

Transparency, political stability contribute to tourism boom in Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Feb — With the establishment of a transparent society in the wake of political stability, the country is experiencing sudden influx of tourists, said President U Thein Sein in meeting with hoteliers from Bagan Hotel Zone in Bagan on Wednesday.

He stressed the importance of cultural heritage conservation works for promotion of tourism industry. He voiced hotel rooms are not enough yet to accommodate throng of foreign visitors that will come into the country while hosting regional summits and related meetings this year.

As tourism industry is one of the important contributors to the national economy, a matter of sharing a success story of tourism industry is of the greatest importance to the country. He highlighted participation of all in the sector in cooperation with the government for economic development of the country. It can thereby contribute towards socio-economic life of the people, he added.

After hearing reports on construction of more new hotels and matters related to better transport, financial assistance and hotel management presented by hoteliers,



President U Thein Sein gives his regards to Daw Nyein Tin, aged 96, of Kannar Village in Natogyi Township, Mandalay Region during his inspection tour.

MNA

the President coordinated the matters and attended to the needs.

The President made cash donations at Tuyintaung Pagoda, Lawkananda Pagoda and Shwezigon Pagoda after paying homage.

The President enjoyed the panoramic view of Bagan from Tuyintaung Pagoda's platform and left instructions on greening of environs of Mya Lake at the foot of the mountain and water storage measures.

On his arrival at Kanmye Lake which is under renovation in Taungtha Township, Mandalay Region on Thursday, only the success of rural development and poverty reduction scheme could bring

socio-economic improvement to rural people. He continued that supply of potable water and irrigated water, rural electrification, better communications and promotion of health and education sectors for

the people who have been living in 64000 villages in the country are in the list of top priorities of the government. He called on farmers to deal with agriculture business while (See page 8)

Marine resources to become invaluable treasury for the nation

Marine products such as fish and prawn will be invaluable treasury for the nation, said the general secretary of Myanmar Fisheries Federation.

Marine products of Myanmar

are in great demand in China and Thailand, he added at the weekly meeting on 25 February.

"Chinese merchants waiting at jetties in Yangon purchase fish and prawn from trawlers at good

price. High demands of Thai and Chinese merchants are in competitiveness in buying fish and prawn from Myanmar seas," said fishery entrepreneurs.

In the past, fish and prawn produced from Taninthayi Region were sold to Ranong via Kawthoung. But, it was not cost effectiveness due to low price and travel expense. Now,

thanks to border trade camps in Htikhee and Mawtaung, Thai entrepreneurs arrive at Dawei and Myeik by car to purchase fish and prawn.

The root cause of Thailand's tremendous demand on fish and prawn is high consumption at home. In addition, Thailand exports seafood to the world market including the US

and Europe. That is why marine products are essential for Thailand and its trading.

"If we need to conserve fish and prawn for long-term use and to have good price, Myanmar marine products can be dubbed as treasury for the nation," said General Secretary U Win Kyaing of the federation.—Nanda Win

Pre-primary students join dances, intellectual contest

Nay Pyi Taw Social Welfare Department of Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement organized the dances and



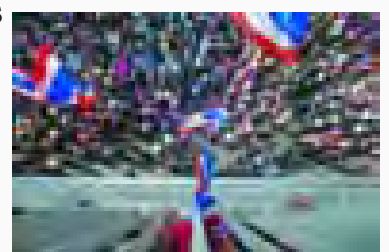
Ywapale-Paydawlay inter-village road under construction

Rural Development Department is building 2.4 miles long Ywapale-Paydawlay inter-village road with



Thai PM faces negligence charges as protest leader broaches talks

Thailand's anti-corruption agency weighed charges of negligence against Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra on Thursday



NAY PYI TAW, 27 Feb—Nay Pyi Taw Social Welfare Department of Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement organized the dances and intellectual contest of children from 33 pre-primary school from Nay Pyi Taw Council Area at the hall of University of Agriculture in Zeyathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, on 26 February morning.

Rector of the university Dr U Tin Htut made a speech.

Assistant Director Daw Khin Nwe of Nay Pyi Taw Social Welfare Department explained the purpose of the contest.

A total of 470 children participated in the 71 agendas of dances, poem, singing and story telling contests.

Officials presented prizes to the winners in the contest.

MMAL-Than Naing
(Zabuthiri)

Pre-primary students join dances, intellectual contest



MLA sets up Sagaing Region Libraries Foundation

MONYWA, 27 Feb—Myanmar Libraries Foundation established Sagaing Region Libraries Foundation at the city hall in Monywa, yesterday morning.

The region foundation was set up by the MLA for the first time.

Myanmar Libraries Foundation was founded on 15 May 2010. Its tasks were operated in 2011.

The foundation donated cash and books to the libraries across the nation.

During the three years period from 2011 to 2013, the MLA provided K 336.5 million and over 90000 copies of books to 260 village libraries across the nation, said Chairman of the foundation U Maung Maung.

On the occasion, Patron of Myanmar Libraries Foundation Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan delivered a speech. Chairman U Maung Maung explained efforts of the foundation.

Chairman of Zeyar Padetha Foundation Dr Maung Htoo reported on plans for formation of Sagaing Region Libraries Foundation.

Wellwishers and entrepreneurs donated K 35.15 million to the fund of the region foundation.

Patron of the region libraries foundation Chief Minister of Sagaing Region U Tha Aye spoke words of thanks.

Kyemon-Myo Win Tun (Monywa)

Inmates under training for production at Meiktila Jail

MEIKTILA, 27 Feb—With the aim of enabling the inmates to have skills of vocational courses to

produce goods and products for their livelihood when they come back the society, the training courses are

being given to the inmates at Meiktila Jail, said U Khin Maung Tun of Meiktila Jail of the Myanmar



Correctional Department.

“We give training to them to have skills to manufacture production courses to the inmates. These vocational courses will support their lives in their life. When they have excellent skills in training, the one-third profit of the production will be shared to the inmates. The rest will be sent to the fund of Myanmar Correctional Department. At present, joss stick production is being given to the inmates. Gradually, more trainees will be admitted to the training,” said the jail official.

Meiktila jail officials arrange training courses to be provided to the inmates in reading, practising meditation and studying basic Abhidhamma courses.

MMAL-Chan Tha
(Meiktila)

Anti-Human Trafficking Drives

Anti-Human Trafficking Talks given

DAWEI, 27 Feb—Organized by Taninthayi Region Police Force, the talks on traffic accident, menace of narcotic drugs and human trafficking was given at the convocation hall of Dawei University in Dawei, Taninthayi Region, on 25 February.

Pro-Rector Dr Ba Han of Dawei University made a speech.

Commander of Taninthayi Region Police Force Police Col Kyi Lin made a speech.

Township Law Officer U Tun Lin, Deputy Head of Region Directorate of Road Administration U Ba Aye, Police Major Soe Win of No 8 Traffic Police Force, Police Major Aung Htay of Taninthayi Region Anti-Human Trafficking Squad and IP Thein Htay of Region Anti-Drug Squad gave talks on traffic rules, traffic accidents, menace of drugs and anti-human trafficking.

Taninthayi Region Minister for Finance U Than Aung, Region Minister for Transport Dr Kyaw Hsan, Police Col Kyi Lin and officials presented 80 helmets to students.

The pro-rector gave a concluding remark.

MMAL-Po Shwe Thun (Dawei)



Educative talks being given to attendees at Dawei University.

Thai PM faces negligence charges as protest leader broaches talks

BANGKOK, 27 Feb — Thailand's anti-corruption agency weighed charges of negligence against Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra on Thursday as the leader of protests aimed at forcing her from power suggested a televised debate after weeks of refusing to talk.

The charges relate to a disastrous rice subsidy scheme that paid farmers above the market price and has run out of funds, adding to the government's woes as farmers — normally the prime minister's biggest supporters — demand their money.

More than 300 government supporters gathered outside the National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC) in north Bangkok where the charges were due to be discussed with Yingluck's lawyers, as riot police stood guard inside the complex.

Because of the protest, the hearing had to be



Anti-government protesters gather outside the Royal Thai Police headquarters during a rally in central Bangkok on 26, Feb 2014.—REUTERS

moved to a different location. Yingluck, who has stayed mostly out of Bangkok in recent days, did not attend.

The anti-government protesters elsewhere in the city, whose disruption of a general election this

month has left Thailand in paralysis, want to topple Yingluck and erase the influence of her brother, ousted premier Thaksin Shinawatra, seen by many as the real power in the country.

Protest leader Suthep

Thaugsuban, known for making dramatic gestures without always following through, said he was willing to appear in a live television debate with Yingluck after weeks of refusing any form of talks.

Reuters

Japan-US summit on Pacific trade talks unlikely

TOKYO, 27 Feb — Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and US President Barack Obama are unlikely to have negotiations over deadlocked regional free trade talks when Obama visits Japan in April, a government source said on Wednesday.

Speculation was growing that the leaders would seek a breakthrough after no broad agreement was reached at ministerial meeting on a Trans-Pacific Partnership trade agreement held through Tuesday in Singapore. "Negotiations (toward the resolution) would be impossible," the source said about chances of the leaders taking up the issue during their talks.

Another government source said that "ministers come forward only for deciding the format of negotiations and for concluding negotiations," indicating it would be hard to hold a ministerial meeting if no progress is made at negotiators' meeting scheduled for April.

Kyodo News

Turkish Prime Minister targeted in second audio tape

ANKARA, 27 Feb — A second audio recording, presented as the voice of Turkish Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan asking his son not to accept an amount of money on offer in a business deal but to hold out for more, was published on YouTube by an anonymous poster using a pseudonym on Wednesday.

Erdogan said a similar post on the video-sharing site on Monday, allegedly of him telling his son Bilal to dispose of large sums of cash as a graft investigation erupted, was faked by his political enemies.

"Don't take it. Whatever he has promised us, he should bring this. If he is not going to bring that, there is no need," the voice on the latest recording, presented by a user under the pseudonym Haramzadeler as that of Erdogan, says.

"The others are bringing. Why can't he bring? What do they think this business is? ... But don't worry they will fall into our lap," the voice says.

Reuters could not verify the authenticity of either recording.

"We are going to check whether the tapes are fake or not and no statement is planned at the moment," a senior government official told Reuters.

The recordings, which appeared within days of the ruling AK Party's official launch of a campaign for local elections at the end of March, are the latest and potentially most damaging allegations in a graft scandal that Erdogan has cast as concocted to unseat him. Late on Monday, his office released a statement describing the first recordings as "completely untrue and the product of an immoral montage."

Reuters

New Ukraine ministers proposed, Russian troops on alert

SIMFEROPOL, (UKRAINE) / KIEV, 27 Feb — Ukraine's protest leaders named the ministers they want to form a new government following the overthrow of President Viktor Yanukovich, as an angry Russia put 150,000 troops on high alert in a show of strength.

President Vladimir Putin's order on Wednesday for soldiers to be ready for war games near Ukraine was the Kremlin's boldest gesture yet after days of sabre rattling since its ally Yanukovich was ousted at the weekend. Moscow denied that the previous-

ly unannounced drill in its western military district was linked to events in its neighbour but it came amid a series of increasingly strident statements about the fate of Russian citizens and interests.

US Secretary of State John Kerry warned Moscow that "any kind of military intervention that would violate the sovereign territorial integrity of Ukraine would be a huge — a grave mistake".

