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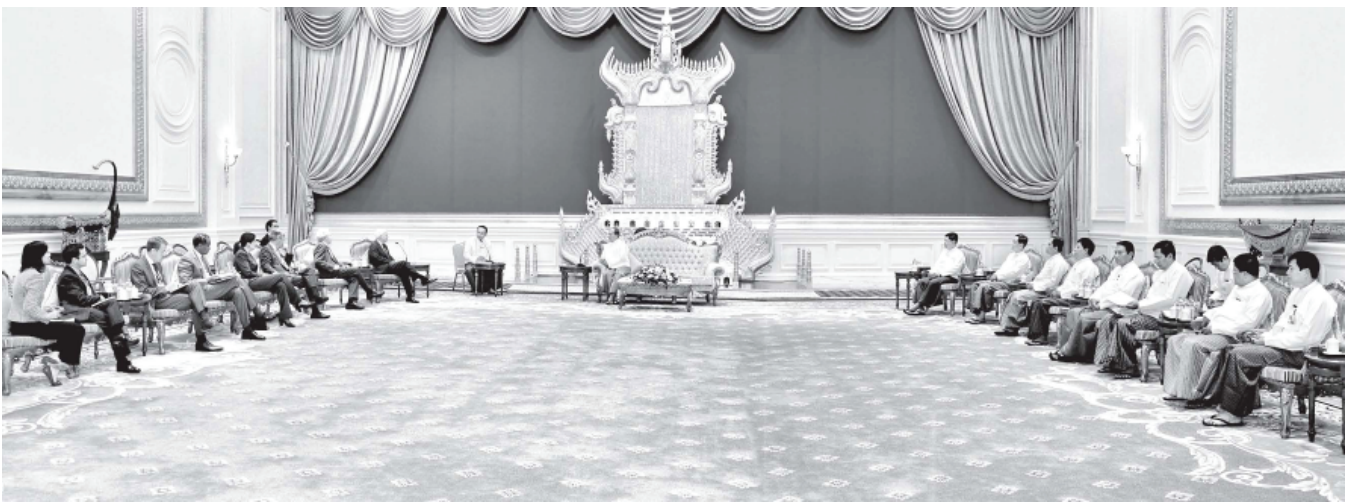
Monday, 23 January, 2012

True patriotism

* It is very important for every one of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.

* Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

President U Thein Sein receives US Senator Mr John Sidney McCain and party



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein receives a delegation led by US Senator Mr John Sidney McCain at Credentials Hall of President Residence in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Jan—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein received a delegation led by US Senator Mr John Sidney McCain at the Credentials Hall of the President Residence here at 10am today.

Also present at the call together with President U Thein Sein were Union Minister for Industry U Soe Thein, Union

Minister at the President Office U Thein Nyunt, Union Minister for Labour and for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Aung Kyi, Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung, Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint and departmental heads.

US Senator Mr John Sidney McCain was accompanied by Senators Mr Joseph Isadore Lieberman, Mr Sheldon Whitehouse, Mrs Kelly Ann Ayotte and Charge d' Affaires ai of US Embassy to Myanmar Mr Michael E Thurston.

They had a cordial discussion on cooperation between the two countries.—MNA



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein and party pose for documentary photo together with US Senator Mr John Sidney McCain and party.—MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 23 January, 2012

Cost-effective marketing strategy

Cost-effective marketing strategy is usually applied in a business or a family. And the streamlined move could reduce the expenses to the lowest level.

There used to be a widely accepted concept that was cost effective and self-reliant. But the current trends of lifestyle has hardly touched the concept. For example, a tailor has nothing to do with making shoes; a shoemaker does away with sewing clothes; and a tea-drinker does not make tea himself.

This fashion has brought about a new concept which is in favour of thrifty practice. The thrifty practice for the first concept does not go well with the present time. The second concept is really going places although it generates extra cost.

With the advent of market-oriented economic system, the second concept met with failure. At a time when an increasingly regulated market is being introduced, those with the second concept have suffered a major setback. This shows that economic strategies undergo a constant change with the passage of time.

Garment factories have emerged in place of tailoring shops. Shoes shops have been replaced with shoes factories. Tea shops have been flooded with sachets of instant teamix. Whatever it is, balance should be striken on affordable prices, income, employment, benefits of employers and consumers. To cope with emerging socio-economic challenges the haves should keep a balance on the have-nots sharing their possessions with the latter.

Clean government, good governance and representatives of the people are a decisive factor capable of overcoming the challenges. The people are only followers. Daily works are often plagued with a spate of formidable hardships and difficulties. And they need to be in conformity with the current trends. To place the public interest in the fore the role of steersmen is more important than that of leaders.

When the country is embarking on a variety of reforms the interest of majority is to be given priority with visionary decision. This could largely result in poverty alleviation. With this end in view, all the steersmen who constantly keep in touch with the grassroots are to undertake a series of activities for the improvement of social-economic status of the people.

Midwifery course commences

LABUTTA, 22 Jan—The midwifery course No. 1/2012, jointly organized by Ministry of Health and Merlin Myanmar, was opened at the 200-bed hospital in 3rd-Mile Myothit of Labutta District on 9 January.

Medical Superintendent Dr Sein Hlaing explained the purpose of the course and Project in-charge U Zaw Pe Than of Merlin Myanmar, assistance for the course.

Altogether 52 female trainees are attending the six-week course.—District IPRD

Take Fire Preventive Measures

Union Education Minister inspects BEHSs in Kamayut, Insein townships

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Jan—Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye, accompanied by directors-general and deputy directors-general of No. 1, 2, and 3 Departments of Basic Education, inspected the school building to be repaired at Basic Education High

School No. 2 in Kamayut Township yesterday.

After hearing the reports presented by the headmistress, the Union

minister gave necessary instructions.

He also visited Insein BEHS No 6 and heard reports on preparation for securing high pass rate of the school and left necessary instructions.

MNA

Self-reliant asphalt road commissioned in Homalin

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Jan—A ceremony to inaugurate Khaingthazin self-reliant asphalt road was held in Khopewa Ward in Homalin of Hkamti District on 2 January morning.

Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Aye of Homalin Township, Township Development Affairs Committee

Executive Officer U Kyaw Kyaw and Road Construction Committee Chairman U Thaug Kyi formally opened the road.

Sagaing Region Minister for Shan National Race U San Shwe unveiled the signboard of the road.

The 7.71 furlong long facility was built at a cost of K 2.8 million by the local people and K 1.5 million by the Township DAC.—MNA

Traffic rules talked at Mawlamyine University



Traffic rules talks in progress at Mawlamyine University.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Jan—Under the supervision of Mon State Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee, Mon State Traffic Police Force gave a talk on traffic rule at Mawlamyine University on 19 January.

Next, the educative film was presented to those present.

Afterwards, police officers gave talks on traffic rules for vehicles and pedestrians.

Faculty members and students of the university viewed round documentary photos on traffic rules displayed in the campus.—MNA

Golden oldies ready to shine at Zaykabar Open

YANGON, 22 Jan—Veterans Boonchu Ruangkit of Thailand and Filipino Frankie Minoza will be eyeing to rewrite the history on the Asian Tour when they play in the Zaykabar Myanmar Open presented by Air Bagan next month.

Boonchu and Minoza, aged 55 and 53 respectively, are hoping to roll back the years and overtake the record set by Choi Sang-ho of Korea, who became the oldest winner on the

Asian Tour at the age of 50 years and 145 days when he won the 2005 Maekyung Open.

They will be joined by a strong line-up of players in the US\$ 300,000 event staged at the Royal Mingalardon Golf and Country Club which include reigning Order of Merit Champion Juvic Pagunsan of the Philippines and defending champion Tetsuji Hiratsuka of Japan.

Japanese Yuta Ikeda, a multiple winner from Japan, Rikard Karlberg of Sweden, the 2010 Asian Tour Rookie of the Year and Angela Que of the Philippines will also feature in the event which returns on the Asian Tour schedule after a one-year break.

He played in three Asian Tour events last year, where he made all three cuts highlighted by a sixth placing at the Hero Indian Open. Boonchu will be delighted to return to the Myanmar Open, which has been a hunting ground for him, as he finished in tied 28th place in 2010 and tied eight in 2005.

Minoza is one of Asia's living legends. The veteran star has won titles across the region since the early 1980s and in 2007, he showed that he could still perform at the highest level by winning once on the Asian Tour and Japan Golf Tour.

Ideka, a nine-time winner in Japan, will spearhead a strong cast of Japanese players in the Zaykabar Myanmar Open. He will be looking to emulate the success of Hiratsuka as he seeks a first victory in Myanmar.

The Zaykabar Myanmar Open presented by Air Bagan is a US\$ 300,000 full fledged Asian Tour event which will be staged at the highly-rated Royal Mingalardon Golf & Country Club from 2 to 5 February and is sanctioned by the Asian Tour and Myanmar Professional Golfers Association. Myanmar's national championship will return to the Asian Tour Schedule after a year's lapse. It was inaugurated in 1996 and the list of champions includes illustrious names such as three-time Asian Tour Order of Merit winner Thongchai Jaidee of Thailand, countryman Boonchu Ruangkit, American Anthony Kang, South African James Kingston, Chinese Taipei's Lin Keng-chi and Japan's Tetsuji Hiratsuka who won the event in 2010.—MNA



Nay Pyi Taw FC hosted Zwekapin United FC today. The host secured three points as it beat the guest 3-0.—NLM

Karzai says he's met with Afghan militant faction

KABUL, 22 Jan—Afghan President Hamid Karzai said Saturday that he personally held peace talks recently with the militant faction Hizb-i-Islami, appearing to assert his own role in a US-led bid for negotiations to end the country's decade-long war.

Karzai made the announcement hours before he met with American special representative Marc Grossman to discuss progress and plans for bringing the Taleban militancy into formal talks for the first time.

"Recently, we met with a delegation from Hizb-i-Islami

... and had negotiations," Karzai told a meeting of the Afghan parliament. "We are hopeful that these negotiations for peace continue and we will have good results," he added.

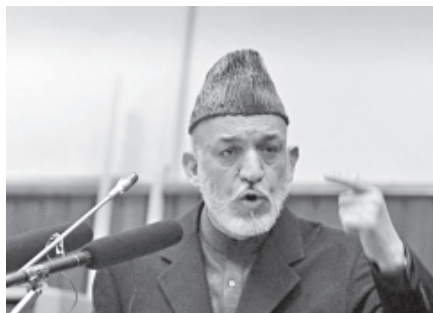
Karzai's statement was a reminder that any negotiations to end Afghanistan's war will be more complex than just talking to the Taleban's Pakistan-based leadership, headed by Mullah Mohammed Omar. The two other main militant factions in the country have their own leaders and agendas.

Hizb-i-Islami is a radical

militia that controls territory in Afghanistan's northeast and launches attacks against US forces from Pakistan. Its leader, powerful warlord Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, is a former US ally now listed as a terrorist by Washington.

Based on the Pakistan border, Hekmatyar has ties to al-Qaeda and has launched deadly attacks on US troops in Afghanistan. Fighters loyal to Hekmatyar also have strongholds in Baghlan, Kunduz and Kunar provinces in the north and northeast Afghanistan.

Internet



Afghan President Hamid Karzai, right, delivers a speech at the opening of the second year of the Afghanistan parliament in Kabul, Afghanistan, on 21 Jan, 2012. Karzai announced to parliament on Saturday that he has taken the lead in peace negotiations with the Hizb-i-Islami insurgent faction, meeting personally with radical Islamist militia representatives to push ahead with the peace process.—INTERNET

Putin meets Kissinger on global issues, bilateral ties

MOSCOW, 22 Jan—Visiting former US secretary of state Henry Kissinger and Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin discussed global issues Friday, and vowed to enhance ties between the two countries.

Without giving details of the talks, Putin's spokesman Dmitry Peskov said the "private meeting" lasted some 40 minutes, local press reported Saturday.

Interfax news agency said Kissinger described the bilateral relations as "of key global importance" and expressed hope they would keep improving.

The pair met frequently in recent years, as Kissinger once called Putin "extremely intelligent" in 2007, while Putin said in 2006 that the two can "understand each other well" and can find compromise.

Russian media noted that Friday's meeting came just weeks before the 4 March presidential elections, in which Putin is seeking a third term as president.

Internet



A view of the stricken cruise liner Costa Concordia off the island of Giglio. Divers salvaged Saturday a hard disk from Italy's capsized cruise ship with video footage that could shed light on the captain's actions, as another body was pulled from the wreckage.

INTERNET

Hard disk from shipwreck may shed light on captain's role

ROME, 22 Jan—Divers salvaged on Saturday a hard disk from Italy's capsized cruise ship with video footage that could shed light on the captain's actions, as another body was pulled from the wreckage.

The discovery of a woman's body towards the stern of the ship brought the death toll to 12, as hopes dwindled of finding someone who may have miraculously survived in air pockets a week after the tragedy.

Still, officials said rescuers would continue throughout the night to scour previously inaccessible parts of the ship eight days after it hit rocks and keeled over on to its side off Italy's northwest coast.

