UN and

Human Rights Council. The Minister also raised the issue of debts owed to the United Kingdom.

During his stay in France, the Union Minister met with Mr Laurent Fabius, Foreign Minister of France at the Foreign Ministry in Paris at 11.45 hrs, on 12 February 2013. At 13 hrs, he attended the working luncheon hosted by Mr Jean Ortiz Paul, Diplomatic Adviser of the French President. The Union Minister urged France for total lifting of the sanctions, early reinstatement of the GSP. He urged to stop tabling of draft resolution on Myanmar in the United Nations and the Human Rights Council. He also explained about the situation in Kachin and Rakhine States.

Moreover, he briefed them on the geographical importance of Myanmar in the region, its relations with neighboring countries, the role of the Tatmadaw in the future, and the strengthening relations between ASEAN and France during Myanmar's Chairmanship in 2014.

MNA

Union Attorney-General meets officials of Nishimura & Asahi Law Firm from Japan



Union Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin meets Mr. Go Hashimoto and party of Nishimura & Asahi Law Firm of Japan.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Feb—Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shin received a delegation led by Mr. Go Hashimoto of Nishimura & Asahi Law Firm of Japan, at international hall of Attorney-General of the Union Office this noon.

At the call, both sides discussed training of corporate law for Myanmar lawyers and business law development programmes.

Also present at the call were Director-General U Kyaw Hsan and officials from the Union Attorney-General Office.—MNA

Local companies invited to Int'l Halal exhibition

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Feb—The Embassy of Malaysia and MATRADE Yangon is inviting companies in Myanmar to participate in the Individual Business Meeting (IBM) sponsored by Malaysia International Halal Showcase (MIHAS) 2013. MIHAS will be held on 1-4 April 2013 at the

KLCC in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. It is a trade exhibition on halal goods in the category of foodstuff, food ingredients, cosmetics and pharmaceutical products.

Halal principle is basically producing goods adhering to strict cleanliness, hygienic and

safety conditions.

Halal goods are endorsed with a special halal logo.

The sponsorship offered to serious buyers comprised of free three night accommodation in a four-star hotel with breakfast, airport transfers, local transportations from the hotel to the meeting and exhibiting venues, networking lunch and cocktail on the IBM day, arrangements of all meetings and visit to MATRADE Permanent

Exhibition Centre displaying more than 500 products.

Interested buyers can contact MATRADE at Tel: 01-220248/9 or email your contact details to: yangon@matrade.gov.my / rajah@matrade.gov.my / matradeyangon@gmail.com by 25 February 2013.

NLM

Work on Mon civilization wins Tun foundation literary award

YANGON, 15 Feb—The Chronicle of the Mons & the Collection of Histories of their Pagodas, a translated work of ancient literature on the earlier civilization in Myanmar by Saw Mra Aung, collected one of Tun Foundation Literary awards announced today.

Former chief of Meteorology and Hydrology Department Maung Tun Lwin (MHD) won the prize for environmental conservation genre.

Maung Wuntha, a veteran journalist, was awarded for his Dictionary of Modern Politics while Maung Ko Ko (Amarapura) was named as winner of belles-letters genres for his work "We pay homage to our Pagoda". Nyan Win (Zeegon), the former Foreign Minister, earned non-fiction award with his work "Modern Diplomacy".

The date of the award giving ceremony will be announced later.—MNA

Chin State Day changed into Chin National Day

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Feb—According to the agreement between the Union Peace-making Group and the Chin National Front

(CNF), Chin State Day which falls on 20 February every year will be changed into Chin National Day as of this year.

The 65th Anniversary Chin National Day celebration will be organized on a grand scale not only in towns and villages of Chin State but also in other regions where Chin national races live.

"Hluttaw representatives have been invited to attend Chin National Day celebration to be held in National Landmark Garden

in Nay Pyi Taw", said a member of the committee for holding the 65th Anniversary Chin National Day.

"Chin National Day will be observed in Than Tlang from 12 to 20 February on a grand scale", said a townselder Dr Hmu Than.

Every 20 February Chin National Day was held after regaining the independence. Chin State came into existence under the 1974 Constitution. Since then, the government has allowed this day as Chin State Day.—NLM 001



Detained French journalist released in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 15 Feb—A French journalist who was arrested by Iraqi authorities weeks ago for taking photos without prior permission was released on Thursday, a Iraqi media syndicate said.

Nadir Dendoun, the journalist who worked with the French monthly magazine *Le Monde Diplomatique*, was bailed out with 8000 US dollars on Thursday night, the head of the Iraqi Journalist Union Moaid Alalmi said in a statement.

Dendoun was received by the French Embassy in Baghdad and was in good health, the statement said.

The Iraqi authorities and the French Embassy cannot be reached immediately for comments on this incident. Earlier media watchdogs in Iraq demanded Dendoun's release and accused the authorities of violating Press freedom.

Dendoun was detained in late January for shooting pictures in Baghdad's southern District of Doura for failing to provide permission from the authorities.

Xinhua

Iranian Guards commander killed in Syria

BEIRUT, 15 Feb—An Iranian military commander has been killed in Syria by rebels fighting Teheran's ally President Bashar al-Assad, Iran said on Thursday, describing the dead man as a Revolutionary Guard.

The rebels accuse the elite corps of sending forces to help Assad crush their 22-month-old uprising—a charge denied by the Islamic republic, whose Shi'ite form of the religion is anathema to many of the Sunni Muslim rebels battling to topple Assad.

The Iranian Embassy in Beirut named the man

as Hessam Khoshnevis and said he ran Teheran's reconstruction aid programme for Lebanon. It said he was killed by "armed terrorist groups", a label used by the Syrian government to describe Assad's foes, on the highway as he returned to Lebanon from Damascus.

There were contradictory accounts of when that happened; Iran said it was on Tuesday but, after statements by Iranian officials, various Syrian rebel groups offered divergent accounts of him being killed by them as long ago as last month. One force said he died dur-

ing an Israeli air strike on 30 January.

Iran has strongly backed Assad during the uprising in which the United Nations says nearly 70,000 people have been killed. In September, the Revolutionary Guards commander-in-chief said his force was providing non-military support in Syria and might get involved militarily if there were foreign intervention.

