

Education University grads to fill vacant teacher posts



Sixth regular session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in progress.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb— About 900 graduates from Education University and College will fill the gaps of

teachers in basic education schools and local graduates will also be recruited for education services in the

coming academic year, Deputy Education Minister Dr Ba Shwe said at today's session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw as the parliament continued its debate on the National Plan for 2013-2014 FY.

He also said the ministry will open mobile schools for children of internal migrant workers.

Daw Mi Myint Than of Ye Constituency said, "They say the primary education is free of charge. Though, a student in my



Union Border Affairs Minister Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win makes clarification.—MNA



Deputy Defence Minister Maj-Gen Kyaw Nyunt makes clarification.—MNA



Deputy Education Minister Dr Ba Shwe making clarification. MNA

Thai parliamentary delegation, students of Mandalay University visit Hluttaw

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb— The 116-member delegation led by Secretary-General Mr. Suwichag Nakwatcharachai of the House of Representatives of Thailand and 56 teachers and students of International Relations Diploma Course from Mandalay University this morning observed 11th day six regular session of First Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and looked round the Hluttaw buildings.—MNA

High price expected as more farmers go for watermelon



Myanmar's summer watermelon was beaten by the Vietnamese kind in the Chinese market during the previous year. As the market shows some signs of demand rise, more growers now turn to the water melon this summer, according to a farmer of Tatkon Township.

"Our water melon business suffered loss the previous year. China was our market," farmer Daw Shwe Win of Khayansetgon Village in Tatkon Township said.

"But we later fetched a good price in the local market. Therefore we, see

an increase of watermelon farmers."

She also said summer watermelon is the priority for farmers, indicating an increase in price.

Watermelon growing villages in Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Township are Khayansetgon, Nyaunglunt, Kyangin, Aik, Nyaunggon and Kayingawng villages. Farmers are found busy in the watermelon plantations.

The water melon plantations are fed by Sinthe dam which also irrigates cabbage, carrot and maize

plantations in Nweyit village.

Farmers of Ngweyit village make their living on vegetable cultivation as the village sits on the favourable soil irrigated by Sinthe creek.

The current market price for a standard watermelon is around K 1600. Brokers are also buying the watermelon plantation-wise, giving more hope of high prices to farmers.

Myanma Alinn:

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Trs: HKA

Byline: Myint Maung Soe
Photo: Kyaw Thu Win

Mandalay ethnic market festival attracts globetrotters

MANDALAY, 18 Feb—A flock of globetrotters thronged to take part in the second national races market festival held at the building of Shan national race social and religious association on 35th street between 66th and 68th streets in Mandalay from 9 to 11 February.

Local and foreign visitors posed for documentary photos together with national races

in their traditional costumes giving a warm welcome to the visitors at the festival. Traditional goods, costumes and food of national races including Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Kokang, Chin, Ta-aung (Palaung), Mon, Bamar, Rakhine and Shan were on display at more than 40 booths there. A programme of performing traditional dances of national races included in every night starting from 6 pm.

The market festival was intended to maintain traditions, customs and cultural heritages of national races, to cement amity and friendship among them, boosting the Union spirit based on mutual understandings and respects and to perpetuate the Union in which all national races have been living together with the sense of peaceful co-existence.

Kyemon



Five missing in motorized boat sinking near pontoon bridge in Seikkan Township

YANGON, 18 Feb—A Seikkyi Khanaungto-bound motorized boat carrying passengers and their goods had capsized and sunk while leaving from Phoneygi Street pontoon bridge No (2) in Seikkan Township of Yangon Region on 16 February, leaving five women missing. "It is the only motorized boat running from Yangon to Thasi village in Seikkyi Khanaungto Township. I have no idea how many people were on board the boat. It takes about an hour to reach the village. I lost my money and goods in the boat sinking. The boat capsized after crashing into

the back of Pyaewa Thalun motorized boat docked at Shwetaungdan pontoon bridge No (1) while the boat was allowed for drift. When the boat had sunk, I fell down in the water. Then I had managed to arrive back on the water and I was rescued by men on the pontoon bridge. My sister and I were alive in the boat sinking", Daw Sein Hlaing of Thasi village said.

Seikkan Police Station filed a lawsuit against the helmsman who is still at large. Five women including Ma Tin Tin Maw (a) Mi Maw, 35, of Kalandan village are still missing.—Kyemon



Educative talks on traffic rules given in Swa

YEDASHE, 18 Feb—As Bago Region sees fatal road accidents frequently, Yadeshe Township Police Force conducted an educative talks on traffic rules at Basic Education High School in Swa on 15 February.

Head of Yedashe Township Police Force Police Major Nyan Win and Police Inspector Thaung San gave talks on dos and don'ts regarding traffic rule enforcement measures.

The educative talks was attended by local people and students.

Kyemon

Summer paddy cultivation in Sagaing Tsp

SAGAING, 18 Feb—Zeechaung village-tract formed with Uyin, Kyauksit and Pyukan villages is situated four miles from Sagaing. Farmers are busy during the summer paddy cultivation season.

U Shwe Win of Pyukan vilalge said that Manaw



KYAUKSE, 18 Feb—Upgrading of 33/11 KVA switch yard, construction of 45 feet long and 30 feet wide control building and installation of new 10 MVA transformer were carried out

on 9 February at 33/11 KVA sub-station in Kyatminton ward which is supplying electricity to Kyaukse Township of Mandalay Region. With a rise in electricity consumption in

Kyaukse where only 10 MVA transformer is being used in supplying electricity, a new transformer was installed with the aim of supplying more electricity to local people.—Kyemon

single cropping was allowed in the region where river water enters the farmlands every year. We fetched about K 70000 for sale of sheaf of paddy per acre. As farmers were allowed to get loans with low interest rate from Myanmar Agriculture Bank, it was worth growing summer paddy.

Kyemon

32 plywood factory workers get food poisoning in Sagaing Region

MONYWA, 18 Feb — After having their breakfast with cabbage salad at 6 am on 11 February, 32 workers from a plywood factory of Lapyae Nagar Company at Yatpha village in Htamanthi village-tract of Sagaing Region fell sick from food poisoning at about 8 am. Food poisoned workers—17 men and 15 women—were taken to Htamanthi station

hospital and they are being given treatment there.

While receiving intensive care at the hospital, Ma Tin Tin Myint, 22, of South Oh-bowardin Monywa and Ma Ei Ei Khine, 18, of Kantha village in Myinmu Township were pronounced dead at about 1.40 pm on that day. Arrangements are being made to transfer Kyaw Myo Thu, 18, of

Kantha village in Myinmu Township and Kyaw Myo Aung, 16, of South Oh-bowardin Monywa who are in critical condition to Homalin Township People's Hospital.

Further investigation revealed that food poisoning occurred due to lack of washing cabbage sprayed with pesticide thoroughly before having it.

Kyemon

Kyaukse gets another transformer for growing electricity demand

WORLD

British PM Cameron on India trade trip amid graft scandal

LONDON, 18 Feb — British Prime Minister David Cameron arrives in India on Monday to try to win new investment in the face of fierce global competition as a scandal engulfs an Anglo-Italian helicopter deal.

Making his second visit to India as prime minister, Cameron's trip comes days after a similar trade mission by French President Francois Hollande, underlining how Europe's debt-stricken states are competing to tap into one of the world's fastest-growing economies.

His delegation, which includes representatives of over 100 companies, cultural and educational bodies, is the biggest taken abroad by a British prime minister and includes four ministers and nine lawmakers.

However, the timing of Cameron's trip is not ideal. India said on Friday it wanted to cancel a \$750 million deal for a dozen helicopters made by AgustaWestland, the Anglo-Italian subsidiary of Italy's Finmeccanica, over bribery claims. That will not make Cameron's job of

persuading India to buy more civil and military hardware easier, and Indian officials have told the local Press they intend to press Cameron for "a fully fledged report" on what Britain knows about the scandal. Britain has said it wants to wait until the end of the Italian investigation before commenting in full, but has given India an interim report on the subject.

At a time when Britain's government is struggling to get its economy growing, officials see India, projected to become the world's third largest economy by 2050, as a key strategic partner in what Cameron has called a "Global Race". "I think Britain and India can be one of the great partnerships of the 21st Century," he told the Hindustan Times. "India is going to be one of the great success stories of this century - a rising power in the world. And I want Britain to be one of your partners as you grow and succeed."

Reuters



Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron.

Chinese leader pledges support for Africa's development

BEIJING, 18 Feb — Chinese leader Xi Jinping met with Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, chairperson of the African Union (AU) Commission, on Sunday and pledged continued support for Africa's development.

"Africa is a continent of hope," said Xi, general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee as he met with Dlamini-Zuma at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

The Chinese leader said Africa's development conforms to the historical trend of the times and helps to safeguard world peace and stability.

"We are always confident of Africa's prospects for development," he said, adding that

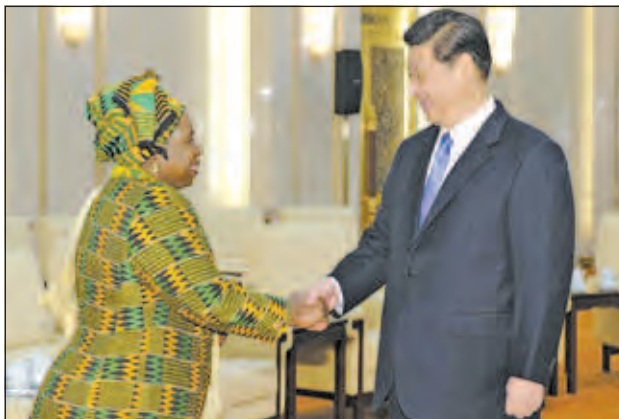
China supports the self-determined development of and the solidarity among African countries as well as their pursuit of progressive paths suitable for their own national conditions.

"Africa's development creates opportunities for China as China's development creates opportunities for Africa," Xi said. He added that the common development of China and Africa is of significance for the growth of developing countries as a whole and helps to make international relations more democratic. "No matter how situations change, China will attach importance to ties with Africa, remain a reliable friend and faithful partner of African nations and always regard the AU as a reliable strategic

partner," said the Chinese leader.

China is ready to make joint efforts with African countries to implement the outcomes of the Fifth Ministerial Conference of the Forum on China-

Africa Cooperation and boost political, economic and cultural cooperation as well as coordination on regional security and major global issues to lead the relationship to a higher phase.—Xinhua



Xi Jinping (R), general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, meets with Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, chairperson of the African Union (AU) Commission, at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, capital of China, on 17 Feb, 2013.—XINHUA

Iran will never shut down underground enrichment facilities

TEHRAN, 18 Feb — Senior Iranian lawmaker, Alaeddin Boroujerdi, said on Sunday the Islamic republic will never shut down its underground bunker of Fordow uranium enrichment facilities and will not halt its "peaceful" nuclear activities.

Alluding to recent media reports about world powers' decision to ease gold sanctions on Iran in exchange for the closure of Fordow, Boroujerdi,

the head of Iran's Majlis' (parliament) National Security and Foreign Policy Commission, said that "Fordow site will never be shut down," the semi-official ISNA news agency reported.

Western media reported on Saturday that the P5+1 (Britain, China, France, Russia, the United States plus Germany) are working on a proposal to be offered in the nuclear talks with Iran to ease

sanctions on gold and other precious metals trade with Iran in return for shutting down Fordow uranium enrichment plant.

According to the reports, the offer will be presented in the upcoming talks between Iran and the P5+1 slated for 26 Feb in Almaty, Kazakhstan.

Boroujerdi told ISNA that Iran has built the Fordow site to defend its nuclear facilities in the face threats from Israel.

The Fordow nuclear plant, located near the Iranian central Shiite holy city of Qom, is used for producing enriched uranium with a purity of up to 20 percent.

Also, Boroujerdi stressed Sunday that "If the Americans think that they can halt Iran's peaceful (nuclear) activities by mounting pressures, they are beating the air," local Press TV reported.

Xinhua



The photo released by the Palestinian presidency Press office shows Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas (front, L) and his Pakistani counterpart Asif Ali Zardari (front, R) step for a meeting in Islamabad, Pakistan, on 17 Feb, 2013. Abbas arrived in Islamabad on a 3-day state visit to Pakistan on late Saturday on the invitation of President Asif Ali Zardari, local media reported.—XINHUA

Two earthquakes shake Greece, no injuries reported

ATHENS, 18 Feb — Two moderate earthquakes shook on Sunday morning southern and western Greece with no injuries or extensive material damages reported, according to local media.

