The New Light of Myanmar
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Vice-President U Nyan Tun receives Chinese Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Feb—Vice-President U Nyan Tun had a discussion with a Chinese delegation led by Mr.Yang Houlan, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace here on 19 February.

They discussed prospect for development of infrastructures in drinking water supply, electrification and transport in Myanmar, bilateral cooperation in special economic zones and implementation of China-Myanmar comprehensive strategic cooperation plan.—*MNA*

Vice-President U Nyan Tun receives Mr.Yang Houlan, Chinese Ambassador.
MNA

Roads, water supply facilities in Zabuthiri Tsp to be upgraded

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Feb — Union Minister U Thein Nyunt, Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council, met with departmental officials, social organizations and local people from villages in Zabuthiri Township on 19 February.

At the meeting, he clarified development tasks including upgrading transportation and agricultural facilities and improving the education, health and socio-economy of the local people in Zabuthiri Township. During the meeting, U Hla Win, the chairman of the Zabuthiri Township Support Committee for Development, and U Than Swe, the chairman of the township development affairs committee, reported on needs for upgrading roads linking villages and for building religious buildings and sports grounds.

Representatives of the villages and social organizations asked the council to upgrade the roads and to build water supply facilities and to build sports grounds.— *MNA*

Royal Thai Navy ships arrive in Yangon

YANGON, 19 Feb—Three Royal Thai Navy ships carrying 695 naval cadets and commanding officers arrived at Myanmar International Terminal Thilawa Port here on 19 February as part of the training program of the Royal Thai Naval Cadet Training Unit.

During their five-day tour, the Thai cadets will perform various activities including taking part in a Myanmar-Thai naval friendship volleyball match at the Thuwuna National Indoor Stadium in Yangon, golf playing in South Okkalapa Golf Club, collective blood donation in National Blood Center and participation in an afforestation project at the Public Park of the Yangon municipality.

They will also visit Botahtaung Pagoda, Shwedagon Pagoda, Bagyoke Market, No.1 Naval Training Command Headquarters, Capital Hyper Market, Junction Square Hyper Market and Tawwin Center. The ships leave Myanmar International Terminal Thilawa Port on 23 February.
NLM

***Photo shows one of three Royal Thai Navy ships.*—NAVAL ATTACHE OFFICE OF ROYAL THAI EMBASSY.**

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LOCAL NEWS

FY-wise plan on Yangon-Mandalay Expressway under implementation

YANGON, 19 Feb—Yangon-Mandalay Expressway Special Maintenance Group of Public Works are taking responsibility for maintenance of the expressway financial year-wise.

The 202 miles long Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw Expressway was commissioned into service on 23 March 2008. Nay Pyi Taw-Mandalay Expressway section was put into service on 30 December 2010.

For the first phase, the expressway ws constructed with 25 feet wide each and it was two-way facility.

Due to growing number of vehicles along the expressway, traffic accidents occur 20 times on average every month. As such, the ratio of vehicles to accident is 15000 vehicles per accident, according to the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway Special Maintenance Group of Public Works.

Thanks to efforts of Public Works and authorities, installation of guard rails, concrete barriers and placing of asphalt contributed to reduction of deaths and injuries in the traffic accidents.

Therefore, Public Works of the Ministry of Construction plans to carry out placing of asphalt, installation of guard rails and concrete barriers and other safety works along the expressway for prevention against traffic accident.

Kyemon-Soe Win (MLA)

Okkyin Village BEPS gets new school building in Meiktila Tsp

MEIKTILA, 19 Feb—Wellwishers and local people contributed to construction of Pyinnya Yeiknyein RCC two-storey building at Basic Education Primary School No. 53 in Okkyin Village of Htamongan Village-tract in Meiktila Township.

Okkyin Village constituted with 150 houses is not far from Meiktila.

BEPS No. 53 was opened in 1952. At that time, the school had one school building with measurement of 72 feet long and 21 feet wide and 12 feet high.

To enable the students to pursue education conveiently, Sayadaw Bhaddanta Samika of Okkyin Village donated K 15 million, U Thein Win-Daw San San Tin and family of East Wing of Market in Meiktila K 30 million and local people K 10 million.

Their fund K 55 million was spent on construction of the 75 feet long, 30 feet wide and 24 feet high building consisting of one office and four classrooms.

The new school construction committee was formed with resposible persons led by the Sayadaw. The construction commenced on 22 December 2012 and it was completed in December 2013.

At present, the students are learning education at new school building conveniently, said a member of the school construction committee.

Kyemon-Thein Myint Kyaw

Fire preventive measures at Meiktila Markets

MEIKTILA, 19 Feb—Meiktila has three markets namely Zaygyi, Central Market and Padaukmyaing markets. Zaygyi Market comprises 1443 shops of 84 complexes, Central Market 464 shops at 44 complexes and Padaukkyaing Market, 354 shops at 15 complexes.

As fire extinguishers, water tanks with 10000 gallon capacity and 7000 gallon capacity have been constructed at the markets. On 17 February, township level authorities inspected markets and viewed systematic keeping fire extinguishers and proper routes for fire trucks. Due to warnings of officials, the market families did not use electricity when they left the market at 6 pm.

NLM-018

Bago to build new Mazin Creek Concrete Bridge

BAGO, 19 Feb—Mazin Creek Bridge located in Strand Road in South Zaiganai Ward of Bago was built before regaining Independence. The local people had been maintaining the bridge till 1998, it deteriorate gradually and it is inappriorate for use of vehicles.

Under the auspices of Member of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Presiding Nayaka of Win Nimitayon Monastery Bhaddanta Munindabhivamsa, disciples will build 72 feet long and 18 feet wide new bridge stretching the Mazin Creek. Bago Region government will fund the construction.

It is a bridge linking PhaungdawU, MyoUkhin, Siti, Kyaikke, Kwedanshay and Tarwa villages. The new bridge has been designed by Superintending Engineer U Than Naing Aung of Bago Region Public Works.

It will cost K 160 million.

Those wishing to take part in contribution to the bridge may contact Win Nimitayon Sayadaw, Tel: 095301544.

Kyemon-403

University of Cooperative meets entrepreneurs

YANGON, 19 Feb—Co-operative plays a crucial role in development tasks in reform process of the nation. On 18 February, faculty members of Cooperative University (Thanlyin) held a meeting with entrepreneurs at Dekkhina Hall of the university. Rector Dr Thein Tun explained emergence of the university, policies, its tasks, graduates of the university, job opportunities, tasks of the university to fulfill the requirements. Entrepreneurs discussed requirements in works. Deans of the departments explained matters related to respective sectors. Later, the rector invited suggestions to strengthening and developing the university.

Kyemon-Than Win (Thanlyin)

LED BOARD INSTALLED: ***Mandalay Railways Station has installed LED boards for departure and arrival of trains to inform passengers of timetables. In addition, LERD boards have been installed at ticket counters on schedules of trains and counts of tickets.*—KYEMON-THIHA KO KO (MANDALAY)**

Fire preventive measures taken at Nan Htaik Pre-Primary School

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Feb—Nay Pyi Taw Social Welfare Department organized the fire prevention talks at Nan Htaik Pre-Primary School in Wunna Theikdi Ward of Zabuthiri Township on 18 February.

Assistant Director U Hlaing Win Maung of Fire Services Department gave talks on fire preventive measures.

Headmaster Daw Soe Soe Maw and teachers participated in fire drill with the use of fire extinguishers.

It was attended by headmistresses of Yinthway and Tawwin pre-primary schools and parents of children.

Khin Zaw (Mingala)

WORLD

Looking for Syria options, US remains cool to using force

WASHINGTON, 19 Feb — Despite a forthcoming review of options in the deteriorating Syria crisis, the White House on Tuesday signaled that President Barack Obama remains wary of any direct US involvement in the three-year-old civil war.

With peace talks between Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's government and his armed opponents having failed for now, and Russia unwilling or unable to pressure its ally Assad to cede power, US policy toward Syria appears to be approaching a crossroads.

The White House is beginning to take a new look at options in Syria, a process that could take several weeks, US officials have said.

But spokesman Jay Carney suggested that Obama is skeptical about any proposed step that draws the United States into the Syrian civil war, an outcome the US president has studiously avoided.

"We have to examine what the alternatives some might be proposing are, and whether they're in our national security interests, and whether a desire to do something about it could lead us, the United States, to take action that can produce the kind of unintended consequences we've seen in the past," Carney told a news briefing.

Reuters

Demonstrators clash with members of the Bolivarian National Guard (GNB for its acronym in Spanish), during a protest in front of the headquarters of the Popular Will party, in the municipality of Chacao, eastern Caracas, Venezuela, on 17 Feb, 2014. —XINHUA

Thai protesters rally against PM after deadly Bangkok clashes

BANGKOK, 19 Feb — Protesters seeking to oust Thai Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra rallied at her temporary office on Wednesday, but the premier stayed away from the potential flashpoint a day after five people were killed in gunbattles in Bangkok.

A senior security official said police would not attempt for now to retake more protest sites, after Tuesday's "Peace for Bangkok Mission" saw the deadliest clashes since the anti-government demonstrations began in November. Problems continue to mount for Yingluck, after an anti-corruption agency filed charges against her over a soured rice subsidy scheme that has stoked middle class anger and left hundreds of thousands of farmers, her natural backers, unpaid.

Anti-government protesters cheer as they listen to a leader's speech at a Defence Ministry compound in north Bangkok, which is serving as a temporary office for Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra on 19 Feb, 2014. —REUTERS

Yingluck, seen by opponents as a proxy for her brother, ousted former premier Thaksin Shinawatra, has been working from a Defence Ministry compound in north Bangkok since the protests forced her to vacate her Government House office."We came here because we do not want Yingluck to use the Defence Ministry complex any more," Chumpol Jumsai, a protest organizer, told around 3,000 supporters. "We're asking soldiers to stop letting Yingluck use this facility." The protests are the latest installment of an eight-year political battle broadly pitting the Bangkok middle class and royalist establishment against the mostly rural supporters of Yingluck and Thaksin. Bluesky TV, the protest movement's own channel, showed footage of troops guarding the building behind barbed wire. In contrast to Tuesday's face-off with police, the atmosphere was not confrontational and protest leader Suthep Thaugsuban was allowed inside to speak to senior soldiers.

A spokesman for the military, which has said it would intervene if police were unable to maintain security in the capital, earlier appealed for both sides to avoid confrontation.

Reuters

Journalist on assignment deaths total 134 last year

GENEVA, 19 Feb — One hundred and thirty-four journalists and media support staff were killed while on reporting assignments last year, most of them targeted deliberately, the London-based International News Safety Institute (INSI) said on Tuesday. Of these, 65 died covering armed conflicts - primarily in Syria, where 20 were killed, and Iraq, where the death total was 16 — while 51 were killed in peacetime covering issues like crime and corruption, and 18 died in accidents.

The total was down from 152 deaths recorded in 2012, but there was an accompanying rise in assaults, threats and kidnappings directed at journalists which largely go unreported, said the INSI study, "Killing the Messenger." The institute, funded by major world news organizations including *Reuters*, has been issuing the report since 1996. Its main work is providing security training for journalists reporting in dangerous situations. INSI said local journalists were the main victims, with 123 of the dead killed while covering their own country. Of the 20 who died in Syria, 16 were Syrian nationals. "Most journalists were targeted, and shooting was the most common cause of death," INSI said. The report, compiled for INSI by the Cardiff School of Journalism in Wales, showed 85 of the victims were shot.—*Reuters*

US concerned about Japan domestic demand outlook before G-20 meet

WASHINGTON, 19 Feb — US Treasury Secretary Jack Lew expressed concern about the future of the Japanese economy on Tuesday, saying the outlook for domestic demand as a driving force of the economy has been "clouded."Lew's comment on Japan was contained in a letter, obtained by *Kyodo News*, addressed to "colleagues" gathering for the Group of 20 meeting of finance ministers and central bank chiefs in Sydney later this month.

"Japan's economy has been largely driven by domestic demand over the last two years, but the outlook for domestic demand has clouded," the secretary wrote.

Lew expressed hope that Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's government will properly implement measures aimed at boosting growth that feature structural reforms, deregulation and tax breaks as the "third arrow" of Abe's economic recovery program dubbed Abenomics.

"It is important that the Japanese authorities remain committed to calibrating all three arrows of Abenomics so that the recovery from nearly two decades of subpar inflation remains domestic demand-led," Lew said. "I look forward to hearing about Japan's progress in implementing structural reforms that will further drive domestic demand," Lew said. Abe has said he will steer the Japanese economy out of deflation by carrying out a program that has three arrows — a massive accommodative easing policy, a fiscal stimulus and the growth strategy.

Kyodo News

A visitor views an artwork at an exhibition entitled History Re-presented by sculptor Cai Zhisong in Museum of Contemporary Art, Taipei, southeast China's Taiwan, on 18 Feb, 2014. —XINHUA

WORLD

US moves to revive stalled Afghan peace talks

KABUL/WASHINGTON, 19 Feb — The Obama administration is taking steps it hopes could lead to a resumption of peace talks to end the Afghan conflict, including reviving a proposed swap of Taleban detainees held at Guantanamo Bay in return for a US prisoner of war.

According to Western officials familiar with the matter, President Barack Obama's senior aides in late December resolved to renew attempts to arrange the prisoner exchange with the goal of jump-starting negotiations stalled since last June.

The hope is that the exchange could open the door to more substantive peace talks on Afghanistan's future. *Reuters* has learned that, to further the initiative, US officials also have held meetings with the government of Qatar, which has played a mediating role during several years of on-and-off peace efforts, officials said. The White House last month sent out a team of officials, including the Pentagon's chief lawyer, Stephen Preston, to Doha to ensure that the Qatari government remained willing to host the Taleban detainees who might be sent there from Guantanamo Bay, the officials said.

Government officials in Qatar reaffirmed that they would support the transfer under the same conditions as envisioned in previous discussions, the sources said. US conditions in the past have included preventing the Taliban members from travelling outside of Qatar. Under the plan, Taleban-linked militants would return US Sergeant Bowe Bergdahl, who was stationed in Paktika Province in eastern Afghanistan when he disappeared under unclear circumstances on 30 June, 2009, about two months after arriving in the country.

In another step toward restarting a peace process, Qatar provided US officials a video showing Bergdahl, which it obtained from the Taleban, to confirm he remained alive despite his more than four years in captivity. News of the video, which US officials said showed Bergdahl appearing to be in "declining health" but not gravely ill, surfaced last month, but the footage has not been made public. US officials said they believed the video was filmed late last year. The Daily Beast website reported last week that the US government had sought the video as proof Bergdahl was still alive. The site also said that a possible exchange of prisoners was part of a US-backed effort to reach an agreement with the Taleban.—*Reuters*

USTR pledges more transparency over trade negotiations

WASHINGTON, 19 Feb— US Trade Representative (USTR) Michael Froman on Tuesday promised more transparency over trade negotiations with Asia Pacific and European Union (EU) countries.

Froman made the pledge to dismiss domestic concerns that trade deals may cause more job losses and undermine environmental standards in the United States.

Trade has been an important part of US economic recovery and has supported 1.3 million additional private sector jobs in the past four years, said Froman at the Centre for American Progress, a Washington, DC-based liberal think tank.

The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) negotiations would further benefit US workers, protect the environment and promote innovation, the representative argued.

Xinhua

Photo taken on 18 Feb, 2014 shows two buses on fire after a mob torched them with a motorcycle on National Highway 31 in Patna, India. One was killed in the accident. —XINHUA

Opportunities growing for professional women to return as part-timers

TOKYO, 19 Feb — In Japan, many women quit professional-level jobs when starting families, only to find it extremely difficult to return to similar jobs later on. Through staffing service companies, however, opportunities are expanding — albeit as part-timers — as small and midsize firms hire such mothers for their expertise. "Here I get to do interesting work involving management. It's almost the ideal job," said 45-year-old Masako Tanaka, who works three days a week from 10 am to 4 pm at Tokyo-based IT venture Whiteplus Inc. Tanaka's previous job was also in the information technology industry. When she first returned to work after her daughter, now 7, was born, she landed a managerial position and was in charge of operations and project planning for mobile phone websites. However, that job required long working hours that forced her to return home late and her young daughter often ended up going to bed around 11 pm Soon she realized the limits of such a work-focused, unbalanced lifestyle and decided to change jobs.

Last spring, just as her daughter entered elementary school, Tanaka found her current position. Whiteplus President Takayuki Inoshita said, "We entrust her with the task of analyzing customer data, the kind of work done by our executives." Inoshita, 31, in particular praised Tanaka for her valuable advice regarding recruitment, based on her past experience in managing a team of 60 subordinates. "She is my right-hand woman," he said.—*Kyodo News*

Lebanon government deal brings hope to fragile state

BIKFAYA, 19 Feb — A week ago, Lebanon was without a government and facing the prospect of an even deeper crisis come May, when President Michel Suleiman's term was set to expire with no agreement on his replacement.

But in a matter of days, a degree of hope has returned to the politics of a country plunged into crisis by the war in neighbouring Syria. Lebanon has a government after nearly a year without one, fuelling hope that a new president will follow. Amin Gemayel, president for six years during Lebanon's own 1975-90 civil war, attributed the breakthrough to fears the state might be on the verge of total collapse, and "regional understandings" — Lebanese parlance for a greenlight from states that wield influence here, particularly Saudi Arabia and Iran.

"After the formation of this government, and the way it has been formed, there is a greater degree of optimism," Gemayel said in an interview at his 16th century ancestral home in Bikfaya, a Christian town in the mountains northeast of Beirut. "We know that this consensus is delicate and fragile, therefore we are working hard to strengthen this minimum degree that has been achieved, and to turn it into something more stable and long-lasting," said the head of Christian party Kataeb, which has three ministers in the new cabinet. "Electing a president is a fundamental element," he added.

Reuters

Lebanon's President Michel Suleiman waves upon arriving at a ceremony which marks the adoption of Tunisia's new constitution at the Constituent Assembly in Tunis on 7 Feb, 2014 file photo.—REUTERS

Russia blasts NATO drills

MOSCOW, 19 Feb — Moscow has been concerned with NATO military drills under the pretext of collective defence preparation, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Tuesday.

NATO now resorts more often to holding drills, which are being conducted under Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty, Lavrov told a news briefing following his talks with his Estonian counterpart, Urmas Paet. Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty declares that an armed attack against one or more of the bloc's members shall be considered as an attack against them all.—*Xinhua*

Mortar shells from Syria land in Golan Heights

JERUSALEM, 19 Feb — Two mortar shells fired from Syria landed in the part of Golan Heights occupied by Israel on Tuesday afternoon, the Israeli military said.

The projectiles, which exploded in an open area in the Golan Heights near the "Syrian-Israeli interim border," caused no injuries or damage, said the army statement. Israel's Army Radio said the shells had "likely been erroneously fired into Israel" as Syrian military forces fought rebels across the border. Earlier on Tuesday, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defence Minister Moshe Ya'alon toured the Golan, a strategic plateau taken over by Israel in the 1967 war, and visited a field hospital set up by the Israeli military a year ago to treat Syrians wounded in their country's civil unrest.—*Xinhua*

WORLD

Emperor "generally healthy" 2 years after heart operation

TOKYO, 16 Feb — Emperor Akihito marked a second anniversary on Tuesday of a successful coronary-artery bypass surgery, being labelled "generally healthy" by doctors last month, the Imperial Household Agency said.

The emperor, who turned 80 in December, has osteoporosis but its progression had stopped, according to the doctors serving the imperial household. With anxiety over his heart conditions gone, the emperor can now exercise, giving a positive effect on osteoporosis, they said. The emperor had suffered osteoporosis due to the effect of hormone therapy that followed the 2003 surgery to treat prostate cancer. The latest examination showed that the condition causing brittle bones had not progressed. As doctors did not observe any abnormality in his heart, they determined that no major changes would be necessary for the emperor's public duties' for the year.

Before the heart surgery, the emperor was concerned about a possible heart attack and refrained from exercises, according to a source close to the agency. However, after finishing the rehabilitation following the surgery, he plays tennis on the weekends and walks every morning, the source said. In addition to exercise therapy, taking meals to increase bone density may have helped to halt the progression of osteoporosis, the source said. After an examination in February 2011 found hardening and narrowing of coronary arteries, the emperor underwent the surgery on Feb. 18, 2012 at the University of Tokyo Hospital by a joint team of doctors from the University of Tokyo and Juntendo University.

Kyodo News

Japanese Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko wave to local people as they take a stroll on a beach near the Hayama Imperial Villa in the town of Hayama, Kanagawa Prefecture, on 5 Feb, 2014. KYODO NEWS

Turkey's Gul seen approving tighter control of Internet, courts

ISTANBUL, 19 Feb — Turkey's president has signaled he will approve new laws tightening controls over the courts and the Internet, bolstering embattled Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan but deepening concerns about free speech and the rule of law.

The two bills, passed by parliament this month and awaiting President Abdullah Gul's approval, are seen by Erdogan's critics as an authoritarian response to a corruption inquiry shaking his government, a bid to stymie court cases and to stop leaks circulating online.

The new law on the judiciary will give the government more influence over the naming of judges and prosecutors, while the Internet bill will enable the authorities to block access to web pages within hours without a prior court order.

Riot police use water cannons to disperse demonstrators during a protest against internet censorship in Istanbul on 8 Feb, 2014.— REUTERS

The moves by Turkey, which has been seeking membership of the European Union for decades, have raised concern in Brussels, which fears it is shifting further away from EU norms, and unnerved investors in a country whose stability over the past decade has been based on Erdogan's firm rule.

The government says the laws will further democracy by taking back control of a judiciary it sees as in hock to a powerful but unaccountable cleric bent on unseating Erdogan, and by protecting individuals' privacy on the Internet.

Police fired teargas to disperse demonstrators protesting against the Internet law in Istanbul this month, and parliamentarians debating the judicial reforms came to blows on Sunday, leaving one with a broken nose.—*Reuters*

A student (L) from Del Norte High School in Crescent City, California, and a student from Takata High School in Japan's Iwate Prefecture, eat "hittsumi," a soup dish representative of the local cuisine, that they made together at the Japanese school's temporary facility in Ofunato, Iwate, on 18 Feb, 2014. A group of high school students from northern California visited their peers in the tsunami-hit northeastern Japanese city after helping return to the Japanese high school a boat that was washed across the Pacific Ocean after the March 2011 earthquake.
KYODO NEWS

Twin blasts hit Iranian cultural center in Beirut, 2 killed, 32 injured

BEIRUT, 19 Feb — Twin suicide blasts on Wednesday morning hit the Iranian cultural mission in Lebanon's capital of Beirut, killing at least two people and injuring 32 others, Aljadeed TV and eyewitnesses said.

A booby trapped motorcycle went off near the Iranian cultural mission office in Bir Hassan neighborhood, the heartland of Lebanon's Shiite movement Hezbollah in southern suburbs of Beirut.

A suicide bomber blew up himself while riding anther motorcycle soon afterward, sending plumes of black smoke into the sky over the area, according to eyewitnesses.

George Moussa, director of Operations of the Lebanese Red Cross, was quoted by Aljadeed as saying that ambulances managed to evacuate two dead people and 32 injured at the scene. — *Xinhua*

Israeli military to end night arrests in West Bank

JERUSALEM, 19 Feb — The Israeli military is exploring ways to end its long-established practice of arresting Palestinian suspects in night-time raids across the West Bank, *the Jerusalem Post* reported on Tuesday.

The move reflects Israel's growing sensitivity to international criticism of its operations in the Palestinian territories. According to the Jerusalem Post interview with Lt-Col. Maurice Hirsch, the Israeli army's chief prosecutor in the West Bank, the military will begin to issue written summons instead of sending troops to apprehend suspects of security-related offenses.

The military has long maintained that arresting suspects at night helps avert violent clashes in Palestinian towns and villages, but the practice has long come under fire from foreign governments and international rights groups who cite ill-treatment of minors and alleged torture and abuse. "We have done daytime arrests. They resulted in wide-scale protests, gun fights and greater danger to both Palestinians and Israeli security forces," Hirsch said, adding, "If we bring a suspect to interrogation without the need for an arrest operation.. . that is best."The pilot program for the written summons plan comes at a time when Israel is facing growing international condemnation. The report cited a scathing UNICEF report issued late last year that slammed Israel's treatment of Palestinian minors, an unknown number of whom are detained in night-time operations.—*Xinhua*

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Gold futures rise amid weak manufacturing data

CHICAGO, 19 Feb — Gold futures on the COMEX division of the New York Mercantile Exchange ended higher on Tuesday, amid weaker-than-expected data on manufacturing activity in the New York area, triggering concerns about US economic recovery.

The most active gold contract for April delivery rose 5.8 US dollars, or 0.44 percent, to settle at 1,324.4 dollars per ounce. Gold ended higher, overcoming the drag of profit-taking due to a weaker dollar and concerns over global economic growth.

The New York state manufacturing cooled off in February after scaling to a near two-year high in the prior month, data showed. The index fell to 4.5 in February from 12.5 in January. According to market analysts, the decline is probably explained by harsh weather that caused problems for the factory sector.

The World Gold Council report said that demand for gold fell 15 percent in the year 2013, in part due to large outflows from physically backed exchange-traded funds (ETFs). Market analysts predict that until ETF investors return in large numbers, gold could struggle to make further headway.Silver for March delivery rose 47.7 cents, or 2.23 percent, to close at 21.898 dollars per ounce.

Xinhua

Health experts warn of water contamination from California drought

SACRAMENTO, (California), 19 Feb — California's drought has put 10 communities at acute risk of running out of drinking water in 60 days, and worsened numerous other health and safety problems, public health officials in the most populous US state said on Tuesday.

Rural communities where residents rely on wells are at particular risk, as contaminants in the groundwater become more concentrated with less water available to dilute them, top state health officials said at a legislative hearing on the drought.

"The drought has exacerbated existing conditions," said Mark Starr, deputy director of the California Department of Public Health.

The state has helped about 22 of 183 communities identified last year as reliant on contaminated groundwater to bring their supplies into conformance with environmental guidelines, but the rest are still building or preparing to build systems, he said.

The contamination warning comes days after President Barack Obama announced nearly $200 million in aid for the parched state, including $60 million for food banks to help people thrown out of work in agriculture-related industries as farmers leave fields unplanted and ranchers sell cattle early because the animals have no grass for grazing. The California Farm Bureau estimates the overall impact of idled farmland will run to roughly $5 billion, from in direct costs of lost production and indirect effects through the region's economy.

Reuters

***A tumbleweed is seen at an irrigation channel on a farm near Cantua Creek, California on 14 Feb, 2014.* REUTERS**

Dongfeng deal buys time and new blood for Peugeot

SHANGHAI / PARIS, 19 Feb — PSA Peugeot Citroen (PEUP.PA) and China's Dongfeng have agreed a 3 billion euro ($4.1 billion) capital tie-up that brings the troubled French carmaker new leadership, more time to turn its business around and an end to two centuries of family control.

Peugeot, Dongfeng Motor Group Co Ltd (0489.HK) and the French government have signed a non-binding outline agreement, China's second biggest carmaker announced on Wednesday, confirming an earlier *Reuters* report.

Peugeot Chief Executive Philippe Varin and former Renault executive Carlos Tavares, who will replace Varin when the deal is finalized, must now explain how the fresh capital can be used to improve the bottom line, analysts said.

"Expectations are running high," London-based ISI Group analyst Erich Hauser said in a note.

Employees work at a production line of a Dongfeng Peugeot Citroen Automobile factory in Wuhan, Hubei Province, on 13 Feb, 2014. — REUTERS

"PSA (Peugeot) needs to show a new equity story to keep investors interested." Under the memorandum of understanding signed on Tuesday, Dongfeng and the French state will each pay about 800 million euros ($1.10 billion) for a 14 percent stake in a reserved share sale and a rights issue, Dongfeng said in a statement published on the Hong Kong stock exchange website.

Existing shareholders will get warrants entitling them to more stock at the same 7.50 euro price as the reserved issue, a 40 percent discount to their market value, raising up to a further billion euros.

The Peugeot family will see its 25.4 percent stake and 38 percent of voting rights diluted to parity with Dongfeng and the French state, ceding control of the company it founded in 1810 as a maker of tools and coffee mills.

Reuters

Mothers' voices can help train preemies to feed

NEW YORK, 19 Feb — A pacifier-activated recording of mother singing may improve a premature baby's feeding, which in turn could lead to its leaving the hospital sooner, according to a new study. One reason premature babies sometimes have to stay in the hospital for a while is that they haven't developed the strength and coordination to nurse properly. Babies who can't feed yet stay in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) and rely on a feeding tube.

Doctors and nurses usually give those babies a pacifier whenever possible to help them practice sucking, which can speed up the learning process and shorten their hospital stay. From previous studies, researchers know that infants also respond well to certain types of music and that their mother's voice can help increase heart and lung stability and growth and improve sleep.

"People are finding out that the influence of parental voice in the NICU is important, so these results are not surprising," said senior author Dr Nathalie Maitre of Vanderbilt Children's Hospital in Nashville, Tennessee.

"This is yet another example that parents really do make a difference to their babies' development," she said.

The researchers studied about 100 premature babies who had been born between 34 and 36 weeks of development and were relying primarily on a feeding tube (babies are considered full term if they are born between 39 and 41 weeks). All infants got what babies usually get in the NICU, including pacifiers, skin-to-skin contact whenever possible and gradual introduction to breastfeeding. Half of the infants also received five daily 15-minute sessions with a special pacifier device that senses when the baby is sucking and plays a recording of the baby's mother singing "Hush Little Baby."

Infants in both groups gained about the same amount of weight during the five-day study, but those with the special pacifiers tended to eat faster when they could.

Reuters

Antidepressant may help relieve agitation in patients with Alzheimer's disease

WASHINGTON, 19 Feb — Antidepressant drug citalopram could help significantly relieve agitation in patients with Alzheimer's disease, but at the cost of slightly decreasing cognitive function and increasing heart attack risk, according to results of a clinical trial released on Tuesday.

However, the drug, sold under the brand names Celexa and Cipramil and also available as a generic medication, might be safer than antipsychotic drugs currently used to treat the condition, according to the study led by Johns Hopkins Medicine researchers that included seven other academic medical centers in the United States and Canada.

Antipsychotics are often used as first-line medications for Alzheimer's-related agitation, but the researchers said they significantly increase the risk of strokes, heart attacks and deaths.

The researchers recruited 186 patients with Alzheimer's disease who showed a collection of symptoms including emotional distress, excessive movement, aggression, disruptive irritability and disinhibition.

In the nine-week study, the patients were separated into two groups. About half took increasing doses of citalopram that peaked at 30 milligrams per day, and the rest took an identical-looking placebo.—*Xinhua*

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

France's Snecma targeted by hackers

*View of a M88 engines, produced by Snecma and which powers a Rafale jet fighter, are seen at the assembly line in the factory of French aircraft manufacturer Dassault Aviation in Merignac near Bordeaux, southwestern France, on 10 Jan, 2014.—*Reuters

Boston, 19 Feb — French aerospace engine maker Snecma, a unit of Safran, was attacked by hackers who exploited a vulnerability in Microsoft Corp's Internet Explorer, according to a computer security researcher. It was not clear how successful the hackers had been in their efforts to breach Snecma's network, according to the researcher, who has studied malicious software and infrastructure used by the hackers.

A spokeswoman for Snecma's parent, Safran, said she had no immediate comment. The researcher said the malicious software used by the hackers contained code that identified Internet domain names belonging to Snecma. The researcher declined to be identified by name as he was not authorized to publicly discuss the matter.The vulnerability in Internet Explorer surfaced last week, when California-based cybersecurity firm FireEye Inc said that hackers had leveraged a previously unknown security flaw in the Web browser to attack the website of the US nonprofit group Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Microsoft last week advised customers to upgrade to Internet Explorer 11, saying versions 9 and 10 were vulnerable to the type of attacks identified by FireEye. On Tuesday, the Israeli cybersecurity firm Seculert said in a blog post that the IE vulnerability was used to attack a French aerospace company, though it did not name that company. Seculert said the attack likely began on 17 January and that it may still be going on.

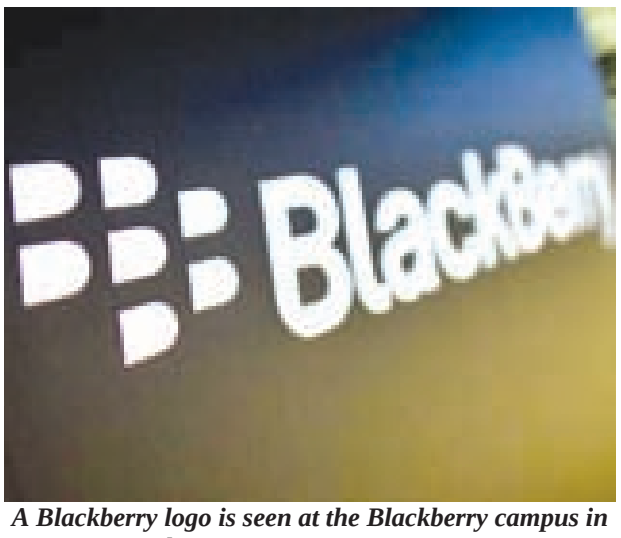
According to Seculert, the attack on the aerospace company involved a different piece of malicious software than what was used against the Veterans of Foreign Wars, which suggested a different group of hackers may be involved.The malware was designed to help hackers steal credentials by infecting devices that employees, partners and third-party vendors used to remotely access the French company's network, according to Seculert.

That technique of targeting remote users has been deployed in some high-profile cyber attacks in recent years.

Target Corp said hackers behind a massive data breach late last year had gained initial access to the US retailer's network through a vendor. In 2011, hackers attacked Lockheed Martin Corp and other US military suppliers by creating duplicate SecurID credentials used by contractors to access their networks.

Reuters

BlackBerry CEO assails T-Mobile US promo as 'ill-conceived'



*A Blackberry logo is seen at the Blackberry campus in Waterloo, on 23 Sept, 2013.—*Reuters

Toronto, 19 Feb — BlackBerry Ltd Chief Executive John Chen fired a salvo at T-Mobile US Inc on Tuesday, calling ill-conceived a promotion run by the company that encourages customers using BlackBerry smartphones to upgrade to iPhones.

T-Mobile US, which is majority owned by Deutsche Telekom AG, sent out emails to some of its customers last week, pitching free iPhone 5s and touting the promotion as a, "great offer for BlackBerry customers."

That sparked a brouhaha in social media forums after some of the telecommunications company's loyal BlackBerry customers reacted angrily to the offer, which they perceived as a slight. The backlash prompted T-Mobile US Chief Executive John Legere to respond publicly. In a Twitter posting on Sunday, Legere said T-Mobile would continue to support BlackBerry smartphones and he assured BlackBerry users they do not have to give up their devices or "loyalty."

In a blog post on Tuesday, BlackBerry CEO Chen slammed the T-Mobile US offer as a, "clearly inappropriate and ill-conceived marketing promotion," and he thanked BlackBerry users for their loyalty to the company."

Your partnership with our brand is appreciated by all of us at BlackBerry, and draws a sharp contrast with the behavior of our longtime business partner," Chen said in the posting, noting that T-Mobile had not discussed its promotion with BlackBerry.

T-Mobile US later said it is happy to work with BlackBerry and will by Friday offer speedy and free shipping of BlackBerry devices to T-Mobile customers who order them.

BlackBerry, a one-time pioneer in the smartphone industry, has been struggling to claw back market share lost to Apple Inc's iPhone, Samsung Electronics Co Ltd's Galaxy devices, and other smartphones powered by Google Inc's Android operating system.

The Waterloo, Ontario-based company's new line of BlackBerry 10 devices has so far failed to win back market share, and Chen is attempting to reshape the company and focus less on the handset segment, and more on the company's services business. Chen has stressed, however, that the handset business remains a core component for BlackBerry as the company attempts to engineer a turnaround.

Chen called on T-Mobile US to "find a way forward that allows us to serve our shared customers once again."

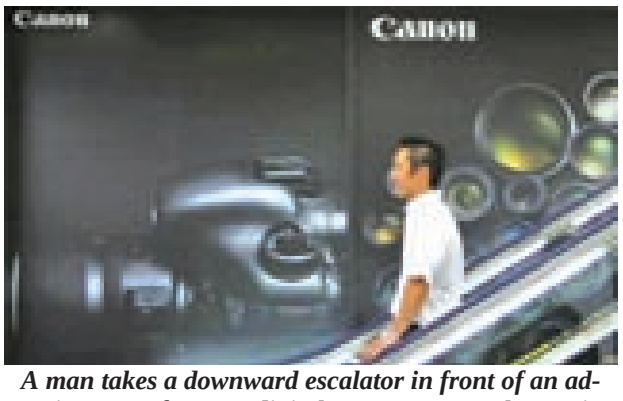
Reuters

Canon climbs to three-week high after share buyback announcement

Tokyo, 19 Feb —Shares in Canon Inc advanced 2.4 percent to a three-week high of 3,154 yen on Wednesday after it said it will buy back up to 50 billion yen ($488.5 million) worth of its own shares, or 1.6 percent of its outstanding shares.

Canon shares are down 5.5 percent since the start of 2014, adding to a 0.3 percent drop last year, when the benchmark Nikkei rallied 57 percent.

Reuters



*A man takes a downward escalator in front of an advertisement of Canon digital cameras at an electronics retail store in Tokyo on 24 July , 2013. —*Reuters

Hubble space telescope capable of measuring rotation of nearby galaxy

Washington, 19 Feb — US astronomers have used the Hubble Space Telescope to precisely measure the rotation rate of a neighbouring galaxy for the first time, US space agency NASA said on Tuesday. The study showed that the central part of the neighbouring galaxy, called the Large Magellanic Cloud (LMC), completes a rotation every 250 million years. It takes our sun the same amount of time to complete a rotation around the centre of our Milky Way galaxy.

"By using Hubble to study the stars' motions over several years, we can actually, for the first time, see a galaxy rotate in the plane of the sky," said lead author Roeland van der Marel of the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore, Maryland, in a NASA statement. The researchers said Hubble is the only telescope that can make this kind of observation because of its sharp resolution and its image stability.

"If we imagine a human on the moon, Hubble's precision would allow us to determine the speed at which the person's hair grows," van der Marel explained. "This precision is crucial, because the apparent stellar motions are so small because of the galaxy's distance. You can think of the LMC as a clock in the sky, on which the hands take 250 million years to make one revolution. We know the clock's hands move, but even with Hubble we need to stare at them for several years to see any movement."

For the past century, astronomers have calculated galaxy rotation rates by observing a slight shift in the spectrum, known as the Doppler Effect, of its starlight.

Reuters

NATIONAL

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 20 February, 2014

Another face of yours

Looking for your second half? Look for your second self? It is available here on social networking sites, matchmaking sites, dating sites, etc. Today, we spend more time on Facebook than in face-to-face conversations with our colleagues, our friends and our family. The missing link of our presence online is that we are representing ourselves. Maybe it is your second self, but it means at least it is roughly 50% percent of your life.

You have no government to regulate your presence on any social network, though its owner may reserve some privileges to control your posts there under some conditions. You have no police to arrest you for your manners there. But your use of obscene language may be subject to libel charges in some jurisdictions.

You are free on social networks to express your views or opinions on them. But anyone in these virtual worlds are actual human beings with physical presence on this real planet. We merely see any entity on social networks as mere accounts, than human beings. That's why we are witnessing that these social networks catalyzing conflicts in Myanmar and some other parts of the world. Social networks and microblogging sites now cover more than social activities. They are where you express your views openly and you establish your second self. Beware, your outlook is effected by every click.

Public announcement for remonstration

Myanmar New Society Democratic Party headquartered at No. 6, Htanbingon Road, Htanbingon Ward, Thanlyin Township, Yangon Region, as a political party under the Article 9 of Political Parties Registration Law, submitted applications to change its seal.

It is hereby announced that those who want to remonstrate with the UEC about the party's seal they may submit a complaint along with the strong evidences within seven days starting from issuance of this announcement in line with Section 14 (d) of Political Parties Registration Rule.

Seal of Myanmar New Society Democratic Party

Union Election Commission

Investigation continues into Ducheeratan incident

Nay Pyi Taw, 19 Feb—Dr Tha Hla Shwe, chairman of Investigation Commission, and members held separate talks with Mr. Roka Kuto of UNHCR and officials of MSR at the office of Maungtaw District General Administration Department on 19 February.

The commission chairman and party interviewed suspects of having involvement in Ducheeratan incident at Maungtaw Township police station in the afternoon.

Likewise, Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing, secretary of the commission, and party in the morning launched investigation into the death of Police Sergeant Aung Kyaw Thein at Ducheeratan middle village on 13 January.

While questioning, no one is allowed to be present during the separate interviews.

MNA

Deputy C-in-C of Defence Services hosts dinner in honour of Bangladeshi Chief of Army Staff

Vice-Senior General Soe Win presents gift to General Iqbal Karim Bhuiyan, Chief of Army Staff of the Bangladeshi Army.—Myawady

Nay Pyi Taw, 19 Feb—Vice-Senior General Soe Win, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and Commander-in-Chief (Army), and wife Daw Than Than Nwe hosted a dinner in honour of General Iqbal Karim Bhuiyan, psc, Chief of Army Staff of the Bangladeshi Army, and wife at the Aureum Palace Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw on 19 February.

Also present at the dinner were General Hla Htay Win, Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air), and wife Daw Mar Mar Wai, senior military officers from the Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office and their wives, the military attaché of Bangladesh to Myanmar and senior officers from Bangladesh army.

Before and during the dinner, Myawady Music Band entertained the dignitaries with songs.

After the dinner, Vice-Senior General Soe Win and General Iqbal Karim Bhuiyan exchanged gifts and presented bouquet of flowers to the music band.

Myawady

Mr. Quintana meets Union Chief Justice, Union Home Affairs Minister and Union Attorney General

Nay Pyi Taw, 19 Feb—Mr Quintana, the Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Myanmar and part called on Chief Justice of the Union U Tun Tun Oo at his office here on 19 February.

The delegation also met with Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko. Moreover, the delegation had a discussion with Dr Tun Shin, the Attorney General of the Union. During the discussions, they focused on comprehensive development of legal affairs, plans for holding educative talks and legal cooperation at home and abroad.

MNA

Mr Quintana calls on Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shin.—MNA

UN Special Rapporteur on human rights holds press conference

Yangon, 19 Feb—Mr Quintana, the Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Myanmar, held a press conference at the Yangon International Airport on 19 February before he left Yangon.

He said his final visit to Myanmar would help to support the integration human rights elements in the negotiations for peace in Kachin State. The government's permission for his final visit was a good gesture to help build trust with the KIO, he added.

During his visit to Laiza, he met with the KIO authorities, including the Chairman and the Chief of Staff, who expressed their willingness to agree on a ceasefire but with guarantees of political dialogue, he said.

Regarding the constitutional reform, Mr Quintana said constitutional reform was inseparable from the process of national reconciliation and reform would need to embrace the aspirations of the ethnic communities to have a say over their own future and benefit from the resources held within their lands.

Constitutional amendments are also needed for the democratic transition to proceed, he added.

He called for other legislative reforms in Myanmar to accompany constitutional reform to create an environment where the rule of law is established and human rights are upheld.

He also praised the progress Myanmar has made towards greater press freedom.

Regarding the recent conflict in Rakhine State, he said the domestic investigations have failed to satisfactorily address these serious allegations. The Government of Myanmar has shown a willingness to engage with the international community on key issues such as forced labour, economic development and even training in international human rights standards for the police and military, he added.

He continued to say that cooperation needs to extend to one of the most important challenges that Myanmar is facing, which is to address its long history of impunity.

If the President's recently established Investigation Commission on Du Chee Yar Tan fails to carry out an investigation that meets international standards, he will urge the UN Human Rights Council to work with the Government of Myanamr to establish a credible investigation to uncover the truth of what happened in Du Chee Yar Tan, he said.

He also praised the progress Myanmar has made in the release of prisoners of conscience. The importance of human rights standards and principles shaping the process of economic development in Myanmar needs to remain a priority concern, he said. The need to establish the rule of law underlines all of Myanmar's human rights challenges and is integral to the process of democratic transition and national reconciliation, he said.

Mr Quintana expressed his delight for important changes which he had seen in Myanmar throughout his six years on mandate.

He will submit his report on human rights in Myanmar to the UN Human Rights Council on 17 March.—*MNA*

K 672 million sought in Parliament to conserve...

(from page 16)

U Than Swe, Deputy Minister for Culture, at Amyotha Hluttaw on 19 Feb.

MraukU cultural heritage is being conserved in accordance with the conservation rules laid down by UNESCO and the Protection and Preservation of Cultural Heritage Regions Law (1998), the deputy minister said.

During the parliamentary meeting of Amyotha Hluttaw on 19 February, MP U Kyaw Kyaw of Rakhine State constituency No. 2 asked if there is a plan to conserve MraukU cultural heritage zone as it is listed as one of Asia's most endangered heritage sites by the Global Heritage Fund.

In his answer to the question, Deputy Minister U Than Swe clarified that MraukU cultural heritage zone is listed according the standard of the FHF, is not listed by the UNESCO.

He also called for local people to cooperate with the Ministry of Culture in educating the people as part of efforts for conservation the cultural heritage zone.

The Bill Amending the Highways Act and the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission Bill were discussed at the meeting.— *MNA*

National Objectives of 69th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

- **To uphold Our Three Main National Causes as national policy**
- **To work on national security by the Tatmadaw joining hands with the government and the entire people**
- **To cooperate with the government in implementing rural development and poverty alleviation scheme, and**
- **To actively participate in restoring eternal peace and building a developed democratic nation based on the Union through peace ad stability**

Hailing 69th Anniversary Armed Forces Day

I SALUTE TO MY BELOVED SOLDIERS

Kyaw Zan Hla

I was born in November 1933,
So, I should say I was well conversant with Myanmar History,
When attainment of my age came to 9th anniversary,
I had learnt much about our lost Sovereignty,
Is I grew in, Imperialism hated seeds deeply rooted in my heart,
So, still lies in every body's veins of blood,
We Myanmar national brethren races awared well,
That we lost three wars to the Imperialist like a hell.

So, with firm determination of Union Spirit in Every body's blood,
To fight the Imperialist like a lion heart.
So that, freedom and independence could be within us,
By hook or by crook, our lost sovereignty would conquer sharp.

Imperialists and colonies are by nature, self-centred and arrogants,
Their eagerness to dominate National Races by torturous and torments,
So did they practise Divide and Rule policy, systematically,
Obviously, in the hilly and plain regions especially.

Across the nationwide could be seen their nasty Bureaucracy,
But, some ware awarded with high sky multiple medals,
Only to those, who were their puppets for an Example,
Not Only they practised in our country such a game,
Whatever opportunities occur in our land they will Swallow without shame,
Imperialists soaked Myanmar People's blood in thirsty,
Confiscated also whatever Myanmar National Resources with Immense greedy.
Since, so many battles of century ago,
We fought bravely like the iron hearts to foe.

Lack of modernized weapons the then, the said battle we lost,
If not, with our bold and daring blood, we could have crowned the victory shield on the spot.
Our beloved Tatmadaw will always stay tall in the International Community, as worriors,
Because, none were recruited in our army as forced soldiers.

But, enrolled in with Union and Patriotic Spirit of their own volitions,
Myanmar could not restrain Imperialist Cruelness and further torturing,
Nothing, but to fight back fearlessly to regain our lost Sovereignty.

There emerged a 25 year-of age, young and bold fearless worrior General Aung San,
A true brave patriotic appeared along with 30 comrades whose fame was as brighter as the SUN,
Trained military skills under Japanese and made ally,
Entered and drove the British Colony from Myanmar Territory.

But no sooner found the said Alliance as devils, unfaithful, cruel and ferocious Enemy,
So, we fought them back after allied with British Army,
When Independence rays sighted half way,
Colonies traitors or Slaves Assassinated our beloved General in blood thristy way,
Bogyoke was only 32 when his mighty blood poured on floor,
Across the nation-wide people wept like thunder storms in sorrow,
Flags were flown at half mast on official Buildings and every corner,
Tears from the people's hearts flooded on the road like a river,
Not very long Myanmar was declared as Independent country,
To the length and breadth in the nation-wide aroused insurgency,
Especially, 1949, 1962, 1988 were the worst violences as Myanmar was on the Edge of catastrophe;
In the nation-wide the political turmoil proliferated vigorously,
But, the lives of people and country, protected by the devoted soldiers safely,
Not only in Myanmar, but also in abroad our patriotic soldiers are regarded as very brave in foreign country,
Always ready to safeguard people's lives and National Brethren in the time of emergency,
Our beloved, respected and honourable Tatmadaw awared well to uphold the policy,
As non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of the National Solidarity,
And perpetuation of Sovereignty, all in three as responsibility.

The hearts of our soldiers are as soften as silk cotton,
Very kind, very generous and very delicacy upon the captured enemy are seen very often,
But, in the battle field under one Commander's voice,
Crushed all destructive elements within the sight, like a lion fight,
Eat, cheese, butter and other luxurious drinks, soldiers of the other Nations fight,
But, with a cup of water or a grip of straw or a handful fried rice, Myanmar patriotic soldiers of no fears fight.

So much so bold our soldiers for ever are,
Never in History Myanmar yielded if not believe, refer later,
With the strength of State and People, Tatmadaw crushed all destructive elements
tirelessly,
People of the mother land seen victories of our beloved soldiers in frequency,
Equipped with the patriotic spirit our Myanmar soldiers are,
They would sacrifice their lives for the country for ever, (In the time of danger),
Again, death or victories whichever lies before our soldiers,
They would fight no matter, up to the last bullet as loyal warriors,
Reigned our Ex: Military Elders over the country for 26 years,
Met a lot of daunting challenges and obstacles by others,
Yet, our military administration never declined and even stood tall,
Protected the motherland, citizens, lives and National resources like a great wall,
Like a high mountain and as a protector, military government will enter into Myanmar History,
Saved the people and the country with honesty and loyalty.
Paved the ways for a modern discipline and flourishing Democratic Nation by our General and his comrades,
Prescribed 7 road maps in anticipation and sought an approval for the State,
As per Road Map Seven there emerged across the nationwide, a landslides approved Constitution,
Formed a Civilian Government in conformity with People's aspiration,
In peace, tranquility and stability whence the Military Government handed over to the Civilians Government all three powers,
There made wonders, astonishment to the Super Powers and Westerners,
For they thought a certain and definite would there be a tremendous Bloodshed while transmission,
Therefore, Myanmar stands tall in the world for not a drop of citizen's blood fell in the Nation,
Our Tatmadaw has shaped the future of Democratic Nation in Peace and Tranquility,
Therefore, the new Government and People are enjoying the fruit of Stability,
So, thankful thought and gratitude are due towards Former Military Administration,
Therefore, acknowledgement of thanks is MUST to military Government without hesitation,
Never my hand will hesitate to salute my beloved soldiers,
Nor, to those who already sacrificed for the Mother Land as great warriors,
My heart is captivated and equipped with the love upon Loyal soldiers,
Till may bones and flesh turned into fertilizer.

I will always salute you (my soldiers) in deep respect with my right hand,
Until my last breathe comes to meet my END.
Again, I assured you my beloved soldiers of loyalty,
From my tomb, my earnest request to Al-mighty for your nobility.
Our beloved Tatmadaw as now will stay tall forever in the International Community,
My soul from the tomb will salute and pray for your longevity,
Till my soul withered and vanished peacefully from the cemetery to Eternity
LONG LIVE MY BELOVED TATMADAW.

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LOCAL NEWS

ADB to grant 2m USD for uplifting of living standard

MANDALAY, 19 Feb—As part of efforts to implement poverty alleviation, Asian Development Bank will grant US$ 2 million to be allotted to uplifting of livestanding standards of the local people for ensuring availability of safe water, electrification, betterment of roads and bridges and use of fly-proof latrines.

These projects will be implementedin blocks 22, 23, 24, 25 in Myayinanda Ward of Chanmyathazi Township and blocks 5, 6 and 17 of Ta Ta and 4 and 5 of Hta Hta in Pyigyidagun Township.

A delegation led by Executive Director Mr Kazuhiko Koguchi of ADB together with member of Mandalay City Development Committee U Tun Kyi, Head of Water and Sanitation Department U Tint Lwin, the township administrator and ward administrators, made a field trip of inspecting requirements of the local people on 16 February.

MCDC is striving for fulfilling requirements of the local people.

The committee is undertaking sinking tube-wells for availability of safe water, electrfications in the urban areas and construction of gravel-filled retaining walls at Payandaw Creek.

Kyemon-Maung Pyi Thu (Mandalay)

News in Brief

Singaing Township showcases wall magazine, photos

SINGAING, 19 Feb—Singaing Township Information and Public Relations Department held the books, wall magazine and photo show at Pyinnya Bank Library in Ohnbinchan Village of the township on 18 February. It was aimed developing human resources. Head of Township IPRD supervised mobile libraries at factries, workshops, schools and villages. Similar shows were held in villages of the township.
Kyemon-Tun Tun Naing (Kyaukse)

27 mini book corners refreshed with new publications

DAWEI, 19 Feb—Dawei District Information and Public Relations Department on 18 February changed its mini book corners with new publications in politics, social, economic, education, religious affairs, health, agriculture, livestock breeding and sports issued in February.
Staff of the district department substituted the old publications with new ones at the mini book corners. The district departments has facilitated the township with 20 mini book cornes under its arrangements and seven by the wellwishers.—*Kyemon-Kyaw Kyaw Latt*

Ahlon Tsp launches mobile library programme

YANGON, 19 Feb—Ahlon Township Information and Public Relations Department of Yangon Region and staff stationed a mobile library at the officf of Township General Administration Department on 18 February morning.
On their trip to the department, the staff of Township IPRD allowed the borrowing of 100 books, journals and publications to the staff of Townshiip GAD for two weeks.—*Kyemon-Daw Tin Tin Cho*

News in Brief

Earthen inter-village road under construction in Putao

PUTAO, 19 Feb—Putao Township Development Affairs Department has spent K 25.054 million funded by Rural Development Department of the township in Kachin State for 2013-14 fiscal year.
The inter-village road linking Mulashidee and Zeeum Village-tracts is stretching along one miles and 7.3 furlongs long area.
Construction commenced on 3 February and its finished works will be undertaken on 25 February.
On completion, the road will benefit 2117 people of 430 houses in the villages.—*Kyemon-District IRD*

Pakokku District concludes fire fighting course

PAKOKKU, 19 Feb—The basic fire fighting course, organized by Pakokku District Fire Services Department, concluded at the hall of Kanma Village administrator in Pakokku Township on 16 February.
In his address, Head of District FSD U Khin Maung Than stressed the needs of auxiliary fire fighters to apply experiences from the training course in the practical fields to be able to prevent outbreak of fires as much as they can. After the ceremony, thefire fighters checked the housings and urged people to keep fire extinguishers.

Kyemon-Aung (Mann Tekkatho)

ECF Ministry focuses on preservation of bio-diversities, endangered species

Environment and Wildlife Conservation Branch of Forest Department under the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry is placing emphasis on protection of bio-diversity and raising awareness of the local people in environmental conservation.

The department regularly holds the educative talks on environmental conservation at villages and schools close to the sanctuaries and wildlife parks.

On 26 January, staff of Pitaung Wildlife Park and staff of Township Forest Department held a talk on protection of bio-diversities held at the Church in Ahsa Village of Myitkyina Township, Kachin State. It was attended by 45 local people.

On 30 January, the administrator and staff of ShweUdaung wildlife park gave lectures on conservation of endangered species of animals, reduction of conflicts between human and elephants at the hal of Ohnpaing Basic Education Primary School in Sapenago Village-tract of Tahbeikkyin Township, Mandalay Region.

It was attended by 240 local people.

Myanmar established first wildlife park in 1920 for the first of its kind.—*Kyemon-Forest Department*

Head of Shwedaung Township Rural Development Department inspects sinking of 4-inch diametre tube-well by Phu Wai Hein Co in Tegyigon Village in 2013-14 fiscal year for enabling rural people to enjoy safe and clean water sufficiently.
KYEMON-U MYINT NAING (PYAY)

Photo taken on 18 Feb, 2014 shows the snow-covered Longdongbao International Airport in Guiyang, capital of southwest China's Guizhou Province. Heavy snow led to temporary closure of the airport at 8 am Tuesday for snow and ice removal. More than 90 flights were canceled and over 4,800 passengers were affected before the airport was reopened at noon.
XINHUA

Two Koreas prepare to hold family reunions Thursday

SEOUL, 19 Feb — North and South Korea are making final arrangements to hold reunions Thursday of families separated since the 1950-1953 Korean War, with South Korean participants preparing to cross the border to the North's Mt Kumgang resort, according to South Korea's Unification Ministry.

The ministry said 83 elderly South Koreans, accompanied by 59 family members, are due to arrive later Wednesday in Sokcho, a city located on South Korea's east coast near the border with the North, in preparation for crossing it Thursday.

The two Koreas agreed at rare high-level talks last week to hold the reunions at scenic Mt Kumgang from 20-25 February.

The 142 South Koreans will meet with their relatives among some 180 North Korean participants between Thursday and Saturday in the first stage of the reunions.

On Sunday through Tuesday, 361 other South Koreans plan to hold reunions with 88 North Korean relatives at the mountain resort.

The scheduled reunions, the first since late 2010, will come amid heightened tensions over North Korea's opposition to South Korea's annual joint military exercises with the United States, which are set to begin Monday.

Last year, the two Koreas similarly agreed on a date to hold family reunions, but just days before they were set to start, the North postponed them, blaming the South's "war drills" with the United States for ruining the atmosphere.

Kyodo News

World's oldest man reportedly living in India at 117

NEW DELHI, 19 Feb — The world's oldest man is reportedly living in India. Premsai Patel, a native of the central Indian state of Chhattisgarh's Korba District, has claimed that he was born on 11 May, 1896, which makes him 117 years and 8 months old. Even this retired government teacher's identity card bears the same date of birth, according to media reports on Wednesday.

A senior Indian doctor has said that it is not possible for a human being to live beyond 117 years. But, if it's true, then Patel has broken the record of 115-year- old Japanese national Misao Okawa.—*Xinhua*

Western Australia may go back to polls for Senate by-election

CANBERRA, 19 Feb — High Court of Australia Justice Kenneth Hayne ruled on Tuesday that the court was unable to declare who was duly elected as West Australia's last two senators in last September's federal election, meaning people in the state may have to go back to the polls.

The Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) petitioned the High Court, sitting as the Court of Disputed Returns, for the election to be declared void, after it lost 1,375 votes during a recount after the September 2013 election.

The initial count declared the Liberals and Labor winners of the first four of six seats. The final two seats went to Zhenya Dio Wang of the Palmer United Party and Labour's Senator Louise Pratt.

But the recount narrowly gave the final two seats to the Australian Sports Party's Wayne Dropulich and the Greens' Senator Scott Ludlam.

"All parties rightly accepted that, if the court declares that Mr Dropulich and Senator Ludlam were not duly elected, and cannot declare who was duly elected, the only relief appropriate is for the election to be declared void," the judge said.

He found it was also not possible to declare just some of the seats void and not all of them.

He will hear further argument on Thursday before making a decision. What's most likely to happen is a fresh West Australia Senate election which could be held as early as 29 March.

ABC election analyst Antony Green said a fresh election "looked certain."

The court decision has serious implications for the government's legislative agenda, most of which is reliant on the new Senate due to come in on 1 July.

The Abbott government has the most to lose from fresh elections. Both its third senator, Linda Reynolds, and the conservative independent Wayne Dropulich, from the Australian Sports Party, are considered vulnerable. When the new Senate sits, the government needs six cross bench votes to repeal the mining tax and the carbon tax, restore the Australian Building and Construction Commission and pass anything else Labor and the Greens oppose.

Presently, there are eight crossbenchers but the loss of possibly Dropulich and Reynolds would bring great trouble to the government.

Xinhua

Singapore's number of active start-ups increases in recent years

SINGAPORE, 19 Feb — The number of active start-ups in Singapore rose by 58 percent over seven years to 39,000 in 2012, Minister of State for Trade and Industry Teo Ser Luck said on Tuesday, citing a study.

The study by the Entrepreneurship Review Committee also showed that the number of successful start-ups have increased, too, and that more youths are thinking of becoming entrepreneurs.

It is widely believed that the more small and medium enterprises an economy has, the economy will be healthier and more robust.

Teo told the parliament that the committee has recommended that the private sector play a larger role in shaping the entrepreneurship landscape.

Xinhua

Philippine bourse breaches 6,200 level on positive news

MANILA, 19 Feb — The Philippine stock market breached the 6,200 level on Tuesday as local companies continue to report positive results.

The bellwether Philippine Stock Exchange index inched higher by another 0.42 percent or 26.15 points to 6,193.97, while the broader all-share index climbed by 0.28 percent or 10.60 points to 3,744.21.

Trading volume reached 2.60 billion shares worth 5.97 billion pesos (133.88 million US dollars) with 89 stocks advancing, 73 declining and 33 remaining unchanged. Of the six counters, only the service sector bucked the trend. "The momentum of the advance over the last eight out of the nine sessions remained intact with earnings providing the motive force to prop the market to a third consecutive day of advance," analyst Justino Calaycay of Accord Capital Equities Corp said in his daily stock market comment. The analyst said this was bolstered by the fact that US stocks took a break on Monday as they celebrate the President's Day. "Investors have found reasons to cheer in the latest news cycle — Janet Yellen's statement on the US economy as being on track to full recovery but the numbers are still not strong enough," Calaycay said. Calaycay said investors found firmer footing after the gross domestic product output came out stronger than expected in the fourth quarter even after the country was hit by supertyphoon Haiyan. "The local economy's number is being validated by individual firms' reported earnings for the same period," Calaycay said. Stocks in the 30-company index closed mixed. Among those that picked up were Ayala Corp, Ayala Land, Inc, and Metropolitan Bank and Trust Co.

Xinhua

Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) members arrest a young man who shared audiovisual message of al-Qaeda chief Ayman al-Zawahiri on internet in Dhaka, Bangladesh, on 17 Feb, 2014. Bangladesh's anti-crime elite force Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) arrested a youth for circulating an audio-clip of al-Qaeda Chief Ayman Al-Zawahiri calling for an "intifada" (uprising) in the country.
XINHUA

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(4/2014)

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

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Qty	Remark
(1)	IFB-185(2013-2014)	Fire Fighting Truck	(1) Unit	US$
(2)	IFB-186(2013-2014)	CAT D 3508 Marine Engine Assy With Gear Box	(2) Sets	US$
(3)	IFB-187(2013-2014)	Spares for CAT D 399 Engine & CAT D 379 Engine	(7) Items	US$
(4)	IFB-188(2013-2014)	30" LSAW API 5L, Grade X65, 3LPE Coated Steel Line Pipe (35 Miles) & Accessories	(1) Lot	US$
(5)	IFB-189(2013-2014)	2" & 3" Pipe Fittings	(8) Items	US$
(6)	IFB-190(2013-2014)	6" x 8" R Mixing Pump	(3) Sets	US$
(7)	IFB-191(2013-2014)	20" LSAW API 5L, Grade X 46, 3LPE Coated Steel Line Pipe (5 Miles) & Accessories	(1) Lot	US$
(8)	IFB-192(2013-2014)	Surveying, Transferring, Laying, Welding, Construction, NDT, Land and Crop Compensation of 20" Gas Pipe Line	(1) Lot	US$
(9)	DMP/L-062(2013-2014)	Spares for CAT-D399 Engine Ex USS Oil Well Rig	(4) Items	Ks
(10)	DMP/L-063(2013-2014)	Spares for CAT-D3512 Engine Ex ZJ 50 D SR I&II Rig	(5) Items	Ks
(11)	DMP/L-064(2013-2014)	Roller Bearing (3) Items for K-700 Rig Pump's Jack Shaft and 100 Tons Jack Hydraulic Hand Pump	(1) Lot	Ks

- Tender Closing Date & Time - 17-3-2014,16:30 Hr

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 17th February, 2014 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No(44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV MUNICH TRADER VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MUNICH TRADER VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.2.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV PANJA BHUM VOY NO (008)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PANJA BHUM VOY NO (008) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.2.2014 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 WAN HAI LINES PTE LTD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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Reg. No. 4/9141/2013 (23 August 2013)

ニトフロン
Reg. No. 4/9142/2013 (21 August 2013)

Reg. No. 4/9140/2013 (22 August 2013)

in respect of "Self-adhesive tapes, other than stationery and not for medical or household purposes; Insulating materials; Plastic semi-worked products [for use as materials]; Seals' in **International Class 17**

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

U Than Maung, *Advocate*
For **NITTO DENKO CORPORATION**,
C/o **Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.**,
#1505-1506-1509, 15th Floor, Sakura Tower, Yangon
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Dated 20 February 2014
utm@kcyangon.com

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KANTAC
(Reg. No 4/14905/2013)
(6 January 2014)

In respect of "Adhesive paper, adhesive labels" in **International Class 16**.

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

U Than Maung, *Advocate*
For **OJI HOLDINGS CORPORATION**,
C/o **Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.**,
#1505-1506-1509, 15th floor
Sakura Tower, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
utm@kcyangon.com
Dated 20 February 2014

No Pain
No Gain

TRADEMARK CAUTION

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口炎寧口内舒
Reg. No. 4/186/2014
(15 January 2014)

In respect of "Pharmaceutical preparations; Drugs for medical purposes; Medicines for human purposes; Medicines for oral mucosal disease" in **International Class 5**

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

U Than Maung, *Advocate*
For **NIPPON KAYAKU KABUSHIKI KAISHA**,
C/o **Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.**,
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Sakura Tower, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
utm@kcyangon.com
Dated 20 February 2014

US whistleblower Snowden wins student role at Scottish university

LONDON, 19 Feb — US intelligence whistleblower Edward Snowden has been elected to the post of student rector at Glasgow University in Scotland, one of Britain's oldest universities.

Snowden, living in temporary asylum in Russia after disclosing US government secrets on surveillance programmes and other activities, faces criminal charges in the United States after fleeing last year first to Hong Kong and then Russia.

The former National Security Agency contractor was nominated for the post by a group of students at the university after receiving Snowden's approval through his lawyer.

University officials said the computer analyst beat three other candidates in an online vote that attracted a record turnout to win the three-year role of rector at the university, which dates back to 1451.

The rector is meant to represent student issues to university officials but it has previously served a political designation, having been held by Winnie Mandela in 1987 and Israeli whistleblower Mordechai Vanunu in 2005. Chris Cassells, Snowden's spokesman for the campaign, said Glasgow University had a "proud and virtuous tradition" of making significant statements through its rectors. "Today we have once more championed this idea by proving to the world that we are not apathetic to important issues such as democratic rights," Cassells said in a statement.

Snowden, in a statement to Britain's *Guardian* newspaper, said he was "humbled and honoured" by the vote, describing it as a bold and historic decision in support of academic freedom.

Reuters

A picture of Edward Snowden, a contractor at the National Security Agency (NSA), is seen on a computer screen displaying a page of a Chinese news website, in Beijing in this on 13 June, 2013 photo illustration.
REUTERS

ENTERTAINMENT

Japanese comic character Doraemon is welcomed by girls dancing the hula at the Bishop Museum in Honolulu, Hawaii, on 15 Feb, 2014. An exhibit titled "Meet! Doraemon: Japan's Time-Traveling Cat," featuring the character, will run through 20 April at the museum.—KYODO NEWS

Doraemon original drawing exhibition opens in Hawaii

HONOLULU, 19 Feb — An exhibition featuring original drawings of the popular Japanese manga series Doraemon has opened at the Bishop Museum in Honolulu, Hawaii. The event, the first of its kind outside Japan, was organized by Fujiko F Fujio Museum in Japan and other sponsors to mark the 80th anniversary last December of the birth of Fujio, the late creator of the cartoon series.

It displays at least 70 original drawings of comic books, including those made into the movie "Doraemon: Nobita's Dinosaur," as well as a 129.3 centimetre-tall figure of Doraemon, a robotic cat."We want many people to know about the world of Doraemon, which make us feel uplifted when we read it," said Shunsuke Okura, deputy director of the Kawasaki city-based museum. "It is our dream to hold the same event at the Museum of Modern Art in New York and at the Louvre Museum in Paris."

The event runs through 20 April at the museum showcasing traditional Hawaiian culture and the history of Japanese immigration. The comic series is popular in Europe and Asia. It is not widely recognized in the United States, where the series debuted last year in digital format.

Kyodo News

Sharon Stone: I haven't dealt well with the ageing process

LONDON, 19 Feb — Basic Instinct star Sharon Stone says that ageing in the spotlight has not been easy.

The 55-year-old actress, who is on her way to turn sixty, said she has had her down days, reported *Daily Express*.

"There was a point in my 40s when I went into the bathroom with a bottle of wine, locked the door and said, 'I'm not coming out until I can totally accept the way I look right now.'I examined my face in the magnifying mirror, and I looked at my body and I cried and I cried and I cried," she said.

Sharon Stone feels happy to overcome that phase of her life. "I'm not trying to make myself look like a girl because I'm not a girl anymore. I'm very happy about being a grown woman. I think there's a lot of sexuality and glamour, allure and mystery to being a women that you just don't have when you're young."

PTI

Clooney, Damon to attend White House screening of 'Monuments Men'

WASHINGTON, 19 Feb — Actors George Clooney, Matt Damon and Bill Murray attend a screening of their new movie "The Monuments Men" at the White House on Tuesday night hosted by President Barack Obama. The film, directed by Clooney, is based on the true story of US soldiers in World War Two who rescued art masterpieces from Nazi thieves. A member of the original Monuments Men group, Harry Ettlinger, will also attend the screening, along with Robert Edsel, whose book is the basis for the film, and Sara Bloomfield, director the US Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington.

The White House has its own screening room and occasionally invites movie stars and other dignitaries to watch a new film. The "Monuments Men" has received mixed reviews from critics and came in a distant second to "The LEGO Movie" in US and Canadian box office receipts in its opening weekend earlier this month. —*Reuters*

For Sports Illustrated models, cover makes anything possible

2014 Sports Illustrated cover models Nina Agdal (L), Lily Aldridge and Chrissy Teigen (R) pose for a portrait in New York on 18 Feb, 2014.—REUTERS

NEW YORK, 19 Feb — Models Nina Agdal, Lily Aldridge and Chrissy Teigen were already at the top of their game, but the trio say anything is possible after gracing the cover of the Sports Illustrated 50th Anniversary Swimsuit Edition that hit newsstands on Tuesday. They joined an illustrious club of former swimsuit models, including Christie Brinkley, Heidi Klum, Elle Macpherson and Tyra Banks, with their topless cover photo that appears in the most widely read edition of the magazine. It will be seen by about 70 million readers in print and online.

"Doing a Sports Illustrated cover opens so many doors," said Aldridge, a 28-year-old California brunette, who landed the cover in her first shoot for the magazine.

She was already a Victoria's Secret model, the wife of Caleb Followill of the Grammy-winning band Kings of Leon, and the mother of their young daughter when she did the photo shoot last October in the Cook Islands with 21-year-old Danish model Agdal and fellow American Teigen, 28. But Aldridge said being chosen for the cover was a huge surprise and an amazing opportunity.

"You really can do anything," she told *Reuters* in an interview with her cover mates. "You can start a brand. You can build a company. It's incredible."

The group photo of Aldridge, Agdal and Teigen, smiling and arm in arm, posing in bikini bottoms while peering over their shoulders with their backs to the camera, is the first cover since 2006 to have multiple models — and only the fifth in the magazine's history.Agdal is making her third appearance in the swimsuit issue, but the 50th anniversary edition will be her first cover, along with Teigen, who has been in every issue since her debut in 2010.

Although critics deride the annual swimsuit issue, claiming it objectifies women and presents unrealistic images, Teigen believes the magazine is inclusive."There are so many different types of women in the issue. We go down the spectrum," she said.

Reuters

Sharon says she is happy being a grown up woman.
PTI

Cast members Bill Murray (L-R), Jean Dujardin, George Clooney, writer Robert Morse Edsel and actor Matt Damon arrive for the French premiere of the film "The Monuments Men'' in Paris on 12 Feb, 2014.
REUTERS

John Travolta: I want to be the next James Bond villain

LOS ANGELES, 19 Feb — Hollywood star John Travolta says he would love to play the baddie in the next installment of the 007 series. The Pulp Fiction star revealed he and Bond producer Barbara Broccoli have discussed the possibility of him playing 007's foe in the untitled 24th Bond film, reported *Rolling Stones* magazine.

"They're going a different way with their villain in this next film. I've spoken to (producer Barbara Broccoli) about it and she loves the idea, so that would be great," he said. The 24th Bond film will follow-up 2012's Skyfall and is currently scheduled to arrive in theatres on 6th November, 2015. The movie will reunite director Sam Mendes with star Daniel Craig, who will return as the British secret agent. —*PTI*

John Travolta intends to play the foe to Daniel Craig's bond in the 24th bond film.
PTI

SPORTS

Classy Barca all but end City's dreams of European glory

MANCHESTER, 19 Feb — Barcelona virtually ended 10-man Manchester City's dreams of European glory when they dominated their Champions League last 16 first leg and finished deserved 2-0 winners at the Etihad Stadium on Tuesday. Billed as the biggest match in City's recent history, it all went wrong for Manuel Pellegrini's side after 53 minutes when defender Martin Demichelis was sent off for a last-man lunge on fellow Argentine Lionel Messi who scored from the resulting penalty to put Barca ahead.

It was the first goal he had scored in an away European tie in England -- his goal in the 2011 Champions League final against Manchester United having come at neutral Wembley -- and set the Spanish champions on the way to their first win in an away European tie in England for six matches. Their second goal came in the last minute when Dani Alves collected a pass from substitute Neymar and fired through goalkeeper Joe Hart's legs to give City an almost impossible task of rescuing the tie in the second leg on 12 March .

Barcelona's Lionel Messi celebrates after scoring a penalty against Manchester City during their Champions League round of 16 first leg soccer match at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester, northern England on 18 Feb, 2014. —REUTERS

The defeat sparked an out-of-character attack from Pellegrini who accused Swedish referee Jonas Eriksson of favouring Barca and the Chilean risks a reprimand and possible severe punishment from soccer's European governing body UEFA. "I spoke to him at the end and told him he should be very happy because he decided the match," Pellegrini told reporters. "Barcelona had no chance to score until the penalty against Demichelis. "The referee was not impartial. He did not have any control of the game. I think it was not a good idea to have a referee from Sweden in such an important match.

Asked why it was relevant that the referee was Swedish, he replied: "More important football is played in Europe than in Sweden so a big game with two important teams - that kind of game needs a referee with more experience."Eriksson, a FIFA referee since 2002 who is on the list for this year's World Cup finals in Brazil, has refereed 86 UEFA matches and this was his 22nd Champions League game.

It was also City's first in the knockout rounds of the competition and they rarely showed the kind of form that has brought them 117 goals in all matches this season and prompted talk of a quadruple haul of trophies before this setback. Barca, with a three-pronged attack of Messi, Andres Iniesta and Alexis Sanchez in front of a typically fluid three-man midfield, dominated the first 20 minutes, allowed City back in the game briefly, then took control again after the dismissal. — *Reuters*

Russia advance, Slovenia surprise

SOCHI, (Russia), 19 Feb — Russia marched into the quarter-finals of the men's ice hockey competition at the Sochi Winter Olympics on Tuesday, joining a feel-good Slovenian team, the Czech Republic and a surprising Latvia in the last eight along with the four automatic qualifiers. Despite struggling at times with their offense, the Russians scored twice in each of the last two periods to beat Norway 4-0 and set up a quarter-final clash with Finland on Wednesday.

"It is do-or-die games right now," said Russian forward Alex Ovechkin. "I'm pretty sure everybody on Finland is going to be ready for tomorrow, and we're going to be ready as well."

Alexander Radulov and Ilya Kovalchuk each had second period goals before Radulov scored an empty netter with 67 seconds left then Alexei Tereshenko finished off the rout in the last minute.

Sergei Bobrovski stopped 22 shots for the shutout while Radulov, who also had an assist, enjoyed his best game of the competition.

Slovenia, a country with just seven ice rinks, continued their fairytale run to reach the quarter-finals in their first Olympic appearance in men's ice hockey.

Their 4-0 victory over Austria set up a semi-final with a powerful Swedish team that finished the preliminary round with the best record of the 12 competing teams.

Reuters

Ivanovic beats Kerber in Dubai Open

DUBAI, 19 Feb — In a spectacular match which lasted three sets, the world No 12th Ana Ivanovic from Serbia beat Tuesday Germany's Angelique Kerber in 3-6, 6-3, 7-6 (8-6) in the first round of the WTA Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships here. After losing the first set, Ivanovic found back her pace and quickly decided the second set for herself. In the tie-break of the third and last set, Kerber appeared more exhausted, and failed to find an efficient defence against Ivanovic's powerful forehand, who at 1.84 metres height is 11 centimetres taller than Kerber. Ivanovic kept her nerves tight and won the tie-break in a head- to-head battle by 8-6, which triggered 26-year-old Kerber to smash her racket into the corner of the court, showing her huge disappointment.

Ivanonic, aged 26, said, "It was a great match in the end and the support from my fans means a lot to me." She said she expected the remaining tournament to be very tough, especially because world's number one and 17-times Grand Slam winner Serena Williams, USA, also advanced with a 7-6 (10-8), 6-0 win over Russian Ekaterina Makarova. Kerber will play on Wednesday in the second round against Serena's sister Venus Williams, former world No 1 and currently the world's number 44th. Serena Williams said before the start of the Dubai Cup that she plays it simply "because training is boring". Kerber's compatriot and Wimbledon 2013 finalist Sabine Lisicki also lost the first round in Dubai against Denmark's Caroline Wozniacki 2-6, 6-3, 6-3.

Xinhua

Defending champion Scott gearing up for another Masters run

NEW YORK, 19 Feb — Masters champion Adam Scott is shaking off the rust after a break following his triumphant return to Australia and a trip to Hawaii, while plotting some special moments back in Augusta.

Scott, who became the first Australian to win the green jacket when he beat Argentina's Angel Cabrera in a thrilling playoff last April, said on Tuesday he was gearing up for next week's Honda Classic and zeroing in on his menu for the Champions' Dinner and details of his return to Augusta National.

"I'd like to serve something that everyone will really enjoy, and nothing too crazy so that they won't," Scott said about the annual dinner for former Masters champions during tournament week in a conference call with reporters.

"But probably, no surprise to anyone, there's definitely going to be an Australian theme toward every part of the dinner and whether that means they are eating kangaroo, I'm not sure yet, but we'll see."

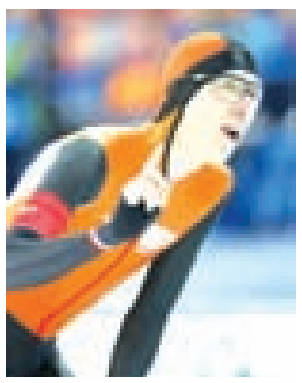
Reuters

Maze bags 2nd gold of Games, as Svendsen wins 3rd title

SOCHI, (Russia), 19 Feb — Slovenia's Tina Maze picked up her second gold medal of the Winter Games on Tuesday, Emil Hegle Svendsen of Norway won his third overall title and Jorrit Bergsma set an Olympic record in leading a Dutch sweep in speed skating.

Maze narrowly defeated Anna Fenninger of Austria to add the women's giant slalom crown to the downhill title she won last week.

The 30-year-old, who tied with Switzerland's Dominique Gisin in the downhill —the first time in Olympic history that two skiers clocked the same time to share gold —used her early start to full effect to beat both the field and the elements.



Jorrit Bergsma of the Netherlands finishes his run in the Winter Olympics men's 10,000-metre speed skating race at the Adler Arena Skating Centre in Sochi, Russia, on 18 Feb, 2014. Bergsma won the gold medal with a new Olympic record time of 12 minutes, 44.45 seconds.

KYODO NEWS

Kyodo News

GENERAL

*Models display jewelries during a Press conference of the 31st Hong Kong International Jewellery Show in Hong Kong, south China, on 18 Feb, 2014. The show will run from 5 to 9 March at Hong Kong Convention Exhibition Centre.—*XINHUA

One killed in Colombia military plane crash

BOGOTA, 19 Feb — The Colombian Air Force (FAC) on Tuesday confirmed that a pilot was killed and another aboard injured after a fighter-bomber Kfir crashed in central colombia.

The accident occurred at 16:53 local time (2353 GMT) when the FAC aircraft was on a training mission and then crashed to the ground in Norcasia, a municipality in the central Caldas department, according to Colombia's *El Tiempo daily network.*

The pilot was killed, and another managed to be ejected from the aircraft and was later rescued and taken to a nearby military medical unit. Investigation is underway to determine the causes of the accident.

In September 2013, a Kfir aircraft crashed near the Magdalena River in Puerto Salgar municipality, located in Colombia's central Cundinamarca department.—*Xinhua*

ETA likely to announce partial disarmament soon

MADRID, 19 Feb — Spanish separatist group ETA was likely to announce a partial disarmament in coming days, local media reported on Tuesday.

Anti-terrorist sources indicated the move could probably coincide with the scheduled arrival of Ram Manikkalingam, director of the International Verification Commission (IVC), in north Spain's Basque region on Friday.

ETA, which has killed more than 800 people over more than four decades, many as a result of car bombs, proclaimed a unilateral ceasefire two years ago, while the Spanish government insists on permanent dissolution and disarmament of the group.

Relations between the two sides improved after the IVC, an independent group tasked with verifying the ceasefire, held negotiations with ETA leaders last summer in the Norwegian capital of Oslo.

ETA prisoners have recently stated they accept the legitimacy of the Spanish legal system and have admitted responsibility for the deaths in their struggle for Basque independence.

The group said in early February it would not delay making "significant contributions" to the peace process while insisting on a "Basque route" to end the conflict.—*Xinhua*

MYANMAR TV

(20-2-2014, Thursday)

6:00 am
1. Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw

6:40 am
2. Physical Exercises

6:50 am
3. Songs Of Yester Years

7:00 am
4. News/Weather Report

7:20 am
5. People Talks

7:35 am
6. Teleplay

7:50 am
7. Documentary

8:00 am
8. News/ International News

8:25 am
9. India Drama Series

9:00 am
10. News/ International News

9:25 am
11. Shwe Yin Chone Than

10:00 am
12. News

10:15 am
13. TV Drama Series

11:00 pm
14. Sing & Enjoy

12:00 pm
15. News / International News/ Weather Report

12:25 pm
16. Myanmar Video

2:30 pm
17. Fine Arts-Bostom of Dramatic Performance

3:00 pm
18. News

3:15 pm
19. Fine Arts-Bostom of Dramatic Performance

3:30 pm
20. TV Drama Series

4:00 pm
21. News

4:15 pm
22. TV Drama Series

4:30 pm
23. 2014 University Entrance Examination (Economic)

5:00 pm
24. News

5:15 pm
25. Kyae Pwint Myaye Yin Khone Than

5:30 pm
26. India Drama Series

6:00 pm
27. News/Weather Report

6:20 pm
28. Approaching Science Discovery World

6:40 pm
29. TV Drama Series

7:00 pm
30. News

7:25 pm
31. TV Drama Series

8:00 pm
32.News/ Internation News/ Weather Report

8:35 pm
33. Current Affairs

9:00 pm
34. News
35. Documentary
36. Clever
37. TV Drama Series

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

20-2-14 07:00 am ~ 21 -2-14 07:00 am) MST

* Local News
* Short Trip With Steve (Taungyi Trip)
* World News
* Goldsmith
* Local News
* A Day Out With Sarah (EP-6)
* World News
* Traditional Snacks
* Local News
* Marketable Goods (Myanmar Arts and Handicrafts)
* World News
* Myanmar Masterclass: Still Life (Glass)
* Local News
* Myanma Betels
* World News
* Great Minds of Myanmar (Anthropologist U Kyaw Win)
* Local News
* A Journey To The Lashio (Kyi Hla Han's Journey)
* World New
* Green Grocer
* Local News
* Continuation In Rural Tradition
* World News
* Temple Stalls
* Local News
* Snack Dancer
* World News
* Cosplayer
* Local News
* Soft Crab Breeding Procedure
* World News

Paris Saint-Germain crush Leverkusen 4-0 in UEFA Champions League

BERLIN, 19 Feb — Three first half goals for Paris were enough to edge ten men Leverkusen in a one sided affair at outsold BayArena in Champions League's last sixteen on Tuesday.

Paris Saint Germain nearly destroyed all hopes of Leverkusen to grab a berth at the next round as a brace by Zlatan Ibrahimovic and goals by Blaise Matuidi and Yohan Cabaye wrapped up a 4-0 win at the first leg on the road.

The visitors from Paris grabbed a bright start as Blaise Matuidi caught the hosts flatfooted when he utilized a through ball by Marco Verratti to beat Leverkusen's custodian Bernd Leno into the far post corner with just three minutes into the game.Subsequently Paris controlled the proceedings on the pitch although they failed to add another goal against wobbling Leverkusen.

The individual class of Paris gave Leverkusen a hard time.

Leverkusen invited the visitors to extend their lead as Emir Spahic conceded a foul play when he brought down Ezequiel Lavezzi inside the box allowing Zlatan Ibrahimovic to double the lead into the bottom left corner at the 39th minute.

Things changed from bad to worse for the hosts as Ibrahimovic sealed his brace to triple the lead for the "Parisians" just three minutes later.

Matuidi teed up for the Swedish international, whose hammer found the back of the net at the top right corner.After the interval Leverkusen tried to make amendments to make up their weak first half performance meanwhile Paris is retracted with their 3-0 lead behind.

However, all their efforts were immediately destroyed with the sent off of Spahic who booked his second yellow card at the 59th minute.

Thus ten-men Leverkusen were unable to put up some resistance since Paris were not done with the scoring.

Ibrahimovic danced through Leverkusen's defence to set up for Lucas Moura, who assisted Yohan Cabaye with the fourth goal of the night in the dying minutes of the game.

"Such a high defeat hurts. It is the third consecutive loss. However, with a man less you are chanceless against such teams like Paris," Leverkusen's director of sports Rudi Voeller said."

We have implemented all what we have planned. I am proud of my team," Paris Saint Germain coach Laurent Blanc said. Leverkusen encounter Paris for the second leg on 12th March.— *Xinhua*

6th Waning of Tabodwe 1375 ME

The New Light of Myanmar

Thursday, 20 February, 2014

K 672 million sought in Parliament to conserve MraukU cultural heritage zone in 2014-2015 FY

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Feb — Regarding the collection of monthly service fee for PCO phones, Deputy Minister for Communications and Information Technology U Win Than said during the parliamentary meeting of Pyithu Hluttaw that the ministry has no plan currently to abolish the system of collecting K 3000 per month for service.

U Thein Tun Oo of Amarapura constituency asked if action would be taken against licensed companies and private money lenders who lend money to borrowers with high interest rate and if investigation would be carried out into their business whether they are in conformity with the microfinance rules at Pyithu Hluttaw on 19 February.

Deputy Minister for Finance Dr Lin Aung replied that if the ministry finds out malpractices in their business, actions would be taken against them under the Microfinance Law.

Regarding the question raised by Dr Nay Lin of Seikkan constituency if the government has a plan to implement the health insurance system for the people, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Than Aung replied that the Ministry of Finance has a plan to establish the public health insurance systems, including the system for well-to-do people by contributing premium to the system.

During the meeting, the bill committee put forward a report on the Bill Amending the Peaceful Gathering and Procession Law.

Ministry of Culture has sought conservation budget of K 672 million for the MraukU cultural heritage zone for the 2014-14 FY as part of plans for promoting conservation of the ancient city state in Rakhine State.

The ministry is also coordinating with Rakhine State Government to turn the MraukU cultural heritage zone into ancient cultural research garden, said

(See page 9)

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visits PT PINDAD Company, Bandung Conference Hall, Indonesian Aerospace PT Dirgantara

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Feb— Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and party arrived at Bandung Airport on 18 February morning.

They were welcomed at the airport by Bandung military command commander Major General Dedi Kusnadi Thamim and wife, Bandung naval base commander Colonel (N) Ferial Fachroni and wife and Husein air base commander Colonel (AF) I Nyoman Trisantosa and wife.

Next, the Commander-in-Chief and party visited PT PINDAD Company where officials presented a power point presentation on production of military equipment and conducted them round the plant.

In the afternoon, they visited Bandung Conference Hall and observed historic pictures.

On their arrival at Indonesian Aerospace PT Dirgantara, they asked about manufacturing process.

Next, the Commander-in-Chief and party observed CN 235-220 and NC 212i aircrafts manufactured by Indonesian Aerospace PT Dirgantara.

Myawady

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing views CN 235-220 and NC 212i aircrafts manufactured by Indonesian Aerospace PT Dirgantara.

MYAWADY

Silversea's Silver Shadow at the dock in Yangon

YANGON, 19 Feb — Under the arrangement of Myanmar Voyages International Tourism Co., Ltd, US-based Silversea Cruises' MV Silver Shadow sailing from Phuket of Thailand arrived at Myanmar International Terminals Thilawa today.

It is the second time for visiting Yangon by the luxury cruise ship with 326 globetrotters and 290 crew on board.

During their stay in Myanmar, tourists will spend the afternoon sightseeing around the downtown Yangon before flying to Bagan and Mandalay in the evening. Then they will make visits to Thanlyan market and Kyaikkhauk Pagoda, enjoy Myanmar traditional entertainment at Governor Residence during their dinner, take a day trip tour to Bago and visit General Aung San Museum and Shwedagon Pagoda.

"A total of 12 luxury cruise ships mainly from the US including from Britain, Japan, Germany and France are planned to dock in Yangon during the first four months of 2014. As it is expected to see 20 cruise liners this year, it can be said the Year of Cruises," said an official of Myanmar Voyages. Silver Shadow luxury cruise ship continues its journey to Malaysia on 22 February morning.

Khin Cho Win

***Silversea Cruises' MV Silver Shadow with glovetrotters arrive at Myanmar International Terminals Thilawa.*—MNA**

Myanmar honours ASEAN Logo 2014 designers

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Feb — A dinner in honour of Mr. John E. Broman, director of Japan-based Grape City Inc., and party who created a logo for Myanmar's ASEAN Chairmanship 2014 was held at Myat Tawwin Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw on 18 February.

At the dinner, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin spoke words of thanks for creating a logo featuring 10 Kha Yay flowers known as star flowers with the green background that stand for 10 ASEAN member states. He also thanked them for making Friendly Myanmar Photos Table Book.

Next, the Union Foreign Affairs minister and Union ministers of three pillars of ASEAN presented certificates of honour and gifts to responsible persons of Grape City Inc.

MNA

Issuance of ID for 2014 matriculation examination announced

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Feb—The matriculation examination for year 2014 will take place from 12 to 22 March.

Students across the nation may take out identity card at their respective exam centres starting 24 February (Monday) and students in Yangon municipal area, on 26 February (Wednesday).

Students from Basic Education High Schools, BEHSs (branch) and BEHSs (affiliated) may take identity card from their respective school heads while external students may draw identity card from their respective examination supervisors.

For further information, students may contact the respective exam supervisors and township education officers, announced the Department of Myanmar Board of Examinations.

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