Syria, where Assad's Alawite minority is an offshoot of Shi'ite Islam and the majority of the population is Sunni, has become a proxy battleground for a regional confrontation between non-Arab Iran and Sunni-ruled Arab powers, such as Saudi Arabia.

Last year, Syrian rebels kidnapped 48 Iranians whom they accused of being Revolutionary Guards fighters while authorities in Teheran insisted they were pilgrims. The men were freed this year in a prisoner swap with Syrian authorities. Details of Khoshnevis's killing, which Iranian news agencies said happened on Tuesday, were sketchy and Iran's envoy to Beirut drew a link with Israel.—Reuters



Iran's Ambassador to Lebanon Ghazanfar Roknabadi (L) accepts condolences for the death of Hessam Khoshnevis, Iranian Revolutionary Guard commander in charge of Teheran's reconstruction assistance in Lebanon, at the Iranian Embassy in Beirut on 14 Feb, 2013.—REUTERS



An ice sculpture is displayed at Ice and Snow World in Harbin, capital of northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, on 14 Feb, 2013. XINHUA

World Bank launches livestock development project in Zambia

LUSAKA, 15 Feb—The World Bank has launched a 64.7 million US dollars livestock development project in Zambia that will benefit over 390,000 farming households, the *Zambia Daily Mail* reported on Thursday.

The Livestock Development and Animal Health project will benefit smallholder farmers in six of the country's 10 provinces.

Agriculture and Livestock Deputy Minister Luxon Kazabu said during the launch of the project in eastern Zambia's Chipata District that the government expects the project to increase rural incomes, reduce poverty and improve

the livelihood of the rural communities.

"The project, therefore, will target selected species, such as cattle, small ruminants (sheep and goats), pigs and poultry and a deliberate effort must be made to give special attention to female members while other direct benefits will include training for 560 staff members in the Ministry of Agriculture," he was quoted as saying by the paper.

While acknowledging the potential the livestock sector has, the Zambian minister said the industry still faces various challenges mainly caused by extension services, poor breeds,

poor quality feed, high disease incidences and low value addition.

About 1.1 million farmers who keep livestock will benefit indirectly from the project through improved control of animal diseases while value-chain stakeholders will profit from increased animal supply numbers, he added.

Xinhua

Swans are seen on the wetland of the Yellow River in Pinglu County of Yuncheng City, north China's Shanxi Province, on 14 Feb, 2013. XINHUA



Over 16 tons of hamburgers destroyed in Cyprus after horsemeat scandal

NICOSIA, 15 Feb—Over 16 tons of hamburgers have been destroyed in Cyprus following the horsemeat scandal which erupted in several European countries, a public health official said on Thursday.

The official who declined to be named said the hamburgers destroyed had been withdrawn from the market by an importer following initial reports about horsemeat products detected in Ireland early in

January.

However the official could not say whether the meat products had been destroyed because they were found to contain horsemeat or because they had expired.

Cypriot authorities have asked five importers of frozen meat products such as hamburgers to withdraw them from outlet shelves. Three of them were allowed later to sell their products after they provided certi-

icates that the products were not contaminated.

The products of the other two importers are still blocked pending examination results, the official said.

Cyprus was originally implicated in the scandal as a source of horsemeat or even donkey meat products, but it has now been established that the firm behind the scandal is probably a Dutch company registered in Cyprus and operating in Belgium.—Xinhua

Tougher driving rules cut 18 percent deaths during Brazilian Carnival

RIO DE JANEIRO, 15 Feb—Brazil's tougher laws against drunk driving seem to be paying off as the number of road deaths dropped 18 percent during the Carnival holiday from last year, the government said on Thursday.

According to the Federal Highway Police, 157 traffic deaths were reported on Brazil's federal highways during this year's Carnival holiday, down from

192 last year. The overall number of road accidents also dropped 10 percent to 3,149.

The decrease is even more significant considering the rise of Brazil's vehicle numbers — from 70.5 million to 76 million during last year.

Brazil first toughened its laws against drunk driving in 2008 to combat the second biggest killer in the country.

In December 2012, the government introduced even stricter rules, along with more patrols and highway police presence.

"There was a great effort from the government to reduce the number of accidents and deaths, and to seek a less disheartening situation this holiday," said Justice Minister Jose Eduardo Cardozo.

Xinhua

Mali to hold presidential elections in July

BAMAKO, 15 Feb—Mali would hold presidential and legislative elections in July, a key step in stabilizing the West African country in the wake of a war against rebels, the government said on Thursday.

The first round of the presidential vote is scheduled for 7 July, Territorial Administration Minister Moussa Sinko Coulibaly told a news conference.

Legislative elections were set for 21 July, along with a second round of the presidential election if a run-off was needed, he said.

A candidate will need to garner more than 50 percent of the vote to win in the first round, otherwise a second round run-off will be held between the two leading contenders.

Earlier, Mali's transitional President Dioncounda Traore has an-

nounced elections would be held on 31 July. The Malian government hopes to hold early elections to end the crisis unleashed by a military coup that ousted former President Amadou Toumani Toure in March 2012 and the occupation of northern Mali by rebels since April last year.

Northern Mali has been occupied by radical Islamists after fighting broke out in January 2012 between government forces and Tuareg rebels. The conflict prompted the Malian government to request assistance from France to curb the military advance of extremist groups.

France intervened in its former colony on 11 January, after the rebels began pushing south, raising alarms that they were inching closer toward the capital of Bamako.—Xinhua

REGIONAL

Five missing miners in C Philippines have “slim” chance to survive

MANILA, 15 Feb — The Philippine National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) admitted on Friday that the chance to rescue alive the five missing miners in central Province of Antique might be “slim.”

NDRRMC executive director Eduardo del Rosario said that as early as 5:00 am local time on Friday, search and rescue operation in the mining site of Semi-

rara Coal and Mining Corporation in Caluya, Antique resumed. So far, he said, five people were still missing, five were confirmed dead and only three were rescued.

“There’s a slim chance (to rescue alive the five missing), but let’s hope for the best,” Del Rosario said in a television interview.

He said about 500,000 tons of soil collapsed in the mining site at around 11:54

pm on Wednesday.

