

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham makes inspection tour of Women's and Children's Hospital, Sao San Tun General Hospital in Taunggyi

Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Dr Sai Mauk Kham visits Women's and Children's Hospital in Taunggyi.
MNA



NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb — Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham made an inspection tour of Women's and Children's Hospital and Sao San Tun General Hospital in Taunggyi, Shan State today.

On his arrival at Women's and Children's Hospital in Taunggyi, the Vice-President held a coordinated meeting with Shan State chief minister U Sao Aung Myat and the deputy health minister for acquisition of a generator

at the neonatal care unit of the hospital and called for the betterment of medical equipment and making the hospital rooms neat and tidy. The Vice-President also inspected OG ward, children ward and outpatient ward at the hospital.

During his visit to Sao San Tun General Hospital, the Vice-President comforted patients and observed a medicine store and a chosen site for construction of an operation theater and patient wards.

After hearing reports on health care services and requirements of the hospital, he left instructions, calling for promotion of health standard through establishment of a computer-assisted drug storage system and acknowledging efforts of medical staff who are providing health care to local people in Shan State (South). He invited letters of suggestions for improvement in the health sector.

In meeting with lead-

ers of national race literature and cultural groups of Shan State, the Vice-President guaranteed that matters related to Shan literature and culture could be carried out freely, without harming the existing laws and other national races. He also informed them of discussions on enactment of Law to protect the rights of national races being held at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. He called on the groups to participate in peace-making processes, pointing out that armed con-

flicts bring no benefits for everyone concerned.

Next, the Vice-President presented K 2 million each to seven literature and cultural groups and Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat, 1 million each to them.

After that, the Vice-President cordially greeted the cultural delegates.

In the evening, the Vice-President visited Shwe Phone Pwint Pagoda and Mya Sein Taung Pagoda in Taunggyi. —MNA

GGP provides assistance for two monastic schools

YANGON, 4 Feb—Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects (GGP) Scheme under the Government of Japan has extended the assistance totaling US\$ 187,657 for two humanitarian assistance programs \$ 87150 Shwe Min Wun monastic post-primary school and USD 100,507 for North Okkalapa Dhama Medini Monastic BEMS in Yangon Region.

The handed-over and

opening ceremonies of two monastic primary and middle school buildings were held at Mingaladon and North Okkalapa Townships yesterday. Minister-Counselor of the Japanese Embassy, officials of school construction project, students and local residents attended the ceremonies.

The Government of Japan provided necessary assistance for those monastic schools buildings through its GGP Scheme. This as-

sistance will provide better learning for the students and further strengthen existing friendly relations between Japan and Myanmar.

Japan has built school buildings under GGP Scheme since 1998.—MNA

Photo shows a newly-opened monastic primary school building in Kandaw Village in Pakokku Township. —MNA

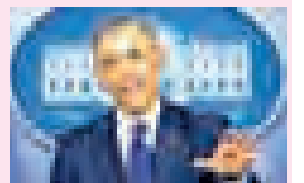


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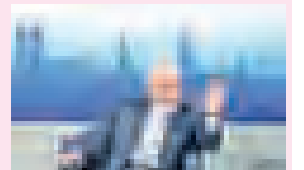
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LOCAL NEWS

Nantyin Creek Bridge to link Mohnyin, Nantpok



Photo shows construction of Nantyin Creek Bridge to link Mohnyin and Nantpok funded by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

MOHNYIN, 4 Feb—As part of efforts to ensure smooth of agricultural

product transportation, Nantyin Creek Bridge is being constructed in

Nantpok Village-tract of Mohnyin Township, Kachin State.

Customs Service Course conducted in Myawady

MYAWADY, 4 Feb—The Customs Service Course No 35 of Customs Department was opened at the hall of Myawady Border Trade Centre in Myawady near Myanmar-Thai border on 3 February.

Director-General U Thein Tun of the department under the Ministry of Finance made a speech.

Chairperson of Myawady Border Merchant Association Daw Thin Thin Myat spoke words of thanks.

Chairman of Myanmar Customs Brokers Association U Nyi Nyi Aung explained the work procedures.

It was also attended by the head of Kayin State Customs Department and party, Deputy Commissioner U Tint Wai

Thon of Myawady District General Administration Department, Commander of District Police Force Police Lt-Col Aung Myint, OSS

members, departmental officials and 135 trainees.

The training course will be run one month.

Tun Tun Oo (Myawady)



Director-General U Thein Tun speaking opening of training course in Myawady.

Mohnyin Degree College kicks off football tournament

MOHNYIN, 4 Feb—The opening ceremony of Mohnyin Degree College men's and women's football tournament for 2013-14 academic year at its sports ground on 3 February.

Principal Dr Aung Myo Min formally opened the

tournament.

Eight men's team and seven women's teams are taking part in the tournament that will last up to 16 February.

In the debut, Chemistry team met with Mathematics team.—NLM-001



Construction

On 1 February, Junior Engineer II U Myint Swe of Township Development Affairs Committee, Chairman of Bridge Committee U Myint Aung, village administrator U Chit Aung and officials inspected construction tasks.

Mohnyin Township Pyithu Hluttaw MPU Kyaw Soe Lay and Amyotha Hluttaw MP U Sai Tin Aung manage construction of the bridge spending K 5 million allotted by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in 2013-14 fiscal year. The bridge will be 120 feet long and six feet wide. Its clearance is 12 feet high.

MMAL-K Sai Naw (Phakant)

MANA to celebrate 15th Annual General Meeting

YANGON, 4 Feb— Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association will hold the 15th Annual General Meeting at the Drug Elimination Museum at the corner of Kyundaw Street in Kamayut Township, here, on 14 February morning.

Chairmen of regions and states association who are also members of Central

Executive Committee and chairmen of district associations are invited to attend the meeting.

Those who did not receive the invitation cards are urged to attend the meeting without fail. Travel allowance and accommodation will be issued to those from countryside.—NLM-017

HRD

Shwe Karuna free clinic holds third anniversary

SITTWAY, 4 Feb—Shwe Karuna free clinic opens its temporary clinic in South Lanmadaw Ward of Sittway in Rakhine State.

The third anniversary of the clinic took place in front of the clinic being built in Baungdukthasu Ward of Sittway on 2 February.

Clinic officials explained construction of

the new clinic, treatment of general diseases, future tasks of the clinic and raising fund.

The clinic board of trustees presented gifts and cash prizes to volunteer doctors and doctors and staff of Sittway General Hospital for their efforts in giving health care services to the local people.—MMAL-Sittway District IPRD

Transport

Nguwah Street inaugurated in Pakokku

PAKOKKU, 4 Feb—As a gesture of hailing the 67th Anniversary Union Day, Nguwah Street, 1115 feet long, was inaugurated in Ward 14 of Pakokku.

The street was repaved as asphalt one at a cost of K 17.3 million funded by Township Development Affairs Committee.

District level departmental officials and township authorities

attended the ceremony.

Deputy Commissioner U Tin Maung Win of the district, Chairman of Township Development Affairs Committee U Tin Win and Assistant Director of Township DAC U Aung Min Kyaing formally opened the street.

Thanks to repaved street, the local people have easy access to smooth transport.—MMAL-102

National Sports

Kyaukdaga Township Administrator's Cup Men's Open Football Tournament commences



KYAUKDAGA, 4 Feb—Organized by Township Sports and Physical Education Department, the Kyaukdaga Township Administrator's Cup Men's Open Football Tournament of Bago Region was held at the township sports ground daily.

On 2 February, TawkyweIn Youth team edged out Ye Mann FC in the knockout matches.

A total of 16 teams in four groups are taking part in the tournament.

Semifinal matches will be held on 9 February and the final on 11 February.

MMAL-Khin Ko (Kyaukdaga)

WORLD



US President Barack Obama

Thai PM under fire as rice scheme sinks, poll challenged

BANGKOK, 4 Feb—Pressure on Thailand's embattled government mounted on Tuesday, when a flagship rice-buying scheme vital to its support stumbled closer to collapse and the opposition filed legal challenges that could void a disrupted weekend election.

The crisis in the rice scheme is a humiliating blow for Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra — it helped sweep her to power in 2011, but has become mired in allegations of corruption and growing losses that are making it increasingly hard to fund.

The commerce minister said China had canceled an order for 1.2 million tonnes of rice due to a corruption probe, while state-run Krung Thai Bank (KTB) joined other lenders in saying it would not

provide loans urgently needed to rescue it.

Protesters succeeded in disrupted voting in a fifth of constituencies in Sunday's election. The incomplete poll means Yingluck could head a caretaker administration for months, unable to make policy decisions, while demonstrators continue to block parts of the capital as they have been since November.

The opposition Democrat Party boycotted the election and on Tuesday filed challenges to its legality. It is also trying to get Yingluck's Puea Thai Party disbanded for holding the vote under abnormal circumstances, with Bangkok under a state of emergency.

"We will argue that the election violated the constitution," spokesman Chavanond Intarakomalyasut said. "In a

WASHINGTON, 4 Feb — US President Barack Obama congratulated Tunisian Prime Minister Mehdi Jemaa on the passage of a new constitution and the formation of a new government, the White House said on Monday.

In a phone call between the leaders, Obama com-

mented the efforts of all Tunisian parties to secure the gains made since the start of Tunisia's revolution, said a statement issued by the White House.

Tunisia's new government led by Jemaa was sworn in on Wednesday. A few days earlier, Tunisia approved its first post-

separate petition, we will file for the dissolution of Puea Thai Party."

The Democrat's last spell in power, between 2008 and 2011, came after the courts banned a previous ruling party loyal to Yingluck's elder brother, Thaksin Shinawatra.

The rice program was one of the populist policies pioneered by Thaksin, a former prime minister central to a stubborn conflict that has divided Thais for at least eight years. He was toppled by the military in 2006.

Losses to the taxpayer, estimated at 200 billion baht (\$6 billion) a year, have fuelled protests against Yingluck's government, and payment problems now risk alienating farmers at the heart of her support base in the poorer north and northeast.—Reuters

US NSA director, S Korea defence chief discuss cybersecurity

SEOUL, 4 Feb — US National Security Agency Director Gen Keith Alexander, who is also commander of the US Cyber Command, held talks on Monday in Seoul with South Korean Defence Minister Kim Kwan Jin on ways to cope with cybersecurity threats, a Defence Ministry spokesman said on Tuesday.

They also discussed the threat of cyberattacks, Kim Min Seok told a Press briefing. The spokesman's remarks came after he was

asked to confirm local media reports that Alexander had made a secret visit to South Korea for talks with top-ranking security and intelligence officials.

South Korea's Yonhap News Agency reported that Alexander made a one-day visit to Seoul on Monday after a stop in Japan, as part of his trip to close allies before stepping down in March.

Alexander, a four-star general who has served as the NSA director since

Monetary base hits record high for 11th consecutive month in January

TOKYO, 4 Feb — Japan's monetary base increased 51.9 percent in January from a year earlier to 200.41 trillion yen, marking a record for the 11th straight month as the Bank of Japan kept injecting money into the financial system under its ultraloose monetary policy, BOJ data showed on Tuesday.

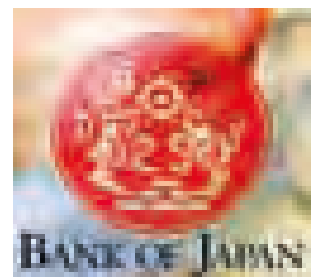
The average daily balance of liquidity provided by the central bank — consisting of cash in circulation and the balance of current account deposits held by commercial financial institutions at the bank — increased for the 21st con-

secutive month. At the end of January, meanwhile, the country's monetary base stood at 200.88 trillion yen, down by around 1 trillion yen from 201.85 trillion yen at the end of December, as companies and individuals secured necessary funds for the year-end period.