The first tremor measuring 5.0 on the Richter scale jolted the island of Zakynthos on the Ionian Sea and the western coast of the Peloponnese peninsula, Greek scientists at the Athens Seismic Observatory estimated.

Its epicentre was located at about 69 kilometers south of Zakynthos—and some 300 kilometres west of Greece's capital—at a depth of approximately 10 kilometers.

The second quake measuring 4.8 on the Richter scale shook the southern part of the Peloponnese peninsula two hours later. The second tremor's epicenter was located at approximately 24 kilometers southwest

of the city of Methoni and about 245 kilometers south of Athens—at a depth of 20 kilometres.

Greece is earthquake-prone and has been regularly hit by moderate and stronger earthquakes which have caused great destruction throughout centuries.

In the most recent catastrophe in 1999, a tremor measuring 6 on the Richter scale hit Athens, causing dozens of casualties.—Xinhua

Top 100 arms makers' arms sales fall in 2011

STOCKHOLM, 18 Feb — Arms sales by the 100 biggest weapons makers fell for the first time since the mid-90s in 2011 as economies slowed and military equipment purchases were reduced for operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, a leading think-tank said on Monday.

Sales totalled \$410 billion (264 billion pounds), a 5-percent fall adjusted for currency swings, from \$411 billion (265 billion pounds) in 2010, the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), which carries out independent research on international security, armaments and disarmament said in a statement.

SIPRI, which has been compiling the list since 1989, does not include Chinese-based firms due to lack of available data.

"Austerity policies and proposed and actual decreases in military expenditure as well as postponements in weapons programme procurement affected overall arms sales in North America and Western Europe," it said in a statement. "The drawdowns in Iraq and Afghanistan and the sanctions on arms transfers to Libya also played a role."

Spending fell for the first time since the

mid-90's, when defence spending had been falling after the end of the Cold War, said Susan Jackson, a researcher at SIPRI.

Sales growth had already slowed in 2010, to 1 percent from 8 percent in 2009, as the withdrawal of foreign troops from Iraq held back demand. To the extent arms makers are affected by economic swings, many are late-cyclical as they have long delivery times and long-running contracts with governments.

Of the firms monitored by the group in 2011, 74 were based in the United States and western Europe, generating 90 percent of the sales, roughly unchanged from 2010.

The top spots were little changed from 2010 with US firm Lockheed Martin still the biggest, US Boeing, overtaking British BAE Systems as number two, and General Dynamics overtaking Northrop Grumman as number four.

SIPRI said a strong recent trend among big arms makers was diversification into cyber-security—protecting computers and networks against intrusions and attacks—as public spending in this area remained a privileged area in Western countries despite budget austerity.—Reuters

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Chinese CSC, Australian billionaire to build modern replica of Titanic



BEIJING, 18 Feb—Australian billionaire Clive Palmer plans to build a modern replica of Titanic, in cooperation with state-owned Chinese company CSC Jinling Shipyard, based in Jiangsu Province, according to the media reports on Sunday.

Due to the romantic story of Rose and Jack, people around the world are showing a great interest in Titanic II and willing to be the first paying passengers.

“We’ve probably had half a dozen people already offering more than \$1 mil-

lion to get on the maiden voyage,” said James McDonald, global marketing director of Palmer’s Blue Star Line company. But the company does not reveal how much Titanic II will cost.

According to the Blue Star Line, the launch of Titanic II project is scheduled for 26 February, and its maiden voyage from England to North America will be made for late 2016. The Titanic II will stay true to the design of the ill-fated original, but more focus on a safety deck.—Xinhua

Florida hit by “tsunami” of tax identity fraud

MIAMI, 18 Feb—Bruce Parton was only a few weeks from retirement after 30 years as a mail carrier in sunny Florida. He never lived to fulfill his retirement plan of moving back to a quiet life in the Catskill mountains of New York, not far from where he grew up on Long Island.

Instead, he was gunned down on his daily mail route in December 2010 by members of an identity theft ring who stole his master key as part of a scheme to claim fraudulent tax refunds.

Using stolen names and Social Security numbers, criminals are filing phony electronic tax forms to claim refunds, exploiting a slow-moving federal bureaucracy to collect the money before victims, or the Internal Revenue Service, discover the fraud.

Parton was a victim of what officials say has ballooned into a massive, and dangerous, illegal industry that could cost the nation \$21 billion over the next five years, according to the US Treasury Department.

While that is a relatively small sum compared to the \$1.1 trillion collected from individual tax payers in the last fiscal year, the crime has been growing by



Seized fraudulent tax mailings are displayed during a news conference in Tampa, Florida, in this undated police handout photo. Tax identity theft skyrocketed to more than 1.2 million cases in 2012 from only 48,000 in 2008, according to the US Treasury Department.

REUTERS

leaps and bounds in the last three years. “We are on the top of a national trend that is causing a hemorrhage of tax dollars,” said Wifredo Ferrer, United States Attorney for south Florida.

“It’s a tsunami of fraud.” While the IRS says it has detected cases in every state except North Dakota and West Virginia, the fraud’s epicenter is Florida, and it is mostly concentrated in Miami and Tampa.

Miami has 46 times the per-capita rate of false tax refund claims than the rest of the country, and 70 times the national average in dollar terms, Ferrer told Reuters. “For whatever reason, we always tend

Intel Israel more than doubles exports, mulls new investment

TEL AVIV, 18 Feb—Intel’s Israeli subsidiary more than doubled its exports in 2012 to \$4.6 billion and is seeking to bring manufacturing of the company’s next generation of chips to Israel. Intel’s exports, which rose 109 percent from \$2.2 billion in 2011, were boosted by the start of production of chips using 22 nanometer technology at its Kiryat Gat plant in southern Israel, which is now operating at full capacity.

Intel, the world’s No 1 chipmaker, will build chips

“Gender neutral” public toilets to be built in UK

BEIJING, 18 Feb—The Brighton and Hove City Council, England, has scrapped male and female public toilets in favor of “gender neutral” facilities. Facilities to be built are designed to be shared by adults and children and do not feature the words “Men” or “Ladies” but instead will show symbols indicating they can be used by people of any sex or age. The move was de-

scribed as “political correctness gone barmy” by opponents, who warned that the vast majority of residents would prefer to use single-sex lavatories. The Brighton and Hove City Council disclosed in emails that it wished to promote the term “gender neutral” and build facilities which are open to all, regardless of sex.

It believed such facilities will be more accessible for those who do not iden-

tify with the male-female binary. The block will include four new lavatories and a café.

Images depicting a man, a woman and a child will be fitted to the doors. Lynda Hyde, a Tory councillor in the Rottingdean ward, in which a new facility is being built, said: “This does seem to be a case of unnecessary bureaucracy and political correctness.”

Xinhua

Global sales of LG’s Optimus L smartphones top 15 mln

SEOUL, 18 Feb—Sales of LG Electronics’ Optimus L Series smartphones topped 15 million units globally since its introduction in February 2012, the company said on Friday.

Global sales of Optimus L Series devices breached the 10 million mark in December last year, before adding sales of 5 million units, equal to sell a device every second over the past two months, LG said in an e-mailed statement.

After its launch at Mobile World Congress (MWC) in February 2012, LG rolled out Optimus L3, L7, L5, and L9 in a serial order at around 50 coun-

tries in North America, Europe, Asia and Latin America.

Building on the success of the predecessors, LG planned to unveil the second generation of Optimus L Series later this month at the MWC 2013 with an upgraded design and improved features.

“The new Optimus L Series 2 expands upon the design philosophy of the original series so we’re quite confident that we’ll have another hit on our hands,” said Park Jong-seok, president and chief executive of LG Electronics’ mobile communications division.

Xinhua



An Intel logo is seen at the company’s offices in Petah Tikva, near Tel Aviv on 24 Oct, 2011.—REUTERS



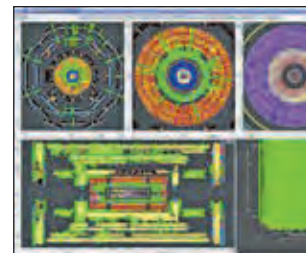
Fassberg, general manager of Intel Israel, told a news conference on Sunday. “We need to get a decision far enough in advance to be

able to upgrade the plant. So for 10 nanometer, decisions will need to be made this year.”

Reuters

CERN’s LHC starts two-year break for maintenance, upgrade

GENEVA, 18 Feb—The European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) announced on Thursday the first long shutdown (LS1) of its Large Hadron Collider (LHC) after three years of successful running, including the discovery of a Higgs boson-like new particle in July. At 7:24 am (0624 GMT), the shift crew in the CERN1 Control Center extracted the beams from the LHC, CERN said in a statement.



“We have every reason to be very satisfied with the LHC’s first three years. The machine, the experiments, the computing facilities and all infrastructures behaved brilliantly, and we have a major scientific discovery in our pocket,” said CERN Director-General Rolf Heuer. Steve Myers, CERN Director for Accelerators and Technology, said that CERN’s whole accelerator complex, including the LHC, will then take a great deal of consolidation and maintenance work during the LS1. The LHC is expected to reach its design energy of 7TeV per beam when its running is resumed in 2015, Myers said. A lot of experimental physics work will still be carried out during the long break, including data analysis over the potential Higgs boson.—Xinhua

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Chinese booming e-commerce nibbles traditional retailers



BEIJING, 18 Feb—China's e-commerce giant Jingdong Mall announced on Saturday that it has secured 700 million US dollars in its latest fundraising effort. Canada's Ontario Teacher Pension Fund and Kingdom Holding Co, the international investment firm of Saudi billionaire Prince Alwaleed

bin Talal, were among the consortium of investors. Jingdong said that the new funds will go to company operations, new business development and logistics system construction.

So far, Jingdong has finished four rounds of fundraising with a total financing at a remarkable high of 2.3 billion US dollars, which is shocking in a depressed year. Investment became more cautious as the capital market remained sluggish in 2012. Statistics showed that the total funds raised through IPO around the globe last year plummeted to 112 billion US dollars, the lowest

level since the 2008 global financial crisis. Against such a background, the bounty demonstrated the confidence of the international capital market in Jingdong and the recognition of China's vigorous online business market.

China's online business market volume exploded in the past year. A report recently released by China's E-Commerce Research Centre showed that by the end of December, the transaction volume of China's online retail market reached 1.32 trillion yuan RMB, a year-on-year increase of 64.7 percent.

Xinhua

Nepali gov't slashes economic growth forecast to 4.2 pct

KATHMANDU, 18 Feb—The government of Nepal has slashed the economic growth forecast from 5.3 percent to 4.2 percent for the current fiscal year 2012/13. Absence of a full budget coupled with feeble capital spending in the second half of the current fiscal year have been attributed as the major reasons for the decrease in the forecast.

"Though we arranged sufficient fund for some important projects, the overall government budget could not boost up the capital expenditure," Finance Minister Barsaman Pun said.

"This brought the growth forecast down from

5.3 to 4.2 percent," the minister said. In the mid-term review period from July 2012 to January 2013, Nepal's capital expenditure recorded only Rs 7.66 billion (around 90.11 million US dollars) while regular expenditure stood at Rs 86.9 billion (around 1.02 billion US dollars).

Inflation stood at 10.7 percent, while revenue grew 21.2 percent in total.

In last December, the World Bank predicted Nepal's economy to grow 3.8 percent this year against 4.5 percent in the previous year. Sharp decline in paddy production and other sectors' average

performance were cited as the reasons for lower forecast. "The government forecast sounds a bit unrealistic and seems to have landed without proper research," economist Dr Rewat Bahadur Karki told Xinhua on Monday.

"The present economic indicators show that the growth rate of 4.2 percent is not possible right now," he said. "Nepal will have to struggle even to achieve what the World Bank has predicted," added Dr Karki, who is also a former economic advisor to Nepal Rastra Bank, the central bank of the country.

Xinhua

Germany wants comprehensive EU-US free trade deal

BERLIN, 18 Feb — German Economy Minister Philipp Roesler wants the European Union and the United States to reach a comprehensive transatlantic free trade agreement rather than settle for the limited deal some southern EU nations favour. Roesler told *Der Spiegel* magazine on Sunday he and the German government want a sweeping free trade deal, while France and southern EU nations, by contrast, want to protect their agriculture industry with regulations and also keep out genetically modified US foodstuffs, the magazine

said.