“I was assured by the company that there were only 13 people (in the area when the landslide incident occurred). They are certain about it,” he said, noting that the other workers were on a break that time. Semirara Coal and Mining Corp, the country’s biggest coal mining company, assured that they will attend to all the victims, Del Rosario added.—Xinhua



Tourists visit a scenic spot during the Spring Festival holidays in Macao, south China, on 14 Feb, 2013. According to the statistics, the total number of people entering and exiting all ports of Macao reached 257,000 on Thursday.—XINHUA

Philippine president orders probe on Antique mining accident

MANILA, 15 Feb — Philippine President Benigno Aquino III on Thursday ordered the National Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council (NDRRMC) to determine the cause of Wednesday’s mining accident in the central Philippine Province of Antique which has caused at least four dead and six missing.

The west wall of the open mine pit operated by Semirara Mining Corporation collapsed around 11:55 pm local time on Wednesday after a landslide hit Antique. Latest report showed that out of the thirteen people trapped in the mine, four people were confirmed dead, three were rescued

and six remain missing.

Presidential Spokesman Edwin Lacierda said on Thursday the president also instructed the NDRRMC to update him on the results of the investigations. Aquino also instructed the Department of Social Welfare and Development to extend immediate assistance to the victims and their families.

The three workers rescued are Marjun Catoto, Adrian Celmar and Leonardo Sojor, according to Rosario Cabrera, director for Western Visayas at the Office of Civil Defence. She added the bodies of four workers Leovigildo Porras, Abnir Lim, Efren Esquiza — have been already retrieved.—Xinhua

Singapore faces nurse shortfall for years to come

SINGAPORE, 15 Feb — Singapore will not be able to produce enough nurses for its own needs for years to come, despite plans to increase the number of locally trained nurses from 1,700 a year at present to 2,700 a year, local daily *Straits Times* reported on Friday.

Figures for the past decade from the Singapore Nursing Board suggest that the country’s health system will have to recruit between

1,000 and 2,000 foreign nurses each year to meet the rising demand for health care that comes with a growing and rapidly ageing population.

Singapore is planning to steadily expand its medical services, which is expected to lead to a competition for local nurses among the hospitals, nursing homes and clinics. A new community hospital in the District of Yishun will be opened later this year, fol-

lowed by the opening of the 700-bed Ng Teng Fong Hospital and a new building with 250 beds at Changi General Hospital next year. Two more community hospitals and several nursing homes will be opening within the next few years, too. Several hospitals said they see themselves recruiting substantial numbers of foreigners — as they have been doing in the past few years, the *Straits Times* said.—Xinhua



Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh (R) and visiting French President Francois Hollande attend a joint Press conference at the Hyderabad House in New Delhi, India, on 14 Feb, 2013. Hollande is on a two-day visit to India.—XINHUA

Indonesian ruling party chairman signs integrity pact to rebuild image

JAKARTA, 15 Feb — Anas Urbaningrum, chairman of Indonesia’s ruling Democrat Party, signed on Thursday the so-called integrity pact intended to save his party from breaking apart and regain popularity for the upcoming elections.

“This is the continuation of integrity pact signing that was conducted on Sunday in Cikeas,” Anas said after signing the pact in Democrat Party’s headquarters here.

The eight-point integrity pact was aimed at affirming commitments of the party’s leaders in carrying out the party’s ideals and upholding clean political ethics, Anas was quoted by the *Antara news agency* as saying.

Anas’ chairmanship authority was stripped off by President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono on Friday last week after investigation into several corruption cases conducted by the country’s anti-graft agency of Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK) pointed to involvement of Anas.

As the ruling party’s patron figure, President Yudhoyono took over all of the chairmanship authority in the party, and ordered Anas to deal with investigation on corruption cases against him by the KPK.

Anas, however, is still allowed to hold the party’s chairmanship post.

Democrat Party is facing a tough time now as its popularity dived following the imprisonment of its

senior cadres Muhammad Nazaruddin and Angelina Sondakh for involvement in high-profile corruption cases that cost the country more than 200 billion rupiah (20.7 million US dollars).

Anas Urbaningrum was allegedly involved in the corruption cases in which Nazaruddin and Sondakh were sentenced four years in jail.

Such a situation would risk the party in regaining dominant seats in the parliament and secure presidency post in the upcoming elections.

President Yudhoyono would no longer run in the 2014 elections as he has served two tenures since 2009.

Xinhua

New Zealand manufacturing expansion fails to bring jobs

on which a reading of above 50 indicates expansion and below 50, contraction. The result was the highest since May last year and the highest January result since 2007.

Business New Zealand Executive Director for Manufacturing Catherine Beard said the January result reflected nuances in the manufacturing sector at a time when headlines had concentrated on job losses and the employment index had been in contraction for eight straight months.

“What we are seeing with the broader results is

that job losses do not equate with overall declines in activity, as three of the last four months have shown growth in the sector,” Beard said in a statement.

A healthy lift in new orders for January, along with continued recovery work in the earthquake-battered Canterbury region, should assist production levels in the months ahead.

“Obviously, it is too early to provide any indication whether 2013 looks set to be a better year for New Zealand manufacturers than 2012. However, looking

more broadly, the JPMorgan Global Manufacturing PMI was at a 10-month high in January, with expectations that this may strengthen further in the next few months,” she said.

BNZ economist Doug Steel said in the statement that the results showed growing anxiety among manufacturers who supplied the slowing Australian economy, while positivity was increasing among those associated with the much anticipated lift in domestic construction activity.—Xinhua

An orange grower shoulders the newly picked mandarin oranges at an orchard in Longcheng Village, Rong’an County of Liuzhou City, south China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on 13 Feb, 2013. The mandarin oranges in Rong’an County appeared on the market recently, avoiding the peak season of fruits sale. —XINHUA



18 killed, 23 wounded in eastern Afghan traffic accident

GHAZNI, (Afghanistan), 15 Feb — Up to 18 people were killed and 23 wounded on Thursday when a long-distance bus lost control and overturned in the eastern Afghan Province of Ghanzi, police said.

“The passenger bus lost control and turned over along a road in Nuwroz Khil area of Qarabagh District at around 8 am local time, leaving the casualties,” head of traffic police in the province Abdullah Ahmadi told *Xinhua*.

The injured, including three women and a child, were shifted to a district hospital, he said.

Early reports suggested six killed in the incident in the province 100 km south of Afghan capital Kabul.