With the political turmoil hammering Ukraine's economy, the central bank said it would no longer intervene to shield the

hryvnia currency, which tumbled 4 percent on Wednesday and is now down a fifth since 1 January. Wednesday's abrupt abandonment of Ukraine's currency peg sent ripples to Russia where the rouble fell to five-year lows and bank shares fell.

In Kiev, leaders of the popular protests that toppled Yanukovich on Wednesday named former economy minister Arseny Yatseniuk as their choice to head a new interim government. In a display of people power, the so-called 'Euromaidan' council made its announcement of Yatseni-

uk, and candidates for other key ministries, after its members addressed crowds on Independence Square, cradle of the insurgency.

Oleksander Turchinov, now acting president, said the new government would have to take unpopular decisions to head off default and guarantee a normal life for Ukraine's people.

The Euromaidan council's proposals must be approved by parliament, which meets on Thursday in an atmosphere heavy with memories of recent bloodshed, whose hundred or so victims are taking on the status of martyrs.—Reuters

US needs to do more in approach to North Korea talks

WASHINGTON, 27 Feb — US foreign policy and North Korea experts said in a report released on Wednesday that the United States should engage more with North Korea as a way to revive talks aimed at ending Pyongyang's nuclear-weapons programme.

The joint report from two think tanks, National Security Network and the National Committee on North Korea, said Washington needs to shift from an "all or nothing" approach requiring Pyongyang to meet conditions for the resumption of nuclear

talks with major powers that were suspended in 2009. The current approach, in which US-North Korean contact generally has been limited to a channel via the North Korean mission at the United Nations, effectively gave the initiative to Pyongyang when Washington should be aiming to set the agenda, the report argued.

"The refusal to engage in any preliminary measures will inevitably lead to a de-facto acquiescence to North Korea's nuclear status," it said. "Interim steps can provide immediate

value to the United States while also putting more concrete steps towards denuclearization into the real of the possible."

North Korea promised to abandon its nuclear programme in 2005 but backed away from the agreement, testing nuclear devices in 2006 and 2009. Talks among North Korea, South Korea, Japan, China, Russia, and the United States began in 2003 with the goal of denuclearizing the Korean peninsula but were suspended after North Korea launched a ballistic missile.—Reuters



The Juche tower (C) is seen in central Pyongyang on 23, Sept 2008 file photo. REUTERS

Two Indian navy crew members missing submarine incident

NEW DELHI, 27 Feb — Two Indian navy sailors are missing and seven others were hospitalized after smoke suddenly spread through a navy submarine on Wednesday off Mumbai's coast, the Indian navy's western command said.

According to a navy statement, the submarine *Sindhuratna* was at sea off Mumbai for routine training and inspection when the incident occurred in the early hours of Wednesday.

The statement said that the smoke was brought under control by the submarine's crew, but that in the process of doing so seven crew members were overcome by the smoke and airlifted to a naval hospital. The release further stated that efforts are being made to locate the two missing personnel. The submarine will return to harbour shortly. An inquiry has been ordered to establish the cause of the incident, the release said.—Kyodo News

Iraqi gov't denies arms deal with Iran

BAGHDAD, 27 Feb — The Iraqi government denied on Wednesday it had struck any deal with Iran to purchase arms and ammunition from the neighbouring country. A Defence Ministry statement said companies from many countries, including Iran, offered to supply the Iraqi army with arms and ammunition, "but the trade-off was in favour of other companies and there was no signing of any contract with any Iranian company." On Tuesday, Iranian Ambassador to Baghdad Hassan Danaeifar also denied such a claim, saying: "No agreement on military and arms cooperation has been inked with the Iraqi side so far," refuting recent Western media reports on an Iran-Iraq arms deal. However, Iran will be ready to consider such a request if it is filed by its friendly neighbour Iraq, Danaeifar told Fars.

Earlier, the standoff was sparked by Hassan al-Senied, a senior lawmaker from Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki's Dawa Party, who told reporters that Iraq is negotiating buying weapons from Iran and insisted this was within its right and violated no international sanctions.—Xinhua



Iran's senior parliamentarian Alaeddin Boroujerdi speaks during a Press conference in Syrian capital of Damascus, on 26 Feb, 2014. Boroujerdi said that the military option will not lead to a political solution on Syria, warning against any negative repercussions on the domestic security of the countries supporting the Syrian rebels.—XINHUA

Chinese UN envoy stresses poverty eradication in post 2015 development agenda

UNITED NATIONS, 27 Feb — A Chinese envoy to the United Nations on Wednesday said that poverty eradication should remain the core of the post 2015 development agenda.

Wang Min, China's deputy permanent representative to the UN, made the remarks at a meeting of Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) on 2014 operational activities for development segment.

"Poverty eradication constitutes the biggest global challenge and the core requisite for the sustainable development of the developing countries," Wang said. "Eradicating poverty via increasing the capacity for self-development of the developing

countries should remain the main focus of the UN development system."

The post 2015 development agenda will succeed the current Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), a set of eight global development targets required for accomplishment by the turn of the year 2015.

Wang highlighted the efforts made by the UN development system and agencies to support developing countries in their poverty eradication efforts, and hoped they will continue to make project planning and implementation more in line with the overall goal.

While stressing that the MDGs embody a solemn commitment of all

countries to greater development, the Chinese diplomat said that China has always attached great importance to development.

"It has integrated MDG-related efforts into the overall national strategy for development and is committed to a balanced development in economic, social and environmental areas and has made remarkable achievements," said Wang.

The Chinese government will continue to provide, to the best of its capability, assistance to other developing countries, Wang noted, adding that China's development will continue to contribute to the world's sustainable development.

Xinhua

Int'l aid for Ukraine pledged while deposed president wanted

BEIJING, 27 Feb — Western countries pledged on Wednesday political and financial support for the Ukrainian interim government, while ousted President Viktor Yanukovich has been put on the international wanted list.

US Secretary of State John Kerry said his country was considering to provide an international economic assistance package for Kiev, including 1 billion US dollars in loan guarantees and other direct aid.

The NATO also voiced support, as defence ministers of member states said in Brussels that the military alliance stood ready to assist Kiev with defence reform and military cooperation.

Poland expressed the wish to help Ukraine out of the current economic plight. Foreign Minister Radoslaw Sikorski said Warsaw was ready to help Ukraine with its reforms, adding Kiev needs to "get gas prices to market levels, have realistic exchange rates and start the fight against corruption."

Slovenia offered medical treatment to Ukrainians wounded in the anti-government protests, said Foreign Minister Karl Erjavec.

Meanwhile, political wrestling between the West and Russia is underway.

Moscow has vowed not to interfere in Ukraine's domestic affairs and called on Western countries to follow suit.

Xinhua

Ex-editor of HK newspaper seriously injured in stabbing attack

HONG KONG, 27 Feb — The former top editor of an outspoken Chinese-language newspaper in Hong Kong was stabbed and seriously injured on Wednesday.

The attack on Kevin Lau, who was the chief editor of Hong Kong's *Ming Pao Daily* until being sacked last month, triggered a chorus of condemnation from the government, political groups and fellow journalists. A knife-wielding attacker stabbed Lau three times in a residential area before fleeing on a motorcycle driven by an accomplice, according to police and media reports.

Food and Health Secretary Ko Wing-man said Lau remains in critical condition. "The government

and I are extremely concerned and outraged about the attack on (Lau) this morning," Chief Executive Leung Chun-ying said after visiting Lau in hospital.

"Hong Kong is a lawful society and we will not tolerate violence. The act of the perpetrator was deliberate and vicious and we strongly condemn this savage act," Leung said. Leung declined to speculate on the cause of the attack, but reiterated that press freedom and freedom of expression are Hong Kong's core values that are not to be shaken.

Secretary for Security Lai Tung-kuok said there is no evidence that the attack on Lau is linked to alleged infringement on press freedom.—Kyodo News

Picture books reach tsunami-hit city ahead of 3 yr anniversary

TOKYO, 27 Feb — Children and grown-ups in a city of northeastern Japan devastated by the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami are now able to read around 1,500 picture books donated by Taro Gomi, one of the most notable authors of children's books in Japan, ahead of the third anniversary of the disaster.

The donation of the books was made possible by the efforts of people in Tokyo's Ota Ward who have been supporting the city of Higashimatsushima, Miyagi Prefecture, since shortly after the disaster. "I was at a loss in the face of the mountain of cardboard

boxes," said Mari Murayama who coordinated the donation, recalling the day when she saw the picture books in Gomi's old house in Tokyo at the end of March last year.

Murayama, 52, had hit upon the idea of sending the books to Higashimatsushima several days before when Gomi told her that he was looking for somebody to take in the books prior to him moving to a new house. Coincidentally, Gomi was also thinking that his books should be offered to a disaster-hit area once the situation stabilized and local people felt the need for them.

Kyodo News



Mari Murayama (R) and other volunteers from Tokyo's Ota Ward deliver roughly 1,500 books donated by notable picture book author Taro Gomi to disaster-hit Higashimatsushima, Miyagi Prefecture on 14 Sept, 2013.

KYODO NEWS

WORLD

Afghans slam Taliban, support Afghan army in peaceful rally

KABUL, 27 Feb — Hundreds of Afghans from all walks of life staged a peaceful rally here on Wednesday, calling on the government of President Hamid Karzai to wage an all-out war against the Taliban while condemning the atrocities committed by the insurgent group.

“We are gathered here today to demonstrate our support and our unity with the national army and calling upon the president to toughen his stance against the Taliban terrorists,” Mir Ahmad Joyanda, a former legislator, said in his speech.

Assembled in a park in downtown Kabul, the peaceful protestors denounced Taliban-linked violent attacks and urged the security forces to seek the Taliban militants wherever they are to put an end to their reign of terror.

Carrying banners and placards reading “Death to Taliban, Death to Extremism,” “The commander-in-chief of the armed forces, are you with us or with our enemies?”, “Long live the national security forces,” the protestors expressed their support for the country’s national security forces.

“We are here to say that we are with our national army and to tell them that they are not alone,” woman activist Zahra Mossavi said.

“We don’t want to be controlled by Taliban or any other totalitarians and radical movements. We are here for democracy and human rights; we are here to support the Afghan security forces including police, special force and national army.”

Xinhua

Rwanda angered by French court decision on genocide suspects

KIGALI, 27 Feb — The decision by a French court to overturn a previous court ruling that approves the extradition to Kigali of three Rwandan genocide suspects has sparked anger in Rwanda.

The Cour de Cassation on Wednesday ruled that Claude Muhayimana, Innocent Musabyimana and Laurent Serubuga, suspected of involvement in the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, cannot be extradited to Kigali because genocide was not legally defined as a crime in 1994.

Wednesday’s decision overturned a November appeals court ruling approving the extradition of Muhayimana and Musabyimana.

The same court also upheld a September decision by another lower court rejecting the extradition of Serubuga, a former colonel.

Rwanda’s Prosecutor General Richard Muhumuza expressed disappointment with the ruling by the French court.

Xinhua



Firefighters and rescuers work on the debris of a collapsed house in Buenos Aires, capital of Argentina, on 25 Feb, 2014. One person died and four others were injured as a result of the collapse of the house in the neighbourhood of Once, Argentina. —XINHUA

Japan, UAE to promote cooperation in energy development

TOKYO, 27 Feb — Japan and the United Arab Emirates agreed Wednesday to enhance cooperation in energy development, including oil production and the construction of nuclear power plants in the Middle Eastern country.