Roesler has backing from a study by the Ifo economic institute think tank that said the advantages of the free trade zone would be larger with a comprehensive deal. "We're striving to achieve a major breakthrough and we're not just looking for a minimal consensus," Roesler told *Der Spiegel*. "It would be damaging to put limits on the agenda for the talks beforehand and exclude certain sectors." The Ifo study, carried out for the Economy Ministry, found that per capita gross domestic product (GDP)



Germany's Economy Minister Philipp Roesler attends the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos on 25 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

would rise by 0.1 percent in the EU and 0.2 percent in the United States with the free trade deal if only customs barriers were abolished.

But more could be expected if the governments introduced common technical standards, safety standards and competition rules, Ifo said.—Reuters

Novo to sell Tresiba in Europe at 60-70 percent premium over Lantus

COPENHAGEN, 18 Feb —Denmark's Novo Nordisk, the world's biggest insulin producer, will sell its long-acting insulin Tresiba in Europe at a 60-70 percent premium over rival product Lantus from France's Sanofi.

Novo is in the process of negotiating prices of the new insulin in Europe, and recently agreed with authorities in the United Kingdom to price the insulin 60-70 percent above competing products in the market, as it is believed to hold some advantages over its rivals.

"The prices in Europe will be more or less at the same level (as in the UK)," Novo's head of marketing and medical affairs Jakob Riis told Reuters on Friday.

As the world suffers from an epidemic of type 2 diabetes tied to over-eating and lack of exercise, demand for treatments has snowballed and competition intensified. Earlier this week, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

refused to approve Novo's Tresiba until it conducts extra tests for potential heart risks, dealing a major blow to a key product for the Danish drugmaker.

Shares in Novo, the world's leading insulin maker and the most valuable company in the Nordic region, slumped 12.5 percent as it said the decision would make it harder to meet long-term financial targets. Tresiba has already been approved in Europe and Japan. Sanofi's Lantus is expected to continue its double-digit sales growth after the FDA refused to approve Tresiba.

The French company said on Wednesday it would invest 44 million euros (\$59 million) on its site in Waterford, Ireland, to boost production of Lantus.

Novo Nordisk has said it expects to launch Tresiba in the UK and Denmark in the first half of 2013, and in other European countries later this year and next year.

Reuters



Medical tourists coming back to Singapore

SINGAPORE, 18 Feb—Foreign patients are flocking to Singapore hospitals again after a decline in 2009 triggered by the global financial crisis, local daily *Straits Times* reported on Monday.

Figures from the Ministry of Health showed that about 36,000 non-resident foreign patients were either hospitalized or underwent day surgery in the city state in 2011, said the report.

Indonesians continue to top the numbers list, accounting for almost half of the foreign patients who come to Singapore, followed by Malaysians and patients from Bangladesh, Vietnam and Myanmar.

Xinhua

India cracks down on taxation of transfers within foreign firms



India's Finance Minister P. Chidambaram speaks during an interview with Reuters at a hotel during his visit for the G20 meeting in Mexico City on 4 Nov, 2012. REUTERS

MUMBAI, 18 Feb — India is aggressively pursuing tax claims against multinational firms operating in the country as the government seeks to rein in its budget deficit, taking particular aim at IT and back-office functions, tax officials say. It has targeted several multinational companies in recent years for tax audits on transfer-pricing, but over the past 12 months has widened the scope of the investigations, tax officials

said. Authorities are now checking deals involving more than three dozen companies, focusing on transactions worth at least 250 million rupees (\$4.7 million), officials said. Having just issued claims for the financial year to March 2009, it has shifted focus to 2009/2010.

Transfer pricing is the value at which companies trade products, services or assets between units across borders, a regular part of doing business for

a multinational. Revenue authorities in many countries including Britain, France, Germany and the United States are increasingly challenging efforts of companies to minimize tax liabilities by moving taxable income from higher-taxing jurisdictions to lower-tax ones. In India's case, critics worry overly aggressive tax authorities could undermine foreign investment although tax officials say they have been working overtime as Finance Minister P Chidambaram looks to make up a revenue shortfall and head off the threat of a credit rating downgrade.

"On some days we had to work through the night to meet the deadline," said one official. "There are so many cases that are coming to us but we don't have an adequate number of people."—Reuters

WORLD

French, Malian troops secure rebel strongpoint near Gao



Malian Colonel El Hadj Ag Gamou poses for a picture with soldiers under his command in Gao, Mali on 15 Feb, 2013. —REUTERS

BAMAKO, 18 Feb— French and Malian troops secured the north Mali town of Bourem on Sunday, tightening their control over areas where Islamist insurgents have been launching guerrilla attacks to harass the French-led military operation.

“Bourem is a bastion of Islamists,” said a military official from an African military contingent called AFISMA. African troops in this contingent are being deployed behind the French forward lines in the five-week-old intervention by Paris in its former

Sahel colony. Located by the Niger River, Bourem is about 80 km (50 miles) north of Gao at a crossroads between Timbuktu to the west and Kidal to the north, both of which are now under French and Malian government control.

“All the current problems in Gao come from Bourem,” said the official, who asked not to be named. He said there had been no real fighting to take the town. French leaders have said they intend to start pulling out the 4,000 French troops in Mali in March to hand over secu-

rity to the Malian army and to the UN-backed AFISMA force, which is expected to exceed 8,000 soldiers and is drawn mainly from Mali’s West African neighbours.

Last week two suicide bombers struck at the same checkpoint on the road coming into Gao from Bourem, while insurgents also launched a surprise raid in Gao battling French and local troops.

The attacks, two weeks after Gao was liberated from al-Qaeda-allied rebels who had held it for 11 months, surprised the French and the Malian soldiers there and raised the prospect of a laborious counter-insurgency task for Paris’ forces.

After driving the jihadist rebels from main northern towns such as Gao and Timbuktu, French warplanes and special forces are searching for rebel hideouts in the remote and mountainous northeast, where Paris believes the insurgents may be holding French hostages sized in the Sahel and Nigeria.

Reuters

Pakistan faces growing anger over sectarian bombings

QUETTA, (Pakistan), 18 Feb— Pakistani Shi’ites called on the military on Sunday to take control of the city of Quetta after a bombing by Sunni militants killed 85 people, and threatened to stage a long march to the capital if their demands were not met.

Pakistani leaders have done little to contain hardline Sunni Muslim groups which have stepped up a campaign of bombings and assassinations of minority Shi’ites in a bid to destabilise the nuclear-armed country and install a Sunni theocracy.

The unpopular government, which is gearing up for elections expected with-

in months, faces growing anger for failing to deliver stability.

On Saturday, Lashkar-e-Jhangvi (LeJ), seen as the most ruthless Sunni sectarian group, claimed responsibility for the Quetta attack, which deepened suspicions among Shi’ites that Pakistan’s intelligence agencies were turning a blind eye to the bloodshed or even supporting extremists. The families of the some of the victims have said they will not bury their dead until the army steps in to protect Shi’ites, said Hasnain Zaidi, a spokesman for an alliance of Shi’ite groups.

“The situation is very tense,” Zaidi told Reuters.

“Thirty five bodies were burned beyond recognition. Shi’ite families will hold a long march to Islamabad if the army does not step in.”

The death toll from the bombing rose overnight, with most of the casualties in the main bazaar of the southwestern city, the capital of Baluchistan and near the border with Afghanistan. The attack targeted ethnic Hazara Shi’ites.

“The terrorist attack on the Hazara Shi’ite community in Quetta is a failure of the intelligence and security forces,” Nawab Zulfiqar Ali Magsi, governor of Baluchistan province, said while touring a hospital.

Reuters



A boy stands at the site of Saturday’s bomb attack in a Shi’ite Muslim area in the Pakistani city of Quetta on 17 Feb, 2013. A provincial official criticized Pakistani security forces on Sunday after a bombing targeting the Shi’ite Hazara community killed 85 people in the northwestern city of Quetta.—REUTERS

Plane makes emergency landing in Russia’s Far East

MOSCOW, 18 Feb— A Tu-204 airliner carrying 97 passengers made a safe emergency landing in Russia’s Far East city of Vladivostok on Sunday, the Emergency Situations Ministry said.

“The plane made a successful emergency landing,” the ministry said in a statement, adding that no one was reportedly killed or injured.

The plane, with a crew of seven, was flying

from Vladivostok to Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky on the Kamchatka Peninsula when its primary hydraulic system failed, the ministry said.

A Red Wings Tu-204 plane carrying eight crew

members overshot the runway of Moscow’s Vnukovo Airport in December and crashed into a main highway. Five people on board died while the other three were injured.

Xinhua

Storm brings snow, gusty winds to New England

CAMBRIDGE, (Massachusetts), 18 Feb —A snowstorm slammed coastal New England, including Boston, on Sunday and was heading for eastern Maine and Atlantic Canada, meteorologists said.

The National Weather Service issued a winter storm warning on Sunday for Boston, Cape Cod, Nantucket and surrounding areas, saying that gusty winds, low visibility and up to 8 inches of snow were expected.

If the storm had been further west, it would have caused a serious blizzard, but instead it was brushing extreme eastern New England, sparing areas like New York City and Connecticut, which were buried in a snowstorm earlier this month, said Mark Paquette, a meteorologist with AccuWeather.

“It will cause headaches, but it could have been a lot worse,” Paquette said.

The storm in the Northeast is the same one that brought snow to North Carolina and South Carolina on Saturday, AccuWeather.com said. It’s not expected

to be as destructive as the deadly Northeast blizzard just over a week ago that brought hurricane-force winds and left hundreds of thousands without power. That’s in part due to colder temperatures causing drier snow, which is less likely to stick to trees and cause limbs to fall into power lines, Paquette said.

Still, the new storm had caused “excessive” cancellations and delays of flights arriving at or departing from Boston’s Logan International Airport on Sunday, according to FlightStats.com.

“Travel will be slow at best on well-treated surfaces and quite difficult on any unplowed or untreated surfaces,” the National Weather Service warning said.

Shari Donnermeyer, 54, a media consultant from Portsmouth, New Hampshire, was driving on Interstate 95 from Massachusetts into New Hampshire with winds so strong she could feel her SUV being blown around on the road, where traffic was crawling and drifts of snow were piling up.

Reuters

Egypt pound will not collapse

CAIRO, 18 Feb— The Egyptian pound will not collapse and its incremental depreciation has stabilized, a senior aide to Islamist President Mohamed Mursi said on Sunday.

Essam Haddad, Mursi’s deputy chief of staff and foreign policy adviser, told Reuters in an interview that he did not expect the pound to fall further after it lost more than 8 percent against the dollar since the start of the year. “I think it has reached a level of stability,” he said.

“So as long as it (depreciation) is going incrementally and in a way that is market-sensitive, then there is no harm in this,” Haddad said. More than two years of political instability following the overthrow of President Hosni Mubarak in 2011 has triggered a flight into dollars. The Egyptian pound has faced

extra pressure since late last year, when violent protests against President Mohamed Mursi erupted, setting back hopes for economic recovery. Violence flared again in Egypt on Sunday, with thousands blocking access to the harbour in Port Said to demand justice over the deaths of dozens of people in riots last month.

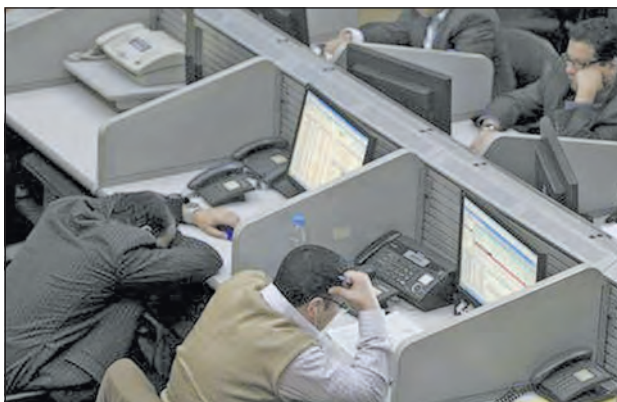
That violence was triggered by anger over the death sentences handed down to 21 people from Port Said for their involvement in a soccer stadium disaster in the city a year ago. Presidential adviser Haddad said of the Egyptian currency: “What we have to be very careful of is to (avoid) a drastic change, or a complete fall or collapse. And this is something we are not seeing in the foreseeable future and we hope that it will recover.”

A black market in hard currency has sprung up in

recent weeks due to a shortage of dollars, with street traders quoting the pound at more than 7 to the dollar compared to an official rate of 6.73. Regulated foreign exchange bureaux are swamped by demand for dollars and cannot meet the demand, the head of the foreign exchange department at the Chambers of Commerce said.