Ahmadi said the ill-fated bus was travelling from Kabul to southern Kandahar Province.

The official also blamed reckless driving for the incident, saying carelessness of the driver might lead to the bloody road accident.

Reckless driving on congested roads and highways is the main cause of road accidents in Afghanistan.—Xinhua

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BRUSSEL VOY NO (99)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BRUSSEL VOY NO (99) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 17-2.2013 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: NYK LINE

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV GATIMAJESTIC 90913 VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GATIMAJESTIC 90913 VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16-2.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(1) 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 GATI SHIP PVT LTD

Phone No: 256919/256916

Canada extends airlift support for French mission in Mali

OTTAWA, 15 Feb—Canada announced Thursday that it will extend its support for France's mission in Mali by contributing a strategic airlift aircraft for an additional month.

The Canadian task force in Mali consists of one CC-177 Globemaster III strategic airlift aircraft and approximately 40 Royal Canadian Air Force personnel, including flight and maintenance crews and air movement traffic technicians.

Canada will continue to provide support until 15 March at the request of the French government, Defence Minister Peter MacKay said in a statement.

"The work of our well-equipped Canadian men and women in uniform, in support of our government's intent, is helping to stabilize the security situation in Mali and beyond," he added.

This is the second extension in support of the French military mission in

Mali since 15 January when the task started.

Canada originally made the airlift available to France for one week, but then extended its commitment by another three weeks to 15 February.

Since 17 January, a total of 27 flights of more than 194,000 km were conducted, airlifting more than 765,000 kg of military equipment and personnel in support of Operation Serval.

Canada's Chief of Defence Staff, Gen. Tom Lawson, has said that the strategic heavy lift capacity provided to France illustrates the Canadian Armed Forces' tangible support to a key ally in their mission to contain terrorist organizations in northern Mali.

Canadian media reports say that Canada's special forces, which are not related to the task force, are also on the ground protecting Canadian assets such as the Canadian embassy in the capital of Bamako.—Xinhua

Rare Sumatran tiger cub born at San Francisco Zoo

SAN FRANCISCO, 15 Feb—A Sumatran tiger gave birth to an apparently healthy cub at the San Francisco Zoo over the weekend in a rare boost to the critically endangered subspecies, zookeepers said on Thursday.

There are estimated to be as few as 400 Sumatran tigers in the wild, and zookeepers were monitoring the pair in the zoo's secluded Lion House via webcam to allow the 9-year-old mother, named Leanne, and baby to bond with little human interference.

"All signs seem to be positive so far," said Corinne MacDonald, San Francisco Zoo curator of carnivores and primates.

"Mom and cub are bonding," she said, adding the cub appeared to be healthy and was active and eating a lot.

The unnamed cub was the first tiger born at the

San Francisco Zoo since 2008, when Leanne delivered a litter of three males. The cubs were transferred to zoos across the United States. Before 2008, the zoo had not had a tiger birth in 30 years.

Zoo staff will not know the gender of the newborn until its first examination at least two weeks from now.

"These births are definitely rare," said Dr Tara Harris, a tiger specialist with the North American accrediting group Association of Zoos and Aquariums. About 75 Sumatran tigers are in captivity in North America and give birth to two to four litters a year, she added.

The cub, which will stay at the zoo for a year and a half before zookeepers decide whether to transfer it, was fathered by a 6-year-old tiger named Larry, who was temporarily transferred



Eight-week-old white tiger (*Panthera tigris*) cubs are seen after a medical examination by veterinary surgeons at Bratislava Zoo on 8 Feb, 2013. Three white tigers, a male named Adzaj and two females Adisa and Asira were presented to the media for the first time on Friday.

REUTERS

from the Audubon Zoo in New Orleans for breeding.

Leanne was one of a handful of tigers worldwide to receive prenatal sonograms and exams while awake. Captive tigers are generally put under during the pregnancy exams, which can be dangerous to the mammals.

"It's so much better for these animals not to have to be sedated. Many animals

have adverse reactions to the anesthesia, which can be worse than the actual procedure," MacDonald said. In the wild, Sumatran tigers — the smallest of six tiger subspecies — are found only on the Indonesian island of Sumatra in lowland and mountain forests. Habitat destruction and poaching are the main reasons for the tigers' endangerment.—Reuters

Boeing looking at interim 787 fixes - WSJ



A Boeing 787 passenger jet lands in Everett, Washington from Fort Worth, Texas, in this 7 Feb, 2013 file photo.—REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 15 Feb—Two test flights of Boeing Co's 787 Dreamliner have not revealed the cause of the battery malfunctions that grounded the jets, leaving it to focus on low-tech interim fixes, the *Wall Street Journal* said, citing government and industry officials.

More test flights are planned, including efforts to assess potential fixes, although no significant new clues emerged to help pinpoint the cause of the problem, the Journal said.

Boeing is now considering putting the lithium ion batteries in a sturdier container to stop heat, flames and toxic chemicals from escaping if the power packs overheat, the newspaper said.

People familiar with the design of the container

told the Journal that titanium is a possible material for its construction.

The 50 Dreamliners in commercial service were grounded worldwide on 16 January after a series of battery-related incidents including a fire on board a parked 787 at Boston's Logan International Airport and an in-flight problem on another aircraft in Japan.

The groundings have cost airlines tens of millions of dollars.

A Federal Aviation Administration spokeswoman contacted by the *Wall Street Journal* did not have any immediate comment. The FAA could not immediately be reached for comment by Reuters outside of regular US business hours.

Reuters

New oil and gas field found in Libya

TRIPOLI, 15 Feb—A new oil and gas field has been discovered in western Libya, the authorities said on Thursday.

Algerian oil company Sonatrach Consortium found the field in Ghadamah Basin, about 650 km southwest of Tripoli, Oil and Gas Minister Abdulbari al-Arussi said in a statement.

Preliminary exploration showed that the new field has a capacity of 8,200 barrels of crude oil and 1,700 cubic meters of gas per day, al-Arroussi said.

Sonatrach resumed exploratory operations in Libya in June 2012, following a suspension for more than a year due to security concerns caused by the Febru-

ary 2011 uprising.

Libya, a member of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, has Africa's largest oil reserves and produced more than 1.6 million barrels per day before the conflict.

