

The New Light of Myanmar

THE MOST RELIABLE NEWSPAPER AROUND YOU

Volume XXI, Number 281

7th Waning of Pyatho 1375 ME

Wednesday, 22 January 2014

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham meets Indian, Canadian Ambassadors

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Jan—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham received Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Gautam Mukhopadhyaya at the Credential Halls of the Presidential Palace here at 2 p.m. today.

They discussed further strengthening of amity and relations between Myanmar and India, promotion of multi-sector cooperation and more cooperation in energy, cooperatives, information, technology sectors.

The Vice-President

also met with Canadian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Mark McDowell at the same venue at 3:30 p.m. today.

The meeting focused on potentials to cooperate in peace-making process in Myanmar, poverty alleviation, education and health sectors.

Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Thant Kyaw and Deputy Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development U Khin Maung Aye and officials concerned also attended the meeting.—MNA



Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham receives Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Gautam Mukhopadhyaya.—MNA

Myanmar National Committee on the Rights of the Child meets

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Jan—The Myanmar National Committee on the Rights of the Child met at the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement here this morning.

Chairperson of Myanmar National Committee on the Rights of the Child Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin said that Myanmar as a party to United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child has been making endeavours

for ensuring the rights of child—the right to survival, to develop to the fullest, to protection from harmful influences, abuse and exploitation and to participate fully in family, cultural and social life.

At present, the Myanmar Child Law 1993 is being amended for the great interest of the children in Myanmar. Besides, Myanmar National Plan of Action for Children 2006-2015 is being implemented in the country.

Arrangements are be-

ing made to open the early childhood care and development centre in Yangon.

The ministry is making concerted efforts for submission of the 5th imple-

mentation report on United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child in 2017.

A total of 883 children were allowed to rejoin their (See page 8)

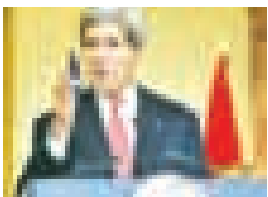
INSIDE

US Republican
Rubio backs Abe's
push for collective
self-defence

PAGE-3

Gov't panel OKs action plan to
accelerate growth strategy

PAGE-3



Kerry to meet
Israeli, Palestinian
negotiators

PAGE-4

Abe leaves for Davos to join World
Economic Forum

PAGE-4

Significant night temperatures (21-1-2014)

Haka	3° C
Mogok	5° C
Putao	6° C
Lashio	6° C
Heho	6° C
PyinOoLwin	6° C

Karaweik floating hotel offers the Ayeyawady River cruise tour

Upon completion, Karaweik or royal barge floating hotel which is being decorated with Myanmar traditional architectural designs at Mandalay Jetty will offer tours to Mandalay, Mingun and Shwekyatayat.

“We are putting the finishing to it,” said U Tun Tun, Managing Director of GC Company.

Work on construction of Karaweik floating hotel started in April last year at Aungnaingthu Dock in Sagaing and the floating hotel is designed by Russian

architects.

Karaweik floating hotel is built at the cost of over 1000 million kyats and will be equipped with two 3600 horse power engines. The two-story barge is 250 ft long and 70 ft wide and there are 38 rooms at the floating hotel. It will create 80 job opportunities on completion.

During the cruising the Ayeyawady River, visitors can see the beauty of the Ayeyawady River, Myanmar traditional culture and unspoiled ecosystem of Myanmar. Besides,

By TIN MAUNG
(MANDALAY)

travelers can see Myanmar traditional architectural artistic designs and can enjoy marionette shows and performance of Myanmar traditional Chinlone. “On request, we will extend tours to Bhamo and Shweku,” U Tun Tun said.

Myanma Alinn:
19-1-2014
Trs: AMS



Court staff proficiency course conducted



SAGAING, 21 Jan—The Court Proficiency Course 1/2014 was conducted at Sagaing District Court in Sagiang on 18 January morning. Chief Justice of Sagaing Region High Court U San Ko

made a speech.

It was attended by Sagaing District Court Judge Daw Shwe Thazin, District Law Officer Daw Khin Than Aye, Township Judge U Win Maung and 21 staff from Sagaing, Myinmu and Myaung townships.

The Chief Justice of the region presented welfare items to staff.

Similar courses were opened in Wetlet Township Court in Shwebo District and ChaungU Township Court of Monywa District on 16 January and Monywa Township Court on 17 January.

MMAL-Htwe Myint Naing (Sagaing)

NATIONAL SPORTS

Meiktila University Inter-Subject Football Tournament wraps up



MEIKTILA, 21 Jan—Meiktila University held the Inter-Subject Men's Football Tournament at Paukchaung Sports Ground in Meiktila.

In the final match on 20 January, Geology team edged out Chemistry team 5-1.

Rector Dr Maung Thin and Pro-Rector Dr Daw

Khin Phyu Phyu Thin presented first and second prizes to Arts Combine team and Maths team in the women's event that was held the final match on 17 January and first and second prizes to Geology and Maths teams in men's event.

Eight men's teams and six women's teams took part in the tournament.

Prize winning teams are to take part in the Inter-University Zonal Football Tournament in Mandalay in February, said Geology Professor Dr Htay Aung.

MMAL-Chan Tha (Meiktila)

CONSTRUCTION

NyaungU Township gaining development momentum

MANDALAY, 21 Jan—Chief Minister of Mandalay Region U Ye Myint and local authorities inspected development tasks in NyaungU Township on 17 January morning.

The Chief Minister viewed progress of construction at bus terminal, shopping malls, roads and car parks by Myat Noe Thu Construction Co in NyaungU.

The Chief Minister gave instructions on greening tasks at the bus terminals and moves of bus terminal as soon as possible, and inspected the construction tasks. They also looked into construction of earthen works as preparations for paving of asphalt on two miles and four fourlongs

long NyaungU detour with the use of heavy machinery. The road is being built under arrangements of Mandalay Region Government.

On completion, vehicles small and large running along Myingyan-Yangon and Pakokku-Yangon Roads do not need to enter NyaungU, saving time. So, the town can enjoy easing of traffic congestions.

The Chief Minister and party inspected the site chosen for construction of Hotel Zone No. 4 south to Bagan Myothit beside NyaungU-Chauk Road and heard reports on allotment of land plots for the hotel constructions by officials.

MMAL-Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Boxing challenge in Myanmar tradition scheduled in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 21 Jan—Jointly organized by Ministry of Sports and Myanmar Traditional Boxing Federation, the Myanmar traditional boxing challenge in commemoration of the 67th Anniversary Union Day will be held at Aungmye Mandalay Gymnasium in Aungmyethazan Township of Mandalay on 12 February.

Mandalay holds the Myanmar traditional boxing challenges on Independence Day, Union day, Armed Forces Day and other significant days.

Now, traditional boxers from Upper and Lower Myanmar will meet in the challenge. The previous matches were held at night but the coming matches will be held in the afternoon.

The match fixtures for the boxers are:

19 Maung (Bahtoo) vs. Naung Naung (Sagaing); New Generation (Cobra) vs. Nyi Fighter (Meiktila); Mway Pway Mike (Cobra) vs. Bahtoo Maung (Bahtoo); Sein Myo Aung (Zartiman) vs. Mya Hlyan Chel (Shwe Letthee); Shwe Sun Nyo (Taungpyone) vs. Saw The Myo (Twantay); Pidauk (Sagaing) vs. Lwam Chaint (Wam Chai); Fighter (White Tiger) vs. White Peacock (Wam Chai); Kywe Gyi (White Tiger) vs. Sai Wunna (Sagaing); 12 elbows Tiger (Whiet Tiger) vs. Tayar Aung (Shwe Kyar); Kyei Sin Phyo (Phyu/Thit) vs. Aung Naing Htoo (Shwe Kokko); Moemakha (Swan KK) vs. Daung The Chay (Wam Chai), and Po Thar Gyi (Ewarat) vs. Shwe Min Yarzar (Shwe Kokko).

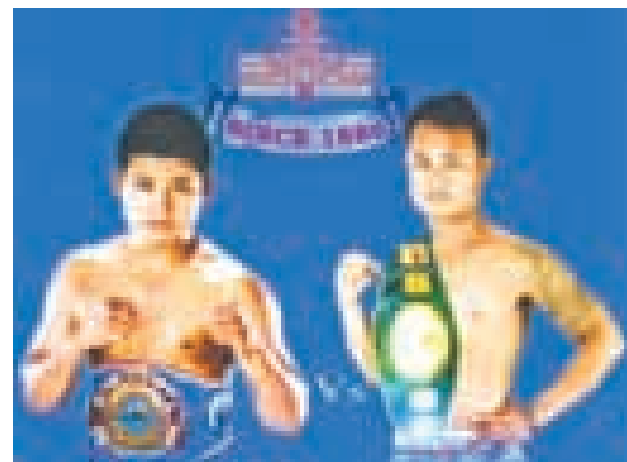
Po Thar secured the golden belt recently in the

MMA challenge.

Model girls who will carry the placards for the boxers may attract the boxing fans.

Entrance fees are fixed at K 8000 and K 5000 per head. For buying tickets, may dial 09-43073096, 09-256428887 and 09-73218151.

MMAL-Khin Khin Win (Education)



MYANMAR RED CROSS SOCIETY

72nd Central Council Meeting

23-24 January, 2014

Assembly Hall

Myanmar Red Cross Society (Headquarters),
Nay Pyi Taw

Development tasks in Shan State (East) inspected



MONGPHYAT, 21 Jan—Shan State Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myo Tun and Lahu National Affairs Minister U Sha Mwe La Shen and officials inspected Mongphyat People's Hospital on 19 January.

They viewed progress of Mongphyat District Education Office and the

rural dispensary and Basic Education Primary School in Bushi Village of Mongphyat.

In Manwohtaung Village, the minister conformed the fire victims who suffered outbreak of fire on 2 January and donated 10 bags of rice worth K 255,000 and the Lahu National Affairs Minister

23 containers of edible oil worth K 455,400, Shan State (East) Union Solidarity and Development Party 460 pieces of corrugated iron sheets, Tachilek Township Pyithu Hluttaw MP Daw Tin May Tun and District and Township USPDs 38 pieces of blankets and foodstuffs worth K 330,000, Social Affairs Association (Shwe Tachi Travel Tour) Chairman U Sai Kyaw Zan and party 230 CI sheets worth K 750,000, Chairman of Tachilek Myitta Shin Social Affairs Association U Bo San and party foodstuffs worth K 780,000, and provided health care services to the fire victims.

MMMAL-Wai Yan Lin (IPRD)

BOXING

WORLD

US Republican Rubio backs Abe's push for collective self-defence

TOKYO, 21 Jan — US Sen. Marco Rubio, a Republican rumored to be a major candidate for the next presidential election, on Monday threw his support behind Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's initiative to enable Japan to exercise the right of collective self-defense, or defending an ally under armed attack.

Rubio, the ranking member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee's East Asian and Pacific Affairs Subcommittee, voiced his support in a meeting with Defence Minister Itsunori Onodera in Tokyo, according to a Defence Ministry official.

Rubio was quoted as saying that Japan and the United States must cooperate in "minimizing friction" with Okinawa Prefecture in connection with the planned relocation of the US Marine Corps' Futenma Air Station within the island prefecture.

The meeting came a day after the re-election in Okinawa of the mayor of Nago, who is opposed to a Japan-US accord to relocate the base to the city from densely populated Ginowan, generating a political headache for the Abe government.

The senator from Florida called for advancing the Trans-Pacific Partner-



Japanese Defence Minister Itsunori Onodera (L) and US Republican Sen. Marco Rubio shake hands in Tokyo on 20 Jan, 2014. —KYODO NEWS

ship free trade negotiations, saying a deal would benefit Asia as a whole, the official said.

In a separate meeting, Rubio and Senior Vice Foreign Minister Nobuo Kishi affirmed the importance of

maintaining the rule of law in the Asia-Pacific region while discussing the TPP and regional affairs such as China and Japan-South Korea relations, the Foreign Ministry said in a news release.—Kyodo News

Gunmen kill leading figure of Yemeni Shi'ite group

SANAA, 21 Jan — Unknown assailants shot dead a leader of the Yemeni Shi'ite Muslim Houthi group in Sanaa on Tuesday while driving to attend the final session of reconciliation talks aimed at

tackling the country's political and security challenges.

Yemen has been torn by rising violence and lawlessness as the U.S.-allied country struggles to overcome political turmoil after

long-serving President Ali Abdullah Saleh stepped down following months of mass protests against his rule in 2011.

Officials said that Ahmad Sharafeddin, a Houthi delegate at the reconciliation talks who had been dean of the law faculty at Sanaa University, was killed when gunmen opened fire on him in his vehicle from a speeding car in central Sanaa.

They said he died instantly and the gunmen escaped.

It was not immediately clear who was behind the assassination, but another Houthi leader, Abdulkarim al-Khiwani, accused hardline Sunni Muslim militants of carrying out the attack.

The Houthi group fought radical Sunni Salafis in northern Yemen from October until earlier this month, when a ceasefire was reached earlier to relocate the Salafis to another city some 250 km (155 miles) away. But clashes have continued in other parts of northern Yemen with tribesmen allied to the Salafis.

More than 210 people have been killed in the fighting that erupted in late October after the Houthis accused the Salafis of recruiting foreign militants in preparation to attack them.

Reuters

Gov't panel OKs action plan to accelerate growth strategy

TOKYO, 21 Jan — A government panel on Tuesday approved an action plan to accelerate its economic growth strategy, under which it has designated the year through the end of fiscal 2015 as an "intensive investment promoting period."

The government also specified in the action plan that it will appoint a minister in charge of promoting the economic growth strategy and will submit 33 related bills to the ordinary Diet session to be convened on Friday.

"The world is trying to assess whether we can put Japan's economy on a stable recovery track," Abe said during a meeting of the

Suicide bomb kills four in Hezbollah area of Beirut

BEIRUT, 21 Jan — A suicide bomber killed four people on Tuesday in a residential neighborhood of southern Beirut known for its support of Shi'ite military and political group Hezbollah, security sources said.

A Reuters reporter said she saw the remains of what appeared to be the suicide attacker at the site of the blast as emergency workers transported wounded people from the area, where a similar bombing occurred earlier this month.

Images broadcast on Hezbollah's Al Manar channel showed flames erupting from a building and a thick plume of smoke billowing over a street near the charred remains of cars as a crowd gathered at the site of the blast.

It was not immediately clear what the blast had targeted. The explosion went off on a busy street of small shops and restaurants in the

Haret Hreik area of Beirut's largely Shi'ite southern suburbs.

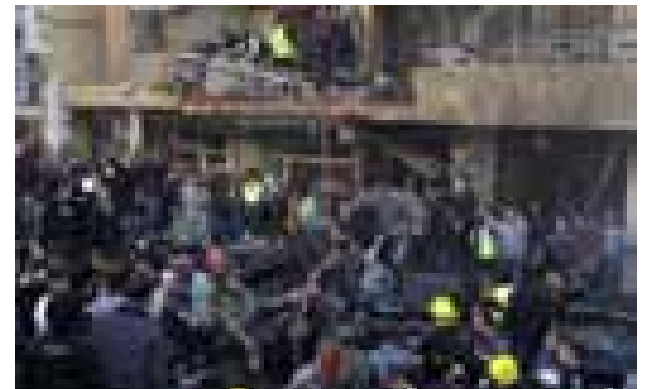
Tensions from the nearly three-year conflict in Syria have increasingly infected neighboring Lebanon, which is still struggling to recover from its own 1975-1990 civil war and has been without a fully functioning government since March.

Hezbollah has sent fighters and advisers across the border to help its ally President Bashar al-Assad, a member of the Shi'ite-derived Alawite minority, in his fight against mainly Sunni rebels.

Hezbollah's strongholds in Lebanon have meanwhile been hit by a string of rocket and bomb attacks claimed by hardline Sunni militants.

Security sources told Reuters that four people died in Tuesday's attack and at least 20 more were wounded.

Reuters



People gather at the site of a bomb blast in the Haret Hreik area, in the southern suburbs of the Lebanese capital Beirut January 21, 2014.

REUTERS



People react after the assassination of Ahmad Sharafeddin, a leader of the Yemeni Shi'ite Muslim Houthi group, in Sanaa January 21, 2014.—REUTERS

16 Asia-Pacific nations discuss tariffs at 3rd round of free trade talks

KUALA LUMPUR, 21 Jan — Sixteen Asia-Pacific countries began their third round of free trade talks Tuesday, with tariff-related issues on the agenda.

Negotiators from the 10 ASEAN member states and their six regional partners — Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand and South Korea — will hold working group meetings on trade in goods, trade in services, and investment during their four-day gathering.

The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership framework negotia-

tions are aimed at creating one of the world's largest free trade areas encompassing almost 30 percent of global gross domestic product, half of the world's population and over a quarter of world exports.

China's chief negotiator Sun Yuanjiang, in his opening remarks as "facilitator" of the six non-ASEAN countries, said, "We will try to work in very practical and efficient ways so that we can soon achieve our goal." The RCEP negotiation partners aim to wrap up talks by 2015. They held their first round in May last

year in Brunei and the second one in Brisbane, Australia, last September.

The six non-ASEAN countries in the negotiations already have FTAs with ASEAN, which is comprised of Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

The latest session comes after the 12 countries involved in the Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade talks, led by the United States, missed a 2013 deadline for sealing a pact.

Kyodo News

Headquarters for Japan's Economic Revitalization earlier Tuesday.

The Cabinet is expected to endorse the action plan later in the day.

The economic growth strategy is the "third arrow" of the premier's policies dubbed "Abenomics," along with aggressive monetary easing by the Bank of Japan and massive public spending.

In June last year, the Cabinet endorsed its growth strategy in an attempt to beat nearly two decades of deflation by beefing up private-sector investment and rebuilding businesses.

To realize the strategy, the government pledged in the action plan to secure

passage of a bill to strengthen the corporate governance system, believing it will help invigorate investment in Japan from abroad.

In the agriculture field, the government said it will end its decades-long policy of protecting rice farmers by limiting their production from 2018, aiming to stimulate the highly protected sector with an eye on the launch of the US-led Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade framework.

It also decided to set up the US-style National Institute of Health, while allowing companies to enter the retail electricity market from around 2016.

Kyodo News

Abe leaves for Davos to join World Economic Forum

TOKYO, 21 Jan — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe left for Switzerland on Tuesday to attend the World Economic Forum in Davos, where he will brief other leaders and business people on Japan's policies to revive the economy by ending its nearly two decades of deflation.

Abe will become the country's first prime minister to join the opening session of the annual forum on Wednesday, delivering a keynote speech.

He will speak about his structural reforms particularly aimed at wooing foreign investment to Japan, according to Japanese officials.

Tokyo is stepping up efforts to end persistent deflation through the so-called "Abenomics" policy mix of monetary and fiscal stimulus as well as a growth strategy including deregulation and corporate tax easing.

Abe is also expected to hold talks with some other participants on the sidelines of the event, such as prominent international investor George Soros. Abe will return home Thursday.

Kyodo News

Afghan police kill 16 Taliban fighters

KABUL, 21 Jan — Units of Afghan police backed by the army have killed more than a dozen Taliban militants during series of operations across the country over the past 24 hours, Interior Ministry said in a statement released here on Tuesday.

"Units of police backed by the national army have killed 16 Taliban rebels and arrested six others across the country over the past 24 hours," the statement said.

There were no casualties on the security personnel, according to the statement.

Taliban militants have yet to make comment.

Xinhua



Syrian President Bashar al-Assad (R) speaks during an interview with AFP at the presidential palace in Damascus, Syria, on 19 Jan, 2014. —XINHUA

Detained Iraqi Shi'ite militia chief threatens to kill politicians

BAGHDAD, 21 Jan — A Shi'ite militia leader arrested in Iraq after his group fired mortars into Saudi Arabia has said leaders of Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki's political bloc will be killed unless he is released within 24 hours.

Wathiq al-Battat, speaking to Reuters on a mobile phone he said had been given him by a sympathetic prison guard, said he was being held without charge in solitary confinement in a small, cold cell, with no access to lawyers or his family.

Battat was detained in Baghdad on 2 January, six weeks after his Iranian-backed al-Mukhtar Army fired six mortar bombs from southern Iraq into the Saudi desert, causing no casual-

ties. He told Reuters at the time that the attack was a warning to Saudi Arabia to stop meddling in Iraqi affairs.

In the call from his prison cell on Monday night, Battat said his Mukhtar Army would start killing members of Maliki's State of Law bloc running in April elections unless he is freed.

"The Mukhtar Army is giving them 24 hours," he said. "If I am not released all State of Law's candidates will be killed...one by one. Their homes and their headquarters will be targeted."

He said State of Law figures serving in the present government would also be on his hit list.

Reuters

Two killed, 10 hurt in blast at Nebraska feed plant

OMAHA, (Nebraska), 21 Jan — An explosion and fire flattened part of an animal feed plant in Omaha, Nebraska, on Monday, killing at least two people and injuring at least 10 others, authorities said.

About 38 employees were working at the International Nutrition plant at midmorning when there was an explosion and part of the building collapsed, interim Fire Chief Bernard Kanger told a news conference. At least two people were killed, and one of the bodies has been recovered, Kanger said. The other is expected to be recovered on Tuesday.

All employees have been accounted for, but authorities are not sure if there were any visitors in the plant, he said.

At least 10 people were taken to hospitals in Omaha

and Lincoln. Four were in critical condition, Kanger said.

He described the explosion and fire as an industrial accident, and said an investigation would take weeks.

Forklift operator Kendrick Houston told the Omaha World-Herald newspaper he was returning to work from a break when the floor began to tremble.

"There was this real loud crackling sound and the lights went off," Houston was quoted as saying on the paper's website. "I saw a spark and there was a big ball of flame coming from the southwest corner of the building." Houston said he fled the building. He then tried to go back in to find his co-workers, but heat and smoke forced him to turn back, he added.

Nate Lewis, a produc-

Kerry to meet Israeli, Palestinian negotiators

WASHINGTON, 21 Jan — US Secretary of State John Kerry will meet Israeli negotiators in Washington on Monday and Palestinian officials later next week in US-brokered peace talks to end their decades-long conflict, the State Department said.

Kerry and US negotiator Martin Indyk will meet with Israeli justice minister Tzipi Livni and envoy Itzik Molho later on Monday "to continue the discussion on a framework for negotiations," the State Department said in a statement.

Meetings between Indyk and Livni, who heads the Israeli negotiating team, will continue on Tuesday when Kerry travels to Switzerland for a Syria peace conference. "We expect the Palestinian negotiating team to travel to Washington early next week," the State Department said.

Israeli-Palestinian negotiations resumed in July after a three-year halt, with Kerry leading the push

for an accord within nine months. But both Israeli and Palestinians have expressed doubts about his efforts.

Palestinians see a major obstacle in Israel's settlements of the occupied West Bank where they seek statehood. Many Israelis doubt Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas's credibility as a peace partner, especially as Gaza, the

other Palestinian territory, is governed by rival Hamas Islamists who oppose peacemaking.

While details of the talks have been kept secret, Kerry has often said progress is being made in the talks. But both Israel and the Palestinians have predicted the nine-month target date for a deal will not be met.

Reuters



United States Secretary of State John Kerry holds a news conference with Canada's Foreign Minister John Baird and Mexico's Foreign Secretary Jose Antonio Meade (not pictured) at the State Department in Washington on 17 Jan, 2014. —REUTERS

SKorea confirms kidnapped trade official safe

SEOUL, 21 Jan — South Korean government on Tuesday confirmed that its trade official kidnapped in Libya was safe up to now, Yonhap news agency

reported on Tuesday.

Han Seok-woo, the head of the Libya unit of the Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (KOTRA), was kidnapped

by four unidentified armed men in Libya's capital city Tripoli at around 5: 30 pm-Sunday Libyan time on his way home after work.

Xinhua

US offers to send envoy to North Korea to free jailed missionary

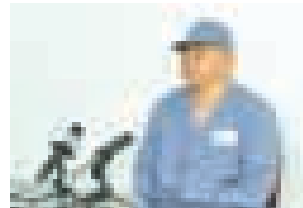
SEOUL, 21 Jan — The United States has offered to send a special envoy to North Korea to win the release of a jailed missionary, but signaled that any meaningful resumption of denuclearization talks required Pyongyang to give up its pursuit of nuclear weapons.

Kenneth Bae, 45, has been held for more than a year by the North which convicted him of trying to overthrow the state and sentenced him to 15 years hard labour. Bae, a Korean American, was paraded in front of a group of foreign and local reporters on Monday and asked Washington to help him get home, the North's state news agency and foreign media based in Pyongyang reported.

"We hope this decision by DPRK (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) authorities to allow

Kenneth Bae to meet with reporters signals their willingness to release him," a US official, speaking on condition of anonymity, told Reuters on Monday.

"We have offered to send Ambassador King to Pyongyang to secure Mr. Bae's release. We have asked the North Koreans this, and await their early response," the official added.—Reuters



Kenneth Bae, a Korean-American Christian missionary who has been detained in North Korea for more than a year, meets a limited number of media outlets in Pyongyang, in this photo taken by Kyodo on 20 Jan, 2014. —REUTERS



International Nutrition, an Omaha animal feed processing plant, is seen after an explosion in this picture taken by Ofc. Mike Bossman, courtesy of the Omaha Police Department, in Omaha, Nebraska, on 20 Jan, 2014. —REUTERS

tion line worker, told the newspaper that the building caved in from the third floor. He also said it turned pitch black inside the plant, and that he crawled through the rubble to safety.

About 50 Omaha firefighters battled the blaze and rescued five people from the rubble, Kanger said.—Reuters

WORLD

US, S Korea concerned about N Korea's "reckless behaviour"

SEOUL, 21 Jan — The United States and South Korea share concerns about North Korea's "reckless behaviour," US Deputy Secretary of State

William Burns said on Tuesday after a meeting with South Korea's First Vice Foreign Minister Kim Kyou Hyun.

Burns, who arrived

late Monday for a two-day visit, told reporters the two allies "share a lot of concerns about the recent behavior of the (North Korean) leadership, and the dangers of further reckless behavior and provocations in the future."

In recent days, North Korea has been demanding the cancellation of upcoming annual joint military exercises between South Korea and the United States, warning they could lead to an all-out war on the Korean Peninsula and even nuclear war.

But South Korea has refused to do so.

Burns was also scheduled to meet Tuesday with Kim Jang Soo, South Korea's presidential secretary for national security.

He is scheduled to visit China and Japan later this week.

Kyodo News



South Korean First Vice Foreign Minister Kim Kyou Hyun (L) and US Deputy Secretary of State William Burns shake hands prior to holding talks at the foreign ministry in Seoul on 21 Jan, 2014.

KYODO NEWS

New Zealand PM brings sacked coalition partner back into government

WELLINGTON, 21 Jan — New Zealand Prime Minister John Key reshuffled the ministerial portfolios on Tuesday, reappointing a minor party coalition partner who resigned last year amid a controversy over the leaking of a report into a government spying agency.

Peter Dunne, sole Member of Parliament for the United Future Party, was appointed Minister of Internal Affairs, Associate Minister of Health and Associate Minister of

Conservation, all of the posts outside Cabinet, Key said in a statement. Key asked Dunne to resign in June last year after Dunne refused to cooperate with a ministerial investigation into the leaking of a report on the Government Communications Security Bureau, the government's external intelligence gathering agency.

"I am pleased to welcome Peter Dunne back as a minister. We have worked together well in the past,

and United Future continues to be a valued partner in government," said Key.

"While 2013 brought its challenges, both Peter and I start this election year looking forward, not back."

Social Development Minister Paula Bennett would also be taking on the local government portfolio as part of the reshuffle, which becomes effective on 28 January. The reshuffle was prompted by the announcement that Internal Affairs and Local

Government Minister Chris Tremain would retire from Parliament at this year's general election, which must be held by November.

Polling has shown the election result to be too close to call, meaning the support of minor parties could decide the next government. The governing coalition, led by Key's centre-right National Party, includes three minor parties: the center-right United Future; the right-wing ACT party; and the Maori Party.—Xinhua

US says hopeful all parties now focus on ending Syria crisis

WASHINGTON, 21 Jan — The United States is hopeful that all parties can now focus on ending the Syria conflict, State Department said on Monday, after UN withdrew the invitation to Iran to attend an upcoming peace conference in Switzerland. "We are hopeful that, in wake of today's announcement, all parties can now return to focus on the task at hand, which is bringing an end to the suffering of the Syrian people and beginning a process toward a long overdue political transition," State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki said in a statement.

The spokeswoman reiterated US stance that the purpose of the conference is the full implementation of the Geneva Communiqué, including the establishment by mutual consent of a transitional governing body with full executive authorities. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon had rescinded his invitation to Teheran to participate in the Syrian peace conference slated on Wednesdays, his spokesman Martin Nesirky told reporters on Monday afternoon.

"The secretary-general is deeply disappointed by Iranian public statements

today that are not at all consistent with that stated commitment," Nesirky said. "He continues to urge Iran to join the global consensus behind the Geneva Communiqué. Given that it has chosen to remain outside that basic understanding, he has decided that the one-day Montreux gathering will proceed without Iran's participation."

On Sunday, Ban said he had invited Iran, a main regional ally of the Syrian government, to attend the peace conference known as Geneva II.

The US responded skeptically to the decision, saying

the invitation should be rescinded unless Teheran "fully and publicly" accepts the Geneva Communiqué signed in June 2012.—Xinhua

US military vehicles are seen at the site of an attack in Zharay District of Kandahar Province in southern Afghanistan, on 20 Jan, 2014. A car bomb went off Monday morning close to a NATO-led coalition military base in Zharay, sources said.—XINHUA



Soldiers check an airplane that was apparently forced to land in the rural zone of Acapulco, in Guerrero, Mexico, on 20 Jan, 2014. According to local Press, the airplane was forced to land by Air Force, with its crew members escaping after it landed.

XINHUA

US chopper crash in Okinawa last August caused by "human error"

NAHA, (Japan), 21 Jan — The US Air Force on Tuesday attributed the crash of one of its helicopters in Okinawa last August to "human error," according to a local mayor who was briefed on the accident.

The Air Force's 18th

Wing at Kadena Air Base said the HH-60 helicopter was flying over Camp Hansen with a second chopper but a miscommunication between the pilots led the aircraft to nosedive and crash, said Mayor Atsushi Toma of Ginoza vil-

lage, which hosts part of the camp. The crash in a mountainous area of the Marines' camp on 5 August killed one of the helicopter's four crew members and stoked local concerns about hosting US military facilities.

Kyodo News

Afghan Taliban kidnaps 50 mine clearance agency workers

HERAT, (Afghanistan), 21 Jan — The Afghan Taliban kidnapped nearly 50 local employees of a mine clearance agency in the country's western Province of Herat on Tuesday morning, sources said.

"Militants approached a mine clearance site on Tuesday morning while the workers were getting ready to start their daily operation," a provincial source told Xinhua anonymously.

The incident occurred at around 08:00 (local time) in Marwa area of Pashtun Zarghun district, southeast of the provincial capital Herat city, 640 km west of the national capital Kabul.

Some locals said that at least 10 Taliban members arrived in two cars and forced the workers to get in

the vehicles which were the agencies property and took them away.

The security forces have launched a massive search operation following the incident, the source said, adding details about the attack will be released later in the day.

Loclas also said the workers were staff of Halo Trust, a non-Governmental organization. The Taliban insurgent group has intensified attacks recently as the Afghan army and police took the full operational lead from foreign troops in June last year.

The war-torn country is due to take over the responsibility for its own security from foreign troops by the end of the year.

Xinhua

Vitamin D could slow multiple sclerosis

WASHINGTON, 21 Jan — Patients in the early stages of multiple sclerosis (MS) could “stave off disease symptoms” by increasing their vitamin D intake, US researchers said on Monday. The study, published in the US journal *JAMA Neurology*, found that levels of vitamin D were strongly associated with disease severity and speed of progression in early-stage MS patients.

“Because low vitamin D levels are common and can be easily and safely increased by oral supplementation, these findings may contribute to better outcomes for many MS

patients,” said lead author Alberto Ascherio, professor of epidemiology and nutrition at the Harvard School of Public Health.

Multiple sclerosis is a central nervous system disease that causes problems with muscle control and strength, vision, balance, feeling, and thinking. The World Health Organization estimated that roughly 2.5 million people in the world have the disease. The researchers analyzed data from 465 MS patients from 18 European countries, as well as Israel and Canada who enrolled in 2002 and 2003 in a trial looking at the

effectiveness of the drug interferon beta-1b in treating the disease.

Vitamin D levels were measured at the onset of their symptoms and at regular intervals over a 24-month period. The results were then correlated with their disease symptoms and progression over a period of five years. They found that early-stage MS patients who had adequate levels of vitamin D had a 57 percent lower rate of new brain lesions, a 57 percent lower relapse rate, and a 25 percent lower yearly increase in lesion volume than those with lower levels of vitamin



D. Loss in brain volume, which is an important predictor of disability, was also lower among patients with adequate vitamin D levels. The results suggest that vitamin D has a strong protective effect on the disease process underlying MS, and

underscore the importance of correcting vitamin D insufficiency, which is widespread in Europe and the US, the researchers said.

“The benefits of vitamin D appeared to be additive to those of interferon beta-1b, a drug that is very

effective in reducing MS activity,” said Ascherio. “The findings of our study indicate that identifying and correcting vitamin D insufficiency should become part of the standard of care for newly diagnosed MS patients.” —Xinhua

Saliva reveals asthmatic kids' smoke exposure

NEW YORK, 21 Jan — Asthmatic children who are exposed to cigarette smoke are more likely to make repeat trips to the hospital for breathing problems. But researchers say asking parents about kids' smoke exposure may not yield the most reliable information. In a recent study, saliva revealed exposure to tobacco smoke in roughly 80 percent of children brought to the hospital for asthma or breathing problems. But only about a third of parents said their children came in contact with smoke.

What's more, finding evidence of nicotine, a chemical in tobacco, in chil-

dren's saliva was a better predictor of whether they would need to come back to the hospital, compared to the information parents gave to doctors. “We think saliva is a good and potentially useful test for assessing an important trigger for asthma,” Dr Robert Kahn, the study's senior author, told *Reuters Health*. Previous research has found that being exposed to tobacco can lead to airway problems and poor asthma control among children, Kahn and his colleagues write in the journal *Pediatrics*.

By figuring out which children are being exposed to tobacco, doctors may



A worker smokes as he harvests tobacco leaves in a field in the West Bank village of Jalqamus near Jenin on 15 June, 2013. — REUTERS

be able to step in and identify and possibly eliminate the exposure, said Kahn, a pediatrician at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center in Ohio. For example, if a parent is still smoking cigarettes and exposing the child to smoke, doctors can offer the parent smok-

ing cessation tools while the child is hospitalized. For the new study, the researchers assessed data from 619 children admitted to Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center for asthma or other breathing problems between August 2010 and October 2011.—Reuters

FDI attraction to Vietnam's HCM City hits over 2 bln USD in 2013

HO CHI MINH CITY, 21 Jan — Foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows to Vietnam's southern economic hub Ho Chi Minh (HCM) City increased 52 percent in 2013, reaching over 2 billion US dollars, reported the City's Department of Planning and Investment on its website on Tuesday.

Of this, 1.05 billion dollars was invested in 477 new projects, an increase of 76.7 percent from the previous year, and another 305 million dollars went to 102 science and technology projects.

Despite challenges facing the real estate sector, 147 million US dollars was invested in 10 property projects. Meanwhile, 67 FDI projects, with a total registered capital of 436.7 million dollars, were relocated to other provinces and cities or shut down.

There are 4,924 operational FDI projects in the city now, with a total registered capital of 33.5 billion dollars. Singapore accounted for the largest amount of investment in 2013, followed by Malaysia and South Korea.

Xinhua

China an example of stability leading to industrial development



VIENNA, 21 Jan — Stability is vital for industrialization, economic development and prosperity, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) Director General Li Yong said in Vienna on Monday.

He made the statements as part of UNIDO's

2013 report at the National Bank of Austria (OeNB), and made particular reference to his home country of China, where GDP growth has risen sharply over the past 40 years.

He said the Chinese government has contributed to stability with its economic policy, and combined

with cooperation with international organizations and foreign direct investment, China's economy has been propelled forward.

That areas of industry had moved from China to other Asian countries such as Bangladesh and Cambodia were good things, he added, and fell in line with the 2013 report, which mentions that all countries should strive for production with higher complexity and value-added in the course of industrialization.

OeNB governor Ewald Nowotny said industry contributes significantly to the growth of countries, and that the most recent economic crisis showed countries with less industrialization fared worse than those with more such as Austria and Germany.—Xinhua

Abraxane improves survival in pancreatic cancer patients

SYDNEY, 21 Jan — Abraxane, a chemotherapy drug for breast cancer, can be used in combination with the standard treatment to help pancreatic cancer patients live longer, an Australian study revealed on Tuesday. Aus-

tralian oncologist David Goldstein has presented the research findings at an American Society of Clinical Oncology conference in San Francisco, local media reported.

According to Goldstein, results from clinical

trials of the drug combined with the standard treatment are encouraging.

The research found four percent of patients with advanced pancreatic cancer treated with the combination had survived for three years, compared with zero survival for those on only the standard treatment, gemcitabine.

The trial conducted at sites around the world involved 861 patients, including 120 Australians. Each year, around 2,500 people are diagnosed with the deadly disease in Australia, with only six percent of them surviving five years. Pancreatic cancer is hard to detect early and people diagnosed after it has spread are likely to die within six months.

Xinhua



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Spacecraft Rosetta roused from slumber on comet-chasing quest

FRANKFURT, 21 Jan — Comet-chasing spacecraft *Rosetta* woke from nearly three years of hibernation on Monday to complete a decade-long deep space mission that scientists hope will help unlock some of the secrets of the solar system. *Rosetta*, which was launched by the European Space Agency (ESA) in 2004, is due to rendezvous with comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko

and land a probe on it this year in an unprecedented maneuver. Scientists hope data the probe gathers will allow them to peek into a kind of astronomical time capsule that has preserved for millions of years clues as to what the world looked like when our solar system was born. "Since comets are so primitive, they can give scientists

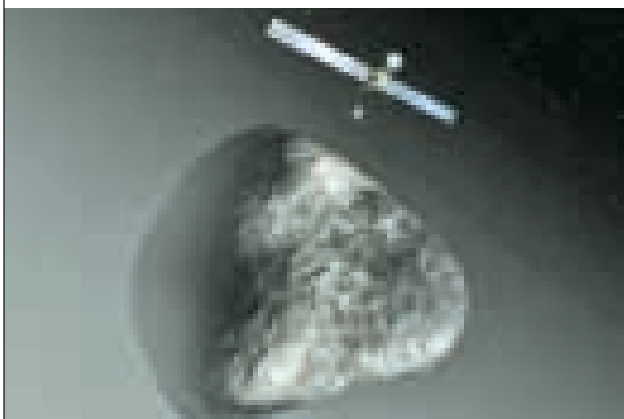
a chance to understand how the solar system formed, where it came from," *Rosetta* spacecraft operations manager Andrea Accomazzo told *Reuters* ahead of the wake-up call.

On its way to the comet, a roughly 3 by 5 km-large rock discovered in 1969, *Rosetta* has been circling the sun on a widening spiral course, swinging past Earth and Mars to pick up speed and adjust its trajectory. The mission will perform several historical firsts, including the first time a spacecraft orbits a comet rather than just whizzing by it to snap some fly-by pictures, and the first time a probe has landed on a comet's nucleus. *Rosetta* is also the first mission to venture beyond the main asteroid belt relying solely on solar cells for power generation, which is also why it had to be put into a deep sleep for 957 days. "It has been so far away from the sun that the solar

rays were not able to generate enough energy to safely operate the spacecraft," said Accomazzo, who has been working on the *Rosetta* mission since 1997. Accomazzo is based at the ESA's satellite operations in the German town of Darmstadt, south of Frankfurt.

Having neared the sun again as it tracks the comet on its elliptical orbit around the sun, *Rosetta* was gently awakened by its internal alarm clock at 1000 GMT on Monday. It then warmed up its systems and transmitted a sign of life — a radio signal — to its creators on Earth. Once it is fully up and running, it will start to approach the comet. By August, it should catch up with it and land its probe on it in November. Until the end of 2015, the probe will gather data on the comet's surface and examine how it changes as it nears the sun.

Reuters



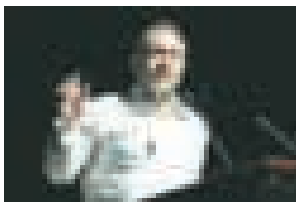
An artist's impression handout image by the European Space Agency shows the *Rosetta* orbiter deploying the *Philae* lander to comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko. *REUTERS*

Wikipedia founder backs 'good causes' mobile operator

LONDON, 21 Jan — Wikipedia co-founder Jimmy Wales has taken a "substantial" stake in The People's Operator (TPO), a London-based mobile provider that pays 10 percent of revenue to good causes, with the aim of taking it to the United States and other markets. Wales said TPO had pulled off the difficult feat of creating an inspirational business that had solid commercial foundations.

"Its big vision is to generate massive sums of money for good causes," he

said in a telephone interview on Monday. "But when I worked through the numbers and looked at the business model, it made a lot of sense to me." TPO is a so-called mobile virtual network operator (MVNO), which means it relies on an existing operator's network, in this case EE, the British joint venture between France's Orange and Deutsche Telekom. It launched a pay-as-you-go operation in November 2012 and followed in April 2013 with a contract offering unlimited voice, mobile



Wikipedia founder Jimmy Wales attends the international Wikimedia conference in Hong Kong on 9 Aug, 2013.—*REUTERS*

and data for 14.99 pounds (\$24.61) a month.

Ten percent of revenue is directed to any good cause chosen by the customer and the company also pledges to

pay 25 percent of its profits to charity. Mark Epstein, chief executive and one of the company's founders, did not reveal customer numbers, but said there had been a rapid increase in take-up since it introduced its unlimited deal, from which hundreds of good causes were benefiting. TPO, which is not yet profitable, does not spend huge sums on marketing, Epstein said, relying instead on word-of-mouth and promotion by the organizations it helps.

Reuters

Lenovo restarts talks to buy IBM server unit

NEW YORK / HONG KONG, 21 Jan — China's Lenovo Group Ltd has resumed talks to buy International Business Machines Corp's (IBM) low-end server unit, a source familiar with the matter said — a purchase that would bolster its efforts to diversify beyond a shrinking PC market. The two companies failed to reach a deal last year after differing on pricing, with media reports then putting IBM's hopes at between \$4 billion to \$6 billion for the unit, while Lenovo was said to be only willing to offer \$2.5 billion.

Lenovo, the world's biggest PC maker, said on Tuesday it was in prelimi-

nary talks about an acquisition. It declined to name the seller but said it was making the statement in response to reports about its potential acquisition of a server business. It added that it had not entered into any definitive agreement and that no material terms had been agreed to. An IBM spokesman said on Monday the company wouldn't comment on the matter. Dell Inc, which went private in a \$25 billion deal last year, has also been cited in media reports as a potential suitor for the business. A Beijing-based spokesman for Dell declined to comment. A deal for IBM's x86 servers which power corporate data centers would fit



Lenovo tablets and mobile phones are displayed during a news conference on the company's annual results in Hong Kong on 23 May, 2013.—*REUTERS*

in with Lenovo's attempts to remold itself as a growing force in mobile devices and data storage servers, and with IBM's shift away from hardware towards software and services.

"Everybody wins because even if IBM could double the profitability it's still not good enough for IBM. On the other hand,

Lenovo doubling the server business margins is a good deal for Lenovo," said Alberto Moel, a Hong Kong-based analyst at Sanford C. Bernstein. Lenovo's purchase of IBM's Thinkpad PC business in 2005 for \$1.75 billion became the springboard for its leap to the top of global PC maker rankings.—*Reuters*



A corporate logo is displayed at the Nokia flagship store in Helsinki on 29 Sept, 2010.—*REUTERS*

Phone-free Nokia under pressure to boost network sales

HELSINKI, 21 Jan — Nokia is expected to show a steep fall in network equipment sales in its results this week, highlighting the challenge facing management after selling its once mighty handset division to Microsoft for 5.4 billion euros (\$7.3 billion). Improved profitability at Nokia Solutions and Networks (NSN) due to cost cutting have helped cushion the company's declining handset business in recent quarters.

But with major projects in South Korea and Japan coming to an end, the NSN business, the bulk of Nokia's entire business after the handsets sale, is expected to report a 19 percent fall in fourth-quarter sales to 3.2 billion euros and a 17 percent fall for the whole of 2013 to 11.4 billion euros.

Results are due on Thursday. The decline for NSN would follow a 26 percent fall in third-quarter sales and come as scale has become increasingly crucial to competing against the industry leader for wireless networks, Ericsson, and China's Huawei, particularly due to high

research and development costs. NSN's chief Rajeev Suri, in an interview with *Reuters* in November, confirmed the company was now prioritizing revenue growth even if it meant a trade-off in profit.

Analysts said NSN must demonstrate that shift in coming quarters, and that markets will accept a dip in margins as long as they don't fall too far below 8 to 10 percent. NSN's fourth-quarter adjusted operating margin is still likely to be high.

The company forecast it will be around 12 percent, plus or minus 4 percentage points, compared with 8 percent in the third quarter.

That's higher than most rivals such as Ericsson, which reported an 8 percent operating margin last quarter as NSN's restructuring programme launched in late 2011 cut a quarter of its workforce and took the business out of low-margin projects.

"It is possible that we won't be seeing such high margins this year, but I'd rather see them starting to grow again," said Inderes Equity Research analyst Mikael Rautanen.—*Reuters*

India successfully testfires nuclear-capable Agni IV missile

NEW DELHI, 21 Jan —India on Monday successfully testfired its long-range, nuclear-capable surface-to-surface Agni IV missile from a military base off the coast of the eastern state of Odisha, sources said.

"The testfiring of the 4,000-km range missile was successful. It was launched from the Wheeler Island off Odisha coast at 11:52 am (local time) and it traveled its full striking range," they

said.

The lighter missile, with two stages of solid propulsion and a payload with re-entry heat shield, has many cutting-edge technologies adhering to global standards.

This was the third development trial of the Agni IV missile by the state-owned Defence Research and Development Organization, the last being carried out in September 2012 successfully.—*Xinhua*

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 22 January, 2014

Hearsay

It is in nature of a man to believe hearsay. They usually tend to exaggerate what they hear and the hearsay has become a big issue. Due to exaggeration, the small problem and the big one and the big problem has become bigger and bigger and ended in suffering losses.

Hearsay can be considered as the most terrible weapon. If we talk about and write issues only know by hearsay, the hearsay can become more serious than evidence.

We can't say that we should not believe a hearsay, but we need rationalization over it whether we should believe it or not. Sometimes, there are gaps between hearsays and what really happened. If we believe hearsay without rationalization, we will be in trouble.

Those who hold ever negative views use hearsays as their weapon.

The Kalama Sutta states: Do not go upon what has been acquired by repeated hearing, nor upon tradition, nor upon rumor, nor upon what is in a scripture, nor upon surmise, nor upon an axiom, nor upon specious reasoning, nor upon a bias towards a notion that has been pondered over, nor upon another's seeming ability, nor upon the consideration. Kalamas, these things are praised by the wise; undertaken and observed, these things lead to benefit and happiness, "enter on and abide in them."

Hence, we should not believe news based on hearsay. We should be aware of exaggerated information and news because they can destroy us.

Union Religious Affairs Minister meets Korean guests

YANGON, 21 Jan — Union Minister for Religious Affairs U Hsan Hsint received a delegation led by Chief Executive Officer of Buddhist Foundation of the Republic of Korea Ven Seok Myeong An at the Ministry of Religious Affairs here this afternoon.

At the call, they discussed social welfare tasks to be carried out and religious affairs for social development in Bagan.

The Buddhist Foundation has been carrying out social welfare tasks since 2000.

MNA

MR meets with seven Japanese companies

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Jan — Union Minister for Rail Transportation U Than Htay received the Japan Railway Technical Service delegation (JARTS) led by Mr Komori Hiroshi of Japan at his office this morning.

Heads of Overseas Rolling Stock Association and Niigata Transys Co, Sawa Tekki electronic company, Kantoi Bunkiki electronic train company, Toshiba Asia Pacific Co

and Mitsubishi Electric Co and three communications companies of Japan discussed technical assistance for Myanmar Railways.

The Japanese delegation discussed development of Myanmar Railways with officials of Myanmar Railways at the hall of the Ministry of Rail Transportation.

They will observe passenger transport on railroad sections, locomotive shed, communications and infrastructures.—MNA

Printing and Publishing Bill...

(from page 16)

Afterwards, U Myo Myint of Mandalay Region Constituency No (6) submitted a proposal to formulate short term and long term projects in hydropower sector for the future of electricity demand in the country. Deputy Minister for Electric Power U Maw Tha Htwe replied that the ministry will try hard for ensuring an electricity supply system that is agreed with energy consumption ratio and reasonable electricity charges.

Regarding the Printing

and Publishing Bill, Thura U Aye Myint of Wetlet constituency stressed the need for more coordination among parties concerned, legal experts, parliamentarians and the joint bill committee before seeking the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw as the bill is an important one like the media bill. The best result could be brought about comprehensive discussions, he added.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved the postponement of the date of submission of the bill. —MNA

Constitution Review Joint Committee meets

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Jan — The Constitution Review Joint Committee held the meeting 3/2014 at the hall of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in Hluttaw Complex this afternoon.

Chairman of the Joint Committee Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa and Vice-Chairman Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyein made speeches.

Secretary U Aye Mauk reported on accomplishments for the minutes of the previous meeting and five assessment committees on their findings and work process.

Committee members took part in the discussions, and the chairman and the vice-chairman gave suggestions.

The chairman of the joint committee gave concluding remarks.—MNA

Union Defence Minister meets British Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Jan — Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Wai Lwin and British Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Andrew Patrick

had a cordial discussion on further cooperation in two armed forces between the countries at the ministry, here this afternoon.



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham shaking hands with Canadian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Mark McDowell.
(News on page 1)—MNA

Union Minister receives Japanese, Singaporean guests

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Jan — Union Minister at the President Office U Hla Tun received Japanese and Singaporean representatives from AEON Co., Ltd, RAYSUM Co., Ltd and

Azusa Sekkei Co., Ltd of Japan and Crystal Clear Environmental Pte Ltd of Singapore at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, this afternoon.

Their discussion focused on investment of Myanmar-Japan-Singapore in building a Central Business District (CBD) in Yangon.—MNA

Removal of squatters in...

(from page 16)

Since the start of illegal settlement on the areas, ward dwellers raised concerns for safety of comings and goings of their children to school and work. Moreover, there were growing concerns about insecurity while going out at night and acts that could lead to a conflict between ward dwellers and squatters. So, there had been a number of public protests held by locals to take measures for ensuring the rule of law and community peace and tranquility.

Before launching the clearance campaign, local authorities announced removal of squatters by pinning a public notice to the wall, making an announcement over loudspeaker and setting up signpost saying to stop squatting for illegal settlement. Some were demolished in their own ways, but about 102 squatted huts remained up to date.—MNA



Meeting of Myanmar National Committee on the Rights of the Child in progress.—MNA

Myanmar National Committee...

(from page 1)

parents as an action plan of the protection against recruitment of minors signed in 2012.

In addition, the ministry is giving educative talks on danger of mines across the country.

Next, the secretary of the committee the director-general of the Social Welfare Department presented reports on undertakings and follow-up plans of the committee, the committee members and those present respectively reported on

their tasks.

President of Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs Union Minister Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin extended greetings at the meeting (1/2014) of the committee at the ministry this afternoon.—MNA

LOCAL NEWS

Transport facilities for local people in Kachin State



On 20 January, Aung Yadana express bus seen before departure for Mandalay from Mohnyin.

MOHNYIN, 21 Jan—Not only trains but express buses are running along Myitkyina-Mandalay route which the people of Kachin State rely thanks to restoring peace and stability in the region.

At present, Shwe Kachin, Ngwe Oh Mann and Aung Yadana express bus lines that had never operated their runs before are giving transport services to the people.

The last one is the third transport bus line for the route from Mohnyin to Mandalay.

NLM-001

National Objectives of 67th 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

AGRICULTURE

Cultivation methods for wheat, gram discussed in ChaungU Township



CHAUNG U, 21 Jan—Industrial Crops Development Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation organized the talks on technology on cultivation, research, seeds and quality strain production for wheat

and gram was held at Paukin field in ChaungU Township on 18 January morning.

Head of Sagaing Region ICDDU Tun Shein explained history of Paukin field, cultivation of wheat and gram as main tasks of the ministry and emphasis for distribution of quality strain to farmers.

Chairman of ChaungU Township Management Committee U Hla Thein made a speech.

Assistant Director U Hla Myint of the department explained cultivation of 30 acres of gram and 48

acres of wheat and plans to propagate the quality strains for farmers. Officials of the farm conducted those present round the plantations and replied to queries raised by farmers.

MMAL-Township IPRD

Correction

Please read "National Objectives of 67th Anniversary Union Day" on page 9 on 17 January, page 2 on 18 January and page 9 on 19 and 20 January 2014 in this daily. Errors are regretted.

NLM

Training course on disciplines for exam supervisors, examinees opened

MANDALAY, 21 Jan—The opening ceremony of Examination Supervisors and Examinees for 2014 matriculation examination took place at the hall of No 14 Basic Education High School in Chanayethazan Township on 18 January.

Director-General U Tin Myo Kyi of No 2 Basic Education Department

explained preparation tasks of school heads for the examination, and tasks to be undertaken after holding the examination.

Director-General U Myo Nyunt of Department of Myanmar Board of Examinations explained detailed duty and functions for exam supervisors and their assistants. Officials of

the Department of Myanmar Board of Examinations gave lectures.

It was also attended by officials and 616 trainees who will discharge duty as supervisors of examination from regions and states in 2014.

The course was held till 19 January.

MMAL-026



Arms, narcotic drugs seized in Tachilek

TACHILEK, 21 Jan—Arms, and narcotic drugs were seized in Tachilek of Shan State (East) in three successive days from 14 to 16 January.

The police from No 30 Anti-Drug Squad of Tachilek searched the

motorcycle driven by Ah Htu heading for Tachilek from Mongkoe Village at Meiyang checkpoint in Tachilek. They seized 80 WY brand stimulant tablets weighing 8 grams worth K 200,000 on 14 January.

Tachilek Myoma Police



Officials check narcotic drugs in Tachilek.

Pay your tax

Station opened a file of lawsuit against Ah Htu of Mahelon Village in Phanmin Village-tract of Tachilek under the law.

On 15 January, police from Tachilek Police Station saw a man who climbed over the wall to U Ya Kaw apartment near Wein-kyauk Hotel in Hongleik Village-tract. Ma Hnin Hnin Yi who hired the apartment shouted for help. The local people arrested him and made interrogation against man. He was Aik Lon and he brought two grenades and one knife to attack the police when they arrested him.

Tachilek Police Station opened a file of lawsuit

against Aik Lon, who carried illegal arms under the law.

In the investigation, the suspect confessed that he left narcotic drugs at his apartment. So the authorities and police raided the house of U Kya Lin on Aungsepa Street in Macaokham Ward and seized 192 WY brand stimulant tablets weighing 19.2 grams, powder believed to be ICE weighing 36 grams and a bottle of white powder believed to be ICE weighing 10 grams under the bed of U Kya Lin.

Tachilek Myoma Police opened a file of lawsuit against U Kya Lin under the law.—MMAL-Myint Mo (Tachilek)

Free water supply in Shwehlan Village of Thazi Township

MEIKTILA, 21 Jan—A wellwisher has been donating water to the local people free of charge in Shwehlan Village of Thazi Township, Mandalay Region, for 47 years.

"My father gave advice to me for donating water. At that time, water was very shortage in our village. So, I supply water to the people for their convenience. Since 1967, I have been distributing water to the villagers," said

wellwisher U Hla Htwe, 62 years old.

The wellwisher pumps up water from his well in his compound into three water tanks. He donates water to 478 people and 385 cattle from Shwehlan Village.

He remarked that other well off persons from various villages should donate water to the people in the water shortage areas.

MMAL-Chan Tha (Meiktila)

WORLD

West Virginia looks to tighten rules after chemical spill contaminated water

NEW YORK, 21 Jan — West Virginia's governor on Monday proposed legislation to regulate above-ground storage tanks, a move that comes after a spill of coal-processing chemicals shut off drinking water to about 300,000 people.

Governor Earl Ray Tomblin said the proposed rules would regulate above-

ground tanks, including those near public water supplies and distribution systems.

"The discharge of chemicals or other contaminants into our water supply is unacceptable and will not be tolerated," Tomblin, a Democrat, said in a joint statement with US Senator Joe Manchin, also a Democrat, and the heads of the

state Senate and House of Delegates.

Tomblin said the legislation would in part assure that above-ground tanks were built and maintained in line with safety standards. About 300,000 people around Charleston, the state capital, were banned from using tap water for anything but flushing toilets following the January 9 spill of 4-methylcyclohexane methanol, or crude MCHM, into the Elk River.

The spill from a Freedom Industries tank was about a mile upriver from the area's main water plant, West Virginia American Water, a unit of American Water Works Company Inc.

Tomblin declared a state of emergency while the chemical, used in coal processing, was flushed out of the water system.

West Virginia authorities completely lifted the ban on the use of tap water

on Saturday, but advised pregnant women to continue using alternative water sources.

Tomblin said the legislation would allow the state Department of Environmental Protection to implement an above-ground tank regulation program that would require operators to report tanks' location, construction and maintenance.

It also requires annual inspections and certifications and allows the head of the environmental agency to order a plant to take corrective action when storing potentially harmful material. Plants also would have to submit spill prevention plans for each tank.

Tomblin said the legislation would not duplicate state and federal regulations. Freedom Industries, a maker of specialty chemicals, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection on Friday.—Reuters



Residents line up for water at a water filling station at West Virginia State University, in Institute, West Virginia, on 10 Jan, 2014. —REUTERS

BiH police arrest man in threatening letter case

SARAJEVO, 21 Jan — Police in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) on Monday arrested a man suspected of sending a threatening letter to BiH institutions.

The man, born in 1976, was arrested in Zavidovici in eastern part of BiH, police said. He admitted sending a letter to BiH institutions with a threat to attack BiH and international organizations in the country, local media reported.

The suspect will be handed over to the prosecutors for further questioning while motives for the crime are still unknown.

Xinhua

Syria's oil production drops amid long-standing crisis

DAMASCUS, 21 Jan — Syria's oil production has dropped by 95 percent since the start of the conflict in Syria almost three years ago, forcing the government to boost imports of the vital material from other countries and increase its subsidy to meet people's need.

Syrian Oil Minister Suleiman al-Abbas said on Monday that Syria's oil production dropped to 28,000 barrels a day, down from 380,000 ahead of the crisis, indicating that wild damages were inflicted on the country's oil sector due to the current crisis and the Western economic sanctions on oil and gas sectors.

He indicated that ter-

rorist attacks dramatically increased in 2013 on oil and gas infrastructure, causing a retreat in production and a difficulty in transporting oil to areas of consumption.

The minister added that the total crude gas produced in Syria in 2013 was estimated at 17 million cubic meters a day.

Meanwhile, the Minister of Domestic Trade and Consumer Protection Samir Qadhi Amin said recently that despite the rising prices of oil derivatives, these oil and gas materials are still subsidized by the government.

He was quoted by the pro-government *al-Watan* newspaper as saying that Syria now only produced

four percent of its former productive capacity, adding that the government imports the remaining required quantity from abroad.

He said that Syria has remarkably increased the real government subsidy for these oil derivatives, revealing that the value of the government's support of oil derivatives amounted to 226.18 billion Syrian pounds, or two billion US dollars, in 2013.

The oil sector was a pillar of Syria's economy ahead of the outbreak of events, with the country producing about 380,000 barrels, exporting around 130,000 barrels a day and putting the rest under domestic use.—Xinhua



Carter, a two-year-old male sniffer dog, patrols with his trainer at Xi'chang Railway Station in Xi'chang City, southwest China's Sichuan Province, on 20 Jan, 2014. 2014 is the first year for Carter to take part in the anti-drug mission of the Spring Festival travel peak period. Every afternoon and night he and the other dogs would be on duty at the railway station. Thanks to their efforts, two drug cases have been detected since the beginning of the travel peak. —XINHUA

UN chief welcomes election of interim president in CAR

UNITED NATIONS, 21 Jan — United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon welcomed on Monday the election of Catherine Samba-Panza as interim president of the Central African Republic (CAR), calling it an opportunity to put the country's transition back on track.

The UN chief said in a statement that he congratulates Samba-Panza on her election and "looks forward to the nomination of a new Prime Minister in the coming days." "The change of leadership in the CAR offers a critical opportunity to put the transition process back on track," Ban said.

In the meantime, Ban remains "extremely concerned" about the ongoing sectarian violence in the country, where some 2.6 million people need humanitarian assistance. He urged countries to immediately deliver on international pledges made earlier in the day. Nearly half a billion US dollars were pledged for the CAR on Monday at

a high-level meeting organized in Brussels by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the European Commission.

Ban also appeals for support of the African-led International Support Mission to the Central African Republic (MISCA). The UN Security Council passed a resolution in December 2013 authorizing increased military action by MISCA and French troops in the CAR to end violence.

The CAR, with a population of 4.6 million, has been marred by coups and rebellions. The situation took a sharp turn for the worse in March 2013 when the rebel group Seleka Alliance ousted President Francois Bozize. A transitional government has been entrusted with a mandate to restore law and order and pave the way for democratic elections, only to see a resurgence of armed clashes between the ex-rebel Seleka troops and Christian militia.—Xinhua

Two children feed black-headed gulls in Kunming, capital of southwest China's Yunnan Province, on 20 Jan, 2014. The highest temperature in Kunming dropped from 17 to 5 degrees Celsius on Monday. XINHUA



Israel dismantles spying devices on border with Lebanon

BEIRUT, 21 Jan — Israeli troops dismantled two electronic devices from the Lebanese border town of Adeisseh under monitor of Lebanese army and the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), the Lebanese army said on Monday.

"At 10:45 am (0845 GMT), a patrol belonging to the Israeli enemy accompanied by two members of

UNIFIL's liaison apparatus dismantled and removed the two electronic devices that were placed in the border area of Adeisseh, south of the Blue Line," a Lebanese army statement said.

Earlier on Monday, the Lebanese and Israeli armies beefed up their deployment along the border of the southern town of Adeisseh.

According to the state-

run National News Agency (NNA), Israeli soldiers crossed into the area at 10:15 am local time (0815 GMT) and dismantled the two spying devices they had planted on Saturday in al-Mahafer area in Adeisseh. The spying devices were found planted under a tree in Adeisseh on Saturday.

Xinhua

REGIONAL

Japan gains consent to extend oil rights for offshore oilfield in UAE

ABU DHABI, 21 Jan — Japan on Monday secured the consent of the United Arab Emirates to extend oil rights for an offshore oilfield for 15 years beyond their expiration in 2026, Japanese officials said. The agreement on the Upper Zakum Field, owned by one of the group companies of Inpex Corp, was reached during talks between Japanese Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Toshimitsu Motegi and Abu Dha-

bi's Crown Prince Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

The United Arab Emirates is the second-largest crude oil supplier to resource-scarce Japan, after Saudi Arabia. Of Japan's imports of oil produced at overseas fields in which Japanese companies have rights, 40 percent is produced off the coast of Abu Dhabi.

The extension of the oil rights through 2041 for

one of the fields is significant for Japan as it will help the country supply energy to its economy in a stable manner, Motegi told a news conference after the meeting with the crown.

The agreement comes as Japan's demand for fossil fuels is increasing in the wake of the 2011 Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant disaster, which has resulted in the prolonged halt of almost all of the country's nuclear reactors.



Japanese Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Toshimitsu Motegi holds a Press conference in Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates on 20 Jan, 2014, after talks with Abu Dhabi's Crown Prince Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan. KYODO NEWS

None of the reactors in Japan are currently online and only those that have cleared a set of new safety requirements introduced in July will be allowed to resume operations.

Motegi also visited Abu Dhabi in February 2013 to push for the renewal of Japanese companies' offshore oil rights in the Middle Eastern country.

Kyodo News

Gov't invites tenders for US base replacement facility in Okinawa

NAHA, (Japan), 21 Jan — Japan's Defence Ministry on Tuesday invited tenders for work related to the construction of a controversial replacement facility for a US Marine base in Okinawa Prefecture.

The ministry's Okinawa Defence Bureau hopes to sign contractors by the end of March to build a new base in a coastal area of Nago, where functions of the Marine Corps' Futenma Air Station will be transferred from a crowded residential area of Ginowan under a Japan-US accord.

The bureau plans to spend a year on exploratory boring and designing of the facility before starting land reclamation work in the spring of 2015.

The announcement was made despite local opposition to the base relocation. Antibase Nago Mayor Susumu Inamine, who was re-elected Sunday, told reporters Tuesday it is "insensitive" for the ministry to "ignore the election results" and place the tenders for the facility.

Kyodo News



Rescuers transfer a trapped person after a landslide occurred near a road construction site in the mountainous Kaihua county in Quzhou City, east China's Zhejiang Province, on 20 Jan, 2014. All the five trapped people have been pulled out of the landslide and rushed to hospital after the disaster took place on Monday afternoon. —XINHUA

Singapore to give police temporary powers specific to riot-hit neighbourhood

SINGAPORE, 21 Jan — Singapore government introduced a new bill in the parliament on Monday that will give police officers specific temporary powers needed to maintain law and order in a neighbourhood that was hit by a riot of foreign workers in December.

The temporary bill seeks to give law enforcement officers the power to search and interview individuals entering the area for alcohol and prohibited items, and give officers the power to ban individuals from being in the area during specified times if their presence is deemed to potentially threaten public order.

Officers will also be granted the power to swiftly cancel or suspend the business license of licensees suspected to have flouted the law.

The legislation is pro-

posed to last for up to one year, and it covers only the Little India area where an alcohol ban has been enacted following the riot.

"This will provide sufficient time for my ministry to enact longer term legislation to take into account the findings and recommendations of the Committee of Inquiry (COI), and recommendations arising from public consultations on the review of the liquor licensing regime," Deputy Minister and Minister for Home Affairs Teo Chee Hean said in the parliament.

The Committee of Inquiry was appointed in December following the riot in Little India to investigate into the cause of the incident. It was also tasked to make recommendations to prevent such incidents from happening again.

Xinhua

Wife of missing Sri Lankan rebel lodges complaint

COLOMBO, 21 Jan — The wife of a former Tamil Tiger rebel in Sri Lanka appeared before a government appointed commission on Monday to lodge a complaint over her missing husband.

Anandi Sasitharan, the wife of S Elilan, who headed political operations for the rebels in the East of the country before the end of the war, said she made a statement before the Presidential Commission of Disappearances which is currently meeting in the north of the country.

Sasitharan told the commission that Elilan had gone missing after he sur-

rendered to the army during the final few days of the war between the rebels and the government forces.

"I told the commission that my husband was taken away by the army on 18th May 2009 in front of my own eyes when we handed ourselves to the military during the final days of the war. I also told the commission I can give more evidence about Elilan if they need," she said after meeting the commission in the northern town of Kilinochchi where it has been recording statements since Saturday from families of those reported missing.

A member of the

Northern Provincial Council, Sasitharan said the commission members had told her that they had the authority to take action but yet she had little faith in the process.

The presidential commission began hearings into the disappearances of thousands of people who went missing during 19 years of Sri Lanka's brutal war.

The special commission, which was appointed by President Mahinda Rajapaksa last August, has received over 11,000 complaints from relatives of people who have disappeared between the years 1990 to 2009. —Xinhua

Armed men raid Japanese-owned fruit storage house in Philippines

MANILA, 21 Jan — At least 10 armed men raided a storage house partly owned by a Japanese company in the southern Philippines last week, a military report said on Monday. The report said the attackers, believed to be communist rebels armed with shotguns, ransacked the warehouse partly owned by Sumifru (Philippines) Corp. in Valencia City, Bukidnon, at around 10 pm on Friday.

The attackers carted away a company guard's firearms, two radios and mobile phones and set fire to equipment in the storage. None was injured in the incident. Sumifru's website says the company buys, produces and distributes fresh fruit for export.

Kyodo News

Super typhoon victims flee again as rains flood southern Philippines

BUTUAN CITY, (Philippines), 21 Jan — Emergency workers evacuated thousands of people across the southern Philippines on Tuesday, including many already made homeless by a typhoon in November, after three days of rain flooded towns and farmland.

Hundreds of survivors of Typhoon Haiyan, one of the strongest storms ever to make landfall, were forced to flee by tropical depression "Agaton" after emergency shelters were damaged or destroyed on the eastern central island of Samar.

Tents collapsed under the weight of the rain and emergency plastic sheets have been torn away, humanitarian agency Oxfam said. An average of 20 typhoons hit the Philippines every year with Haiyan slamming into central islands on 8 November,

killing more than 6,100 and wiping out entire coastal communities in Leyte and Samar.

More than 200,000 people have been taken to shelters over the last three days as flood waters rose, but hundreds were still marooned on the roofs of their houses on Tuesday, said

Eduardo del Rosario, executive director of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council.

Del Rosario said 42 people had been killed, 65 had been injured and damage to property and farms had reached 367 million pesos (\$8.13 million).

Reuters



A resident stands on the roof of his home that is submerged in heavy flooding brought by tropical depression "Agaton", in Butuan city on the southern Philippine island of Mindanao on 21 Jan, 2014.

REUTERS

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SANG THAI IRIS VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SANG THAI IRIS VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.1.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W(2) 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 SANG THAI SHIPPING
PTE LTD

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BBC NORTHSEA VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BBC NORTHSEA VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.1.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S BBC CHARTERING

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SINGAPORE BRIDGE VOY NO (059)

Consignees of cargo carried on MVSINGAPORE BRIDGE VOY NO (059) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.1.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING
LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ASIAN LEADER VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ASIAN LEADER VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.1.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S N.Y.K LINE

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (363)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (363) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.1.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KUO HSIUNG VOY NO (1010)

Consignees of cargo carried on MVKUO HSIUNG VOY NO (1010) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.1.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING (MALAY-
SIA) AGENCY SDN BHD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

TRADEMARK CAUTION
TASIMO PHARMACEUTICAL
CO., LTD. is a company
incorporated in Japan and
having its registered office at
2-1-1, Tokai-3-chome,
Toshima-Ku, Tokyo, Japan is
the owner and proprietor of
the following Trademark

LUSECO

Reg. No. 4/113714/2013
(11 December 2013)

In respect of "Pharmaceutical
preparations for human use"
in International Class 05.

Fraudulent or unauthorised
use or actual or colourable
imitation of the Mark shall be
dealt with according to law.

U Than Maung, Advocate
For TASIMO
PHARMACEUTICAL
CO., LTD.
C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.,
#1505, 15th Floor,
Sakura Tower, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union
of Myanmar.
utm@kcyangon.com
Dated 22 January 2014

TRADEMARK CAUTION
KANEKA CORPORATION, a
company incorporated in
Japan and having its
registered office at 2-3-18,
Nakanoshima, Kita-Ku,
Osaka, Japan is the owner
and proprietor of the
following Trademark

**KANEKA
MEDICAL
PRODUCTS**

Reg. No. 4/11876/2013
(1 November 2013)

In respect of "Medical
apparatus and instruments"
in International Class 10

Fraudulent or unauthorised
use or actual or colourable
imitation of the Mark shall be
dealt with according to law.

