

President U Thein Sein accepts Credentials of Finnish, Portuguese Ambassadors



NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan—Ms. Kirsti Westphalen, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Republic of Finland, and Mr Louis Manuel Barreira Da Souza, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Republic of Portugal, to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar presented their Credentials to U Thein Sein, President of the

President U Thein Sein poses for documentary photo with Ms. Kirsti Westphalen, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Republic of Finland to Myanmar.

MNA

Republic of the Union of Myanmar at the Presidential Palace, here, this morning.

Present on the occasions were Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister at the President Office U Thein Nyunt and Director-General U Thurain Thant Zin of the Protocol Department.—MNA

President U Thein Sein shakes hands with Mr Louis Manuel Barreira Da Souza, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Republic of Portugal to Myanmar.

MNA



Promfret fishing becomes lucrative business for its marketability in foreign markets

As Myanmar's Promfret receives a good reputation for its marketability in the world markets, promfret fishing that makes lucrative profits has become popular among Myanmar fishermen in coastal regions. There also has been a business boom in the market for promfret fishing net.

Fishing net manufacturers said production of promfret fishing

net is a lucrative business earning remarkable profits if there is no severe impact such as climate change, professional incompetence and ill luck on the business.

Promfret fishing has a large share of the country's fisheries sector. A market area for Promfret fish is very large, stretching from Hainggyigyun to Pyapon in delta region. But, Pyapon is the top player in the promfret fish

market because it can be accessible by road or water and it can be reached within two-hour drive from Dala located on the other side of Yangon. Buyers and sellers are doing a brisk trade in Pyapon promfret fish market. A viss of first-class promfret fish is priced at K 25,000 in the market.

With smooth and speedy flow of transport in delta region, Pyapon has become a centre of

Byline:
Min Thitsa
Hlaing
(Kadon Kani)

promfret fish market, allowing fishermen from other parts of the region to get a good price for their marketable promfret fish.

Kyemon: 25-1-2014
Trs: YM



Fishermen and trawlers at work of fishing Myanmar's Promfret.

Exchange of messages between FMs of Myanmar, Japan

YANGON, 29 Jan—To celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Myanmar and Japan, Foreign Ministers of the two countries exchanged messages on 27 January.

The messages were read by the Japanese Ambassador Mr Mikio Numata and by U Tin Oo Lwin, Deputy Minister of

Myanmar at a reception to commemorate the opening event of the 60th anniversary 'Myanmar-Japan Hip Hop Concert'.

For more information, please contact Information and Culture Section, Embassy of Japan, Yangon, Tel: 549644~8 between 9 am and 5 pm from Monday to Friday.

NLM

INSIDE

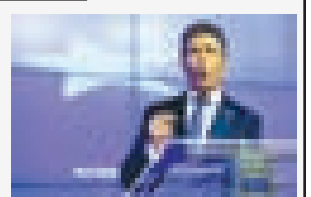
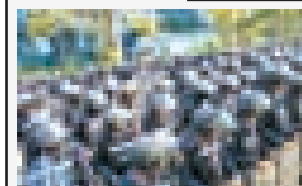
The Latest Colossal Sagyin marble Buddha Image

MAHA SADDHAMMA JOTIKA DHAJA
SITHU DR.KHIN MAUNG NYUNT

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Development of health infrastructure built in Kanma Township



KANMA, 29 Jan—The government is striving for development of health sector by opening hospitals, dispensaries and health centres in all corners of the nation so as to provide health care services to the people from rural and urban areas in full swing.

The Government has allotted K 350 million on construction of 16-

bed station hospital in Kanma Township of Thayet District in Magway Region in 2013-14 fiscal year.

The construction comprises one main building, one operation theatre, one mortuary, one medical officers quarters and 3200 gallon capacity water tank and 160 gallon capacity water tank.

The station hospital

is located beside Patheingyi Road. On completion, the hospital will give health care services to about 20000 people from 22 villages of nine village-tracts of Mindon and Padaung Townships.

A local expressed his emotional feeling that the local people went to Okshitpin, 28 miles

from Gyobin Village of Kanma Township to receive medical treatment and Kanma, 14 miles from the village. Now, the new hospital will be reliable for all of the local people.

At present, Kanma Hospital (25-bed) has completed water tank spending K 7 million. So, the patients can consume water without any difficulty. In addition, Yenatha Station Hospital is also giving health care to the locals.

Thanks to the government and local authorities, concerted efforts of the local people and supportive committee officials, the health infrastructure in Kanma Township can be shaped gradually.

MMAL-Tin Tun Oo

Let's grow model flower for family income

YAMETHIN, 29 Jan—The people in Kinmonchon Village of Okshitkon Village-tract of Yamethin Township in Mandalay Region who cultivate model flower plants can earn income for their families.

Most of the people are engaged in cultivation of paddy but some of the people grow the flower to be able fetch income for the families.

Model flowers are to be grown in cold season. The saplings are to be bought from Pyin Oo Lwin

and Lashio. After 60-70 days of cultivation, the plants bear buds and flowers.

In the wholesales, the flowers are to be sold at K 1000 per 25 branches. Each branch of flower can be sold at K 40.

About 1350 flowery plants can be placed on 100 feet by 2 feet nursery block. Those growers who cultivate about 5000 plants can fetch K 400,000 but they can spend K 40000 to K 50000 on all cost of cultivation.

MMAL-Aung Htay (Mahlaing)



HRD

Lectures given to ensure high pass rate in matric exam

MONYWA, 29 Jan—Faculty members of Monywa University gave lectures to 352 students of Basic Education High Schools from Chaung U and Khinmon Village and Ngalontin Village on 27 January with the aim of ensuring high pass rate of matriculation examination in 2014 academic year.

Associate Professor U Kyaw Naing, Lecturer Dr Daw Khin Thi, Lecturer Daw Khin Mar Wai, Lecturer U Zaw Tun Oo and Assistant Lecturer Daw Mi Mi Latt provided intensive lectures to the students.—MMAL-Township IPRD (Chaung U)



Work committee for implementation of socio-economic development in Rakhine State meets

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan — A coordination meeting of the working committee for implementation of socio-economic development in Rakhine State took place at the Ministry of Industry, here, yesterday, with an address by Union Minister U Maung Myint, chairman of the working committee.

The Union minister called for suggestions on how to implement the action plan of the comprehensive development plan for achieving peace and stability in Rakhine State, focusing on provision of assistance to education and health requirements in relief camps. He stressed the need to review strength and

weakness in the previous year's undertakings. More efforts are needed to realize the action plan, he added.

Next, Deputy Minister U Thein Aung, the secretary of the committee, explained works to be done and those present presented their respective tasks.

While implementing the comprehensive plan through coordination and collaboration, distribution of paddy strains, construction of basic education schools and clinics, installation of land line and sharing low-priced mobile phones have been carried out in Yanbye, Gwa, Yathedaung and Buthitaung Townships so far.—MNA

Labour Affairs

Seven Myanmar workers handed over by Thailand

TACHILEK, 29 Jan—A ceremony to hand over Myanmar workers was held at Myanmar-Thai No. 1 Friendship Bridge in Tachilek of Shan State (East) on 28 January morning.

Immigration Officer of Thailand and party handed over five Myanmar men and two women to Tachilek Township Deputy Administrator U Win Aung, SIP Min Zaw of Anti-Human Trafficking Squad and departmental officials.

Officials made intercession against seven Myanmar workers at Maha Myat Muni Monastery in Macaokham Ward of Tachilek. In their confession,

they illegally entered Thailand. Due to lack of stay permit and overdue of transborder permission, they were arrested by Thai authorities. They were not victims of human trafficking, it was learnt.

Under the arrangements of the Township Administrator, those workers were handed over to their parents and relatives in the afternoon.

From 19 November 2010 to 28 January 2014, Thailand has handed over 5021 men and 1731 women, totalling 6752 Myanmar workers to Myanmar authorities.—MMAL-Myint Mo (Tachilek)

WORLD

Abe hopes for summits with China, S Korea to solve problems

TOKYO, 29 Jan — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on Wednesday called for summit meetings with Chinese and South Korean leaders to address the problems that have increased tension in Asia, while also reiterating his intention to revise Japan's pacifist Constitution.

Speaking at a plenary session of the House of Councillors following last week's opening of the ordinary Diet session, Abe said leaders of Japan, China and South Korea "should meet and frankly discuss (issues) without setting any preconditions." Abe, who took office in December 2012, has so far been unable to hold summits with South Korean President Park Geun Hye and Chinese President Xi Jinping since they assumed the leadership of their countries, in February and March respectively.

Abe, responding to questions from ruling and opposition lawmakers following his policy speech on Friday, said he wants to "deepen national debate on our Constitution in the future" adding he would deal with the issue "thoroughly." The prime minister has expressed his intention to enhance Japan's defense capabilities, increasing the possibility that Tokyo would revise the war-renouncing Constitution, even though the issue is another source of concern for neighboring countries.—Kyodo News



US Special Representative for North Korea Policy Glyn Davies (R from center) answers questions at a news conference after a meeting with Cho Tae-Yong (L from center), South Korean chief delegate to the six-party talks on North Korea's denuclearization, at the Foreign Ministry in Seoul on 29 Jan, 2014.

XINHUA

NATO's Rasmussen criticizes Russian pressure on Ukraine

PARIS, 29 Jan — NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen criticized Russia on Wednesday for pressuring Kiev not to sign a free trade pact with the European Union, a move that triggered mass protests.

Ukraine, caught in a tug-of-war for influence between Moscow and Brussels, has been rocked by protests since it walked away from the EU association deal two months ago. On Tuesday, Prime Minister Mykola Azarov resigned

and deputies rolled back anti-protest laws to try to defuse the crisis.

"An association pact with Ukraine would have been a major boost to European security, I truly regret that it could not be done," Rasmussen told *le Figaro daily*. "The reason is well-known: pressure that Russia exerts on Kiev."

Rasmussen also condemned police violence against the protesters and pressed Ukraine's leaders to

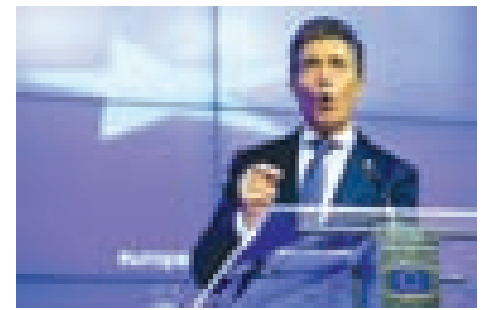
assert their independence, urging closer ties with his North Atlantic Treaty Organisation and the European Union.

Noting that cooperation between NATO and Russia had improved in some areas, he criticized Russia's role in eastern Europe. "We

have real differences and real issues," he said.

"It's obvious that Russia's attitude is clearly hostile to the (NATO) alliance opening to the east."

Reuters



NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen holds a news conference while taking part in a European Union leaders summit at the EU council headquarters in Brussels December 19, 2013. —REUTERS

Iran tells Annan: Support for Syria "terrorists" must end

TEHERAN, 29 Jan — Support for terrorist groups in the region, especially in war-torn Syria, must be prevented and stopped, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said on Tuesday to former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, who was visiting the Islamic republic to discuss Iran's nuclear issue and regional developments.

In a meeting with Annan and other members of the visiting Elders organization, an international body of public figures, on Tuesday, Rouhani said, that the international community should unite "for the cessation of war and killing in Syria."

"To this end, the most important step is the cessation of the support for and the prevention of assistance and transfer of weaponry to terrorist groups by some of the region's countries," he said, adding that "In addition, the issue of humanitarian assistance to Syrians inside and outside the country must be considered."

Annan emphasized the

importance of finding a political solution to the crisis in Syria, adding that to resolve the crisis the UN Security Council and Syria's neighbours, especially Iran, had to play their roles, he was quoted as saying.

Concerning the nuclear issue, Rouhani reiterated Iran's longtime stance that all of its nuclear activities will be for peaceful purposes as stipulated in the nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT).

"Iran seeks nothing beyond its rights based on the NPT's regulations, and should there be serious resolve in the other side, there is the readiness here for reaching a final nuclear agreement and a comprehensive conclusion in a short-term span," Rouhani was quoted as saying by Press TV. In another meeting with Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad-Javad Zarif on Monday, Annan called for final settlement of Iran's nuclear issue, Iran's *Kayhan International daily* reported on Tuesday.

