The New Light of Myanmar
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Italy agrees lifting of overall EU sanctions against Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 7 March—President U Thein Sein met his Italian counterpart Mr Giorgeo Napolitano at Quieinale Palace in Rome, Italy yesterday.

The two Presidents held talks on ongoing political and economic reforms, promotion of human rights, peace process in Myanmar, closer cooperation in trade, culture and other sectors, assistance in Myanmar's agricultural development drive and microfinance works, and cooperation between the two armed forces. The Myanmar President invited the Italian President to visit Myanmar.

The President also met the Italian Prime Minister Prof Mario Monti at Chigi Palace and discussed ongoing reforms, peace process, and situations in Kachin and Rakhine states, investment potential in Myanmar and strengthening bilateral ties.

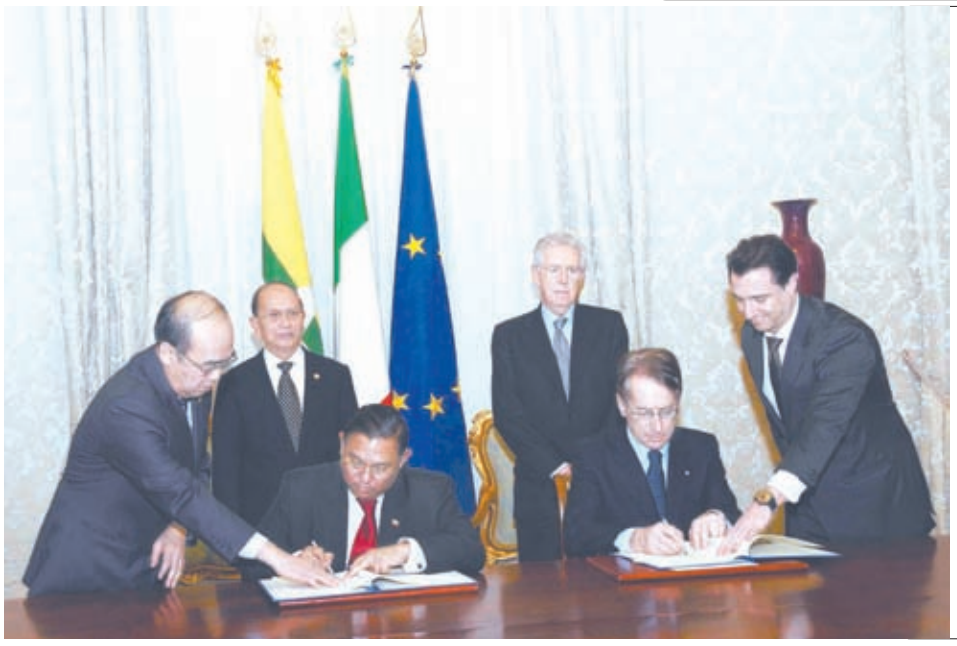
Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin and Italian Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Giulio Maria Terzi Sant' Agata signed Agreement on the Treatment (Cancellation and Rescheduling) of the Debt and Agreement on Debt-for-Development Swap.

The Italian President and Prime Minister recognized the political, economic and executive reforms put in place in Myanmar by the new government led by President U Thein Sein, promising to offer more help and closer cooperation to help Myanmar overcome challenges in transition period. The two agreed that EU should lift the overall sanctions against Myanmar and national exporters of Myanmar should have access to GSP, promising actions to ensure positive results when the EU reviewed those cases.

The Myanmar President visited historic sites in Rome—Vittorio Emanuele II Monument, Colosseum and Vatican City in the evening. He also visited the residence of Myanmar Ambassador to Italy U Tint Swe to meet embassy staff and their families.

MNA

President U Thein Sein meets Italian President Mr Giorgeo Napolitano at Quieinale Palace in Rome, Italy.—MNA



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MNA

Significant day temperatures (7-3-2013)

Minbu	**41°C**
Magway	**41°C**
Chauk	**43°C**

Marine products export to Thailand see significant surge

Byline: *Myint Maung Soe*

The marine products exportation to Thailand through border trade camps saw a significant surge in February, said the press release of the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar's marine products exported to Thailand through Myawady border trade camp, Kawthoung border trade camp and Myeik border trade camps and 11723 tons of marine products could be exported to Thailand in last February, 1567 tons more in comparison with January. From April 2012 to February 2013, 125,777 tons of marine products worth USD 140 million were exported, according to the statement.

The export items include various kinds of fish, prawn, crab and dried fish and fish paste as well.

From 20 to 26 February 34 tons of various kinds of fish, nearly seven tons of prawn, about two tons of crabs and over five tons of eel, over three tons of small crab and over four tons of fish paste worth USD 0.169 million were exported through Myawady border trade camp at Thai border. The export revenues hit USD 0.776 million in February.

Likewise, export revenues of Kawthoung border trade camp amounted to USD 2.352 million in February with export volume of marine products reaching over 1225 tons.

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Myanma Alinn: 6-3-2013

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LOCAL NEWS

Pakokku sees more tourists

PAKOKKU, 7 March — With remarkable progress in tourism sector, a large flock of globetrotters have visited every nook and corner of the country. As a result, Pakokku region sees more arrivals of tourists.

Visitors have come in flocks to visit historic Thihoshin Buddha Image and to observe ancient works which are being kept in Thihoshin museum in Pakokku by car or by bike via Bagan-NyaungU where they visit ancient pagodas and see lacquer ware industry. They are also interested in visiting Shwegugyi Tanketaw and cottage industries in Pakokku. Most of visitors to Pakokku are from France, Thailand, Japan, the US and other European countries. They proceed to Pakhangyi region, Monywa, Mandalay and Inlay region via Pakokku.

Pakokku Region used to see few tourists due to its poor transportation. At present, more tourists have flocked to the region thanks to Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku) linking between Bagan-NyaungU and Pakokku regions.

Kyemon

Sinzar bridge to boost regional development of Magway Region, Chin State (South)

PAKOKKU, 7 March — Construction of Sinzar bridge being built by bridge construction special group (4) of the Ministry of Construction has been completed by 80 per cent. The group started construction works on 15 July 2012. The bridge

is situated on Pakokku-Pauk-Kyaukhtu-Mindat road linking between Magway Region and Chin State (South) in Aungtagun ward of Pauk in Pakokku District in Magway region. The 480 feet long bridge will have a 24-foot motorway flanked by 3 feet and five inches wide pedestrian lanes on both sides and can withstand 60-ton load. Heavy volume of traffic running from Chin State (South) to Pakokku in Magway Region and heavy rainfall in last year caused damage to bridges and roads in the region. Upon completion, there will be better transport for students who are pursuing their tertiary education in Mindat, Matupi and Kanpetlat of Chin State (South) and merchants who are transporting locally-produced apples, oranges and tea to the other regions. An official of the bridge construction said that strenuous efforts were being made for timely completion of the bridge meeting set standard.

Kyemon

Man found dead in a lake in Thongwa Township

THONGWA, 7 March — A man who is believed to have been drowned was found found dead in a lake at Nanyaw village in Thongwa Township on 27 February.

Ko Toe Myint Swe, 38, was found dead in the three-foot deep water of a lake of 50 square feet. He disappeared after accompanying the monks to the monastery on 27 February. As he did not get back home, his son-in-law and nephew launched a search for him in the village and nearby lakes. At last, they found him dead in the lake in the compound of their house. Witnesses said that he was drunk on that day. Thongwa Police Station is making further investigation into his drowning death whether there is foul play and other suspicions. — *Kyemon*

Monastery fire in Hlinethaya Township

YANGON, 7 March — A monastery was burnt to the ground in the fire in ward-20 of Hlinethaya Township, here, at about 2 pm on 26 February.

The fire caused by an electric wire shock circuit engulfed Shwechan Dhamma Yeiktha Monastery at the top of Waiponla street in the township.

Fire crews of Hlinethaya Township Fire Services Department accompanied by four fire engines put out the fire at about 2.40 pm. Hlinethaya Township General Administration Department provided necessary assistance to two monks and two novices of fire-hit monastery.

Kyemon

Free eye care for Rakhine dwellers

YANGON, 7 March — An eye specialists team led by Eye Specialist Professor Dr U Kan Nyunt and Professor Dr U Ko Ko Tin provided free eye care service to patients with eye complaint at Myapyin village of Thandwe on 1 March.

The medical team comprising five eye specialists and 6 nurses performed free medical treatment to 313 patients from Thandwe, Gwa, Kyeintali and Taungup Townships and gave eye surgeries to 83 patients with cataract. Moreover, they made necessary arrangements for an eye patient to be able to receive eye surgery from a Singapore eye care team at Yangon Hospital.

Wellwishers Dr U Tin Kyi and Daw Than Ngwe and family of Baukhtaw in Yangon, U Sone Han and Daw Tin Tin Htwe and family of Singapore, U Aung Myat of Mother Trading and Construction and family of Yangon and U Kyi Lin and Daw San San Win and family of Insein in Yangon contributed to overall eye care expenditures of the team.

Kyemon

Development work of Kachin State gaining momentum

NAY PYI TAW, 6 March — Kachin State Chief Minister U La John Ngan Hsai on 2 March oversaw progress of construction of Institute of Agriculture and staff housing at Nannkwayt central farm in Myitkyina, tarmacking of Myitkyina-Namti-Mogaung road between mile post Nos (280/6) and (280/7), progress of gravel road and bridges on Nanpaung detour of Shadaung village, paving asphalt on the road between Ywet Hla Myaing and Nannkyawt village, progress of repair of Nannkyawt creek crossing bridge (Shwe Aik), road and bridge works on Myitkyina-Naungpon-Poesarchan road section, progress of upgrading of five-mile road being carried out by Myintzutha construction company from Pa-La-Na (1) to Pa-La-Na (4) and land preparation at the chosen site for low-cost housing that will be implemented with the contribution of rural region development funds.

In the evening, the chief minister attended the opening of Sumprabum Hall and Khakabora Hall for Myitkyina University where he formally opened the building and delivered an address.

Next, Kachin State Social Affairs Minister Daw Bauk Ja presented certificates of honour to wellwishers who donated Sky Net receivers and sets of TV.

Then Daw Kan See Sai Lon, wife of the chief minister, awarded winners of the beauty pageant of Sumprabum Hall and the chief minister presented K 500,000 for the newly-opened halls. — *Kyemon*

Zabuthiri Township gets new tarred road

NAY PYI TAW, 7 March — The opening of new tarred road was held on Nguwah road in Thabyekon ward of Zabuthiri Township, here, on 4 March.

Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Myo Nyunt, Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Khin Maung Htay and member of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee U Kyaw Myint formally opened the new tarred road and strolled along the road. At the ceremony held at Basic Education Middle School in the ward, Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Myo Nyunt gave an account of development undertakings in the township. The newly-opened Nguwah tarred road is 1950 feet long and 12 feet wide. It was upgraded form a gravel road to a tarred on at the cost of K 27.67 million. During 2012-2013 fiscal year, K 698.538 million have been spent in construction of roads, bridges, pavements and drains in the ward.— *MNA*

WORLD

People work at the fire site in southern Pakistani port city of Karachi on 6 March, 2013. Over 1,000 shops and stalls were burnt when a fire engulfed the sabzi mandi (vegetable market) located on Super Highway here on Wednesday, local media reported. XINHUA

Calls emerge for border fence to curb rhino poaching in South Africa

CAPE TOWN, 7 March — As more rhinos were poached, calls emerged on Wednesday for the re-erection of a 150-km border fence between Mozambique and South Africa.

This came after the Department of Environmental Affairs released the latest update on rhino poaching statistics which showed that another 24 rhinos were lost since last week, bringing to 146 in the total number of rhinos slaughtered this year. "The SANParks (South African National Parks) Board has recommended to the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs that the boundary fence between South Africa and Mozambique be reconstructed," said SANParks CEO David Mabunda.

The fence is expected to bar poachers from neighbouring Mozambique from entering into the South African Kruger National Park which bears the brunt of rhino poaching.

The park has lost 107 rhinos since the beginning of this year. Most of the rhino poaching took place in the south of the park near camps such as Lower Sabie and Pretoriuskop bordering Mozambique. The park lost 425 rhinos to poaching last year.

Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs Edna Molewa said the re-introduction of the border fence is strictly dependant on an analysis of the rhino poaching situation in the Kruger National Park, and a lack of positive results emanating from the creation of a buffer zone within the Limpopo Transfrontier Park region bordering Mozambique.

There have been worries that erecting the fence would pose a threat to the movement of animals in the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park, which incorporates national parks in South Africa, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe.—*Xinhua*

Iran demands IAEA present documents for intended visit to Parchin site

TEHERAN, 7 March — Head of Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) said on Wednesday that the International Atomic Energy Agency has to present documents explaining the reason for its intended visit to the Parchin military site for Iran's consideration.

Talking to official *IRNA* news agency, AEOI chief Fereidoon Abbasi said that Parchin is not and has never been used for nuclear activities.

If the IAEA wants to visit Parchin, they have to provide "solid documents and reasons," said the Iranian nuclear official, adding that in that case, the Iranian military officials will be consulted to make a final decision.

The Parchin site has been the main concern of the IAEA since November 2011. Iran has previously refused to grant access to the site unless an agreement has been reached on a "structured approach", a framework which would allow UN inspectors to look into Iran's nuclear activities and also, as Iranians say, would recognize some aspects of the country's "peaceful" nuclear programme.

The UN nuclear watchdog on Monday hinted that the structured approach should not be an excuse for Iran to block access to Parchin, demanding full access to the site.—*Xinhua*

Lebanese Foreign Minister Adnan Mansour (R) and Arab League Secretary General Nabil al-Arabi attend the Arab Foreign Ministers meeting in Cairo, Egypt, on 6 March, 2013. Adnan Mansour demanded Wednesday during the Arab Foreign Ministers meeting in the Cairo cancelling the decision of suspending Syria's membership in the Arab League and to recontact the Syrian government to reach a peaceful solution to the Syrian crisis. —XINHUA

US envoy walks out of nuclear meeting over Iran's Israel remark

VIENNA, 7 March — The US Ambassador to the United Nations nuclear watchdog walked out of an agency meeting on Wednesday in protest when Iran's representative accused Washington's ally Israel of "genocide", diplomats said.

