

Cooperatives system is not commune system, but a system encouraging cooperation of all the people in socio-economic development of society



President U Thein Sein cordially greets attendees at rural development and socioeconomic development ceremony in Magway Region.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Jan—President U Thein Sein attended the rural development and socioeconomic development ceremony in Magway

Region and opening of Sesame Oil Mill of Myay Lattha General Economic Cooperative Society Ltd in Magway this morning.

At the rural development and socioeconomic development ceremony in Magway, the President said that the loans will be granted to the people dwelling in villages and wards in Magway Region at the ceremony. The President revealed about 3 million migrant workers from Myanmar left for the neighbouring countries in pursuit of jobs due to the lack of job opportunities. He said about 70 percent of the entire population living in rural areas are under poverty line due to 20 years of economic sanctions.

He said his government is committed to the rural development and schemes for poverty alleviation were initiated through consultations with local and international scholars. Major livelihoods in rural areas are agriculture and livestock breeding, said the President. He said some cottage industries in the villages have to hire required tools

so that their incomes were marginalized. The people in rural areas could not afford adequate education for their children and reliable healthcare for their family. He supported the idea of employing multiple cropping pattern to keep farm workers employed all the year round. He said the government is providing adequate water supply to the farmlands, quality strains, agricultural inputs and capitals.

The President said the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation is working in cooperation with the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and Rural Development and the Ministry of Cooperatives. The Cooperatives Ministry has granted K 3431.55 million loans to the rural people and invested K 117.58 million for installment schemes for urban population and K 884.94 million for similar schemes for rural population.

(See page 8)

Tatkon extends hybrid sunflower cultivation

Tatkon Township extended hybrid sunflower plantations, putting 1815 acres under hybrid sunflower in this winter. Only 481 acres of hybrid

sunflower were cultivated in monsoon.

According to an official of the Tatkon Township Agriculture Department, sunflower growers

were able to generate their incomes as they replaced ordinary sunflower seeds with Yezin hybrid ones and used scientific farming practices.



Sunflower plantation thriving in rural area of Tatkon Township.

By: Kyaw Thu Win
Photo: Thet Htet

“Agriculture Research Farm and Ngwetaung Farm distributed hybrid sunflower seeds to growers for 470 acres this year. As hybrid sunflower can produce four viss per basket, it can be cost-effective for growers, he added.

Among edible oil crops, sunflower cultivation is good for growers in terms of the cost-effectiveness as it can be grown all year long as double cropping or mix cropping. An acre of sunflower can produce 200 viss of sunflower oil.

According to a health point of view, consumption of sunflower oil is good for public health as saturated fat in sunflower oil is about 14 percent while palm oil contains 52 percent of saturated fat.

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Myanmar swimmers sweep two more gold medals

The 7th ASEAN Para Games continued for the second day at Wunna Theikdi Sports Complex in Nay Pyi Taw.

Up to 16 Janu-

ary morning, Myanmar swimmers have secured seven gold, three silver and three bronze medals.

(See page 7)



Gold medalist winner Aung Myint Myat.
PHOTO: PHYO SANDA MYINT



Magway to look after homeless boys

MAGWAY, 16 Jan—The coordination meeting of Culture and Polite Network (Magway) was held at the second floor of Golden Jubilee Dhamma Yanthi Beikman of Aungmye Yadana Monastery on 1st Street of BEHS in Kantha Ward of Magway on 12 January morning.

The meeting was aimed at looking after

the boys on the streets in Magway.

The meeting focused on raising the fund for looking after the boys by laying the boxes of accepting the donations. The boxes will be laid at the bus terminal, restaurants, stores in downtown Magway. The fund will be spent on education of those boys. Before building

the accommodation, they will be arranged a place for their shelters. The meeting was attended by townselder U Tun Hsaing and party, members of Magway Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Township Development Supportive Committee and members of the Culture and Polite Group totalling 100.

MMAL-Tin Tun Oo

Crime

Sawn timber seized in Kawlin Township

KATHA, 16 Jan—Police arrested a suspect who carried in sawn timber on the road to Kanbaukkyi Village of Kyundaw Village-tract in Kawlin Township of Katha District on 10 January morning.

According to the plan of seizing the illegal timber adopted by the Commander of Katha District Police Force, the police squad

together with witnesses searched a Nissan Diesel truck driven by Soe Aung on the road to Kanbaukkyi Village and seized various sizes of 162 pieces of in-sawn timber weighing 8.58 tons worth K 1,544,400.

Kawlin Township Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against Soe Aung under the law.

MMAL-District IPRD

Myanmar workers handed over to responsible persons



MYAWADY, 16 Jan—Myanmar workers were handed over to responsible persons of Myanmar by officials from the Public Welfare Department in Tak, one of the northern provinces of Thailand at Thai-Myanmar Friendship Bridge, here, on 8 January.

The officials from Thailand found that agents without employment agency license gained a lot of

profit by issuing passport of Myanmar workers for leaving Thailand and a total of 40 Myanmar workers with their passports—28 men and 12 women and passports of 33 Myanmar workers whose lists are not shown were handed over to officials of Hpa-an Anti Human Trafficking Squad and Myawady Police Force by Thailand officials.—Tun Tun Oo (Myawady)

Kyeintali, Sub-Township of Rakhine State, gets library



THANDWE, 16 Jan—Lunge Shaehsaung Library, funded by the State, was put into service in Kaingkhon Village of Kyeintali Sub-Township in Thandwe District, Rakhine State, on 12 January.

Speaker of Rakhine State Hluttaw U Htein Lin, Sub-Township Administrator U Hsan Lin Aung and Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Tin Tin Sein formally opened the library.

The Speaker and the Head of Township IPRD explained future of the library and durability of the facility.

The Speaker handed over one Sky Net receiver and a generator donated by Union Solidarity and Development Party to the chairman of the library

committee.

The library building is 32 feet long and 16 feet wide, built at a cost of K 3.5 million.

MMAL-District IPRD

Overheated switch board fire reduces one house into ashes



YEZAGYO, 16 Jan—A fire broke out at the house of Daw Mya Mya on Win Thuza Street in Ward 1 of Yezagyo in Pakokku District at 12.45

pm yesterday. The fire was triggered from overheat of the switch board from the house of Daw Mya Mya engaged in jock

conducted at the four-storey Parahita Monastery in Dawei yesterday morning. Lecturer Sayadaw Bhaddanta Therasabha of State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon) and Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Suria of Zeyawady Monastery gave

advice on training course.

It was attended by members of the Sangha, course instructors, wellwishers, and 36 trainees. The course will be run up to 20 January.

MMAL-Po Shwe Thun (Dawei)



Eye specialist hospital to perform eye surgical operations at 2600 patients

CHAUNGU, 16 Jan—A ceremony to inaugurate Shwe Myintmo eye specialist hospital was held in Khinmon Model Village of ChuangU Township of Sagaing Region yesterday.

ChuangU Township Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Saw Hla Tun, Sagaing Region Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Kyi Naing, Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myint Thein and Dr Than Win on behalf of the wellwisher cut the ribbon to open the hospital.

Abbot of Maha

Bawdi Shwe Myintmo Dhamma Yeiktha Bahujana Hitadhara Dhamma Kathika Sayadaw Bhaddanta Visuta unveiled the signboard of the hospital.

The hospital is 110 feet long, 70 feet wide and 27 feet high. The Sayadaw and laypersons spent K 270 million on construction of the hospital and set up a truck fund worth K 120 million.

The hospital will give surgical operation at eyes for the patients across the nation. As part of opening ceremony activities, eye specialists led by wellwisher Dr Than Win of Nero Vision Special Eye Care Centre of Yangon will give surgical operations to 2600 eye patients.

MMAL-Township IPRD

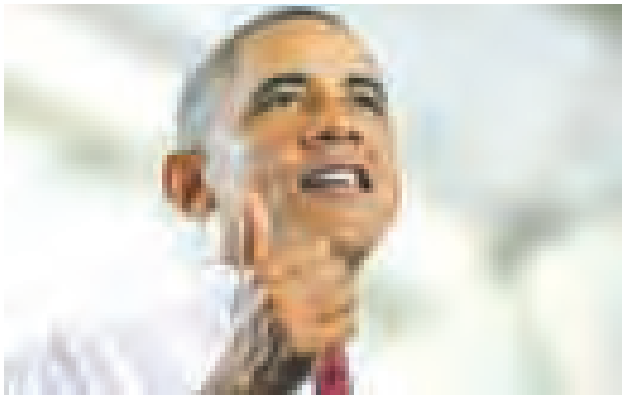
stick industry.

Nine members of Fire Services Department and 35 members of Auxiliary Fire Brigade used two TE fire trucks and one Dongfeng fire truck in putting out of fire within 30 minutes.

The fire reduced the only house of Daw Mya Mya into ashes. Action is being taken against Daw Mya Mya under the law.—MMAL-Ei Mon Swe (Yezagyo)

WORLD

Obama seeks to build unity with Senate Democrats in election year



US President Barack Obama speaks about jobs and the economy at North Carolina State University in Raleigh on 15 Jan, 2014.—REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 16 Jan — President Barack Obama sought to build a united front with Democratic senators on Wednesday, inviting them to the White House to chat about “shared goals” heading into midterm elections in which Republicans will try to exploit Obama’s woes to pick up seats. Obama urged senators to hold off on a proposed Iran sanctions bill that many support — and which he has vowed to veto. The White

House has said the legislation would derail an international deal to curb Iran’s nuclear programme.

But the discussion on sanctions was a small part of a meeting with a decidedly upbeat tone, a Senate aide said, speaking on background. Obama, not known for his tendency to schmooze, sat on a stool with a microphone in the ornate East Room of the White House, giving brief remarks before tak-

ing questions from senators for about 90 minutes. “The group discussed their shared goals for 2014, and the president expressed his desire to continue to work together to advance a number of our priorities for the year to strengthen our economy, create jobs and build the middle class,” the White House said in a brief statement about the closed-door session.

The meeting comes as Obama’s favorability ratings continue to languish after the botched launch of his signature Obamacare healthcare reforms last year. Criticism of the rough start has ebbed after the White House led frantic efforts to fix the website used to sign up for health insurance. But the fallout from that and continuing attacks by Republicans on the Affordable Care Act has made Democrats nervous about the midterm elections. A group of 16 Senate Democrats will be defending

their seats in November, and Republicans are aiming to gain six seats to try to take control of the 100-seat chamber.

At a Republican briefing on Tuesday, officials told reporters they are intent on centering their campaign around Obama’s weak approval numbers and the problems with Obamacare — factors they are confident will help them gain seats. Conservative activists have backed a \$2.5 million television ad campaign against three Democratic senators over Obamacare, including North Carolina Senator Kay Hagan. Republicans have also sought to highlight examples of divisions between Obama and Democratic lawmakers. For example, they publicized that Hagan chose to stay in Washington on Wednesday instead of traveling to her home state of North Carolina with Obama, who was there to talk about manufacturing.—Reuters

China urges IMF to give more power to emerging markets

BEIJING, 16 Jan — China called on IMF member nations on Wednesday to stick to a commitment to give emerging markets more power at the global lender after US lawmakers set back historic reforms that would give developing countries a greater say. The remarks by Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei were an indirect criticism of the United States, the biggest and most powerful IMF member, where lawmakers failed on Monday to agree on funding measures needed for the reforms to move forward, though Hong did not mention the United States by name.

The US Congress must sign off on the IMF funding to complete 2010 reforms that would make China the IMF’s third-largest member and revamp the IMF board to reduce the domi-

nance of Western Europe. The changes would also give greater say to nations such as Brazil and India to reflect their growing economic heft. “The IMF quotas reform is an important decision made by the organization,” Hong said at a daily news briefing. “The relevant organization’s members should earnestly implement the decision, and honor and enhance the voice and representation of developing countries within the IMF.”