The balance of current account deposits — the sum of funds financial institutions can use freely — more than doubled to 108.67 trillion yen, as the BOJ injected more liquidity into the banking system by buying a large number of financial assets from banks.

In introducing "quan-

titative and qualitative monetary easing" on 4 April last year to beat deflation, the BOJ set the monetary base as the main target for its monetary policy, instead of the overnight call rate.



The BOJ has since sought to double the monetary base within two years. If the bank increases it at an annual pace of about 60 trillion to 70 trillion yen, the monetary base is expected to rise to 270 trillion yen at the end of this year.

Kyodo News



Anti-government protesters gather near a barbed-wire fence at a government office where Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra had been holding a meeting in Bangkok on 3 Feb, 2014.—REUTERS

Over 400 flights canceled as snow storm hits New York area

NEW YORK, 4 Feb — More than 400 flights have been canceled due to the heavy snow on Monday at the three major airports in the New York area.

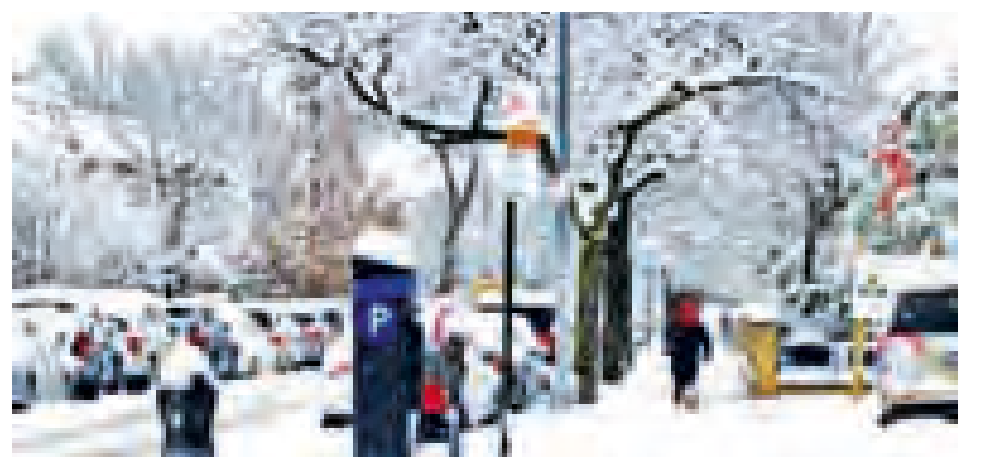
The flight-tracking website FlightAware reports that by 12:00 on Monday afternoon, 177 flights have been canceled at LaGuardia Airport, 75 at John F Kennedy International (JFK) Airport, and

188 at Newark Liberty International Airport.

The National Weather Service has issued a winter storm warning for New York City, Long Island and parts of New Jersey, where 5 to 8 inches (about 12 to 20 centimeters) of snow and dropping temperatures are expected. Many schools around the area have been closed. In New York City, public schools are open,

but all school field trips and after-school programs are canceled due to the weather.

The New York City Department of Sanitation has issued a "snow alert" for Monday, with its staff beginning initial equipment readiness, including loading its salt spreaders, attaching plows when necessary, preparing tire chains and notifying supplementa-



ry personnel as needed.

Massive winter storms have dumped snow across

the northeast of the country and ushered in dangerously cold temperatures, leading

to at least 13 deaths in the eastern United States so far.

Xinhua

Iran foreign minister: nuclear deal possible in six months

BERLIN, 4 Feb — Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Mohammad Zarif said on Monday a final deal with world powers on Teheran's nuclear programme is possible within six months if there is good will and he was not worried about the US Congress trying to impose new sanctions.



Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif attends the annual Munich Security Conference on 2 Feb, 2014.—REUTERS

US President Barack Obama used his State of the Union address last week to veto any legislation that threatens the talks with Iran. US senators including some of Obama's Democrats have co-sponsored a bill that would impose new restrictions on Iran if talks on a permanent accord fal-

ter. But Iran has warned that it will walk away from negotiations — raising the risk of conflict in the Middle East — if the bill becomes law. It is now stalled in the Senate.

"With good will we can reach an agreement within six month," he said in a speech to the German Council on Foreign Relations. "I don't fear a decision in the US Congress ... The US president has promised to veto it." Zarif was visiting Berlin after meeting US Secretary of State John Kerry and other members of the six powers negotiating with Iran at the annual Munich Security Conference at the weekend. Iran reached a landmark preliminary agreement with them in November to halt its most sensitive nuclear operations, winning some

relief from sanctions in return. Talks with the six powers about a definitive settlement began in Vienna on 18 February.

The meetings with Kerry and others from the six powers in Munich evoked the easing of antagonism between the Islamic Republic and the West, with Zarif describing the talks in Vienna as an historic opportunity Iran would not squander. Iran insists its nuclear programme is entirely peaceful but Western countries have long suspected Teheran of covertly researching the means to develop a nuclear weapon. The prospect of a deal has lessened the risk of Israel or the United States taking military action against Iranian nuclear facilities to prevent Teheran acquiring a nuclear bomb.—Reuters



Investigators head to the Japan Railway Construction, Transport and Technology Agency's Tokyo branch in Tokyo on 4 Feb, 2014. Tokyo prosecutors and the Japan Fair Trade Commission raided the Tokyo branch over alleged bid rigging in the production of snow-melting equipment for the Hokuriku Shinkansen bullet train line, investigative sources said.

KYODO NEWS

Investigators raid railway agency over suspected bid rigging

TOKYO, 4 Feb — Investigators raided the Japan Railway Construction, Transport and Technology Agency's Tokyo branch over alleged bid rigging in the production of snow-melting equipment for the Hokuriku Shinkansen bullet train line, investigative sources said.

The Tokyo branch opened bidding for 13 projects to install snow-melting panels and hot water sprinklers along bullet train tracks between March 2011 and November 2012.

The raid by Tokyo prosecutors and the Japan

Fair Trade Commission came after more than 10 companies were alleged to have colluded to determine tender prices and bid winners beforehand, according to the sources.

An official of the Yokohama-based independent administrative agency is suspected of having leaked planned prices for the projects to these companies, the sources said. The construction projects covered the Hokuriku Shinkansen Line's section from Nagano to Kanazawa, which will open by the end of March 2015.—Kyodo News

41 militants killed, injured in Egypt army raid in Sinai

CAIRO, 4 Feb — As many as 41 militants were killed and injured in an army raid on Monday on hideous of hardline Islamists in Egypt's North Sinai province, a security source told Xinhua.

"At least 15 dangerous jihadist elements were killed and wounded in the village of Goes Abou Raad in southern Rafah city, while 26 others were killed and injured in the village of Wady Al-Akhder in Sheikh Zuweid city," the source

added.

Other 12 militants were arrested in the crackdown with weapons, explosive materials and ammunition in their possession, he added. Security conditions have been deteriorating in the restive Sinai since the ouster of Islamist president Mohamed Morsi by the army last July, as the Islamist militants took from the Peninsula a stronghold for staging attacks against army and police facilities.

Xinhua

Saudi crown prince to visit Japan

TOKYO, 4 Feb — Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud will visit Japan from 18 to 21 February, the Foreign Ministry said on Tuesday.

During the visit, the crown prince plans to hold talks with Prime Minister

Shinzo Abe and have an audience with Emperor Akihito, the ministry said in a news release.

The crown prince serves as deputy premier and defense minister of the Middle Eastern country.

Kyodo News



Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud

Over 70 killed during clashes in Central African Republic town

BANGUI, 4 Feb — At least 70 people have been killed and dozens of houses torched in clashes between Muslim and Christian communities in a town in Central African Republic, a local police official said on Monday.

The scale of the violence underscores the challenge facing French and African peacekeepers trying to restore order to a country that has been torn apart by inter-communal violence since mainly Muslim rebels seized power in March.

The leader of the rebel force, known as Seleka, stepped down as president last month, having come under intense international criticism for failing to stem waves of killings that killed hundreds and displaced about 1 million, about a quarter of the country's population.

But their retreat from power and the deployment

of thousands of international troops has not halted the violence.

Elie Mbailao, police commissioner of Mbaiki, about 100 km (62 miles) from the area around the town of Boda where the killings took place, said Christians attacked Muslims after Seleka passed through.

"The mayor (of Boda) has told me that there were more than 70 dead and over 30 houses burned," Mbailao

said of violence that began late last week. Mbailao said that the clashes around the town, some 100 km west of Bangui, involved residents armed with guns and machetes, scenes that have been played out across much of the former French colony over much of the last year. Abuses by Seleka fighters once they came to power led to mainly Christian self-defence militia springing up.

An attempt to oust Se-

leka from power in December sparked mass killings and cycles of retaliations that spiraled out of control and prompted UN warnings that the country was on brink of genocide.

There are some 1,600 French and about 5,000 African troops deployed in the country but peacekeepers have been focused on restoring order to Bangui and struggled to make their presence felt to the north.

Reuters

A French peacekeeping soldier searches a man for weapons in the district of Miskine of the capital Bangui on 3 Feb, 2014.

REUTERS



WORLD



A caravan of camels loaded with sacks of raw salt travels across the desert near Tichit, Mauritania on 5 Dec, 2006. REUTERS

UN seeks \$2 billion for Sahel, fears donor fatigue

DAKAR, 4 Feb — The United Nations appealed on Monday for more than \$2 billion to feed and care for a record 20 million people across Africa's Sahel belt, but aid workers said they feared donor fatigue and a weak global recovery may prevent them from reaching the target. Conflicts in Mali, Nigeria, Sudan and Central African Republic have disrupted markets and caused food shortages across the savannah region, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

(OCHA) has warned.

The problems in the Sahel, a semi-arid belt south of the Sahara Desert that stretches from the Atlantic Ocean eastward to the Red Sea, have also weighed on the United Nations' efforts to protect refugees, another component of its aid appeal. More than 1.6 million people have abandoned their homes and half of these have sought refuge in countries like Mauritania, Burkina Faso, Niger and Chad, which are already under strain.

The impact is to distort local food production and make it harder for countries battling to feed their own populations. However, funding may fall short because of a slow global economic recovery and a \$6.5 billion appeal for Syria, the largest UN humanitarian campaign in history, said Robert Piper, the UN regional humanitarian coordinator for the Sahel. Donors met just over 60 percent of the \$1.72 billion UN appeal for Sahel last year.

Reuters

Postwar model train magazine publishes 800th edition

TOKYO, 4 Feb — A monthly magazine for model railroad fans launched shortly after the end of World War II issued its 800th edition in January. Overseeing the latest issue of "Tetsudo Mokei Shumi" (model railroad hobby), just as he did the very first issue in 1947, is Haruo Ishibashi, 84, who has been editor for almost seven decades. "We didn't expect the magazine to survive for such a long time as we are an extremely tiny publishing firm," Ishibashi said in an interview in Tokyo.

The magazine, which is published by Tokyo-based Kigei Publishing Co, has issued a total of 860 numbers, including special editions. The ultimate goal for many model train fans is to have their work appear in its pages. Although the circulation of Tetsudo Mokei Shumi has declined to one third of its peak of 30,000 copies in the 1970s, it has sta-

bilized circulation in recent years. "It means that there are still avid model railway fans across Japan," Ishibashi said, but he doubts that circulation will ever recover its peak.

A native of Tokyo, Ishibashi published three different magazines about model railways, together with Kiyo Yamazaki, a well-known expert in the field, shortly after the end of the war. "The magazines were mimeographed with no pictures but with handwritten illustrations only," Ishibashi said. "They were even like today's 'dojinshi' (amateur-published magazines)." In 1947, they launched what became the first issue of Tetsudo Mokei Shumi. At the time every issue had to clear censorship by the General Headquarters of the occupying Allied Forces before publication, but no issue failed to receive the green light, according to Ishibashi.