Divers working for Italian prosecutors probing the role captain Francesco Schettino played in the disaster retrieved a hard disk which may have video footage from security cameras on the ship's bridge, media reports said.

Schettino is being investigated for multiple manslaughter, abandoning ship and causing a shipwreck, after he steered the boat too close to the Tuscan island of Giglio. He is under house arrest.

The vessel's owner, Costa Crociere, has said the company was warned too late of the scale of the disaster, though Schettino has disputed their account.

Internet

Iran's Gulf smugglers feel blowback from tensions

KHASAB, 22 Jan—By dawn, the unmarked speedboats from Iran pull into port. By dusk, they are racing back across the Strait of Hormuz loaded with smuggled consumer goods ranging from Chinese-made shoes to cut flowers from Holland.

Even as sanctions squeeze Iran ever tighter, there's one clandestine route that remains open for business: A short sea corridor across the Persian Gulf connecting a rocky nub of Oman and the Iranian coast about 35 miles (60 kilometers) away.

Yet even this established smugglers' path is now feeling the bite from the pressures on Iran over its nuclear programme.

Business is sharply down, the middlemen and boat crews say, as the slumping Iranian currency leaves fewer customers for the smuggled wares. At the same time, the risks of interception are higher as Iranian authorities step up patrols near the strategic oil tanker lanes at the mouth of the Gulf.

The strait, which is the only access in and out of the Gulf,

has been the scene of Cold War-style brinkmanship between Iran and the West after Tehran last month threatened to block the passageway for about one-sixth of the world's oil in retaliation for new US sanctions.

"We used to make two or three trips across every day. Now, it's maybe one," said an Iranian middleman, who gave only his first name Agheel to protect his identity from authorities in his homeland.

He watched crews load up a pickup truck with bolts of fabric from Pakistan and table-size boxes of cut flowers from the Netherlands, before the trucks headed off through the treelless mountains to Khasab port.

The operation smuggles in merchandises to avoid Iranian tariffs and to bring in American and European products that have disappeared from Iranian markets because of international sanctions. Experts note that the consumer items pose no real challenge to efforts to block material with military or nuclear



In this 18 Jan, 2012 photo, Iranian smugglers leave the port on a speedboat loaded with goods to cross the Strait of Hormuz to reach Iranian coastal areas, in Khasab, Oman. Even as sanctions squeeze Iran ever tighter, there's one clandestine route that remains open for business: A short sea corridor connecting a rocky nub of Oman with the Iranian coast about 35 miles (60 kilometers) across the Gulf.—INTERNET

Internet

uses. "Still, it shows you can't close off all channels into Iran no matter how hard you try," said Paul Rogers, who follows security affairs at Bradford University in Britain. "People will find a way."

Mogadishu government vows to eradicate Shebab militia

MOGADISHU, 22 Jan—Somali transitional government forces on Saturday vowed to rid Mogadishu of all "violent elements," a day after a major offensive aimed at dislodging Al-Qaeda-linked Shebab militia from the capital.

Officials in Galmudug, a semi-autonomous Province of central Somalia, meanwhile, said dozens of security forces were on the trail of a foreigner who was kidnapped there.

And the Islamist Shebab militia in Somalia said a British fighter was killed on Saturday during a drone attack in the capital Mogadishu.

"There are still a few pockets of resistance of the defeated terrorists. They launched at least six desperate counter-attacks last night, but the TFG (government forces) and AMISOM (African Union Mission in Somalia) troops have repelled them," a government military official said as the Shebab vowed to fight on.

"Our forces consolidated the positions they captured yesterday and the situation is quiet this morning, but the military campaign to eliminate violent elements from Mogadishu will continue," added the official, Abdulahi Mohamed.

One official said the kidnapped man, whose nationality was unknown, was a journalist, while another said he worked for a company that is building a port for the coastal town of Hobyo.—Internet

Internet

A Ugandan soldier serving with the African Union Mission in Somalia stands guard as a tank passes following an advance with the Somali National Army on 20 January.

INTERNET



NATO soldier dies in attack in south Afghanistan

KABUL, 22 Jan—NATO says a member of its international force in Afghanistan has died in an insurgent attack.

A coalition statement said the incident took place Saturday in southern Afghanistan but gave no other details, nor the nationality of the casualty.

The attack comes a day after an Afghan soldier opened fire on French troops during a training exercise, killing four of them and prompting France to suspend its training programmes.

Internet

Third smallest baby ever leaves US hospital

LOS ANGELES, 22 Jan—A baby believed to be the third smallest birth-weight infant ever to survive left hospital in Los Angeles, doctors and the proud parents said.

Melinda Star Guido was born last August, 16 weeks early, weighing only 9.5 ounces (270 grammes) — less than a can of soda or the same as two iPhones — and has spent nearly five months in a neonatal intensive care unit.

“I am so excited to finally have my baby come home,” said her mother Haydee Ibarra, 22. “We have waited almost five

months for this moment. It is so wonderful and we are ready to bring Melinda home.” She is the third smallest baby to survive, according to Global Birth Registry figures cited by LA County health officials.

Dr Rangasamy Ramanathan, neonatology chief at the LA County-USC Medical Center, said he wasn't initially sure if Melinda was going to survive beyond a few days.

“This doesn't happen every day. In my 30 years here, ... this is the first time it ever happened that we were able to discharge a baby who weighed less than 400 grams, or 300 grams,” he said.

“We have reached a milestone by being able to see Melinda go home,” he added “We are hopeful to see many more milestones accomplished in Melinda's development as we follow her care over the next six years.”—Internet



Two die of A(H1N1) swine flu in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 22 Jan—An outbreak of A(H1N1) swine flu claimed the lives of two people—19 and 21 years old — in Mexico's capital in the first weeks of the year, health authorities said on Saturday. The health secretary of Mexico's Federal District, Armando Ahued, said there were 138 confirmed cases of the flu, including 110 cases of A(H1N1), a novel strain of the swine flu that was first detected in 2009.

Nationwide, 333 cases of the virus have been confirmed, the federal government's health secretary said earlier in the week, without saying how



A person holds a reproduction of a patient's skull at the Ghent University hospital, in Ghent, Belgium, on 7 January. Turkish surgeons on Saturday successfully performed the country's first-ever face transplant, the Anatolia news agency reported.

INTERNET

'Turkish surgeons carry out country's first face transplant

ISTANBUL, 22 Jan—Turkish surgeons on Saturday successfully performed the country's first-ever face transplant, the Anatolia news agency

reported. A team of doctors at Akdeniz University in the southern city of Antalya performed the operation on a 19-year-old boy whose face was burned when he was a 40-day-old baby, said Anatolia.

Tissue from the face of a 45-year-old donor was successfully transplanted, it said. The operation brings to 20 the number of face transplants carried out worldwide, the report said. The first was a partial face transplant on Frenchwoman

Isabelle Dinoire in 2005. Turkish doctors were performing another operation on Saturday from the same donor, on a 34-year old man in what was reported as the world's first double arm and single leg transplant.

Doctors were transplanting limbs to a man who lost both arms and one leg when he was electrocuted at the age of 11, said Anatolia.

Internet



Melinda Star Guido is picked up by her mother Haydee Ibarra as her father Yovani Guido looks on after she was discharged from Los Angeles County-USC Medical Center five months after her birth, on 20 January, in Los Angeles, California. Guido was born 24 weeks early, weighing 9.5 ounces, and was the third smallest baby born in the world.—INTERNET



A boy is vaccinated against Influenza A(H1N1) swine flu in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, in 2011.—INTERNET

RWE to sell \$2.3 billion in hybrid debt in 2012

FRANKFURT, 22 Jan—German utility RWE expects to issue 1.8 billion euros (\$2.33 billion) worth of hybrid bonds in various currencies over the course of this year, effectively rolling over debts maturing in the same amount, in order to maintain its current credit rating. “I don't expect any problems this year with refinancing,” Chief Financial Officer Rolf Pohlig told German business daily *Boersen Zeitung* in an interview published on Saturday, ruling out any new share sales.

“Hybrid bonds have the advantage that under certain circumstances, rating agencies classify one half as debt and the other as equity. The coupon is also fully tax deductible, so this combination makes it attractive for us to use hybrid capital even if it is clearly more expensive than normal bonds,” he said. In December, RWE sold the equivalent of 15

percent worth of its stock — mainly through a capital increase — but fell 400 million euros short of raising the targeted 2.5 billion euros in fresh equity that it wanted



The recharging system of German power supplier RWE is pictured during the International Motor Show (IAA) in Frankfurt, on 14 Sept, 2011.—INTERNET

to retain its A- credit rating. RWE considers a single A rating to be benchmark for European utilities, and the current negative outlook given by both Standard & Poor's and Moody's puts it towards the bottom of its peer group that includes E.ON, Iberdrola and EDF.

As a result of the December stock sale, in which investors were entitled to the full dividend for 2011 even if some had only owned RWE stock for less than a

month, the payout per share will decline substantially. “We aim to maintain our dividend policy that distributes 50-60 percent of our recurrent net income,” he said, adding this would be paid out this year to a larger number of investors.

Reuters

No formal bid yet for bankrupt Saab

STOCKHOLM, 22 Jan—The receivers for bankrupt car maker Saab are talking with several bidders and would like to sell the Swedish company as a whole, but there have been no formal bids yet, they said on Saturday. Saab was declared bankrupt in December after frantic rescue efforts by its former owner, Swedish Automobile.

Chinese group Zhejiang Youngman Lotus Automobile could make a fresh bid in the coming week, sources have told Reuters.

“We have had discussions with a number of interested parties. Some of them are interested in the factory as a whole and some of them are interested in parts of it,” Hans Bergvist, one of the receivers, told Reuters in a telephone interview.

“There have been no formal bids,” added fellow receiver Anne-Marie Pouteaux. General Motors, which still licenses



A Saab logo covered with rain drops is seen on a vehicle in Zurich, on 24 June, 2011.—INTERNET

technology to Saab, blocked earlier rescue efforts, saying it did not want help competitors. Swedish newspaper *Dagens Industri* has reported Turkish private equity firm Brightwell, as well as Indian utility vehicle maker Mahindra and Mahindra Ltd are also interested.—Reuters

European rating agency could launch in 2012

MILAN, 22 Jan—Plan to launch a European ratings agency to compete with S&P, Moody's and Fitch are at an advanced stage and a new private institution could start business as soon as the first half of this year, German businessman Roland Berger told an Italian newspaper.

The founder of consultancy Roland Berger said he hoped a new private, non-profit organization, in

the form of a foundation, could be ready in “the first half or the first nine months of the year,” according to Saturday's *Corriere della Sera*.

Berger, who has been lobbying European governments and companies to gather support and financing for a new agency, hopes to have raised the 300 million euros of capital needed from European

investors by that time, the paper said.

“The proposed model is of an agency where the service is paid by the clients, who have an interest in having reliable and objective results,” Berger said.

Reuters



Endangered turtle to be tracked in Cambodia

BANGKOK, 22 Jan— One of the world's most endangered turtles has been released into a Cambodian river with a satellite transmitter attached to its shell to track how it will navigate through commercial fishing grounds and other man-made hazards.

The 75-pound (34-kilogram) southern river terrapin — one of only about 200 adults remaining in the wild — waddled into the Sre Ambel river in southwestern Cambodia this past week to the cheers of local residents and conservationists.

The New York-based Wildlife Conservation Society said the female terrapin was given to the group last year instead of being sold to traffickers who have decimated the country's population of turtles and other species to cater to demand for exotic wildlife in China. The southern river terrapin, once considered the sole property of Cambodia's kings, only survives in the wilds of Malaysia, Indonesia and Cambodia, the group said in a statement.

The population in



In this photo taken on 16 Jan, 2012, provided by The Wildlife Conservation Society, a 75-pound (34-kilogram) southern river terrapin, one of only some 200 adults remaining in the wild, waddles on sand as it is released near the Sre Ambel river in Cambodia.—INTERNET

the Sre Ambel river is estimated at less than 10 nesting females.

But it said the terrapins there have an excellent chance of recovery because coastal mangrove forests in the region are among the largest and most pristine in Southeast Asia, spanning some 175 square miles (45,000 hectares).

The first-ever satellite monitoring of the species hopes to determine how the turtle will fare among fisherman as well as in areas

threatened by sand mining and conversion of mangrove forests into shrimp farms.

A small population of the species was found in 2000 in Sre Ambel after being considered locally extinct for many years.

Following the brutal rule of the Khmer Rouge in the mid-1970s which left the country devastated, poor rural dwellers scoured the forests for wildlife, much of which was sold to traders connected to China,

where many wild animals — from turtles to tigers — are believed to possess medicinal and sex-enhancing properties.

The turtle project is being run by the Wildlife Conservation Society in cooperation with the Cambodian government and Wildlife Reserves Singapore, a zoological enterprise.—INTERNET



US, Russia to conduct joint Antarctica inspection

WASHINGTON, 22 Jan— The United States and Russia will jointly inspect foreign facilities in Antarctica to make sure environmental and other responsibilities under the 1959 Antarctica Treaty are being met, the State Department said Saturday.