Xinhua

4 killed in 3 separate attacks in southern Thailand

BANGKOK, 29 Jan — Four people were killed and another four injured on Wednesday in three separate attacks in Thailand's restive southern Provinces of Yala and Narathiwat, police said.

The first attack occurred around 4:30 a.m. in Reu Soh District of Nar-

athiwat Province, when two local villagers on their way to work were shot dead and another seriously injured, they said.

The case is under investigation, with police not ruling out that the killings may have been motivated by personal issues.

The second incident oc-

curred around 7:30 a.m. in Yaha District of Yala Province, targeting a group of 14 paramilitary soldiers escorting a group of teachers to a school. A remote-controlled bomb hidden near the school gate exploded as the soldiers passed through it on foot, injuring three of them.—Kyodo News

Thailand to deploy 10,000 police in capital to secure voting

BANGKOK, 29 Jan — Thailand's government will deploy 10,000 police in the capital for Sunday's election, which protesters have promised to disrupt as part of their drawn-out attempt to topple Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra.

The government decided on Tuesday to press ahead with the February 2 election, which the main opposition party plans to boycott and despite warnings that it could lead to more violence without resolving the country's increasingly bitter political divide.

"I ask Bangkok residents to come out and vote," Labour Minister Chalerm Yoobamrung told reporters on Wednesday.

"The police will take care of security ... Those who are thinking of going



Riot police officers stand guard inside the compound of the Thai Royal Police club in Bangkok on 29 Jan, 2014. —REUTERS

and shutting polling stations in the morning should think twice because the police will not allow them to."

Protesters prevented early voting at many polling stations in Bangkok last Sunday.

They took to the streets in November in the latest eruption of a political con-

flict that has gripped Thailand for eight years.

Chalerm, who is in charge of a state of emergency imposed last week, told reporters about 10,000 police would be dispatched on Sunday to take care of security at the capital's polling stations.

Reuters

South Korea urges North to hasten reunions but vows to continue drills

SEOUL, 29 Jan — South Korea urged the North on Wednesday to speed efforts for reunions of families separated since the war that divided the neighbours, but vowed to continue joint military drills with the United States, despite protests from Pyongyang.

Uncertainty remained whether the North would keep its pledge to hold the reunions ahead of the start of the drills, but the South said it would not use the

military exercises as a means to secure the family event.

The North proposed the family reunions last week in a move welcomed by both China, its sole major ally, and the United States. If they come about, the reunions would be the first such event in more than three years.

But the North has yet to respond to a call by the South for the event to be held over six days in February and for a meeting to

hammer out location and logistics.

"(We) expressed regret that the North has been showing an uncertain and passive position on the reunions of separated families, despite having accepted the proposal to hold them," a spokeswoman of South Korea's Unification Ministry said.

North Korean media have instead trumpeted the country's longstanding demand for a halt to the military drills, a frequent

sticking point in the rivals' effort to improve ties. The North calls the drills a prelude to war, despite the South's denial and assurance that they are defensive exercises that have been held for decades with no major incident.

Glyn Davies, the US envoy on North Korea policy, met his South Korean counterpart in Seoul on Tuesday. Both rebuffed Pyongyang's call to stop upcoming military drills.

Xinhua

Regional bloc's chief hails CELAC as new "expression" of LatAm integration

HAVANA, 29 Jan — Regional blocs in Latin America have shown a spirit of solidarity and cooperation that represents a "new expression of integration," the head of the Bolivarian Alliance for the Americas (ALBA) said on Tuesday.

The Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), which began a summit here earlier in the day, reinforces and extends ties between ALBA member countries

and other mechanisms for regional cooperation, such as Petrocaribe, said ALBA Secretary-General Bernardo Alvarez. "The founding principle of ALBA, CELAC and Petrocaribe is the new institutional structure, the new expression of integration," he said in an interview with Venezuela-based TV news network Telesur in Havana.

Alvarez, who also heads Petrocaribe, said Cuba and Venezuela were the driving forces behind

the creation of CELAC, a regional bloc of 33 member countries founded in February 2010.

He also underscored the significance of Petrocaribe, a mechanism that supplies Venezuelan oil at preferential prices and on soft credit terms to countries in the region.

Without Petrocaribe, Alvarez said, "regional countries could hardly have overcome the impacts of capitalism's economic crisis."



Cuban President Raul Castro (L) shakes hands with his counterpart of Venezuela Nicolas Maduro, during the opening of the Second Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC, for its initials in Spanish), in the Cuban capital of Havana, on 28 Jan, 2014. The two-day summit will focus on the fight against hunger, poverty and inequality.

XINHUA

CELAC, the result of a decade-long push for deeper integration within the Americas, seeks to deepen political, economic, social and cultural integration in Latin America and the Car-

ibbean, and reduce the influence of the United States in the region.

During the two-day summit, heads of state from CELAC members, including Colombia's Juan

Manuel Santos, Ecuador's Rafael Correa and Mexico's Enrique Pena Nieto, will mainly discuss the fight against hunger, poverty and inequality in the region. —Xinhua



Pedestrians pass by a countdown clock in Sochi, Russia, on 28 Jan, 2014. The clock shows 10 days left until the opening of the Winter Olympics.—KYODO NEWS

Ecuador detains suspects over shooting of Japanese couple

RIO DE JANEIRO, 29 Jan — Ecuadorian prosecutors said on Tuesday they have detained eight more people on suspicion of their involvement in the shooting of a Japanese couple honeymooning in Guayaquil in December that left the man dead and the woman seriously injured.

The prosecutors searched 12 locations in the country's largest metropolis early Tuesday morning in connection with the shooting of Tetsuo Hitomi, 30, and his wife Mariko, 27, and seized vehicles, motorcycles and three guns, they said.

Interior Minister Jose Serrano confirmed a seized gun was identified as the one used in the assault, according to the Japanese Embassy in Quito.

The eight are not linked to the 10 people the authorities captured 15 Jan. The gun seized along with the 10 people's detention did not match the evidence of the weapon used in the case, the authorities said,

adding that they judged the 10 were unlikely to have been involved.

The interior minister said those detained this time are core members of a group who have been engaged in "express kidnapping" of tourists and other people for valuables and money.

The minister said an Ecuadorian official will visit Mariko and other family members of Tetsuo shortly to update them on the ongoing investigations and to offer an apology.

The couple flagged a taxi on a street on the night of 28 December to return to their lodging from a luxury hotel near an airport and was assaulted by a pair of men who got in the car on the way. Tetsuo was shot in the chest and died instantly, while Mariko sustained serious injuries in her abdomen and right leg, police said.

Investigators say that the taxi driver was also a potential suspect in the case.—Kyodo News

UN chief hails new gov't in Central African Republic

UNITED NATIONS, 29 Jan — UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Tuesday welcomed the establishment of a new government in the Central African Republic (CAR), saying this "offers a fresh opportunity to move the political process forward" in the war-torn country.

Ban congratulated interim President Catherine Samba-Panza and Prime Minister Andre Nzapayeke for their efforts to put the transition back on track, said a statement issued by Ban's spokesman.

The CAR installed a caretaker government on Monday in a bid to pull the turmoil-torn country out of crisis and organize general elections by February 2015.

The secretary-general, which is currently in Cuba for a regional summit, reiterated the readiness of the United Nations to support CAR transitional authorities in their efforts to ensure the security and the welfare of the people, the statement said.

Meanwhile, Ban "remains deeply concerned about the ongoing sectarian

violence in the country and the humanitarian crisis that affects more than half of the population."

"He calls for determined national and international efforts to stop the violence and overcome the crisis," added the statement.

"The secretary-general reiterates the importance of ensuring the success of the African-led International Support Mission to the Central African Republic (MISCA), which is playing a critical role in providing security on the ground," the statement said.—Xinhua

Mexico launches anti-kidnapping squad after abductions soar

MEXICO CITY, 29 Jan — Mexico's government on Tuesday created an anti-kidnapping agency after abductions soared 20 percent last year despite President Enrique Pena Nieto's vow to reduce the crime.

The new department will answer to the country's interior ministry, where Pena Nieto has centered his anti-crime programmes after his predecessor relied on police and the military.

Government data

showed that reported kidnapping jumped to 1,695 cases last year compared with 1,407 in 2012 in an embarrassment for Pena Nieto, who said he would shift the government's focus from hunting drug lords to reducing kidnappings and extortion.

Since taking office in December 2012, Pena Nieto has sought to draw public attention to his efforts to reform the economy and away from grisly violence

that has killed more than 80,000 people since his predecessor, Felipe Calderon, launched a military offensive against drug cartels seven years ago.

Former federal prosecutor Renato Sales was named to lead the new force, establish common protocols for investigation, train agents and buy new equipment. Many families that are victims of kidnappers do not report abductions to authorities, and private groups have much higher statistics on the number of kidnappings.

Sales told reporters that the real number of kidnappings could be as much as 10 times what official data shows.

Victims are reluctant to report crimes due to concerns that kidnappers could find out. Active and former police officers are frequently part of kidnapping gangs that have been busted.

Reuters



Interior Minister Miguel Angel Osorio Chong (R) talks with Attorney General Jesus Murillo Karam at the launch of an anti-kidnapping unit in Mexico, at the interior ministry in Mexico City on 28 Jan, 2014.

REUTERS

Work starts on using English terms on Hiroshima street signs

HIROSHIMA, 29 Jan — The infrastructure ministry started work on Wednesday in Hiroshima to replace signs that bear Japanese names for streets in Roman letters with new ones with English equivalents, as part of its efforts to make signs across Japan easier to understand for foreign visitors. A signpost for "Rijo-dori" at the centre of the western Japan city read "Rijo dori Ave." Wednesday morning.

The Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism Ministry is also scheduled to change "Heiwa odori Ave.," a main street in Hiroshima, into "Peace Boulevard." A total of 58 signposts in Hiroshima Prefecture will be replaced by the end of March.

The ministry has been promoting the replacement of signposts throughout the country because Japanese names written in the Roman alphabet are hard for foreign visitors to understand.

In 2012, roughly 360,000 foreigners visited the city of Hiroshima, home of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial, known as the Atomic Bomb Dome, and Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, according to the Hiroshima prefectural government.

They have become symbols of the city, testaments to the suffering caused by the US atomic bombing on 6 Aug, 1945.

Kyodo News

WORLD

Japanese chefs join gourmet festival in Switzerland

ST MORITZ, (Switzerland), 29 Jan — Two chefs from Kyoto on Tuesday became the first Japanese cooks to take part in an annual gourmet festival in the luxury ski resort of St Moritz, Switzerland, serving up traditional Japanese cuisine.

The cooks are Yoshihiro Takahashi, 15th-generation chef at Hyotei, which

has been awarded three Michelin stars, and Takuji Takahashi, master chef at Kinobu.

Their invitation to the St Moritz Gourmet Festival came after “washoku,” Japan’s traditional cuisine, was added to UNESCO’s Intangible Heritage list last year. “I fully realized that washoku has spread throughout the world,” said

Kinobu’s Takuji Takahashi.

Three Japanese sake breweries, meanwhile, served their products at the festival to promote the beverage internationally.

Launched in 1994, the festival will be held through Friday, with renowned chefs from the United States, Germany, France and the Netherlands also taking part.—Kyodo News



Children run past a dragon-shaped lantern displayed on an exposed beach of the Ganjiang River in Nanchang, capital of east China’s Jiangxi Province, on 28 Jan, 2014. Water level of the Ganjiang River was reported 12.28 meters on Tuesday morning, approximately reaching its lowest level 11.82 metres in history which was recorded in 2013.

XINHUA



Chinese State Councilor Yang Jiechi (L) shakes hands with Belgian Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade Didier Reynders during a meeting in Brussels, Belgium, on 27 Jan, 2014.—XINHUA

Gov’t panel recommends relaxing of Worker Dispatching Act

TOKYO, 29 Jan — A government panel on Wednesday compiled a report recommending that regulations on dispatching workers be relaxed to allow employers to offer the same temporary positions for more than three years. A bill based on the recommendation by the Health, Labor and Welfare Ministry panel to revise the Worker Dispatching Act will be submitted to the current session of the Diet for enactment in April 2015.

The current regulation bans employers from keeping a temporary worker in the same position for more than three years so as to prevent replacing of permanent employees with temporary

staff, with exceptions for such occupations as translators and personal secretaries. After hiring temporary workers for three years, employers need to either hire them permanently or eliminate those temporary positions. If passed, the revised law will allow companies to keep offering the same temporary positions indefinitely as long as they are filled by different people every three years.