Ishibashi said that as metals were less available

back then, empty cans and other materials were used to make trains. "Even so there were some fans who made model steam locomotives from scratch on their own, referring to this magazine," he said.

Kyodo News

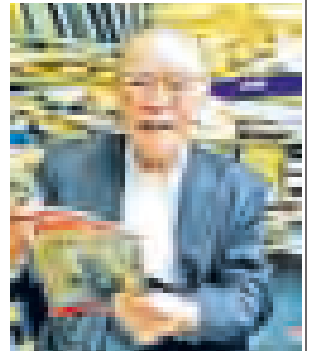


Photo taken on 16 Jan, 2014 shows Haruo Ishibashi, editor in chief of the monthly magazine "Tetsudo Mokei Shumi" (model railway hobby), at the office of its publisher Kigei Publishing Co in Tokyo's Setagaya Ward. Launched in 1947, the magazine issued its 800th edition in January 2014. KYODO NEWS

Russia says Syria to ship more chemical arms, attend talks

MOSCOW, 4 Feb — Russia offered assurances on Tuesday that the Syrian government will show up at a new round of peace talks next week and will soon ship more toxic agents abroad for destruction under a deal to eliminate its chemical weapons arsenal.

The statements appeared intended to ease Western concerns about President Bashar al-Assad's commitment to a peace process that started last month, and to abandoning his chemical arsenal by mid-year under a deal brokered by Russia and the United States.

They came as Russia hosted the leader of the Syrian opposition National Coalition for the first time in the three-year-old conflict that has killed more than 100,000 people and spawned mutual recrimina-

tions between Russia and the West.

Syria plans to send a large shipment of toxic agents out of the country this month and can complete the removal process by March 1, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Genady Gatilov said.

"Literally yesterday the Syrians announced that the removal of a large shipment of chemical substances is planned in February. They are ready to complete this process by March 1," state-run Russia news agency RIA quoted Gatilov as saying.

Moscow, Assad's most powerful diplomatic backer, has been under pressure to push Damascus to speed up shipments since Reuters reported last week that it had given up less than 5 percent of its chemical stockpile.

The operation was far

behind schedule and the deadline for sending all toxic agents out by this week will be missed.

U.S. officials accused Damascus of dragging its feet and Secretary of State John Kerry asked Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov last Friday to put pressure on Assad's government to accelerate the

operation.

"The Syrian government is slowing down the destruction of its chemical weapons ... Bashar al-Assad's government must respect the commitments that it has made," French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius said on Europe 1 radio on Tuesday.

Reuters



U.N. chemical weapons experts prepare before collecting samples from one of the sites of an alleged chemical weapons attack in Damascus' suburb of Zamalka on 29 Aug, 2013.—REUTERS

30 suspected militants detained in east Afghanistan

KABUL, 4 Feb — Security forces initiated a clean-up operations in Chaparhar District of Afghanistan's eastern Nangarhar Province and have arrested 30 suspected militants, a statement of the country's Inter-

rior Ministry released here on Monday said.

"Afghan National Security Forces launched a clearance operation in the Chaparhar District of eastern Nangarhar Province Yesterday to clean some

of the areas from terrorists and enemies of peace and stability. The operation began on Sunday and so far 30 Taleban militants have been arrested," the statement added.

The operations would

last for 10 days to ensure security for the coming elections slated for 5 April this year, the statement added. Taleban militants fighting the government have vowed to disrupt the election process.—Xinhua

Ministry eyes continuing charter flights for deporting illegal aliens

TOKYO, 4 Feb — The Justice Ministry is getting ready to charter planes to conduct group deportations of visa overstayers and other illegal aliens in fiscal 2014, continuing the practice it started the previous year because of cost efficiency, according to a ministry source.

Human rights activists say group deportations disregard the individual circumstances surrounding each person, while one of those sent home in such a manner has criticized the way deportees were treated. The ministry is seeking appropriations under the fiscal 2014 budget for several charter flights. According to the ministry's Immigration Bureau, previously, several immigration officers accompanied deportees on commercial flights, with fares paid in principle by those deported. The state, however, paid for those

who refused to be deported.

Last year, 75 Filipinos were sent home on a charter in July and 46 Thais in December. Charter flights have cut deportation costs by up to half, according to the source. While the bureau says no trouble was observed in flying those charters, some deportees were reportedly taken off a flight before departure because of violent behavior.

A group supporting foreign nationals in Japan criticized the ministry, saying that the deportees included "many people who had livelihoods in Japan," and that the measure disregards their human rights.

A Filipino who had been deported held a press conference in the Philippines and said deportees were handcuffed even when going to restrooms and that their treatment was inhumane.

Kyodo News

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

After AT&T price cuts, all eyes on Verizon

BANGALORE, 4 Feb — AT&T Inc's plan to cut prices on its large shared data plans could prompt other US carriers, particularly larger rival Verizon Wireless, to offer new discounts, analysts said.

The No 2 US mobile services provider said on Saturday it would slash the monthly fee for its 10 gigabytes per month data share plan aimed at families to \$15 per phone from \$40 per phone. Including other charges, this would mean that a family of four would pay \$160 per month or \$100 less than Verizon Wireless or \$80 less than Sprint Corp and \$20 less than T-Mobile US for a comparable service, according to AT&T. AT&T's move follows recent price

adjustments at the top US wireless providers as they attempt to sustain growth in a mature market built on stealing growth from competitors.

"It is too soon to see if others react. With these plans AT&T is still at a premium to Sprint and T-Mobile US, but a clear discount to Verizon," Wells Fargo Securities analyst Jennifer Fritzsche wrote in a note. "(Verizon) will be the one to watch, in our view as they have been on record saying it would react to price moves if they felt the need." AT&T's shares were down 2 percent at \$33.32 in premarket trading on Monday, while Verizon's shares were down 1.5 percent at \$47.25. Analysts have said a price war could



The Droid Mini, Droid Ultra and Droid Maxx are seen on display during the Verizon Wireless media event in New York on 23 July, 2013. — REUTERS

dent the industry's profits but the new plans might prompt higher data use by consumers.

"While (AT&T's price cut) will likely have an impact on service revenue from some of the higher data users, this new pricing approach may also have some positives which should bode well for longer-term margin trends," Wells

Fargo Securities analyst Jennifer Fritzsche wrote in a note. Jackdaw Research analyst Jan Dawson said the best way for AT&T to grow revenues was to increase the amount of data people include in their plans. "The strategy is important as the market becomes saturated and there are fewer new customers to go around," he said. — Reuters

Samsung Electronics to unveil latest Galaxy smartphone in late February



SEOUL, 4 Feb — Galaxy S smartphone this month, but expectations are low that features such as a bigger screen will lead to a sharp jump in sales given intensifying competition. Samsung sent out invitations on Tuesday for "Sam-

sung unPacked 5" event on 24 February at the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona. The launch has been brought forward by around three weeks after sales of Samsung's S4 came in weaker than expected, analysts said.

The world's biggest smartphone maker is bracing for its weakest mobile annual profit growth in seven years amid fierce competition from Apple Inc and Chinese vendors, and as growth for high-end smartphones eases due to near saturation in many markets. The S5 is widely expected to feature a bigger screen, an improved rear camera and biometric functions such as iris recognition or a fingerprint scanner. It may also come with an improved Galaxy Gear smartwatch.

The launch at the annual industry gathering is set to reflect a new emphasis on costs, marking a departure from the glitzy market-

ing Samsung has deployed in the past, including the use of actors and a full live orchestra to launch the S4 at New York's Radio City Music Hall last year. A bigger screen for the S5 may not become much of a selling point as Apple is widely expected to introduce large-screen smartphones — Samsung's mainstay products — later this year. Apple is also expected to gain ground in China after it began selling iPhones through China Mobile, the world's biggest mobile carrier by subscribers, last month. More challenges may come from China's PC maker Lenovo Group which announced last week it would buy Google Inc's Motorola Mobility handset unit for \$2.9 billion.

Reuters

Icelandic social media site targets surveillance-weary users

OSLO, 4 Feb — Upstart social media platform Vivaldi aims to capture tech savvy users seeking to avoid aggressive advertising and the prying eyes of governments, and hopes for a boost from the closure of a rival, founder Jon von Tetzchner told Reuters. Based in Iceland, a country known for its commitment to privacy and free speech, Vivaldi is luring users with strong data encryption and a promise not to use the content of private mail to generate advertising.

"Our initial focus is on the computer geeks because they usually have higher

demands for functionality, safety and privacy," said von Tetzchner, co-founder of Internet browser maker Opera Software. "But a lot of ordinary people also worry about these things and we will welcome everyone." The recently established Vivaldi.net currently offers a mail service, photo sharing, chat functions, a blog platform and discussion forums.

"There has been a lot of focus on safety lately, and it has mainly been focused on governments. But I think this is just as much an issue for the companies in this business," said von

Tetzchner. Vivaldi hopes for a boost from Opera Software's decision to shut its own social network platform on 1 March and aims to capture its several million users. von Tetzchner left Opera in 2011.

"As a society I feel that we should be more focused on limiting the massive surveillance we all are under from governments and from companies that use people's private information for advertising purposes," von Tetzchner said. "I don't think anyone can guarantee to keep NSA away, so I won't make that promise."

Reuters

BCE's Bell Canada says some passwords were posted online



The Bell logo is seen on the company's building in downtown Montreal on 9 Feb, 2011. — REUTERS

TORONTO, 4 Feb — BCE Inc, Canada's largest telecom company, said

US space agency says next generation telescope on track for 2018 launch

WASHINGTON, 4 Feb — The head of the US space agency NASA said on Monday its next-generation James Webb Space Telescope, the successor to the 24-year-old Hubble Space Telescope, is on track for a planned launch in 2018.

All four of Webb's science instruments and all 18 of its primary mirror segments have already been delivered to the

ing to the NASA, James Webb Space Telescope will be the most powerful space telescope ever built, capable of observing the most distant objects in the universe, providing images of the first galaxies formed, and observing unexplored planets around distant stars.

The space agency said that the 18 mirror segments will be coupled to form the massive space



NASA's Goddard Space Flight Centre in Greenbelt, Maryland, where the agency's flagship science project will be assembled once the telescope structure arrives.

"The recent completion of the critical design review for Webb, and the delivery of all its instruments to Goddard, mark significant progress for this mission," NASA Administrator Charles Bolden said in a statement.

"The design, build, delivery and testing of these components took meticulous planning and action ... It's very exciting to see it all coming together on schedule." Accord-

telescope's 21-foot-wide main mirror and that the four science instruments will be located inside the heart of the telescope.

The science instruments include a Near-Infrared Camera that will be Webb's primary camera, a Near-Infrared Spectrograph that can analyze 100 objects at once, a Mid-Infrared Instrument that sees light in the mid-infrared region of the electromagnetic spectrum, or wavelengths longer than the human eye can see, and a Fine Guidance Sensor and Near-infrared Imager and Slitless Spectrograph to improve the telescope's resolution. — Xinhua

online over the weekend after an unnamed third-party supplier was hacked.

Five valid credit card numbers were also posted, BCE's Bell Canada unit said in a release on Sunday. It said its own systems were not affected.

The company said it had disabled the passwords and informed credit card companies, and it was contacting affected customers.

Reuters

22,421 small business customers' user names and passwords were posted

HEALTH & BUSINESS

Pfizer's new breast cancer drug succeeds in trial

BANGALORE, 4 Feb — Pfizer Inc's experimental breast cancer drug significantly improved patient survival rates in a mid-stage trial without their condition worsening, maintaining the company's lead in the race for a new treatment standard for the disease. The oral drug, palbociclib, is considered one of Pfizer's most valuable products in development. Analysts have said it could have annual sales of more than \$5 billion if successful.