A US-Russian team will travel to Antarctica January 23-28 to check foreign stations, installations and equipment, it said. "The US-Russian team will review adherence by treaty parties to their obligations, including with respect to limiting environmental impacts, ensuring that Antarctica is used only for

peaceful purposes and that parties honor the prohibition on measures of a military nature," it said. This would be the first joint inspection ever by either country to review compliance with the 1959 treaty and its environmental protocol. The last US inspection was in 2006. Currently 49 nations are signatories of the treaty, which sets aside Antarctica as a scientific preserve where military activity is banned. Signed in 1991, the environmental protocol provides for environmental impact assessments and waste management, and designates protected areas in order to safeguard the pristine region's marine environment and its flora and fauna.—INTERNET

A village of tents, where scientist sleep, is seen in front of the Belgian Princess Elisabeth polar station in Usteinen, Antarctica in 2009. The United States and Russia will jointly inspect foreign facilities in Antarctica to make sure environmental and other responsibilities under the 1959 Antarctica Treaty are being met, the State Department said Saturday.—INTERNET

Games company reveals details of Resident Evil 6

LONDON, 22 Jan — The games developer announced they are currently working on the new instalment of the popular zombie series. An official trailer for the game was released on Thursday (19 January), and hinted that parts of it will be set in China. Resident Evil 6 is due to be released on 20 November for consoles, with a PC version of the game to follow soon after. Capcom said Chris Redfield and Leon Kennedy — characters from previous games in the series — would star alongside a number of new characters in RE6.

Speaking about the game's plot, the company said: "It has been ten years since the Raccoon City incident and the President of the United States has decided to reveal the truth behind what took place in the belief that it will curb the current resurgence in bioterrorist activity." "Due to be by the President's side is his personal friend and Raccoon City survivor, Leon S. Kennedy, but when the venue suffers a bioterrorist attack, Leon is forced to face a President transformed beyond recognition and make his hardest ever decision." — INTERNET



Resident Evil 6 will be released in November 2012, Capcom have confirmed.—INTERNET



The ability of Samsung's cameras to upload pictures to remote servers may infringe Kodak's patents.—INTERNET

Kodak sues Samsung over image patents in latest lawsuit

NEW YORK, 22 Jan — Eastman Kodak is suing Samsung over claims its patents have been infringed. The US camera and printer maker said the complaint relates to five of its digital imaging technologies. It is the latest in a series of patent lawsuits filed by the firm since the start of the year. Kodak said on Wednesday that it was seeking bankruptcy protection. That followed an announcement in July that it was looking to sell or license about 1,100 digital imaging patents. The latest alleged infringements include technology to make an electronic camera capable of "automatically transmitting images... to a service provider using a network configuration file," and having a "communications interface for selectively transmitting images over a cellular phone network and a wireless LAN network to a destination". Samsung launched its AllShare Play cloud storage service, which allows its cameras to upload pictures to remote servers after they are taken, earlier in the month.

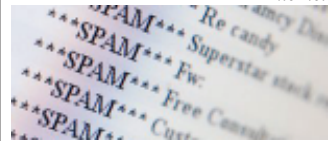
The South Korean firm could not be reached for comment. Samsung settled a previous dispute in 2010 after its BlackJack II camera was accused of infringing Kodak patents. It agreed to a cross-licensing deal which involved it paying royalties to its rival. Further financial details were not disclosed. Kodak has also filed lawsuits against Apple and HTC involving the same five patents.—INTERNET

McAfee tackles 'spam hijack' flaw in anti-malware code

LONDON, 22 Jan — A leading anti-virus software firm says a flaw in one of its programs has exposed its customers' computers to the risk of being hijacked by spammers. McAfee said it planned to release a patch for its SaaS for Total Protection service by the end of Thursday. The software is marketed as a "peace of mind" solution offering "complete email and web protection". McAfee said there had been at least one related attack, but stressed that users' data had not been put at risk. The problem was exposed on British art firm Kaamar Limited's blog earlier this week.

Keith and Annabel Morrigan posted a warning to other owners of the product after receiving a message alerting them to the fact that their server had been sending out spam emails. They said that further research had revealed their computer had been sending out the equivalent of what would have been 10 months' worth of normal traffic in one day. After linking the botnet attack to a problem with their anti-malware software's "Rumor Service" they said that they had alerted McAfee to the problem on 5 January.

INTERNET



One affected business said its email address had been blacklisted as a result of being hijacked.—INTERNET



Pakistani plain-clothes policemen display seized explosive material and ammunition to the media during a news conference at the Police Crime Investigation Department (CID) in southern Pakistan port city of Karachi on 21 Jan, 2012.—XINHUA

Pressures on rival Palestinians may lead to collapse of entire political platforms

GAZA, 22 Jan—The divided rival governments of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip are facing heavy pressures, with the Palestinians calling on them to immediately achieve full political and national reconciliation, otherwise the whole political system of the Palestinians might soon collapse. Observers are increasingly slamming the two existing governments—one in the West Bank ruled by the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) and the other in the Gaza Strip ruled by Islamic Hamas movement—as the efforts to achieve an internal reconciliation between them have been going too slow.

Since 2007, the two governments have been

working separately in running the Palestinians' daily affairs amid an obvious internal division, with each government establishing its own ministries that follow two different policies, strategies and attitudes.

A prominent Palestinian politician told *Xinhua* that "our political system is facing a real danger amid difficult choices... Unfortunately, we are expecting more and we will pay a heavy price before the reconciliation is fully implemented."

In the West Bank, the caretaker government of prominent Palestinian economist Salam Fayyad is currently facing heavy criticism, due to corruption cases of two of its ministers, the government's attitude

towards reducing the general budget as well as the significant increase of prices.

To get out of the crisis, Fayyad recently presented new plans to reduce the budget and to approve the law of early pension for more than 26,000 employees, in addition to amending the VAT tax law. However, these plans were heavily slammed by unions and corporations.

Xinhua

In this photo taken on 17 Jan, 2012, Leila Laurentus, left, and her sister Soraya embrace their mother Manette Ricot at their home in Calesse, on the outskirts of Port-au-Prince, Haiti.—INTERNET



Gingrich win in South Carolina prolongs GOP race

COLUMBIA, (The United States) 22 Jan—Republican voters in South Carolina have thrown open the party's presidential nomination race by giving former House speaker Newt Gingrich a resounding victory in the party's first primary in the South on Saturday.

Gingrich's win with some 40 percent of the votes was the third by a different candidate from the first three primaries, the first time this has happened in recent history. Former Massachusetts governor Mitt Romney won the New Hampshire primary, and former Pennsylvania senator Rick Santorum won Iowa's caucuses.

That means more uncertainty at least until the next primary in Florida, and possibly beyond that.

The victory for Gingrich

also implies trouble for Romney, a multi-millionaire who struggled in debates leading up to the primary over whether he should release his tax returns.

Thomas Mann, a US politics expert, said Romney, in his own halting and confusing way, had

"effectively released his tax returns by acknowledging that his effective tax rate was around 15 percent."

Romney made the acknowledgement in the past week during a campaign event, after being pressed during the debate to release his tax returns.—*Xinhua*



Newt Gingrich (C), former US House of Representatives Speaker, speaks during a victory party in Columbia, South Carolina, the United States, on 21 Jan, 2012. Newt Gingrich won the South Carolina Republican primary earlier Saturday.—XINHUA

Reunited Haiti family carries on 2 yrs after quake

CALEBASSE, 22 Jan—The American missionaries arrived in a beige bus in the days after the earthquake, promising a better life for the children of this village in the mountains above Haiti's

capital.

The Idaho-based Baptist volunteers said they wanted to rescue the boys and girls they believed were orphaned by the 12 Jan, 2010, quake. But their effort to spirit away 33 children to the neighbouring Dominican Republic failed when they were stopped by police and then jailed on kidnapping charges. It later came out that all the children had parents.

Two years on, residents of Calesse describe a tempered sense of hope for their returned children even as they struggle against

hardship. A humanitarian group has provided the families modest aid, and UNICEF has helped the children by building new schools.

"We still have problems but the children are able to eat and go to school," said Lelly Laurentus, 29, a computer repairman who's been unable to find work except as an occasional cab driver.

Laurentus, whose two daughters boarded the beige bus late that morning in January 2010, thought he was sending them to a better life.

Internet

Singapore PM hopes for Year of the Dragon baby boom

SINGAPORE, 22 Jan—Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said on Sunday he hoped "fervently" that Singaporeans would boost the city-state's stubbornly-low birth rates in the coming Year of the Dragon.

In his Lunar New Year message sent to the media, Lee—a father of four—said growing Singaporean families was an "important priority" and that more local born babies were needed to maintain Singapore's national identity "I fervently hope that this year will be a big Dragon year for babies... This is critical to preserve a Singapore core in our society," he said. "We do not want to rely more and more heavily on

immigration, nor do we want to see our population shrinking year by year." The Year of the Dragon is regarded as the most auspicious to have a baby because it is the only mythical creature among the dozen animals that represent each year in the Chinese cosmic cycle. Superstitious Chinese believe children born during the Year of the Dragon—the symbol of ancient emperors—will possess courage and wisdom and bring luck to the entire family. Historic data shows spikes of more than 10 percent in the city-state's total births during the most recent dragon years, 2000 and 1988, even as numbers declined in the interim years.

Internet



Two pregnant women walk along a street in Singapore. Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said on Sunday he hoped "fervently" that Singaporeans would boost the city-state's stubbornly-low birth rates in the coming Year of the Dragon.—INTERNET

Portuguese PM: Structural reforms to continue even if external situation worsens

LISBON, 22 Jan—Portuguese Prime Minister Pedro Passos Coelho said Saturday that the government will carry on structural reforms even if the external situation gets worse.

Speaking on a workshop on structural reforms, the prime minister stressed the government's economic policy and celebrated the labor policy agreement signed with employer's associations and one of the two Portuguese trade union federations. According to Passos Coelho, the main reason for the structural reforms is the Portuguese economy urgency to get more competitiveness.

"We are doing this for us, not for you," he said, addressing the representatives of the European Central Bank, the European Commission and the IMF that were in the audience.

In his speech, the prime minister quoted some of the achievements of his economic policy. In his list of victories were the 4.4 percent of the GDP structural deficit and the curve that points out to a 2.6 percent primary structural surplus. He also quoted the Bank of Portugal report that points out to an external balance of trade very near to a surplus. Among the structural reforms, he emphasized two aspects: the labour market reform and the justice reform.

On the justice reform, Passos Coelho said that companies need a stable environment.

The aim of the reform will be to give more competitiveness: "There are contradictions in our economic ambience that urgently need to be removed."

Xinhua

Growing the world's most expensive lemons

JERUSALEM, 22 Jan—In a region where most land is desert and droughts are commonplace, growing a tree is not a guilt-free pleasure. The joy we felt in watching our lemon tree being manoeuvred off the back of a flatbed truck by two burly delivery men was surely very similar to the joy you would feel in growing it from seed. It just took half an hour, rather than half a lifetime.

There is an economic issue admittedly. So far I have harvested only four of my lemons and I think they have cost about £100 (\$155) each, but I am obviously hoping that the average price will fall over time. For all the fragile grace with which it dances in the chilly winter winds, the tree conceals an astonishing number of thorns beneath its gentle leaves—although at the moment it is pricking my conscience more than my fingers.

The problem is, that like most balcony gardeners in Israel, we have installed a miniature irrigation system to keep the lemon tree alive in the brutal heat of summer. It does not amount to much more than a couple of metres of brown plastic piping and a timer attached to a tap. But every time I hear the muted sloshing of another carefully calibrated dose, the desert around us feels a little drier.—*Internet*



Kevin Connolly's lemon tree has pride of place on his balcony. INTERNET

Journey to the east

by H. K. Aye
Photos: A. M. Soe



On arrival at Kengtung Airport.

I do not have a head for heights. And paradoxically, I love flying. I dreamt of it since my childhood years, maybe as a superman or a bird or something. I never look down when I am in an elevator. My knees may be trembling or my hands may be wet with clammy sweats. I have such a conflicted attitude. As a frequent traveler, I could no longer evade trip by air. It happened to take a domestic flight recently. I booked a flight from Yangon to Tachilek in

turning a profit in upcoming fiscal year.

I have to confess that I recited some prayers just after boarding the Fokker and beaming smiles of air hostesses helped me feel relaxed. The takeoff was much smoother than I expected. I was flying and no more frightening. I got the window seat. The only things I could define on the earth from the air were mighty green mountains of Bago Yoma and Yangon-Mandalay Expressway, straight and stretching. Cordial and

also grasp the meaning of the town that "Kengtung" is derived from "Nongtung". Nongtung lake at its heart is a local landmark. Some says the lake is formed by water run from cooking rice to be offered to the Lord Buddha. "Nong" means "gathered" and "tung", "water". Another version also says "Nongtung" means "iced water". Other significant tourist attractions are Lone Tree Hill and Maha Muni Buddha Image to which you pay homage once, you get another chance to revisit the town, many travelers believe.