Under the proposal, employers will be required to consult labor unions before replacing a temporary worker with another for the same position, even though labor unions have no power to reject employers’ decisions.

Kyodo News

Australia’s North Queensland residents warned to prepare for wild weather

BRISBANE, (Australia), 29 Jan — People in Australia’s North Queensland have been warned to prepare themselves for damaging winds of up to 120 km an hour as a tropical low pressure is moving closer to the coast, local media reported on Wednesday.

A cyclone warning remains in place for coastal and island communities from Port Douglas to Mackay. The Australian Bureau of Meteorology

(BOM) warns the system, about 590 km northeast of Townsville, is forecast to form into a cyclone before it makes landfall on Friday morning.

Winds are expected to increase further with damaging wind gusts up to 120 km an hour developing about the coast from Wednesday evening and extending inland during Thursday and Friday, according to the BOM. A king tide of up to 4.12 meters is forecast for Friday morning

as the storm reaches land.

“Coastal residents between Port Douglas and Hamilton Island are specifically warned of the dangerous storm tide as the developing tropical low approaches the coast, particularly on the high tide on Thursday and Friday,” the forecaster said in a statement. “People living in areas likely to be affected by this flooding should take measures to protect their property as much as possible and be prepared to help

their neighbors.” Queensland Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner Lee Johnson urged people living in the zones to prepare their properties and listen to advice from authorities. “Whilst the advice from the bureau this time is that it will be a low category if it does form, we’re still going to get very, very strong winds, certainly flooding rains and on the coast damaging wave action,” he told reporters.—Xinhua

President Xi visits border troops ahead of Lunar New Year

BEIJING, 29 Jan — President Xi Jinping visited soldiers stationed along the Chinese-Mongolian border ahead of the upcoming traditional Chinese New Year.

Xi left Beijing early Sunday morning for the city of Arxan in Inner Mongolia by plane, which is about 1,000 km away from the Chinese capital.

From Arxan, Xi traveled to the Chinese-Mongolian border. His convoy drove through a vast and remote snowfield with outdoor temperatures of about minus 30 degrees Celsius.

On his way to the border, the president exited his

car to chat with a team of soldiers on a patrol mission, expressing his appreciation to them for struggling in the harsh weather to safeguard the country. He then stopped at a hilltop border post and inspected the garrison of a border troop company. At the garrison, he joined officers and soldiers for lunch at their canteen.

“I am very proud of our border troops. With you guarding the country’s border, people feel safe and can concentrate on economic development, reform and opening-up,” Xi said. He stressed the great responsibility on border troops and



Chinese President Xi Jinping shakes hands with a soldier on patrol at the border line in Arxan of north China’s Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, on 26 Jan, 2014. Xi visited soldiers stationed along the Chinese-Mongolian border ahead of the upcoming traditional Chinese New Year.—XINHUA

urged them to exercise their duty through hard training and good operations.

As the border troops are stationed in an area inhabited by ethnic minorities, they should follow the

country’s ethnic policies, promote ethnic harmony and contribute to economic development and social stability of the local community, he said.

Xinhua

7 killed, 14 injured in fire on bus in western India

NEW DELHI, 29 Jan — At least seven people were charred to death and over 14 others injured in a fire which broke out on a luxury bus after it collided with a diesel tanker in the western Indian state of Maharashtra in the early hours of Wednesday, a senior police official said. “The incident happened in

Kude village in the state’s Manor district when the Volvo bus collided with the diesel tanker coming from the opposite direction.

The bus caught fire in the impact of the collision in which seven people were killed on the spot while those injured have been admitted to a local hospital with burn

injuries,” he said on condition of anonymity. The bus was traveling from the city of Pune in Maharashtra to the neighboring state of Gujarat’s Ahmedabad city and the accident halted traffic on state highway, the official said. A probe has been ordered into the incident, he added.—Xinhua

A woman makes preparation for a photo exhibition featuring Somali at the African Union (AU) headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 28 Jan, 2014.

The 22nd Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the AU will open here on Thursday.

XINHUA



BUSINESS & HEALTH

Qualcomm faces prospect of record anti-trust fines in China

BEIJING, 29 Jan — Qualcomm Inc, the world's biggest cellphone chip maker, may be hit with a record fine exceeding \$1 billion in a Chinese anti-trust probe, raising the specter of harsh penalties for foreign firms facing an increasingly aggressive regulator.

China's National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) initiated an investigation into Qualcomm last year and is

currently holding talks with the US company, which this month said it was still in the dark about the basis of the scrutiny. The probe and the potential fine — the amount of which could hinge on negotiations — come as the NDRC zooms in on information technology providers, especially companies that license patent technology for mobile devices and networks.

Industry experts say

the NDRC, the government's main economic planning body, is trying to lower domestic costs as China rolls out its faster 4G mobile networks this year. "It is, in some ways, a game of chicken," said Yee Wah Chin, a New York-based antitrust expert at law firm Ingram, Yuzek, Gainen, Carroll and Bertolotti. "While the (fine) money may be very attractive to the NDRC, they would also be happy if Qualcomm were to make all sorts of commitments regarding its technology and the licensing of the technology," she told *Reuters*.

San Diego-based Qualcomm, which is scheduled to report quarterly results later on Wednesday, is positioned to reap the vast majority of licensing fees for the chip sets used by handsets in China, the world's biggest smartphone market. Chinese telecom firms may

invest as much as 100 billion yuan (\$16.4 billion) in equipment for 4G networks. Under the anti-monopoly law, the NDRC can impose fines of between 1 and 10 percent of a company's revenues for the previous year. Qualcomm earned \$12.3 billion in China for its fiscal year ended on 29 September, or nearly half of its global sales.

Lawyers say the fine is likely to be extremely high if Qualcomm fails to make concessions in its talks with the NDRC. "We intend to continue cooperating fully with the NDRC," Qualcomm spokeswoman Christine Trimble said when asked about the probe. In December, the head of the NDRC's anti-price-fixing bureau told state media there was "substantial evidence" against Qualcomm in the antitrust probe. Details, however, remain sketchy.—*Reuters*



A man walks past a Qualcomm advertising logo at the Mobile World Congress at Barcelona, on 27 Feb, 2013. REUTERS

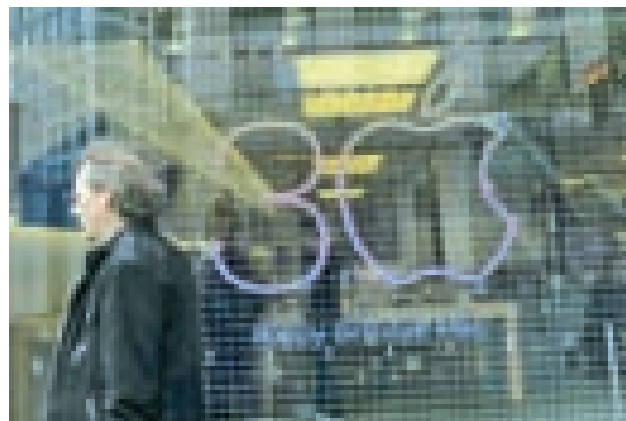
Apple's iPhone sales, revenue forecast fall short; shares slide

SAN FRANCISCO, 29 Jan — Lower-than-expected holiday iPhone sales and a weak revenue forecast by Apple Inc renewed fears about Chinese demand and a tepid global market, wiping 8 percent off company stock. This year was to have been Apple Inc's watershed moment in China, when a long-awaited deal with the nation's largest carrier was to have propelled it back toward the top ranks of its most crucial market, clawing back ground from rival Samsung Electronics.

Instead, the forecast for the March quarter — when Apple is expected to have reaped the fruits of that long-awaited deal — raises questions of whether investors had over-estimated that

arrangement, and broader concerns about flagging demand for smartphones and tablets in general. "There's no doubt that shipments (to China Mobile) are lower than almost anybody expected," said Pacific Crest Securities' Andy Hargreaves. Globally, "the high-end smartphone and tablet markets are saturated, and that's not going to grow." The world's most valuable technology company sold a record 51 million iPhones in the quarter, but that was still shy of the 55 million or so that analysts had expected.

The company forecast sales of \$42 billion to \$44 billion this quarter, brisker than usual because of Apple's new deal to sell iP-



A sign advertising the 30th anniversary of the Macintosh computer is shown at the Apple flagship retail store in San Francisco, California on 27 Jan, 2014. REUTERS

hones through China Mobile Ltd, the country's No 1 carrier. But Wall Street had expected even more — \$46 billion, on average. The company on Monday recorded sales of \$57.6 billion in its December or fiscal first quarter, versus expectations for about \$57.5 billion. Net profit was flat

from a year earlier at \$13.1 billion, or \$14.50 a share, compared to Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S estimate of \$14.07.

"After showing modest signs of improvement, we're back to a no-growth outlook," said JMP Securities' Alex Gauna.

Reuters



A customer tests an iPhone 5C at an Apple store in Beijing on 17 Jan, 2014.—REUTERS

Global smartphone shipments top one billion for first time in 2013

BEIJING, 29 Jan — Global smartphone shipments topped 1 billion units for first time in 2013, climbing 38.4 percent from the previous year to 1.004 billion units, research firm IDC said.

Smartphones made up 55.1 percent of all mobile phone shipments last year from just over two-fifths in 2012, IDC said.

Samsung Electronics Co's market share edged up

one percentage point year-on-year to 31.3 percent to keep its place as the world's biggest smartphone vendor, while second-place Apple Inc's fell from 18.7 percent to 15.3 percent, according to IDC.

Huawei Technologies Co, LG Electronics and Lenovo Group were third, fourth and fifth largest respectively, each with a market share of just under five percent in 2013.—*Reuters*

Breath test may help identify early lung cancer

WASHINGTON, 29 Jan — Specific compounds found in exhaled breath may help diagnose lung cancer in its early stages, US researchers said on Tuesday. Researchers from the University of Louisville used a silicone microprocessor and a mass spectrometer to test exhaled breath for specific volatile organic compounds (VOCs) known as carbonyls from patients with suspected lung cancer.

The carbonyl compounds included aldehydes and ketones, which are organic compounds with a carbon double-bonded to oxygen.

These compounds are at very low concentrations and produced by the human body. After matching their findings with pathologic and clinical results, the researchers found that having elevated levels of three of the four carbonyls was predictive of lung cancer in 95 percent of patients and that the absence of elevated VOC levels "was predictive of a benign mass in

80 percent of patients."

Lead author Michael Bousamra, associate professor of the university, said that the data are preliminary.

Elevated carbonyl concentrations returned to normal after patients had surgery to remove their malignant nodules, according to the study, which was presented at the 50th Annual Meeting of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons in Orlando.

"Instead of sending patients for invasive biopsy procedures when a suspicious lung mass is identified, our study suggests that exhaled breath could identify which patients may be directed for an immediate intraoperative biopsy and resection," Bousamra said in a statement. "The novelty of this approach includes the simplicity of sample collection and ease for the patient," Bousamra added.—*Xinhua*



125 carat diamond exported from Sierra Leone

FREETOWN, 29 Jan — A high-quality 125 carat diamond was discovered in the mining district of Kono in eastern Sierra Leone and exported, according to a Press release from the West African country's minerals regulating agency, the National Minerals Agency (NMA).

The diamond was found by a miner in Masabendu village in Nimiyama Chiefdom in the Kono District in November 2013 and was sold at 818,000 US dollars, the agency reported at

the weekend. The diamond has now been exported after a royalty of 122,713 dollars paid to the government. Since an export tariff of 15 percent was imposed on special stones (diamonds with a value of 500,000 dollars or above) in 2009, the gem was the largest diamond to be exported through official channels.



The gem is "the largest single diamond found in Sierra Leone in 2013" and "one of the finest and most valuable reported in the country in recent times," a statement by the NMA. "What makes the diamond exceptional is the fact that it is very rare for a diamond above 100 carats to maintain its original shape and to be without any crack

or inclusions or impurities as was the case of this rare gem," said in statement.

The owner whose name was not disclosed received a "fair (but undisclosed) price for his find," it added. The statement also disclosed that a 23.56 carat diamond was discovered in Gbense Chiefdom in the Kono District and a 13 carat diamond was found in Konta village in the Tonkolili District in December 2013. Both "are in safe custody awaiting valuation and export."—*Xinhua*

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



A man walks out of Samsung Electronics' headquarters in Seoul on 6 Jan, 2014. — REUTERS

Samsung sets new smartphone sales record in fourth quarter, widens lead over Apple

SEOUL, 29 Jan — Inc even after the US firm reached a new iPhone sales high, data from research firm Strategy Analytics showed. Samsung took 29.6 percent of the global smartphone market in the fourth quarter, ahead of Apple's 17.6 percent, as strong low-end market growth led by Chinese vendors continued to shake up the smartphone

industry, the data showed.

