

The New Light of Myanmar

THE MOST RELIABLE NEWSPAPER AROUND YOU

Volume XX, Number 313

2nd Waning of Tabodwe 1374 ME

Wednesday, 27 February, 2013

President U Thein Sein arrives Oslo, Norway



NAY PYI TAW, 26 Feb—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein left here for Yangon by special flight to pay goodwill visits to Norway, Finland, Austria, Belgium and Italy yesterday morning. The President arrived at Suvarnabhumi Airport in Bangkok, Thailand, via Yangon in the evening.

The President was warmly welcomed there

by Ambassador Mr. Isorn Pocmontri of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand and officials concerned, Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Tin Win, Military Attaché Col Win Maung and officials concerned.

The President then flew to Oslo, the capital of Norway, by Thai airlines, and arrived there this morning.

On his arrival at Oslo International Airport, the President was welcomed by Head of the Protocol Department of Norway Ms. Merete Brattested, Norwegian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Katja Nordgaard, Designate-Myanmar Ambassador to Norway U Kyaw Myo Htut and staff from the embassy.

The President proceeded to Hotel Continental in Oslo, where he stays.

MNA

**President
U Thein Sein
holding talks with
Ms. Merete Brattested,
Head of the
Protocol Department
of Norway at Oslo
International
Airport.—MNA**

11th BCIM Forum held

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Feb—A Myanmar delegation attended the 11th Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar Forum for Regional Cooperation (BCIM) held in Dhaka of Bangladesh on 23-24 February.

The Myanmar delegation led by Myanmar Ambassador to Bangladesh U Myo Myint Than was accompanied by reps from ministries concerned and UMFCI Office.

BCIM member coun-

tries discussed regional cooperation by means of trade, investment, multiple communication and energy.

They also welcomed BCIM Car Rally's participants in Dhaka on 23 February.

MNA

US gives green light to financial services with four Myanmar banks

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Feb—The United States Treasury Department, on 22 February 2013, issued a general license authorizing financial services with four of Myanmar's Banks: Myanma Economic Bank, Myanma Investment and Commercial Bank, Asia Green Development Bank and Ayeyawady Bank.

The Government of

the Republic of the Union of Myanmar welcomes the action as it would enable US companies, financial institutions and individuals to conduct transaction and financial services. It is also hoped that the same authorization would apply as soon as possible to other Myanmar Banks dealing with Myanmar's international financial

services.

The Government of Myanmar will continue the process of democratic transformation and socio-economic developments in accordance with the will of the people. At the same time, the Government will also continue its effort for the success of national reconsolidation and peace building.—MNA

MRCS opens first aid camp at 115th mile

YANGON, 26 Feb—A ceremony to open new building of first aid camp of Myanmar Red Cross Society took place at its building near bus terminal of 115th mile on Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw-Mandalay Expressway yesterday morning.

At the ceremony, Bago Region Health and Social Affairs Minister Dr Kyaw Oo, Region Security Minister Col Thet Tun, Chairman of MRCS Professor Dr Tha Hla Shwe, Singaporean ambassador, Deputy General Secretary Mr Lim Theam Poh of Singapore Red Cross Society and the officials formally opened the new building. Region Minister Dr Kyaw Oo made a speech

and Mr Lim Theam Poh explained the purpose of donation.

The construction of one-storey building started in September 2012 and completed on 29 January 2013 at a cost of about K 20 million under the supervision of MRCS and

with the contribution of SRCS. The SRCS also donated an ambulance worth K 30 million, and K 4 million as a one-year salary for four staff. The MRCS is carrying out first aid service round the clock for the patients at 115th mile first aid camp.

Moe Thuzar Soe



Convoy of BCIM Car Rally to spend two nights in Myanmar

**Byline: Myo Win Tun
(Monywa)**

As a gesture of honouring the 11th Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar Forum for Regional Cooperation (BCIM), the BCIM Car Rally 2013 was held for the first time.

The car rally kicked off in Kolkata of India at 1 pm on 22 February. And it will spend two nights on the land of Myanmar.

The 3000-km route of the car rally plans to pass through India, Bangladesh, Myanmar and China. The convoy will arrive in Kalay via Tamu at the border of Myanmar and India on 27 February and spend a night there.

On 28 February, the convoy will stop over one night in Mandalay. After that, the convoy will leave for China and finish its driving in Kunming of China on 5 March.

The convoy comprises 80 amateur drivers of 20 cars from Bangladesh, China, India and Myanmar. The Myanmar team consists of 17 participants including actor Kaung Khant, actresses Aye Myat Thu and

Htet Htet Su Hlaing in addition to enthusiasts from Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs' Association and social organizations.

Kyemon: 25-2-2013

Trs: TTA



LOCAL NEWS

Special program to replace overage light-truck, pickup passenger vehicles

YANGON, 26 Feb — Secretary of Public Transport Authority U Hla Aung said a special program had been initiated into the overage passenger buses replacement scheme with the aim of facilitating transport service in Yangon.

In states and regions, only importation of the same type of

vehicle is allowed in replacing overage vehicles like Dina, but there has been an exception in Yangon Region where Dina owners are allowed to import mini buses. "Import of mini bus is allowed for Dyna, Canter and Hilux owners. It is an exception", he said.

All-Bus Line Control Committee (Central) forbade

Hilux and Dina vehicles from running out of restricted six townships and eight townships respectively during its administration. With exception, import of mini bus is allowed in replacement of Dina and Hilux that are unsuitable to be served as passenger buses.

Kyemon

Judges, judicial officials take oath in Mandalay Region



Seizures of frozen meat packages in Nawngkhio

NAWNGHKIO, 26 Feb — A mobile team seized five cartons of frozen meat smuggling from a neighboring country at Asia World Tollgate in Nawngkhio on 19 February.

The illegal frozen meat packages were seized while conducting a search of a

vehicle driven from Lashio to Mandalay by U Ye Phone Aung at the tollgate.

Likewise, three cartons of frozen meat were seized on an express bus driven from Muse to Mandalay. The team incinerated the seized frozen meat packages.

Kyemon

Rural region development tasks inspected in Ayeyawady Region

MYANAUNG, 26 Feb — Ayeyawady Region Minister for Development Affairs U Kyaw Win Naing and party made an inspection tour of Zalokeyi-Gyotbin earth road construction being implemented by Myanaung Township Development Affairs Department on 20 February.

After hearing report on ongoing works presented by the township executive

officer and the engineer, the minister left necessary instructions on timely completion of construction works.

Upon completion the two-mile and two-furlong long township-to-township earth road, local people from Myanaung and Ingapu Townships will be able to travel from one place to another within a short period of time.

Kyemon



Get-together of former scouts in Yangon

YANGON, 26 Feb — The Ministry of Education is carrying out the reformation of the scouts. The get-together of former scouts was held at Diamond Jubilee Hall of Yangon University, here, on 23 February.

Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye extended greetings at the gathering ceremony.

Next, U Pan Aung, one of former scouts who performed social works, spoke words of thanks, and

Bago, Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw football teams earmarked for next stage



NAY PYI TAW, 26 Feb — After third-day matches of the men's football tournament in Union Cup Games on 24 February, Bago, Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw football teams were earmarked for next stage.

In the matches for third day, Sagaing, Shan, Yangon, Bago, Rakhine and Nay Pyi Taw football teams beat their opponents. Nay Pyi Taw coach U Tin Min Tun said that

although the winning result satisfied them, they needed to work harder. Kayah State coach U Nay Thu Hlaing said it was a difficult match for his team in the face of the home team, Nay Pyi Taw that cruised to the victory. He was very proud of coaching the Kayah State football team formed with local youths, saying that they are hoping to be semifinalists.

Kyemon

Union Cup Games

From 28-2-2013 to 7-3-2013

MANDALAY, 26 Feb — The oath-taking ceremony of the judges and judicial officers was held at the meeting hall of Mandalay Region General Administration Department, here, on 22 February.

Chief Justice of Mandalay Region High Court U Soe Thein spoke on the occasion. Next, 121 judges and judicial officers of district/township courts,

seven judicial officers from Mandalay Region High Court and 10 from the Supreme Court of the Union totaling 138 took oath before the Chief Justice.

Then, experiences and instructions from the fourth meeting between the Supreme Court of the Union and Region/State High Courts and district courts were recounted.

Kyemon



U Kyaw Win, son of former scout U Ba San who was presented commemorative medal in the past, handed over the award of his father to the Union minister.

Next, new generation scouts paid respects to the former scout, and U Tin Nyo,

retired general-director, explained ongoing tasks of forming scouts.

Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Thane presented scout gear to the Union minister at the ceremony.

MNA

Tobacco warehouse fire in Mawlamyine

MAWLAMYINE, 26 Feb — A fire broke out at a warehouse of Red Blue tobacco factory at about 2.30 am at Mupon in Mawlamyine on 16 February.

The flames died down at about 3 am thanks to collaborative efforts of fire crews of Mawlamyine Fire Service Department and local people.

The fire swept through the whole warehouse, destroying cartons of

cigarettes and advertising materials.

The investigation revealed that the fire started from boxes of gas lighter in the warehouse with no ventilators where there were stockpiles of cartons of cigarettes, plastic advertising boards, vinyl and papers.

Mupon police station in Mawlamyine filed a lawsuit against night guard Min Zeya Oo, 28, of the factory.

Kyemon

WORLD

Obama urged to back tough arms trade treaty at UN talks

UNITED NATIONS, 26 Feb—Three dozen arms control and human rights groups have written to US President Barack Obama ahead of new arms-trade negotiations at the United Nations next month, urging him to back a tough treaty that would end loopholes in international weapons sales.

Arms control campaigners say one person every minute dies worldwide as a result of armed violence and a convention is needed to prevent the unregulated and illicit flow of weapons into conflict zones and fuelling wars and atrocities.

The UN General Assembly voted in December to restart negotiations in mid-March on what could become the first international treaty to regulate the \$70 billion (46 billion pounds) global arms trade



US President Barack Obama speaks to the National Governors Association in the State Dining Room of the White House in Washington on 25 Feb, 2013.

REUTERS

after a drafting conference in July collapsed because the United States and other nations wanted more time.

“The United States, as the world’s leading arms supplier, has a special responsibility to provide the leadership needed for an ATT (arms trade treaty) with the highest possible standards for the transfer of conventional arms and

ammunition,” the groups wrote to Obama in a letter delivered late on Friday.

“The Arms Trade Treaty can provide a key tool to help reduce enormous human suffering caused by irresponsible international arms transfers and arms brokering,” the letter said.

The 36 groups that co-authored the letter include Amnesty International

USA, Arms Control Association, Friends Committee on National Legislation, Oxfam America, National Association of Evangelicals and other groups.

The point of the treaty is to set standards for all cross-border transfers of any type of conventional weapon — light and heavy. It also would set binding requirements for nations to review all cross-border arms contracts to ensure the munitions will not be used in human rights abuses, do not violate embargoes and are not illegally diverted.

Deputy US National Security Council spokeswoman Caitlin Hayden confirmed the White House had received the letter, saying it “raises a number of important issues.” She said Washington would support a treaty under certain conditions.

Reuters

Israel says it successfully tests new missile defence

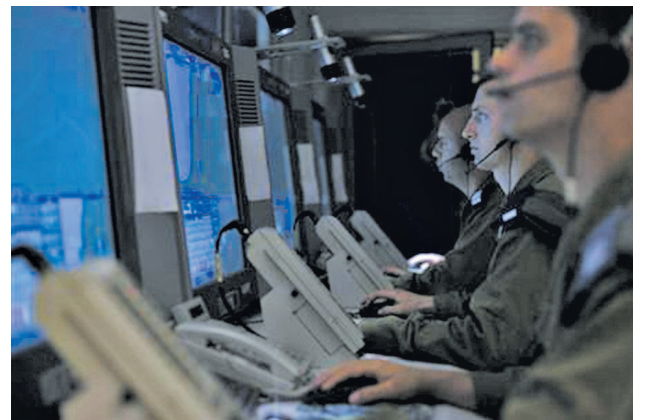
JERUSALEM, 26 Feb—Israel carried out a successful first test on Monday of its upgraded Arrow interceptor, which is designed to destroy in space the kind of missiles held by Iran and Syria, defence officials said.

The US-backed Arrow III will deploy “kamikaze” satellites that track and slam into ballistic missiles above the earth’s atmosphere, high enough to allow for any chemical, biological or nuclear warheads

coastal air base south of Tel Aviv, the Arrow III interceptor missile manoeuvred for 6 1/2 minutes over the Mediterranean sea, Israeli defence officials said.

The test was attended by representatives of US partner firm Boeing and the Pentagon.