The road to Tachilek is narrow and surrounded by vast mountain ranges, with some decorated with terrace cultivation and some deforested. Shelves of firewood were found frequently by the road. Here and there are bare hills which brought sweet faces of stewardesses to my mind. Let me explain. I have learnt they wear makeup heavily at risk of their lovely faces. But the key to their services I think is sweet smiles they wear, not makeup. Does it deserve sacrificing? I prefer to see air hostesses with plain pretty faces wearing charming smiles.

The bus stopped at Mongphyat for dinner. The night had fallen when we crossed Tahlay, a quake-hit

town. We are used to praise it as a phoenix rising from the ashes for its rapid rejuvenation from the strong earthquake. The phoenix was sleeping when I touched it.

We arrived at Tachilek, one of the easternmost towns of Myanmar, late at night. The festival was starting. Tachilek was celebrating Lahu Traditional New Year from 19 to 21 January. "There are three key new year festivals in Tachilek, one of Lahu, another of Akha and one more of Shan," a local friend of

town, traditional New Year festivals have been allowed to celebrate for about three years, he added. Most kids were flying hydrogen balloons on their return from the festival. I found the same scene in Bagan at Ananda Pagoda Feast on Full Moon Day of Pyatho. Maybe from different topographies, what children mostly want is simply the same thing. Origin, race, colour and others are what men use to distance themselves away from others. Through rose-coloured glasses, definition of happiness for the entire mankind may be the same.

A couple of big names and Lahu national singers entertained festival-goers. Fireworks were set off as the midnight neared. Vendors displayed their booths of traditional and Thailand-made products on the playground where the festival was held. Baht is the mostly used currency in Tachilek. Some shops do not even know the exchange rate and only accept Baht. Most can speak Thai. I surfed TV channels at the hotel only to learn all were in Thai and Chinese languages. That is common among border towns that similar culture is shared. Tachilek shared borders with Thailand and Laos, forming a region known as "Golden

Triangle".

Earlier in the next morning, I visited Friendship Bridge under which Mae Sai River is streaming and over which commuters to Mae Sai of Thailand and Thai visitors, locally known as Farangs, are streaming. The name "Tachilek" is interrelated with the river. It is derived from Mezali (*Cassina siamea*) tree, which is called "Tachilek" in Shan language, at the bank of Mae Sai River. I found a number of school buses, heading Mae Sai, were passing the bridge. Also Farangs and their cars are allowed to visit Tachilek. I felt sad to say goodbye to Tachilek all too soon. I pretty enjoyed the short sojourn there.

On my return trip, I took the same flight as I did the previous day. The same flight and the same crew, it gave me same pleasant luxury. I boarded off in Mandalay International Airport where I was picked up by the free-of-charge bus of Sun Far. The bus reached downtown Mandalay after about-an-hour drive. It was almost the night. The cultural city was bustling with motorbikes. I visited Maha Myat Muni Buddha Image, locally known as Phayagyi. I then proceeded to Kyweseikan express terminal, one of three terminals in Mandalay. The cramped terminal was heavily crowded.

I took the bus bound for Nay Pyi Taw, the capital of Myanmar. My journey was started from the commercial hub, destined for the easternmost part of the country and finished at the administrative city. New friends I won along the trip introduced themselves as Aukthar, lower Myanmar, or Taungpawtha, dwellers in hilly region, or Anyarthar, upper Myanmar. But, I saw no difference.

New friends I won along the trip introduced themselves as Aukthar, lower Myanmar, or Taungpawtha, dwellers in hilly region, or Anyarthar, upper Myanmar. But, I saw no difference.

mine said. Tachilek is a home to various national races. Shan, Akha and Lahu constitute most of the population. As peace has been restored in the border



Sweet services.

eastern Shan State at Sun Far Ticketing Agency. Unfortunately, there is no direct flight to Tachilek on Thursdays as its airport is under repair on Thursdays and Fridays. Sun Far offered an option to me, saying they are providing free-of-charge transportation services to Tachilek from Kengtung Airport on these days. I happily accepted the offer. Isn't it a surplus experience to explore more of Shan Plateau by traveling by bus?

Myanma Airways flies the route and Sun Far provides services, both ticketing and on-board, under a joint venture by the two groups. I had already heard about the news of the national flag-carrier, both good and bad. Most were about courage or expertise of its crews. The joint venture between the state-owned airline and the leading private tour agency is assumed to be the early sign of a new trend of state-owned enterprises towards

beautiful flight attendants wearing makeup offered various meals, snacks and drinks, cold or hot. Taste good. Along the trip, our flight had two stopovers at Mandalay International Airport and Heho Airport. The pilot informed passengers that temperature at Heho Airport was one below zero. After about three hours on air, towering mountain ranges said hello to me before the aircraft landed Kengtung Airport. Cold evening breeze rushed through my face. Is it a welcome Kengtung extended to me?

An air con bus of Sun Far was waiting for Tachilek passengers at the airport. The bus left Kengtung, heading east. I could not help gasping at how beautiful Kengtung is. The valley town is surrounded by steep mountains which might be acted as natural fortress in the past. That may be why some say the name Kengtung means "walled city of Tung civilization". Some records



An orange vendor passes over Myanmar-Thai Friendship Bridge.



Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun received 2011 IMF Article IV Consultation Mission led by Deputy Division Chief of Asia and Pacific Department of IMF Ms Meral Karasulu at his office in Nay Pyi Taw on 20 January. Deputy Minister U Win Than and Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein were also present at the call. (News reported)

MNA

University of Pharmacy (Yangon) celebrates 20th anniversary

YANGON, 22 Jan—A ceremony to mark the 20th anniversary of the University of Pharmacy (Yangon) in Webagi Myothit of North Okkalapa Township was held at the university this morning.

On the occasion, Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe delivered an address, saying that the University of Pharmacy (Yangon) was opened at the building of former BOC

College in Yangon University campus in 1992 and then it was moved to Webagi Myothit in North Okkalapa Township in 2001. The art of pharmacy is playing a key role not only in production of pharmaceuticals for development of industrial sector of the State but also in upgrading health sector of the people, he said. He urged faculty members to uplift their pharmacy education

and pharmacy profession and to turn out qualified new generation pharmacists. Deputy Minister for Health Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin made a speech. Rector of the university Prof Dr Daw Marlar Myint and an old student spoke words of thanks.

Later, the Chief Minister and party viewed round the documentary photos displayed at the hall.

MNA

MMCWA provides mobile health care in Toungoo Township

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Jan—The President, the vice-president and CEC members of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association undertook mobile health care in Hsutat Village of Toungoo Township yesterday morning.

While in Hsutat Village, wellwishers and responsible persons of MMCWA donated

cash to the funds to be spent on referring the emergency patients to the hospital.

At Toungoo Township MCWA Office, they donated K 200,000 to the funds of the township association and provided disposal equipment for the delivery room of the association and K 100,000 to its fund.

MNA

Union A&I Minister visits 400-ton Ayeya Hintha Rice Mill

YANGON, 22 Jan—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing together with Deputy Minister U Khin Zaw yesterday morning delivered an address at the opening of former personnel's office of Irrigation Department and ceremony to pay respects to above 75 years old personnel at the office in Mayangon Township.

The Union minister presented K 1 million for providing health care of the aged former personnel, and wellwishers donated cash to the funds of the association.

Irrigation Department Director-General U Kyaw Myint Hlaing formally opened the

office of the association.

Next, the Union minister inspected storage of rice to be exported and production process of 400-ton Satake Rice Mill of Ayeya Hintha Co in Hlinethaya Industrial Zone.

The rice mill can mill 400 tons quality rice per day.

The Union minister and party viewed Paletwe rice, Paletwe hybrid paddy seeds and Armo fertilizer at 100-acre Paletwe hybrid paddy plantation near Kyaiksagaing Village of Taikkyi Township.

At 4 pm, he visited the Paddy Research Training School in Hmawby Township.—MNA

Kachin State's Anti-Human Trafficking Committee meets

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Jan—Kachin State Anti-Human Trafficking Committee met on 19 January at State General Administration Department in Myitkyina.

Chairman of the committee State Commissioner U Min Chit Oo called for prevention and fight against trafficking in person and rescue of trafficked persons and effective implementation of rehabilitation works. The committee vice-chairman

commander of the State Police Force Police Colonel Myint Lwin explained formation of anti-human trafficking squads.

Next, personnel elaborated on instructions of the central committee meeting held in Nay Pyi Taw, probing of cases and educative works, and cooperation of respective departments. The committee chairman highlighted the issue as a national duty.—MNA

Insee Diamond Cement hosts Thank You Party

YANGON, 22 Jan—Siam City Cement Public Company Limited of Thailand and its Myanmar sole distributor Sinpoonchai Company Limited (Bangkok) and Tun Akaree Company Limited hosted a Thank You Party of Insee Diamond Cement at Chatrium Hotel, here, on 16 December.

Chairman of Tun Akaree Co Ltd U Tun

Lwin and Executive Vice-President (Marketing & Sales) of Siam Cement Public Co Ltd Ms Chartana Sukumanont extended greetings. They presented prizes to top dealers of Insee Diamond Cement and gifts to customers.

Siam City is targeting to claim a leading role in Myanmar's cement market.—NLM



DISTRICT NEWS

New school building opened

MAHLAING, 22 Jan—A new building of Basic Education Primary School was opened in Awzathan Village of Mahlaing Township on 2 December 2011.

Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Aye Mauk of Mahlaing Township donated K 100,000, 15 bags of cement and 10 dozens of exercise books to the headmistress.

Township Education Officer Daw Aye Than presented a certificate of honour to land plot donor U Than Naing-Daw Tin Tin Mya.

Local authorities formally opened the school building that measures 90 feet long and 30 feet wide.—Myanma Alin

Clinic for Sangha opened

HINTHADA, 22 Jan—The Jivita Gonyi clinic that will give health care services to members of the Sangha free of charge was opened at Mogaung Monastery in Hinthada on 17 January afternoon.

Pwintbyu Township opens rural health branch

PWINTBYU, 22 Jan—A self-reliant rural health branch was opened in Shwehlay Village of Pwintbyu Township on 6 January.

Magway Region Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Breeding U Aung Naing and local authorities formally opened the branch.

The region minister presented anti-snake venom to the village health subcommittee.

The building of health branch is 30 feet long, 20 feet wide and 10 feet high, built at a cost of K 3.5 million contribution of the people.

Township IPRD

The clinic was built with contribution of K 10 million by wellwisher U Win Thein-Daw Aye Khaing of Mandalay and other donors.

The clinic is being kept open from 1 pm to 4 pm daily three days a week under supervision of the 10-member committee of townselders.—Myanma Alin

Rural school gets new building

THAZI, 22 Jan—A ceremony to hand over new school building to Ministry of Education was held at Basic Education Primary School in Pinmon Village of Thazi Township on 27 December afternoon.

Mandalay Region Hluttaw representative U San Tun and township level departmental officials formally opened the new building.

Wellwisher U Ohn Myint handed over documents related to the building to Township Education Officer Daw Than Than Aye. Later, wellwishers donated cash to the funds of the school.—Township IPRD



Winners in Development of School Libraries and Reading Habit...

(from page 16)

He also presented six Sky Net Receivers for BEHS in the township through the headmasters.

The Yangon Region minister and officials then presented prizes to award winners in contests at high school, middle

school and primary school levels.

The chairman of Myanmar Library Foundation donated publications for school and ward libraries in the township through officials.

First prize winners demonstrated their talents and video documentary was shown.

The ceremony concluded with the signing of a song by students.

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan cordially greeted those present at the ceremony.

MNA



MLF Patron Union Information and Culture Minister U Kyaw Hsan awards Ma Thet Oo May, first-prize winner in basic education primary level poem recitation contest.—MNA

Literary talks held in Dabayin Township, Sagaing Region

YANGON, 22 Jan—Members of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, writers Chit Naing (Psychology), Myinmu Maung Naing Moe and Maung Sanda (Lewe) gave literary talks to aid development of rural libraries and encourage reading habit of rural people.

They gave literary talks in Mankyisauk Village, Dabayin Township, Sagaing region on 9 January, in Aungtha Village of KhinU

Township on 10 January, listened by local villagers and enthusiasts of the surrounding villages.

Likewise, Myinmu Maung Naing Moe and Maung Sanda (Lewe) gave literary talks in Pegyigyun Village of Hinthada Township in Ayeyawady Region on 9 December, in Thosemyayysaing Village in the township on 11 December and Oatpon Village on 30 December last year.—MNA

Hand-made Paper of Shan State

Byline & Photos:
Sai Tha Hlaing (Orange Land)



“Sar” tree, the basic raw material of Shan papermaking.

About 11 miles from Hsipaw in Shan State South lies Kyinthei Village beside Mandalay-Lashio Union Highway. Farming and orange is the economic mainstay of the village.

Besides, there is a traditional cottage industry there which is production of Shan paper or Mongkai paper in which every house in the village is engaged for extra income. Shan paper is made from the bark of tree called “Sar”. Such trees grow wild naturally.

First, the bark is dried in the sunlight, which is then boiled in the water with ashes. Not an easy task this

process is as it needs to cook the bark until it becomes tender. The boiled pulp is then rinsed to clear the ashes, which is pounded on the rock



The boiling process of “sar” fiber.

with a wooden mallet.