U Than Maung, Advocate
For KANEKA CORPORATION
C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.,
#1505, 15th Floor
Sakura Tower, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union
of Myanmar.
utm@kcyangon.com
Dated 22 January 2014

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA RAKAN VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RAKAN VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.1.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MOROTAI VOY NO (226)

Consignees of cargo carried on MVMOROTAI VOY NO (226) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.1.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CMA CGM

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

"Condo For Rent"

Highly Decorated
Condo (1550 Sq Ft) with
fully furniture at M.W.E.A
Tower, Shwedagon Pago-
da Road.

Please contact 01-
554281 at office hours. No
need broker.

**A poor
Workman
always blames
his tools**



*Thai Customs officials display seized rhino horns
during a press briefing at Suvarnabhumi Airport in
Bangkok, Thailand, on 20 Jan, 2014.*

*Thai Customs officials seized 9 pieces of rhino
horns, worth 21 million Thai baht.*

XINHUA

ENTERTAINMENT

'Gravity,' '12 Years a Slave' share Hollywood producers' top prize

BEVERLY HILLS, 21 Jan — Hollywood producers injected drama into the race for Oscars on Sunday by choosing not one but two movies as their best films of the year, the space thriller "Gravity" and the slavery drama "12 Years a Slave".

It is the first time the Producers Guild of America has declared a tie in the 25-year history of its awards. The PGA has correctly chosen the eventual Academy Award winner for best picture for the last six years, including Iranian hostage drama "Argo" a year ago.

The PGA decision clashes with that of the Screen Actors Guild (SAG), which on Saturday chose the 1970s-set

corruption caper "American Hustle" from director David O Russell for its top prize, best film ensemble cast.

But SAG has a mixed record on foreshadowing the Oscar best picture with its ensemble cast award, correctly predicting the Academy Award in six of the last 10 years.

Nevertheless, after an intense week of awards, the Oscars are shaping up to be a three-way race between these films. "American Hustle", with its strong performance, and "Gravity", with its technical innovation, lead nominations with 10 nods a piece, while "12 Years a Slave" and its brutal depiction of pre-Civil War slavery in the United States has nine.



Brad Pitt (C) and Steve McQueen, producers of the film "12 Years A Slave", along with cast member Chiwetel Ejiofor (L), arrive at the 25th Annual Producers Guild of America Awards in Beverly Hills, California on 19 Jan, 2014.—REUTERS

The highest honours of the film industry from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences will be handed out on 2 March. Voting among the 6,000 members runs from 14 to 25 February. It was a crucial night

for "12 Years a Slave", which won the coveted Golden Globe last Sunday for best drama but failed to bring in any other awards that night. It has also lost out on key acting awards.

Director and producer Steve McQueen, in accepting the PGA award along with co-producer and actor Brad Pitt, addressed an issue that could complicate the film's Oscar potential: talk that it is too difficult to watch.

"When the film first came out in Toronto, some people were saying that this was a brutal film, that no one would go to see it," said McQueen, a British filmmaker. "Box office here in the United States and in the UK has proven differently."—Reuters



Big B tries to meet his fans every Sunday.

Amitabh Bachchan writes of regret over not greeting Sunday fans

MUMBAI, 21 Jan — Meeting his fans, who gather outside his Juhu residence every Sunday, gives a feeling of fulfilment to megastar Amitabh Bachchan. There are times when he is not able to take out time from his busy schedule and this is what creates a "void" in his heart.

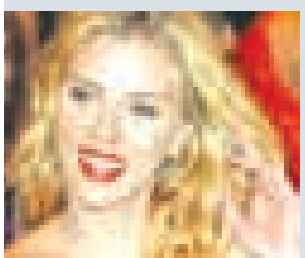
"Regrets overtake me for the Sunday and the

missing of the well-wishers. My work on film shoot just finished a few minutes back, and not greeting the fans that collect en masse is like a void that cannot be filled," Amitabh posted on his blog srbachchan.tumblr.com on Monday.

The actor is currently shooting for Bhootnath Returns.

PTI

Scarlett Johansson: I am in no rush to marry



The 29-year old actress recently shifted to Paris with fiancé.

LONDON, 21 Jan — Actress Scarlett Johansson is in no hurry to tie the knot with fiancé Romain Dauriac.

The Her star got engaged to Dauriac, a journalist, in the summer of 2013.

"I'm busy planning Avengers 2 right now. That's my main focus. I've never been a big planning kind of person," she said. "I'd never share it with anybody, but I think more than anything, I feel really fortunate to have had this amazing year professionally. And I think when all that smoke settles I'll be able to (plan)," she said.

PTI

Julia Roberts: Am dedicated to family, friends

LOS ANGELES, 21 Jan — Actress Julia Roberts says the focus of her happiness has shifted with age and insists she is completely dedicated to her family and friends. The 46-year-old has nine-year-old twins Hazel and Finn and six-year-old son Henry with husband Daniel Moder.

"Happiness takes on different forms as you get older and smarter, make more friends and get deeper into relationships," express. co.uk quoted Roberts as saying.

"I am in a fortunate pace in which I can dedicate myself to my family

and friends," she added.

The Pretty Woman star doesn't feel that she has to struggle to live a normal life because she never tried to get help for any aspect of her personal life.

"I do not have to go to great lengths to participate in a normal life. I was once asked if I would like to be an ordinary housewife. But I am ordinary."

"The only person who cleaned my house was me. I never tried to put other parts of my life into compartments," Roberts said.

Reuters

Julia Roberts says the focus of her life has shifted with age.



Jennifer Lawrence amazed by rave reviews for work

LONDON, 21 Jan—Actress Jennifer Lawrence says that whenever she gets a good review for her acting, she feels that she just "got away with another one".

The 23-year-old, who recently won the Best Supporting Actress honour at the 71st Golden Globe Awards for her performance in American Hustle, finds it strange to read rave reviews of her talent.

"I always feel like

I'm pulling the wool over everyone's eyes about my acting. When I get good reviews I think 'Alright—got away with another one'," she told HELLO! magazine, reports contactmusic.com.

"I watch my performance and I think, 'Yeah, it's sort of alright' but then when I read the reviews I don't quite get what the big deal is, I really don't," she added.

PTI

Jennifer Lawrence won the Best Supporting Actress award at the 71st Golden Globe awards.



SPORTS

Barca president offers to testify in Neymar contract case

BARCELONA, 21 Jan — Barcelona president Sandro Rosell has offered to testify before a judge to try to resolve a legal challenge filed by a club member over the signing of Brazil forward Neymar.

Neymar was paraded as the Spanish champions' marquee signing when they beat off competition from Real Madrid to lure him from Santos in the close season and the club said he had cost 57.1 million euros (47.1 million pounds).

However, precise details of the contract were not revealed with Barca pointing out the existence of confidentiality agreements. A club member, Jordi Cases, having not received the information he requested about the deal, then took legal action.

Rosell denies wrongdoing and the club reacted



Barcelona president Sandro Rosell

angrily after the state prosecutor asked the judge to open proceedings for possible misappropriation of funds. Neymar's signing was "complex" and an example of "business engineering" and they would act forcefully to defend the honour of the club and the president, Barca said.

"Having anticipated you would ask about this, there are two points I would like to make," Rosell told a news conference on Monday to unveil Barca's plans

to remodel their stadium.

"The first is a reaffirmation...that Neymar cost 57.1 million euros, full stop. I am saying it for the umpteenth time and that's enough now. "The second is a request, with all my respect for the judge in this case. I ask him to initiate proceedings and calls me to testify, precisely so I can tell the judge anything he would like to hear because there is nothing to hide," said Rosell.

"Everything is absolutely legal and absolutely clean. Any confidentially clause that existed was always because it was asked for by the other side."

Spanish daily *El Mundo* reported on Monday it had access to court documents that showed Neymar had cost a total of 95 million euros including various commissions and fees paid

to the player's family.

That would make him the second most expensive player in history after Real paid Tottenham Hotspur 100 million euros for Wales winger Gareth Bale last year.

In an interview with Barcelona-based *daily Sport* last week, Neymar said he believed there was nothing illegal about his transfer. "I know that a lot is being said about my contract. I have spoken to (my father) to see what they were talking about exactly. My father was the one who signed the contracts and he is someone in whom I have total trust," the 21-year-old said.

"There is nothing illegal. If anyone has any doubts they should ask my dad because I'm concentrating on my job which is playing football."—Reuters

Australian Open order of play on Wednesday

MELBOURNE, 21 Jan — Order of play on the main showcourt at the Australian Open on Wednesday (play starts at 0000 GMT, prefix denotes seeding):

Rod Laver Arena

11-Simona Halep (Romania) v 20-Dominika Cibulkova (Slovakia)

5-Agnieszka Radwanska (Poland) v 2-Victoria Azarenka (Belarus)

Not before 0300

1-Rafa Nadal (Spain) v 22-Grigor Dimitrov (Bulgaria)

From 0800

4-Andy Murray (Britain) v 6-Roger Federer (Switzerland).

Reuters

American striker Agudelo joins Utrecht from Stoke



Juan Agudelo

LONDON, 21 Jan — Utrecht have signed American international striker Juan Agudelo on loan from Stoke City, the Dutch club announced on Monday.

The Colombian-born 21-year-old will stay at Utrecht until the end of the season, the club said on their website (www.fc utrecht.nl).

Stoke had signed Agudelo from New England Revolution but he is still to be given a work permit.

"A young player like Agudelo must play and that he can't do at Stoke at the moment so it's a good opportunity for him and us," said Utrecht's chief scout Edwin de Kruijff.

Agudelo is the youngest goalscorer in the history of the US national team, netting a goal on debut a week shy of his 18th birthday against South Africa in a friendly international in Cape Town in 2010.

Reuters

Berdych survives Ferrer scrap to reach semi

MELBOURNE, 21 Jan — Big-serving Czech Tomas Berdych fended off a belated challenge from baseline hustler David Ferrer to reach his maiden Australian Open semi-final on Tuesday with a 6-1, 6-4, 2-6, 6-4 victory. The seventh-seed Berdych cruised to a two-set lead over a surprisingly listless Ferrer but spontaneously collapsed in the third

set under pressure from the dogged Spaniard.

Ferrer appeared primed to drag the match into an epic struggle but lost focus at 2-2 in the fourth set to surrender serve with a string of unforced errors.

Berdych grimly held onto the advantage, surviving a breakpoint when serving for the match, to seal a semi-final with either triple



Tomas Berdych

defending champion Novak Djokovic or eighth seed

Stanislas Wawrinka

Reuters

Bouchard beats Ivanovic to reach first grand slam semis



Eugenie Bouchard

MELBOURNE, 21 Jan — Showing poise and maturity beyond her 19 years, Eugenie Bouchard became the first Canadian to reach the semi-finals of the Australian Open when she upset former world number one Ana Ivanovic 5-7, 7-5, 6-2 on Tuesday.

Ivanovic had stunned world number one Serena Williams in the previous round but hampered by a left hip injury, she was

worn down by Bouchard, who showed no signs of nerves in her first grand-slam quarter-final.

The only time Bouchard lost her poise was when she was asked in her on-court interview who she would most like to date, looking slightly embarrassed before announcing: "Justin Bieber".

On court, she was calm throughout, even after losing the first set and then,

when she was leading 4-3 in the second, having to wait for several minutes while Ivanovic took a medical timeout for treatment to her left hip.

"I'm glad I looked (calm)," she said, when asked how she dealt with the delay. "We'd just had a tough game. I tried to keep fighting and play aggressive and I think I stepped it up in the third set."

Having upset Williams, Ivanovic went into the match as favorite but looked to be feeling the pressure as she tried to reach her first grand slam semi-final since she won the French Open in 2008.

