The New Light of Myanmar
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President U Thein Sein sends felicitations to Iranian President

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Feb—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Hassan Rouhani, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on the occasion of the National Day of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which falls on 11 February 2014.—*MNA*

Myanmar thanks Germany for its rightful stand against intense pressures from some Western countries on Myanmar in the past 20 years:

President U Thein Sein

Germany wants to assist Myanmar making great strides in sweeping reforms opened a new page in the history of Myanmar:

President Mr Joachim Gauck

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Feb — The President of the Federal Republic of Germany Mr Joachim Gauck and Mrs. Daniela Schadt and party arrived at Nay Pyi Taw Airport this morning.

They were welcomed at the airport by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin and wife and officials.

Next, Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of the President, met Mrs. Daniela Schadt at the Presidential Palace, here, at 11 am.

Then, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win hosted a luncheon to the German President and party at the Presidential Palace at 12.30 pm.

In his greeting speech, President U Thein Sein said it was a historic visit of the German President to Myanmar over the past 26 years after German President Richard von Weizsäcker in 1986 as his visit coincided with the occasion of the 60 Anniversary of the diplomatic ties between Myanmar and Germany.

The President thanked Germany for its effective aid for the development of Myanmar during the 60-year period of diplomatic relations. He acknowledged German government's rightful stand against the intense pressures from some Western countries on Myanmar in the past 20 years.

The President expressed his firm belief that the German President's goodwill visit would boost future bilateral cooperation, strengthening the existing bilateral friendship.

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President U Thein Sein receives German President Mr Joachim Gauck.

MNA

Deputy NPED Minister nominated as Union Minister for Education

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LOCAL NEWS

People delighted at news for sinking tube-wells

MADAYA, 10 Feb—Thanks to Ayeyawady River, Myaung River and Chaungmyagyi Creek, and Mandalay canal and Yenatha canal from Hsedawgyi Dam, the local people can cultivate crops on a large number of irrigated areas.

They are engaged in cultivation of paddy and crops on 134,601 acres of farmlands and croplands.

Shinhla and Thayezet village-tracts in the township are facing difficulty in water for agricultural purpose.

PyinOoLwin District Water Resources Utilization Department is making arrangements for sinking four-inch diametre tubewells.

"As of the second week of February, the tubewells will be sunk there. Now, pipes and sinking materials have arrived in Madaya. The local authorities have enlisted the needy farmers who want to sink tubewell in their farms. Actually, whenever river water subsides, Shinhla Village faces much difficulty in water supply to farmlands. But farmers are unaffordable to sink tubewell. Now, they are pleased for the government to sink the tubewells," said village administrator U Sein Mya Min.

The department will sink 22 tubewells in Shinhla Village and five in Thayezet Village.

The water will efficiently be used in cultivation of crops.

MMAL-Nanda Min Lwin

Bogyoke Road, detour expanded for Kalay dwellers

KALAY, 10 Feb—Kalay is a strategic town in linking Chin State, Magway Region and upper Chindwin region.

As the government expanded Bogyoke Road and Bayintnaung Road with asphalt to the pavements on both sides, the local people are convenient in their travelling.

However, a total of 77900 population are residing in 19 wards and 207,740 population in 41 village-tracts in the township. That is why the Bogyoke Road in downtown Kalay is always bustling with vehicles and pedestrians. Growing number of population causes traffic congestion on the road.

At present, the local people are hoping for efforts of the local authorities to ease traffic congestions along Bogyoke Road and upgrade the two miles and three furlongs long detour with concrete between Minye Kyawswa Road in Aungthitsa Ward and Myohla.

To upgrade the detour will cost K 123.9 million, according to the Township Development Supportive Committee.

Kyemon-Joe Net

Stake driven for construction of two-storey school building

LASHIO, 10 Feb—A ceremony to drive stake for construction of new reinforced concrete two-storey building was held at the designated place of Basic Education High School Branch in Tangyan of Northern Shan State on 6 February.

At first, Kaingkon Pariyatti Monastery Sayadaw and members of the Sangha recited Parittas.

Ninety Degree Co Managing Director U Myat Thu Aung and party will build the 140 feet long and 30 feet wide building. It was funded K 168 million in 2013-14 fiscal year.

The ceremony was attended by Commander of the local station Col Kyaw Swa Win, senior military officers, Township Administrator U Thet Naing, township level departmental officials, Shan State Hluttaw MP U Sai Hsan Sein, and responsible persons of the Education Ministry.

MMAL-Han Htay (IPRD)

Victorious athletes honoured in Shan State

TAUNGGYI, 10 Feb—A ceremony to honour victorious athletes in the XXVII SEA Games was held at the city hall in Taunggyi on 7 February.

Chief Minister of Shan State U Sao Aung Myat made a speech.

Shan State Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Aung Thu, State Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myo Tun and State Minister for Finance U Khun Thein Maung presented cash awards and certificates of honour to victorious athletes in boxing, Kampo, Pitanque, double regu of Sepak Takraw and regu and sailing, women's football, Pancek Silat, Muay, track & field, and women's hockey events.

Nan Hsu Myat San, who secured two gold medals in the Sepak Takraw double regu and regu events, spoke words of thanks. Later, the athletes were served with dinner.

It was also attended by Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat, the deputy speaker of Shan State Hluttaw, state ministers, the advocate-general of Shan State, the auditor-general of the state, national race ministers, the secretary of Shan State government, winning athletes and guests.

Kyemon-Maung Maung Than (Taunggyi)

Placing of asphalt rural road inspected

WUNDWIN, 10 Feb—Mandalay Region Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Breeding U Than Myint together with the head of Mandalay Region Rural Development Department on 9 February inspected repaving of Thaphan-Pintale road sections and sinking tube-well, water tank and waterworks undertaken by Aerial Engineering Co Ltd, Myanmar Land and Development Co Ltd and Silver Maek Co Ltd in Wundwin Township and left necessary instructions.

MMAL-Htay Hlaing (Wundwin)

WORLD

Abe takes step away from mentor Koizumi in Tokyo race

TOKYO, 10 Feb — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe likely breathed a sigh of relief at the weekend victory of the candidate supported by his ruling Liberal Democratic Party in the Tokyo gubernatorial election, not just because so much was at stake for Japan's capital as it gears up to host the 2020 Olympics, but for the sake of his own administration.

The victory by 65-year-old former health minister Yoichi Masuzoe was good news for Abe, who must have feared a victory by former Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa, whose anti-nuclear platform was backed by Abe's own one-time mentor in the LDP, Junichiro Koizumi, another former premier. Prior to Sunday's vote, a senior LDP lawmaker said the party would show Koizumi, who was in power from 2001-2006 and remains a popular figure with the public, that "there are limits to what he can do," given that it was a must-win battle for the party.

An LDP-backed candidate lost his bid in January to become mayor of Nago city, the relocation site for a US military base in Okinawa, and another election loss, even at the local level, could have proven detrimental to the government as it braces to push forward key political aims. "I'm glad to hear Mr. Masuzoe got support from Tokyo voters and won the race," Abe told reporters. "I hope he will tackle the challenges facing Tokyo head-on, such as the aging of its population and the economy."

A stable government and public support are essential for Abe and the LDP to tackle in the coming months the controversial issues of whether Japan should lift its self-imposed ban on exercising the right of collective self-defence and bring idled nuclear power plants back online.

Masuzoe's win will therefore embolden Abe's LDP at a time when opposition parties remain in disarray, and political analysts say it also signals Abe's growing divergence from Koizumi, who sought a small government and tried to "destroy" the old-style LDP with its relationships with vested interests.

Kyodo News

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe speaks to reporters at his office in Tokyo on 10 Feb, 2014, a day after the Tokyo gubernatorial election, which former health minister Yoichi Masuzoe won. —KYODO NEWS

Israeli PM to meet US president in Washington next month

JERUSALEM, 10 Feb — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will meet with US President Barack Obama in Washington next month, the prime minister's office confirmed on Sunday. Netanyahu's trip to the United States will include a speech in front of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, a pro-Israeli lobby, and a meeting with Obama at the White House which will mainly focus on the peace talks with the Palestinians, the Walla! news website reported.

US Secretary of State John Kerry has been working in the past months toward a framework agreement that outlines the future advancement of the peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians.

The last meeting of the two allies was held in the United States last September which focused on the issue of the Iranian nuclear programme amid Iran's overtures toward the West at the time. There are mounting tensions between Israel and the United States due to some Israeli far-rightists' criticism about Kerry's work and their negation of the peace talks as a whole, as well as the two's disagreement over how to tackle the Iranian nuclear issue. —*Xinhua*

Rice farmers protest as Thai government's funding woes mount

Anti-government protesters react as they listen to a leader's speech at an intersection protesters are occupying in downtown Bangkok 8,Feb 2014.
REUTERS

BANGKOK, 10 Feb— More than 1,000 farmers protested outside the Thai government's temporary headquarters on Monday over the state's failure to pay for rice bought under a subsidy scheme that the caretaker administration admits it is struggling to fund.

The rice programme was a signature policy of Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra, who was swept to power in 2011 with the help of millions of rural votes, but has become one of the biggest threats to her grip on power.

The unrest among farmers has opened a new front against Yingluck's government, which has been facing off against a Bangkok-based protest movement seeking to drive it from office for nearly three months.

One of the organizers of those protests was arrested on Monday, the first of the core leaders to be held since the campaign to disrupt normal business in the capital began in November. The protests, which are still blocking parts of Bangkok, have found much of their support from middle-class, urban taxpayers appalled at what they see as corruption and waste in the rice scheme.

Tarit Pengdith, head of the Department of Special Investigation (DSI), Thailand's equivalent of the FBI, said protest leader Sonthiyarn Chuenruethainaitham was being detained by border patrol police on the outskirts of the city.

He was among 19 people against whom arrest warrants were issued last week for defying a state of emergency that bans political gatherings of more than five people and gives authorities powers to detain suspects without charge. DSI chief Tarit also said he would announce the names of 136 individuals and companies suspected of providing financial support to the protest movement at a news conference on Tuesday.

"We have strong evidence that 58 of these firms have financially supported protests ... and will summon the remaining companies and individuals to the DSI to explain themselves," Tarit told *Reuters*.— *Reuters*

Syrian rebels kill 10 women in Hama Province

DAMASCUS, 10 Feb — Syrian rebels killed 10 women in the central province of Hama on Sunday, the official *SANA* news agency reported. Armed "terrorist" groups committed the killing in Ma'an town in the northern countryside of Hama, *SANA* said, adding that the rebels attacked the town and committed acts of arson, murder and property destruction.

Meanwhile, the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said radical battalions took control over Ma'an and killed 25 people of the Alawite minority, an offshoot of Shiite Islam which the ruling elite in Syria belongs to.

The Observatory said government troops evacuated the civilians from the village ahead of the rebels' attack, adding that most of those killed are members of the pro-government paramilitary National Defence Forces.

Also in Hama, 12 fighters of the al-Qaeda-linked Nusra Front were killed in clashes against the government troops in different parts of the countryside. The country's nearly three-year-old conflict has taken a sectarian turn recently with al-Qaeda-linked groups and other ultra-radical groups fighting to topple the administration of President Bashar al-Assad to establish an Islamic emirate.

Xinhua

Attack at religious place kills 8 in Pakistan's Karachi

ISLAMABAD, 10 Feb — At least eight people including a child were killed and 14 others injured on Sunday evening when some unknown assailants attacked a religious place in Pakistan's southern port city of Karachi, local media and officials said.

Police Superintendent Irfan Baloch said that some unknown gunmen riding on motorcycles stormed a religious place in the Baldia Town of Karachi, killing eight and injuring 14 others.

At least six assailants wearing helmets to hide their identity hurled hand grenades at pilgrims present in the building before opening indiscriminate fire at them.

Police and rescue teams rushed to the site and shifted the bodies and injured to the Civil Hospital of the city.

Rescuers said that some women and children were among the injured.

An eyewitness said three motorcyclists remained outside the building while three others entered the building and opened fire.

At the time of the attack, over 50 men, women and children were present inside the building.

The attackers managed to flee from the site after the attack. No group has claimed responsibility for the attack yet. —*Xinhua*

Injured people receive medical treatment at a hospital in southern Pakistani port city of Karachi, on 9 Feb, 2014. At least eight people including a child were killed and 14 others injured on Sunday evening when some unknown assailants attacked a religious place in Karachi, local media and officials said. —XINHUA

S Korea-US joint military exercises to begin 24 February

SEOUL, 10 Feb — South Korea and the United States will begin two annual joint military exercises on 24 February, their militaries said on Monday.

The Combined Forces Command said Key Resolve, a command post exercise, will be held through March 6, while Foal Eagle, a field training exercise, will be held through 18 April. North Korea has demanded that the exercises be cancelled, calling them a rehearsal for invasion. South Korea and the United States insist the exercises are defensive in nature.

Kyodo News

The New Light of Myanmar

Former health minister Yoichi Masuzoe is surrounded by reporters in Tokyo on 10 Feb, 2014, a day after winning the Tokyo gubernatorial election. KYODO NEWS

Masuzoe "braces himself" for job after winning Tokyo governor race

TOKYO, 10 Feb — Yoichi Masuzoe, the victor in Sunday's Tokyo gubernatorial election, said on Monday he would lead the Japanese capital in such tasks as preparing to host the 2020 Olympics and tackling rising welfare costs amid the aging of its population. "I feel a very grave sense of responsibility. I'll brace myself and do my best," Masuzoe told reporters. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, whose Liberal Democratic Party supported Masuzoe in the election, said he wants to fully cooperate with the new governor, who will oversee policies for Tokyo's 13 million people.

"I want him to make Tokyo a city that shines at the center of the world," Abe separately told reporters. The governor-elect, succeeding Naoki Inose who resigned in December to take responsibility for a money scandal, is expected to start off by assessing the capital's fiscal 2014 budget.

The draft budget for the year starting April 1 will be submitted to the local assembly later this month after the former minister of health, labor and welfare checks the planned spending and estimated revenues.

Masuzoe, a former House of Councillors member, said he wants to reflect his campaign pledges to some extent in the city's new budget. "All I have to do is achieve results. I want to use my experience as welfare minister." In campaigning, the 65-year-old pledged to make Tokyo the world's top city in fields such as disaster prevention, social welfare, business and education.—*Kyodo News*

Mali says MUJWA Islamist group responsible for killing 31 Tuaregs

DAKAR, 10 Feb — The Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa (MUJWA) was responsible for killing 31 Tuaregs in an attack on Friday near the town of Tamkoutat in northern Mali, the minister for interior security said on Sunday. General Sada Samaka, who visited the site of the attack accompanied by Malian army officers, told Malian national television that the killings took place around 2:00 pm local time (1400 GMT) on Friday some 12 km (7.5 miles) outside Tamkoutat.

"The travellers aboard two vehicles fell into an ambush laid by the terrorists of the MUJWA," said the minister. He said a young girl and a woman were amongst those killed.Initial reports had attributed the killings to the settling of scores between Peul and Tuareg ethnic groups. The MUJWA has not claimed the attack.

A French-led offensive in January 2013 drove out Islamist militants who had seized control of northern Mali. Pockets of fighters loyal to armed Islamist groups, including the MUJWA and al Qaeda's local branch AQIM, continue to operate in the desert region, carrying out periodic attacks. France is winding down its troop presence but has said it will keep more than 1,000 soldiers in Mali to counter a regional armed Islamist threat. Malian authorities said 25 people were killed in the ambush and four wounded. The attackers later killed six other people in two camps and wounded three more.

Xinhua

Swiss vote to set limits on immigration from EU

ZURICH, 10 Feb — Swiss voters on Sunday narrowly backed proposals to reintroduce immigration quotas with the European Union, Swiss television reported — a result that calls into question bilateral accords with the EU and could irk multinational companies.

While neutral Switzerland is not a member of the EU, its immigration policy is based on free movement of citizens to and from the EU, with some exceptions, as well as allowing in a restricted number of non-EU citizens.

That pact on free movement of people, which came into force 12 years ago, was signed as part of a package of agreements with the EU, some of which could now be in danger of unraveling, to say nothing of the effect on a globally oriented economy that employs large numbers of foreign professionals.

"This is a turning point, a change of system with far — reaching consequences for Switzerland," Justice Minister Simonetta Sommaruga told journalists in Berne.

The European Commission in Brussels said in a statement that the vote went against the principle of free movement of people.

It said it would examine the implications for its relations with Switzerland, taking into account the position of the government, which had urged citizens to vote 'no'.

"For us, EU-Swiss relations come as a package," said Hannes Swoboda, a member of the European Parliament.

"If Switzerland suspends immigration from the EU, it will not be able to count on all the economic and trade benefits it is currently enjoying. We will not allow ... cherry-picking."

Reuters

Swiss President and Foreign Minister Didier Burkhalter addresses a news conference on results in Bern 9 Feb, 2014. —REUTERS

Ukraine protesters, Russia increase pressure on Yanukovich

People shout slogans during an anti-government rally in Kiev on 9 Feb, 2014. —REUTERS

KIEV, 10 Feb — Ukrainian protesters, now in their third month of action, kept up pressure on President Viktor Yanukovich on Sunday with a mass rally where opposition leaders called for an end to his "dictatorial" powers.

About 20,000 demonstrators rallied on Kiev's Independence Square, focal point of the protest movement, as Yanukovich searched for a new prime minister and the currency of the heavily indebted economy, the hryvnia, remained under strain.

Russia piled further pressure on him at the weekend, linking disbursement of the next tranche of its $15 billion aid package for Kiev to repayment of a hefty gas bill owed to Russian firms.

Opposition speakers addressed both Yanukovich's governing style and his decision to seek closer economic ties to Russia rather than sign a free trade pact with the European Union.

"We want the system changed in the country — we want a system in which the president serves the will of the people, a president who does not have dictatorial powers," former economy minister Arseny Yatsenyuk told the crowd.

Far-right nationalist Oleh Tyahnibok attacked Russia's influence over Yanukovich, declaring: "Our struggle is not only against the regime of Yanukovich, but against those who support them — against the Kremlin's imperialistic policy."

Yanukovich met Russian President Vladimir Putin on the sidelines of the Sochi Winter Olympics on Friday.

He has since returned to Kiev but no word has yet filtered out on what the two men discussed.

In an unusual move, the state security service placed anti-terrorism units on alert in what it called a preventive step to stop possible attacks on sensitive installations such as airports and power stations.

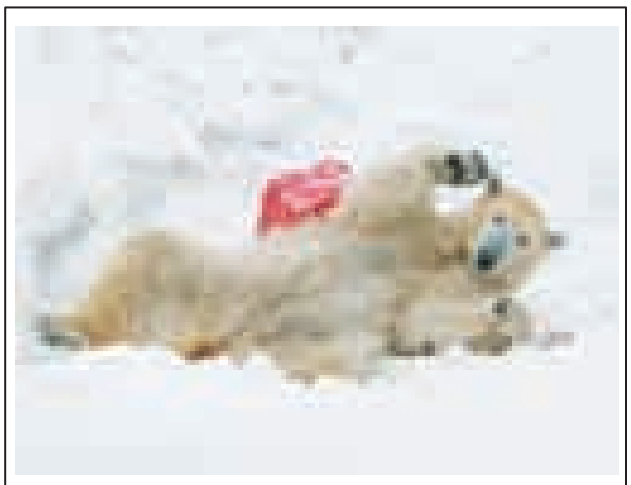
It said the new measures would apply to the blocking of approaches to state buildings and calls to seize installations where weapons are stored, a possible move against some radical protesters who have been in violent clashes with police.—*Reuters*

Tsunami-hit shop offers sea salt-flavored chocolate for Valentine's

SENDAI, 10 Feb — A confectioner that had its shop destroyed by the tsunami that struck northeastern Japan following the March 2011 earthquake is targeting the Valentine's Day market with a chocolate flavored by sea salt from the quake-hit coast.

Cleauventerre, based in Shiogama, Miyagi Prefecture, tops its "Moshio Chocolat" with sea salt extracted from waters of the nearby coast, according to chocolate maker Seiji Watanabe, 61. Until relocating to a neighbouring lot in the city in March 2012, Watanabe had been selling his products at a half-destroyed outlet to "relieve people's sentiments with sweets during such a hard time."

Kyodo News



A polar bear enjoys heavy snow in the quiet Ueno Zoological Gardens in Taito Ward, Tokyo, covered with more than 20 centimeters of snow for the first time in 20 years on 8 Feb, 2014. —KYODO NEWS

WORLD

Kerry to reaffirm commitment to positive US-China ties in upcoming visit

WASHINGTON, 10 Feb — US Secretary of State John Kerry will reaffirm US commitment to pursuing a positive relationship with China in his upcoming visit to Beijing, State Department said on Sunday.

From 13 to 18 February, Kerry will make his fifth trip to Asia in the past year, travelling to the capital cities of South Korea, China, Indonesia and United Arab Emirates, State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki said in a statement.

In meetings with Chinese officials, Kerry will "relay the message that the United States is committed to pursuing a positive, cooperative, comprehensive relationship and welcomes the rise of a peaceful and prosperous China that plays a positive role in world affairs," Psaki said.

The top US envoy will also discuss regional issues including the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) as well as highlight the importance of US-China collaboration on climate change and clean energy, Psaki added.

In Seoul, Kerry will reaffirm US-South Korea alliance and continue the coordination of the two countries on DPRK. In Jakarta, he will meet with Le Luong Minh, Secretary General of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, according to Psaki.

Xinhua

Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto (R) shakes hands with the Secretary of National Defense Salvador Cienfuegos Zepeda (L) during the ceremony commemorating the 101st Anniversary of the March of Loyalty, held at the Chapultepec Castle, in Mexico City, capital of Mexico, on 9 Feb, 2014.—XINHUA

Bus tips over, killing 7, injuring 25 in Colombia

BOGOTA, 10 Feb — A speeding passenger bus turned over Sunday along a highway in Colombia, killing seven people and injuring another 25, the country's Caracol Radio said.

Caracol Radio news network reported on its website the accident occurred at 74.5 km of the Fusagasuga-Bogota Highway after the driver lost control of the vehicle, reportedly due to excessive speed. The bus then veered out of its lane and turned over.

Among the fatal victims were three minors, and the injured were taken to local hospitals.

Rescue workers from the fire department who were at the scene said the number of victims could rise in the coming hours due to the seriousness of some of the injuries.

Xinhua

Photo taken on 8 Feb, 2014 shows the decorations on the bride's coronet during a Baba Nyonya wedding in Melaka, Malaysia. The Baba Nyonya (or Peranakan) is a minority community living in the straits of Malacca. Baba means men and Nyonya means women. They are descendants of the 15th and 16th century Chinese immigrants who came here as traders before the colonial era, settled down in the Malay archipelago and adapted to local language and culture.
XINHUA

Lebanese army arrests Syrian army defector

BEIRUT, 10 Feb — The Lebanese army arrested Sunday a defecting Syrian army colonel in the eastern Bekaa border town of Arsal, *the National News Agency* reported.

"Mahmoud Abbas, a defecting Syrian colonel and a member of the Syrian Revolution Military Council, was arrested in Arsal's Wadi Hmayyed," the report said.

Abbas was previously in charge of the army's front in Al Qusair, a Syrian town adjacent to the Lebanese border. The town was the scene of a fierce battle in mid-2013, which saw the Syrian army rout the rebels from their stronghold.

Later Sunday, the Lebanese army announced the arrest of two Syrian nationals, Omar Mahmoud Othman and Radwan Mahmoud Ayyoush, in Wadi Hmayyed for illegal entry. "The detainees are being interrogated under the supervision of relevant judicial authorities," the army said in a statement.

Xinhua

Iran agrees on seven "practical steps" with IAEA

TEHERAN, 10 Feb — Iran agreed to take seven "practical steps" in its cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), according to a joint statement of Iran and the IAEA posted on the website of Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) on Sunday.

Based on the agreement, Iran will allow IAEA access to a uranium mine and yellow cake complex in the central Province of Yazd. It agreed to provide more information about its Arak heavy-water reactor and implement the agreed procedure on the reactor. Also, Iran will provide information about its Lashkarabad Laser Centre, unused material for fuel and enrichment as well as its need for exploding bridgewire detonator (EBW).

The statement described the two-day talks between Iran and the IAEA, concluded in Teheran on Sunday, as "constructive technical talks."

"In the two- day talks, nothing was discussed about the possible military dimension of Iran's nuclear programme," a member of Iran's negotiating team told semi-official *ISNA* news agency.

"About missile and deterrence programme of Iran, nothing was discussed and the IAEA negotiating delegation did not have any demand from Iran in this regard," he added.

Iran will implement the agreement by 15 May, read the statement.

The fresh round of negotiations between Iran and the IAEA on bilateral cooperation was "good, constructive and progressive," Behrouz Kamalvandi, spokesman for the AEOI said.

Iran entered talks with the IAEA "out of good faith" to help remove "artificial ambiguities" over Teheran's nuclear programme as " the Islamic republic is not legally obliged under the Safeguards (Agreement) to respond to such queries and ambiguities," Kamalvandi said.

The IAEA delegation also expressed satisfaction with Iran's cooperation in implementing the previously-signed deal with the UN nuclear body, he said.

No immediate comment from the IAEA delegation is made.

Inspectors of the IAEA visited Iran's Gachin yellow cake mine in the south in January 2014 and the Arak heavy water production plant in December 2013. The inspection was in line with the implementation of an agreement signed between the AEOI and IAEA in Teheran on 11 Nov, 2013.

However, cooperation with the IAEA does not mean to shut down or dismantle any of Iran's nuclear facilities, an Iranian atomic official was quoted as saying by Press TV on Sunday.

"None of the nuclear sites will be shut down or dismantled, and one should not be influenced by the foreign media hype," said Asghar Zare'an, deputy chief of the AEOI for Protection and Security.

"We need to bear in mind that the hostility of the enemies toward the Islamic Republic of Iran is endless. Therefore, we should wisely and prudently turn the enemies' hope into despair," he said.

Iran is ready to make some changes in Arak heavy water reactor to allay western concerns, head of AEOI, Ali-Akbar Salehi said on Thursday.

Xinhua

Koirala sole candidate in Nepal prime ministerial election

KATHMANDU, 10 Feb — Nepali Congress President Sushil Koirala became the sole candidate for Monday's prime ministerial election after no one else filed candidacy by the stipulated deadline on Sunday, parliament secretariat spokesman Mukunda Sharma said.

Although legislators in the 601-member parliament that currently has 571 members can vote against 76-year-old Koirala, the chief of Nepal's oldest party is now certain to be elected prime minister with the Communist Party of Nepal-Unified Marxist Leninist throwing its weight behind him.

Prospects of a coalition between the Nepali Congress and UML looked shaky until Sunday afternoon due to power-sharing disagreements, principally over the UML's demand that elections be immediately held for a new president and vice president.

The Nepali Congress rejected the demand. President Ram Baran Yadav, elected to the post in 2008, is a former senior leader of the Nepali Congress.

The two parties eventually hammered out a deal later Sunday, in which they agreed to hold elections for a new president, vice president, Prime Minister, and speaker of parliament after a new constitution is promulgated.

The parliament doubles as a special assembly tasked with drawing up a new constitution. Political parties have pledged to promulgate a new constitution within a year.

The previous assembly elected in 2008 for the same purpose failed to complete the task, with political parties unable to agree on the form of governance and the basis for federating the country.

Kyodo News

A museum specialist restores a damaged art piece in the Museum of Islamic Arts in Cairo, Egypt, on 9 Feb, 2014. Egyptian museum specialists tried to restore the museum's around 150 art pieces while some 50 pieces had been permanently destroyed by a car bomb blast last month that targeted the security headquarter just opposite the museum.—XINHUA

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Toyota to stop making cars in Australia from 2017

MELBOURNE, 10 Feb — Toyota Motor Corp (7203.T) said on Monday it would stop making cars and engines in Australia by the end of 2017 in what would mark the end of an era for a once-vibrant auto production base and the loss of thousands of direct and indirect jobs. Toyota's decision follows the planned exits of

An Auto worker loads bodyshells of a Toyota Camry Hybrid car onto the assembly line at the Toyota plant in Melbourne on 31 Aug, 2009. — REUTERS

General Motors (GM.N) and Ford Motor (F.N) announced last year and would leave no global automaker remaining in Australia as high costs and a strong currency make it an unattractive production base.

"We did everything that we could to transform our business, but the reality is that there are too many factors beyond our control that make it unviable to build cars in Australia," Toyota Australia President Max Yasuda said in a statement. About 2,500 jobs will be affected when the plant stops building cars in 2017, the company said. Toyota's exit from Australia after more than half a century there deals a further blow to Prime Minister Tony Abbott's conservative government, which is seeking to manage a slowdown in the $1.5 trillion economy as a decade-long mining investment boom slows. A pullout by Toyota had been widely feared because of the blow to the parts supply base from the flight of GM and Ford.

"It's a huge moment for industry in Australia," Industry Minister Ian Macfarlane told reporters in Canberra after Toyota's announcement."Toyota have made no requests to us other than express their frustration with the difficulty they were having with the industrial relations process," he said, when asked whether Toyota had sought financial assistance or other forms of aid.—*Reuters*

Boeing sees Asia-Pacific fleet nearly tripling over 20 years

SINGAPORE, 10 Feb — Boeing (BA.N) maintained its 20-year forecast for airplane demand at $4.8 trillion, and predicted that nearly half of the world's air traffic growth would be driven by travel to, from or within the Asia-Pacific over the next two decades. Boeing estimated airlines in the Asia Pacific region would need an additional 12,820 jets valued at $1.9 trillion over the next 20 years. It said the fleet would rise to 14,750 in 2032, from 5,090 in 2012.

"Asia Pacific economies and passenger traffic continue to exhibit strong growth," Randy Tinseth, vice president of marketing at Boeing Commercial Airplanes told a media briefing on Monday ahead of the Singapore Airshow. "Over the next 20 years, nearly half of the world's air traffic growth will be driven by travel to, from or within the region. The Asia Pacific fleet will nearly triple, from 5,090 airplanes in 2012 to 14,750 airplanes in 2032, to support the increased demand."

Both Airbus (AIR.PA) and Boeing have committed to record production rates for their most popular models, but executives are closely watching the financial turmoil in key aviation markets such as Indonesia and Thailand. Asia Pacific is home to some of the world's biggest long-haul carriers and budget carriers AirAsia (AIRA.KL) and Lion Air have placed aircraft orders valued at billions of dollars and are among the biggest customers of Boeing and Airbus (AIR.PA). Boeing's data projects that passenger airlines in the region will rely primarily on single-aisle airplanes such as the Next-Generation *737* and the *737 Max*, a new engine-variant of the *737*, to connect passengers.—*Reuters*

An Air India Boeing 787 Dreamliner prepares for a flying display, during the 50th Paris Air Show, at the Le Bourget Airport near Paris, on 20 June, 2013.
REUTERS

Nestle looking at options to reduce L'Oreal stake

ZURICH, 10 Feb — Nestle (NESN.VX), the world's biggest food company, is looking at ways to reduce its $30 billion stake in cosmetics firm L'Oreal (OREP.PA), Bloomberg reported on Saturday, citing sources with knowledge of the matter.

Nestle has told L'Oreal of its intentions, and the two companies have discussed the issue with banks, though no decision over the possible timing of any sale, which could take years, has been made, the report said.

Nestle is under pressure to make its intentions clear towards the cosmetics firm, its partner of 40 years, when the ties that bind them loosen in April.

The Swiss company owns a 29.5 percent stake in L'Oreal and the expiry of a 10-year right of first refusal agreement with the Bettencourt family in April should make it easier for Nestle to sell, though it has no urgent need to do so.

Talks have picked up as the expiry of restrictions approaches, the report said.

A spokeswoman for L'Oreal declined to comment. Nestle declined to comment beyond pointing to a statement on its website that says the board is addressing the future of the stake "with great attention in the framework of the group's global nutrition, health and wellness strategy".

Reuters

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

Visitors look at Tesla Motors' Model S P85 at its showroom in Beijing on 29 Jan, 2014.
REUTERS

China to extend subsidies on electric cars past 2015

BEIJING, 10 Feb — China's Finance Ministry said on Saturday it will extend a programme of subsidies for buyers of electric-powered vehicles after the current subsidy regime, part of efforts to combat pollution in cities, expires in 2015.

The existing subsidies will be phased out by 2015 as planned, with a new regime to take effect after that date "to preserve policy continuity", the ministry said in a statement on its website. Details of the new subsidies would follow at an unspecified date.

The subsidies were designed to help China meet a goal of putting half a million new-energy vehicles, defined as all-electric battery vehicles and heavily electrified "near all-electric" plug-in hybrids, on the road by 2015 and 5 million by 2020.

Pollution in cities, in part caused by an explosion in car sales in recent years, is a hot-button issue for China's leaders, and several measures have been introduced, including curbs on sales of petrol-engined vehicles.

The current subsidies of up to 60,000 yuan ($9,800) are available for the purchase of an all-electric battery car and up to 35,000 yuan for a "near all-electric" plug-in vehicle were extended for a further three years at the end of 2012.—*Reuters*

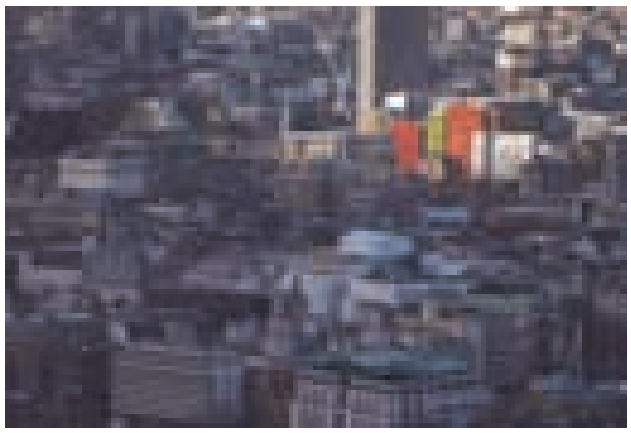
Next wave of super-rich heading for London as new crises bite

LONDON , 10 Feb — Political and financial upheaval in some of the world's largest emerging economies is driving a new wave of rich migrants to London's supercharged property market as a place to park their wealth, data from a leading real estate agency showed on Friday. Knight Frank, a specialist in upmarket properties, said it had seen online enquiries about British homes from crisis-hit countries such as Argentina, Ukraine and Turkey soar over the past year.

"There is potentially a further wave of investment headed for the prime central London property market," Tom Bill, associate in the Knight Frank residential research team, told Reuters. This is despite prices in London already having risen sharply after a rush of foreign buyers of London mansions, prompted by the Euro zone debt crisis and the Arab spring, along with Britain's political stability and benign property taxes.

Prices in London overall in the three months to December were 14.9 percent higher than a year earlier, according to figures from mortgate lender Nationwide, and some top-end values have inflated even more, driving prices in Britain's capital beyond the reach of most residents and making it a hot political topic. Finance Minister George Osborne said in December he would impose a capital gains tax on foreign property investors from 2015 in a bid to allay fears that wealthy foreign buyers are driving a property bubble.

Reuters



Colourful buildings in the West End of London are seen from The View gallery at the Shard, western Europe's tallest building, in London on 28 Jan, 2014.—REUTERS

SCIENCE & THECHNOLOGY

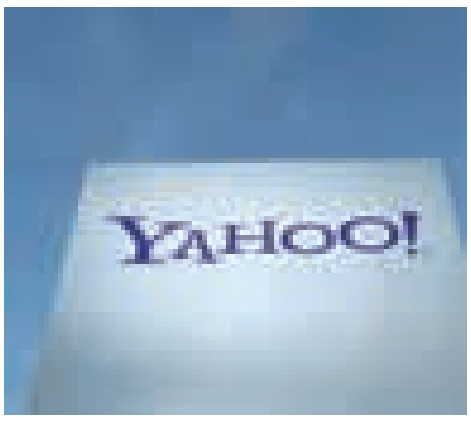
Yahoo to partner with Yelp on local search engine results

CHICAGO, 10 Feb — Internet portal Yahoo is partnering with consumer reviews website Yelp to beef up local results in its search engine, the *Wall Street Journal* reported on Saturday.

Yahoo Chief Executive Marissa Mayer unveiled the news at an employee meeting on Friday, the newspaper said, citing a person present at the meeting.

Yahoo's search engine will incorporate Yelp's listings and reviews and the feature will be launched in the coming weeks, the newspaper said.

The terms of the deal, which could help Yahoo compete with market leader Google, were not revealed. Yahoo and Yelp could not be immediately reached for comment.—*Reuters*



A Yahoo logo is pictured in front of a building in Rolle, 30 km (19 miles) east of Geneva, in this file picture taken on 12 Dec, 2012. REUTERS

Australians discover oldest star

CANBERRA, 10 Feb — A team led by astronomers at the Australian National University (ANU) has discovered the oldest known star in the Universe, which formed shortly after the Big Bang 13.7 billion years ago, the ANU said in a Press release on Monday.

The discovery has allowed astronomers for the first time to study the chemistry of the first stars, giving scientists a clearer idea of what the Universe was like in its infancy.

"This is the first time that we've been able to unambiguously say that we've found the chemical fingerprint of a first star," said lead researcher, Dr Stefan Keller of the ANU Research School of Astronomy and Astrophysics. "This is one of the first steps in understanding what those first stars were like. What this star has enabled us to do is record the fingerprint of those first stars."

The star was discovered using the ANU SkyMapper telescope at the Siding Spring Observatory, which is searching for ancient stars as it conducts a five-year project to produce the first digital map of the southern sky.

The ancient star is around 6,000 light years from Earth, which Keller said is relatively close in astronomical terms. It is one of the 60 million stars photographed by SkyMapper in its first year. "The stars we are finding number one in a million," said team member Professor Mike Bessell, who worked with Keller on the research. "Finding such needles in a haystack is possible thanks to the ANU SkyMapper telescope that is unique in its ability to find stars with low iron from their colour." Keller and Bessell confirmed the discovery using the Magellan telescope in Chile.

The composition of the newly discovered star shows it formed in the wake of a primordial star, which had a mass 60 times that of Sun.

"To make a star like our Sun, you take the basic ingredients of hydrogen and helium from the Big Bang and add an enormous amount of iron — the equivalent of about 1,000 times the Earth's mass," Keller said.

"To make this ancient star, you need no more than an Australia- sized asteroid of iron and lots of carbon.—*Xinhua*

Flappy Bird creator says popular game will fly no more

HANOI, 10 Feb — The developer of Flappy Bird, currently the most popular free mobile game on Apple App Store and Google's Android Play store, has announced that he is taking the game down at midnight (1700 GMT) on Sunday. Nguyen Ha Dong, a Hanoi-based game developer, announced the grounding of the addictive game in a Tweet at 1900 GMT on Saturday in which he also apologized to Flappy Bird players. "22 hours from now, I will take 'Flappy Bird' down," Dong said adding: "It is not anything related to legal issues."

"I cannot take this anymore," he wrote. Flappy Bird has caused a sensation after rising out of obscurity to become one of the most downloaded mobile games on both Apple and Google's online stores. Users have to steer a bird between green pipes. The Android version has been downloaded up to 50 million times, and attracted more than half a million reviews. Many people have been questioning Dong on Twitter about his decision to take down the game as only a day earlier he had been talking about developing the game for Microsoft's Windows phones.

Dong could not be reached for comment. He had turned his telephone off after cancelling an interview with *Reuters* on Thursday and not finalizing arrangements for one on Friday. Unlike other successful game makers such as Rovio Entertainment, which produced the hugely popular Angry Birds game and has hundreds of programmers, Dong made Flappy Bird by himself in a few nights, he said on Twitter earlier. The game, which he said was inspired by Nintendo's Mario Bros, has been earning on average $50,000 a day from advertising, Dong said in a media interview.—*Reuters*

Russian authorities say Bitcoin illegal

MOSCOW, 10 Feb — Russian authorities have issued warnings against using Bitcoin, saying the virtual currency could be used for money laundering or financing terrorism and that treating it as a parallel currency is illegal.

"Systems for anonymous payments and cyber currencies that have gained considerable circulation — including the most well-known, Bitcoin — are money substitutes and cannot be used by individuals or legal entities," the Russian Prosecutor General's Office said on 6 February. It added that Russian law stipulates that the rouble is the sole official currency and that introducing any other monetary units or substitutes was illegal.

Russia's central bank also said on 27 January that Bitcoin trade was highly speculative and that the unit carried a big risk of losing value. "Citizens and legal entities risk being drawn — even unintentionally — into illegal activity, including laundering of money obtained through crime, as well as financing terrorism," it warned.

The Prosecutor's General Office said it was working with the central bank and other law enforcement agencies to tighten regulations and prevent legal offences committed with the use of pseudo-currencies. The Bitcoin community in the United States, far more developed than the one in Russia, has already come under intense scrutiny as authorities crack down on illegal activity carried out using the digital currency.

Reuters

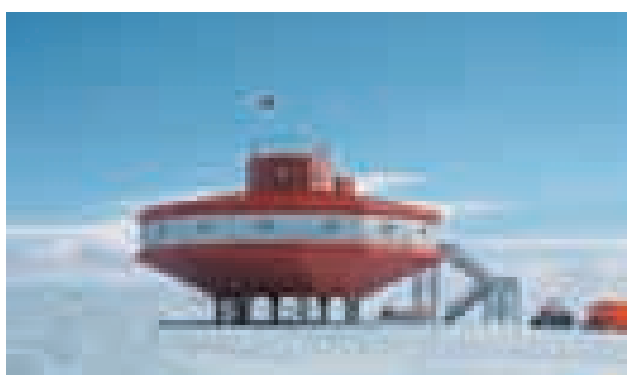
Some of Bitcoin enthusiast Mike Caldwell's coins are pictured at his office in this photo illustration in Sandy, Utah, on 31 Jan, 2014.—REUTERS

China's Antarctic explorations peacefully intended, cooperative

BEIJING, 10 Feb — The opening of China's fourth Antarctic research base is yet another step forward in the country's ambitious plan to study Antarctica, and further contributes to the peaceful use of this icy continent. The Taishan station, located between China's two existing Zhongshan and Kunlun stations at an altitude of 2,600 meters, can accommodate up to 20 people during the Antarctic summer.

According to the State Oceanic Administration (SOA), the Taishan station can be used for scientific observation, accommodation, power generation, storage, machinery maintenance, communication and emergency shelter. It also has oil storage installations and equipment to support a 400-tonne inland transportation vehicle fleet. Its opening will most certainly bring new opportunities for international cooperation in Antarctic research. With 95 percent of its land covered by snow and ice, Antarctica holds huge mineral resources and the surrounding seas are full of bio-resources under its continental shelf.

The colossal deposits of natural resources help explain the territorial bickering by a number of countries and the fact that dozens of countries now operate seasonal and perennial bases on the frozen land. A latecomer to Antarctic research, China has made stunning headway in the past three decades. The country launched its first Antarctic expedition in 1984, and inaugurated the Great Wall station the following year, more than



eight decades after Argentina opened the first continually staffed base. It opened the Zhongshan and Kunlun stations in 1989 and 2009 respectively. The latter stands at more than 4,000 meters above sea level on one of Antarctica's highest ice caps.

According to the SOA, another perennial station will be built in Antarctica's Victoria Land by the end of 2015. It will allow researchers to carry out multi-disciplinary research on bio-ecology and satellite remote sensing. Nevertheless, China's explorations of the icy continent have always been peacefully intended and cooperative. In 1983, China acceded to the Antarctic Treaty, which sets aside Antarctica as a scientific preserve, establishes freedom of scientific investigation and bans military activity on the continent. The country maintains no territorial claims in Antarctica, and takes part in the Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programs, and the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research.

"Peaceful use of Antarctica in the future will be a blessing for all humankind," SOA deputy director Chen Lianzeng told *Xinhua*. China is willing to cooperate with other nations through the platform of the Kunlun station, and make due contribution to exploring the two polar regions, he said. During a visit to the SOA in late January, Chinese Vice Premier Zhang Gaoli also called for more exchanges with the international community in research in polar regions and oceans, and sharing of resources to achieve mutual benefits.—*Xinhua*

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 11 February, 2014

Working together is success

Working together is success as it enlists the strength of everyone as the mighty force of one. Oneness is what every community needs, and the combination of the strength of all the people of communities is the power of a nation.

Actually it is the unity that brings all the peoples of all the areas to come together to work as a single source of might. So unity is the artery of every community and country, and as for a multiple cultural society like ours, it is the lifeblood. However, the work of fostering unity is easier said than done because it is natural that there may be differences, disagreements, disputes and even quarrels in a heterogeneous society. Such problems do exist even in homogeneous societies.

Normally, every country or society is dealing with these problems, and it is wrong to say that a country with such problems is on the road to ruin. The important thing here is that we should find the most suitable mechanism that effectively mitigates these problems or at best solves or prevents them, but in a win-win situation.

Myanmar, a heterogeneous society, is facing disagreements and quarrels among the different national races for a long time, and they have been the main obstacles to the national development drive for over half a century. As we are now in the democratization process, the government in office has adopted a new mechanism inviting all stakeholders to the peace talks that are more transparent, candid and comprehensive than ever before.

What's more we are seeing encouraging signs for a lasting peace. If there is peace, there will be unity, and in unity we can work together. Remember, working together is success!

Signing ceremony between Myanmar and Germany in progress in the presence of Presidents of both countries.—MNA

Myanmar thanks Germany ...

(from page 1)

Then German President said his visit to Myanmar was to praise and support Myanmar's democratization. He continued that his visit would enhance bilateral relations and Germany wanted to assist Myanmar which is making great strides in sweeping reforms that opened a new page in the history of Myanmar.

Before and during the luncheon, artists of the Department of Fine Arts presented entertainments to those present.

After the luncheon, the President and the visiting German President presented them bouquets.

Also present at the luncheon were Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife Daw Nan Shwe Hmon, Vice-President U Nyan Tun and wife Daw Khin Aye Myint, the Union ministers, deputy ministers, the German ambassador to Myanmar and officials.

MNA

Deputy NPED Minister nominated as Union Minister for Education

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Feb — The 12th day session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw took place holding eight agendas today.

First, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced that Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Daw Khin San Yi was the nominee of the President as the Union Minister for Education and informed the Hluttaw representatives of the remonstrance process against the nomination.

Next, Hluttaw representatives held discussions on the proposed planning of the government shown at the appendix-2 (a) of the National Planning Bill for 2014-2015 FY.

Daw Khin Thanda of TadaU Constituency urged the Health Ministry to put much-needed plans in the Bill as adequate health care service is desperately needed across the country. She also stressed the need to support the sports ground in the townships by canceling or halving the proposed budget of K 9968.200 million for Wunna Theikdi sports complex.

U Tin Win of Kawlin Constituency asked about the allocation of budget to the under-construction schools as it is not mentioned in the Bill. He also discussed the budget allocation for construction of staff quarters for health staff in Kawlin Township.

In his remarks, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker called for coordination and collaboration between the representatives and respective committees. The 13th day Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session will be held on 13 February.—*MNA*

First Intersessional Meeting of ASOD Working Group on Law Enforcement kicks off

YANGON, 10 Feb— The first international meeting of ASOD working group on law enforcement was held at Parkroyal Hotel, here, this morning.

The meeting focused on exchange of information on drugs control, new narcotic drugs consumption in the region, laundering drug money, involvement of West Africans in drug trafficking, cooperation in drug-control operations in border areas, control of chemical precursor which is used for production of narcotic drugs, drug smuggling of drug gangs and capacity building of drug control squads.

It was attended by Police Col Myint Thein, Joint Secretary of Myanmar's Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control, and senior officials from Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, Singapore and the ASEAN Secretariat.

The meeting continues tomorrow.

MNA

Daw Khin Khin Win meets German President's wife

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Feb— Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar held talks with Mrs Daniel Schadt, wife of the German President, at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace here this morning.

They discussed assistance to be provided by Germany for enhancement of education and health sectors in far-flung areas of the nation, uplifting the life of women in rural area, and social activities of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation and Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association.

Daw Lin Lin Tin, wife of the Union Minister for Foreign Affairs, Daw Thuzar Wai, wife of the Union Minister for Energy, Daw Lay Lay Nwe, wife of the Myanmar Ambassador to Germany, and officials were also present at the call. The German President's wife was accompanied by Mrs Pham Thi Quynh Trang, wife of the German Ambassador to Myanmar.

MNA

Daw Khin Khin Win and Mrs Daniel Schadt pose for documentary photo.—MNA

President U Thein Sein,…

(from page 16)

Reduction and Rescheduling of the Foreign Debt of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar at the same venue at 12 pm today.

Deputy Minister Dr Lin Aung and the German ambassador to Myanmar signed the agreement in the presence of the two presidents.

Agreed Minutes on the Treatment of Debt of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar was signed between Union Minister for Finance U Win Shein and Paris Club member countries on 23 January 2013 in Paris of France.

According to the agreement, debt clearance volume is over euro 1084 million. Out of them, 50 % of debt was cancelled by Germany. Over euro 543 million of the remaining 50 % debt is to be repaid by Myanmar with 3 % of the interest rate within fifteen years—seven years pending period and eight years repayment period.

MNA

Cooperation taking place …

(from page 16)

for Myanmar. Cooperation is taking place in the Parliament comprising representatives from 19 political parties, he added.

The German President reaffirmed Germany's continued support to Myanmar's democratization. He expressed his hope that constitutional amendments would be done before the elections, acknowledging that press freedom, emergence of political parties and peace-making process were good for Myanmar.

Next, the German President signed on visitors' book at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

MNA

***Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann meets German President Mr. Joachim Gauck.*— MNA**

Preparatory works for amendment of constitution discussed

Nay Pyi Taw, 10 Feb—Chairman of Implementational of Constitutional Amendment Committee Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa met Geman President Mr Joachim Gauck and party at Shwe Nann Taw Hotel, here, this evening. During the meeting, they had a cordial discussion on preparatory works for constitutional amendment.—*MNA*

Judicial independence, reputation vital for ensuring a reliable judicial system, the rule of law

Nay Pyi Taw, 10 Feb — Chief Justice of the Union U Tun Tun Oo addressed a seminar on the role of independence and reputation of the judiciary for ensuring the rule of law, jointly-organized by the Supreme Court of the Union, UNDP Myanmar and International Court of Justice, at Thingaha Hotel, here, this morning.

"The Rule of Law is an essential prerequisite for building a modern and developed country. Only optimistic cooperation of everyone concerned could bring a genuine rule of law. Protection of the independence and reputation of the Judiciary is important for a democracy. Judicial independence and reputation are vital for ensuring a reliable judicial system and the rule of law," said the Chief Justice in his speech.

A total of 40 judicial officers and judges attended the seminar that will continue tomorrow.

MNA

All national brethren are to join hands in implementing regional development tasks

Nay Pyi Taw, 10 Feb— The state government budget and Union budget are to be systematically spent upgrading education, health and human resources development sectors, said Union Minister U Hla Tun at the breakfast meeting attended by Shan State chief minister and state ministers at the hall of Shan State Government Office in Taunggyi yesterday.

Union Minister Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win explained progress of socioeconomic status for national brethren in border areas and Union Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin, plans for provision of free health care services to locals.

In meeting with locals at the hall in Hopong Township of Pa-O Self-Administered Zone, Union Minister U Hla Tun said that Shan State enjoys fruitful result of peace, adding the government is translating into a democracy in a transparent manner. He called on all national brethren to harmoniously join hands in implementing regional development tasks the Union ministers and Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat made supplymentary reports.

In his concluding remarks, the Union minister said that members of regional development committee are to cooperate in carrying out people-centered development tasks in accord with people's desire, urging them to follow existing law, by-law, order and directives and policies of the State.

They looked into construction of office of leading committee of Pa-O Self-Administered Zone, town hall and staff quarters. They also inspected RC type Yankin creek-crossing bridge that links Hopong and Yankin Village.—*MNA*

National Seminar on Myanmar's Country Safeguard System commences

Nay Pyi Taw, 10 Feb— The National Seminar on Myanmar's Country Safeguard System-CSS took place at Royal Kumudra Hotel, here, this morning, with an address by Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun.

Speaking on the occasion, the Union Minister said that Myanmar is focusing on enactment of the environmental conservation law and rules. The seminar will be held on agendas of frameworks of Asian Development Bank on environmental conservation and its aims, environs, local national people and resettlement. He expressed his belief that the seminar will contribute to uplift of environmental conservation systems of Myanmar and ADB and espertise for environment and social protection.

Senior Programs and Economics Specialist Mr Peter J Brimble and Social Development Specialist Ms Michiko Suga of SEA Department of ADB made speeches. The seminar was jointly organized by Ministry of ECF and ADB under the plan of Capacity Building for Implementing Environment and Social Safeguards in Myanmar.

The Environment Safeguards Awareness Workshop will be held tomorrow.—*MNA*

Nay Pyi Taw, 10 Feb— Chairperson of Pyithu Hluttaw Rule of Law and Tranquility Committee Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met with President Mr. Joachim Gauck of the Federal Republic of Germany at the Aureum Palace Hotel here at 3:45 pm today.

After the meeting, they answered queries raised by local and foreign media persons.—*MNA*

***Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meets with German President Mr. Joachim Gauck.*—MNA**

Pyithu Hluttaw Rule of Law and Tranquility Committee Chairperson meets with German President

All data of people confidential

***Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi.* Photo: Aye Min Soe**

Yangon, 10 Feb—Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi has called on all national people for answering the questions correctly as the 2014 national census would help the country to ensure to ensure its development.

"All data answered by the people are confidential," the Union minister told the reporters during the press conference in Yangon today. The national census would be taken for 12 days from 30th March to 10th April and the rough report on results of the national census will be released in early 2015. The national census will be taken based on two points: international norms and human rights. "No need to worry about the questions because the census is aimed at ensuring the development of the country," he said.

Regarding taking census in some areas of the armed groups, the Union minister replied that all armed groups were ready to cooperate with the government. The ministry has to take about two years to prepare for the upcoming national census. The last census was taken in 1983.—*AMS*

LOCAL NEWS

National Objectives of 67th Anniversary Union Day 2014

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

Rice offering ceremony held in Myingyan

MYINGYAN, 10 Feb—The 33rd Rice Offering Ceremony of Myingyan Township was held on a grand scale in front of Manikinsana Hall in Myingyan, Mandalay Region on 7 February.

At first, Deputy Commissioner U Hla Win Tin of Myingyan District General Administration Department, Township Administrator U Tun Thein Aung, wellwishers and organizations offered rice to the monks.

A total of 1764 baskets of rice, K 26,324,600 and offertories worth K 1,524,825 were donated to 930 members of the Sangha in the township at the ceremony.

U Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)

K 100 million fund spent on development tasks in Meiktila

MEIKTILA, 10 Feb—Mandalay Region Hluttaw representative U Saw Htay of Meiktila Constituency No 1 and party inspected progress of tasks in wards and villages of Meiktila on 7 February.

"Work committees were formed for respective development tasks such as repairs of educational buildings, roads and bridges, health buildings and water supply tasks. We inspected the tasks whether the fund was correctly spent on the tasks or not. Moreover, township level officials will check the progress of works," said Region Hluttaw MP U Saw Htay.

After that, they inspected the development tasks in villages.

In Meiktila Township, repairs of 42 educational buildings, three health buidings, three road and bridges and three water supply tasks are being undertaken spending the fund.—*MMAL-Chan Tha (Meiktila)*

Essay contest hails Union Day

FALAM, 10 Feb—As a gesture of hailing the 67th Anniversary Union Day, the essay and poem contest was held at the hall of Basic Education High School in Falam in Chin State on 8 February morning.

Students of BEHS No 1 and No 2 and BEMS Branch took part in the contest.

A total of 12 high school students, 19 middle school students and 10 primary school students totalling 41 participated in the contest.

Prizes will be given to the winners in the Union Day ceremony.—*Kyemon-District IPRD*

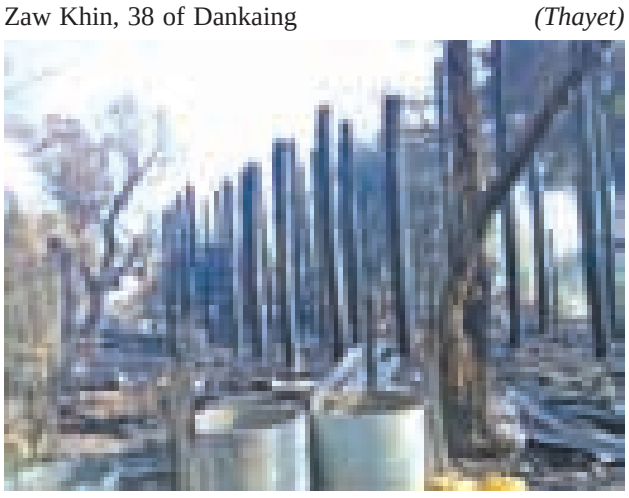
Fire breaks out in Kanma Township

THAYET, 10 Feb—A fire broke out in Dankaing Village of Thitmezi Village-tract in Kanma Township of Thayet District in Magway Region on 8 February morning.

The fire was triggered from the stove of farmer U Zaw Khin, 38 of Dankaing Village, engulfing houses, one motorcycle, one bicycle, one water pump, one engine, one generator, one line phone and paddy and bean worth K 30 million.

Kanma Police Station opened file over the case.

MMAL-Ko Ko Aung (Thayet)



New library building commissioned into service

THONGWA, 10 Feb—A ceremony to open Daw Ohn Myint library building was held at the library in Anugpansein Village of Thongwa Township, Yangon Region, on 8 February.

Yangon Region Minister for Transport and Cooperative U Aung Khin donated K 50,000 and books, Region Hluttaw representative U Thaung Sein of Dawbon Township books and the Head of Yangon South District Information and Public Relations Department books to the library committee chairman.

The building 30 feet long, 20 feet wide and 13 feet high was cost K 4.33 million donated by Daw Ohn Myint of the village.

Thanks to the library, over 1500 people of 412 households will have the opportunity to read various subjects of books easily.

MMAL-Ko Tuk (IPRD)

Action taken against traffic rules brekers

PYINOOLWIN, 10 Feb—Vehicles in various sizes from PyinOoLwin Township run along Mandalay-Lashio Highway to Shan State (North) daily.

To be free from traffic accidents, traffic police members led by Police Captain Win Myint of No 58 Traffic Police Squad (PyinOoLwin) together with local police, staff of Directorate of Road Administration and local authorities made surprise check at vehicles at Ziwaka Junction in Ward 5 of PyinOoLwin on 5 February morning.

Action is being taken against those who broke traffic rules under Section 26 of Mandalay City Development Committee Law and the persons in PyinOoLwin, Kyaukse, Yamethin, Myingyan and Nyaung U and other townships under the 1964 Vehicle Law as of 4 February.

MMAL-Nay Lin

Industries developing in Wundwin Township

WUNDWIN, 10 Feb—Rural people in Wundwin Township are striving for undertaking electrification on a self-reliant basis.

The villages enjoying electricity are mainly engaged in weaving and other cottage industries.

Lathe workshop owners produce small-scale products.

In the past, the weaving machine was worth K 1.7 million. Now, its price rose to K 1.9 million due to higher working demands.

Thanks to weaving machines, the local people enjoy better livelihoods in the rural areas as an engine of poverty alleviation and rural development.

Kyemon-Htay Hlaing

S Korean becomes 1st foreign female Shikoku pilgrimage guide

Supplied photo taken in May 2013 shows Choi Sang Hee, a South Korean woman walking the Shikoku Henro pilgrimage course in Naruto, Tokushima Prefecture. Choi became in December that year the first non-Japanese woman to receive an official license as a guide for the pilgrimage to 88 temples on Shikoku Island. —Kyodo News

Takamatsu, (Japan), 10 Feb — A South Korean living in Seoul has become the first non-Japanese woman to qualify as a guide for an 88-temple pilgrimage course on western Japan's Shikoku Island. Choi Sang Hee, 38, who received her license last December, hopes to see more of her compatriots make the pilgrimage, believing that would help transform relations between her country and Japan. "South Koreans will change their impressions of Japan" if they walk the course, known as Shikoku Henro, she said.

She is the first foreign woman among some 15,000 Shikoku Henro registered guides, called "sendatsu," since the Showa period (1926-1989), according to an association which issues sendatsu certificates. The 88 temples are all associated with the Buddhist monk Kukai, posthumously known as Kobo Daishi.

Choi learned about the Shikoku Henro on the Internet, and first undertook the pilgrimage in 2010 to pray for her late father, who loved to travel. She visited again the following spring to pray for a happy future with a man she was about to marry. Choi also came to Shikoku in the spring of 2012 and made her fourth pilgrimage in May 2013. Four is the minimum number of pilgrimages to qualify as a guide.

Choi is scheduled to visit Japan in March to speak about her experiences of Shikoku during an event to be held in Osaka. "As a sendatsu guide, I hope to be of help to others and return the favors to those who helped me," Choi said.

Recalling those years, Choi said, "When I got pains in my back, a local resident drove me to a nearby hospital, and there was also a time when a family let me stay at their home."

Her Japanese skills improved dramatically by the time she had completed her fourth pilgrimage.

Choi has been introducing the Shikoku Henro, which marks its 1,200th anniversary this year, to South Koreans on her Web page and is currently compiling a book about her experiences.

To emulate the traditional welcomes that Shikoku gives to pilgrims, she has made direction stickers with arrows to help foreign pilgrims who know little Japanese and has asked houses along the routes to post them.—*Kyodo News*

Nepal ends political deadlock, elects Koirala as new PM

Sushil Koirala (C), Chairman and parliamentary party leader for the Nepali Congress Party, greets supporters, after filing his nomination for the post of prime minister for the election to be held on Monday, at the Parliament Secretariat, in Kathmandu on 9 Feb, 2014.—Reuters

Kathmandu, 10 Feb — Nepal's parliament picked a social democrat as its new prime minister on Monday after a last-minute power sharing deal ended a deadlock that had lasted more than two months after an election.

Sushil Koirala, the head of the centrist Nepali Congress party, was elected with support from the communist UML party, which holds the second largest number of seats in parliament and which wanted the assembly to hold new presidential elections. Koirala needed to be elected by a majority in parliament and his Nepali Congress party controls 194 seats in the 601-seat assembly.

The UML is made up of communists with more liberal political views compared to the Maoist former rebels who waged a civil war in the Himalayan nation until 2006.

Koirala, 76, replaces Khil Raj Regmi, the Supreme Court chief justice who has headed a caretaker government since March last year. He now has the job of overseeing the preparation of a new constitution, one of the conditions of a 2006 peace deal that ended the decade-long war. A previous attempt to write the charter failed after the term of a constituent assembly expired in 2012.

Reuters

Shanghai becomes Asia's most stylish city

Beijing, 10 Feb — Shanghai has surpassed Tokyo and Hong Kong to become Asia's most stylish city, a new survey has found.

According to research by Global Language Monitor, a United States-based data research firm that catalogs trends in word usage, Shanghai is the reigning fashion capital of Asia, ranking 10th worldwide.

New York ranked first in the 10th annual survey on global fashion cities, followed by Paris and London.

Asia is well-represented in the top 20, with Tokyo at No 11, Singapore at No 19 and Hong Kong at No 20. Beijing didn't make the top 55.

Shanghai now reigns as the fashion capital of Asia, beating out Hong Kong and Tokyo, according to the latest research by Global Language Monitor, a United States-based firm that follows trends in word usage.—Xinhua

"As China further emerges onto the world stage, Shanghai leads the fashion charge," said Bekka Payack, the New York-based fashion director for the outfit.

Global Language Monitor tracked more than 250,000 print media and social media channels looking for buzzwords associated with fashion and haute couture. It then traced the contextual usage and frequency of the words to set a gauge for ranking global fashion houses.

China's commercial hub deserves to be Asia's fashion capital, said Qi Xiaozhai, dean of the Shanghai Commercial Economic Research Centre. "Shanghai has made a triumphal return by jumping 12 places from last year's ranking. It should return to its rightful place in the top 10," Qi said.—*Xinhua*

Gov't set to proceed with pro-nuclear policy after Tokyo election

Tokyo, 10 Feb — The defeat of two antinuclear candidates, including former Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa, in Sunday's Tokyo gubernatorial election has given the central government a boost of confidence as it prepares to moves forward with an energy policy supporting the use of nuclear power.

"We plan to compile a feasible and balanced Basic Energy Plan (that outlines the country's medium to long term energy policy)," Prime Minister Shinzo Abe told a parliamentary committee Monday morning.

Nevertheless, Hosokawa's attempt to focus attention on nuclear policy — a politically sensitive issue following the 2011 Fukushima nuclear crisis — appears to have added pressure on the government to restrain itself from rushing toward endorsing a draft energy plan that has been criticized for its strong pro-nuclear tone.

The government initially wanted to decide the plan in January, having already unveiled a draft document a month before that praises nuclear power as an "important base-load power source." Base-load power refers to electricity sources that are cheap and stable, and can be used continuously through the day.

The draft also said the government will push for the resumption of nuclear reactors that have satisfied the country's new safety regulations introduced last July, while effectively leaving open the possibility of allowing the construction of new reactors.

In the drafting process, officials of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry did not even seem to be shy about showing that it remains a strong promoter of atomic power, despite the lingering antinuclear sentiment among the public following the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear complex.

"We have no intention at all to give up the nuclear option. The most important issue is to deliver this message outside," Takayuki Ueda, the head of the Natural Resources and Energy Agency, which is under the wing of METI, said in December when briefing ruling Liberal Democratic Party lawmakers on the content of the draft.—*Kyodo News*

Cambodian defence minister heads for Singapore Airshow 2014

Phnom Penh, 10 Feb — Cambodian Defence Minister Tea Banh left Sunday for Singapore to attend the Singapore Airshow 2014 due to be held at the Changi Exhibition Centre from 11 to 16 February. Tea Banh was accompanied by senior military and civil aviation officials and invited by Singaporean Minister for Defence Ng Eng Hen, Nem Sowath, head of the Cambodian Defense Ministry's Policy and Foreign Affairs Department, told reporters at the Phnom Penh International Airport before departure.

Singapore Airshow is biennial and Asia's largest aeronautical and defence event, he said, adding that military and commercial aircraft and equipment will be displayed at the show.

"The event is a good opportunity for defence chiefs from various countries to meet and exchange views," he said. "It is also a chance for Cambodia to see the latest development and innovation in aerospace technologies around the world." During the visit, Tea Banh will meet separately with Singaporean Minister for Defence Ng Eng Hen and Malaysian Defence Minister Hishammuddin Hussein.

Xinhua

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SEA SUNNY VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEA SUNNY VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.2.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SANGTHAI SHIPPING CO LTD

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV TAN BINH-38 VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV TAN BINH-38 VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.2.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L 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 TAN BINH CO LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KUO HSIUNG VOY NO (1011)

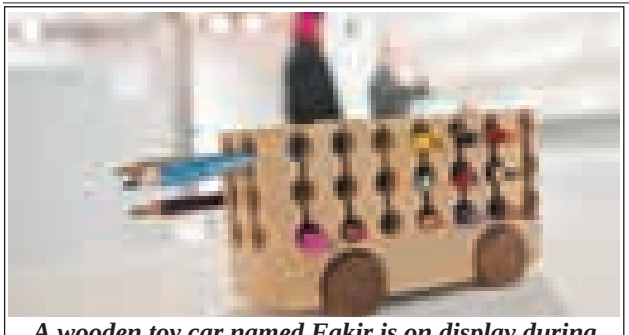
Consignees of cargo carried on MV KUO HSIUNG VOY NO (1011) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.2.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797



A wooden toy car named Fakir is on display during the 100 Designers for 100 New Toy Cars Exhibition at the Design Exchange in Toronto, Canada, on 8 Feb, 2014. Featuring 100 wooden cars from 100 designers, the exhibition is open to public from 16 Nov, 2013 to 9 Feb, 2014.—XINHUA

Yangon City Development Committee

Invitation for Tender

1 . Yangon City Development Committee hereby invites Tenders from interested local companies, foreign companies, local companies and foreign companies in joint ventures for the implementation of the Housing Projects, Affordable Housing Project, Housing Project and Car Parking Building, Automated Car Parking Tower Project on the basis of cooperation on mutual benefit in the areas mentioned below:

(a) Housing Project, North Okkalapa Township, Corner of Bagan Road and Hantharwaddy Road, Shwe Paukkan (Land area 10.93 acres);
(b) Housing Project, Dagon Myothit (North) Township, Yarzadedit Road (Land area 40.493 acres);
(c) Affordable Housing Project. Dagon Myothit (East) Township, Min Ye Kyaw Swar Road, (Land area 11.0 acres);
(d) Housing Project, Kyeemyindine Township, Zay Gyi Road (Land area 0.364. acres);
(e) Housing Project and Car Parking Building, Botataung Township, Corner of Merchant Road and Theinbyu Road (Land area 3.086 acres);
(f) Housing Project and Car Parking Building, Botataung Township, 45th street (Land area 2.561 acres);
(g) Automated Car Parking Tower Project Kamaryut Township, Corner of Hledan Road and Htantapin Street (P.A.E System) (Land area 0.103 acres).

2. The projects will be developed in accordance with plans approved or to be approved by the Yangon City Development Committee.

3. The information on respective Project will be stated in the instructions to Tenderers, Tenders shall be submitted for each Project separately.

4. The Tenders shall be submitted in two envelopes, one for technical proposal and the other for financial proposal. The Tenders shall be prepared in compliance with the Instructions to Tenderers.

5. Tenderers may obtain further information about the tendering from the following office, during office hours:

Engineering Department (Buildings), Yangon City Development Committee

6. Tender documents are available at the above address from the date of 25th, February 2014 during office hours. A complete set of each of tender documents for Housing Projects (North Okkalapa Township, Dagon Myothit (North) Township) and Affordable Housing Project (Dagon Myothit (East) Township) may be purchased upon payment of non-refundable fee of USD 300 (United States Dollars three hundred only) by means of overseas account transfer to Current Account No. - 1-DA-06-91886(MFTB), Myanma Foreign Trade Bank, Yangon or upon payment of non-refundable fee of Kyat 300,000 (Kyat three hundred thousand only) to Yangon City Bank Account No, DY-9 through above Department. A complete set of each of tender documents for the Projects specified in paragraph l(d), (e), (f) and (g) may be purchased upon payment of non-refundable fee of USD 500 (United States Dollars five hundred only) or Kyat 500,000 (Kyat five hundred thousand only).

7. Tenders shall be delivered to the above office on or before 14 hrs, on 31st, March, 2014. Any Tender submitted after the designated date and time will not be considered.

8. Tenders for Housing Projects (North Okkalapa Township, Dagon Mycthit (North) Township) and Affordable Housing Project (Dagon Myothit (East) Township) must be accompanied by tender security in the form of a bank guarantee valid for six months in the amount of USD 50,000 (United States Dollars fifty thousand only) issued by local or foreign bank which must be correspondent bank of Myanma Foreign Trade Bank, Yangon. The amount of Tender security in the form of bank guarantee for the Projects specified in paragraph 1(d), (e), (f) and (g) shall be USD 100,000 (United States Dollars one hundred thousand only).

9. Tenders will be opened in a session to be held at the office of Yangon City Development Committee in the presence of representatives of tenderers on the date and time as may be notified to the tenderers.

Tender Invitation Committee
Yangon City Development Committee

High-level team formed to tackle violence around Johannesburg

JOHANNESBURG, 10 Feb — A high-level task team has been formed to urgently address aviolence around Johannesburg, authorities said on Monday.

This followed an upsurge of violent service delivery protests in the last few weeks in Gauteng Province. Areas affected are Rethabiseng, Zithobeni and Ekangala in Tshwane; Princess Park in Roodepoort; Oiketlong in Emfuleni; and ekkersdal on the West Rand.

Several deaths reportedly resulted from the protests, but authorities did not give a specific figure.

"Given the seriousness of the situation, the provincial government is giving a high-level attention and resources to the situation, which has claimed human lives and essential public properties," provincial spokesperson Thebe Mohatle. The task team, made up of Premier Nomvula Mokonyane, MECs (members of executive council) and Heads of Department for Health, Community Safety, Human Settlements, Economic Development and Sports, Arts, Culture and Recreation, will convene regularly to assess the situation, according to Mohatle.— *Xinhua*

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV PANJA BHUM VOY NO (OO7)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PANJA BHUM VOY NO (007) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.2.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S WAN HAI LINES PTE LTD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA RAKAN VOY NO (355)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RAKAN VOY NO (355) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.2.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Israeli PM accuses Iran of increasing "int'l aggression"

JERUSALEM, 10 Feb — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Sunday the recent easing of sanctions on Iran has not only failed to moderate its policies, but is fuelling its aggression, according to a statement by the prime minister's office.

"What is happening here is that the international community is reducing the sanctions, and Iran is increasing its aggression," Netanyahu said at the start of the weekly cabinet meeting in Jerusalem, adding that "the Iranian foreign minister recently met with the head of Islamic Jihad. Iran continues to supply terrorist organizations with deadly weapons, continues aiding the massacre in Syria, and is sending warships to the Atlantic Ocean."

These remarks came following reports that Iranian warships were sailing toward US maritime borders on Saturday, which "was meant to counter US naval presence in the Persian Gulf," Iranian Navy chief R.-Adm. Habibollah Sayyari was quoted as saying by the Fars news agency.—*Xinhua*

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (367)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (367) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.2.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Priyanka Chopra: I don't follow rules, I make my own

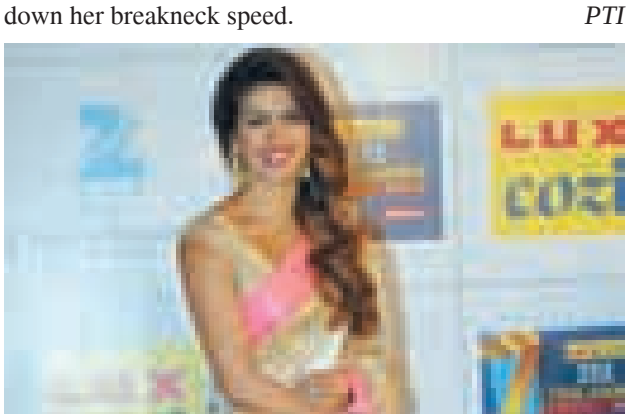
New Delhi, 10 Feb — With her Bollywood movies and a budding international music career, Priyanka Chopra is into many places all at once but the actress says she has no plans to slow down anytime soon. Priyanka, who is in the middle of promoting her first release of the year Gunday, begins shooting the next schedule of Mary Kom soon and plans to bring out her next single by April this year. She says she loves juggling different things and playing difficult roles.

"I guess it is a bit of conscious thing because I get bored doing the same thing. In my films too, my characters are always different looking be it Agneepath, Barfi! or in Gunday. I enjoy versatility and variety. I am not like others. I don't follow rules and paths. I make my own rules," Priyanka told *PTI* in an interview. The 31-year-old former Miss World, who has been working since she was 17, jokes that unless someone handcuffs her and makes her stop, she would not be able to slow-down her breakneck speed.

"I had a 200 crore release last year in Krrish 3 and the year before I had Barfi! and Agneepath. I think the last two years have been amazing for me. I had my singles. Exotic won triple platinum in India. I feel my pace is absolutely fine. I think I need to increase it," she said. She is the object of affection to two of her leading stars — Ranveer Singh and Arjun Kapoor— in Ali Abbas Zafar directed Gunday that hits the screens this Valentine's Day. Priyanka plays the role of Nandita, a cabaret dancer in the Kolkata of the '70s in the Yash Raj film which is set in the world of coal mafia.

"I enjoyed doing the film. It was tremendously satisfying to have so many shades in a character but it was difficult also because there is so much going on in the movie. She is very pivotal to the story as all the conflict happens because of Nandita. You don't know whose side to take," she said. Priyanka says she took reference from her mother for fashion in the film while European cabaret inspired her dancing.

PTI



***Priyanka says she likes variety in the roles that she plays.*—PTI**

'LEGO Movie' tops 'Monuments Men' to score huge US box office win

Los Angeles / New York, 10 Feb — "The LEGO Movie," an animated film based on the colourful plastic children's blocks, snapped up $69.1 million in ticket sales to top weekend box office charts, easily beating the George Clooney World War Two film "The Monuments Men." "The Monuments Men," which also stars Matt Damon, Bill Murray and John Goodman, was second with $22.7 million in sales at US and Canadian theaters. The film is based on the true story of US soldiers who rescued art masterpieces from Nazi thieves.

After three consecutive weeks in the top spot, the Kevin Hart-Ice Cube comedy "Ride Along" took third with $9.4 million, according to data supplied by Rentrak.Led by the voices of Will Ferrell, Will Arnett and Morgan Freeman, "The LEGO Movie" features toy mini-figures of Batman, a pirate and others in a Lego universe faced with destruction on Taco Tuesday. The film won lavish praise from critics as inventive and funny, with 112 of 118 critics giving it a "fresh" rating on the movie review site Rotten Tomatoes, and far surpassed average industry projections of an opening weekend around $50 million.

"The LEGO Movie" was heavily marketed by Warner Brothers and The LEGO Group, the Danish company that makes the popular snap together blocks. The toy company released 17 building sets inspired by scenes from the movie. McDonald's released eight collectable holographic cups with its Happy Meals."It's awesome," said Dan Fellman, president of domestic distribution for Warner Brothers of the blockbuster opening, which was the biggest of 2014 thus far."We had a movie playing from 5 to 85," he said. "Five-year-olds are enjoying it, their siblings are enjoying it, and their parents and grandparents are all enjoying it."

Fellman noted that 59 percent of the audience was actually over age 18, and 55 percent were male. "We even had some midnight show business," he said. Sales at 3-D showings were also far stronger than is usually the case with animated films.The big numbers bode well for more "LEGO" films going forward from the studio."The Monuments Men" received mixed reviews from critics and was moved back from its original December 18 release date for additional post-production work and editing. The film, based on the book by Robert M. Edsel, was written and directed by Clooney."It was very much in line with the high end of our expectations," said Rory Bruer, Sony Pictures' president of worldwide distribution of the $22.7 million figure.

"We're very happy with our opening, especially given all the noise of the Olympics and the big movies opening around us," he said, adding that the film was playing well to adult audiences as was expected. The weekend's only other major new release, "Vampire Academy," based on the first book in the "Vampire Academy" series by fantasy author Richelle Mead, opened in the No 7 spot with $4.1 million in sales, according to studio estimates.Rounding out the top five, Disney's long-running musical "Frozen" took fourth place with $6.9 million, while "That Awkward Moment" was fifth, collecting $5.5 million in sales. "Frozen" has racked up $369 million since its November debut.—*Reuters*

Cast member Will Ferrell attends the premiere of the film "The Lego Movie'' in Los Angeles on 1 Feb , 2014.
Reuters

Eva Mendes pulled over by police

***Eva apparently talked her way out of a ticket.*—PTI**

Los Angeles, 10 Feb — Actress Eva Mendes was allegedly caught using her cell phone while driving but managed to avoid a ticket.

The 39-year-old Training Day star narrowly avoided a ticket when she was pulled over by a police officer on a bicycle in Los Angeles after he spotted her chatting into the device in her grey Lexus SUV, reported TMZ online.

Eva Mendes was reportedly given a piece of paper but apparently talked her way out of a ticket.

The brunette beauty has had a difficult time recently as rumours surfaced she split from her boyfriend Ryan Gosling after almost three years together over Christmas.But a spokesperson for the actress said that the breakup reports were just rumours.

The 2 Fast 2 Furious star also sparked speculation she was pregnant when she refused to go through an airport security scan recently.—*PTI*

Amitabh Bachchan: Enjoyed "grooving and shaking" for Bhootnath Returns

Mumbai, 10 Feb — Megastar Amitabh Bachchan, currently filming for his upcoming movie Bhootnath Returns, shot a dance sequence for the movie and later said he feels that the choreographers sometimes forget he is "old to be still doing this stuff".

"Grooving and shaking with the young at the shoot for Bhootnath Returns, at times the choreographer and the production forget how old I am to be still doing this stuff.

But to be honest I did enjoy myself, despite the buckets of perspiration after each approaching summer heat-filled shot," Amitabh posted on his blog srbachchan.tumblr.com on Sunday. The 71-year-old further said that after so much of dancing he does not regret missing the gym. "And then, of course, the no regrets of not being able to gym, since, the workout during the song was enough to keep me going for a decade!" he added. Bhootnath Returns is a sequel to the 2008 horror comedy film Bhootnath that also featured Juhi Chawla.

PTI

***Big B also revealed he was tired after all the dancing scenes .*—PTI**

SPORTS

United thwarted by last-gasp Bent goal for Fulham

London, 10 Feb — An injury-time goal from Fulham's Darren Bent inflicted more pain on champions Manchester United as the bottom club rescued a 2-2 Premier League draw on Sunday, adding fuel to the fire for manager David Moyes's critics. It was a further blow to United's hopes of securing Champions League football next season and left them nine points behind Liverpool in fourth spot and six adrift of Tottenham Hotspur who beat Everton 1-0 with a goal from Emmanuel Adebayor.

Late strikes from Robin van Persie and Michael Carrick helped United cancel out Steve Sidwell's opener and evoked some of the never-say-die attitude that characterised former manager Alex Ferguson's long spell at the club. However, the uncertainty that has plagued the new regime came back to bite them as Fulham substitute Bent headed in at the far post to nick a point in the 94th minute."Today was as bad as it gets," a shell-shocked Moyes told Sky Sports television.

"We dominated the game. Being one down was bad enough. The amount of attempts, chances and play we had was unbelievable. How we didn't win I have no idea."It's goals that count. You can have as much possession as you like. We should have scored more.

You've got to try and keep making it work," said Moyes who took over from Ferguson in the close season. It was a superb return to United, who stayed seventh on 41 points, for former assistant coach Rene Meulensteen as his Fulham side showed buckets of resolve to defend stoutly in the face of constant pressure.

Fulham set out their stall to defend deep, with two banks of four lined up in front of the goal with no recognised striker. Their lack of ambition was typical for a team shorn of confidence and hoping for a stroke of luck, much like a lower league side would approach a cup tie at Old Trafford. Against a United side also lacking belief, Fulham stifled the home team's pedestrian approach play and caught them napping on the break.Comically bad defending allowed Sidwell to stride unmarked into the area to latch on to a lofted pass from Lewis Holtby and sidefoot the ball home, stunning a boisterous Old Trafford into silence after 19 minutes.—*Reuters*

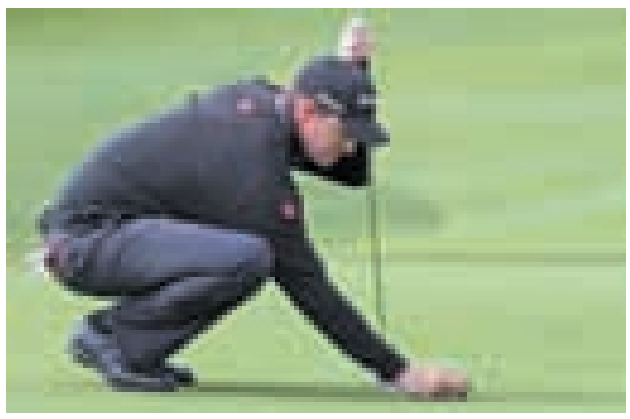
Tottenham Hotspur's goalkeeper Hugo Lloris (R) saves a shot from Everton's Kevin Mirallas (L) during their English Premier League soccer match at White Hart Lane in London on 9 Feb, 2014. **Reuters**

Walker hangs on to win Pebble Beach

Cary, (North Carolina), 10 Feb — Jimmy Walker did it the hard way, almost squandering a huge lead before registering a nervous one-stroke victory to continue his hot start to the season at the $6.6 million Pebble Beach National Pro-Am on Sunday. Walker began the day with a six-stroke lead but he made hard work of it with consecutive bogeys at the 12th and 13th holes that opened the door to his rivals at Pebble Beach.

He steadied the ship down the stretch for the most part, hitting a series of precise shots, before a three-putt bogey at the penultimate hole left him with a tenuous one-stroke lead going to the par-five 18th. But Walker managed a nervous par, sinking a five-footer to stagger across the finish line with the victory after running his first putt past the hole. "I hate three-putting," Walker told the Golf Channel. "I had a couple but managed not to do it on the last hole." I made a really good putt.

"I tried to blank everything out that was going on, tried to go about it as businesslike as possible." He carded a two-over 74 to finish at 11-under-par 276, with fellow Americans Dustin Johnson (66) and Jim Renner (67) equal second on 10 under par. It was Walker's third victory in eight starts at the start of the season — a feat achieved since 1995 only by Tiger Woods, Phil Mickelson and David Duval, according to the PGA Tour. The 35-year-old from Oklahoma collected nearly $1.2 million to increase his lead on the PGA Tour money list with more than $3.6 million and his lead in the FedEx Cup points standings.



Walker was relieved rather than ecstatic, admitting that trying to protect a big lead was an unnerving experience. "It's a different feeling when you've got a lead like that," he said. "You know pars are going to be good enough. I just struggled a bit with the speed of some of those greens and some of the chipping."

Reuters

German Hoefl-Riesch bids to retain super-combined crown

Sochi, (Russia), 10 Feb — Alpine skiing's leading ladies race into the Olympic spotlight on Monday when German Maria Hoefl-Riesch seeks to retain the super-combined crown she won four years ago. Five Olympic golds are up for grabs on the third day of competition in the Russian Black Sea resort of Sochi.

Austrian Matthias Mayer won the men's downhill on Sunday in the first Alpine skiing race of the Games and now it is the turn of the women.

The super-combined features a downhill run followed by a slalom and Hoefl-Riesch won the inaugural Olympic event in Vancouver in 2010 when she beat American Julia Mancuso into second place.

Mancuso is in Russia to resume the rivalry although the main threat to the German this time looks likely to come from Austrian Nicole Hosp and Slovenia's Tina Maze.

Reuters

Germany's Maria Hoefl-Riesch

Tevez brace not enough as Juventus held

Juventus' Carlos Tevez celebrates with his teammates after scoring against Hellas Verona during their Italian Serie A soccer match at Bentegodi Stadium in Verona on 9 Feb, 2014.— **Reuters**

Verona, 10 Feb — Carlos Tevez scored two early goals for Juventus before the Serie A leaders squandered the lead in a 2-2 draw at Verona on Sunday. Luca Toni pulled one back and Tevez's fellow Argentine Juanito Gomez grabbed an equaliser for Verona in the fourth minute of stoppage time after coming on as a late substitute.

Juventus, who failed to win for only the fourth time in 23 Serie A games this season, stayed nine points clear of AS Roma, who were held to a goalless draw by neighbours Lazio.

Gervinho had a goal disallowed for Roma while Stefano Mauri came on at halftime for Lazio, his first match since completing a six-month ban for failing to report match-fixing in 2011. Otherwise, there was little excitement in a disappointing derby with a surprising number of empty seats blighting the Stadio Olimpico.

Troubled Inter Milan produced their first win of the year when they beat lowly Sassuolo 1-0 with a Walter Samuel header at the San Siro, putting them level in fifth place with Verona. Brazilian midfielder Hernandes made his Inter debut and midfielder Fredy Guarin his first appearance since his transfer to Juventus fell through in January.

Reuters

Hosts Russia roared on to first gold, Austria's Mayer wins downhill

Sochi, (Russia), 10 Feb — Home fans roared Russia to its first gold of the 2014 Sochi Olympics on Sunday when figure skating's ultimate showman Yevgeny Plushenko sealed the team title, while in the mountains Austria's Matthias Mayer conquered the perilous Rosa Khutor run to claim the men's downhill. With Russian President Vladimir Putin among the near 12,000 capacity crowd at the Iceberg Skating Palace, one of several new arenas built for the Winter Games, the hosts built an unassailable lead some 90 minutes before the contest ended.

"When we got off the ice, Vladimir Vladimirovich (Putin) congratulated us and said 'Good job'," said ice dancer Ekaterina Bobrova. "It was really nice and completely unexpected." Kicking off the second day of full competition, Mayer claimed one of Winter Olympics' most coveted crowns, as pre-race downhill favourites American Bode Miller and Norway's Aksel Lund Svindal failed to make the podium. Son of 1988 super-G silver medallist Helmut, Mayer edged out Italy's Christof Innerhofer by 0.06 seconds down the steep, icy piste set among the towering Caucasus mountains.—*Reuters*

Russian President Vladimir Putin (L) greets Yevgeny Plushenko, a member of the gold medal-winning Russian figure skating team, during the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics, on 9 Feb, 2014.— **Reuters**

GENERAL

A kid take a break on ice at Garry Point Park in Richmond, Canada, on 8 Feb, 2014. Firefighters in Richmond flooded the grass land with water at Garry Point Park to form an ice rink to facilitate residents in enjoying their long holidays.
XINHUA

Pakistani separatist militants blow up three gas pipelines

ISLAMABAD, 10 Feb — Separatist rebels from Pakistan's resource-rich Baluchistan province have blown up three gas pipelines, cutting supplies to the country's most economically important province, an official from a state-owned gas company said on Monday.

The rebels blew up the pipelines to Punjab province overnight, said Ayub Bajwa, the emergency manager on duty for Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited in the capital of Islamabad.

Punjab is Pakistan's most populous and wealthy province and the power base of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif. Most of the province is now without gas.

"This the first time they have blown all three simultaneously," Bajwa said. "They used to just blow up one here or there."

The pipelines are large - 24, 18 and 16 inches in diameter. It will take at least two days to repair them, Bajwa said.

During that time millions of Pakistanis will be unable to heat their homes or run their factories.

Sarbaz Baloch, a spokesman for the banned Baluch Republican Army, said his group had blown up the pipelines near the Punjabi town of Rahim Yar Khan, about 600 km (370 miles) south of Islamabad.

The BRA is fighting for the independence of Baluchistan, Pakistan's poorest and biggest province. They accuse the federal government of looting the province's rich mineral resources and leaving its people to live in poverty.

Human rights groups have accused both the Baluch rebels and government security forces of serious human rights abuses, including kidnapping, torturing and killing civilians.

Xinhua

MYANMAR TV

(11-2-2014, Tuesday)

6:00 am
1. Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
6:25 am
2. Physical Exercises
6:35 am
3. The Mirror Images of The Musical Oldies
6:45 am
4. Documentary
7:00 am
5. News/Weather Report
7:25 am
6. People Talks
7:35 am
7. 67th Anniversary Union Day Programme
7:45 am
8. Documentary
8:00 am
9. News/ International News
8:30 am
10. India Drama Series
9:00 am
11. News/ International News
9:30 am
12. Documentary
9:45 am
13. Business News
10:00 am
14. News
10:15 am
15. Documentary
10:45 am
16. TV Drama Series
11:45 am
17. Tamyethnar Takwetsar
12:00 pm
18. News/International News/Weather Report
12:25 pm
19. Documentary
1:45 pm
20. Song Programme
2:10 pm
21. Documentary
2:30 pm
22. Traditional Boxing
2:45 pm
23. Business News
3:00 pm
24. News
3:15 pm
25. TV Drama Series
4:00 pm
26. News
4:15 pm
27. 2014 University Entrance Examination (Myanmar)
4:45 pm
28. 67th Anniversary Union Day Programme
5:00 pm
29. News
5:15 pm
30. Business News
5:30 pm
31. India Drama Series
6:00 pm
32. News/Weather Report
6:20 pm
33. Kyae Pwint Myaye Yin Khone Than
7:00 pm
34. News
7:25 pm
35. TV Drama Series
8:00 pm
36. News/International News/Weather Report
8:35 pm
37. Teleplay
8:50 pm
38. 67th Anniversary Union Day Programme
9:00 pm
39. News
40. Documentary
41. TV Drama Series

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

11-2-14 07:00 am ~ 12-2-14 07:00 am) MST

* Local News
* A Visit to Htam Hsan Cave: A Miraculous Place
* World News
* Brilliant Woman "Dr Mya Thidar Sway Tin"
* Myanmar Delicate Artistic Handy Creations- Lacquareware Making
* World News
* Myanmar Masterclass: Fantastic Art
* Beautiful Mon Choral Dance
* The Photographer (Portiature) "Aung Kyaw Moe"
* Local News
* What Have You Done …. For the Natural Environment?
* World News
* In The Studio: May Phyu Phyu
* Local News
* Myanmar Traditional Instruments (OBOE)
* World News
* Scented Buddha Images
* Local News
* Food Trip (EP-1) (Part -2)
* World News
* Fortune Teller: "Yan Moe Aung"
* The Most Prominent Resort And Residence - Ngapali
* News Extra "Thanakha"
* Applied Myanmar Traditional Martial Art (Part-1)
* Myanmar Masterclass: Impressionism

Three fans shot outside Brazil World Cup stadium

NATAL, 10 Feb — Three fans have been shot outside the Arena das Dunas World Cup stadium in Brazil's latest outbreak of football violence.

Police said the shots were fired by two men on a motorcycle after the Rio Grande do Norte state championship match between America and Santa Cruz on Saturday night.

"We don't have the names of the injured fans but they are in a stable condition with injuries that aren't life threatening," police spokesman Francisco Araujo Silva said. Local authorities appealed to witnesses to contact police in a bid to capture the gunmen.

The Arena das Dunas stadium, in the northeastern city of Natal, will host four matches during the World Cup, to be held from 12 June to 13 July this year.

Sunday's shootings were not the first involving America fans.

In October last year, four America supporters were shot after a match against their local Serie B rivals Ceara.

Violent clashes between fans have also affected Brazil's top division. In December, dozens were injured after a riot during the Campeonato Brasileiro match between Atletico Paranaense and Vasco da Gama in the southern city of Joinville.

Xinhua

Barca go back on top after topsy-turvy weekend

MADRID, 10 Feb — It was all change at the top of the BBVA Primera Liga this weekend as FC Barcelona returned to the top of the league thanks to a 4-1 win away to Sevilla. Two goals from Leo Messi and further strikes from Alexis Sanchez and Cesc Fabergas gave Barca the win and a vital three points after Barca had fallen behind in a rainswept Sanchez Pizjuan Stadium thanks to a goal from Alberto Moreno.Alexis equalized with a header, from a possible offside position after 34 minutes and Messi's first goal of the night a minute from halftime put the Catalans ahead.

Barca had been below their best in the first half, but were back to their excellent best after the break and Messi's second gave them breathing space before Cesc sealed the win in the closing minutes. Barca's win knocked Real Madrid off the top of the table after they had overtaken Atletico Madrid on Saturday as a result of their 4-2 triumph against Villarreal and Atletico's surprise defeat in Almeria.. Atletico were without first choice goalkeeper, Thibaut Courtois and his replacement Dani Aranzubia had a difficult night, as he was beaten by a cross from Verza with 11 minutes remaining.

The keeper was then sent off for supposedly committing a penalty after an ill-judged decision to try and dribble the ball round Almeria striker Zongo and Verza fired home Almeria's second of the night with Atletico midfielder, Gabi Fernandez in goal. Real Madrid went level on points and ahead of their neighbors on goal difference courtesy of 4-2 victory at home to Villarreal, a result achieved despite the absence of the suspended Cristiano Ronaldo. Fit-again Gareth Bale opened the scoring after a defensive mistake after 6 minutes and then set up Karim Benzema to make it 2- 0 with an instinctive finish after 24 minutes. Mario Gaspar's thumping drive just before halftime got Villarreal back into the game, but Jese Rodriguez's fourth goal of the season after 63 minutes again put his side two goals ahead.

Reuters

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The New Light of Myanmar

Tuesday, 11 February, 2014

President U Thein Sein, wife Daw Khin Khin Win welcome German President

*President U Thein Sein shaking hands with German President Mr. Joachim Gauck.—*MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Feb— A ceremony to welcome President Mr. Joachim Gauck of the Federal Republic of Germany and wife Mrs. Daniela Schadt by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win took place on the lawns of the Presidential Palace, here, this morning.

First, President U Thein Sein and German President Mr. Joachim Gauck took salute from the Guard of Honour and inspected it.

The German president was welcomed by the scouts from No (5) BEHS, waving the miniature flags of the two countries.

After the welcoming ceremony, the two presidents introduced their entourages each other.

Then, they held a discussion at Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace.

Both sides discussed matters on successes and challenges in carrying out political, economic and administrative reforms in Myanmar, strengthening amity and cooperation between the two countries, promotion of trade and investment, peace building, stability and development of Rakhine State and development of SMEs sector.

Mr. Joachim Gauck became the first German president in 26 years to visit Myanmar after President of the Federal Republic of Germany Mr. Richard von Weizsäcker's goodwill visit in Myanmar in 1986.

Financing Agreement (grant) for implementation of Rural Infrastructure Programme with the use of 7 million euro provided by Germany was discussed with Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development. Joint Letter of Intent between Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany and Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development of Myanmar was signed on 26 July 2012 to implement development plans by German Society for International Cooperation (GID).

According to the letter, German government will provide euro 15 million to Myanmar for enhancing vocational training centers, banking industry and government and NGOs from 2013 to 2015.

The export value of Myanmar to Germany amounted to US$ 42.98 million, which grew by 1.54 percent compared with 2011-12. Myanmar's import from Germany was US$ 144.55 million, which exceeded by 51.97 percent compared with 2011-12. Total trade volume was US$ 187.53 million and has exceeded by 36.44 percent compared with 2011-2012.

Germany is nine-largest trade partner of Myanmar and Myanmar's main exports to Germany in 2012-13 are ready-made garments, rice, beans and pulses, slippers and forest products. Myanmar's main imports from Germany are machinery, electronics, pharmaceuticals, transportation devices and science tools.

Myanmar's export to Germany during the period from April to December in 2013-14 has reached US$ 29.25 million and up 34.74 % compared with last year.

President U Thein Sein and German President Mr. Joachim Gauck attended signing of Agreement between the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Government of Federal Republic of Germany on the

(See page 9)

Cooperation taking place in Parliament comprising representatives from different political parties

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Feb — Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann held talks with German President Mr. Joachim Gauck at Zabuthiri Hall of Hluttaw Building, here, this afternoon.

In his greetings, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker said the Presidential visit would bring great benefits while the bilateral relations improve. He expressed his delight to hear debt cancellation on Myanmar.

The Speaker assured the German President of Myanmar's firm commitment to continuing democratization, saying that Myanmar has the strong determination to overcome challenges of the uneasy task. He expressed his belief that Germany would help Myanmar's reform process as the German President's visit was a boost

(See page 9)

Central Committee for Prevention against Trafficking in Persons meets

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Feb—The Central Committee for Prevention against Trafficking in Persons held its meeitng 1/2014 at the Ministry of Home Affairs, here, today.

In his address, Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko said that as the government is implementing the reform process in a transparency manner, the Anti-Human Trafficking Police Corps was formed in 2013 for ensuring smooth cooperation in international community. The Anti-Human Trafficking Liaison Offices were opened at Laukkai-Namsang in May 2013 for the third one of Myanmar and China and Myawady-Mae Sot Liaison Office in October 2013 for the third one between border of Myanmar and Thailand. The human trafficked victims homes will be opened in Kawthoung and Myawady. He continued that the First Myanmar-US Anti-Human Trafficking Meeting was successfully held on 1 August 2013. Priority will be given to drawing the work plan for prosecution and protection of human trafficked victims in 2014.

Members of the CCPTP deputy ministers, the chief of Myanmar Police Force, officials of State and Region PTPC, officials of UN agencies, media persons and those of various fields participated in the meeting, and the Union minister reviewed their discussions.—*MNA*

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Chairman of Russia-Myanmar Friendship and Cooperation Association

*Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Mr Mikhail A. Dmitriev, Chairman of Russia-Myanmar Friendship and Cooperation Association.—*MYAWADY

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Feb—Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received Mr Mikhail A. Dmitriev, Chairman of Russia-Myanmar Friendship and Cooperation Association, at Zeyathiri Beikman here this morning.

Also present at the call were Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Thura Thet Swe, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Khin Aung Myint and Maj-Gen Mya Tun Oo of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army). The Chairman of Russia-Myanmar Friendship and Cooperation Association was accompanied by Russian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Vasily Pospelov.

They had a cordial discussion on further strengthening relations between Myanmar and Russia, cooperation in military technologies, exchanging scholarship students and formation of Myanmar-Russia Friendship and Cooperation Association.

Myawady