The next step is to cut neither-thick-nor-thin cloth into square according to the paper size desired. If the cloth is coarse, the paper made is rough and if it is smooth, it cannot be soaked and thus paper of middle class is used in this stage. This cloth is then stretched and tied to bamboo splints. The next is the preparation of a small vat of the same size as the screen.

The screen is immersed in the small vat and then pounded “sar” pulp is poured down on it from the bamboo container in which the pulp is soaked well. Then, it is taken out of the container along with the screen, which is put under the sunlight to let the water drain out. This process only lasts for a day with enough sunshine. The next step is to rub the paper with tea cup or polished wooden rod. Then the paper is peeled away from the screen.

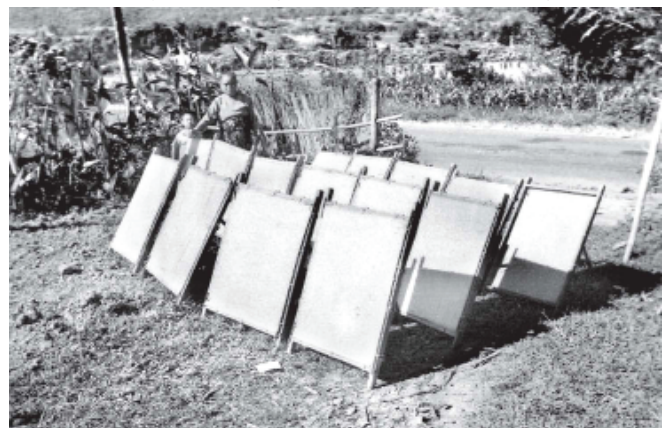
It is the handicraft of Shan State and the whole production process is made



The beating process of “sar” fiber.

by hand, said 77-year-old Shan paper manufacturer Daw Nai Ying.

Shan paper or Mongkai paper is manufactured over one million sheets per month. Previously, there



Shan papers drained and dried in the sunlight.

were two kinds of paper, but now only one kind priced at K 6000 to K 7000 for 100 sheets. It enjoys high demand in market thanks to its considerable tear-off resistance.



Soaking “sar” pulp in bamboo container.

whereas some use it as waterproof wear after coating with lacquer. The paper is called Mongkai paper for it is originated in Mongkai Township.

Having observed this



Making of screen.

farming, it would much facilitate the implementation of rural development and poverty alleviation scheme.

Translation: TKK
Myanma Alin
22-1-2012



The final step, peeling the paper from the cloth.

Crews contain Reno fire that claimed 29 homes

RENO, 22 Jan—As rain helped crews surround a brush fire that destroyed 29 homes and forced thousands to flee, the family of the blaze's only known fatality said on Saturday that prosecuting the man who admitted to starting it wouldn't "do any good."

June Hargis, 93, was found dead in a studio apartment next to her daughter's home in Washoe Valley, where the fire started Thursday. Sheriff Mike Haley said her cause of death has not been established, so it's not known if it was fire related. No other fatalities or major injuries were reported.

Fire officials say an "extremely remorseful" elderly man admitted on Friday to accidentally starting the fire when he improperly discarded fireplace ashes outside his home in the valley's north end.

Hargis's son, Jim Blueberg, 68, told *The Associated Press* that he didn't think filing criminal charges against the elderly man "would do any good." "The man had the courage to come up and say he did this. He's remorseful. I think he's punished himself enough. It was a silly, stupid mistake to make, there's no doubt about that. But I just want him to know I forgive him, and my heart goes out to him," he said.

His sister, Jeannie Watts, 70, had returned home from an errand to find the apartment next door and a barn with three horses inside engulfed in flames. She agreed that there was probably no need to file charges against the man. "What good is that going to do? Everything is already gone," Watts said. "He'll pay the rest of his life for that," she



A man cries after pulling his grandmother's coffee mug out of the rubble of her home on 21 Jan, 2012, in Pleasant Valley, south of Reno, Nev.

INTERNET

added. The fire, which grew to more than 6 square miles, burned through sagebrush, pastures and pines in a rural area with scattered small neighborhoods south of Reno.

Gov Brian Sandoval, who toured the area Friday, said "there is nothing left in some of those places except for the chimneys and fireplaces."

Fire officials declared the blaze contained on Saturday after a storm brought precipitation that the region hasn't seen in months. All evacuations were lifted and US 395 reopened through the 3,200-acre fire zone.—*Internet*

Three dead in fire at NY house rented by students

POUGHKEEPSIE, 22 Jan—A fire tore through a private home being rented by Marist College students near campus early Saturday morning, killing three people, authorities said.

The victims were identified as two female Marist students in their early 20s and one male, who was not a student at the school. Their names have not been released. Four other people in the house escaped without serious injuries.

Marist College postponed two basketball games "out of respect for the students affected by this tragedy," Deborah DiCaprio, Marist's vice president and dean for student affairs, said

in a statement on Saturday.

The off-campus house on Fairview Avenue was being rented by six female Marist students, Town Police Chief Thomas Mauro said.

At the time that the fire was initially called into 911 by a passer-by at about 1:30 am, Mauro said seven people were in the house — four residents and three male guests. The police chief said the group had gone to bed about an hour before the fire was called into authorities. "There was no issue that they were aware of in the house when they went to bed," he said, basing his comments on interviews with the four survivors.

At least two people

jumped through a window to safety after realizing that the house was engulfed in flames, he said.

The first firefighters to respond to the emergency call tried to get into the house, but were forced back by the heat and flames, said Chris Maeder, chief of the Fairview Fire District, one of a handful of agencies that responded to the emergency call.

One victim was found on the second floor of the house, one was downstairs and the third was under "considerable collapsed debris," the police chief said. The four survivors were taken to a hospital, where they were treated and released.

Internet

The exhibition "Western Mythology and Legends: Selected Works from the Louvre Museum" will open to visitors in Taipei on 20 January.
XINHUA



Storm blankets Northeast with a few inches of snow

PHILADELPHIA, 22 Jan—A few inches of snow coated the Northeast on Saturday in a storm so rare this season in the East that some welcomed it.

"We've been very lucky, so we can't complain," said Gloria Fernandez of New York City, as she shoveled the sidewalk outside her

workplace. "It's nice, it's fluffy and it's on the weekend," she said of the snow, which hadn't fallen in the city since a rare October storm that dumped more than 2 feet of snow in parts and knocked out power to nearly 3 million homes and businesses in the region.

By midafternoon, 4.3

inches of snow had fallen in Central Park and 3.4 inches at LaGuardia Airport in New York. Most of eastern Pennsylvania, including Philadelphia, and central New Jersey saw about 4 inches of snow, with a few places reporting up to 8 inches. Flurries and freezing rain fell around Washington, DC.

In Massachusetts, the National Weather Service says 11 inches fell in the Bristol County town of Acushnet. Cape Cod also saw high totals, including nearly 10 inches in Bourne, noteworthy in a season marked by a lack of snow throughout the Northeast.

The fast-moving storm left several inches of snow in Rhode Island, where the coastal areas took the hardest hit. More than nine inches fell in North Kingstown. Little Compton in Newport County was also hard hit, as eight inches fell there. The storm

was expected to move out to sea overnight.

Road conditions were fair on Saturday, officials said. Crews in Pennsylvania and New Jersey began salting roads around midnight and plowing soon after. By midmorning, the snow had turned to sleet in Philadelphia north through central New Jersey and had stopped falling altogether by early afternoon.

"It's a fairly moderate snowstorm, at best," said weather service forecaster Bruce Sullivan.

Few accidents were reported on the roads, helped by the weekend's lack of rush hour traffic, but New Jersey transportation spokesman Joe Dee cautioned drivers to build in more time for trips. Though temperatures will warm up this afternoon he said, forecasters expect the wet ground to freeze again overnight.

Internet



A worker clears snow from the sidewalk of Public School 140 on the Lower East Side neighbourhood of New York on 21 Jan, 2012. New Yorkers awoke Saturday morning to find an inch or two of snow on the ground, with more on the way as a storm that had been in the Midwest on Friday moved east.—INTERNET

Customer shoots robbery suspect at SC Waffle Shop

SPARTANBURG, 22 Jan—Authorities say a customer at a South Carolina Waffle shop pulled a gun and shot one of two men trying to rob the restaurant.

The Greenville News reports that the shooting took place early Saturday morning inside a Waffle Shop off Interstate 85 in Spartanburg County. Coroner Rusty Clevenger identified the dead man as 19-year-old Dante Lamont Williams of Roebuck, who was shot in the head and

body.

Spartanburg County Sheriff Chuck Wright declined to identify the customer, citing concerns for his safety. Authorities said the customer had a concealed weapon permit and tried to hold the two men at gunpoint until officers arrived, but that one suspect began to point his gun at the customer, who then fired shots. The second robber fled and is being sought by authorities.

Internet

14 Indonesian, Korean crew rescued in Philippines

MANILA, 22 Jan—A cargo ship loaded with iron ore has listed off the eastern coast of the Philippines, and passing boats rescued the 14-member crew.

Philippine coast guard operations officer Mark Angue says the Panamanian-registered *M/V Sun Spirit* began to list on Saturday off Catanduanes Province and sent a distress signal. The coast guard immediately deployed three ships and a helicopter for a search and rescue. Angue says the coast guard later learned that the 12 Indonesian and two Korean crewmen abandoned their China-bound ship, which came from the central Philippine province of Leyte.

Coast guard Admiral Ramon Liwag says a passing Philippine cargo ship rescued 11 of the crewmen while a fishing boat saved three others. It's unclear whether the disabled ship sank.—*Internet*

Passenger boat sinks off Iran, 15 missing

TEHERAN, 22 Jan—A passenger ship carrying 22 people sank off the Iranian coast near the port of Bandar Abbas on Saturday, the official IRNA news agency reported.

The report did not give the cause of the incident but

said so far only seven people had been rescued.

Local ports official, Ali Akbar Safaie, said the boat was travelling from the Island of Hormuz to Bandar Abbas. Rescue efforts were continuing, he said.

Reuters



Visitors learn about a new style giant combined harvester at the 77th International Green Week in Berlin, Germany, on 20 Jan, 2012. The International Green Week (IGW) opened on Friday in Berlin, featuring foods, specialities and agricultural products across the world, with high-level panels on efficient, sustainable ways of feeding the expanding world population.—XINHUA



An artifact returned by Italy to Libya, known as the Head Domitilla, which was stolen from Sabratha, Libya in 1990, is seen on display during Italian Prime Minister Mario Monti's visit to Tripoli, Libya, on 21 Jan, 2012.

INTERNET

Italy returns 2,000 year-old statue to Libya

TRIPOLI, 22 Jan—Italy has returned to Libya the head of a 2,000 year-old statue that was smuggled out of the country in the 1960s.

Prime Minister Mario Monti gave the sculpted head of Domitilla Minor, the daughter of Roman emperor Vespasian, to Libyan authorities during his trip to Tripoli on Saturday.

The sculpture was taken from Libya's northwestern city of Sabratha in the 1960s, and recently auctioned at Christie's. Monti was making his first visit to Libya.

Internet

Pseudomonas infection—'no new cases'

BELFAST, 22 Jan — There have been no new cases of the Pseudomonas bacterial infection in Belfast's Royal Jubilee Hospital, the health minister has said. The neo-natal ward is undergoing a deep clean this weekend, following the deaths of three babies from the infection. Edwin Poots said on Saturday night there was no further need to transfer mothers outside Northern Ireland. He said testing had shown six confirmed cases.

The three infants died over a two-week period this month. All the babies in the unit are being tested to see if they have the infection. In a statement, Mr Poots said the neo-natal network was "managing well". "As one would expect in circumstances such as this, there is currently extra pressure on the system.

"However, with the help of all neo-natal units in Northern Ireland our service is coping. " Pseudomonas can cause breathing difficulties and tissue damage. The infection can live on surfaces for several days, one expert told the BBC, and a team of specialists is working to identify the Belfast source. Bio-decontamination of the main part of the neo-natal unit began on Saturday and will take about 24 hours to complete.

Mr Poots added: "Ensuring that we eradicate the source of infection and are able to fully re-open the neo-natal unit at the Royal Jubilee Maternity Hospital as quickly as possible remains a key priority." He said the unit was the only part of the Royal affected—delivery wards and all other services are operating as normal and expectant mothers are being urged to attend their appointments as scheduled. The neo-natal unit has the highest number of intensive care cots in Northern Ireland. As a result of the infection, two mothers were sent to Dublin to deliver their premature babies.

Internet



The neo-natal unit at the Royal is undergoing a deep clean.—INTERNET

Teen ends globe-circling voyage in St Maarten

PHILIPSBURG, 22 Jan— Laura Dekker set a steady foot aboard a dock in St Maarten on Saturday, ending a yearlong voyage aboard a sailboat named "Guppy" that apparently made her the youngest person ever to sail alone around the globe, though her trip was interrupted at several points. Dozens of people jumped and cheered as Dekker waved, wept and then walked across the dock accompanied by her mother, father, sister and grandparents, who had greeted her at sea earlier.