Speaking at the National Press Club in Washington, IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde said it was “disconcerting” the IMF funding was not included in a spending bill approved by the US Congress on Monday. “I very much hope it’s a question of timing and not a decision to exclude the IMF,” Lagarde said. “I hope that

sensible and common sense judgment will prevail,” she said, adding that she believed the United States was still committed to supporting the Fund.

The reform of the voting shares, known as quotas, cannot proceed without the United States, which holds the only controlling share of IMF votes.

After putting off the re-

quest in 2012 because of the US presidential election, the US Treasury has sought to tuck the provision into several bills since March. The administration’s requests, however, have been met with scepticism from some Republicans, who see them as tantamount to approving fresh funding in a tight budget environment.

Reuters



International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director Christine Lagarde speaks at the National Press Club in Washington in this on 15 Jan, 2014 picture provided by the IMF.—REUTERS

16 Asia-Pacific countries to hold 3rd round of free trade talks

TOKYO, 16 Jan — Sixteen Asia-Pacific nations including China and Japan will hold their third round of free trade talks from next Tuesday in Kuala Lumpur, Japan’s trade ministry said on Thursday.

The member countries in the envisioned pact, which is known as the

Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership and includes the 10 members of the ASEAN, are expected to discuss trade in goods and services as well as investment during their four-day working-level talks, according to the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry.

The first round of

negotiations took place in May last year in Brunei, followed by a ministerial meeting in August also in Brunei. The second round of talks was held in Australia in September.

The framework involves the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and their six regional

partners — Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand and South Korea. The RCEP, if realized, would create one of the world’s largest free trade zones, encompassing around a third of global gross domestic product and around half of the world’s population.

Kyodo News

Thai protesters target revenue offices, PM awaits graft ruling



Anti-government protesters march to ministries and other state bodies in central Bangkok on 15 Jan, 2014.

REUTERS

BANGKOK, 16 Jan — Protesters in Thailand trying to paralyze ministries to force the government to resign said they would target revenue offices on Thursday, but their numbers appeared to be dwindling and ministers say the movement could be running out of steam. A state anti-corruption panel is due to give a ruling on Thursday on irregularities in a rice-buying scheme, that the government introduced to support farmers, that could give ammunition to opponents of Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra.

The unrest, which flared in November and escalated this week when demonstrators led by former opposition politician Suthep Thaugsuban occupied main intersections of the capital, Bangkok, is the

latest chapter in an eight-year conflict. The political fault line pits the Bangkok-based middle class and royalist establishment against the mostly poorer, rural supporters of Yingluck and her brother, Thaksin Shinawatra, a former premier ousted by the army in 2006 who is seen as the power behind her government.

Many ministries and state agencies have been closed to avoid confrontation with demonstrators, but the government says operations and services are being maintained by civil servants working at home or from back-up offices. In a speech at the blockaded Asoke intersection late on Wednesday, Suthep told protesters to target revenue offices, which come under the Finance Ministry, on Thursday.—Reuters

S Korea rebuts N Korea’s call to cancel joint exercises with US

SEOUL, 16 Jan — South Korea on Thursday dismissed North Korea’s call for joint military exercises with the United States to be called off. “The Key Resolve and Foal Eagle exercises will be held as scheduled,” Defence Ministry spokesman Kim Min Seok said in a Press briefing, adding the exercises are “annual and defensive in nature.”

Kim’s remarks were in response to a North Korean statement, issued on Wednesday, in which the North demanded that South Korea and the United States cancel their joint military drills.

“Before criticizing the annual and defensive exercises, North Korea should take sincere actions toward its denuclearization,” Kim said.

Kim also warned of “a prompt and stern retaliation” against North Korea in case the North makes military provocations. The joint command post exercise Key Resolve and joint field training exercise Foal Eagle usually take place between late February and April to enhance joint combat readiness and deter threats from North Korea.

North Korea, in the statement issued by the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, a North Korean propaganda organ, said the planned exercises are tantamount to a declaration of “full-scale nuclear war,” according to a report by South Korea’s Yonhap News Agency, which monitors North Korean media.

Kyodo News



UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon (far L) chairs the International Humanitarian Pledging Conference for Syria in Kuwait City on 15 Jan, 2014.—KYODO NEWS

Japanese diplomat in Jordan took home classified files

TOKYO, 16 Jan — A diplomat at the Japanese Embassy in Jordan repeatedly took home classified documents, potentially placing dignitaries at risk, a source close to the matter said on Thursday.

The 30-year-old second secretary at the embassy was found to have taken home classified documents dozens of pages long on several occasions at least as far back as October 2012, the source said.

The documents

contained accommodation and appointment details connected with overseas visits by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, senior government officials' travel expenses and information about foreign leaders' future visits to Japan.

The handling of classified information has weighed heavily in the Japanese public conscience since a law penalizing the leaking of state secrets was debated and enacted last year. The Foreign Ministry

said it is considering punishing the diplomat and will strive to prevent a repeat of the behavior.

"Classified information must not be taken outside," the ministry said, without commenting on how it discovered the breaches. The diplomat is said to have told the embassy the breaches were accidental. All the classified documents were marked as such and guidelines stipulated they were for internal use only, the source said.—Kyodo News

Over 90 percent of Egyptians support new constitution in referendum

CAIRO, 16 Jan — Over 90 percent of Egyptians approved the country's new draft constitution in a referendum, the official MENA news agency reported on Thursday, citing preliminary results.

Vote counting was underway to reach the final results supposed to be submitted to the High Election Commission (HEC), MENA

said. The constitution will be approved by winning at least over 50 percent of the vote, and the result of the referendum is scheduled to be announced within 72 hours.

A two-day voting process on the new constitution ended on Wednesday. The new charter, which is to replace the previous one mainly drafted by



A woman casts her vote at a polling station in Maadi district, Cairo, capital of Egypt, on 15 Jan, 2014.—XINHUA

former president Mohamed Morsi's Islamist allies in late 2012, represents a prior

stage in the country's future roadmap.

Xinhua

US airstrike kills eight Afghan civilians

KABUL, 16 Jan — Eight Afghan civilians, including seven children, were killed following a US force's airstrike in eastern province of Parwan on Tuesday night, said a statement issued by the country's Presidential Palace late on Wednesday. "Afghan President Hamid Karzai condemned in strongest terms a bombardment carried out by the US forces in Siya Gard District of Parwan Province, which led to the deaths of one woman and seven chil-

dren," the statement said.

One civilian was also wounded in the attack which took place in Sah Darah-e-Wazghar area of the district in the province, it noted. "The Afghan government for many years, had demanded a complete end to the military operations in Afghan villages and towns," the statement said, adding against all bilateral agreements and the recent guarantee in a letter by the US President Barack Obama, the American forces

once again carried out the airstrike against residential area and caused civilian casualties.

The deaths of Afghan civilians by NATO-led troops during operations against Taliban have long been a contentious issue between the Afghan government and US and NATO forces in the insurgency-hit country. Afghan officials had stressed in the past that such deaths would further undermine the war against Taliban and terrorist groups

and inflame an anti-foreign sentiment in the country.

The Afghan leader, under strain from Afghan public, has long been criticizing the NATO and US forces over their erroneous killing of civilians since the war against terror begun in late 2001. The statement also said that an investigation team has been sent to Siya Gard district and they must bring back the result of the probe within three days to the president of Afghanistan. —Xinhua

Venezuela shuffles economic team, keeps forex rate

CARACAS, 16 Jan — Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro named an army general as the new finance minister in a reshuffle of his economic team on Wednesday and said there would be no currency devaluation this year despite a soaring black market for dollars. The cabinet changes do not suggest any major shift in the country's state-dominated economy, as the new economic team retains many of the same policy-makers that helped the late Hugo Chavez advance the OPEC nation's drive toward socialism.

Venezuela in 2013 saw slowing economic growth and soaring inflation that Maduro blames on an opposition-backed "economic war" but that critics call the result of decaying price and currency controls now widely linked to corruption. Maduro tasked new finance minister Rodolfo Marco with "building a new financial model that can allow for all these investments we need, that will allow the expansion of a financial system at the service of the country."

Marco, who participated in the failed 1992 coup

that thrust Chavez to fame and did jail time with him afterwards, previously held the post of Public Banks Minister, which will now be merged with the finance ministry. He rose quickly through the ranks of government officials after Chavez personally called on him to bring order to a state-run bank following a corruption scandal, said one source who knows the incoming finance minister.

Pleased with his work, Chavez later put him at the helm of Banco de Venezuela after it was purchased from

Spain's Banco Santander, and later created a ministerial post for state run-banks that grew in number amid a wave of nationalizations."

He's held major posts for a long time and has not been tainted (by corruption)," said source, who asked not to be identified. "He's also good at negotiating and has good relations in the bank sector." He is considered a pragmatic man of action who tends to avoid public spats with opposition figures or hostile confrontations with reporters.

Reuters



Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro addresses lawmakers during the presentation of his annual state of the nation at the National Assembly in Caracas on 15 Jan, 2014.—REUTERS

Benghazi attack at US consulate preventable

WASHINGTON, 16 Jan — The attack at the US Consulate in Benghazi could have been prevented, according to a report released by the Senate Intelligence Committee on Wednesday.

The report says there was a "significant strategic warning" about the possibility of an attack in the months leading up to it, which killed four Americans including US Ambassador to Libya Christopher Stevens on 11 Sept, 2012.

"Despite the clearly deteriorating security situation in Benghazi and requests for additional security resources, few significant improvements were made by the State Department to the security posture of the Temporary Mission Facility," notes the report.

There were no military assets positioned in a place where they could have saved the Americans killed in the attack, the report finds, adding that the military attempted to move some assets, but only an unmanned drone was able to make it in time.

The Senate Intelligence Committee worked on a bipartisan basis to investigate

the various allegations that have come out since the attack and to get to the truth about the attack, Senator Dianne Feinstein, chairwoman of the committee, said in a statement. "I hope this report will put to rest many of the conspiracy theories and political accusations about what happened in Benghazi," she added. Feinstein told reporters Wednesday that the report proves that the State Department needs to do a better job in assessing risks.

A number of the recommendations in the report are consistent with the work the State Department has taken to improve diplomatic security, White House spokesman Jay Carney said at a regular Press briefing on Wednesday. The Obama administration is also focused on bringing to justice those responsible for the deaths of four Americans, Carney said. US agencies should more closely monitor the social media streams of extremist groups, suggests the report. It also recommends that no facility in a dangerous area should be allowed to operate unless full security measures have been taken. —Xinhua

WORLD

Reform or lose us as member, Britain's finance minister tells EU

LONDON, 16 Jan — Britain told its European Union partners on Wednesday the EU's treaties were "not fit for purpose" and there must be reform or it would quit the bloc. In the latest blast of euroscepticism from Conservatives in Britain's co-

alition government, finance minister George Osborne said EU treaties had to be changed to protect member states like his own that don't use the euro.

The comments, made at a conference in London on reform of the 28-nation

EU, are unlikely to be embraced by integrationists in Brussels, who want Britain to remain in the bloc but have become irritated by its demands for change. Jose Manuel Barroso, the president of the European Commission, accused countries like Britain that have questioned the bloc's freedom of movement rules of having a "narrow, chauvinistic idea of the protection" of their interests - an indication of how tough London may find it to win allies. Osborne, a close ally of Prime Minister David Cameron, said the treaties that governed how the EU was run were "not fit for purpose" and had to be overhauled. "Proper legal protection for the rights of non-euro members is ... absolutely necessary to preserve the single market and make it possible for Brit-

ain to remain in the EU," he said. "If we cannot protect the collective interests of non-euro zone member states then they will have to choose between joining the euro, which the UK will not do, or leaving the EU."