Its oil production came to a virtual standstill by the summer of 2011 and bounced back to about 1.34 million barrels per day in January 2013, according to official data.

With the oil sector the mainstay of the economy, Libya aims to increase its oil production to 1.8 million barrels per day in 2013, even though security in the North African country remains precarious.

Xinhua

7.3-magnitude quake jolts Russia: CENC

BEIJING, 15 Feb—A 7.3-magnitude quake jolted Russia at 9:13 pm on Thursday (Beijing Time), according to the China Earthquake Networks Centre.

The epicentre, with a depth of 10 km, was monitored at 67.6 degrees north latitude and 142.6 degrees east longitude, the centre said.

Xinhua

ENTERTAINMENT

Rani Mukherjee launches Bhansali's debut TV show



Bollywood actress Rani Mukherjee

MUMBAI, 15 Feb — Bollywood actress Rani Mukherjee yesterday launched filmmaker Sanjay Leela Bhansali's debut show on television— 'Sar-

aswatichandra'. Rani, who is a close friend of Bhansali, came on the sets of the TV serial in filmcity tonight. "He is a good friend and I will always be there

for him. He is my favourite director. This is his debut on television and I am here to give him the best wishes," Rani told reporters here. — PTI

Salman to launch bodyguard Shera's son in B'wood



Superstar Salman Khan

MUMBAI, 15 Feb — Superstar Salman Khan, who has given a break to many newcomers in Bollywood, now intends to

launch his bodyguard Shera's son the film world.

Salman had launched Shera in films with a song-and-dance sequence in the title track of his film 'Bodyguard'. Shera appeared in the song alongside the 47-year-old actor and Katrina Kaif.

Now gossip mills are abuzz that Salman is likely to

launch Shera's son in Bollywood. Recently Salman was seen praising Shera's 20-year-old son Tiger.

PTI

SRK, Kajol voted most romantic Bollywood couple

LONDON, 15 Feb — Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan and Kajol, his leading lady in films like 'Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge' and 'Kuch Kuch Hota Hai', have been voted the most romantic Bollywood screen couple of all time.

In a poll conducted by Sanona, the UK's largest online Pay-Per-View Indian movie portal, the stars beat off competition from on-screen couples from different decades— Dharmendra and Hema Malini, Raj Kapoor and Nargis, Amitabh Bachchan and Rekha.

PTI



Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan and Kajol.—PTI

Lady Gaga needs hip surgery, cancels remainder of tour

LOS ANGELES, 15 Feb — Lady Gaga cancelled the remainder of her "Born This Way Ball" concert tour to undergo hip surgery, promoters Live Nation said on Wednesday. The 26-year-old singer announced she was suffering from an inflammation of the joints on Tuesday, but the tour operator said Gaga's injuries were more serious than she realized.

"After additional tests this morning to review the severity of the issue, it has been determined that Lady Gaga has a labral tear of the right hip," Live Nation said in a statement. "She will need surgery to repair the problem, followed by strict downtime to recover.

This, unfortunately, will force her to cancel the tour so she can heal," it added. Gaga has been on the road for two years, traveling across six continents.



Lady Gaga performs onstage during the Rolling Stones final concert of their "50 and Counting Tour" in Newark, New Jersey, on 15 Dec, 2012.

REUTERS

On Tuesday, she postponed four US shows saying she was suffering from synovitis that left her temporarily unable to walk.

Synovitis is an inflammation of the joints that sometimes follows a sprain, strain or injury. According to her website, the singer was due to play another 20 dates in the United States. Live Nation said ticket holders would have their money refunded, starting on Thursday.

Reuters

River Phoenix rises again as final movie finished

BERLIN, 15 Feb — American actor River Phoenix has returned to the big screen 20 years on from his death after "Dark Blood" director George Sluizer salvaged the footage of his incomplete 1993 film and filled in the gaps with voiceovers. Phoenix was considered one of the most promising performers of his generation before he died suddenly of a suspected drug overdose aged 23, 10 days before shooting

on "Dark Blood" was scheduled to finish.

British actor Jonathan Pryce, who starred alongside Phoenix and Judy Davis in the story of a couple who get lost in the American desert, said he had no reason to suspect the young star was taking drugs during six weeks of filming together.

"I found him a remarkable young man," Pryce told reporters after a press screening in Berlin. "I can't

believe now looking back that he was only 23 at the time, a kind of old head on young shoulders. He was absolutely delightful and wonderful to work with. "In all the weeks we were together in Utah ... at no time did I experience him using drugs or abusing drugs in any way, shape or form. I'm not a drug user myself but I'd have known. It was a time in his life when he was very committed to not using drugs."—Reuters



River Phoenix in a scene from the film Dark Blood.— REUTERS

SPORTS

Nadal into Brazil Open quarterfinals

SAO PAULO, 15 Feb — Rafael Nadal progressed to the quarterfinals of the Brazil Open on Thursday with a 6-3, 6-4 victory over Brazilian Joao Souza. The result follows the Spaniard's withdrawal from the double's event on Wednesday amid concerns a heavy workload could compromise his recovery from a seven-month layoff with a knee injury.

The former world No 1 faces Argentine Carlos Berlocq, who defeated eighth-seeded Albert Ramos of Spain. The Brazil Open is Nadal's second tournament since suffering a left knee injury during his second-round Wimbledon defeat to Czech Lukas Rosol in June last year.—Xinhua



Rafael Nadal progressed to the quarterfinals of the Brazil Open on Thursday with a 6-3, 6-4 victory over Brazilian Joao Souza. —XINHUA

Garcia finds late birdies in thickening Riviera fog

PACIFIC PALISADES, 15 Feb — Sergio Garcia could hardly see the flagstick on his last three holes, yet the Spaniard finished with two birdies to end the Northern Trust Open first round a stroke off the lead on Thursday. As thick fog rolled across the iconic Riviera Country Club layout, the world number 14 completed a six-under-par 65 with only American Matt Kuchar ahead of him in a high-quality field.

Making his first appearance on the PGA Tour this year, Garcia coolly sank a six-foot birdie putt on his final hole, the par-four ninth, after hitting an exquisite eight-iron approach. "Obviously I'm

very happy with it," the 33-year-old Spaniard told reporters after mixing seven birdies with a lone bogey on a challenging Riviera layout he has always enjoyed playing. "My first tournament in the United States this year, it was nice to start like that with three birdies. Then I managed to play quite good, not extremely well. I hit my drivers pretty good.