Palbociclib was designated a "breakthrough" drug by the US Food and Drug Administration last April based on initial data from the trial. The FDA

grants "breakthrough" status to drugs that may offer substantial improvement over existing treatments for serious or life-threatening diseases. The status helps to speed up the approval process. The trial, called Paloma-1, tested the drug in post-menopausal patients in combination with the hormonal therapy letrozole. Results were compared with patients receiving only letrozole.

Pfizer has started two late-stage trials of the drug — Paloma-2 and Paloma-3 — in patients with advanced breast cancer.

Paloma-2 will test the same drug combination, palbociclib and letrozole,



The Pfizer logo is seen outside their world headquarters in New York on 5 Nov, 2013.—REUTERS

as an initial treatment for breast cancer. Paloma-3 will evaluate palbociclib in combination with another hormone therapy, fulvestrant, in women whose cancer has progressed after hormonal therapy.

Palbociclib works by blocking two enzymes, cyclin dependent kinases (CDK) 4 and 6, which en-

able tumor cell growth. Companies trying to develop similar treatments include Novartis AG and Eli Lilly & Co. Breast cancer killed over 508,000 women worldwide in 2011, according to the World Health Organization. Pfizer shares were up about 1 percent at \$30.75 in premarket trade on Monday.—Reuters

Ablynx agrees Merck cancer deal worth up to 1.7 billion euros



A view of the Merck & Co campus in Linden, New Jersey on 9 March, 2009 file photo.—REUTERS

BRUSSELS, 4 Feb — Belgian biotech company Ablynx has signed a deal with Merck & Co worth up to 1.7 billion euros (\$2.3 billion) to develop ways of triggering the body to fight cancer by itself. The collaboration involves a new gen-

eration of drugs designed to activate the immune system. The first in the field — Bristol-Meyer Squibb's Yervoy — is targeting melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer.

Rival Merck filed the first part of an application

to market its own potential drug for advanced melanoma earlier this month, pushing up its share price. The firm is testing the same drug for lung and renal cancer. Ablynx, which already has a neurology partnership with the US drugmaker dating back to 2012, said on Monday that it would be responsible for discovering antibody-derived proteins, known as nanobodies, to target "immune checkpoint modulators".

The modulators regulate the body's immune response, but cancers can evade the immune system because tumor cells can be like the patient's own and can also interfere with the

immune response. Ablynx believes its nanobodies — typically a 10th the size of an antibody, and able to penetrate further and be manipulated more than an antibody — could help activate the immune system to attack cancer cells.

Under the terms of the deal, Ablynx will receive a payment of 20 million euros and up to 10.7 million euros in research funding during an initial three-year research term.

The firm is eligible for payments on reaching development, regulatory and commercial milestones with a potential to accrue as much as 1.7 billion euros plus royalties.—Reuters

Nestle sells PowerBar and Musashi to US group Post Holdings

LONDON / ZURICH, 4 Feb — Food group Nestle (NESN.VX) is selling its sports nutrition business under the PowerBar and Musashi brands to US group Post Holdings (POST.N), the Swiss company said, in its drive to shed underperforming assets.

The world's biggest food company is reviewing its portfolio to identify brands to be improved or sold, having already offloaded the bulk of its Jenny Craig weight-loss business in November.

Several consumer goods companies are pruning their portfolios as faltering economies have made trading more difficult worldwide. Moody's Investors Service said in a recent report that these reviews could lead to a wave of mergers and acquisitions among food producers."

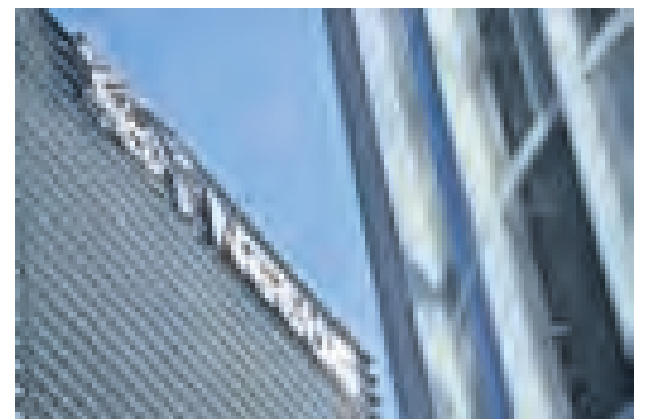
We have an ongoing process of portfolio review and this decision came out of that," a Nestle spokes-

woman said in an emailed statement. "The divestment allows Nestle Nutrition to focus more closely on the core elements of our business."

She declined to reveal the financial details, but Kepler Chevreux analyst Jon Cox estimates that Powerbar and Musashi have combined annual sales of about 200 million Swiss francs (\$220.8 million). "As a result, Post Holdings potentially paid up to 400 million Swiss francs for the businesses," he said.

Reuters reported in September that Nestle was looking to sell its PowerBar brand. A statement from Post Holdings said that the company expects the acquisition to boost sales in its active nutrition business to about \$550 million a year. It added that it expects to fund the acquisition from cash reserves. Nestle reports full-year results on 13 February.

Reuters



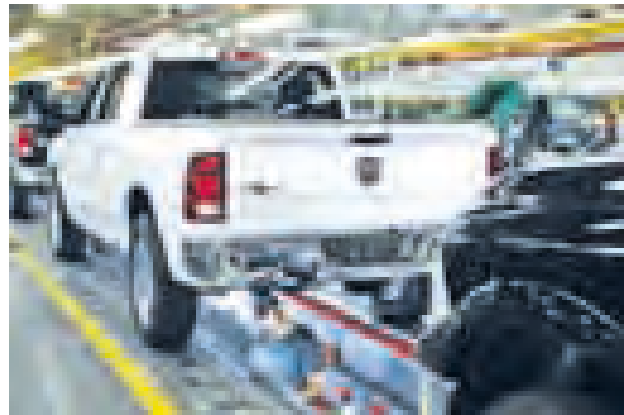
The logo of Nestle is seen on the company building in Mexico City, on 24 Jan, 2014.—REUTERS

Chrysler US January sales up 8 percent on Jeep strength

DETROIT, 4 Feb — Chrysler Group's US January sales rose 8 percent on the strength of its Jeep and Ram truck brands.

Chrysler, a unit of Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA), said it expected overall US industry auto sales to be 15.6 million vehicles on a seasonally adjusted annualized basis. The company's forecast includes medium and heavy trucks, which typically account for between 200,000 and 300,000 vehicles annually. Chrysler's Jeep Cherokee SUV sold five times more vehicles in January than the Jeep Liberty, the model it replaced in the brand's lineup, sold a year ago.

While Chrysler beat



Chrysler Group assembly staff works below a 2014 Dodge Ram pickup truck at the Warren Assembly Plant in Warren, Michigan on 11 Dec, 2013.—REUTERS

analysts' expectations by selling 127,183 vehicles in January, snow and bone-chilling weather likely hurt total US auto sales for the month, analysts said. Still, any dip in monthly sales

is not seen cutting into the automotive industry's rebound, which has been outpacing the recovery of the overall US economy since the 2008-2010 downturn.

Reuters

More evidence HPV vaccine doesn't promote risky sex

NEW YORK, 4 Feb — Young women who get the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine don't see it as a license to have more sexual partners or forgo condoms, a new study confirms. The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention calls for both girls and boys to be vaccinated against HPV, the sexually transmitted virus that causes cervical cancer. Some parents have been concerned that the vaccine might promote risky sex, however, and the issue of HPV vaccination became a topic of debate during the 2012 Republican primaries.

But in the new study, even the small group of girls who misunderstood their risk of sexually trans-

mitted infections (STIs) after getting vaccinated didn't change their behavior as a result, researchers found. "There are so many contributing factors to whether an adolescent decides to have sex or not, and whether they decide to limit their number of partners or use condoms," said Dr Jessica Kahn. "Getting a vaccine probably just plays a very, very small role in their decisions." Kahn worked on the study at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Centre in Ohio.

Her team's findings are in line with another report that showed girls who had been vaccinated weren't more likely to get other STIs or become pregnant. To me, the issue is laid to

rest," Kahn told Reuters Health. "As clinicians and researchers, we have no concerns that vaccination will lead to riskier sexual behaviors." She and her colleagues studied 339 young women between 13 and 21 years old who were getting their first of three HPV shots. Most of the women were black and came from low-income families.

The researchers surveyed participants about how important they considered safe sex to be, and how concerned they were about STIs. Then they asked the participants about changes in their sexual behavior when the young women came back two and six months later for their next shots.—Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 5 February, 2014

A future of a country lies within youths

The youths of today are supposed to be the leaders of tomorrow. The future of a country lies within the youths and the youths are resources of a country as well. There is no doubt that the resources of the youths can be channeled into developing the country and its people.

The leading role of the youths is becoming wider and wider as the information technology is advanced day by day. The youths should not lose sight of advances during the age. Only when they pursue latest developments in their time, would it be possible for them to keep abreast of changes in their time.

Youths must be active fresh and the youthful age is full of energy, ideas, zeal to work etc. There is so much hope, strength and energy in the youths, and they should not allow these resources to waste. They need to be burned with a great zeal in learning.

And, the goodwill is the spirit the youths should have. The youths of community spirit and sympathy are considered in the forefront of building a country.

Youths should choose to use their energy daily to gain knowledge and skills. Only then, will they become the intellectuals and intelligentsia.

Government needs ...

(from page 16)

on 50 percent of the value of the purchased vehicle, Deputy Minister Dr Lin Aung replied that tax relaxation on purchase of vehicle was allowed for the convenience of the people in buying/making vehicles or vessels in accord with the Ministry of Finance and Revenue's Order No (104/2007).

Next, two representatives discussed a report of Amyotha Hluttaw Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee, calling for more attentions to be taken on the delayed pledges for the sake of the people. Then, the Hluttaw approved the report.—MNA

Union Minister Lt-Gen

Thet Naing Win receives Chief Minister of the State of Nagaland (India) Mr Neiphiu

Rio.—MNA



Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann poses for documentary photo with Chief Minister of the State of Nagaland of India Mr. Shri. Neiphiu Rio. (News on page 16)—MNA

Union Minister for Border Affairs receives Nagaland Chief Minister



NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb—Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win received Chief Minister of the State of Nagaland (India) Mr Neiphiu Rio and party at the ministry here this morning.

Both sides focused on cooperation in uplifting development of Naga region at the border area of the two countries, exchanging traditional culture, work progress of infrastructures for road

transport, education and health sectors in Chin State and Naga Self-Administered Zone with the assistance of India and ongoing plans for the development of border areas.

MNA

Acting Union Minister for Education meets Head of Officer of UNESCO

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb—Acting Union Minister for Education Dr Myo Myint held a cordial discussion with Head of Officer of

UNESCO (Myanmar Office) Mr Sardar Umar Alam at the ministry yesterday afternoon.

They focused on hold-

ing the Consolidation of Higher Education Institutions Workshop in Yangon.

MNA

Kandaw Village Monastic Primary School constructed under GGP Scheme

YANGON, 4 Feb—The hand over and opening ceremony of the new building was held at No. 4 Monastic Basic Education Middle School in Kandaw

Village in Pakokku Township on 2 February.

The school was established in 1993 for the children of poor families from Kandaw and near-by ten villages under the Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects (GGP) Scheme of the Government of Japan.

The Government of Japan also provided 105,845 USD for the construction of two-storey RC school buildings with eight classrooms and pro-

vision of school furniture through GGP Scheme as the number of students also increased gradually and the school lacks enough space for teaching and learning.

Under the GGP Scheme, students of Kandaw Village and near-by villages can pursue their education with better learning environment and further strengthen existing friendly relations between Japan and Myanmar.

MNA

Press conference on opening of Goethe-Institute held



Press conference on opening of new Goethe-Institute in progress.—MNA

YANGON, 4 Feb—A press conference on opening of Goethe-Institute was held at Strand Hotel on Strand Road, here, this morning.

Director Franz Xaver Augustin of Goethe-Institute (Myanmar) explained the purposes of opening the Institute to train tour guides and exchange culture.