During talks with Crown Prince Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan of Abu Dhabi in Tokyo, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe expressed his desire to “further strengthen the comprehensive partnership” with the United Arab Emirates. Abu Dhabi is the biggest of the seven emirates that make up the country.

The United Arab Emirates is the second-biggest exporter of oil to Japan after Saudi Arabia, and around 40 percent of the oilfields Japanese



Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan (L), crown prince of Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates, and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (R) hold talks at the prime minister’s office in Tokyo on 26 Feb, 2014.

KYODO NEWS

companies have developed abroad are located in waters off Abu Dhabi.

Japan’s interest in many of the Abu Dhabi oilfields will expire in 2018 and Tokyo is seeking to extend the rights.

Abe appreciated the United Arab Emirates’ consent in January to extend the right to one of the oilfields for 15 years beyond its expiration in 2026.

The Japanese government is trying to enhance cooperation with major oil and gas producers at a time when Japan is increasing fuel imports for thermal power generation to compensate for the halt in the country’s nuclear reactors, amid safety concerns following the crisis at the Fukushima Daiichi plant.

Kyodo News

Hydropower plant to spur growth in strategic province

VIENTIANE, 27 Feb — Construction has begun on the 450 KW Nhot Ou Hydropower Plant which aims to spur development in the geographically advantageous Phongsaly province bordering China and Vietnam, according to state-run daily *Vientiane Times*, on Thursday.

The plant is located in the remote northern province of Phongsaly, nestled between China’s Yunnan province and Vietnam’s Dien Bien Province. The plant is expected to supply 3 million kwh of electricity a year.

On Monday Prime

Minister Thongsing Thammavong paid a working visit to Phongsaly, calling on provincial authorities to increase commercial production.

The Prime Minister also instructed authorities to identify the causes of local poverty so increased employment could be achieved in the province.

During the trip the Prime Minister emphasized the importance of Phongsaly’s geographic location, commenting that the advantage would facilitate the province’s access to trade and investment with China and Vietnam.—Xinhua

Bags banned in Boston Marathon for security

NEW YORK, 27 Feb — Bags are prohibited from this year’s Boston Marathon for security concern following last year’s deadly bombing, the Boston Athletic Association announced on Wednesday.

Marathon runners typically are allowed to bring bags or backpacks to keep personal items. Those bags are bused between the starting line in Hopkinton and the finish line in Boston.

But this year, runners will not be allowed to bring backpacks or bags, which will also not be allowed in certain areas near the start or finish line, or along the 26.2-mile course.

Runners will be given a chance to check gear on Boston Common on the morning of the marathon to allow them to have a change of clothing at the end of the race.

Xinhua

Ireland launches national employment summit

DUBLIN, 27 Feb — Ireland on Wednesday launched a national employment summit to look at the role that technology plays in attracting and retaining talent. The summit, part of national employment week 2014, is also aimed at examining the lessons and successes of corporations who boast high performance cultures.

“To sort out our public finances and get people back to work are the two main pillars of responsibility for this government,” Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny said at a launching ceremony. “I see so many signs around the country now, the beginnings of confidence and enthusiasm. This needs to be tapped into, harnessed and driven. That’s why national employment week speaks for itself in what you’re doing,” he added. Of the 58,000 net new jobs that were created in Ireland last year, two thirds came from companies that were less than five years old, according to Kenny.—Xinhua



Workers dry harvested tobacco at a farm in western Cuba’s Pinar del Rio, on 25 Feb, 2014. Cigar enthusiasts and media from across the world visited local tobacco farms and factories in Pinar del Rio on Tuesday during annual Cigar Festival of Cuba. —XINHUA

Biomarkers in blood could predict mortality risk



HELSINKI, 27 Feb — A joint medical research conducted by Finnish and Estonian researchers found that some biomarkers in blood sample could predict mortality risk to people who appear healthy, Finnish Broadcasting Company YLE reported on Wednesday. Researchers used NMR Spectroscopy, which is capable to screen large numbers of blood samples in a cost-effective way, to screen blood samples taken from a total of 17,000 Finnish and Estonian

people, and measured 106 biomarkers to check if any of them were associated with risks of death.

A biomarker is a biological molecule found in blood, body fluids or tissues that may signal an abnormal process, a condition or a disease. The level of a particular biomarker may indicate a patient's risk of disease, or likely response to a treatment. As a result, the researchers found that those people with elevated levels of four biomarkers plasma albumin,

alpha-1-acid glycoprotein, very-low-density lipoprotein particle size and citrate in their blood samples had a significantly increased risk of death in the next five years.

During the follow-up study, among the participants, 288 persons with a biomarker score in the top 20 percent were dead of life threatening illness, such as heart disease and cancer within five years, while only 15 people in the bottom 20 percent died in the same period.—Xinhua

Tesla, Panasonic to set up lithium-ion battery plant in US

NEW YORK, 27 Feb — Tesla Motors Inc said on Wednesday it will set up a new plant in the United States with Panasonic

Corp to produce lithium-ion batteries for electric vehicles.

A total of \$4 billion to \$5 billion will be

invested in the plant, which is expected to go into operation in 2017 and produce batteries for 500,000 EVs after 2020.

Tesla is expected to invest about \$2 billion while the rest will be funded by Panasonic among others.

The US EV manufacturer and the Japanese electronics maker aim to reduce the battery cost through mass-production at the plant, which is likely to be built in Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico or Texas.—Kyodo News



Tiny Northwest Biotherapeutics aims to dominate brain cancer

NEW YORK, 27 Feb — Ten years ago, cash-strapped biotechnology company Northwest Biotherapeutics Inc was down to three employees and one week from closing its doors when a financial backer came forward at the annual JP Morgan Healthcare Conference. By 2007, that backer, Linda Powers, had become chairman of the Maryland-based company.

A venture capitalist, Powers remains one of its largest shareholders and has invested more than \$20 million in the company and

its experimental drugs for brain cancer and inoperable tumours.

“Biotech is not for the faint of heart,” Powers said in an interview. “Through two major recessions and pummeling in the capital markets, we’ve chosen to keep our focus.” Now worth close to \$300 million, Northwest’s stock has jumped 75 percent this year to the \$7 range.

Institutional investors include Goldman Sachs and Franklin Advisers Inc, and more industry analysts are taking notice. But many other investors are



A manufacturing associate holds a vial with a DCVax-L label in a Northwest Biotherapeutics laboratory in Memphis, Tennessee, on 21 Feb, 2014.—REUTERS

betting against the company, highlighting the uncertain, high-risk nature of

developing drugs for hard-to-treat diseases.

The key to Northwest’s

survival has been delivering strong trial results in a tiny cadre of patients for its brain-cancer drug, called DCVax-L.

A similar drug called DCVax-Direct has begun testing for a wide array of solid tumors that cannot be removed by surgery, including cancers of the colon, pancreas, breast and melanoma.

They are among an emerging new crop of drugs that coax the body’s own immune system into tracking down and killing cancer cells. More specifically they harness

dendritic cells, master cells of the immune system that give marching orders to its soldiers, including t-cells and b-cells, which make antibodies.

Northwest Biotherapeutics’ entry into the high-stakes field follows two high-profile disappointments of dendritic cell-based therapies from ImmunoCellular Therapeutics Ltd and Dendreon Corp. Powers, chief executive since 2011, is making the case to investors that the future of its drugs looks far different.

Reuters

Older fathers linked to risk for psychiatric, school issues in kids

WASHINGTON, 27 Feb — Children born to older fathers might be at higher risks for a variety of psychiatric problems and academic difficulties compared with children born to younger fathers, a new study said on Wednesday.

Researchers from US-based Indiana University studied people born in Sweden from 1973 to 2001 in collaboration with their colleagues from Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, capital of Sweden.

The researchers estimated the risk of psychiatric problems, including autism, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), psychosis, bipolar disorder, suicide attempt and substance abuse, as well as academic trouble like

failing grades, low educational attainment and low IQ scores, used siblings, cousins and first-born cousins in comparison. Compared to a child born to a 24-year-old father, a child born to a 45-year-old father is 3.5 times more likely to have autism, 13 times more likely to have ADHD, two times more likely to have a psychotic disorder, 25 times more likely to have bipolar disorder and 2.5 times more likely to have suicidal behaviour or a substance abuse problem, the researchers said.

For most of these problems, the likelihood of the disorder increased steadily with advancing paternal age, suggesting there is no particular paternal age at childbearing that suddenly

becomes problematic.

“We were shocked by the findings,” said Brian D’Onofrio, lead author and associate professor of the Indiana University. “The specific associations with paternal age were much, much larger than in previous studies.”

Previous research suggested sperm of older men have more genetic mutations, which may cause an increased risk of child psychiatric, intellectual and academic problems.

D’Onofrio said their study may have important social and public policy implications. “The findings suggest that APA (advancing paternal age) represents a risk of numerous public health and societal problems.—Xinhua

Fujitsu to withdraw from smartphone semiconductor business



Technology Ltd, which they jointly established in 2012, by the end of March. Some 90 employees including engineers will be transferred to Fujitsu and other companies, where they previously worked.

In the baseband chip business, Qualcomm Inc. of the United States holds about 40 percent of the global share. Among other foreign rivals heavily investing in the business is Taiwan’s MediaTek Inc, which produces semiconductors for low-cost smartphones that are popular in China. Fujitsu has been struggling to sell its smartphones and is working to reduce its deficit in the mobile phone business.

Kyodo News

TOKYO, 27 Feb — Fujitsu Ltd has decided to withdraw from semiconductor development business for smartphones, in which it was engaged together with NTT Docomo Inc and NEC Corp, Fujitsu sources said on Thursday. The company has found it difficult to compete with its

foreign rivals due to its failure to develop a high-performance product at a low cost. The three companies have been developing baseband chips, known as the “brains” of smartphones, which control wireless communications and signals. The companies will liquidate Access Network

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

New species reveals secrets to life in deep oceans

WELLINGTON, 27 Feb — New Zealand scientists say they have discovered a new species of crustacean, which provides an important insight into the little known lives of creatures in the deep sea.

The previously unknown species of sand-hopper was found living inside another deep sea organism on the Chatham Rise, an area of ocean floor to the east of New Zealand, said scientists from the

National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) on Wednesday. The sand-hopper, an amphipod species, was found living inside a see-through bryozoan, also known as a moss animal, which lives between 500 and 1,500 metres deep, said NIWA marine biologist Dr Dennis Gordon. It was probably the only example of a relationship between these two types of organisms known anywhere in

the world, he said in a statement. “It is a significant find as much less is known about relationships among organisms in the deep sea, compared to those in shallower water,” Gordon said. Males, females and juvenile hoppers up to 1 centimeter long were living inside a species of bryozoan that grew to about 5 cm in length.

The scientists believed the hoppers reproduced in the bryozoan and when the

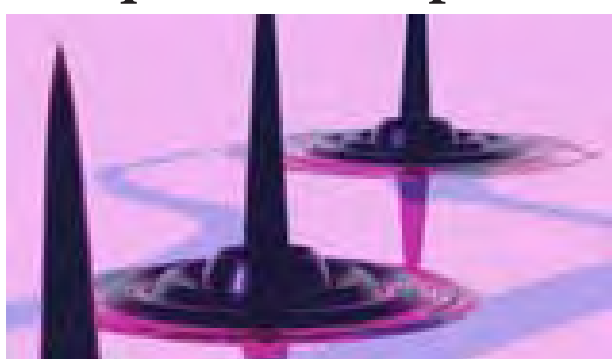
bryozoan died, the hoppers left to colonize another. They were unsure whether both the amphipods and the bryozoa benefited from the arrangement or whether the hoppers were the sole beneficiaries, deriving nutrients and protection from their host. The scientists have named the new species *tutus* (meaning “safe”) and the new amphipod genus *bryoconversor* (“living in Bryozoa”).