Apple sold a record 51 million iPhones in the year-end quarter although its market share slipped from the previous year's 22 percent, as Huawei Technologies Co Ltd and Lenovo Group Ltd rose to become the world's No 3 and No 4 respectively. Huawei sold 16.6 million smartphones and Lenovo sold 13.6 million, each taking

5.7 percent and 4.7 percent of the market. "There is clearly now more competition coming from the second-tier smartphone brands. Huawei, LG Electronics and Lenovo each grew their smartphone shipments around two times faster than the global industry average," Strategy Analytics analyst Linda Sui said. "Samsung and Apple will need to fight hard

to hold off these and other hungry challengers during 2014." For the entire 2013, global smartphone shipments grew 41 percent to reach a record 990 million. Samsung sold 319.8 million units to take 32.2 percent, up from 30.4 percent in 2012. Apple sold 153.5 million iPhones with a 15.5 percent market share.

Reuters

New Zealand, US scientists to study fishing impact in South Pacific

WELLINGTON, 29 Jan — New Zealand and US scientists are set to survey one of the world's longest underwater mountain ranges next month to determine whether the unique ecosystem has been damaged by commercial fishing. The five-week study of the Louisville Seamount Chain, which extends 4,300 km through the South Pacific, would help to understand how to preserve vulnerable ecosystems and improve fisheries management, according to the New Zealand government's National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA).

NIWA marine ecologist Ashley Rowden said there was concern that fragile ecosystems, which could exist on the Louisville Seamount Chain, were being adversely affected by commercial fishing as the area supports extensive trawl fisheries. With limited information about the distribution and characteristics of the vulnerable marine ecosystems of the seamount chain, scientists at NIWA and the US Marine Conservation Institute had developed "habitat suitability models" to predict the whereabouts of various sea animals that indicate the presence of a vulnerable marine ecosystem.

"The fishing industry needs to know these models are accurate and this survey represents one of the first examples of validating habitat suitability models that are to be used for fisheries management," Rowden said in a statement on Wednesday. — Xinhua

Apple's China moment still frustratingly out of reach

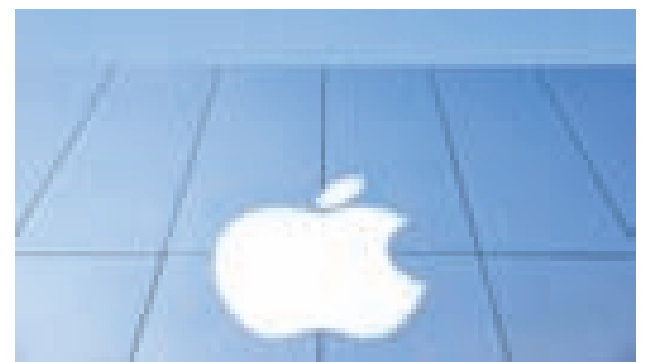
BEIJING / SAN FRANCISCO, 29 Jan — Apple Inc may have to wait a little longer for its watershed moment in China. A disappointing March-quarter revenue forecast, coupled with surprisingly weak holiday iPhone sales, suggest pundits may have overestimated initial demand from China Mobile's 700 million-plus subscribers, a key factor that has pushed its shares 18 percent higher in the fourth quarter.

It raises doubt about the country's appetite for

its devices as well as broader concerns about flagging global demand for smartphones and tablets. Apple and China Mobile struck their deal in December, and iPhones went on sale in January. The China Mobile deal, which some analysts expected could boost iPhone sales by as much as 30 million units a year, won't be the knight in shining armor that Apple needs to maintain high growth rates, if its own forecasts are anything to go by.

Despite both compa-

nies trumping up the deal as a milestone, the iPhone's lofty price tag — starting at about \$740, about a tenth of the average urban income of \$7,600 — insufficient high-speed 4G wireless coverage, and persistently stiff competition from local players such as Huawei and Xiaomi may keep a lid on iPhone sales growth for now. Would-be iPhone buyers may also be waiting for the next iteration, which is widely rumored to adopt the larger screens that Samsung Electronics and other



An Apple logo is seen during Black Friday in San Francisco, California in this file photo from 29 Nov, 2013. — REUTERS

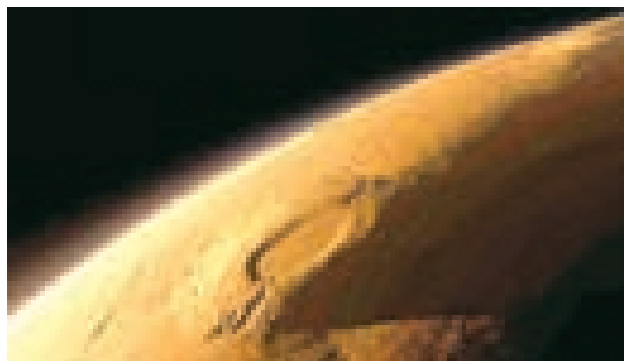
rivals have proved can be more popular with Asian buyers.

"I don't really expect China Mobile is going to sell a lot of iPhones this

generation. The other carriers have been selling the device for three months," said CK Lu, a Taipei-based analyst with Gartner.

Reuters

Russia plans several Moon, Mars missions in near future



Moscow, 29 Jan — Russia plans to launch several Moon and Mars missions in the next few years, Victor Khartov, head of the Lavochkin aerospace company, said on Tuesday. "In 2015, we plan the Luna-Glob mission," Khartov told a scientific gathering here, adding that new engineering solutions will be sought for future lunar missions.

According to Khartov, in 2016 Russia will launch the Luna-Resurs-1 Moon orbiter, which will be followed by Luna-Resurs-2 vehicle. The latter will land near the Moon's South Pole to drill the soil and bring it back to Earth. In 2018, Russia intends to launch a 2-ton probe carrying a 300-kg

Martian rover built by the European Space Agency. Khartov also revealed Russia plans its own Boomerang mission to the Martian satellite Phobos by 2020.

After 2020, the Lavochkin company envisages construction of a Venera-D probe for explorations of Venus. The probe should survive on the extremely hot planet's surface for about 24 hours, Khartov said. Last December, Lev Zelyony, director of the Russian Academy of Science's Space Research Institute, said Russia has set ambitious goals to regaining the title of leading space power by 2023. In 2013, Russia conducted 32 space launches — 31 of them successful. — Xinhua

US wireless group proposes TV channel-sharing pilot

WASHINGTON, 29 Jan — The US wireless industry lobby is proposing a pilot project to test how two television stations could share radio frequencies, hoping the practice catches on and broadcasters free up more of the valuable airwaves to be sold in an upcoming spectrum auction. The wireless association, CTIA, said on Tuesday it has found two stations in Los Angeles — KJLA and KLCS — interested in testing how they could send their video through the same radio frequency channel.

Known as channel sharing, the practice has been supported by the

Federal Communications Commission as a way to clear up more airwaves, or spectrum, for the so-called incentive auction currently scheduled for 2015.

In the auction, TV stations would voluntarily give up control of low-frequency airwaves so that they can be sold to wireless providers such as AT&T Inc or T-Mobile US. The wireless companies are keen to boost the strength and reach of their networks as consumers increasingly rely on wireless phones for data-heavy uses like streaming video.

The auction proceeds would reimburse the broadcasters and also help fund

a new US public safety network. The auction is widely regarded as the most complex undertaking by the FCC to date, balancing numerous economic, engineering and political considerations, including a vocal push from smaller carriers for limits to how much spectrum their larger competitors will be allowed to acquire.

The National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) has worried about numerous implications of the auction for the industry, including the push for participation and the ultimate rearrangement of how frequencies are used after changing hands.

The FCC has promoted channel sharing as a way for TV stations to clear up spectrum and sell their airwaves in the auction without leaving the broadcasting business. Channel sharing would not affect the availability of familiar TV content to consumers, experts say. With digital television, the virtual channel numbers that viewers see displayed on TV are unrelated to radio frequency channels.

Reuters



US President Barack Obama is seen on a network video distribution console while he talks about the economy in the White House Press Briefing Room in Washington, on 8 June, 2012. — REUTERS

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 30 January, 2014

When facts come along with fiction

In this age of advanced technology, information reaches almost every nook and cranny on this planet. We can extend the reach of information within a short time frame. But we could not broaden the horizons of the people living in even the very urbanized part of the world that easily.

We have ready-made information in our hands. This information includes not only facts but fictions. There are side effects of the manipulated information. Rumours can spread easily on social networking at a speed that no other modes of communication can equal. Fiction-flavoured information can destroy economies, can kill the people, and can do anything within a very blink.

Technology narrows spaces, widens coverage, and, most importantly, shortens the timeframe required for any activities. The greatest challenge of our time is defining what is fiction and what is fact out of information we are supplied. A photo or footage of a fire outbreak could become an arson attack. And a natural disaster victim could be labelled a person killed in attacks.

As proposed by many, regulating or blaming the sources of reports, especially the media, is not the answer. It will otherwise breach the freedom of information. All we need to do is to promote critical thinking among the people. It is not easy and will surely take time. But it is not only remedy, it rather will be the panacea for the woes of rumours.

Budget Department, ADB sign Loan Agreement

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan—The Budget Department under the Ministry of Finance and Asian Development Bank signed a Loan Agreement at the Ministry of Electric Power today.

In his speech, Union Minister for Electric Power U Khin Maung Soe said that US\$ 60 million from the loan agreement will be spent on installation of new transformer at sub-power stations in power supply system of Yangon, Man-

delay, Magway and Sagaing regions, substitution of old power cables with new ones, installation of aerial bundled conductor (ABC) at 400 volt line, reducing of 4 per cent of technical and non technical loss and installation of digital metres.

Director-General U Maung Maung Win of Budget Department and ADB Resident Representative Mr Putu Kamayama signed the loan agreement.—MNA

Construction works of Myanmar-Laos Friendship Bridge discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan—Deputy Construction Minister Dr Win Myint met with Laotian Deputy Minister of Public Works and Transport Dr Bounchan SINTHAVONG at Aureum Palace Hotel in Bagan yesterday for the second time.

They discussed ongoing tasks for Myanmar-Laos friendship bridge project, situated in Kenglek sub-township of Tachilek,

Shan State (East).

As well, they focused on construction of border control facilities and related matters.

They then confirmed the design of logo for the project.

So far, Bridge Construction Special Group-9 of Public Works under the Ministry of Construction has completed 53.8 % of the project.—MNA

The Latest Colossal Sagyin marble Buddha Image

(Continued from 27.1.2014)

Master sculptor and donor U Taw Taw, his sons, apprentices, employees and others were hard of work day and night, work teams taking their duty by shifts. After the outline shape was fashioned up to 60 per cent, the colossus measured 37 feet high and 24 feet wide and 20 feet thick, and still weighing over 500 tons, the largest of its kind not only in Myanmar but also in the world.

Auvadacariya monk Sayadaws, astrologers and historians sat meetings to choose appropriate name for the Image. After many discussions, they gave its name "Loka Chan Thar Abaya Labha Muni". Loka Chan Thar means Peace for all three works—Deva world, Brahma world and Human world. Abaya means no danger, no worry Labha means all progress and prosperity, Muni means most exalted Sage-Buddha.

Next stage was the conveyance of that heavy load down to Yangon—a very long and not so easy distance of over some 400 miles by land and by water. Then when it reached Insein, the nearby town, the most difficult task of carrying the Image from the riverside to the foot of an inland hillock "Min Dhammakone" and lifting up the load safely up on the hill top where already constructed grand temple with a magnificent throne was awaiting to house the image, tested and taxed the zeal, brain and brawn of entire Myanmar people.

A special rail lines were laid from the hill foot-side workshop to the lake side where a special jetty was made. On that special rail line, a big wagon with the load was pulled by a Buddha Image high power locomotive. It took few days to reach the jelly. Then the wagons with the load were transferred to a specially built water craft, strong enough to bear and convey over 500 tons Image plus special wagon nesting on the rail lines. Such was the religious fervor of Myanmar people that they wanted to hold ceremony of homage to the Image.