A drive for closer integration among the 18 countries that use the single currency was straining the EU's institutional architecture, he said, a situation he said risked "going beyond what was legally possible or politically sustainable". Britain's Conservatives have long been skeptical about European integration. But their rhetoric is becoming stronger as they face a challenge in May's European Parliament elections and beyond from the UK Independence Party, a primarily right-wing group that wants Britain to leave the EU.—Reuters



Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne addresses a conference on European Union reform, in central London on 15 Jan, 2014.—REUTERS

70 killed, 147 wounded in attacks in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 16 Jan — At least 70 people were killed and 147 others wounded in violent attacks across Iraq on Wednesday, most of them in the capital city of Baghdad and eastern province of Diyala, police said. In Baghdad, at least eight car bombs and two roadside bombs ripped through busy areas in the capital during the day, killing a total of 39 people and wounding 109 others, a police source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

At least 14 people were killed and 25 others wounded when three bombs exploded Wednesday morning at a funeral in the village of Shatib near Diyala's provincial capital of Baquba, a local police source said. Unidentified gunmen kidnapped seven truck drivers Wednesday evening near the town of Muqadiyah, 40 km northeast of Baquba, and then shot them dead, the police source said, adding that their trucks were also burned. At least six army soldiers were killed in a bombing attack at a bridge near the northern city of Mosul on Wednesday, police said.—Xinhua



Indian tabla maestro Ustad Zakir Husain performs during a programme at the backdrop of Taj Mahal in Agra, India, on 15 Jan, 2014. XINHUA

Nuclear power unpredictable, Fukushima engineer warns in Taiwan

TAIPEI, 16 Jan — A Japanese engineer who helped build part of the Fukushima Daiichi No 4 reactor said in Taiwan on Wednesday that the safety of nuclear power plants is unpredictable, urging Taiwan to ditch atomic energy for renewable resources.

Mitsuhiro Tanaka, who arrived in Taiwan on Tuesday with a delegation of Japanese parliamentarians for a six-day visit, told a press conference in Taipei that the Chernobyl nuclear meltdown in 1986 changed his views on nuclear power.

"Nuclear accidents are bound to happen someday, only that we don't know when they will happen," he said. Tanaka, who helped build part of No 4 reactor of the Fukushima Daiichi plant while working at Hitachi Ltd in 1974, quit the

company in 1977 and became a writer. He chronicled a manufacturing defect in the steel vessel installed at No 4 reactor and the subsequent cover-up in a book he published in 1990.

He also went to the Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry in 1988 to report the cover-up, but the government refused to investigate and Hitachi denied his accusations. Little did he know that the manufacturing defect would resurface decades later after a powerful earthquake hit the plant on 11 March, 2011, triggering a tsunami that disabled its cooling systems and caused Japan's worst-ever nuclear accident.

Reactor 4 was shut for maintenance during the crisis but was hit by explosions and a fire that spread

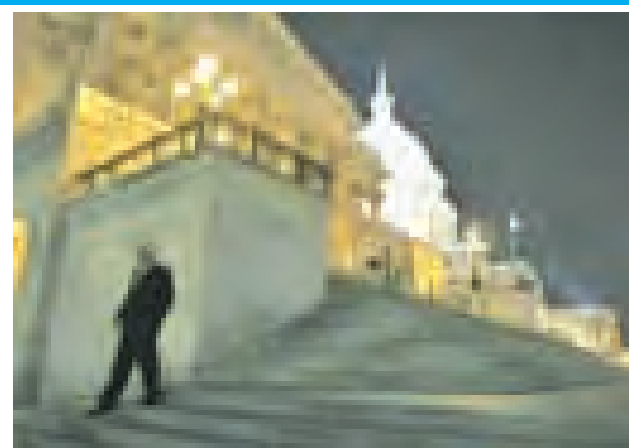
from adjacent units.

At the press conference, House of Representatives member Taro Kono also voiced his strong opposition to the nuclear industry.

Urging Taiwan's government to make information open to the public, Kono expressed regret over the refusal of Taiwan Power Co, the operator of the island's three nuclear power plants, to let the delegation from Japan visit one of them.

Kono campaigned in 2009 to become president of Japan's Liberal Democratic Party, a position once held by his father Yohei Kono, but he lost the bid. He said his colleagues urged him during the campaign to refrain from opposing nuclear energy.

Kyodo News



A member of the US House of Representatives walks down the steps from the House Chamber as he exits the US Capitol after the Republican-led House again voted to link funding for the US government to include a delay of "Obamacare" in Washington, on 30 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

House approves \$1.1 trillion measure to fund government through 30 September

WASHINGTON, 16 Jan — The US House of Representatives overwhelmingly approved a \$1.1 trillion spending bill on Wednesday that quashes the threat of a government shutdown through September 30 and offers lawmakers a chance to end four years of chaotic, crisis-driven budgeting.

The 359-67 vote, reflecting strong bipartisan support in the Republican-controlled chamber, sends the measure to the Democratic-controlled US Senate for approval by Saturday. The Senate gave itself three more days to consider the measure by approving an extension of current funding that was due to expire at midnight on Wednesday.

The massive "omnibus" spending bill, which funds programs from missile systems to Amtrak rail services, passed with strong

majorities of both House Republicans and Democrats. It boosts fiscal 2014 spending on military and domestic discretionary programs by \$45 billion over levels that had been scheduled under automatic, "sequester" spending cuts.

The measure fleshes out a budget deal passed in December that also set spending levels for fiscal 2015, eliminating a key source of congressional gridlock for the year ahead. Many lawmakers say this will allow them to pass normal spending bills for the first time since 2009, President Barack Obama's first year in office.

"This is a critical step in the direction of regular order," Democratic Representative Marcy Kaptur of Ohio said of the spending bill.

Reuters

New Mexico school shooting "premeditated": investigators

HOUSTON, 16 Jan — Investigators said Wednesday a 12-year-old boy planned the shooting rampage that injured two students at a middle school in the US state of New Mexico, local media reported. New details about the shooting were revealed on Wednesday as investigators garnered more evidence about the suspect one day after the tragedy alarmed the whole country. Investigators determined the shooting was premeditated and the two injured were chosen randomly as targets, local media KOB reported.

Though authorities have not officially released the suspect's name, local media identified him as

Mason Campbell. Campbell opened fire Tuesday morning at Berrendo Middle School in New Mexico's southeastern city of Roswell, leaving two fellow classmates injured. Police confirmed on Wednesday the gun Campbell used was a .20 gauge pump shotgun that belonged to his parents and he had three rounds of ammunition, all expended in the shooting. He had reportedly warned some classmates to stay away moments before the gunfire rang out. Campbell's family issued a statement on Wednesday saying they were heartbroken and that their remorse could not be put into words.

Xinhua

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Rotavirus vaccines linked to small risk of intussusception: studies

WASHINGTON, 16 Jan — The second generation vaccines against rotavirus, the most common cause of severe childhood diarrhea worldwide, are associated with a small increased risk of a rare intestinal disorder called intussusception that may require surgery, two US studies suggested on Tuesday.

However, the benefits of the vaccines, Merck's RotaTaq (RV5) and GlaxoSmithKline's Rotarix (RV1), outweigh this possible small risk, according to the two papers published online by the *New England Journal*

of Medicine. Rotavirus infection causes an estimated 527,000 deaths in children less than five years of age each year, according to the World Health Organization (WHO). The first licensed rotavirus vaccine known as RotaShield, however, was forced to withdraw in 1999, only one year after licensure in the US, because of increased risk of intussusception.

RotaTaq and Rotarix were subsequently licensed, one in 2006, the other in 2008. The two are now recommended by the WHO for immunization of children

worldwide. Both vaccines have shown tremendous health benefits. For example, before they were available in the US in 2006, rotavirus was responsible for more than 200,000 emergency room visits and 55,000 to 70,000 hospitalizations of young children each year. Also, 20 to 60 children died each year. But since 2006, hospitalizations and emergency room visits have decreased by more than 80 percent among immunized children.

But in a seven-year study of RotaTaq, researchers from Harvard Medical School and Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute looked at data from 507,874 first doses and 1,277,556 total doses and found an excess risk of 1.5 cases per 100,000 recipients after the first dose, which was roughly one tenth the risk associated with the first-generation vaccine. However, no significant

increase in risk was seen after the second or third dose.

In a five-year of Rotarix, researchers from the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) looked at 207,955 doses, including 115,908 first doses and 92,047 second doses, and identified 5.3 extra cases of intussusception within seven days after the administration of either dose. Only 0.72 cases would be expected per 100,000 unvaccinated young children. In an accompanying editorial, Roger Glass of the National Institutes of Health and Umesh Parashar of the CDC wrote that the results of the studies should be interpreted with caution.

"What, then, is the message for the physician or nurse who administers rotavirus vaccines, and what is the implication for vaccine policy in developed countries?" the two asked.

Reuters



Huawei profit jumps on smartphones, US asks Hua-who?

BEIJING, 16 Jan — China's Huawei Technologies Co Ltd, known more for its telecom networking prowess than its razor-thin smartphones, is starting to see success in its consumer electronics business, though the key US market remains elusive.

Huawei became the world's third-biggest smartphone manufacturer last year, mainly due to a fast-growing Chinese market. That is helping cushion

the impact of a global slowdown in network equipment spending, which caused the company to miss its revenue growth target last year.

Consumer devices will also help Huawei buy some time before 4G network upgrades in China lead to more orders for telecom equipment. Huawei's smartphone ventures, like its domestic rivals ZTE Corp and Lenovo Group Ltd, have so far focused on selling low- and mid-priced

handsets in emerging markets.

The companies have yet to gain a foothold in the high-end segment of developed markets — such as the United States — that offer wider margins.

Huawei's name is virtually unknown — and unpronounceable — in the US, the second-biggest smartphone market, where lawmakers have flagged Chinese telecommunications equipment as potential security risks. "Huawei in an ideal world would love to be in the US but it's probably better for them to be seen as eyeing up the market than be seen as begging," said Duncan Clark, chairman of Beijing-based tech advisory BDA.

Reuters



A man walks past a Huawei company logo outside the entrance of a Huawei office in Wuhan, Hubei province in this 9 Oct, 2012 file photograph. REUTERS

Producer prices post largest gain in six months

WASHINGTON, 16 Jan — US producer prices recorded their largest increase in six months in December as the cost of gasoline rebounded strongly, but inflation pressures remained benign. The Labour Department said on Wednesday its seasonally adjusted producer price index rose 0.4 percent last month, the biggest rise since June, after slipping 0.1

percent in November.

December's rise in prices received by the nation's farms, factories and refineries ended two straight months of declines and matched economists' expectations. In the 12 months through December, producer prices increased 1.2 percent after advancing 0.7 percent in November. Wholesale prices excluding volatile

food and energy costs increased 0.3 percent, the biggest gain since July 2012, after ticking up 0.1 percent the prior month. However, tobacco accounted for nearly half the increase.

In the 12 months through December, the so-called core PPI rose 1.4 percent after increasing 1.3 percent in November. While economic activity has picked

up, inflation continues to run very low because of labor market slack. That could see the Federal Reserve keeping interest rates near zero for a while.

The US central bank has started scaling back its monetary stimulus, reducing its monthly bond purchases to \$75 billion from \$85 billion starting this month.

Reuters

Green Tea



Green tea may affect efficacy of blood pressure medicine: study

BEIJING, 16 Jan — Japanese scientists have found that drinking green tea may lessen the efficacy of the high blood pressure drugs such as nadolol, according to media news on Wednesday.

Researchers found that people who drank green tea while taking nadolol had lower circulating blood lev-

els as compound was found in the tea that prevents the medication from taking effect.