“The success of the test is an important milestone in the operational capabilities of the State of Israel to be able to defend itself against threats in the region,” Israel’s Defence



Israeli air defence officers track a simulated Syrian and Lebanese scud missile launch during a media tour of Israel’s Arrow air defence system’s in a control room at an Israeli air defence command in the Palmahim military base south of Tel Aviv on 21 May, 2011.—REUTERS

to disintegrate safely.

Monday’s test was the first flight of the system, but did not involve the interception of any target. Israel deployed the previous version, Arrow II, more than a decade ago and says it has scored around a 90 percent success rate in live trials.

“Arrow II was ‘Star Wars’.” This is ‘Distant-Star Wars’,” Yoav Turgeman of state-run Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI), the system’s manufacturer, told Army Radio.

Launched from a

Ministry said in a statement.

A ministry official who briefed foreign reporters said the timing of the test, which took months to prepare and was postponed from mid-2012, was unrelated to current Israeli fears.

Topping these are Iran, whose disputed nuclear drive is the focus of international sanctions, and Syria, which has been wracked by a two-year-old civil war and whose arsenal is believed to include chemical warheads.—Reuters

Iran to give up high-grade uranium enrichment if sanctions “fully” lifted

TEHERAN, 26 Feb —A senior Iranian lawmaker suggested on Monday that the West fully lift sanctions against the Islamic republic in return for Iran’s suspension of 20-percent uranium enrichment, Press TV reported.

“In exchange for the suspension of 20-percent enrichment by the Islamic republic of Iran, all sanctions adopted against Iran should be annulled,” Alaeddin Boroujerdi, chairman of Iran Majlis’ (parliament) Foreign Policy and National Security Commission was quoted as saying.

The Western governments “should not expect a halt on 20-percent enrichment as long as they push ahead with sanctions and pressure on the people of Iran,” said Boroujerdi.

The Iranian lawmaker, however, said Iran is entitled to enrich uranium to even higher levels of purity to power its ocean-going ships, adding that “The fuel used by these ships is not 20-percent (enriched uranium) and it might be 40 or 50-percent. This right should be preserved for us.”

Xinhua

Interpol targets illegal fishing, seafood fraud

OSLO, 26 Feb— Interpol launched a global crackdown on Tuesday on illegal fish catches worth up to \$23 billion (15.1 billion pounds) a year that will also seek to prevent seafood fraud comparable to Europe’s scandal of horsemeat sold as beef.

The 190-nation police agency, based in France, said it would promote more sharing of intelligence to end illegal fishing that is often carried out by trawlers far from their home ports, especially off developing nations.

“World fish stocks are being rapidly depleted, and valuable species are nearing extinction,” Interpol said in a statement on the new project known as Scale that

will step up police cooperation from the South Pacific to the Arctic Ocean.

“The last decade has seen an escalation of transnational and organized criminal networks engaged in fisheries crime,” it said.

“Illegal fishing is not

just about catching the people out in the waters,” the head of Interpol’s Environmental Crime Programme, David Higgins, told Reuters, saying it covered everything from illegal financing to mislabelling.

Reuters



A fisherman pulls a basket filled with anchovies aboard a fishing boat at the Pacific Ocean, off of Peru’s northern port of Chimbote, on 21 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

Italy faces stalemate after election shock

ROME, 26 Feb— Italy faced political deadlock on Tuesday after a stunning election that saw the anti-establishment 5-Star Movement of comic Beppe Grillo become the strongest party in the country but left no group with a clear majority in parliament.

The centre-left coalition led by Pier Luigi Bersani won the lower house by around 125,000 votes and claimed the most seats in the Senate but was short of the majority in the upper house that it would need to govern.

Bersani claimed victory but said it was obvi-

ous that Italy was in “a very delicate situation”. Party officials said the centre-left would try to form a government but it was unclear what its options would be.

Neither Grillo, a comedian-turned-politician who previously ruled out any alliance with another party, nor Silvio Berlusconi’s centre-right bloc, which threatened to challenge the close tally, showed any immediate willingness to negotiate.

World financial markets reacted nervously to the prospect of a government stalemate in the euro zone’s third-largest economy with memories still

fresh of the financial crisis that took the 17-member currency bloc to the brink of collapse in 2011.

Italy’s borrowing costs have come down in recent months, helped by the promise of European Central Bank support but the election result confirmed fears that it would not produce a government strong enough to implement effective reforms.

Grillo’s surge in the final weeks of the campaign threw the race open, with hundreds of thousands turning up at his rallies to hear him lay into targets ranging from corrupt politicians and



Voting officials count the ballots in a polling station in Rome on 25 Feb, 2013.—REUTERS

bankers to German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

In just three years, his 5-Star Movement, heavily backed by a frustrated generation of young Italians

increasingly shut out from permanent full-time jobs, has grown from a marginal group to one of the most talked about political forces in Europe.—Reuters

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

US wind energy facing new challenges



BEIJING, 26 Feb — The US wind energy industry breathed a sigh of relief earlier this month when Congress voted to renew a tax credit that could be worth up to \$12 billion over the next decade. The tax credit comes as a major boost — but the headlines don't tell the full story about a struggling industry. Jobs that

were cut last year have yet to be replaced. And wind energy faces growing competition from the cheap natural gas that's abundantly available across the United States. Our correspondent Mary MacCarthy reports from Colorado.

In some ways, 2012 was a remarkable year for WIND. It was the first time

that wind energy was the number-one source of new power added to the electricity grid in the United States. Fort Felker, director of National Wind Technology Centre, said, "Forty-two percent of all new power that was added to the grid in 2012 was from wind energy — ahead of natural gas, ahead of all the other fossil fuels." Fort Felker runs a team of government wind energy researchers in Colorado who work in close partnership with industry leaders across the nation. Their goal: to develop techniques and technology to make wind energy cheaper. But the dropping prices of other energy sources has made it hard to keep up.

Fort Felker said, "The bad news is that, for many years, our target in the wind

industry was to beat coal. To be cheaper than coal. And therefore lead to wind being the most desirable source economically. Well, we've done that. Wind is cheaper than coal power. But now of course natural gas has come in much less expensive than coal. So the target has been pushed lower." For now, the US wind industry is highly dependent on subsidies — in the form of a US federal tax credit. The tax credit was renewed at the end of last year — but fears that it could expire led to major jitters, with companies halting new orders and production firms cutting hundreds of jobs. Here in Colorado, the company perhaps worst hit by the uncertainty was wind-turbine manufacturer VESTAS.—Xinhua

Samsung to unveil its next Galaxy S smartphone on Apple's turf

SEOUL, 26 Feb—Samsung Electronics Co Ltd said it will launch its new Galaxy S smartphone on 14 March in New York, taking its fight for market supremacy to Apple Inc's doorstep after reportedly being inundated with requests from US mobile carriers. The Galaxy S IV model will heat up competition in the crucial US mobile phone market, where Apple surpassed Samsung Electronics as the top mobile phone seller for the first time in the fourth quarter of 2012.

It will be the first US launch of Samsung's flagship Galaxy smartphone in three years, company spokeswoman Chenny Kim said, and comes amid a Samsung advertising blitz in the United States that has including light-hearted jabs at Apple's fans. "We introduced the Galaxy S III in London last year, and this time we changed the venue (to New York)... as we were bombarded with requests from US mobile carriers to unveil the Galaxy S IV in the country,"



People walk at a Samsung Electronics store in the Gangnam area in Seoul on 22 Oct, 2012.—REUTERS
Samsung Electronics' mobile division chief JK Shin was quoted as saying on the Edaily news website.

The new Galaxy S model is expected to feature a higher-resolution display and camera than its predecessor, as well as a faster quad-core processor,

media reports said. Samsung Electronics unveiled its first Galaxy S during the CTIA mobile trade show in the United States in 2010, followed by the Galaxy S II at the MWC fair in Spain in 2011 and the Galaxy S III in London last year.

Reuters

Divide between European and US telcos widens

BARCELONA, 26 Feb — When the bosses of global mobile operators meet in Barcelona this week, there will be an elephant in the room: the widening gap between fast-growing and richly-valued US telecoms companies and their ailing European counterparts. A overcrowded market, tough regulations and recession are hampering European telcos' ability to invest in faster networks, increasing the risk that the region's flagging economy falls further behind the United States and parts of Asia.

As a result, a transatlantic gap in company valuations has opened to its widest since 2008, with European telco stocks now trading at roughly 9.9 times earnings against 17.6 times for US peers. The gap re-



A Verizon logo is seen during the International CTIA WIRELESS Conference & Exposition in New Orleans, Louisiana on 9 May, 2012.—REUTERS

flects differences in the competitive landscape. Europe has about 100 mobile firms to the United States' six, as well as harsher rules that have sapped profitability and contributed to four straight years of revenue decline. And it has real world consequences. As investors' confidence in them wanes, European telcos find it harder to raise or borrow

money and become increasingly wary of funding network upgrades that take years to pay off, but are vital to economic growth. "If it were just a valuation gap of 5 percent it wouldn't really matter, but when it is so large, it does have serious consequences," said France Telecom Chief Financial Officer Gervais Pellissier in an interview.—Reuters

Siemens shareholders plan to challenge

FRANKFURT, 26 Feb —A group of investors plans to challenge German industrial conglomerate Siemens' move to spin off its lighting division Osram, German paper *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* reported, without saying where it obtained the information. Nine unidentified investors on Monday plan to file a lawsuit which could lead to a delay in the planned listing of Osram, because the division cannot become registered while the lawsuit is ongoing, the paper said.

Shareholders agreed at a meeting on 23 January to spin off 80.5 percent of Osram, which has a book value of 2.3 billion euros (\$3 billion).

Siemens investors would receive one Osram share for each ten Siemens

Apple signals emerging-market rethink with India push



A salesperson unpacks an Apple iPad Mini to test it for a customer in the Apple specialty section of a Croma retail store in Mumbai on 22 Feb, 2013
REUTERS

NEW DELHI (Bangalore), 26 Feb —As BlackBerry launches the first smartphone from its make-or-break BB10 line in India, one of its most loyal markets, the company faces new competition from a formidable rival that has long had a minimal presence in the country. More than four years after it started selling iPhones in India, Apple Inc is now aggressively pushing the iconic device through installment payment plans that make it more affordable, a new distribution model and heavy marketing blitz.

"Now your dream phone" at 5,056 rupees (\$93), read a recent full front-page ad for an iPhone 5 in the *Times of India*, referring to the initial payment on a phone priced at \$840, or almost two months' wages for an entry-level software engineer. The new-found interest in India suggests a subtle strategy shift for Apple, which has moved tentatively in emerging markets and has allowed rivals such as Samsung and Black-

berry to dominate with more affordable smartphones. With the exception of China, all of its Apple stores are in advanced economies.

Apple expanded its India sales effort in the latter half of 2012 by adding two distributors. Previously it sold iPhones only through a few carriers and stores it calls premium resellers. The result: iPhone shipments to India between October and December nearly tripled to 250,000 units from 90,000 in the previous quarter, according to an estimate by Jessica Kwee, a Singapore-based analyst at consultancy Canalsys. At The MobileStore, an Indian chain owned by the Essar conglomerate, which says it sells 15 percent of iPhones in the country, iPhone sales tripled between December and January, thanks to a monthly payment scheme launched last month. "Most people in India can't afford a dollar-priced phone when the salaries in India are rupee salaries. But the desire is the same," said Himanshu Chakrawarti, its chief executive.—Reuters

Osram spin-off

shares they hold. The nine investors plan to argue that Siemens did not conduct the shareholder meeting properly because of acoustics problems, as Chief Financial Officer Joe Kaeser partly spoke in an inaudible manner, *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* reported.

Siemens was not immediately available to comment. Osram generates an-

nual sales of about 5 billion euros and has about 39,000 employees worldwide. Its lamps are used to light up Disneyland Paris, the Hippodrome beer tent at Munich's Oktoberfest and the Arena Corinthians in Sao Paulo, which will host the opening match of the 2014 World Cup soccer tournament. (\$1 = 0.7598 euros)

Reuters



Packages with 30 watt light bulbs of lamp manufacturer Osram inside are pictured in a shop in Germering near Munich on 28 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Europe attracts more Chinese investment than US in two year

WASHINGTON, 26 Feb—Europe has attracted twice as much investment as the US from Chinese investors in the past two years for commercial opportunities and political reasons, the Rhodium Group, a US consulting firm specializing in contextual analysis of macroeconomic trends in the Greater China, said in a report on Monday.

Annual flows of Chinese direct investment to the European Union (EU) increased from less than 1 billion US dollars before 2008 to an average of 3 billion US dollars in 2009 and 2010, before tripling to more than 10 billion US dollars in the past two years, according to the report.

In the US, China direct investment surged from less than 1 billion US dollars in 2008 to 5 billion US dollars in 2010, before dropping to 4.7 billion US dollars

in 2011 and reaching a record high of 6.5 billion US dollars in 2012, which remained below the levels seen in the EU in the past two years.