Maha Saddhamma Jotika dhaja Sithu Dr.Khin Maung Nyunt

Therefore the Government arranged over night stop stations at river side towns on the Ayeyawaddy River.

Special water craft fashioned into Myanmar traditional royal barge "Thonelu Tauk Pa" with pomp and ceremonies of royal regatta began its journey from its jetty in Nga Bye Ma lake to the River on 24 July 2000. July is the monsoon peak and all aquatic bodies in Myanmar are brimful with rain water. The following is the list of its over night stops for puja celebrations.

- (1) Mandalay Gawain Jetty 52-7-2000
- (2) Myin Mu river side town 26-7-2000
- (3) Pakokku river side town 27-7-2000
- (4) Bagan NyaungU river side town 28-7-2000
- (5) Magway, river side town 29-7-2000
- (6) Aunglan, river side

- town 30-7-2000
- (7) Pyay, river side town 31-7-2000
- (8) Myan Aung, river side town 1-8-2000
- (9) Henzada, river side town 2-8-2000
- (10) Danubyu, river side town 3-8-2000
- (11) Maubin, river side town 4-8-2000
- (12) Twantay, river side town 4-8-2000
- (13) Insein, Kyo Kone jethy 5-8-2000

Along this Riverine journey and over night stop stations, religious rites were duely permonmed and propitiations to local nat-spirits were made, while Buddha

cash and kind, monks and nuns giving then religious services, visitors, tourists and diplomats coming to admire and marvel at the superlative marble monolith being fashioned into a colossal Buddha Image.

Today Loka Chan Thar Abhaya Labha Muri marble Image is a must for all visitors to Yangon. You not only marvel at the marble Buddha Image of Super size but also see other religious objects sculpted out of monolith Sagyin marble stones in the precincts such as (1) Sagyin marble alms bowl measuring 9 feet 10 inches high, 10 feet in diameter and 5 feet 8 inches in circumference, weigh in) over 30 tons. It is named Maha Atula Patta Nilar meaning the Great Incomparable marble Alms Bowl of sapphire colour. The colour and texture of this marble alms bowl are excellent and flawless and perfectly matching the qualities of the Image. This monolith was also quarried in the mines of U Taw Taw (2) Two attendant Arahat attendants on either side of the Image, sculpted out of two monolith marble of extra fine quality (3) Two Buddha Foot Prints carved out of Sagyin marble monolithic housed just behind the Temple. They are also U Taw Taw's donations. U Taw Taw and many of those who participated in the tasks described above had passed away, but their religious deeds shall remain as long as the great Image Lasts.

(Concluded)

President of MWAFF welcomes Bangladeshi guests

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan—President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Daw Mya Mya received a delegation led by wife of the Chief of Air Staff Air Marshal Muhammad Emamual Basic Ndu Psc of Bangladesh Air Force at her office this afternoon.

At the call, the President of MWAFF made clarification on the foundation and purpose of the federation, duties and functions, work progresses and future plans of the MWAFF.

MWAFF President Daw Mya Mya explains facts about MWAFF to wife of the Chief of Air Staff of Bangladesh.

MNA



The delegation looked round the Myanmar tra-

ditional costumes, handicrafts and documentary

photos of the federation.

MNA

NATIONAL

Diplomats, Rakhine State Government ...

(from page 16)

He also stressed the importance of the rule of law and trust between the two communities to achieve success in rehabilitation and peaceful coexistence of the two communities.

EU Ambassador Mr Roland Kobia said they would provide assistance to both communities without bias. He also reaffirmed that they accepted the conflicts in Rakhine State as a matter of internal affairs of

a country.

He also suggested the Rakhine State Government to carry out the tasks for the stability and development with transparency.—MNA

Union Minister Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win meets diplomats at Rakhine State Government Office.—MNA



Union FM receives Austrian, Finnish, and Portuguese Ambassadors

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan—Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wun-na Maung Lwin received Austrian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Enno

Drofenik at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at 2 pm today.

The Union Minister also met Finnish Ambassador to Myanmar Ms.

Kirsti Westphalen at 3 pm and Portuguese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Louis Manuel Barreira de Sousa at 4 pm at the same venue.—MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee reviews Printing and Publishing Bill

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan—Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee reviewed 17 amendment points of Printing and Publishing Bill which is making differences between the two Hluttaw at the hall of the committee, here, this noon.

During the meeting, the Secretary of the Joint Bill Committee explained the purpose of the meeting

and legislative activities.

Afterwards, secretaries and members of Joint Bill Committee, Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee and Pyithu Hluttaw Sports, Culture and Public Relations Committee, Deputy Information Minister U Pike Htway, Director-General U Ye Tint of Information and Public Relations Department,

member of Work Committee for Legislative Cooperation, members of Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission, MPs, a member of Myanmar Press Council (Interim) and officials participated in the discussions.

MNA

Maungdaw Police Station investigates arson attacks

SITTWAY, 29 Jan —An arson investigation was opened after house fire broke out at Ducheertan (west) Village, Maungdaw Township, around 8.45 pm yesterday, according to local authorities.

While fire fighters and local authorities were fighting with the flames gutted the house of Abu Bweyar, 50, at the village, another fire broke out at house of Annawah Salam, 50, about 150 yards south of the first fire scene,

Firefighters and local

authorities found about five Bangalis ran away from the house of second fire when they went there to put out the fire.

The two arson fires destroyed four houses and 12 small houses and there were no injuries nor death happened during the fires.

There is no village of Rakhine near the village where two fires out broke and local Bangalis set their houses on fire by themselves, local authorities said.

Rakhine State govern-

ment has asked media personnel to contact the local authorities to get information related to the fires in attempts to prevent the exaggeration of the crime.

Rakhine State IPRD

Photo shows outbreak of arson fire in Ducheertan (west) Village, Maungdaw Township on 28 January.

IPRD

Fourth Myanmar-Laos ministerial meeting held in Yangon



Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko shakes hands with Dr. Thongbanh Seng A Phone, Laos Minister of Public Security.—MNA

YANGON, 29 Jan—The fourth Myanmar-Laos ministerial meeting on implementation of signing an MoU on cooperation in rule of law between the two countries was held at Sedona Hotel, here, yesterday.

Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko and party and Dr. Thongbanh Seng A Phone, Laos Minister of Public Security and party discussed bilateral coop-

eration in security, peace and stability of the two countries, rule of law and safety of the two peoples, immigration, anti-drugs and anti-human trafficking operations, technical exchanges and control and management on overseas employees between Myanmar and Laos.

On 27 January, Police Brig-Gen Soe Myaing, Head of the Transnational Crime Department

of Myanmar Police Force held talks with Director-General of the Ministry of Public Security Permanent Secretary Police Brig-Gen Phoumy Vandixay at the same venue.

They also discussed cooperation in security, stability and rule of law in Myanmar and Laos and preparations for holding the fourth Myanmar-Laos ministerial meeting.

MNA

SWRR Ministry signs MoUs with INGOs

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan—The Department of Social Welfare under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement signed MoUs with five INGOs at the ministry here yesterday.

SWRR Deputy Minister U Phone Swe gave an opening speech on the occasion.

The ministry signed an MoU with the Association

for Aid and Relief (Japan) on implementing of vocational schools for people with disabilities and carrying out community-based rehabilitation tasks.

MoU on providing assistance to needy persons in Kayah State was signed with the Mercy Corps (MC), Myanmar.

Another three MoUs were signed with the Lu-

theran World Federation, OXFAM and Welthungerhilfe, to share knowledge on natural disasters and impact of climate change, child development and education and health care services, to assist in agriculture and breeding and carry out rehabilitation tasks and long-term projects for rural development.

MNA



Inter-ward road placed with gravel in Meiktila

MEIKTILA, 29 Jan—Thukhita Road linking Yadana Manaung Ward and East Market Ward is being placed with gravels in Meiktila.

The Township Development Affairs Committee (Civil) is building not only inter-village roads

but also inter-ward roads so as to make the town developed.

The road construction started on 23 January, accounting for 60 per cent.

The road is 1900 feet long and 12 feet wide. Upon completion, the people from the wards will have

the opportunity to pass the market, said an official.

Thukhita Road divides Aungzeya Ward on the east, railroad and Thiri Mingala Ward on the north, Yadana Manaung Ward on the south and East Market Ward on the west.—MMAL-Chan Thar (Meiktila)



Using quality strain of rubber talked

LAUNGLON, 29 Jan—A talk on use of quality rubber strain was held at the rubber farm of U Pa Su in Pyinhthein Village of Launglon Township in Taninthayi Region on 26 January.

The talk was managed by Industrial Crops Development Department

under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.

Staff Officer of Dawei District Industrial Crops Development Department Daw San San Tint explained cultivation of the farmers in line with the three duties of the ministry, distribution of quality rubber strain for systematic choosing quality

strains and 17 points for high yield production of rubber strains.

Head of Township Department U Toe Lwin explained the applying good agriculture method for classifying the quality rubber strains boosting production of rubber.

Officials demonstrated grafting and cultivation of grafting and replied to queries raised by local farmers.

The talks was attended by 50 farmers.

MMAL-Launglon IPRD

Officials and farmers observe thriving rubber plantation in Launglon Township.



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

Health Care Services

Treated mosquito nets distributed

MAHLAING, 29 Jan—The health knowledge talks was held in conjunction with the ceremony to provide treated mosquito nets in Yagyigon Village of Mahlaing Township on 25 January.

Township Medical Officer Dr Myat Mo Hsan and party and the head of Township Traditional Medicine Department gave talks on hygienic lifestyle, diabetes, breast cancer, TB and traditional medicines.

Mandalay Region government shared 100 treated mosquito nets to needy persons from 14

villages from five village-tracts including Yagyigon, Lebyar and Hseto village-tracts through an officials of Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association.

The mosquito nets were donated by China-Myanmar Friendship Association of the People's Republic of China.

The region government shared the mosquito nets to the villages where the local people suffer from malaria disease on the most amount and those from needy families.—MMAL-Aung Htay (Mahlaing)

Clerical Course concludes at Rakhine State High Court

SITTWAY, 29 Jan—On behalf of the Chief Justice of Rakhine State High Court, Justice of the High Court U Thein Aung delivered a speech at the concluding of Clerical Course No 1/2014 at Rakhine State High Court in Sittway on 27 January afternoon.

It was attended by Justices of the Rakhine State High Court, the State Judicial Officer, law officers, justices of Sittway District and Township and trainees. Officials presented



prizes to the trainees.

A total of 32 trainees

attended the course from 10 to 28 January.—La/003

Health care services provided to patients with traditional medicines

MAHLAING, 29 Jan—In commemoration of the 81st birthday of Sasana Weponla Laymyethna Sayadaw of Mahlaing, Chairman of Myanmar Traditional Medicines Association U Myo Myint and Head of Mandalay Region Traditional Medicine Department U Ohn Myint Swe led 40 traditional

medicine practitioners to make field trips to grassroots level of Mahlaing Township.

They will give health care services to patients from Mahlaing Township with traditional medicines for various diseases on 2 and 3 February at Laymyethna Monastery from 8 am to 4 pm.

The treatment will be

free of charge.

Those wishing to receive medical treatment may enlist at Laymyathna Sayadaw, Laymyathna Sayadaw, U Maung Maung Tin, U Than Tun Aung, Monbinlay, Dr Htay Maw (No 6) and U Muang Maung of Thiri Zeya Press.

MMAL-Aung Htay (Mahlaing)

REGIONAL



Yukiei Matsumoto (R), mayor of the town of Naraha, Fukushima Prefecture, hands a letter of requests to Fukushima Gov Yuhei Sato at the prefectural government hall in the city of Fukushima, northeastern Japan, on 27 Jan, 2014. The mayor told the governor that the town would not accept waste with high radiation levels in the interim storage facilities planned to be built in the town.—KYODO NEWS

Major paper firm committed to sustainable management of Indonesia's forest

JAKARTA, 29 Jan — A major pulp and paper firm operating in Indonesia's Riau Province, Asia Pacific Resources International Limited (APRIL) made on Tuesday its commitment to upgrading its forest management, aiming to assure its woods raw material can be used on sustainable basis.

To fulfill its aim, APRIL set up a committee to monitor implementation of its efforts to address its commitment.

The committee consisted of independent parties and stakeholders around its mills in Indonesia. Among the committee members was international conservancy organization World Wild Fund (WWF).

The committee would

be allowed to appoint an independent auditor agency tasked to verify and make reports on the developments of efforts carried out by APRIL regarding its commitment.