Dekker arrived in St Maarten after struggling against high seas and heavy winds on a final, 41-day leg from Cape Town, South Africa. "There were moments where I was like, 'What the hell am I doing out here?,' but I never wanted to stop," she told

reporters. "It's a dream, and I wanted to do it."

Dekker claims she is the youngest sailor to complete a round-the-world voyage, but Guinness World Records and the World Sailing Speed Record Council did not verify the claim, saying they no longer recognize records for youngest sailors to discourage dangerous attempts. Dutch authorities tried to block Dekker's trip, arguing she was too young to risk her life, while school officials complained she should be in a classroom.

Dekker said she was born to parents living on a boat near the coast of New Zealand and said she first sailed solo at 6 years old. At 10, she said, she began dreaming about crossing the globe. She celebrated her 16th birthday during the trip, eating

doughnuts for breakfast after spending time at port with her father and friends the night before in Darwin, Australia.

Internet



Dutch sailor Laura Dekker throws a rope as she docks her boat in Simpson Bay Marina in St Maarten, on 21 Jan, 2012.—INTERNET

More foreign capital expected in Indonesia on credit rating hikes

JAKARTA, 22 Jan— Indonesia is going to enjoy more foreign capital inflows as the Southeast Asian largest economy had got credit rating hike to investment grade from two rating agencies, spurring the much-needed infrastructure development in the country. Moody Investor Service on Wednesday upgraded the Indonesian government foreign-and-local currency bond ratings to Baa3 from Ba1, putting Indonesia's outlook at stable following the similar suite by Fitch's rating agency on 15 Dec that raised the country's credit rating from BBB- to BB+, putting

Indonesia in a par with India. The decisions are taken amid the downgrades of credit rating in countries in Europe. Indonesia had lost the status from both agencies since the Asian financial crisis.

The decision of the two agencies on Indonesia has been conducive for foreign fund managers to put their investment in the emerging economy, where booming middle class can boost demand in the country homed by about 238 million population. It is needed at least two investment grade status from three rating agencies, Fitch's Rating Agency,

Moody's Investor Service and Standard and Poor's, for fund managers to allocate their investment in an emerging economies. "The global funds managers can start to execute their investment plan into an emerging economy like our country when it has investment grade status from two rating agencies," Chairman of Indonesian Investment Board Gita Wirjawan has said recently.

It is predicted that the credit hike status is going to advance the country's bonds, boost share market and appreciate rupiah against the US dollar.—Xinhua

Japanese man swims palace moat 'to meet emperor'

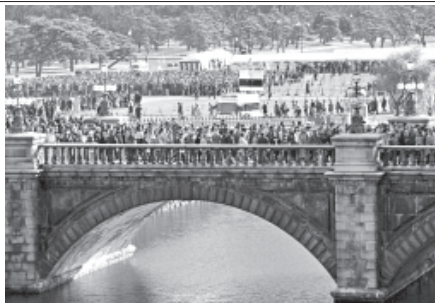
TOKYO, 22 Jan—A Japanese man who was arrested on early Sunday inside the Imperial Palace grounds in Tokyo wearing only his underwear told police he swam across the moat to meet the emperor.

The man, in his 30s, did not seemed to have a clear political motive, said a duty officer at the Imperial Guard Headquarters.

"At the time of his arrest, around 4:34 am, he said 'I came to see the emperor. I swam'," the officer said.

His clothing was found on the side of a public road surrounding the moat, the officer said, adding that police would examine whether he is mentally fit to stand in criminal proceedings.

Light but cold rain fell in Tokyo early Sunday, with temperatures around 4.0 degrees Celsius (39 degrees Fahrenheit)—Internet



File photo shows moat outside the Imperial Palace in Tokyo. A Japanese man who was arrested on early Sunday inside the Imperial Palace grounds in Tokyo wearing only his underwear told police he swam across the moat to meet the emperor.—INTERNET

South Korea decries US washing machine probe

SEOUL, 22 Jan—South Korea objected strongly on Saturday to a planned US investigation into imports of Korean washing machines which could trigger huge import duties, saying the action was unfair.

The US Commerce Department said on Friday it was launching the probe, requested by Whirlpool Corp, that could lead to import duties on more than \$1 billion of washing machines from South Korea and Mexico.

The action comes

despite the two countries signing a free trade agreement last year.

The century-old American manufacturer alleges South Korean producers are selling residential washing machines in the United States at prices 31 percent to 82 percent below fair market value, the Commerce Department said.

It also accuses Mexican suppliers of undercutting US prices by 27 percent to 72 percent.

South Korea's Ministry

of Foreign Affairs and Trade said it had "raised strong objections to the unfairness" of the probes, via a letter addressed to the Commerce Secretary and a series of high-level official talks.

"In addition, (the ministry) will call on the US side to proceed with fair and objective probes," the statement said.

In October, the US Commerce Department set preliminary anti-dumping duties ranging up to 37 percent on imports of bottom-

mount refrigerators from South Korea and Mexico, which totaled more than \$3 billion in 2010.

US imports of residential washers from South Korea and Mexico were valued at an estimated \$659.1 million and \$450.2 million, respectively, the department said.

"Whirlpool is taking this legal action to protect its 23,000 US employees and the communities in which they work from practices used by Samsung and LG that violate US and international trade laws," the company said in a statement.—Internet

Italian divers find body in cruise ship corridor

ROME, 22 Jan—The body of a woman wearing a life vest was recovered by Italian coast guard divers Saturday from a narrow underwater corridor of the capsized cruise ship Costa Concordia, raising the death toll to 12 in the week-old accident that has sent some light fuel spilling into the Mediterranean off Tuscany. Coast Guard Cmdr Cosimo Nicastrò told *The Associated Press* that the victim was



An Italian fireman descends from an helicopter to the grounded cruise ship Costa Concordia off the Tuscan island of Giglio, Italy, on 21 Jan, 2012.—INTERNET

found during a particularly risky inspection of an evacuation staging point at the ship's rear.

"The corridor was very narrow, and the divers' lines risked snagging" on objects in the passageway, Nicastrò said. To permit the coast guard divers to get into the area, setting off charges to blast holes for easier entrance and exit, he said. The woman's nationality and identity were not immediately known. Before the corpse was found, 21 people were listed as missing. One of the women on the list is a Peruvian crew member, the others are passengers.

Three bodies were found in the waters near the ship in the first hours after the accident" since then the rest of the victims have all been found inside the Concordia, apparently unable to get off the ship during a chaotic evacuation via lifeboats and later by helicopters. Some survivors jumped off and swam to safety.

The Concordia hit a reef and ran aground on Jan. 13, while passengers dined, about two hours after the ship had set sail from the port of Civitavecchia on the Tyrrhenian Sea. Costa Crociere has said the captain had deviated without permission from the vessels in an apparent maneuver to sail close to Giglio, a Tuscan island, to impress passengers aboard.

Internet



Griffin plays in the Central Park in the snow in New York, the United States, on 21 Jan, 2012. The first snowfall of 2012 arrived in New York on Saturday, decorating the city and bringing happiness to the residents. XINHUA

Soldier killed as bus collides with military truck in Philippines

MANILA, 22 Jan—One soldier died and another was injured when a military truck was sideswiped by a passenger bus in Magalang town in Pampanga Province on Sunday, a military spokesman said.

Maj Enrico Gil Iletto, spokesman of the Army's 7th Infantry Division, said the troops were on the way to a counter-insurgency operation when the incident occurred around 1 am on a

highway.

Iletto said the truck, which was carrying a platoon of soldiers or about 30 men, was cruising the Magalang-Concepcion road when it was sideswiped by a Sagrada Express Bus which was travelling on the opposite lane.

Iletto said the driver of the bus was detained at the Magalang police station, facing a charge of reckless imprudence resulting in

homicide, physical injuries, and damage to property.

"Before the impact, the truck driver, sensing the danger coming from the two buses who were apparently trying to get ahead of one another, reduced his speed to give way but was still hit on the left side," said Iletto, adding one of the soldiers died upon arrival at a nearby hospital. Another wounded soldier was in stable condition.—Xinhua

Cargo ship tilts off central Philippines, crew safe

MANILA, 22 Jan—Some 18 crew members were safe after the cargo ship filled with cement tilted in waters off central Philippines on Sunday morning, officials said.

Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) said they had received a distress call from cargo ship *Seaford 2*, which was carrying 47,000 bags of cement.

Initial investigation from the coast guard showed

the ship left from Iligan City in southern Philippines and was headed to nearby Culasi, Antique Province when the incident happened.

PCG officials were looking into the possibility of strong waves that broke a hole on its side of the ship, causing water to enter.

Meanwhile, the coast guard is trying to prevent oil spill as the ship has 7,000 liters of gasoline.—Xinhua



Passengers queue up to buy train ticket at the railway station of Shiyuan City, central China's Hubei Province, on 21 Jan, 2012. Many passengers in Hubei and Jiangsu provinces encountered heavy snow and cold wave on their way home for the coming Spring Festival, which falls on 23 Jan this year.—XINHUA

DNA was planted, says man cleared of N Ireland shootings

DUBLIN, 22 Jan—A man cleared of shooting dead two British soldiers in Northern Ireland claimed on Saturday that his DNA was planted in the getaway car used in the attack. Colin Duffy, 44, said the charges against him were "spurious" and insisted he played no role in the murders of the soldiers as they collected a pizza delivery outside Massereene barracks in Antrim in March 2009.

His co-accused Brian Shivers, 46, was convicted on Friday of killing the two soldiers in an attack blamed on the dissident republican group, the Real IRA.

Duffy, still sporting the shaggy beard he grew while awaiting trial, told a Press

conference: "I am firmly of the view that my DNA arose there because it was planted. I was never in that car.

"I state quite categorically here that I had no involvement in what happened at Massereene, no involvement whatsoever, and that has been vindicated in court because there was no credible evidence to suggest otherwise." Judge Anthony Hart told Antrim Crown Court that although the prosecution had proved Duffy's DNA was on a latex glove inside the car used in the attack and on a seat buckle in the vehicle, it had failed to link him to the murder plot.

It is the third time in the past 20 years that Duffy has



Colin Duffy (C) walks out of the Antrim Courthouse, Northern Ireland, on 20 January, after being cleared of shooting dead two British soldiers in Northern Ireland. Duffy claimed on Saturday that his DNA was planted in the getaway car used in the attack.—INTERNET

walked free after being charged with murdering members of the security forces.

Two days after the soldiers were killed, a policeman was shot dead.—Internet

Syria seizes Lebanese boat, family says man killed

TRIPOLI, 22 Jan—Syrian forces killed a Lebanese fisherman and wounded another when they seized a boat suspected of smuggling off the Lebanese-Syrian coast on Saturday, a relative said.

Syria's state news agency *SANA* said the sailors were smugglers and that Syria's naval patrol tried to stop the boat but was fired on by other nearby Lebanese vessels. It said two of the men on the seized boat were wounded by friendly fire.

The border areas between Lebanon and Syria are known for smuggling, and Syrian security services have become especially sensitive to contraband runs since a revolt against President Bashar al-Assad erupted 10 months ago. Syria complains that its neighbors are not clamping down on smuggling of weapons they say are destined for insurgents. Residents in Lebanon's northern coastal town of Arida said they heard gunfire offshore but did not see who was shooting.

They said they later saw a Syrian boat towing the Lebanese fishing boat toward the nearby Syrian port of Tartous. Syrian authorities did not report any deaths to *SANA* but the agency said two wounded sailors were in hospital. It said a third man had been "turned in to concerned authorities."

Reuters

FARC attack on Colombia radar delays flights, drug fight

BOGOTA, 22 Jan—An attack by Colombian FARC rebels on a radar installation in Cauca Province delayed flights in the south of the Andean nation as well as some bound for neighbouring Ecuador and Panama, the civil aviation authority said on Saturday.

Guerrilla fighters from the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia launched homemade missiles and gas cylinders at the installation, killing a police officer guarding the radar, officials said. The attack underscores the ability of the FARC, as the drug-funded group is known, to harm the nation's economic infrastructure and

civilian population even after a decade-long US-funded offensive severely weakened the group and killed a number of its leaders.

The radar, which spans about 186 miles, provides coverage not only for civil aviation but for the fight against drug trafficking in the country. Repairs on the radar will take several months, Santiago Castro, director of the civil aviation authority, said. "The solution to prevent problems to the security of flights is to space them out," Castro told reporters. "We don't know if there will be reductions in flights, but there will be delays."—Reuters



Fighting dogs lunge at each other as handlers and spectators watch on the outskirts of Islamabad, capital of Pakistan, on 21 Jan, 2012. Dog fighting and other forms of animal fighting are common in rural areas of Pakistan where some 70 percent of 167 million population reside.

Purchase of winning \$14M ticket a mistake

A Wisconsin man says it took him several days to realize he held the winning ticket to a \$14.3 million lottery jackpot.

Napoleon Elvord of Madison claimed the Megabucks prize Friday, the *Wisconsin State Journal* reported.

Elvord bought the ticket to last Saturday's drawing at the convenience store at Kelley Williamson Mobil, where he buys coffee more than once daily. Store employees knew they had sold a winning ticket and asked Elvord at least twice if it was him, being told it was not both times.