This was mostly driven by commercial opportunities resulting from the fiscal and economic crisis in the Eurozone, according to Thilo Hanemann, the research director of the Rhodium Group and the author of the report.

“Chinese investors seized opportunities to buy into cash-strapped European industrials and assets promising stable long-term returns such as utilities and other infrastructure,” he noted.

For example, China invested more than 5 billion US dollars in EU transportation infrastructure and utilities through 2012, while the US attracted close to zero investment in

transportation infrastructure from China.

Hanemann also mentioned national security concerns as an important factor in affecting China’s investment in the report, “Chinese telecommunications equipment firms spent more than three times as much in Europe than in the US, where the committee on Foreign Investment in the US (CFIUS) has interfered with several deals and firms have seen their business diminished by intervention from US government officials, members of Congress and the security community.”

Looking forward, Hanemann believed the US would remain an attractive place for Chinese companies, but the political response would be critical for future deal-making in both economies.

Xinhua

Japan likely to nominate ADB’s Kuroda as Bank of Japan head



Asian Development Bank President Haruhiko Kuroda

TOKYO, 26 Feb — Japan’s prime minister is likely to nominate an advocate of aggressive monetary policy easing—Asian Development Bank President Haruhiko Kuroda—as the next central bank governor to step up his fight to finally rid the country of deflation. Shinzo Abe won a big election victory in December promising to revive the fortunes of an economy stuck in the

doldrums for most of the past two decades. He has repeatedly called for a more aggressive central bank willing to take radical steps. The yen fell on the nomination news to a 33-month low and yields on five-year government bonds hit a record low as markets moved to factor in bolder monetary policy. “Kuroda is a fan of a weaker yen and of deflation bashing,” said Kit Juckes, a strategist at Societe Generale in London.

Sources said the government is likely to nominate Kuroda and two deputies this week for parliamentary approval. It is also lining up Kikuo Iwata, an academic who advocates unorthodox monetary easing steps, and BOJ Executive Director Hiroshi Nakaso, who now oversees the central bank’s international operations, as deputy governors, a source familiar with the process said. Iwata

told reporters he had been offered the job and he would accept it. Like the US Federal Reserve, the Bank of Japan has cut interest rates close to zero. Since then it has adopted unusual measures to inject cash into the economy, currently in its fourth recession since 2000, to try to stimulate growth. But Kuroda has long criticized the BOJ as too slow to expand stimulus, so he is expected to push for more radical efforts to achieve a 2 percent inflation target set in January.

“Kuroda’s nomination won’t change the course that has been dictated by Abe in recent months—that is aggressive monetary policy, but perhaps thanks to the inclusion of Iwata the market will expect more eye-catching bold easing measures,” said Masamichi Adachi, senior economist at JPMorgan Securities in Tokyo.—Reuters

Southeast Asian margin squeeze snags Singapore Inc

SINGAPORE, 26 Feb —The most widespread margin squeeze in at least a decade is pushing some Singapore companies out of the city state as rising costs and slow growth sap profitability. A Reuters study of 268 listed Singapore companies showed that 57 percent reported a year-on-year drop in operating profit margin for the first three quarters of 2012. That was the biggest percentage for the nine-month period on record, according to

Thomson Reuters data going back to 2002. Full-year data for 2012 was not yet available.

A severe labour shortage is hobbling businesses in Singapore as the government tightens its immigration policies, while growth has been hard to come by as exports languish in a dull global economy. Across Southeast Asia, 54 percent of companies reported shrinking margins, equaling the percentage recorded in 2009, when the global economy had tipped into



Shoppers leave the flagship Courts Megastore in Singapore, on 21 Feb, 2013.—REUTERS

a recession following the Lehman Brothers bankruptcy. In all, Reuters examined the balance sheets of nearly 1,000 companies in Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines with a market

value of at least S\$100 million (\$80.8 million). The pain is particularly acute in Singapore, a smaller and more mature market lacking the burgeoning consumer classes of its emerging market neighbours.—Reuters

Study says too many Americans still drink too much

NEW YORK, 26 Feb —On any given day in the United States, 18 percent of men and 11 percent of women drink more alcohol than federal guidelines recommend, according to a study that also found that 8 percent of men and 3 percent of women are full-fledged “heavy drinkers.” That means the great majority of Americans stay within the advised limit of two drinks a day for men and one for women, according to the study that appeared in the *Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics*. “And in fact, most adults don’t drink at all on any given day,” said lead author Patricia Guenther, a nutritionist at the US Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Centre for Nutrition Policy and Promotion.

“But the fact remains that it is a significant public

health problem that many people do drink to excess.” Guenther said that members of the committee that drafted the current USDA guidelines on alcohol consumption wanted to know how many adults exceeded the limits. She and her colleagues collected data from a nationally representative survey on health and nutrition, which included about 5,400 adults over age 21.

Among other things, each was asked how much alcohol they drank the previous day. The researchers found that 64 percent of men and 79 percent of women said they drank no alcohol at all that day, and another 18 percent of men and 10 percent of women drank within the recommended amounts.

Reuters

Cochlear implants aid adults with hearing loss

NEW YORK, 26 Feb — Cochlear implants can improve speech and quality of life in adults with severe hearing loss—and two implants seem to work better than one, according to a US analysis of past research. The study, which appeared in *JAMA Otolaryngology—Head & Neck Surgery*, included 42 studies that compared hearing, speech and quality of life in eligible adults before and after they received a cochlear implant or compared having one versus two functioning implants.

According to the US National Institutes of Health, about 17 percent of US adults have some degree of hearing loss, and the chance

of becoming hard of hearing increases with age. Only those with severe hearing loss or deafness, for whom hearing aids haven’t work, are considered for cochlear implants.

“Unilateral cochlear implants provide improved hearing and significantly improve quality of life, and improvements in sound localization are noted

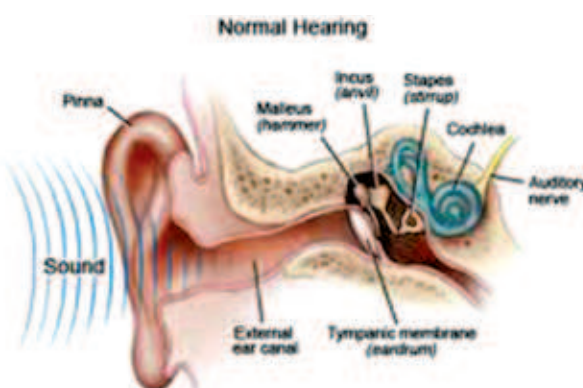
for bilateral implantation,” wrote researchers led by James Gaylor from Tufts Medical Centre in Boston.

The studies used in the analysis used a range of tests over different time periods to measure the effects of implantation, so it was difficult to compare them directly, the researchers added. However, almost all

the trials looking at the effect of a single cochlear implant showed that people’s speech and quality of life improved after implantation.

“Cochlear implantation is just a hugely beneficial procedure for the people who need it. It’s almost like magic,” said Pamela Roehm, an otolaryngologist from the NYU Langone Medical Center, who wasn’t involved in the study.

“Their hearing isn’t completely normal, but for speech (and) understanding, it’s so good.” Among studies comparing one versus two implants, the majority also found participants were better at communicating and localizing sound when they had a cochlear implant in each ear.—Reuters



A drink is poured at a bar in Beverly Hills, California on 10 Dec, 2008.—REUTERS

WORLD

Powers to offer Iran sanctions relief at nuclear talks

ALMATY, 26 Feb—Major powers will offer Iran some sanctions relief during talks in Almaty, Kazakhstan, this week if Teheran agrees to curb its nuclear programme, a US official said on Monday.

But the Islamic Republic could face more economic pain if it fails to address international concerns about its atomic activities, the official said ahead of the 26-27 February meeting in the central Asian state, speaking on condition of anonymity.

“There will be continued sanctions enforcement ... there are other areas

where pressure can be put,” the official said, on the eve of the first round of negotiations between Iran and six world powers in eight months.

A spokesman for European Union foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton, who leads the talks with Iran on behalf of the powers, said Teheran should understand that there was an “urgent need to make concrete and tangible progress” in Kazakhstan.

Both Russia and the United States stressed there was not an unlimited amount of time to resolve a dispute that has raised fears of a new



Kazakhstan's President Nursultan Nazarbayev (R) meets with Iran's Supreme National Security Council Secretary and chief nuclear negotiator Saeed Jalili in Almaty on 25 Feb, 2013.—REUTERS

war in the Middle East. “The window for a diplomatic solution simply cannot by definition remain open forever. But it is open today. It is open now,” US Secretary of State John Kerry said in London.—Reuters

Kerry says Complaints on US-led Afghan troops to be checked



US Secretary of State John Kerry speaks during a joint news conference with Britain's Foreign Secretary William Hague at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in central London on 25 Feb, 2013.—REUTERS

LONDON, 26 Feb—US Secretary of State John Kerry said on Monday complaints against Afghans working for US special forces in Afghanistan would be investigated, a day after Afghan President Hamid Karzai ordered US troops to leave a critical battleground province.

Karzai's spokesman on Sunday said Karzai had decided that all US special forces must leave Wardak Province within two weeks, after accusations that Afghans working for them had tortured and killed innocent people.

The move could further complicate talks between the United States and Afghanistan over the presence of American troops in the country once most NATO forces leave by the end of 2014.

“With respect to Afghanistan and Wardak Province, I understand the concerns that they have expressed. And appropriately, any complaints that they may have ought to be appropriately evaluated, and they will be, I can assure you,” Kerry told reporters during a visit to London.

Kerry said it was up to

the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) to investigate. On Sunday ISAF said it was aware of the allegations of misconduct but would not comment further until it had spoken to Afghan officials.

In Washington, a US defence official said no ISAF troops themselves were involved in any misconduct, as earlier Afghan statements had alleged.

“In recent months, a thorough review in cooperation with the Defence Ministry and National Directorate of Security has confirmed that no coalition forces have been involved in the alleged misconduct in Wardak Province,” the official said.

“Because we take these allegations seriously, ISAF and Afghanistan officials have agreed to a joint commission to look into the current concerns of citizens in Maidan Wardak.”

Relations between Karzai and his international backers have at times been fraught, with the Afghan president warning that civilian deaths could sap support for foreign troops and fuel the insurgency.—Reuters

Problem-plagued Sukhoi Superjet fails take-off at Moscow airport

MOSCOW, 26 Feb—A Sukhoi Superjet 100 failed to take off from Moscow's Sheremetyevo airport after one of its engines malfunctioned, *Interfax* reported, further clouding the future of Russia's first post-Soviet civil plane project.

The Superjet programme hit uncertainty last year after one of its planes crashed in Indonesia during a promotional flight, which investigators said was due to pilot error and Jakarta air traffic control's lack of a minimum safe altitude system. Russia's Aeroflot, the only airline operating the aircraft so far, also ground-

ed four of its 10 *Superjets* earlier this month due to technical problems.

The Sunday evening flight from Moscow to the Ukrainian city of Kharkiv was called off after the plane had started gaining speed to take off, news agency *Interfax* reported on Monday, quoting a source at the airport's air traffic control service.

“For an unknown reason the control system for engine No 1 failed and the crew decided to abort the take-off,” the source said. It was not clear how many passengers were on board.

Reuters

Syria says ready to talk with armed opposition

MOSCOW, 26 Feb—Syria is ready for talks with its armed opponents, Foreign Minister Walid al-Moualem said on Monday, in the clearest offer yet to negotiate with rebels fighting President Bashar al-Assad.

But Moualem said at the same time Syria would pursue its fight “against terrorism”, alluding to the conflict in which the United Nations says 70,000 people

have been killed.

His offer of talks drew a dismissive response from U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, who was starting a nine-nation tour of European and Arab capitals in London.

“It seems to me that it's pretty hard to understand how, when you see the Scuds falling on the innocent people of Aleppo, it is possible to take their notion that they are ready to have

Plains states hit with second winter storm in a week

KANSAS CITY, 26 Feb—A potent winter storm bore down on the US southern Plains on Monday, dumping more than a foot of snow and creating blizzard conditions in Oklahoma, Texas and parts of Kansas still digging out from a winter storm last week.

Interstate and smaller highways in the Texas and Oklahoma panhandles and parts of Kansas were closed by the heavy and drifting snow that cut visibility and forced flight cancellations at airports across the region.

The storm was slowly moving out of Texas on Monday afternoon, while residents of Kansas City in turn were preparing for a foot or more of snow into on Tuesday.

Some 17 inches of snow fell near Amarillo, Texas, according to the National Weather Service.

Other areas in the Texas panhandle reported more than a foot of snow and Texas Governor Rick Perry activated Texas Military Forces to be ready to respond to calls for assistance.

Amarillo could break the all time record for the amount of snow in one day of just over 18 inches set in 1934, said Kristin Scotten of the National Weather Service Amarillo.