"This policy was beyond commitments that we already made before. The advisory committee joined by independent parties would ensure that the policies to be conducted properly and transparently," APRIL President Praveen Singhavi told a press conference attended by Indonesian Forestry Minister Zulkifli Hasan and representatives of nature conservancy organizations.

In its latest commitment, APRIL pledged to undertake moratorium in developing plantations lo-

cated in forests identified as High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF).

The firm also assured that development of its new plantation areas would finish on Dec. this year, saying that as of 2019 its wood raw material would be coming from its sustainable process.

Besides that, APRIL also promises to increase its forest restoration program twice wider to 40,000 hectares and was looking forward to expanding conservation area as wide as its plantation areas. Forestry Minister Zulkifli Hasan welcomed APRIL's latest commitment, encouraging it to improve its partnership with related institutions and green community.

Xinhua

Malaysia's Anwar to contest state seat in by-election

KUALA LUMPUR, 29 Jan — Malaysian opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim will contest a state assembly seat in Selangor in an upcoming by-election triggered by the resignation of an assemblyman from his party, Malaysia's state news agency Bernama said on Tuesday.

The move has fueled speculation that that it could pave the way for

Anwar to become the chief minister of the crucially important industrial state of Selangor, while patching up a rift within his party in that state.

Anwar, leader of the People's Justice Party, will contest the yet-to-be-announced by-election for the state seat, which was left vacant following the resignation of assemblyman Lee Chin Cheh on Monday.

Anwar's move is also aimed apparently at resolving a feud between party officials in Selangor and the current Selangor chief minister, Abdul Khalid Ibrahim, on how he runs the state.

Anwar has fended off speculation that his candidacy is an attempt by his party to replace Abdul Khalid as the chief minister.—Kyodo News

China to conduct survey of geographical names

BEIJING, 29 Jan — China will conduct its second survey of geographical names from July of this year to June 2018, said a circular published on the official website of the central government.

The circular said the geographical names survey is conducive to maintaining state sovereignty and territorial integrity, as well as national defense. It will also help the government improve its governance capabilities.

The survey will check geographical names and related information, give names to geographical entities without names, set up signs with standard geographical names, and establish a national database and archive.

The survey will start on 1 July of this year and end on June 30, 2018, with three phases. 31 Dec, 2014 will be the standard point for the survey.

A dedicated leading group for the survey will be established under the State Council, China's cabinet, the circular added. China conducted its first geographical names survey in 1983 and 1984.—Xinhua

38 killed in clashes between separatists and army in S Philippines

MANILA, 29 Jan — Ongoing clashes between government soldiers and Muslim separatist rebels have killed at least 38 people since breaking out Sunday in the southern Philippines, a spokesman for the Philippine military said on Wednesday. According to Army Col. Dickson Hermoso, one soldier was among those killed in Maguindanao Province, with the remaining 37 belonging to the Bangsamoro

Islamic Freedom Fighters, a breakaway group that refuses to hold peace talks with the government.

He said at least seven soldiers have been injured since Sunday. Fighting erupted one day after the government and the country's largest Muslim rebel group — the Moro Islamic Liberation Front from which the BIFF broke away — agreed on several points of a peace deal in a bid to end the

Muslim insurgency that has been plaguing the southern Philippines since the 1970s.

In October 2012, the government and the MILF reached a framework agreement, outlining a roadmap to end the fighting. Both sides hope to sign a final peace agreement "not later than March" this year, according to a recent statement made by Philippines government chief negotiator Miriam Coronel-Ferrer.—Kyodo News

Over one million Chinese unable to access electricity

BEIJING, 29 Jan — Though China's efforts to widen electricity coverage helped 1.5 million people access the national grid last year, another 1.23 million still lack access to the network, said the National Energy Administration (NEA) on Wednesday.

The lack of access is most concentrated in the least developed regions in

Xinjiang, Sichuan, Qinghai, Gansu, Inner Mongolia and Tibet, where inhospitable terrain and remote distances have hindered coverage.

According to an NEA plan, China aims to achieve full electricity coverage by 2015. Despite China's stellar economic performance in recent years, a considerable number of people still live in harsh conditions.

Official data showed the number of poor people in rural areas stood at 98.99 million at the end of 2012, down 23.39 million from 2011. Rural people with an annual net income per capita of 2,300 yuan (337.05 US dollars) or less are classified as poor under the poverty standard adopted in 2011, up from the 1,274-yuan standard used previously.—Xinhua



Women of Yao ethnic group make "ciba", a special glutinous rice cake, in Luoshan Village, Lianshan Township, Fuchuan Yao Autonomous County, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on 29 Jan, 2014. Yao people in Fuchuan have the tradition of making ciba for the Spring Festival and harvest celebration.—XINHUA

Nuclear reactor in S Korea halts operation

SEOUL, 29 Jan — One nuclear reactor in South Korea halted operation Wednesday morning due to estimated slight glitches.

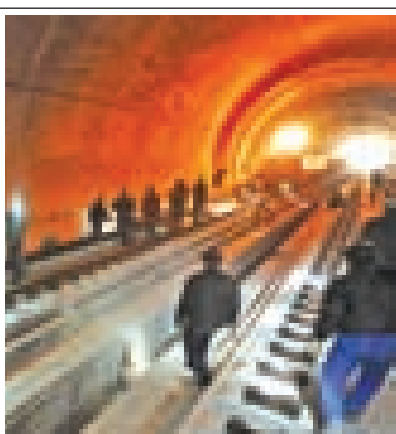
"The Reactor Unit 5 at the Hanul nuclear power plant stopped operation at around 4:17 am as the automatic stop signal came on, " an official at the Korea Hydro & Nuclear Power Co said over phone on Wednesday.

The reactor, located some 330 km southeast of Seoul in Uljin, stopped operation in July last year for the first time due to the slight technical glitches.

The official said that last year's halt came from slight glitches, noting that the reactor's air cooler, which serves to cool down steam from its turbine, failed to stay in a vacuum.

Xinhua

Workers lay tracks at a construction site of the Hangzhou-Changsha high-speed railway in Jiaxing City, east China's Zhejiang Province, on 27 Jan, 2014. The 933-kilometer high-speed railway linking Hangzhou City and Changsha City, respectively capitals of Zhejiang Province and capital of Hunan Province, is designed at a top speed of 350km/h. The 295.5-kilometer rail-laying work in the Zhejiang section was completed on Wednesday after three months' hard work. Travel time will be reduced from more than six hours to four hours when the railway is put into operation, which is expected at the end of 2014.—XINHUA



ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

**THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(2/2014)**

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

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Qty	Remark
(1)	IFB-176(2013-2014)	Geological Servery Field Equipment	(2) Items	US\$
(2)	IFB-177(2013-2014)	50 KW Generating Set (Driven By Natural Gas Engine)	(1) Set	US\$
(3)	IFB-178(2013-2014)	Electrical Parts for HDD Rig	(23) Items	US\$
(4)	IFB-179(2013-2014)	Wash Pipe and Packing for N-69 and N-815 Swivel	(2) Items	US\$
(5)	IFB-180(2013-2014)	1/2"x1 1/4"x5 7/8" Tong Dies	(2000) Nos	US\$
(6)	DMP/L-053(2013-2014)	4" x 4" Twin Reciprocating Air Compressor and Water Transfer Pump	(2) Items	Ks
(7)	DMP/L-054(2013-2014)	Allison Transmission Assy for Well Servicing Truck	(3) Nos	Ks
(8)	DMP/L-055(2013-2014)	Electrical Spares for HDD Rig	(1) Lot	Ks
(9)	DMP/L-056(2013-2014)	H-Beams and U-Beam for EMSCO Mud Tank	(3) Items	Ks
(10)	DMP/L-057(2013-2014)	Centrifugal Pump with Motor Driven and Portable Water Transfer Pump	(2) Items	Ks

- Tender Closing Date & Time - 26-2-2014,16:30 Hr

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 29th January, 2014 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No(44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV PANJA BHUM VOY NO (006)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PANJA BHUM VOY NO (006) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30.1.2014 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 WAN HAI LINES PTE LTD**
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV MCP LARNACA VOY NO (023)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MCP LARNACA VOY NO (023) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30.1.2014 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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MALTE RAMBOW VOY NO (1404)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MALTE RAMBOW VOY NO (1404) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.1.2014 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 MCC - TRANSPORT S'PORE
PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV VEGA LUNA VOY NO (001)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV VEGA LUNA VOY NO (001) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30.1.2014 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV AZIZI VOY NO (002)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV AZIZI VOY NO (002) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30.1.2014 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 CHUN AN SHIPPING
PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

Israeli settlers archaeology tourism plans seen deepening roots



A boy rides his bicycle near an archaeological site in the Jewish settler neighbourhood of Tel Rumeida in the divided city of Hebron in the occupied West Bank on 19 Jan, 2014.—REUTERS

HEBRON, 29 Jan— On an ancient hill dotted with 1,000-year-old olive trees, Israelis are busy excavating in search of the first palace of King David in the heart of the West Bank.

The Jewish settlers who started the dig with the help of Israel's Antiquities Authority say they want to turn it into an archaeological park to celebrate its historical significance.

But for Palestinians who hope the West Bank will someday form part of a Palestinian state, the move is a grab not only for land but also for their past - a ploy to cut them out of history and away from land they say is rightfully theirs. The Bible says David, the second king of the United Kingdom of Israel and Judah, first ruled in Hebron before conquering Jerusalem to the north.

"You come to see where King David started his first palace, it blows you away. I don't know, it blows me away!" said David Wilder, spokesman for the Jewish community in Hebron.

The dig, located on a plot of Jewish-owned land that is part of an island of

500 settlers among some 250,000 Palestinians, takes place under the protective eyes of Israeli soldiers toting automatic weapons.

Most countries consider the settlements Israel has built on land captured in the 1967 Middle East war as illegal, and Palestinians fear the enclaves will deny them a viable state made up of East Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza.

The promotion of archaeological sites on this disputed land goes to the heart of the most explosive issues in Israel-Palestinian peace talks being brokered by Washington - building on occupied land, the status of Jerusalem and the future of Israel as a "Jewish state".

Reuters



Two visitors enjoy the sunset scenery at the Dadaocheng Wharf in Taipei, southeast China's Taiwan, on 28 Jan, 2014. Dadaocheng, an important trading port in the 19th century, is now a tourist attraction and shopping area.—XINHUA

ENTERTAINMENT



Adele won the best song written for visual media award

Adele won Grammy while in bed

LOS ANGELES, 29 Jan — Singer Adele found out that she had won a Grammy award while she was in bed.

The 25-year-old won the best song written for visual media award for her track Skyfall at the 56th Annual Grammy Awards Sunday night.

She tweeted her disappointment as she couldn't collect it in person, reports contactmusic.com.

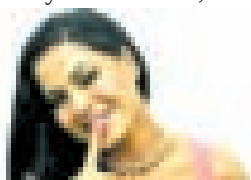
"Wish I was there. Thank you for the Grammy. Have a wonderful night I'm in bed now, feeling very restless," read her tweet.

PTI

Veena Malik: Won't act in masala films

MUMBAI, 29 Jan—Pakistani actress Veena Malik said she is retiring from the commercial film industry but would continue to act in movies with religious and social messages.

Malik, 29, announced from Mecca after performing Umrah that she would no longer act in masala films. "As far as the entertainment industry is concerned, I will



Veena Malik wants to act only in movies with religious and social messages.

Lady Gaga's meat dress named most controversial red carpet moment

LONDON, 29 Jan — Singer Lady Gaga's meat-inspired dress has been voted the most controversial red carpet moment of all time, says a survey.

The research, conducted by hairstylist Charles Worthington, found that the dress sported by Gaga at the 2010 MTV Video Music Awards was the most controversial, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

It was followed by actress Elizabeth Hurley's daring Versace safety pin dress, which she wore to the premiere of Four Weddings and a Funeral in 1994.

Actress Angelina Jolie's thigh-high split black dress at the 2012 Oscars was the third most controversial.

Singer Geri Halliwell's BRIT Awards Union Jack dress and Bjork's swan dress from the 2001 Oscars rounded up the top five most controversial red carpet moments of all time.

PTI

Lady Gaga sported the dress at the 2010 MTV Video Music Awards



Why Deepika Padukone has no time for Salman Khan

NEW DELHI, 29 Jan — Deepika Padukone, most wanted in Bollywood for delivering four back-to-back blockbusters and scooping a slew of Best Actress awards, was rumoured to have been cast as actor Salman Khan's heroine some time ago.