It turns out Elvord thought the big jackpot was for Wednesday's drawing—and was trying to buy a Powerball ticket when he purchased the winner. He finally dug up the ticket sitting on a table at his home and took it to the state Lottery office, where he learned he was the big winner.

South African law would jail meteorologists for weather forecasts

Weather forecasts are often unreliable but would you send your local weather forecaster to jail for 10 years? A newly proposed law in South Africa would punish unauthorized weather forecasts with jail time and fines, according to the Mother Nature Network.

The law would require state-sanctioning for any weather forecasts issues outside of the government's South African Weather Service (SAWS). More from MNN:

As written, the South African Weather Service Amendment Bill would affect not just TV weathermen and online weather sites but also community-based weather services. First offenses would

be punished with a fine or up to 5 million rand (about \$630,000) or five years in jail. The fines and jail time would be doubled for subsequent offenses.

Previously, it was inaccurately reported by several news outlets that meteorologists would be punished for issuing inaccurate forecasts. The proposed law, if put into effect, would affect weather outlets including the SA Weather and Disaster Observation Service (SAWDOS), which relies on weather reports submitted by the public. SAWDOS was recently credited with issuing timely warnings for three storms that may have helped to mitigate property losses and damage.



Should weather forecasters need permission from the government?

Fleeing man allegedly flipped off deputies

Authorities in Florida said a man who fled the scene of a crash led deputies on a chase that ended with him flipping them his middle fingers. Levy County sheriff's deputies said Roy Thomas Willard, 62, of Morrison, fled the scene of the crash Wednesday in his Nissan Titan and made multiple illegal U-turns while fleeing pursuing deputies, the *South Florida Sun Sentinel* reported Friday.

Willard eventually stopped his vehicle and displayed his middle finger to deputies. He was ordered to exit the Nissan and responded by flipping the bird with his other hand, the arrest report said.

Willard, who was charged with fleeing and attempting to elude a police officer and resisting arrest with violence, apologized to a deputy when he arrived at the jail, the report said.

News Album

Rashida Jones unveils her rom-com at Sundance



Quincy Jones, left, and his daughter actress Rashida Jones pose at the premiere of "Celeste and Jesse Forever" at the 2012 Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah on 20 Jan, 2012.

INTERNET

PARK CITY, 22 Jan—Rashida Jones was almost upstaged by her famous father, Quincy Jones, at the Sundance premiere of her film, "Celeste and Jesse Forever," but the actress and screenwriter didn't mind. "He's what he is and he will always be and has always been, way before I was here," Jones said Saturday. "I feel lucky to hang out with him. And we're different, too. People like us for different reasons."

She added that her dad loved the film, which explores the nature of relationships, marriage and its meaning in society.

Jones' first screenwriting effort (with co-writer Will McCormack) emerged from "pain, lots of pain."

"We're both very deeply feeling people, and we love to talk about relationships and love and feelings," she said. "We like to be as inappropriate as possible when things are grave and difficult, so I think it probably came from that place."

INTERNET



A model presents a creation of Wooyoungmi during the 2012/2013 autumn-winter men's collection show in Paris, France, on 21 Jan, 2012.

XINHUA

Richard Gere attends his first Sundance Festival

PARK CITY, 22 Jan—Richard Gere once saw Utah from horseback while moving cattle, but his trip to the Sundance Film Festival to premiere "Arbitrage" is his first actual visit to the state.

The 62-year-old actor says "it sounds ridiculous," but he was moving cattle through Nevada with some friends and "we rode up to a ridgeline and they pointed up, 'That's Utah there.'"

Gere says it was a seven-day cattle-moving trip on horseback.

He was in Park City Saturday to promote "Arbitrage," a thriller about the lure of money and power and how it affects one's personal values.

Directed by Nicholas Jarecki, the film also stars Susan Sarandon, Nate Roth

and Laetitia Casta. The Sundance Film Festival continues through 29 Jan.

INTERNET



Writer and director Nicholas Jarecki, centre, poses with cast members, from left to right, Laetitia Casta, Brit Marling, Nate Parker and Richard Gere at the premiere of "Arbitrage" at the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah on 21 Jan, 2012.

INTERNET

'The Artist' silent but golden at producer awards

LOS ANGELES, 22 Jan—"The Artist" followed its Golden Globe win by taking top honors at the Producers Guild Awards on Saturday, as the silent film continues its unlikely run toward Oscar night.

Producer Thomas Langmann received the award handed out at the Beverly Hilton by the Producers Guild of America, as "The Artist" beat out George Clooney's family drama and another Oscar favorite, "The Descendants."

"The Artist" won best musical or comedy at Sunday's Golden Globes and "The Descendants" won best drama along with a best actor nod for Clooney, making the movies likely rivals for Best Picture at the Academy Awards. The other nominees in the movie category were "War Horse," "The Help," "Bridesmaids," "Hugo,"



French Producer Thomas Langmann arrives for the screening of "W." by US Director Oliver Stone at a cinema in Paris, in this 21 Oct, 2008 file photo.

INTERNET

"The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo," "Midnight in Paris," "Moneyball" and another Clooney movie, "The Ides of March." Along with honors from other Hollywood professional groups such as

actors, directors and writers guilds, the producer prizes have become part of the pre-season sorting out contenders for the Oscars, whose nominations come out 24 Jan.—*Internet*

Rap group 2 Live Crew to reunite, tour this summer

PARK CITY, 22 Jan—The rap group that created controversy in the early 1990s with songs like "Me So Horny" is reuniting and hitting the road.

Luther Campbell said Saturday that 2 Live Crew is back together and will tour this summer. The rapper and producer made the announcement at the Sundance Film Festival, where he is promoting his appearance in the short film "The Life and Freaky Times of Uncle Luke."

The 51-year-old entertainer describes the offbeat film as "an art piece" that he did to help young filmmakers who were inspired by his hip-hop work. But his mind was on getting back with the old crew. "I just can't wait to just start practicing," he said. "That's going to be a blast."

So will they be "As Nasty As They Wanna Be" (the title of the group's 1989 album that a judge deemed obscene, a ruling later overturned by the United States Court of Appeals)? Not really, Campbell said.—*Internet*



In this photo taken by AP Images for Fender Music Lodge, Luther Campbell is seen at the Fender Music Lodge during the 2012 Sundance Film Festival on 21 Jan, 2012 in Park City, Utah.

INTERNET

Blackburn holds Everton 1-1 in Premier League



LONDON, —22 Jan— Blackburn dropped into the Premier League's relegation zone on Saturday despite snatching a 1-1 draw at Everton thanks to David Goodwillie's fortunate second-half equalizer.

An attempted goalline clearance by Australia midfielder Tim Cahill, who put Everton in front, hit

Goodwillie flush in the chest and rebounded into the back of Everton's net in the 72nd minute.

Cahill had tucked the ball home from close range in the 24th for his first Everton goal in 13 months, although there was a suspicion of handball from Marouane Fellaini in the buildup.

Once Everton's most reliable source of goals, Cahill hadn't scored since netting in a 1-0 win over Manchester City in December 2010.

"I think he's looked more likely to score in recent weeks. He's been playing better and coming into a little bit of form," Moyes said.—*Internet*

Tim Cahill's clearances crashes off David Goodwillie and into the net.



Steinsson (wearing number 2) volleys in Bolton's third into the bottom corner.

Davies, Reo-Coker & Steinsson strikes send lacklustre Reds to disappointing defeat

LONDON, 22 Jan—Bolton moved out of the bottom three after taking full advantage of some slack defending to sink Liverpool.

Mark Davies opened the scoring early on when he drifted through the centre and found the bottom corner from 15 yards.

Nigel Reo-Coker added a second when he chested down and slotted in, but Craig Bellamy gave the Reds hope as he lifted the ball over goalkeeper Adam Bogdan.

However, Gretar Steinsson's volley ensured

that Bolton picked up their first points over Liverpool since 2006.

Much of the pre-match talk had surrounded Liverpool's lack of goals, their lowest at this stage of the season since the inception of the Premier League 20 years ago. Moments later, Liverpool full-back Jose Enrique dwelt on the ball for too long on the touchline and was dispossessed by the intrepid Chris Eagles who jinked along the byeline, but his prod across goal failed to find a team-mate.

Liverpool's main hope

Heidar Helguson, Akos Buzsaky & Tommy Smith on target to keep Latics rooted to foot of Premier League

LONDON, 22 Jan—Mark Hughes enjoyed his first Premier League win at the helm of Queens Park Rangers with a largely comfortable 3-1 victory over the league's basement club Wigan Athletic.

Goals from Heidar Helguson and Akos Buzsaky put the home side two in front in a scintillating first half performance before Hugo Rodallega ensured a tight finish with half an hour to go.

was an appeal for a penalty after the ball brushed Zat Knight's hand in the area, but referee Kevin Friend was unimpressed with their impassioned pleas. This was the first time Bolton have scored three goals in a league game against Liverpool since 1950.

Tommy Smith then scored a wonder goal with 10 minutes left to give Hughes' men all three points.

Rangers were gifted the lead when James McCarthy handled in the area and



Helguson scores his second penalty of the season.

Helguson converted the penalty.

Buzsaky fired home a stunning free-kick that went in off the post.

A Hugo Rodallega free-kick pulled a goal back for Wigan before Smith sealed the win with a long-range effort.—*Internet*

Internet

Totti breaks goal record as Juve go clear at top

ROME, 22 Jan—Francesco Totti set a new single-club scoring record in Serie A as Roma thrashed Cesena 5-1 on Saturday, while Juventus put daylight between themselves and the rest in a 2-0 success at Atalanta.

Club captain Totti scored twice inside the opening eight minutes, while Fabio Borini, Juan and Miralem Pjanic scored the other goals, with Eder netting for Cesena, who remained rooted in the bottom three.

It meant the 35-year-old reached 211 top-flight league goals for the capital club, surpassing the 210 that Swedish great Gunnar Nordahl managed for AC Milan more than 50 years ago.

"It's what I've always wanted, to wear this shirt and beat one record after another," said Totti.

"I feel good, I'm going to enjoy this splendid moment and I will keep playing as long as I'm physically able to do what I want to do and if that's no longer the case, I'll be the first to stop."

Sixth-placed Roma are now 11 points off top spot, having played a game less than Juve.

"This type of football doesn't just please me but would please any coach," said coach Luis Enrique. "If the players



AS Roma's forward Francesco Totti (R) kicks the ball in front of Cesena defender Maurizio Lauro during their Italian Serie A football match at the Olympic stadium in Rome.—*INTERNET*

enjoy themselves, they have a better chance of winning.

"Everything seemed easy today because we were almost perfect in the beginning but Cesena are an excellent side. The result was such because we were on a very high level."

The match was all over inside eight minutes as Roma swept into a three-goal lead, carving through Cesena's porous defence.—*Internet*

Lionheart Clijsters ousts Li at Australian Open tennis

MELBOURNE, 22 Jan—Defending champion Kim Clijsters battled back from a painful ankle injury to oust China's Li Na in three thrilling sets Sunday as Rafael Nadal remained in clinical form at the Australian Open.

In an enthralling day at sun-drenched Melbourne Park, Czech player Tomas Berdych's win over Nicolas Almagro was met with deafening boos, and Juan Martin del Potro, Victoria Azarenka and Agnieszka Radwanska all went through.

Belgium's Clijsters looked on the verge of quitting when she rolled her left ankle in the first set, and despite gritting her teeth and playing on she looked down and out facing four match points in the second-set tiebreak.

But the despairing Li saw Clijsters save all four, culminating in a brave drop-and-lob combination — and the Belgian took the set as the flustered Li netted, and then went long.



Kim Clijsters of Belgium during the Australian Open women's singles match against China's on 22 January. *INTERNET*

Bleasdale vaults into Olympics contention

LONDON, 22 Jan—Britain's Holly Bleasdale laid down an Olympic Games marker on Saturday when she went second on the all-time list of women's indoor pole vault performers.

The 20-year-old leapt to 4.87 metres at a meeting in Lyon with only world record holder Yelena Isinbayeva (5.00m) having gone higher indoors in the history of the sport.

And only Isinbayeva (5.06m), Jennifer Suhr and Svetlana Feofanova have bettered the mark outdoors.

The British girl had already cleared 4.71m last month, but on Saturday she improved her own UK record by one centimetre with 4.72m and then raised the bar to 4.80m to regain the world-leading mark.

Bleasdale then progressed to 4.87m before failing at an optimistic 5.01m.

The British vaulter has improved rapidly this season after failing to achieve a single height in qualifying at last year's outdoor world championships in Daegu. She is currently training in France alongside men's European champion Renaud Lavillenie and is building towards the world indoor championships in Turkey in March.—*Internet*

Britain's Holly Bleasdale, pictured here in 2010, laid down an Olympic Games marker on Saturday when she went second on the all-time list of women's indoor pole vault performers.



INTERNET

It proved a dramatic tipping point as errors flowed from the racquet of French Open champion Li, who was broken immediately in the third set and could not claw her way back despite pleas from her coach and husband Jiang Shan.