A missed smash by Bouchard handed Ivanovic the break for 4-3 and though they then traded two more breaks apiece, Ivanovic clinched her fourth set point to go ahead.—Reuters

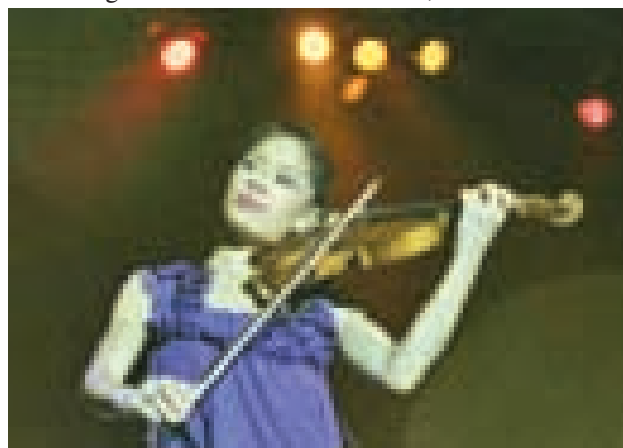
Violinist Vanessa-Mae to ski at Sochi for Thailand

BANGKOK, 21 Jan — Violin star Vanessa-Mae will put on her slalom skis next month to become only the third person to represent tropical Thailand at the Winter Olympics.

A British citizen, the 35-year-old Vanessa-Mae Vanakorn Nicholson qualifies to compete for Thailand at the Sochi Games in Russia through her natural fa-

ther. She was brought up in England when her mother remarried a Briton.

"National Olympic Committee of Thailand has already made a decision to send Kanet Sucharitakul as the male athlete and Vanessa-Mae as the female athlete," Varin Tansuphasiri, deputy secretary-general of Olympic Committee of Thailand, told Reuters.



Violinist Vanessa Mae

"(We are) currently coordinating with the International Ski (Federation) to announce the name of the contestants on their official website."

The first Thai to compete in any Winter Olympics was academic Prawat Nagvajara, a cross-country skier at Salt Lake City in 2002 and Turin in 2006.

Vanessa-Mae made her mark on the world stage when she broke from tradition and became known for her sexy, glamorous violin style and for mixing classical music with pop.

Her first techno pop-style album, "The Violin Player," was released in 1995 and reached No. 11 in the UK albums chart, selling over 10 million albums.

She qualified after competing four giant slalom races last weekend in Slovenia.—Reuters

GENERAL



People gather around the statue of Martin Luther King Jr in Washington DC, the United States, on 20 Jan, 2014. Various activities are held on the third Monday of January each year throughout the United States to honour Martin Luther King Jr, who was assassinated on 4 April, 1968 at the age of 39.—XINHUA

China to boost education for disabled children

BEIJING, 21 Jan — The Chinese government has vowed to ensure that at least 90 percent of children with visual, hearing and intellectual disabilities receive primary and middle school education by the end of 2016, according to a plan publicized on Monday.

According to a 2014-2016 plan on improving education for learners with special needs, the country will increase investment, build more infrastructure, foster more quality teachers and reform special education curricula.

The plan was jointly mapped out by seven departments, including the

ministries of education, civil affairs and finance, based on inspections and surveys across the country.

"Despite obvious development in recent years, our country's special education work in general is still at a low level and suffers from regional imbalance," the Ministry of Education (MOE) said in a statement accompanying the plan.

Official figures show that compulsory education, which includes primary and middle school, only covered 71.9 percent of disabled children as of the end of 2012, compared with 99.5 percent of stand-

ard primary schools and 98 percent of middle schools.

The three-year plan stipulates that disabled children should attend the nearest possible standard schools, special education knowledge should be incorporated into exams for teachers' certificates, and that higher education institutes should not refuse admission for learners because of their disabilities.

According to the MOE, government departments will review the progress of local authorities in improving special education as well as the implementation of related policies.

Xinhua

MYANMAR TV

(22-1-2014, Wednesday)

6:00 am	3:00 pm
1. Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw	19. News
6:25 am	3:15 pm
2. Physical Exercises	20. Myanmar Movies (Part-2)
6:35 am	3:35 pm
3. Musical Programme	21. TV Drama Series
6:45 am	4:00 pm
4. Documentary	22. News
7:00 am	4:15 pm
5. News/Weather Report	23. TV Drama Series
7:25 am	4:40 pm
6. Myanmar Language	24. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Third Year (Maths)
7:35 am	5:00 pm
7. Documentary	25. News
8:00 am	5:15 pm
8. News/ International News	26. Gitamahar
8:25 am	5:30 pm
9. India Drama Series	27. India Drama Series
9:00 am	6:00 pm
10. News/International News	28. News/Weather Report
9:25 am	6:20 pm
11. Sing A Song	29. Shwe Yin Chone Than
10:00 am	6:50 pm
12. News	30. TV Drama Series
10:15 am	7:00 pm
13. Sing A Song	31. News
10:25 am	7:20 pm
14. TV Drama Series	32. TV Drama Series
11:20 am	8:00 pm
15. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions	33. News/International News/Weather Report
11:40 am	8:35 pm
16. Approaching Science Discovery World	34. People Talks
12:00 pm	8:45 pm
17. News/International News/Weather Report	35. Documentary
12:25 pm	9:00 pm
18. Myanmar Movies (Part-1)	36. News
	37. Fine Arts - Bosom of Dramatic Performance
	38. TV Drama Series

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

22-1-14 07:00 am ~ 23-1-14 07:00 am) MST

- * Local News
- * A Life of Venerated Virtue
- * World News
- * Independent Filmmaker
- * Local News
- * To The Land of Countless Temples-Bagan Trip (Ep-2)
- * World News
- * Sticky Shan Snack
- * Local News
- * Orphanage
- * World News
- * Temple Stalls
- * Local News
- * Myanmar Beauty And His Creations (Ep-2)
- * World News
- * In the Studio: Pyi Soe (or) Hay Thin
- * Local News
- * Living with the Love of the Nature
- * World News
- * A Traditional Doctor
- * Local News
- * My Tour Around Hopone City
- * World News
- * Myanmar Master Class "Still Life" (Fruit)
- * Local News
- * Choral Dance By Female Dancers
- * World News
- * Green Grocer
- * Local News
- * Herbal Medicine by Thurein (Ta Bin Dine Mya Nan) (Vitis)
- * World News
- * Distinguished Myanmar Ladies "Tin Moe Lwin"

Cyclone causes chaos across New Zealand's North Island

WELLINGTON, 21 Jan — Thousands of households and businesses across New Zealand's largest city of Auckland were left without power on Tuesday as the tail of Cyclone June swept across the upper North Island. Severe gales hit the city on Tuesday, with thunderstorms and heavy rain forecast to strike other parts of New Zealand later in the day, Radio New Zealand reported.

The winds had blown down trees on to roofs, roads and power lines.

A statement from the government's MetService weather agency said wind

gusts across the top of the North Island were reaching 120 km per hour.

The New Zealand Transport Agency said strong southwesterly winds in the Auckland region were making driving conditions difficult.

"People do need to take extreme care and to be aware of the vehicles around them and any sudden movements due to the extreme weather," national journey manager Kathryn Musgrave said in a statement.

Radio New Zealand reported there had been no reports of injuries.—Xinhua

Tough words from coach helped me into semis

MELBOURNE, 21 Jan — China's Li Na allowed herself a small smile of satisfaction after she advanced to her fourth Australian Open semi-final on Tuesday, mindful that an inquisition from coach Carlos Rodriguez earlier in the tournament had helped her get there.

The 31-year-old, who has reached two of the last three finals at Melbourne Park, blasted the 28th-seeded Flavia Pennetta off the court with a 6-2, 6-2 win on Tuesday with a strong first serve and barrage of powerful ground strokes.

That 66-minute performance, however, had its roots in a third round clash with Lucie Safarova, when the Czech ran the fourth seed all around the court

and held a match point before Li scraped to a 1-6, 7-6 (2) 6-3 victory in two hours, 27 minutes.

"He didn't tell me what I should do. He just asked me 'what do you want? Why you do this?'" Li told reporters of what Rodriguez had said to her after the Safarova clash.

"After three questions, I was feeling he was already punching me down already. So I was like, 'okay, I should do something'.

"So that's why I start next day to prepare (for the rest of the tournament). I try to do what I say, because before I always promising, I will try to do, I will try to

do, but I never do.

"I think this is why (my play) turn around."

One of the harder hitters on tour, Li's groundstrokes were sublime on Tuesday as she painted the tramlines and controlled the pace of the match from the baseline.

Pennetta, who had been impressive in her victory over ninth-seed Angelique Kerber in the fourth round, was unable to get into the match with her service game falling apart.

Her lack of accuracy, with less than 40 percent of her first serves going in, allowed Li to jump out to a 5-0 lead in the first set and 4-0 in the second. She won just 25 of 54 points on her own serve in the entire match.—Reuters



Li Na

Vice-President U Nyan Tun hosts dinner to 7th ASEAN Para Games' athletes, support groups

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Jan — Vice-President U Nyan Tun hosted a dinner to athletes and support groups who participated in the 7th ASEAN Para Games at Social Zone, here, this evening.

In his address, the Vice-President spoke words of praise, acknowledging the performance of athletes and contributions of liaison officers, volunteer officers, work forces and support groups towards the games. He called on those present to do their bit in nation-

building endeavours based on experiences gained from the games.

Next, the Vice-President presented certificates of honour to the representatives of LOs, VOs, WF and support groups.

Then, the Vice-President presented 48 wheelchairs and six white canes donated by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement to responsible persons.

After the dinner, the Vice-President cordially greeted those present.

MNA



Vice-President U Nyan Tun cordially greets athletes and support groups who participated in the 7th ASEAN Para Games.—MNA

Commander-in-Chief meets Canadian Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Jan — Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received Canadian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Mark McDowell at Zeyathiri Beikman, here, this morning.

They exchanged views

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing gives a present to Canadian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Mark McDowell.—MNA

on the histories of the State and defence services, burgeoning of democracy and the role of the defence services in Myanmar and promotion of relations between the two armed forces of the two countries.

Also present at the call were Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Hla Htay Win and senior military officers of Commander-in-Chief Office.

After the meeting, the Commander-in-Chief presented a gift to the Canadian Ambassador.

MNA

Printing and Publishing Bill needs more coordination, comprehensive discussions before seeking Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's approval

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Jan — Today's Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session focused on reorganizing and abolishing districts in some regions and states, clarification on the two reports sent by the President to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on resolution of farmland and other land confiscation issues, submission of a proposal and holding discussion on a bill.

First, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw decided to inform the government of the objection raised by U Haw Shauk Chan of Laukkai constituency to abolition of Kunlong district by grouping

Kunlong district and Lashio district in Shan State as Lashio district.

Next, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Than said that region/state land management committees led by the central committee are striving for sooner completion of addressing farmland confiscation issues in accord with suggestions of the farmland grab investigation commission's report. Then, 11 representatives presented their constructive suggestions on ground situations and implementation of the report.

(See page 8)

Thai government declares state of emergency as protests drag on

BANGKOK, 21 Jan — The Thai government on Tuesday declared a 60-day state of emergency to start on Wednesday, saying it wanted to prevent any escalation in more than two months of protests aimed at forcing Prime Minister Ms. Yingluck Shinawatra from power.

The decree, which applies to Bangkok and surrounding provinces, gives security agencies the power to impose curfews, detain suspects without charge, censor media, ban political gatherings of more than five people and declare parts of the capital off-limits.

"We need it because the protesters have closed

government buildings, banks and escalated the situation, which has caused injuries and deaths. The government sees the need to announce the emergency decree to keep the situation under control," Labour Minister Chalerm Yoobamrung told a nationally televised news conference.

The government had no plans to try to disperse protesters during the night, he added, without elaborating.

He was speaking after a cabinet meeting which had to be held at air force headquarters in the north of Bangkok because the protesters have for weeks prevented Yingluck using her offices in Government



An anti-government protester waves a Thai national flag during a rally outside the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment in Bangkok on 21 January, 2014. —REUTERS

House. The protests, now in their third month, have closed off parts of the capital in the latest instalment

of an eight-year political conflict that has seen sporadic outbreaks of violence.

Reuters

Removal of squatters in ward-19 of Hlinethaya Township

YANGON, 21 Jan — A combined force comprising departmental personnel, members of Myanmar Police Force and auxiliary fire brigade and local people carried out a clearance of squatters, removing all squatted huts in a systematic way in ward-19 of Hlinethaya Township, here, this morning. It is aimed at ridding the area near Kyan-

sittha road, Paungku street and the Shwelinban creek in the township of illegal settlement for ensuring the rule of law and community peace and tranquility.

Due to growing in the numbers of squatters from other regions, the number of squatted huts reached 285. Some resold the places to others.

(See page 8)