Sotiris Antoniou, an expert in cardiovascular medicine, advised high blood pressure patients who still want to drink green tea to wait four to five hours after taking high blood pressure drugs. —Xinhua

Deutsche Bank suspends FX traders in New York



The headquarters of Deutsche Bank are pictured in Frankfurt on 29 Oct, 2013. —REUTERS

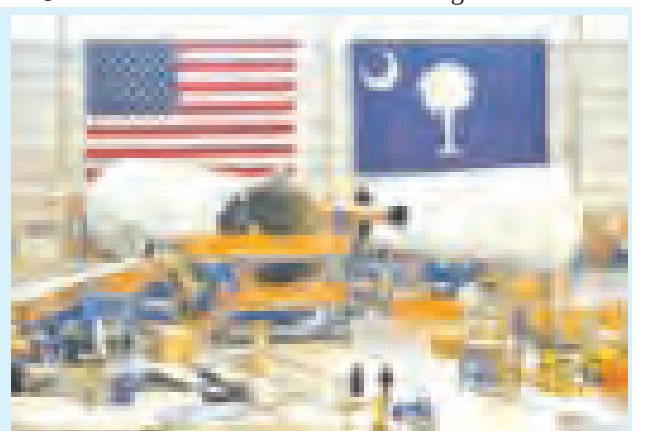
LONDON, 16 Jan — Deutsche Bank (DBKGn.DE), Germany's biggest bank, has suspended several currency traders in New York in an internal probe that forms part of an international investigation into alleged manipulation of the global currency markets, a source familiar with the

matter said on Wednesday. Multiple traders in New York and possibly elsewhere in the Americas are affected after investigations into "communications across a number of currencies," the source said.

The source didn't say how many traders had been suspended or what curren-

cies they traded. Deutsche Bank said it would not comment on individual staff members. "Deutsche Bank has received requests for information from regulatory authorities that are investigating trading in the foreign exchange market," it said in a statement. "The Bank is cooperating with those investigations, and will take disciplinary action with regards to individuals if merited."

Last year, Britain's Financial Conduct Authority began a formal investigation into possible manipulation in the \$5.3 trillion-a-day global FX market. The US Justice Department is also engaged in an active investigation of possible manipulation of the market, the world's largest. —Reuters



Sections of a 787 Dreamliner being built for Air India are seen at Boeing's final assembly building in North Charleston, South Carolina on 19 Dec, 2013. REUTERS

NATIONAL

Ananda Pagoda festival in Bagan

BAGAN, 16 Jan — Bullock carts camped under trees, besides stupas around Ananda Pagoda and smoke comes out from stoves outside make-shift tents have created scenery attractive areas in January every year, attracting tourists, local and foreign photographers and artists.

The annual festival where local farmers take vacation once a year falls in the time when they finished their last harvest of oil crops.

After selling their last harvest of the year,

they come to the festival where they can buy what they need, from farming equipment to modern clothes and electronic equipment.

Another reason to visit the festival is to donate provisions and goods putting in alms bowls to Buddhist monks on the full moon day in January during a traditional annual charity ceremony which is believed to be 800 years old and over 1000 Buddhist monks around Bagan gathered at the ceremony.

By: AMS

PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE



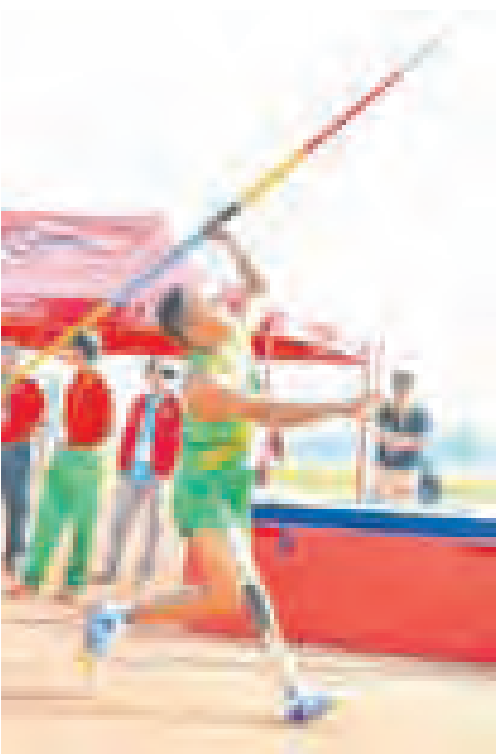
Families of rural people heading for Ananda Pagoda festival by cart to enjoy Buddha Pujaniya and various festivities in Bagan.

The New Light of Myanmar

7TH ASEAN PARA GAMES SPECIAL



7th ASEAN Para Games



Myo Min Oo
in men's
javelin
event
on 16
January.

PHOTO:
SOE
NYUNT

Athletes
seen at
men's
400-m
race of
athletics
event.
PHOTO:
SOE
NYUNT



Myanmar swimmers... (from page 1)

Aung Myint Myat who snatched one gold in the men's 200-m freestyle event expressed, "I am very delighted at winning the gold medal in the swimming event of the Para Games

hosted by Myanmar for the first time. I have about eight months experience in training but not international experience."

Another goal medalist Aung Nyein Oo in men's 50-m breaststroke event said, "I had won two gold medals in the 6th ASEAN Para Games in Indonesia. Now I secured one more for my life." Swimmer Ma Aye Thu Aung won one bronze medal in women's 200-m breaststroke event.

At Wunna Theikdi Indoor Stadium (C) today, Myanmar beat Cambodia with 3-2 in men's volleyball sitting event in the first match and Myanmar beat Thailand with 3-0 in the second match in the afternoon.

MMAL-Phyo Sanda Myint



Bronze medalist Ma Aye Thu Aung from women's breaststroke 200-m event.

PHOTO: PHYO SANDA MYINT

Players trying to control the ball in goal ball event between Thai and Laos teams.

PHOTO: KHIN MAUNG WIN



PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 17 January, 2014

Equality of rights

We used to see a mango tree in blossom in rural area when we were young. The tree got ruined as we threw the stones at the mangoes, plunked the mangoes with a rock or climbed up the tree to bring mangoes. Although some could bring the mangoes, others failed. And then inequality happened. Mangoes were within reach for someone while they were out of reach for another.

If a faithful gardener took a responsibility to bring the mangoes and to divide them equally, there would be an equal share for everyone and make them to be cheerful and happy in whatever situations where mangoes are within their reach or out of reach and the mango tree would sustain the least damage. Likewise, we can see a similar situation in our human society. When there arises an opportunity at a certain place, people tries to firmly grasp it through various ways and means. Some abuse power and other use money to grab the opportunity, causing a situation in which the opportunity is within reach for some people, not for others. Inequality will exist in the situation.

If an honest and reliable person left the opportunity divided equally, regardless of differences in wealth, nationality and religion, all concerned would be delighted. Nobody blames and complains to him. Even at a refreshment-giving ceremony in a ward, the rest of dwellers will be disappointed by a situation showing favoritism towards one person in particular. While the world is talking about equal rights, such behaviors still remain.

Now is the time when our country is moving towards democracy. Democracy provides equal rights. The poor are to be given equal chances to reach a point where the rich can reach. The rich and the poor alike have equal rights. Thus, it is imperative to take equality of rights into consideration based on the fairness whenever we are dealing with any matters to be fair.

Cooperatives system ...

(from page 1)

He said that the schemes would profit the poor population in rural areas. He urged the members of the cooperatives societies to pay the debts ahead of the due date and called on the staff of the Cooperatives Ministry to work in cooperation with the members. The President also underlined that the cooperatives system is not the commune system, but a system encouraging the cooperation of all the people in socio-economic development of the society.

Union Minister for Cooperatives U Kyaw Hsan said that the ministry will disburse K 37361.577 million for cultivation of cold season crops to the farmers. In addition, K 116053.098 million has been disbursed to the people and 2981 items of farming equipment worth K 2650.0942 million sold in installment as of October 2012.

At the ceremony, K 3431.550 million loans were disbursed to 35072 members of 606 cooperative societies from 25 townships of the region and K 1002.526 million for 499 farming equipment to farmers.

At the opening of Sesame Oil Mill of Myay Lattha General Economic Cooperative Society Ltd, the President heard reports on plans of the mill for value-added products, construction of the mill and export presented by Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan and



President U Thein Sein visits Technical Training School in Magway.

MNA

officials.

The President stressed the need to expand the market with exportation. Cooperatives are to give a helping hand to local farmers for development of socioeconomic status. He urged farmers not only to do cultivation but also milch cow breeding.

After the opening ceremony, the President visited the 30-ton Sesame Oil Mill and viewed its production.

The mill exports value-added sesame products.

The President also visited No. 13 Heavy Industries in Magway Industrial Region and heard reports on historical background and production capacity of the factory and exportation to the markets presented by Union Minister for Industry U Maung Myint at the hall of the factory today.

The President called to penetrate foreign markets, urging to produce quality products than that of ASEAN when ASEAN Free Trade Area emerges.

The factory constructed in 2008 with the technical cooperation with TA TA Motors Ltd from India was inaugurated in 2010. The factory is producing LPT 2116 truck, LPT 2123 truck, LPK 2523 dump truck, 29 seat bus and gear boxes.

The President and

Appointment of Ambassador agreed on

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Jan—The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of His Excellency Dr. Ito Sumardi as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Indonesia to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in succession to His Excellency Mr. Sebastianus Sumarsono.

Dr. Ito Sumardi was born in Bogor on 17 June 1953. He graduated with bachelor degree at Police Academy in 1977. He served in various capacities at Indonesian Police Force up to the Police Commissioner General. Dr. Ito Sumardi earned his Master Degree in Business Administration and Administrative Management in 1997 and 1999, respectively. He also earned his Master and Doctoral Degrees in Criminal Law in 2004 and 2008, respectively.

He was awarded several medal of merits throughout his police career.

Dr. Ito Sumardi is married, and has three children.

MNA

party proceeded to Technical Training School (Magway) and viewed round teaching of the trainees and greeted them. Technical Training School (Magway) was opened in 2011 with technical and material assistance provided by KOICA.

The President and party then went to No. 17 Heavy Industries (Malun) in Minhla Township.

The President stressed widely use of road rollers in construction works and small rice mill by the farmers linking the Ministry of Construction and Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development.

MNA

World Bank to disburse US\$ 60 million for Myanmar's education sector

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Jan—Acting Union Minister for Education Dr Myo Myint met with Education Team Leader Mr. James Stevens and party from World Bank Washington

D.C at the ministry yesterday.

The meeting focused on disbursement of US\$ 60 million loan without interest by World Bank International Development Asso-

The factory is manufacturing power tillers, tractors, road rollers, small rice mills and three-wheeled motorcycles.

Union Minister U Kyaw Lwin reported on fact about the bridge, road conditions, work progress and the bridges to be constructed in coming fiscal year to the President at briefing hall of Ayeyawady Bridge (Malun) and Lt-Gen Wai Lwin explained production of steel truss for the bridges.

The President and party arrived back in Nay Pyi Taw by air via Magway in the evening.

MNA

ciation, reading assessment plan for pre-school students and capacity building programme for township education officers and school heads.

MNA



Cartoon Tha Byay

NATIONAL

National Objectives of 66th Anniversary Union Day 2014

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

Foreign ministers, representatives of ASEAN arrive in Bagan

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Jan— Foreign affairs ministers and representatives of ASEAN countries arrived at Bagan-NyaungU Airport this afternoon to attend the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Retreat (AMM Retreat).

In the evening, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin hosted a dinner to the ASEAN foreign affairs ministers and representatives at Theme Hall of the Golden Palace Hotel in Bagan.

U Min Lwin, Myanmar Ambassador to Indonesia and ASEAN Myanmar Standing Representative chaired the ASEAN Standing Committee's meeting while U Aung Linn, Director-General of ASEAN Affairs Department, led the ASEAN High Ranking Officials' Meeting at the Golden Palace Hotel this morning.

Today's meetings covered matters related to imple-

mentation of ASEAN Political and Security Community, prioritized tasks to be implemented during Myanmar's term of the ASEAN Chairmanship, establishment of ASEAN community by 2015 and seeking ways to lay down guidelines to external relations of ASEAN.—MNA



Union Foreign Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin poses for documentary photo with ASEAN foreign affairs ministers at Theme Hall, Golden Palace Hotel.—MNA

Book of condolences signed for 11th Israeli PM

YANGON, 16 Jan— Deputy Director-General U Myint Lwin of Training, Research and Foreign Languages Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs signed the book of condolences for

the demise of 11th Prime Minister of Israel Mr Ariel Sharon who passed away on 11 January after suffering eight years stroke at Israeli Embassy on No 15 Khabaung Street.

MNA



Enactment of SMEs ...

(from page 16)
ecosystem and biodiversity and five Hluttaw representatives took part in discussions.