Jazz musician Tim Isfort elaborated on "Myanmar meets Europe Project (Duisburg Germany)."

The press conference was attended by responsible persons from Goethe-Institute and media men.

German dancer Sasha Waltz of Germany will present dances from 11

to 13 February at 7 p.m. daily at National Theater on Myoma Kyaung Street. Reservation of Seats is available at Ticket@yangon.goethe.org free of charge.—MNA

404 squatted huts removed in Hlegu Tsp

YANGON, 4 Feb—According to the wishes of the local people, the authorities have removed illegal settlements in a systematic way recently in Twantay and Hlinethaya areas in Yangon with a

view to ensuring rule of law, stability and livelihood of the people.

Joining with the local people, the authorities continued removal of 404 squatted huts in Hlegu Township in Yangon

North District this morning. The authorities have plans to remove illegal settlements harmful to the local people, in line with the law, according to the Yangon Region government.—MNA

NATIONAL

Vice-President U Nyan Tun visits Sittway, Maungtaung, ...

(from page 16)

On his arrival at Buthidaung, the Vice-President explained measures to be taken for ensuring development and peace and stability in the region fulfilled the requirements of local people.

Next, he inspected construction of a two-storey building for the post-primary school in Thabyaykon ward and observed learning of students at the school. After inspecting development undertakings being implemented in the township on a motorcade, the Vice-President flew back to Sittway.

In the afternoon, the Vice-President delivered a speech in meeting with officials, Hluttaw representatives, social organizations

and local people at a hall of Rakhine State government office in Sittway.

First, the state chief minister, Union ministers U Zeyar Aung and U Htay Aung and Deputy Ministers Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun and U Aung Than Oo presented their respective reports.

In the evening, Vice-President U Nyan Tun visited the Kaladan River transportation project at Sittway Port.

The Sittway Port is being upgraded to handle a 20,000-ton vessel.

During his visits in Rakhine State, Vice-President U Nyan Tun clarified the efforts of the government to cease the armed conflicts in the country while working hard for transition to



Vice-President U Nyan Tun meets students at Basic Education Post-Primary School in Thabyaykon Village of Buthidaung Township.—MNA

democracy and for building market-oriented economic system.

CCPAT reviews judiciary sector for trafficking in persons



NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb — The Central Committee for Prevention Against Trafficking in Persons conducted a workshop on the Criminal Justice Response to Trafficking in Persons in Myanmar here today.

Deputy Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo and Chief of Myanmar Police Force Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win made speeches.

During the workshop, participants will discuss the judiciary sector for the trafficking in persons including legal framework, role of the judiciary institutions and their responsibilities and regional judiciary sectors.

They will also review the current judiciary sector for the trafficking in persons. The workshop

continues tomorrow.

Out of 236 trafficked victims in 102 cases in 2013, 223 have been rescued, according to Myanmar Police Force.

Most were trafficked to China and Thailand.

MNA

Deputy Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo and Chief of MPF Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win pose for documentary photo with those present at the workshop.—MNA

Meeting on reviewing the ESIA report of Latpadaungtaung Copper Mining project at Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry in progress.

MNA



He said Rakhine State is the western gate of the country, possessing the opportunities for trading with western countries, middle-east region, ASEAN countries, India and Bangladesh.

The Vice-President also expressed his delight for upgrading Sittway Port and Kyaukpyu Port to international ones.

The Rakhine State would become the corridor

of the country and east and west countries as well, he said.

He also stressed the need for improving the education and living standard of the local people through the development of the economy of the state.

He urged the departmental officials to build the good governance system which can guarantee the stability, the rule of law,

transparency and effectiveness of the governance.

The Vice-President also called on support groups for development, regional development affairs committees, MPs and townsenders for working together for carrying out people-centered development tasks.

All are obliged to enforce the rule of law in Rakhine State, he said.—MNA

Experts review ESIA draft on Latpadaungtaung Copper Mine

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb — Following the suggestion of the investigation commission for the Latpadaungtaung Copper Mining project, the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) report on the project is being carried out by the Knight Pie' sold Co Ltd.

The draft of the report is being reviewed in detail by

a 39-member expert team, said U Than Tun Aung, Deputy Minister for Mining and leader of the Environmental Conservation Team, at the meeting on reviewing the ESIA report at Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry here today.

Construction Environmental and Social Management Plan (CESMS) is also

drafted during the period of working for the ESIA report.

Measures are being taken in accordance with Environmental management plan (EMP), Social Management Plan (SMP) and Monitoring Plan to be able to reduce the impacts on the environment and socio economy of the residents, said Deputy Minister U Than Tun Aung said.

A non-aligned committee comprising experts and local people has been formed to monitor the project.

Regarding the finalizing the ESIA report, the deputy minister suggested to seek advices from local people and to take the voices of local people, suggestions of the non-aligned committee and findings of the experts of the respective ministries into account.

The experts discussed and reviewed the draft of the ESIA report.

MNA

Specialists on field trips of providing health care services



Health care services being provided to local people in Kunlong Township.

KUNLONG, 4 Feb—With the aim of giving health care services to the local people in border areas and far-flung areas, a specialist team made a field trip to Kunlong of Shan

State (North) on 2 February.

Under the arrangement of Shan State Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myo Tun, the specialists provided 354 eye patients, 169 dental

patients, 15 OG patients and 123 general patients, totalling 661.

The specialists team comprised eye specialist Dr Tin Moe Kyi, dentist Dr Tun

Tun Min and Dr Min Khant Ko Ko, physician of Laukkai Hospital Dr Soe Htut Khaing and OG specialist Dr Mu Mu Kyaw.

Township level officials and medical officer assisted in providing health care to the people.

MMAL-Sai Zaw Kham (IPRD)

Knowledge shared on census taking process

PRUHSO, 4 Feb—Talks on population and housing matter data collection was given at Basic Education Primary School in Nyaungzin Ward of Pruhsso, Kayah State, on 1 February afternoon.

Head of Township Immigration and National Registration Department U Saw Kane Poe explained matters related to questions to the people in detail.

Director of Kayah State INRD U Khin Soe stressed the need to correctly and accurately answer the queries on population, economic, social and livelihoods. Depending on answers of the people, the government will fulfill the requirement if necessary. All the people are to join hands with the department in census taking process as a national duty, he said.

Pruhso Township Pyithu Hluttaw MP U Oo Yei discussed census taking process.

The talks was attended by 120 local people.

MMAL-Township IPRD

Uplifting livelihoods of rural people undertaken

LOIKAW, 4 Feb—Cooperative Department of Ministry of Cooperatives held the rural region and social economic development at the town hall in Loikaw on 3 February, with an address by Kayah State Minister for Planning and Economic U

Taw Yei.

The minister and party presented K 414.645 million to 71 cooperative societies from five townships of Kayah State through chairmen of township cooperative syndicates.

MMAL-State IPRD

Extempore talks marks Union Day

YANGON, 4 Feb—As a gesture of hailing the 67th Anniversary Union Day, Pinyin Alinn Hkithmi Library in Kyauktada Township organized the extempore talks on 3 February.

Staff Officer Daw

Myint Myint Maw of Yangon West District Information and Public Relations Department and officials presented prizes to the winners. Writer Pathein Aung Than Oo lectured raising reading habit.

Kyemon-Aung Myint

The region chief

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

Electrification

Hsakha Village of Myingyan Tsp gets electrification

MYINGYAN, 4 Feb—As a gesture of hailing the 67th Anniversary Union Day, the self-reliant electrification was launched in Hsakha Village of Myingyan Township in Mandalay Region on 1 February.

Myingyan Steel Mill Manager U Aye Win and officials cut the ribbon to launch the electrification.

Deputy Township Administrator U Kyaw Myint Soe expressed his pleasure for enjoying supply of power.

District Electrical Engineer U Kyaw Myint gave lectures on dos and don'ts for danger of electric power.

The 1200 feet long power line stretches from the Myingyan Steel Mill.

Out of 315 houses in the village, a total of 202 houses are enjoying electricity.

The village electricity committee spent K 62 million for electrification tasks.

Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)

Pay Your Tax

Konphauk Bridge commissioned into service in Myeik

MYEIK, 4 Feb—Konphauk concrete bridge linking Konphauk Ward and Inlaymyaing Ward was inaugurated in Myeik of Taninthayi Region on 3 February in commemoration of the 67th Anniversary Union Day.

Assistant Director U Thet Naing Tun of Progress of Border Areas and National Races Department under the Ministry of Border Affairs reported on matters related to the bridge.

Taninthayi Region Minister for Transport Dr Kyaw Hsan, Deputy Commissioner of Myeik District U Lwin Ko Oo and Chairman of Township Development Affairs Committee U Maung Lay opened the new bridge.

Chief Minister of the region U Myat Ko unveiled the archway of the bridge.

minister and party strolled along the bridge.

The bridge was built at a cost of K 95 million funded by border region development in 2013-14 fiscal year.

The bridge will be a linkage among downtown,

Myeik Airport and highway bus terminal.

The bridge is 100 feet long and 14 feet wide flanked by three feet wide pedestrian on either side. It was built within four months.

MMAL-Moe Hein (Myeik)



REGIONAL

China Navy starts West Pacific drill

ABOARD CHANGBAISHAN, 4 Feb — A flotilla with China's Nanhai Fleet entered the West Pacific Ocean on Monday to start a drill there after exercises in the Indian Ocean.

The three-ship flotilla consists of amphibious landing craft Changbaishan and destroyers Wuhan and Haikou, according to military sources.

After reaching the In-

dian Ocean on 29 January, the ships conducted 10 exercises including anti-pirate, joint search and rescue as well as damage control drills.

Exercises based on defense and settlement of emergencies were also conducted to test the command system's response and soldiers' combat skills.

Changbaishan is the country's largest landing

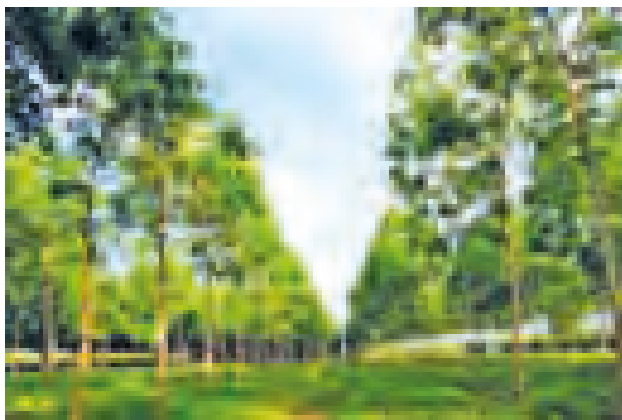
ship by gross tonnage and is equipped with an advanced weapons system.

Both Wuhan and Haikou have experience of major drills and escort missions in the Gulf of Aden. The flotilla passed along the Lombok Strait, Makassar Strait and the Sulawesi Sea to enter the West Pacific Ocean according to the drill plan.

Xinhua



Cambodia has 325,900 hectares of rubber plantations by 2013



Cambodia has 325,900 hectares of rubber plantations as of last year, up 16 percent compared with 280,350 hectares in a year earlier. — XINHUA

PHNOM PENH, 4 Feb — Cambodia has 325,900 hectares of rubber plantations as of last year, up 16 percent compared with 280,350 hectares in a year earlier, a report of the Ministry of Agriculture showed on Monday. Some 78,444 hectares of them are old

enough to be yielded, the report said, adding that the country collected 90,000 tones of rubber resin last year.

The ministry predicted that rubber plantations would reach 450,000 hectares by 2020 and could produce up to 500,000

tones of rubber resin from that year. Rubber trees have been planted in 18 provinces out of the country's 25 cities and provinces, it said. The country has 60 rubber processing factories and handicrafts.

Cambodia sees rubber as "white gold." The Southeast Asian nation had exported 74,200 tones of dry rubber in 2013, up 34 percent year-on-year, according to the figures of the Ministry of Commerce, adding that the country earned revenue of 170 million U S dollars last year, up 6 percent year-on-year. Mok Kimhong, president of the Cambodian Rubber Association, said Cambodia's dry rubber has been sold to China, South Korea, Singapore, Malaysia, and some European countries.

Xinhua

Motorcyclists find safety in numbers: ANU study

CANBERRA, 4 Feb — New research has helped explain the frequency of motorcycle collisions with cars, finding drivers are slower to notice motorbikes when there are fewer motorbikes on the road, the Australian National University (ANU) said in a release on Monday.

Vanessa Beanland from ANU Research School of Psychology found motorists would see and react to motorcycles up to three seconds faster when more motorbikes were on the road.

"When motorcycles were high frequency, drivers detected them on average 51 meters further away, compared to when they were at low frequency," Beanland says.

"At a driving speed of

60 km/h, this allowed the driver an extra three seconds to respond." More than 200 motorcyclists are killed on Australian roads each year, with 211 killed in 2013.

Latest figures for 2011 found more than 7,500 motorcyclists were treated for injuries. Beanland said the results could also help explain collisions between cars and bicycles. Government figures show 50 cyclists were killed on the roads in 2013.

Along with colleagues from Monash University and the University of Nottingham, Beanland examined how the frequency of a specific type of vehicle in traffic can influence drivers' ability to detect and respond to them.

Xinhua

Nintendo buys own shares worth 114 billion yen off market

OSAKA, 4 Feb — Nintendo Co said on Tuesday it has acquired its own shares worth 114.2 billion yen through off-floor trading at the Tokyo Stock Exchange.

The leading game machine manufacturer bought 9.5 million shares at 12,025 yen per share, comprising a

portion of the shares owned by family members of Hiroshi Yamauchi, Nintendo's former president who died last September.

The company said the acquisition was aimed at stabilizing the price of its shares on the stock market.

Kyodo News



Unofficial voter turnout in Thai election stands at 45.8 percent

BANGKOK, 4 Feb — Unofficial reports show that around 45.8 percent of the total of 44.6 million eligible Thai voters cast ballots in Sunday's general election, secretary-general of the Election Commission (EC) said on Monday. The figures did not include voters in nine provinces where voting was canceled, Puchong Nutrawong was quoted by *Bangkok Post* as saying.

The Democrat Party, which boycotted the general election, is set to petition the Constitutional Court to nullify the election, deputy party leader Ong-art Klampaiboon said.

Ong-art also requested the caretaker government to revoke the emergency decree, citing its negative impact on the country's tourism and economy. A 60-day state of emergency

has been imposed in the capital and some nearby areas, effective from 22 January. Regardless of the election, anti-government protests would continue to push for the stepping-down of the caretaker government and implementation of a national reform, protest leader Suthep Thaugsuban said on Monday. Protesters will continue to seize government offices, according to Suthep.

Several hundred protesters on Monday besieged the Office of the Permanent Secretary for Defence Ministry, where caretaker Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra and several

cabinet members have been working temporarily. More than 10,000 polling stations in 67 constituencies in 18 provinces were forced to cancel voting on Sunday, due to protests, or insufficient election officials and ballots.

EC member Somchai Srisuthiyakorn suggested a new round of voting not be held until solutions are found to the current political conflict. Otherwise, any electoral process will inevitably be disrupted, Somchai said, indicating a new round of voting might be postponed for one month, or much longer.

Xinhua



An Indonesian man wades through the futsal outdoor soccer field full of mud and waste snagged nets, after floods recede in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 3 Feb, 2014. Flooding that occurs over several weeks in Jakarta began to recede in some areas. — XINHUA

Three children slain in shooting in southern Thailand

BANGKOK, 4 Feb — Three children were shot dead and their parents were injured on Monday night in an attack in Thailand's restive southern province of Narathiwat, police said, but it was not immediately clear whether the shooting was insurgency-related.

The unknown assailants attacked the five family members around 9 pm in a village of Bajoh district as they arrived home after

Muslim prayer, killing the three boys aged 3, 5 and 9, and injuring the parents.

The mother was in serious condition, while the father was slightly injured.

Police are investigating the incident including links, if any, to the insurgency that has plagued Thailand's predominantly Muslim southern provinces since 2004, leaving nearly 6,000 dead.

Kyodo News

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THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(3/2014)

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-181(2013-2014)	30 Ton (6x4) NGV Tractor (1) No with 30 Ton Cascade Trailer (3) Nos	(1) Lot	US\$
(2)	IFB-182(2013-2014)	Skid Mounted Engine Driven Air Compressor	(1) No	US\$
(3)	IFB-183(2013-2014)	Cummins Engine with Gear Box	(1) Set	US\$
(4)	IFB-184(2013-2014)	Assorted Sizes of Seamless Casings	(10) Items	US\$
(5)	DMP/L-058(2013-2014)	Spares for CAT D 3512 Engine Ex D 3 T 2 SR-I & II Rigs	(4) Items	Ks
(6)	DMP/L-059(2013-2014)	Spares for FA 1600 Triplex Pump Ex Emsco Rig	(1) Lot	Ks
(7)	DMP/L-060(2013-2014)	500 KVA Trasformer and Dual Transformer	(2) Items	Ks
(8)	DMP/L-061(2013-2014)	1.5 HP Air Conditioner Split Type and Floor Standing Type Air Conditioner	(2) Items	Ks
- Tender Closing Date & Time -		5-3-2014,16:30 Hr		

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 5th February, 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

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF
INTEREST

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Myanmar Electric Power Project
Credit No: 5306-MM

Assignment Title: international Procurement Specialist
Reference No.: MEPE-CS-6

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Electric Power Project, and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services. The Services of the above assignment is expected to be carried out over a period of twelve months, starting in April 2014. More information can be found ON MEPE website moep.gov.mm and UNDB website

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by February, 17th, 2014.

Material Planning Department
Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise (MEPE)
Office Building No.27

Nay Pyi Taw

Myanmar

Email: polar_barli76@gmail.com

Phone : 067: 410282,

Fax: 067: 410391

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV NINOS VOY NO (1011)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV NINOS VOY NO (1011) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4.2.2014 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 CHINA SHIPPING (MALAY-SIA) AGENCY SDN BHD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SINGAPORE BRIDGE VOY NO (060)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINGAPORE BRIDGE VOY NO (060) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.2.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MCP LARNACA VOY NO (026)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MCP LARNACA VOY NO (026) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.2.2014 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 MOL (S'PORE) PTE LTD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MOROTAI VOY NO (227)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MOROTAI VOY NO (227) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.2.2014 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 CALMY CORAL VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CALMY CORAL VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.2.2014 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 E.C.L S'PORE PTE LTD
Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ATLANTIC ZEUS VOY NO (12810)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ATLANTIC ZEUS VOY NO (12810) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.2.2014 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 TASNEEM INTERNATIONAL
Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

Actor acknowledged for establishing friendship with Asia

Tokyo, 4 Feb — The Japanese government has praised actor Ryotaro Sugi for his efforts to establish

friendship between Japan and Vietnam, as well as with other Southeast Asian countries, the top govern-

ment spokesman said on Tuesday. Referring to Sugi, also a singer, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga

told a press conference, "His grassroots charitable activities have made great contributions to cultural ex-

changes and promotions between Japan and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations."

Sugi, 69, is known for his dedication to building schools at his own expenses and adopting orphans in Vietnam. He has also as-

sumed goodwill ambassador for Japan-Vietnam relations for nearly a decade and also played public roles last year to celebrate the 40th anniversary of friendship between Japan and the 10-member ASEAN.

Kyodo News

ADVERTISEMENT & ENTERTAINMENT

Announcement to City Golf Resort Members for 19th Anniversary of Golf Tournament

1. 19th Anniversary Golf Tournament of City golf members will be held on 9-2-2014 in the level of A, B, and C according to the handicap-wise fixed as the followings-

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| (a) Special guests and Ambassadors | Ngwethawtar Golf Course |
| (b) Gold level (H'cap 0 to 12) | Myakanthar Golf Course |
| (c) Silver Level (H'cap 13 to 18) | Myakanthar Golf Course |
| (d) Bronze Level (H'cap 19 to 24) | Ngwethawtar Golf Course |
| (e) Women members | Ngwethawtar Golf Course |

2. Members who like to participate can make a list at the front office the handicap with 5000 kyat on dead line 6-2-2014 at 15:00 hr in the afternoon. (self handicap should recommended by one of the members and if not the dead line, contestants must be made as City Golf Resort fixed.

3. As for the paid members, the list of golf players to whom like to play together in one group can give at the front office on the dead line 6-2-2014 at 15:00 hr in the afternoon. (if not at the fixed time, must play with the group list fixed by the City Golf Resort.)

4. Tournament list and Tee Off Time will be declared in the afternoon on 8-2-2014 at the club houses in City Golf Resort and Tee Off, and those who haven't favorable time to come and see in persons are requesting to make an inquiry through contact the Tel: No: mentioned below-

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| (a) City Golf Resort Office | 01-641342 |
| (b) City Golf Resort, Ngwethawtar Front Office | 01-641343, 01-640086
09-421119932 |
| (c) City Golf Resort, Myakanthar Front Office | 09-250532668 |

Tournament Organizing Steering Committee

'Silly' selfies craze will die out, says '60s snapper Bailey

LONDON, 4 Feb— The craze for taking "selfies" will die out soon, said British photographer David Bailey, famously known for capturing the free spirit of the swinging '60s.

The 76-year old, whose famous subjects include supermodel Kate Moss, Rolling Stone singer Mick Jagger and actor Jack Nicholson, said he had never taken a self portrait on a smartphone or webcam because he was too busy taking pictures of other people.

"I only just found out what selfies were. I thought it was something entirely different! It's just a silly moment," he told Reuters ahead of his latest exhibition at London's National Portrait Gallery.

"People won't be doing it in six months' time.

There will be another craze, I can't see the point."

"Bailey's Stardust", which opens on 6 February, features 250 portraits spanning his 55-year career but the photographer insisted the show was not a retrospective.

Organized into different groups, Bailey dedicated rooms in the exhibition to his wife Catherine, the Rolling Stones and fashion icons like Moss and Jerry Hall as well as his travels to Papua New Guinea and East Africa.

Whilst his show features color photography, he is best known for his stark black-and-white portraits against a simple white background, which he says helps to convey the message of his work in a direct

manner. "When you look at a color picture, you kind of look at the color before you look at the message, whereas black and white cuts out the color, so you go straight to the message." Showing no signs of slowing despite his age, Bailey says he spends his time working on various projects across film, sculpture and photography, adding he never gets nostalgic. "I'm only interested in now, this moment. Because that is the only thing we have in life, it's now, this moment. When this moment is gone, it's another moment," he said.—Reuters

Philip Seymour Hoffman death comes amid rise in heroin abuse, trafficking

LOS ANGELES, 4 Feb— The apparent heroin overdose death of actor Philip Seymour Hoffman comes amid a sharp rise in trafficking of the illegal narcotic across the US-Mexico border in recent years and growing abuse of the drug nationwide, federal officials said on Monday.

The increasing levels of US heroin use, which has reached epidemic proportions during the past five years, stems from a corresponding spike in abuse of prescription opiate-based painkillers, such as oxycodone, Drug Enforcement

Happy 80th Birthday

Prof. Dr. Kyaw Win
Boulder, Colorado, USA
Son of Rev. On Kin, Independent Methodist, Yangon & Daw Sein Thit, Former Methodist School, Twantay
With best wishes
Riri, Zali & Tom, Dewi & Brad, Spencer & Maya

Britain bars entry to French comedian accused of anti-Semitism

LONDON, 4 Feb— Britain said on Monday it had banned a French comedian accused of anti-Semitism, saying he would not be allowed to enter the country for public policy and security reasons.

Dieudonne M'Bala M'Bala, 46, has been repeatedly fined for "hate speech" in his native France where local authorities in several towns have banned his shows as a threat to public order.

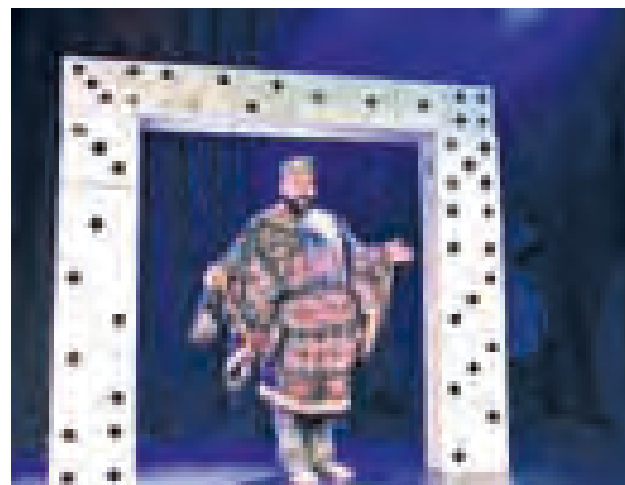
He is closely associated with the "quenelle", a gesture that critics have

likened to an inverted Nazi salute and said carries anti-Semitic overtones.

Dieudonne, who has said he is not anti-Semitic, had planned to visit Nicolas Anelka, a striker at England's West Bromwich Albion football club who is at the centre of a race row.

Anelka made the comedian's salute after scoring a goal in a match in December, saying it was a tribute to his close friend. He is being investigated by England's Football Association over the incident.

Reuters



French comedian Dieudonne M'Bala M'Bala, also known as just "Dieudonne", arrives at a news conference at the "Theatre de la Main d'or" in Paris on 11 Jan, 2014.—REUTERS

Singer Chris Brown avoids jail time, stays in rehab



Singer Chris Brown appears for a probation progress hearing at the Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center in Los Angeles, California on 3 Feb, 2014.

REUTERS

LOS ANGELES, 4 Feb — A judge in Los Angeles on Monday turned down prosecutors' motion to jail R&B singer Chris Brown because of his arrest on an assault charge in Washington, DC, last year.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge James R Brandlin said Brown should stay at a treatment facility for substance abuse and anger management because he was doing well in the court-ordered programme and it gave him an "adequate safety net."

Brandlin sentenced Brown to 90 days in the treatment programme in November following his October assault arrest in Washington where he allegedly punched and broke the nose of a man who was trying to get a picture with him.

Brandlin also revoked Brown's probation from his 2009 assault on then-girlfriend and singer Rihanna on the eve of the Grammy Awards.

Brown, 24, has pleaded not guilty to misdemeanor assault in the Washington case and rejected a plea deal that would have reduced the charge to a simple assault.

The "Look at Me Now" singer had his probation from the Rihanna assault extended last year after prosecutors alleged he cut corners on community service.

Reuters



British photographer David Bailey (L) and his wife Catherine Bailey arrive for the opening of the new Saatchi Gallery in London, on 15 April, 2003.

REUTERS



US actor Philip Seymour Hoffman, who stars as Oakland Athletics' manager Art Howe, arrives for the world premiere of the film "Moneyball" in Oakland, California in this on 16 Sept, 2011, file photo.—REUTERS

Administration officials said. Many individuals who start out abusing oxycodone turn eventually to heroin as they build up a tolerance to the pain pills and find that they can buy heroin far more cheaply than prescription medications on the black market, the of-

ficials said. "Oxy is much more expensive to get than heroin," said Sarah Pullen, a special DEA agent in Los Angeles. "Prescription drug abuse really took hold about 10 years ago, and about five years ago, we really started to see heroin abuse pick up."—Reuters

SPORTS

Newcastle's director of football Kinnear resigns

LONDON, 4 Feb — Newcastle United's controversial director of football Joe Kinnear has quit seven months into a three-year deal after his second spell at the Premier League club in which they made no permanent signings for the first-team squad.

Kinnear, 67, had come under fire after Newcastle, who were thrashed 3-0 at home by local rivals Sunderland in the league on Saturday, did not buy any new players in the January transfer window and lost playmaker Yohan Cabaye to Paris St Germain. "Newcastle United can confirm that Joe Kinnear has this evening resigned from his position as director of foot-

ball with immediate effect," the north-east club said in a statement on their official website (www.nufc.co.uk).

Kinnear was responsible for attracting talent to the club but strikers Luuk de Jong and Loic Remy, on loan from Borussia Mönchengladbach and Queens Park Rangers respectively, were the only players added to the first-team squad under his watch.

Newcastle, who lie mid-table in the league, failed to sign Clement Grenier from Olympique Lyon as a replacement for Cabaye, who left for a fee that British media said could reach 25 million euros (20.7 million pounds).

After the Sunder-

land defeat, manager Alan Pardew told reporters: "If I was in charge, solely, of transfers, things might be different, but I'm not. I think I've made my opinions very clear this week and all the rest of it is confidential." The club's difficulties in the January transfer window were the latest twist in Kinnear's difficult relationship with the fans, who never warmed to the outspoken Irishman.

He returned to Newcastle, where he was manager for four months in the 2008-09 season before his tenure was ended by a heart attack, in controversial circumstances. Many fans and the media questioned whether the Irishman's appoint-

ment by United owner Mike Ashley would undermine Pardew's role at the club with speculation about who had the final say on transfers despite Kinnear saying it was a joint decision.

The day before Kinnear was officially appointed in June last year, the former Tottenham Hotspur and Ireland fullback gave a bizarre radio interview in which he ranted on his critics.

He also made a series of gaffes in which he pronounced the names of players and club officials incorrectly and claimed credit for a signing in his former spell as Newcastle manager when the player was actually recruited by another.

Kinnear, who has also



Newcastle United's owner Mike Ashley (L) speaks with Director of Football Joe Kinnear during the English Premier League soccer match between Newcastle United and Hull City at St James' Park in Newcastle, northern England, on 21 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

had spells as manager of Nottingham Forest, Luton Town and Wimbledon, had little time for critics. "I don't know what angle they've got," he told Talksport. "If they want to sit down and ar-

gue with me, some of them are talking out of their backsides, a load of tosh and I'm not accepting it. It's as simple as that. I've certainly got more intelligence than them, that's for sure."—Reuters

UN secretary general Ban to address IOC session in Sochi

SOCHI, 4 Feb — United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon will deliver a keynote speech at the International Olympic Committee session this week before the start of the Sochi winter Games, IOC President Thomas Bach said on Monday.

Ban would become the first secretary general to

address the session, Bach said. The IOC has observer status at the United Nations.

"The secretary general has accepted the invitation to attend the IOC session and deliver a keynote address," Bach told reporters in the Russian Black Sea resort of Sochi, where the Games begin on Friday.

Several heads of state,

including US President Barack Obama, German President Joachim Gauck and President Francois Hollande of France, will not attend the Games in what many see as a snub to Russia.

The country has come under mounting criticism over its human rights record and the passing of an anti-



UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon

gay propaganda law that critics say curtails the rights of homosexuals.—Reuters

Sochi course 'dangerous,' says Ireland's O'Connor

SOCHI, 4 Feb — Irish snowboarder Seamus O'Connor has described the course for the Sochi Olympics as "pretty dangerous" and called for changes to be made to avoid injuries.

Speaking after his first training runs at the Rosa Khutor Extreme Park, where he will compete in the half-pipe and slopestyle events, O'Connor urged his fellow competitors to speak out.

"It's pretty dangerous at the moment," the 16-year-old was quoted as saying in the *Irish Times*

newspaper. "I think it's definitely going to be a problem for the women." US-born O'Connor represents the best chance of a first ever Winter Games medal for Ireland having turned professional and signed a sponsorship deal with Nike at the age of just 13.

"The riders need to speak up about the conditions," he added. "The rails can't be fixed but they can fix the jumps."

"We may see some injuries. I hope not, but the whole course is variable as it is."—Reuters

United must win all matches to reach Europe



Manchester United's Chris Smalling (L) challenges Swansea City's Wayne Routledge during their English FA Cup third round soccer match at Old Trafford in Manchester, northern England on 5 Jan, 2014.—REUTERS

LONDON, 4 Feb — Manchester United must win their 14 remaining Premier League matches to keep alive their hopes of qualifying for the Champions League, according to defender Chris Smalling. The champions remain marooned in seventh place, seven points off fourth-placed Liverpool and England's final spot for Europe's premier club competition, following Saturday's 2-1 defeat by Stoke City.

Their first league loss to Stoke since 1984 was their eighth of the season and came despite United being able to start Robin van Persie, Wayne Rooney

and Juan Mata together for the first time. The Old Trafford club last missed out on Champions League qualification 19 years ago.

"Each point that we drop makes it difficult for ourselves," Smalling told the club's website (www.manutd.com) on Monday.

"We can only take the next game as it comes, and other teams will drop points as well, but we need to stop dropping points. We need to put pressure on other teams. "We've got Fulham and then Arsenal so we've got some big games. We're back at Old Trafford next week and hopefully the fans

will get right behind us and that will lead us into the Arsenal game."

Although the arrival of Mata from Chelsea and the return of Rooney and Van Persie from injury briefly raised spirits at Old Trafford, United still have injury problems, with Rio Ferdinand and Nani among players still sidelined. They also lost defenders Phil Jones and Jonny Evans during the Stoke match, with the former suffering concussion

and the latter a calf problem.

"We don't really talk (about the Champions League) but we all know if anything that's the minimum we need to aim for," Smalling said. "If we can get on a good run, we've got the players — obviously we lost a couple on Saturday, but we've got a week now until we next play so hopefully we can patch them up and get as many bodies out there as we can."

Reuters

Thorpe admitted to rehab for depression



Australia's Ian Thorpe looks at his time after swimming during the men's 100m freestyle heats at the 2012 Australian Swimming Championships to qualify for the 2012 London Olympics, in Adelaide on 18 March, 2012.

REUTERS

SYDNEY, 4 Feb — Australian swimming great Ian Thorpe has been admitted to rehab after suffering from depression, local media said on Monday. Police were called after Thorpe was found disoriented and behaving oddly near a vehicle and the 31-year-old was later taken to Bankstown hospital on Monday.

"He is in rehab for depression," Thorpe's manager James Erskine told the *Australian Associated Press*. "The owner of the car basically called the police and the police came."

"They realised it was

Ian Thorpe. They realised he was disoriented."

The five-times Olympic champion, who made his Games debut as a teenager in Sydney in 2000, retired in 2006 citing waning motivation and made a comeback early in 2011 but failed to make the Australian team for London.

Erskine said Thorpe was taking anti-depressants and medication for a shoulder injury but was not under the influence of alcohol.

"He hadn't had a drink," Erskine added. "He had zero alcohol in him."

Reuters



Seamus O'Connor (IRE) during the slopestyle men's qualifications at the FIS World Championships at Stoneham Mountain Resort. O Connor qualified for the final.

REUTERS

GENERAL



Photo shows sumo wrestlers — grand champion Hakuho (back R) and maegashira Endo (back L) — during an annual bean-throwing festival, marking the start of spring according to the lunar calendar, at Naritasan Shinsho Temple in Narita, Chiba Prefecture, northeast of Tokyo, on 3 Feb, 2014. KYODO NEWS

Smith&Nephew in \$1.7 billion deal to tackle sports injuries

LONDON, 4 Feb — Britain's Smith & Nephew (SN.L) is to buy ArthroCare Corp (ARTC.O) for an agreed \$1.7 billion in cash to strengthen its treatments for sporting injuries, an area growing faster than its main replacement hips and knees business. Smith & Nephew (S&N) said on Monday it would pay \$48.25 a share, a 20 percent premium to the average share price of Austin, Texas-based ArthroCare over the past 90 days.