Airports in Amarillo and in Lubbock, Texas, were closed and Interstate 27 between the cities was shut because of blowing snow, state officials said. Wind gusts of 75 miles per hour were clocked at the Amarillo airport.

Tyson Foods Inc said its Amarillo beef plant was closed on Monday because of the storm.

Reuters



Stalled vehicles are seen during a blizzard as traffic backs up on a major thoroughfare in Overland Park, Kansas, on 21 Feb, 2013.—REUTERS

a dialogue very seriously,” Kerry said.

He said US President Barack Obama was evaluating more steps to “fulfil our obligation to innocent people”, without giving details or saying whether Washington was reconsidering whether to arm the rebels, an option it has previously rejected.

“We are determined that the Syrian opposition is not going to be dangling in the wind,” Kerry said.

Obama has carefully avoided deeper US involvement in Syria, at the heart of a volatile Middle East, as he has withdrawn troops from Iraq and extracts them from Afghanistan. Assad and his foes are locked in a bloody stalemate after nearly two years of combat, destruction and civilian suffering that threatens to destabilize neighbouring countries.

Syria's Moualem said in Moscow that Da-

ascus was ready for dialogue with everyone who wants it, even with those who have weapons in their hands “because we believe that reforms will not come through bloodshed but only through dialogue”.

Russia's *Itar-Tass*, which reported his remarks, did not say if Moualem had attached any conditions for the dialogue.

“What's happening in Syria is a war against terrorism,” the agency quoted him as saying. “We will strongly adhere to a peaceful course and continue to fight against terrorism.”

Moaz Alkhatib, head of the opposition Syrian National Coalition, told reporters in Cairo he had not been in touch with Damascus following Moualem's offer. “We have not been in contact yet, and we are waiting for communication with them,” he said.

Reuters



A man inspects a house that was damaged by forces loyal to Syrian President Bashar al Assad at the Harasta area in Damascus on 25 Feb, 2013.—REUTERS

NATIONAL

UEC Chairman attends Buddha Pujaniya and alms-offering of Maha Shwesigyi Pagoda in Kanbalu

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Feb—Accompanied by Pyithu Hluttaw Sports, Culture and Public Relations Development Committee Chairman Thura U Aye Myint, Union Commerce Minister U Win Myint, Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye, Region Hluttaw Speaker U Thin Hlaing, North-West Command Commander Maj-Gen Soe Lwin and region ministers, Union Election Commission Chairman U Tin Aye visited Maha Shwesigyi Pagoda in Kanbalu of Shwebo District in Sagaing this morning.

UEC Chairman U Tin Aye and party offered alms, water, flowers to Buddha Image. The UEC chairman, the chief minister,

townselders, departmental officials and wellwishers donated offertories to the Sayadaws at the ceremony.

The UEC chairman and party proceeded to Kanbalu people's hospital (1000-bed) where they were welcomed by medi-

Union Election Commission Chairman U Tin Aye offers alms to a Sayadaw at Maha Shwesigyi Pagoda in Kanbalu.—MNA

cal superintendant Dr Moe Myint Win and officials. The UEC chairman and party provided glasses to eye patients and presented cash assistance to the hospital. They then cordially greeted the patients.—MNA



Union Cup Games Dates and Venues for Sports Events

Classy Chawalit triumphs at Zaykabar Myanmar Open

YANGON, 26 Feb—Thailand's Chawalit Plaphol dashed Mithun Perera's hopes of making history when he birdied the last two holes to win the Zaykabar Myanmar Open on Sunday.

Overnight leader Chawalit was tied with Mithun on 17-under heading into the last hole but the Thai set up a three-foot birdie putt with an exquisite approach shot at the par five 18th hole to win his fourth Asian Tour title at the Royal Mingaladon Golf and Country Club.

Chawalit closed with a three-under-par 69 while Mithun, aiming to be the

first Sri Lankan to win on the Asian Tour, fought bravely with a sensational 65 at the US\$ 300,000 event, which is the curtain raiser for the 10th Asian Tour season.

There was heartbreak again for Thailand's Kiradech Aphibarnrat, who lost in a play-off last year, as he settled for third following a 70. Hwang In-choon (67) of Korea, Darren Beck (69) of Australia and Angelo Que (70) of the Philippines were a further shot back in fourth.

The Zaykabar Myanmar Open was mainly sponsored by Alphine.

NLM

Volunteers take part in environmental conservation in Sagaing

SAGAING, 26 Feb—With the aim of ensuring fire safety and keeping community clean and pleasant in the summer, people and members of Township Fire Services Department and Auxiliary Fire Brigade led by Ayemyawady-Zaygon Ward Administrator U Ye Win Oo gathered plastic bags and debris and then systematically threw them at the designated places on 18 February.

A volunteer expressed his opinion that they asked assistance from Township Auxiliary Fire Brigade to collectively carry out sanitation tasks. Only if the ward is clean and pleasant, will it be safety in danger of fire and be hygienic, he said. They did not think they were tired in the works, he added.

A well-wisher served the volunteers with glutinous rice and fried snacks.

Myanma Alinn

Nos	sport categories	Event Period		Venue	Remark
		From	to		
Opening ceremony		28-2-2013	-	Wunna Theikdi Stadium (Zabuthiri Township)	
1.	Track and field	3-3-2013	7-3-2013	Wunna Theikdi Stadium (Zabuthiri Township)	
2.	Badminton	23-2-2013	27-2-2013	TC-1 Badminton Training Hall (Zabuthiri Township)	
3.	Basketball	1-3-2013	6-3-2013	TC-1, Basketball Training Ground (Zabuthiri Township)	
4.	Billiards and snooker	23-2-2013	2-3-2013	TC-2 Billiards Hall, Lewe Township	
5.	Physical fitness	12-2-2013	-	MCC (Yangon, Thingangyun Township)	
6.	Boxing	24-2-2013	1-3-2013	TC-1 boxing training gym (Zabuthiri Township)	
7.	Chess	26-2-2013	2-3-2013	Gold Camp (mess hall) (Zabuthiri Township)	
8.	Cycling (Cross Country)	1-3-2013	6-3-2013	Mount Pleasant cycling ground (Ottarathiri Township)	
	Cycling (Down Hill)	1-3-2013	6-3-2013	Mount Pleasant cycling ground (Ottarathiri Township)	
	Cycling (BMX)	1-3-2013	6-3-2013	Mount Pleasant cycling ground (Ottarathiri Township)	
	Cycling (Road Race)	1-3-2013	6-3-2013	TC-1 Cycling training gym (Zabuthiri Township) Pinlaung road/ Taungkya Village and Leinli bridge	
9.	Football (Men/women)	20-2-2013	7-3-2013	Wunna Theikdi Stadium (Zabuthiri Township)/ Paunglaung ground (Pyinmana Township) Training grounds (1) and (2) (Zabuthiri Township)	
10.	Fustal (Men/women)	23-2-2013	6-3-2013	TC-1 Fustal training gym (Zabuthiri Township)	
11.	Judo	25-2-2013	27-2-2013	TC-2 Judo training gym (Lewe Township)	
12.	Karatedo	4-3-2013	6-3-2013	TC-2 Karatedo training gym (Lewe Township)	
13.	Sepak Takraw	25-2-2013	5-3-2013	TC-1 Sepak Takraw training gym (Zabuthiri Township)	
14.	Table Tennis	23-2-2013	27-2-2013	TC-1 Table Tennis training gym (Zabuthiri Township)	
15.	Taekwondo	1-3-2013	3-3-2013	TC-1 Taekwondo training gym (Zabuthiri Township)	
16.	Tennis	23-2-2013	28-2-2013	TC-1 Tennis training gym (Zabuthiri Township)	
17.	Pancek Silat	2-3-2013	6-2-2013	TC-2 Martial Arts training gym (Lewe Township)	
18.	Traditional Boxing (Muay)	3-3-2013	5-3-2013	TC-1 Boxing training gym (Zabuthiri Township)	
19.	Volleyball	27-2-2013	7-3-2013	TC-1 Volleyball training gym (Zabuthiri Township)	
20.	Weightlifting	1-3-2013	3-3-2013	Paunglaung Gymnasium (Pyinmana)	
21.	Wushu	1-3-2013	3-3-2013	TC-2 Wushu training gym (Lewe Township)	
22.	Wrestling	4-3-2013	7-3-2013	Paunglaung gym (Pyinmana Township)	
Closing Ceremony		7-3-2013	-	Wunna Theikdi Stadium (Zabuthiri Township)	

ARTICLE

Foreign Investment and Future Vision

Hsu Thabyay

The nation is being transform into a modern and developed one for its sustainability, flourishing political, economic and social sectors in harmony. Experiences of world nations during the previous decades revealed that most of world nations strived for economic and social development step by step after gaining political stability first.

As a significant feature of today's Myanmar, she is moving forward on a right track gaining in momentum in a certain transitional period as she initiated political reform process while economic and social sectors are in a Catch-22 situation due to sanctions imposed politically and economically on her. These reform processes will become apparent to everyone through local and foreign engagements and media.

With international

Investment Commission indicate that the real situation did not enable the country to have progress as expected although world nations are willing to invest here.

According to the table, it can be noticed that there are different figures between businesses which were granted permission to be invested and ones which are in progress. A delay in implementation of permission-granted businesses remains a questionable point. Both sides—the government and investors—may have requirements. There is still a glimmer of hopes for job creating in Myanmar thanks to foreign investments.

In order to attract foreign investments, legal framework should be a law guaranteeing the interest of the people,

international investors. Only then, will SMEs of the country make progress, and will the socio-economic status of the grass roots who rely largely on the SMEs improve. And he welcomed the foreign investment law as it enables Myanmar businessmen to do joint venture with their foreign counterparts through coordination on the basis of economically strategic strengths and weaknesses, added the president.

Nowadays, political reforms in Myanmar have achieved success to a certain extent and it is time for all to extensively engage in the development of socially responsible economy after laying down economic policies.

And it is also time to complete with huge challenge. As there is

behind in political and social sectors as it tried to improve its economy all the more during the period of the past ten years. But at present when its economy has improved significantly, it is making efforts for the development of political and social sectors, amending its present laws and policies.

In Vietnam also, it is found that it tried to improve its economy with the help of foreign investment. And when its economy has improved to a certain extent, it is extensively engaged in the social reform process. On the other hand, it is still amending its policies on investment so that it can create job opportunities for local people.

Engaging in political, economic and social development is a process and takes time. According to Need Trust in the Process,

Number of enterprises permitted by Foreign Investment Commission in accord with investment laws, investment volume and employment

Sr.	Description	Domestic Investment			Foreign Investment		
		Permitted enterprises	Investment volume (Kyats in million)	Employment (persons)	Permitted enterprises	Investment volume (USD in million)	Employment (persons)
1.	2011-2012 FY (April-March)	34	242,230.170	9,175	13	4,644.460	7,279
2.	2012-2013 FY (April-Jan)	43	3,837,863.580	11,475	78	1,142.965	57,047
	Total	77	4,080,093.750	20,650	91	5,787.425	64,326

recognition of Myanmar's reform process, economic sanctions have been eased gradually to be able to have access to economic cooperation. Citizens and organizations at home and abroad made cooperation with the government individually and collectively, with the result that the country was brought to this stage. We all have to accept this point whatever we notice it or not. In doing so, not only long-term plans for the sake of the people but also quick win plans are needed.

As national development calls for human resources development, technology and technical expertise, it is necessary to invite foreign direct investments while the country is in need of capitals. So Legal Framework and the Rule of Law, infrastructural development, incentives, political stability and competitiveness with neighbors and environmental and social accountability are to be reinforced to be able to invite investments.

While Myanmar is in the political transitional period, the following facts and figures of Myanmar

not for local and foreign entrepreneurs. According to the records, Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association showed no objection to joint venture and hundred per cent investment of foreign entrepreneurs for creating job opportunities when FDI Bill was under discussion by Pyithu Hluttaw Legal Affairs Committee.

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Aung in his comment over the foreign investment law said that the law should grant not only the rights to Myanmar people of various strata to do business but also should enable them to do joint venture with international businessmen who are capable of penetrating international market with technology, finance and capital. Only then, will Myanmar businessmen be able to enter international market and economic sphere by combining the weaknesses of the former with the strengths of the latter.

In other words, both strong businessmen and weak businessmen will be able to do joint venture with

still unemployment in the country, creation of job opportunities is instrumental. Unemployment issues largely rest on the volume of foreign investment.

Whatever foreign investments that are qualified, responsible, internationally-recognized, capable of creating jobs and of imparting technology, the most important thing is a systematic monitoring in accepting the flow of foreign investment in the interest of the State and the people. And monitoring is to be initiated in order to facilitate investment rather than protection.