Deputy Minister U

Aye Myint Maung responded that Myanmar is implementing work projects to protect the forests in corporation with UN agencies, international organizations,

US and Japan. He continued that administration tasks for sustainable development of forest resources will be undertaken with participation of relevant ministries, local administration body, local people, NGOs and INGOs

and Hluttaw decided to approve the proposal.

At today's Hluttaw session, four questions were answered, two reports submitted and one proposal approved.

MNA

Union Constitutional Tribunal Chairman meets Chinese Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Jan—Chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union U Mya Thein received Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Yang Houlan at his office this morning.

At the call, they exchanged views on functions and responsibilities of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union, matters related to the Constitutional Law and legal affairs and bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

Members of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union Daw Hla Myo Nwe, U Mya Thein, U Tin Myint and officials attended the meeting.—MNA



Chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union U Mya Thein receives Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Yang Houlan.—MNA

Union FM meets local, foreign media ahead of AMM Retreat

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Jan— The ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting (AMM Retreat) aims at paving the way for future ASEAN through comprehensive discussions, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin said in meeting with local and foreign media at Nann Myint Tower in Bagan this evening.

In his preliminary clarification, the Union minister expressed his belief that significant outcomes would be produced from the meeting through cooperation and collaboration all actors concerned. Implementation of follow-up tasks agreed in the 23rd ASEAN Summit,

prioritized tasks to be implemented in 2014, regional and international issues and achievements in the plan to establish a regional community in accord with Begawan Declaration on the ASEAN Community Post-2015 Vision will be on focus at the meeting, he added.

During its term of ASEAN Chairmanship, Myanmar will intensify efforts to develop SMEs for the development of ASEAN and to narrow the development gap among member countries as part of efforts for realizing ASEAN vision and ASEAN integration initiatives.

MNA

Athletics events go on at Wunna Theikdi Sports Complex

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Jan— Athletics events of the 7th ASEAN Para Games continued at Wunna Theikdi Sports Complex today.

Myo Swe of Myanmar secured gold, Yahya of Indonesia, silver, and Yohanes of Indonesia, bronze, in the men's discus event.

Ma Gyi of Myanmar won gold, Warmia Marto of Indonesia, silver, and Thuzar Htay of Myanmar, bronze, in the women's javelin event.

In men's javelin event, Htoo Htoo Aung bagged gold, BE HAU of Vietnam, silver, and JERIEO of the

Philippines, bronze. Aung Gyi of Myanmar won first and Ko Zaw second in men's javelin event.

MNA



Athletics events of 7th ASEAN Para Games in progress at Wunna Theikdi Sports Complex.

MNA

Policing Affairs

MPF, EU jointly conduct community policing

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Jan—EU and Myanmar Police Force conducted the community policing course at the hall of Mingala Taungnyunt Township Police Force, Yangon Region, on 13 January.

It was attended by Team Leader Mr Friedrich

Schwind of EU and members Mr Everett Summerfield, Ms Drain Deckenbach, Ms Frances Nolan, Mr Andy Mc Quiggan, Mr Trevor, Mr STig and Mr Uno from EU, Commander of Yangon Region Police Force Police Col Win Naing, Deputy Commander of No

2 Police Battalions Control Command Police Col Chit Oo, Commandant of Police Corporal Training Depot (Hlawga) Police Col Tun Min and officials. A total of 18 trainees attended the training course.

Kyemon-Police Information



Crime

Action taken against illegal massage in Ahlon Township

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Jan—Police of Yangon Region Police Force and Ahlon Township Police Station together with witnesses raided the Sky Beauty Saloon at No 381 on the first floor on Lower Kyimyindine Road in Sawyanpaing North Ward of Ahlon Township, Yangon Region, on 12 January night.

They saw Aung Saw Myint, 26, manager of the massage, together with equipment on massage and 11 women who waited for the customer to illegally serve massage at the lobby. Ahlon Township Police Station opened files of lawsuit against manage Aung Zaw Myint and 11 women under the law.—*Kyemon*

Accident

Express bus hits motorcycle on Yenangyoung-Gwaygyo section

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Jan—A traffic accident occurred near mile post 373/4 on Yenangyoung-Gwaygyo section of Yangon-Mandalay Highway in Yenangyoung of Magway Region on 13 January.

The police from Gwaybin police station inspected the traffic accident which Taing Lon Kyaw express bus driven by Zin Min Oo, 35 of A street in Aung San Block of Pyay hit a motorcycle driven by an unknown person.

The unknown person died on the spot due to the injures at the head and knee in the incident.

Gwaybin police station opened a file of lawsuit against driver Zin Min Oo under the law.

Kyemon



Photo shows beautiful scene of renovated City Hall of Yangon with foreground of Maha Bandoola Park in downtown Yangon.—KYEMON-MANAWPHYULAY



Balance of power and transformer undertaken

AHLON, 16 Jan—Ahlon Township Electrical Engineer U Aung Myo Oo and electricians carried out balance of loads for the 500 KVA transformer and installation of overhead power lines on Nguwah Street in Ahlon Township yesterday.

Kyemon-Tin Maung Oo (Ahlon)

New construction used vehicles introduced in Monywa



MONYWA, 16 Jan—A ceremony to introduce China-made construction vehicles was held at the hall in South Monywa Ward of Sagaing Region on 12 January.

Responsible persons of Aung Kenbo Trading Co Ltd and construction entrepreneurs viewed the Forland vehicles.

General Manager Mr Liu Ming of the company explained construction-used vehicles, work capability and importation programmes. Monywa sales in-charge U Zaw Zaw Naing spoke words of thanks.

With regard to the sale

room in Monywa, “Aung Kanbo Trading Co Ltd sold Foton vehicles last year. Now, construction tasks are in momentum, so we import Forland vehicles in Monywa. Our company has opened two salerooms, one service centre and one spare parts centre in Yangon, one saleroom and service centre in Mandalay, saleroom in Nay Pyi Taw, one saleroom and service centre in Monywa and spare parts centre,” said the in-charge of Monywa saleroom.

It was the first of its kind in opening of construction-used vehicles in Monywa.

Kyemon-District IPRD

Anti-Narcotic Drives

231 grams of heroin seized in Waingmaw

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Jan—Police of Waingmaw in Kachin State together with witnesses searched the

motorcycle driven by Gaw Zaw Chan, 46 of Zhanxi of Yinkyan District of China together with Daw Rwe Gaw (a) Indup Rwe, 44 and Daw Kalaung Kaw, 45, of Lacheikmaga Village in Sadon Sub-Township on Waingmaw-Sadon Road of Waingmaw Township on 12 January.

They seized 231 grams of heroin worth K 11,550,000 from the basket, three mobile phones and two travel endorsements from them. Waingmaw Myoma Police Station opened files of lawsuit over the case.

Kyemon

REGIONAL

Vice Pres Shindo to assume Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal presidency



Photo shows Kosei Shindo, vice president of Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal Corp. The company has decided to name Shindo as president on 1 April, 2014, replacing Hiroshi Tomono, company sources said on 16 January.

KYODO NEWS

Trial starts of ex-AUM member who spent 17 yrs on run

TOKYO, 16 Jan — The trial of a former senior member of the AUM Shin-rikyo cult who turned himself in to police after nearly 17 years on the run began on Thursday.

Makoto Hirata, 48, is charged with involvement in the abduction and confinement of Kiyoshi Kariya, 68, in February 1995 in conspiracy with AUM founder Shoko Asahara, 58. Kariya later died after being injected with an anesthetic drug by AUM members.

He is also charged with involvement in the bombing of a Tokyo condominium the following month. Hirata gave himself up to the Tokyo metropolitan police on 31 December, 2011.

Kyodo News

Thai political instability worries Lao exporters

VIENTIANE, 16 Jan — Lao PDR's export market may be under threat by continued political turmoil in Thailand, an economist has warned, according to a report in state-run daily *Vientiane Times* on Thursday.

"Thailand is not only our major trading partner but our transit road to ex-

TOKYO, 16 Jan — Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal Corp has decided to name Vice President Kosei Shindo as president on 1 April, replacing Hiroshi Tomono, the company said on Thursday.

As the company has performed favorably since the merger of Nippon Steel Corp and Sumitomo Metal Industries Ltd in October 2012, it now aims to promote its overseas operations under a new leadership, according to company sources. Shindo, 64, joined then Nippon Steel in 1973 and assumed his current post in October 2012 to deal with the structural integration of the two major steelmakers following their merger.

Current president Tomono, 68, will become vice

chairman, while Chairman Shoji Muneoka, 67, will remain in the post. At the time of the merger, the two companies installed a leadership to reflect a balance between the two, with Muneoka from Nippon Steel assuming the chairmanship and Tomono from Sumitomo Metal the presidency.

The promotion of Shindo, who is well briefed on overall corporate management and planning, indicates that the second largest steelmaker in the world in terms of crude steel production is focusing more on growth. The company now has around 10 domestic iron plants and some 83,000 employees. Its consolidated sales for the business year through March 2013 came to 4,389.9 billion yen.

Kyodo News

Second man dies after collision between fishing boat, MSDF vessel

TOKYO, 16 Jan — An angler on a leisure fishing boat that sank following a collision on Wednesday with a Maritime Self-Defence Force transport vessel off Hiroshima Prefecture died early Thursday, bringing the death toll in the incident to two. Koji Otake, 66, was one of three anglers aboard the boat. Kiyoshi Takamori, the 67-year-old captain of the fishing boat, died on Wednesday.

The Japan Coast Guard plans to raise the fishing boat on Thursday and question the crew of the MSDF vessel *Osumi* to determine the cause of the accident, coast guard officials said. The collision between the 180-meter *Osumi* and the 7.6-meter fishing boat occurred at around 8 am on Wednesday in the Seto Inland Sea off the city of Otake. The four men on the

fishing boat were thrown into the water following the collision and rescued by the *Osumi* and another vessel passing nearby. The remain-

ing two were not injured.

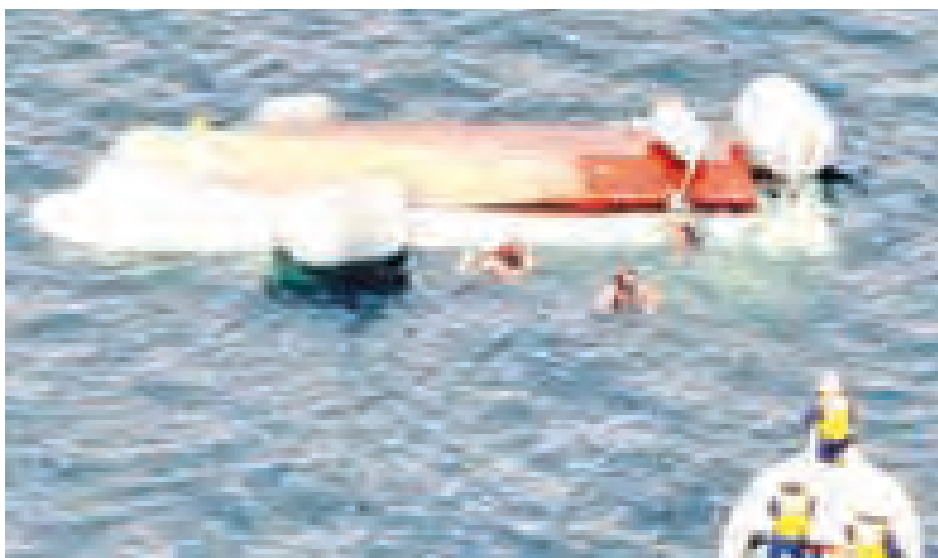
One of the rescued men was quoted as telling coast guard officials that the leisure boat collided with the

port side of the *Osumi*. The coast guard found marks believed to be from the collision on the MSDF vessel's hull. The sea was calm and

the weather was fair when the accident occurred, according to the authorities. The *Osumi* was moving in the same direction as the leisure boat and slowed down to make way for the boat when the accident occurred, a Defence Ministry official said.