Officials from Canada and Australia also left the closed-door meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) 35-nation governing board when Iran's Ali Asghar Soltanieh made his statement during a debate on Syria, they said.

They later returned to the closed-door IAEA meeting, where such action is unusual though it has happened before in other international forums.

Soltanieh was not immediately available for comment. Iran has often criticised Israeli policies towards the Palestinians. It has also said Israel would be wiped "off the face of the earth" if the Jewish state attacked it.

US envoy Joseph Macmanus's walkout highlighted tensions with Teheran a few hours after he accused the Islamic Republic of a "commitment to deception, defiance, and delay" in addressing IAEA concerns about possible nuclear weapons-related research.

The European Union also used the meeting to call on Iran to stop obstructing an IAEA investigation and give the agency access to sites and documents, regardless of broader talks between Iran and world powers that resumed last week.

New US Ambassador to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Joseph Macmanus adjusts his glasses as he attends a board of governors meeting at the UN headquarters in Vienna on 4 March, 2013.—REUTERS

Some diplomats say Iran is using its meetings with the IAEA merely for leverage in negotiations with world powers which, unlike the UN agency, have the power to ease sanctions that they have recently tightened on the major oil producer.

"Iran is inviting further isolation, pressure and censure from the international community ... until it meets its obligations and addresses the board's concerns," Macmanus said.

During the debate on Iran, which happened before the board turned its attention to Syria, Soltanieh said the allegations over his country's nuclear work were "baseless" and suggested the IAEA, not Teheran, was to blame for the failure so far to revive the stalled inquiry.

Saying UN inspectors had found no evidence of any diversion of nuclear material or activities to military purposes, Soltanieh told the board: "Nuclear weapons have no place in the defence doctrine of Iran."

Reuters

Training reduces insider attacks on US soldiers in Afghanistan

WASHINGTON, 7 March — Effective counterintelligence training and vigilance have significantly reduced the threat of insider attacks on US troops by Afghan soldiers, US Central Command head James Mattis said on Wednesday.

The US toll from such insider attack declined to only one this year, Mattis told the US House Armed Services Committee at a hearing on the Capitol Hill.

In contrast, a total of 45 US troops and International Security Assistance Force members had been killed by Afghan soldiers as of September last year, the American Forces Press Service reported.

"It goes to the very heart of trust," Mattis said. "So far this year, (there's only been) one attack. Now, I do not get complacent. I think I know why it's gone down. It has to do with training."

"It has to do with counterintelligence training we've given to the Afghans so they have ferreted out some of these people inside their ranks, and caught them," Mattis said, adding that the allied forces now have very good techniques for doing this.

At the same time, there has been very little change in the US troops' interaction with Afghan counterparts, Mattis said.

"We are very much involved with them, integrated with them," he said. "We are obviously taking what you would consider prudent measures in the field to protect ourselves."

The US commander commended what he described as "wholehearted support" from the Afghan government in addressing the problem of insider attacks by Afghan soldiers. "And it appears to be paying off," Mattis said.

Xinhua

Abe, Park hold phone talks on ties

TOKYO, 7 March — Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe held telephone talks with South Korean President Park Geun-hye late Wednesday in an effort to mend ties scratched by territorial row.

During their talks, Abe said that Japan and South Korea share similar values of freedom and democracy and are neighbours with common interests, adding that both sides should closely cooperate so as to build up "future-oriented" relations through an overall perspective.

For her part, Park said the two countries are important partners in the East Asian region and her nation is willing to establish a "future-oriented" relationship with Japan.

Park emphasized that looking squarely towards history is key for the two countries to build up such bilateral relations.

Earlier this month, Park urged the Japanese side to take "responsible"attitude towards history, referring to Japan's 1910-45 colonial occupation. Relations between Japan and South Korea soured due to a pair of islands, which are called as Dokdo in South Korea and Takeshima in Japan, in the Sea of Japan. The islets are controlled by South Korea.

Xinhua

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Apps use brainwaves to guide, improve meditation

*An application vendor displays his wares on the second day of the Consumer Electronics Show (CES) in Las Vegas on 9 Jan, 2013.—*REUTERS

TORONTO, 7 March—A new smartphone app aims to ease stress and guide users through meditation by monitoring brain waves that change as people become more relaxed. Transcend, made by the Canadian company Personal Neuro Devices, links the smartphone to a separately sold headset that records electrical activity along the forehead. "It doesn't matter whether you're meditating as part of a secular practice, or spiritual practice. It all creates the same change in the brain," said Chad Veinotte, a director of the company, which launched the app last month.

The user picks the duration of time for the meditation and can also opt to listen to a guided audio meditation. A candle graphic in the app grows brighter as the quality of the practice increases, which is determined by brainwaves that indicate relaxation and concentration.

A graph in the app also shows the quality of meditation in real time throughout the session.

"You get to literally look at what's happening in the mind while you're doing the practice," Veinotte said. Transcend is one of several apps available for the MindWave headsets made by San Jose, Calif, company NeuroSky, and which connect to smartphones wirelessly. San Francisco-based company Emotiv Systems also creates headsets that run apps. NeuroSky's CEO, Stanley Yang, said other uses for the headsets include concentration and focus games.—*Reuters*

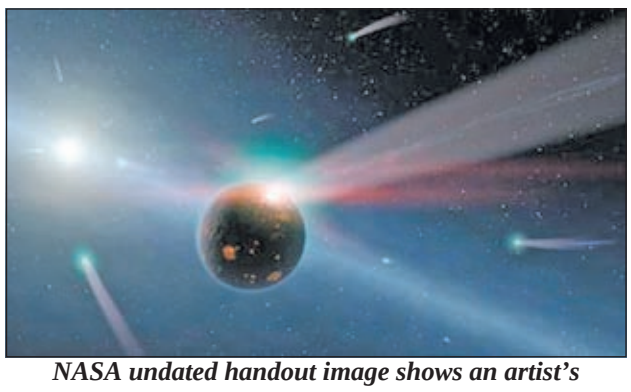
German flight set to take off with comet tourists

FRANKFURT, 7 March—A German travel agency is selling tickets for a flight to give 88 astronomy buffs a close-up view of one of two rare comets expected to pass Earth this year.

Eclipse Travel, based in Bonn, has joined charter agency Air Partner and airline Air Berlin to organize flight *AB1000* on 16 March as comet *Pan-STARRS* passes through the solar system, 100 million miles from Earth. filled to ensure all travellers are close to a window.

"If the weather is very good and the air is clear you can certainly see the comet from Earth," Air Berlin's Karsten von dem Hagen, Teamleader Sales Ad Hoc Flights, said in an e-mail to *Reuters* on Tuesday.

"But at an altitude of 11,000 metres you are most likely above the clouds. The air there is thinner, clearer and cleaner, which enables



*NASA undated handout image shows an artist's conception of a storm of comets around a star near our own, called Eta Corvi.—*REUTERS

The last comet to dazzle Earth's night-time skies was *Comet Hale-Bopp*, which visited in 1997. *Comet 17P/Holmes* made a brief appearance in 2007.

The *Boeing 737-700* flight will zig-zag at 11,000 meters (36,089 feet) altitude for the viewing with an Air Berlin spokesman saying only 88 of 144 seats on board better observation of the comet."

An astronomy expert will be on board to explain the comet that NASA described as a new comet that should be visible by the naked eye and about as bright as the stars of the Big Dipper as it passes through the solar system this month.

Reuters

*Visitors stroll around at Mega Bazar Computer 2013 at Jakarta Convention Centre, Jakarta, Indonesia, on 6 March, 2013. Indonesian Computer Entrepreneurs Association (Apkomindo) revealed that this year's computer tablet PC market was expected to rise 60 percent by the end of the year.—*XINHUA

Google tests same-day delivery, raising marketplace speculation

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

SAN FRANCISCO, 7 March—Google Inc began testing a same-day delivery service with retailers in recent weeks, the latest move into Amazon.com Inc's e-commerce turf by the world's largest Internet search company.

Google Shopping Express helps local retail stores sell products online and have the items delivered to shoppers the same day, according to a person familiar with the test.

Google arranges for third parties, such as couriers, to pick the products up from local stores and deliver the items to shoppers.

Neither the stores nor Google handle the deliveries, the person explained on condition of anonymity because the service is still in the early development stage.

Tom Fallows, a Google product management director with over a decade of e-commerce experience, is running Google Shopping Express. The test is focused on the San Francisco Bay Area and has been going for at least a month, the person added.

Google has not yet decided how to charge for the service. It is considering an annual subscription, similar to Amazon, which charges $79 a year for free two-day delivery of many items purchased on Amazon.com.

However, Google may also charge a small fee each time a shopper orders through the service, the person said.

Google Shopping Express is the latest sign that the company is expanding from its online search roots into e-commerce.

It also suggests that Google may be building an online marketplace that connects merchants and consumers, a business model that has made Amazon and eBay Inc successful in the United States.

"Google needs to become a marketplace," said Scot Wingo, chief executive of ChannelAdvisor, which helps merchants sell more online. "This is another step." EBay is an investor in ChannelAdvisor.

Reuters

Rethinking objects and form are key to 3D printing revolution

LEUVEN, 7 March—3D printing has already changed the game for manufacturing specialized products such as medical devices but the real revolution will come when designers start to rethink the shapes of objects.

3D printing removes the limitations of the manufacturing process from the equation, which means whatever can be designed on a computer can be turned into an object, 3D printing specialists say.

To really start using the technology to its full potential, designers and engineers need to imagine new products. "You are almost unlimited as to the type of geometric complexity," said Terry Wohlers, an independent analyst who advises companies on the 3D printing sector.

Belgium-based company Materialise, a pioneer in the process, has a display of a foldable chair printed from one continuous piece of plastic—and made with the hinges already joined together, for example.

"You can do shapes and forms that otherwise would be very expensive to do with traditional manufacturing, or would require many parts that then are later assembled," Wohlers said.

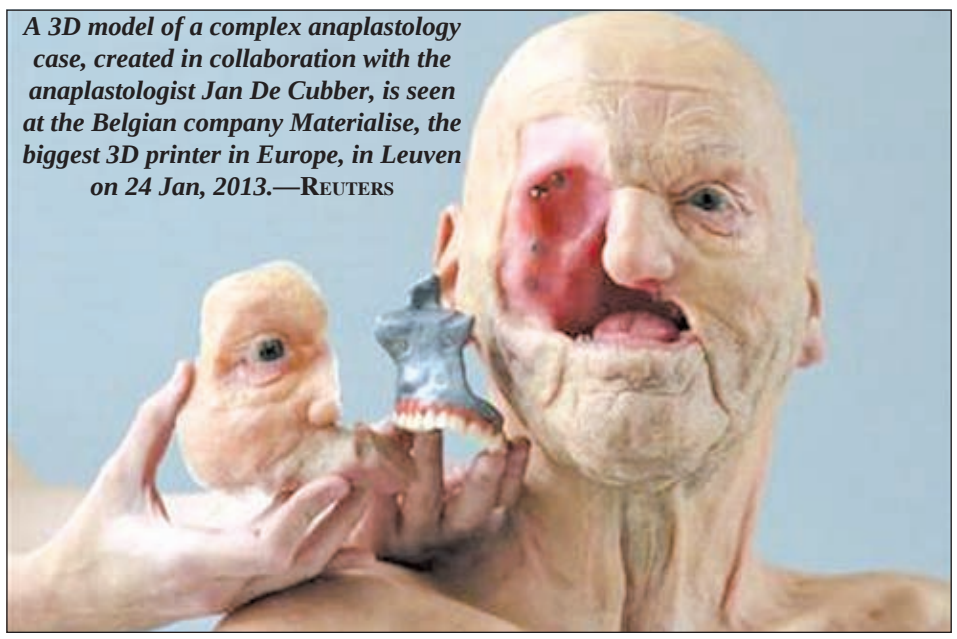
The 3D process has been used to build prototypes for 25 years, but only now is making its way into regular production. Companies such as General Electric Co plan to use 3D printing to build lightweight aircraft parts, while dentists use it to create crowns in the space of an hour rather than two weeks.

3D printers have made working guns and are being tested to see if they can make houses on the moon using lunar soil. Scientists hope they may one day print human organs after researchers successfully printed tissue using human stem cells.

US President Barack Obama even highlighted the technology in this year's State of the Union address as an example of innovation that can create jobs.

But Materialise CEO Wilfried Vancraen, recently voted the most influential person in the 3D printing sector by readers of *TCT Magazine*, a publication devoted to the industry, says the process is too slow and too expensive to replace most mass market manufacturing — at least as we now know it.

Reuters



*A 3D model of a complex anaplastology case, created in collaboration with the anaplastologist Jan De Cubber, is seen at the Belgian company Materialise, the biggest 3D printer in Europe, in Leuven on 24 Jan, 2013.—*REUTERS

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Job seekers adjust their paperwork as they wait in line to attend a job fair in New York on 28 Feb, 2013.
REUTERS

Private sector adds 198,000 jobs in February

NEW YORK, 7 March— US private employers added a larger-than-expected 198,000 jobs in February, bolstering hopes that hiring across the economy is improving, a report by a payrolls processor showed on Wednesday. Economists surveyed by *Reuters* had forecast the ADP National Employment Report would show a gain of 170,000 jobs. January's private payrolls were revised up to an increase of 215,000 from the previously reported 192,000.

The report is jointly developed with Moody's Analytics. A solid gain in construction jobs underscored recent signs of improvement in the housing market. Home prices have been rising since last February and the sector last year contributed to overall US growth for the first time since 2005.

"It feels like underlying job growth continues to improve, and at the current pace, this should be enough to start bringing down unemployment," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics. The jobless rate is currently at 7.9 percent. "In a really rip-roaring economy, we'd be creating closer to 300,000 jobs a month or a bit north of that. So we're not there yet, but we're moving in the right direction," he said.