Xinhua



Scientists pinpoint exotic new particle called quantum droplet

WASHINGTON, 27 Feb — In the field of quantum physics, you could call this a droplet in the bucket. Physicists in Germany and the United States said on Wednesday they have discovered an exotic new type of particle that they call a quantum droplet, or droplet. Writing in the journal *Nature*, they said it behaves a bit like a liquid droplet and described it as a quasiparticle — an amalgamation of smaller types of particles. The discovery, they added, could be useful in the development of nanotechnology, including



A microscopic “quantum droplet” — a new quasiparticle discovered by JILA physicists — is pictured in this artist’s conception obtained by Reuters on 26 Feb, 2014. — REUTERS

the design of optoelectronic devices. These include things like the semiconductor lasers used in Blu-ray

disc players.

The microscopic quantum droplet does not dawdle. In the phys-

icists’ experiments using an ultra-fast laser emitting about 100 million pulses per second, the quantum droplet appeared for only about 2.5 billionths of a second. That does not sound like much, but the scientists said it is stable enough for research on how light interacts with certain types of matter.

A previously known example of a quasiparticle is the exciton, a pairing of an electron and a “hole” — a place in the material’s energy structure where an electron could be located but is not. — Reuters

US space telescope spots 715 more planets

CAPE CANAVERAL, (Florida), 27 Feb — Scientists added a record 715 more planets to the list of known worlds beyond the solar system, boosting the overall tally to nearly 1,700, astronomers said on Wednesday. The additions include four planets about 2-1/2 times as big as Earth that are the right distance from their parent stars for liquid surface water, which is believed to be key for life.

The discoveries were made with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration’s planet-hunting Kepler space telescope before it was sidelined by a pointing system problem last year. The telescope, launched in 2009, spent four productive years

staring at 160,000 target stars for signs of planets passing by, relative to the telescope’s line of sight. The tally of planets announced at a NASA Press conference on Wednesday boosted Kepler’s confirmed planet count from 246 to 961. Combined with other telescopes’ results, the headcount of planets beyond the solar system, or exoplanets, now numbers nearly 1,700.

“We almost doubled, just today, the number of planets known to humanity,” astronomer Douglas Hudgins, head of exoplanet exploration at NASA Headquarters in Washington, told reporters on a conference call.

Reuters

Baidu prepared to grow through further acquisitions in 2014

BEIJING, 27 Feb — Baidu Inc is prepared to grow by making further acquisitions in 2014, Chief Executive Robin Li said on Thursday after the Chinese Internet company reported its fourth quarter earnings.

Baidu’s aggressive strategy to gain ground on competitors such as Tencent Holdings Ltd and Alibaba Group Holding Ltd has spurred a buying spree. It bought the 91 Wireless app store in August for \$1.9 billion and group-buying site Nuomi last month.

Baidu saw revenues soar 50.3 percent to 9.52 billion yuan (\$1.55 billion) in the final three months of 2013 on strong advertising sales and strength in its mobile business, outpacing its own forecasts.

Baidu’s net income fell slightly by 0.4 percent to 2.78 billion yuan (\$453.89 million). The company projected that revenue in the first quarter will range between 9.240 billion yuan (\$1.526 billion) and 9.520 billion yuan (\$1.573 billion).

Reuters



People talk in front of a Baidu’s company logo at Baidu’s headquarters in Beijing on 16 Jan, 2014. REUTERS

Smartphone wars shift from gadgetry to price



New Samsung Galaxy S5 smartphones are seen on a display at the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona on 23 Feb, 2014. — REUTERS

BARCELONA, 27 Feb — The mobile phone industry is now looking to the fast-growing demand for smartphones priced at \$100 or below as the market for fancier high-end devices has become saturated, but not all handset makers are able or willing to trade down.

Much of the talk this week at the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona, the industry’s biggest annual trade fair, has turned from the latest big screen,

premium-priced devices to the new, entry-level smartphones that analysts say now overwhelmingly represent the industry’s best hope for growth.

“All the phones now look the same,” said industry analyst Ben Wood of CCS Insight after surveying the eight vast halls of phones and other mobile gadgets on show. “The ability of top brands like Samsung, Apple and Nokia to differentiate themselves is getting harder,” he said.

Growth in global smartphone shipments will fall sharply this year and keep slowing through 2018, with average prices dropping significantly as the demand shifts to China and other developing countries, market research firm IDC said earlier on Wednesday.

So now phone makers are touting new, low-cost devices which are intended to retail at near \$100 or below. This class of device has some but not all the features of the current top

end smartphones, which sell for several hundreds of dollars and until this year drew nearly all the media attention and marketing spend at Barcelona.

Early leaders in this new market are Chinese players, some with global brand names and others who remain virtually unknown outside China, who have made huge strides in acquiring the technical and design expertise that enables them to now drive down the costs without necessarily sacrificing quality.

The biggest winners so far look to be Huawei, Lenovo, TCL Communications and still unfamiliar upstarts like Gionee, Oppo and CorePad that are poised to become big international names in the coming years, said Wood. All benefit from having a home field advantage in China, the world’s largest phone market.

Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 28 February, 2014

Milestone

A handful of our human beings could meet with the success till the end of their life. It can be said that his or her efforts and undertakings throughout their life are important milestones that can bring the benefits not only to his

or her environs but also to the country.

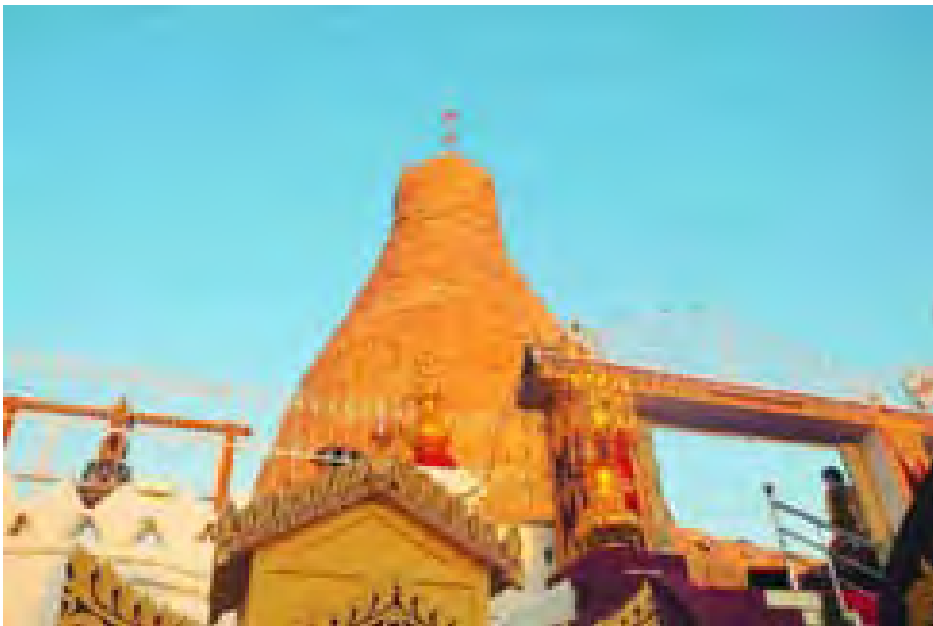
Only a few people could attain such kind of goal while some others passed away without doing anything. A person should hit an important milestone in his or her life. Thanks to the efforts of people from all fields, the world sees the progress and development. Those from the fields of science and technology, economy and politics could serve the interests of our human society.

It is evident that thanks to efforts of our forefathers, Myanmar has long been standing tall as a sovereign nation. We should lay important mile-

stones not only for our family but also for our human society. Only then, our younger generation would have to enjoy the fruits of it.

Taking a look at the developed nations, people there have made continued efforts to modify and develop the already-existed ones of their forefathers. Our country would see progress and development when each and every body could play their respective roles.

We all should put historic milestones for our younger generations and follow in the steps of our forefathers.



President U Thein Sein offers gold foils at Tuyintaung Pagoda.—MNA

Transparency, political ...

(from page 1)
running livestock breeding at the same time. He spoke of the government's commitment to attending

to the basic needs of the people.

He said that the country is seeing economic potentials and on the track to

development, but success cannot be achieved without the support of the people, stressing that mass participation is imperative.

During his inspection tour, the President inspected digging tube-wells for safe water supply at Zayan-Kanmye

village-tract and observed the recently-renovated Kannar Lake in Natogyi Township.

MNA

Speaker of Pyidaungsu ...

(from page 16)
Next, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Chairperson of the Committee for Rule of Law and Tranquility, and Pyithu Hluttaw's Education Promotion Committee Chairman Dr Chan Nyein clarified the National Education Law (draft).

Union Education Minister Dr Daw Khin San Yi and the attendees participated in the discussions on the draft.

A delegation led by

Mr. Kurt Beck, Chairman of Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) paid a call on Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hkuttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann at the Hluttaw building here Thursday.

Also present at the call were chairpersons and secretaries of Pyithu Hluttaw Committee, Pyithu Hluttaw commission members and officials from the Hluttaw Office.

MNA



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann receives Mr. Kurt Beck, Chairman of Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES).—MNA

Myanma Railways arranges special coaches for passengers

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Feb—According to the requests of the people, Myanma Railways operates the runs of circular trains linked with two special coaches each as of 27 February.

Ticket for circular trains is K 200 per passenger.

Myanma Railways makes arrangements to link more special coaches at more trains with larger number of passengers.

MNA

Mobile Application Academy Game for students held

YANGON, 27 Feb—Mobile App Academy Game for technical students took place at University of Computer Studies (Yangon) in Shwepyitha here on Thursday.

It was aimed at applying the Mobile Android Applications among the students and emerging the Mobile IT technicians in

Myanmar.

Altogether 18 master students from 10 teams took part in the game and winners will be announced on 21 March. First winners of the game can win USD 800, two Samsung devices and 5-day visa to visit Samsung Office (Branch) in Thailand, the second, USD 500 and the third, USD 300.

Samsung Co., conducted the Mobile technology training course to those students in the last week of January.

This two-month course is the first-ever open in Myanmar by Samsung. For more information, those may research the link on www.facebook.com/samsungtechinstitute.—MNA

We must make reforms that will increase the income of farmers three times or four times, and not just twice.

First, farmers and all the people of their regions should have the will for progress and prosperity. Second is the knowledge to apply modern mechanized farming system well. On the whole, hard work and perseverance will make the difference.



Cartoon Tha Byay



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw puts petition for enacting laws to safeguard nationality, religion on record

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Feb — The petition by 1,335,600 led by Buddhist monks for making for laws for safeguarding the nationality and religion was put on record at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw today.

The petition sent

by the President to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has called for enacting four laws related to converting to another religion, getting married among different faiths, monogamous marriage and keeping balance on the birth rate.