Myanmar is in no position to steadily build each pillar like other countries. In implementing the environment of socially responsible economy, it can be weighed that the role of foreign investment is huge as the country is lack of technology and experience and has financial constraints. It is safe to say that those general weaknesses can be addressed by foreign investments.

In view of China which shares border with Myanmar, it can be found that it lagged

Need Trust in the Person, trust should be put on the process as well as on the person. The difference in taking an approach in the interest of the State and the people is not a fault. Only common goal is needed. It is important to have same outcomes. Monitoring should be made on whatever foreign investments that flow in on the basis of its impact on social and economic sectors of the country, paying attention to the wishes of the majority rather than that of the minority.

The impact of protection can be many directions. It is important to ensure that the protection cannot harm the national development. It is natural that there is a widespread concern over the influence of foreign investments with huge capital on small enterprises and this could lead to disappearance of the latter.

Taking various points of view, it is weighed that the protection could have impact on foreign investments that flow into the country in different forms.

Trs: YM+TS

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 27 February, 2013

Ensure health, safety and security of visitors

Myanmar is currently experiencing rapid growth in tourism demand. The country is becoming an emerging and fast growing destination in South East Asia. In the first six months of 2012, arrivals of international visitors increased by over 30 per cent compared to 2011. In the short run, success is assured and tourism will continue to grow rapidly.

The success and failure in moving toward responsible tourism in Myanmar rests on the ability to work and bring together professional competence, stakeholder perspectives and result-oriented implementation. Meeting set standards of all tourism services on health, safety and security across the tourism industry is high on the agenda since the number of tourists visiting the country is increasing day by day.

The first priority is to encourage the provision of standardized restrooms at key tourism sites in all major tourism destinations, to provide adequate information to visitors that will help improve their health, safety and security whereas the second priority is to ensure that emergency and rescue procedures are in place at all major destinations, consistent health, hygiene and sanitation standards for all tourism service providers. These are to be mainly managed by the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism and Myanmar Tourism Federation in consultations with relevant organs.

Furthermore, steps are also to be taken by the concerned ministries together with tour operators, development agencies, NGOs and region/state governments to ensure that the local offices of tourism destinations understand insurance and liability procedures and relevant formalities, and all tourism service providers are trained on health, safety and security issues and undertake regular audits.

Ministry of Home Affairs as a focal point is to extensively engage in preventing crimes associated with tourism while encouraging the stakeholders to work together with the police and local authorities and try their utmost in ensuring health, safety and security of visitors to the country.



Maung Maung San Lwin
(GAD)

NATIONAL

Low-cost housing projects not low enough for low-income families



U Hla Swe of Magway Region Constituency making discussion.

MNA



Daw Nan Ni Ni Aye of Kayin State Constituency takes part in discussion.

MNA



U Saw Tun Mya Aung of Kayin State Constituency participates in discussion.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Feb—Hluttaw committees and representatives continued to discuss National Planning Bill for 2013-2014 financial year and the projects described in appendix 2 (a) and State Services Personnel Affairs Bill was put on record at 14th session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw today.

Daw Nan Ni Ni Aye of Kayin State Constituency No.6 discussed the budgets (2013-2014 financial year) of departments under the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Religious

Affairs and Ministry of Cooperatives.

U Saw Tun Mya Aung of Kayin State Constituency No.5 held discussion on the budget for religious buildings in border regions.

U Hla Swe of Magway Region Constituency No.12 suggested that the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry should revise the budgets for alternatives fire wood and modern stoves and reserved forests. He also made the comparison between educational budget and defense budgets and

gave the example of peace investment of Sari Lanka.

Pyithu Hluttaw Transport, Communications and Construction Committee suggested that new affordable housing projects should be implemented as current low-cost housing prices are out of reach of low-income families.

“Necessary reforms should be made on the suggestions of the budget,” U Nyunt Hlaing of Ayeyawady Region Constituency No.4 told the *New Light of Myanmar*.

NLM

Dy Foreign Minister back from India after attending Delhi Dialogue V and ASEAN-India Senior Officials Meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Feb—Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Zin Yaw arrived back on 23 February after attending the Delhi Dialogue V and ASEAN-India Senior Officials Meeting held in New Delhi of India from 19 to 21 February.

The Delhi Dialogue was held under the theme of “ASEAN and India: Vision for Partnership and Prosperity”. Indian External Affairs Minister Mr. Shri Salman Khurshid and ASEAN Secretary-General Mr. Le Luong Minh delivered keynote addresses at the opening ceremony. The Myanmar delegation leader Deputy Minister U Zin Yaw delivered the statement at the forum.

The Delhi Dialogue V was hosted by the Ministry of External Affairs of India, Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and supported by the SAEA Group Research, Singapore, Economic Research Institute of ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), Jakarta and Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA), New Delhi. Representatives of Think-Tanks from ASEAN and India, ambassadors and delegates shared their perspectives on the important issues of India-ASEAN Security Cooperation, Non-Traditional Security Challenges, Future of Global Energy Market, Cooperation between CLMV countries and North-

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Feb—Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint received former Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Takashi Tajima at the hall of Amyotha Hluttaw in the Hluttaw Complex, here, at 4 pm today.

During the meeting, they exchanged views on further cementing relations between Myanmar and Japan, bilateral cooperation in various sectors through mutual understandings, technical assistance for sufficiency of electricity supply in Myanmar, progress of current political and economic reform processes in Myanmar including positive impacts

East India and Expanding Networks through ASEAN Connectivity.

Deputy Minister U Zin Yaw was accompanied by Chairman of Myanmar Institute of Strategies and International Studies U

Japan to provide Myanmar electric sector with technical assistance



Speaker of Pyidaungsu and Amyotha Hluttaws U Khin Aung Myint receives former Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Takashi Tajima.—MNA

through foreign investment law. The Speaker expressed

Nyunt Maung Shein, Deputy Director-General Daw Aye Aye Mu of ASEAN Affairs Department and Assistant Director U Min Than Hlaing of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

MNA

thanks to the Japanese Government and its people through the Former Japanese Ambassador for Japanese Government cleared the debts.

Also present at the call together with the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

and Amyotha Hluttaw were Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyein and the Hluttaw Committee Chairmen Dr Khin Shwe and U Win Maung and officials from the Hluttaw Office.

MNA

Fighting Human Trafficking Program emphasized

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Feb—The 9th Senior Officials Meeting on Fighting Human Trafficking Program in Mekong Sub-region was held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 21st to 22nd February.

It was attended by Chief of Staff of Myanmar Police Force Police Brig-Gen Khin Maung Si, Police Col Win Naing Tun, Police Major Khin Maung Hla of Myanmar Central Committee for Prevention of Trafficking in Person, Deputy Director of the Social Welfare Department

Daw Thin Thin Nwe, Daw Ohnmar Ei Ei Chaw of UNIAP, officials from UN agencies such as World Vision Myanmar, Save the Children, IOM, UNICEF and youth participants.

The meeting focused on success in fight against human trafficking in 2012, experience gained in fight against human trafficking and participation of private sectors, and presentation made by youth from Mekong Region at their get-together.

MNA



Deputy Minister U Zin Yaw and delegates pose for documentary photo at Delhi Dialogue V and ASEAN-India Senior Officials Meeting.—MNA

Putin signs law to curb smoking, tobacco sales in Russia

Moscow, 26 Feb—Russian President Vladimir Putin has signed a law that will ban smoking in most public places and restrict cigarette sales in the world's second-largest tobacco market after China.

The law will ban smoking in some public places such as subways and schools from 1 June, and come into force a year later in other places including restaurants and cafes.

It will also ban sales of tobacco products at street kiosks from 1 June, 2014, restrict advertising and set minimum prices for ciga-

rettes which now cost 50 to 60 roubles a pack (less than \$2).

Putin, who started a new six-year term in 2012 and has promoted healthy lifestyles, hopes the law will help undermine an entrenched cigarette culture and reverse a decline in Russia's population since the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Advocating the law in a video blog before it was submitted to parliament last year, Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev said nearly one in three Russians were hooked on smoking, and almost 400,000 die each

year from smoking-related causes.

The Kremlin said Putin had signed the law on Saturday but did not announce it until Monday.

It said the law was intended to bring Russia into line with a World Health Organization tobacco control treaty that Moscow ratified in 2008.

The law faced opposition from foreign tobacco companies that dominate a cigarette market estimated to be worth \$22 billion in 2011 by Euromonitor International, a market research company.



Russian President Vladimir Putin attends a wreath laying ceremony to mark the Defender of the Fatherland Day in Moscow on 23 Feb, 2013.

REUTERS

Russia's population fell from 148.6 million in 1991, the year the Soviet Union

collapsed, to 141.9 million in 2011, according to World Bank figures.—Reuters

Honeywell to test some F-35 parts after smoke incident



Third Marine Aircraft Wing's first F-35B arrives on the Marine Corps Air Station Yuma flightline, in Yuma, Arizona, in this US Marine Corps handout photo taken on 16 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 26 Feb—The Pentagon said on Monday an F-35 test plane was involved in an incident on 14 February that caused smoke in the cockpit, and it was sending the affected parts back to their manufacturer, Honeywell International Inc, for a detailed inspection.

Kyra Hawn, spokeswoman for the \$396 billion F-35 Joint Strike Fighter programme, said an initial assessment of the incident at a Maryland air base showed it was isolated, software-related, and posed minimal risk. The Pentagon has made temporary changes to prevent another smoke incident, she said.

News of the previously unreported incident comes just days after US military officials grounded the entire fleet of Lockheed Martin Corp F-35 jets for the second time this year after discovering a 0.6 inch crack on a fan blade in the single jet of another test plane.

A spokesman for engine maker Pratt & Whitney, a unit of United Technologies Corp, said the

blade assembly arrived at the company's Middletown, Connecticut, facility on Sunday evening and engineering teams were examining it now.

Honeywell builds the plane's "power thermal management system," which uses a lithium-ion battery similar to those whose failures have grounded Boeing Co's entire fleet of 787 airliners, but Hawn said there was no connection between the 14 February incident and the F-35's lithium-ion batteries.

"It has no linkage whatsoever with the lithium-ion batteries," Hawn said. She said the 14 February incident was the only one involving smoke in the cockpit of an F-35 "in recent program history."

Lockheed is building three models of the new radar-evading warplane to replace nearly a dozen fighter jets in use by the US military and its allies. The Pentagon plans to buy 2,447 of the advanced fighter in coming decades.

Reuters

Illinois' unpaid bills could soar to \$21.7 billion in five years

CHICAGO, 26 Feb—Illinois' stack of overdue bills could nearly triple to \$21.7 billion in five years unless the state takes action to curb its public pension costs, a financial watchdog group said on Monday.

"Lawmakers need to adopt a long-term mindset and restructure the unaffordable pension systems that are keeping the state in its fiscal downspin," Lawrence Msall, president of the Chicago-based Civic Federation, said in a statement.

The group's report said the amount of unpaid bills would be down from the nearly \$35 billion it previously projected the state would face by fiscal 2017, largely due to cuts Illinois made last year to Medicaid, the healthcare programme for the poor.

But the \$21.7 billion in outstanding bills owed to vendors, social service providers, hospitals and others in fiscal 2018 would be 2.8 times the \$7.8 billion in forecast bills in fiscal 2013, which ends on 30 June.

Illinois stands alone among states in the scope and way it has institutionalized late payment of bills as a budget-balancing tool. State Comptroller Judy Baar Topinka reported on Monday that her office had \$6.88 billion in bills dating back to the end of August when the first half of fiscal 2013 ended on 31 December. That was up \$2.6 billion from the same period in fiscal 2012.

Estimates of bills that state agencies have yet to send to the comptroller would push that amount to more than \$9 billion at

the fiscal year's halfway point, according to the comptroller's quarterly report.

Topinka also reported that the legislature may have to pass more spending before the end of fiscal 2013 on 30 June to cover health services to the poor and other costs.

Illinois has the worst-funded state pension system, at 39 percent, far below the 80 percent level considered healthy. Lawmakers in the Democrat-controlled legislature have been unable to rally around a plan that would reduce pension costs and labour unions have warned that they will rely on strong protections for retirement benefits in the Illinois Constitution to fight changes.

The Civic Federation said pension costs, including annual state contributions and payments on outstanding pension bonds, could gobble up nearly a third of state-generated revenue in five years. It added that the state must also prepare for increased Medicaid costs in the future.—Reuters



Firemen work at the scene of a chemical plant blast in Baiyun District of Guiyang, capital of southwest China's Guizhou Province, on 25 Feb, 2013. At least five people were injured in a chemical plant explosion in Guiyang on Monday morning. Part of the plant, which belongs to Bestchem, a local chemical company, was still burning by noon. Firefighters have been deployed to the blast scene while local environmental authorities are keeping an eye on the air quality.