Hiring ticked up despite worries about government belt-tightening and higher taxes, though Zandi said those factors could slow the pace of growth later this year.—*Reuters*

GM struggles to overcome Chevrolet and Opel

GENEVA, 7 March— When Geneva taxi driver Boulbaba Ben Hassine took his Opel Zafira MPV back to the dealership for maintenance, a salesman tried to sell him a Chevrolet Cruze station wagon.

"It's a nice-looking model but far too thirsty, so I said no," the 64-year-old said. "I only went in to change the spark plugs."

Both Opel and Chevrolet are owned by US carmaker General Motors (GM.N) and Ben Hassine's experience is symptomatic of a rivalry that has developed between the two brands and risks damaging both.

Chevrolet is General Motors' (GM) largest and most important brand worldwide, selling roughly 5 million cars last year alone.

It plays a crucial role for the group in every major market except one—Opel's home turf of Europe. Opel outsells Chevrolet around five-to-one in the European Union, a region that contributes only around 4 percent of the US brand's sales.

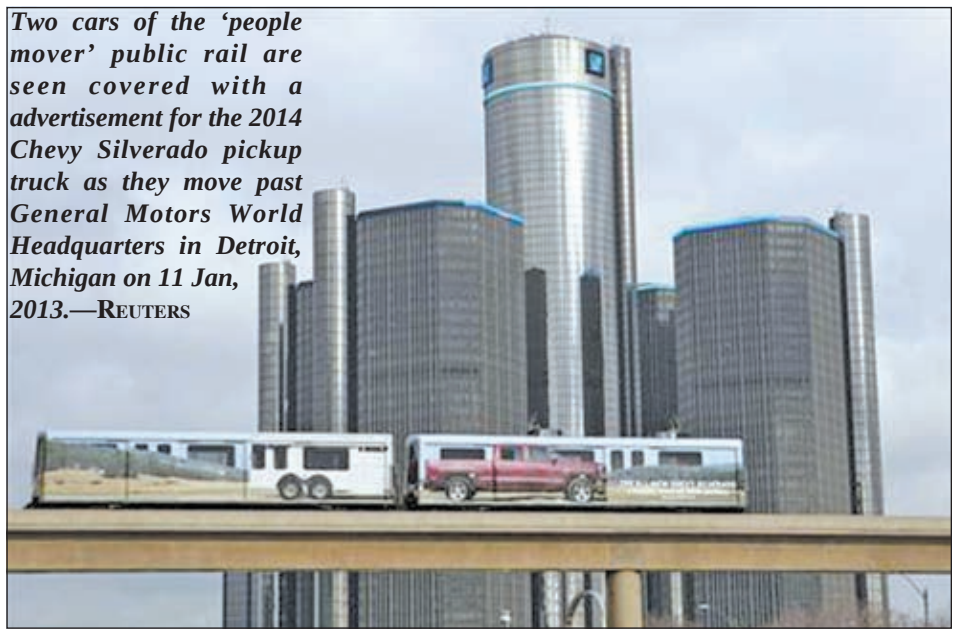
When GM first rebranded Korean-built Daewoo cars in Europe with the Chevy bowtie eight years ago, the plan was to market them as no-frills versions of sportier, more innovative Opels.

But panned by critics and hurt like the rest of the industry by a brutal downturn in European demand, Chevrolet has responded by slashing prices and introducing more upmarket models—putting it on collision course with its sister brand.

At the Geneva car show this week, Chevrolet threatens to steal the limelight from Opel's upscale Cascada soft-top by unveiling its sleek new Corvette Stingray convertible only a short distance away.

With Opel itself reeling from over $1 billion of annual losses and mired in a painful round of job cuts, the last thing it needs is Chevrolet using cutthroat sales tactics to muscle into Europe with the help of Opel's own dealers.

Reuters



Two cars of the 'people mover' public rail are seen covered with a advertisement for the 2014 Chevy Silverado pickup truck as they move past General Motors World Headquarters in Detroit, Michigan on 11 Jan, 2013.—REUTERS

Dell's special committee defends sale of company

NEW YORK, 7 March—A special committee of Dell Inc's (DELL.O) board of directors said the pending sale of the PC maker was the best alternative for shareholders, despite opposition from its largest outside shareholder.

The committee, which had been analyzing Dell's situation for more than five months, said in a statement on Wednesday that it had "negotiated aggressively" to ensure shareholders got the best possible value in agreeing to founder Michael Dell's $13.65 per share offer to take the company private.

Other alternatives the special committee said it looked at besides a sale included a leverage recapitalization, changing the dividend policy, selling parts of the business and working with the company's current business plan. The committee said that investment bank Evercore is still soliciting potential alternative proposals in a process that ends on 22 March.—*Reuters*

Nasdaq, SharesPost to set up market for unlisted stocks

NEW YORK, 7 March— Nasdaq OMX Group Inc (NDAQ.O) will form a marketplace for trading in shares of unlisted companies in a joint venture with small trading platform SharesPost Inc, tapping into increasing investor interest in private firms.

The new venture, Nasdaq Private Market, will help the exchange rebuild its reputation as the exchange of choice for unlisted companies, after it was criticized for its role in the botched Facebook Inc (FB.O) IPO last May.

Pedestrians walk past the NASDAQ MarketSite in New York's Times Square in this 4 June, 2012 file photo.
REUTERS

"NYSE was taking a lot of share away from the Nasdaq even in tech listings, so I think it's kind of an opportunistic move for Nasdaq," said Josef Schuster, founder of Chicago-based financial services firm IPOX Schuster LLC.

Major market makers and broker dealers say they lost upward of $500 million because of technical glitches on the Nasdaq during Facebook's 18 May stock market debut.

Nasdaq will own most of the new venture, to be based in San Francisco and led by SharesPost founder Greg Brogger.

They hope to launch the new market later this year. San Bruno, California-based SharesPost began in 2009 and its fortunes rose in step with technology startups such as Facebook Inc (FB.O) and LinkedIn (LNKD.N), which traded on the market before they went public.

Reuters

Health regulator issues subpoenas to four HealthSouth hospitals

MIAMI, 7 March— HealthSouth Corp said four of its hospitals received subpoenas from the health regulator seeking information on patient admissions and compliance with Medicare rules.

HealthSouth shares fell more than 11 percent to $22.00 on Tuesday after the bell. HealthSouth said in a regulatory filing that the subpoenas were issued by the Miami Lakes, Florida office of the US Department of Health and Human Services and concerned alleged improper or fraudulent claims submitted to Medicare and Medicaid. The agency also asked for copies of medical records for 100 patients treated at the four hospitals between September 2008 and June 2012. The hospitals have also been asked to produce details on marketing functions, preadmission screening, post admission physician evaluations and compliance with certain Medicare rules. These four hospitals accounted for about 4 percent of HealthSouth's consolidated net operating revenues between October 2008 and July 2012, the company said.

Reuters

IKEA starts probe into source of bacteria in cakes

STOCKHOLM, 7 March— Sweden's IKEA said on Tuesday they had started an investigation on the source of bacteria detected in its cakes. The bacteria that the Chinese authorities detected in the cakes posed no harm to health, which was why it could possibly pass the Swedish quality control, reported the Swedish Television SVT.

"But the bacteria detected in the cakes should not have been there. We are investigating on how the bacteria would end up there," Sara Paulsson, Press officer of IKEA, was quoted as saying by SVT. "We believe that it is just this batch of cakes that were affected. All the products had received quality control against noxious bacteria before they left the factory in Sweden," she added.

The Swedish company Almondy, IKEA's supplier and the producer of the cakes, claimed that none of tests had shown a positive result of harmful bacteria in the cakes when they left the factory. Some 1,800 cakes that imported from Sweden and would have been sold at IKEA stores in Shanghai of China were destroyed as large amounts of coliform bacteria were detected by the local quarantine bureau.

Xinhua

WORLD

Sudan, South Sudan to resume security talks in Addis Ababa on Thursday

KHARTOUM, 7 March—Meetings of the joint political and security committee between Sudan and South Sudan are to resume on Thursday in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa after failing to resume by mid of last February, Khartoum's *Al-Intibaha* daily reported on Wednesday.

"The political and security committee of Sudan and South Sudan will resume its meetings in Addis Ababa on Thursday with the participation of the two countries' defence ministers," the report said.

"Khartoum is adherent to its proposal according to the security agreement signed by the two countries," the paper quoted a security source in the committee as saying, noting that the Sudanese government delegation has left for Addis Ababa.

However, until Tuesday Juba has not yet submitted its proposals to the African committee of experts regarding the border differences, the report said.

It added that the African Union mediation mechanism on the outstanding issues between the two countries was expected to present a negotiating document to Sudan's delegation concerning the negotiation with the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM)/ northern sector.

Head of the African Union High-Level Implementation Panel on Sudan (AUHIP) Thabo Mbeki has recently called on Sudan and South Sudan to resume the negotiations with the participation of what he termed as key players.

Mbeki expressed hope that the coming round of negotiations between Khartoum and Juba would be successful. On 27 September last year, Sudan and South Sudan signed a package of agreements on various issues during a presidential summit in the capital of Ethiopia.

Witnessed by the AUHIP members, the two sides inked three deals on cooperation, security and post-secession matters.

However, the signed agreements did not tackle the issues of Abyei and border demarcation. Though months elapsed since the two sides have signed the cooperation agreement, yet they failed to implement it on the ground.—*Xinhua*

Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk (2nd R) and German Chancellor Angela Merkel (3rd L) watch a robot at the showcase of SAP at the CeBIT tech fair in Hanover, Germany, on 5 March, 2013. CeBIT, the world's leading exhibition in the communication and information technology industry, opened on Monday evening in Hanover, Germany. —XINHUA

Anxiety builds as Kenyans wait for presidential winner

NAIROBI, 7 March—Kenyan authorities said the outcome of the country's presidential election would not be compromised by the failure of electronic vote counting technology that has delayed results for a third day.

Deputy Prime Minister Uhuru Kenyatta, who is due to go on trial for crimes against humanity linked to the violent aftermath of the last election in 2007, has led since results started trickling in after polls closed on Monday.

But some strongholds loyal to his rival Prime Minister Raila Odinga have yet to declare their results.

Kenyatta's lead appeared to have been eroded subsequently, but it was too early to predict the outcome. At 1.45 am on Thursday (2245 GMT on Wednesday), Kenyatta had 1,119,761 votes to Odinga's 819,573 from a handful of constituencies.

Election officials had said turnout was more than 70 percent of the 14.3 million eligible voters.

If neither major candidate wins 50 percent of the vote, Kenyatta, 51, and Odinga, 68, would have to face each other in an April run-off, prolonging the uncertainty.

Ahmed Issack Hassan, chairman of the Independent Electoral and Boundaries commission, said vote counting could be concluded at the earliest on Friday or drag on to Monday, the last day on which by law the results must be made public.

"I also want to emphasise that the fact that we are now abandoning the electronic voter transmission does not in any way mean that the integrity of the results which we are being announced are compromised," Hassan told a news conference.

Kenyans are waiting to see if politicians will respect the results this time. Five years ago some rejected the outcome unleashing weeks of ethnic killing.

Reuters

A man listens to a radio to hear news on election results at Mishomoroni area of Kenya's coastal city of Mombasa on 6 March, 2013.—REUTERS

Syrian rebels seize UN peacekeepers near Golan Heights

An armed member of the Al Yarmouk Martyr brigade is seen in front of a white vehicle with 'UN' written on it at what said to be Jamla, Syria near Golan Heights on 6 March, 2013 in this still image taken from video posted on social media website.—REUTERS

BEIRUT, 7 March—Syrian rebels have seized a convoy of UN peacekeepers near the Golan Heights and say they will hold them captive until President Bashar al-Assad's forces pull back from a rebel-held village which has seen heavy recent fighting.

The capture was announced in rebel videos posted on the Internet and confirmed on Wednesday by the United Nations, which said about 20 peacekeepers had been detained.

The seizure is the most direct threat to UN personnel in the nearly two-year-old uprising against Assad, and Human Rights Watch said it was investigating the same brigade for past executions.

It came on the day Britain said it would increase aid to the opposition forces and the Arab League gave a green light to member states to arm the rebels.

The Arab League also invited the opposition Syrian coalition to take Syria's seat at a meeting of the regional body in Doha later this month. Syria was suspended in November 2011 in response to its crackdown on protests which has since spiralled into civil war.

In the latest attack by the Syrian military, warplanes bombarded the north-eastern provincial capital of Raqqa for a second consecutive day on Wednesday, killing at least 39 people, opposition activists said. Video footage showed fighters putting dismembered bodies in an ambulance.

The peacekeepers of the UNDOF mission have been monitoring a ceasefire line between Syria and the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights, captured by the Jewish state in a 1967 war, for nearly four decades.

Israel has warned that it will not "stand idle" as Syria's civil war spills over into the Golan region.

The United Nations in New York said its peacekeepers had been detained by around 30 fighters in the Golan Heights. The Security Council and Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon condemned the seizure of UN observers and demanded their immediate release.

Reuters

More world leaders offer condolences over Chavez's death

CARACAS, 7 March—So far 10 leaders from foreign countries have confirmed attendance of the state funeral for Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, the Foreign Ministry said on Wednesday.

"Nearly all the leaders will arrive here tomorrow to attend the official ceremony scheduled for Friday at the Military Academy in Fort Tiuna," Venezuelan Foreign Minister Elias Jaua said. Argentine President Cristina Fernandez, Bolivian President Evo Morales, and Uruguayan President Jose Mujica have already arrived in Venezuela to pay their respect to Chavez, according to local media.

Meanwhile, Cuba decreed two days of official mourning on Wednesday and Thursday and a third day of national mourning on Friday. During the official mourning, the national flag will be hoisted at half-mast on public buildings and military establishments, while on Friday all public entertainment and festive activities will be suspended.