"Overall I managed to hit some nice chips and hit some nice putts here and there, so I'm very pleased with the round over." Asked when his group had been first affected by the late afternoon fog, Garcia replied: "We were on the seventh tee. And then

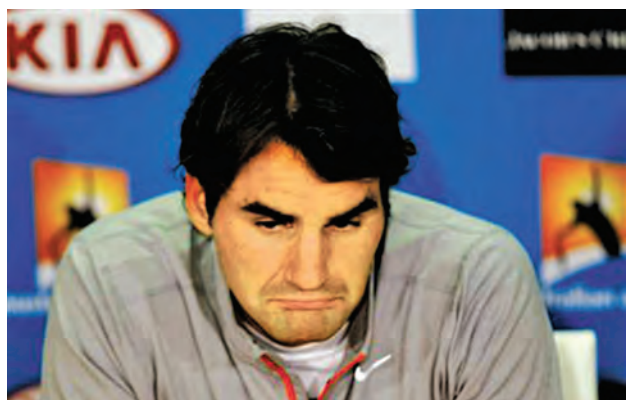


Sergio Garcia of Spain waves after making a birdie on the seventh hole during the first round of the Northern Trust Open golf tournament at Riviera Country Club in Los Angeles on 14 Feb, 2013. —REUTERS

that marine layer or fog or whatever you want to call it, it came in very quickly.

"I was wondering if we would be able to keep going."—Reuters

Federer and Del Potro on track for repeat Rotterdam final



Roger Federer of Switzerland attends a news conference after he was defeated in his men's singles semi-final match by Andy Murray of Britain at the Australian Open tennis tournament in Melbourne on 26 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

ROTTERDAM, 15 Feb — Roger Federer failed to match the accuracy of Cupid's arrow on Valentine's Day but still cruised past Dutchman Thiemo de Bak-

ker 6-3, 6-4 in the second round of the World Indoor Tournament on Thursday. Defending champion Federer only landed 42 per cent of his first serves dur-

ing the first set but an early break helped him take the lead against an awkward opponent cheered on by a home crowd.

"He had a clear game plan with a lot of variation so I never really got into a rally," Federer told reporters. "He was also unpredictable for me." Another early break in the second set combined with an improved service ratio earned top seed Federer a place in the quarter-finals where he faces Frenchman Julien Benneteau, who he beat twice on the grass courts of Wimbledon last year. Federer won at the London Olympics in straight sets but had to overcome a two-set deficit weeks earlier on his way to his 17th grand

slam title.

"It will be tough as he (Benneteau) serves and returns well, while he played convincing matches in the first two rounds," the Swiss added. Second seed Juan Martin Del Potro, beaten by Federer in last year's final, kept his best tennis for the big points as he struggled before beating wild card Ernests Gulbis 7-6, 6-3. "The first set was tough and quite a battle and I had some luck on the final point in the tie-break," the Argentine told reporters. Latvian Gulbis impressed with his serve in the second set when he hit five straight aces, but a break in the eight game was enough for Del Potro to clinch the match.

Reuters

Players and coaches agree all to play for after Real Madrid and Man Utd draw

MADRID, 15 Feb — Manchester United coach, Sir Alex Ferguson admitted he was satisfied with the 1-1 draw his side achieved away to Real Madrid in the first leg of their Champions League last 16 clash. A Cristiano Ronaldo header cancelled out Danny Welbeck's opener for Manchester United, but the result gives the English side a vital away goal to take home to Old Trafford in three weeks. "I am satisfied with the score because it is difficult to come to the Bernabeu," said Sir Alex on Spanish TV after the game.

"In the first half I thought we defended too deep and gave Madrid chances around our box and the goalkeeper made two great chances. We played better in the second half and

had chances to have got a better result," he said, looking ahead to the second leg. "I think it is very open, we have now got a chance and that is what we were hoping for, but we know that Madrid are one of the best sides in Europe and the best on the break," he said, before praising Ronaldo, who joined Madrid from Manchester United three and a half years ago and for whom he clearly retains affection.



Manchester United coach, Sir Alex Ferguson



Real Madrid coach Jose Mourinho

"Ronaldo's was a great goal, of course we miss, him, he's a fantastic player and a fantastic person and I am very pleased the way he has flourished at Real Madrid." Meanwhile Ronaldo returned the respect by not celebrating the goal he scored against his former club. "I respect everyone at Manchester United a lot; I grew up as a player at the club," he explained.

Xinhua

Sumo legend Taiho to receive national award

TOKYO, 15 Feb — The government will award a posthumous national honour to the late yokozuna Taiho in recognition of his historic sumo victory record, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said on Friday. Taiho, who died last month of heart disease at 72, "left glorious achievements as a great yokozuna," the top government spokesman told reporters in explaining the conferring of the People's Honour Award. He was a "national hero loved by lots of people, giving society hopes, dreams and courage."

It will be the 21st time for the honour to be award-



ed. Taiho will become the second sumo wrestler after former yokozuna Chiyonofuji, who received the award in 1989.

Kyodo News

Zenit Beat Liverpool 2-0 in Europa League Clash

SAINT PETERSBURG, 15 Feb — Defending Russian Premier League champions FC Zenit St Petersburg have produced one of their strongest performances so far this season to top-ple down England's Liverpool 2-0 in the first leg of their round of 32 UEFA Europa League tie.

After a goalless first half, two goals in three minutes from Brazilian striker Hulk and substitute

Sergei Semak sealed the result for Zenit, and ensured that Liverpool will have an uphill battle to make it through to the next round.

The return leg is set for Liverpool's hallowed Anfield on 21 February. An early away goal for the Russian club will leave Liverpool needing to strike four times to progress to the last 16.

Xinhua



GENERAL

Photo shows a tree tilts toward Mandalay-Pyin Oo Lwin Road at milepost No.20/4 as it is cut to half at the base of the tree. The tilted tree is posing danger to travellers.