Salman Khan, reuniting with his Maine Pyar Kiya, Hum Aapke Hain



Deepika Padukone

Koun and Hum Saath Saath Hain director Sooraj Barjatya for 2015's Bade Bhaiya, laughed off this rumour saying that for him to star with Deepika, she'd have to be re-launched - a reference to his recent habit of making films with debutantes like Dabangg's Sonakshi Sinha and Jai Ho's Daisy Shah.

However, might it be Deepika who has no time for Salman, rather than the other way round? While The Dimpled One has gone on record to say she'd love to work with Alpha Khan,

she's signed up Rockstar director Imtiaz Ali's next film opposite ex-boyfriend Ranbir Kapoor with who she delivered the smash hit Yeh Jawani Hai Deewani.

So, what with shooting for Happy New Year opposite Salman's frenemy Shah Rukh and prepping for her new film with Ranbir, Deepika has zero dates for Salman.

That's Deepika crossed off Salman's list of possible heroines. Will he repeat a heroine now?

PTI



Salman Khan

Madonna's son styled her for Grammys' red carpet

LOS ANGELES, 29 Jan — Pop star Madonna came to the 56th Annual Grammy Awards styled by her son David Banda, all of eight years old.

The 55-year-old walked the red carpet on Sunday with David, who she adopted in 2006 with former husband Guy Ritchie, in matching black Ralph Lauren suits, completing the look with wide-brimmed hats, reports contactmusic.com.

When Ryan Seacrest asked whether he chose the looks, David replied, "Yes I did... Yes she does (follow my lead)."

David also admitted that he was still waiting for Madonna to buy him a matching grill as the Hung Up hitmaker flashed her own golden teeth for the



Madonna's look from the Grammys' red carpet

cameras. David said, "She said she'd get me a grill for this birthday", while Madonna replied, "We haven't had time, you have to go to the dentist and get moulds."

PTI



Leonardo plays stockbroker Jordan Belfort in the movie.

Leonardo DiCaprio: Enjoyed filming wild scenes in The Wolf of Wall Street

LOS ANGELES, 29 Jan — Actor Leonardo DiCaprio enjoyed filming the raunchy and wild scenes in The Wolf of Wall Street.

The 39-year-old actor, who plays stockbroker Jordan Belfort in the drama, enjoyed depicting his wild ways on screen and didn't even mind baring all on camera.

"Much of the film depended on creating a wild and reckless atmosphere. I

didn't hold anything back. There were no stunt doubles for me either — it's all me. That's all me flopping around naked," contactmusic.com quoted him as saying.

"It was fun (filming the scenes). I didn't think about the nudity much because I was trying to portray what this guy's life was like and it all really happened," he added.

PTI

SPORTS

Arsenal held at Saints, Liverpool thrash Everton

LONDON, 29 Jan — Arsenal's wings were clipped in a 2-2 draw at Southampton as they missed a chance to soar four points clear in the Premier League title race while Liverpool thrashed Everton and Manchester United beat Cardiff on Tuesday.

Arsene Wenger's side started slowly and were caught out by Jose Fonte's early goal and Adam Lallana's second-half equaliser either side of strikes from Olivier Giroud and Santi Cazorla.

There was no sluggishness about Liverpool, whose 15-year home hoodoo over rivals Everton continued with Daniel Sturridge scoring twice in a 4-0 win, while Dutchman Robin van Persie came back with a bang as Manchester United eased past Cardiff 2-0.

Arsenal, who had Mathieu Flamini sent off 10 minutes from time, are two points ahead of Manchester City and three above Chelsea but could drop to third if their rivals win on Wednesday at Tottenham Hotspur and home to West Ham United respectively.

"They have difficult games as well and we took at least a point," said



Liverpool's Steven Gerrard (L) challenges Everton's Steven Pienaar during their English Premier League soccer match at Anfield in Liverpool, northern England on 28 Jan, 2014.—REUTERS

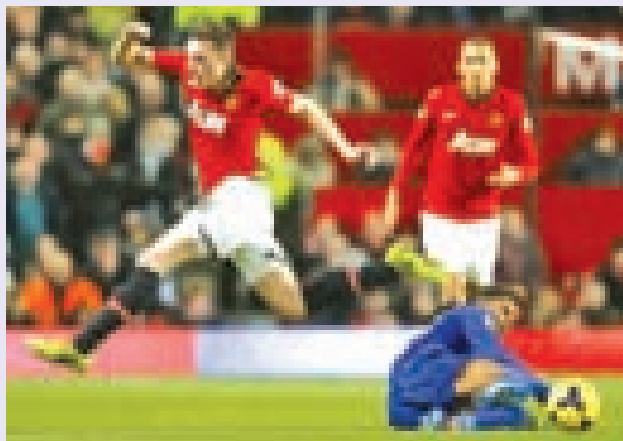
Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger. "It's not enough but, considering the situation at halftime (when Arsenal were losing 1-0), we have to be content with it."

Fourth-placed Liverpool revived their own faint title hopes with their biggest win over Everton since 1982 and now sit six points behind Arsenal, and four ahead of their Merseyside rivals, while United stay seventh a further six points adrift.

It is not often Arsenal find themselves chasing possession, but Southampton gave the leaders the run-around in the first half and deservedly took the lead after 21 minutes.

Luke Shaw curled in

a delightful cross from the left wing to pick out Fonte at the far post and he headed home.

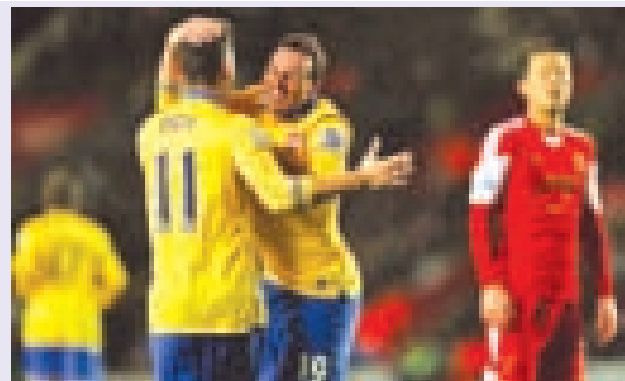


Manchester United's Phil Jones (L) challenges for the ball with Cardiff City's Fraizer Campbell (R) during their English Premier League soccer match at Old Trafford in Manchester, northern England, on 28 Jan, 2014.—REUTERS

Wenger's halftime team talk rallied his side and they were swiftly level after the restart with Giroud backheeling past Artur Boruc after turning on a Bacary Sagna cross before Cazorla buried a low shot to put them ahead four minutes later.

But they could not close the game out and Lallana turned in a Jay Rodriguez cross to level before French midfielder Flamini was given his marching orders for a rash challenge.

Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard powered in a 21st minute header to open the scoring at Anfield but it was Sturridge who took the game away from their Mer-



Arsenal's Santi Cazorla (2nd R) celebrates his goal with teammate Mesut Ozil after scoring against Southampton during their English Premier League soccer match at St Mary's Stadium in Southampton, southern England on 28 Jan, 2014.—REUTERS

seyside rivals, showcasing his finishing talents before Luis Suarez completed the rout.

Sturridge struck twice in two minutes past the half-hour just as Everton seemed to be gaining a foothold in the match, yet both his goals would have left Everton manager Roberto Martinez scratching his head at his side's shoddy defending.

Midfielder Philippe Coutinho sent Sturridge racing through unchecked to fire left-footed past Tim Howard for his first goal while the England forward's second came from a hopeful long ball.

Sturridge looked disorientated when Kolo Toure's punt upfield found its way through to him as Everton pushed up for offside, but he regained his bearings to swivel and lob a smart finish past the ad-

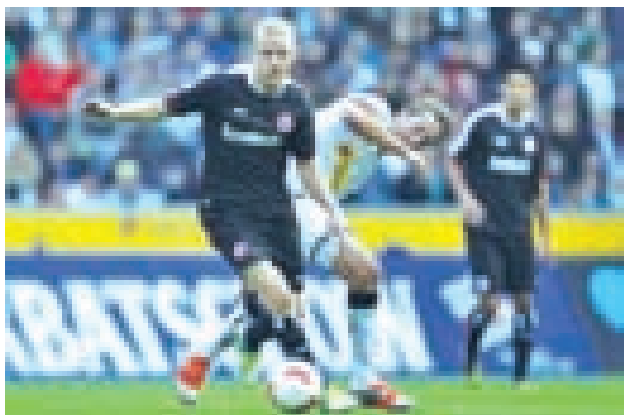
vancing Howard and into the net. He blotted his copy book somewhat by scooping a penalty over the bar in the second half after Suarez had run half the length of the pitch and calmly finished to make it 4-0, taking his league tally to 23 for the season to equal last term's total.

After Liverpool had been overrun for periods of their 2-2 draw with Aston Villa in their last home game with Suarez and Sturridge together up front, manager Brendan Rodgers admitted it was uncertain whether he would repeat the experiment.

"It was a gamble to go with two strikers but that's the reason we took the risk. We got four goals and could have had six or seven. It was a brilliant demonstration of how to play under pressure," he said.

Reuters

Gladbach striker De Jong close to Newcastle deal



Borussia Moenchengladbach's Luuk de Jong challenges Eintracht Frankfurt's Sebastian Rode (L) during the German first division Bundesliga soccer match in Moenchengladbach on 7 Oct, 2012.—REUTERS

BERLIN, 29 Jan — Borussia Moenchengladbach striker Luuk de Jong is close to signing for Premier League club Newcastle United and is on his way for a medical in England, the Bundesliga club said on Tuesday.

"Luuk needs playing time," said Gladbach coach Lucien Favre. "It would be a good opportunity for him and the decision would be beneficial for all involved."

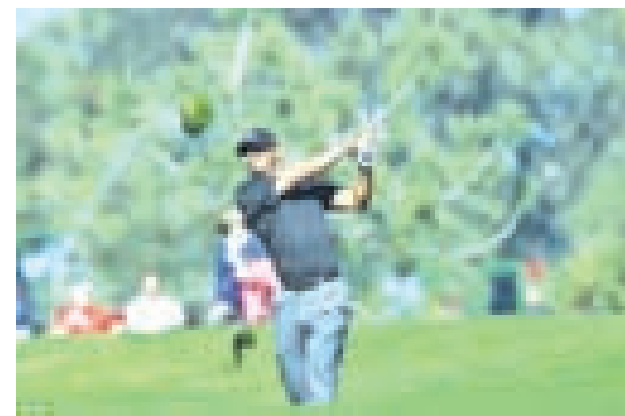
The Dutchman, who did not train with the team on Tuesday, joined Glad-

bach from Dutch side Twente in 2012 for a reported club record 12 million euros (9.88 million pounds) but has failed to deliver so far.

This season he has dropped down the pecking order with the arrival of Raffael and Germany international Max Kruse.

De Jong has not started any league game and has come on as a substitute 13 times for a total of 74 minutes so far with no goals scored.

Reuters



World number one Tiger Woods

Woods finishes down the field in Dubai curtain-raiser

DUBAI, 29 Jan — World number one Tiger Woods double-bogeyed the final hole to finish down the field in the \$600,000 Champions Challenge on Tuesday, the curtain-raiser to this week's Dubai Desert Classic.

The 14-times major winner, who missed the third-round cut at last week's Farmers Insurance Open in California, carded a one-under 71 at the Emirates Golf Club to trail joint winners Henrik Stenson of Sweden and Spain's Ra-

fael Cabrera-Bello by five strokes. World number six Rory McIlroy shared third place with Spaniard Alvaro Quiros on 68. Organisers staged the Champions Challenge to mark the 25th anniversary of the European Tour event in Dubai.

All the former winners of the tournament proper plus the late Seve Ballesteros's son Javier competed in the 18-hole event.

The \$2.5 million Desert Classic starts on Thursday.—Reuters

Brazil outlines \$2.3 billion in public spending for Olympics

RIO DE JANEIRO, 29 Jan — Brazil's government on Tuesday issued its first estimate of public spending on projects related to Rio de Janeiro's 2016 Olympic Games, though the 5.6 billion reais price tag is set to swell as more projects receive approval.

The initial estimate from Brazil's Public Olympic Authority (APO) includes spending by fed-

eral, state and municipal governments for 24 approved projects carried out through both public-private partnerships and by the government alone.