The Cuban government also called on the people to attend Thursday's memorial activities around the country, which would last from 8 am to 8 pm. On Wednesday, Communist Party of China (CPC) chief Xi Jinping, Chinese President Hu Jintao and top legislator Wu Bangguo all sent condolences over Chavez's death. Chavez was a great statesman and outstanding leader of Venezuela, who led the Venezuelan government and people to huge achievements in the great cause of national construction and won support and respect from the people, Xi said in his message.

Xinhua

Iran arrests political editor of reformist paper

DUBAI, 7 March—Iran arrested the managing director and political editor of a pro-reform daily on Wednesday, with the semi-official *Fars* news agency saying their detentions were linked to the publication of a letter from a former president about media freedom.

With a presidential election three months away, Iran's clerical leadership appears to be tightening its grip on the media to avoid a repeat of the protests that erupted after the disputed re-election of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad in 2009.

Fars agency quoted the daily *Maghreb's* editor, Amir Mousa Kazemi, as saying that the arrests "can be related to the publication of Mohammad Khatami's letter" on Tuesday.

In the letter, the moderate former president, succeeded by Ahmadinejad, said he hoped Maghreb would continue to work alongside the "few remaining independent" publications in the country.

Khatami publicly backed defeated candidate Mirhossein Mousavi during the 2009 presidential election, which reformists said was rigged. Iran denied the accusation and has put Mousavi under house arrest for more than two years, along with fellow opposition leader Mehdi Karoubi.

With Iran's main reform leaders detained, Khatami has sometimes been the voice of the moderate opposition movement. The paper said on its website it had sought his opinion about its work, which resulted in his letter's publication.

ISNA, the *Iranian Students' News Agency*, said managing director Mohammad Mehdi Emami Nasseri and political editor Alireza Aghaeirad were detained by agents from Teheran prosecutor's office.

Reuters

LOCAL NEWS

Publications donated to village libraries in Thegon Township

PYAY, 7 March—Executive of Bago Region Anti-Narcotics Association U Shwe Win donated books to village libraries of Thegon Township of Pyay District, taking place at No 91 on Letthama Street in Pyay on 25 February morning.

The wellwisher donated 555 copies of journals and magazines worth K 300,000 to Head of Thegon Township Information and Public Relations Department U Naing Lin.—*Myanma Alinn*

Bangladesh Trade Fair kicks off in Yangon

YANGON, 7 March—Single Country Trade Fair of Bangladesh-2013 was organized for the first time in Myanmar at UMFCCI in Lanmadaw Township, here, this morning.

The expo was formally opened by Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint and Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe.

The Union Minister, in his opening speech, called for higher trade volume between the two countries as the trade volume currently hung at USD 84 million only. He assured that the today's expo facilitates promotion of trade and investments between the two countries welcoming the first-ever expo in Myanmar.

Next, Bangladeshi Minister for Trade Mr. Ghulam Muhammed Quader, the Vice-Chairman of Bangladesh Export Promotion Bureau, the Bangladeshi Ambassador to Myanmar and UMFCCI President U Win Aung made speeches.

The expo was organized till 8 March. It showcases clothes, cosmetics, medicines, furniture, and consumer goods and handicrafts made in Bangladesh.—*MNA*

Sunflower adorns Meza Creek in Indaw Township

INDAW, 7 March—Due to concerted efforts of local farmers, sunflower plantations are thriving along the bank of Meza Creek in the villages of Indaw Township in Katha District in Sagaing Region.

"We achieve success in growing sunflower plants this year," said Administrator U Thein Tun of Thokkha Village-tract in Indaw Township.

Sunflower plants are to be harvested in early April. Then, the farmers can earn income from sales of sunflower.—*Myanma Alinn*

ECHO humanitarian aids for Rakhine, Kachin States

NAY PYI TAW, 7 March—Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin received a delegation led by Mr Esko Kentrschynskyi, Head of Asia-Pacific and America Department of European Commission Humanitarian Office (ECHO) at the Maykhala hall of the Ministry, here, this afternoon.

They frankly discussed bilateral cooperation in providing humanitarian assistances for the people in Rakhine and Kachin States where conflicts occured recently.

MNA

Computer, office equipment donated to ward administrative office

MANDALAY, 7 March—A ceremony to donate computer and accessories to the administrative office in East Pyigyi Kyetthayay Ward was held at the office of the ward in Aungmyethasan Township of Mandalay on 2 March morning.

U Sein Win of Maung Sein Win and Brothers Machines and Machinery Trading donated one set of computer worth K 430,000, Mya Nadi Ball Bearing Trading one fax phone worth K 110,000 and U Myint Lwin of 24th street one piece of carpet of 15 yards in length worth K 45,000 to the ward administrator.

Myanma Alinn

Mohnyin District DRA gets new office

MYITKYINA, 7 March—The office of Directorate of Road Administration was opened in Mohnyin District in Kachin State on 21 February morning.

The two-storey RC office was built at a cost of K 17 million.

Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Kyaw Soe Lay and Head of Kachin State Directorate of Road Administration U Lyan Ciint Mahn formally opened the office.

State Minister for Transport U Kaman Du Naw unveiled the signboard of the office and made a speech.

Officials then viewed repairs of locomotives at the Mohnyin Locomotive Shed, repaving of Mohnyin-Namsiaung road section and facilities of communication station(exchange)in Mawhan Village. The state minister on 22 February inspected construction of detour to Mohnyin, maintenance of Bawdi Yayhtwet Bridge on Shwebo-Myitkyina Road, communi-cation stations and repaving of roads.

Myanma Alinn

***A five members delegation seen at Yangon International Airport on 3 March before their departure for PS Business School of Singapore at the invitation of ASEAN Preneurs Youth Leader Exchange-National University of Singapore.*—MNA**

Nyaungchaungtha Beach attracts visitors in Nyaungdon Township

NYAUNGDON, 7 March—A natural beach emerges in Yankin Sanya Village of Nyaungdon Township, at the confluence of Ayeyawady River and Panhlaing River, and so the beach is called Nyaungchaungtha Beach.

Those who take relaxation and picnickers may enjoy breezing fresh air from Ayeyawady River. They may enjoy swimming and taking surfing on the waves. In addition, they may take fresh foodstuffs, said a person from Bago who took relaxation at the beach.

The holiday-makers may go to the beach in a short time. But they do not need to spend a large sum of money on trips to Nyaung-chaungtha.

Its cost is lesser than that of Chaungtha and Ngwehsaung. At present, local people of Nyaungdon, those from Yangon and blobetrotters take relaxation daily.

A person from Yangon took relaxation recounted his experiences that the people from cities were suffering from pressures in the daily works and impacts of high density of population from the major cities. To ease these tensions, they had to take relaxation at the beach at opportune time so that the relaxation may create better health with cheaper cost, he said.

Nyaungchaungtha Beach is located in Yankin Sanya Village of Nyaungdon Township, 34 miles from Yangon or one-hour trip.

Myanma Alinn

Major renovation completed at Palyan Gate of Kengtung

KENGTUNG, 7 March—Kengtung was an ancient city of Shan chieftains in Eastern Shan State. Chieftain Kyao Maha Nan built ancient walls and gates in 1819 AD. Of them, there remains gate to Palyan City only. Department of Archaeology, Library and National Museum under the Ministry of Culture and local authorities started major renovation of the gate as fo 9 January.

Workers of Ministry of Construction have repaved the road to the ancient gate.

Ancient Kengtung City had been equipped with 12 gates namely Mingala, Kenglan, Ngampa, Payang, Senmong, Yangkham, Nawnglek, Nawngpa, Kaihaik, Yangpon, Yanggon and Palyan.

Myanma Alinn

Namtu Township IPRD raises reading habit

NAMTU, 7 March—With the aim of raising reading habit of local people, Namtu Township Information and Public Relations Department practises door-to-door book borrowing system in ward/ villages and departments of the township.

The department invited students in the summer holidays who completed examination to take part in the reading contest and feeds refreshment on 13 February.—*Myanma Alinn*

The New Light of Myanmar

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 8 March, 2013

A brighter future for the 70 percent

Indisputably, food is the daily essential for the entire mankind and food security is the most challenging issue for the ever growing global population. The current world population is seven billion and will reach nine billion by 2050, but the world will not grow larger anymore. In this regard, we need to double or triple our food production, through quality strains and modern farming methods.

To ensure sustainability of agricultural development in Myanmar, the government has been giving greater focus on profit motive, market penetration, high-yield quality crops, scientific methods, systematic use of fertilizers, wastage minimization, and low production and transport costs.

In fact, the penetration into domestic and global markets is a key to the development of agricultural industry. The government has been seeking effective ways for exporting more and more marketable products through the setting up of modern factories including rice mills, oil mills, refineries and packaging facilities.

As our country is blessed with natural resources and favourable climate, we must set the target to feed her population of up to 100 million in a few years and export the surplus to the international market.

The government on its part is planning to increase agricultural loans to address the peasants' capital needs. The loan for paddy and sugarcane will be increased to K 100,000 per acre and that for seasonal crops to K 20,000 per acre. It is also implementing long-term and short-term plans for transformation of conventional farming into mechanized farming across the country with Nay Pyi Taw Council Area as the centre.

Implementation of irrigation system in farm lands would help farmers apply multiple-cropping including paddy which is a source of income generation. So, farmers can now relentlessly strive for the success of their work as all these endeavours will lead to increase job opportunities and income in the farming sector and create a brighter future for our 70 percent of the population.

Meetings on RBP conducted

YANGON, 7 March—An opening ceremony of the 7th Task Force on Rubber Based Product Meeting and the 16th ACCSQ-RBPWG Meeting which is hosted by Myanmar for the first time, jointly conducted by No. 2 Heavy Industries Enterprise under the Ministry of Industry and ASEAN Rubber Based Product Working Group was held at Chatrium Hotel, here yesterday morning with the address by Director-General of No.2 Heavy Industries Enterprise U Myint Naing.

The Rubber Based Product Working Group (RBPWG) which is one of the braches of ASEAN Consultative Committee of Standard and Quality (ACCSQ) holds this meeting annually to meet standard specification target of rubber within ASEAN Economic Community and to fulfill the requirements of local countries. It was attended by the officials of ASEAN Secretariat and member countries. The e-precision A Green, Versatile and User Friendly web-Based System for Proficiency Testing (PT) Program was conducted in cooperation with Malaysia Rubber Board at the same venue on 4 March.—*MNA*

ARTICLE

Draft Printing and Publishing Law and voices of media

Ye Htet Zaw

The publication of "Printing and Publishing Draft Law" in 28-2-2013 issues of State-run newspapers has triggered the responses of the most media outlets. The responses are colourful. It is the essence of democracy that media criticize and express their views of the printing and publishing draft law. Freedom of expression and transparency are of great importance in democracy, and thus their criticism should be welcomed gladly.

However, the criticism must be unbiased, objective and realistic and based on the truth with righteous mind. It should not be that one-sided criticisms are made by turning a blind eye to the truth. It would just make the parties concerned dejected. It would not get to the truth and serve the national interests.

Analyzing the comments of all personalities, main points are found as follows:

(1) The fact that Myanmar provisional Press Council is preparing draft print media law from which freedoms are claimed; that approving the government's draft publishing law would reverse those freedoms embodied in the draft print media law.

(2) The fact that Section 7 (b) & (e) of the draft law—restriction on publishing pieces of writing that are believed to be aimed at instigating for violence or jeopardize community tranquility; and prevalence of law and order, and go against provisions in the Constitution and other existing laws—are aimed to restrict the journalists as will; that it restricts the freedom of press.

(3) The fact that as publishing and printing permit known as work permit is restricted under the law, it is not different from the practice in the time of military regime; that those who break those provisions and rules in the law will face cancellation or suspension of their acknowledgement certificates for a certain period means controlling the printers and publishers from other hand.

(4) The fact that establishment of news agencies is nothing to do with the publishing law and is only concerned with news media.

I would like to discuss those comments as much as my grey matter is capable of.

According to the comment No. 1, the point is that whether draft press law of Myanmar Provisional Press Council and the draft media law are similar. The draft printing and publishing law is just the law only concerned with printing and publishing businesses. It just prescribes rules and responsibilities printers and publishers are to abide by, issuing permits for printing and publishing businesses.

The draft law does not touch the rights and responsibilities of the journalists, the news media.

In my understanding, press law just prescribes rights, ethics, and responsibilities of journalists and related provisions of the Press Council. If provisions about printing and publishing were included in press law, Press Council would need to register and supervise them also.

In my view, printing and publishing law is enacted for printing and publishing businesses and is only concerned with the focal ministry. The Press Council should formulate law for journalists and press council affairs.

Reviewing the press law of Indonesia, it includes ten chapters—(1) general provisions, (2) regulations, works, rights, responsibilities and roles of media, (3) journalists, (4) press corporations, (5) press council, (6) foreign press, (7) public participation, (8) punishments, (9) transition and (10) conclusion. Viewing this, we can know press law only includes provisions about journalists. In addition, our neighbour India has enacted two acts separately—The Press and Registration of Books Act for printing and publishing of newspaper and The Press Council Act for the journalists.

So, it would be assumed that the Printing and Publishing Draft Law is not similar to the Press Media Law being drafted by the Press Council.

The freedom of press will not be lost after the draft law is approved. The two separate laws will not influence each other. There will be the rights of media men in the Press Media Law being drafted by the Press Council which will not be threatened by the enactment of the draft law.

I would like to discuss five provisions in Section 7. It prescribes, Printers or Publishers shall not print or publish the relevant Printed Published matters which –

(a) Reveals a subject that aggrieves other religious, other similar ethnic groups/ minorities or other different ethnic groups/ minorities.

(b) Instigates for violence or jeopardize community tranquility; and prevalence of law and order

(c) Portrays obscene language, pictures, photos and paintings.

(d) Abets and instigates any criminal case, cruelty, violence, gambling, committing Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances crimes.

(e) Publishes and prints the matter that opposes and breaks the provisions of the constitutional law or other existing law.

These five provisions are prescribed because they are indispensable for the national security, stability and the public morality.