KYEMON



MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(16-2-13 09:30 am ~ 17-2-13 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * Process of Planets correlated with Horoscope for 12 Sign Ascendants
- * News
- * Music Programme
- * News
- * Presents for Kids
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- * Visitation to Mawlamyine (Part-II)
- * News
- * Culture Stage
- * News
- * International Holocaust Commemoration Day 2013
- * Panning Gold in Thabeikkyin Township
- * News
- * "Secret Palaces for Yummy Food" (Episode-6) (Myanmar Rice Meal)
- * News
- * Myanmar Traditional Festivals in the Month of Tabodwe
- * Myanmar Movies "Dancer and Drummer"

Myanmar TV

(16-2-2013, Saturday)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 7:00 am | 4:15 pm |
| 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw | 16. Teleplay |
| 7:25 am | 4:20 pm |
| 2. Health Programme | 17. Cultural Dances |
| 7:30 am | 4:30 pm |
| 3. Morning News | 18. University Of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Second Year (Psychology) |
| 7:40 am | 4:50 pm |
| 4. International News | 19. Songs For Upholding National Spirit |
| 7:45 am | 5:10 pm |
| 5. Teleplay | 20. Performance with Song |
| 7:50 am | 5:15 pm |
| 6. Nice & Sweet Song | 21. Beautiful ASEAN |
| 8:00 am | 6:20 pm |
| 7. Documentary | 22. Celebrity and Dinner |
| 8:15 am | 6:50 pm |
| 8. Poem Garden | 23. TV Drama Series |
| 8:30 am | 7:00 pm |
| 9. Sea Game (Teleplay) | 24. News |
| 11:00 am | 7:55 pm |
| 10. Opening Song | 25. Teleplay |
| 11:05 am | 8:00 pm |
| 11. Musical Programme | 26. News |
| 11:15 am | 27. Myanmar Series |
| 12. Game For Children | 28. India Single Rock Temple |
| 11:45 am | 10:00 pm |
| 13. Round Up Of The Week's TV Local News | 29. News |
| 1:35 pm | 30. Gitadagale Phwintbaohn |
| 2:20 pm | |
| 14. Song Programme | |
| 2:20 pm | |
| 15. Dance of National Races | |

Holloway and Alford-Sullivan to coach US world teams



SALVO, 15 Feb — Collegiate coaches Mike Holloway and Beth Alford-

Sullivan have been selected to guide the United States team in August's IAAF world championships, USA Track and Field said on Thursday.

University of Florida coach Holloway will lead the US men and Alford-Sullivan, the Penn State University coach, will direct the American women in the 10-18 August championships in Moscow.

Sprint and hurdles coach for the US men's

London Olympics team, Holloway has mentored previous world champions Kerron Clement and John Capel and 2012 Olympic relay silver medalists Tony McQuay and Jeff Dumps.

His Florida teams swept the US collegiate indoor and outdoor championships in 2012. An assistant coach for the US 2004 Olympic team, Alford-Sullivan's athletes include 2012 Olympians Shana Cox and Bridget Franek.— Reuters

More than half of Confederations Cup tickets sold

RO DE JANEIRO, 15 Feb — More than half of the total tickets available for this year's FIFA Confederations Cup in Brazil have been sold, according to world football's governing body FIFA. The second phase of sales for the 15-30 June event began on Thursday, with 399,525 tickets already purchased from fans in 138 countries and regions.

The figure, which includes 209,692 seats allocated via lottery, accounts for 52 percent of the event's overall tickets. Brazil tops the list of successful applicants, accounting for 98 percent of tickets distributed, followed by the United States, Mexico, Spain, Japan, Germany, Italy and England.

"It shows that Brazilians value the kind of great football that will be showcased by the eight champions in June at the first six completed FIFA World Cup arenas," FIFA marketing director Thierry Weil said in a statement. Brazil's opening match against Japan in Brasilia on 15 June has already been sold out, as has the host nation's



clash against Italy in Salvador on 22 June.

The remaining 291,000 tickets still available for the tournament are expected to be in high demand, according to Weil. The Confederations Cup is considered an organizational warm-up for the FIFA World Cup a year later.—Reuters

Police escort back major kidnapping suspect in Venezuela

BEIJING, 15 Feb — Chinese police have escorted a major kidnapping suspect in Venezuela back to China for further investigation, according to a Public Security Ministry statement on Thursday.

The suspect, surnamed Xi, was escorted to the Beijing Capital International Airport at about 6:10 am on Thursday,

the statement said.

Xi had been involved in a number of robbing, kidnapping and racketeering cases targeting the Chinese nationals in the South American country since 2010, it said.

The Public Security Ministry sent a work team for initial investigation of the gang in April 2011 after receiving request from

Azarenka, Williams stroll through in Qatar

LONDON, 15 Feb — World number one Victoria Azarenka and second-ranked Serena Williams eased into the Qatar Open quarter-finals with dominant third-round victories on Thursday. American Williams, the 15-times grand slam champion who could return to the top of the rankings if she wins the tournament, crushed Pole Urszula Radwanska 6-0, 6-3.

Belarussian Azarenka, who won last month's Australian Open, demolished American Christina McHale 6-0, 6-0 in just over an hour and Russian third seed Maria Sharapova overpowered Czech Klara Zakopalova 6-3, 6-3. "I felt like I came out very focused, with a good mindset and a good game plan,"

Azarenka said on the WTA website (www.wtatennis.com). "There were a few close games, but I felt like I was really taking advantage of every opportunity I had and not letting her play her game," added the top seed who notched the sixth 6-0, 6-0 win of her career.

Fourth seed Agnieszka Radwanska beat former world number one Ana Ivanovic 6-1, 7-6 and will next face Caroline Wozniacki, another former world number one, who defeated German Mona Barthel 7-6, 6-3. "It wasn't great tennis out there today — the wind was a huge factor," Wozniacki said. "To be honest it was just about getting the ball in play today. "I was just trying to get it in and hoping for the best. It was a struggle, but I got through



Victoria Azarenka of Belarus serves the ball to Christina McHale of US during their women's match at the Qatar Open tennis tournament in Doha on 14 Feb, 2013.— REUTERS

it," added the Dane.

Australian Sam Stosur reached the last eight with a 6-4, 7-5 win over Russian Svetlana Kuznetsova and sixth seed Sara Errani knocked out Slovakian Daniela Hantuchova 7-5, 5-7, 6-2. Czech Petra Kvi-

tova completed the quarter-final lineup after recovering from a slow start to overcome Russian Nadia Petrova 4-6, 6-4, 6-3.— Reuters

Thousands to participate in Jammu Marathon

JAMMU, 15 Feb — More than 10,000 participants, including Bollywood celebrities, are expected to run in the fourth edition of the Jammu Marathon, scheduled to be held here on Sunday.

"We are expecting 10 to 20,000 participants in the fourth edition of Jammu Marathon," the organizers of the event said.—PTI

said.

Xi, 26, a native of Guangdong, stole into Venezuela ten years ago. He joined a kidnapping gang after he failed to make profits in his own business, according to the Beijing News.

Xi will be sent to Guangdong for further investigation, according to the newspaper.—Xinhua

the Chinese Embassy in Venezuela, it said.

The ministry sent a work team to the country again on 19 January this year and caught Xi on 1 February with the help of the Venezuelan police and army, it said.

Police in south China's Guangdong Province also caught two suspects of Xi's complices, the statement

“We are doing” does not make sense: MP

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Feb—As it is said honest debate is the foundation of democracy, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has been alive with lively debate about the 2013-2014 FY Planning Bill.

Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency No (4) evaluated the inter-ministry coordination “poor”, stressing the need for much greater coordination to make rural development and poverty alleviation scheme a success.

He criticized the standard reply of ministries as saying “we are doing,” calling on them to give exact time frame in implementing projects.

Daw Khin Hmwe Lwin named certain problems resulted from lack of transparency in implementing projects, calling for bottom-up initiative rather than top-down approach and transparency as well as cost-benefit analysis in developing a project.

She called for perfection rather than inconstant improvement in paving roads, saying: “They upgrade some earth roads to gravel one in a particular



U Maung Maung Soe of Thakayta Constituency participates in discussion.—MNA

fiscal year with allotted fund. Then the work was stopped in the next fiscal year as the fund is used for other earth roads in other places. Meanwhile, the first ones are out of service and in the next fiscal year the fund goes into repairing and

not upgrading them.”

U Maung Maung Soe of Thakayta Constituency called for improving competitiveness of private banking services and



U Win Than of Thabaung Constituency takes part in discussion.—MNA

strict measures against tax evasion. U Win Than of Thabaung Constituency called for readjustment of the line of power to

encourage initiative of subordinates.

The discussions were unexpectedly frank and open and we did some brief interviews with



Daw Khin Hmwe Lwin of Mingin Constituency participates in discussion.—MNA

parliamentarians about their functions.

Dr Kyaw Thein of All Mon Region Democracy Party, when asked what his

priorities are, answered to formulate legislations “to eliminate corruption.”

“Our country has been corrupt for over sixty years. You can’t expect to turn the



Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency No (4) joins discussion.—MNA

black into white overnight”, he told NLM.

Daw Khin Waing Kyi of Yangon Region Constituency No (1) made

a comparison between the public views on functions of the parliament and football game, “It is like a football game. We, MPs are the players on the pitch and



Daw Khin Waing Kyi of Yangon Region Constituency No (1) participates in discussion.—MNA

the citizens the audience. We are doing our best, but the audiences are not just satisfied with it.”—NLM

Myanmar-US to cooperate in cultural heritage conservation

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Feb — Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu and a US cultural delegation yesterday discussed matters on providing assistance to Myanmar in conservation of cultural heritage in Myanmar.

The meeting focused on providing technology assistance to conserve the palace in Mandalay and

cultural heritages, and cooperation in cultural sector in the future.

The delegation was led by Assistance Secretary Ms Judith Stock of the Education and Cultural Affairs Bureau of the Department of State of the United States of America and accompanied by Mr Derek J Mitchell, Ambassador of the US to Myanmar.—MNA

Jointly organized by Myanmar Tourism Federation and Myanmar Tourism Services Co., Ltd, Miss Myanmar International 2013 will be held at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Street in Mayangon Township in Yangon on 24 February.

“Twenty selected beauty pageants will be given intensive training meeting international standards to be able to showcase their beauty and abilities, skills in General Knowledge, sense of

From Miss Myanmar International 2013 to international beauty contests



Photo shows selected twenty beauty pageants for Miss Myanmar International 2013 Jointly organized by Myanmar Tourism Federation and Myanmar Tourism Services Co., Ltd.

community, goodwill and sympathetic behaviour at the upcoming international contest. Preparations are being made to nurture them

to be potential contestants who can bring a glow of pride for the country”, Ma Tin Moe Lwin of Talents & Models Agency said.

“Contestants are to compete in the beauty pageant contest in national costumes, international costumes, sports costumes and favourite dresses

Byline: Nanda Win

for their imaginations. They will be judged in accord with international scoring system”, U Lin Htain of Myanmar Tourism Federation.

Ko Phyo Wai Yazar of Myanmar Tourism Federation said that first prize winner would be presented K 3 million, the first runner-up K 2 million and the second runner-up K 1 million. Moreover, two more prizes for Myanmar Restaurant Association and Myanmar Hoteliers Association would also be presented at the contest.

Myanma Alinn (14-2-2013)

Trs: YM

New ferries to be ordered from Japan for Yangon-Dalla route

The upgrading of Yangon-Dalla ferries has become the latest attempt by Yangon authorities as they are committed to developing transportation networks in Yangon, the commercial hub of Myanmar. An official of the Inland Water Transport confirmed the move.

The Ministry of Transport and JICA are in talks and the move is expected to be aided by JICA. Jetties will be upgraded in the first step.

Two out of four ferries are routinely running Yangon-Dalla routes daily. For convenience of

Photo shows a ferry running Yangon-Dalla route.



commuters, four new ferries with adjustments to Yangon River will be ordered from Japan.

The authorities afforded the upgrading as the commuters rely more heavily on the ferries which

take only a few minutes to cross the river.

Myanma Alinn: 15-2-2013 Translation: HKA

MRTV invites companies to broadcast live 27th SEA Games

Local and foreign Companies have been invited to carry out broadcasting services such as live broadcast of the opening and concluding ceremonies of the 27th SEA Games, working for IBC (International Broadcasting Centre) and broadcast of seven sports events.

Those interested

companies at home and abroad may submit their proposals to the director-general of Myanma Radio and Television (Tatkon) not later than 28th February, 2013, and the day on which the officials of companies would meet will be announced.

Myanma Radio and Television