XINHUA

Fire erupts at Ukraine chemical storehouse

KIEV, 26 Feb—A major fire broke out on Monday morning at a chemical storehouse in southern Ukraine, sending up heavy smoke over surrounding areas, authorities said.

The blaze that covered some 200 square metres, started at around 10:37 a.m. local time (GMT 0837) at the facility which stores paint products and solvents in Zaporozhe city, the State Service for Emergencies said. Over 50 fire-fighters were able to extinguish the flames after an hour-long struggle and no casualties were reported, it said. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

Xinhua

Swine flu deaths reported in Russia's Murmansk

ST PETERSBURG, 26 Feb—Laboratory tests on two hospital patients who died last week from complications of a flu virus currently ravaging the northern Russian city of Murmansk have revealed that the virus belongs to the H1N1 group, commonly referred to as "swine flu", *Interfax* reported on Monday.

Over 8,000 cases of flu were officially reported in Murmansk between 11 and 17 February. Several other deaths from flu complications have been reported in the Moscow and St Petersburg regions in recent days.

While the overall risk of complications from this latest strain of flu remains low, Russian authorities have encouraged at-risk adults and children to consider vaccination and seek early treatment for flu symptoms.

Xinhua

Five people killed, six injured in factory collapse in Egypt

CAIRO, 26 Feb—Five people were killed and six others injured on Monday in the collapse of a factory manufacturing bricks in Amrous village of Minufiya Governorate, south of the Egyptian capital Cairo, the state-run MENA news agency reported. The civil protection forces have rushed to the scene of the accident,

and the rescue teams are currently looking for survivors. Meanwhile, the six injured people have been moved to Shohadaa hospital.

Building collapse accidents take place recurrently in Egypt, as owners mostly break the law and construct buildings or extra storeys without legal permits.

Xinhua

REGIONAL

Western Australians prepare for Cyclone Rusty

SYDNEY, 26 Feb—Western Australia's Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) on Tuesday issued an emergency relocation warning for people in parts of Port Hedland due to a very likely storm surge associated with Severe Tropical Cyclone Rusty.

"People in low lying areas of Port Hedland including a small section of Pretty Pool should relocate now," the DFES said in the warning.

"Rapid and powerful flooding is very likely as

Severe Tropical Cyclone Rusty crosses the coast."

The Bureau of Meteorology warned of a significant storm surge associated with Rusty on Tuesday morning. Rusty's intensity, size and slow movement are likely to lead to a very dangerous storm tide as the cyclone centre near the coast, the DFES says.

"Tides are likely to rise significantly above the normal high tide mark with damaging waves and very dangerous coastal inundation," the warning said.

The Bureau of Mete-

orology says gusts up to 195 kilometres an hour are likely to develop in coastal parts between Whim Creek and Pardoo in the Kimberly and Pilbara in Western Australia during Wednesday. In Port Hedland, shops were being sandbagged and water and tinned food flew off the shelves as locals prepared for Cyclone Rusty, according to the *Australian Associated Press (AAP)*.

Port Hedland's airport was closed at 9:00 p.m. (local time) on Monday, with all commercial flights cancelled.—*Xinhua*

Vietnamese PM meets with IRRI director in Hanoi

HANOI, 26 Feb—Vietnam wishes to promote sound and effective cooperation with the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) to produce quality rice varieties and work out cultivation processes, especially in the context of climate change and rising sea level, Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung said here on Monday.

The remarks were made during Vietnamese PM's meeting with IRRI Director Robert S Zeigler during the latter's visit to Vietnam.

The Vietnamese PM spoke highly of the IRRI's effective support to Vietnam over the past years with the production of up to 80 percent of high-yield rice varieties in the southern Mekong Delta.

For his part, Zeigler expressed his delight at Vietnam's achievements in agricultural development, and praised Vietnam's strategic and practical agricultural policies.—*Xinhua*



An officer shows a rescued pangolin at the Customs and Excise office in Belawan of North Sumatra Province, Indonesia, on 25 Feb, 2013. Indonesian Tim Patrol Customs and Excise Customs Belawan rescued 128 endangered pangolins from a boat.—*XINHUA*

Indonesia denies tax cut for palm oil exports

JAKARTA, 26 Feb—Indonesian Trade Minister Gita Wirjawan reconfirmed here on Monday that Indonesia will not slash the crude palm oil (CPO) export taxes to compete with its rival producer Malaysia despite the latter has much lower export tariffs.

Indonesia, the world's top CPO producer, increased its export tax on crude palm oil to 10.5 percent for March from February's 9 percent, while tariff imposed by Malaysia was only 4 percent for the same delivery period.

Xinhua

Four killed, 50 injured in Thailand concert blast

BANGKOK, 26 Feb—Four people were killed and scores injured on Monday in a hand grenade explosion at a concert in northeastern Thailand, police said.

The incident occurred early on Monday in Maha Sarakham Province's Nadoon District where a famous local band was performing in celebration of a religious festival, according to Kritchai Saruamsri,

superintendent of Nadoon police station.

He said a man carrying a suspicious object run from the crowd of audience and as the police approached him, they found that he was holding an M67 grenade with its safety pin already removed.

The man, who was later identified as 31-year-old Winai Jed-ngam, dropped the grenade, it bounced off

the floor and exploded.

Four men, including two police officers and two civilians, were killed in the blast and about 50 others injured, including the attacker. One member of the band was also reportedly wounded. Police were investigating the motive for the attack, saying it might be related to the ongoing dispute between local rival gangs.—*Xinhua*



Chinese President Hu Jintao (2nd R) meets with visiting Honourary Chairman of the Kuomintang Lien Chan (2nd L) at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, capital of China, on 26 Feb, 2013.—*XINHUA*

Nepali girl sets Guinness record after climbing Everest twice in season

KATHMANDU, 26 Feb—The Guinness Book of World Records on Monday recognized a Nepali woman for scaling the Mount Everest twice in a single season.

Nepal's Minister for Culture and Tourism Posta Bahadur Bogati handed over the Guinness certificate to Chhurim Sherpa, 29, amid a function organized on Monday, Ministry sources confirmed. Ms Sherpa, the first woman to hold a title, had scaled the

8848m-high Sagarmatha (Nepali name of Everest) for the first time on 12 May, 2012 and again a week later on 19 May.

According to the Nepal Mountaineering Association President Zimba Zangbu Sherpa, nearly 4,000 people have already scaled the world's tallest mountain with girls making only a small portion. "I am very much delighted for this recognition. Moreover, I am proud of the fact

that the record is set by a Nepali," Ms Sherpa told reporters during the function. "It is a matter of pride for all the Nepalis," Bogati said at the programme. "This success story of Chhurim has encouraged other Nepali girls as well." The best season to climb the Everest is considered in the days between the spring and the summer monsoon in Nepal, which usually starts from late April and ends in May.

Xinhua

India successfully launches seven satellites

NEW DELHI, 26 Feb—India Monday successfully launched into space seven satellites, including an Indo-French satellite called SARAL, from the spaceport of Sriharikota in the southern state of Andhra Pradesh, sources said.

The state-owned Indian Space Research

Organization (ISRO)'s home-made polar satellite launch vehicle (PSLV) blasted off at 6: 01 pm local time, carrying 410-kg SARAL, aimed at oceanographic studies, and six other small satellites from Austria, Britain, Canada and Denmark, and successfully put all of them into orbit. The ISRO-built

SARAL with payloads — Argos and Altika — from French space agency CNES will help enhance the understanding of the ocean state conditions.

India began its space journey in 1975 with the launch of Aryabhata using a Russian rocket and it has completed 100 missions so far.—*Xinhua*



South Korean President Park Geun-hye attends a dinner after inauguration ceremony in Seoul, South Korea, on 25 Feb, 2013. Park Geun-hye, the daughter of South Korea's late military strongman Park Chung-Hee, was sworn in as the country's first female president on Monday.—*XINHUA*

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

NOTICE OF INVITATION FOR OPENED TENDER

Tender No. Myanmar- Lao Friendship Bridge/2012-2013/NPT / ST 003

This Notice of Invitation for opened tender is launched by the Ministry of Construction on behalf of the Myanmar-Lao Friendship Bridge Construction Project receiving financial support from the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Government of Lao PDR.

Qualified Contractors are invited to submit bids for the detailed design (including the erection procedure), fabrication, supply of materials and erection equipment and supervision of erection of the steel truss bridge superstructure for the above project at Kyaing Lap Township, Tachileik District, Shan State, Myanmar.

- 1) Object of Contract : detailed design (including the erection procedure), fabrication, supply of materials and erection equipment and supervision of erection of the steel truss bridge superstructure for the above project at Kyaing Lap Township, Tachileik District, Shan State, Myanmar.
- 2) Eligibility and evaluation criteria
 - a. Origin: No restriction on origin.
 - b. Eligibility: Open internationally.
 - c. Evaluation: The lowest administratively and technically complaint tender will be granted the contract.
- 3) Site and deadlines
 - a. Location of the Project: Kyaing Lap Township , Tachileik District, Shan State, Myanmar and Houykhoun village, Long District, Luangnamtha Province, Lao PDR.
 - b. C.I.F: Bridge site either side, Myanmar side or Lao PDR side.
 - c. Contract period: 6 months.
 - d. Validity period of tender: 3 months from the deadline for receipt of tender.
- 4) Tender dossier
 - a. Type: open internationally.
 - b. How to obtain the dossier: the dossier may be obtained against payment of a non refundable amount of one thousand US Dollars (1,000 USD) from 28 February 2013 to 14 March 2013 at:
Bridge Division,
Public Works,
Ministry of Construction
Building No.11, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.
And
Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT)
Lane Xang Avenue
PO Box 2158
Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR.
 - c. Any request, consultation and communication must be sent to the same address as mentioned above.
- 5) Tender information
 - a. Language: English.
 - b. Currency: US Dollars.
 - c. Address for receipt and opening: one technical and one financial envelope to each country, Myanmar and Lao PDR at the same address as mentioned above.
 - d. Deadline for submission: 14 May 2013 at 16:30 pm local time at the same address as mentioned above.
 - e. Date and time of public opening session: Technical proposal will be opened in each country of tender submission, while the financial proposal will be opened together at Yangon, Myanmar.

Managing Director
Public Works
Ministry of Construction

Kyaw Linn

Address for inspection, purchasing and submission of Tender Documents:

Mr. Shwe Lay , Chief Engineer (Bridge)

Public Works

Ministry of Construction

Building No.11, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

Tel. No.:+95-67 - 407602, +95-67 - 407276, +95-67 - 407082

Fax. No.:+95-67 - 407514

Email: mrshwelay@gmail.com



The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Union Civil Service Board

Vacancy Announcement

Announcement No. 4 / 2013

9th Waxing of Tabodwe 1374 ME

(19 February 2013)

1. The Sports and Physical Education Department under the Ministry of Sports has issued an announcement of vacancies for the following position-

Position	Vacancy	Educational Qualification
Sports officer / Staff Officer(Township)	25	Any University Degree

2. The applicants -
 - (a) must be citizens of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
 - (b) must not be over 35 years of age (40 years if service personnel) on 20 March 2013.
 - (c) must be physically fit and possess well intact limbs, must be in good health and capable of serving the duty at any assigned place.
 - (d) must be Region /State(open level)selected athletes (The recommendation from respective Sports and Physical Education Department must be enclosed.)
 - (e) must under-go Sports Disciplines and Fitness Test before Selection.
3. Application forms are available at Office No. (17) of the Union Civil Service Board in Nay Pyi Taw or the respective offices of the Region and States Government and it must be submitted to the above mentioned offices in person or through the mail service not later than 20 March 2013. **The applicant must specifically describe the desired exam centre to sit for written examination either at Nay Pyi Taw or the Region and States and if so who can get the admission for the proposed exam centre. Late submission of application will not be accepted.**
4. With regards to filling in the application form, documents to be attached, mode of payment of Ks.500/ for examination fee, subjects to be studied for written examinations and personal interview, candidates applying for the vacant positions will have to follow the instructions manifested in the Guide Booklet published under Letter No. 950 / Selection (Main)/ 2012, dated 1 October 2012.
5. **For service personnel**, his or her original application altogether with the recommendation of the ministry concerned and a passport photo of the applicant must be sent to Office No. (17) of the Union Civil Service Board in Nay Pyi Taw through the Head of Department .Another application form together with an extra passport photo must be sent to the Union Civil Service Board or the respective offices of the Region and States Government by 20 March 2013.
6. Written examinations will be held in **Nay Pyi Taw, Region and States Government**. Candidates will be examined in Myanmar and General Knowledge examination papers on 26 October 2013 (Saturday) and English examination paper on 27 October 2013 (Sunday).
7. Identity cards for candidates sitting for the examination will be issued at Nay Pyi Taw and the respective offices of the Region and States Government on 24 October 2013.
8. The Ministry of Sports has prescribed specific rules and regulations for successful candidates in discharge of their duties . In this context candidates wishing to obtain further information may contact in person or by phone to Office No.(31) of Sports and Physical Education Department under the Ministry of Sports in Nay Pyi Taw (Tel: 067- 406039).
9. For more information, applicants may contact Office No. (17) of the Union Civil Service Board , Nay Pyi Taw (067 - 409052, 067 - 409430) or the respective offices of the Region and States Government in person or by phone.
10. This announcement and the guide booklet for applicants may be browsed on Websites: ucsb.imis.com.mm and www.ucsb.gov.mm.