A senior business lead-

er affiliated with the ruling Muslim Brotherhood, Hassan Malek, told Reuters in an interview that people expected further devaluation of the pound. “I’m not, of course, a technical (expert) but people expect a little bit of devaluation in the future,” he said when asked whether he expected a further depreciation of the currency to help exports and tourism.—Reuters



Traders work at the Egyptian stock exchange in Cairo on 22 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

LOCAL NEWS

Bags of rice, clothes donated to earthquake victims

MANDALAY, 18 Feb—A ceremony to donate 200 bags of rice and clothes by media persons and artistes to victims from earthquake-hit areas of Thabeikkyin Township in Mandalay Region on 6 February morning.

At first, the Township Administrator explained relief works and rehabilitation tasks for the victims in the township and replied to queries raised by journalists.

Next, the wellwishers presented 200 bags of rice to the Township

Administrator and clothes to the Township Education Officer respectively.

Rice of bags were donated by Ngweyi Pale Mining Co and Crown cement plant and 80 pieces of clothes by Shwe Yamin silk house.

Myanma Alinn

Patheingyi BEPS-35 gets new building

MANDALAY, 18 Feb—A ceremony to open new school building was held at No 35 Basic Education Primary School in Kankhwe Village of Patheingyi Township in Mandalay District on 5 February.

Present on the occasion were Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint, Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Win Hlaing, Patheingyi Constituency Hluttaw

representatives U Swe Than and U Ko Lwin, officials and donor Canadian Mr John.

Region Minister Dr Win Hlaing, donor Mr John and Hluttaw representative U Ko Lwin formally opened the school building.

Before handing over ceremony of the school building to the Ministry of Education, the Chief Minister and donor Mr John made speeches.

The Canadian donated K 28.5 million on construction of 100 feet long, 26 feet wide and 13 feet high school building complete with five classrooms.—*Myanma Alinn*

Prizes presented to outstanding trainees, students**in Pobbathiri Township**

POBBATHIRI, 18 Feb—Certificate presentation for Buddhism Culture Course and prize presentation for

outstanding students of No 112 Basic Education Primary School for 2011-2012 academic year was held at the school in Wegyi Village of Pobbathiri Township on 17 February.

Chairman of Township Sangha Nayaka Committee Agga Maha Ganthavaçaka Pandita Sayadaw Bhaddanta Addiçavamsa, retired District Education Officer U Myint Oo and Assistant Township Education Officer U Win Maung Htay presented prizes to outstanding trainees and students.

Kyemon



Altogether 132 trainees attended the Buddhism culture course. Of them, a total of 116 trainees passed the test.

Wegyi Sayadaw seen with outstanding students and trainees.

Sports training camps of SPEI (Yangon) inspected

YANGON, 18 Feb—Chairman of Myanmar National Sports Committee Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan inspected construction of training swimming pool and cleaning of water, placing

of artificial turf at Futsal ground, placing of nylon rubber tracks at track and field ground, fitness practices of athletes for track and field events and cyclists, two-storey building and hostels for selected players, progress

of gymnastic players and upgrading of trainees at Sports and Physical Education Institute (Yangon) in Tamway Township on 8 February afternoon.

Afterwards, the Union Minister left necessary instructions on works.

MNA

Free clinic opens for public healthcare service in Pyapon

PYAPON, 18 Feb—Zabu Thukha free clinic was opened in the precinct of Zabu Hteinlin Monastery on Bogyoke Aung San Street in Pyapon of Ayeyawady Region in the third week of January.

The clinic is kept open from 9 am to 11 am and 4 pm to 7 pm every Sunday.

Any person may receive health care services from the clinic.

Doctors from Pyapon in rotation give health care services to the patients at the clinic.

About 100 patients receive treatment at the clinic weekly.

Those wishing to

donate cash and medicines to the clinic may dial 045-40188 of U Thaung Shein, 09-451230636 of Ko Myo Win Htaik, 09-422478899 of Ko Wi Chaing (Gyogyar Electronics) and 09-422465490 of Ko Wunna Tun.

Myanma Alinn

Hoisting of umbrella atop Pagoda coordinated

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb—A coordination meeting on hoisting of umbrella atop Shwetaungsar Pagoda was held at the hall of Taninthayi Region Government Office

in Dawei on 7 February morning, with an address by Taninthayi Region Chief Minister U Myat Ko.

Members of the leading committee and

subcommittees, region ministers, and responsible persons of Pagoda Board of Trustees discussed plans for holding the ceremony.

MNA

Container vehicle turns over

YANGON, 18 Feb—A Nissan container vehicle with load turned over at the bend of Industrial Zone 2 on Pyidaungsu Road of Dagon Myothit (South) Township in Yangon Region at 9.30 am on 7 February.

A Nissan diesel container vehicle driven by

Pyae Phyo Aung, 23 from South Dagon Industrial Zone 2 to Pyidaungsu Road caused upstart down on the narrow motorway while dodging a vehicle on opposite traffic of Pyidaungsu Road.

No one was injured in the accident.

Myanma Alinn

Myanmar traditional boxing challenge for new generations

YANGON, 18 Feb—In commemoration of the 66th Anniversary Union Day, the Myanmar traditional boxing challenge was held at the sports ground near the administrator's office in Ward 94 of Yuzana Garden City in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township on 9 and 10 February.

Amateur boxers and new generation boxers in addition to award winners in the Kayin new year boxing contest and golden belt winners actively participated in the challenge.—*Myanma Alinn*

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 19 February, 2013

Basic factors

The government in office understands the fact well that the Republic of the Union of Myanmar needs greater political, economic and defence strength for its perpetuation. And only if the nation lives long with robust force, can a modern developed democratic country be built.

So, the government's prime concern for flourishing of democracy in the country is no other than the peace, political stability and the silence of guns in the whole Union. As a result, it is making continuous efforts for ensuring all-inclusiveness in the political process, while its priority programs include peace and stability, the rule of law and socio-economic development to reach this end. But the task will be tougher and longer if the government alone is carrying it out. So, it is the concern and cause of every national race of the Union, as democracy flourishes well only in a peaceful, stable and prospering environment.

But the root cause of internal instability that has direct interrelations with lack of peace was the disagreement and mistrust between the brethren themselves. After the country regained independence, there was no unity among the national brethren due to personal cults, factionalism, localism and racism, which in point of fact were the evil forces behind the lingering armed conflicts among the national people. And all these evil forces were the results of the divide-and-rule practice exercised by the colonialists to prolong their stay in power as masters of Myanmar races.

Whatever the cause is, disunity brings instability and lack of peace that obstruct all hopes of prosperity and progress of the brethren.

So taking the bitter lessons of disunity all the national races must make cohesive efforts for eternal peace and stability and progress, which are the basic factors for democracy to flourish in the entire Union.

Make your wish!
I will fulfill it with
my divine power!

Please cut
daily traffic
jams!



Maung Pe Pe

Kyaikto gets rural self-reliant bridge

KYAIKTO, 18 Feb—A ceremony to inaugurate a self-reliant bridge linking Kyaungywa and Winkalaw villages was held in Kyaikto Township.

Officials formally

opened the new bridge.

The facility is 174 feet long and five feet wide and 10 feet high clearance. The bridge was built at a cost of K 10.5 million.

Myanma Alinn

NATIONAL

Workshop on drawing budget kicks off

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb— Under the capacity-building programme for the parliament, a delegation from Richardson Centre founded by Former Governor

Bill Richardson of the United States conducted a workshop on drawing budget for parliamentarians and staff at the Hluttaw Office, here, today.

Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa delivered an address at the opening of the workshop.

Chairmen, secretaries and members of Pyithu

Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw committees and staff of the Hluttaw Office attended the workshop that runs through 22 February.

MNA

Tender to be submitted for sponsoring XXVII SEA Games

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb— Ministry of Finance and Revenue has planned to submit a tender for sponsoring the XXVII SEA Games.

In his report to Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Win Shein at a work coordination meeting here today, Deputy Minister Dr Maung Maung Thein clarified the plans of the

ministry for inviting the international sponsors for the XXVII SEA Games.

During the meeting, the participants discussed matters related to

seeking ways for inviting international sponsors and advertisements, transportation and medals.

During the meeting, the Union Minister called for

stepping up the preparations for hosting the SEA Games and raising greater transparency for the funds of the SEA Games.

MNA



Thai parliamentary delegation members observing 11th day six regular session of First Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. (News on page 1)

MNA

MAI to ply Mandalay-Bangkok-Mandalay flight soon

YANGON, 18 Feb— To be able to satisfy increasing demands of local and foreign passengers, Myanmar Airways International (MAI) will run the Mandalay-Bangkok-Mandalay route as of 31 March.

The flight will be

extended for providing international level aviation safety service to the passengers with the use of Airbus A 320 that can accommodate 180 passengers.

The airplane will depart Mandalay at 8.35 am and arrive in Bangkok

at 11 am on Mandalay-Bangkok flight.

Likewise, the flight on Bangkok-Mandalay will leave Bangkok at 6.30 am and arrive in Mandalay at 7.55 am.

Officials of MAI held talks with those of Air France Consulting in Yangon on 6

February. They focused on cooperation between MAI and Air France Consulting in passenger service and commercial sectors.

In line with the agreement with Air France Industries, technological training course is being provided to the personnel for extending flights and aviation services.

Myanma Alinn

Stake driven for Myanmar-Laos Mekong River-Crossing Friendship Bridge

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb— The stake driven ceremony for Myanmar-Laos Friendship Mekong River-Crossing Bridge was held at the pandal of the bridge construction project in Laos on 16 February morning. The governor of Louangnamtha Province and bridge construction in-charge spoke words of thanks.

Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin, Laotian Public Works and Transport Minister Mr. Sommad Pholsena and officials laid cornerstones and drove the stand pipe with vibrohammer.

A similar ceremony took place at the pandal in Kengluk Sub-township of Tachilek District.

At the ceremony, Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin, Laotian

Minister Mr. Sommad Pholsena, Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat and the Louangnamtha Province Governor drove the stand pipe with vibrohammer.

Myanmar-Laos Mekong River-Crossing Friendship Bridge is of steel truss type one which links Louangnamtha Province of Laos and Kengluk Sub-township in Tachilek District. The bridge will be 691.6 meter long and will have 8.5 meter wide two lane motorway and which will withstand 75 tons of load per vehicle. Upon completion of the bridge, the two countries will be able to see smooth and speedy road transportation, thereby contributing towards swift flow of commodities and better economic development.

MNA



The stake driven ceremony for Myanmar-Laos Mekong River-Crossing Friendship Bridge in progress.—MNA

NATIONAL

U Zaw Tun concurrently accredited as Ambassador to Hungary

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Feb—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Zaw Tun, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of Serbia, concurrently as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to Hungary.—MNA

Rural library put into service

NAGMON, 18 Feb—A ceremony to open the new building of Pyinnya Shukhin Library was held in Kabsankhu Village of Nagmon Township of Putao District on 7 February.

Kachin State Hluttaw representative U Ma Bu Dagon and Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department U Htein Lin

cut the ribbon to open the building of library.

Books donated by Kachin State Rawam national race minister U Gwam Rein Dee were handed over to the village administrator. Officials accepted donations from departmental personnel.

The library building cost over K 800,000.

Myanma Alinn

Johns Hopkins University agrees tech cooperation with MSD

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb—The Medical Science Department under the Ministry of Health and Johns Hopkins University signed an MoU at the University of Medicine (1) (Yangon) on Lanmadaw Township in Yangon on 16 February afternoon.

The MoU covers giving training to medical staff of the University of Medicine (1) (Yangon) for human resource development and advancement of teaching methods of medicine.

On the occasion, Director-General of MSD Dr Than Zaw Myint and President Ronald J.