The leisure boat left a berthing facility in the city of Hiroshima around 7:10 am on Wednesday and was on its way to Kabuto Island. The 8,900-ton *Osumi* was on its way to a shipyard in Okayama Prefecture for a regular inspection after leaving the Kure base in Hiroshima Prefecture at around 6:30 am. The MSDF vessel with 135 crew members is equipped with medical facilities, and was dispatched to the Philippines last November following a devastating typhoon.

Kyodo News



Japan Coast Guard divers examine a capsized leisure fishing boat in the Seto Inland Sea off the city of Otake, Hiroshima Prefecture, on 15 Jan, 2014. The boat capsized after colliding with Japan's Maritime Self-Defence transport vessel *Osumi* earlier in the day. Two of the four people aboard the boat are in critical condition.

KYODO NEWS

13 killed, 40,000 displaced in flash flood, landslide in North Sulawesi, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 16 Jan — The number of death toll in flash floods and landslide in North Sulawesi province of eastern Indonesia rose to 13 on Thursday, with 2 people still missing and about 40,000 others fleeing to escape the catastrophe, an official said.

Consecutive days of heavy downpours have

bloated four rivers and burst their banks in Manado city, the capital of the province, since Wednesday, submerging the city and sweeping cars and houses, said Sutopo Purwo Nugroho, spokesman of national disaster management and mitigation agency.

The rains also incurred landslides in Sangihe island

of the province and buried several houses, said Sutopo.

The disaster also left four bridges collapsed, he added. "Temporary data stipulates 13 dead, 2 missing and 40,000 others taking shelters to safe grounds," Sutopo told *Xinhua* via phone.

Xinhua

A HEARTFELT THANK-YOU ANNOUNCEMENT FROM PRO 1 HOME CENTER

We wish to extend our sincere thanks to U Win Myint (the Union Minister for the Ministry of Economic and Commerce) and your Excellencies-the Government, distinguished delegates, Chairmen and Spokesmen from various organizations, Mr. Kalin Sarami (Secretary of THAI CHAMBER), Mr. Kasohender Sangsriat (President from SCG Company Limited, Thailand), Mr. Pramote Techaoparkul (President from SCG Company Limited, Thailand), Mr. Wisorn Sanyawandul (CEO of SIAM GLOBAL HOUSE PUBLIC Co., Ltd), Mr. Karen Yoon C.T (Vice President from DBS BANK, Singapore), Mr. Raymond Reoh (OCBC BANK), Mr. Disapong Japakdeemant (First Vice President of K. BANK, THAILAND) including officers from his party, and the chairmen from our domestic and international partner business firms, for your honorable presence at the Grand Opening Ceremony of our Pro 1 Home Center, organizing as one of the building material sales centers in Myanmar, which was celebrated during the auspicious New Year period exactly dated as 5th of January 2014.

To ASIA METAL GROUP OF COMPANY and CALANCY GLOBAL (MYANMAR) CO., LTD (a design and build contractor), we wish to mention our honest appreciation for your remarkable effort in creating and constructing this magnificent Pro 1 Home Center. We wish to express our heartfelt thanks to our any long-distance and/or short-distance friends, our partners, our dealers, our customers for delivering painting as well as art & craft, opening ceremony flower gifts in all forms of stands, bouquets, baskets and other valuable items.

We wish to clarify our deep thanks, for your kind attendance, to the international guests and high-rank officers from our International Supplier Companies namely HAFEL, OPPEL, CLAYTON, GUCCIERA, CROCODILE, SANWA, I-SPA, YERTELON, MARCOPOLLO, VITTORI, BRAYD, MML, HAGL Group Co., Ltd. To mention of our thanks, we wish to include those of our friends and acquaintances for their encouragements and congratulations to us via postcards, mails, emails, telephone and newspaper posts & announcements, nevertheless they couldn't attend and celebrate together with us in the occasion.

We wish to reveal our special thanks and warm regards to the personnel from MYAWADDY TV Broadcasting Station and MRTV-4 TV Broadcasting Station for video-recording the event, to the journalists from various media in Myanmar for witnessing the significant event together with us, Asia Events Exhibition Group for decorating and planning the glorious and successful event, to all the staffs from Pro 1 Home Center and to everyone who has been supporting and cooperation with us in various aspects of needs.

From this auspicious 2014 New Year onwards, may each and every one of you warmly receive a heartfelt thank from our Pro 1 Home Center Family, for your energetic support and that also a genuine wish from our Pro 1 Home Center Family, to achieve eternal prosperity and success accordingly with our business motto "Growing together".

PRO 1
BOD Members & Staff
(PRO 1 Home Center)

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(1/2014)

Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United States Dollars and Myanmar Kyats.

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Qty	Remark
(1)	IFB-164(2013-2014)	7" Liner Hanger and Accessories	(2) Sets	US\$
(2)	IFB-165(2013-2014)	Ariel Compressor JGK-4 with Waukesha L-7042 GSI Spares	(14) Items	US\$
(3)	IFB-166(2013-2014)	Ariel Compressor JGE-2 with Waukesha F-2895 GSI Spares	(23) Items	US\$
(4)	IFB-167(2013-2014)	Ariel Compressor JGK-4 with Waukesha P-9390 GL Spares	(11) Items	US\$
(5)	IFB-168(2013-2014)	Cooper MH64 with Waukesha P-9390 GL Spares	(20) Items	US\$
(6)	IFB-169(2013-2014)	Cooper MH64 with Waukesha 12 VAT 27 GL Spares	(27) Items	US\$
(7)	IFB-170(2013-2014)	AJAX DPC 600 Engine Spares	(16) Items	US\$
(8)	IFB-171(2013-2014)	H 2475 G Waukesha Engine Spares	(22) Items	US\$
(9)	IFB-172(2013-2014)	NKK/Kobelco Compressor KJB-2& KB-2 Spares	(24) Items	US\$
(10)	IFB-173(2013-2014)	Spares for Hydraulic Mobile Grove Crane	(1) Item	US\$
(11)	IFB-174(2013-2014)	Geological Survey Instrument	(1) Item	US\$
(12)	IFB-175(2013-2014)	Industrial Chamber Oven and Core Plug Drilling Machine for Applied Research Center	(2) Items	US\$
(13)	DMP/L-051(2013-2014)	Mechanical Spares for ZJ70L SR I&II	(1) Lot	Ks
(14)	DMP/L-052(2013-2014)	3.25 MM, 4.0 MM & 5.0 MM Welding Electrode	(3) Items	Ks

- Tender Closing Date & Time - 10-2-2014, 16:30 Hr

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 13 January, 2014 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No(44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph . +95 67 - 411097 / 411206

Early to bed and early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise.

Record number travel between Chinese mainland, Taiwan

BEIJING, 16 Jan — A record number of more than 8 million people traveled across the Taiwan Strait in 2013 amid closer ties between the Chinese mainland and Taiwan, a Beijing spokesman said on Wednesday.

Among the travelers, 2.2 million were mainland tourists to Taiwan, an 11-percent rise compared with the previous year, said Ma Xiaoguang, spokesman for the State Council Taiwan Affairs Office, at a Press conference.

The number of individual tourists from the Chinese mainland to Taiwan hit 523,000, a rise of 174 percent year on year, thanks to the mainland's efforts to make it more convenient to travel across the Strait, he said. Mainland authorities began allowing individuals to travel to Taiwan in June, 2011, with access only permitted from Beijing and Shanghai municipalities as well as Xiamen City in Fujian Province. However, the current number of cities allowing such tourism is 26.

In 2013, 47 travel agencies also obtained the qualification to organize group package tours to Taiwan, increasing the total number of such agencies to 263, Ma said. To facilitate personnel exchanges, the Chinese mainland has expanded its urban residents' health insurance to cover Taiwan students studying at mainland universities. The government also supports Taiwanese who have graduated from mainland universities to start businesses, according to the spokesman.

A lot of big events took place last year across the Strait, including the first Cross-Strait Peace Forum, the ninth Cross-Strait Economic, Trade and Culture Forum and the sixth Cross-Strait Cultural Industry Fair. Ma said the two sides will cooperate to reach agreements on exchanges of culture, education as well as science and technology.—Xinhua

ADVERTISEMENT & ENTERTAINMENT

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BANGKHONTHI VOY NO (175)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGKHONTHI VOY NO (175) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 17.1.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(5) 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 PHULSAWAT SHIPPING
CO LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV THIGAYU VOY NO (05/13)

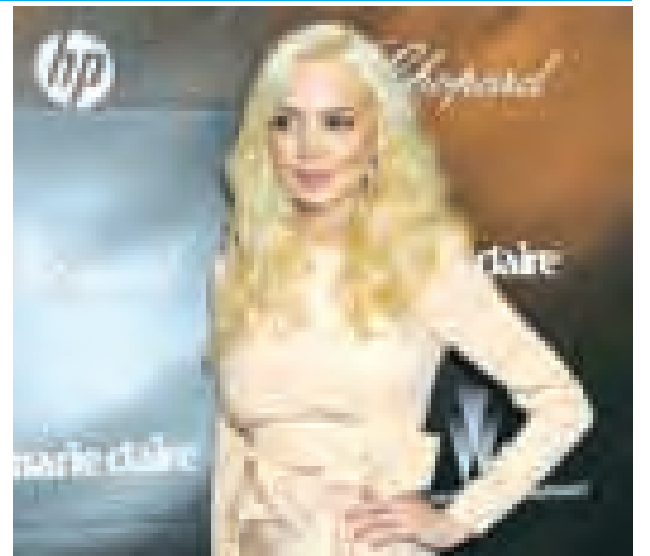
Consignees of cargo carried on MV THIGAYU VOY NO (05/13) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 17.1.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(6) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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 KRUNG THON NAVA
CO LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921



Lindsay Lohan is reportedly dating British student and part-time model Christian Arno Williams.

Lindsay Lohan smitten by new boyfriend

LOS ANGELES, 16 Jan — Actress Lindsay Lohan, who is secretly dating British student and part-time model Christian Arno Williams, is reportedly going ga ga over him.

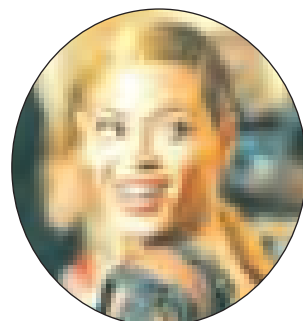
The actress was heard talking about her new love interest during a trip to celebrity nightspot Boujis in Kensington, London on Sunday, reports contactmu-

sic.com.

"Lindsay was overheard gushing about her new boy toy that she has been seen out with this week. Telling anyone who would listen how great he is," Bang Showbiz quoted a source as saying.

The two met at the Shanghai Fashion Awards and are said to be inseparable since.—PTI

'Frozen' soundtrack ices Beyonce again on Billboard album chart



Singer Beyonce arrives at the Metropolitan Museum of Art Costume Institute Benefit celebrating the opening of the 'Schiaparelli and Prada: Impossible Conversations' exhibition in New York, on 7 May, 2012.
REUTERS

LOS ANGELES, 16 Jan — The soundtrack to the Walt Disney Co. animated film "Frozen" topped the weekly Billboard 200 album chart on Wednesday for the second consecutive week, again holding off Beyonce. "Frozen" sold 86,000 copies last week, down from 165,000 the previous week, edging R&B singer Beyonce's self-titled album, which sold 79,000 copies last week, according to figures compiled by Nielsen SoundScan.

Billboard said "Frozen" is the first soundtrack

to claim the top spot for consecutive weeks since "Dreamgirls" in 2007.

The soundtrack has been helped by the film's box office popularity, Billboard said, citing sources. The film has grossed \$319 million at the domestic box office since its November release. Rapper Kid Ink's "My Own Lane" was the lone debut album to enter the top 10 this week, placing at No 3 with 50,000 in sales.