Section 354 Sub-Section(a) of the constitution prescribes, Every citizen shall be at liberty in the exercise of the following rights, if not contrary to the laws, enacted for Union security, prevalence of law and order, community peace and tranquility or public order and morality to express and publish freely their convictions and opinions.

Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights prescribes as follows:-

1. Everyone shall have the right to hold opinions without interference.
2. Everyone shall have the right to freedom of expression; this right shall include to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, regardless of frontiers, either orally, in writing or in print, in the form of art, or through any other media of his choice.
3. The exercise of the rights provided for in paragraph 2 of this article carries with it special duties and responsibilities. It may therefore be subject to certain restrictions, but these shall only be such as are provided by law and are necessary;
   (a) For respect of the rights and reputations of others;
   (b) For the protection of national security or of public order (ordre public), or of public health and morals.

These provisions underline the need to place emphasis on the rights and reputations of individuals, the national security, public order, and public health and morals. They also stress the need to prescribe the provisions in the law.

Provisions in Section 7 do not pose a threat to the freedom of press but rather protect the State and citizens in accord with the constitution or the international human rights agreement.

If the provisions in Section 7 in Chapter III of the Draft Law are elastic, attention should be given to using more precise wordings.

The Undesirable Publications Act of the ASEAN fellow Singapore defined matters such as sex, horror, crime, cruelty, violence or the consumption of drugs or other intoxicating substances in such a manner that the availability of the publication is likely to be injurious to the public good as undesirable

(See page 9)

NATIONAL

Election is the foundation of democracy
From now on, compilation of voters' list will be made: UEC Chairman

UEC Chairman U Tin Aye meets Region/State/District subcommissions at Union Election Commission Office.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 7 March — In his speech in meeting with Region/State/District subcommissions at the Office of Election Commission, here, this morning, Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye said that the commission, in accord with the law, played the role of supervising the activities of political parties in order not to violate the Constitution and existing laws while they are engaged in political, economic and social matters of the people. He continued that the commission successfully organized the by-elections on 1 April 2012, gave its verdict on the electoral disputes occurred in the by-elections and allowed 55 political parties to register up to date.

He pointed out that genuine democracy was based on the election and the election was the foundation of democracy. He stressed the need to enable all eligible voters to be able to enjoy the right to vote. He called for compilation of the accurate voters' lists from now on. He stressed the need of taking lessons from previous elections, calling for more efforts to minimize the weak points in forthcoming elections. He called on region/state/district subcommissions to supervise the task of compiling lists of voters for upcoming 2015 elections by ward/village subcommissions in accord with laws, bylaws and directives.

After hearing reports presented by those present, the UEC chairman called on those present to make strenuous efforts for the emergence of free and fair elections in 2015.

MNA

Myanmar, India to promote SMEs and border trade

NAY PYI TAW, 7 March—Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint received an Indian delegation led by Director General Mr Rajiv Kumar Bhatia of Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) at his office, here, this evening.

They discussed development of SMEs, strengthening bilateral cooperation for human resources development, making more investment and promoting border trade.

MNA

Myanmar, US discuss investment potential

NAY PYI TAW, 7 March—Chairman of Amyotha Hluttaw Minerals and Resource Committee U Nay Win Tun received International Attorney-Advisor Mr Joe Yang and party of US at Hall No. 20 of Amyotha Hluttaw, here, this afternoon.

At the meeting, both sides had a cordial discussion on tasks and duty of the committee, serving public interest by the committee formed with MPs, prospects of technology and investment in energy, electricity, minerals and resources between the two countries and totally lifting sanctions imposed against Myanmar by the US.

MNA

Labour, Employment and Social Security Ministry to settle Myanmar illegal workers issue in Jordan

NAY PYI TAW, 7 March—A total of 1300 Myanmar workers are working at Century Miracle Apparel Mfg Co Ltd in Ramtha in Jordan, of whom over 1200 have been making coordination over their protests since 14 February through the Myanmar Embassy in Israel, the nearest Myanmar's foreign mission to Jordan, to settle the dispute.

Thanks to the negotiation of Myanmar Embassy and responsible person U Sai Tin Tun from New Covenant which sent the workers to Jordan in spite of being not official licensed agency, agreements could be reached for other demands except for the pay rise.

Four Myanmar female workers were reportedly to have suffered minor injuries while the employer asked Myanmar workers to go back to work on 2 March morning.

The Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security will dispatch an experienced director and deputy director to Jordan to negotiate for settling the dispute which has entered deadlock in spite of legal actions under Jordan's jurisdiction.—*MNA*

Correction

Please read "invalid publication" instead of "illegal publication" in 6th line of 3rd paragraph, 3rd line and 9th line of 5th paragraph and 7th line of 7th paragraph in sixth column on page 8 of this daily issued on 7 March 2013. Error is regretted.

NLM

ARTICLE

Draft Printing...

(from page 8)

publication in Section 4 (1) (a) and matters of race or religion in such a manner that the availability of the publication is likely to cause feelings of enmity, hatred, ill-will or hostility between different racial or religious groups as undesirable publication in Section 4 (1) (b).

Similar provision can be seen in Section 7 (1), Chapter (4) of The Printing Presses and Publications Act of Malaysia. So it can be said that Section (7) of the Bill does not ban the freedom of press.

The third analysis relates to issuance and termination of certificate. As our county is in democratic transition, registration for printing and publishing is needed. Only officially-registered printing press and newspapers are allowed to run publication in Singapore and Malaysia. Printing and publishing enterprises with registration certificates are allowed to run publication in Thailand and Vietnam. Likewise, printing press and daily publications in India and Cambodia are to be registered in India and Cambodia. But registration process in these two countries is different from that of other countries.

Section (5) of the Draft Law goes "If it is found out that a certificate holder tried to get it dishonestly or applied with the purpose of deception or opposed the provisions of this law, the Ministry may repeal or terminate the registration certificate to some extent.

According to Section (3) and (4) of the Draft Law, although it is up to the registration officer to issue acknowledgement certificate, the authority to repeal and terminate it is vested in the minister. So it is found that the provision does not make it easy for the registration officer to repeal or terminate. Besides, the fact that the issuance of certificate is vested in the registration officer could cut the red tape, facilitating the registration process of businessmen.

That the department is required to carry out the registration process as the final point of the registration of news agency is the business matter only. I would like to say that freedom of press and rights and duties of a news agency shall be followed in accord with the media law.

According to an official of the Ministry of Information, "the Printing and Publishing Draft Law" was brought to the public hurriedly to be able to avoid the provisions of existing Printer and Publisher Registration Law, 1962 and The Press Emergency Power Act, 1931 that may threaten the press freedom of daily publishers when publication of private newspapers was allowed. Those strict provisions need the publishers to make confession before the judge and submit a deposit. The registration certificate is temporarily valid for six months under Section 8 (1) and for one year under Section 8 (2) of the 1962 Law.

If so, daily publishers who are spending a large amount of money in their businesses will be worried about their business with no guarantees. According to an official of the Ministry of Information, it is planned the term of acknowledgement certificate to be allowed for years in the bylaw which will be drawn in accord with the "Printing and Publishing Law". By doing so, publishers would be able to run the publication of newspapers safe and sound, he said.

It is learnt that the clarification on the Draft Law was made to executives of Myanmar Printing and Publishing Entrepreneurs' Association and Myanmar Publishers and Distributors Association on 14 Feb 2014 and the their suggestions are also included in the Bill.

I presented this article as far as I know on criticism and analysis of Printing and Publishing Draft Law made by media, existing law and provisions of some foreign countries. If there are needs and suggestions on it, suggestions can be made through people's representatives or sent by mail. I presented this article with the aim of taking it into consideration in the interest of the State and its people.

Trs: **TKK + HKA +YM**

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WORLD

Venezuela's Chavez exalted as "father" and "martyr" by followers

CARACAS, 7 March — Deceased Venezuelan leader Hugo Chavez was hailed by weeping supporters on Wednesday as a spiritual father figure who sacrificed his life for his country.

The 58-year-old socialist president succumbed to cancer on Tuesday after 14 years in power that polarized a country with vast oil reserves by sidelining traditional elites in favour of millions mired in poverty.

Supporters say Chavez, a larger-than-life persona in Venezuela, helped them throw off the shackles of capitalism and foreign interference, and that he fell ill because he devoted all his energy to a peaceful "revolution."

"He was like a father to us. He taught us how to love our country, our culture and our sovereignty," said Madeleine Gutierrez, 29, an architect. Tears streamed down her cheeks as she hugged friends in a plaza named for Chavez's hero Simon Bolivar, who liberated much of Latin America from Spanish colonial rule.

"Chavez lives! The fight goes on!" people chanted. Clad in red, the colour of the Socialist Party, they thronged the balmy streets of Caracas, creating rivers of crimson in homage to the departed president. Bands of motorcyclists honked their horns in impromptu motorcades.

Critics say Chavez squandered the wealth from an oil price bonanza by spending too much on inefficient social welfare programmes, lost control of inflation, allowed violent crime to surge and insulted US and European leaders for sport.

But with his African and indigenous heritage, Chavez was the face of the masses in the South American country who say their needs were ignored for decades by lighter-skinned rulers until he arrived.

"He gave his life for us. You could call him a martyr," said Jose Rondon, 48, wearing a beret like one used by Chavez, at the hospital where the president died. Rondon works for a union group affiliated with the Chavez government and, like many of the people on the streets interviewed by *Reuters*, has ties to his party.—*Reuters*

***People stand beside a portrait of the late President Hugo Chavez during a vigil in Venezuela's Embassy in Havana on 6 March, 2013.*—REUTERS**

Nine killed in plane crash in northern Peru

LIMA, 7 March — All nine people on board an airplane chartered by a small Peruvian mining company died after the plane became ensnared in power lines and crashed to the ground in northern Peru on Wednesday, authorities and the company said.

The company, Retamas, said seven of its employees were killed in the accident Wednesday morning, which happened minutes before the plane was expected to land at a nearby airport in the La Libertad region. "Due to bad weather the plane got caught up in power cables. There are nine dead — the pilot, the co-pilot and seven others," regional police chief Roger Torres told local media.

Residents in the region told the Peruvian radio programme RPP that they had found the charred remains of the plane and those on board. Retamas is among the top ten gold producers in Peru, which is the sixth largest gold producer in the world and exported more than 160 tonnes of bullion last year.

Reuters

UN partially lifts arms embargo on Somalia for a year

***A Somali National Army soldier rests on the frontline with his rocket-propelled grenade (RPG) launcher beside him, while marching towards the town of Buurhakaba on 24 Feb, 2013 in this picture provided by the African Union-United Nations Information Support Team (AU-UN IST).*—REUTERS**

UNITED NATIONS, 7 March — The UN Security Council agreed on Wednesday to partially lift a decades-old arms embargo on Somalia for one year, allowing the government in Mogadishu to buy light weapons to strengthen its security forces to fight al-Qaeda-linked Islamists.

The 15-member council unanimously adopted a British-drafted resolution that also renewed an African Union peacekeeping force for a year and reconfigured the UN mission in the Horn of Africa country.

Somalia's government had asked for the arms embargo to be removed entirely and the United States supported that, but other UN member states were wary about completely lifting the embargo on a country that is already awash with weapons, diplomats said.

"What we have tried to do is draw a balance between those who wanted an unrestricted lifting of the arms embargo and those who felt it was premature to lift the arms embargo," Britain's UN Ambassador Mark Lyall Grant told reporters. "It is a good and strong compromise."

The embargo on Somalia was imposed in 1992 to cut the flow of weapons to warlords, who a year earlier had ousted dictator Mohamed Siad Barre and plunged the country into civil war. Somalia held its first vote since 1991 last year to elect a president and prime minister.

The Security Council resolution leaves in place a ban on surface-to-air missiles, large-calibre guns, howitzers, cannons and mortars as well as anti-tank guided weapons, mines and night vision weapon sights.

Reuters

Syria's refugee tide passes one-million mark

TRIPOLI, 7 March — A 19-year-old mother of two registered on Wednesday as the millionth refugee to flee Syria, part of an accelerating exodus that is piling pressure on neighbouring host countries.

Wearing a green headscarf and holding her young daughter, Bushra smiled nervously as she waited at Lebanon's main registration centre in the northern city of Tripoli, which processes 800 Syrians a day.

"The situation is very bad for us. We can't find work," she said. "I live with 20 people in one room. We can't find any other house as it is too expensive. We want to return to Syria. We wish for the crisis to be resolved."

Syrians started trickling out of the country nearly two years ago when President Bashar al-Assad's forces shot at pro-democracy protests inspired by Arab revolts elsewhere.

The uprising has since turned into an increasingly sectarian struggle between armed rebels and government soldiers and militias. An estimated 70,000 people have been killed.

Around half the refugees are children, most of them aged under 11, and the numbers leaving are mounting every week, the United Nations refugee agency said in statement.—*Reuters*

Syrian refugee children stand inside their a tent at the Al Zaatri refugee camp in the Jordanian city of Mafraq, near the border with Syria, on 6 March, 2013.
REUTERS

US fighting use of armoured cars in money laundering

ST LOUIS, 7 March — Mexican drug cartels are using armoured-car firms to help shield their efforts to smuggle and launder billions of cash dollars into legitimate-looking business profits, US authorities believe, and financial regulators are seeking to crack down.

The Treasury's anti-money laundering unit, the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN), is preparing guidance for banks on how they should report receipt of large sums of cash from customers via armoured-car deliveries, a Treasury official said. Current reporting practices have allowed for gaps in tracking the money.

***Motorists wait in lanes of traffic heading into the United States from Mexico at the US border crossing in San Ysidro, California on 27 Sept, 2011.*—REUTERS**

The goal is to give law-enforcement authorities access to better information about the people involved in large cash transactions, which increasingly include large sums of currency repatriated having been smuggled to Mexico by drug traffickers eager to hide their source.