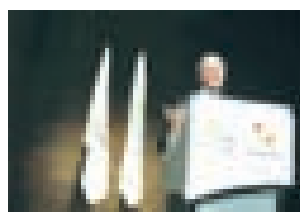
The number does not include spending on 28 planned projects that still require approval.

The total estimate, which is due to be revised in March, also excludes projects such as airports

and pollution control, which are not dedicated strictly to holding the Olympics.

Last week, officials said the operating budget for the Olympics and Paralympic Games in 2016 had jumped 27 percent from prior estimates to 7 billion reais, citing factors such as inflation and costs for new technology.

Reuters



President of Brazil's Olympic Committee Carlos Arthur Nuzman attends a conference on the budget for the Rio 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Rio de Janeiro on 23 Jan, 2014.—REUTERS

GENERAL



Workers make flowery buns in Zhengzhou, capital of center China's Henan Province, on 28 Jan, 2014. Many folk traditions, such as sticking paper cuts and making flowery buns, were displayed at a folk temple fair in Zhengzhou to celebrate the upcoming Spring Festival.—XINHUA

DPRK agrees on resumption of six-party talks

BEIJING, 29 Jan — The Democratic People's Republic of Korea's (DPRK) Ambassador to China said here on Wednesday that the DPRK agrees on the resumption of six-party talks, calling on the United States to fulfil its related obligations. Chi Jae Ryong made the remarks at a press briefing at which he reiterated the DPRK's recent peace call. On the issue of the stalled six-party talks, involving the DPRK, the Republic of Korea, the United States, China, Japan and Russia, Chi said the DPRK has already "taken a seat on the boat of the talks," urging other concerned parties to come on board.

"The denuclearization of the Korean peninsula is

the continuous policy of our republic," he added.

However, Chi said the willingness does not mean that the DPRK should unilaterally abandon nuclear weapons, and that as long as the nuclear threat from outside continues, the DPRK has to strengthen its nuclear programme. "As long as the anti-DPRK policy of the United States continues, we can not expect any resolution of the nuclear issue," according to the ambassador.

He said the reason why the 19 September Joint Statement was not implemented is that the United States has evaded its promises and obligation.

In the historic agree-

ment, which was reached in 2005 at the six-party talks, the DPRK pledged to abandon all its nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programs in exchange for energy aid and security guarantees. ' On 16 Jan, the DPRK's National Defence Commission said in a three-point "important proposal" that inter-Korean relations could thaw if the two sides make concerted efforts to implement the proposal starting from 30 January.

In the proposal, the DPRK called for verbal and military provocations between the two sides of the Korean Peninsula to stop, and urged practical measures to be taken to prevent a "nuclear disaster."—Xinhua

MYANMAR TV

(30-1-2014, Thursday)

6:00 am	3:00 pm
1. Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw	19. News
6:15 am	3:15 pm
2. Mytta Pawana by Mingun Sayadaw	20. TV Drama Series
6:35 am	4:00 pm
3. Physical Exercises	21. News
6:45 am	4:15 pm
4. Documentary	22. The Mirror Images of The Musical Oldies
7:00 am	4:25 pm
5. News/Weather Report	23. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures)
7:20 am	-Second Year (English)
6. People Talks	5:00 pm
7:30 am	24. News
7. Teleplay (Health)	5:30 pm
8:00 am	25. India Drama Series
8. News/ International News	6:00 pm
8:25 am	26. News/Weather Report
9. India Drama Series	6:20 pm
9:00 am	27. Approaching Science Discovery world
10. News/International News	6:40 pm
9:25 am	28. TV Drama Series
11. Shwe Yin Chone Than	7:00 pm
10:00 am	29. News
12. News	7:25 pm
10:20 am	30. TV Drama Series
10:35 am	8:00 pm
13. TV Drama Series	31. News/International News/Weather Report
14. Kya Pwint Myaye Yin Khone Than	8:35 pm
11:20 am	32. Hit Songs of Stars
15. Sing & Enjoy	8:45 pm
12:00 pm	33. Documentary
16. News/International News/Weather Report	9:00 pm
12:35 pm	34. News
17. Myanmar Video	35. Clever
2:05 pm	36. Allnka Wat Yi Music Troupe
18. Fine Arts-Bosom of Dramatic Performance	37. TV Drama Series

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

30-1-14 07:00 am ~ 31-1-14 07:00 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Myanmar Traditions and Culture "The Golden Land"
- * World News
- * In the Studio: May Phyu Phyu
- * Local News
- * A Visit to Ye
- * World News
- * The Photographer (Portiature) "Aung Kyaw Moe"
- * Local News
- * Made in Myanmar "Mixxo"
- * World News
- * TECH School
- * Local News
- * The Heart Love Influenced-U Hla Tun Cancer Foundation
- * World News
- * Art Students: Their Dream
- * Local News
- * Unique Art of Stucco Work
- * World News
- * Kyaikhteeyoe: Bamboo Guns
- * Local News
- * An Oasis Trip to Mt Popa
- * World News
- * Myanmar Movie Impact "So Cool 2"
- * Local News
- * Distinct People, Different Lifestyles (Pan-Pack Village)
- * In the Studio "Na Di Htike"
- * Myanma Beauty And His Creations (Ep-3)
- * World News
- * A Girl Guide

Hamilton starts new F1 turbo era with a crash

JEREZ, 29 Jan — Lewis Hamilton crashed his Mercedes, world champion Sebastian Vettel failed to complete a timed lap and McLaren's car stayed in the garage as Formula One's new turbo era endured a difficult, and strangely quiet, birth on Tuesday.

Twin black streaks of scorched tyre rubber marked the asphalt at the end of the Jerez pit straight where Hamilton locked up and careered into the tyre wall after a front wing failure on the first day of pre-season testing.

The 2008 champion was unhurt in the crash, on his 18th lap after being first out of the pit lane following the unveiling of his sleek silver F1 W05 car,

but it ended his team's track activities for the day.

"Apart from the ending, it's been quite a positive day," said Hamilton, who said it was way too early to give any assessment of the car.

"Always when you crash it's big, but it's OK. I was able to walk away, no problems," he told reporters.

Vettel's work at the wheel had not even started at that point, Red Bull's quadruple champion kicking his heels while the team fixed setup problems which had emerged overnight with their new RB10.

The German eventually emerged, after a brief squall of rain, for one installation lap.

Fans who had paid for

tickets got scant value for money, with only 93 laps completed by eight of the 10 teams present on a cold day in southern Spain.

Kimi Raikkonen, returning to Ferrari after winning the championship with them in 2007, accounted for 31 laps after bringing out the first red flag of the day when he stopped on track early on.

That compared to a total of 657 laps run on the opening day of testing last year and 718 in 2012.

"We want to do more laps but it's pretty normal with such a big change," the Finn told reporters. "It will take a little time before we can run 100 percent the whole time and be confident we don't have any issues."

Formula One has

ditched the ear-splitting 2.4 litre V8 engines for a new turbocharged 1.6 litre V6 with complex energy recovery systems and more emphasis on fuel economy.

Reliability is a major concern and times were therefore of no relevance as teams focused on troubleshooting rather than performance. Hamilton had also crashed last year in Jerez in his first test for Mercedes after moving from McLaren, whose troubles continued after a 2013 season to forget.

The Woking team, who had hoped to have Jenson Button on track, said they had been hit by electrical issues that led to the dismantling, inspection and re-installing of several major components. Tail-end-



Mercedes Formula One racing driver Lewis Hamilton of Britain drives his W05 during pre-season testing at the Jerez racetrack in southern Spain on 28 Jan, 2014.

REUTERS

ers Marussia and Caterham also hit unexpected turbulence.

Marussia's car was still on its way to Jerez after being delayed at the factory on Monday by what team principal John Booth called a "small but frustrating teething problem". Malaysian-owned Caterham delayed their car presentation due,

according to their Twitter feed, to "some last minute issues bolting it together" but finally made it out on track.

With a thin new moon still visible over the circuit, Hamilton had got the new era rolling shortly after 0900 local (0800 GMT) for an installation lap before silence resumed.—Reuters

No amendment required for recently-amended 1955 Government Housing (Expelling) Act

Amyotha Hluttaw to discuss Bill amending National Drug Law

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan — Ninth regular session of Pyithu and Amyotha Hluttaws continued today respectively.

Regarding the question about budget allocations for bridge construction raised by U Sai Thiha Kyaw of Mongyai constituency at the today's Pyithu

Hluttaw session, Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint confirmed that budgets to be allocated towards construction of Namma and Khonali bridges in 2014-2015 FY had been submitted and preliminary engineering works would be carried out soon.

Deputy Minister for

Education Dr Sann Lwin responded to four educational questions that works were being underway to upgrade and renovate basic education schools in 2014-2015 Academic Year.

Next, Deputy Minister U Soe Tint made clarifications on the 1955 Government Housing (Expelling)

Act amendment law submitted by U Thein Nyunt, Thingangyun constituency representative, saying that the recently-amended law was no longer required to amend again. While seeking the Hluttaw's approval, the majority favoured not to amend it.

At the today's Amyo-

tha Hluttaw session, Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Dr Tin Shwe vowed to rebuild the runway of MraukU airport for landing of small aircrafts when budget allocation for it was approved.

Today's Amyotha Hluttaw decided to hold discussions on the Amyo-

tha Hluttaw-approved Myanmar National Human Rights Commission Bill sent back by Pyithu Hluttaw with amendments and discuss the Bill amending the National Drug Law presented by Deputy Minister for Health Dr Than Aung.

MNA

Diplomats, Rakhine State Government hold talks

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan — A delegation led by EU Ambassador Mr Roland Kobia held talks with Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win and members of Rakhine State government in Sittway today.

During the meeting,

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ASEAN Library Development Forum 2014 on 3 Feb

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan — ASEAN Library Development Forum 2014 will be held on 3 and 4 February at Mingala Thiri Hotel, here.

About 70 librarians from the library associations, faculty members of library science, veteran librarians and about 30 experts of the libraries from the ASEAN countries will participate in the forum under the theme of "Library for Society" including three topics—"Professional Development Towards Digital Library Environment", "Preservation of Library Materials" and "Communi-

nity-based Library Activities".

Anybody may take registration forms and schedule of the forum at National Library (Yangon) and Historical Research and National Library Department (Nay Pyi Taw) and they must resent the registration forms not later than 29 February.

For further information, anyone may dial 01 662 470 and 067 408 384 of the departments in Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw and contact libraryforum2014@gmail.com.

MNA

C-in-C holds talks with Israeli, Pakistani Ambassadors

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Jan — Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing held separate talks with Israeli Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Hagay Moshe Behar and Pakistani Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Ehsan Ullah Bath at Zeyathiri Beikman, here, today.

In meeting with the Israeli Ambassador, the Commander-in-Chief thanked Israel for its support and recognition of Myanmar's reform process, assuring full cooperation of Defence Services in the government's sweeping reforms.

Next, they exchanged views on multi-sectoral cooperation that could benefit the two armed forces, calling for enhanced bilateral engagements based on mutual trust.

Afterwards, the Senior General held talks with the Pakistani Ambassador, focusing on strengthening friendship and cooperation



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and Israeli Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Hagay Moshe Behar exchange gifts.—MNA

between the two armed forces and mutual relations

of neighbouring and regional countries in accord with

the principle of peaceful co-existence.—Myawady

Ayeyawun, Yadana housing projects to be ready in mid-June, 2015, for about 80,000 people



Ayeyawun and Yadana Housing projects comprising 19584 apartments in total in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township are expected to be finished in mid-June, 2015.

The development are being constructed by 37 companies in joint venture with Public Works of the Ministry of Construction and will contain more than 49 18-storey apartment blocks and community amenities, including business buildings, markets, schools, gardens, play-

grounds, hotels and bus terminals.

Ayeyawun housing is being constructed on 120 acres of land while Yadana is on 100 acre.

Each building will be equipped with modern fire detective system and four elevators.

Work on construction of the project started in June, 2013.

"Precast system would be used to construct Ayeyawun and Yadana housings and that is different other housings," said U

Khin Maung Thein, Project Director of the Ayeyawun and Yadana Housing Projects.

The apartments for 80,000 people will be ready in mid-June, 2015.

Upon completion of the project, Yuzana Garden City and Ayeyawun Yadana Housing would be a home for over 100,000 people as about 30,000 are currently living in near Yuzana Housing.

Myanma Alinn: 29-1-2014

Trans: SMA

Byline:
Soe Win (SP)