Li recovered to break as Clijsters served for the match but the Belgian made no mistake on her next service game, clinching a famous win on her second match point when the Chinese player netted.

"It has to be," said a disbelieving Clijsters, when asked if it was her greatest comeback. "I can't believe I won. I knew before the match it was going to be a tough match... but I didn't expect this." The result was a carbon-copy of last year's gripping final when Li, as the first Chinese player in a grand slam singles title match, took the first set but then fell to pieces as Clijsters came roaring back.

Internet

Australia's Lleyton Hewitt during the Australian Open match against Canada's Milos Raonic on 21 January.—INTERNET



Nadal praises Hewitt's fighting spirit at Aussie Open

MELBOURNE, 22 Jan—Rafael Nadal has lavished praise on the never-say-die fighting qualities of Australian warhorse Lleyton Hewitt, saying he is respected and admired throughout the sport. The 30-year-old Hewitt has defied a spate of injuries and a free-falling world ranking to reach the fourth round of the Australian Open and a showdown with defending champion Novak Djokovic.

The two-time grand slam champion, who has slipped to 181 in the rankings, typified his fighting qualities with a resilient four-set win over big-serving Canadian Milos Raonic on Saturday to progress to the round of 16. Nadal said he was emotional watching Hewitt, a former world number one, giving his all to get past Raonic, at 21, nine years his junior.

Internet

International Sports

Wozniacki beats Jankovic to enter Australian Open Quarterfinals

MELBOURNE, 22 Jan—Top seed and World No.1 Caroline Wozniacki survived mid-match jitters to beat Serbian Jelena Jankovic and advance to the last eight of the 2012 Australian Open.

Danish superstar Caroline Wozniacki brushed aside the Serbian challenge of Jelena Jankovic to advance to the quarterfinals of the 2012 Australian Open, season's first Grand Slam event being played here in Melbourne, Australia.

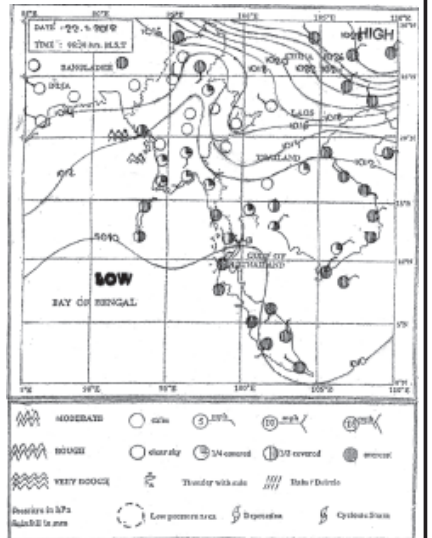
Wozniacki opened the match on a scintillating note and reeled off six games in a row to serve Jankovic a bagel. Things changed slightly when Wozniacki squandered a double break lead in the second set to let Jankovic level things up at 5-5. Another break of serve followed though, and gave Wozniacki the second chance which she pounced at and completed the 6-0, 7-5 win in one hour and 35 minutes of play. Earlier today, defending champion Kim Clijsters saved four match points and staged a tremendous comeback to beat Chinese Na Li in a rematch of last year's final, winning 4-6, 7-6(4), 6-4 in a two hour plus battle.

Other winners of the day were third seeded Belarusian Victoria Azarenka who breezed past Iveta Benesova 6-2, 6-2 and Pole Agnieszka Radwanska, who humbled German Julia Goerges to make the final eight cut.—Internet

Top seed and World No.1 Caroline Wozniacki



Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather for 23rd January, 2012

Sl. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (C/F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	24/75	11/52	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
2	Kayah	28/82	06/43	Generally fair weather	
3	Kayah	36/97	14/57	Partly cloudy	
4	Chin	17/63	-1/30	Partly cloudy	
5	Upper Sagaing	25/77	09/48	Partly cloudy	
6	Lower Sagaing	31/88	13/55	Generally fair weather	
7	Tanintharyi	33/91	22/72	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)
8	Bago	29/84	13/55	Generally fair weather	
9	Magway	32/90	13/55	Generally fair weather	
10	Mandalay	30/86	12/54	Generally fair weather	
11	Mon	35/95	17/63	Partly cloudy	
12	Yangon	33/91	14/57	Partly cloudy	
13	Rakhine	27/81	15/59	Partly cloudy	
14	Southern Shan	23/73	06/43	Generally fair weather	
15	Northern Shan	25/77	04/39	Generally fair weather	
16	Eastern Shan	27/81	07/45	Generally fair weather	
17	Ayeyarwady	32/90	18/64	Partly cloudy	
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	34/93	12/54	Generally fair weather	
19	Neighbouring Yangon	33/91	14/57	Partly cloudy	
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	30/86	12/54	Generally fair weather	

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today

During the past (24) hours, rain has been fairly widespread in Tanintharyi Region, weather has been partly cloudy in Sagaing, Mandalay and Yangon Regions, Kachin, Shan, Chin, Rakhine, Kayah, Kayah and Mon States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below January average temperatures in Upper Sagaing, Bago and Yangon Regions, Kayah and Kayah States, (6°C) below January average temperatures in Chin State, (3°C) to (4°C) above January average temperatures in Tanintharyi Region and Mon State and about January average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant night temperature were Hakha (-2°C), Namsan and Pindang (1°C) each and Hedo (2°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Myeik (1.69) inches and Kawthoung (0.51) inch.

Bay Reference Weather is generally fair in the North Bay and partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere Bay of Bengal.

State of the Sea Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days Continuation of decrease of Night temperatures in the Northwestern Myanmar Area.

DISTRICT NEWS

Stake driven for X-ray building

MAWLU, 22 Jan—A ceremony to drive stake for construction of the X-ray building was held in the compound of the station hospital in Mawlu Model Village of Indaw Township on 31 December.

Station doctor Dr Phyo Kyaw Aung drove stake for the X-ray building that measures three 10 square feet rooms.

Kyemon



Traffic rules talked in Kengtung

KENG TUNG, 22 Jan—An educative talk on traffic rules was given at Basic Education High School No. 2 in Kengtung on 10 January.

Officials of Taunggyi and Kengtung traffic police units and Kengtung Township Directorate of Road Transport Administration explained car accidents in three years and traffic accidents in Shan State with the use of projector.

Kyemon



Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL (23-1-12 09:30 am ~ 24-1-12 09:30 am) MST

- Overseas Transmission**
- * News
 - * A Day Out With Sarah (Episode-1)
 - * News
 - * Creation in the light
 - * News
 - * As a White Candle
 - * News
 - * Record Album
 - * Intricate Myanmar Silver Art
 - * News
 - * School Family Day
 - * A Myanmar Tapestry
 - * News
 - * The Myanmar Turban Unique
 - * Myanmar Movie Impact "Love into Love"
 - * News
 - * Music Gallery
 - * News
 - * Buddha Image Built of Bamboo Strips
 - * Shwe Inn Tha, Eco-friendly Resort
 - * Myanmar Movies "The True Love"

MYANMAR TV (23-1-2012) (Monday)

- 7:00 am**
1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
- 7:30 am**
2. Morning News
- 7:40 am**
3. Nice & Sweet Song
- 8:00 am**
4. Dance of National Races
- 8:20 am**
5. Documentary
- 8:30 am**
6. International News
- 4:00 am**
1. Martial Song
- 4:10 pm**
2. Dance Variety
- 4:55 pm**
3. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
- 5:20 pm**
4. Myanmar Language
- 5:35 pm**
5. Myanmar Idol
- 7:00 pm**
6. TV Drama Series
- 8:00 pm**
7. News
 8. World's Stars
 9. TV Drama Series
 10. India Drama Series

Manchester City 3-2 Tottenham

Mario Balotelli nets stoppage-time penalty to foil Spurs' comeback in sensational second half



MANCHESTER, 22 Jan—Manchester City recorded a sensational 3-2 victory over Tottenham as Mario Balotelli netted a stoppage-time penalty to give the home side a precious win in the Premier League titlerace.

City took the lead in the 56th minute when Samir Nasri crashed the ball into the net after

latching onto David Silva's delightful through ball. Joleon Lescott then doubled the advantage just

minutes later, scrambling in from a corner.

Spurs responded immediately as Jermain Defoe capitalised on an error from Stefan Savic to beat Joe Hart to the ball and pass home into an empty net. Moments later, Gareth Bale looked to have completed the comeback for the visitors with a fantastic strike from outside the area as his left footed curler sailed into the top corner.

However, substitute Balotelli was felled in the area by Ledley King with seconds remaining and the striker made no mistake from the spot



Balotelli calmly slotted home the decisive penalty to give City the points.

sliding into the bottom corner to give City the three points.

Roberto Mancini made one change to the team that beat Wigan on Monday with the fit-again Micah Richards replacing Pablo Zabaleta in the starting line-up while

Balotelli returned to the bench. City were still without the suspended Vincent Kompany and brothers Yaya and Kolo Toure, both on duty at the Africa Cup of Nations.

Internet

Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann receives US Senator Mr John Sidney McCain and party

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Jan— Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received a delegation led by US Senators Mr John Sidney McCain, Mr Joseph Isadore Lieberman, Mr Sheldon Whitehouse and Mrs Kelly Ann Ayotte at Zabuthiri Hall of Hluttaw Building here at 11.30 am today.

Also present on the occasion together with Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann were chairmen of Pyithu Hluttaw Committees, secretaries and officials of the Hluttaw Office.

The US senators were accompanied by Charge d' Affaires of US Embassy to Myanmar Mr Michael E Thurston.

They held discussions



on further strengthening ties and friendship between the two countries and

cooperation between the two parliaments in a cordial manner.—MNA

Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann receives a delegation led by US Senator Mr John Sidney McCain at Zabuthiri Hall of Hluttaw Building in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan presents prize to Maung Lwin Moe Aung of Botahtaung BEHS-6 in middle school level essay competitions.

MNA

Winners in Development of School Libraries and Reading Habit Festival awarded



YANGON, 22 Jan—Information and Public Relations Department, No (3) Basic Education Department, Myanmar Libraries Foundation and Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association organized

Development of School Libraries and Reading Habit Festival whose prize-presentation ceremony was held at No (6) Basic Education High School in Botahtaung Township here this morning.

Patron of Myanmar Libraries Foundation Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan addressed prize-presentation ceremony of the festival.

The ceremony was also attended by Yangon Region Minister for Finance and Revenue Daw San San Nwe, departmental heads, officials, members of social organizations, departmental personnel, headmasters and headmistresses, students, parents and invited guests. Schoolchildren opened the ceremony with a song.

The Union minister in his speech said MLF is initiating school-based programmes for cultivating reading habit of people and students and will continue to do the same in many townships of Regions and States.

Youths are strength of the future nation, he said. He urged youths to master academic subjects, emphasizing three points—to get down to further reading, to instill themselves good morals since young, to build up physical and mental fitness, and to extend social sphere, to develop knowledge to intelligence, through innovation to be able to serve the interests of the country and to cultivate

nationalistic fervour.

Efforts for establishing self-reliant libraries and providing assistances to libraries to meet five standards for their endurance are being carried out, he went on.

He underscored the need to cooperate in the stride by the entire people as development of libraries and reading habit is a national responsibility in the interest of the State and the people.

Chairman of Myanmar Libraries Foundation U Maung Maung explained about formation, aims, duties, and works of the foundation.

The Union minister then presented prizes to winners in essay, extempore and poem reading contests.

The Union minister accepted donations of stationery, cash and publications for six BEHSs in Botahtaung Township from Eleven Media Group, Seikku Cho Cho Publishing House, U Hla Tun Aung (Maung Maung Tun Aung-Health), Pyinnya Shwetaung Publishing House, U Maung Myo (Maung Myo Two Cats Publishing House).

(See page 9)

Significant night temperatures (22-1-2012)

Haka	(-2°C)
Namhsan	(1°C)
Pinlaung	(1°C)
Heho	(2°C)



Arsenal 1-2 Man Utd

Danny Welbeck hits dramatic late winner to keep champions within touching distance of City

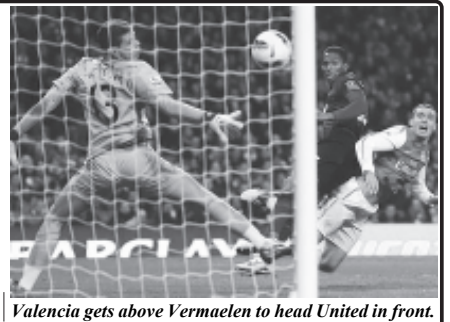
LONDON, 23 Jan—A late strike from Danny Welbeck gave Manchester United victory at Arsenal and ensured they stayed three points behind leaders Manchester City.

After a quiet opening Ryan Giggs picked out Antonio Valencia to head United in front at the far post.

Arsenal were far better after the break and after Robin van Persie missed a gilt-edged chance, he made

Antonio Valencia's opener was cancelled out by Robin Van Persie but the visitors struck late to inflict a third straight Premier League defeat on Arsene Wenger's team...

no mistake with another opportunity from 15 yards. But Valencia ghosted through and Welbeck lashed home from close range.—Internet



Valencia gets above Vermaelen to head United in front.