"Based on some of the activity we've seen as a result of the currency restrictions in Mexico, the activity of armoured-car companies and the different business models that they use, we've begun to think about how we should be dealing with that industry as a whole," said FinCEN official Jamal El Hindi.

Reuters

Sudden gust strands vessel in Fiji, passengers safe

SUVA, 7 March–A passenger ship got stuck on a reef near Fiji's Koro Island early Thursday and arrangements were being made to send another vessel to pick up the 110 passengers on board, local media reported.

MV Spirit of Fiji Islands was pulling out from Koro Island around 5 a.m. local time when a sudden gust of wind came to its portside, news website Fijivillage reported, adding "all the passengers are safe."

Adriel Prasad, general manager of Consort Shipping Ltd., said the company has activated all safety and emergency procedures and was trying to arrange another ship to travel to the island to pick up the stranded passengers, who were being looked after well during this situation.

Xinhua

REGIONAL

European Commission President Jose Barroso (R) and Prime Minister of Thailand Yingluck Shinawatra hold a Press briefing at EU's headquaters in Brussels, capital of Belgium, on 6 March, 2013. EU and Thailand announced on Wednesday the launch of negotiations on a free trade agreement (FTA), seeking to boost bilateral trade which already amounted almost 30 billion euros in 2011.—XINHUA

PM Yingluck calls Thailand haven for foreign investment during visit to Europe

BANGKOK, 7 March—Thai Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra on Wednesday urged the Belgian private sectors to take part in investment in Thailand's mega infrastructure projects during her official visit, *Thai News Agency* reported.

During a meeting with her Belgian counterpart Elio Di Rupo, the Thai premier said Thailand has enjoyed political and economic stability, and a gross domestic product (GDP) growth of 6.4 percent.

Investment opportunities are vast in Thailand given its potential as a gateway for European Union countries to the Southeast Asian region and the 66 billion US dollars mega project by Thai governments involving transport, telecommunications and energy, she said.

She also asked the Belgian prime minister to consider Schengen visa waivers for Thai passport holders to promote tourism between the two countries. Yingluck made a similar request to the Swedish leader during her visit to Stockholm on Tuesday. The Thai and Belgian premiers agreed in principle to exchange knowledge on medical science, food safety, innovative technology, high-level research and development and logistics to boost Thailand's competitive edge. Later Wednesday Yingluck is scheduled to meet with Jose Manuel Barroso, European Commission president when they will announce the enforcement of the Thai-European Union Free Trade Agreement.

Xinhua

85 arrested for suspected drug offence in Singapore's two-day operation

SINGAPORE, 7 March—Eighty-five suspected drug offenders were arrested in a two-day island-wide operation conducted by Singapore's Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB), the bureau said on Wednesday.

Drugs worth more than 15,000 Singapore dollars (12,048 US dollars) were seized in the 48-hour operation conducted jointly with officers from the Singapore Police Force from 4 to 6 March, including 117 grams of heroin, 14 grams of "Ice", 25 grams of cannabis and a small amount of ketamine.

"This latest island-wide operation is part of the CNB's ongoing intensive enforcement efforts to remove illicit drug activities from the streets," the bureau said in a statement.

The bureau also detailed the chasing process of the suspected drug offenders, including drug abusers and drug traffickers. Singapore is zero tolerant to drug offenders.

The CNB said that a man arrested during the operation this time is being investigated for drug trafficking. If convicted, he may face a minimum sentence of five years' imprisonment and five strokes of the cane.

Xinhua

Japan's new tsunami warning system focuses on evacuation

TOKYO, 7 March—The Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) on Thursday adopted a new tsunami warning system, which primarily focuses on appropriate evacuation advisories rather than details of the incoming waves, local media reported.

Under the new warning system, the JMA will mark an expected tsunami only with "HUGE" or "HIGH" in the first round of warnings within three minutes after a preliminary 8-magnitude or larger earthquake occurs so as to alert people to the state of the emergency.

"HUGE" refers to tsunami with heights of more than 3 metres and "HIGH" to those above 1 meter, according to the JMA.

The agency suggests that people should "evacuate from coastal or river area immediately to safer places such as high ground and tsunami evacuation buildings" after the huge or high tsunami warnings are issued. If the tsunami advisories marking the waves over 20 cm are issued, people should "get out of water and leave coastal areas immediately," said the agency, also suggesting people do not engage in fishing and swimming until advisories are lifted.

Local media also reported that the agency would use expressions as "great East Japan earthquake level tsunami may come" to warn the public.

In the second round of warnings within 15 minutes after a quake, the JMA will classify the height of the expected tsunami as more than 10 metres, 10 metres, 5 metres, 3 metres and 1 metre. The agency said the warnings and advisories were based on the upper limits of each level for expected tsunami heights so as to avoid underestimation. A 9.0-magnitude earthquake hit Japan on 11 March, 2011 and triggered devastating tsunami off the country's northeast coast, leaving more than 15,000 people dead.

Xinhua

A policeman directs traffic on a street in Hanoi on 6 March, 2013. Pot-bellied, short, or abusive traffic policemen will be barred from working on the streets of Vietnam's capital and assigned desk jobs instead as Hanoi police try to clean up their unsavoury image, a newspaper reported on Wednesday.—REUTERS

Vietnam capital to reassign obese, rude traffic cops

HANOI, 7 March —Pot-bellied, short, or abusive traffic policemen will be barred from working on the streets of Vietnam's capital and assigned desk jobs instead as Hanoi police try to clean up their unsavoury image, a newspaper reported on Wednesday.

The city's traffic police are following the worst offenders closely and compiling lists of those to be reassigned. All police on traffic duty will be made to carry a book on the code of conduct to remind them how to behave, the official *Tien Phong (Vanguard)* newspaper said.

"Little officers, or those with too big a belly will be moved to work in offices instead of guiding traffic and settling violations," Colonel Dao Vinh Thang, head of the Hanoi Traffic Police Department, was quoted by Tien Phong as saying.

He said five teams of inspectors had been sent to monitor the behaviour of police on the street. Thang could not be reached for additional comment.

Tempers often flare in the city of 7 million famous for constant streams of motorcycles and sometimes haphazard driving. Complaints have mounted about the conduct of traffic police, including allegations of corruption and abusive behaviour.

The latest initiative follows the deployment in January of female traffic police, all part of a campaign to improve the image of the security forces.

Reuters

Eight killed in traffic accident in West Java, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 7 March—A small truck collided with a mini van in Cirebon of West Java on Wednesday, killing 8 people and seriously injuring 4, police said.

The accident occurred when the truck was having a problem with its brake and passing the street at the line for other vehicles from opposite direction, which made it can not avoid a collision with the van suddenly appearing from the opposite direction, West Java police chief Martinus Sitompul said.

"Because of this accident 8 people were killed and 4 others got serious injuries," he was quoted by detik online, one of the leading news portal in the country, as saying.

All the wounded persons have been rushed to a nearby hospital, while the truck driver is detained by police for investigation, he said.

Xinhua

Indian teen goes on trial for gang rape, murder

NEW DELHI, 7 March—An Indian teenager went on trial on Wednesday charged with taking part in the gang rape and murder of a young physiotherapist, a case which has sparked soul-searching about whether the country is too soft on young offenders.

Police say the juvenile and five men lured the 23-year-old woman and her male friend on to a New Delhi bus where they repeatedly raped her and beat them both before tossing them on to a road.

The woman died of internal injuries in Singapore two weeks after the 16 December attack in a case that sparked violent protests and turned a global spotlight on the treatment of women in India. The 17-year-old defendant, who cannot be named under Indian law, has been charged with the same 13 offences as his co-accused, including rape, murder and robbery, but is being tried separately by the juvenile court.—*Reuters*

Six men with their faces covered, accused of a gang rape in Punjab are escorted by police to a court at Gurdaspur in the northern Indian state of Punjab on 13 Jan, 2013.
REUTERS

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV MOROTAI VOY NO (201)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MOROTAI VOY NO (201) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.3.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CMA CGM

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV PHUONG NAM-69 VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PHUONG NAM-69 VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.3.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W (1) 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: RK SHIPPING & TRADING PTE LTD

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOOKYANG EXPRESS VOY NO (1)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOOKYANG EXPRESS VOY NO (1) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.3.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W (2) 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: EASTERN CAR LINER S'PORE PTE LTD.

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV EVER ABLE VOY NO (336N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV EVER ABLE VOY NO (336N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.3.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S EVER GREEN SHIPPING

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

A handicapped Pakistani artist uses his foot to paint a wall along a street in eastern Pakistan's Lahore, on 6 March, 2013. More than 200 art students and youths participated in a street art painting competition run by a local youth organization with the aim of improving the city vista. —Xinhua

BRICS Business Council to be launched during summit in S Africa

JOHANNESBURG, 7 March — A BRICS Business Council will be launched during the group's fifth summit this month in a step to intensify cooperation of five emerging economies, South Africa Trade and Industry Minister Rob Davies said on Wednesday.

The BRICS summit will be held in Durban, South Africa on 26-17 March. Davies said the council will constitute a platform to strengthen economic ties, trade and investment between the business communities of the five BRICS countries of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. .

The minister stated that the council will provide technical support, consultative advice and facilitate the implementation of multilateral business projects. The council will focus on specific areas.

"These areas include promotion of trade and industry and business cooperation, technology transfer and development, tapping business opportunities in third countries and multilateral business, advisory role, cooperation in the fields of manufacturing, infrastructure, banking and financial services, green economy, skills development and training and small and medium enterprises," Davies said in a statement.

The minister added that the council will have regular dialogue between the business communities and the five BRICS governments.—*Xinhua*

Agricultural training, trade talks open New Zealand-Colombia relationship

WELLINGTON, 7 March — New Zealand Prime Minister John Key has agreed to help fund the training of agricultural workers in Colombia as part of a process to open up trade between the two nations.

Key, the first New Zealand prime minister to visit the Latin American nation, said that he and Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos had directed official to prepare a strategic assessment regarding a bilateral comprehensive economic partnership.

Colombia was a member of the Pacific Alliance trade grouping with Chile, Mexico and Peru to which New Zealand held observer status, while New Zealand also had a free trade agreement with Chile, and was part of Trans Pacific Partnership negotiations with Chile, Peru and Mexico, said Key.

"However, Colombia is the only member of the Pacific Alliance with which New Zealand does not have a pathway to open trade and investment, and rectifying that would benefit both countries," Key said in a statement from his office on Thursday.

New Zealand would also invest 3.4 million US dollars over four years in a joint project with the Colombian government to support the agricultural sector, through training and the sharing of New Zealand's technical expertise.

"Colombia has made huge strides, economically and politically, over the past decade, and is fast becoming a major player in Latin America. Its agricultural sector is on the rise, and President Santos has told me Colombia's dairy industry would benefit enormously from New Zealand's skills and investment," Key said.

"The demand for New Zealand's expertise is opening up opportunities in Colombia for New Zealand businesses to invest in the local economy and export not only their goods, but their services."—*Xinhua*

Models present Italian jewellery during the Hong Kong International Jewellery Show in Hong Kong, south China, on 6 March, 2013.—Xinhua

Horsemeat found in Ragu pasta sauce in Italy

ROME, 7 March — Italy's Health Ministry said on Wednesday that horsemeat has been found in more prepackaged products labeled beef.

Horse DNA was uncovered in ragu pasta sauce of Lombardy-based Star group, which recalled the product from supermarket shelves around the country, the ministry said in a statement published on its website.

The discovery was the latest in a widening scandal that surfaced in mid-January when Irish food inspectors detected horsemeat in frozen beef burgers made by firms in Ireland and Britain.

The scandal has since spread across Europe, stoking consumer anger and government investigations, which led supermarket chains to remove millions of products from the shelves.

Xinhua

Seven indigenous people died in house fire in northeastern Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, 7 March — Seven persons died and one injured in a wooden house fire early Thursday in Mondolkiri province's Senmonorom town in far northeastern Cambodia, police said. The incident happened at 2:15 am local time early Thursday at the house of an ethnic minority family in a plot of farmland in the town, Peril Ramming, police chief of Senmonorom town, said on Thursday.

"A family including father, mother and five children were killed in the blaze," he told *Xinhua* over telephone. "Another woman, who is the family's relative, was in critical condition while she escaped the fire by jumping out of the burning stilt- wooden house through a window."

He said that among the dead, four were aged between 2 and 8 years old.

Police concluded that the blaze was caused by a burnt cigarette smoked by the drunken father, he said.

"In their house, there were several containers of gasoline and engines as well as two motorcycles. After he smoked, he probably threw the burnt cigarette nearby the gasoline containers and ignited the fire," he said.

It was the second remarkable fire incident in Cambodia after the first one happened at a night market in the tourism hub in northwestern Siem Reap Province in December, killing 8 people.—*Xinhua*

ENTERTAINMENT

'Skyfall' director Sam Mendes says no to Bond 24

LONDON, 7 March — British director Sam Mendes will not direct the next James Bond movie, despite impressing critics and breaking box office records with "Skyfall", the 23rd movie in the spy series. Speaking to *Empire* magazine in an interview published on Wednesday, the Oscar-winning filmmaker said he would be focusing on his theatre projects for the foreseeable future.

The success of "Skyfall", the top-grossing Bond film having earned more than $1.1 billion at the global box office, had led to media speculation that Mendes would return for Bond 24.

"It has been a very difficult decision not to accept Michael and Barbara's very generous offer to direct the next Bond movie," said Mendes, referring to Bond producers Barbara Broccoli and Michael G Wilson.

"Directing "Skyfall" was one of the best experiences of my professional life, but I have theatre and other commitments, including productions of "Charlie And The Chocolate Factory" and "King Lear", that need my complete focus over the next year and beyond."

Reuters

Director Sam Mendes arrives for the royal world premiere of the new 007 film "Skyfall'' at the Royal Albert Hall in London on 23 Oct, 2012.
REUTERS

Priyanka Chopra

Priyanka excited about her first item song

KOLKATA, 7 March — Priyanka Chopra is excited about her first item song 'Babli Badmash Hai' in Ekta Kapoor produced 'Shootout at Wadala'.