Rapper Eminem dropped a spot to fourth as 36,000 copies of his "Marshall Mathers LP2" were sold last week, while New Zealand teen singer-songwriter Lorde's "Pure Heroine" held at No 5 with 33,000 in sales. Pop singer Katy Perry's song featuring rapper Juicy J, "Dark Horse," topped the digital songs chart with 243,000 downloads. Last week's top download, "Timber," by rapper Pitbull with pop singer Ke\$ha, fell to No 2, with 227,000 downloads.

Album sales last week totaled 4.3 million, a decline of 21 percent compared to last week and down 17 percent compared to the same week last year, Billboard said.—Reuters

Doctor convicted in Michael Jackson death loses appeal

LOS ANGELES, 16 Jan — A California appellate court refused on Wednesday to overturn the conviction of Michael Jackson's personal physician, Conrad Murray, who was found guilty of involuntary manslaughter in the death of the pop star.

The three-judge panel of California 2nd District Court of Appeal unanimously upheld Murray's 2011 conviction, ruling that there was sufficient evidence and there were no errors during his trial.

Grenada-born Murray, 60, was released from a Los Angeles jail in October after serving two years.

Murray's six-week

trial in 2011 grabbed global attention after Jackson, preparing for a series of comeback concerts in London, died unexpectedly in 2009 at age 50 from an overdose of the surgical anaesthetic, propofol. Prosecutors successfully argued at the trial that Murray, who was hired by concert promoter AEG Live as Jackson's general practitioner, was grossly negligent in administering the powerful anaesthetic, which was used to help the singer sleep.

Murray's attorneys presented the case that Jackson had injected himself with the powerful anaesthetic. The cardiologist's current



Doctor Conrad Murray (R), the late Michael Jackson's personal physician, listens during his arraignment on a charge of involuntary manslaughter in the pop star's death, in Los Angeles, California, on 25 Jan, 2011 file photo.—REUTERS

attorney handling his appeal, Valerie Wass, said she anticipated an appeal would be filed to the California Supreme Court.

"I'm always of the opinion that he has a better chance in the (California) Supreme Court or federal

court," Wass said.

Murray, whose medical license was either suspended or lapsed in California, Nevada, Texas and Hawaii, has said he wants to practice again, but so far his appeals have been turned down.—Reuters

Brad Pitt, Angelina Jolie likely to adopt again

LOS ANGELES, 16 Jan — Hollywood couple Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie reportedly want to extend their family and are planning to adopt again.

The couple already have six children — adopted children Maddox, Pax, and Zahara and biological kids Shiloh, Knox and Vivienne.

According to female-first.co.uk, a source told *Grazia* magazine that "Angelina and Brad have spent much of the festive period discussing extending their family".

"They've been open with the children about it and they are all excited at the prospect," the source added.

The couple initially looked into adopting a child from Jordan, but the process was too difficult, so they are reportedly talking to orphanages in Ethiopia.

"They have always wanted Zahara to have a sibling who shares her African heritage. Ideally they'd like a little girl aged between two and three," the source said.

Angelina and Brad, who are seeking advice

from friend and adoption expert Jane Aronson, are building an AIDS clinic in Zahara's name in Ethiopia and are expected to pay a visit in April, when they will also meet with orphanage bosses.

"There is likely to be a

visit to Ethiopia in the next few months to check on proceedings at the clinic. But they will visit orphanages at the same time. They hope to have everything in place to go ahead with the adoption around April," the source said.—PTI



The couple already have six children.

SPORTS

Frazzled Sharapova fumes over murky heat policy

MELBOURNE, 16 Jan — Maria Sharapova criticized Australian Open organizers for a lack of transparency over their ‘extreme heat policy’ when the Russian was left toiling on court for nearly an hour after organizers had invoked an official halt on Thursday.

Sharapova and her opponent Karin Knapp of Italy slugged it out in 40 degrees Celsius (104 Fahrenheit) heat at Rod Laver Arena for three-and-a-half hours before the Russian prevailed 6-3, 4-6, 10-8 in their marathon second round encounter. The pair were already struggling in the oppressive conditions but continued their arduous battle some 50 minutes after matches on outside courts were suspended at about 1:50 pm local time (0250 GMT).

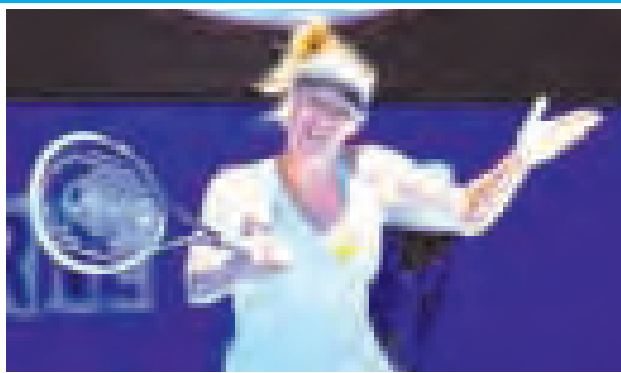
Players have slammed

organizers for failing to call off matches earlier, with some describing the conditions as dangerous, and one Croatian player in the men’s draw expressing fear for his life on Wednesday.

Rather than use the raw Celsius readings to assess the heat, organizers prefer to use the Wet Bulb Global Temperature composite, which also gauges humidity and wind to identify the perceived conditions.

Under a change to the rules for this year, the decision on whether to stop matches is now at the discretion of tournament referee Wayne McKewen.

“There is no way getting around the fact that the conditions were extremely difficult, and have been for the last few days,” the third seed Sharapova told reporters. “It’s a tough call. I



Maria Sharapova of Russia hits a return to Karin Knapp of Italy during their women's singles match at the Australian Open 2014 tennis tournament in Melbourne on 16 Jan, 2014.—REUTERS

mean, I think the question I have is no one really knows what the limit is.

“Not the players (nor) the trainers themselves when you ask them when will the roof be closed. “No one actually knows what that number is in comparison to humidity or the actual heat.

“Sometimes you wish you knew, because it’s — it just depends on I’m not sure who, a referee or the meteorologist, and there are just a lot of questions in the air that maybe should be solved.

“I asked the trainer the other day, ‘what does it take

for the roof to be closed or matches to be stopped?’ She said, ‘we have no control over this’.” Despite the suspension, players could only walk off court at the conclusion of the set they were playing, according to the policy.

With no tiebreaks in deciding third sets for the women entrants at the Australian Open, nor for fifth sets for the men, Sharapova and Knapp’s battle continued well after the suspension was called, with Rod Laver Arena’s retractable roof left open.—Reuters

Tennis-Australian Open men’s singles round 2 results

MELBOURNE, 16 Jan — Results from the Australian Open Men’s Singles Round 2 matches on Thursday

1-Rafa Nadal (Spain) beat Thanasi Kokkinakis (Australia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-2.

Donald Young (US) beat 24-Andreas Seppi (Italy) 6-4, 2-6, 6-3, 4-6, 7-5.

6-Roger Federer (Switzerland) beat Blaz Kavcic (Slovenia) 6-2, 6-1, 7-6(4).

10-Jo-Wilfried Tsonga (France) beat Thomaz Bellucci (Brazil) 7-6(6), 6-4, 6-4.

16-Kei Nishikori (Japan) beat Dusan Lajovic (Serbia) 6-1, 6-1, 7-6(3).—Reuters

Federer canters into third round by giving Kavcic lesson



Roger Federer

MELBOURNE, 16 Jan — Roger Federer spent as little time as he needed and gave Blaz Kavcic a tennis lesson in recording a 6-2, 6-1, 7-6 victory to advance to the third round of the Australian Open on Thursday.

Playing under the closed roof of Hisense Arena due to the extreme heat that had earlier suspended play on the uncovered courts, Federer raced through the first set in 26 minutes with a strong service game and by belting 17 winners.

Federer’s sixth ranking — courtesy of a sub-par 2013 — had given the impression of a 32-year-old man whose skills may be diminishing as he enters the twilight of his illustrious career.

That presumption was emphatically rejected when Kavcic held two break points in the fourth game of the second set and had Federer scrambling back and forth in a 23-shot rally only for the Swiss to force a forehand error. The hard-hitting world number 99 simply stood hands on hips slowly shaking his head as if pondering what to do next.

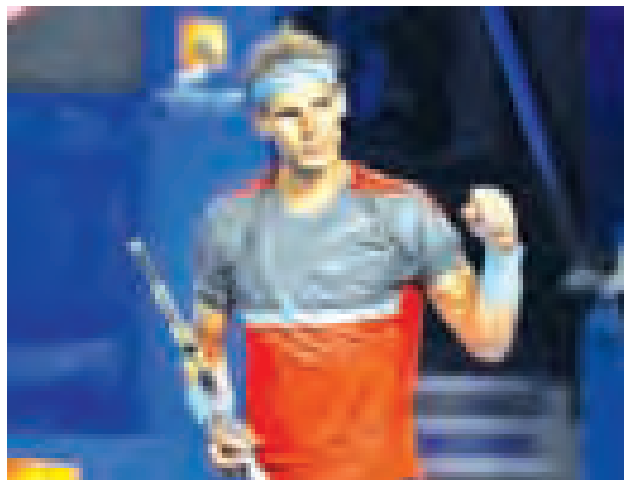
The Slovenian did manage to break on the next point and thrust his arms skyward in mock triumph, though that only served to fire up Federer who won 13 of the next 16 points to clinch the set in 28 minutes.

The third set was a little closer with Kavcic’s serve improving markedly but he could not halt the inevitable as Federer ended the 107-minute lesson when he clinched the tie-break 7-4. Federer will now meet either 31st seeded Spaniard Fernando Verdasco or Russian Teymuraz Gabashvili in the third round.—Reuters

Nadal crashes through Kokkinakis to reach third round

MELBOURNE, 16 Jan — Rafa Nadal gave the next generation a lesson in grand slam tennis by dismantling teenage talent Thanasi Kokkinakis 6-2, 6-4, 6-2 to cruise into the third round of the Australian Open on Thursday.

A junior finalist at Melbourne Park and the US Open last year, 17-year-old Kokkinakis underlined his potential by blazing 21 winners against the world number one to the delight



of rowdy home fans at Rod Laver Arena.

But the rangy Australian was unable to match the firepower of the super-fit Spaniard, who wrapped up the match with a booming serve in under two hours.

Nadal will next play either 25th seed Gael Monfils or American Jack Sock.

Reuters

Rafael Nadal

Milan’s Matri moves to Fiorentina on loan

ROME, 16 Jan — AC Milan striker Alessandro Matri has signed for Serie A rivals Fiorentina on loan until the end of the season.

“ACF Fiorentina an-

nounces that it has acquired on a temporary basis the rights to the football player Alessandro Matri from AC Milan,” the club said.

Matri moved to Milan

from Juventus last year but had a troubled time at the struggling club, scoring only one goal in 18 appearances in all competitions.

“I’m hungry to play and score lots of goals,” Matri said.

Fiorentina are in desperate need of attacking firepower with both Mario Gomez and Giuseppe Rossi out of action due to knee injuries.

Vincenzo Montella’s Fiorentina are fourth in Serie A and Milan are 11th after a dreadful first half of the season which led to coach Massimiliano Allegri being sacked this week and replaced by former Dutch international Clarence Seedorf.—Reuters



AC Milan’s Alessandro Matri (L) shoots to score past Parma’s Dal Bello Felipe during their Italian Serie A soccer match at the Tardini stadium in Parma on 27 Oct, 2013.—REUTERS

Five-star City crush Blackburn in FA Cup

LONDON, 16 Jan — Alvaro Negredo and Edin Dzeko scored twice each as Premier League high-fliers Manchester City comprehensively quashed second tier Blackburn Rovers’ hopes of causing an FA Cup shock with an emphatic 5-0 third-round replay win on Wednesday.

After being held to a surprising draw 11 days ago, City proved far too strong for Blackburn with Negredo bagging his 20th and 21st goals of the season in two minutes either side of half-time before strike partner Edin Dzeko got in on the act.