Director-General of MSD Dr Than Zaw Myint and President Ronald J. Daniels of Johns Hopkins University exchange the MoU on tech cooperation.—MNA

Daniels of Johns Hopkins University signed the MoU and exchanged the notes. Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin expressed words of thanks to the foreign guests and

his delight for the MoU which facilitates technical cooperation between the University and Johns Hopkins University and programmes for capacity building.—MNA

Union Cup Games Dates and Venues for Sports Events

Nos	sport categories	Event Period		Venue	Remarks
		From	to		
Opening ceremony		28-2-2013	-	Wunna Theikdi Stadium (Zabuthiri Township)	
1	Track and field	3-3-2013	7.3.2013	Wunna Theikdi Stadium (Zabuthiri Township)	
2	Badminton	23-2-2013	27-2-2013	TC-1 Badminton Training Hall (Zabuthiri Township)	
3	Basketball	1-3-2013	6-3-2013	TC-1, Basketball Training Ground (Zabuthiri Township)	
4	Billiards and snooker	23-2-2013	2-3-2013	TC-2 Billiards Hall, Lewe Township	
5	Physical fitness	12-2-2013	-	MCC (Yangon, Thingangyun Township)	
6	Boxing	24-2-2013	1-3-2013	TC-1 boxing training gym (Zabuthiri Township)	
7	Chess	26-2-2013	2-3-2013	Gold Camp (mess hall) (Zabuthiri Township)	
8	Cycling (Cross Country)	1-3-2013	6-3-2013	Mount Pleasant cycling ground (Ottarathiri Township)	
	Cycling (Down Hill)	1-3-2013	6-3-2013	Mount Pleasant cycling ground (Ottarathiri Township)	
	Cycling (BMX)	1-3-2013	6-3-2013	Mount Pleasant cycling ground (Ottarathiri Township)	
	Cycling (Road Race)	1-3-2013	6-3-2013	TC-1 Cycling training gym (Zabuthiri Township) Pinlaung road/ Taungkya Village and Leinli bridge	
9	Football (Men/women)	20-2-2013	7-3-2013	Wunna Theikdi Stadium (Zabuthiri Township)/ Paunglaung ground (Pyinmana Township) Training grounds (1) and (2) (Zabuthiri Township)	
10	Fustal (Men/women)	23-2-2013	6-3-2013	TC-1 Fustal training gym (Zabuthiri Township)	
11	Judo	25-2-2013	27-2-2013	TC-2 Judo training gym (Lewe Township)	
12	Karatedo	4.3.2013	6-3-2013	TC-2 Karatedo training gym (Lewe Township)	
13	Sepak Takraw	25-2-2013	5-3-2013	TC-1 Sepak Takraw training gym (Zabuthiri Township)	
14	Table Tennis	23-2-2013	27-2-2013	TC-1 Table Tennis training gym (Zabuthiri Township)	
15	Taekwondo	1-3-2013	3-3-2013	TC-1 Taekwondo training gym (Zabuthiri Township)	
16	Tennis	23-2-2013	28-2-2013	TC-1 Tennis training gym (Zabuthiri Township)	
17	Pancek Silat	2-3-2013	6-2-2013	TC-2 Martial Arts training gym (Lewe Township)	
18	Traditional Boxing (Muay)	3-3-2013	5-3-2013	TC-1 Boxing training gym (Zabuthiri Township)	
19	Volleyball	27-2-2013	7-3-2013	TC-1 Volleyball training gym (Zabuthiri Township)	
20	Weightlifting	1-3-2013	3-3-2013	Paunglaung Gymnasium (Pyinmana)	
21	Wushu	1-3-2013	3-3-2013	TC-2 Wushu training gym (Lewe Township)	
22	Wrestling	4-3-2013	7-3-2013	Paunglaung gym (Pyinmana Township)	
Closing Ceremony		7-3-2013	-	Wunna Theikdi Stadium (Zabuthiri Township)	

SEAMEO Council President Brunei Education Minister visits YUFL

YANGON, 18 Feb—President of SEAMEO Council Brunei Education Minister Mr. Pehin Dato Haji Abu Bakar Apong visited Yangon University of Foreign Languages, here, this morning.

There, he met with rector, pro-rectors and professor, heads of departments and

faculty members of the university.

The Brunei Education Minister paid a call on Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye at the meeting hall of the Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) thereafter.

MNA

Suzuki to resume production of cars in Yangon

YANGON, 18 Feb—Suzuki Co, one of top automobile manufacturing companies in Japan, will resume its production line in Yangon, according to its recent press release.

The automobile assembling factory closed its production in 2010 after running over its licence period. As of coming May, the factory will manufacture about 100 cars per month as part of efforts to create job opportunities for the Myanmar people, said the company.

A plan is underway to distribute cars at reasonable price in Myanmar, said Osamu Suzuki, Chairman of the company.

Suzuki Co thought a future plan to build a new assembling factory in Myanmar, but it is at a meeting level, he continued.

It was reported that the Japan's car company produced motor cars and motorcycles as a joint venture company with Myanmar government up to 2010.

Myanmar has imported about 130,000 cars including Japan's products up to end of January during 15-month period, according to last week's release of the Customs Department. Almost of a half of the imported cars to Myanmar were good second hand ones, it was learnt.

Myanma Alinn

Scottish gov't urges retailers to review meat sourcing policy

EDINBURGH, 18 Feb—Scottish Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs Richard Lochhead on Sunday urged retailers to rethink their sourcing policy on all meat and meat products they stock as investigations into the current horse meat issue continue.

Speaking ahead of a further meeting with retailers, processors and the British government in London on Monday, Lochhead urged retailers to take action and highlighted that the food sector in Scotland must make sure they are equipped, and have assurances in place, to help

retailers purchase meat locally.

"Recent events across Europe are completely unacceptable. Consumers need to be confident that food is what it says on the label and I have spoken to major retailers this week to urge them to reconsider their sourcing policies," said the Scottish cabinet secretary in a Press release.

"Retailers response to this issue is very frustrating and has raised serious questions. Of course testing is the priority, but it is also the very least they should be doing. They must also be reflecting on their sourcing

and purchasing policies. It is deeply concerning if not," he added.

Lochhead called on the retailers to consider how to shorten their supply chains as well and source more of their product locally, urging the food sector in Scotland to be ready and have assurances in place to help retailers to do that.

He also noted that Friday's initial test results offer some reassurance that the issue is not widespread, while detailed inspections continue to be carried out.

"As part of the testing, companies supplying meals to the public sector in Scot-

land, including schools, hospitals and prisons, have also been carrying out extensive checks. They have confirmed to date they are clear of any mis-labelled meat and so currently there is absolutely no evidence to suggest this is an issue in Scotland."

A total of 29 samples out of 2,501 tested beef products showed positive for the presence of horse DNA at or above the level of 1 percent, according to the first set of results published by the British Health Protection Agency on Friday.

Xinhua



Tourists visit the Humble Administrator's Garden in Suzhou, east China's Jiangsu Province, on 13 Feb, 2013. The number of tourists during the week-long Spring Festival holiday topped 203 million across the country, up 15.1 percent from the same period last year, according to the latest statistics by the National Tourism Administration. The Spring Festival, or the Chinese Lunar New Year, fell on 10 February this year.—XINHUA



A woman feeds a child canned mixed porridge while waiting for their bus at Jinyang bus station in Guiyang, capital of southwest China's Guizhou Province, on 17 Feb, 2013. Migrant workers, together with their children, started to return to the urban areas to work after the one-week Spring Festival holiday ended.

XINHUA

Abu Dhabi int'l defence fair starts on big note

ABU DHABI, 18 Feb—The biennial International Defence Exhibition and Conference (IDEX) 2013, which starts here on Sunday, doubled in size compared to 2011 and puts this year a special focus on naval defence and unmanned aerial systems. Launched in 1993, IDEX has become one of the largest fairs for defence technology and military equipment in the world. This year's IDEX hosts around 1,112 exhibiting companies from 59 countries.

The United States, the biggest exhibiting country, has over 180 participating firms from the defence industry. The host country United Arab Emirates (UAE) has 144 companies on the ground, while Germany and China are present with 69 and 25 firms, respectively. This year's IDEX hosts NAVDEX, a special platform for the navy ships. Visiting vessels from the UAE, the United States, France, Britain, Italy and Pakistan are berthed. A special focus on unmanned aerial equipment like recon-

naissance drones is part of this IDEX, as demand for such equipment in the Middle East is worth 1 billion US dollars, according to the fair's organizers.

According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), military spending reached 1.74 trillion dollars in 2011 globally.

While defence budgets in many Western countries were mostly cut due to austerity measures in 2011, states in the Middle East belong to the largest military spenders in the world in relation to defence spending per capita.

SIPRI figures show that the Middle East stepped up its military expenditure by 4.6 percent in 2011, but was outperformed by Eastern Europe.

The ongoing turmoil in some Arab countries, tensions between the Gulf Arab states and Iran, and permanent Israeli hostilities against Lebanon and Syria have fueled the demand for military hardware and arms in the region.

Xinhua

Iran sentences four to death over bank embezzlement

TEHRAN, 18 Feb—Iran's Supreme Court confirmed on Sunday death sentences for four people involved in a big embezzlement case, official IRNA news agency reported.

In the summer of 2011, Iranian media reported that

nearly 2.6 billion US dollars was swindled out of several banks over a span of more than two years by Amir Mansour Aria Company, whose owner, taking advantage of the government connections, purchased swaths of state-owned assets, including

those of Iran's second largest steel maker Khuzestan Steel Company.

In October 2011, Iranian media reported that, along with some people, a number of Iranian banking officials were also arrested over the scandal, allegedly one of the

biggest frauds in Iran's history.

According to IRNA, a banking official of the country was sentenced to life imprisonment. More details will be announced by the judiciary spokesman on Monday, said the report.—Xinhua

Brahimi backs Syrian opposition's dialogue call as gov't promotes Assad's vision

DAMASCUS, 18 Feb—International envoy to Syria Lakhdar Brahimi threw his support on Sunday behind the call for negotiations made by head of Syria's opposition coalition Moaz al-Khatib, as Syrian Prime Minister Wael al-Halqi urged all Syrian parties to engage in the political process outlined by President Bashar al-Assad.

At a joint Press conference with AL Secretary-General Nabil al-Arabi in Cairo, Brahimi urged on Sunday all sides of the conflict in Syria, the Arab region and the international community to respond to al-Khatib's call for dialogue.

The veteran Algerian troubleshooter also suggested that initial dialogue sessions better be held in the headquarters of the United Nations. "We believe that if the dialogue starts at the UN headquarters between the opposition and a delegation

from the Syrian government, it will be a beginning for getting Syria out of this dark tunnel," Brahimi said.

For his part, al-Arabi said he would head a delegation of at least four Arab countries to Moscow to partake in an Arab-Russian forum, noting that the Syrian crisis would top its agenda.

The opposition leader recently declared his readiness to embark on negotiations with the Syrian government so long as it would finally lead to the departure of the Damascus administration.

However, the government said earlier that the dialogue should not be based on preconditions and stressed that any dialogue should be held on the Syrian soil. Earlier on Sunday, Prime Minister Wael al-Halqi called on all Syrian people to engage in a political process on the Syrian soil to end the coun-

try's long-standing crisis in accordance to the political vision outlined by al-Assad.

The minister's remarks came during a cabinet session, during which he said his government has given assurances to make the political process a success, stressing that "no one would be excluded from the dialogue... We will not exclude anyone." The Syrian government is working to establish the political programme on the Syrian soil and is serious about embarking on a national dialogue, he said, noting that the political plan put forward by Assad was based on "national goals."

Assad offered a three-phase initiative to politically resolve the crisis, which includes a cease-fire, a comprehensive national dialogue on a "national charter", and the establishment of a broad-based government and parliament.—Xinhua

Buildings reglazed after meteorite strike in Russia

MOSCOW, 18 Feb—Most buildings damaged by Friday's meteorite fall in Russia's central Urals Region have been restored, and educational institutions will operate as usual on Monday. Xinhua reporters saw in the hardest-struck Chelyabinsk Region that many buildings had been reglazed as operation teams were still working at several major sites.

A meteorite ripped the sky and slammed into Urals Region on Friday with several explosions that smashed windows and damaged thousands of buildings around the city of Chelyabinsk. The total area of window glass shattered in the region has reached 200,000 square meters, local authorities said.

Some 1,200 people, including over 200 children, have been injured, mainly by shards of the glass. About 50 people were hospitalized, and at least two people were reportedly in grave condition. Russia's consumer rights watchdog Rospotrebnadzor also said in a statement on Sunday that "all the medical and educational buildings have been restored.—Xinhua



The 33-year-old British mother Charlene Machin had given birth to twin boys Oliver and Harry, but doctors discovered baby Harry had been born with a severe facial deformity, according to newspaper Daily Mail. Charlene and her two sons have overcome other people's prejudices and are a loving, close family.

XINHUA

REGIONAL



Photo taken on 12 July, 2012 shows the Hongyanhe nuclear power station near Wafangdian, northeast China's Liaoning Province. The Hongyanhe nuclear power station, the first nuclear power plant and largest energy project in northeast China, started operation on Sunday afternoon.—XINHUA

NE China's first nuclear power plant starts operation

DALIAN, 18 Feb — The Hongyanhe nuclear power station, the first nuclear power plant and largest energy project in northeast China, started operation on Sunday afternoon.

The plant's first unit went into operation at 3:09 pm, said Yang Xiaofeng, general manager of Liaoning Hongyanhe Nuclear Power Co, Ltd.

Construction on the first phase of the project, which features four power generation units to be built at a cost of 50 billion yuan (7.96 billion US dollars),

began in 2007 and is expected to be completed by the end of 2015, said Yang.

The four units will generate 30 billion kilowatt-hours (kwh) of electricity annually by then, accounting for 16 percent of the total electricity consumption in 2012 in Liaoning Province, Yang said. Construction on the second phase of the project, which features two power generation units to be built with an investment of 25 billion yuan, started in May 2010 and is expected to be completed by the end of 2016, he said.

The power plant will generate 45 billion kwh of electricity after it is fully completed in 2016, he said.

The plant's construction is highly localized, with more than 80 percent of the parts and components it features being produced locally, Yang said.

It is also the first Chinese nuclear power plant to use seawater desalination technology to provide cooling water, he said. The plant is located near the county-level city of Wafangdian, which is 110 km away from Dalian Port.—Xinhua



People attend the event of "Pet Adoption Day" at the Langsat Park in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 17 Feb, 2013. XINHUA

Australian Labour Party's primary vote slumps in latest poll

CANBERRA, 18 Feb — Australian Labour Party's primary vote stands at just 30 percent, down 5 points since December, the latest Herald/Nielsen poll published in Fairfax newspapers showed on Monday.

This is the first time that Tony Abbott is the preferred prime minister over Julia Gillard in seven months. According to the result, Abbott's approval rating has jumped 9 points to 49 percent, while Gillard's has dropped 5 points to 45 percent.

It means the Coali-

tion gaining 4 points to 47 percent, the highest level it has been since just after the carbon tax was introduced in 2012. And Labour's primary vote dipped to 30 percent, 5 points lower than the last survey in December and only 4 points higher than its lowest recorded level.

The national poll of 1,400 voters also found the gap between Gillard and former Prime Minister Kevin Rudd has grown, with Rudd favoured by 61 percent of respondents to just 35 percent for her.

Xinhua

Royal Bill paves way for gender equality for NZ's head of state

WELLINGTON, 18 Feb — New Zealand is to update its antiquated laws on its monarchy to allow a woman to succeed to the throne ahead of younger male siblings, Justice Minister Judith Collins announced on Monday.

The current law restricts succession to the oldest male heir and only allows a daughter to succeed in the absence of a son.

Collins said the Royal Succession Bill would be introduced to the New Zealand Parliament on Monday.

"The new laws will apply to any children in the Royal line of succession born after 28 Oct, 2011. This means the change will apply to the child of Their Royal Highnesses the Duke

and Duchess of Cambridge, due to be born in July," Collins said in a statement.

The new rules would also allow a person married to a Roman Catholic to become King or Queen, ending the disqualification of prospective heirs who are married to Catholics.

However, the Bill retained the ban on a Catholic acceding to the throne and the rules requiring the sovereign to swear to maintain the Protestant religion.

The Bill also removed the requirement that all members of the Royal family must seek the sovereign's permission to marry, and instead required just the first six in line to the throne to seek such consent.

All 16 countries sharing Queen Elizabeth, who resides in the United Kingdom, as head of state, must have the same laws of succession, she said.

"In the United Kingdom, a Bill to make these changes to Royal succession laws is currently going through Parliament."

"New Zealand also needs to make changes to our laws because changes to United Kingdom laws do not automatically apply here," said Collins.

After its first reading, the Royal Succession Bill would be referred to a select committee where it would be opened to submissions.

Xinhua

A flight prepares to take off from the Longjia International Airport in Changchun, capital of northeast China's Jilin Province, on 17 Feb, 2013. Changchun saw a heavy snowfall on Sunday. The snow did not cause flight delay at the Longjia International Airport, where snow removal measures have been undertaken.—XINHUA



10 killed in landslide, floods in North Sulawesi, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 18 Feb — Landslide and floods in Manado, the provincial capital of North Sulawesi, in central parts of Indonesia, on Sunday killed 10 people, official said here.

Sutopo Purwo Nugroho spokesman of national

disaster management and mitigation agency said that the natural disaster had forced about 1,200 people taking shelters.

Heavy rains starting after midnight had triggered floods and landslides on Sunday morning, he said.

"Nine people were killed by the landslide this morning and another was swept by the waters," he told Xinhua by phone.

Indonesia has been frequently hit by floods and landslide during heavy rains.—Xinhua

37 injured after tour bus falls on railway track in Japan

OSAKA, 18 Feb — Thirty-seven people were injured after a tourist bus fell from a road onto a railway track around 2.7 metres below in Oita Prefecture in southwestern Japan on Sunday afternoon, Kyodo News Agency reported.

Four people suffered

serious injuries while 33 others were slightly injured in the accident that happened in the town of Kokonoe in the prefecture at around 5:40 pm local time.

The bus carrying 43 passengers fell onto the train track of the JR Kyudai Line after crashing through

guardrails on the road, the report said. The bus driver attributed the accident to the failure of the brake, it added. Kyushu Railway Co. has halted services on the line between Yufuin and Bungomori stations due to the accident, according to the report.—Xinhua

Fishermen from Sri Lanka, India clash at sea

COLOMBO, 18 Feb—A group of fishermen from Sri Lanka and India clashed in Sri Lankan waters in the early hours of Sunday, a navy spokesman said.

The clash had occurred along the International Maritime Boundary which divides both countries, in the northwestern seas of Mannar, said Sri Lankan

navy spokesman Kosala Warnakulasuriya.

Warnakulasuriya told Xinhua that they had received information about the clash and had sent a navy boat to make inquiries and defuse the situation.

However he said that when the boat was on its way, the navy was informed that the situation

was brought under control and so he was unable to provide information on the number of Indian fishermen involved in the clash with their Sri Lankan counterparts.

"Since there was no direct navy involvement, I cannot give any details," Warnakulasuriya said.

Xinhua

Two Afghan militants killed in security operation

KABUL, 18 Feb — Afghan security forces backed by the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) killed two anti-government militants and captured another on Sunday, ISAF said in a statement. The two militants were killed in Logar Province 60 km south of Afghan capital Kabul.

"An Afghan and coalition force killed two insurgents during security operations in search of a Taleban leader in Charkh District, Logar Province, today," the statement added.

It did not say if the Taleban leader was located or captured, adding during the operation, the security forces seized multiple assault rifles along with ammunition and several grenades. In another operation, a joint Afghan and coalition force arrested a local Taleban leader in Baghlan-e Jadid District, Baghlan Province 160 km north of Afghan capital Kabul on Sunday, the statement said.—Xinhua

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 (For: Amica Law LLC, Singapore)
 Dated 19 February, 2013

Afghan forces discover drugs in southern province

LASHKARGAH, 18 Feb— Afghan police has seized nearly 1,250 kg of drugs in the country's southern province of Helmand, in the latest raid against narcotics and drug trafficking in the war-hit country, police said on Sunday.

"Afghan Special Counter-Narcotic Police supporting by national police found and seized over 1,000 hashish and 240 kg dry opium in Khanshin and Garmser districts over the past two days," the provincial police chief Gen. Nabi Ilham told reporters here.

He said a tractor, two vehicles and a motorcycle were also confiscated in the raids, adding no person was detained during the seizure in the province 555 km south of Afghan capital Kabul.

The insurgency-hit Afghanistan produces about 90 percent of the world's opium, the raw element for making heroin.

An estimated 3,700 tons of opium was produced in 154,000 hectare of land in Afghanistan in 2012 with nearly 90 percent of cultivation taking place in southern and western provinces, according to assessments of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Afghan Ministry of Counter-Narcotics.

Xinhua

INVITATION FOR TENDER

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Finance and Revenue
Committee on Finance
27th SEA GAMES ORGANIZING COMMITTEE
INVITATION FOR BIDS
ON SPONSORSHIP MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT

- The Republic of the Union of Myanmar will hold 27th SEA GAMES in December from 11th to 22nd in major cities of Myanmar. It will be the very first of its kind during 44 years and it will be the very first major international event after the democratization process started in the year 2011.
- Since Myanmar has become the major topic due to its significant political change, natural resources, people, historic and scenic beauties this event will be the golden opportunity for the would-be investors to make acquaintance of and to make them known to this wonderful country which might be the last frontier of rich investment in South East Asia.
- In view of the fore goings, bids are invited by the Committee on Finance for the selection of Sponsorship Management Consultant with the following terms and conditions:-
 - One organization is entitled to put one bid only
 - One bidder only will be selected as Sponsorship Management Consultant
 - The winning bidder has exclusive right to dispense the following rights to the sponsors:-
 - Television Right
 - Advertising Right
 - Publicity Right
 - The sponsorships being dispensed by the Consultant shall in four levels as follows:-

Platinum	Value (in USD) of each level and the right to be dispensed to each level sponsor shall be quoted by bidder
Gold	
Silver	
Pearl (Co-sponsorship)	
 - The selected Sponsorship Management Consultant shall work on commission basis and deposit of USD 100,000 must be put up at the designated bank account after signing the Exclusivity Agreement.
 - No territorial limit for marketing sponsorship.
 - Deposit shall be refunded within 7 banking days after the event.
- Bids shall be only on the official Bidding form and to be delivered into the Tender Box located at the Ministry of Finance and Revenue, Office No.26, Nay Pyi Taw no later than (16:00) hour on (6-3-2013).
- Bids shall be opened at the Ministry of Finance and Revenue, Office No.26, Nay Pyi Taw at (10:00) am on (7-3-2013).
- Announcement on the successful bidder will be made on 11-3-2013.
- Official Bidding form and requirement shall be available at the Ministry of Finance and Revenue, Office No.26, Nay Pyi Taw and Tax Service Unit, No.59/61 at the Corner of Pansodan and Merchant Street, Yangon during the office hour from (21-2-2013) to (27-2-2013) in payment of Kyat 10,000 (Kyat ten thousands).
- Inquiry can be made at the following contact phone numbers-

01-378370
 01-378372
 067-430071
 067-410181

Secretary
 Committee on Finance

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV MERKUR BRIDGE VOY NO (030)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MERKUR BRIDGE VOY NO (030) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19-2-2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV SINGAPORE BRIDGE VOY NO (033)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINGAPORE BRIDGE VOY NO (033) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18-2-2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES
 Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**Drive
 with
 care**

Girls wearing traditional Chinese costumes play folk music under the plum blossoms at Xixi Wetland Park during a plum blossom festival in Hangzhou, capital of east China's Zhejiang Province, on 17 Feb, 2013. The festival opened here Sunday.—XINHUA



More than 250 trucks stranded by floods in central Mozambique

MAPUTO, 18 Feb — More than 250 trucks are stranded by floods in central Mozambique, local authorities said on Sunday.

The trucks transporting food, building materials, fuel and power pylons have been stranded on the Zambezi river banks for five days in Caia in the central Province of Sofala.

The north-south road is cut off by floods precisely at Nicoadala in the Province of Zambezia, also in the central part of the southern African country. Emergency work is being done with part of the road repaired to allow small vehicles to pass through.

The stranded drivers are facing food, accommodation, sanitation and crime problems. Some drivers sell their fuel to get money for survival. The floods have killed 101 people and affected 170,000 others.

Xinhua

35 armed Taleban lay down arms in Afghanistan

HERAT, 18 Feb— Thirty five armed Taleban militants gave up fighting after 10 years and handed over their weapons to authorities in the western Herat Province on Sunday, police said.

"Today 35 dissident brothers including four mine makers under Mullah Nasim, who fought against government over the past 10 years gave up fighting and handed in their weapons including several anti-vehicle and anti-personal mines to police," provincial police chief Rahmatullah Safi said in his speech at a ceremony to welcome the former militants.

With joining these people to the peace process, the security will be further improved in Herat Province, he further said.

Xinhua

ENTERTAINMENT

New Himmatwala updated with Gangnam Style moves



One of the tracks in Himmatwala starring Ajay Devgn and Tamannaah has the Korean rapper Psy's steps, which has created a storm across the world.—PTI

MUMBAI, 18 Feb — Though he may be remaking the 1983 Jeetendra-Sridevi starrer Himmatwala, but director Sajid Khan has included 2012's hugely popular Gangnam style dance moves in his upcoming film.

One of the tracks in his movie starring Ajay Devgn and Tamannaah has the Korean rapper Psy's steps, which has created a storm across the world.

A source said, "The song featuring Tamannaah

with a bunch of kids is a funny track. When the makers were deciding on which steps to include for the song, everyone suggested Gangnam style. That's when we realised that the audience especially the tiny tots will love it."

The source added, "Sajid Khan wanted it to be a fun song and as Gangnam style is easily recognised, he settled for the Gangnam moves."

PTI

Trying not to think about Oscars: Jennifer Lawrence

LONDON, 18 Feb — Actress Jennifer Lawrence, who is nominated for Oscars for her work in "Silver Linings Playbook", says she does not want to think about what it might be like to win the coveted prize.

The 22-year-old said she is trying to keep her excitement in check. The Oscar ceremony will take place on 24 February, reported Contactmusic.

"It's very important to



Actress Jennifer Lawrence separate work from your personal life.

If you don't separate it, then it blends into your personal life.— PTI

Country singer Mindy McCready dead of apparent suicide



Actor Dean Cain escorts his girlfriend, country music singer Mindy McCready, to the premiere of the new horror film "Scream 2" at Mann's Chinese Theatre in Hollywood, California in this 10 Dec, 1997 file photograph. McCready has died aged 37 from an apparently self-inflicted gunshot wound, an Arkansas sheriff said on 17 Feb, 2013.—REUTERS

PHOENIX, 18 Feb— Country music star Mindy McCready, whose albums include "Ten Thousand Angels" and "If I Don't Stay the Night," has died at age 37 apparently from a self-inflicted gunshot wound, an Arkansas sheriff said on Sunday.

McCready was found dead on the porch of a house in Heber Springs, Arkansas, on Sunday afternoon with what appears to be "a single self-inflicted gunshot wound," the Cleburne County Sheriff's Office said in a statement.

Reuters

"Die Hard" action beats love stories at box office

LOS ANGELES, 18 Feb — The fifth movie in the Bruce Willis "Die Hard" franchise scored the biggest box-office action over the US holiday weekend, beating out love story "Safe Haven," which came in third for the Friday-through-Sunday period. "A Good Day to Die Hard," with Willis returning as the tenacious, wisecracking hero John McClane, pulled in \$25 million at US and Canadian theaters over the three days, according to studio estimates.

The tally was expected to approach a total of \$40 million for the five days that began with Thursday's Val-

entine's Day and ends with Monday's Presidents Day holiday in the United States. "Die Hard" beat "Safe Haven," an adaptation of a Nicholas Sparks novel that was aimed at luring couples during the week of Valentine's Day. The film, which stars Julianne Hough and Josh Duhamel, pulled in \$21.4 million over the three days.

Last weekend's box office winner, the Melissa McCarthy comedy "Identity Thief," stayed strong and ended up taking second place with \$23.4 million from Friday to Sunday. Willis prevailed with his reprisal of a role he played four previous times start-



Cast members Jai Courtney (R) and Bruce Willis meet with fans to celebrate the opening of their new film "A Good Day To Die Hard" in New York on 13 Feb, 2013.

REUTERS

ing with the original "Die Hard" in 1988. Those movies grossed \$1.1 billion

around the world and made Willis a global action star.

Reuters

Oscars to enjoy surround sound for 1st time in new Dolby Theatre

LOS ANGELES, 18 Feb— In a week's time the Academy Awards ceremony will for the first time have 5.1 surround sound effect, said Dolby Laboratories, the new owner of the Oscars venue. "We work with the theater owner as well as the Academy, to make sure that from the sound treatment perspective, the theater itself sounds like nothing before," Ramzi Haidamus, Dolby's executive vice



president of marketing and business development, told Xinhua.

Since last June, when Dolby officially took the name of former Kodak

I was curled up in agony for 20 years: Padma Lakshmi

LONDON, 18 Feb— Model-actress Padma Lakshmi says she used to suffer from crushing fatigue and moodswings before she was diagnosed with endometriosis.

Lakshmi, 42, who was once married to celebrated author Salman

Rushdie, said specialists even told her that she would not be able to have children, even with the help of IVF, reported Daily Mail.

But the 42-year-old is now a proud mother to baby girl Thea Krishna, who will turn three next week."It (endometriosis) ended up happening accidentally.

PTI



Model-actress Padma Lakshmi

Theatre, Dolby has added 164 speakers, 200 audio amplifiers, dozens of servers, processors, screens and projectors, which outfit four-level venue with its Dolby 3D and Dolby Atmos audio systems.

"It's the first time to use the 5.1 surround sound in the house," David Gray, Dolby's vice president of content services, told Xinhua.

Xinhua

SPORTS

Maguire edges Bingham to win Welsh Open



Stephen Maguire of Scotland shows the trophy during the awarding ceremony for 2013 Welsh Snooker Open at Newport Centre in Newport, south Wales, Britain on 17 Feb, 2013. Stephen Maguire claimed the title by beating Stuart Bingham of England with 9-8 in the final.—XINHUA

Deco sets up two goals in Fluminense win

RIO DE JANEIRO, 18 Feb—Deco set up two first-half goals on Sunday to lead Rio de Janeiro giants Fluminense to a 3-1 victory over Volta Redonda in Brazil's Campeonato Carioca. Striker Samuel opened the scoring at the Raulino de Oliveira Stadium by heading in a precise Deco corner kick and he made it 2-0 just before half time by again benefiting from a clever through ball by the former Portugal playmaker.

Leo Andrade reduced



Deco

the deficit early in the second half by bundling in from close range before Marcos Junior scored Fluminense's third after a slalom run into the penalty area. Deco said he was satisfied with his first match of the year after recovering from a thigh injury. "It was my first game of the season and I was able to participate in two of the goals," said the 35-year-old, who was substituted in the 75th minute.

"I didn't feel any effects of the injury and I could have played the entire match. I only came off as a precaution." In other Campeonato Carioca fixtures on Sunday, Flamengo overcame rivals Botafogo 1-0 while Vasco da Gama defeated Audax 2-0.—Xinhua

McIlroy to meet Lowry in Match Play first round

PACIFIC PALISADES, (California), 18 Feb—World number one Rory McIlroy was drawn on Sunday to play Ireland's Shane Lowry in the first round of next week's WGC-Accenture Match Play Championship at Dove Mountain in Marana, Arizona. Northern Irishman McIlroy, who clinched his second major title at last year's PGA Championship by a record eight shots, was beaten 2&1 by American Hunter Mahan in last year's Match Play final.

World number two Tiger Woods, a three-times winner of the elite World Golf Championships event,

will meet fellow American Charles Howell III in Wednesday's opening round while third-ranked Briton Luke Donald takes on Germany's Marcel Siem. South African Louis Oosthuizen, ranked fifth, faces Britain's Richie Ramsay and sixth-ranked Englishman Justin Rose launches his campaign against South Korean KJ Choi.

Two members of the world's top 10 are not playing in the 64-player event, fourth-ranked Brandt Snedeker pulled out because of sore ribs while ninth-ranked Phil Mickelson will be absent due to a family holiday.—Reuters

LONDON, 18 Feb—World No 6 Stephen Maguire fought back from behind to edge out Stuart Bingham 9-8 to win the Welsh Open at the Newport Centre on Sunday.

The two players were deadlocked at 4-4 into the final evening session. Englishman Bingham looked dominant to lead 7-5 but Maguire took the next three frames in a row to make it 8-7. Bingham gave the crowd a deciding frame when he levelled, but Maguire's imperious 82 saw him home. "I forgot what it felt like to be a winner at the end of a tournament, it's the best feeling ever," Maguire said.—Xinhua

Azarenka topples Serena to win in Doha

LONDON, 18 Feb — Outgoing world number one Victoria Azarenka showed that being second best was not an option for her as she outclassed Serena Williams 7-6, 2-6, 6-3 to win the Qatar Open on Sunday.

Williams will replace Azarenka on top of the WTA rankings when the new list is released on Monday but the American's hopes of capping off a memorable week with a 48th singles title were dashed by



Victoria Azarenka of Belarus holds her trophy after defeating Serena Williams of the US during the final match at the Qatar Open tennis tournament in Doha on 17 Feb, 2013. —REUTERS

an opponent who extended her 2013 record to 12-0. Williams's game sparked as brightly as the diamond ring on her playing right hand during the second set but it was Azarenka who was running rings around her in the third.

The Belarussian leapt to a 3-0 lead and never relinquished that advantage, polishing off Williams with an unreturnable serve in just under 2-1/2 hours. In case anyone in the crowd had forgotten that she had entered the tournament as top dog in the world rankings, she celebrated by holding both arms aloft and wagging her index fingers towards the night sky of Doha.—Reuters

Nadal wins Brazil Open

SAO PAULO, 18 Feb — Former world No 1 Rafael Nadal clinched his first tournament victory since returning from a seven-month lay-off, by defeating Argentina's David Nalbandian 6-2, 6-3 in the final of the Brazil Open on Sunday. Trailing 3-0 in the second set, Nadal rallied to win six consecutive games and defeat Nalbandian in one hour and 18 minutes in the indoor clay-court event. It was the Spaniard's second Brazil Open triumph, having won the tournament as an 18-year-old in 2005.

Despite its relatively modest status as an ATP 250 event, Nadal pumped his fist in the air in jubilation upon securing his 51st singles title at the Ibirapuera arena. "Brazil will always be in my heart," the 11-time grand slam winner



Former world No 1 Rafael Nadal

said. "Big things started to happen after I won here in 2005 and hopefully this is the start of something good again." The tournament was Nadal's second event since suffering a left knee

injury during his second-round Wimbledon defeat to Czech Lukas Rosol in June last year.

He returned to play the Chile Open last week, losing to world No.73 Horacio Zeballos in the final. The 26-year-old admitted he was yet to reach full match fitness, but said victory in Brazil gave him hope the worst was behind him. "When the knee is feeling better like today I feel like that I can do more of the things that I used to do," he said. "If the pain is bearable, then it's fine."

Nalbandian, playing in his first final since being disqualified for kicking an advertising sign and injuring a line judge at Queen's Club last June, conceded he had been outplayed by Nadal.—Xinhua

Hirscher ends Austrian wait for individual gold

SCHLADMING, (Austria), 18 Feb—Marcel Hirscher, the world's top skier last season, won the men's slalom to give host nation Austria their first individual gold at the Alpine skiing world championships in the final of the ten events on Sunday. The 23-year-old sent the 30,000 crowd into raptures as he beat Germany's Felix Neureuther, the son of former Olympic champion Rosi Mittermaier and 1970s slalomist Christian Neureuther, by 0.42 seconds over the two runs.

Hirscher's compatriot Mario Matt completed an excellent day for the hosts, whose only previous gold was in the low-key team

event, by finishing third to add to the gold medals he won in the slalom in 2001 in St Anton and 2007 in Are. Hirscher, who won silver in Friday's giant slalom, led after the first run and nearly came a cropper as he attacked on the second, but recovered his balance just in time. American Ted Ligety's hopes of a fourth gold medal ended early

when he skidded out high on the first run.

Ligety had already won the super-G, giant slalom and combined to become the first male skier to win



Marcel Hirscher of Austria skis during the first run of the men's Slalom race at the World Alpine Skiing Championships in Schladming on 17 Feb, 2013.

REUTERS



Brazil international striker Neymar

Neymar sent off in 3-1 Santos defeat

SAO PAULO, 18 Feb — Brazil international striker Neymar was sent off as Santos suffered a shock 3-1 defeat to Ponte Preta in the Campeonato Paulista on Sunday. He and Ponte Preta defender Artur were shown straight red cards after an altercation just before half-time at the Moises Lucarelli Stadium.

Neymar did not hide his anger at being shown the fifth red card of his career. "Who did I hurt? I tried to kick the ball and ended up making contact with Artur, but not even he complained," Neymar said after the match. The 21-year-old will not play his next match until Santos' 3 March clash against Corinthians, who drew 2-2 with Palmeiras on Sunday.

Second-half substitute Alemao secured the victory for Ponte Preta deep into injury time with his second goal in 10 minutes after Santos forward Andre gave the visitors hope with an 86th minute strike. Bruno Silva had given Ponte Preta a 1-0 advantage by netting in the 12th minute.

Xinhua

GENERAL

In memoriam Family shares merits gained Maha Thayay Sithu Lt-Gen Tin Oo

In memory of benefactor Phay Phay Gyi Lt-Gen Tin Oo who suddenly left us twelve years ago, we family members have made donations and offered 'soon' and provisions to members of the Sangha today on 19-2-2013. We family members share with you the merits gained.

**Wife Daw Khin Than Nwe
Sons, Daughters and grandchildren**

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(19-2-13 09:30 am ~
20-2-13 09:30 am) MST
* News
* Take the Correct Route,
Drive Safely
* Panto Mime Show in
Yangon
* News
* Evergreen Classical
Music (Part-2)
* News
* Reliable Transportation
Mode for Suburbanites
(Part-1)
* How's this Platform?
* News
* Super Traditional
Fencing Form
(Episode-3)
* "Topic on Journal" Trip
to Mrauk U Insights and
Leisure
* Unique Type of Merit
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* News
* A Day in Bagan
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* "Myanmar Movies
Impact" Heart Hit
(Part-2)
* News
* Today's Efficient Youth
* Myanmar Movies
"Heartbroken lady"

Myanmar TV (19-2-2013, Tuesday)

7:00 am	5:00 pm
1. Paritta By Venerable MinGun Sayadaw	13. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
7:25 am	5:05 pm
2. Health Programme	14. Song Programme
7:30 am	5:25 pm
3. Morning News	15. SEA GAMES (Go For Gold) (Basketball)
7:45 am	6:00 pm
4. People talks	16. Evening News
7:50 am	6:15 pm
5. Nice & Sweet Song	17. Weather Report
8:00 am	6:20 pm
6. Documentary	18. Sing A Song
8:15 am	6:50 pm
7. Song of YesterYear	19. TV Drama Series
8:25 am	7:00 pm
8. Teleplay (Health)	20. News
8:35 am	7:10 pm
9. DanceOf National Races	21. TV Drama Series
8:55 am	8:00 pm
10. Performance with Song	22. Bakery World
4:05 pm	Kyawzwar
11. Opening Song	Myo Ma Nyein (Composer)
4:25 pm	10:00 pm
12. 2013 University Entrance Examination (Myanmar)	24. News
	25. India Drama Series

Ross wins slam dunk title, Irving top long-range gunner

HOUSTON, 18 Feb—Toronto Raptors guard Terrence Ross won the NBA's Slam Dunk Contest on Saturday with a one-handed, though-the-legs rim-rattler after leaping over a ballboy.

The windmill slam earned the wild applause of the sold-out crowd at the Toyota Centre and lifted the 22-year-old rookie to the title over Jeremy Evans of the Utah Jazz. "I feel blessed, but it's still overwhelming," he told



East All-Star Terrence Ross of the Toronto Raptors competes in the slam dunk contest during the NBA basketball All-Star weekend in Houston, Texas, on 16 Feb, 2013.—REUTERS

reporters. "I'm just trying to soak it all in." Ross garnered 58 percent of the votes from the public in the two-dunk championship round to claim the title.

In another skills test, second-year guard Kyrie Irving of the Cleveland Cavaliers defeated San Antonio Spurs power forward Matt Bonner 23-20 to win the three-point shooting contest. Ross

said he never dreamed he would win the title. "It was my favorite event to watch every year, since I was a small child," he said. "But actually winning it, I never thought I'd do it. It's been unbelievable. I've had fun." In the opening round of the finals, Evans leaped over a covered easel and delivered a left-handed windmill slam. After the dunk, he pulled the cover off the

easel and revealed a picture of himself dunking the ball.

He then signed the picture to the roar of the crowd. But Ross clinched the competition with his gravity-defying leap over the ballboy, who also needed a leap of faith that he was not going to get clobbered. "I told him the day before that I was going to jump over him, but I never told him I was going to go through the legs," said Ross. "He was kind of nervous. When I first grabbed him he said, 'You're not going to hit me, right?' I said, 'No, I'm not going to hit you.' So I had to calm his nerves."

In the three-point contest, the 20-year-old Irving, who is also playing in Sunday's All-Star game, said he was using the occasion to become better known because the Cavaliers are generally out of the national spotlight.

Reuters

Olympics: Yoshida named as candidate for FILA's female committee

PHUKET, (Thailand), 18 Feb—FILA named three-time Olympic champion Saori Yoshida as a candidate on Sunday to sit on a female committee that will be established as the world wrestling governing body aims to retain the sport for the 2020 Summer Games. FILA said that Yoshida, winner of three consecutive gold medals in the women's 55-kilogram freestyle, will also act as a special envoy to help lobby for wrestling's continuance.

In an effort to modernize the sport after the International Olympic Committee's controversial elimination of wrestling from 25 core sports for the 2020 Games on Tuesday, FILA decided in a its executive board meeting in Phuket to form a female committee and ethics panel. FILA has also decided to work on changing the rules for the Greco-Roman style wrestling, which has gained a reputation for being unpopular because it is difficult for spectators to understand.

On Saturday, Raphael Martinetti was ousted as FILA president after being issued a vote of no confidence by his peers. Nenad Lalovic has taken over as acting FILA president. FILA vice president Tomiaki Fukuda said, "Under our new (acting) president, we plan to make contact with the IOC with this new administration." FILA will also hire a consulting firm in its lobbying efforts as it attempts to build a case to make in a presentation to the IOC executive board in May in St Petersburg, Russia. It will be in close contact with nearly 180 member countries in a joint lobbying effort.



Japanese wrestler Saori Yoshida, a three-time Olympic champion at the women's 55 kilograms, meets the media in Obu, Aichi Prefecture, on 13 Feb, 2013, after the International Olympic Committee executive board decided to drop wrestling from the "core sports" for the 2020 Games.—KYODO NEWS

Yoshida and three-time Olympic champion Alexander Karelin of Russia, are expected to take part in the presentation, where the IOC is expected to narrow down the number of sports from eight to three. The final decision will come down at the IOC assembly in September in Buenos Aires, where the host of the 2020 Games will be decided.

Kyodo News

Patrick first woman to take pole for Daytona 500

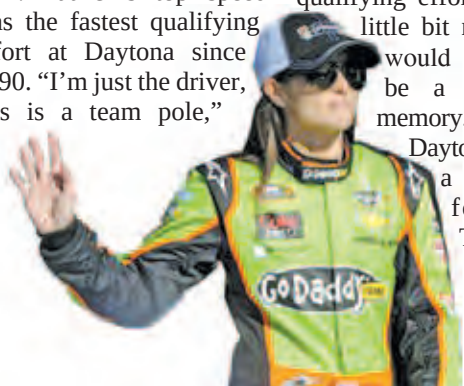
TORONTO, 18 Feb—Danica Patrick will start from the Daytona 500 pole position after posting the fastest qualifying speed for the Great American Race on Sunday and becoming the first woman to take the pole for a NASCAR Sprint Cup event. Patrick, who ran a partial Sprint Cup program last year, signaled she was ready to race full-time against the big boys of American stock car racing by clocking 196.434 mph around Daytona International Speedway.

Four-time Cup champion Jeff Gordon joined Patrick on the front row for next Sunday's race, joking afterwards that

he was at least the fastest man. Patrick's top speed was the fastest qualifying effort at Daytona since 1990. "I'm just the driver, this is a team pole,"

she told reporters after her qualifying effort. "I was a little bit nervous. "It would definitely be a high point memory. I think

Daytona has such a legendary following." The remainder of the 500 field will be set in a pair of



NASCAR Sprint Cup Series driver Danica Patrick, of the number 10 car, waves to the crowd as she makes her way into victory lane to celebrate securing the pole position for the upcoming Daytona 500, with fellow Sprint Cup driver and inside pole winner Jeff Gordon, of the number 24 car, during qualifying for the Daytona 500, at Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Florida, on 17 Feb, 2013.—REUTERS

Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw receives IPU Secretary-General, USAID Director



Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyein receives Director Dr. David Yang of US Agency for International Development Agency of the United States and party. —MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb— Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyein received a delegation led by IPU Secretary-General Mr. Anders Johnson at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of the Hluttaw Complex, here, at 9 am today.

It was attended by Chairmen of Amyotha

Hluttaw Committees U Aung Nyein, Col Maung Maung Htoo, Dr Myint Kyi, U Nyunt Tin and officials concerned.

The meeting focused on Hluttaw affairs and IPU's assistance for the Hluttaw Library.

In the afternoon, the Deputy Speaker received Director Dr. David Yang of US Agency for International

Development Agency of the United States and party at the hall of Amyotha Hluttaw Building, here, this afternoon.

They held talks on cooperation in ensuring the rule of law, democratic causes and human rights between the two governments, two parliaments and two peoples and exchange of experiences in enactment of laws.

Also present at the call were the chairs of Amyotha Hluttaw committees Col Maung Maung Htoo, U Aung Nyein and Daw Nann Ni Ni Aye, committee secretary U Htay Maung and officials of Hluttaw Office.

MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker meets IPU Secretary-General and party

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb—Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa received a delegation led by Secretary-General Mr. Anders Johnson of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) at the hall of Pyithu Hluttaw Building, here, this morning.

They held

comprehensive discussions on bilateral cooperation between Myanmar parliament and IPU, development of the parliament library, workshops and training courses for human resources development and other matters.

Also present at the

call were Chairman of International Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo, Secretary of Hluttaw Rights Committee Dr Soe Yin, Secretary of Public Accounts Committee U Maung Toe and member Daw Mi Yin Chan and officials of the Hluttaw Office.—MNA

Panamanian-flagged ship sank off Philippines Coast : Marine Administration Dept

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb— MV Arita Bauxite flying the flag of Panama sank at sea off Bolinao, Pangasinan Province of the Philippines, yesterday, said the Department of Marine Administration of the Ministry of Transport.

The department denied the previous report covered in the 18 February issue of dailies that the ship is flagged with the flag of Myanmar. The owner of the ship is from Singapore,

the department said.

The department released the names of the missing 14 crews. They are U Win Kyi, U Myo Aung, U Ye Lwin, U Mann Maung Maung, U Aung Thura Win, U Myint Maung Maung Kyi, U Kyaw Min Min Win, U Khin Maung Myint, U Ye Lwin Htay, U Khin Maung, U Kyaw Thu Win, U Myo Thant, U Aung Kyaw Zaw and U San Lwin Oo.

The name of the dead

victim is U Myint Aung, the department said.

The nine crews who were rescued are U Kyi Win, U Khin Maung Win, U Aung Kyaw Khaing, U Cho Aye, U Aung San Win, U Aung Thu Nyein, U Win Saw, U Win Min Thein and U Thant Zin Moe. Further information will be released. The previous report said that the China-bound ship loaded with coal sank yesterday.

MNA

Sustainability of fish species in Inlay calls for mass participation

By Nyaungshwe Khin Maung Mya

Inlay Lake in Nyaungshwe Township of Shan State (South) is the world famous destination.

The Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry is implementing the project for the rehabilitation and conservation of Inlay Lake in cooperating with the United Nations Development Programme for sustainability of the lake.

According to the project, the ministry is cooperating with Friends of Wildlife, conducting Negotiating Sustainable Fisheries Practices and Conservation of Wildlife in the Inlay Wildlife Sanctuary with the aim of ensuring

sustainable production of marine resources from the lake.

Moreover, educative talks are being given to local people to desist from the use of improper fishing methods which are harmful to sustainability of fish species in the lake.

Setting up of fishing free zones includes in the project. Aiming at accumulating the numbers of fish, improving the ecosystem of wetland region, organizing local people to do their bit in the natural resources management system, and ensuring sustainability of Inlay Lake, plans are underway to set up restricted zones for fish farming.

The project is in good shape at 12 villages. Coordination between the township level departments concerned and town elders and heads of fishermen was made prior to designating fishing free zones in the Inlay Lake. Close supervision is being made by staff of Inlay Lake Wildlife Sanctuary and Fisheries Department for ensuring fishing free in the zones. Zone-1 with the area of 303 acres is situated around the Yele Bote and Zone-2 with the area of 1440 acres near Inn U, Sitha, Hsison and Myaungwa villages.

During the project period from 15 July 2012 to 15 September 2013, Friends

of Wildlife will conduct setting up of fishing free zones, releasing fingerlings into the lake, helping local people with fish farming on a managerial scale and patrolling around the zones in cooperating with authorities concerned.

At present, Inlay Lake sees deterioration in ecosystem and locally-bred fish species are at risk of being endangered. That's why, sustainability of Inlay lake and wildlife sanctuary calls for mass participation in the project in cooperation with officials concerned.

Myanma Alinn
(18-2-13)
Trs: YM