"I did want (to) work with Ekta, and she was very persistent about the song. It was a conscious decision for me not to do an item song after all these years in Bollywood.

"But it was great opportunity as both of us had really wanted to work with each other."— *PTI*

Tribeca Film Festival showcases eclectic mix of directors, films

NEW YORK, 7 March — The Tribeca Film Festival opens next month with 89 feature films from new and established directors, ranging from hard-hitting documentaries to romantic and teen comedies and gripping dramas. More than 6,000 films from 30 countries were submitted to this year's festival, which was established more than a decade ago to revitalize the New York neighbourhood devastated by the 11 September attacks on the World Trade Centre.

Along with the 34 documentaries and 55 narrative feature films, the festival that runs from 17 to 28 April will include five projects in a new section called Storyscapes about trends in digital media. Documentaries will focus on famous people such as comedians Moms Mabley and Richard Pryor, along with Broadway actress Elaine Stritch, as well as movies that delve into the oil industry and hydraulic fracturing, or fracking.

Tribeca Film Festival co-founder Robert De Niro attends the opening night ceremony and gala screening of ''The Reluctant Fundamentalist'' during the 2012 Doha Tribeca Film Festival at Al Mirqab Hotel in Doha on 17 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

The romantic comedy "The Pretty One," the final chapter of Richard Linklater's trilogy, "Before Midnight," and Neil Jordan's gothic vampire drama "Byzantium" will be among the narrative fiction films. "When we talk about the narrative competition, we talk about the kind of films that left us thinking about that film two days later, that really made a personal impact on us, that moved us," Geoff Gilmore, the creative chief officer of Tribeca Enterprises, said in an interview. —*Reuters*

Bruno Mars tops Billboard 200 chart with help from Amazon MP3

LOS ANGELES, 7 March — R&B singer Bruno Mars grabbed the top spot on the Billboard 200 album chart on Wednesday for the first time after discounted online prices boosted sales of "Unorthodox Jukebox" some four months after its release. Mars' album, which includes the hit "Locked Out of Heaven," sold 95,000 copies last week, according to figures from Nielsen SoundScan.

Industry magazine Billboard said 64,000 units of the album were digital downloads following a one-day sale of $1.99 on Amazon.com's MP3 site. Atoms for Peace, the rock group fronted by Radiohead singer Thom Yorke, claimed the second spot with their debut album "Amok" entering the chart at No 2, selling 50,000 units. Mumford & Sons' Grammy-winning album "Babel" fell from the top spot last week into third, while the same Amazon MP3 online sale that helped Mars also vaulted hip-hop duo Macklemore & Ryan Lewis' album "The Heist" from No 16 to No 4.

Singer Bruno Mars performs during the Victoria's Secret Fashion Show in New York on 7 Nov, 2012.
REUTERS

Hillsong United, the band from Australian megachurch Hillsong, rounded out the top five with the album "Zion," selling 34,000 units in its first week. Three of the top four albums are distributed by independent companies rather than large conglomerates, the first time it has happened since Nielsen SoundScan began tracking sales in 1991, Billboard said. Alternative Distribution Alliance distributed albums for Atoms for Peace and Macklemore & Ryan Lewis. RED Distribution released "Babel" for Mumford & Sons.

On the digital songs chart, Macklemore & Ryan Lewis' cheeky rap "Thrift Shop" held at No 1 for the eighth consecutive week with 326,000 downloads, a 10 percent decline from last week.—*Reuters*

Salman Khan, Anushka Sharma most wanted celebrities online

NEW DELHI, 7 March — Bollywood stars Salman Khan and Anushka Sharma have emerged as the most wanted celebrities online in India, according to a recent study. The vivacious Anushka was the most liked and wanted female celebrity online in the months of December 2012 and January 2013, while Salman topped the survey in the male category in a study, conducted by Kwaab.com, an online social cataloguing portal.

The study, based on half a million catalogued images among 50,000-plus users, observed the aspirations of Indians' favourite idols, gadgets, food and luxury items, said a statement.—*PTI*

Salman Khan and Anushka Sharma have emerged as the most liked and wanted celebrities online .—PTI

SPORTS

FIFA concerned with Maracana delays

Rio de Janeiro, 7 March—World football governing body FIFA has reiterated its concern at delays in the redevelopment of Rio de Janeiro's Maracana Stadium for the 2014 World Cup.

The iconic venue is still without a roof and turf as workers battle around the clock to finish the arena ahead of FIFA's 15 April deadline. Maracana is scheduled to stage three FIFA Confederations Cup matches in June, including the tournament final. FIFA originally gave the event's six venues a December deadline to complete refurbishment works but only Fortaleza's Castelao and Belo Horizonte's Mineirao are ready.

"The city which I will be visiting in two days is the one that worries me the most," FIFA secretary-general Jerome Valcke said during his tour of Recife's Arena Pernambuco on Tuesday. Valcke was due to visit Bolo Horizonte on Wednesday and Rio de Janeiro on Thursday, where an inspection of the Maracana will be followed by a meeting with the local 2014 World Cup organizing committee.

Xinhua

Azarenka driven by new memories, not past glories

Indian Wells, (California), 7 March—For a second successive year, Victoria Azarenka brings red-hot form to Indian Wells for the BNP Paribas Open but the confident Belarusian has no desire to reflect on past glories. Rather than look for motivation in a perfect 14-0 record in 2013 as she prepares to defend her title at a venue where she feels extremely comfortable, Azarenka prefers to focus on the present in her bid to create even better memories.

"I never think about how I played yesterday and trying to bring good memories with me too much because it doesn't really matter," world number two Azarenka, 23, told reporters at Indian Wells Tennis Garden on Wednesday. "I prefer to make new memories. You always remember when you win the good things that happened, you never remember how you couldn't make a forehand or you couldn't make a backhand at a tournament."

"So for me, I am really excited to be here and hopefully I will continue to play well. I always look forwards to my first match and we'll start from there." Twelve months ago, Azarenka clinched her fourth title of the year with a 6-2, 6-3 demolition of an error-prone Maria Sharapova in the final of the Indian Wells WTA tournament, improving her record for the season to 23-0. That unbeaten run eventually ended at 26-0, the best start to a season since Swiss Martina Hingis recorded 37 consecutive victories to launch her 1997 campaign. Fast forward one year and Azarenka is back at it again after successfully defending her Australian Open crown in January before going on to win last month's Qatar Open by outclassing Serena Williams 7-6, 2-6, 6-3 in the final.—*Reuters*

Victoria Azarenka of Belarus is interviewed during a media availability at the BNP Paribas Open WTA tennis tournament in Indian Wells, California, on 6 March, 2013.—Reuters

Retired Ukrainian pole vaulter Sergey Bubka attends the last day of the boxing competition at the London Olympics on 12 Aug, 2012.—Reuters

Bubka says Suhr record will spur Isinbayeva

Moscow, 7 March—American Jenn Suhr's world indoor pole vault record will give extra motivation to Russian Yelena Isinbayeva and push the sport forward generally, former Olympic and world champion Sergei Bubka said on Wednesday. Suhr broke Isinbayeva's world indoor record of 5.01 metres by one centimetre last weekend after winning the Olympic gold medal in London ahead of the 2004 and 2008 champion who finished third.

"First of all, I'd like to point out that it (Suhr's record) is a great achievement in itself because she became only the second woman ever to go over five meters," the great Ukrainian pole vaulter told *Reuters* in an interview. "It (the rivalry) is good for competition and ultimately it will be good for the sport as a whole because the competition pushes the sport forward," said Bubka, who set 35 world records during his career.

Isinbayeva, 30, dominated women's pole vaulting after setting her first world record in 2003 but has struggled after failing to clear a height at the 2009 world championships. She is not competing indoors this season but is training hard for the world outdoor championships in Moscow in August. —*Reuters*

Vijay dominates Asian rankings, number 2 in world

New Delhi, 7 March—London Olympic silver medallist Vijay Kumar continued his stranglehold over the number one spot in the Asian shooting rankings for 25-metre rapidfire pistol while retaining the number two position in the world list.

Vijay has logged 2321 points to maintain his lead over second-placed Feng Ding (2015) of China in his pet event.—*PTI*

Su Bingtian set new Chinese national record in men's 60m sprint

Nanjing, 7 March — China's top sprinter Su Bingtian broke his own national record in men's 60m dash at the country's indoor athletics championships here on Wednesday.

The 23-year-old levelled the national record of 6.56 seconds set by himself in 2011 in the preliminary round in the morning, and went on to improve the old mark by 0.01 second in the afternoon's final.

The world record of 6.39 was set by American sprinter Maurice Greene in Atlanta on 3 March, 2001 while the Asian record belongs to Qatar's Talal MansourAl-Rahim, who was timed 6.51 on 3 March, 1993.

Su is considered as one of the most talented sprinters in China. In the 2012 London Olympic Games, he became the first Chinese to make into the semifinals of men's 100m race in Olympic history.—*Xinhua*

China's top sprinter Su Bingtian

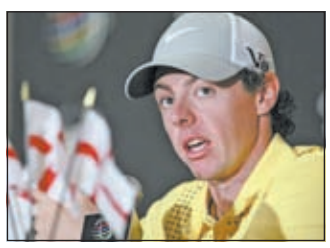
Contrite McIlroy hoping to find fun in the game again

Miami, 7 March—If one thing was clear from Rory McIlroy's meeting with the media on Wednesday it was that five days of constant criticism and speculation have not embittered the 23-year-old Northern Irishman. McIlroy's appeal, alongside his outstanding talent on the golf course, has been his genuine and open approach and what admirers might call a boyish charm, or those less generous would term naivety.

Facing questions in public for the first time since his walk-out, McIlroy kept his cool, made his apology and promises and did so in his usual open and sincere manner. The only indication that the fallout from his mid-round walk-off at the Honda Classic last week had angered McIlroy was a twitter exchange with Irish pop singer Ronan Keating on Tuesday. McIlroy used the abbreviation 'FTB' in a tweet which was taken by many as a reference to a Keating tattoo which states 'F- The Begrudgers'.

"It's a little private joke between friends, and something I probably can't divulge on live TV," said McIlroy when asked on Wednesday about the tweet. Of course, it was hardly private when posted to his 1.5 million followers on the social media site and the fact that the Northern Irishman deleted the reference indicates that this, like his withdrawal at PGA National, was something that would have benefited from a few minute's calm reflection. But, as McIlroy's many friends on the PGA tour have been quick to point out, the world number one is only 23 and he certainly is not the only young man to have posted something inappropriate on the Internet.

Reuters



Northern Ireland's Rory McIlroy speaks at a news conference during a practice day for the 2013 WGC-Cadillac Championship PGA golf tournament in Doral, Florida on 6 March, 2013.—Reuters

Delhi to host Junior Hockey WC from 6-15 December

Lausanne, (Switzerland), 7 March—New Delhi's Major Dhyan Chand Stadium will play host to the men's Hero Hockey Junior World Cup from 6-15 December , the International Hockey Federation said here today.

Apart from Junior World Cup, the Indian capital will also host the men's Hero Hockey World League Finals from 10-18 January next year.

The Junior World Cup is held once in every four years and will feature the top 16 men's junior teams.

PTI

US and Mexico to compete for FIFA executive spot

Miami, 7 March—The United States and Mexico, who meet in a crucial World Cup qualifier later this month, are also going head-to-head in the election for a place on FIFA's powerful executive committee. CONCACAF, the confederation for North and Central America and the Caribbean, said US Soccer Federation president Sunil Gulati and Mexican Football Federation president Justino Compean will face off in an election on 19 April in Panama City.

The pair are standing for the position of North American representative to FIFA's executive but a vote will be taken of all CONCACAF's member associations at the April congress. The position was held for 16 years by American Chuck Blazer, who has not put himself forward for a fifth term. The vote will provide a barometer of the balance of power within CONCACAF after the scandal involving former president Jack Warner, who resigned after allegations of 'cash for votes' in the FIFA presidential election.

Trinidadian Warner dominated CONCACAF from the late 1980's and his departure in June 2011 has led to major changes in the body. Gulati also faces a challenger for a place on CONCACAF's own executive— Canadian Victor Montagliani is standing against the American. CONCACAF president Jeffrey Webb was nominated unopposed to be the representative of the Caribbean associations—Webb is a member of the Cayman Islands Football Association and is a FIFA vice-president.

The position of Central American representative to FIFA, currently held by Guatemalan Rafael Salguero, is not up for election in this cycle.—*Reuters*

GENERAL

Baseball: Cuba bombards Japan to win Pool A

FUKUOKA, 7 March — Japanese baseball faced its Cuban missile crisis on Wednesday and was found wanting as Cuba bombarded its World Baseball Classic nemesis 6-3 in their first-round Pool A finale at Fukuoka Dome.

The victory, Cuba's first in four WBC games against Japan, earned manager Victor Mesa's men the Pool A championship. They will open quarterfinal Pool 1 at Tokyo Dome on Friday against Pool B runner-up the Netherlands. Japan will play the second game, against Pool B winner and longtime Asian rival Taiwan. The winner and runner-up at Tokyo Dome will advance to the final round in San Francisco.

Yasmani Tomas belted a third-inning solo home run and Alfredo Despaigne hit a three-run shot that iced the game in the eighth inning in game with a paid attendance of 26,860.

The loss was Japan's sixth in three tournaments. Four of those losses came at the hands of South Korea. The other was a controversial defeat to the United States in the 2006 quarterfinals.

Kyodo News

Brave from Valencia but PSG into last 8 of Champions League

MADRID, 7 March —Paris Saint Germain qualified for the last eight of the Champions League 3-2 on aggregate after a 1- 1 draw at home with Valencia on Wednesday night in a game in which the Spanish side perhaps deserved a better result for their never- say-die attitude. Although they had been comprehensively outplayed by the big-spending French side in the opening match between the two sides, it was clear that Valencia had not travelled to Paris with an inferiority complex. Knowing they needed to score at least two goals to have any chance of qualifying, Ernesto Valverde's side looked to take the game to their rivals from the start, perhaps mindful that the suspension of Paris striker, Zlatan Ibrahimovich had left the French team without their most charismatic and decisive player.