His two goals came either side of one from Sergio Aguero, who netted a



Blackburn Rovers’ Lee Williamson (R) and Jason Lowe (L) challenge Manchester City’s Alvaro Negredo during their FA Cup third round soccer match at the Etihad stadium in Manchester, northwest England on 15 Jan, 2014.—REUTERS

minute after coming on for his first appearance following a month-long injury absence. Last season’s beaten finalists City will face

Watford at home in the fourth round. “I don’t think it was easy,” Dzeko told ITV. “Especially, in the first half.

Reuters

GENERAL



The 40-day spring travel rush starting on 16 January and ending on 24 February will transport 3.623 billion passengers this year, 200 million more than last year, predicted by National Development and Reform Commission.—XINHUA

Eight students injured in New Orleans school bus crash

HOUSTON, 16 Jan — Eight students were taken to a hospital in the US city of New Orleans following their school bus wreck on Wednesday, local media reported.

The crash happened on an interstate highway in New Orleans, the Times-Picayune reported. It's not immediately known how many vehicles were involved in the accident and how exactly it happened.

Eight school children were sent to an area hospital after the crash. Their injuries were reportedly minor. Police did not say which school the children attend. Though the United States is reputed for its strict school bus safety code, such accidents are not uncommon. At least three accidents involving school buses were reported in the US state of Texas last month.

On 19 December, two students were hospitalized after their school bus crashed in Houston. On 13 December, nine elementary school students were hurt when their school bus was rear-ended in north Texas. Nine students were injured after their school bus collided with another school bus in east Texas on 11 December.

Xinhua

Investigation underway into Sydney train derailment

SYDNEY, 16 Jan — Safety experts are investigating into Wednesday's incident of Sydney train derailment, which plunged rail services on the city's eastern suburbs and Illawarra lines into chaos during the evening peak, local media reported on Thursday. About 700 passengers were evacuated from the train just before 6:00 p.m. local time on Wednesday after two wheels came off the track and a metal bar speared up through the floor of a carriage near Edgecliff Station, in Sydney's east.

Sydney Trains Chief Executive Officer Howard Collins told the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) on Thursday his organization was investigat-

ing if it was a faulty track or an issue with the train. "We will get to the bottom of this, it's very important to know what caused this incident so we can understand how to eliminate it in the future," he said.

"Although the piece of metal didn't come from the train ... it looks like it picked up this piece of metal and by sheer misfortune (it) acted like a skewer and went through the floor," he added. However, Collins said Sydney Trains "wouldn't jump to any conclusions" until a thorough investigation was completed. Rail services on the city's eastern suburbs lines resumed on Thursday morning after crews cleared the track.—Xinhua

Ronaldo on target as Real knock out Osasuna

BARCELONA, 16 Jan — Ballon d'Or winner Cristiano Ronaldo scored the opening goal as 10-man Real Madrid beat Osasuna 2-0 on Wednesday to qualify for the King's Cup quarter-finals 4-0 on aggregate.

Osasuna held Barcelona and Real to draws at El Sadar in the league this season but the visitors, fired by the confidence of a 2-0 first-leg win, had far too much for them in attack.

Ronaldo, named FIFA World Player of the Year on Monday, was fortunate to score, however, as his free kick slipped through the hands of keeper Andres Fernandez after 20 minutes.

Angel Di Maria slotted in the second to seal a comfortable win even though

Real defender Fabio Coentrao was given his second yellow card six minutes from time.

"We knew it was going to be difficult and that Osasuna were going to come out strong, so it was good to get the opening goal. The shots from Cristiano are difficult to stop as they move around a lot," Real midfielder Asier Illarramendi told reporters.

"We worked hard but now we need to keep going and next we have Betis in the league at the weekend."

"Real put out a strong side but Karim Benzema and Gareth Bale were left out of the attack with Isco given the unfamiliar role of leading the line."

As Real began to relax

towards the end of the first half, Osasuna threatened and Alvaro Cejudo hit the woodwork with a 25-yard

drive while Miguel De las Cuevas forced a smart save from Iker Casillas.

Their heads dropped,



Osasuna's Miguel Flano (R) fights for the ball with Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo during their Spanish King's Cup soccer match at Reyno de Navarra stadium in Pamplona on 15 Jan, 2014.—REUTERS

though, when Di Maria fired home a Jese Rodriguez cross 10 minutes into the second half. With the match all but won Coentrao needlessly fouled Roberto Torres and was given a second booking but Real still sealed an easy win.

Espanyol survived a scare as they went a goal down having lost the first leg 1-0 at second division Alcorcon but they responded with a 4-2 win and 4-3 aggregate success.

Athletic Bilbao also knocked out Real Betis and Levante eliminated Rayo Vallecano.

Champions Barcelona take on Getafe on Thursday following a 4-0 victory in the first leg.

Reuters

MYANMAR TV

(17-1-2014, Friday)

6:00 am	2:45 pm
1. Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw	20. 7th ASEAN Para Games (Live) (5 A - SIDE FOOTBALL)
6:25 am	(Myanmar & Thailand) (Men)
2. Physical Exercises	4:00 pm
6:35 am	21. News
3. Song & Dance of National Race	4:20 pm
6:50 am	22. The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe
4. Documentary	4:30 pm
7:00 am	23. University of Distance Education
5. News/Weather Report	(TV Lectures) - First Year (Physics)
7:20 am	4:50 pm
6. Hyper Sports	24. Teleplay (Health)
7:45 am	5:00 pm
7. Documentary	25. News
8:00 am	5:30 pm
8. News/ International News	26. India Drama Series
8:30 am	6:00 pm
9. India Drama Series	27. News/Weather Report
9:00 am	6:20 pm
10. News	28. Amazing World
9:30 am	7:00 pm
11. Teleplay (Health)	29. News
9:45 am	7:20 pm
12. ASEAN Programmes	30. Documentary
10:00 am	8:00 pm
13. News	31. News/International News/Weather Report
10:20 am	8:35 pm
14. Documentary	32. People Talks
11:05 am	8:45 pm
15. Clever	33. Documentary
11:35 am	9:00 pm
16. Myanmar Series	34. News
12:00 pm	35. Hyper Sports
17. News/International News/Weather Report	36. Traditional Boxing
12:25 pm	37. Pyi Thu Ni Ti
18. Myanmar Movies	
2:20 pm	
19. Hyper Sports	

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

17-1-14 07:00 am ~ 18-1-14 07:00 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Visiting A Serene Village In The Northwest of Myanmar
- * World News
- * Myanmar Masterclass: Portraiture
- * Local News
- * Travelling In Shan Mountain Ranges (Myoma Market)
- * World News
- * Myanmar Puppet
- * Local News
- * Traditional Matrimony of Khamti Shans
- * World News
- * Myanmar Movie Review: "Be the Right Heir"
- * Local News
- * Lampi Marine National Park
- * World News
- * Colonial Buildings and a New Yangon
- * Local News
- * Myanmar Invites You
- * World News
- * School for the Blind
- * Local News
- * Myanmar Traditional Instruments (MYANMA DRUM)
- * World News
- * Myanmar Traditional Art Bronze Casting
- * Local News
- * A Tea Business: Pankwan (Part-2)
- * World News
- * A Girl Guide
- * Local News
- * Making of Nawarat Rings
- * World News
- * Moving Meditation: Aikido

Over US\$ 34200 million of foreign investment flow into 11 sectors

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Jan—A total of 25 countries invested in 381 businesses in 11 sectors, amounting US\$ 34200.002 million from 1988-89 to 1 December 2013, said Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Daw Khin San Yi at today's session of the Pyithu Hluttaw.

A total of 305,214 job opportunities have been created for the people from 1988 to 31-12-2013, she said.

Deputy Minister for Education Dr Zaw Min Aung said that although school disciplinary committees led by school heads should supervise the students not to abuse electronic equipment such as telephone, Internet, among others during the school hour, and parents of students are to join hands with the teachers.

Deputy Minister for Energy U Myint Zaw explained that the ministry distributes fertilizer to farmers through state

and region governments and authorized dealers. Ministry of Energy could supply 24.21 per cent of demand, 208,614.45 tons of fertilizer, to Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation. Therefore, Ministry of Commerce allowed importation of about 600,000 tons of fertilizer through border and regular trade routes to fulfill the demand. The Bill Committee submitted the report on findings of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Development Fund Bill.—MNA

Work coord meeting between Pyithu Hluttaw committees, commission held

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Jan—Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann attended a work coordination meeting between the committees and the commission at Zabuthiri hall of the Hluttaw Building, here, this

afternoon.

During the meeting, after hearing an opening speech of the Speaker, officials reported on the minutes of the previous meeting. Chairpersons and secretaries of the commit-

tees clarified work progress and commission members, the activities of the commission.

Those present participated in the discussion and the Speaker made a conclusion remark. The meeting

was attended by Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Pyithu Hluttaw Committee chairpersons, secretaries and members and officials from the Hluttaw Office.

MNA

Swimming events continue at Wunna Theikdi Stadium



Prize awarding of the 7th ASEAN Para Games in progress at Wunna Theikdi Sports Complex.—PHOTO-MAY MOE THE

MEB launches mobile exchange service during ASEAN Para Games

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Jan—Apart from providing money exchange service to the participants to the 7th ASEAN Para Games at Nay Pyi Taw Branch of Myanma Economic Bank, Mobile Exchange Service has been available at the crowded places in downtown Nay

Pyi Taw since 13 January.

The mobile exchange service includes changing big notes for small notes and foreign currency for local ones in accord with the exchange rate of the Central Bank of Myanmar.

It is learnt that an amount of changing big notes for small ones has

reached K 7.59 million while giving the mobile exchange service, moving around the busy places like Moyma Market, Thabyegon Market, Junction Centre and Capital Hyper Mart including Wunna Theikdi Sports Complex in Nay Pyi Taw.

MNA

Enactment of SMEs Development Bill (draft) underway

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Jan—SMEs in Myanmar are in operation in accord with Private Industrial Enterprise Law enacted in 1990 and enactment of SMEs Development Bill (draft) is underway, said Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Daw Le Le Thein with regard to the question **whether there is a plan or not to export SME products to abroad** raised by MP Dr Myint Kyi of Yangon Region Constituency No (8)

at today's Amyotha Hluttaw session.

Regarding **whether there is a plan or not to protect the villages from the danger of wild elephants in Bago Township** questioned by U Saw Maw Tun of Bago Region Constituency No (1), Deputy Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Aye Myint Maung replied that Shwe U Daung wildlife sanctuary, Htamathi wildlife sanctuary, Alaungdaw Kassapa National Park, Rakhine mountain range wildlife sanctuary and Hugaung

valley wildlife sanctuary have been established across the country to conserve the elephants. Arrangement is being made to establish North Zarmari wildlife sanctuary, he added.

U Myo Myint of Mandalay Region Constituency No (6) submitted a proposal **urging the Union government to formulate pragmatic Myanmar forestry law for sustainable development of Permanent Forest Estate – PFE which is abundant with forest** (See page 9)

Naga Self-Administered Zone sees health care service, development works

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Jan—Together with Sayadaw Ashin Nanissara of Sitagu International Buddhist Missionary University, Union Ministers U Ohn Myint and Dr Pe Thet Khin, and officials, Union Minister at President Office U Hla Tun paid an inspection tour of Naga Self-Administered Zone on 11 and 12 January.

Union Minister U Hla Tun and party coordinated regional requirements and road works and made cash and kind donations in meeting with department officials and local people at Leshi Township General Administration Department on 11 January.

In his address, the Union minister called for collaborative efforts between the government and the people for ensuring development of Naga region.

On their arrival at a training school of the Ministry of Border Affairs, they spoke words of encouragement and presented cash assistance to national race students.

Next, they observed health care services provided to local people by Belgian eye care team and Sitagu medical team led by the Sitagu Sayadaw and inspected construction of new hospital in Leshi and ongoing development undertakings. On 12 January, they attended an opening of new school building and library for a monastic education school. The new building and library was built with the contribution of K 12.8 million by the region government.

Then, they visited women's vocational training school.

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Union Ministers U Hla Tun, U Ohn Myint and Dr Pe Thet Khin pose for documentary photo with Naga national races.—MNA