Vietnam, Brunei foster economic ties

HANOI, 26 Feb—Vietnam and Brunei should further boost economic ties, especially cooperation in the fields of petroleum, agriculture, forestry and fishery, said Vietnamese President Truong Tan Sang during his reception for the visiting Brunei Minister of Energy Pehin Yasmin here on Monday.

President Sang applauded the results of a working session between the Brunei delegation and the Vietnam National Pe-

troleum Group (PVN) to realize their cooperation agreements, adding that the results will further strengthen the two countries' economic ties.

The Vietnamese leader also spoke highly of Brunei's ASEAN Presidency in 2013 and hoped that Brunei would contribute in building the community with further prosperity and development.

In his turn, Yasmin said that his visit to Vietnam this time, the third so far, aims to realize the signed agreements

of the two countries' leaders, especially in oil and gas cooperation.

He informed the host of the working session with the PVN, saying both sides reached a consensus on upgrading their relationship.

He also spoke highly of the importance of boosting petroleum cooperation between the two countries, adding that it will benefit both sides and contribute to the development of their relationship in ASEAN.

Xinhua



Motorbikes made in China are displayed for sale at a market in Sanaa, Yemen, on 25 Feb, 2013. According the Chinese Embassy in Sanaa, China has become the largest trading partner of Yemen, with bilateral trade reaching a historical high of 5.5 billion US dollars in 2012, increasing about 31% from the previous year.—XINHUA

ADVERTISEMENT & ENTERTAINMENT



The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Union Civil Service Board

Vacancy Announcement

Announcement No. 5 / 2013

9th Waxing of Tabodwe 1374 ME

(19 February 2013)

1. The Myanma Insurance, Budget Department and Central Bank of Myanmar under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue has issued an announcement of vacancies for the following positions-

Sr.No	Organization	Position	Vacancy	Educational Qualification
(1)	The Myanma Insurance	Assistant Manager	1	M.A(English)
			1	L.L.M
			1	M.C.Sc/ B.C.Sc/ B.Sc together with a Post Graduate Diploma in Computer Application from any university chartered by the Government
(2)	The Budget Department	Staff Officer	5	M.A(English)
			2	L.L.M
(3)	Central Bank of Myanmar	(a) Staff Officer	14	M.A(English)
			4	L.L.M
			6	C.P.A
			8	M.Act
			24	M.Com/ M.Econ(Eco/ Stats)/ M.B.A/ M.P.A
			2	M.C.Sc
			3	M.E(IT)
		(b) Research Officer	10	M.Com/ M.Econ(Eco/ Stats)

2. The applicants -

- must be citizens of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
- must not be over 35 years of age (40 years if service personnel) for Myanma Insurance and Budget Department and must not be over 30 years of age (35 years if service personnel) for Central Bank of Myanmar on 20 March 2013.
- must be in good health, must be physically fit and possess well intact limbs and capable of serving the duty at any assigned place for Central Bank of Myanmar.

3. Application forms are available at Office No.(17) of the Union Civil Service Board in Nay Pyi Taw or the respective offices of the Region and States Government and it must be submitted to the above mentioned offices in person or through the mail service not later than 20 March 2013. **The applicant must specifically describe the desired exam centre to sit for written examination either at Nay Pyi Taw or the Region and States and if so who can get the admission for the proposed exam centre. Late submission of application will not be accepted.**

4. The applicant who wishes to apply for more than one position will have to pay extra examination fees and submit the application forms separately for respective positions.

5. With regards to filling in the application form, documents to be attached, mode of payment of Ks.500/ for examination fee, subjects to be studied for written examinations and personal interview, candidates applying for the vacant positions will have to follow the instructions manifested in the Guide Booklet published under Letter No. 950 / Selection (Main)/ 2012, dated 1 October 2012.

6. **For service personnel**, his or her original application altogether with the recommendation of the ministry concerned and a passport photo of the applicant must be sent to Office No. (17) of the Union Civil Service Board in Nay Pyi Taw through the Head of Department. Another application form together with an extra passport photo must be sent to the Union Civil Service Board or the respective offices of the Region and States Government by 20 March 2013.

7. Written examinations will be held in **Nay Pyi Taw, Region and States Government**. Candidates will be examined in Myanmar and General Knowledge examination papers on 26 October 2013 (Saturday) and English examination paper on 27 October 2013 (Sunday).

8. Identity cards for candidates sitting for the examination will be issued at Nay Pyi Taw and the respective offices of the Region and States Government commencing on 24 October 2013.

9. For more information, applicants may contact Office No. (17) of the Union Civil Service Board, Nay Pyi Taw (067 - 409052, 067 - 409430) or the respective offices of the Region and States Government in person or by phone.

10. This announcement and the guide booklet for applicants may be browsed on Websites: ucsb.imis.com.mm and www.ucsb.gov.mm.



The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Union Civil Service Board

Vacancy Announcement

Announcement No. 6 / 2013

9th Waxing of Tabodwe 1374 ME

(19 February 2013)

1. The Posts and Telecommunications Department under the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology has issued an announcement of vacancy for the following position-

Position	Vacancy	Educational Qualification
Staff Officer	1	B.E (Electronics)

2. The applicants -

- must be citizens of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
- must not be over 35 years of age (40 years if service personnel) on 20 March 2013.
- must be in good health, must be physically fit and possess well intact limbs.

3. Application forms are available at Office No. (17) of the Union Civil Service Board in Nay Pyi Taw or the respective offices of the Region and States Government and it must be submitted to the above mentioned offices in person or through the mail service not later than 20 March 2013. **The applicant must specifically describe the desired exam centre to sit for written examination either at Nay Pyi Taw or the Region and States and if so who can get the admission for the proposed exam centre. Late submission of application will not be accepted.**

4. With regards to filling in the application form, documents to be attached, mode of payment of Ks.500/ for examination fee, subjects to be studied for written examinations and personal interview, candidates applying for the vacant positions will have to follow the instructions manifested in the Guide Booklet published under Letter No. 950 / Selection (Main)/ 2012, dated 1 October 2012.

5. **For service personnel**, his or her original application altogether with the recommendation of the ministry concerned and a passport photo of the applicant must be sent to Office No. (17) of the Union Civil Service Board in Nay Pyi Taw through the Head of Department. Another application form together with an extra passport photo must be sent to the Union Civil Service Board or the respective offices of the Region and States Government by 20 March 2013.

6. Written examinations will be held in **Nay Pyi Taw, Region and States Government**. Candidates will be examined in Myanmar and General Knowledge examination papers on 26 October 2013 (Saturday) and English examination paper on 27 October 2013 (Sunday).

7. Identity cards for candidates sitting for the examination will be issued at Nay Pyi Taw and the respective offices of the Region and States Government on 24 October 2013.

8. For more information, applicants may contact Office No. (17) of the Union Civil Service Board, Nay Pyi Taw (067 - 409052, 067 - 409430) or the respective offices of the Region and States Government in person or by phone.

9. This announcement and the guide booklet for applicants may be browsed on Websites: ucsb.imis.com.mm and www.ucsb.gov.mm.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV AN LONG JIANG VOY NO (195)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV AN LONG JIANG VOY NO (195) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27-2.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L/B.S.W 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 COSCO SHIPPING CO LTD.

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921



Trent Reznor of music group Nine Inch Nails performs at the Voodoo Music Experience concert held at Riverview Park in New Orleans, Louisiana on 29 Oct, 2005.

REUTERS

Priyanka Chopra gears up for her first item song



MUMBAI, 26 Feb—Priyanka Chopra is all set to start shooting the first item song of her career. The track that will be a part of Sanjay Gupta's upcoming film Shootout At Wadala will go on the floors from today.

Sources say that PC was so choosy about the song that she heard out as many as 11 tracks before taking a decision. Not only that, she even listened to eight different variations of the same song before giving it a go-ahead.

PTI

Nine Inch Nails to go back on road after reinventing itself

LOS ANGELES, 26 Feb—Industrial rock group Nine Inch Nails is planning to hit the road again for a world tour after reinventing itself and adding new musicians. Founder Trent Reznor, who took a hiatus after the band's "Wave Goodbye" tour in 2009, told music website Pitchfork.com on Monday that the band is "reinventing itself from

scratch."

Reznor said in a statement that bass player Eric Avery, formerly of Jane's Addiction, King Crimson guitarist Adrian Belew and Josh Eustis of electronic act Telefon Tel Aviv would join him in the revamped venture, along with previous collaborators Alessandro Cortini and drummer Ilan Rubin.

"I was working with Adrian Belew on some musical ideas, which led to some discussion on performing, which led to some beard-scratching, which (many steps later) led to the decision to re-think the idea of what Nine Inch Nails could be, and the idea of playing a show," Reznor told Pitchfork.

Reuters

SPORTS



Jussi Jaaskelainen (below), goalie of West Ham United saves as Emmanuel Adebayor (above) of Tottenham Hotspur attacks during the Barclays Premier League match between West Ham United and Tottenham Hotspur at the Boleyn Ground, Upton Park, in London, Britain on 25 Feb, 2013. Tottenham Hotspur won 3-2 and lift into third in the table.—XINHUA

Japan starts plea site to keep wrestling in Olympics

TOKYO, 26 Feb — Japan today launched an online petition site with the aim of submitting 100,000 signatures to the International Olympic Committee to keep wrestling in the Olympics.

Wrestling is set to be dropped from the 2020 Olympic Games after the organizers

decided to drop the game to make way for a new sport.

The website, titled “Save Olympic Wrestling”, launched by Japan Wrestling Federation can be accessed in several languages.

Kyodo News



Alves says Neymar has deal with Barcelona

RIO DE JANEIRO, 26 Feb — Barcelona defender Daniel Alves says Neymar has already signed a deal to join Barcelona after his contract expires with Santos in July 2014. The comments come a week after reports that Premier League outfit Manchester City is preparing to pay 55 million British pounds to sign the striker this European summer. Real Madrid and Chelsea are also keen to secure the 21-year-old but Alves is adamant

Neymar has already made up his mind. “He knows what is happening and the deal that he has, which is to come to

the club in the near future,” Alves was quoted saying by Brazilian daily *Lancenet*. “If I were him I would come as

soon as possible because it would allow him to improve the tactical side of his game before the (2014) World Cup. Apart from that he would be coming to a club that would suit the qualities he has as a player.”

Last year reports in Spain said Barcelona had already made a 14 million-euro down-payment for the Brazilian starlet, who has also been urged to join the Catalan club by football legend Pele. —Xinhua



Barcelona defender Daniel Alves

Murray hopes his new hotel will be a smash hit

LONDON, 26 Feb — Andy Murray will be keen to prove his business nous and hospitality skills are as good as his tennis after he purchased a luxury hotel in his Scottish hometown of Dunblane.

The British number one opted to buy the hotel where his brother Jamie, a Wimbledon mixed doubles champion, got married in 2010. “I am pleased to have acquired Cromlix House and look forward to securing its future as a successful business,” Murray said in a statement on his website (www.andymurray.com) on Monday.

“By re-establishing Cromlix as a leading luxury hotel at the heart of the Dunblane community we will be able to attract new visitors to the area, create a number of new jobs



England's Andy Murray, speaks at a news conference at the Sony Ericsson Open tennis tournament in Key Biscayne, Florida on 24 March, 2010.

REUTERS

and focus on supporting other local businesses. “I’m pleased to be able to give something back to the community I grew up in.”

Apart from being the hometown of US Open champion Murray, Dunblane is also known as the site of Britain’s worst school massacre after 16

children and their teacher were gunned down in 1996 by a local misfit. Murray, a survivor of the Dunblane Primary School atrocity, has brought plenty of cheer to the small Stirlingshire town in recent months as a gold postbox in the vicinity marks his singles triumph at the London Olympics.

He then became the first British man in 76 years to win a grand slam title with success at Flushing Meadows last September.

He plans to refurbish the hotel before re-opening it next year ahead of the 2014 Ryder Cup, which is being staged a short drive away at Gleneagles. Local media reported Murray had purchased the hotel for 1.8 million pounds (\$2.75 million). (\$1 = 0.6551 British pounds)

Reuters

PSG target Rafinha close to new Flamengo deal

RIO DE JANEIRO, 26 Feb — Paris Saint-Germain target Rafinha is reportedly on the verge of signing a contract extension with Brazilian giants Flamengo.

