

Curriculum vitae of Federal President Joachim Gauck

Joachim Gauck was born in Rostock in 1940. After gaining his Abitur, the higher education entrance qualification, he studied theology. From 1965 to 1990 he was in the service of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Mecklenburg, working as a pastor for many years.

Joachim Gauck became involved in the opposition in the GDR at an early age. In 1989 he was one of the founders of the New Forum and became its spokesperson in Rostock. He was among the initiators of the church and popular resistance to the communist regime in the GDR and led the



Joachim Gauck

weekly prayers for peace which gave rise to the protest demonstrations.

In March 1990, Joachim Gauck entered the first freely elected GDR parliament as a member of

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Daniela Schadt



Daniela Schadt

Daniela Schadt was born on 3 January 1960 in Hanau, Germany. She completed her university entrance examination (Abitur) at the Karl Rehbein School in Hanau in 1978. She then studied political science, German studies and French literature at the Johann Wolfgang Goethe University in Frankfurt am Main, graduating with a Magister Artium degree in 1985.

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Everyone needs to ensure durability of libraries

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Feb—Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint made a remark at the opening ceremony of Luhmu Htoo-chun library, e-library and Cetanamon free clinic at Watoe Ward in Yamethin Township this morning.

In his speech, the Speaker said that the education and health infrastructures play a crucial role in development of a town.

Everyone needs to ensure durability of the libraries and to seek knowledge the whole life to serve the duty of the State, he added.

After that, Union Minister for Cooperatives U Kyaw Hsan gave a speech and Chief Minister of Mandalay Region U Ye Myint spoke words of thanks on the occasion.

Wellwisher U Myat Thin Aung explained the

purpose of the ceremony and handed over documents related to the library and clinic to the official of Yamethin Township.

The Speaker presented K 1 million for e-library and K 1.5 million for the clinic, the Union Minister, publications and the Region Finance Minister, Set Top Box, to the personnel concerned.

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Myanmar, KOSHA sign MoU on bilateral cooperation in occupational safety and health

YANGON, 8 Feb—A ceremony to sign an MoU between the Factories and General Labour Law Inspection Department under the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security and Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency (KOSHA) was held at Hotel Avenue 64 here yesterday morning.

MoU provides occupational health and safety in Myanmar through the workshops, research programs, technical exchange between the two countries and implementation of bilateral cooperation.

Since 2013, KOSHA has been providing assistance for submitting the

proposal on promotion system of occupational health, giving legal advice for Occupational Health and Safety Law, giving courses for inspection officers of Myanmar conducted by the experts of KOSHA and supporting devices for occupational measurement tasks.

MNA

Royal Thai Naval ships to make port visit to Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Feb—Three Royal Thai Navy's ships will be bound for a five-day port visit to Myanmar in the near future as part of the training programme of the Royal Thai Naval Cadet Training Unit, according to the Royal Thai Embassy in Yangon.

The three naval ships carrying 695 naval cadets and commanding officers will be in dock at Myanmar

International Terminals Thilawa Port in Yangon on 19 February and the ships will spend four days at the port until a farewell ceremony on 23 February.

During the five-day visit of Thai naval cadets to Myanmar, they will perform various activities that include taking part in a Myanmar-Thai Navy Friendship Volleyball match at

Thuwunna Indoor Stadium on 20 February, donating blood at National Blood Centre on 21 February and participating in an afforestation project at YCDC Public Park on 22 February, it is learnt. Myanmar Radio and Television, the New Light of Myanmar and other public media to cover the activities of Thai naval ships and crew may contact Ms. Lasapan Toomsawasdi, First Secretary of Thai Embassy at +951-226-721.

NLM

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Small-scale fisheries in delta region turn local fishermen into entrepreneurs

Small-scale fisheries become famous as a manageable business in the areas adjacent to the sea like Bogale. As the small-scale business requires small amount of capital to start, locals in delta regions are interested in setting up their own businesses, rather than being a worker at a fisheries company.

A small trawler needs only one or two fishermen. Some ordinary fishermen who afford to buy a motorized boat run the affordable fishing business with the help of three fishermen and

above.

Everyone can start a fishery business with a small boat and fishing equipment like fishing rods, hooks and line. This is an innovative business, allowing fishermen to catch hundreds of fish for one time and to be an entrepreneur in the fisheries sector.

Now is the time when Myanmar sea fish are fetching good prices in the international markets. Sea fish and dried fish caught from small-scale fisheries bring in K 2000 to K 3000 a viss (one viss equals 1.6 kilograms or 3.6 pounds) in the domestic

By: Min Thitsa
Hlaing (Kadon Kani)

market.

According to fishermen in small-scale fisheries from Amar Sub-Township, they have been provided with money in advance by sea fish exporters and dried fish merchants. So, the small-scale fishing business is booming in seaside villages, Haingyi, Pyinsalu, Kaingthaung, Gayatgyi, Ashaephyar, Naukme, Phoneyithaung and Kalarhtaik.

Kyemon: 8-2-2014

Trs: YM



Photo shows a local fisherman carrying out small-scale fishing in the sea.

67th Anniversary Shan State Day celebrated in Mongphyat, Kyaukme



MONGPHYAT, 8 Feb—The 67th Anniversary Shan State Day was observed at Bayintnaung Hall in Mongphyat on 7 February

morning.

At the ceremony, Hluttaw representatives, departmental personnel, national people and members

of social organizations saluted the State Flag. District Deputy Commissioner U Kyaw Kyaw Ohn read the message sent by Shan State

Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat on the occasion to mark the 67th Anniversary Shan State Day.

On the occasion, the Shan State government provided K 1 million each to Shan, Akha and Lehsu literature and culture development activities through officials.

A similar ceremony was held in Kyaukme Township at township sports ground the same day.

The ceremony chairmen U Khun Myint and Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Sai Hsaung Hsi explained emergence of Shan State Day.

Likewise, the celebrations took place in Lashio, Muse, Namkham, Hsenwi, Hsipaw, Namlan and Nawngkhio at the same time.

MMAL-District IPRD/ Maung Maung

Fire drill practised at markets of PyinOoLwin

PYINOOLOWIN, 8 Feb—As part of efforts to prevent outbreak of fire, the fire drill

was practised at Myoma Market in PyinOoLwin on 5 February.



It was jointly organized by PyinOoLwin Township Fire Services Department and Township Development Affairs Committee.

Staff Officer U Tun Tun Soe of District Fire Services Department explained fire preventive measures, possibilities of breaking out fire and danger of fire, root cause of outbreak of fire.

Members of Township FSD and Market Auxiliary Fire Brigade participated in the fire drill with the use of fire extinguishers

and emergency putting out of fire and use of fire extinguishers.

Later, the Staff Officer of the department and the in-charge of the market inspected use of fuel and electricity, water tanks, installation of water pipelines and electricity control.

It was also attended by members of Township Fire Services Department, in-charge of the market Daw Nyo Nyo Win, officials, members of market separate auxiliary fire brigade and guests.

Kyemon-Nay Lin

Water purifier donated to Waphyutaung BEPS in Indaw Tsp

INDAW, 8 Feb—Villagers of Waphyutaung Village donated one 1100-litre-capacity steel water tank, one 1000-litre-capacity

steel water tank, one water purifier and motor pipelines to Basic Education Primary School in Waphyutaung

School in Manle Village-tract of Indaw Township in Sagaing Region on 4 February.

Indaw Township Pyithu

Hluttaw representative U Kyaw Naing Htay, Deputy Township Education Officer U Kyaw Lwin, and water purifier and pipeline installation committee official U Tin Maung Aye formally opened the facilities.

Headmistress Daw Win Cho presented certificates of honour to Waphyutaung Village administrator U Mya Maung on behalf of the wellwishers.

"Thanks to water purifier, the students and teachers totalling 112 of the school can consume sufficient purified drinking water. We thank the wellwishers for their donation with goodwill," the headmistress said.

MMAL-Ko Min (Indaw)



Umbrella hoisted atop Yadana Shwegu Pagoda



NAY PYI TAW, 8 Feb—A ceremony to hoist the umbrella, pennant-shaped vane and diamond orb atop Yadana Shwegu Pagoda took place in the precinct of Katka Kaba Aye Pagoda of Ywathitkon Village, Zeyathiri Township here this morning.

Abbot of Mingala Zeyon Pali Tekkatho Monastery in Pyinmana Township Agga

Maha Pandita Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vimalabuddhi and Sayadaw Ashin Namobhasa of Phupyaung Monastery, Chief Editor of the Mirror Daily U Khin Maung Kyaw Din and staff, wellwishers and residents hoisted the umbrella, pennant-shaped vane and diamond orb atop the Pagoda. Afterwards, the Sayadaws consecrated the pagoda.—Aye Than

Safety of electricity undertaken in Okshitpin



PADAUNG, 8 Feb—Safety measures for electricity is being taken in Okshitpin of Padaung Township, Bago Region (West).

On 6 February, Pyay District Electrical Engineer U Thurein Than and Township Electrical

Engineer U Tint Zaw supervised clearance of power line, substitution of old power cables with new ones and loading balance of transformers.

Electrifiers and skill workers carried out the tasks carefully.—MMAL-105

WORLD

Japan, US sign pact for quick access to suspect fingerprint data

TOKYO, 8 Feb — Japan and the United States on Friday concluded a pact to provide each other instant access to fingerprint data to check the identity of people suspected of involvement in serious crimes such as terrorism.

The Agreement on Preventing and Combating Serious Crime was signed by Parliamentary Senior Vice Foreign Minister Norio Mitsuya and US Ambassador to Japan Caroline Kennedy in Tokyo, according to Japanese officials. Japan plans to submit the pact to parliament following Cabinet approval later

this month. But the pact is not expected to become operational for a few years.

Once coming into force, the accord will allow the two countries to seek fingerprint data when suspected terrorists try to enter either country or when authorities cannot identify foreigners under arrest for serious crimes such as murder. In Japan, the National Police Agency operates a database which contained the fingerprints of about 10.4 million people as of late last year. It also possesses about 460,000 fingerprints left at the scenes of unsolved crimes.

On the US side, fingerprint databases maintained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Department of Homeland Security will be available to Japanese authorities.

The new arrangements will speed up the exchange of information which now must be routed through the International Criminal Police Organization, or Interpol. Under the pact, one country will be able to electronically send the fingerprints of a criminal suspect to the other, to see if they match any fingerprints in its database.

If a match is found,



(From L) US Ambassador to Japan Caroline Kennedy, Parliamentary Senior Vice Foreign Minister Norio Mitsuya and Keiji Furuya, chairman of the National Public Safety Commission, shake hands after Mitsuya and Kennedy signed the Agreement on Preventing and Combating Serious Crime, at the Foreign Ministry in Tokyo on 7 Feb, 2014.—KYODO NEWS

such information as the name, date of birth and criminal record of that person will be available to the investigating authorities.

Kyodo News

Snow falling across many parts of Japan

TOKYO, 8 Feb — Wide areas of Japan were hit by snowfall on Saturday, with a rapidly developing low-pressure front heading northeast along the south side of the Honshu main island, the Japan Meteorological Agency said.

Heavy snow is expected in the Kanto plain region that includes Tokyo, with central Tokyo and the nearby Yokohama covered with snow as of 8 am.

Through Sunday morning, as much as 50 centimeters of snow is expected in the Kanto-Koshin area and 40 cm in extended areas from western to eastern Japan, according to the agency. A number of domestic flights to and from Tokyo's Haneda Airport have been cancelled, while the Tokaido and Sanyo Shinkansen bullet trains operating in western Japan are expected to fall behind schedule, the operators said.

Some sections of expressways were also closed due to the snow.

In Tokyo, several universities delayed the starting times of their entrance examinations for the new academic that begins in April.—Kyodo News

Turkish forces seize suspected hijacker on plane in Istanbul

ISTANBUL, 8 Feb — Turkish security forces on Friday seized a Ukrainian man who officials said made a bomb threat and tried to hijack a passenger plane, demanding to go to the Winter Olympics venue of Sochi just as the opening ceremony was taking place.

Turkey scrambled an F-16 fighter jet to accompany the Pegasus Airlines Boeing 737-800 plane as it landed at Sabiha Gokcen airport at 6.05 pm (1605 GMT), after a flight from the Ukrainian city of Kharkov with 110 passengers on board. The incident came at a time when security officials internationally are on high alert for possible militant attacks connected to the Games.

The suspect, a 45-year-old man, had a small bag containing electronic goods but no bomb, Istanbul Governor Huseyin Avni Mutlu

told reporters after the operation to capture him.

"None of the passengers were harmed and a successful operation was carried out," Mutlu said.

He said some force had to be used to seize the suspect. "He was captured as a result of a struggle without the need to use any weapons. The hijacker was slightly wounded," he said.

Reuters



The Pegasus Airlines plane from the Ukrainian city of Kharkov on the tarmac of Istanbul's Sabiha Gokcen Airport, on 7 Feb, 2014.—REUTERS

Egyptian riot policemen stand guard in Al-Matarya neighbourhood in Cairo, on 7 Feb, 2014. Clashes erupted on Friday in several cities between protesters and security forces as anti-military protesters marched across the country to demand the return of the ousted president Mohamed Morsi.—XINHUA



Abe to meet with Putin in Sochi, aiming to speed up territorial talks

SOCHI, (Russia), 8 Feb — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe will meet with Russian President Vladimir Putin on Saturday in Sochi, where they attended the opening ceremony of the Winter Olympics the previous day, aiming to accelerate talks on a territorial dispute over islands off Hokkaido.

The summit will be their fifth in a year. Abe has said he wants to enhance mutual trust with Putin, which Tokyo hopes will help to resolve the long-standing dispute over the four Russian-administered islands that has prevented the two countries from signing a peace treaty since the end of World War II.

The leaders are also expected to discuss security and economic cooperation, including Japanese investment in the Russian Far East, where abundant oil and gas reserves have been confirmed.

During their meeting in Moscow last April, the leaders' first summit since Abe assumed office in December 2012, they agreed

to cooperate in the areas of agriculture, medical services, urban development and energy. Abe and Putin have met three times since on the sidelines of international conferences, confirming their commitment to dialogue on necessary steps to address issues of bilateral concern.

Japanese and Russian officials have engaged in talks to resolve the dispute over the islands, known as the Southern Kurils in Russia and the Northern Territories in Japan.

Tokyo claims that Soviet forces continued an offensive against Japan after it surrendered in World War II, seizing control of all four islands from 28 August to 5 Sept, 1945.

In past bilateral talks, Japan has said if Russia acknowledges the four islands belong to Japan, Tokyo is prepared to respond flexibly to the timing and manner of their return, but Russia has shown no sign of recognizing Japanese ownership.

US President Barack Obama and many European

leaders did not attend the opening ceremony in protest at antigay legislation enacted by Russia last year.

Japan is "closely watching the human rights situation in Russia," Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said at a press conference in Tokyo on Friday. "But we don't think about it in connection with the Olympics," the top government spokesman added.

Kyodo News

Thailand to hold new voting for blocked polling stations

BANGKOK, 8 Feb — Thai Election Commission (EC) on Friday decided to hold a new round of voting for 26 January advance voting and for 10,284 polling stations that were blocked by protesters in 2 February general election.

EC commissioner Somchai Srisuthiyakorn said on Friday that new voting would be held in seven provinces, including Rayong, Yala, Narathiwat, Pattani, Satun, Phetchaburi,

and Prachuap, where polling stations were blocked by protesters on 2 February. However, the specific time for the new round of voting is yet to be announced.

Meanwhile, voting would not be held again at the polling stations where voting had taken place and were later disrupted by protesters, Somchai said, adding that the EC would count the ballots that were successfully cast.

The EC also asked the

caretaker government to issue a new royal decree to set a new election date for the 28 constituencies in eight provinces where there were no registered candidates due to obstruction by protesters.

The latest figures by the EC showed that 46.79 percent of voters nationwide cast their ballots in 2 February general election.

The polling agency said as many as 20.1 million voters out of 43.024

million eligible Thai voters exercised their voting rights in 68 provinces where voting was not disrupted by protesters, with 71.38 percent of those ballots valid, 12.05 percent invalid and 16.57 percent "no-vote."

The National Institute of Development Administration on Friday released results of a survey conducted on 1,259 Thai residents nationwide on 5-6 February.

Xinhua

WORLD

Obama aide Rice says recent troubles shouldn't derail US-India ties



US National Security Advisor Susan Rice looks up during a meeting between US President Barack Obama (R) and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at the G20 Summit in St Petersburg, Russia on 5 Sept, 2013.

REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 8 Feb — A top White House adviser attempted to smooth over troubled ties between the United States and India on Friday, saying the two countries should not allow the dispute over an Indian

diplomat to “derail the future we are working diligently to build.”

The diplomat, Devyani Khobragade, was arrested on 12 December on charges of visa fraud and lying to US authorities about what

she paid her housekeeper. She was stripped-searched while detained in a Manhattan federal courthouse, an incident that triggered a major rift between India and the United States. The controversy interrupted what had been a warming in US-Indian relations as part of a US pivot toward Asia.

President Barack Obama's national security adviser, Susan Rice, addressing the Aspen Institute US-India Dialogue, said recent events had drawn more attention to disagreements than cooperative efforts.

“But those difficulties should be minor compared to the breadth of our relationship and the magnitude of what we can accomplish together. We must also deal with our differences in a

constructive manner, commensurate with a relationship of this importance,” she said. The two countries cooperate on a wide range of issues including counterterrorism, regional security and defence. India is also a major market for US weapons. “We cannot allow such challenges to derail the future we are working diligently to build — a future of greater prosperity, greater security, and consistent adherence to our shared values,” Rice said.

Rice also said the United States is confident that, whatever the outcome of India's upcoming national elections, the cooperation and strategic partnership between the two nations will continue to grow.

Reuters

M5.0, M4.8 quakes jolt Fukushima Prefecture

TOKYO, 8 Feb—A couple of earthquakes with a preliminary magnitude of 5.0 and 4.8 shook Fukushima Prefecture Saturday morning, the Japan Meteorological Agency said.

The 2:18 am quake, originating around 40 kilometres underground off the coast of the prefecture, registered intensity 4 on the Japanese seismic scale of 7 in Soma and Shinchi

in the prefecture. Later in the morning, another quake with the same intensity jolted Kawauchi in the prefecture at 11:34 am, the agency said.

No tsunami warning was issued following the two quakes, which also shook surrounding areas of Fukushima, such as Miyagi, Tochigi and Ibaraki prefectures.

Kyodo News



A participant in an ice sculpture contest in Asahikawa, Hokkaido, puts the final touches to a dragon statue on 7 Feb, 2014—KYODO NEWS

Man tries to jump fence at White House, sparking lockdown

WASHINGTON, 8 Feb — A man with two suspicious bags attempted to climb a White House fence on Friday before being apprehended, leading to a security lockdown of the White House grounds. A Secret Service spokesman said the man was taken into custody and his bags were being screened.

“He did not make it over the fence,” a US Secret



Service spokesman said. The area around the White House was shut down and reporters were not allowed to leave through one of the gates because of the incident.

President Barack Obama was traveling in Michigan at the time.—Reuters

The White House is pictured shortly after sunrise in Washington, on 1 Aug, 2007. —REUTERS

China to reform pension system

BEIJING, 8 Feb — China will reform its pension scheme by unifying the two separate systems for urban and rural residents to allow people better access to social benefits, according to an executive meeting of the State Council on Friday.

The move, part of the efforts to address pension payment gaps between urban and rural areas, was

announced in a statement issued after the meeting presided over by Premier Li Keqiang.

The unified system will build stable expectations for improving livelihood and facilitate population movement, said the meeting statement, adding that it will also boost consumption and encourage more business start-ups.

The statement said pension funds will be pooled from individuals, employers and governments at various levels. The central government will provide more subsidies to people in less-developed central and western regions.

The pension system will serve as a safety net for millions of seniors, according to the statement.

China has the largest senior population in the world, with 194 million people at or above the age of 60 at the end of 2012, according to the China National Committee on Aging.

The age group is expected to grow to 243 million by 2020, and one-third of the population will be over the age of 60 by 2050.

Xinhua

Spanish princess testifies in corruption probe



PALMA DEMALLORCA, 8 Feb—Spain's Princess Cristina was questioned by a judge on Saturday in a corruption case that has deepened public anger over graft among the ruling class and discontent with the royal family.

It was the first time that a Spanish royal has been summoned in a criminal proceeding since the monarchy was restored in 1975 following the death of dictator Francisco Franco.

With Spain emerging slowly from a deep economic and financial crisis, judges are looking into hundreds of corruption cases left over from a property boom that ended abruptly in 2008.

Cristina, the younger daughter of King Juan Carlos and seventh in line to the throne, is answering preliminary charges of tax fraud and money laundering linked to her use of income from a shell company she co-owned with her husband Inaki Urdangarin. She was driven down a ramp to the courthouse in Palma de Mallorca, capital of the Balearic Islands, and walked the last few steps, smiling at the press and dressed soberly in a white shirt and black jacket.

Streets away, hundreds of protesters shouted slogans calling for a republic, equal justice for all and an end to institutional corruption.

Reuters

Afghan civilian deaths up in 2013 as war intensifies - UN



KABUL, 8 Feb—War took an increasing toll on Afghanistan's civilians in 2013 as fighting intensified between the government and insurgents, the United Nations said in a report on Saturday, with total casualties rising 14 percent.

The gradual withdrawal of foreign troops has left Afghan government forces more vulnerable to attack by insurgents, and the resulting battles helped account for last year's rise in casualties, according to the report.

Last year was the worst for women and children since 2009, with the number killed or injured by the conflict increasing by more than one-third from 2012. About 27 percent of all 2013 casualties stemmed from fighting

between the government and insurgents, and most of these could not be attributed to one side.—Reuters

Talks to avert second London Underground strike fail

LONDON, 8 Feb - Talks aimed at averting a second 48-hour strike by London Underground workers failed on Friday, meaning the planned action is still scheduled to take place from next Tuesday evening.

Millions of commuters faced travel chaos for two days this week when “tube” workers went on strike to protest against ticket office closures and job cuts.

Reuters

WORLD

Chinese, Afghan presidents agree to promote ties

SOCI, (Russia), 8 Feb — Chinese President Xi Jinping and his Afghan counterpart, Hamid Karzai, agreed here Friday to further advance the relations between their countries. The two leaders are in this Russian resort city for the opening ceremony of the 22nd Winter Olympic Games.

China, Xi said, attaches great importance to its relations with Afghanistan, and stands ready to maintain high-level exchanges and promote communication and cooperation between them, so as to push forward the development of bilateral ties. China is willing to offer continued assistance for Afghanistan's peaceful reconstruction, especially in personnel training, and en-

courage Chinese companies to invest in Afghanistan, he said, while urging Kabul to create a safe environment for bilateral cooperation.

China is ready to strengthen cooperation with Afghanistan in fighting the "three evil forces" of separatism, extremism and terrorism as well as transnational crime, Xi added.

China, he stressed, will unswervingly support Afghanistan's efforts in safeguarding national independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, and back an Afghan-led and Afghan-owned national reconciliation process.

Noting that 2014 is a critical year in Afghanistan's transition, he conveyed the hope that Afghanistan will



Chinese President Xi Jinping (R) meets with Afghan President Hamid Karzai in Sochi, Russia, on 7 Feb, 2014.—XINHUA

hold smooth presidential elections, achieve a stable transition and realize lasting stability and prosperity.

The fate of Afghanistan will be more closely linked with that of the region after 2014, and China supports Afghanistan's integration into regional economic

cooperation, said the Chinese president.

As China will host the fourth ministerial meeting of the Istanbul Process on Afghanistan, Beijing is ready to closely cooperate with Kabul to guarantee the success of the event, he added.—Xinhua

Venezuela says four more held over anti-Maduro protests

CARACAS, 8 Feb — Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro said on Friday four people had been held following another rowdy anti-government protest, the latest in a spate of sporadic street demonstrations being fanned by hardline opposition parties.

That brought to nearly a dozen the number of reported detentions since two opposition leaders, Maria Corina Machado and Leopoldo Lopez, last week urged Venezuelans to take to the streets in an effort to force a change of government.

Seven people were

hurling objects and smashing security cameras.

"We have made four arrests ... there will be no mercy," Maduro said, denouncing them as "fascists."

The Venezuelan president, who narrowly won election last year to replace late socialist leader Hugo Chavez, said right-wing politicians were hoping to spark incidents to create outrage abroad.

"I have information they are looking for injuries and deaths. They want to project images to the world in order to disrupt our country," he said.



Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro (L) and National Assembly President Diosdado Cabello attend a ceremony commemorating the 22nd anniversary of late Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez's attempted coup d'etat in Caracas on 4 Feb, 2014.—REUTERS

arrested last weekend on charges of violence after scores of protesters converged on a hotel housing a Cuban baseball team on Margarita Island.

Opposition activists say Maduro is a stooge of the Cuban government.

Students in the western state of Tachira have been demonstrating this week and officials said one group of masked assailants attacked the residence of the pro-government governor,

Frustrated by the moderate line of two-time presidential runner-up Henrique Capriles and other prominent opposition figures, Machado and Lopez have urged Venezuelans to hit the streets to protest against economic hardships and other societal ills.

There have so far only been sporadic demonstrations, drawing relatively small numbers of protesters.

Reuters

Philippine WWII survivor keeps shrapnel in leg as reminder of horrors

TACLOBAN CITY, (Philippines), 8 Feb — Many elderly people in the Philippines have made it their task in life to tell the younger generation of their ordeal during World War II in a bid to prevent war from ever



Alejandro Devaras, 80, talks to Kyodo News on 8 Jan, 2014 in Tacloban City on the central Philippine island of Leyte about his experiences during World War II.—KYODO NEWS

happening again. One of those survivors is 80-year-old Alejandro Devaras who has kept an unusual piece of WWII "memorabilia" to underpin his story.

He has never had shrapnel in his leg removed — shrapnel that injured him at the height of fighting between American and Japanese forces 70 years ago in the central island province of Leyte. In a recent interview with Kyodo News, Devaras said the shrapnel in his right leg was discovered only 14 years ago during a medical checkup, and that he decided not to have it removed because of its "sentimental value."

"It proves that the things I say about the war-time here really happened. Anyway, it's just small and I'm already old," Devaras said of the shrapnel which he sustained when American forces began a strike

against the Imperial Japanese Army in his hometown Dulag on 18 Oct, 1944.

A coastal town 37 kilometers south of Leyte's capital, Tacloban, and about 890 km south of the capital Manila, Dulag is said to be the first area in the Philippines to have been liberated by the American forces.

A hill in Dulag has been marked as the site where the Americans, on 20 Oct, 1944, raised their flag to mark victory over the Japanese.

It came two years after the Japanese on 9 April, 1942 lowered the US flag in Bataan Province on Luzon Island, marking the beginning of Japan's full control over the Philippines.

"The Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, that's what we were taught (by the Japanese). But it was not good for the Philippines because it only brought

us hardship and trouble," Devaras said, referring to Japan's euphemism for its military conquest and economic exploitation of Asian nations during the 1930s and 1940s.

Devaras recalled he was only 9 years old when Japanese soldiers arrived in Dulag in 1942 and immediately declared the entire town to be "under the Imperial Japanese Government."

As time went by, Devaras said his fear subsided because the Japanese soldiers turned out to be friendly, and he also enjoyed studying the Japanese language and culture in school. "I learned how to speak Japanese, and how to write my name in (the Japanese scripts of) katakana and hiragana. We were also made to bow every time we met some Japanese to greet them," he said.

Kyodo News

Senior official rejects US remarks on Iran's nuclear facilities

TEHRAN, 8 Feb — A close aide to Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei rejected US official's recent remarks about Iran's nuclear facilities as "interventionist and worthless," Press TV reported on Friday.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran will not back down an iota from its nuclear rights," Ali-Akbar Velayati was quoted as saying, in response to the statement made Tuesday by Wendy

Sherman, US Undersecretary of State, that Iran doesn't need to have an underground, fortified enrichment facility.

On Friday, a senior Iranian cleric called on Iran's Foreign Ministry to react decisively to what he called "US threats" and remarks against the Islamic republic over its nuclear programme, according to Press TV.

"People expect the Iranian Foreign Ministry to

give crushing response to rants, lies, accusations and brazenness of the United States," Ayatollah Mohammad-Ali Movahhedi-Kermani said.

On 20 January, Iran and the P5+1 group, including United States, Russia, China, France, Britain and Germany, started implementation of the interim nuclear deal they clinched in Geneva on 24 Nov, 2013.

Xinhua

Court stops Australian firm from mining in Zambian national park

LUSAKA, 8 Feb — A court in Zambia has granted an injunction against an Australian mining firm from going ahead with its mining project in a national park in the southern African nation, environmental lobby groups that have been against the project said on Friday. Australia's Zambezi Resources has been stopped from going ahead with its mining project in Lower Zambezi National

Park following an injunction filed by environmental lobby groups after the government overturned a decision by the country's environmental regulator, the Zambia Environmental Management Agency (ZEMA), to reject the company's mining project due to environmental concerns.

Judge Mubanga Kandolo granted the injunction against the Australian firm on Thursday pending an

hearing of an appeal.

The court has since set 18 Feb, 2014 as the date for an interpret hearing.

Last Friday, a consortium of environmental lobby groups, the Community Based Natural Resource Management Forum, filed an injunction in a high court in Lusaka, the Zambian capital, to halt the Australian firm's decision to commence mining operations.

Xinhua

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Salmon have “inherited magnetic map” for migration

WASHINGTON, 8 Feb — Baby salmon with no prior migratory experience are able to orient themselves according to the Earth’s magnetic field in the direction of the marine feeding grounds frequented by their ancestors, showed a new study published on Thursday that suggests the fish may inherit a kind of built-in GPS that always points them home.

Nathan Putman of Oregon State University and his colleagues tested the offspring of adult Chinook salmon from the Willamette River Basin in Oregon for evidence of orientation preferences that would in-

dicating use of an inherited magnetic map.

The fish, which hatch in freshwater but migrate to sea and spend several years foraging in the ocean like other species of semelparous Pacific salmon, had not yet embarked on their seaward migration and were thus navigationally naive. The researchers used a magnetic coil system to expose young Chinook salmon to magnetic fields that exist near the latitudinal extremes of their typical oceanic range.

They found a magnetic field characteristic of the northern limits of the oceanic range led Chinook to



orient southward while a far southern field encouraged the salmon to orient northward. “Our findings are certainly suggestive that before the fish even hit the ocean, they have information about how they should orient to reach, or remain in, favorable locations,” Putman said. “In essence, the fish act as though they have a map based on the magnetic field,” Putman added.

Further study showed that Chinook use the combi-

nation of magnetic intensity and inclination angle to assess their geographic location and guide themselves accordingly. Given that such navigational systems have also been reported in sea turtles, the researchers speculated that similar navigational systems also exist in other marine species with similar life-history patterns, such as tunas, eels, sharks, seals and whales. The findings were published in the US journal *Current Biology*. — Xinhua

Target vendor says hackers breached data link used for billing

WASHINGTON, 8 Feb — The Target Corp hackers managed to break into its payments network by first breaching a “data connection” between the US retailer and its heating and ventilation systems contractor, a representative for the contractor said on Thursday.

The data connection was used by the vendor, Fazio Mechanical Services, to bill Target and exchange contract and project management information with the retailer, according to Dick Roberts, a public re-

lationships or to provide an update. “This is an active and ongoing investigation. I don’t have additional details to share at this time,” she said.

Last week, Target said the theft of a vendor’s credentials had helped cyber criminals pull off the massive data breach, which occurred during the holiday shopping season in late 2013.

Target did not identify the vendor. The US Secret



Shoppers are seen at a Target store during Black Friday sales in the Brooklyn borough of New York, on 29 Nov, 2013. — REUTERS

lations representative for Fazio.

Target, the third-largest US retailer, has said the hackers stole about 40 million credit and debit card records, as well as personal information, such as addresses and phone numbers, belonging to about 70 million customers.

Target spokeswoman Molly Snyder declined on

Service is investigating the Target attack, and said on Wednesday that its agents had visited the offices of Fazio Mechanical Services, based in Sharpsburg, Pennsylvania.

Fazio does not believe the hackers breached any data or data connections involving any of its other customers, Roberts said.

Reuters

Google starts selling corporate videoconferencing product



SAN FRANCISCO, 8 Feb — Google Inc unveiled a videoconferencing system for businesses on Thursday, the Internet search company’s latest effort generate revenue from corporate customers. Google said it was partnering with Asus, Hewlett-Packard Co and Dell to offer a specialized version of its Chromebox PC that comes with vide-

oconferencing gear, including a video camera and speakers.

The first Chromebox for meetings to be available is made by Asus and goes on sale in the US on Thursday for \$999, Google said. Customers can also pay a \$250 annual service and management fee, though the first year is included in the product’s sales price.

The product uses Google’s free Hangouts video chat technology to connect up to 15 separate video streams from users in different locations.

The product will put Google in competition against Cisco Systems Inc and Polycom Inc, which make the video conferencing systems used by many corporations. The world’s largest Internet search engine, Google makes the vast majority of its revenue from advertising. But Google also sells services to corporate customers, including special versions of its online apps such as email and word processing, as well as Chromebook laptops aimed at business users. — Reuters

Amazon asks customers to pick from TV pilots for show development



LOS ANGELES, 8 Feb — Amazon.com Inc released its second batch of TV pilots on Thursday and asked for customer feedback to help determine which of the 10 shows to develop into series for its video streaming service. The company is investing in original content to attract customers to its \$79-a-year Amazon Prime service, which competes for online viewers with servic-

es such as Netflix and Hulu.com. Prime also includes free two-day shipping for Amazon products.

The new pilots include three comedies and two dramas for adults, plus five children’s shows. Amazon will make a decision on how many to put into development after customers have their say by leaving online comments and ratings. Malcolm McDowell

stars in the comedy “Mozart in the Jungle,” a story about “sex, drugs — and classical music,” an Amazon statement said. A science-fiction show, “The After,” was written and directed by “The X-Files” creator Chris Carter. Amazon chose the pilots after looking at the genres that are popular with its customers, said Roy Price, director of Amazon Studios. “Customers have responded really well in the past to sci-fi,” Price said in an interview.

“We start with some areas that customers are responding to and try to develop shows that fit in there.” Other pilots include “Transparent,” a dark comedy about a dysfunctional family that stars Jeffrey Tambor and Judith Light, and “Bosch,” based on

best-selling novels about a Los Angeles homicide detective.

The new pilots are available for a month in the United States on Amazon.com and through the Amazon Instant Video app, and in Britain through Amazon’s Lovefilm streaming service. Last year, Amazon released two comedy series, “Alpha House,” starring John Goodman as a senator, and “Betas,” about a tech start-up, after considering customer input on 14 pilots. Three children’s series also were selected during that process, which brought in thousands of customer reviews within a few days, Price said. — Reuters

IBM explores sale of semiconductor business

BANGALORE, 8 Feb — IBM Corp is exploring the sale of its semiconductor business and has hired Goldman Sachs to find potential buyers, the *Financial Times* reported on Thursday, citing sources familiar with the matter.

However, IBM is not committed to the idea of selling and could also seek a partner to set up a joint venture for its semiconductor operations, the report said.

The report comes two weeks after IBM agreed to sell its low-end server



Visitors walk past the IBM booth at the 9th China International Software Product & Information Service Expo in Nanjing, Jiangsu Province on 6 Sept, 2013. — REUTERS

business for \$2.3 billion to Chinese PC maker Lenovo Group Ltd. IBM was not

immediately available for comment.

Reuters

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Several forms of vitamin E protect against memory disorders

HELSINKI, 8 Feb — A joint research by Finnish and Swedish scientists has shown that the entire vitamin E family plays a role in prevention of age-related memory disorders.

The latest research by the University of Eastern Finland, Karolinska Institutet of Sweden and some other medical research institutes showed that

various forms of vitamin E plays a role in memory processes, according to a report by the Finnish daily *Helsingin Sanomat*.

The new finding came as previous studies investigating the link between vitamin E and memory disorders usually focused only on a single form of vitamin E, namely alpha-tocopherol.

According to Dr Miia Kivipelto, director of the research from University of Eastern Finland, vitamin E exists in eight different natural forms (fat-soluble compounds) and the entire vitamin E family plays a role in protecting against memory disorders, not only alpha-tocopherol.

Kivipelto said vitamin E supplements available on

the market usually contain only alpha-tocopherol, and the best sources of vitamin E are vegetable oils, nuts, green vegetables and whole grain cereals.

"A balanced diet is the best way to obtain all the eight vitamin E from food," said Kivipelto, adding that more varied diet and a healthier lifestyle could efficiently prevent



memory disorders among the elderly.

The research was pub-

lished on the latest issue of *Experimental Gerontology*.—Xinhua

Google bought \$750 million Lenovo stake on 30 January

HONG KONG, 8 Feb — Internet search company Google Inc bought a 5.94 percent stake in China's Lenovo Group Ltd last month for \$750 million, according to a disclosure on the Hong Kong stock exchange.

Google acquired 618.3

million Lenovo shares at \$1.213 per share on January 30, the stock exchange said late on Thursday.

Lenovo agreed to buy Google's Motorola handset division last week for \$2.91 billion in a cash and stock deal. — Reuters



The Google signage is seen at the company's offices in New York on 8 Jan, 2013. — REUTERS

Private business services log slowest expansion in 29 months

BEIJING, 8 Feb — China's service activity among private firms expanded at the slowest pace in 29 months in January, signaling weaker expansion of business and new orders at the start of 2014. The HSBC China Services Business Activity Index, a gauge of operating conditions in private service companies, ended at 50.7 last month, down from 50.9 in December, HSBC Holdings Plc and consulting firm Markit said today. A reading above 50 means expansion.

Comparatively, China's official non-manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index, compiled by the China Federation of Logistics and Purchasing and slanted toward state-owned enterprises, also eased to a 23-month low of 53.4 in January from 54.6 a month

earlier. Qu Hongbin, chief economist for China at HSBC, said the slower expansion of service activities reflected soft manufacturing growth and the impact of China's latest measure to curb official extravagance.

"As business sentiment remains stable, we expect service growth to bounce back a little in the coming months," Qu said. He added that a meaningful improvement relies on stronger growth of manufacturing and the implementation of reforms to boost services. China's slowing growth is largely due to the country's deepening reforms in economic restructuring, and it was good for China to address problems such as overcapacity and low investment efficiency, analysts have said.

Xinhua

Apple buys back \$14 billion of its stock since Q1 results

LOS ANGELES / BANGALORE, 8 Feb — Apple Inc has repurchased \$14 billion worth of its stock in the last two weeks after disappointing first-quarter results, the *Wall Street Journal* reported quoting Chief Executive Tim Cook. Cook told the paper in an interview that Apple was "surprised" by the 8 percent decline in its shares on January 28, the day after it reported quarterly results. Lower-than-expected holiday iPhone sales and a weak revenue forecast by Apple renewed fears about lower Chinese demand and a tepid global market.

With the latest round of purchases, Apple had bought back more than \$40



The Apple flagship retail store is pictured in San Francisco, California on 27 Jan, 2014. — REUTERS

billion of its shares over the past 12 months, which according to Cook was a record for any company over a similar span, the *Journal* said. "It means that we are

betting on Apple. It means that we are really confident on what we are doing and what we plan to do. We are not just saying that. We are showing that with our ac-

tions," Cook told the *Journal*. The share buyback was part of Apple's previously disclosed plan to repurchase \$60 billion of its own shares.

Apple had returned \$7.7 billion to shareholders through dividends and buybacks in the December quarter, bringing the total under its capital return program to \$43 billion, excluding latest purchases. Cook told the paper that Apple plans to disclose "updates" to its buyback programme in March or April. Apple could not immediately be reached for comment by Reuters outside of regular US business hours.

Reuters

Flavour-pairing may teach kids to like vegetables

NEW YORK, 8 Feb — Parents have long poured on cheese sauce, peanut butter and the like to coax kids to eat their vegetables, but a new study suggests those tricks might also get children to look more favourably at the vegetables themselves.

Preschoolers introduced to Brussels sprouts alongside cream cheese to spread on the bitter vegetable more often said they

liked the sprouts and ate more of them, even when later served plain.

The strategy of pairing something new with something a person already likes is known as associative conditioning and could be helpful in encouraging kids — and adults — to eat more fruits and vegetables, the authors say.

"This has the potential to change the eating habits of children, including

eating more vegetables, and this in turn will affect childhood obesity," said Elizabeth Capaldi-Phillips, a psychologist at Arizona State University and lead author of the study.

The research was published in *Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics*.

In the study, parents of 29 children between the ages of three and five years old filled out a survey about the kids' views of 11 vegetables, including whether they liked or disliked the vegetable, or had never tried it. Cauliflower and Brussels sprouts were among the vegetables most children had not tried, and were selected as the ones used to gauge children's preferences in the study.

The children were given either cauliflower or Brussels sprouts once per day for seven days, and ate in a group of five or six children that was led by a researcher or teacher.

The vegetables were all boiled, then were either

served plain, with unsweetened cream cheese or with sweetened cream cheese.

After this conditioning period, the kids were given the vegetables plain. The researchers found that children given Brussels sprouts with cream cheese during conditioning liked them significantly more than those given plain sprouts.

Less than one in five kids given plain sprouts said they liked the vegetable, whereas about two-thirds of kids who got sprouts with either type of cream cheese said they liked the vegetables.

The children liked milder, non-bitter cauliflower more overall, and about equally whether or not it was served with cream cheese. After the conditioning period, when children were given the plain vegetables, those who had previously said they "liked" Brussels sprouts ate more of them than kids who had expressed dislike.

Reuters



Some of more than 8,000lbs of locally grown broccoli from a partnership between Farm to School and Healthy School Meals is served in a salad to students at Marston Middle School in San Diego, California, on 7 March, 2011. — REUTERS

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 9 February, 2014

Is it necessary to wear a mask in Yangon?

Air pollution is widely accepted as a root cause for the respiratory problems such as asthma among children and chronic bronchitis and heart diseases among adults in their sixties. If the level of particulate matter has exceeded the WHO's guideline level of 50 micrograms averaged over a 24-hour period, it will result in adverse health consequences. WHO's studies pointed out that worldwide deaths of about 3.2 million people in 2010 were due to air pollution.

During the recent years, most parts of Yangon, Myanmar's famed commercial hub, has seen influx of vehicles even on the streets of once-quiet wards. As modernity sweeps over the old city of high population density, change is picking up speed. With a dramatic increase in the number of vehicles on the roads, vehicular emission which is the main source of air pollution has become higher and higher.

Quality of air can contribute to better health for residents. Air pollution triggered by high volume of traffic shortens life expectancy. Although air pollution does not cause serious disease straight away as it requires prolonged exposure, health risks are real and chronic exposure to air pollution is not only bad for environmental health but also can increase the risk of developing heart and respiratory diseases.

There has been a growing concern over harmful emission from high volume of traffic among dwellers. We see some people wearing masks over their face more and more on the busy places in Yangon. We comfort ourselves with a thought that newly-imported vehicles of latest models only produce a small amount of exhaust fumes. But, no official data revealing that a layer of smog over the city has not reached its danger level is available to relieve our concerns.

Now is the time to inform Yangonites of the air quality of the traffic city. We need a high priority to monitor air pollution in downtown and industrial areas. More attention is also needed to heighten public awareness about the danger of air pollution and develop precautions to be adopted. We want to know whether it is necessary to wear a mask while going out in Yangon.

Curriculum vitae of ...

(from page 1)

the Alliance 90 — an amalgamation of several grassroots movements — and was elected chairman of the special committee overseeing the dissolution of the Ministry of State Security. On 3 October 1990, he was appointed Special Commissioner of the Federal Government for the Files of the State Security Service relating to individuals by the Federal President on the recommendation of the Federal Government. From 1991 to 2000 he was the Federal Commissioner for the Files of the State Security Service of the former German Democratic Republic. From 2001 to 2004, Joachim Gauck was the German member of the Management Board of the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia in Vienna. In 2003, he became the Chairman of the Association "Gegen Vergessen — Für Demokratie" (Against

Oblivion — For Democracy). On 18 March 2012, Joachim Gauck was elected by the Federal Convention and became the eleventh President of the Federal Republic of Germany. He has been awarded numerous honours and prizes for his work, including the Theodor Heuss Medal, the Geschwister Scholl Prize, the European Human Rights Prize and the Ludwig Börne Prize. He has honorary doctorates from the Universities of Rostock, Jena and Augsburg.

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Daniela Schadt

(from page 1)

She began her journalism career as an intern at the "Hanauer Anzeiger". In 1986 she became a freelance contributor to the "Nürnberger Zeitung". After a traineeship she joined the editorial staff in 1992, and continued to work there, most recently as the head of the domestic politics department, until Joachim Gauck's election as Federal President. Ms Schadt has been living with Joachim Gauck since 2000 and does not have any children.

Everyone needs ...

(from page 1)

The wellwisher donated publications and furniture worth K 3 million for the library, computers, Internet, auto telephone and teaching aids for e-library, furniture, equipment and medicines for the clinic worth K 30 million and K 10 million each to Luhmu Htoochun Education Foundation in Yamethin Township, Luhmu Htoochun Daw Khin Myint Myint Library in DaikU Township and Yamethin Township Association (Yangon) through the officials concerned.

Other wellwishers donated K 12.5 million for the library and e-library and medicine, E.C.G. machine



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint visits Cetanamon free clinic.

MNA

and equipment worth K 12.5 million and K 5.5 million for the clinic.

Before the Speaker and party visited the library and clinic, the officials presented gifts to the attendees.

MNA

MMU holds eighth graduation ceremony

YANGON, 8 Feb — An eighth graduation ceremony of Myanmar Maritime University took place at the convocation hall of the university, here, today.

Deputy Minister for Transport U Han Sein presented awards to outstanding graduate students including winners of RINA Myanmar

Shipyard Award, Best Marine Engineer Student Prize and Hutchison Port Holding (Hong Kong)'s gold medal.

Respective degrees were

conferred on 490 graduate students by the rector of the university at the ceremony.

Myanmar Maritime University was inaugurated

in 2002. So far 2417 degree and diploma holders have been nurtured during the period from its first graduation ceremony in 2007 to date.

MNA



Officials of Ministry of Immigration and Population clarifies census taking process at AGM of MWAFF. (News on page 16) —MNA

Chicken rice gruel fed to students

TATKON, 8 Feb — U Tin Hla (reporter) and Daw Khin U fed chicken rice gruel to mark his 78th birthday to students of Ba-

sic Education Post-Primary School in Kywelepin Village in Tatkon Township on 6 February.

A total of 200 students

at the school were served with the rice gruel and the students expressed their best wishes for U Tin Hla.

Township IPRD (Tatkon)



LOCAL NEWS

Census taking process coordinated in Toungoo

TOUNGGOO, 8 Feb—Toungoo District Census Taking Process Coordination Meeting



was held at Bayintnaung Hall of the district General Administration Department on 6 February.

Secretary of Bago Region Census Work Committee U Thein Htay, Chairman of the District Committee U Kyaw Thet and members of district and township committee attended the meeting.

Secretary of the region Head of Bago Region Immigration and National Registration Department U Thein Htay explained cooperation in taking census among members of the committee.

Officials and chairmen of district and township committee reported on progress of works.

NLM-017

Quality of rural asphalt road inspected in Yamethin Township



YAMETHIN, 8 Feb—Chairman of Township Quality Inspection Committee Township Administrator U Maung Maung, Head of District Rural Development Department U Thaung Htaik, townselder U Tin Oo, Senior Engineer U Thaung Lwin of Township Development Affairs Committee inspected quality of Yamethin-Shwemyintin asphalt road in Yamethin Township on 6 February morning.

SAE Daw Khin Mar Latt and party of Yamethin Township Public Works constructed seven miles and two furlongs long Yamethin-Shwemyintin asphalt road, and AE Daw July Moe, 7.5 miles long Yamethin-Ywadan asphalt road.

On the inspection tour, the officials heard reports on dredging of drains for proper flow of water in monsoon and maintenance of the road at the exit of Sanpya Theingon village.

AE Daw July Moe explained construction arrangements for retaining walls along the road.

The inspection team officials gave instructions on construction tasks to be met set standards.

Ywadan road section

Construction

has been completed by 50 per cent, and it must be completed by March.

MMAL-Tin Oo
(Yamethin)

High quality engine oil introduced



NAY PYI TAW, 8 Feb—Most of the vehicles were imported from Japan. At present, Okano engine oil

made in Japan was introduced to be used at saloon cars, minibuses, light trucks and motorcycles.

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 recon-ciliation
- 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



Okano Judousha Shoukai Co Ltd of Japan is taking leading role in engine oil market of Japan for 100 years.

It can grant its products as fully synthetic engine oil for customers.

Okano Q7 engine oil is used at 2006 above model petrol and diesel and CNG vehicles. It can be used for 8000 kilometre long range. Okano Q8 can be used for 5000 km long.

The quality engine oil can be used at both petrol and diesel engine cars.

Aung Thura

Personal goods show, market festival held in Tatkon



TATKON, 8 Feb—Top Star Group organizes the

SIM cards sold to pensioners

TATKON, 8 Feb—SIM cards were sold to pensioners at Bayintnaung Ward administrative office in Tatkon Township on

6 February. The ward authorities presented CDMA and WCDMA SIM cards to 106 pensioners from the ward.—Township IPRD



Personal Goods Show and Market Festival in Bo Min Yaung Ward of Tatkon in Ottara District of Nay Pyi Taw Council as of 6 February.

The market festival that will last till 10 February is located in front of Township Cooperative Syndicate Office.

A total of 35 booths shoecase their products for customers of Tatkon Township.

Various kinds of goods and household goods and utensils for both female and male are available at the show and market festival in addition to clothes, kitchen utensils and playground for children.—Township IPRD

WORLD

2nd round of Geneva II talks to resume Monday

GENEVA, 8 Feb — The second round of Geneva II talks will resume on Monday next week, some ten days after the Syria's warring sides concluded with no concrete progress in their first round of negotiations, a UN spokeswoman said on Friday.

"The Syria talks will start on Monday morning," Corinne Momal-Vanian, the Spokeswoman for the United Nations in Geneva told a Press conference. "We have received the composition of the delegation of the Syrian government, and we are still waiting the composition of the delegation from the opposition," she said. "Both are coming." The spokeswoman said the delegation of Syria government will be headed by Syrian Foreign Minister Walid al-Moallem, same as in the first round of talks.

With the presence of both sides and UN mediator Brahimi, she expected the negotiation to "work on whole week." However, she did not share any of the agendas or specific issues the two sides will discuss.

Xinhua



Greek Prime Minister Antonis Samaras (L) speaks with Cypriot President Nicos Anastasiades in Athens, Greece, on 7 Feb, 2014. Greece supports the resumption of talks for a "viable and fair" solution to the Cyprus issue, Prime Minister Antonis Samaras said Friday after a meeting with visiting Cypriot President Nikos Anastasiades. —XINHUA

Truck, minibus crash kills at least 11 in Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, 8 Feb — At least 11 people were killed and 20 others injured on Friday when a truck crashed into a minibus traveling in the opposite direction in Argentina's western Province of Mendoza, local media reported.

The truck crashed head-on with the minibus en route from Cordoba to Mendoza on the No 7 national highway and both vehicles caught fire immediately after the crash, local

daily *El Clarin* said.

"We are seeing burned, unrecognizable bodies," said Gabriela Sosa, a journalist, was quoted by *El Clarin*.

Foreign tourists were among the injured, including two children, the report said, adding that the injured were taken to hospitals in Mendoza.

Some 28 people were traveling in the minibus, according to local media.

Xinhua

Wisconsin baby's aunt charged in kidnap of six-day-old nephew

DENVER COLORADO, 8 Feb — A Colorado woman police believe faked a pregnancy was charged on Friday with the kidnapping in Wisconsin of her 6-day-old nephew, who was found a day later behind a gas station in Iowa, federal prosecutors said. Kristen Smith, 31, of Denver, was charged in a Wisconsin federal court after the infant, Kayden Powell, was found wrapped in blankets in a tote bag 200 miles away from his home, authorities said.

According to the criminal complaint, authorities believe Smith faked being pregnant after they found a prosthetic pregnancy belly in her car and Facebook postings in which she claimed to be with child. The parents, Brianna Marshall, 18, and Bruce Powell,

23, reported the baby boy missing from his bassinet early Thursday morning, sparking a massive search that rallied federal, state and local officials.

According to the complaint, Marshall told authorities that Smith was at her home until sometime early Thursday morning, when she planned to head back to Denver, where she lives. Authorities found Smith at a gas station in West Branch, Iowa, where they searched her car and found baby clothing, a car seat and a stroller, but no baby, the complaint said.

The complaint said authorities also found a prosthetic pregnancy belly in her vehicle. After Smith was arrested because of an outstanding warrant in Texas, authorities examined her cell phone, where they

found emails and Facebook postings in which she said she gave birth on Wednesday. "Smith did not appear pregnant, had not appeared pregnant while in Wisconsin and was pregnancy tested and was not pregnant," the complaint said.

At 10 am on Friday morning, West Branch police found the baby in a tote bag outside another gas station, about 500 yards from where they apprehended Smith, the complaint said. "Despite frigid temperatures, Kayden was found alive and appears to be doing very well," Kopp told a news conference. "In the words of EMS officials, he is in excellent health." West Branch is in eastern Iowa about 185 miles from Beloit in southern Wisconsin, near the Illinois border.

Reuters

Picture taken on 7 Feb, 2014 shows the USS Pinckney warship in Manila, the Philippines. The USS Pinckney Guided Missile Destroyer with its 300 sailors docked here for visit and replenishment. XINHUA



Hollande to visit Washington next week

PARIS, 8 Feb — French President Francois Hollande will pay a state visit to the United States next week in a move to reinforce bilateral security and economic partnership, the presidency office said on Friday.

At the invitation of the

American President Barack Obama, Hollande will fly to the White House next Monday, the Elysee said in a statement.

The French president will kick off his three-day visit with a visit to Monticello, the Virginia home of

Thomas Jefferson, the third US president and a one-time envoy to Paris.

Hollande is scheduled to have talks with his American counterpart Obama and attend a state dinner on 11 February.

The Socialist head of

state will also hold talks with the director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Christine Lagarde and meet American business leaders, representatives of civil society and French community in the US. —Xinhua

China targets China-LatAm forum's establishment this year

BEIJING, 8 Feb — China on Friday expressed readiness to work with the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) for the establishment of a China-CELAC forum before the end of this year.

"China will maintain contacts with the CELAC on the mechanism and cooperative areas, and work for the formal establishment of the forum and the first ministerial meeting within this year," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei told a daily press briefing. The CELAC approved a special statement to extend support for the establishment of a China-CELAC forum at the organization's second summit in late January, seeking to hold the forum's first meeting within 2014.

"China and the CELAC are committed to build-

ing the forum, in order to set up an important platform for the development of a China-Latin America comprehensive cooperative partnership featuring equality, mutual benefit and common development," Hong said.

He noted that Chinese President Xi Jinping had already lauded the CELAC's approval of the special statement. It showed Latin American and Caribbean countries had common aspirations for deepening overall Latin America-China cooperation, according to the spokesman.

The CELAC, established in December 2011, comprises the 33 countries of the western hemisphere with the exception of the United States and Canada. Cuba took the bloc's rotating presidency in January 2013. —Xinhua

Belarusian official calls CNN "unethical"

MINSK, 8 Feb — A senior Belarusian official on Friday accused Cable News Network (CNN), the American cable and satellite television channel, of lacking the knowledge of history.

"In my personal rankings CNN will be the most unethical TV channel," Belarusian parliament deputy Marat Zhilinsky told local media while commenting on a CNN article which included the Courage Monument, a revered World War II monument in Brest, Belarus, in its list of the "world's ugliest monuments".

"The Courage Monument is a tribute of respect not only to the Soviet nation, but those who fell while liberating Europe, including American soldiers. The lack of this knowledge is astounding," Zhilinsky said.

On Friday, US Charge d'Affaires in Belarus Ethan Goldrich was summoned to the Belarusian Foreign Ministry over the article. "The US diplomat was informed that the article was offensive and sparked a massive public outcry in Belarus. —Xinhua



The damaged car is seen at the accident site in Bo Trach District, Vietnam's central Quang Binh province, on 7 Feb, 2014. At least three people were killed and four others injured when the car smashed into a truck on the National Highway Friday morning, Vietnamese state-owned news agency VNA reported. XINHUA

REGIONAL



Examinees prepare to enter the exam room at the Central Academy of Drama in Beijing, capital of China, on 7 Feb, 2014. The first round art professional exam of the Central Academy of Drama kicked off in Beijing on Friday. A total of 30254 examinees registered for the exam, competing for 595 vacancies to be enrolled.—XINHUA

India to launch home-made nuke submarine, intercontinental ballistic missile by 2015

NEW DELHI, 8 Feb — India will launch indigenous nuclear submarine and the country's first intercontinental ballistic missile by 2015, a top defence official has said.

State-owned Indian Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) chief Avinash Chander has said the 5,000 km range nuclear-capable Agni V intercontinental ballistic missile and INS

Arihant, a nuclear-powered submarine armed with atomic warhead missiles, would be ready by next year, *The Times of India* newspaper reported Saturday.

"The submarine is undergoing the power-raising (in the miniature nuclear reactor) phase, which I am sure will be completed in a month or two. Thereafter, it will go for sea trials. The K-15 missiles (nuclear-

tipped with a 750 km strike range) are fully ready and will be tested from the submarine this year," he was quoted as saying Friday at a defense exhibition in the Indian capital.

He added: "Agni V will be tested in a canister-launch version later this year. After two to three trials, Agni V should be ready for induction by end-2015."

Xinhua

Philippines sends messages of thanks to Japan, other nations

TOKYO, 8 Feb — The Philippines sent messages of thanks on Saturday to Japan and other nations for their assistance to the Southeast Asian country after it suffered the brunt of super typhoon Haiyan last November. Under the initiative of the Philippine Department of Tourism, the disaster-hit country displayed thank

you messages on electronic billboards in Tokyo as well as eight other cities including New York and Paris at the exact time the typhoon struck the country at 4:40 a.m. local time, according to the Tokyo-based Philippine tourism officials.

In the Japanese capital, messages thanking people for their support were displayed in Japanese on two tarp banners and on screens of the Qfront building just in front of the "scramble crossing" in the popular Shibuya shopping district.

"When our people were experiencing a devastation that we have never experienced before, a lot of people especially Japan, helped us," said Valentino Cabansag, tourism attache and representative to East Japan of the Philippine Department of Tourism in Tokyo. Japan, which shared the experience of receiving an outpouring of global support and aid in the wake of its March 2011 quake-tsunami disasters, was one of the countries that responded very quickly, he said.

In the aftermath of the typhoon, which has claimed the lives so far of more than 6,000 people, Japan has provided various forms of assistance including financial aid and the dispatch of medical teams as well as the largest international relief mission of its Self-Defence Forces. Cabansag said that his country, by delivering a message of gratitude to global donors, wants to show the world that it is entering a phase of rebuilding three months after the calamity and hopes boosting Philippine tourism will help reconstruction efforts and the broader economy.

The messages in Shibuya will be displayed for about two to three weeks. Similar messages were displayed elsewhere, including New York Times Square and Lafayette Mogador in Paris, the officials said.—Kyodo News



A boy carries a water tank in Tacloban City on Leyte Island on 6 Feb, 2014.

KYODO NEWS

Philippine president names new army chief

MANILA, 8 Feb — Philippine President Benigno S Aquino III on Friday appointed Maj. Gen. Hernando Iriberry as the new chief of the 80,000-strong Philippine Army. Iriberry, commander of the 7th Infantry Division, succeeded Lt. Gen. Noel Coballes who retired from service after he turned 56 — the mandatory retirement age for soldiers.

"As the new head, I expect you to show exceptional strength, discipline and dedication in order to continue the transformation of the Philippine Army," Aquino said in his speech during the change of command ceremony.

Iriberry, a member of the Philippine Military Academy Class of 1983, also served as the senior military defence adviser of Defence Secretary Voltaire Gazmin. —Xinhua

Lovers set to pay more for Valentine's Day flowers

BEIJING, 8 Feb — Lovers who are ordering flowers for Valentine's Day will have to pay more this year due to heavy snow which caused a dramatic decrease in the yield production of roses in the southwest Yunnan Province.

The retail price of a single rose set a new record at 20 yuan (US\$3.30), more than doubled the price of roses in the same period of last year.

However, flower shops said the higher prices wouldn't help them make

a fortune because customers would pick fewer flowers or turn to other gifts for Valentine's Day which falls on next Friday.

"Most customers were very surprised at the hike in rose prices," said He Yuhong, owner of Jing'an Flower Shop. "They would pick other flowers such as carnation and lily to match with the roses or chose bunches with fewer roses but with good meanings."

Most customers order flower bunches with 11 roses or 33 roses this year,

and the number of flowers means one loves another wholeheartedly and one loves another forever respectively, he said.

He said he would wait till next week to import roses according to the number of bookings in case expensive roses receive a cold reception among lovers.

Last year, he imported 12,000 roses before Valentine's Day and sold all of them.

Li Shusheng, manager of Huazhiyu Flower Shop, imported 1,000 roses for Valentine's Day, a tenth of the number he imported last year, but flower bookings are not cut.

Shanghai Morning Post said the yield production of roses in Yunnan, the country's flower supply base, was cut by two-thirds due to the low temperature brought by the snow in December. The roses froze to death while sprouting, the paper said.—Xinhua



ULAN BATOR, 8 Feb — The Mongolian government ratified a cooperation agreement Friday with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) in the areas of industry and agriculture.

Under the agreement, Mongolia will provide livestock husbandry support to the DPRK and, in return, the DPRK will develop light industry using raw materials and resources of Mongolia, such as sheep wool and coal.

The agreement was finalized during a visit by Battulga Khaltmaa, Mongolian minister of industry and agriculture, to the DPRK last October. Both countries hope the deal will expand reciprocal economic ties between the two countries.—Xinhua

Mongolia ratifies cooperation agreement with DPRK



Passengers walk towards the Yinchuan Railway Station in snow in Yinchuan, capital of northwest China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, on 6 Feb, 2014. With the Spring Festival coming to an end, people started to leave their hometowns for the workplaces.—XINHUA

Indonesia to repair roads after flood to help smooth food supply

JAKARTA, 8 Feb — The Indonesian government on Friday decided to introduce an emergency measure to repair damaged roads after widespread flooding and landslides across the country, a move aiming at paving transport of foods and other products to help cool inflation.

Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono held a limited cabinet meeting on Friday and instructed his ministers and soldiers to help repair the catastrophes-affected roads which have disrupted distribution of the products in a country home to over 238 million people.

Some cities and territories at the vast archipelago

country, Indonesia, have endured flooding and landslides since mid-December that partly pushed up consumer prices index to 1.07 percent in January after chalking up 0.55 percent in December, though on a yearly basis inflation is accelerating at a slower pace of 8.22 percent in January as against 8.37 percent in the previous month, according to the national statistic bureau.

"I decided that we will carry out an integrated emergency relief operation in all areas whose road damages are classified as severe," Yudhoyono told a Press conference at the State Palace.

Xinhua

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MUNICH TRADER VOY NO (21041)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MUNICH TRADER VOY NO (21041) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.2.2014 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



Police officers participate in a security drill in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 7 Feb, 2014. The purpose of the anti-riot drill is ensuring security for the legislative elections in April and presidential polls in July this year.—XINHUA

Body of last missing miner found at S African mine

JOHANNESBURG, 8 Feb —The body of the ninth missing miner has been found at the Doornkop gold mine west of Johannesburg, mine owner Harmony gold announced on Friday.

"With sadness, Harmony Gold Mining Company Limited advises that rescue workers have located and are in the process of recovering the body of the mine-worker who was unaccounted for following Tuesday evening's underground seismic event, rockfall and fire at the company's Doornkop mine," company spokesman Charmane Russell said.

This brings to nine the number of mineworkers who died at the mine, and

now all missing miners are accounted for, Russel said.

The bodies of eight other miners were found on Wednesday in what was believed to be the worst mine tragedy since 2009 when nine miners were killed at the platinum mine.

Rescue workers saved eight other mineworkers from a refuge bay on 192 level, where the rockfall and fire occurred.

Harmony CEO Graham Briggs repeated his personal condolences, and those of the company's board of directors and management to the family, friends and colleagues of those who died, Russell said.

"Families have been

brought to the mine by the company, where they will be provided with the support they need at this time," said Russel.

The company suffered from two more accidents on Thursday afternoon, one at Kusasalethu in the North West Province and another at Joel in the Free State. Two miners died from the accidents. That means that a total of 11 miners died at mines owned by the company in two days.

"The past two days have been tragic for Harmony, having lost our colleagues at three of our operations in three separate events. This is unacceptable," Briggs said earlier.

Following the accidents, all operations across the group embarked on safety shifts with effect from the night shift Thursday night.

That will include the day and afternoon shifts on Friday, during which time no blasting will take place for 24 hours, the company said.

"During these safety shifts, general managers will lead their senior teams underground, re-enforcing safety messages and procedures, particularly in respect of critical safety areas. Unions will play an important role throughout this process in facilitating engagement and supporting leadership," Briggs said.—Xinhua

US Customs' drones back in air after crash investigation

WASHINGTON, 8 Feb — US Customs and Border Protection put its drones back in the air on Friday after an investigation into a crash that grounded its unmanned aircraft fleet, the agency said.

The nine drones were grounded when a mechanical problem forced operators to crash one of the pilotless aircraft on 28 January off the Southern California coast.

"Effective today, US Customs and Border Protection has lifted the temporary grounding of its Unmanned Aircraft Systems," spokesman Michael Friel said in an email. Initial findings from an investigation of the crash

showed that the \$12 million drone's generator failed and that the flight crew reacted properly, he said. "Appropriate mechanical steps" have been taken to address potential problems on the other aircraft, Friel said.

The California crash was the second by one of the agency's drones since it began using the unmanned aerial surveillance technology in 2006. The Customs drones are Predator B models made by privately held General Atomics Aeronautical Systems. They are used to spot illegal border crossers and narcotics traffickers.

Reuters

High Representative Inzko slams violence in BiH

SARAEVO, 8 Feb — Actions of setting fires on buildings and destroying property will not be tolerated, said Valentin Inzko, High Representative for Bosnian and Herzegovina (BiH), on Friday.

The Office of the High Representative (OHR) is an ad hoc international institution responsible for overseeing implementation of civilian aspects of the Peace Agreement ending the war in BiH.

Talking about the clashes between protesters and the police in Sarajevo, Inzko, the OHR head, noted the city looked like a war zone. "I did not see that for 20 years and it is shocking to see that vandalism and hooliganism today," Inzko

said during an interview with a local TV.

There is no quick solution for the current difficult situation in BiH, he said, adding that the only solution is patience and dialogue.

"Legal and regulated state is the solution, which of course requires a lot of effort of the entire society", he said.

Protesters clashed with police in Sarajevo, setting the Presidential Building and government building of Sarajevo Canton on fire. Over 60 people were injured, including about 40 police officers.

There were similar clashes in Tuzla, Zenica, Mostar and other cities in BiH.—Xinhua



Farm workers hang harvested tobacco leaves in a barn in Beatrice about 30km of the capital Harare, Zimbabwe, 7 Feb, 2014. Zimbabwe's Tobacco Industry and Marketing Board announced that this year's tobacco sale season will start on 19 February. Zimbabwe is one of the world's major tobacco producers. About 90 percent of the Zimbabwean tobacco leaves were exported, mainly to China, Belgium, Russia, South Africa, and Sudan, according to government statistics.—XINHUA

5.0-magnitude quake hits 142km NE of L'Esperance Rock, New Zealand

HONG KONG, 8 Feb — An earthquake measuring 5.0 on the Richter scale jolted 142km NE of L'Esperance Rock, New Zealand at 00:56:38 Hong Kong Time on Saturday (16:56:38 GMT), the US

Geological Survey said.

The epicenter, with a depth of 7.11 km, was initially determined to be at 30.5732 degrees south latitude and 177.7853 degrees west longitude.

Xinhua

ENTERTAINMENT

'Star Trek' star Leonard Nimoy 'doing OK' after lung disease diagnosis

LOS ANGELES, 8 Feb — Veteran actor Leonard Nimoy, best known as Spock in the 1960s television series "Star Trek" and a string of feature films that followed, said he was "doing OK" after being diagnosed with lung disease and urged fans on Thursday to quit smoking.

"Smokers, please understand. If you quit after you're diagnosed with lung

damage it's too late. Grandpa says learn my lesson. Quit now," Nimoy tweeted to his 810,000 followers.

In Nimoy's case, the actor said, he was diagnosed despite having quit smoking 30 years ago.

The 82-year-old actor added he was "doing OK. Just can't walk distances," and he signed off with "LLAP," an abbreviation of his character's trademark

phrase, "live long and prosper." Nimoy first revealed in a Twitter message posted last week that he has chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, or COPD, a severe lung ailment that the US surgeon general has concluded is linked to smoking.

Representatives for the actor did not immediately respond to Reuters' request for further comment.

Nimoy, a native of

Boston, has become synonymous with his role as Spock, the fictional half-human, half-Vulcan first officer and later commander of the starship Enterprise, in the television and film versions of "Star Trek." He most recently appeared in JJ Abrams' "Star Trek Into Darkness" last year, and is a celebrated figure among the franchise's loyal and avid fan base.—Reuters



Cast member Leonard Nimoy poses at the party for the release of the Blu-Ray DVD of "Star Trek Into Darkness" at the California Science Centre in Los Angeles, California on 10 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

Madhuri Dixit, Juhi Chawla share 'electric' scenes in Gulaab Gang

MUMBAI, 8 Feb—Actress Madhuri Dixit says that she has shared some "electric" scenes with Juhi Chawla in the forthcoming movie Gulaab Gang.

"There are many scenes where we are giving exchanges (eye stares) to each other, (there are) very crackling scenes and give-and-take sequences which are like electricity," the

46-year-old said on February 6 at a radio station.

Madhuri also talked about the action and stunts she has done in the film.

"First time I have done strong and real action. I have done everything myself, there is no stunt double. I enjoyed and hope the audience also does. But nowhere do they look forced, it's comes very naturally in



Gulaab Gang releases on 7 March.

the film, be it action or even the songs," said Madhuri. Directed by Soumik Sen, Gulaab Gang hits the theatres on 7 March.—PTI

Kim Kardashian to walk down the aisle in May

LOS ANGELES, 8 Feb — Socialite Kim Kardashian and her rapper-fiance Kanye West will reportedly get married in Paris in May.

The two, who have an eight-month-old daughter, North West, preponed the date to May instead of July because they are "so excited" to get married.

The 33-year-old reality TV star and the 36-year-old rapper also want their daughter to be heavily involved in the ceremony.

"North will have a

large role in the wedding!" usmagazine.com quoted a source as saying. Another friend said that the couple's wedding plans are well underway and they will have "lots of events leading up to the big day" for their guests.

However, Kim, who was married twice before, is said to have been very reluctant to have a lavish ceremony. "Kim isn't totally pumped about a huge wedding. But she's going along with it," another source said.—PTI



Kim and Kanye will reportedly get married in Paris.

We all have moments when we look awful

LOS ANGELES, 8 Feb — Actress Julianne Moore says she favours the natural look but doesn't like it when magazines show pictures of stars' looking bad, adding that everyone has their awful moments.

The 53-year-old, who features in March issue of Redbook magazine, opened up about what it feels like to see an unflattering paparazzi picture of herself, reports eonline.com.

"I want people to look



Julianne says she favours the natural look.

natural and normal, and I'm all for showing that, but I don't like when magazines show pictures of someone looking terrible. We all have our moments when we look awful. My gosh," she said.

"Sometimes a magazine wants to see my actual skin, and other times they'll airbrush (the freckles) out. I don't care either way," added the Laws Of Attraction star, who has freckles on her face.—PTI

Is Angelina Jolie "sick with worry" over Brad's crush on Lupita Nyong'o?

LOS ANGELES, 8 Feb—Hollywood star Angelina Jolie was spotted looking very skinny at a party,

which apparently shocked some of her fans.

When the 38-year-old actress was recently seen at

Airlie Beach, Queensland, alongwith her partner Brad Pitt, 50, for wrap party for her latest film Unbroken, some of the fans thought she seemed too bony, reported Daily Star.

The actress was reportedly worried as Pitt is believed to have a crush on his 12 Years A Slave co-star Lupita Nyong'o.

"She had a bulging vein in her forehead and dark circles under her eyes. Her famous lips even looked thin. Everyone is talking about Brad's crush on his 12 Years A Slave co-star Lupita Nyong'o and she looked sick with worry," a source said.—PTI



Angelina Jolie attended the wrap party of Unbroken with Brad Pitt.

Alia Bhatt and I went on Koffee With Karan to prove we are friends

MUMBAI, 8 Feb — Parineeti Chopra and Alia Bhatt will soon be seen together on filmmaker Karan Johar's Koffee With Karan show and the former says that

they agreed to appear together to bury all rumours of a tiff between them. "We actually went on the show to tell everyone that there is no problem between us. She has been my

friend even before (her) Student of the Year released and nothing has changed between us," the 25-year-old Parineeti said at a press meet for her film Hasee Toh Phasee that released on 7 February.

Alia had earlier appeared on the show with actors Sidharth Malhotra and Varun Dhawan where she advised Parineeti to get some help for her dressing style. Parineeti has no problems with her suggestion. "She had genuinely like a friend said that Parineeti should be careful about her dressing style. We wanted to tell everyone there is no problem between us and that's why we went on that couch," she added.—PTI



Alia had earlier advised Parineeti to get some help for her dressing style on the show.

SPORTS

Serena out of Indian Wells after 'careful consideration'

LOS ANGELES, 8 Feb — Hopes that Serena Williams would end a 13-year boycott of the BNP Paribas Open at Indian Wells were dashed on Friday when the world number one said she

would not be competing in the event "after careful consideration".

Williams and older sister Venus have never returned to the tournament in the California desert after

being jeered by spectators in a controversial final in 2001 but Serena had hinted at last month's Australian Open she might lift the boycott. Serena had been listed among the entries for this year's edition but on Friday said in a statement: "After careful consideration, I will not return to the Indian Wells BNP Paribas Open this year. 'I send my best wishes to everyone involved with the tournament.' Tournament director Steve Simon said: "We wish her the very best of luck in the year ahead and hope that she will decide to play here next year."

Williams, who suffered a shock fourth round

loss to Ana Ivanovic at the Australian Open, had raised the possibility of lifting her boycott of Indian Wells after being inspired by a movie about Nelson Mandela.

"It actually crossed my mind a couple days ago, or after I saw the movie," the 32-year-old American told reporters at Melbourne Park. "I thought about it (playing in Indian Wells)... Right now I don't know."

"I just have to focus on this tournament. But I think Mandela was a really amazing man. I felt really honoured to have a chance to meet him, get to know him a little bit, and get to know his story a little better."

Reuters



Serena Williams

Walker in early tie for lead at rain-hit Pebble Beach

NEW YORK, 8 Feb — American Jimmy Walker edged one step closer to a third victory on the 2013-14 PGA Tour when he moved into an early tie for the lead in Friday's rain-delayed second round of the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am.

FedExCup points leader Walker, who won the season-opening Frys.com Open in October and last month's Sony Open in Hawaii fired a three-under-par 69 at Spyglass Hill, one of three venues being used for this week's event.

Walker clearly relishes playing on the picturesque Monterey Peninsula, having recorded top-10 finishes in each of the last three

years at the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am.

The 34-year-old collected three birdies in a bogey-free display in mainly overcast, breezy conditions

to finish level with fellow American Jordan Spieth, who returned a six-birdie 67 at Monterey Peninsula.

Spieth, the 2013 PGA Tour Rookie of the Year



Jimmy Walker tees off on the third hole during the first round of the Farmers Insurance Open golf tournament at Torrey Pines Municipal Golf Course.—REUTERS

Speed kings ready to deliver thrills

ROSA KHUTOR, 8 Feb — "Been there, done that" the veteran American Bode Miller said of the Olympics this week. But in the moments before he flings himself down the men's downhill course on Sunday, you can be sure the adrenaline will be pumping as strongly as ever.

Miller calls the race the "pinnacle" of his sport, and the showman will begin the

Alpine programme at the Sochi Games in style if he becomes the oldest male skier to capture an Olympic gold. The 36-year-old, competing in what will almost certainly be his fifth and final Games, will have a fight to be king of the hill, with Norwegian giant Aksel Lund Svindal, Austrians Klaus Kroell and Matthias Mayer, and Swiss Didier Defago — a surprise win-

ner four years ago - among those in the frame.

No Winter Olympics truly comes alive until the Alpine skiing events start, and the opening races should provide some compelling tales, whether it is victory for a resurgent Miller or Germany's Maria Hoefl-Riesch filling the void left by American Lindsey Vonn's absence in the women's downhill. With Vancouver champion Vonn missing following knee surgery, Hoefl-Riesch has been left as the woman to beat in the downhill, and she desperately wants to win after claiming two golds four years ago in slalom and super combined. She will come under pressure from Austrians Anna Fenninger and Elizabeth Goergl, experienced American Julia Mancuso, and

Slovenian all-rounder Tina Maze. Liechtenstein's Tina Weirather could also be a dark horse for the title.

"Of course it's a big goal, but it is a difficult track where a mistake can happen virtually on every turn," Hoefl-Riesch told reporters after her second training run on the challenging Rosa Khutor course on Friday.

"The one who makes the least mistakes and keeps pace on the skis the best will win. 'I will try my very best, but it won't be easy.'"

Such is Hoefl-Riesch's strength across all the disciplines — she won slalom and super combined in Vancouver — that it would be no surprise if she matched Janica Kostelic's haul of four career Olympic golds over the next two weeks.

Reuters



Bayer Leverkusen's Son Heung-Min plays a ball during the German first division Bundesliga soccer match against Borussia Moenchengladbach in Moenchengladbach on 7 Feb, 2014.—REUTERS

Son gives Leverkusen another win at Gladbach

MUNICH, 8 Feb — South Korean midfielder Son Heung-min's spectacular long-range strike gave Bayer Leverkusen a 1-0 win at neighbours Borussia Moenchengladbach on their favourite hunting-ground on Friday.

Second-placed Leverkusen have not lost at Gladbach for 25 years, their previous defeat coming in February 1989.

Son continued his excellent season for Leverkusen in the 62nd minute when he collected a pass around 30 metres from goal, made space for the shot and scored with a dipping effort into the far corner.

Gladbach stirred into life in the final 10 with Leverkusen goalkeeper Bernd Leno twice saving from Max Kruse and Juan Arango. Raffael shot over the top and Gladbach had a

penalty appeal waved away in the dying seconds.

Early in the game Leverkusen substitute Philipp Wollscheid was booked for throwing a spare ball onto the pitch, halting a Gladbach attack after they had taken a quick throw.

The win kept Leverkusen (43 points) on the trail of leaders Bayern Munich although they are still 10 points behind the defending champions, who visit Nuremberg on Saturday (1430 GMT).

Gladbach's season is in danger of unravelling. They have lost their last three league games and are without a win in their last five. The Foals are fifth with 33 points, one behind Schalke 04 who play at home to Hanover 96 on Sunday, and in danger of falling behind in the race for Champions League spots.—Reuters

Ronaldinho influence sees Atletico settle player debts

SAO PAULO, 8 Feb — Atletico Mineiro have settled their outstanding debts with players after Ronaldinho stepped in to lobby on behalf of his team mates, *Lance* newspaper said on Friday.

Ronaldinho signed a new one-year deal with Atletico last month but told the club it was conditional on them paying past salaries they owed to other players.

(www.lancenet.com.br).

Like most Brazilian clubs, Atletico Mineiro face financial issues and club president Alexandre Kalil said last month "we are having problems with players' salaries."

He did not specify how many had not been paid or how much was due.

Former Barcelona and AC Milan midfielder Ronaldinho joined Atletico in June 2012 and won the Libertadores Cup with them a year later, the first time he or they had lifted South America's biggest club trophy.—Reuters

Ronaldinho of Brazil's Atletico Mineiro celebrates after scoring a goal during their 2013 FIFA Club World Cup third place soccer match against China's Guangzhou Evergrande in Marrakech stadium, on 21 Dec, 2013.

REUTERS



Switzerland's Fraenzi Aufdenblatten leans on her skis during the second training session for the women's alpine skiing downhill event during the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics at the Rosa Khutor Alpine Center on 7 Feb, 2014.

REUTERS

GENERAL



A woman walks by a giant inflatable rocking horse during the 2014 LunarFest in Vancouver, Canada, on 7 Feb, 2014. The 3-day LunarFest is Canada's premier presenter of the contemporary expression of Asian arts and culture.—XINHUA

Australia, NZ expand trial of criminal history information

CANBERRA, 8 Feb — Attorney-General of Australia George Brandis and New Zealand Minister of Justice Judith Collins announced on Saturday that Australia and New Zealand employers are to have greater access to respective national criminal history checks for employment vetting purposes. The announcement follows a successful trial of criminal history information sharing between New Zealand and Queensland. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will now be developed to expand the trial to all Australian states and to all eligible Australian and New Zealand organizations.

The decision was made in Sydney as part of

the Australia-New Zealand Joint Cabinet Meeting on Friday during New Zealand Prime Minister John Key's visit to Australia. "Often New Zealand employers need both Australian and New Zealand criminal history checks to make fully informed employment decisions," Collins said.

"This is particularly important for positions that involve working with children and vulnerable people to help protect our communities from people who may pose a risk."

Brandis said that at any one time there are approximately 600,000 New Zealanders in Australia.

"Facilitating access to criminal background checks will enhance com-

munity safety and security," said Brandis. "As the movement of workers between Australia and New Zealand has grown it makes sense that employers in both Australia and New Zealand have access to the type of background information that is available for local workers."

As part of the existing trial, participating employers were able to request criminal history checks on behalf of job candidates who had given consent.

The expanded service supports efforts to enhance the free movement of people across the Tasman and complements other trans-Tasman efforts underway to make communities safer.

Xinhua

MYANMAR TV

(9-2-2014, Sunday)

6:00 am	(ASEAN)
1. Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw	2:45 pm
6:25 am	20. Documentary
2. Physical Exercises	3:00 pm
6:30 am	21. News
3. Musical Programme	3:15 pm
6:45 am	22. Documentary
4. Documentary	3:50 pm
7:00 am	23. 67 th Anniversary
5. News/Weather Report	Union Day Programme
7:20 am	4:00 pm
6. Youth Programme	24. News
8:00 am	4:15 pm
7. News/ International News	25. 2014 University Entrance Examination (Geography)
8:30 am	4:50 pm
8. Amazing World	26. Sing & Enjoy
9:00 am	5:00 pm
9. News	27. News
9:30 am	5:15 pm
10. Beautiful ASEAN	28. Sing & Enjoy
9:50 am	6:00 pm
11. ASEAN - Japan Music Festival	29. News/Weather Report
10:00 am	6:20 pm
12. News	30. Cartoon Series
10:15 am	6:50 pm
13. Teleplay	31. What are human rights?
11:00 am	7:00 pm
14. 67 th Anniversary Union Day Programme	32. News
11:10 am	7:20 pm
15. Gitadagale Phwintbaohn	33. Weekly Entertainment
12:00 pm	8:00 pm
16. News/International News/Weather Report	34. News/International News/Weather Report
12:25 pm	8:35 pm
17. Round Up of The Week's International News	35. Pyi Thu Ni Ti
12:35 pm	8:45 pm
18. Myanmar Movies	36. Hit Songs of Stars
2:10 pm	9:00 pm
19. Documentary	37. News
	38. Tamyethnar Takwetsar
	39. New Melody

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

9-2-14 07:00 am ~ 10-2-14 07:00 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Journey to Unimaginable Spots (EP-2)
- * World News
- * The Pride of Myanmar "Traditional Handicraft"
- * Local News
- * The Man and The Elephant (Part-II)
- * World News
- * In the Studio: Khin Su Shin
- * Local News
- * Mogok: The Colourful Land of Rubies
- * World News
- * Myanmar Masterclass: Cubism
- * Local News
- * Myanma Pottery
- * World News
- * Art Students: Theatrical Art
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Winter Games open with a glitch but romp on through Russian history

SOCHI, 8 Feb — Russia's Winter Games got off to a shaky start on Friday when one of the five Olympic rings failed to unfurl, but ballet dancers, stirring music and huge mechanical props tracing the host nation's history propelled the opening ceremony forward.

Only four of the five giant Olympic rings formed from snowflake-shaped structures suspended from the roof of the 40,000-capacity Fisht Stadium in Sochi, meaning the symbol could not be illuminated with fireworks as planned.

The showboat start to a Games that President Vladimir Putin hopes will burnish Russia's image

on the world stage went on without further interruption, with cosmonaut Sergei Krikalev, who has spent more days in space than anyone, hoisting the Russian flag.

Putin officially opened the 7-23 February Games to a burst of fireworks that lit up the clear night sky outside the gleaming new stadium located on the shores of the Black Sea.

"I declare the 22nd Winter Olympic Games open," said Putin, launching an event he has personally championed.

Before the rings hiccup, a young girl in a white dress soared into the air, lifted by a harness, and sang as floating islands featuring folktale Russian landscapes drifted dreamlike across the



Performers take part in the opening ceremony of the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics, on 7 Feb, 2014.—REUTERS

stadium.

Cartoonish giant inflatable church domes and mascots were less well received, but the crowd saved some of its biggest cheers for the athletes as they emerged from beneath the

stage.

In an innovative twist, huge satellite images of each nation taken from space were projected onto the floor as the teams entered.

The Russians, outfitted

in white fur-trimmed hats and coats, drew loud applause from the audience, and light boxes on seats in the stands created a dazzling visual backdrop.

Among the most eye-catching scenes was a graceful waltz led by stars of Russian ballet as towering columns rose from the floor to set a scene echoing Leo Tolstoy's masterpiece "War and Peace".

The twirling dancers were chased away by stark red lights, jarring music and a giant train embodying the upheaval of the 1917 Russian revolution and the importance of the avant-garde art movement at around that time.

Soviet symbols rendered in a socialist realist

style — including a huge hammer and sickle — took the audience through decades portrayed as a time of industrial progress; the thaw of the 1950s to present day.

Roller skaters, their costumes glowing in a darkened arena, sped across the floor, and "constellations" in the shape of winter athletes twinkled in the cavernous space above. A lightning bolt shot from an ice hockey player's stick.

In one of the final scenes, the honour of lighting the Sochi Olympic flame went jointly to triple Olympic champions Vladislav Tretyak and Irina Rodnina.

Reuters

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Feb—Opening of Motargyi-Chaungwa-Kyaukkyi Railroad Section of new Katha-Bhamo Railroad Project took place at Motargyi railway station in Katha Township yesterday, with an address by Union Minister U Than Htay.

The Union minister said that newly-inaugurated railroad section is the second Union Railroad of its kind in Kachin State and Sagaing Region as a new coach was recently come into operation for Myitkyina-Mandalay Railroad. He quoted the guidance of the President as say that it is a fruitful result for locals implemented by Myanmar Railways.

Then, Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye

and Kachin State Minister for Road Transportation U Kamann Dunaw clarified the government's strides for public interest in cooperation with local governments and importance of public sector.

Next, the Union minister and party presented gifts to the passengers who rode special train of the opening ceremony.

Out of the 95 miles long project, 37-mile long railroad section from Katha to Kyaukkyi in Kachin State has been commissioned into service. Upon completion, local people will have easily access to Bhamo in Kachin State and Mansi and Shweku Townships on the west bank of Ayeyawady River via Katha in Sagaing Region.—MNA

Motargyi-Chaungwa-Kyaukkyi Railroad Section put into service



Union Minister U Than Htay greets locals at opening of Motargyi-Chaungwa-Kyaukkyi Railroad Section in Katha Township.—MNA

Liverpool crush Arsenal in five-star performance

LONDON, 8 Feb—Liverpool crushed Premier League leaders Arsenal 5-1 with a stunning display of attacking football at Anfield on Saturday that revived their title hopes and

raised doubts about the visitors' championship credentials.

Two early goals from Martin Skrtel, a Raheem Sterling double and one from Daniel Sturridge lifted

Liverpool to 50 points with 13 matches left to play, five points behind Arsenal and three behind Manchester City and Chelsea who are in action later.

Reuters



Martin Skrtel celebrates scoring one of his two goals in the first half against Arsenal.—REUTERS

Annual general meeting of MAAF successfully concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Feb—The third-day session of annual general meeting of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation took place at its hall here this morning.

During the meeting, officials from the Ministry of Immigration and Population explained the census taking process and region

and state WAOs reported on the activities on prevention of girls against violence and preservation of culture.

Before President Daw Mya Mya of MAAF gave a conclusion remark, and the meeting adopted future plans and decisions.

Yesterday's meeting,

the president reviewed the reports of the region and state WAOs.

The Patrons and the President of MAAF presented prizes to region and state WAOs. The general secretary and officials provided stipends for outstanding students.

MNA

Foot-and-mouth disease free vaccination given to cattle

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Feb—Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department of

Nay Pyi Taw Council Area and Office International des Epizooties-OIE jointly organized vaccination for cattle against foot-and-mouth disease in the townships of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area as of 17 January.

The number of cat-

tle vaccinated has reached 44600 free of charge in eight townships. They have plans for fighting against foot-and-mouth disease by vaccinating 100,000 cattle in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

Ko Myo (Shwe Paukkan)

By Aung Than Oo

Farmers cultivate acres of farmland in Dagon Myothit Township of Yangon. I, myself, purchased over 1 million baskets of Palethwe paddy from Myat Eindray Co in Pyu Township and the farmers from Yangon and Bago Regions. I bought Palethwe paddy at price ranging from K 400,000 to K 420,000 for 100 baskets and milled the rice at the rice mills in Kyaukdaga and Thanlyan Townships and exported them to local, border and European markets.

The market of Palethwe hybrid paddy is crucial for Myanmar's food security and it is high demand in China and European countries. Per ton of Palethwe rice is sold at US\$ 485-490. I cultivate and produce paddy on 200

acres of farmland in Dagon Myothit Township of Yangon. I, myself, purchased over 1 million baskets of Palethwe paddy from Myat Eindray Co in Pyu Township and the farmers from Yangon and Bago Regions. I bought Palethwe paddy at price ranging from K 400,000 to K 420,000 for 100 baskets and milled the rice at the rice mills in Kyaukdaga and Thanlyan Townships and exported them to local, border and European markets.

Myanmar exported 10000 tons of Palethwe rice

Marketable Palethwe hybrid paddy high demand in international market

to the People's Republic of China in 2012-13 FY. The Department of Agriculture and Food of the Philippines has proposed to import Myanmar's agricultural product 500,000 tons of Palethwe rice per year to fulfill its consumer markets. The income of Myanmar farmer will increase if they cultivate quality and marketable Palethwe hybrid paddy in commercial fields through public-private partnership (PPP) with the technical assistance of Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation



in cooperation with the private companies. Cultivation of marketable Palethwe hy-

brid paddy enables not only food sufficiency of the country but also earning of

foreign exchange.

Myanmar Alinn;8-2-2014
Trs:KHS