Jonas Goncalves and Roberto Soldado, who saw a low drive well saved by PSG goalkeeper, Salvator Sirigu, gave the first warnings for Valencia against a side that looked happy to look for the chance to play on the break, despite being in front of their own fans.

PSG were forced into a change before the half hour when right back Christophe Jallet was forced out of the game through injury and was replaced by Van de Wiel. Valencia continued to look dangerous with Sofiane Feghouli enjoying space on the right, but some dangerous crosses were well dealt with by the Paris defence. A brusque challenge by Valencia central defender, Victor Ruiz after 37 minutes earned him a booking and left Blaise Matudi struggling with a knock to his ribs and David Beckham began warming up on the touchline as a precaution.

Jonas saw another shot saved as Valencia continued to attack, but the half ended with Paris again looking a threat on the break. Valencia had deserved a goal for their first half courage and Jonas got them right back into the tie 10 minutes into the second half with a powerful shot from outside of the area which went in next to the post. Valverde looked for pace in attack and swapped Pablo Piatti for Feghouli, who had run his socks off in the first hour. Paris equalized after 65 minutes with a scrambled goal from Ezequiel Lavazza after Dani Parejo had lost the ball in the Valencia midfield.—*Reuters*

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(8-3-13 09:30 am ~ 9-3-13 09:30 am) MST

* News
* Reinforcing Skills for Local Photojournalist in 5th Yangon Photo Festival
* Commax Products Launching Ceremony
* Record Album
* Lush and Green Myanmar Land
* News
* "Myanmar Movies Impact" Heart Hit (Part-2)
* News
* Mingalar Byuha anf Courses of Buddha Desana
* News
* 65th Anniversary of Chin National Day
* Orchild Products for Healthy Lifestyle
* News
* "Travelogue" Hpa-an
* Myanma Generosity
* News
* Astrology & Astronomy
* News
* Youth's Vista on Status Women
* Fossilized Wood Picture
* Myanmar Movies "Challenging of Love"

Myanmar TV

(8-3-2013, Friday)

7:00 am
1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw

7:25 am
2. To Be Healthy Exercises

7:30 am
3. Morning News

7:40 am
4. International News

8:00 am
5. Teleplay (Agri)

8:30 am
6. The Mirror Images of The Musical Oldies

8:35 am
7. Traditional Game

8:50 am
8. Musical Programme

4:00 pm
9. Opening Song

4:05 pm
10. Musical Programme

4:15 pm
11. Dance of National Races

4:25 pm
12. Documentary

4:35 pm
13. Song of Yester Years

4:40 pm
14. 2013 University Entrance Examination (Physics)

5:00 pm
15. Songs For Upholding National Spirit

5:05 pm
16. Myanmar Language

5:25 pm
17. India Dramma Series

6:00 pm
18. Evening News

6:15 pm
19. Weather Report

6:20 pm
20. Amazing World

6:50 pm
21. TV Drama Series

7:00 pm
22. News

7:10 pm
23. TV Drama Series

8:00
24. News
25. People Talks
26. International News
27. Weather Report
28. Documentary
29. Nostalgiato Myanma Cultural Arts

10:00 pm
30. News
31. Teleplay

Detroit turns down invitation to bid on 2024 Olympics

DETROIT, 7 March— Detroit Mayor Dave Bing on Wednesday turned down an invitation to bid on hosting the 2024 Summer Olympics, citing "uncertainty" over the city's long-term financial stability. One of 35 US cities to receive an invitation from the United States Olympic Committee (USOC), Detroit is teetering on the verge of bankruptcy and would be an unlikely candidate to host the games. Detroit bid unsuccessfully to host the Olympics seven times between 1944 and 1972. A statement released by Bing's office said the city's "rich history of hosting major events" and its location across the river from Canada make Detroit "an appealing candidate" to host the summer games in 2024. "Unfortunately, due to the timing and uncertainty of Detroit's long-term financial stability, we must respectfully decline to participate," the statement said. Bidders are required to make an up-front $10 million payment and commit to a $3 billion operating budget.

City of Detroit Mayor Dave Bing talks about the future of the city during an interview in his office in Detroit, Michigan on 5 Feb, 2013.—REUTERS

Detroit in recent years has hosted a number of major sporting events, including a National Football League Super Bowl, NHL Stanley Cup hockey playoffs, NBA and NCAA basketball finals and Major League Baseball's World Series. Bing's statement comes just days after Michigan Governor Rick Snyder announced a financial emergency in Detroit and his intention to appoint an emergency manager to control the city's finances. The USOC sent invitations to bid to the nation's 25 largest cities —Detroit is 18th—plus an additional 10 cities that had expressed interest, in February.

At the time, the governor's office called the bid invitation "a welcomed vote of confidence" in Detroit's future. USOC spokesman Patrick Sandusky said any city may bid but must meet several requirements, including having 45,000 hotel rooms, an Olympic Village that sleeps 16,500 and has a 5000-person dining hall, operations space for more than 15,000 media and broadcasters and an international airport.—*Reuters*

Wozniacki backs beleaguered boyfriend McIlroy

INDIAN WELLS, (California), 7 March— Having had her own fair share of knocks in recent months while struggling for form on the tennis court, Caroline Wozniacki sprang to the defence of her golfing boyfriend Rory McIlroy in his time of trouble on Wednesday.

McIlroy, golf's world number one, told a news conference in Miami earlier in the day that he had been wrong to walk off mid-round at last week's Honda Classic and admitted his toothache was not bad enough to justify quitting the tournament.

"I think Rory did a really great job at the press conference," Danish former world number one Wozniacki told reporters while preparing for the BNP Paribas Open at Indian Wells. "He said what he had to say. He was honest. Now he's got to go out there this week and hopefully play some good golf." McIlroy, who is competing this week in the elite WGC-Cadillac Championship at Doral, admitted to reporters that he had erred in withdrawing from last week's event at PGA National. "Obviously I've had a lot of time to think about it," the 23-year-old Northern Irishman said. "I realized pretty quickly that it wasn't the right thing to do. "No matter how bad I was playing, I should have stayed out there.

Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark smiles as she is interviewed during a media availability at the BNP Paribas Open WTA tennis tournament in Indian Wells, California, on 6 March, 2013.—REUTERS

I should have tried to shoot the best score possible." McIlroy, who played the first eight holes in seven-over-par before quitting, initially said he was not in a "good place mentally" but a later statement cited pain from his wisdom tooth.—*Reuters*

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The New Light of Myanmar

Friday, 8 March, 2013

Printing and Publishing Bill not disrupt freedom of expression, publishing

Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 7 March—Union Minister for Information U Aung Kyi called the draft printing and publishing law as a one meeting the international norms and capable of decontaminating the poisoned printed matters without restricting the freedom of press as he submitted the draft to the Pyithu Hluttaw today.

The Union Minister quoted the paragraph 3 of Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, saying that it respects the individual rights and dignity, national security, public order, public health and morality despite freedom of expression and allows enactment of necessary legislations.

The Union Minister concluded that the draft prepared by the Information Ministry absolutely does not disrupt the freedom of expression and publishing aimed to safeguard the national interests but ensures security and convenience for all printers, publishers and journalists, urging the Hluttaw to take serious consideration.

U Phyo Min Thein of Hlegu Constituency asked whether there is national level maintenance of Martyrs Mausoleum and Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sanda Khin replied that the mausoleum was handed over to Yangon government in February 2013 according to the instruction of the Union government and Yangon government is renovating the mausoleum which upon completion of the repair will be opened to the public six days a week.

MNA

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham to attend 6th CLMV Summit, 5th ACMECS Summit

NAY PYI TAW, 8 March—At the invitation of His Excellency Mr Thongsing Thammavong, Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, His Excellency Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar will be attending the 6th Cambodia-Laos-Myanmar-Vietnam (CLMV) Summit and the 5th Ayeyawady-Cho Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit scheduled to be held in Vientiane, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, in the near future.—*MNA*

Muse-105th mile border trade zone to be upgraded into international standard one

NAY PYI TAW, 7 March—Amyotha Hluttaw representatives discussed the proposal on urging the Union government to upgrade Muse-105th Mile Border Trade Zone and to implement Muse development plan, which is submitted by Daw Nan Ni Ni Aye of Kayin State Constituency No.6, at 23rd session of Amyotha Hluttaw today.

With regard to the proposal, Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint replied that Muse-105th mile border trade zone was implemented in April, 2005. The purpose of the zone is to establish market on Myanmar's side, sale local products at desired prices, to earn more export earnings by selling value-added products, to systematically transform from border trade to normal trade. It was commissioned into service on 11 April, 2006. Private companies would be allowed through B.O.T system to upgrade it into international standard one.

He highlighted value-added products, trade facilitation, border trade online system, digital weight monitoring system, upgrade of the border trade zone. Muse development plan includes upgrade of strand road, high-way bus terminal project, housing project, construction of ring-road, international standard airfield and hotels, he added.

Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee read out its report on the Communications Bill and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives held discussions on the Communications Bill.

Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint makes clarification. —MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw Representative Dr Khin Shwe of Yangon Region Constituency No. 9 participates in discussion.—MNA

Dr Khin Shwe of Yangon Region Constituency No.9 discussed Employment and Skill Development Bill sent back by Pyithu Hluttaw with its amendment.—*NLM*

Union Cup closing ceremony held

NAY PYI TAW, 7 March—The final match of the men's football tournament of the Union Cup took place at Wunna Theikdi Stadium here this evening along with the closing ceremony, attended by Chairman of Myanmar National Sports Committee Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan.

Vocalists entertained the guests and enthusiasts with songs.

Yangon Region beat Mandalay Region 2-0 to clinch the Union Cup and Nay Pyi Taw stood third in the tournament. Union Minister U Tint Hsan and responsible persons awarded the football teams and best footballers.

MNA

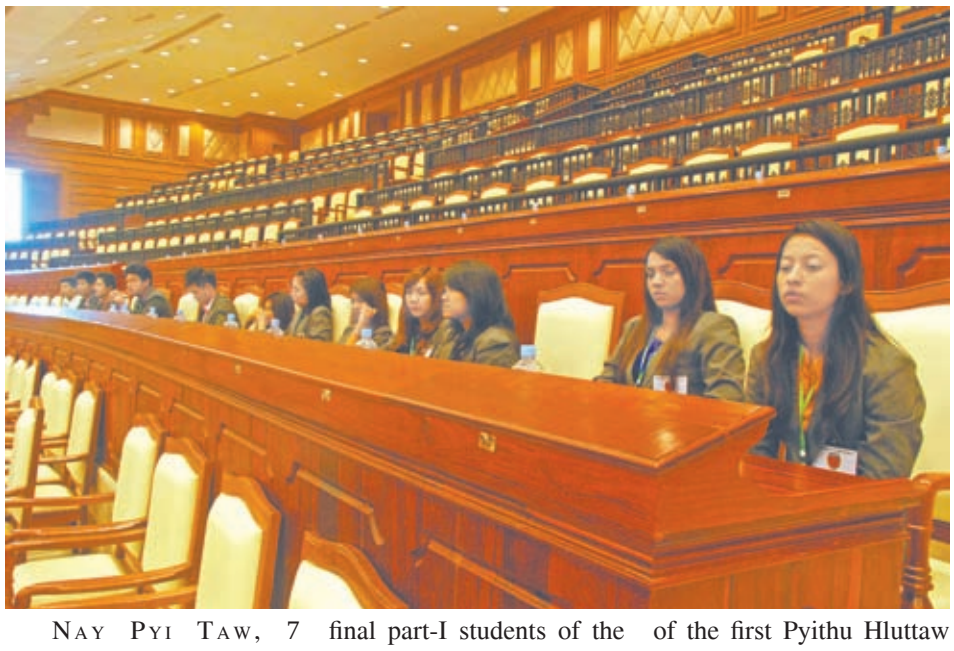
Union Cooperatives Minister receives FAO Representative, Israeli Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 7 March—Union Minister for Cooperatives U Kyaw Hsan received Bui Thi Lan, FAO Representative to Myanmar at the ministry, here, at 3 pm yesterday. They discussed prospects for bilateral cooperation between the Ministry of Cooperatives and FAO.

The Union Minister also received Mr Hagay Moshe Behar, the Ambassador of the State of Israel to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar at the same venue at 4.30 pm and they discussed sharing of experience on microfinance tasks between Israel and the Ministry of Cooperatives.

MNA

Observers visit Hluttaws



NAY PYI TAW, 7 March— A total of 21 Mandalay Region Hluttaw Representatives and 14 final part-I students of the University of Medicine (2) (Yangon) observed the 23rd day sixth regular sessions of the first Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw this morning.

MNA

Tiger Myanmar Amateur Open Golf Championship 2013 on 19-22 March

YANGON, 7 March—Myanmar Golf Federation will organize Tiger Myanmar Amateur Open Golf Championship 2013 sponsored by Tiger Golf at Yangon Golf Club in Danyingone, Insein Township, from 19 to 22 March.

Only amateur golfers are allowed to enlist at Golf Club together with the admission fee of K 20,000 not later than at 1 pm on 17 March.

For further information may contact HAN EVENT MANAGEMENT, Ph: 09-2037671, 09-73130474 and 09-49102009.—*NLM*

Loans disbursed to vendors in Mohnyin

MOHNYIN, 7 March—The rural development bank on 5 March disbursed loans to the vendors of No. 2 market in Aungthabyay Ward, Mohnyin in Kachin State as part of poverty alleviation, in conjunction with the ceremony.

At the second loan-disbursing ceremony held at the hall of Mohnyin Township Development Affairs Committee, Executive Officer of Mohnyin Township Development Affairs Committee Assistant Director U San Naing explained the purpose of the activity.

A loan of K 16,500,000—K100, 000 for each— were provided to a total of 165 vendors.

A loan of K 3 million was paid out for the first time on 23 November, 2011.

NLM-001