According to the petition, the four laws should be enacted to ensure transparency in converting from faith to another faith systematically, to protect the rights of national people when they get married to person of different faith, not to happen

social problems and to be able to safeguard the country's sovereignty in terms of keeping balance the population and the area of the country, to be able to carry out tasks for development of economy and to be able to provide enough health

and education services to the people of different faiths in the country.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw put the petition on record and would reply to the president regarding the petition calling for safeguarding the nationality and religion.

During today meeting of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Joint Bill Committee of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw put forward their reports on the controversial Printing and Publishing Bill and Media Bill to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.—MNA

ASEAN+3 exchange information on financial, economic cooperation

YANGON, 27 Feb—A work coordination meeting on ASEAN plus Three financial and economic cooperation took place at Sedona Hotel here on Thursday. The meeting is aimed at stabilizing economic and monetary matters in the region, boosting ASEAN financial cooperation and exchanging information for ASEAN Finance Ministers' Meeting.

Myanmar chaired Progress in Local Currency Accounts and Progress in Preparation of Checklist, The Chiang Mai Initiative Multi-lateralization-CIMM

Agreement and CIMM operational Issue at the meeting.

Likewise, AMRO Organizational Issues, AMRO Agreement was chaired by Japan and The Asian Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI) by respective countries at the meeting that will be held up to 1 March.

Information and agreements that have come out from the work coordination meeting will be approved at ASEAN Finance Ministers' Meeting to be held in the host Myanmar on 5 April, it is learnt.

MNA



Work coordination meeting on ASEAN plus Three financial and economic cooperation in progress.—MNA



Union ministries reminded to finish remaining tasks suggested by MPs

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Feb—A work coordination meeting (4/2014) between Amyotha Hluttaw Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee and Union Ministries took place at the Amyotha Hluttaw Committee Affairs Building (17) of the Hluttaw Complex here on 26 February.

Committee Chairman U Aung Tun said that today's meeting is to remind

the officials from the Union ministries to carry out the remaining tasks suggested by Amyotha Hluttaw representatives.

He also urged them to report to the committee on replying to queries and proposals remained to be answered and the remaining tasks to be carried out in 2013-14 Fiscal Year.

Next, those present at the meeting held discussions about tasks carried

out, undertakings, and remaining tasks to be done by the Union ministries in respective FYs from 1st to 8th Amyotha Hluttaw regular sessions.—MNA

Knowledge on taking census shared in Pyutwin Village-tract in Pyinmana Township.

MNA

110-year old Pugyi Reservoir alerts conservation due to...

(from page 16)

the worlds, the higher ratio of demand and supply of water in Yangon can be seen as the urbanization is increasing in Yangon.

Yangon City Development Committee and Japan International Cooperation Agency are working together for exploring new ways to conserve water resources.

Hence, to prevent the water scarcity in the future, the people need to cooperate with the YCDC and obliged to abstain action so polluting the water resources including Pugyi Reservoir and to conserve the environment around them.

Kyemon:25-2-2014
Trs:AMS

Knowledge about nation-wide census taking processes shared in Pyinmana

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Feb—A ceremony to share knowledge about nation-wide census taking processes was held at the Dhammayon in Pyutwin Village-tract in Pyinmana Township on 26 Feb-

ruary. Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Aye Aye Khaing explained the purpose of nation-wide census taking process and public participation in the process and

replied to queries raised by those present.

The ceremony was attended by the locals from Pyutwin, Thayetkon, Thayetpin, Thazi and Kyanpo Villages.

Zaw Myo Naing



Katha District gaining development momentum

MONYWA, 27 Feb—A gravel road is being constructed in Mawlu Model Village, Indaw Township of Sagaing Region.

Meanwhile, Special Project Construction Group No 2 of Public Works is building Phapant Bridge on Shwebo-Myitkyina Road.

Chief Minister of Sagaing Region U Tha Aye and Region Minister for Agriculture and

Irrigation U Saw Myint Oo inspected progress of construction projects.

While in Inbin and Myathida Villages, the Chief Minister met local people and attended to the needs.

A ceremony to open the upgraded Basic Education Middle School took place in Mankat Village of Bamauk Township. The region minister and officials

cut the ribbon to open the school.

The Chief Minister and officials presented one set of Sky Net, exercise books, sports gear and publications to the school.

On 21 February, he attended the inauguration ceremony of the concrete road to BEHS in Bamauk. It is 1080 feet long, cost K 21 million.

At Bamauk Hospital, they comforted patients and donated

cash to the fund of the hospital.

While in Bamauk Township, The Chief Minister attended the village library opening ceremony. He proceeded to Shwekyang and Nanzar villages.

The Chief Minister also met with local people from Aukpyit and Tamawtha villages of Pinlebu Township and attended to the needs.

MMAL-Region IPRD

Ywapale-Paydawlay inter-village road under construction



KYAUkse, 27 Feb—Rural Development Department is building 2.4 miles long Ywapale-Paydawlay inter-village road in Kyaukse Township of Mandalay Region with the concerted efforts of local people.

In 2013-14 fiscal year, Kyaukse Township Rural Development Department constructed 1.4 miles long and 26 feet wide earthen Ywapale-

Okpo-Pellayhse-Paydawlay inter-village road. It cost K 16 million with K 3 million contribution of the local people.

Kinetic Arts Company constructed the road 12 feet and two feet high facility.

Head of Kyaukse Township Rural Development Department U Soe Myint said, "The road was built with the fund of the department and it will be 1.4

miles. The department plans to upgrade the road to gravel road."

An official continued, "As the department cannot finish the road, the local people coordinated the tasks to continue the construction tasks not to be lagged behind in development. Thanks to the renovation of the tasks, the road will have the opportunity to be continued the construction. So, the local people

will enjoy development results."

Thanks to efforts of the local people and authorities, local people from various villages will have chance to use the Ywapale-Okpo-Pellayhse-Paydawlay road for transportation of their products to other regions and states.

MMAL-Tun Tun Naing (Kyaukse)

Livestock Breeding

Fingerlings released into lake produce over 27500 viss of fish

MAHLAING, 27 Feb—Fingerlings were released into small lakes on a manageable scale in rural area of Mahlaing Township, Mandalay Region, in 2013.

This year, these fish become larger ones and it will produce over 27500 viss.

"We released 110,000 fingerlings to nine lakes of 197 acres in September 2013. Now, each fish weighs 30 ticals each on average. It is estimated that fish will be produced to 27500 viss from the lakes. As one viss of fish is worth K 4000, the whole breeding can shifted the products to money K 110 million, said the head of Township Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department.

Spending the fund allotted by the Mandalay Region Government, a total of 57 lakes were dug for breeding of fish.

Arrangements have been made for submission of 300,000 fish in 20 lakes in 2014.

MMAL-Aung Htay (Mahlaing)



Clarification made on cooperative monetary service in Saw Township

SAW, 27 Feb—Director-General U Kyaw Ngwe of Small Scale Industries Department of the Ministry of Cooperatives met staff of Gangaw, Htilin and Saw township Cooperative Departments, executives and members of cooperative societies at the hall of Saw Township Cooperative

Department, Gangaw District in Magway Region on 25 February.

The director-general explained monetary services of the Ministry of Cooperatives and its processes.

He clarified rules and regulations for micro-credit scheme, policies of

cooperative and mottos, sustaining the achievement of the societies, three disciplines for members of loan groups, advantages of micro-credit schemes, enhancement of cooperative, formation of the societies, disciplines for loans from China EXIM Bank, standards for disbursement

of increased amount of money and keeping accounts.

The director-general replied to queries raised by staff of Cooperative Department, executives and members of cooperative societies.

MMAL-Kyee Myint Naing (Loikaw)

REGIONAL

Vietnam welcomes nuke deal with US

HANOI, 27 Feb — Vietnam welcomes the United States' approval on a civilian nuclear deal with the country, said Vietnamese Foreign Ministry's spokesman Le Hai Binh.

The agreement will create the highest legal framework on civilian nuclear power cooperation between Vietnam and the US, making it easier for Vietnam to access and peacefully utilize advanced nuclear materials and technologies from the US in a safe and effective manner for the sake of its socio-economic development, said the website of Vietnamese foreign ministry on Wednesday.

Vuong Huu Tan, Director of Vietnam Agency for Radiation and Nuclear Safety under the Ministry of Science and Technology said on the website of the Vietnamese government that, the US is the eighth country having civilian nuclear deal with Vietnam, after Russia, China, South Korea, Japan, France, India and Argentina.—Xinhua

Singapore poised to enact new harassment law

SINGAPORE, 27 Feb — A new law could soon be enacted in Singapore to better protect the public from harassment, local TV Channel NewsAsia reported on Wednesday. Law Minister K Shanmugam will introduce the Protection from Harassment Bill in Parliament on 3 March, the local media said.

The proposed new law will cover a range of behaviors, such as sexual harassment within and outside the workplace, cyber-bullying and bullying of children. It makes clear that as long as the act is threatening, abusive, insulting and causes distress to victims, it is harassment — even if it is done online.

The proposed law will also apply to acts committed outside Singapore. For example, it covers Singapore-based victims of overseas stalkers.

Xinhua



Citizens watch at Xiongguan museum in Jiayuguan City, northwest China's Gansu Province, on 26 Feb, 2014. Sun Wanhua, a local collector, built the Xiongguan Museum, the first private museum in Jiayuguan City, with more than 620 pieces of cultural relics collected by himself for more than 20 years. —XINHUA

30% of S Korean sex slaves received atonement money from Japan fund

TOKYO, 27 Feb — About 30 percent of former South Korean wartime sex slaves have received atonement money from a private Japanese fund, the fund's former executive director said on Thursday, revealing for the first time the exact number of beneficiaries.

Haruki Wada, professor emeritus of the University of Tokyo, told Kyodo News the fund's atonement money was given to 60 out of the 207 people officially recognized by the South Korean government in 2002 as having been so-called "comfort women."

The private fund, the

Asian Women's Fund, was created in 1995, providing 2 million yen each in atonement money for wartime sex slaves. Completing its atonement money programme to South Korea in 2002, the fund itself disbanded in 2007. "The fund's activities should be reviewed so that we can think about what is needed to resolve the comfort women issue," Wada said of compensation for the women, which remains a major issue related to Japan's 1910-1945 colonial rule of the Korean Peninsula. As for Taiwan, 12 out of the 36 officially recognized

sex slaves received money from the fund, he said.

The AWF has so far provided financial aid to 285 women in South Korea, Taiwan and the Philippines but has not revealed a detailed account by country partly due to concerns that former sex slaves in South Korea who received the money would be criticized.

Despite the fund, some of the women, who were forcibly recruited to provide sex to Japanese soldiers during World War II, have refused to accept the money as they see the fund as an attempt by the Japanese government to skirt

responsibility in providing state compensation.

The AWF was set up in response to the 1993 statement issued by then Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono, acknowledging the Japanese military's responsibility over the forced recruitment of women into sexual servitude and apologizing to the victims. The fund was established during the tenure of Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama, who is best known for having issued a statement in 1995 apologizing for the wartime suffering inflicted by Japan on its Asian neighbours.—Kyodo News

World Bank to help 4.5 mln Bangladeshi poor students continue secondary education

DHAKA, 27 Feb — The Bangladeshi government on Wednesday signed a 265 million US dollars additional financing agreement with the International Development Association, the World Bank's concessional arm, for the ongoing Secondary Education Quality and Access Enhancement Project.

The financing will help annually 4.5 million poor rural children in 215 sub-districts across the country to continue secondary education, said the Washington-based lender in a statement.

With this additional financing, it said, the

project will continue to provide poverty-targeted stipends and tuition to poor students. It will give incentives to students, teachers and schools to increase enrollment and retention in secondary level education.

It will also scale up activities within 125 sub-districts where the project is being implemented and expand in 90 more sub-districts to improve secondary education quality and systematically monitor learning outcomes and ensure greater accountability at the school level, said the statement.

Xinhua

Pakistan unveils new security policy

ISLAMABAD, 27 Feb — Pakistan has decided to give priority to dialogues with those militants who want to talk and be tough with those who continue terrorism in a new security policy unveiled in the parliament on Wednesday. Interior Minister Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan, who unveiled salient features of the policy in the National Assembly, said the government has introduced basic change in its policy on terrorism and decided to target terrorist leadership in their headquarters.

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, who also attended the parliament session, told the house that there is no confusion on part of the government to deal with terrorism and assured the lawmakers to seek their suggestions to curb the menace.

Xinhua

Volcano in West Sumatra, Indonesia erupts

JAKARTA, 27 Feb — Mount Marapi in West Sumatra erupted on Wednesday, shooting column of ash to the sky and incurring downpours of ash and volcanic sands by up to 10 km to the south of the crater, an official said.—Xinhua



Photo taken on Feb. 26, 2014 shows the reflection of the Tian'anmen Gate in a water puddle accumulated during a rain in Beijing, capital of China. Beijing saw its first rain this spring on Wednesday evening. The precipitation would be conducive to the city's air quality, which had been marred by a lingering smog.

XINHUA

Invitation for Prequalification

1. The Government of Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received a Loan from Japan International Cooperation Agency toward the cost of the Sub-Project for Expansion of Yangon Port in Thilawa Area (Phase-I) under Infrastructure Development in Thilawa Area (Phase-I). It is intended that part of the proceeds of this Loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contract resulting from the bidding for which this prequalification is conducted.
2. The Myanma Port Authority intends to prequalify contractors and/or firms for the container terminal construction. Construction item includes followings:
 - Wharf (depth -10m, length 400m, width 40m, piling foundation, jacket type deck structure) and Trestle (3 locations, length about 62m, width 15m and 20m)
 - Land reclamation (1 million cu.m)
 - Soil improvement by PVD method (17ha)
 - Container yard, buildings, warehouse, and utilities.
3. It is expected that Invitation for Bids will be made in April.³
4. Prequalification will be conducted through procedures in accordance with the applicable Guidelines for Procurement under Japanese ODA Loans, and is open to all Applicants from eligible source countries, as defined in the Loan Agreement.
5. Interested eligible Applicants may obtain further information from and inspect the Prequalification Documents at the office of [state address at end of this IFP] from on February 28 - March 5, 2014 during Office Hour from 9:30 to 16:30.
6. A complete set of the Prequalification Documents may be purchased by interested Applicant(s) on the submission of a written Application to the address above and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee⁴ of USD 500.00.
7. Applications for prequalification should be submitted in sealed envelopes, delivered to the address above by April 7, 2014,⁵ and be clearly marked "Application to Prequalify for the Package 1: Civil Work and Buildings, Sub-Project for Expansion of Yangon Port in Thilawa Area (Phase-I) under Infrastructure Development in Thilawa Area (Phase-I)."

U Kyaw Myint

Managing Director, Myanma Port Authority
No. 10, Pansodan St. Kyauktada Township, Yangon, Myanmar
Facsimile number: 95-1-246781, 391355

Sweden's newborn princess named Leonore

STOCKHOLM, 27 Feb —Sweden's newborn princess, daughter of Princess Madeleine and her husband Christopher O'Neill, was named as Leonore Lilian Maria, with the title Duchess of Gotland, local media reported on Wednesday.

The name of the princess was announced by King of Sweden Carl XVI Gustaf at a special cabinet meeting at the Swedish Royal Palace on Wednesday afternoon, said the Swedish daily *Dagens Nyheter* (Dn).

With reference to the name Leonore, which is quite unusual as a first name in Sweden, it is implied that it was a choice of the parents.

Lilian was the name of the late Princess Lilian of Sweden, who died in 2013 and had been close to Princess Madeleine and the Crown Princess Victoria, while Maria is the name of O'Neill's mother.

The new princess's baptism ceremony will be held in the Royal Chapel at the Royal Palace in early summer this year, but the exact date has not been decided yet. Princess Madeleine, the King of Sweden's youngest daughter, got married with O'Neill, a New York banker, in June 2013.

Princess Leonore was born in New York on Feb. 20 this year and is fifth-in-line to the throne.—Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (092)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (092) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.2.2014 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 ORINET OVERSEAS
CONTAINER LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

HOLIDAY NOTICE

As the wharves, warehouses and Chellan Offices of Yangon Port will be closed on the 2nd MARCH 2014 (Peasant's Day), Loading, Unloading and delivery for Goods will be received on Payment as Holiday Fees.

Intensified efforts fail to curb rhino poaching in S Africa

JOHANNESBURG, 27 Feb — Less than two months into 2014, a total of 146 rhinos have been slaughtered in South Africa despite intensified efforts to curb the scourge, authorities said on Wednesday.

During this period, the number of people arrested for rhino poaching-related offences climbed to 44, the Department of Environmental Affairs said in its latest update on rhino poaching statistics.

The Kruger National Park (KNP), one of Africa's largest game reserves, remains the hardest hit by rhino poaching, having lost 95 rhinos since 1 January, 2014.

A total of 14 rhinos have been poached in North West Province, 14 in Limpopo, 10 in KwaZulu-Natal and six in Mpumalanga.

Seven other rhinos were poached in other parts of the country. Twenty poachers have been arrested in the KNP and 10 in KwaZulu-Natal. Last year, South Africa lost 1,004 rhinos to poaching, compared with 333 rhinos killed in 2010.

The government warns that the country's rhino population will be close to extinction by 2026 if no effective measures were taken. South Africa is home to over 73 percent of the world's rhino population.

The government blames crime syndicates for growing rhino poaching, which is fueled by demand for rhino horns which are said to cure many diseases, notably cancer, although there is no scientific evidence to prove this.

Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV THORCO GALAXY VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV THORCO GALAXY VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.2.2014 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 RK SHIPPING**

Phone No: 256924/256914



A woman works on a thread-bound book at the Guangling Ancient Books Printing Society in Yangzhou, east China's Jiangsu Province, on 25 Feb, 2014. The technique of block printing, with a history of over 2,000 years, was listed as a state intangible cultural heritage of China in 2006. In order to better protect the technique, the Guangling Ancient Books Printing Society was founded in Yangzhou in 1958. The society has maintained the only full set of block printing technique in China.—XINHUA

Algerian army confiscate 40 missiles near Libyan border

ALGIERS, 27 Feb — A total of 40 missiles were seized by the Algerian army near the border with Libya, a security source told Xinhua on Wednesday.

The weapons, which were being transported by members of Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), were heading to northern Mali, as they were intercepted by Algerian army in the locality of Dja-

net in the Province of Illizi, and 40 Katyusha missiles and a number of ground-air missiles SA-7 were seized, the source said.

During this operation, the army forces managed to arrest two militants, one of whom seriously injured, while an undetermined number of militants fled to neighboring Libya, the source added.

Xinhua



Tourists watch the Jiulong Waterfalls on bamboo boats in Luoping County, south-west China's Yunnan Province, on 23 Feb, 2014. Well-known for its cole flowers, Luoping County attracts a good many tourists and photographers in spring. XINHUA

ENTERTAINMENT

Oscars pit gravitas of 'Slave' against pull of 'Gravity'



An Oscar statue is covered with plastic during preparations for the 86th Academy Awards in Hollywood, California on 26 Feb, 2014.—REUTERS

LOS ANGELES, 27 Feb —To historian Brenda Stevenson, a scholar on American slavery, "12 Years a Slave" is a masterful cinematic work that achieves more than any other film on slavery, so worthy that she plans to screen it in classes at her university, UCLA. It's the kind of validation "12 Years a Slave" has been earning from experts, critics, audiences and the film industry for six months now. Even so, the acclaimed drama may falter in the final test, losing out on the most coveted of movie prizes, the Academy Award for best picture.

The film from British director Steve McQueen appears to be the frontrunner for film's highest honour at Sunday's ceremony but has at least three factors conspiring against it: another high-quality, groundbreaking movie called "Gravity," the tricky math of Oscar voting and the film's own brutal depiction of American slavery. "I think it is a hard film to watch," said Stevenson. "One of the things I think Steve McQueen does extremely well is capture the violence of the institution."

That unflinching portrayal of a real American story, that of the free black man Solomon Northup who is tricked and sold into slavery, may win on the gravitas scale. But sometimes the 6,000-plus voting members of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences just

want to reward enjoyable entertainment and "Gravity" gives that in spades. If this year's nine best picture nominees add up to the strongest year for film in recent memory, they also have injected a good dose of uncertainty into Hollywood's biggest night. Voters had a good and varied lot from which to choose, with big successes such as "American Hustle" and "The Wolf of Wall Street," and smaller films "Nebraska" and "Philomena."

"In the 12-13 years that I have been doing this stuff seriously, I can't remember a best picture race in which there was less certainty than there is this year," said Scott Feinberg, awards analyst at *The Hollywood Reporter*. Over at the other trade publication, *Variety*, awards editor Tim Gray said that "more than ever, I'm totally flummoxed." "I think best picture is between '12 Years a Slave' and 'Gravity' but I wouldn't bet money on that," Gray said. In a telling sign of the tight battle, the two films had an exact tie in one of the most reliable

predictors of the Oscar best picture, the Producers Guild Award.

The heightened drama around the big prize could give viewers an extra reason to tune in to the live ABC telecast of the glamorous event, hosted this year by comedian Ellen DeGeneres. The cliffhanger category also stands in contrast to more predictable outcomes in the top acting races. Cate Blanchett should win best actress for "Blue Jasmine," while Matthew McConaughey is favored for best actor for "Dallas Buyers Club" and co-star Jared Leto has a lock on best supporting actor.

The best supporting actress category could see favorite Lupita Nyong'o, the slave Patsey in "12 Years a Slave," upset by Jennifer Lawrence's loopy wife in 1970s caper "American Hustle." For best animated film, the tale of Nordic princesses "Frozen" is expected to give the Disney Animation Studios its first Oscar in that category since it was added in 2002.—Reuters

A man dressed as the character Spiderman greets visitors taking pictures of the preparations for the 86th Academy Awards in front of the Dolby Theater in Hollywood, California on 26 Feb, 2014. REUTERS



'Frozen' album reclaims top spot for fifth time on Billboard 200

LOS ANGELES, 27 Feb — The soundtrack for Disney's hit animated film "Frozen" reclaimed the top spot on the weekly Billboard 200 album chart on Wednesday, becoming the first soundtrack in 15 years to notch more than five weeks at No 1 on the chart. The "Frozen" soundtrack, which features the Oscar-nominated song "Let It Go," sold another 89,000 copies last week, according to figures from Nielsen SoundScan.

Since its release in November, the album has sold more than 1.1 million copies and topped Billboard 200 for five non-consecutive weeks. The Walt Disney Co animated movie about two Nordic princess



Chris Buck and Jennifer Lee celebrate after winning the Animated Film category for "Frozen" at the British Academy of Film and Arts (BAFTA) awards ceremony at the Royal Opera House in London on 16 Feb, 2014.—REUTERS

sisters continues to perform strongly, nearing \$1 billion at the worldwide box office. The last film soundtrack to

spend more than five weeks at No. 1 on the Billboard 200 was 1998's "Titanic," which featured Celine

Dion's hit "My Heart Will Go On" and held the top spot for 16 consecutive weeks, Billboard said.

The "Frozen" album pushed last week's chart-topper, country singer Eric Church's "The Outsiders" to No 2 with sales of 74,000 copies. Two new entries cracked the top 10 of the Billboard 200 chart this week. Country artist Cole Swindell landed at No 3 with his latest self-titled record, while rock group Issues came in at No. 9 with its self-titled album. Overall album sales for the week ending on 23 February totaled 4.8 million units, Billboard said, down 12 percent from the comparable week in 2013.

Reuters

Amitabh Bachchan the ghost fights elections in Bhoothnath Returns trailer

NEW DELHI, 27 Feb — Superstar Amitabh Bachchan is both funny and, to some, scary in the just-released trailer of Bhoothnath Returns, the sequel to 2008's hit horror-comedy Bhoothnath.

As the friendly neighbourhood ghost, Big B's Bhoothnath—disgraced in his own ghostly world—is sent back to the earthly plane to scare a bunch of children and 'clear his name.'

Said children don't

seem particularly scared but there are some frights in store for a villainous politician, played by Boman Irani. Not least of these is the fact that Bhoothnath, unseen by adults, is fighting the elections.

Bhoothnath Returns also features actors Shah Rukh Khan and Ranbir Kapoor in cameo appearances and a song by Yo Yo Honey Singh. It releases on 11 April, 2014.—PTI



Bhoothnath Returns releases on 11 April.

Bieber bodyguard charged with snatching camera at Georgia arcade

ATLANTA, 27 Feb — One of pop singer Justin Bieber's bodyguards has been arrested and charged with stealing a photographer's \$10,000 camera outside an arcade in an Atlanta suburb, police said on Wednesday. The 32-year-

old guard, Hugo Hesny, was outside a children's play center and party business called the Funhouse late on Tuesday when he warned a photographer that he was too close to the teenage entertainer, the Sandy Springs Police Department

said in a statement.

"A confrontation ensued and the photographer attempted to leave the location, but at some point, the security guard caught up and took the camera," the police statement said. The incident was the latest in

a string of legal problems involving 19-year-old Bieber, who last month was charged with driving under the influence, resisting arrest and using an expired license after Miami Beach police say they caught him drag racing. —Reuters

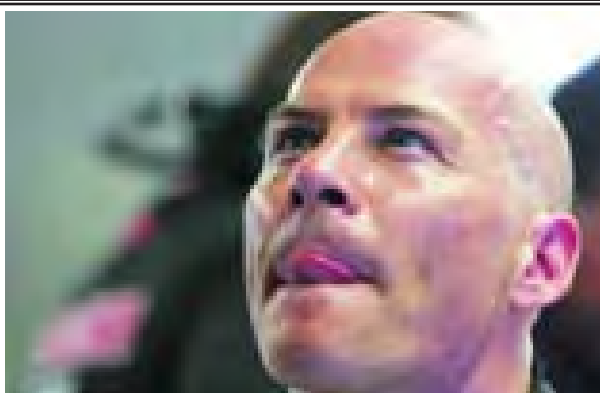
Villeneuve returning to Indy 500

NEW YORK, 27 Feb — Former Formula One world champion Jacques Villeneuve is taking a crack at winning another Indianapolis 500 by joining Schmidt Peterson Motorsports to race in the famed event he won in 1995, the team announced on Wednesday. Villeneuve, 42, left the circuit after winning his first Indy 500 and the CART championship that year and has not started an IndyCar race since.

“We started talking not long ago, actually a few weeks ago,” said the Canadian of the 25 May

race. “It all went fast. “The discussions happened at the right time because I’d been watching the IndyCars last year, and it looked extremely exciting with the new cars, to the point where I was angry and jealous that I wasn’t racing. So that got me going again.”

The Quebec native left for F1 after his triumphant 1995 season and competed from 1996 through 2006, winning the world championship in 1997. Villeneuve moved to stock cars in 2007 and has run in a variety of series including NASCAR’s Sprint Cup,



Driver Jacques Villeneuve during practice for the NAPA Auto Parts 200 Nationwide Series NASCAR race in Montreal, on 17 Aug, 2012.—REUTERS

Nationwide and Le Mans as well as sports cars.

Villeneuve said the new-style IndyCars and the aggressive racing style got him itching to return. “When I started seeing that last year, I started getting

excited again, just because the racing was amazing, the cars looked fast and aggressive, it looked hard on the drivers, and the battles were fierce, which is all what I love about racing,” he said. —Reuters

Nominees released for 2014 Laureus World Sports Awards

KUALA LUMPUR, 27 Feb — A group of world sports stars were nominated here on Wednesday for 2014 Laureus World Sports Awards, who were elected by a ballot by the world’s media.

Among the biggest names of the nominees are Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt, women’s tennis star Serena Williams, Formula One world champion Sebastian Vettel, US golf star Tiger Woods, Russian pole vault legend Yelena Isinbayeva, Spanish tennis star Rafael Nadal, etc.

Laureus World Sports

Academy Chairman Edwin Moses said he has never seen such a potentially close contest in so many categories before. This is going to be a classic year, he added.

The 15th Laureus World Sports Awards, which recognize sporting achievement during the calendar year 2013, will be unveiled here on 26 March.

Bolt and Britain’s Olympic heptathlon champion Jessica Ennis received the biggest individual prizes in the 2013 event.—Xinhua

Eaton, Whiting and Lagat lead US world champs team

SALVO, (NC), 27 Feb — Title-holders Ashton Eaton, Ryan Whiting and Bernard Lagat headline a powerful US team mixing youth and experience for next month’s world indoor

record in the 7-9 March championships at Sopot, while 39-year-old Lagat will bid for his third consecutive and fourth overall 3,000 metres title, USA Track and Field said on

(women’s 800m) and Nia Ali (women’s 60m hurdles) will also make the United States the team to beat.

Seventeen-year-old Mary Cain, the US women’s 1,500m champion, is the youngest member. The Americans, who dominated the last championships in Istanbul in 2012, also should have strong contenders in 3,000m runner Galen Rupp, high jumper Erik Kynard and young sprinter Marvin Bracy. Cancer survivor Gabriele Grunewald, who was controversially disqualified after winning the women’s 3,000m and then reinstated on Monday, also made the 48-member team.

Reuters

Gold medallist Ashton Eaton celebrates during the medal ceremony for the men’s 100m during the IAAF World Athletics Championships at the Luzhniko stadium in Moscow on 11 Aug, 2013.—REUTERS

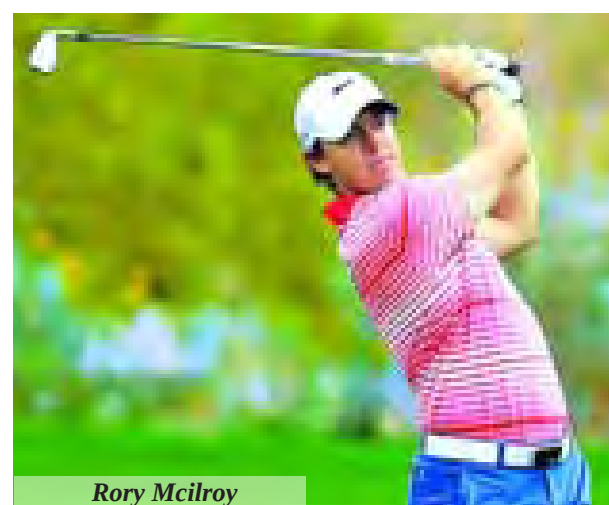


McIlroy says he has head right this time

CARY, (NC), 27 Feb — What a difference a year has made for Rory McIlroy, who 12 months ago tarnished his reputation by quitting during the second round of the PGA Tour’s Honda Classic. McIlroy’s head was a mess and his game was not much better at this time last year as he walked off the course citing a toothache, an excuse he later admitted was rather lame.

The Northern Irishman, who at the time was defending champion, was surprised by the widespread criticism he received for his withdrawal, but on the eve of this year’s event he seemed genuinely contrite as he recalled the incident. “My game wasn’t where I wanted it to be (and) my mental state wasn’t quite where it needed to be,” a relaxed-looking McIlroy told reporters at Palm Beach National on Wednesday.”

There were a few things that were occupying my thoughts that proba-



Rory Mcilroy

bly didn’t need to be and shouldn’t have been.

“It’s difficult to deal with, especially when you haven’t had to deal with it before. It was a bit of a shock to the system to me.” Without addressing specific details, McIlroy seemed to be alluding to multiple aspects of his life, both personal and business.

After ending 2012 as the world’s top-ranked golfer, he endured a tumultuous 2013 as he struggled at times on the course, and off it as he ditched his man-

agement group in a dispute that is headed to court.

But he ended the year on a more upbeat note, winning the Australian Open in December before subsequently becoming engaged to tennis star Caroline Wozniacki.

“There were a lot of things I needed to change off the course to get my head right to be able to go on the course and just think about golf,” said the 24-year-old McIlroy, who has already won two majors.” —Reuters

Regal Real thrash Schalke, Galatasaray hold Chelsea

LONDON, 27 Feb — Real Madrid laid down a marker in this season’s Champions League by inflicting a 6-1 thrashing on Schalke 04 in a one-sided last-16 first leg while Galatasaray and Chelsea drew 1-1 on Wednesday.

Real’s galactico-laced frontline of Karim Benzema, Gareth Bale and Cristiano Ronaldo scored two goals each as the Spaniards secured only their second win in 26 trips to Germany and effectively booked their spot in the last eight.

Fernando Torres’s

early goal for Chelsea was canceled out by Galatasaray’s Aurelien Chedjou in the second half. Benzema opened the scoring for Real Madrid on 13 minutes after Bale and Ronaldo had caused mischief in the German defence and Wales winger Bale drove through the heart of the Schalke backline to double the lead eight



Real Madrid’s Cristiano Ronaldo scores a goal against Schalke 04 during their Champions League soccer match in Gelsenkirchen on 26 Feb, 2014.—REUTERS

minutes later. Ronaldo scored seven minutes after the break with a left-footed effort after a series of stopovers bamboozled Schalke’s Joel Matip and Benzema grabbed his second following a one-two with Ronaldo. Bale made it 5-0 with a precise finish after being played through by Sergio Ramos and Ronaldo netted for the 11th time in this season’s competition before former Real striker Klaas-Jan Huntelaar grabbed a stoppage-time consolation for the hosts.

In Istanbul,

Galatasaray striker Didier Drogba was reunited with his former club but he suffered a largely frustrating evening leading the line for his new side. Chelsea took the lead when Torres scored the first goal by an English club in this season’s last-16 first legs, side-footing into an empty net from close range after nine minutes. Chedjou equalised after 64 minutes when he tapped in after Wesley Sneijder’s corner was missed by John Terry. The return legs will take place on 18 March.

Reuters

GENERAL

Mexico president sees no swift extradition of kingpin Guzman



Mexican drug kingpin Joaquin "Shorty" Guzman is seen during his detention in Mexico City, in this undated handout photo provided by Mexico's Attorney General's office (PGR) on 25 Feb, 2014.—REUTERS

MEXICO CITY, 27 Feb — Captured Mexican drug lord Joaquin "Shorty" Guzman faces an outstanding jail term in Mexico and any extradition to the United States is likely to take time, President Enrique Pena Nieto said on Wednesday.

In an interview with broadcaster Univision, Pena Nieto suggested that

Guzman, who was Mexico's most wanted man when he was arrested in the northwest of the country on Saturday, was unlikely to be handed over to the United States quickly.

"The process of extradition can take time," he said, noting that Mexico's attorney general's office would need to consider a

request on the basis of investigations it was carrying out against Guzman, who escaped from a Mexican prison in 2001.

Guzman headed the most powerful drug cartel in Mexico and was responsible for a huge chunk of the cocaine, heroin and other drugs trafficked north to the United States.

In view of Mexico's position, Pena Nieto said, what was important was not only Guzman's recapture, "and in consequence that he serve out the term for which he had already been sentenced, but also the new cases that will need to follow."

"This does not clash with a possible extradition request," he added.

Top Mexican officials have already said Guzman is likely to remain in Mexico for the time being while he is investigated over the vast criminal empire behind his Sinaloa Cartel.

Reuters

A helicopter monitors the locale of the drill in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 26 Feb, 2014. An anti-violence drill was conducted by the military police here on Wednesday to prepare for the upcoming carnival and the 2014 FIFA World Cup finals.—XINHUA



Woods thinking of Augusta at Honda Classic

CARY, (NC), 27 Feb — Tiger Woods, Adam Scott, Phil Mickelson and Rory McIlroy will play in the same tournament for the first time this year when they contest the Honda Classic starting in south Florida on Thursday.

The \$6 million PGA Tour event used to be the weak link on the four-stop PGA Tour Florida swing, but no longer as a confluence of factors has brought the game's four biggest global stars together in Palm Beach Gardens.

Woods and McIlroy both now live locally, while Scott and Mickelson opted to skip the World Golf Championships Match Play event in Arizona last week (as did Woods), and instead will

use this week as the springboard for their preparation for the Masters in April.

"Once we get to Florida, we're all thinking our way to Augusta," Woods told reporters at Palm Beach National on Wednesday.

He has played only two events this year, struggling by his own high standards both times, but he has at least three more tournaments to find his competitive legs before the first major of the year at Augusta National.

"I was pleasantly surprised by how well I was hitting it today," said Woods, whose form has prompted former British Open champion Ian Baker-Finch to suggest that the 14 times major champion

stop worrying about swing intricacies and instead focus on finding his rhythm.

Woods suggested he is doing that to some extent.

"We're just working on the same things," Woods said of himself and coach Sean Foley. "He's doing a lot of video and he's looking at it. I'm not really looking at it. I know what I need to do, the feels that are associated with certain parts of the video and I'm just focused on that. He focuses on a more technical level."

"He comes up with a game plan of what I need to work on and then I go off and work on it. I've always done it in the past and it's worked pretty well for me." Masters champi-

British soldier murderer sentenced to life in prison

LONDON, 27 Feb — Two men who hacked a British soldier to death on a London street were sentenced to life in prison and a minimum of 45 years in jail, respectively, a British court has ruled.

Michael Adebolajo, 29, was given a whole-life term while Michael Adebowale, 22, is to be jailed for at least 45 years for killing Fusilier Lee Rigby, a 25-year-old British soldier.

Lee Rigby was attacked by Adebolajo and Adebowale with a butcher knife and cleaver near the Royal Artillery Barracks in Woolwich in southeast London in May last year. The assailants later said they had attacked the off-duty soldier to avenge the deaths of Muslims at the hands of British troops.

"This was a murder with a terrorist connection," the judge said at the court, describing the killing as "sickening and pitiless".

The murder sparked a string of protests last year, with thousands of British residents and veterans taking to the streets to call for an end to the extremist attacks and hate crimes.

"Extremist behaviour of any kind will never be tolerated in Britain. While nothing can reverse the appalling crime committed on the streets of Woolwich last May, the significant sentences handed down today reflect this," Britain's Home Secretary Theresa May said.

Xinhua

MYANMAR TV

(28-2-2014, Friday)

6:00 am

1. Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw

7:20 am

2. Hyper Sports

8:00 am

3. News/ International News

9:30 am

4. Documentary

10:15 am

5. T V Drama Series

11:10 am

6. Clever

12:00 pm

7. News / International News / Weather Report

12:25 pm

8. Myanmar Movie

3:00 pm

9. News

4:15 pm

10. Song Of Yester Years

4:30 pm

11. 2014 University Entrance Examination (History)

5:00 pm

12. News

6:20 pm

13. Amazing World

6:45 pm

14. TV Drama Series

8:00 pm

15. News/International News/Weather Report

8:35 pm

16. Monthly Weather Report

9:00 pm

17. News

9:30 pm

18. Documentary

19. Hyper Sports

20. Traditional Boxing

21. TV Drama Series

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

28-2-14 07:00 am ~ 1-3-14 07:00 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Unique Pattern of Myanma... A Trend of Chin Traditional Dress
- * World News
- * Scented Buddha Images
- * Local News
- * Dawei - Tavoy, Travel To The Southern Part of Myanmar
- * World News
- * TECH School
- * Local News
- * Mon Traditional Wedding Ceremony
- * World News
- * "Myanmar Movie Review" Mar Gyi Shay
- * Local News
- * Yathe Taung Township In A Nut-Shell
- * World News
- * Distinguished Myanmar Lady "Kyin Po"
- * Local News
- * While I visited around Taunggyi
- * World News
- * Snake Dancer
- * Local News
- * Myanmar Social & Charitable Association (EP-3) (Part-1)
- * World News
- * Myanmar - Bridges to change
- * Local News
- * The Pride of Myanmar "Traditional Handicraft"
- * World News
- * Myanmar Masterclass: Art Teacher
- * Local News
- * Tapestry - A Unique Combination Of Painting and Craftsmanship
- * World News
- * In The Studio : May Phyu Phyu



Tiger Woods of the UStakes a shot on the 8th tee during the third round of the 2014 Omega Dubai Desert Classic in Dubai on 1 Feb, 2014.

REUTERS

on Scott, meanwhile, returns to competition after a six-week break. Since

curtailing his schedule, the Australian has been a regular contender in the ma-

jors, and he says the less-is-more theory is working.

Reuters

Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw attends National Education Law (draft) meeting, receives FES Chairman

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Feb—A coordination meeting on National Education Law (draft) was held at Zabuthiri hall of the Hluttaw Complex here on Thursday.

Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann revealed that MPs were suggested to discuss about enacting National Education Law in

the Hluttaws as education sector is at the core of a nation. But any education law had not been enacted yet, he said.

It is needed to look for solution and to overcome obstacles for the law enactment. The Hluttaws are responsible for enacting a bill and a law on education.

(See page 8)

Union Immigration & Population Minister clarifies national census to ethnic organizations



Union Minister U Khin Yi clarifies taking national census to representatives of 10 ethnic organizations.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Feb—Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi clarified matters related to upcoming national census to representatives from 10 ethnic organizations today.

To be able to encourage the diversities during the national census and to meet the international human rights standard, the ministry has worked together with the UNFPA and international experts to take the national census.

He also stressed the need for answering questions correctly as the 2014 national census would help the country to ensure its de-

velopment.

The national census would be taken for 12 days from 30th March to 10th April. The Union minister replied to the queries raised by 24 representatives from the 10 ethnic organizations during the meeting.

The national census will be taken based on two points: international norms and human rights.

Regarding taking census in some areas of the armed groups, the Union minister replied that all armed groups were ready to cooperate with the government.

The ministry has to take

about two years to prepare for the upcoming national census. The last census was taken in 1983.—MNA

Announcement

Yadana Offshore Natural Gas Project of Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise under the Ministry of Energy will suspend supplying of natural gas to all gas power plants for 48 hours on 1 and 2 March to link Quarter Platform 2 (OP2) and Process Platform.

During the suspension period, gas power plants, power generation of recycle power plants and gas turbine under the Ministry of Electric Power will decline to 349 megawatts. Not to reduce the loads of power supply for the people, Tikyit and hydropower plants under the Ministry of Electric Power will increase generating of power.

Ministry of Electric Power

Conservation of national literature and culture discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Feb—Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint received a delegation led by Scholar Myanmar Monks Development Group Chairman of Bodh Gaya of India Sayadaw U Javana at the Amyotha Hluttaw Building here at 9 am on Thursday.

Both sites discussed matters related to Tipitaka recitation ceremony, which is annually held at Mahabodhi Pagoda in Gaya of India. Next, the guests invited the Speaker to attend the

recitation ceremony to be held in December of 2014.

Similarly, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint held talks with U Saw Myint Shwe, Chairman of Kayin Nationals and Kayin Literature and Culture Group of Kyaikhtiyo hilly region and party at the same venue here at 1 pm the same day.

The meeting focused on conservation of national literature and culture.

MNA

Export Import Business Introduction Course (Mandalay) opens

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Feb—A ceremony to open Export Import Business Introduction Course (Mandalay), conducted by Trade Training Institute, took place at the meeting hall of Mandalay Region Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry in Mandalay on Thursday, with an address by Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint.

The Union minister said that the government will upgrade trade institute in order to develop trade sector, adding trade sector plays a crucial role for economic growth as the country is realizing market-oriented economic system and open-door

policy. Trade value has been increased significantly during three years period due to the government's trade reforms. He pointed out that trade value has reached US\$ 15.273 billion in 2010-2011 FY and US\$ 22.088 billion till third week of this February 2014, up

by over US\$ 6.8 billion.

Vice-President of Mandalay Region Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Soe Myint explained matters related to the trade.

The course being attended by 43 trainees will last about two weeks.

MNA

Significant night temperatures (27-2-2014)

Haka	3°C
Pinlaung	6°C
Loilem	6°C
Namhkam	7°C
Heho	7°C

30 days to nation-wide census taking process

110-year old Pugyi Reservoir alerts conservation due to increasing in urbanized population

There is alarm at water supply from Hlawgar Reservoir, which turns 110 year on 22 February, 2014, due to a rapid increase in urbanized population in Yangon.

Water from Hlawgar Reservoir has been supplied to the people in Yangon as from 22 February, 1904, after waster quality from the Kandawgyi and the Inya lakes had become bad.

Not only the water from Pugyi Reservoir, but also the water from Pugyi Reservoir, Ngamoyeik Water Treatment Plant and Tagundaing Reservoir into Hlawgar Reservoir collected at Pugyi Reservoir is piped to western, southern and northern parts of Yangon.

Before Hlawgar Reservoir, the Kandawgyi and the Inya lake

were the main sources for water supply to Yangon. However, lack of knowledge on environmental conservation, traditional sewage system, lack of tighten rules for urbanization near the lakes had caused the pollution of water in the two lakes had decreased and the people in Yangon had to abandon them in 1887.

The long-lasting of Hlawgar Reservoir, the lifeblood water resource for over 5 million people living in Yangon, is threatened by the increasing in population in Yangon.

All people living in Yangon are obliged to conserve the water resource from the reservoir and the environment near it, taking

lessons from the past.

Drinking water resource is a renewable resource. However, due to increasing in population in Yangon, the quality of fresh water is decreasing, causing huge impacts on the water resource and challenges for water supply in the long run.

Like in other parts of (See page 9)

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