S&N Chief Executive Olivier Bohuon said revenues at the British firm's sports medicine business were currently growing by a high single-digit percentage, compared with a low single-digit for replacement hips and knees.

We wanted to acquire in high-growth businesses and sports medicine is definitely one of them," he said, adding ArthroCare's ex-

pertise in treating shoulder joints would complement S&N's strength in knee surgery.

ArthroCare, which had net sales of \$368 million in 2012, also comes with an ENT (ear, nose and throat) franchise that can be developed outside the United States, Bohuon said. Mick Cooper, analyst at Edison Investment Research, said: "The acquisition of ArthroCare makes clear strategic sense; it makes the company a leader in sports medicine and expands its reach into the ENT market, thereby improving its long-term growth prospects."

S&N shares, which have risen by 9 percent in the last three months, were up 1.1 percent to 885.5 pence at 1120 GMT, valuing the group at about 7.8 billion pounds. The deal, which is backed by ArthroCare's board and One Equi-

ty Partners, its largest shareholder with 17 percent, will add about \$85 million to S&N's annual trading profit in the third full year after the deal closes, the British firm said. Including the cash on ArthroCare's balance sheet, S&N said the acquisition would cost it a net \$1.5 billion, financed from its debt facilities and cash balances.

Sports medicine typically involves non-invasive surgery to repair soft tissue in injuries sustained on the playing field. Bohuon said ArthroCare's radio-frequency technology for non-invasive surgery would combine with S&N's blade portfolio to give surgeons more choice. Revenues in S&N's sports medicine business rose 7 percent in the third quarter of its financial year, compared with 5 percent growth across the whole group.—Reuters

5.0-magnitude quake hits Kepulauan Barat Daya, Indonesia

HONG KONG, 4 Feb — An earthquake measuring 5.0 on the Richter scale jolted Kepulauan Barat Daya, Indonesia at 2354 GMT on Monday, the US Geological Survey said.

The epicentre, with a depth of 14.45 km, was initially determined to be at 7.2988 degrees south latitude and 128.2969 degrees east longitude.

Xinhua

Six killed, 21 injured in road mishap in western India

NEW DELHI, 4 Feb — At least six people were killed and 21 others injured in a road mishap in the western Indian state of Rajasthan, a senior police official said on Monday.

"The mishap happened when a speeding bus collided head-on with a truck coming from the oppo-

site direction in the state's Ajmer district late Sunday evening. Most of the victims were passengers of the bus," he said, on condition of anonymity.

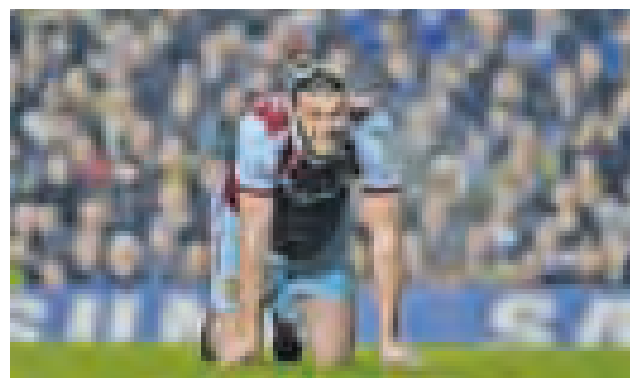
The injured have been admitted to a local hospital, the official said. A probe has been ordered into the incident, he added.—Xinhua

West Ham hope Carroll avoids ban to lift survival hopes

LONDON, 4 Feb — West Ham United are hoping Andy Carroll's productive double-act with Kevin Nolan will not be derailed by a three-match ban as the Premier League strugglers look to ease their way out of relegation trouble.

Carroll, who has barely featured for the club due to injury since making a permanent move from Liverpool this season, helped set up both of Nolan's goals in the 2-0 win over Swansea City on Saturday, a partnership which combined to great effect last term while the striker was on loan.

However, the tall forward was sent off shortly after setting up Nolan's sec-



West Ham United's Andy Carroll reacts during their English Premier League soccer match against Chelsea at Stamford Bridge in London, on 29 Jan, 2014.—REUTERS

ond early in the second half, following an innocuous looking clash with Chico Flores which left the Spaniard rolling theatrically on the Upton Park turf.

The 25-year-old faces

a three-match ban if his appeal is not overturned, a loss which would hit West Ham's hopes of moving up to safety from 18th place.

"Hopefully we get justice in Andy's decision be-

ing overturned," midfielder Mark Noble told the club's official website (www.whufc.com).

"(Swansea manager) Michael Laudrup has come out on TV and said it wasn't a sending off, so that's good honesty from the man. If we can keep him and Kevin firing together, with Jarvo (Matt Jarvis) and Stewart Downing producing crosses, hopefully we can stay solid and push up the table." England's Carroll has recently returned to fitness, having missed the entire season since his 15 million pounds (\$24.65 million) move due to ongoing foot injuries, leaving his side short of attacking options.—Reuters

MYANMAR TV

(5-2-2014, Wednesday)

6:00 am	3:15 pm
1. Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw	19. TV Drama Series
6:20 am	4:00 pm
2. Physical Exercises	20. News
6:30 am	4:15 pm
3. Musical Programme	21. 2014 University Entrance Examination (Chemistry)
6:40 am	5:00 pm
4. Documentary	22. News
7:00 am	5:15 pm
5. News/Weather Report	23. 67 th Anniversary Union Day Programme
7:20 am	5:25 pm
6. Pyi Thu Ni Ti	24. India Drama Series
7:45 am	6:00 pm
7. Myanmar Languge	25. News/Weather Report
8:00 am	6:20 pm
8. News/ International News	26. Shwe Yin Chone Than
8:30 am	6:50 pm
9. India Drama Series	27. TV Drama Series
9:00 am	7:00 pm
10. News/ International News	28. News
9:30 am	7:25 pm
11. Documentary	29. TV Drama Series
10:00 am	8:00 pm
12. News	30. News/International News/Weather Report
10:15 am	8:35 pm
13. TV Drama Series	31. Documentary
11:10 am	8:45 pm
14. Approaching Science Discovery World	32. People Talks
11:35 am	8:50 pm
15. Myanmar Movies (p-1)	33. Documentary
12:00 pm	9:00 pm
16. News/International News/Weather Report	34. News
12:25 pm	35. Fine Arts-Bosom of Dramatic Performance
3:00 pm	36. TV Drama Series
17. Myanmar Movies (P-2)	
3:00 pm	
18. News	

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

5-2-14 07:00 am ~ 6-2-14 07:00 am) MST

- * Local News
- * A Visit to Mandalay
- * World News
- * Art Sttudents: Sculpture
- * Local News
- * An Ardent Aficionado Of Traditional Design
- * World News
- * My Life & My Art
- * Local News
- * Kyaikhteeyoe: Mountain Drivers
- * World News
- * Tea Leaves
- * Local News
- * A Worth Studying Site For Ancient Myanmar Heritages
- * World News
- * Temple Stalls
- * Local News
- * Pa O in the Union
- * World News
- * Wholesale Fish
- * Local News
- * Exquisite Myanmar Silk
- * World News
- * Sticky Shan Snack
- * Local News
- * Yu Suk Dance of Chin National*
- * World News
- * Trishaw Man
- * Local News
- * Hiker's Journey (Inlay Lake) (Ep-5)
- * World News
- * School for the Blind

Vice-President U Nyan Tun visits Sittway, Maungtaw, Buthidaung Tsps in Rakhine State

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb—Accompanied by Union Minister U Htay Aung, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin and deputy ministers, Vice-President U Nyan Tun arrived at Maw-yawady village in Maungtaw district today.

First, the Vice-President cordially greeted students at a makeshift school and spoke words of encouragement to departmental personnel and local people in the village.

Next, he inspected inter-village road, village post-primary school, staff housing and resettlement of local people at the village.

After explaining measures for ensuring peace and stability and development in the region, the Vice-Presi-

dent presented school uniforms and cash assistance for 140 students through the school head. He also offered provisions to the abbot of the village monastery.

In meeting with departmental officials, members of social organizations and townsenders of the two communities at Thiri Mingala Hall of Maungtaw Township, the Vice-President clarified the government's sweeping reforms. He then observed peace and tranquility and development of the township on a motorcade.

(See page 9)

Vice-President U Nyan Tun presents school uniforms and cash for students in Mawyawady Village in Maungtaw district.—MNA



Government needs enough time to make fair and thorough review on Union Minister's comments whether it is made in good faith or bad faith

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb — Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw continued respective sessions today.

At today's Pyithu Hluttaw session, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan My-

int responded to a question about measures to be taken for curbing counts of drugs and gambling in Mon State that counter-narcotics operations and a plan to fight against gambling in Mon State was taking place un-

der the supervision of the Mon State government and the Mon State police commander.

Deputy Minister at President Office U Thant Shin replied that no immediate plan for construction

of pedestrian lane along Khayaybin road in Mingaladon Township, but a public notice had been issued for the clearance of shops strewn on the area of road.

Next, U Aung Soe of Launglon Constituency

submitted an emergency proposal urging the Union government to take immediate actions against Union Minister U Ohn Myint's comments made in meeting with local people at Putone-lone village in Kawthoung Township and Thityarkauk village in Magway Township. Regarding the proposal, Union Minister for Information U Aung Kyi stressed the importance of a point to be taken into consideration that whether Union Minister U Ohn Myint made bona fide (good faith) comments or mala fide (bad faith) ones. He continued that the government wanted to make a fair and thorough review on this case, taking background factors, the situation of the

environment where the incident occurred, consequences of the incident and local people's attitudes into consideration. So, it is required to have enough time to review the case, he added. Pyithu Hluttaw decided to document the proposal and to watch the case.

Deputy Minister at President Office U Aung Thein responded to a question about Namphu creek that measures were being undertaken to prevent flooding and erosion and to return a creek crossing bridge and nearby farmlands into normalcy at the today's Amyotha Hluttaw session.

Regarding a question about a rate of 15 percent (See page 8)

Speaker of Pyidaungsu and Pyithu Hluttaw receives Indian guests

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb—Speaker of Pyidaungsu and Pyithu Hluttaws Thura U Shwe Mann received a delegation led by Chief Minister of the state of Nagaland

of the Republic of India Mr. Shri. Neiphiu Rio at Hluttaw building here at 4 pm today.

Also present at the call were Pyithu Hluttaw Committee Chairmen U Thein

Zaw, U Hla Myint Oo and U T Khun Myat, and Pyithu Hluttaw representatives U Hauk Khant Mahn, U Hla Tun, U Zin Wam and U Hsa Mu, and Commission mem-

ber Daw Aye Aye Mu and officials of Hluttaw Office.

At the meeting, they exchanged views on amity and cooperation between the two countries.—MNA

Integrated Ayeyawady River basin management project discussed



Union Minister U Nyan Tun Aung addresses Hydromet Observation and Information System Modernization Project Preparation Workshop.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Feb—A Hydromet Observation

and Information System Modernization Project

Preparation Workshop took place at Aureum Palace Ho-

tel here today.

At the workshop, Un-

ion Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung gave an opening speech. He said:

I would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the Government of Japan for graciously granting financial aid amounting to about 40 million US dollars for the establishment of three weather radars and 30 sets of automatic weather observation stations, to strengthen the early warning system of Myanmar, which will implement during 2014 to 2017. I am delighted to mention that there is not only Japan but also the

World Bank is now supporting the government and people of Myanmar by taking the initiative for equipping the Hydromet Center with advanced equipment and technique worth of 35 million USD.

Mr Kanthan Shankar, resident representative of the World Bank, explained the purpose of the workshop.

A total of 40 participants from the World Bank and relevant ministries took part in the discussion about proposed Ayeyawady integrated River Basin Management Project.—MNA