The 19-year-old forward has agreed in-principle to a five-year deal with a buy-out clause of 40 million euros, Sambafoot reported on Monday. Rafinha

has been followed by Paris Saint-Germain since former Brazil star Zico recommended the teenager to the French club’s top officials in 2009.

Zico has been a vocal supporter of the starlet and recently criticised his former club for not giving the youngster more chances in the first team. —Xinhua



Rafinha

FIFA issues third goal-line technology license

RIO DE JANEIRO, 26 Feb — World football’s governing body FIFA has approved a third company to provide goal-line technology. German firm Cairos will be among the bidders to install systems for next year’s World Cup in Brazil and the 2013-14 Premier League season.

The Cairos system is similar to the German-Danish GoalRef prototype already approved by FIFA. Both use a magnetic chip inside the ball which is activated when crossing the goal line. The other licensed system is the Sony-owned Hawk Eye, used successfully in tennis and cricket, which comprises a series of strategically placed cameras around the stadium. “We have met all of the requirements set out by FIFA for its goal-line technology which passed the test criteria, and was subsequently granted an official licence,” Cairos said in a statement on Monday. —Xinhua



A general view shows the Swiss mountain resort of St Moritz on 23 Jan, 2008.—REUTERS

Glitzy St Moritz, Davos fret over the cost of Olympic bid

LANDQUART, (Switzerland) 26 Feb — St Moritz is famous as a playground for the rich yet financial concerns are undermining public support for the glitzy resort’s bid to host the 2022 Winter Olympics in tandem with nearby Davos. Voters in the Swiss canton of Graubunden, where both towns are located, will decide in a referendum on Sunday whether or not to support the bid.

It would be a first for Davos while St Moritz,

home of the Cresta run and the annual polo World Cup on snow, would be hosting the games for the third time after 1928 and 1948.

Organizers want to bring the winter Olympics “back to the mountains” after the city-based Games in Turin, Vancouver and upcoming Sochi but are having a hard time convincing the local population.

“We want to bring the winter Olympics back to the snow, it would be great if you could sit in the hotel

and watch it snowing outside,” Joerg Schild, president of the Swiss Olympic Committee, told a news conference on Monday.

“Turin is a beautiful city, but it took two hours by car to get to the Alpine sports venues. Vancouver was a fantastic games but it was 1-3/4 hours to the mountains.” Graubunden 2022 organizing committee member Gian Gilli added: “I was in Sochi recently and it was 18 Celsius in winter.” —Reuters

GENERAL

Knowledge about traffic rules shared to students

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Feb—Directorate of Road Administration under the Ministry of Rail Transportation organized the talks on traffic rules for the first time at Basic Education High School in Nyaungbinseik Village in Kyaikmaraw Township on 18 February, attended by 320 teachers and students.

Inspector-II U Aung Myo Lin of DRA, IP Hlaing Kyaw Myint of Kyaikmaraw Township Police Force and SIP Aung Naing of Mon State Traffic Police Company



gave lectures on traffic rules for vehicles and road users.

Later, officials distributed pamphlets to those present.—NLM

Federer puts journeyman Jaziri in his place after blip

DUBAI, 26 Feb—Roger Federer surprisingly dropped the first set against little-known Malek Jaziri before putting the Tunisian upstart in his place with a 5-7, 6-0, 6-2 win to reach the second round of the Dubai Championships on Monday.

Jaziri, ranked 128th in the world, had not played a match on the ATP Tour for six months but that did not stop him snatching the first set from the 17-times grand slam champion. After watch-



Roger Federer of Switzerland serves to Malek Jaziri of Tunisia during their men's singles match at the ATP Dubai Tennis Championships, on 25 Feb, 2013.

REUTERS

ing Swiss Federer squander three break points in the opening set, Jaziri could barely believe his eyes when his more celebrated opponent slapped the ball into the net to go a break down at 5-6.

Jaziri, 29, made sure his bragging rights did not end there as he took the first set with a rip-roaring backhand down the line passing shot winner that left Federer flat-footed and the fans sensing a night-time upset.

Reuters

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(27-2-13 09:30 am ~ 28-2-13 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * Exclusive Interview with World Bank & IFC High Officials Mr. Axel Van Trotsenburg & Ms. Karin Finkelston
- * News
- * Musical Programme
- * News
- * "Easily Cook & Tasty Dishes" Fried Meatball with Vegetables
- * The Artworks of Bagan Gift Centre
- * News
- * Five Pagodas with the Letter 'Man' in Titles
- * News
- * Take the Correct Route, Drive Safely
- * Press Meeting by Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Situation in Myanmar
- * News
- * Kid's Talent
- * "Myanmar Seamen's Federation" Teatime Table Talks on Job Opportunity for Myanmar Seamen
- * News
- * A Day In Yangon (Myanmar's Shwedagon)
- * Nurture the Future Stars of Music World
- * News
- * The Most Amazing Yangon Exhibition & Car Show 2/2013
- * Myanmar Movies "Great Goodwill"

Myanmar TV

(27-2-2013, Wednesday)

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|---|----------------------------------|
| 7:00 am | Entrance Examination (Geography) |
| 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw | 5:00 pm |
| 7:25 am | 14. Classical Song |
| 2. Health Programme | 5:10 pm |
| 7:30 am | 15. ASEAN Programmes |
| 3. Morning News | 5:20 pm |
| 7:40 am | 16. Sing & Enjoy |
| 4. International News | 6:00 pm |
| 7:55 am | 17. Evening News |
| 5. Documentary | 6:15 pm |
| 8:05 am | 18. Weather Report |
| 6. Cultural Dances | 6:20 pm |
| 8:15 am | 19. Documentary |
| 7. Teleplay (Health) | 7:00 pm |
| 8:25 am | 20. News |
| 8. Song Of National Races | 7:25 pm |
| 8:35 am | 21. Documentary |
| 9. Documentary | 8:00 pm |
| 4:00 pm | 22. News |
| 10. Opening Song | 23. People Talks |
| 4:05 pm | 24. Weather Report |
| 11. Songs For Upholding National Spirit | 25. Documentary SEA Games |
| 4:10 pm | 26. Alinka Wut Yi Music Troupe |
| 12. Musical Programme | 27. TV Drama Series |
| 4:25 pm | 10:00 pm |
| 13. 2013 University | 28. News |
| | 29. Myanmar Movie |

Brady accepts cap-friendly extension with Patriots

NEW YORK, 26 Feb—Quarterback Tom Brady has agreed to a bargain three-year, \$27 million contract extension that will

keep him with the NFL's New England Patriots through the 2017 season, *Sports Illustrated* reported on Monday.



The two-time National Football League (NFL) Most Valuable Player who led New England to three Super Bowl titles, will get a \$3 million signing bonus plus salaries of \$7 million in 2015, \$8 million in 2016 and \$9 million in 2017, the magazine said. Brady, 35, who rose to fame after being taken in the sixth round of the 2000 NFL Draft, accepted about half the future

salary commanded by other top signal callers in order to give the Patriots flexibility to sign other players, according to the report. Brady passed for 4,827 yards and 34 touchdowns this past season with New England, who lost in the AFC title game to the Baltimore Ravens, one step from reaching their sixth Super Bowl with Brady at quarterback.

Reuters

New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady walks off the field after throwing an interception against the Baltimore Ravens in the final minutes of the fourth quarter of the NFL AFC Championship football game in Foxborough, Massachusetts, on 20 Jan, 2013.

REUTERS

Senna's gloves auctioned for 22,000 pounds

LONDON, 26 Feb —A pair of regular racing gloves worn by the late Ayrton Senna in the 1991 season when he won his third Formula One title sold for 22,000 pounds (\$33,200) at a charity auction for grand prix mechanics on Monday.

The framed gloves, donated by former McLaren team co-ordinator Jo Ramirez who was a friend and colleague, were bought by Gerard Lopez—owner of the current Lotus team that traces its lineage back



to the Toleman outfit that the Brazilian made his F1 debut with in 1984. Senna

also raced for Lotus, related only by name to the present team, from 1985-87.

The 11 lots in the auction at London's Royal Opera House raised more than 92,000 pounds for the Grand Prix Mechanics Charitable Trust, chaired by triple champion Jackie Stewart. Former F1 champions Niki Lauda, Damon Hill and his late father Graham—represented by his racing grandson Josh who is moving up through the junior series—were inducted into the Motor Sport magazine *Hall of Fame*.

Reuters

Nagatomo creates equalizer but hurt in Milan derby



Antonio Nocerino (L) of AC Milan and Yuto Nagatomo of Inter Milan compete for the ball in a Serie A soccer game in Milan on 24 Feb, 2013.

KYODO NEWS

MILAN, 26 Feb — Japan defender Yuto Nagatomo set up the equalizer for Inter Milan in Sunday's 1-1 derby draw with AC Milan but hobbled off the pitch in the second half with a left-knee injury.

The severity of Nagatomo's injury was not immediately known, though Japan coach Alberto Zaccheroni will be praying

it's not serious with a crunch World Cup qualifier in Jordan scheduled for 26 March.

Down by one in the 71st minute, Ezequiel Schelotto nodded in Nagatomo's cross from the left to give Inter a point, lifting them to fourth place on goal difference ahead of Lazio.

Kyodo News

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham receives Chinese, Russian Ambassadors



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham shaking hands with Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Junhua who had completed his tour of duty.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Feb—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham received Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Junhua who had completed his tour of duty, at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, this morning.

At the call, they friendly discussed further strengthening of friendly ties between the two countries based on farsightedness of leaders of Myanmar and China, friendly relations of peoples of two countries and efforts of ambassadors from two countries, contributions of the People's Republic of China to peace process of Myanmar in good faith and

future plans.

Present on the occasion together with Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham were Union Minister U Soe Maung, Deputy Minister U Zin Yaw and departmental heads.

The Vice-President also received Russian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Vasily B. POSPELOV at the Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace, here, this afternoon.

They had a cordial discussion on further strengthening of bilateral relations and mutual cooperation in health, education and cultural sectors between the two countries.

MNA



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham shakes hands with Russian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Vasily B POSPELOV.—MNA

Vice-President U Nyan Tun receives Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar



NAY PYI TAW, 26 Feb— Vice-President U Nyan Tun received a delegation led by Mr. Li Junhua, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar, at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace here at 11 am today.

At the meeting, they had a cordial discussion on promoting bilateral cooperation, reform process of Myanmar, support of

China for establishment of open society in Myanmar, energy sector, special economic zones and development projects of small- and medium-scaled enterprises.

Also present at the call together with Vice-President U Nyan Tun were Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister U Zin Yaw and departmental heads.—MNA

Vice-President U Nyan Tun poses for documentary photo together with Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Junhua and party.—MNA

Myanmar garment workers in Jordan protest against poor lunch

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Feb— About 30 Myanmar workers of Century Miracle Apparel Mfg. Co Ltd in Ramtha of Jordan are protesting against poor lunch since 14 February.

The Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security of Myanmar is dealing with the issue through Myanmar Embassy in Israeli despite invalidity of their employment agencies since Myanmar and Jordan have yet to establish diplomatic ties.

The embassy found that the employer is fulfilling clauses in employment contracts.

Under labour law in Jordan, the workers are required to ask for prior permission to stage strike 14 days ahead of the proposed strike and to return to the workplace within 48 hours. They will be fined 50 JOD on day one and five for each day later for failure to return to the workplace in time. The workers in protest will not be paid and the company will buy each of those reluctant to continue their service a return flight ticket.

The ministry is keeping in touch with latest developments and exploring the best possible solutions.

MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee Chairman meets French, Singaporean guests

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Feb— Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo received a delegation led by Sub-Director of South East Asia Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France Mr. Charles-Henri BROSSEAU at 2 pm and a delegation led by Deputy Secretary of Southeast Asia and International Organizations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore Mr Vanu Gopala Menon at 2.45 pm at meeting hall No.1

of Hluttaw Building, here, today separately.

They frankly discussed parliamentary affairs and strengthening relations between the two parliaments.

Present on the occasions were Secretary of Public Accounts Committee U Maung Toe, Secretary of Hluttaw Rights Committee Dr Soe Yin, Secretary of International Relations Committee U Ko Ko Tun and officials of the Hluttaw Office.—MNA

Significant night temperatures (26-2-2013)



Farmland registration to be completed this year

1. Settlement and Land Records Department is undertaking farmland ownership registration under close supervision of region/state governments to enable farmers to hand over the ownership to descendants under the law.
2. The registration costs no more than K 500 fee for registration per holding plot under the Farmland Law. The department will undertake the work to register all farmlands in the entire country in the whole 2013-2014 fiscal year.
3. The department is coordinating with respective region/state governments for systematic completion of the registration.

(Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation)